



Preparation of Idol of Bhagawan Ganesh Made of Pure Cow Dung and Its Relevance in The Environment Conservation: A Review

Dr Rakesh Mishra*, Dr Ankita Mishra**, Dr N P Dakshinkar**

- * Ayurved Chikitsak/Scientist, Kamdhenu Panchagavya Research Institute, DSVC Kamdhenu University, Durg,
- ** Associate Professor, SSSUTMS, Sehore
- ** Honorable Vice Chancellor, DSVC Kamdhenu University, Durg

Abstract

The tradition of making cow dung idols dates back centuries and these idols have stood the test of time, for example the Hanuman idol over four hundred years old stands proud in the city of Nigoha, UP. Idols made from cow dung are considered sacred and can ward off the evil eye, and there is ample scientific evidence to support this belief. The ingredients used in the preparation of Gomaya Ganesha or Ganesha cow dung have several healing properties. The article presents a study on the use of cow dung as a substitute in making idols of Bhagwan Ganapati. In modern times, modern building materials and technologies were well developed and widely used in the plaster formula for making idols. Despite the material quality and material availability, it is inferior and economically very high. So in this scenario and in this project we have to choose low cost materials like cow dung powder. These materials are replaced by POPs.

Key Words: Gomaya, POP, Idols, Bhagwan Ganesha

Introduction

It's the time of year when the lakes around the city are filled to the brim and the greenery around the reservoirs is blooming, making every city dweller happy. However, in a few days when Ganesh Chaturthi arrives, these lakes and other waters will lose their charm and the greenery will rot from the soaking of the plaster idols. The holiday is a good idea, but the way it's celebrated does more harm than good to the human environment.

Harmful chemicals used in the making and painting of idols wreak havoc on bodies of water, polluting them and making them breeding grounds for mosquitoes and other disease-causing bacteria. However, that could change as everyone celebrates the eco-friendly Ganesha Chaturthi, who also helps clean up the lakes. While not all of us can get in the water

and clean it, we can let our idols do the work. Yes, it is true. Your Ganesha idol could do the water purification process for you if it is made of cow dung.

Background of the work

Panchgavya is a blend of five products. These are: (i) Godugdha (cow's milk); (ii) Goghruta (ghee) (also classified as clarified butter); (iii) gomutra (urine); (iv) Gomaya (dung) - considered as important as Gomutra; and (v) dahi (curd). Three of these products (i.e. Godugdha, Gomutra and Gomaya) are made directly from the cow while two products (Goghruta and Dahi) are made from milk. Each Panchgavya product has its unique properties and properties, which are widely used in healthcare, agriculture and other fields. Since ancient times, they have been widely used to treat various diseases, as they have high healing properties.

Including cow dung. The content of cow manure is generally about 80% water and contains a matrix of undigested plant matter rich in nutrients, microorganisms and their by-products. The microflora of cow manure includes many bacilli, lactobacilli and cocci, as well as other known and unknown fungi and yeasts. The approximate composition of cow manure is 40% crude fiber, 20% carbohydrates, 10.5% ash, 7% crude protein, 4% crude fat and 18.5% moisture. It depends on the feed and feed given to the cow. The reaction of the cow feces is between 6.5 and 7.1. The ingredients in cow manure have bactericidal, nourishing and polluting properties and are extremely pure and sacred. It has the natural property of treating skin diseases and reducing blood toxins. Cow dung has antiseptic, toxic and thermal properties. Due to its wide application in various fields such as animal husbandry, natural production, protection of the atmosphere and medicinal uses, cow dung has been dubbed the "gold mine".

The mere presence of cows is a major contribution to the environment. There are about 30 million cattle in India. By using their excrement to produce biogas, around 6.0 million tons of firewood can be saved annually. This would reduce deforestation to some extent and help protect the environment. By adding cow manure we can reduce the acidity of the water as it acts as a pH balancer. It can therefore be said that cow manure plays an important role in environmental protection. Cow dung releases large amounts of oxygen, as do some sacred plants (e.g. tulsi and peepal) used in sacrificial fires and cigars. Pour a spoonful of pure ghee on cow dung cake (fuel) to produce a ton of oxygen which counteracts the effects of toxic gases. There is no better way to remove contamination.

An ancient scripture states that the "Suryaketu" nerve (protruding hump) is present in all domestic cows but not in exotic breeds (Jersey, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Belgian Blue, etc.). This nadi (vein) absorbs all the energies and radiations from the sun, moon and all the lights of the universe and passes them on to the cow's products such as milk, urine, manure, ghee, etc. Cow dung is resistant to sun exposure, as proven by several scientific studies. Studies have shown that when applied to the walls of homes, a thick layer of cow dung provides protection from gamma rays, as this cow dung can absorb these types of rays produced by nuclear or solar emissions. We have the example of the "Bhopal gas tragedy" (1984) where over 20,000 people were killed and the shortage of people affected by harmful chemicals and radiation released and emitted from a gas plant. People living in houses covered with cow dung were not affected. Nuclear power centers in India and Russia are still working on cow dung to protect them from radiation. Cow dung is also used to make dhoops by mixing the fine powder of Nagarmutha, Ral, Lalchandan, Jatamachi, Kapoor Kajuri and Ghee into the cow dung. These dhoop sticks release oxygen into the environment when burned.

EFFECTS OF IDOL IMMERSION ON THE WATER QUALITY

Water pollution arises from the discharge of urban, domestic and industrial wastewater without any treatment, leading to significant changes in the water quality of rivers, and moreover, many monastic activities have become a threat to the ecosystem. Traditionally, diving with idols takes place in our country. When the idols are immersed in bodies of water, the materials used to make the idols will change and not easily dissolve in water, reducing oxygen levels and psychochemical properties. Changes in water quality parameters in large reservoirs in India after the sinking of idols have already been published by many authors.

Concept of Eco-Friendly Cow Dung Based Bhagwan Ganesh Pratima

The Ganesha festival has become a problem as it causes heavy pollution of water bodies. The matter becomes complex due to the sensitive nature of the matter, which has a religious dimension. Ganesha idols made from cow dung, no toxic paints are not a problem as they are eco-friendly and water soluble. However, Ganesha idols made of POP with polluting colors that harm marine life are widely available. The organic Bhagwan Ganesha that has hit the market is Green Bhagwan Ganesha, which is made from organic material with seeds as the base. Even if the idol is not submerged, the water can be used to dissolve Ganesha, which would turn into earth from feeding the seeds. Sprouts, a multi-city environmental organization that works to clean up the banks of rivers and ponds, has launched an interesting initiative called Fish-Friendly Ganesha Idols. These idols are filled with dried corn and spinach and are made from paper pulp and water-soluble clay. They are also painted with natural colors that are not harmful to the environment.

Aims and Objective

1. To develop cost efficient idols formula this will be help female farmers for their socio-economic empowerments.
2. Saving the rich Biodiversity of Rivers/Ponds and its fauna and flora
3. Saving the rich Ecosystem of Rivers/Ponds.
4. Pollution free River/Ponds.

Materials and Method

The innovation is continuous which will help to develop the socio-economic level of female farmers at their own available raw materials with minimum expenditure. In this regards we are developing the normal methodology for this.

- a. **Materials-** materials means cow dung which is available at cow shed and normal clay available at nearest sources. We were used this materials from our dairy form and clay from our free land. Turmeric, bark of Indian gum Arabic tree(babool), natural water colour and necessary tools.
- b. **Method-** the simple following process were adopted –
 1. Firstly powdered the dry cow dung
 2. Mix properly with ratio of 9:1 respectively cow dung powder and natural available clay with the help of PUGMILL.
 3. The prepared paste was molded in the designed mold and dried in the open sun.
 4. The dried idol of Bhagwan Ganesh was colored naturally with a color prepared from turmeric and acacia.

Recognition

There are multiple recognition is established by the several authors about this eco-friendly Bhagwan Ganesh Idols. Among this I have chosen some of the points. These are-

a. Impact on the Environment-

The products are designed well to make it visually appealing as it is made of earth, close to nature. Owning and handling the process of waste-to-resource is a journey and users expressed a sense of satisfaction of having contributed less to the home dairy's garbage and helping the dairy's healthy environs. We are constantly seeing that we are marginal female farmers who do not have access to cow dung or they have fallen into the form of a waste part. As per the various researches has been established that cow dung has a potency to clean the environment. Taking this concept I was focused on this project. The Bhagwan Ganesh Idols is composed of pure organic materials including its paint material also. When we immersed this idols in the River/Ponds after the scheduled worship period it is easy soluble in the water without any polluting impact on the water.

b. Impact on the Economy

Daily Dump trains female farmers to make idols makers with a buyback facility and these are sold through different mediums - shops, online stores, outlets across cities and organic exhibitions. The communities of idols makers, who make Daily Dump products, have doubled their turnover within a short span of making the products. They have been able to have a stable market along with working capital which is interest free. By this way the marginal female farmers want to build and create assets and see hope for a better life.

c. Impact on the Business Opportunities

This type of daily dump products promotes business opportunities by providing clone models which is open to others for duplicating the business. Designs are open source indicating that anybody could locally produce and sell the products by paying a small royalty fee, thus, encouraging micro enterprises. There are many training institutes in India which is an interesting concept that is getting popular to promote related green services, thus, promoting ethical and conscious consumer behaviours. Trash Trails are also organised by the team to educate more people and influence them to convert cow dung into idols. The Trash Trails are practical in nature with hand-on seeing, discussing, debating, observing, questioning, understanding and learning experience, hence, makes it interesting for the participants. It supports people with flexible service plans to achieve the goal of becoming a green citizen. It is about influencing behaviour change, to understand, what we buy and throw each day and about the people who work with cow waste, and the whole process of what happens to cow waste once it is generated. The trail helps in enriching the participant in going back home capable of making more informed choices to start a micro-enterprise or at least contribute to the movement.

Results

With increasing awareness about the need of using eco-friendly Ganesh idols, the demand for such idols has gone up in the city. Both government-run and private bodies that sell eco-friendly Ganesh idols have reported an increase in the sales.

Discussion

The manufacturing method and the changes in physicochemical properties after immersing the idol in different water tanks were discussed. This discussion clearly shows that the submersion of idols has a negative impact on water quality in all bodies of water. The main reason for the deterioration of water quality in different bodies of water is different religious practices, such as the immersion of idols. Traditionally, from year to year there are activities related to immersion in an idol. From a mythological point of view, bodies of water are associated with religious feelings, but from a scientific point of view, bodies of water such as ponds, lakes and rivers are useless for human use. After the idol had been submerged, the water tanks in particular were contaminated by the heavy metals contained in the chemical paints. This is of concern as these resources are detrimental to household and drinking water use due to the deterioration of drinking water. The cumulative effect of this use can be disastrous as many of these metals are toxic. During the Hindu festival season, hundreds of gods and goddess statues are immersed in different bodies of water.

The possible means of dealing with this serious problem is mass awareness-raising. The lack of awareness among our population is the main cause of this pollution. Environmental awareness campaigns and meetings should be organized to educate the public about the environmental damage caused by sunken idols in the river system. Different media can be a useful tool in such a campaign. A coordinated committee consisting of police, NGOs, local authorities, national pollution control commissions, representatives of the puja committees and stakeholders should be established to guide the public in conducting a landfill with minimal impact on water bodies. The Central Pollution Control Board has formulated comprehensive guidelines for the practice of immersing idols in lakes, rivers and seas. According to the CPCB, the general guidelines for idol immersion are listed below. Idols should be made of natural materials as described in the scriptures. The use of traditional clay to make idols instead of fired clay, plaster, etc. can be encouraged, allowed and encouraged. Based on these guidelines we used pure cow manure and traditional clay in a 9:1 ratio. Painting idols should be discouraged. When painting idols, use natural, water-soluble and non-toxic dyes. The use of toxic and non-biodegradable chemical dyes to paint idols should be strictly forbidden. As indicated, we have used natural dyes derived from Turmeric, Acacia Bark, Neem (*Azadirachta Indica*) and other natural dyes that plants provide as needed. The public should be made aware of the harmful effects of immersion in holy water through a mass education program.

Although some cities have now provided water tanks for Ganesha immersion, they still need to ensure that the water from these tanks is properly treated before being discharged into rivers or the sea. be disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner. Specialized water treatment companies should be asked to provide solutions to ensure the water in these tanks is safe. In fact, nobody can change the problem. Only mass awareness can gradually reduce pollution. The easiest way to solve the above problem is to adopt idols of Bhagwan Ganesh based on pure cow dung into our worship practice. We're ready for all-green idols.

Conclusion

From a mythological point of view, bodies of water are associated with religious feelings, but from a scientific point of view, bodies of water such as ponds, lakes and rivers are useless for human consumption. The main reason for water quality deterioration in rivers/ponds is immersion of Ganesh idols such as plaster of paris, clothes, iron rods, chemical dyes, varnishes and paints, which cause water quality in the river to deteriorate. No one but people's conscience can stop these religious activities. The analysis results show that there are few parameters to consider before drinking, while all other water quality parameters have been found safe for consumption and there is a need for the conscious crowd to use eco-friendly materials to even make the idols of Bhagwan Ganesh. Bad. that culture and environment can be consistently preserved.

Acknowledgement

The author is thankful to the Director KPREC, DSVC VV, Durg for providing necessary official permission and facilities.

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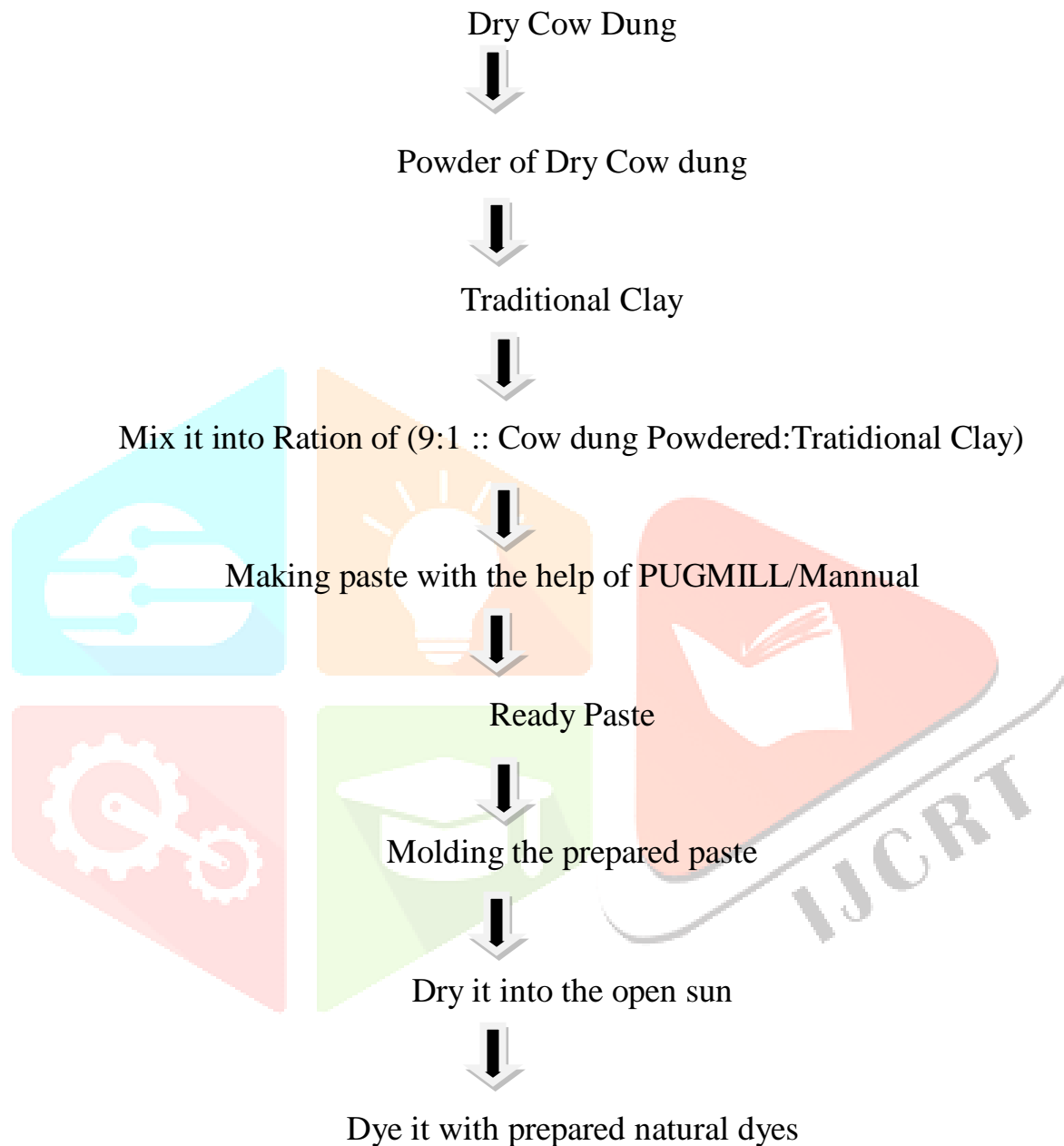
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Flow Chart of Bhagwan Ganesh Idols Preparation





1. Cow Dung Powder



2 PUGMILL and Prepared Paste of Cow dung and Traditional Clay



Ready Bhagwan Ganesh Pratima (Idol)