ANTIFUNGAL POTENTIAL OF *Ixora chinensis* Lam. (SANTAN) STEM CRUDE EXTRACT AGAINST *Candida albicans* AND *Aspergillus niger*

A Special Problem Presented to the

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ABSTRACT

This is a research study on the antifungal potential of *Ixora chinensis* Lam. (Santan) stem crude extract undertaken to determine its effect against *Candida albicans* and *Aspergillus niger*. The extraction of *I. chinensis* stem was performed using ethanolic extraction. Different concentrations were prepared by diluting the extract with sterile distilled water to provide a 10%, 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% concentration. It was then tested against *C. albicans* and *A. niger* using the Disk Diffusion Method (Kirby-Bauer). The study shows that *I. chinensis* stem expressed no inhibitory potential on *C. albicans* and *A. niger* due to the absence of "clearing" around the disks impregnated with *I. chinensis* extract. Therefore, the findings suggest that the absence of zone of inhibition do not qualify the phytochemical compounds present in *I. chinensis* as an effective antifungal agent to both *C. albicans* and *A. niger.*

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