



NEED FOR DIGITIZATION AND REVIEW OF UNANI MEDICAL MANUSCRIPTS

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ABSTRACT

Unani classical literature is very rich for its valuable treasure, based on Unani medical manuscripts. Tremendous efforts have been made to preserve the traditional knowledge of Unani classics all over the world. The country, India is at present World leader in the field. Fortunately India posses very good collection of Arabic and Persian medical manuscripts preserved in notable libraries such as Khuda Bakh Library Patna, Salarjung Museum Hyderabad, Raza Library Rampur, Maulana Azad Library Aligarh, Ibn-e-Sina Academy Aligarh, Asiatic Library Kolkata. Besides in Darul uloom Deoband, Tonk, Beejapur,

Murshidabad. There are very important collection of much manuscripts occupied by personal as well as state collection. The study reveals that in spite of publication of large number of classical books still hundred of Manuscripts need the review and technical study editing and translation of selected manuscripts. Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) has started to digitize Unani Medical Manuscripts.

KEYWORDS: Ibn-e-Sina Academy, Darul Uloom Deoband, Tonk.

INTRODUCTION

Unani classical literature is very rich for its valuable treasure, based on Unani medical manuscripts. Tremendous efforts have been made to preserve the traditional knowledge of Unani classics all over the world. The country, India is at present World leader in the field. Fortunately India posses very good collection of Arabic and Persian medical manuscripts preserved in notable libraries such as Khuda Bakh Library Patna, Salarjung Museum Hyderabad, Raza Library Rampur, Maulana Azad Library Aligarh, Ibn-e-Sina Academy Aligarh, Asiatic Library Kolkata. Besides in Darul uloom Deoband, Tonk, Beejapur, Murshidabad. There are very important collection of much manuscripts occupied by personal

as well as state collection. The study reveals that in spite of publication of large number of classical books still hundred of Manuscripts need the review and technical study editing and translation of selected manuscripts.

Now it is a good time to undertake such projects with the help of net treasure and to compare the importance and rare status by utilizing the matter to which digitized has been completed.

No doubt the libraries of Welcome London, different collections of Turkey, Cairo and Beirut are very valuable treasure of Unani classics but similarly large numbers of manuscripts are preserved in different libraries of India. During a survey it has been observed that more than thousands Medical, Arabic and Persian manuscripts are available in India. Detail study reveals that 70 Unani manuscripts are available in ASAFIA (Hyderabad now known as Oriental manuscript and research institute), 56 at Salarjung Museum Hyderabad (Arabic 19 Persian 38), 20 in Maulana Azad Library Aligarh, 54 in Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College, AMU, Aligarh (Arabic 14, and 40 Persian). Besides Personal collection of Hakeem Syed Zillur Rahman recently merged as Ibn-e-Sina Academy posses more than 52 (Arabic 22 and 30 Persian) manuscripts. The Government Library Madras has proud to posses 16 important manuscripts. Likewise 6 manuscripts are preserved in different personal collections of Tonk as well as some medical manuscripts are also included in library of Persian Research Institute, Tonk. In capital Delhi Library of Jamia Hamdard posses more than 40 Arabic and Persian manuscripts. A remarkable number of manuscripts are also present in the library of Darul Uloom Deoband, Shibli Library of Darul Uloom Nadwatul Ulema, Lucknow is a great centre of Manuscripts. Out of which 19 Arabic and 44 Persian manuscripts are a good source for research. The National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI), Lucknow has collection of 35 Arabic and Persian medical manuscripts.

Important Manuscripts of Khuda Baksh Library, Patna

There are about 600 medical manuscripts in Khuda Baksh Library, Patna. In library Arabic Manuscripts are 234 while 339 Persian Manuscripts. Some important Arabic and Persian manuscripts are as follows.

Arabic Manuscripts

1. Kitabul Mushjir

It is a important book of Abu Zakariya Yuhanna Bin Masoya, he was Shami Christian. This book is based on Basic Principles and Treatment of diseases of Unani Medicine.

2. Kitabul Aghzia: It is unique manuscript of library. Abu Zaid Hunain Bin Ishaq is the author of this book. This book is based on Human diets. General diets, Animal diet, Plants diets are discussed in detail in this book.

3. Kitabul Mansoori: It is a book of famous Unani physician Abu Bakr Mohammad Bin Zakariya Razi. This book has 145 pages, every page has 24 lines.

4. Kitabul Baul: It is a book of Ishaq bin Salman Israili based on different kinds of Urine. It has 10 chapters.

5. Kitabul Mukhtar: This book is mainly based on Treatments in Unani Medicine. The author of this book is Ibn Hubl Baghdadi. In this book basic principles of Unani Medicine, Drugs (Single & compound), and treatment of different diseases described in detail.

6. Mufarreh Nafs: It is an important book on cardiotoxic drugs.

Persian manuscripts

1. Noorul Uyoon

It is a unique and old Persian manuscript. It is based on Eye diseases in Unani Medicine. In this book Anatomy, physiology, diseases and treatment are described in detail.

2. Zakheera Khuwarzam Shahi

It is an old manuscript of Persian Unani physician Ismail Jurjani. It has two volumes, first volume has 189 pages, second volume has 214 pages. In this book basic principles of Unani Medicine, Unani drugs, diseases and their treatment described in detail.

3. Ilajul Amraz: It is a book of famous Unani physician Hakeem Shareef Khan. In this book treatment of various diseases described in detail.

Important Medical Manuscripts of Maulana Azad Library, AMU, Aligarh

1. Taqwimul Abdan fi Tadbeerul Insan: Ibn Juzla Baghdadi is the author of this manuscript. In this manuscript every disease is described under 12 headings.

2. Hifzul Asnan: Hunain Bin Ishaq is the author of this manuscript. He was a great translator of Abbasi period. This manuscript is based on the dentistry, in this manuscript methods of prevention of teeth are described in detail.

3. Risala fi Bawaseer: Abdul Maseeh bin Yahya is the author of this manuscript. This manuscript is based on Hemorrhoids. In this manuscript symptom, causes, treatment and complications of hemorrhoids are described in detail.

4. Mufradat al Advia: Hakeem Khadim Hussain is the author of this manuscript. This is based on single unani drugs. In this manuscript drugs are described according to diseases.

Persian Manuscripts

1. Tareekhul Hukma

In this manuscript Arabian and Unani physicians are described in concise way.

2. Risala Ummus Sibyan

It is a important manuscript on child epilepsy. In this manuscript symptom, causes, treatment and complications are described in detail.

3. Risala Mushil: In Unani system of Medicine for the treatment of chronic diseases Munzij (Concoctive) and Mushil (Purgative) therapy are very useful. In this manuscript Munzij and Mushil drugs are described in detail.

Review of Some Rare Manuscripts in India

As stated there are very important manuscripts which are still to be studied, reviewed and edited. For the interest of researchers the name of such manuscripts are taken in to discussion.

1. Risalatun Fil Moalajat by Ibn-e-Baitar, based on Treatment
2. Kitabul Irshad by Ibn-e-Jamee, based on Unani fundamental
3. Shrah Fussol-e-Buqrat By Ibnul Lubad
4. Kitabul Mushajjar By Ibn-e-Masewaih, based on Kulliyat and Ilaj.
5. Qarabadeen Al Qalansi based on Pharmacopoeia
6. Kitabul Aghzia by Hunain Bin Ishaq based on Dietics and Treatment by Diet
7. Shrah Kitabul Fusool
8. Al Maqalatul oola Was Sania of Kitab Jaleenoos Ila Aghlooqan
9. Al Man Halurr.

CONCLUSION

The study and review of the manuscripts reveal that there is strong need for detail study of these manuscripts along with digitization which will also help to update knowledge regarding availability and importance of manuscripts. No doubt it will focus on contents of manuscripts

and help the researcher to introduce new dimensions to combat medical hazards spreading fastly in the world. Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) under Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India has started to digitize the Unani Manuscripts. The Council has signed an MOU with National Manuscript Mission for preservation of UNANI Manuscripts available in different libraries and private collections, this project is funded by WHO through Department of AYUSH. In the first Phase Council is developing Database of available UNANI Manuscripts in four Major library including KHUDABAKSH library Patna, RAZA Library Rampur, Moulana Azad Library Aligarh and SALARJUNG Museum library Hyderabad.

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