A CHRONOLOGICAL PROBE INTO SIDDHA SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

To revive the Siddha system of medicine, a chronological probe including archaeological and historical sources of this discipline is necessary. Siddha system is based on the atom and 96 tathuvams of Saiva Siddhanda. Archaeological excavations at Harappa and Mohenjedaro, showing light on Siva-Sakti cult form a background for Siddha. There are views of links with the submerged Lumeria continent and these are to be probed and established.

It gives four chronicle tables giving periods classified on the basis of Mythology, Vedas, Tamil Sangam etc.

To improve the vitality and to revive the Siddha system of Indian Medicine and to make it more contributory to the wealth of the nation as a whole and to serve the common man, a chronological probe of this discipline is necessary. Such a probe naturally includes historical and archaeological sources. It establishes that the starting point of Siddha, as per agamas, is an atom and 96-thathuvam of Saiva-Siddhanda whereas that of Ayurveda is Vedic and has a panjaboodic base. This important difference has to be historically explored in a congenial manner.

The word ‘chronology’, is defined as computation of time and assignment of events etc to their correct date and finally arrangement of the same order of time, in relation to chronological table or list. This basic principle has to be applied in relation to Siddha for its revival and research in relation to its history also.

Archaeology initiates a study of ancient cultures through their material remains. With the help of this principle, a study of Indus valley civilization, as supported by the archaeological excavations of Harappa and Mohenjedaro forms a background for Siddha. The material remains of these two excavations throw light on the ‘Siva-Sakthi’ cult and on evidence for a highly evolved urban civilization, contrasted with a simple nomadic rural civilization of the central Asia. These evidences take one to one of the very old Dravidian culture and civilization which has got a link with the submerged Lumeria continent i.e. ‘Kumari-Kandam’ in the southernmost

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end of India. These considerations form a sound background for Siddha or Tamil system of medicine, having a direct bearing on the southern languages and cultures, as well as having an all India relationship. This vital link has to be probed and established chronologically and archaeologically supported by internal and external evidences of very old manuscripts, inscriptions and others.

Accordingly new chronological tables or lists are given, to serve as a working base with regard to Siddha, in order of time, for assignment of events in relation to the system to their correct historical dates. These tables are as follows:

Chronicle Table I:

1. Mythological Period
   (Siddha medical and other allied knowledge considered to have come first from)
   Siva
   Uma
   Nandhi
   Muruga

2. Pre-Historic Period
   Agathiyar and Thirumoolar

3. Historic Period
   Other Siddhars and others

Chronicle Table II:

1. Pre-Vedic Period
   (Indus Valley Civilization)
   ... 2500 B. C. and earlier

2. Vedic Period
   ... 2500 B. C. to 1500 B. C.

3. Post-Vedic Period
   ... 1500 B. C. and later

4. Present Period
   ... Hindu period
   ... Muslim Period
   ... British Period
   ... Present period
   ... Independent India

Chronicle Table III:

1. First Tamil Sangam Period
   ... 4000 B. C. and earlier (Kumari Kandam i. e. Lumeria continent)

2. Second Tamil Sangam Period
   ... 4000 B. C. to 1500 B. C. (Madurai as capital)
3. Third Tamil Sangam period to recent Times. ... 1500 B. C. and later (Madurai as capital)
1. Chera–Chola–Pandian Period
2. Pallava period
3. Nayakar period
4. Muslim period
5. British period
6. Independent India

Chronicle Table IV:

As per Thotrikiramam of Siddhars i. e.
evolution of the universe upto present periods as recorded in Tholkappiam etc.

1. ‘Choonium Nilai’ (State of Emptiness)
2. Param (Evolved by Panja Bootha Panjeekearanam)
3. Para-param
4. Imboothams
5. Oor–Arivu to Aruarivu Man etc.
6. Pre–Historic to recent period.

Any of the pattern or patterns of chronological tables given above may be taken for a probe into Siddha History to fix up events about the history of Siddhars. Basic Principles of Siddha. Siddha medical formularies and Pharmacy. Clinical treatment on Siddha lines with special reference to Nadhi reading, Kayakalpa treatment finally leading to Raja–Yoga and Samathi Nilai etc. have to be historically probed and fixed up. At this stage epigraphical and archaeological findings etc. serve as internal and external evidences, as source materials to arrive at useful conclusions objectively. Comparative study in all these aspects with other disciplines will also be very helpful for re-writing of all the fields, bringing out every thing to light.

But this very big job requires a well established department of history of Siddha medicine, with a team of whole hearted research scholars without racial and other preconceived narrow ideas. Also this historic revival requires continuous and sustained efforts without any break of work in this historical research of our heritage.

The patterns of the periods and the governing principles of chronology and archaeology are given only as food for thought, for senior as well as junior pioneer research scholars in the history of Siddha system on all its aspects.
सारांश

सिद्धप्रणाली में कालानुक्रमिक जांच–पड़ताल

पी. गुरुसिद्धरोग्निशानी

चिकित्सा की सिद्धप्रणाली को पुनर्रचना करने के लिए इस प्रणाली के पुरातत्त्वीय और ऐतिहासिक उपलब्धियों की जांच–पड़ताल आवश्यक है। परमाणु तथा शैव सिद्धांत के 9.9 तत्त्वों पर सिद्धप्रणाली आधारित है। हृद्य्या तथा मोहनाजोदाडी में हुई खुदाई सिद्ध की पृष्ठभूमि के शिवशक्तितवाद पर प्रकाश डालती है। जनमसंग लुमेशिया दृष्टि के साथ सम्बन्ध होने के सिद्धांत हैं और उनकी जांच पड़ताल कर स्वाभाविक किया जाता है।

यह चार इतिहास की सारणी की अवधि को प्रस्तुत करती है, जों कि पुराण, वेद, तमिलसंगम आदि के आधार पर वर्मीकृत है।