

A BRIEF HISTORY OF AYURVEDA IN HYDERABAD

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ABSTRACT

This article contains a brief History of Ayurveda in Hyderabad. It can be proudly stated that, this system is prevailing here since foundation of this city in 1590 A.D. As it is said that, the physicians of Ayurveda and Unani both were among the staff of the first general hospital of Hyderabad city 'Darush-shifa' which was constructed in 1595 A.D.

After the Qutub Shahi period the rulers of Asafjahi dynasty also patronised this system. The physicians of this period not only run their clinics but they also taught this system to their pupils privately.

Due to the efforts of some eminent Ayurvedic physicians, Ayurveda progressed well. The names and the photos of these physicians have been given in this article. Now this system has a good status here with well established college, hospital and research department etc.

The city of Hyderabad was founded by Mohammad Quli Qutub Shah (1580-1612 AD.). During this period Ayurveda and Unani medical systems were prevalent here. The Qutub Shahi kings gave due patronage to these systems of medicine and the first general hospital "Darush-Shifa" (House of Cure) was built in the city of Hyderabad in 1595 A.D. The hospital was intended for the

treatment of the patients and also to impart medical education to students. It is said that the physicians of both these systems were among the staff of this hospital. The treatment and diet were provided free of cost to as many as 400 patients at a time. It seems, this hospital came to defunct with the fall of Qutub Shahi dynasty after the invasion by Aurangazeb the Moughal emperor in 1687 A.D. This

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necessitated the private Vaidyas and Hakeems to take-up the teaching programme privately. After the fall of the Qutub Shahi dynasty when Hyderabad came under the rule of Asafjahi dynasty in 1724 A.D., the following private Vaidyas and Hakeems flourished under the patronage of the Asafjahi kings i.e. Nizam I to Nizam VI. Khammal (a famous Jerrah) during the period of Nizam I (1724-1748 A.D.)—Pallanaha, a famous Jerrah during the period of Nizam-II (1761-1803 A.D.) Ram Bhatta, Venkatram, Jagannath, Ramchander etc the Ayurvedic physicians during the period of Nizam III (1803-1829 A.D.), Vaidya Shankar Das, during the period Nizam VI (1868-1911 A.D.).

Among these physicians, Vaidya Sankar Das has also taken up the teaching profession, which was continued by his grand son Vaidya Rajju Lal for several years in the absence of any government recognised hospital/college.

During the early nineteenth century, epidemics of plague and influenza broke out and prevailed for a long time. Though Ayurvedic physicians of that time rendered their services effectively but scarcity of these physicians was felt very much, which prompted to establish an Ayurvedic school to overcome this problem. The proposal was initiated at the 'Hyderabad Nizam Ayurvedic & Unani Conference'

organised by Pt. Harigovind during 1919-20. He invited some enthusiastic young men of adequate social standing to work for the cause of development of Ayurveda on voluntary basis. Vaidya Narayan Das, Vaidya Ramkisthayya, Vaidya Prabhudaya, Vaidya Surajprasad, Vaidya Ram Raj, Vaidya D. Janardhan agreed with the idea and extended their services. In due course more and more physicians started showing interest towards this cause. Nine eminent physicians viz. 1. Vaidya Narsingh Prasad, 2. Pt. Radhakrishna, 3. Vaidya Ramanujaswami, 4. Vaidya Shanker Prasad, 5. Vaidya Janardhan, 6. Vaidya Ram Raj, 7. Vaidya M. A. Rangachary, 8. Vaidya Markendeyulu, 9. Vaidya Ram Das (Fig. 1), came forward to establish an Ayurvedic school with its central dispensary and signed an agreement in 1933 (Fig. 2). The proposed Ayurvedic school was established at Sultan Bazar as a private institute with four years Diploma course, which was later inaugurated by the Prince of Berar in 1935 (Fig. 3). It was appropriated by the Government in 1941 prior to independence. Nizam's Government sanctioned Rs 35,000 - per annum budget and established Department of Ayurveda in 1940-41. After independence of India the then Hon'ble Health Minister Shri Phoolchand Gandhi of the Dr. Boorgula Rama Krishna Rao's cabinet of the then Hyderabad State, showed keen interest during 1950-51 towards the upliftment of Ayurvedic system.

The existence of private Ayurvedic clinics and the grants allocated to these clinics are found in old reports of the administration of H.E.H. The Nizam's Dominion. As per some documents the amount of grant was Rs. 100/- for a clinic. Rahber Farooqui in his work "Islami Tibb" page. 194, while mentioning the activities performed in 1346 Fasali (1927 A.D.) states that Rs. 10,140/- were granted as an aid to the Ayurvedic physicians of all the districts

According to another sources 'The Report on the Administration of H.E.H., The Nizam's Dominion'-1937-38' and 'Nizamul Amal Nizamia Tibbi College' published by Government at the time of the inauguration of college, an amount of Rs. 35 000, - was earmarked in the budget 1940-41 for the advancement of Ayurvedic system. A scheme was also prepared and submitted to the Government for the opening of a Government Ayurvedic Dispensary in the city with an Ayurvedic College attached to it.

Thereafter reorganisation of Indian systems of medicine i.e. Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy took place and all these systems were brought under one Board of Ayurveda (Majlis-e-Mashavarath Ayurveda) and a special officer was appointed as an Administrative head of the Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy Depart-

ment. The post of Special Officer was also upgraded as Director from 1968 onwards, which was again upgraded as Commissioner from 1992. A list of the special officers/Directors and Commissioner with their tenures is given in table 1

In the beginning in the Ayurvedic college, as stated earlier there was four years Diploma course 'Ayurveda Visharad'. In 1954 G.C.A.M. course with modern subjects was introduced. These graduates were awarded G.C.I.M. after completing further nine months course in modern medicine and then they were allowed to use allopathic drugs also for treating the patients. In 1960 a five and half years Shuddha Ayurvedic Course "Ayurveda Praveena" was started, duration of which was reduced to four and half years in 1964. In the year 1969 the Govt. Ayurvedic College, Hyderabad was affiliated to the Osmania University. Since then a degree of B.A.M.S. (four and half years course) was awarded till 1978. Thereafter the five and half years B.A.M.S. course of Central Council of Indian Medicine, New Delhi was introduced, which is continuing till date.

The college was shifted to various places starting from Sultan Bazar in the beginning, viz., Jambagh, Troop Bazar, Himayatnagar, Charminar (Sardar Mahal), Sha Alibanda (Maharaja Kishan Pershad Palace),

Yakutpura, Tarnaka, Abid Road, and finally on 2nd May 1984 to its own building at Erragadda and then it was renamed as Dr. Boorgula Rama-krishna Rao Government Ayurvedic College (Fig. 4 to 8). This college was affiliated to the University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada on 1st November, 1986.

The main departments of the Dr. B.R.K.R. Govt. Ayurvedic college are Basic Principles, Sharira Rachana, Sharir Kriya, Dravyaguna, Rasashastra, Bhaishajyakalpana, Swasthawritta, Agaditantra, Kayachikitsa, Shalya Shalakyas and Prasuti - Streeroga. Each department has one professor, two assistant professors and two lecturers.

M.D. (Ayurveda) a Post-graduate course of three years duration was started by this college in Kayachikitsa in the year 1973, in Shalya Shalakyas and Prasuti in the year 1981. Recently, M.D. (Ayurveda) in Dravyaguna was started in the year 1992. Each student has to select a problem for his specialised subject in which he has to appear at M.D. final examination. He requires to write his dissertation based on his study, observations and compilation collected from Ayurvedic literature and other sources.

This college has a library with 5,000 books and journals. A list of the principals of this college with

their tenure is given in Table-II. One post of Vice-Principal was also sanctioned to this college from 1988.

1. Government Ayurvedic Hospital :

This hospital provides clinical facilities to the under-graduate and post-graduate students of the Ayurvedic college. It was started in the year 1948 with 40 beds, in the premises of Nizamia Tibbi College at Charminar. Later, 40 more beds were also granted to Ayurvedic Research Department. There are at present 180 beds, in the Ayurvedic hospital, out of which certain number of beds are allotted to each of the departments of the college along with O.P.D. facilities. In addition to this, there are departments of Panchakarma established in 1955 and a pathological laboratory established in 1971 and 'X' ray department was also started in 1976. A total number of 139 medical and para medical staff is there in the Government Ayurvedic Hospital under the control of the Superintendent of the Government Ayurvedic hospital. The Superintendents since inception to till date are Dr. Asha Nanda Pancharatna, Dr. M. Mallikarjuna Rao, Dr. C. K. Diwakaran, Dr. Raja Ram Sharma, Dr. M. Sita Ramayya, Dr. M. Ananta Swamy, Dr. A. Narhari Reddy, Dr. R. N. Sharma, Dr. M.A Chary, Dr. (Mrs.) Prabha Devi and Dr. A. Laxmikant Reddy.

2. Government Ayurvedic Research Department :

This department was started in 1958 in the premises of the Government hospital with 40 beds. It is engaged in Research activities to evaluate efficacy of various single and compound Ayurvedic drugs on various types of ailments under the supervision and guidance of a Research Officer. The names of the Research Officers from its inception to till date are : Dr. M. Mallikarjuna Rao, Dr. Purushottam Dev Multani, Dr. K. Babu Rao, Dr. L. N. Gupta, Dr. A. Narahari Reddy, Dr. Purushottamachari, Dr. Indra Dev Shastri, Dr. V. Ramanujachari, and Dr. P. V. Raj.

3. Government Ayurvedic Pharmacy :

The pharmacy was established in the year 1949 in the premises of Nizamia Tibbi College to prepare genuine Ayurvedic & Unani medicines

according to the methods of preparation given in classics and to supply these medicines to the Government Ayurvedic and Unani hospitals and dispensaries functioning under the Indian Medicine Department throughout the State of Andhra Pradesh. This pharmacy was shifted to its own building at Katedan industrial area in the year 1979. The pharmacy bifurcated into two independent pharmacies - one for Ayurveda and another for Unani. The Ayurvedic pharmacy is now-a-days preparing in all 150 Ayurvedic preparations for 6 hospitals and 543 dispensaries. A total number of 74 technical and administrative staff is under the control of Chief Superintendent (Pharmacy) (Fig. 11 & 12). The names of the heads of the Pharmacy since its inception to till date are: Dr. Purushottam Dev Multani, Dr. M. Raghava Chary, Dr. P. Seshi Reddy, Dr. T. Sripathi Rao, Dr. Bhagat Singh, Dr. C. Balaji Singh and Dr. K. Narasimha Reddy.

TABLE — I

SPECIAL OFFICERS :

Shri M. Ramappa	-- June 1956 -- November 1956.
Shri M. Vishveswar Shastry	— December 1956 to June 1959.
Shri Roy Ramchander Asthana	— July 1959 to December 1963.
Shri Hanumantha Reddy	— December 1963 -- December 1968.

DIRECTORS :

Shri B. Shivachandra	—	December 1968 to February 1973.
Shri B. Narasimhulu	—	March 1973 to August 1979.
Shri A. R. Jayaprakash	—	March 1979 to November 1980.
Shri T. Narayana Reddy	—	November 1980 to May 1981.
Shri M. V. Ranga Reddy	—	May 1981 to March 1982.
Shri C. Hanumantha Rao	—	March 1982 to March 1983.
Shri B. S. Dinkar	—	March 1983 to July 1984.
Shri G. S. R. C. V. Prasad Rao	—	August 1984 to June 1986.
Shri N. V. H. Shastri	—	June 1986 to August 1989.
Shri R. Ramchandra	—	August 1989 to November 1991.
Shri B. Arvinda Reddy	—	November 1991 to December 1992.

COMMISSIONERS :

Shri Y. Rajgopal Singh	—	17th December 1992 — Continued.
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TABLE — II

PRINCIPALS :

Dr. Radha Krishna Dwivedi	—	1940 – 1945
Dr. Joshi	—	1946 – 1948
Dr. Ashananda Pancha Ratna	—	1948 – 1951
Dr. V. R. Andurkar	—	1952 – 1956
Dr. C. Mallikarjuna Rao	—	1956 – 1957
Dr. C. K. Diwakaran	—	1957 – 1968
Dr. I. Sanjeeva Rao	—	1969 – 1978
Dr. P. Seshi Reddy	—	1978 – 1980
Dr. M. Shankar Shastry	—	1980 – 1983
Dr. M. Sharabhayya Sharma	—	1983 – 1984
Dr. P. Seshi Reddy	—	1984 – 20.9.1984
Dr. M. Sharabhayya Sharma	—	1984 – 1985
Dr. P. Seshi Reddy	—	1985 – 1992
Dr. T. Srinivasa Rao	—	1992 – 1994
Dr. K. Narsimha Reddy	—	1994 – Continued.

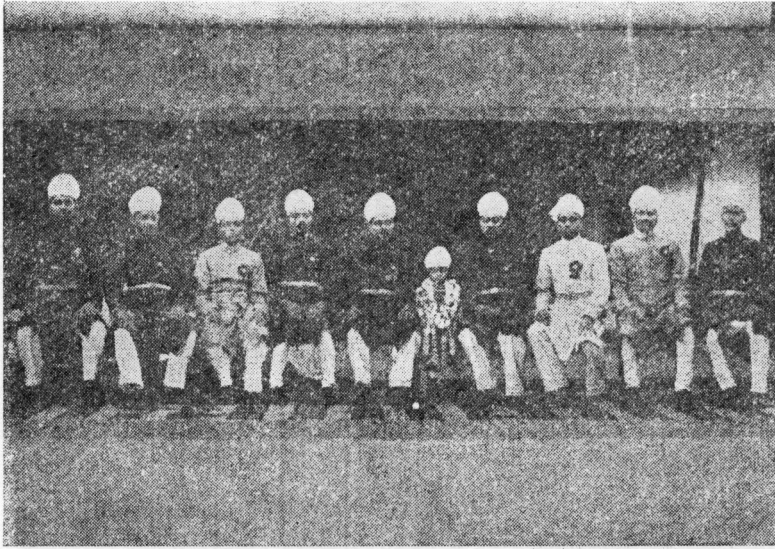


Fig. 1. Right to Left : 1. HK. Narsingh Prasad, 2. Pt. Radha Krishna, 3. HK. Ramanuja Swami, 4. HK. Shanker Prasad, 5. HK. Janardhana 6. HK. Ram Raj, 7. HK. M. A. Rangachary, 8. HK. Markandeyulu, 9. HK. Ramdas.

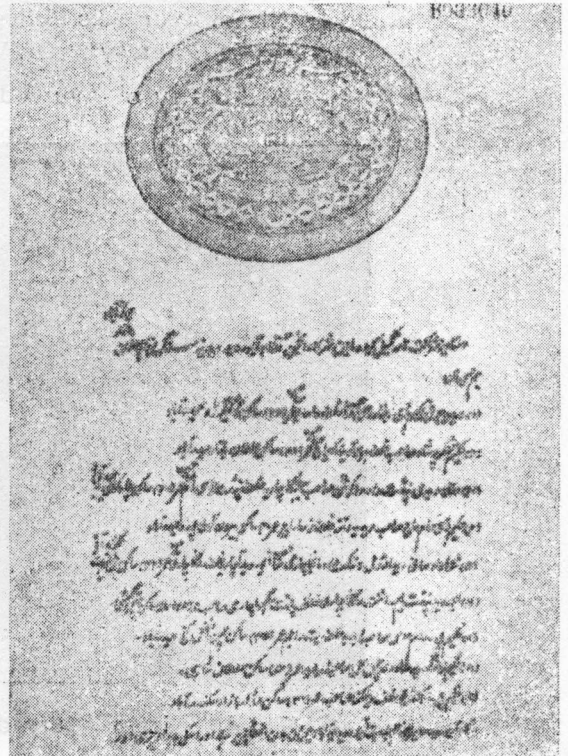
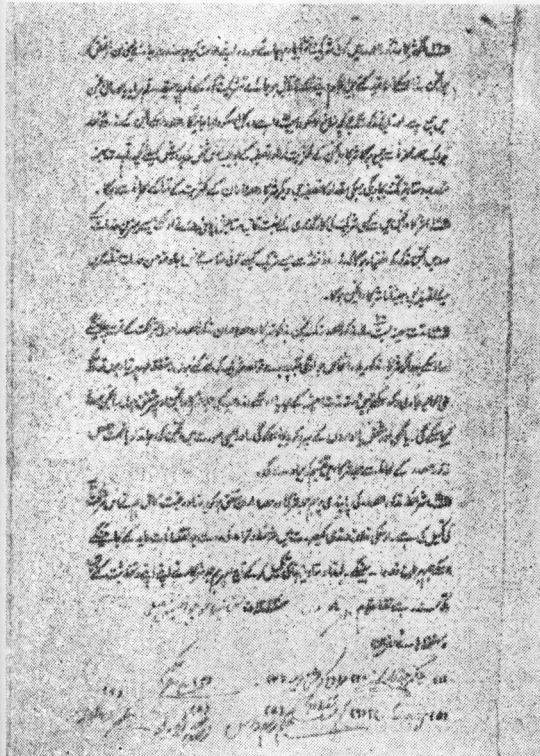


Fig. 2. First and last page of an agreement in 1933.
(Courtesy : Dr. Venkata Rama Raju)

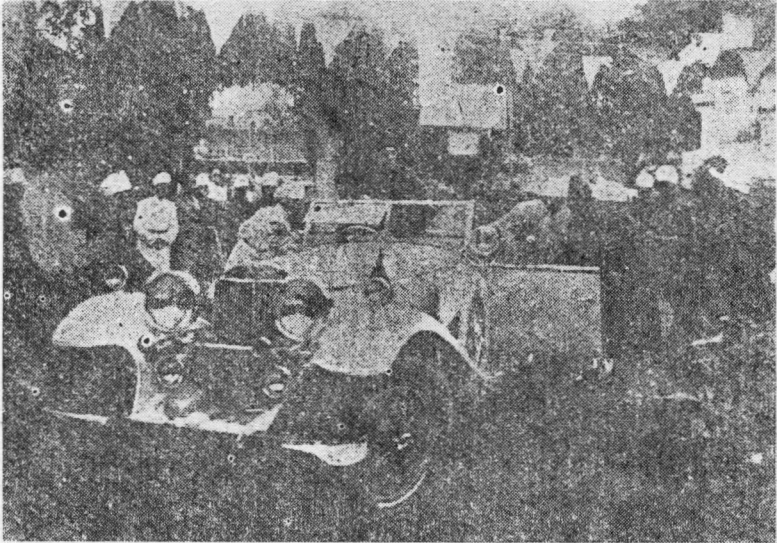


Fig. 3. Arrival of Prince of Berar on the inauguration of Nizam Ayurvedic College, Sultan Bazar in 1935.
(Courtesy : Dr. Venkata Rama Raju)

A Journey of Ayurvedic College (Fig. 4 to 8)



Fig. 4 Nizam Ayurvedic College at Troop Bazar.

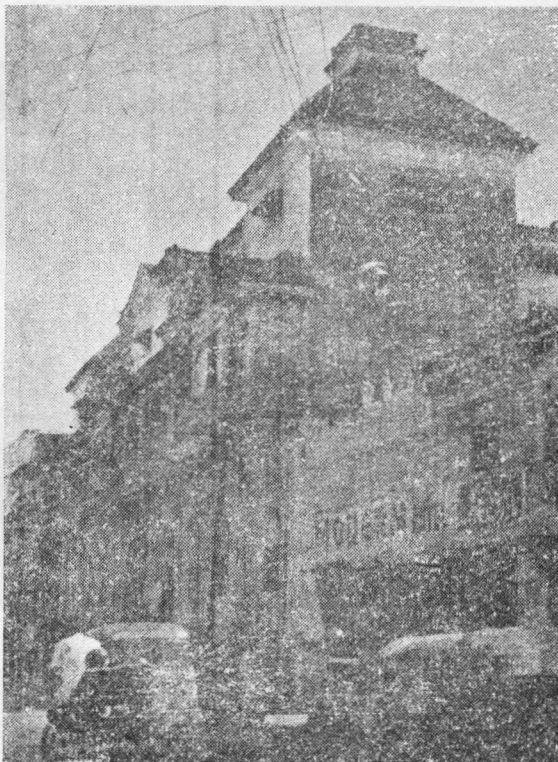


Fig. 5. Govt. Ayurvedic College at Sardar Mahal (Near Charminar).

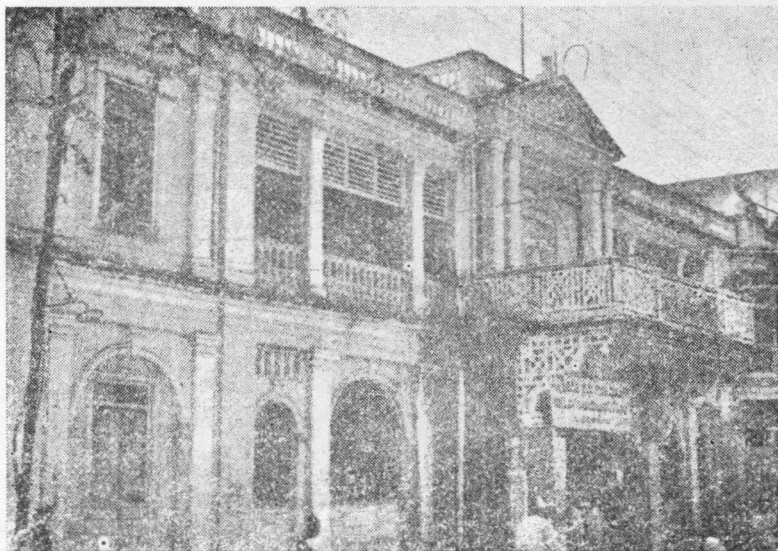


Fig. 6. Govt. Ayurvedic College at Maharaja Kishan Pershad Palace (Sha-Alibunda)

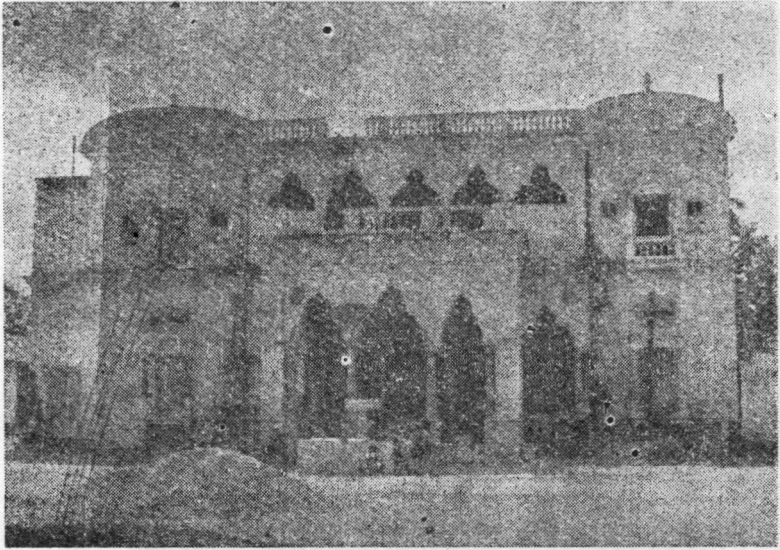


Fig. 7. Govt. Ayurvedic College at Yakutpura.

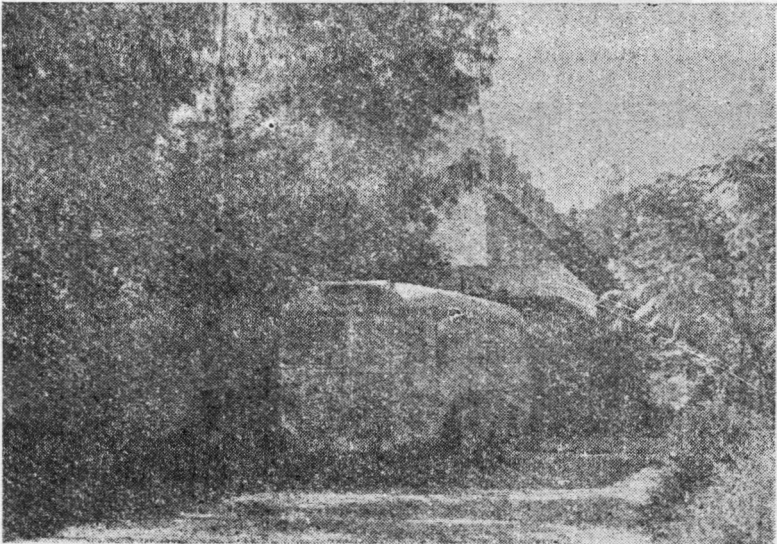


Fig. 8. Dr. B. R. K. R. Govt. Ayurvedic College at Erragada.

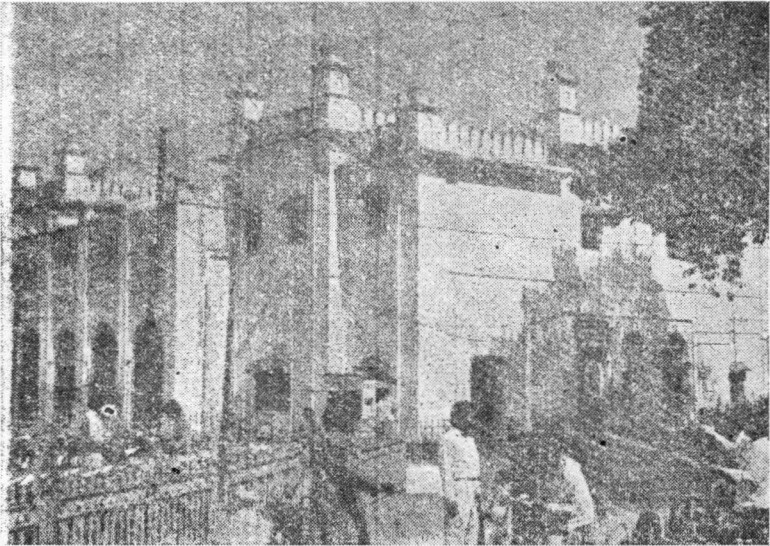


Fig. 9. Out-patient Block Govt. Ayurvedic Hospital, Charminar.

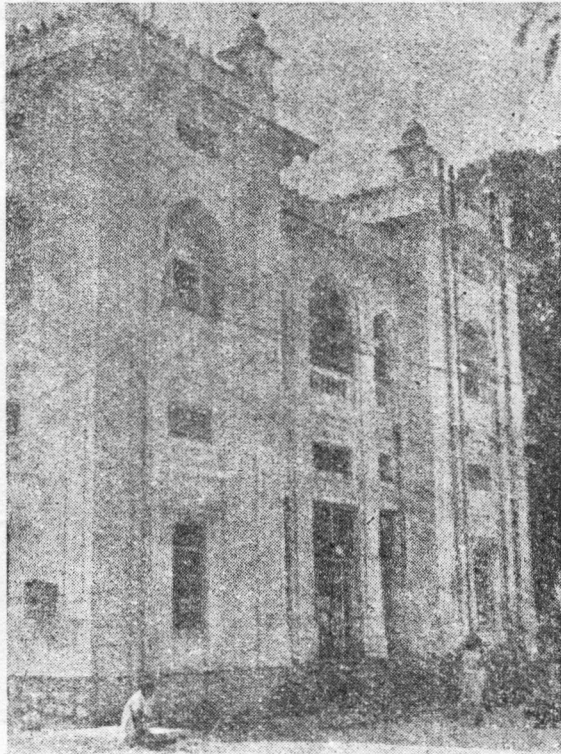


Fig. 10. In-patient Block Govt. Ayurvedic Hospital, Charminar.



Fig. 11. Govt. Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Katedan.

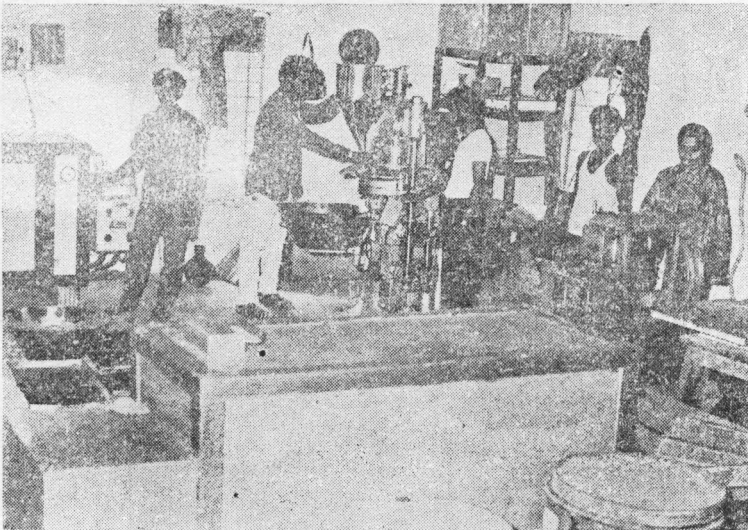


Fig. 12. An Internal View of the Pharmacy.

सारंश

हैदराबाद में आयुर्वेद का संक्षिप्त इतिहास

—विनोद कुमार भटनागर,

एस. ए. हुसेन,

मोमिन अली

यह बात गर्व के साथ कही जा सकती है कि आयुर्वेद चिकित्सा पद्धति हैदराबाद में 1590 ईसवी में इसकी स्थापना के समय से ही विद्यमान है। यहाँ 1595 ईसवी में निर्मित 'दारुषिफा' नामक प्रथम सार्वजनिक चिकित्सालय में आयुर्वेद तथा यूनानी दोनों चिकित्सा पद्धतियों के चिकित्सक कार्यरत थे। कुतुबशाही शासनोपरान्त आसफजाही शासकों ने भी इस चिकित्सा पद्धति को संरक्षण प्रदान किया। यहाँ के अनेक उच्चकोटि के आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सकों के प्रयत्नों से आयुर्वेद का यहाँ पर अच्छा विकास हुआ। अब सुव्यवस्थित महाविद्यालय चिकित्सालय एवं अनुसंधान विभाग इत्यादि के साथ यह पद्धति एक अच्छी स्थिति में है।