THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF GREEK MEDICINE

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Abstract: *The social and cultural significance of medicine in ancient Greece was enormous. Medicine was not only seen in this society as a means of treating diseases, but was also closely linked to its social, cultural, philosophical and religious values. The development of medicine during this period played a decisive role in shaping humanity's attitude to health, the meaning of life and its views on nature. Greek medicine was not only a scientific achievement, but also had a great impact on social and cultural changes.*

Аннотация: *Древняя Греция имела большое социальное и культурное значение в области медицины. В этом обществе медицина рассматривается не только как средство лечения болезней, но и тесно связана с его социальными, культурными, философскими и религиозными ценностями. Развитие медицины в этот период сыграло решающую роль в формировании отношения человечества к здоровью, смыслу жизни, его взглядов на природу. Греческая медицина была не только научным достижением, но и оказала огромное влияние на социальные и культурные изменения.*

Keywords: *Philosophy, medicine, harmony, idea, basis, moral, spiritual, physical, health, wellness, foundation, cultural, religious*

Ключевые слова: *Философия, медицина, гармония, идея, основа, моральный, духовный, физический, здоровье, благополучие, фундамент, культурный, религиозный*

Trust in medicine and physicians, especially in ancient times, was of great importance in shaping society's attitude towards health. In Greece and other ancient civilizations, respect for medicine and physicians was closely related not only to the scientific approach, but also to religious and cultural values. In this context, it is important to analyze the role of medicine in society, trust and respect for physicians in more depth.

In ancient societies, physicians were considered not only specialists in restoring health, but also individuals who performed several important functions of society. They were not only engaged in medicine, but also actively participated in social, cultural and religious issues. Physicians in Greece were highly trusted, they were often recognized as religious leaders and philosophical leaders.

• Religious role of physicians: In Greece, the god of medicine and healing named Asclepius was especially revered. In the sanatoriums (treatment centers) around the temple of Asclepius and its surroundings, patients not only received medical care, but also found spiritual solace through religious rituals. Here, doctors played an important role not only from a physiological and biological point of view, but also from a spiritual and religious point of view.

• The social role of doctors: In Greece, doctors were entrusted not only with restoring health, but also with maintaining social justice, controlling the population, and even providing military medical care. Medicine was a respected field in society, and doctors found a strong place for themselves in treating and uplifting the general public.

In ancient societies, faith in medicine was closely linked to religious and natural concepts. The causes of diseases were often attributed to natural phenomena or the wrath of the gods. At the same time, doctors gained high trust in society with their knowledge and scientific approach.

• Scientific basis for trust in medicine: Hippocrates' scientific approach to medicine and his explanation of disease based on natural causes portrayed physicians as experts who were trusted by society. This approach was an important part of medicine and strengthened the trust of patients and society in physicians.

• Ethical responsibility of the physician: Ethical standards such as the Hippocratic Oath served to increase trust in physicians in the medical field. This oath required physicians to be sincere and honest with patients, thereby strengthening the role of medicine in society and trust in them.

• Physician experience and skill: Trust in physicians was often based on their experience and successful treatments. As they performed well, their respect increased and trust in medicine increased.

Respect for doctors in ancient Greece was associated not only with their scientific achievements, but also with their moral qualities, religious role and place in society. Respect for medicine and doctors, on the one hand, was of great importance in maintaining and treating health, and on the other hand, in the spiritual upliftment of society.

• The position of doctors in society: In many ancient treatment centers and sanatoriums of Greece, doctors were highly respected. Their social status was based not only on knowledge and skills, but also on moral values. Also, respect for doctors was shown not only by others, but they themselves demonstrated it by fulfilling their social responsibilities.

• Moral and religious values: In Greece, doctors were respected not only as scientific specialists, but also as spiritual leaders in society. Their every action, treatment practice

and approach to patients were required to comply with ethical standards. This situation formed a great respect and trust in society towards medicine.

• The high status of sanatoriums and doctors in Greece: In places like the Temple of Asclepius, patients not only received medical care, but also religious rituals, belief in an afterlife, and spiritual comfort. The respect for doctors was very high in these places.

In ancient Greek medicine, trust and respect for doctors included not only scientific and medical care, but also religious and moral aspects. Respect and trust in doctors were based on their success in treating diseases, moral standards, and social role in society. The development of medicine and the knowledge that became the basis of modern medicine on these values further strengthened their role in society and faith in medicine.

In ancient Greece, medicine and philosophy played an important role in shaping society. Medicine played not only a means of treating diseases and restoring health, but also played a central role in the development of the general well-being of humanity, moral values, and social structure. Philosophy also had a great influence on society, shaping a person's worldview, morality, social relations, and views on nature.

In Greece, medicine was seen not only as a scientific activity, but also as part of the social and religious system. Medicine and physicians directly participated in strengthening society and its development.

• Health and social stability: One of the main tasks of medicine was to maintain the health of members of society. Health was the basis of production and social activity in society. Therefore, scientific achievements in the field of medicine, new methods of treatment, and the ability to diagnose diseases played an important role in the development of society. Restoring health was the main means of restoring society, especially during wars and epidemics.

• The social role of physicians: Physicians in Greece were highly trusted and respected. They not only provided medical advice, but also provided their knowledge and experience in solving social problems, even in the fields of war and governance. Physicians in society not only treated physical illnesses, but also made important decisions about spiritual and moral issues.

• Sanatoriums and medical centers: Medical centers in Greece, such as the temples of Asclepius and sanatoriums, were the first scientific and religious complexes to restore the health of members of society. In these centers, patients not only received medical care, but also found spiritual solace through religious rituals. This religious aspect of medicine united society and served to increase the general well-being.

Philosophy played an important role in the development of Greek society. It not only shaped scientific thinking, but also morality, social order and worldview. The basic principles of Greek philosophy determined the values of society and changed the relationship of man to himself, society and nature.

• Philosophy and moral values: Many schools of Greek philosophy, such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, considered ethical norms and social justice in society to be important in their thoughts. Socrates' views on the "art of knowledge", Plato's concepts of an ideal society and Aristotle's ideas about a happy human life served to develop high moral values in society. These philosophical views influenced issues of law, justice and order in society.

• Philosophy and politics: Philosophy had a very strong influence on politics. Plato's "Republic" and Aristotle's "Politics" talked about ideal methods of governing society. They developed important theories on the functions of the state, the rights of citizens, and the promotion of justice and equality. These works later became an important foundation for the development of the political system and governance of Greek society.

• Philosophy and understanding of nature: Another important aspect of Greek philosophy is the views aimed at understanding nature. Philosophers such as Empedocles, Heraclitus, and Democritus tried to understand nature, its elements and human nature. They emphasized the harmony of nature and man, and these views formed a respect for natural laws in society.

The collaboration of medicine and philosophy was of particular importance in the formation of society in Greece. The scientific justification of medicine's explanation of diseases by natural causes and its approach to human health was combined with a philosophical approach. The ethical principles of medicine are also associated with philosophical values.

• The interaction of Hippocrates and philosophy: Hippocrates was progressive in his time with his approach to medical ethics. He also taught respect, honesty, and an ethical approach to the patient, while studying the scientific foundations of medicine. This approach was directly related to philosophical teachings and included ideas that emphasized a happy life and moral responsibility for man.

• The influence of philosophy on medicine: The influence of philosophy on the human spirit, moral issues, and social systems is also reflected in medicine. The harmony between the human body and soul was important in the medical approach, for example, in considering mental and physical health together. The role of medicine and philosophy in shaping society in Greece is very large. Medicine played an important role in maintaining health and ensuring social stability, while philosophy played an important role in the areas of moral values, politics, and understanding nature. The harmony between these two fields was the basis for the development of Greek society and created a strong foundation for modern medicine and philosophy.

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