

«Six of the world's 10 fastest-growing economies between 2001 and 2010 were in Africa»; I could say, that Africa is not just a home to many wild creatures and exotic plants. Now, it has become a force to reckon with, especially «Economically».

Source:

1. Maseru, L. Africa on the Rise / L. Maseru // The New York Times [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – Mode of access: http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/01/opinion/sunday/africa-on-the-rise.html?_r=0. – Date of access: 10.11.2012.

ASSESSMENT OF THE DIFFERENCES TASTE THRESHOLD FOR SALT ACCORDING TO THE RACE BETWEEN STUDENTS OF FOREIGN FACULTY

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Hypertension is one of the most common cardiovascular diseases in developed and developing countries, therefore prevention it is an important issue. It is well known that the restriction of excessive consumption of salt in food is one of the main ways to prevent hypertension, and there are special rates according to race and region of residence. Proved that the development of hypertension under the influence of excessive consumption of salt depends on the so-called salt sensitivity, which is lowered inadvertently increases its consumption. Sensitivity to sodium chloride depends on several factors, including race.

The aim of study is to determine the dependence of the threshold of sensitivity to the taste of salt on the race for students of foreign faculty.

Materials and methods. The study included 50 healthy students from the of Foreign Faculty of the Grodno State Medical University, 14 women and 36 men, mean age 21 (20; 26) years, height 170 (160; 178) cm, weight 63 (55; 78) kg, systolic blood pressure 118 (110; 120) mmHg, diastolic blood pressure, 68 (65; 80) mmHg. According to the race all students were divided into 3 groups: Group 1 – students from South-East Asia (n = 18), group 2 – students from Turkmenistan (n = 20), group 3 – African students (n = 12). Taste threshold for salt was determined by applying a solution of sodium chloride in an increasing concentration on the anterolateral surface of the tongue. For testing we used a set of 8 NaCl dilutions from 0.02 to 2.56% with a twofold increase in the concentration of each subsequent sample. For the taste threshold for salt took the lowest concentration at which the examinee feels the taste of salt.

Results. The test results revealed that among students of different racial groups there are no difference at salt sensitivity (0.24% (0.16, 0.32), 0.12% (0.02, 0.32) and 0.24% (0.12, 0.32), respectively, $p > 0,05$), with a trend to lower the threshold in group 2. In the group 1 we revealed a moderate negative correlation between the sensitivity to salt and systolic blood pressure ($r = -0,6$, $p < 0,05$).

No significant differences between the groups can be explained by similar initial diet before starting University studying and similar dietary patterns in the period of study.

Conclusion: The differences in taste threshold for salt have been not revealed between students of the Foreign Faculty according to race.

FOLKLORE USES OF HERBS IN NIGERIA: SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT

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The root, leaves, and seeds of two plants and one fruit (*Triclisia dictyophylla* (moonseed) root, leaves of *Andrographis lineata*, *Carica papaya* seeds) were examined. The near-magical effects derived from the medicinal use of them by indigenes of the wonderful land of Nigeria, and the beautiful land of India, raised a challenge for scientists in both lands.

Triclisia dictyophylla (moonseed) root was investigated for the anticoagulation and antithrombotic properties. The median lethal dose (LD50) based on Lorke's methods was 550 mg/kg. The aqueous

root extract of *T. dictyophylla* prolonged the in-vitro whole human blood clotting time at concentrations of 50mg/2ml and 100mg/2ml of whole blood and at a concentration of 200 mg/2ml of whole blood, complete anticoagulation effect was achieved. The prothrombin time of the different concentrations was unattainable even after 48 hours. The roots extract of *T. dictyophylla* has in-vitro anticoagulation and antithrombotic properties, perhaps justifying its use in the treatment of edematous pain.

The ripe and matured unripe seeds of *Carica papaya* fruits were investigated for their acetylcholinesterase (AChE) inhibitory activity, toxicity and antioxidant activities. AChE inhibitory activities of 70% cold ethanolic extract of the pawpaw seeds were assessed. The Brine shrimp lethality test of the extract was used to determine the toxicity profile and DPPH to determine the antioxidant property. The results showed that the crude extract gave 41.16% AChE inhibition. Purification enhanced the activity. Ethyl acetate fraction on analysis produced 60.29% activity whilst Eserine gave 74.78% inhibition. The autobiographic antioxidant TLC analysis using DPPH as detection agent showed the unripe matured seeds to possess antioxidant activity. Based on the results obtained, it may be deduced that *Carica papaya* fruit can be eaten to manage Alzheimer's disease.

The diuretic activity of methanol and aqueous extracts of *Andrographis lineata* were evaluated by determination of urine volume, electrolyte concentration and diuretic potency in male Wister rats with frusimide was used as reference drug and normal saline solution as control. The urine output increased with both extracts indicating a dose dependent diuretic activity. Both extracts caused marked increase in Na⁺, K⁺ and Cl⁻ levels in urine. The results supported the folkloric claim that the plant has a diuretic activity.

ECONOMY OF SRI LANKA

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The goal of this thesis is exposure Sri Lanka's current development tagline and the major sectors of Sri Lanka's economy that have been to make it the 'Emerging Wonder of Asia'.

Sri Lanka has mostly had strong growth rates in recent years. In GDP per capita terms, it is ahead of other countries in the South Asian region. Main industries are processing of rubber, tea, coconuts, tobacco and other agricultural commodities; telecommunications, insurance, banking, tourism, shipping clothing, textiles, cement, petroleum refining, information technology services, construction.

Country's Exports is \$10.89 billion (2011 est.). Export goods-textiles and apparel, pharmaceuticals, tea, spices, diamonds, emeralds, rubies, coconut products, rubber manufactures, fish. Main export partners – United States 22.1%, United Kingdom 12.1%, Germany 5.2%, Belgium 4.9%, Italy 4.8%, India 4.5%. Imports – \$20.02 billion (2011 est.). Import goods – textile fabrics, mineral products, petroleum, foodstuffs, machinery and transportation equipment. Main import partners India 18.9%, China 12.4%, Iran 7.7%, Singapore 7.5%, South Korea 4.8% (2008).

The Central Bank of Sri Lanka is the monetary authority of Sri Lanka and was established in 1950. The Central Bank is responsible for the conduct of monetary policy in the country and also has supervisory powers over the financial system. The Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) is the main stock exchange in Sri Lanka. It is one of the most modern exchanges in South Asia.

The energy policy is governed by the Ministry of Power and Energy the production and retailing of electricity is carried out by the Ceylon Electricity Board. Energy in Sri Lanka is mostly generated by hydroelectric power stations. Sri Lanka has been focusing on eco-friendly solutions to energy development.

Tourism is one of the main industries in Sri Lanka. Major tourist attractions are focused around the islands famous beaches located in the southern and the eastern parts of the country and ancient heritage sites located in the interior of the country and resorts located in the mountainous regions of the country. The numbers of tourists visiting have been recently increasing, beginning in early 2008.

The tea industry, operating under the Ministry of Public Estate Management and Development, is one of the main industries in Sri Lanka. It became the world's leading exporter in 1995 with a 23% share of global tea export. Recently, Sri Lanka has become one of the countries exporting fair trade tea to the UK and other countries.

The apparel industry of the Sri Lanka mainly exports to the United States and Europe. Europe increasingly relies on Sri Lankan textiles due to the high cost of labor in Europe. There are about 900 factories throughout country serving companies.