

# SOME SAINT PHYSICIANS OF DECCAN

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There is a vast difference of opinion about the early beginnings of medical science. It is a branch of science of wisdom result of constant working of the human mind. There are different opinions about the founders of the medical science. Some consider Indians as founders while others hold that founders were Kaladanis; again some consider the Egyptians were its inventors while others the Greeks as those who introduced it. Whatever may be the views on origin of science, it is to be considered as a result of the profound human thought and observation. The study of history reveals that this science was brought up in the laps of spiritual personalities. Their inspirations and dreams have caused enlightenment in human minds. Their experiments nourished and have furnished us with this kind of thinking and observation. Be it the history of science of medicine, or the information derived from the excavated ruins of the ancient Egypt, or the medical knowledge got from old Greece, or the claims of the Babilonians or the achievements in medical field made in India, each period holds an evidence that in the development of science of medicine the spiritual personalities have played an important role.

In the history of Deccan, too, one comes across the names of great men whose spiritual power was unquestionable; of them some were physicians too; their disciples preserved the knowledge by propagating. Due to lack of continuity in this, the work and its authors are almost forgotten today.

A name of great famous Saint found in the books on the history of medicine is that of Hazarat Khaja Benda Nawaz. Quazi Moinuddin Rahber Farooqi writes in his book, "Islami Tibb Shahana Sarprasthiyun Main" that Khaja Benda Nawaz came to Gulbarga from Delhi. He was mentally and spiritually advanced. In many of the arts and sciences he was an authority. He wrote in his life time more than hundred books which were considered monumental. He had profound interest in medicine and had mastery over it. He wrote several books on medical science.

Hekeem Abdul Wahab Zahoori, the former Principal of the Nizamia Tibbi College, Hyderabad, in his article under the title "The physicians of Qutub Shahi Era and their works" made a mention of a Hyderabad Saint Mir Momin who was also a Physician. The multi-talented personality of Mir Momin rose to high excellence and esteem in the Qutub Shahi Sultanate. He saw the reign of two rulers (Sultans) namely Mohammed Quli Qutab Shah and Sultan Mohammed Qutub Shah and occupied the key post of Prime Minister during the reign of both and exercised the entire administrative authority. Mir Momin belonged to the eminent Sadaat of Ustharabad. The rulers and the nobles of Persia showed great regard to his ancestors. His father's name was Syed Aliuddin Samaki. But in his treatise (Risala-e-Miqdaria) written in his own hand he writes his name and his father's name thus: 'Abd-e-Mamoor Mohammed

Momin Bin Ali al-Hussaini'. Mir's date of birth is not exactly known but it can be said that he was born prior to 960 A. H./1554 A. D., because prior to 986 A. H. 1579 A. D., Shah Tehmasep had appointed him as the tutor of his son. It is evident from this that when he left Iran (Persia) in 989 A. H./1582 A. D. and reached Hyderabad, his age was not less than 30 years. It is said that he was not only a spiritual saint but a physician gifted with high faculties. It was he who prepared the plan of City of Hyderabad. He took part in determining the site and location for Charminar, Daru'l-Shifa, and Daira; with his consultation the palaces were also built. When the Daulat Khan-e-Aali was constructed and four arches were built around it with Jilo-Khana, beside the arch leading to the palace, a pillar of stone was set up with a view to make the evil spell and intention of the entrant null and void. For this reason this arch even this day is known as "Sehr-e-Bathil Ki Kaman" though the magic pillar is not there nor the door made of sandal and gold. This pillar besides shattering the spell proved to be so sacred that if once the patient touched it, he got relieved of his sickness. Because of this, the physicians lost their professional business. After the death of Mir Momin, the physicians got the stone removed from its place and took it outside the City and threw it into a well of the Alwal village. After a long time people came to know that whoever bathed in the well got recovered. Thus the well was thronged by patients. The physicians again removed the stone out of the well and hid it at some unknown place. In respect of Mir's books on medicine, Hekeem Zahoori specially referred to "Risala-e-Miqdaria" and "Iqthiyarat-e-Qutub Shahiya".

Iqthiyarat-e-Qutub Shahiya is dedicated to Mohammed Quli Qutub Shah which is explanatory to the book 'Iqthiyarat-e-Badiyee' of Ali Bin Al-Hussain al-Ansari in 1330-1403 A. D.

In the Library of the Indian Institute of History of Medicine there is a book "Guldasta-e-Tajallyath" written by Syed Mohiuddin Qadari. The author says about Saint Khaja Mahboob Allah (1263 to 1313 Hijri) as an able physician who wrote a book on prescriptions which remained unpublished. It is mentioned there that Mohammed Abdul Muqtadir Siddiqi heard from the Hazarat that he (Hazarat) got knowledge of medicine by means of intuition. Towards the end of the book it is written that many of the physicians tried these prescriptions. The Hazarat was a great saint whose followers themselves were scholars and learned men. His name is well known throughout the city of Hyderabad and also famous in India.

It is also written that the third son of Khaja Mahboob Allah was a physician whose name was Hekeem Syed Mohammed Baqer Hussaini. He got his preliminary education in Saudi Arabia. He was taught medicine by late Hekeem Hari Govind Das who was well versed in Ayurveda besides Yunani treatment. It is mentioned that he was also expert in curing the patients by his spiritual power. He had also keen interest in the art of history. Hekeem Baqar Husaini also used to publish a monthly magazine 'Alnoor' which continued for a long time. He had a good knowledge in

Arabic. He used to translate the Arabic articles for his own magazine. He used to contribute articles to "Hekeem-e-Deccan" as well.

The study of history reveals the role of spiritual persons in the field of medicine. The experiences of these leaders of medicine have an inspiring effect on the practice and progress of medicine. It is well worth to search the medical lore of their times for any hidden treasure.

## SUMMARY

It is revealed in the study that some saintly people of the world have played an important role in the development of the medical science in different parts. The paper refers to a few of those people. Reference to Khaja Banda Nawaz, Mir Momin, Mahbood Allah and Syed Mohammed Baqir Hussaini is made in this paper.

सारांश

दक्कन के कुछ सिद्ध वैद्य

ले० एस्. ए. हुसैन

विश्व का इतिहास पढ़ने से मालूम होता है कि दुनिया के विभिन्न भागों में कुछ ऐसे महात्मा हुए हैं जिन्होंने चिकित्सा विज्ञान के विकास में महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है। इस निबन्ध में ऐसे ही कुछ लोगों के संदर्भ दिये गये हैं। इनके संदर्भों में खाजा बन्दा नवाज, मीर मोमिन, खाजा महबूब अल्लाह और सैयद मु० बकीर हुसैनी के उल्लेख हुए हैं।