D.PHARM • FIRST YEAR

Pharmacognosy

CHAPTER 2

Classification of Drugs



ENGLISH CHAPTER NOTES

DIPLOMA IN PHARMACY

CLASSIFICATION OF DRUGS

MEANING

Drug classification arranges medicinal substances systematically according to selected features. It supports study, identification and proper use.



IMPORTANCE

- Makes learning and memorization easier.
- Helps drug discovery and development.
- Supports clinical selection based on drug action.
- Assists standardization and regulation for safety and efficacy.
- Reveals patterns that promote research and innovation.

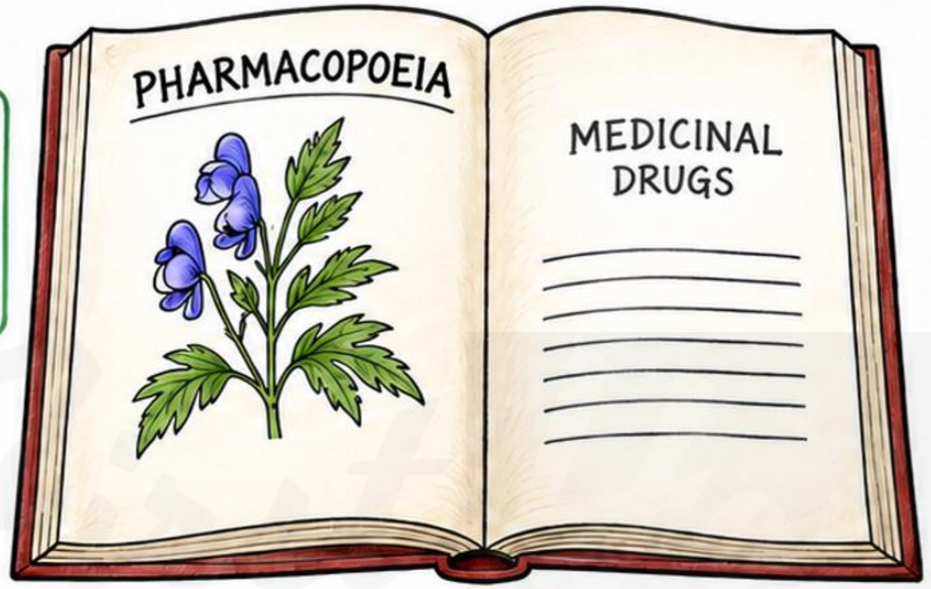
ALPHABETICAL CLASSIFICATION

BASIS

Drugs are arranged alphabetically by their common name, botanical name or official name.

EXAMPLES

- A → Aconite
- B → Belladonna
- C → Cinchona
- D → Digitalis



COMMON SOURCES

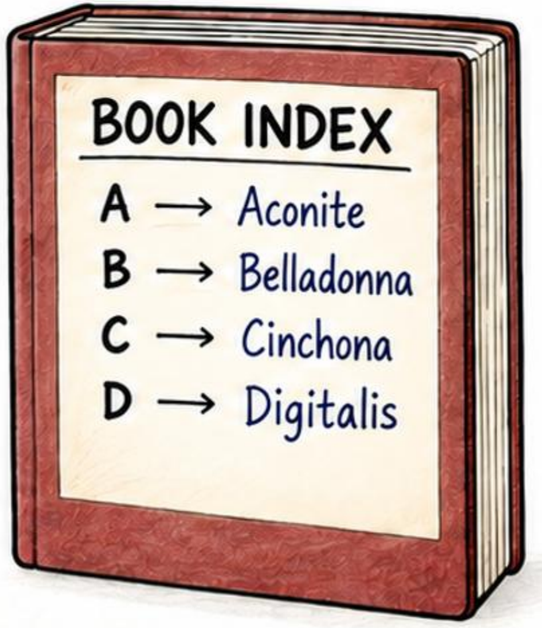
- Indian Pharmacopoeia
- British Pharmacopoeia
- United States Pharmacopeia
- The Merck Index and herbal pharmacopoeias

ADVANTAGES

- Easy to understand and refer to.
- Useful in book indexes and dictionaries.

LIMITATIONS

- Has no scientific basis.
- Does not show chemical constituents, pharmacological effects or therapeutic uses.

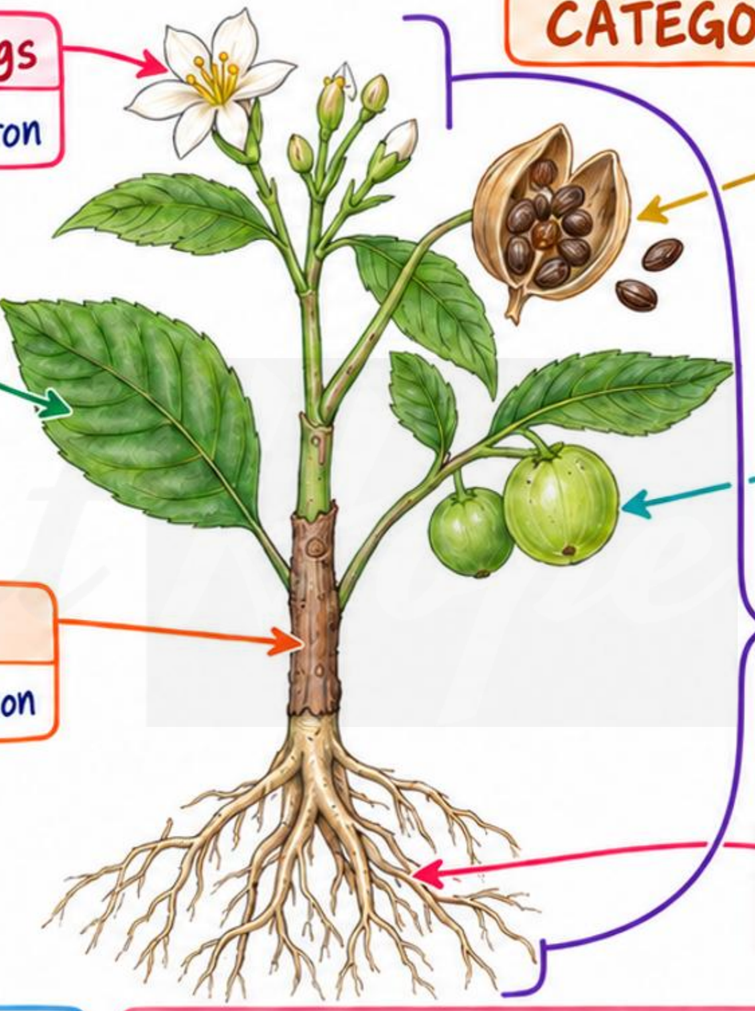


MORPHOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

BASIS

Classification is based on the plant part used or the visible morphological character of a crude drug. It is useful for identification.

CATEGORIES AND EXAMPLES



- **Flower drugs** — Clove, Saffron
- **Seed drugs** — Nux vomica, Isabgol
- **Leaf drugs** — Senna, Tea, Digitalis
- **Fruit drugs** — Fennel, Amla
- **Bark drugs** — Cinchona, Cinnamon
- **Whole plant drugs** — Ephedra, Lobelia
- **Root drugs** — Rauwolfia, Liquorice

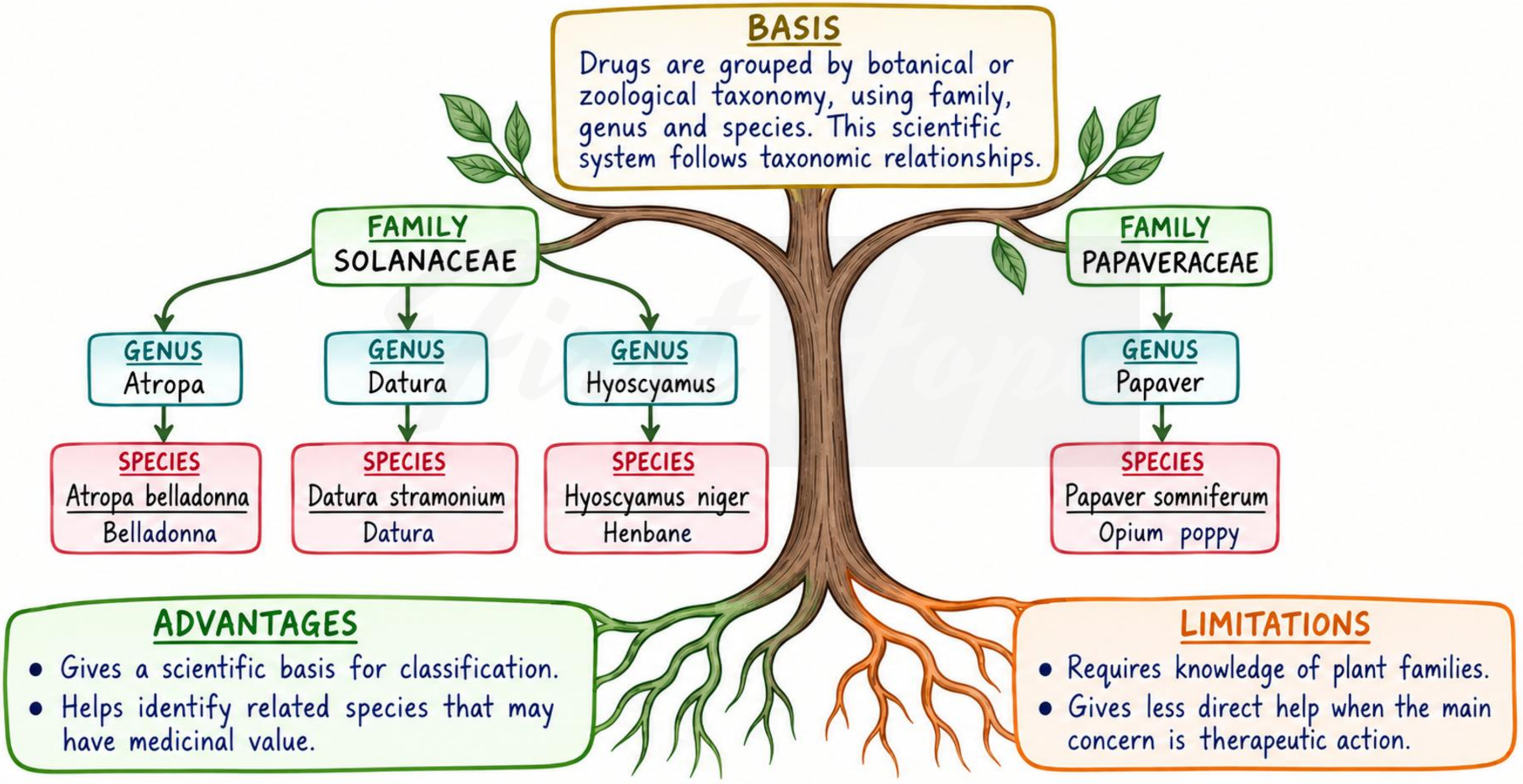
ADVANTAGES

- Easy identification and clear understanding of plant sources.

LIMITATION

- Does not describe chemical constituents or therapeutic effects.

TAXONOMICAL CLASSIFICATION



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