



Historical Highlights on Mental Health Education and Training in Iraq

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Abstract:

Abstract: This article aims to cast a shadow over the history of mental health education and training in Iraq and a projection of Islamic scientific heritage in Baghdad during the seventh century. It also discloses the foundation of first teaching and training centers in psychiatry focusing on the marked contribution of the pioneer psychiatrists. Despite the presence of vast literatures documenting Arab Muslims medical heritage, concise related articles are few due to spreading of the original references along the western scientific community. The attention to the outstanding contribution of Iraq in mental health and medical education in general which appeared to be established during the golden era of Abbasid Caliphs in Baghdad during the seventh century. After several decades of scientific and cultural deterioration associated with Ottomans colonization, Baghdad intellectuals started to build the first medical school in Iraq at the end of twentieth century, teaching mental illnesses as part of the curriculum took place and continue to progress through establishing the national training program (DarAl-Shafaa) was established at 1922 as the first mental asylum by the British physician, later on it was a teaching center of psychiatry for medical students

While the first neurosciences clinic was established at 1938, ECT was introduced to Iraq at 1942.

Biography:

Dar-ul-Shifa is one part of the Old City of Hyderabad, India, named after the 16th-century hospital it once housed. The location was founded in AD 1591, more than 400 years ago, by Mohammed Quli Qutub Shah, the founder of Hyderabad city. Today it houses a large population of Shia Muslims and comes alive on the days of Shia festivals. Most of the households have family members settled abroad, and whose remittances increase the quality of life.

In Arabic, and derived from it in Urdu, Turkish and Persian, dar al-shifa means "house of health", i.e. "hospital". The name of the location is derived from the fact that initially the area was popularly known for its hospital. Dar-ul-Shifa Hospital and Jama Masjid were built in the same period as the Charminar monument-cum-mosque and the huge Makkah Masjid (Mecca Mosque).

Geographically, Dar-ul-Shifa lies in the south of Hyderabad city, on the banks of River Musi. It lies under the Charminar Assembly Constituency. Historically it is one of the old urban areas of Hyderabad; now it is part of the Old City of Hyderabad.



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