MEDICAL MANUSCRIPTS OF QUTUB SHAHI PERIOD IN THE LIBRARIES OF HYDERABAD

PART III

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ABSTRACT

In the previous articles under the above title a brief introduction to five rare and most valuable manuscripts of the Qutub Shahi period viz. 1. IKHTIYARAT-E-QUTUB SHAHI, 2. RISAL-E-MEQDARIAH, 3. TARJUMA-E-TAZKERAT-UL-KEHHALEEN, 4. ZUBDAT-UL-HIKAM and 5. TIBB-E-FAREED was presented. Now a brief note on one more such manuscript entitled MIZAN-UT-TABA-E-QUTUB SHAHI is being presented in this article. This manuscript was compiled by Taqiuddin Mohammed Bin Sadruddin Ali, during the reign of Sultan Mohammed Qutub Shah. It is partially based on the second part of the IKHTIYARAT-E-BADEYI and deals with compound drugs, methods of preparation, therapeutic uses and modes of administration along with the description of the diseases for which these drugs have been prescribed.

6. MIZAN-UT-TABA-E-QUTUB SHAHI

This manuscript was compiled in Persian language by Taqiuddin Mohammed Bin Sadruddin Ali, who was one of the many learned and highly qualified physicians of Golconda, during the reign of Sultan Mohammed Qutub Shah (1612-1626 A.D.). It deals with compound drugs, methods of preparation, therapeutic uses and diseases for which these drugs have been prescribed. It is to be noted here that, this manuscript is partially based on the second part of the Ikhtiyarat-e-Badeyi, whereas the earlier mentioned work of Mir Mohammed Momin, Ikhtiyarat-e-Qutub Shahi dealing with the single drugs was fully based on the first part of the same treatise. It seems no new preparations have been added by the author, however, while carrying out tests on these drugs, the physicians of that period might have suggested some formulary changes in accordance

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with the temperament of the people of Deccan and the same might have been incorporated in this work. The author has named this manuscript *Mizan-ut-Taba-e-Qutub Shahi* with special reference to the disposition and temperament of the people of Deccan. It is also suggested in this manuscript that, *Mufradat* (single drugs) should always be used and compound drugs should only be used when their use seems to be most necessary.

Two copies of the *Mizan-ut-Taba-e-Qutub Shahi* (Acc. Nos. Tibb 122 and 266) are available in the Salarjung Museum Library, Hyderabad in good condition with repairs at some places. Names of the scribes have not been mentioned in both the copies. The first one contains VII + 182 folios of $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$ size with 12 lines on each page written in *Shikista* script. The second copy contains 127 folios of $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ size with 21 lines on each page written in clear *Naskh* and it was copied in 1734 A.D. at Hyderabad. It also bears a seal of Mustaqimud Daulah (1246 A.H.). There is another copy of this manuscript in the Andhra Pradesh Government Oriental Manuscript Library and Research Institute, Hyderabad (Acc. No. 364). It contains 107 folios of $7\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$ size with 13 lines on each page written in ordinary script. Page numbering is marked with pencil starting from p.no. 37 and ending on p.no. 248. The name of its calligrapher is given as Mir Badruddin, who copied it from the manuscript of a distinguished person called Abdur Rasool, in 1806 A.D. at Qamar Nagar as mentioned by the scribe at the end of this copy. After this the scribe has added three closing verses in Persian language.

This manuscript begins with "The writing of preface of this book starts with due praise to Sane Hakeem (Fig. 1) and ends on the ratios of drugs, water and doses of sharbats and further saying that the same may be guessed for other sharbats. (Fig. 2)

**Arrangement of Chapters:** This manuscript has been divided into four parts, namely *Sughra, Kubra, Natija* and *Lazima*, which have further been divided into various sub-divisions as mentioned on p.no. 3 (tibb. 266) (Fig. 3).

1. **Sughra** — The first part is actually an introduction to this work, which has been further sub-divided into five sections (Muqaddamas) dealing with various topics such as:

   **Section I** — Nature, properties, necessity and effects of four categories of food & drinks, which are only food, only medicine, food-cum-medicine and medicine-cum food,
Section II — Classification of food, deficiencies, dietary methods to compensate the same and kinds of absorption.

Section III — Unwholesome or harmful combinations of food having opposite properties, suggestions regarding spicery ingredients in the food recipe with a view to control, rectify or subside the adverse or side effects of the main ingredients.

Section IV — Temperament or properties of drugs and food as found by experience emphasizing on the fact that, the food is an essential requirement of permanent nature, whereas drugs occupy secondary position in order of requirement and casually required.

Section V — Temperament or properties of simple and compound drugs and the traditional basis of classification of these drugs according to their nature i.e. hot and cold.

2. Kubra — The second part is further sub-divided into four sections (Kalemas) dealing with various topics such as:

Section I — The principles regarding administration and making different combinations of drugs.

Section II — The principles regarding fixation of quantities of ingredients in a formulation and dese.

Section III— Principles and reasons for making different combinations of drugs.

Section IV— Purification of drugs by washing and roasting.

3. Nastija — The third part of this work has been sub-divided into two sections viz. Muqaddama and Matlab, dealing with the following topics:

Section I — Methods of determining the temperament or properties of the compound drugs. The author has also given the views of the commentators of Sadeedi and Agsarai at some places.

Section II — The varieties and temperament of the following famous compound drugs have been given as under:

a Tiryaq : Under this group twenty recipes of antidotes against poisons have been given.
More than one hundred recipes of these electuary drugs have been described under this group. Out of which fifty recipes are from the second part of *Ikhtiyarat-e-Badevi* and the remaining recipes are from other sources.

More than fifty varieties of these digestive and stomachic recipes have been mentioned.

Nine varieties of these myrobalan electuary recipes have been recorded.

Seven recipes of aperient drugs have been given.

Eleven recipes of tablets have been given.

Eighteen recipes of pills have been mentioned.

Six recipes of powders are found in this group.

The fourth and the closing part of this work has also been sub-divided into two sections viz. *Faida* and *Zeil*.

Deals with different pharmaceutical weights and measures, such as - *Habba* - 1 yava, *Tasuj* - 1 yava of medium size, *Qirat* - 4 yava, *Danaq* or *Dang* - 8 yava, *Turmsusa* - 2 Qirat, *Ubulua* - 6 Qirat, *Arama* - 1 1/2 Dang, *Dirham* - 48 yava, and *Boloos* - 1 Dang (as per *Zaqira*) and 6 Misqal (as per *Qarabadeen-e-Qalansy*) etc. Further, the author says no more weights than those mentioned in *Risal-e-Meqdariah* of Mir Mohammed Momin can be added. The Indian weights like *Tola* and *Man* have also been included.

Deals with the dose of *Sharbat* (beverage type of preparation). According to the author with ten parts of ingredients, 30 parts of *Sharbat* should be obtained and then one tenth of it has to be administered as a single dose.
**BIBLIOGRAPHY**


Fig. 1: First page of the manuscript **Mizan-ut-Taba-e-Qutub Shahi** (Acc. No. 266) is showing the name of the author. Courtesy: Salar Jung Museum Library, Hyd. A.P.

Fig. 2: Last page of the manuscript **Mizan-ut-Taba-e-Qutub Shahi** (Acc. No. 266). Courtesy: Salar Jung Museum Library, Hyderabad-A.P.
Fig. 3: An inner page of the manuscript Mizan-ut-Taba-e-Qutub Shahi (Acc. No. 266) showing the name of the book and its divisions.

Courtesy: Salar Jung Museum Library, Hyderabad-A.P.