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Alkaloids isolated from the leaves of *Phoebe tavoyana* (Lauraceae) and their antiplasmodial activity

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The genus of *Phoebe* of family Lauraceae is found the most abundance in Borneo and the Malaysian Peninsular. *Phoebe tavoyana* is locally known as '*medang rungkoi*.' The woods of Phoebe species have the commercial values usually for house-building. As a wood of a good type soft to moderately hard, light, slightly colored than the hardwood used for carving and sculpture, paneling for doors altars wardrobes, carriages and ceiling. Phytochemical study on the leaves of *Phoebe tavoyana* (Meissn.) H.K.F. from Chebar Besar Reserved Forest, Kuala Kangsar, Perak, Malaysia has resulted the isolation of four known aporphines; laurolitsine (1), roemerine (2), laetanine (3), boldine (4) and one morphinandienone type, sebiferine (5). The structures of alkaloids were determined by spectroscopic analysis. This paper reports the antiplasmodial activity of three alkaloids from the leaves of *Phoebe tavoyana* (Lauraceae). The results showed that (1), (2) and (5) have shown potent inhibitory activity against the growth of Plasmodium falciparum 3D7 clone, with IC50 1.49, 0.89 and 2.76µg/mL respectively. No previous phytochemical investigation has been performed on this plant.

Biography

Hanita Omar has completed her Master degree in the year 2009 from University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and now in the stage of writing her PhD thesis at the same university. She has published 3 ISI papers and submitted another 4 papers. She is also a member of Malaysia Natural Products Society.

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