## Fig: Medicinal Fruit of Scriptures

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**Abstract:** The foundation of Tibb al Nabavi or Tibb al Islami has placed great emphasis on preventative measures relating to lifestyle incorporating the spiritual, emotional, and physical aspects of a human being. All classical references of Tibb al Nabavi attribute the onset of illnesses to the disturbance in one's lifestyle. This paper aims to shed light on ancient texts of Tibb al Nabavi and its practical application for sound health and disease prevention. Fig is a seasonal fruit widely grown primarily in Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Syria, USA, Brazil, Albania, and Tunisia. Its medicinal uses have been documented during the Nabawi era in treating various forms of ailments and illnesses. Figs are very effective in treating asthma, constipation, bronchitis, piles, Diabetes, lowering cholesterol, anemia, heart disease, and high blood pressure. The presence of vitamins and essential minerals such as vitamins A, B, C, potassium, magnesium, calcium and dietary fiber helps in the building of a stable bone structure, insulin sensitivity, defense against respiratory disorders and healthy blood circulation.

Fig is a soft, sweet, pear-shaped fruit with many seeds, which grows on a tree related to the mulberry species, available in various colors. The Fig plant is one of the five plants mentioned in the Qur'an, others being grapes, olives, pomegranates, and Date-Palm. In Qur'an, there is a mention of a Fig tree in the Garden of Jannah, in fact, Fig is also the most discussed Biblical fruit [1] whose benefits are amazing. The word sycophant, meaning flattering the powerful, comes from the Greek "to show the Fig." According to Biblical Literature, it is said, that a Fig tree provided the first clothing for human beings. Fig is discussed in the preliminary Ayah 1 of Surah 95 [2], which confirmed the medicinal values and advantages of this fruit. Hadith Literature provides us with an event related to Fig. Abu Darda (ra) Said: [3]



"Someone presented Figs to Rasulullah (S) and he, in turn, distributed it amongst his Ash'ab. He (S) mentioned its resemblance to the fruit of Jannah, where all fruits will be seedless".

He (S) further related its value:

"Eat it as it cures various diseases among which are Piles, Gout, and Arthritis (curable rheumatism)."

*Ibn Sireen, [4] the celebrated Muslim occult scientist informed:* 

"Figs, if seen in dreams, denote wealth and prosperity."

Various benefits of Fig is among the signs of mercy of Allah.

Out of an extended range of medicinal benefits, a few are as follows:

Figs are high in dietary fiber and a rich source of magnesium as well as potassium.

They are relatively high in vitamins A, B, and C and low in calories, about 50 calories each.

Abi Abdillah al-Imam Jafar us Sadiq (as) has advised that: [5]

"The eating of Figs removes the foul breath."

One sizeable raw Fig, approximately 65 grams is 77.5 percent water, yields 0.8 g protein, 0.2 g total fat, 23 mg calcium, 0.4 mg Iron, 50 I.U. vitamin A, 2.1 g dietary fiber, 3.8 mcg foliate, 0.3 mg niacin, and 1 mg vitamin C.

It also helps to reduce some forms of cancer.

Fig is the best food to maintain health for a long time. Experts say: [6]

Choosing figs more frequently as food means that you'll naturally cut down on potentially harmful foods, and this is very beneficial for your health.

According to the California Fig Advisory Board: [7]

It has been proved that the antioxidants in Fig protect against several diseases.

In a study done by the University of Scranton, it was determined that dried figs had a much higher level of the phenol makeup, which is rich in antioxidants, than other fruits. Phenol is used as an antiseptic to kill micro-organisms. The level of phenol in figs is much higher than that in other fruits and vegetables.

It is an ideal food for losing weight.

Figs are also thought of as medicine, which gives strength and energy to long-term patients as they seek to recover.

Figs eliminate physical and mental difficulties and give the body strength and energy.

Figs are also recommended in the treatment of asthma, coughs, and chills.

*It benefits the nervous system by its phosphorous content.* 

It is recommended for athletes and children.

It also cures the obese, asthma, and diabetic patients.

The eminent great Shia Fatemi Ismaili Dai, Philosopher, intellectual and Doctor of Medicine and Surgery, Al-Shaikh al Raess, Bu Ali Ibn Sina(Avicenna), recommended: [8]

"A fig for the treatment of constipation, liver problems, urinary problems, heartburns, chest pains, piles, and epilepsy".

It is recommended that five pieces of figs be taken for at least four to ten months regularly, early in the morning, which completely eliminates piles. It benefits the pregnant and nursing women in reducing acidity, rheumatism, and helps the brain. Its ashes, when taken with oil,



treat pimples, skin pigmentation and whiten teeth. For treating wounds, it is used in a preparation made with hot milk.

Fig Therapy by Japanese Dr. Kochi: [9]

Dr. Kochi is known for using Figs for its medicinal value and has treated around twenty kinds of cancer with it. With little or no side effects and high success rates, it is becoming the preferred way to treat cancer. It is thus genuinely a blessed fruit, beneficial to humanity. Fig contains a proteolysis enzyme that is considered an aid to digestion and is used by the pharmaceutical industry. Due to its high alkalinity, it has been mentioned as being beneficial to people who wish to quit smoking. It can dissolve and expel the stones from the kidney and urinary bladder. For patients suffering from kidney failure, and who are recommended for kidney transplantation and dialysis, if Figs-only diet is observed, then Insha'Allah by order of Allah-al-Shaafi,the non-healthy organs can be rejuvenated and restored to its stable condition.

*It is an excellent nourishing tonic and provides protection against the effects of toxins.* 

It is useful in pharyngitis, chest congestion, and heaviness and bronchitis.

It is also useful for liver and spleen ailments.

It is an excellent expectorant.

*During fevers, if it is chewed, the patient feels relief from the dryness of the mouth.* 

It clears the obstruction of the liver and gall-bladder and relieves inflammations of the kidney and urinary bladder.

It clears intestinal obstructions.

It acts as a carminative and expels the gases from the intestines.

It is also useful in colic's and is an excellent diuretic.

It is useful for mental illness if it is taken regularly with

Syrup made from Methi seeds, Figs and Honey is beneficial in cough and Bronchial Asthma.

Bake dry Figs till it is adequately roasted, crush it and make a powder for dental ailments, it removes the different stains. Similarly, this powder can also be used for clearing spots on the face and skin.

It is useful for the patients of Diabetes mellitus.

Figs and the Fig syrup, benzaldehyde, have helped to shrink tumors, according to Japanese tests.

Also, a laxative, anti-ulcer, and has antibacterial powers.

It contains the digestive enzymes for all the three components of the diet that is proteins, Carbohydrates, and Fats.

Dr. M. Laiq Ali Khan, an eminent scholar, has discussed the following about Figs: [10]

"No reference to the existence of Figs is available before the advent of Muslims in India. Therefore, it is considered that either the Mughals or the Mongols from Asia Minor or the Muslim physicians introduced it to India. Figs of Pune are famous. A native of western Asia and the Mediterranean area, Fig is one of the earliest fruits which is known to the human being. Fig, a member of the mulberry family, is one of the sweetest fruits when fully ripe. Fresh figs are highly perishable".

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