

IMMUNOLocalIZATION OF EXCRETORY/SECRETORY ANTIGENS EXPRESSED ON DIFFERENT LIFE CYCLE STAGES AND IN DIFFERENT ORGANS OF *Fasciola gigantica* INFECTED CATTLE

By

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Abstract

In this study, polyclonal antibodies (pAb) were prepared against *Fasciola gigantica* excretory/secretory (E/S) products and purified to demonstrate the highly reactive epitopes on the different life cycle stages of *F. gigantica* and on blood cells and different organs of naturally infected cattle, as well as to screen internal organs for localization of E/S antigens to find out a suitable method for diagnosing the disease as early as possible. Using anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb, immunostaining of different life cycle stages of *F. gigantica* detected strong positive reactions in all stages except eggs. The reactions were along tegumental surface, gut region of cercariae, miracidiae, metacercariae and tail of cercariae. Besides, the tegument, spine surface, muscularis and gut region of the adults were also positive. Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb showed that E/S antigens were located in many organs of naturally infected cattle. Examination of peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMNCs) represented a high positivity in the phagosomes and activated monocytes as well as in cytoplasm of lymphocytes. Compared to sections of normal uninfected hosts, liver sections of infected bovine hosts showed collapsed hepatocytes, thickened portal tract and a highly positive reaction in the cytoplasm of the liver cells. Target epitopes were located inside the splenic cells, mainly lymphocytes. In the gall bladder, positive peroxidase reactions were found in the mucosa and muscularis layers, and in the epithelial cells lining mucosal glands. A marked positivity was in other organs of the naturally infected animals, as in the epithelial layer lining the glomeruli and tubules of the kidney, in heart cardiac muscle fibres and in cells lining the alveoli of the lungs.

Key words: *Fasciola gigantica*, excretory secretory products, polyclonal antibodies, life cycle stages of worms, host bovine organs, immunolocalization

Introduction

The trematodes *Fasciola* are a causative agent of liver fluke disease which has a worldwide distribution and results in major economic losses in agricultural communities (Mas-Coma and Bargues, 1997). These are the most common liver flukes in cattle, sheep, goats and other herbivorous mammals (Rttier and Ince, 2003). However, the human fascioliasis increased dramatically all over the world and not necessarily related to areas endemic for the animal disease (Esteban *et al*, 2002; Mas-Coma, 2004; 2005; Keyyu *et al*, 2006) where fascioliasis chronicity and superimposed repetitive liver fluke infections pose additional pathological complications (Valero *et al*, 2003; Saba *et al*, 2004; Dauchy *et al*, 2006; Shirai *et al*,

2006). In Egypt, Haseeb *et al*. (2002) reported that fascioliasis caused 30% loss in both meat and milk production of veterinary outcome/year. WHO (1995) estimated that 830,000 people are infected with liver flukes in the Nile Delta region of Egypt (Haridy and Morsy, 2000; Esteban *et al*, 2003; El-Shazly *et al*, 2005). The fascioliasis clinical manifestations in man were fever, abdominal pain, persistent diarrhea, vomiting and eosinophilia. Fascioliasis can be differentially from other diseases as acute hepatitis, schistosomiasis, visceral toxocariasis, biliary tract diseases and hepatic amoebiasis (Keyyu *et al*, 2006; Ganga *et al*, 2007). So, early diagnosis was a must to start treatment and to avoid complications (Hillyer *et al*, 1992).

Parasitological diagnosis of infection was

by identification of *F. gigantica/hepatica* eggs in fecal samples (Barreto *et al*, 1990). Since eggs appeared in the feces only after the parasite entered the bile duct and matured [10-14 weeks post infection (wk PI)], early infection cannot be diagnosed by detecting coproantigens (Armour *et al*, 1997). In addition, because eggs were released sporadically from the bile ducts, an accurate diagnosis by this method required at least three stool samples obtained at different times on consecutive days (Haseeb *et al*, 2002). Serodiagnosis of fascioliasis was developed for specific antibodies detection at 2-4wk PI, against Ag derived from adult fluke extracts or their E/S products (Espinoza *et al*, 2007; Sarkari and Abdolahi Khabisi, 2017). But, cross reactivity with other parasites was reported that decreased its specificity (Bo-sset *et al*, 2000). Ideally, a diagnostic test for *Fasciola* infection should be as early as possible and based on circulating *Fasciola* Ags detection, using Abs that did not react except with the target antigens. Another approach was based on the detection of specific antigens in serum (Attallah *et al*, 2013), and in urine or feces of infected host (Dumenoigo *et al*, 1996). As coproantigens, cannot be detected until 6wk PI (Abdel Rahman *et al*, 1998), the antigenemia caused at about 8-10wk PI was due to the immune complexes formation (Castro *et al*, 2000). E/S antigens are probably composed of molecules released from the continuous turnover of the glycocalyx coating the tegument surface membrane as well as some enzymes released from the caecum. The E/S antigens did not only have an important role in the induction of protective immunity but contained antigens useful for immunodiagnosis of fascioliasis (El-Kerdany *et al*, 2002). Antibodies (Abs) to E/S antigens can be detected as early as 2 wk and peak concentrations are reached at 8-10wk PI (Fagbemi and Guobadia, 1995; Novobilský *et al*, 2007). Monoclonal antibodies series of (mAbs) were prepared against tegumental and internal antigens of *F. hepatica* by immunizing mice with whole adult

homogenates (Chaithirayanon *et al*, 2002). Screening of *F. hepatica* tegumental antigens by using indirect immunofluorescence antibody technique (IF) was developed (Hanna *et al*, 1988). By the application of peroxidase immunostaining technique (David and Dabbs, 2000), with a possible distribution map of *F. gigantica* antigens expressed in all parasite developmental stages (Cancela *et al*, 2004), and the blood and different organs of naturally infected cattle that was a strong candidate for immuno-diagnosis and vaccine development against fascioliasis.

This study aimed to screen the internal organs for localization of anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb, immunostaining antigens to find a suitable method for zoonotic fascioliasis early diagnosis

Materials and Methods

New Zealand white male rabbits (≈ 3 kg), about 4 months old, were purchased from the Schistosome Biological Supply Program, Theodore Bilharz Research Institute (SBSP, TBRI), Giza. They were kept under standard laboratory care at 21°C & 16% moisture and provided with filtered drinking water and diet (15% protein, 3% fat & 22% fibres).

Adult *F. gigantica* worms were collected out of biliary tracts and gall bladders of fresh infected bovine livers at a slaughterhouse. The live intact worms were washed many times with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS, pH 7.4). Life cycle stages (eggs, miracidiae, cercariae and metacercariae) were purchased from SBSP, TBRI.

Antigen preparation: Mature *F. gigantica* flukes were incubated for 16hr at 37°C in RPMI 1640 (pH 7.3) (Sigma), contained 2% glucose, 30mM HEPES (N-2-hydroxyethyl-piperazine-N-2 ethanesulphonic acid) and 25mg of gentamycin (Sigma). The suspension was centrifuged at 14,900g for 30min and the supernatant (E/S) was collected and stored at -20°C as aliquots until used (Malewong *et al*, 1999). The protein content of E/S antigens was measured by the Bio-Rad protein assay kit (Bradford, 1976).

Immunization: Blood samples were taken from rabbit ears before experiment, and exa-

mined by indirect ELISA for *Fasciola* antibodies and cross reaction with other parasites. Each rabbit received an intramuscular (i.m.) injection as 1mg of *F. gigantica* E/S antigens mixed with equal volume of complete Freund's adjuvant (CFA, Pierce, Rockford, IL, USA). Booster doses (0.5mg E/S in equal volume of incomplete Freund's adjuvant (IFA, Pierce) was administered at 2, 3 & 4wk after the initial dose (Fagbemi *et al*, 1995). Individual sera were collected 4 days after the last injection.

Purification and IgG pAb labeling (Nowotny, 1979): Purification of anti-*Fasciola* IgG pAb sera were performed by ammonium sulphate precipitation after treatment with caprylic acid treatment (Mckinney and Parkinson, 1987). Purified anti-E/S *F. gigantica* was electrophoresed on SDS-PAGE (Harlow and Lane, 1988; Myers (1995). Testing for reactivity and specificity of pAb against different concentrations of *F. gigantica* E/S antigens was done by modified indirect ELISA (Engvall and Perlman, 1971). Standardization of serial dilutions (2.5, 5, 10, 20 & 30 µg/ml) of purified pAb was done by sandwich ELISA. Labeling of pAb was done with horseradish peroxidase (HRP) using periodate technique (Tijssen and Kurstak, 1984).

Preparation of *F. gigantica* life cycle stages: Different stages of *F. gigantica* life cycle (eggs, miracidiae, cercariae & meta-cercariae) were incubated individually for 24hr in dechlorinated water till sedimented. Sediment was fixed in a mixture of equal volumes of 4% buffered glutaraldehyde and 0.2M cacodylate for 1 hr. Mixture was put in a 3mm hole of 1.5% hardened gelose layer followed by another liquefied gelose layer to form blocks was refixed in 10% formalin buffer to prepare 5µ paraffin sections (Mansy, 2004).

Preparation of PBMNCs and different organs of infected cattle: PBMNCs were separated using Ficoll Hepaque (Seramid Biochrom, Berlin), and blood slides were prepared for immunostaining application. Parts of liver, spleen, gall bladder, intestine, kidney, heart and lung were isolated from 10

infected slaughtered cattle and fixed in 10% buffered formalin for 24hr, processed in Department of Pathology in TBRI.

Immunolocalization of *Fasciola* E/S antigens: Prepared slides were immersed overnight in xylene. Except PBMNCs slides, all slides were transferred into graded ethanol (100, 95, & 70%); 5min each, washed with distilled water (Dist. H₂O) for 2min & with 0.05M Tris buffer saline (TBS) for 5min. To block endogenous peroxidase, slides were incubated for 30min in 3% H₂O in methanol. HRP-pAb conjugate [diluted 1:250 with 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA)], was added and incubated in 3% H₂O for 24hr at room temperature. Sections were washed and incubated in dark with diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride (DAB) substrate (Sigma) for 1hr at room temperature. Reaction was stopped with Dist. H₂O. Sections were dehydrated in 70, 90 & 100% ethanol for 5min each, washed 3 times in TBS, and stained with Mayer's hematoxylin for 2min, washed with tap water and mounted in Canada balsam (Bancroft and Gamble, 2002).

Results

By using 12.5% SDS-PAGE technique under reduced condition, 50% ammonium sulphate precipitated protein showed that most albumin was removed from rabbit anti-*Fasciola* E/S products pAb. Precipitated proteins appeared as several bands. More purification of the whole Igs by 7% caprylic acid precipitation removed remaining non-IgG proteins. Purified IgG was represented by H- & d L- chain bands at 53 & 31 kDa, respectively (Fig. 1).

Reactivity of pAb against *F. gigantica* E/S was determined by indirect ELISA and showed strong reactivity to *F. gigantica* E/S 2.622OD reading at 492nm without cross reactivity to other parasitic antigens mainly *Schistosoma* antigens.

Optimum concentration of purified IgG pAb was 20mg/ml, and conjugated IgG pAb was 1:250 dilutions. Immunolocalization technique by using anti-*F. gigantica* E/S showed no specific peroxidase reactions in *F.*

gigantica eggs (Fig. 2). A positive reaction was on tegumental surface and gut region of miracidiae, cercariae and metacercariae (Figs. 3, 4 & 5). A strong reaction was only against cephalic and tail regions of cercariae (Fig. 4). Immuno-staining of *Fasciola* adults showed intense positive brown color along tegument, spine surface, muscularis and gut region (Fig. 6).

Infected liver sections showed a loss of hepatic lobular architecture, damage of hepatocytes, interlobular fibrosis, central calcification and abscess formation. Positive peroxidase reactions (10 cases) were in cytoplasm of liver cells, histiocytes in interlobular lesions and necrotic foci of hepatocytes and Kupffer cells (Fig. 7b), as compared to normal one (Fig. 7a). Infected gallbladder sections showed hyperplasia of mucosal lining with focal erosions led to walls thickening. Lamina was infiltrated by a moderate number of lymphocytes and eosinophils accumulations (Fig. 8a). A positive peroxidase reaction (10 cases) was in cytoplasm of cell lining, in muscularis and mucosa layers compared to normal one (Fig. 8a).

Small intestine sections of infected cattle showed focal superficial erosion of epithelial cells lining the mucosal glands. The submucosa was infiltrated with moderate numbers of lymphocytes with mild reformed blood vessels. Post immunostaining with anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb, a positive peroxidase reaction (8 cases) was in epithelial cells lining mucosal glands (Fig. 9b) as compared to normal uninfected one (Fig. 9a).

Kidney sections of infected cattle showed that tubules and glomeruli were infiltrated by mild numbers of inflammatory cells, thick walls and basement membranes. Post immunostaining with anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb, a positive peroxidase reaction (7 cases) was in the cytoplasm of epithelial cells lining glomeruli and tubules of kidney (Fig. 10b) as compared to normal one (Fig. 10a).

Spleen showed splenomegaly and sections showed a proliferation of solenocytes and lymphocytes. Post immunostaining with anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb showed a positive peroxidase reaction (7 cases) as intracytoplasmic brownish granules in splenic lymphocytes (Fig. 11b) as compared to normal ones (Fig. 11a).

Infected lungs sections showed thickened walls of alveoli with mild infiltration of lymphocytes and plasma cells. Post immunostaining with anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb, showed a positive peroxidase reaction (6 cases) in cells lining alveoli (Fig. 12b) as compared to normal one (Fig. 12a). Cardiac muscle fibres were infiltrated by moderate number of lymphocytes, plasma cells and eosinophils. Post immunostaining with anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb, a positive peroxidase reaction (5 cases) was in the cytoplasm of cardiac muscle fibres (Fig. 13b) as compared to normal one (Fig. 13a).

Examination of PBMNCs of normal cattle showed normal monocytes with a nucleus occupying about half area of the cell that was uniform and eccentrically placed, while cytoplasm was spread out. Monocytes of infected cattle showed a marked activation by significant increase of cell size and extended monocytes pseudopodia. Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb showed a high cytoplasmic organelles positivity in activated monocyte (Fig. 14b), without reaction in normal one (Fig. 14a). Normal lymphocytes were ovoid or kidney-shaped nucleus with densely packed nuclear chromatin with a cytoplasmic rim. Lymphocytes infected cattle showed a marked activation by an increase of cytoplasm with a significant increase of vacuoles. Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S by anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb was in cytoplasm of vacuolated lymphocytes (Fig. 15b), but without reaction in normal one (Fig. 15a).

Discussion

Fascioliasis is a zoonosis caused by *F. hepatica* & *F. gigantica* with a worldwide distribution causing major economic losses (Aksoy *et al.*, 2005). Sheep, goats, cattle, camels, deer, horses, and rabbits are definitive hosts with about 2.4 million people infected worldwide and 180 million at risk (Kamel and Lumely, 2004).

Many serological tests were available for diagnosis but, with low specificity due to cross-reactivity with parasitic antigens (Abdel-Rahman *et al.*, 2000; Attallah *et al.*, 2002). *Fasciola* species release different antigenic components at different development stages in mammalian hosts (Morphew *et al.*, 2007). Several *F. gigantica* Ags with immunodiagnostic potential were identified in flukes' preparations and their E/S products (Espino and Finaly, 1994). E/S antigens contained many enzymes such as glutathione S-transferase (GST), cysteine proteinase and cathepsin L (CL) proteinases (Neyra *et al.*, 2002; Ruis *et al.*, 2003; Collins *et al.*, 2004; Kesik *et al.*, 2007) and actin, the glycolytic enzyme enolase and glyceralde-hydes-3P-dehydrogenase (Morphew *et al.*, 2007). Others reported the thioredoxin reductase in the E/S products from adult worms (Salazar-Calderon *et al.*, 2001; Maggioli *et al.*, 2004), indicating the release of the protein either by active secretion or due to rapid turnover of surface coat. No doubt, E/S antigens formed immune complexes with host antibodies to fascioliasis (El-Kerdany *et al.*, 2002; El Amir *et al.*, 2020). *F. hepatica* E/S products were key players to understand the host-parasite interaction and gave targets for chemo- and immuno-therapy (Morphew *et al.*, 2007).

In the present study, pAb against *Fasciola* E/S antigens demonstrated the presence of highly reactive epitopes on the different life cycle stages of *F. gigantica* as well as on the different organs and PBMNCs of naturally infected cattle. Immunolocalization of antigenic epitopes on different components of *F. gigantica* life cycle stages was studied (Kha-

wsuk *et al.*, 2002; Cancela *et al.*, 2004; Tansatit *et al.*, 2006). Also, the studied, immunoperoxidase techniques utilized the presence of E/S products in adult and in developmental stages. Immunostaining of *Fasciola* adult elicited an intense positive brown color along the tegument, spine surface, muscularis and gut region. The dense-stained granules were spreading throughout the tegumental cytoplasm and in the tegumental cell lying beneath the muscle layer. This agreed with Viyanant *et al.* (1999) using mAb that reacted specifically with the E/S antigens and found intense staining of the luminal content and epithelial cells lining caecum of adult worms. Attallah *et al.* (2002) studied labelled pAb against 26-28 kDa band of *F. gigantica* E/S antigen in adults and different organs of infected cattle, found a positive immunoperoxidase staining in fluke sections of tegument, muscularis and gut cells.

In the present study, immunolocalization showed no staining of egg. Positive staining was in tegumental surface and gut region of miracidiae, cercariae and metacercariae with a strong positive one against cephalic and tail regions of cercariae and metacercarial parenchymal tissue. This agreed with Khawsuk *et al.* (2002) used thioredoxin and Anurapreeda *et al.* (2006) used mAb against recombinant enzymes as glutathione-S-transferase. Also, positive peroxidase reactions were in cytoplasm of liver cells, histiocytes in interlobular lesions and necrotic foci of hepatocytes and Kupffer cells that agreed with Tanimoto *et al.* (1998); Attallah *et al.* (2002) and Gajewska *et al.* (2005), who found a positive peroxidase reaction in cytoplasm of liver cells, and muscularis of gallbladder.

In the present study, a positive peroxidase reaction was in epithelial cells lining intestinal mucosal glands and renal glomeruli and tubules. Kidney tissue showed a mild infiltration of chronic inflammatory cells (especially lymphocytes). This agreed with Marques *et al.* (2004) who found an association between fascioliasis and glomerulopathy due

to immune complexes.

In the present study, immunoperoxidase techniques in infected cattle showed positive peroxidase reaction in the cells lining lung alveoli and cardiac muscle fibres. This agreed with President *et al.* (1974) who found a granuloma on left lung dorsal border and inflammatory cells accumulation in a track associated with fluke in epicardium of *F. hepatica* infected white-tailed deer. Also, the PBMNCs from infected cattle showed high positivity in phagosomes, activated monocytes and cytoplasm of lymphocytes, which agreed with Intapan *et al.* (2005), Wongkham *et al.* (2005) and Mezo *et al.* (2007) who diagnosed sheep fascioliasis by E/S antigens in infected blood.

Conclusion

E/S antigens released from *Fasciola* surface, intestine and blood system, as membrane-bound antigens, expressed in all developmental stages and in different organs of naturally infected cattle. It proved as a candidate for immuno-diagnosis and vaccine development. E/S antigens, especially in blood helped in early fascioliasis diagnosis.

Author contributions: All authors equally contributed in this work.

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Explanation of figures

Fig 1: 12.5% SDS-PAGE of anti-*F. gigantica* E/S pAb stained with Coomassie blue, Lane 1: Mw standard proteins, Lane 2: Crude anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb, Lane 3: Precipitated proteins after 50% ammonium sulfate treatment & Lane 4: Purified IgG pAb after 7% caprylic acid treatment.

Fig 2: *F. gigantica* eggs (a) Negative control slide without anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb. (b) Section with anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb., without positive staining of egg on either section (Immunostained, DAB x400).

Fig 3: (a) *F. gigantica* miracidiae showed negative peroxidase reactions. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb on *F. gigantica* miracidiae showed a positive peroxidase reaction visualized on the tegumental surface (small arrow) and gut (large arrow) of miracidiae (Immunostained, DAB x400).

Fig 4: (a) *F. gigantica* cercariae showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb of *F. gigantica* cercariae showed a positive peroxidase reaction along tegumental surface of cercariae (large arrow) and same reaction in gut cells (head arrow) and tail (small arrow) (Immunostained, DAB x400).

Fig 5: (a) *F. gigantica* metacercariae showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb of *F. gigantica* metacercariae section showed intense positive brown color mainly in tegument (arrow) and gut region (g), & parenchymal tissue (p) (Immunostained, DAB x400).

Fig 6: (a) Adult *F. gigantica* showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb of adult *F. gigantica* section showed immunostain, DAB x200).

Fig 7: (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in liver section of uninfected cattle, showed negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in liver section of *F. gigantica* heavily infected cattle showed a positive peroxidase reaction in cytoplasm of liver cells (small arrow), kupffer cells, histocytes (large arrow) in interlobular lesions and hepatocytes necrotic foci (Immunostained, DABx200).

Fig 8: (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in gallbladder section of uninfected cattle showed negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in infected cattle gallbladder section, showed positivity in muscularis (arrow) and blood vessels layers (head arrow) (Immunostained, DABx200).

Fig 9: (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by using anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in small intestine section of uninfected cattle showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by using anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in infected cattle small intestine section, showed positivity in epithelial cells lining small intestinal glands (arrow) (Immunostained, DAB x400).

Fig 10: (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by using anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in uninfected cattle kidney section, showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by using anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in infected cattle kidney section, showed a positive peroxidase reaction in cytoplasm of epithelial cells lining glomeruli (large arrow) and tubule (small arrow) (Immunostained, DAB x200).

Fig 11: (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by anti-*F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in uninfected cattle spleen section, showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in infected cattle spleen section showed a positive peroxidase reaction in lymphocytes (arrow) (Immunostained, DABx200).

Fig 12: (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by using anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in uninfected cattle lung section, showed a negative peroxidase reaction (Immunostained, DAB X200). (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in infected cattle lung section showed positivity in cytoplasm of cells lining alveoli (arrow) (Immunostained, DAB x200).

Fig 13: (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by using anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in uninfected cattle heart section, showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in heart section of *F. gigantica* infected cattle showed positivity in cytoplasm of cardiac muscle fiber (arrow) (Immunostained, DAB x200).

Fig 14: PBMNCs (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in uninfected cattle monocytes showed negative peroxidase reactions. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in infected cattle monocytes showed high positivity in phagolysosomes, intracytoplasmic granules (large arrow) and pseudopodiae (head arrow) (Geimsa x400).

Fig 15: PBMNCs (a) Immunoperoxidase technique of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in lymphocyte of uninfected cattle showed a negative peroxidase reaction. (b) Immunoperoxidase localization of E/S products by anti- *F. gigantica* E/S IgG pAb in lymphocyte from infected cattle showed high positivity in cytoplasm of lymphocyte (arrow) (Geimsa x400)



