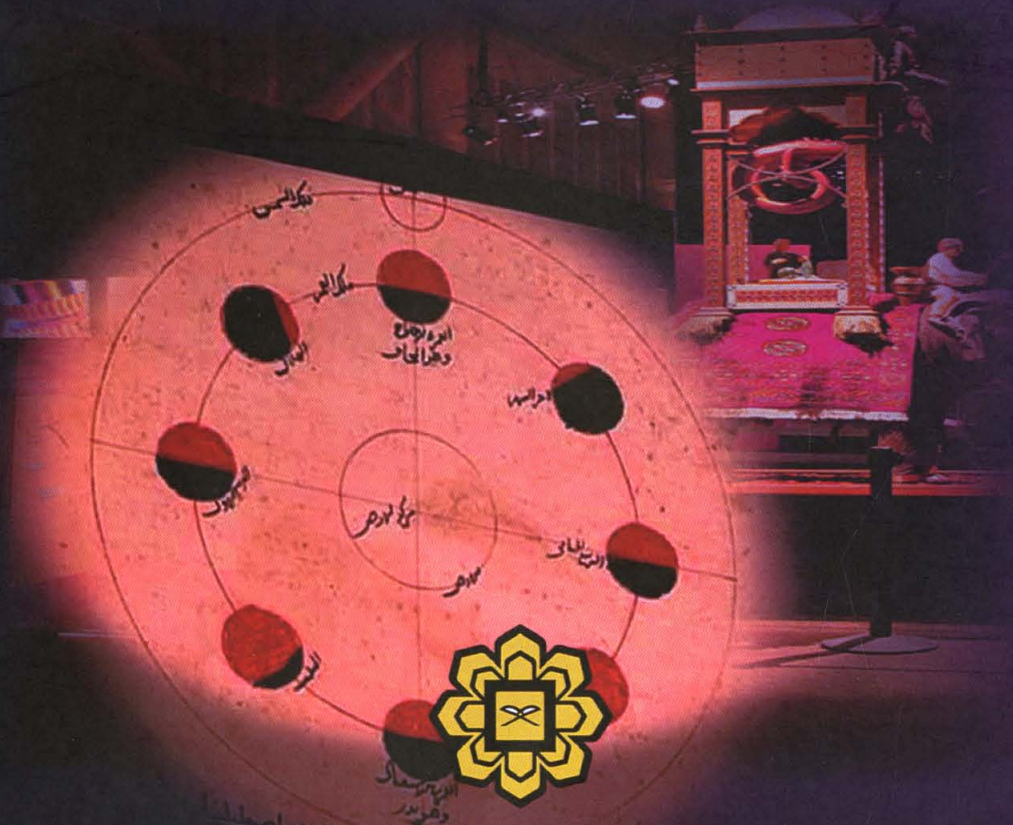


Contributions of Muslim Scientists to Medicine and Related Sciences

Abdi O. Shuriye
Raihan Othman



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INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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CHAPTER TWENTY

THE CONTRIBUTION OF SAGHIR AKHTAR IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

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20.1 INTRODUCTION

The objective of this chapter is to study the contribution of Saghir Akhtar in the field of pharmaceutical sciences. The significance of this chapter explores the study done by Saghir Akhtar which is beneficial to pharmaceutical field. The methodology used in doing this research is library based research and most of data is collected from a pharmaceutical journal which is from a reliable source.

20.2 HISTORY OF MUSLIM PHARMACY

Arabic pharmacy is a profession with a separate entity from medicine. During that period, not only saw the increase in the number of privately owned pharmacy in Baghdad and its vicinity, but in other Muslim cities as well. Many of the pharmacists who managed them were skilled in the apothecary's art and quite knowledgeable in the compounding, storing, and preserving of drugs. State-sponsored hospitals also had their own dispensaries attached to manufacturing laboratories where syrups, electuaries, ointments, and other pharmaceutical preparations were prepared on a relatively large scale. (<http://www.islamset.com/heritage/pharmacy/3rd&9th.html>)

The pharmacists and their shops were periodically inspected by a government appointed officer. The early rise and development of professional pharmacy in Islam over four centuries before such development took place in Europe was the result of three major occurrences: the great increase in the demand for drugs and their availability on the market; professional maturity; and the outgrowth of intellectual responsibility by qualified pharmacists. In more modern times, pharmacists advise patients and health care providers on the selection, dosages, interactions, and side effects of medications, and act as a learned intermediary between a prescriber and a patient. (<http://www.islamset.com/heritage/pharmacy/3rd&9th.html>)

20.3 BACKGROUND OF SAGHIR AKHTAR

He obtained a First Class honors degree in Pharmacy from the Leicester School of Pharmacy. His PhD was in Polymeric drug delivery system. From 1990-1991, he held a post-doctoral fellowship at UNC Medical School at Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He began