

TWENTY FIVE YEARS ACTIVITIES OF
TROPICAL MEDICINE DEPARTMENT
AIN SHAMS FACULTY OF MEDICINE

THESIS

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Tropical Medicine

By

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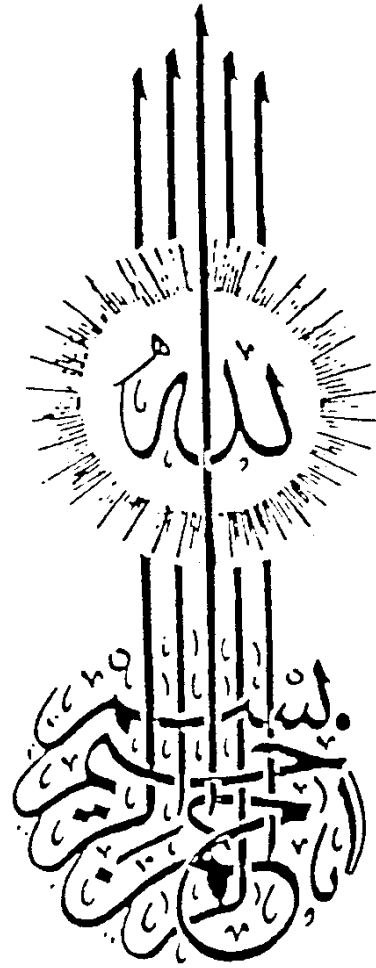
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INTRODUCTION
AND
AIM OF THE WORK

INTRODUCTION AND THE AIM OF THE WORK

Tropical Medicine Department, Ain-Shams Faculty of Medicine was founded in the twenty fifth of January 1961 (25/1/1961). It began as an Endemic Diseases Unit by only five beds and one staff. Special stress of the Endemic Diseases Unit was directed in its researches towards the diagnosis of schistosomiasis especially closed infection by immunological methods (Shoeb 1986). Year after year, the activities of the unit increased gradually till it became a special department comprising forty beds, two days per week outpatient clinic and had various activities including endemic diseases, hepatology, endoscopy, immunology and fevers. The staff in 1987 included 7 professors, 5 assistant professors, 2 lecturers and 9 assistant lecturers.

The aim of this thesis is to review the various activities of Tropical Medicine Department, Ain-Shams Faculty of Medicine through the period from 1961 to 1987 in order to elucidate the past, present and future status of the department.

HISTORY

The Endemic Diseases unit was founded in 25/1/1961 as a division of Endemic Diseases department. The latter constituted an academic parasitology unit and a clinical Endemic Diseases.

The Endemic Disease Unit started in 1961 by only 5 beds and the only acting staff Prof. Doctor Shoukry Mohamed Shoeb, who was working as an Assistant Professor of General Medicine and became the Head of Endemic Diseases Unit. The first clinical demonstrator was Prof. Doctor Nooman Mohamed Haseeb and the first 2 residents were Prof. Doctor Mostafa Aly Habib and Prof. Doctor Salah Saif El Din (Shoeb, 1986).

The Endemic Diseases Unit was interested at its start, in the problem of the diagnosis of schistosomiasis especially closed infections by using direct and/or indirect methods of diagnosis. The first M.D. thesis was on immunodiagnosis of bilharziasis done by Prof. Dr. Nooman Mohamed Haseeb. The second M.D. thesis was on direct methods of diagnosis of bilharziasis done by Prof. Dr. Moustafa Aly Habib. The third M.D. thesis was on assessment of cure of bilahrziasis by the use of different serological methods done by Prof. Dr. Salah Saif El Din (Shoeb, Haseeb and Saif El Din 1987).

In December 1966, the capacity of the Endemic Diseases Unit was 40 beds. There were 2 days per week outpatient clinics for endemic diseases. The staff was increased to five including one assistant professor (Prof. Dr. Shoukry Mohamed Shueb) and four lecturers (Prof. Dr. Khorshid Basmy, Prof. Dr. Nooman Mohamed Haseeb, Prof. Dr. Moustafa Aly Habib and Prof. Dr. Salah Saif El-Din) (Shueb, Haseeb and Saif El Din 1987).

In spite of the limited laboratory facilities, the Endemic Diseases unit until December 1966, presented 15 scientific papers reflecting the various activities of the unit in endemic disease with special emphasis on the diagnosis of bilharziasis. Most of these scientific papers were represented in the First International Symposium on Bilharziasis (2 papers); First National Symposium on Bilharziasis, 1964 (7 papers), Ciba Symposium on Therapy of Bilharziasis (2 papers) and Second International Symposium on Bilharziasis, 1967 (4 papers). The unit also shared in the activities of the High Scientific Committee for Schistosomiasis in the Ministry of Health and High Council for Scientific Research. The unit also participated in M.D. theses and scientific papers in General Medicine, Chest, Cardiology, Dermatology, Neurology and Radiology departments (Shueb, Haseeb Saif El Din 1987).

Later on, the Endemic Disease unit due to its clinical activities was separated from the Parasitology unit and included in the Special Medicine department. Nearly in 1981 each unit in the Special Medicine department was separated and became a special department by itself having a private department council and represented in the Faculty Council by the head of the department as a permanent member and professors alternate on membership of the council. The first head of Tropical Medicine Department is Dr. Salah Saif El Din (1981-1987).

The department has twice per week out-patient clinic on Monday and Thursday. The clinic is supervised by 2 staff lecturers and 4 assistant lecturers besides the residents in charge and house officers. The department comprises 40 beds, 35 for males and 5 for females. At the present time, the staff of the Tropical Medicine Department comprises 7 professors, 5 assistant professors, 2 lecturers and 9 assistant lecturers. There are 5 residents and 12 house officers.

As the number of the staff in the Tropical Medicine department increased, the activities also increased. Interest was emphasized on hepatology and endoscopy of gastrointestinal tract serving the Tropical Medicine, General Medicine

and surgical departments. Upper and lower endoscopes, laparoscopies, ERCP and guided liver biopsies are performed.

Several M.D. and M.S. thesis were conducted in most of the branches of Tropical Medicine especially endemic diseases, schistosomiasis, parasitic diseases, leprosy fevers and gastrointestinal diseases.

The department offered 21 M.D. degrees up to 1987.

The Tropical Medicine department is also represented in Ain-Shams Specialized hospital by 5 beds and several out-patient clinics on Tropical Medicine, Gastrointestinal Disease and endoscopy.

**ACTIVITIES OF TROPICAL MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT**

AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

I. HELMINTHIC INECTIONS

(A) SCHISTOSOMIASIS

a) Epidemiology:

Schistosomiasis is the major health problem in Egypt since ancient times. Infection is acquired early in life and interferes with the physical, social and mental development of the infected person. Schistosomiasis and its complications also have a serious effect on the economic development of the country as it deprives the country of a significant percentage of its manpower. The Tropical Medicine Department in Ain-Shams University thus has directed a great deal of its effort towards studying every aspect concerning this problems.

Shoeb (1961) studied the clinical and laboratory findings of parasitic infections specially schistosomiasis among 500 students of Al-Azhar University. He found that schistosomiasis represented 80% of the parastic infections and found that Lower Egypt was about 3.5 times more infected than Upper Egypt with maximum ifnestation in Kalubieh province and the least in Aswan and Nuba.

Madwar and Hussein (1979) made a study on the prevalence of schistosomiasis in Siwa oasis which was previously considered as an area free from bilharziasis. He found