

Souvenir



'WESTERN ORISSA HOMOEOPATHIC ORGANISATION'

248th. Birth Anniversary of

Dr. C. F. Samuel Hahnemann & Scientific Seminar

ORGANISED BY : HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIA, BARGARH UNIT, AT-BARGARH

HOMOEOPATHY - YESTERDAY - TODAY & TOMORROW : A GLOBAL VIEW

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The popularity of the Homoeopathy and Homoeopaths is speedily spreading all over the world including the developed and the developing countries. The sophisticated medicines and antibiotics of Allopathic system though chasing the bacteria in a great speed which are the causative agents of different diseases, still could not overpower or cure the diseases.

Despite of various researches and a lot of support from the government and non-government organisations for updating the treatment in Allopathic system of medicine, no satisfactory result is available for many diseases. To quote a few : Allergic disorders like respiratory allergy, skin allergy, Auto-immune dis-orders, Arthrities, Various hormonal dis-orders, IBS and the victims of the diseases are continuing to suffer with poor palliations for a very temporary period. Contrary to this Homoeopathy took birth in 1796 at Germany and traveled a long way to almost all parts of the globe without any proper government support and non-government patronage.

Let us have a look towards the trend of Homoeopathy in the past, present and in the future.

PLACE OF HOMOEOPATHY AROUND THE GLOBE.

HOMOEOPATHY IN GERMANY

In 1791, Hahnemann was engaged in the translation of Cullen's Materia Medica into German. It was Cullen's contention that cinchona was effective due to a tonic effect on the stomach. However, Hahnemann knew from experience that other bitters and astringents were ineffective in the treatment of febrile illness. Out of curiosity as to its true mode of action he took some cinchona bark himself, only to find that he developed all the symptoms of a fever, but without the pyrexia. After further testing (on

member of his family). Hahnemann published his statement of the similia principle in a medical journal in 1796 "Birth of Homoeopathy". Hahnemann summarized the principles of similars : "SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURENTUR".

The industrious man after introducing the similia theory published a number of literatures. Few books which are essential for each homoeopath are :

1805 - Publication of "Fragmenta de viribus medicamentorum positivis", the first Materia Medica book in Homoeopathy.

1806 - Publication of "Medicine of Experience".

1810 - His "Organon of Medicine" first edition was published.

His other publications are :

1811 - 1833 - Materia Medica Pura, the source book of Materia Medica containing the proving symptoms of 67 drugs.

1828-1839 - "Chronic Disease", describing in detail causes and principles of treatment of chronic disease and description of proving symptoms of 47 polychrest anti-miasmatic drugs.

In addition to these valuable publications he left behind many essential writings on Homoeopathy.

Besides Hahnemann, the other German Homoeopaths belonging to 19th century whose contributions enriched Homoeopathic science are : Dr. Von Boenninghausen, Dr. Hartlaub and Trinks, Dr. Ernst Stapf, Dr. J. C. Gottfried Jorg etc.

But unfortunately the status of Homoeopathy in 20th century at German was not encouraging. Except few old Pharmacies which continued to prepare and sale medicines, nothing more is added from German for the development of Homoeopathy.

HOMOEOPATHY IN EUROPE

In 1826, Dr. Frederick Harvey Foster Quin visited Hahnemann in Koethen, and exposed to Homoeopathic practice. In 1844, Quin founded the British Homoeopathic Society and in 1850 Homoeopathic Hospital was opened in Golden Square, Soho, Royal patronage and the support of wealthy peers helped to secure funds for the building of the present Homoeopathic Hospital in Great Ormond Street named Royal London Homoeopathic Hospital.

And this Royal London Homoeopathic Hospital is at present, the source of inspiration to all homoeopaths in respect of education, research and treatment in Homoeopathy. They are running a Post Diploma Course M.F. (Hom) where Allopathic doctors are trained and taught in true Homoeopathic spirit. The "British Homoeopathic Journal" at present known as "Homoeopathy" published by British Homoeopathic faculty, London, is a standard magazine publishing a number of research articles quarterly.

The Notable homoeopaths from Europe who left behind very valuable literatures are J. H. Clarke, Richard Hughes, Drysdale and many others.

HOMOEOPATHY IN BELGIUM

A group of homoeopaths in Belgium have contributed a number of updated literatures like "Synthesis", "1001 remedies" etc., which are no doubt enriched the present Homoeopathic literature in a great way.

HOMOEOPATHY IN U.S.A.

Homoeopathy was brought to the United States by Hans Burch Gram who had studied in Europe in the year 1825. In turn he converted other doctors to Homoeopathic practice. Amongst the American homoeopaths, the names of C. Hering, J. T. Kent, Gladwin C.M. Boger, C. Dunham, H.A. Roberts, P. Schmidt etc., are note-worthy. The Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica, by C. Hering, the philosophy and Materia Medica book by J.T. Kent and the writings by C. Dunham, H.A. Robert are indispensable literatures of Homoeopathy without which the true Homoeopathic practice would have been impossible.

The practice of Homoeopathy in U.S.A. has undergone many interesting ups and downs. Looking to the

history it is observed that, by the mid of 1800s, towards the turn of the century there were 22 Medical Colleges existed that taught Homoeopathy. Every State had a Homoeopathic Society, one out of five doctors was a Homoeopath. There were 100 Homoeopathic Hospitals in the country & eminent persons of the society are ardent supporters.

But as century drew to close, due to industrial revolution, emergence of new technologies of organic and inorganic chemistry and with the staunch backing of the pharmacists who were paid by the weight of their ingredients did not appreciate the minute dose. The American Medical Association (AMA) pushed Homoeopathy into the background. By the late 1940's no course in Homoeopathy were taught in USA.

Around 1971, all the practitioners were over 60 years old and some organisations felt, unless something planned, Homoeopathy would be dead in another 20 years. Organisation like National Centre for Homoeopathy started different type of courses since 1974.

The present day resurgence of Homoeopathy fueled in part by graduates of the NCH course is slowly bringing Homoeopathy back to its place.

The growing enthusiasm for Homoeopathy is easily evidenced by the following facts published in different journals.

Report by New England Journal of Medicine :

1/3rd population - consult alternate healers.

13.7 billion dollars - spent for alternative health-care in 1990.

32% of respondents - consult Homoeopathy.

And presently States regulate the practice of Homoeopathy. Usually, it can be employed legally by those whose degree entitles them to practice medicine in that state. This includes MD's, DO's (Doctors of Osteopathy), ND's (Doctors of Naturopathy) etc., who after Post-Graduate training at National Centre for Homoeopathy, Washington, New England School of Homoeopathy, Connecticut and 3 others at Oregon, Virginia and California are permitted by their State Law to administer Homoeopathic remedies.

These few institutes who have now started teaching Homoeopathy imparts teaching in true Homoeopathic principles to produce classical homoeopaths in true sense.

HOMOEOPATHY IN INDIA

Homoeopathy is brought to India in the year 1839 by Dr. John Martin Honongberger who was called to treat Maharaja Ranjit Singh of Punjab for his complaints of paralysis of vocal cords. Honongberger used Dulcamara for the treatment. Later Honongberger moved to Calcutta to practice Homoeopathy there for a prolonged period.

The Homoeopathic Hospital and Dispensary was started in Kolkata in 1851. The Calcutta Homoeopathic Medical College, the first of its kind in the country, was established by Dr. P.C. Majumdar in 1881. Homoeopathy was recognised in India in the year 1936 with the passing of a central act in the Central Assembly.

In Orissa it is recognised in the year 1956. Now there are 460 dispensaries, 6 hospitals, and 6 U.G. Colleges.

However in India the Homoeopathy spreads widely in quantity as in respect of producing B.H.M.S. Doctors, post graduate scholars who are very much lacking in quality. It is high time for the Central Council of Homoeopathy & Government of India to prevent mushroom growth P.G. Institutes whose products if not properly trained will be as good as diploma doctors.

The contribution of Indian Homoeopaths in the field of literature is literarily much less. Except very few, all the literatures of Indian Homoeopaths are simply copying, duplications etc.

Indian Homoeopaths who had real contributions to the science were Dr. Rajendralal Dutta, Dr. Mahendralal Sirkar, Dr. P. C. Mazumdar, Dr. B. K. Sarkar and Dr. M. L. Dhawle.

FUTURE.

In the 21st Century, modern medicine is facing a good challenge to treat a number of complicated, chronic, undiagnosed diseases. In these cases Homoeopathy can play immense role. So it is a humble request to all Indian Homoeopaths in general & to teachers of Homoeopathy in particular to read & teach properly in Homoeopathic oriented principles to treat rationally and also produce efficient Homoeopaths, thus fulfilling the goal of our Great Master i.e., "The Highest Ideal of cure is the speedy, gentle and enduring restoration of health or the removal and annihilation of diseases in its entirety, by the quickest, most trustworthy and least harmful way, according to the principles that can readily be understood".

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