ETHANOLIC EXTRACT OF MORINGA OLEIFERA LAM. FLOWERS PROVIDE PROTECTION AGAINST ARSENIC INDUCED TOXICITY IN ALBINO RATS

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ABSTRACT – The efficacy of Moringa oleifera (Fam : Moringaceae) flowers in modifying the acute toxicity of arsenic in rat was evaluated. Thrice administration of toxic dose of arsenic as As₂O₃ (0.5 and 1 mg/kg body weight/ i.p.) followed by orally ethanolic M. oleifera flower extract (450 mg/kg, b.w.) for 21 days. Arsenic treated rats showed liver damage, proved by elevated levels of serum protein, and markers such as lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), alkaline phosphatase (ALP), aspartate amino transferase (AST) and alanine amino transferase (ALT). Administration of ethanolic flower extract of M. oleifera reduced these elevated levels. Animals treated with extract after arsenic toxication showed a significant decrease in lipid peroxides (LPO) level, serum glutamate oxaloacetate transminase (SGOT) and serum glutamate pyruvate transaminase (SGPT) activities. The rest clinical parameters are under observation. The fragmentary results suggest that oral administration of extract provided protection against arsenic induced toxicity in albino rats.

Key words : Moringa oleifera, LDH, ALP, AST, ALT, LPO, SGOT, SGPT, rat.