

A Literature Review on *Keelkai Nelli*

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Siddha medicine is one of the indigenous medical system in Srilanka. Over the years medicinal plants are the most important and back bone of siddha medicine and provides health care through prophylactic treatment and rejuvenation. Various types of medicinal plants are in world over which are enriched with medicinal values. According to this study, “*Phyllanthus niruri*” in Tamil *Keelkkainelli* is the one of the medicinal plant which belongs to the family of Euphorbiaceae, is a herb found in costal areas and it has bitter principle of phyllanthin as a chemical composition. *Keelkkainelli* is the meaningful name that the seeds are small rounded and with longitudinal regular parallel ribs on the back of the petiole and the leaves are small and it looks like *Phyllanthus emblica* (perunelli). So that, this has get this name as well. Data for the literature review were collected from related text books, Websites, Proceedings and research articles from the Library of Unit of Siddha Medicine & Vithiyanantha Noolakam University of Jaffna and Public Library, Jaffna. According to this data collection “*Keelkkainelli*”, “*Keelanelli*” are most commonly used names, the taste of “*Keelkkainelli*” is bitter taste, Diuretic is the most common pharmacological action, Whole plant is the most commonly used part of it, *Keelkkainelli thailam* is the most common Pharmacy preparation and most commonly used as a simple remedy for *Kaamalai* (Jaundice). “*Keelkkainelli*” is one of the most popular plant in Indigenous and Traditional system used in pharmaceutical preparation.

Key Words: Literature review, *Keelkkainelli*.