

TODARAMALLA

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ABSTRACT

Todaramalla was a famous physician, scholar, statesman, Finance and Revenue Minister in the court of Akbar. One of the oldest commentary namely 'Manojna' was written by him on Ashtanga Hridaya. He was patriot of Ayurveda and author of 23 series of works in the form of encyclopedia called 'Todarananda'. Ayurveda saukhyam is one among the Todarananda. The biography of Todaramalla has been presented here.

Todaramalla was a famous physician, scholar statesman, Finance and Revenue minister in the court of Moghul Emperor, Akbar the Great, who ruled India during the 16th century A.D.¹

The orthography of the name Todaramalla varies widely. Maharajadhiraja Todaramalla is one among the commentators of Ashtanga Hridaya according to the colophon of the preserved parts of his Ayurvedic work, entitled "Ayurveda Saukhyam, which is one among the 23 different subjects in the form of encyclopaedia entitled Todarananda.^{2,4} One of the oldest commentary namely 'Manojna' was written by him on Ashtanga Hridaya. This has not come into the lime light in the history of Ayurveda. Ashtanga Hridaya has as many as 37 commentaries, the largest number for any early medical classic the earliest extant among them is also the most illumining and most often printed, 'Sarvanga Sundara' by Arunadatta (about 1200 AD). Some commentaries still in manuscripts are now available in several libraries in India and outside.

According to Ma-aw-Sirul Umara (Memories of Nobles) compiled by Nawab

Shamsamuddowla, Todaramalla was one of the Khatries of Lahore, a learned, wise statesman and a brave commander. He was trained and patronized by the Emperor Akbar. He joined as clerk in finance department, elevated to a rank of 4000 and became a Amir (Noble).¹ After many successful campaigns against the rebels, he was promoted as the Vazir or Dewan of the Emperor in Hijri 990 (1582 A.D.). With reference to Akbar Nama, he brought many reforms in the financial and political state of the country and made rules and regulations for wise government. His advice to Hindus to learn Persian language had made many enemies from his co-religionists and one person made an unsuccessful attempt on his life in 1587. Due to old age and sickness, he tendered his resignation in 1589 from the Akbar's service, which was accepted unwillingly by Akbar. Again Akbar requested him to return and take charge of the problems of the people. Todaramalla reluctantly accepted the request of his master and returned to the Akbar's court and resumed his duties. Abul Fazal has mentioned that in straight forwardness, in fulfilling his duties in han-

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dling the forces, and in bravery, he had no equal. In grasping and solving the problems of India, he was the only one capable man of his time.

In his mission to revive and revitalise Hindu culture both in the religious and secular fields, he took the help of several eminent Sanskrit scholars of Varanasi and composed encyclopaedic works on 23 different subjects by collecting material from the texts which were available in those days and added knowledge and experiences of the experts to his gigantic work known as 'Todarananda. It includes an extensive medical work known as "Ayurveda Saukhyam" which deals with the diseases and their treatment.

Parentage and place of birth:

Todaramalla was popularly known as Raja Todaramalla, hailed from Oudh in Uttar Pradesh,³ India. According to Blochmann, who translated 'Ain-I-Akbari' of Abul Fazzal, he was born at Lahore. He belongs to Kshatriya by community and Tandana by clan. The clan Tandana is used by the people of Kshatriya and Kayastha community of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. His family back ground and ancestors genealogy³ from Bala were as follows:

Bala
Attali
Damodara
Assu
Dvaraka Dasa
Dvija Malla
Bhagavati Dasa
Todaramalla

Todaramalla's father Bhagavati Dasa died when he was very young.

His Associates:

Imprint on the title page given at the end of each chapter of Ayurveda

Saukhyam, shows this medical work by Todaramalla. There were 23 series of works to his credit. It appears to be very difficult for him to study all these subjects in depth and to find time for their compilation because he was extremely busy in wars and administrative matters in the court of Akbar. However, a number of expert scholars of Banaras, viz. Pandit Narayana Bhatta etc. (Most of scholars names were not mentioned). The verses of Bhava Prakash, Madhava's Dravyaguna are found in the Ayurveda Saukhyam, Bhava Mishra happened to be in 16th century A.D. It appears Bhava Mishra might be contemporary or associated with Todaramalla. Abul Fazzal mentions that four Hindu physicians. Mahadev, Bhimnath, Narain and Siwaji and three Hindu surgeons Chundersen, Bhairam and Bairjiu (he is said to be Gujarati having skill in surgery and in the use of collyriums) were at Akbar's court.

His Date:

Historians say that Todaramalla's period may be between 1520-1589 A.D., Since the exact date of birth is not known. According to Ain-I-Akbari, he joined the service of Akbar the great in 1573. He died on 10th November, 1589 A.D. (11th day of A.H. 998)³

Religion and Philosophy:

Though he was an employee and close confidant of a muslim emperor, he was staunch and orthodox Hindu³ and well versed in all ancient Hindu culture and science. According to invocations in the beginning of each Harsha (chapter) of 'Ayurveda Saukhyam' etc. works replete with references to the adoration of Lord Krishna. Once when he accompanying Akbar, he left the idols of Krishna at home due to the hurry for departure to Punjab and as he transacted for several days,

without food and water inspite of strong persuasion by his employer the Emperor Akbar. He left his fasting when the idols were brought back to him.

Works:

There were 23 series of works to his credit. These are all collectively in the form of encyclopaedia called 'Todarananda.' It means the work which delights 'Todaramalla.' All these works divided into several chapters called 'Harshas'

1. Sarga Saukhyam (The work on the creation of the universe.)
2. Avatara Saukhyam (The work on the ten incarnations of Vishnu.)
3. Kalaganana Saukhyam (The work on the calculation of the time.)
4. Kalanirnaya Saukhyam (The work on the fixation of suitable time and date for the performance of various religious rites.)
5. Desha Saukhyam (The work on the determination of suitable places for the construction of the houses, temples etc.)
6. Samskara Saukhyam (The work dealing with various rites for the twice born).
7. Achara Saukhyam (The work dealing with daily conduct.)
8. Shuddhi Saukhyam (The work dealing with purity and impurity as a result of the birth or death of a person in the family.)
9. Shraddha Saukhyam (The work dealing with the annual or periodical offerings to the dead pitrus.)
10. Varasakritya Saukhyam (The work dealing with observances during the year.)
11. Vrata Saukhyam (The work dealing with various religious vows.)
12. Prathishtha Saukhyam (The work dealing with the rituals for the installation of the images and idols of the Gods.)
13. Devapuja Saukhyam (The work dealing with rituals to be performed for the daily worship of deities.)
14. Dana Saukhyam (The work dealing with charity.)
15. Shanthi Karma Saukhyam (The work dealing with pacification of deities and performance of rituals to bring out prosperity.)
16. Yatra Saukhyam (The work dealing with pilgrimage to holy places.)
17. Vivahasaukhyam (The work dealing with the rituals to be performed in marriage.)
18. vyavahara Saukhyam (The work dealing with the legal procedures.
19. Rajaniti Saukhyam (The work dealing with the politics and administration.)
20. Prayashchitta Saukhyam (The work dealing with the rituals to be performed for the expiation of sinful deeds.)
21. Karmavipaka Saukhyam (The work dealing with the fruits of good and bad work to be experienced in the next life.)
22. Ayurveda Saukhyam (The work dealing with the science of life.)
23. Agama Saukhyam (The work dealing with mantra shastra.)

Todarananda is primarily composed by compiling material on different topics from various authentic sources, most of these source books are not available now. In Ayurveda Saukhyam, extant works like Charaka, Sushruta, Vagbhata, and extinct works like Vriddha Harita etc. are profusely quoted. This classic contains 97 chapters dealing with all aspects of Ayurveda including fundamental principles, materia medica, iatro-chemistry, examination of diseases, hygiene and public health and treatment of diseases. In this work several important and significant, quite new and interesting topics have been discussed, which are Nadipariksha, Mutrapariksha, distinction

between Dipana and Pachana etc. These are not available in Charaka, Bhela, Harita, Kashyapa, Sushruta, Ashtanga Samgrahah and Ashtanga Hridaya. Reference to Nadipariksha is available only in more recent works like Yogaratnakara and Mutrapariksha is available only in Yogaratnakara, Basavarajiyam, Chikistasara Samgraha (Vangasena). Mutrapariksha will be seen in 6th chapter of Ayurveda Saukhyam³ that the systemic urine examination including tailabindupariksha was available even in ancient classics like Charpati, Gopura and Harishchandra Samhitas. Unfortunately, these ancient classical works are no more extant.

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सारांश

टोडरमल्ल

- ए. नारायण

टोडरमल्ल एक प्रसिद्ध चिकित्सक, विद्वान, राजनीतिज्ञ, तथा सम्राट अकबर के राजदरबार में वित्त एवं राजस्व मंत्री थे। अष्टांगहृदय पर बहुत पहले लिखित टीकाओं में से इनकी एक 'मनोज्ञ' नामक टीका भी है। वह आयुर्वेद के परमभक्त थे। उन्होंने 23 शृंखलाओं में 'टोडरानन्द' नामक एक विशाल ग्रन्थ की विश्वकोश के रूप में रचना की। जिसमें आयुर्वेदसौख्यं नामक एक शृंखला भी है। इस लेख में टोडरमल्ल की जीवनी पर प्रकाश डालने का प्रयास किया गया है।