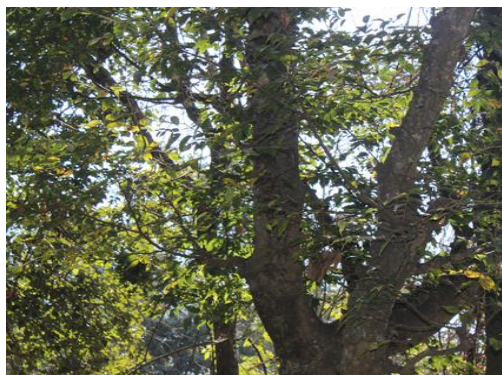




***Celtis australis* L.**

Family: Ulmaceae

Common names: Mediterranean hackberry, lote tree,
or honeyberry, khidak.



Description:

Celtis australis is a medium to large-sized deciduous tree with straight stem up to 25 m tall. Leaves are alternate, obliquely ovate to lanceolate, 7-13 cm long and 3-7 cm wide, base serrate or sometimes smooth, strongly 3-nerved. Flowers are small and greenish in colour. Fruit is drupe, ovoid or cylindrical in shape, 6-12 mm long. Fruit is fleshy with one white seed and yellow in colour when young then purple or black on maturity.

Utilization:

The wood is heavy, elastic, water resistant and lasting. The fruits are edible and contain seeds from which sweet oil can be extracted. They are also used to produce specialist liqueurs or in the past, to substitute sugar during famine periods (Santayana *et al.*, 2014). The bark is also used to make a dye, yielding a yellow pigment. The foliage can be used as fodder for cattle (Elwes and Henry, 1909).

Part	Uses
Fruits	Colic and amenorrhea
Bark decoction	Anti-allergic

References:

Elwes H. J, Henry A; (1909). The Trees of Great Britain and Ireland Vol. 4 (Privately printed, Edinburgh).

Pardo de Santayana M, Morales R, Aceituno L, Molina M; (2014) eds. (Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente, Madrid, pp. 264–269.

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