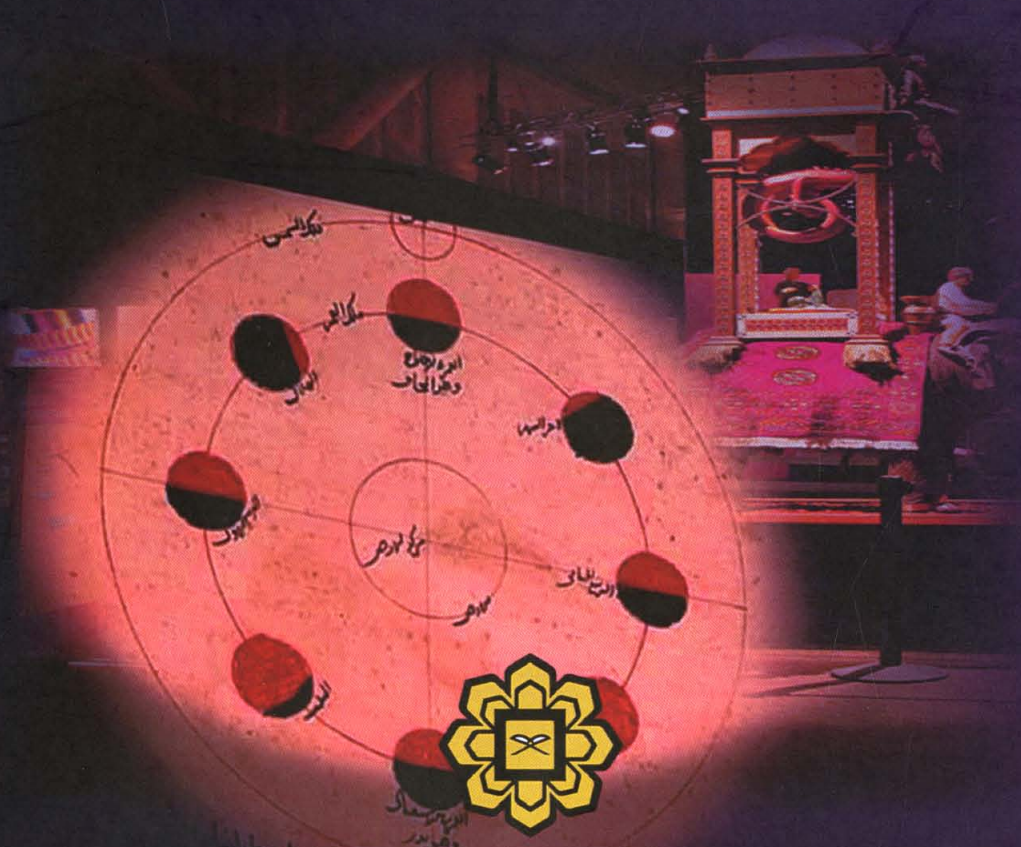


Contributions of Muslim Scientists to Medicine and Related Sciences

Abdi O. Shuriye
Raihan Othman



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INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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CHAPTER FIFTEEN

IBN AL-QUFF ON PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

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15.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter studies Ibn Al-Quffs' contributions to preventive medicine. The main focus is to provide answers on Ibn Al-Quff's concepts of medical regulations, dietetics and diagnoses. The chapter also focuses on Ibn Al-Quff's work entitled *Jami' al-Gharad*. In fact, this book is devoted to preventive medicine, hygien and healing arts. The methodology adopted in this chapter is library based research and data is collected from reliable sources. The significance of this chapter is that it studies the efforts of Ibn Al-Quff on the subject.

15.2 IBN AL-QUFF'S INVESTIGATION ON PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

Amin al Dawlah Abu al Faraj Muwafak Al Deen ibn Ya'qub Ibn Ishaq Ibn al Quff Al Malaki Al Karki was born at Karak, Syria. He wrote a number of books on various aspects of medical sciences, philosophy and natural science. On hygiene, Ibn Al-Quff presents his ideas in the medical work entitled *Jami' al-Gharad fi Hifz as-Sihhah wa-Daf' (Bur') al-Marad*, on the preservation of good health and the prevention of diseases. He considers hygiene as a specialized field of the healing arts, giving it its own separate identification and analysis. Ibn Al-Quff was deeply concerned about the importance of the study of hygienic. He writes:

"I had convincingly conceived of and envisioned the importance of the role played by a healthy body in the worship of God according to the dictates of practiced traditions. These can expeditiously and adequately be observed and realized only when the body is healthy and its physical faculties are sound and well (for it is in being well and wholesome that one can best worship God). This explains why I resolved and promoted the concept that hygienic and preventive medicine is very important for all. Because of their real need, teaching these areas (of the healing arts) becomes a necessary requirement for everyone concerned with protecting, preserving and restoring healthy living. Therefore, despite other pressing demands and time consuming duties, I worked hard, collecting data from materials I studied or information I observed, examined or