

Dear Readers,

In the course of his work on homeopathy between 1810 and 1816, Hahnemann observed that there were certain patients that he could not treat up to satisfaction with homeopathy. He sought an answer to this concern and looked for the reason for why after repetition of the similimum, patients were still coming back. He worked on this for over a decade and thereafter concluded that the reason for same was chronic diseases. In this theory which brought an answer to the question he had put to himself, he brought the concept of miasma as the cause of this recurrence and incomplete cure.

The word miasma may seem obscure in today's medical terminology but the very concept of miasma is one of the basic concepts applicable to homeopathic practice even today. This concept answers why homeopath should consider his/er prescription beyond symptom similarity. It's vital to decide the miasmatic state of the patient when the patient comes for treatment so that the further line of treatment can be well planned. When a homeopathic medicine is prescribed a physician not only needs to look into the symptom presentation but

also the disease in terms of pathology and its progress, patient's reactions to disease at physical and mental level and his/er sensitivity etc. This helps to find the miasmatic state of patient and also help in deciding the correct remedy and plan for the anti-miasmatic remedy if needed in future. Today with changing lifestyle and the kind of food and environment we are exposed to, the diseases have become more resistant to treatment and anti - miasmatic remedies have more role to play as compared to in the past. It's imperative for homeopaths to apply miasma or we will fall prey to the remarks of homeopathy being placebo and remarks given which are similar to Hufeland.

Syphilis miasma is the deepest miasmatic state where disease has progressed to a non reversible structural change. The patients who fall into a syphilis miasma state show destruction or deformity at various levels, some examples can be ulceration, congenital abnormalities, any disease which is showing a rapid and destructive progress and can show state of psychosis and OCD. In family history one can see history of congenital defects, alcoholism, suicidal tendencies; blood dyscrasias etc. Perversion and destruction are keynotes of syphitic miasm. The

positive side of syphilitic ability is to focus to a point in creativity. There can be various other aspects which define a syphilitic character which has been explained by various authors from time of Hahnemann, Allen, Kent and newer authors like Ortega and Dr Harsh Nigam who have written on miasma and from authentic sources.

I quote J H Allen from *The Chronic Miasm, Psora and Pseudo Psora* where he signifies the importance of knowing miasma and though he says psoric theory but his point is valid for knowing all miasmas.

"What influence can it have, whether a physician adopt or reject the psoric theory, so long as he always selects the most similar medicine possible?" The last line is well timed: "So long as he selects the most similar medicine possible". The fact is, we cannot select the most similar remedy possible unless we understand the phenomena of the acting and basic miasmas; for the true similar is always based upon the existing basic miasms, whether we be conscious or unconscious of the fact. The curative remedy is but the pathopoesis of a certain pathogenesis of an existing miasm"

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Note: *The Homoeopathic Heritage* is now a peer reviewed journal since January 2013. All the articles are peer reviewed by the in-house editorial team and selected articles from each issue are sent for peer review by an external board of reviewers and those articles are distinctly marked with a stamp of 'peer reviewed'. For inclusion of articles in peer review section, kindly send your articles 3-4 months in advance of the said month.

Unbolt Yourself

Month	Topics	Last Date of Submission
July 2014	Psychosomatic Disorders	May 20, 2014
August 2014	Homeopathy for Endocrine Disorders	June 20, 2014
September 2014	Kentian Homeopathy	July 20, 2014
October 2014	Homeopathic Pharmacy: Methods, Utilisation And Quality Control	August 20, 2014
November 2014	50th Millesimal Potency	September 20, 2014