

THE CONTRIBUTION OF SALIH IBN MUHAMMAD KANDAHARY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICINE IN UZBEKISTAN IN THE XVIII-XIX CENTURIES

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Abstract

This article widely covers the path of medical research by the doctor Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari, who lived in Uzbekistan in the 18th-19th centuries, his contribution to the development of medicine in Uzbekistan, and also describes the physiology and pathology of the female body, childhood diseases and pharmacology in his writings on medicine.

Key words

Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari, medicine, pediatrics, pharmacognosy.

Medicine in Uzbekistan has a rich history. Its origins go back to ancient times. Archaeological research shows that medicine arose on the territory of Uzbekistan at the dawn of humankind.

society. It has been established that the first primitive healing techniques were developed by humanoid creatures who lived in the Early Stone Age. It was then that the beginnings of the future medicine of Uzbekistan were laid.

In history, the Ashtarkhanid period does not stand out as a special aspect; the rulers of this dynasty often became dependent on their vassals. By this time, civil strife began again throughout the country, which did not contribute to improving the lives of ordinary citizens. Gradually, Maveraunnahr was divided into small khanates and emirates. By the beginning of the 17th century, Bukhara turned from a center of science into a center of theology. Religion has permeated every aspect of life, from public policy to medicine to the judicial system.

By the beginning of the 18th century, the Ashtarkhanid dynasty fell into decline. In 1753, the representative of the Uzbek dynasty Mangit Muhammad Rahim became the ruler of Bukhari, receiving the title of emir. The capital of the state, Bukhara, gradually turned from a center of science into a center of the

Muslim religion. They stopped teaching medicine. In madrasahs, world science was gradually replaced by religion. No medical articles were created. By the 18th century, individual khans began to try to bring about economic and social reforms. Canals and caravanserais were built, and local artisans received privileges and assistance in entering international markets. But at the same time, science hardly developed, and some historians even claim that part of the advanced population was attacked by priests and rulers. In the book "History of Medicine of Uzbekistan" the period of the last Uzbek khans is described as follows: "It should be said that in the madrasah more attention is paid to the study of the laws of the Koran and Sharia (Muslim jurisprudence). They taught arithmetic, elementary geometry and Arabic grammar from secular subjects. Only special mudarris (teachers) helped interested students independently master other subjects and introduced students to the basics of astronomy, philosophy, mathematics, geography, history and medicine.

By the middle of the 18th century, the territory of modern Uzbekistan and a significant part of the lands of neighboring Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan was divided between the Kokand, Khiva khanates and the Bukhara Emirate. The majority of the population in these three khanates were Uzbeks. Tajiks lived in separate cities and villages, Turkmens lived in the western and southern regions of the Khiva Khanate and the Bukhara Emirate, Kazakhs and Kyrgyz lived in the north of the Kokand Khanate, and Karakalpaks lived on the coast of the Aral Sea. In addition, Iranians, Arabs, Indians, Jews etc. Lived on the territory of the khanates.

The khanates were not strong associations. Their appanage vassals often showed a tendency towards independence, which caused endless friction with the central government. In addition, the khans themselves were constantly at odds with each other, resulting in frequent wars. The people suffered from this. The standard of living of people decreased, this contributed to the spread of various diseases. We have fragmentary information about the level of development of medicine and the activities of the Tabibs who lived in Uzbekistan in the 18th-19th centuries. Apparently there weren't many of them. One of the prominent tabibs of the period of the last Uzbek khans was Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari (late 18th - early 19th centuries). He was from Herat, lived and practiced medicine in Bukhara, during the reign of Emir Shahmurad Masumiy (1785-1800). Apparently, Salih ibn Muhammad specialized in childhood diseases, or his works were mainly devoted to pediatric issues.

The main work of Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari is called “Tuhfat al-shoista” (“Worthy Gift”). It is dedicated to pediatric issues. The work consists of an introductory part and two sections. The manuscript of this work is stored in the funds of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan (inv. № 2785). Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari in his book, first of all, points out the characteristics of the child’s body, writes that the child’s body is easily influenced by external natural factors (cold, heat), so children often suffer from colds. Moving on to the presentation of childhood diseases, the author divides them into diseases that occur in early childhood (from birth to six years) and diseases that occur from the age of 6 years to adulthood. The author points out that in a child’s body, at different ages, diseases occur differently. As you can see, Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari had a clear idea that the child’s body is distinguished not only by its small size, but also by its anatomical and physiological characteristics.

The second work of Salih ibn Muhammad Kandakhariy is called “Tuhfat al-Masumin” (“Gift to the Sinless”). The manuscript of this work is also kept in the funds of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan (inv. No. 2612). The work consists of an introductory part, two sections and a conclusion. This book covers the issue more broadly. In addition to childhood diseases, it also touches on issues of physiology and pathology of the female body. Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari in his book at the beginning (introductory part) dwells on the importance of water, air, housing for health, i.e. he concerns hygienic issues. The first section then outlines the physiology and pathology of pregnancy. It indicates what conditions should be created for pregnant and nursing mothers.

The second section outlines childhood diseases and their treatment. In conclusion, the author gives recommendations for protecting children from poisonous insect bites. Speaking about the reason for writing this work, Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari writes that he was prompted to write this book by the fact that in the medical works known to him, either no place is given to childhood diseases, or they are talked about in passing and not sensibly enough. Meanwhile, he emphasizes that if sick children were provided with reasonable medical care, then most of them could be saved from death. Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari was apparently the first physician to pay attention to pediatric issues. Consequently, there is every reason to consider him the first pediatrician among the Tabibs of Uzbekistan.

The third work of Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari is called “Amal al-solikhin” (“Deeds of the Pious”). The manuscript of this work is also kept in the

funds of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan (inv. No. 2850/1). This book is devoted to issues of medicinal science. Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari writes that he considers it abnormal when doctors, without studying medicines themselves, leave this important task to merchants of mosquito goods, and therefore decided to study the properties of medicinal substances himself. The book of Salih ibn Muhammad Kandahari "Deeds of the Pious" can be called a guide to pharmacognosy, indicating a system of therapeutic techniques for various diseases. It describes in detail, in alphabetical order, the properties of various drugs, methods of their preparation; dosage and application. It is a kind of pharmacological encyclopedia. These works of Salih ibn Muhammad played an important role in the development of scientific and practical medicine, in particular pediatrics in Uzbekistan.

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