

1. Preamble:

Ayurveda is the outcome of the knowledge and vast experiences of the ancient seers/ scientist/ philosophers' of many millennia. It is the symbol of the golden period which visualized the intimate association between nature and men. The evolution and development of each science always attributed to the necessity of the time. It is the same with health care system also. Sufferings, disease and death are fundamental attributes of human life condition. The analysis of these along with the search to find out the possible remedies remained always part of human development. Sick animals and birds are choosing to eat selected plants which they normally never consume had caught the attention of ancient observers who sought to apply similar remedies in human situations. Man living in isolated, when started to live in community started discussing these findings and analyzing them. On the other hand ancients fire virtue & other practices which were part and parcel of an old tradition among people, whose faith in them was unquestioned, were also made use of in treating the suffered.

The ancient Indian system of Medicine tried to provide answers to all possible queries related with man and disease by compiling, critically scrutinizing and analysing of various traditional health practices scattered all over the country and then it emerged in the form of *Ayurveda*. This theory of evolution of *Ayurveda* may be the same with respect to the health care practices of various tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

2. Rationale behind selection of tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands:

India is the homeland of many rural as well as tribal communities of various diversities and hence the defining nature of disease and treatment varies among them but the similarities about perception of disease remain same. Traditional health care practices are primarily based upon their repeated observations and understanding of natural environment. They are having their unique therapeutic system and it is working very effectively till date, even though the modern medical