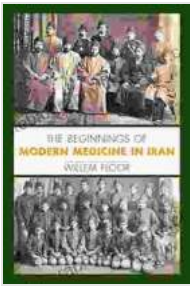


# The Dawn of Healing: A Journey Through the Genesis of Modern Medicine in Iran

The history of medicine in Iran is a rich and multifaceted tapestry, woven with threads of ancient wisdom, innovative advancements, and enduring traditions. From the dawn of civilization to the present day, Iranian physicians and healers have played a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of medical knowledge and practice. This article delves into the captivating beginnings of modern medicine in Iran, tracing its origins, exploring its transformative impact, and highlighting the visionary pioneers who paved the way.

The seeds of modern medicine in Iran were sown in the fertile soil of ancient Persia. As early as the 6th century BCE, the Achaemenid Empire had established a sophisticated system of healthcare, with physicians holding esteemed positions in society. Greek and Roman medical knowledge found its way into Persia through trade and cultural exchange, laying the foundation for a synthesis of medical practices.

Throughout the Islamic Golden Age (9th-13th centuries), Iranian physicians made significant contributions to the field of medicine. Rhazes (865-925), known as "the father of pediatrics," authored the seminal work "The Book of Medicine for Children," which remained a standard textbook for centuries. Avicenna (980-1037), a brilliant polymath, produced the "Canon of Medicine," a medical encyclopedia that influenced European medicine for over 500 years.



## The Beginnings of Modern Medicine in Iran

by Charles River Editors

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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The arrival of Western medicine in Iran during the 19th century marked a turning point in the country's healthcare landscape. In 1851, the Dar al-Funun, Iran's first modern university, established a medical school, paving the way for the training of physicians in Western medical practices.

In the early 20th century, Iranian physicians played a pivotal role in modernizing the country's healthcare system. Dr. Ali Akbar Khan Ghaffari (1853-1934), a prominent surgeon, spearheaded the establishment of modern hospitals and surgical techniques in Iran. Dr. Mohammad Mosaddegh (1882-1967), who later became Prime Minister, founded the University of Tehran's Faculty of Medicine, which became a leading center for medical education and research.

The beginnings of modern medicine in Iran were shaped by a cohort of visionary physicians and educators who dedicated their lives to advancing medical knowledge and practice. Among them were:

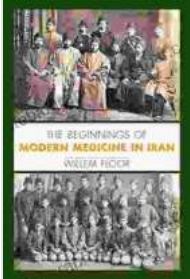
- **Dr. Ali Akbar Khan Ghaffari:** A pioneer in modern surgery, Ghaffari established the first surgical hospital in Iran and introduced innovative surgical techniques to the country.
- **Dr. Mohammad Mosaddegh:** A distinguished physician and later Prime Minister, Mosaddegh founded the University of Tehran's Faculty of Medicine and played a crucial role in modernizing Iran's healthcare system.
- **Dr. Ahmad Behbahani:** A renowned dermatologist, Behbahani established Iran's first dermatology clinic and contributed to the advancement of dermatological research and treatment in the country.
- **Dr. Reza Gholi Khan Hedayat:** A prominent physician and historian, Hedayat authored comprehensive medical treatises and played a key role in the translation of medical textbooks into Persian.

The of modern medicine in Iran had a profound impact on society. It led to a decline in infant mortality, increased life expectancy, and the control of infectious diseases. Hospitals and clinics were established across the country, providing access to quality healthcare for all citizens.

Moreover, the training of Iranian physicians in Western medical practices contributed to the development of a skilled healthcare workforce that could meet the growing demands of a modernizing nation.

The beginnings of modern medicine in Iran were marked by a convergence of ancient wisdom, innovative advancements, and visionary pioneers. From the legacy of ancient Persian physicians to the transformative impact of Western medical practices, the journey of Iranian medicine has been one of progress, resilience, and unwavering dedication to healing. As Iran

continues to advance in the field of medicine, it is essential to remember the rich history and remarkable achievements that laid the foundation for its modern healthcare system.



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