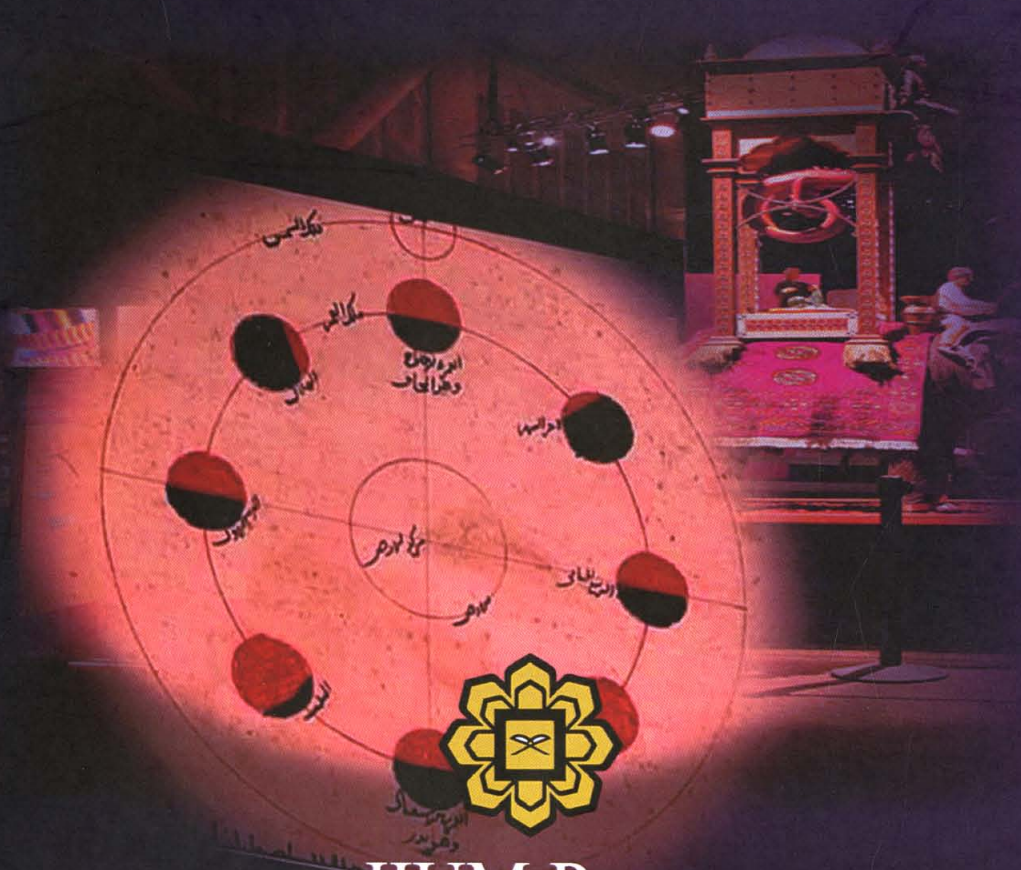


Contributions of Muslim Scientists to Medicine and Related Sciences

Abdi O. Shuriye
Raihan Othman



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CHAPTER TWELVE

IBN AL-JAZZAR ON FEVER

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12.1 INTRODUCTION

The objective of this chapter is to discuss types of fever introduced by Ibn Al-Jazzar in his book entitled *Zad al-Musafir wa-qut al-hadir* which was translated by Gerrit Bos. According to Bos, since the book was written, none of the medical works of the Islamic physician dealing with fevers has been published in a critical edition and translation, thus make him decide to do so for our references. The significance of this chapter is to expose the contribution by Ibn Al-Jazzar as one of our Muslim scholars on fever during his time. The method used in this chapter is by referring to the translation of original text by Ibn Al-Jazzar, journals as well as reliable online references. The research framework covers type of fevers during time of Ibn Al-Jazzar, the symptoms and treatment suggested by him and the enhancement done in medical field in identifying specific kind of fevers by referring to the findings from the scholar.

12.2 TYPES OF FEVER

12.2.1 Ephemeral Fever

The book by Ibn Al-Jazzar has started with this kind of fever which occurring about the third or fourth day after childbirth. The length of this kind of fever is not last longer than one day. Ibn Al-Jazzar has divided this fever into two types, namely, one is the disease itself and another one is when it is accidental to the disease and follows the preceding disease. Each type of ephemeral fever has different causes which will guide to specific treatment on the fever. According to Bos:

The kind of fever which is the disease itself has three [possible] causes: 1. External, with respect to the outside of the body, such as the heat of the sun in the summer, a hot sandstorm (*simoon*), severe cold, and bathing in waters which have the power to dry the outside of the bodies and to thicken them (i.e. to obstruct the pores of the skin), such as water containing natron, alum and sulphur. 2. An excess of bodily movement, such as strain, exertion, continuous walking and the like, and excessive emotions, such as great anger, continous worrying, and other physical afflictions. 3. Continuous consumption of hot foods and