

# *Butea monosperma* (Lamk.) Taub.,

**Synonyms** : *Butea frondosa* Roxb. , *Erythrena monosperma* Lamk., *Butea frondosa* Roxb. , *Erythrena monosperma* Lamk.

**Family** : Fabaceae

**Group** : 6. Star trees

**Parts Used** : Leaf, Seed, Bark, Flower, Gum

## Vernacular Names

English : Flame of the forest

Malayalam : പല്ലാശ്ശ, ചമര

Hindi : Palas Dhak

Sanskrit : Plasah

Gujarathi : Khakara

Kannada : Muttuga

Tamil : Parasa

Telugu : Paladulu



**Distribution and habitat:** Through out India.

**Botany:** A medium sized deciduous tree 12-15 m in height with gum containing grey bark exfoliating in irregular pieces, and some what crooked trunk

• **Leaf:** 3 foliate, leaflets coriaceous, obtuse, glabrous above when old, finely silky and conspicuously reticulately veined beneath;

• **Flowers:** Have black calyces, each shaped like the beak of a parrot and born closely packed, bright orange red, large, in rigid racemes; Petals are 5-7 cm long, covered with grey pubescens.

• **Fruits pods:** Thickened at the sutures, containing a single seed

**Chemical constituents:**

• **Seeds-** palasonin and  $\alpha$ -amyrin,  $\beta$ -sitosterol,  $\beta$ -sitosterol-  $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside and sucrose

**Uses:** Anthelmintic, astringent, aperient, aphrodisiac

• **Bark-**Anorexia, bone fractures, inflammations, hepatopathy, rectal diseases

• **Leaves-** Astringent, pimples, inflammations, anodyne, haemorrhoids

• **Flowers-** diuretic, burning Sensation, swellings, hyperdipsia

• **Seeds-** antihelminthic, laxative, Used against epilepsy, flatulence, constipation, diabetes

• **Gum-** Hyperacidity, general debility, dyspepsia, fever

• **Ash of tender branches-** Abdominal disorders

**Formulations:** *Arimedas tailam*, *Balatailam*

**Propagation:** Seeds and also by root suckers

