HUMORAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES IN SIDDHA SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

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ABSTRACT

In siddha system of medicine the total number of diseases are siad to be 4448, but the subclassification methodology and enumeration differ from one source to another. However, classification of the majority of these diesases is either based on clinical symptoms or vitiation of humor. Futher they have been sub-classified on the basis of the predominent symptoms, affected organs and aetiological factors. This study may help to understand the diseases classfied under humors very well and would trigger interest in scholars to correlate the diseases in Siddha system with those in modern medicine.

In Siddha system of medicine the total number of diseases are said to be 4448, All most all the books like Jeevaraktchaamirtham, Sambasivam pillai's Tamil English dicitionary, Agasthiar vaithya Rathna Churukkam, Therayar Vagadam, Vatha Vaithiyathukkaadi and Yugichinthamani 800 endorse this. But the sub classification methodology and enumeration differ from one source to another.

For example in Sambasivampillai

dicitionary based on the diseases of organs from head to foot (Angandi paadam) in Jeevarakcha Amirtham.

a) Athomugam : Diseases of organs head to foot.

b) Oorthuva Mugam : Diseases of organs foot to head.

c) Upayangam : Diseases of special organs.

The complete work on the signs

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and symptoms, course of illness, complications, aetiological factors and prognosis of all diseases in one book is not available. Separate works on diseases of eye (Agasthiyar Nayanavidi) diesease of head and it's organs(Naagamuni thalai noi maruthuvam), Psychiatry, (Agasthiyar Kirikai nool) are also available. In other works the details of certain diseases only are available. Yugimuni is the only author who has dealt almost majority of the diseases vividly with aetiological factors, sings and symptoms, course of illness and their prognosis in his work Yugichinthamani.

He has classified the diseases in to two categories

a) Based on vitiation of humors i.e. Vatha noigal, Pitha noigal, and Kaba noigal.

b) Based on signs and symptoms.

The acumen and degree ot scholarship evinced by the author is simply striking. He has even described the minute signs and symptoms with prognosis. They all can be correlated with modern disease entity. He has dealt most of the neuro-logical, neuromuscular and diseases of bones under vatha diseases.

Most of the digestive disorders, mental diseases were dealth with under pitha diseases and under kaba diseases all the degenerative and diseases of lungs and head were described. Under general category he has classified the diseases based on symptoms like Suram (Fever) Vanthi (Vomiting) Seriyamai (Indi-gestion) Gunman (Colic pain) Soolai (Piercing Pain).

Further these diseases have been classified based on

a) Predominant symptoms

b) Affected organs

c) Vitiation of humor

d) Aetiological factors

The sub-classifications based on the vitiation of humors are enigmatic and it is very difficult to differentiate from one another. An attempt is made to understand them in the light of Modern Science.

Three Humor

In primitive age Siddha system had no hypothetic principles to ex-

plain the causes and the treatment of diseases. Later on floating of ideas and thoughts would have received many thinking and criticism and finally they would have evolved or profounded this five elemental and three humoral theory which is the working hypothesis of Siddha system of medicine.

Anatomy, Physiology, Biochem-istry of Siddha system of medicine are based on Five elements and three humors.

Five Elemental Anatomy

Though they had studied the anatomy of human body deeply they had two types of anatomy.

a) Five Elemental Anatomy

b) Spritual Anatomy

Elemental Classification of organs of the body

Eather	Gas	Fire	Liquid	Solid
Ear	Skin	Eye	Tongue	Nose
Mouth	Hands	Legs	Anus	General organs
			Blood	Hairs
			Semen	Nerve
			Lipids	Muscle
			Urine	Bones
			Bone marrow	

Humoral Physiology

Siddha system has 96 thathuva theory by which they explained all the physiological functions of the body. Among them three humors are the vital. In physi- ological condition or in the state of equilib-rium they are called as Mutththaadhu. In inequilibrial state they are called as Muthththoadam i.e. in Pathological state.

HUMORAL PHYSIOLOGY

	VATHAM	PITHAM	KABAM
Botham	Either& Gas	Radiance	Liquid+ Solid
Qualities	a. Dryness	a. Slightly	a.viscid
	b. Lightness	b. Flowing	b. Motionless
	c. Coldness	c. Nonsticky	c.Sticky
	d. Fineness	d. Hot	d.Heavy
	e. Motility	e. Active	e.Cold
			f. Inert
			g.Soft
			h.Dullness

FUNCTIONS

I. ATTRACTION

a. Ingestion	a. Digestion	a. Thermostatic
b. Swallowing	b. Hunger	b. Mucilagenous Secreation
c. Inspiration	c. Thirst	c. Strength
	d. Cheerfulness	d. Potency

II. REPULSION

a. Defecation	e. Intellect
b. Urination	f. Courage
c. Seminal	g. Vision
	h. Lustre of the body.
d. Partition	
e. Exhalation	

III. TRANSMISSION

a. Motor & Sensory

b. Circulation of blood

c. Absorption of nutrients.

HUMORAL BIO- CHEMISTRY

VATHA	PITHA	KABAM
Neutral	Acidic	Alkaline
Carbohydrates	Protines	Lipids
Acetyl coline	Cata colomine	Histamine
Lymphocytes	Erthrocytes	Luecocytes
Lipolytic	Glucolytic	Proteolytic
Enzymes	Enzymes	Enzymes

HUMORAL PATHOLOGY

VATHAM	PITHAM	KABAM
Dryness	Burning Sensation all over the body	Excessive sleep
Constipation	Acid erructation heart burn	Lazziness
Emaciation	Excessive perspiration	Heaviness of body
Cachexia	Hemorrhage	Excessive salivation
Suppression of urine	Jaundice	Lethergy
	Red patches	Indigestion palor
	Bitter taste in mouth odour in mouth Excessive thirst less of vitality loss of sleep Acute onset.	Mild onset

DISEASES

a. Vasovlar & Skin diseases	a. Inflamatory diseases.	a. Anasarca
b. Neurological.	b. Pyrexia	b. Obesity
c. Neuro muscular	c. Abdominal diseases.	c. Degenerative disorders.
d.Diseases of Bones	d. Hypertention.	Diseases of lungs upper respiratory organs.

So based on these pathological signs specified in tables or associated diseases, Humoral classification can be correlated with modern disease entity. For example Gunmam has been classified into eight varieties among which Vatha Gunmam, Vali Gunmam, Vayu Gunmam, are due to Vitiation of Vatha humor. Pitha Gunmam, Sarthi Gunmam, and Eri Gunmam are due to Vitiation of Azhal humor. Kaba Gunmam is consequent on the vitiation of kaba humor and mukkutra gunmam is the manifestation of the vitiation of all three humors.

A careful and closer study reveals that signs and symptoms of Vadha Gunmam correlates with that partial obstruc-tion, signs and symptoms of Vayu Gunmam with tumor in Anorectal area and signs and symptoms of Vali Gunmam with obstruction, intestinal intersuseption.

Amoebic hepatitis or liver abscess, acute gastritis and cholecystitis have been described under Azhal, Eri and Vaanthi Gunmam respectively. Kaba Gunmam can be correlated with Tubercular abdomen and mukkutra gunmam with terminal stage of adenocarcinoma of the stomach.

Veluppu noi (Anaemia) has also been described as a separate disease and it has been sub classified into Vatha, Pitha, Kaba, Mukkutra and Nanju Veluppu.

Vatha type of Veluppu noi deals with anaemia with worm infestation.

Pitha veluppu depicts the signs and symptoms of Anaemia with cardiac diseases and in kaba veluppu, Anaemia with bronchial disease have been described. Mukkutra velupunoi describes the signs and symptoms of congestive cardiac failure.

CONCLUSION

Classification of disease vary from one source to another. Majority of them have been classified either based on clinical symptoms of vitiation of humor. Further they have been sub-classified on the basis of the predominant symptoms, affected organs, aetiological factors. This humoral classification is based on the diseases specified in tablets or associated diseases. This may help to understand the diseases classified under humours very well and would trigger interest in scholors to correlate the diseases in Siddha system with modern diseases.

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सारांश

सिद्ध चिकित्सा पद्धति में रोगों का दोषात्मक वर्गीकरण

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सिद्ध चिकित्सा पद्धति में रोगों की कुल संख्या 4448 बताईगई है, किन्तु अनुवर्गीकरण कार्य – विधि तया गणना के विषय में एक से दूसरे स्रोत में मतभेद है। अपितु इनमें से आधिकतर रोगों का वर्गीकरण या तो नैदानिक लक्षणों पर या फिर दोषों की विषमता पर आधारित है। इसके अतिरिक्त मुख्य तक्षणों, प्रभावित आंगों तथा नैदानिक घटकों के आधार पर भी इनका अनुवर्गीकरण कियागया है। यह अध्ययन दोषानुसार वर्गीकृत रोगों को समझने में बहुत सहायक होगा तया सिद्ध चिकित्सा पद्धति में वाणित रोगों की आधुनिक चिकित्सा पद्धति में बताये गये रोगों के साथ तुलना करने हेतु विद्वानों में रुचि उत्पत्ति में प्रेरणा देगा।