

## A brief introduction into the roots of Medicine

*Eight thousand years before our era in Mesopotamia, between the rivers Tiger and Euphrates, in the so called, Fertile Crescent, a great human civilisation flourished and vanished: the **SUMERIANS**.*

The Sumerians lived in well organized towns, such as Babel, Uruk, Mari, Aleppo, and many others, filled with markets, luxurious palaces, magnificent gardens, bridges and fortified walls and overall a multitude of temples dedicated to twelve heavenly gods who ruled the mankind.

**Anus** (possibly the Greek Uranus), the heavenly father of Sumer, had divided his power among his two sons: **Enlil** was the administrator and commander and **Enki** the scientist, who was worshipped by Sumerians as the supreme Medical engineer – the God who transformed local Ape-like creatures into today Man-like servants, in order to fulfil his and his fellow God's needs.

Many thousand of years later not very far away in the west, the Minoans of Crete, very much influenced by the Phoenicians and Egyptians, dominated with their ship the coasts of the Mediterranean sea, but their civilisation was vanished by a tremendous tidal wave created by the volcanic destruction of the island of Santorini.

This unexpected space in leadership in Central-Eastern Mediterranean basin gave rise to another local force. The Achaeans under the leadership of Agamenon, king of Mycenae, achieved to unite the independent and divided kingdoms of Greece and turn them against the proud Hittites, who controlled the commercial road between East and West as far away as from Bosphorus to Palmyra, and accumulated their treasures inside the mighty walls of Troy.

The Achaeans worshiped the “third” generation of the Sumerian Gods, the Olympians, offering human sacrifices to them all, except for the God of Medicine, “Apollo”, who seemed to love most of the others the Human kind and after him “Asclepios”, the calm and pious healing deity bearing a magic wand surrounded by the typical medical snakes, symbolizing the periodical rejuvenation and immortality (the change of the skin). These deities and especially Asclepios, might have been evolved out of Enki, the Sumerian Medical-engineer of mankind.

Many years later some Egyptian priests narrated to Xenophon, an astonished Greek traveller, historian, doctor and philosopher, the achievements of their predecessors in the art of Medicine. They talked about priests of divine ancestry living in a Pharaonic kingdom much-much older than the well known “Old Kingdom”.

According to a new leading theory, these divine priests were taught all sciences, and among them Medicine, by a multitude of gods under the leadership of Marduc.

Marduc and the following Egyptian Gods comprising the “second generation” of Sumerian Gods had established their power around the fertile Nile river long time before the Sphinx was built - maybe long time before the great Flood destroyed the pre-ancient civilisation and sent forever, the continent of Atlantis deep under the cold sea waters to dominate the shadows of the vast submarine empire of Poseidon, brother of Zeus.

The priests of the “Old and New Kingdom” were convinced that everything concerning human and animal medicine was given in details by these older gods, to their predecessors, the “first” priests of the Egyptian temples, who were able to perform even extremely difficult brain operations according to the writings – even bring dead back to life (*according to hieroglyphics found in Egyptian scrolls, temple columns and facades*).

This is how the story of civilization and sciences - among them Human and animal medicine - started from the Fertile Crescent and spread around the world.

Unfortunately all records, documents and scientific data of the pre-flood era, were lost during the deluge (*scientifically proven to happen around 11.000 BC*) that swept the coasts and low lands of the former civilised world and perhaps buried the mythical Atlantis. Anyway, it seems that the nomadic inhabitants of the mountainous areas around the lost coastal or riverine cities watched with horror the unprecedented climatic changes which were followed by heavy rains, tremendous winds and huge tidal waves. They were unable to do anything to help and perhaps they were running themselves for their lives, but they kept the oral tradition of the events.

Illiterate and ignorant as they were, they couldn't ever have access to the knowledge of science - a privilege attributed only to the priests and Kings of divine ancestry, but they preserved the history of cataclysm from generation to generation, long enough to be first recorded in Babylonian clay tablets, and later in the Bible (*chapter of Deluge of Noah's ark*).

Therefore, it was left to the inquiring Ionian Greeks of the first millennium BC to gather the scattered piece of scientific information found here and there in forms of clay tablets and scrolls, spread among the ruins of the abandoned and half-sunken under the sand temples and rebuilt the science of Medicine based mostly on oral traditions down the ages, myth and philosophy.

That's how it started a new half scientific-half philosophic era that drew the ancient world out of the first in the history of mankind natural catastrophe, **the Great Flood**, created by the abrupt change of the climatic conditions that brought the end of the last Ice-age, living Earth plunged into a deep layer of mud and darkness of mind.

This brief historical introduction may help modern physicians and Veterinarians to explain the controversial theories and ideas of ancient Greeks about Medicine.

Indeed, ancient Greek physicians of the first millennium B.C. suggested "*a relationship between man and animal diseases as a product of Folklore, Magic and Religion!*", which is difficult to be understood when at the same time their contemporaries priests-doctors of Egypt claimed strongly that their predecessors were performing open brain surgeries based on pure scientific data – although this techniques were lost for them, who only knew how to preserve human bodies from natural decay.

However, this theory of the lost "scientific information" can excuse, for example, *Aristotle's*, the greatest philosopher of the world and a veterinarian among other, who believed that the main organ for humans and animals is the heart instead of the brain! Hippocrates, on the contrary, the father of Medicine (island of Cos 460 BC), in one of his 27 books, entitled "*Airs, Waters and Places*", made associations between man's environment and human health without any correlation to religion, astrology or magic. This critical idea is considered to be the critical turning point for the revival of the pre-flood scientific based medicine, taught in details to the first-ever generation of physicians and veterinarians, by the so called "ancient Gods" who, according to some modern writers and researchers, helped in the creation of the western civilization!

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