



## Review Article

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### A CRITICAL REVIEW OF SEVANI WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO JIHWAGATA SEVANI

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#### ABSTRACT

Sushruta Samhita, one of the representative treatises of the Dhanwanthareeya Sampradaaya of Ayurveda. Terminologies in the different contexts of Sushruta Samhita. Critical analysis of these terminologies under the Ayurvedic perspective is required to provide a new outlook towards understanding Sushruta's approach to human anatomy. Sevani is seven in number. Among them, five are situated in Shira, one in Jihwa & one in Shepha. Surgical procedures are contraindicated in the region of Sevani. Jihvais derived from the Mamsa, Rakta and Kapha. It is composed of thirty-six Sira and nourished by four Urdhwagata Dhamani. In the description of Alasa disease, in which there is Paaka of the muscles of the tongue. Therefore, it is instructed to surgeons not to take incision in the midline part of the floor of the tongue.

**Key words:** Sevani, Jihwagata Sevani, Paribhasa Sharira, Frenulum Linguae, Tongue.

#### INTRODUCTION

Anatomical terms as per classics mentioned in the subject of Rachana Sharir need further research. There is still a lacuna in interpreting anatomical terms referred to as in the classics such as Sevani. There is a difference in opinion between Ayurvedic classics and contemporary science regarding the concept, classification, and enumeration of Sevani. Structural description of Sevani is found inadequate as compared to its description regarding clinical importance.

Sevani is one of the important structures emphasized by Sushruta Acharya which are situated five in the Shiras, one each in Jihva and Medra<sup>1</sup>. Sevani is a structure that holds two parts together for its structural and functional integrity in the body. These Sevani should be avoided during the surgical procedures as there is difficulty in the reunion of the structure<sup>2</sup>. Although few references regarding Sevani are available in the original Ayurvedic texts they are scattered and not available in a single place.

#### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

##### Jihwagata Sevani

The classical description of Sevani is given in Table 1. Jihva is the seat of Rasendriya<sup>3</sup> and Vagendriya and of Bodhaka Kapha and Prana Vata. Embryologically, it is derived from the Mamsa, Rakta and Kapha<sup>6</sup>. As it is Vagendriya multiple movements are observed within the oral cavity. It is composed of thirty-six Sira<sup>7</sup> and nourished by two Urdhwagata Dhamani<sup>8</sup>. It has also got an important role in the taste perception and swallowing of the ingested material. Such an Indriya named Jihvais fixed within the oral cavity by the structure of Sevani. Astanga Sangrahaakarahas

included it under the list of Pranayatana as Jihvabanda by considering the vitality of its functional and structural composition<sup>9</sup>. Among the Sapta Sevani, one is present in the Jihva<sup>10</sup>.

#### DISCUSSION

It is the inverted shoe-shaped muscular organ covered with stratified squamous epithelium<sup>11</sup>. It is situated partially in the oral cavity and partially in the pharynx with its tip directed anteriorly and base posteriorly. The tongue presents a tip or apex, base, dorsal and inferior surfaces, two lateral margins and a root.

The inferior surface of the tongue presents a median fold connecting the tongue to the floor of the Mouth, which is known as Frenulum linguae the sublingual papilla, which is present on each side of the frenulum through which the submandibular duct opens. On each side of the frenulum, the plica fimbriata passes upward and medially; the profunda linguae vein intervenes between the fimbriated fold and the frenulum.

The tongue is divided into two symmetrical halves by a median fibrous septum, which is coronally oriented in the posterior part of the tongue where it is attached below to the hyoid bone forming the hyoglossal membrane. Each half contains striated muscles which are arranged in two groups extrinsic & intrinsic. Extrinsic muscles alter the position of the tongue whereas the intrinsic muscles alter the shape of the tongue (Table 2).

Injury to the hypoglossal nerve, resulting in paralysis and eventual atrophy of one side of the tongue. The tongue deviates to the paralysed side during protrusion because of the action of the unaffected genioglossus muscle on the other side<sup>13</sup>. Shortening of frenulum linguae known as tongue-tie which produces

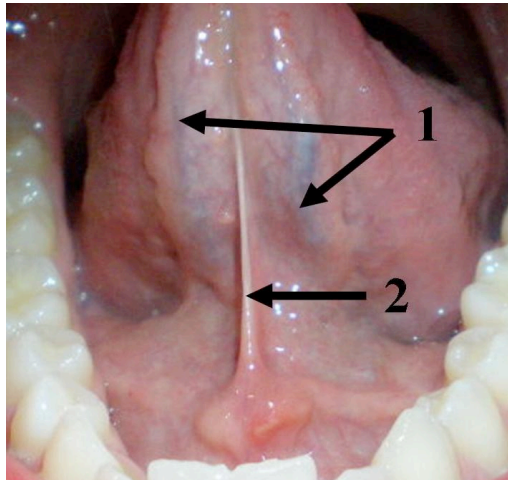
disturbance of speech<sup>14</sup>. Tongue-tie may restrict the movements of the tip of the tongue, and one finds it difficult to clean the back of the incisors. The extent of Jihvagata Sevani from the posterior end of median lingual septum along with the muscular fibers of genioglossus up to, behind the tip of the tongue. Applied point of view the region besides the frenulum particularly on the floor is very important as on either side there are sublingual glands. The lingual nerve and artery have got a close relationship between fibers of the genioglossus and sublingual glands. (Figure 1 & 2)

**Table 1: Classical description of Sevani**

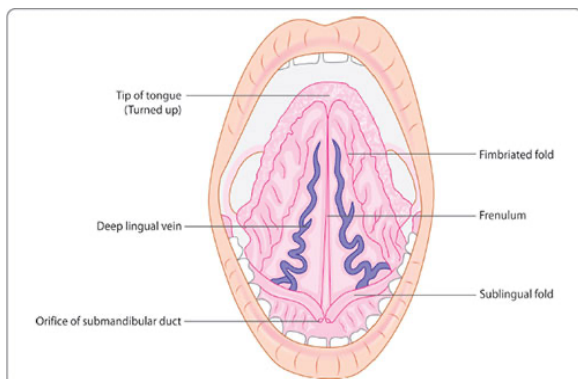
Features	Details
Vyutpatti (Etymology)	The word Sevani is derived from Siva Dhatu combined with Lyuta pratyaya <sup>3</sup> which means: To sew, stitch & To join or unite together
Nirukti (Derivation)	The one which helps in the union of Sharir Avayava <sup>4</sup> .
Paribhasha (Definition)	Yathoktam sevanam teshu kaaryam sandhaanmev cha <sup>3</sup>
Number	Seven
Location	Five are located in the region of the Shiras, one each in Jihva and Medra <sup>1</sup> .

**Table 2: Extrinsic & intrinsic muscles of tongue**

Extrinsic muscles <sup>12</sup>	Intrinsic muscles <sup>12</sup>
Genioglossus	Superior longitudinal
Hyoglossus	Inferior longitudinal
Chondroglossus	Transverse
Styloglossus	Vertical
Palatoglossus	



**Figure 1: Ventral aspect of tongue**  
1.Frenulum of the tongue 2.Lingual veins



**Figure 2: Ventral aspect of tongue**

**CONCLUSION**

Astanga Hrudayakara has included Jihva under the list of Pranayatana as Jihvabandha by considering the vitality of its functional and structural composition. The structures constituting the tongue and around it is contributing to this Pranayatana. Among the Sapta Sevani, one is present in the Jihva. Jihva is a highly mobile organ responsible for multiple movements within the oral cavity needed for swallowing food. The base of which is fixed to the floor of the oral cavity. Regarding this, a fold of mucous membrane extending from the floor of the mouth to the midline of the undersurface of the tongue is formed, referred to as frenulum (Sevani).

Based on formal discussion and information collected under the review of literature Jihvagata Sevani is to be taken as a lingual median septum, superior fibers of genioglossus muscle and frenulum extending up to the tip of the tongue. Therefore, Jihvagata Sevani is made up of a muco-fibromuscular structure.

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