

ISOLATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS OF THE LEAVES OF *BETULA UTILIS* D.DON. (*BHURJA*)

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Betula utilis is popularly known as *Bhojpatra*. It is an Ayurvedic medicinal plant useful in dyspepsia, diarrhoea and epilepsy. The dried leaves collected from Tarikhet (U.K) were extracted with benzene followed by 90% aq. ethanol in succession. Ethanolic extract was concentrated and fractionated into benzene, ether and ethylacetate soluble fractions. Ether fraction on column chromatography yielded a flavonoid compound, identified as quercetin. Ethylacetate fraction on column chromatography and repeated crystallisation afforded two compounds, **B₁** (Minor) and **B₂** (Major), which were identified as quercetin 3-O- β -L-arabinopyranoside (Guaijavarim) and quercetin 3-O- β -D-galactopyranoside (Hyperoside). This is the first report of all three compounds from *B.utilis*.

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