

## HAHNEMANN HAD SANKAR'S INTELLECT AND BUDDHA'S HEART

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The other day a man of 70 stopped me in the street and said: "Homoeopathy saved my life". A couple of years ago he was a patient with extensive massive heart attack. The words did not surprise me. I heard many such statements ever since I was child. Many physicians in the work witnessed miracles in most of the incurable cases and testified the efficacy of Homoeopathy. To narrow down an incurability in a patient is a special discipline in Homoeopathy.

### HAHNEMANN CONCENTRATED ON MEDICINE LIKE A MONK TO GOD

Hahnemann developed fanatical working habits that were to stay with him all through his life. Every fourth day he spent a sleepless night to give scientific basis for the great therapeutic law *similia similibus curentur* which was known even during the era of Hippocrates. He toiled all his life and concentrated himself to medicine like a monk to God. The profound depth of his knowledge in botany, zoology, physics, chemistry, metallurgy and medicine, coupled with his mastery in European languages, Greek and Latin, greatly helped him to take a comparative study of medical subjects and made him a genius in medicine.

### HIS CONTRIBUTION TO PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

He was the first man to emphasise the utility of preventive medicine long before the vaccines came into being. Hahnemann clearly mentioned that an attendant on a small-pox case acquires life long immunity and he successfully used homoeopathic medicines in the epidemics as prophylactics. Even in the recent epidemic of encephalitis the remedy Belladonna, discovered by Hahnemann for manifold troubles in Homoeopathy, was successfully used as a preventive and curative one, as first experimented and testified by Dr. G. V. Chalapathi Rao of Ananthapur by one lakh cases.

### HAHNEMANN IS MEDICINE ITSELF

The original contributions to the science of chemistry, e.g., wine test, colloidal suspension of gold soluble and the test for soluble mercury, are almost forgotten by the chemists of today. His basic and indispensable treatise on the art and science of pharmacy was 'The Apothecaries Lexicon'.

Few people in the field of the sciences of hygiene and public health, town planning, epidemiology and preventive medicine know or care to recognise that it was Hahnemann who first placed these subjects on scientific basis in the years 1782-1834, long before Petenkofer, the accredited pioneer of modern hygiene.

Hahnemann also formulated the germ theory of cholera in 1831 long before the so-called founders of bacteriology, Koch and Pasteur. His works on botany, entomology, sociology and philology are not at all negligible. In the field of mental diseases by no means Pinel is regarded as the pioneer of modern psychiatry, which recognises insanity as a disease requiring scientific and human treatment, instead of being held as in Hahnemann's time as "perversions of moral tendencies of soul produced by sin", deserving inhuman torture! Hahnemann conceived the same idea one year before Pinel and he reformed the Bicentre Asylum in Paris (1791). The scientists in the field of medicine are gradually coming nearer to the view of Hahnemann or accepting and adopting many truths antedatedly discovered by him whether by their experience or inspired by the original source—the Hahnemannian literature.

#### BIRTH OF A UNIQUE IDEA

During most of his career he practised in a totally different medical age from ours—an age before the human body was so minutely sub-divided among specialists, before electronic devices, radioactive substances and isotope scanning played their part in diagnosis. He gave an eternal truth in the concept of a disease and gave a scientific therapy to mankind.

#### GREAT LINGUIST

Since he was a great linguist, he knew Greek, Latin, German, French, English, etc., he was able to study thoroughly the existing medical books by the eminent authors from different countries. As he was a great scholar in physics, chemistry, botany, zoology and other sister sciences, he was able to thrash out thoroughly the concept of disease and the treatment of the patient on scientific lines with enormous human experimentation on himself and on his near and dear ones. He was first to make experiments in medicine on healthy human beings.

Hahnemann proved on himself nearly ninety medicines. He wrote seventy books on chemistry. He translated fifteen medical works from English, six books from French, one from Latin and one from Italian. There are several original and innumerable translated works. His literary work 'The History and the Life of Echrois and Hiloins' was considered the best by the literary critics.

All his monumental work was possible because he was by birth an ardent student of truth. He was full of compassion and a great lover of knowledge.

Kings honoured him with titles, stamps were issued with his picture and coins were issued with his figure. Hahnemann who could not have a square meal at one time in his professional career because he did not like to prac-

(Continued on page 195)

nature is the least possible. The decisive amount is always minimum, an infinitesimal.

*Quality:* The quality of the action of a homoeopathic remedy is determined by its quantity, in inverse ratio.

From the above it can be perceived that the quantity of the potentized homoeopathic remedy is always the smallest in order to effect the cure, without much aggravation.

#### CONCLUSION

It is very much regretted that the people have designated Homoeopathy as cheap and easy to practise. No science is deeper than the 'Science and Art of Cure by Homoeopathy', as it is in full collaboration with natural laws of the universe. From the days of Hahnemann till now, even the Allopathy has deviated from crude mixtures and now they are manufacturing the medicines in the slightest physiological doses that is in the fractions of milligrams, still possessing the minute material substance. It is now the heaviest duty on the part of homoeopathic practitioner to raise the standard of Homoeopathy, not by bombardment of slogans, preachings, teachings, etc., but by scientifically curing the people at large.

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*(Continued from page 197)*

tise the unscientific and barbarous methods of treating the sick at that time, had his glorious day in Paris.

After a long and useful life he died at the age of 88 in Paris in the year 1843. "I have not lived in vain" is the epitaph on his tomb lying in the great cemetery constructed for the great and noblemen in Paris. It is my rare and greatest privilege that I visited Hahnemann's statue in Washington and the cemetery in Paris and offered floral tributes to the great man in the history of medicine. I humbly offer my fondest tributes to Hahnemann. He had Sankara's intellect and Buddha's heart in the phraseology of Swami Vivekananda.

**Editorial comment:** It is difficult to comprehend from the body of the paper how the author has arrived at the attractive title given to it. Perhaps, if the correlations were established between the concept of *advaita* preached by Sankara, the concept of identifying the structure as truth as against its forms and functions, as advocated by Buddha, with the concept of totality as propounded by Hahnemann, justifying the latter statement through illustrations from his life and works, it would have been an appropriate title for the paper.

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