

Contested Medical Identities, Migration of Health Care Providers and Middle Eastern Students at Western Universities

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- Introduction

- A Historical perspective
 - Paracelsus
 - Ibn Sina/Avicenna

- A Global Health Perspective
 - Contested or shared medical identities?
 - Middle Eastern students in Western universities

- Conclusion





Philipp Theophrastes Bombastus of Hohenheim

- born 1493 in Switzerland
- died 1541 in Salzburg, Austria
- physician, mystic, alchemist, astrologer
- studied medicine in Ferrara, Italy
- heterodox teachings (in German instead of Latin)
- support of insurgents during the German Peasants' War (1524/25)



German stamp
In honor of Paracelsus

- Correspondence and intellectual interchange with members of the movement of Humanism (e.g. Erasmus v. Rotterdam, Joh. Oekolampad)
- Serious threats to his life by established doctors and physicians
- Most important Publication: *Astronomia Magna*

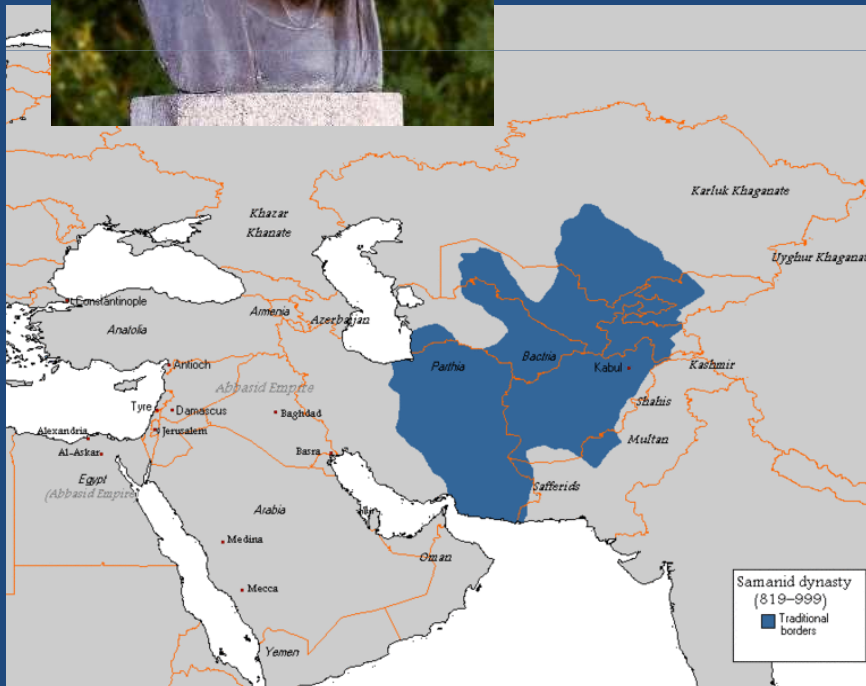
Core statements

- integration of philosophy, astrology, alchemy and proprietas (*rightousness*) in medicine
 - ‘The human body is just a part of the eternal body of nature’
- ‘only those who can – due to divine inspiration – see the world in the light of nature are able to be good healers’



Avicenna - ابن سینا

- born 980 A.D., Afshana (near Bukhara), present-day Uzbekistan
- died 1037 A.D., Hamadan, present-day Iran
- lived in the Samanid Empire



- physician, physicist, jurispudent, mathematician, astronomer, alchemist
- speaking Farsi as mother tongue
- acquiring Arabic at a very early age
- studying Aristotle
- constant travels & exiles: Nishapur/Merv, Khorassan, Jurjan, Rayy, Hamadan, Al-Dawla/Isfahan

The Samanid Empire (819-999 A.D.)



*Polish stamp in
honour of Avicenna/
Ibn Sina*

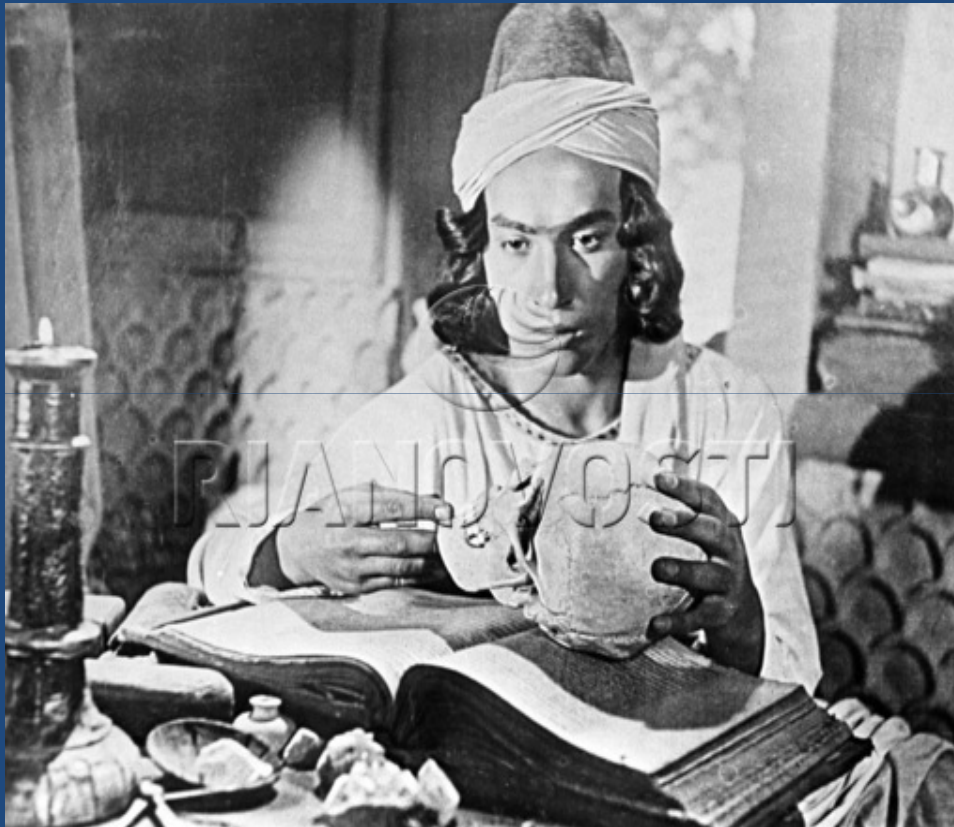
- Latin translation of the *Qanun* by Gherardo of Cremona
12th c. (Italy)
- Used until the 17th c. for medical teaching in Europe,
e.g. in Leuven (Belgium) & Montpellier (France)
- 1493: Hebrew translation in Naples, Italy
- Legendary prince of Seville or Cordoba (Italy, 14th c.)



*Stamp issued in the
Emirate of Dubai
In honor of Ibn Sina*

ابن سینا:

- denied the immortality of the human soul
- influences on the famous Sufi mystic Al-Ghazali
(1058-1111 A.D.)
- Palestinian students in Ulm:
„He was an Arab“
- Uzbek Embassy in Berlin:
„He was born in Uzbekistan, lived and worked in the
vicinity of Bukhara“



Film Авиценна

- *Uzbek Film Studios*
USSR 1956

- *Stage director : Kamil Yundrov*

- *Impersonator of Avicenna:*
Marat Aripov

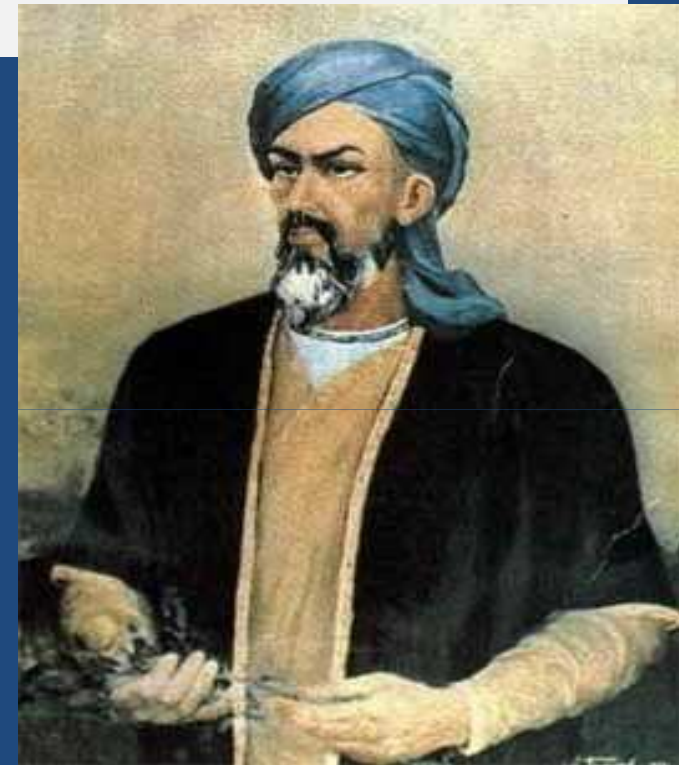
Courtesy: Olga Polianski, GTE Institute, Ulm University



Western and Oriental Images of Avicenna/ Ibn Sīnā ...



Avicenna Princeps *Canon*, Venice, Italy 1520



Ibn Sīnā ابن سينا: *El-Qanun el-Tibb*

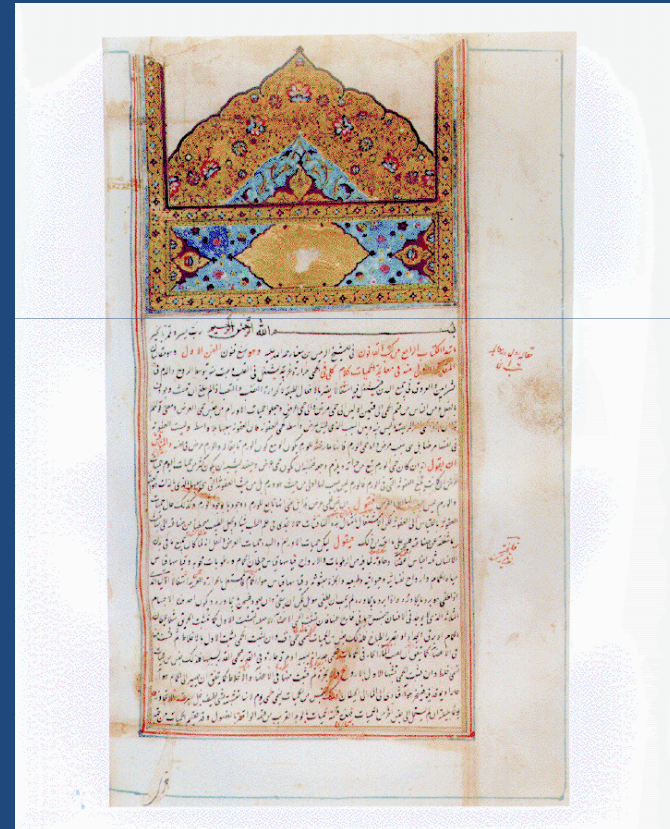


... Shared Heritage or Contested Identities?

Canon of medicine



Al-Qanun fit-tibb



Courtesy: Dr. Claudia Preckel, Oriental & Islamic Seminary, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany

Empirical study on Middle Eastern medical students' identity

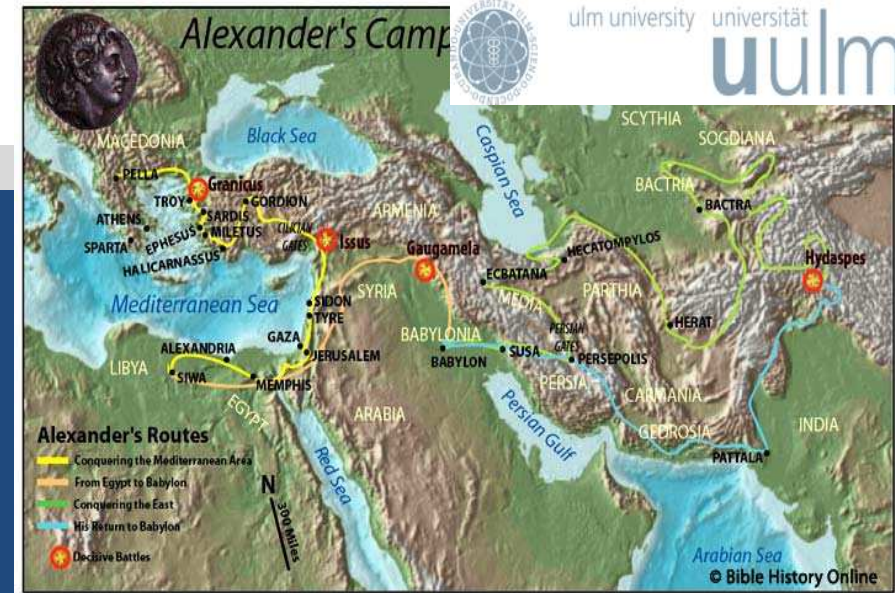
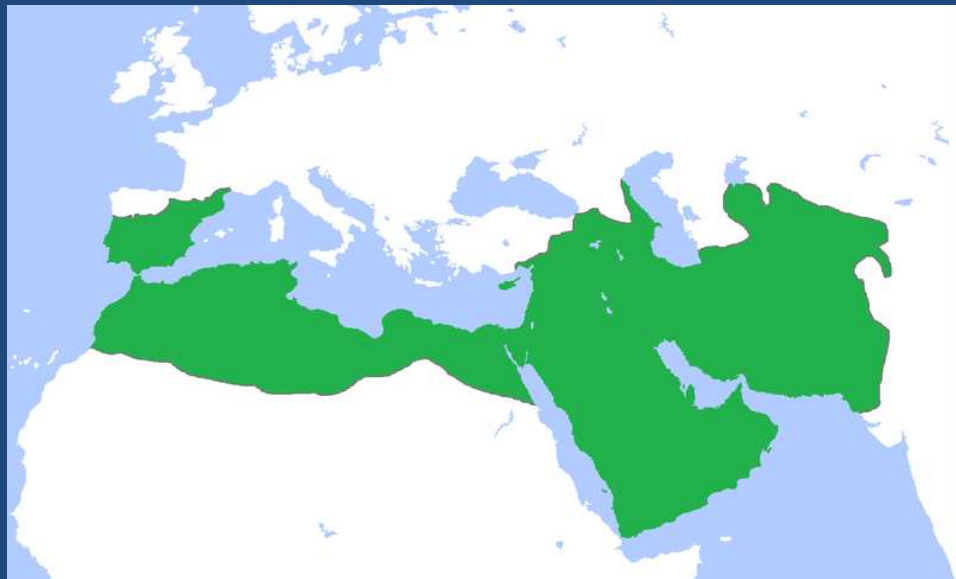


Narrative interviews

- stressors in medical teaching
 - in Arab countries
(cf. Elzubeir et al. 2010)
 - in Western countries?
- Professional identity as a doctor?

'Medical identity' of students with Middle Eastern background?

- Greek/Hellenistic Tradition of the Eastern Mediterranean
 - e.g. Medical School of Alexandria, Egypt
 - *Unani* medicine in Indo-Pakistan



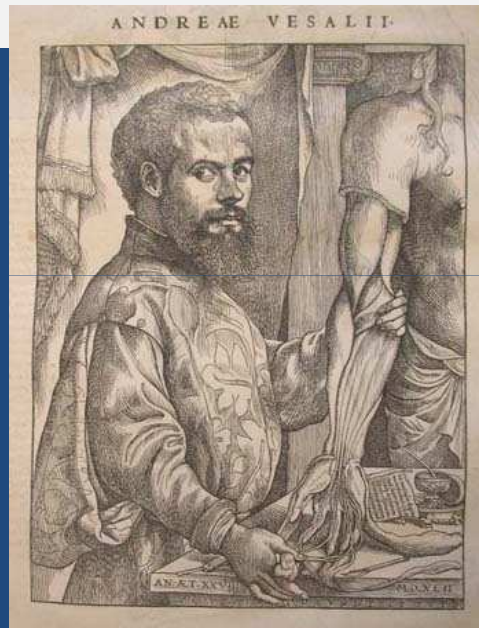
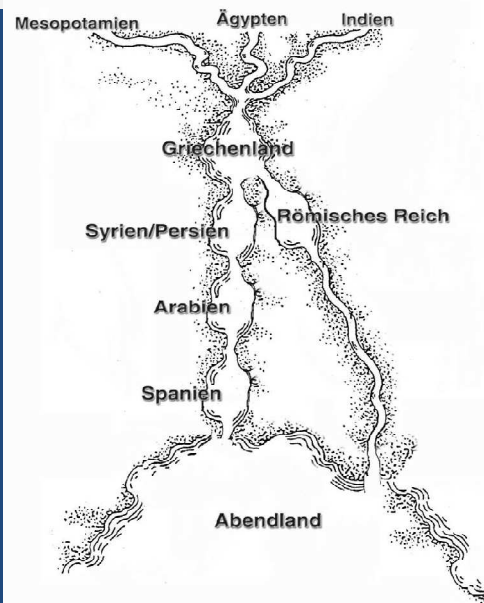
- Islamic medical tradition of the Middle Ages

*The Umayyad Empire
(661-750 A.D.)*



■ Retransfer of medical knowledge to Europe in Renaissance Times

Traditionswege der medizinischen Fachsprache



Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564)



- European influences of European medicine during colonial times
- Encounter of Middle Eastern students with Western medical teaching systems while studying in Europe, U.K., U.S., ...



Thank you for your
attention -

nezaketiniz için çok teşekkür ederim!

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