

Medical Science

Even in the very early stages of Islam (1st century AH, 7th & 8th century CE) Muslims believed Allah had a cure or treatment for every disease. It was the task of the healers and scholars to discover these cures and provide them to humanity. In the 2nd and 3rd century AH (800-900 CE) a system of medicine and treatments were developed based on scientific research. Previously, most if not all, medicine was closely tied to superstition, wishful thinking and plain deceit.

The first Muslim doctors strongly believed in ethics and experimental research. The well being of a patient and the factual treatment of the disease or symptoms were central. Even psychology and trauma treatment was part of the treatment for some patients. In almost all major communities (cities) hospitals (bimartistans) were built where even surgery took place. The common good hygiene, as prescribed by Islam, in unison with modern medical science made it possible for a Muslim (or any citizen of an Islamic Empire) to live twice as long as anywhere else on earth.

Under the caliphates, between the 2nd and 10th century AH(800-1600 CE), people lived to an average age of 45 years or more. Many of the famous Islamic scholars lived well passed their 70's. In contrast the average age of Europeans during this time, which was merely 25 years. Rarely obtaining the age of 35. Medical texts from Muslim doctors and scholars were used till the 19th century CE by western doctors. Medical tools, invented by Muslims, are still used today in clinics and hospitals all over the world.

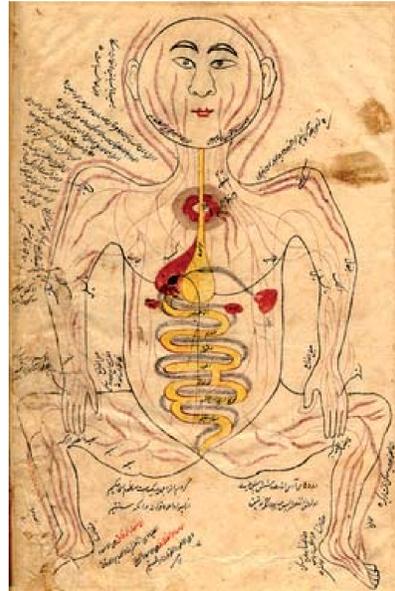
The modern hospital, pharmacy, pharmacology, dentistry, ophthalmology (eye science) are but a few accomplishments invented by Muslim scholars.

Some Muslim doctors and their contributions to medical science:

- Al-Razi, 854-925 CE: Internist (internal medicine), ophthalmologist (eye doctor), surgeon.
- Al-Zahrawi, 936-1013 CE: Modern surgery.
- Ibn Sina, 980-1037 CE: Father of modern medical science, education and ethics.
- Ibn Nafis, 1213-1288 CE: Understanding of blood circulation & anatomy.



Blood circulation and digestive system.



Artist impression of Ibn Sena teaching and tending to a patient.



Ophthalmology and eye surgery.



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Surgical tools. 13th century manuscript.

