

Arab-Muslims Contributions to Modern Neuroscience: What's Giving Us Hope?

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Arab-Muslims Contributions to Modern Neuroscience: What's Giving Us Hope?



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Abstract

The Arab world encompasses a broader geographical area, covering a wide variety of countries in Asia and Africa. Arab culture is due to much of its development in all the fields of intellectual practice, including in medicine, particularly during the Golden Age of the Arabic Islamic sciences (8th – 13th centuries C.E.). The glorious history of the Arab world allows us to consider the debt of mankind to the golden age of Arab science and assess the contribution of Arab countries to our day's biomedical and neuroscience research.

Introduction

Medicine did not develop overnight. The civilizations of Egypt, Greece, Rome, Persia, India, China and the European Renaissance took up the responsibility of the flame of medical development. During the Dark Ages the medical flame was taken up by the Arabic-Islamic world. The period between the 7th and 13th centuries has been commonly neglected, despite the remarkable developments of biomedical science of the Arabic-Islamic world with the resultant flowering of knowledge that influenced medical practice throughout Europe (Falagas et al., 2006; Matthew et al., 2018). We could say that the history of any nation is equal to the sum of the history of a few of its distinguished individuals. At every stage in Arabic medical history, we can find outstanding people whose greatest contributions and efforts cannot be underestimated.

Some scholars have referred to the achievements in the growth of the knowledge of medieval Arab culture as pure translation and preservation of Greek knowledge. The original works in Arabic are believed to have only been retained and duplicated. They had no curiosity for learning, and so their insights, intuitions, and cognition were immature. But nonetheless investigations are meant to be the triumph of recent years. Arabs stressed their essential instruments of growth in science and critical thought and medicine creation as stated in the Al-Razi declaration *“any physician who is dependent only on his experimentation and neglect literary knowledge and hypothesis then he may be a failure”*.

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Abstract

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