

Newsletter

Number 6 February 1985

Centre d'Etudes de l'Inde et de l'Asie du Sud EHESS, 54 bd Raspail, 75006 Paris, France



International Association for the Study of Traditional Asian Medicine

In the wake of Surabaya

The Second International Congress on Traditional Asian Medicine (ICTAM II), held at Surabaya last September, was attended by 495 participants coming from 24 countries; 127 papers were read, abstracts of which were published in the form of a book of 200 pages. The magnificent organization and festivities offered by Airlangga University and the Authorities of the Republic of Indonesia were enthusiastically acclaimed by all participants. In the wake of this congress, new regional chapters of IASTAM are being established, first, in Indonesia itself, then in Korea, in the Philippines, in North America... Further details are given on page 6. New officers and new council members have been elected and appointed; the list is given on pages 3 & 6 along with a statement from the President of the association. Follow-up regional workshops are planned (like the one in London mentioned on page 8), and the publication of, at least, a few selected papers given at Surabaya is underway.

It might be useful to quote here an article of our constitution. The objects and purposes of this Association are: "To promote and encourage the study of traditional Asian medicine, including both the 'classical' systems and local and tribal traditions, in all their aspects - historical, philosophical, anthropological, sociological, and scientific." We aim at establishing IASTAM as a scholarly and pluridisciplinary organization.

The present issue of IASTAM Newsletter appears in a transitional shape, which corresponds to the opening of a new phase in the development of this Association, and so to say, a phase of consolidation. We are making arrangements for a more substantial, a more informative, a more scientific periodical publication to be set up by the end of next year. We hope the Newsletter will grow organically into a Journal. For the time being, we have kept to the eight-page unsophisticated format. Furthermore, this issue is packed with information about IASTAM that will be eventually collected apart, and duly supplemented, in a special brochure. The next issues will give more space to conference reports and book reviews. All suggestions and contributions are welcome.

To open this new phase without failing to relate the most recent developments to the original endeavours of those who created IASTAM in 1979, we requested Professor A.L. Basham to communicate his reflections on the two international conferences organized under his presidency. Our most heartfelt thanks to him for his contribution. EDITOR

A. L. Basham

Reflections on two ICTAMS

The very successful second ICTAM at Surabaya to me was particularly gladdening, because I had been largely responsible for calling the first ICTAM in 1979, and I was more than happy to see that the modest conference we had held in Australia had borne fruit in a larger and more elaborate one.

The idea of holding such a conference was inspired in the first instance sometime in 1977 by a research student, Ken Zysk, who was then working at the Australian National University under my supervision on the theme of Vedic medicine*. He suggested that I should organize an international seminar on Ayurveda. The idea seemed intrinsically a good one, but at that time in Australia there was little interest in Indian traditional medicine at the universities, and thus I could not foresee much support for such a seminar. On the other hand there did seem the possibility of support in Australia for a wider conference, covering all aspects of traditional medicine in Asia.

So, rather nervously, I called a meeting, consisting mainly of members of the staff of the ANU. They showed surprising enthusiasm for the proposal, and formed themselves into an organizing committee. We obtained the approval of the Vice-Chancellor of the University, and set to work to raise funds and to give the conference preliminary publicity. Our attempts at raising funds were not very successful. The international foundations which generally support such ventures were not very interested, most of them no doubt frightened away by the fact that the conference was being organized on an ad hoc basis, and had not been initiated by a learned society, either international or national. But the WHO encouraged us, and the Australian government was not unsympathetic. So we managed to raise enough money, in cash and promises, to hold a modest conference, and plans went ahead. Despite setbacks and disappointments, the conference secretary, Jacqueline Holyoake**, worked wonders, showing intense enthusiasm and efficiency, and Bob Kirk, the treasurer, juggled with non-existent funds in a masterly manner.

Response to our announcements was larger than we had expected, and when the conference opened we found that we had about 300 members, coming from all the five continents. The first ICTAM could offer none of the luxury of Surabaya. It was the time of the Australian spring vacation, and most of the members had to put up with the comparatively Spartan conditions of the University's halls of residence. Conditions were not improved by the weather. The climate in Canberra during early spring is unpredictable. Often the days are warm and sunny, but in 1979 September was cold, windy and wet. Moreover most of the members of the conference came from the Northern Hemisphere at the end of the northern summer, and thus they must have found the contrast in temperatures particularly trying.

(Continued on page 8)

South Asian Systems of Healing

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASIAN STUDIES Editors: K. Ishwaran and
Bardwell L. Smith VOLUME 18 "SOUTH ASIAN SYSTEMS OF HEALING"
Edited by E. Valentine Daniel and Judy F. Pugh LEIDEN: E.J. Brill
Publishers, 1984 (ISBN 90 04 07805 0)

Contents

- Robert A. HAHN "Rethinking 'Illness' and 'Disease'"
Margaret Trawick EGNOR "The Changed Mother, or what the Small-
pox Goddess did when there was no more Smallpox"
Lorna Amarasingham RHODES "Time and the Process of Diagnosis in
Sinhalese Ritual Treatment"
Peter J. CLAUS "Medical Anthropology and the Ethnography of
Spirit Possession"
Deborah P. BHATTACHARYYA "Desire in Bengali Ethnopsychology"
Judy F. PUGH "Concepts of Person and Situation in North Indian
Counseling: The Case of Astrology"
Katherine EWING "The Sufi as Saint, Curer, and Exorcist in
Modern Pakistan"
E. Valentine DANIEL "The Pulse as an Icon in Siddha Medicine"

This is a very fine publication. The table of contents will already indicate that this small book goes far beyond the mere ethnographic description of medical practices, and far beyond the Behaviourism too often displayed in the field of medical anthropology. These anthropologists are addressing themselves to the study of some major philosophical problems: the question of Time as a healing factor, Desire and the psyche, the concept of Person, and the principle of Iconicity (borrowed from the American philosopher C.S. Peirce) used in defining the ways of Diagnosis in Siddha medicine. This collection of papers is of special significance in the context of current researches. The two editors, and some of the other contributors as well, have been associated for long (as students, researchers or lecturers) with the Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, where they have been trained in the most sophisticated methods of symbolic, structural and cultural anthropology. They are now making their way towards an ethnoscience of Asian realities as understood by Asian people themselves. Medical anthropology and the study of "systems of healing" will lead them to a more general science of culture, and to cross-cultural comparison. The introduction provided by Drs E. Valentine Daniel and Judy F. Pugh is quite useful in pointing to the main themes or theses recurring throughout the book. The major thesis is that of a strongly argued criticism of the individual-centered notion of health. The Behaviourists of the West will systematically define illness and suffering by relating or ascribing them to a particular individual (the patient), and to a particular disease (biologically delimited). This is true even of the most cunning and ironical of our social sciences, that is to say, Psychoanalysis. "Psychoanalysis, unlike earlier therapies, locates therapy in a dialogue. And yet, its locus classicus remains in the individual. Not so in the Indian version: psychoanalysis has had to shift its grounds in order to incorporate the 'environment' as an integral part of the structure and dynamics of the psyche to a degree that orthodox psychoanalysis would never have done" (p. xi). This displacement, or better, this shift of emphasis is carried out by developing a new discourse, speaking of "situations" more than of individuals, and of "the texture of suffering" (p. ix), which is inter-, extra-, and trans-personalized, instead of being focused on a singularly targeted patient.

Classics

Would it be advisable to point out in IASTAM Newsletter those books recently published on Greek (and/or Latin) medicine and materia medica that appear to be of interest to the students of Asian medicine, either because these books trace historical links between East and West, or because they offer new models for cross-cultural comparison?

We would like to give here two examples of such books, one selected for its historical value, and the other one selected to illustrate the second type mentioned above, which provides for new models in the comparative history of ancient medicine.

The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea, Translated from the Greek and edited by G.W.B. HUNTINGFORD, London: Hakluyt Society (C/o The British Library, London WC1B 3DG), 1980, pp. xiv-225, £ 12 (ISBN 0 904 180 05 0)

This is a famous text of ancient geography, but of uncertain date (between A.D. 95 and 130?) and unknown authorship. The late Dr Huntingford's translation is based on an intimate knowledge of the topography and ethnography of East Africa, and on researches conducted over half a century. Its precision is enhanced by several maps and indices, and a fascinating set of illustrations (of the shapes of boats and ships). This book is a must for an Indianist, and for the historian of ancient pharmacy and the spice trade.

G.E.R. LLOYD Science, Folklore and Ideology, Studies in the Life Sciences in Ancient Greece CAMBRIDGE: C.U.P., 1983, pp. xi-260 (ISBN 0 521 27307 2 for paperback)

Three parts: I. The development of zoological taxonomy.- II. The female sex: medical treatment and biological theories in the 5th & 4th centuries B.C.- III. Developments in pharmacology, anatomy and gynaecology.

Anthropology is used to provide a comparative dimension to the discussion of such questions as that of Tradition and the authority of the written text in ancient medicine. A topical book!

Wives & Midwives in Malaysia

Carol LADERMAN Wives & Midwives, Childbirth and Nutrition in Rural Malaysia BERKELEY: University of California Press, 1983 (In the series "Comparative Studies of Health Systems and Medical Care"), pp. xiv-268 (ISBN 0 520 04924 1)

On the one hand, this is an extremely rich, detailed and perceptive ethnographic report on beliefs and customs associated with pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum diet, observed in a particular parish of the state of Trengganu, on the east coast of peninsular Malaysia. As an apprentice to a village midwife and a local shaman, the author has also acquired a first-hand knowledge of the traditional healing practices. But on the other hand, this is a dissertation on the broad philosophical and theoretical concerns of anthropology, and particularly on the relationship of Ideology with Behaviour. Is it true to say, as western observers have long claimed, that adherence to tradition is a root cause of malnutrition among peasant peoples? A careful analysis of food ideology, and of the Humoralist tenets of traditional Malay medicine in the context of actual behaviour, shows that Tradition is not a monolith, but allows for flexible interpretations and variations. To the classicist (I mean, the student of any one of the three classical Asian systems of Humoral medicine - Arabic, Hindu, or Chinese), this beautifully written and elegantly edited anthropological study will provide parallels for a cross-cultural comparison and an ethnographic approach to the Humoral system.



International Association for the
Study of Traditional Asian Medicine

On IASTAM

After millennia of rather separate cultural developments, Eastern and Western civilizations are engaged, as a result of the economic, political, and technological changes of the past two centuries, in an exchange of goods and ideas, of material and immaterial resources, that is unprecedented in history. Thoughts and merchandise have travelled from East to West and likewise from West to East for more than two thousand years already, but the intensity of cultural communication as we witness it today goes far beyond the rather sporadic nature of contacts and exchanges in the past. The prospect of a future convergence of hitherto more or less independent civilizations may be welcomed by some, and it may appear dreadful to others, but regardless of the final outcome of the contemporary rapprochement between East and West, it offers a novel opportunity to learn from each other, and to share the wisdom that has been accumulated through the ages in each culture, in each nation, and in each society respectively. Medicine touches on the very fundamentals of human existence, and it should be one of the most rewarding aspects of current and future East-West communications to advance towards a better understanding of each other's health care traditions. IASTAM was founded to provide an organizational framework for the study of traditional Asian medicine, a framework designed to improve the exchange of information, insights, opinions, and experiences among all those who for whatever academic, administrative or practical reasons have a scholarly interest in the study of traditional Asian medicine. IASTAM has grown, over its first five years of existence, into a world-wide association, uniting scholars from a wide range of disciplines among its members. Although many persons appear to have joined IASTAM because previous studies and experiences have convinced them of a continuing value of traditional Asian medicine in contemporary health care, IASTAM as an association supports solely the study of the various Asian medical traditions, and leaves it entirely to its members to define the motives and goals of their studies. Consequently, and this has become impressively obvious at ICTAM II in Surabaya last September, IASTAM has developed into a uniquely interdisciplinary association, with members defining themselves as anthropologists, ethnologists, historians, linguists, philologists, and sociologists, as well as medical scientists, practitioners, and administrators from virtually all nations of the Asian, Australian, European, and American continents. ICTAM II has demonstrated, furthermore, that the heterogeneity of the membership of IASTAM is one of its major assets, and should be seen as a real advantage in that it offers a rare opportunity to exchange views and to communicate across those narrow disciplinary boundaries hampering the flow of knowledge so often today. An interdisciplinary and cross-cultural exchange of views and knowledge shall remain a major goal of IASTAM in the future, and the newly elected and appointed officers and council members of IASTAM, representing as many scholarly disciplines, and as many Asian medical traditions as possible, are asked to contribute their resources to this effect. The semi-annual newsletter, regional symposia on specific topics, and the comprehensive congresses every four to five years, as well as other activities, shall result in an ever improving understanding of traditional health care in Asia, past and present.

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Negotiations are under way to fill another vice-presidential position with a representative from the People's Republic of China. The list of IASTAM Council members is in page 6.

Regional Chapters

Three regional chapters have been formed already. The first, formed as soon as 1980, was the Indian Association for the study of Traditional Asian Medicine. Professor K.N. Udupa is President and Professor R.K. Mutatkar, among other responsibilities, is the Editor of an interesting Newsletter. Write: IASTAM-India, C/o Zandu Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., Gokhale Road South, Bombay 400025, India. The second one, registered in 1984, is the Malaysian Association for the Study of Traditional Medicine, with Dr Khalilur Rahman Bin Abdul Kareem, AMN, as President. For more information write to: MASTAM, 43-B, Jalan Jejaka Sembilan, 2 Miles Jalan Cheras, Taman Maluri, P.O. Box 6053 Pudu, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The third is IASTAM-Europe, the President of which is Professor J.C. Bürgel; see Report on page 7.

Current work on traditional Asian medicine in the U. K.

by Dominik Wujastyk

This is the second part of a survey, the first part of which was published in the last issue of this newsletter (Number 5, August 1984). As with the first part, the following record of current work is of necessity subjective. I have tried to speak personally with all the researchers mentioned, but in some cases this was not possible. I apologise in advance for any errors of omission or commission, in particular to anyone who feels that I have misrepresented their work. It is almost certain that there are workers of whom I have not heard, and who are therefore not mentioned; this is of course my fault, not theirs.

3. Islamic medicine

To the information given in the last issue of the newsletter can now be added some more information on the work of Dr Gül A. RUSSELL, Honorary Research Fellow at University College, London. Dr Russell, whose work also covers the history of the transmission of medicine and science from Islamic civilisation into 17th century England, has published on the optics and ocular anatomy of Ibn al-Haytham, Ibn Sīnā's psychology, and Ibn Tufayl's notions of ontogeny and childhood. Further publications include:

'Vision', in Dictionary of the History of Science, edited by W.F. Bynum, R. Porter & E.J. Browne (London: Macmillan, 1982), pp. 214-217.

Dr Russell has the following articles and chapters in the press:

'The rôle of an Almohad physician in the discovery of childhood in 17th century England,' in Child care through the ages, Proceedings of the 10th British congress on the history of medicine (1984);

'Physiological optics' and 'The problem of medical illustration in Islam,' in Arabic Science, edited by R. Rashed (C.N.R.S., Paris), to appear in French, English and Arabic. 'Itâki's Tashrih al-Ebdân: A 17th century Ottoman MS of anatomical illustrations,' Kos (With a critical text & translation).

'The impact of Hayy ibn Yaqzan on the royalist intellectuals at Oxford,' History of Science.

Since 9 October 1984 Dr Russell and Prof. G.A. RATTANSI have been running a research seminar under the joint auspices of the Wellcome Institute and the department of the History and Philosophy of Science, University College, London, on the sources of medicine, science and technology in Islamic civilisation. Future meetings held at the Wellcome Institute on Tuesdays at 4.00 p.m. are as follows: 26 February 'East of Gondesapur: Indian and Iranian sources of Abbasid medicine and science' by Dr L. Richter-Bernburg (Göttingen),

5 March "'Genizah" documents and their place in the history of medical writings in Arabic and Hebrew' by Dr H. Isaacs (Cambridge),

19 March 'Nature and necessity in Islamic philosophy: mediaeval controversies' by Dr O. Leaman (Liverpool).

A two day workshop called 'The interests of the Natural Philosophers in "Arabick" in 17th century Britain,' held on the 20th and 21st of June 1985, starting at 9.30 a.m., will conclude the seminar series. An exhibition of books and manuscripts under the title 'Islamic science: crossroad of cultures' is to be held at the Wellcome Institute from the 19th to the 27th of September 1985.

4. Chinese medicine

Dr. Joseph NEEDHAM and Dr. LU Gwei-Djen at Cambridge continue their monumental labours on the history of science in China, as reported in the last issue of the newsletter. Although now five years old, a survey of work on traditional medicine should not omit mention of Dr Lu and Professor Needham's:

Celestial Lancets: A History and Rationale of Acupuncture and Moxa (Cambridge: C.U.P., 1980), pp. xxi, 427 (charts, ill.). In principle this forms part of Volume 6 of "Science and Civilisation in China" but is published as an independent volume.

Two years ago they published the latest of the volumes on alchemy and early chemistry in "Science and Civilisation in China":

Chemistry and Chemical Technology, Part V: Spagyric Discovery and Invention: Physiological Alchemy (Cambridge: C.U.P., 1983), pp. xxxiii, 574 (ill.).

As reported in the last issue of the newsletter, 1984 saw the publication of the first volume of "Science and Civilisation in China" to be wholly written by someone other than Dr Needham. It is by Francesca Bray and is the first of the Biology volumes to appear:

Biology and Biological Technology, Part II: Agriculture (Cambridge: C.U.P., 1984), pp. xxvii, 724 (ill.).

The next volumes to appear in the series are: Volume 5 Part I on Paper and Printing by CH'IEN Ts'un-Hsün (At the page-proof stage, to appear in summer or autumn of 1985); Volume 5 Part VII on Gunpowder Weapons and Engines by Drs Needham, Lu, HO Ping-Yü, and WANG Ling (Currently being set up for page proofs); Volume 6 Part I on Botany by Drs Needham and Lu (Currently being set up for page proofs.) Dr Lu is currently researching the volume on forensic medicine.

Mr Alexander MACDONALD, first Honorary Secretary of the British Medical Acupuncture Society, has published:

Acupuncture: From Ancient Art to Modern Medicine, Medicine Today series (London: Allen & Unwin, 1982), pp. xiv, 184 (ill.).

The Journal of Chinese Medicine edited by Peter DEADMAN and Giovanni MACIOCIÀ continues to be published from Hove, Sussex BN3 3EB, and the issue of September 1984 (Number 16) included the following articles: 'The differentiation and treatment of epigastric pain by acupuncture' by Vivienne Brown (pp. 2-17); 'The differentiation of syndromes according to the zangfu - the lungs' by Julian Scott (18-25); 'The treatment of cholelithiasis by acupuncture' (Anon. 26-27); 'The treatment of renal colic by acupuncture' by Prof. Qui Mao-lian (28-30).

Drs Sheila M. HILLIER and J.A. JEWELL recently published: Health Care and Traditional Medicine in China, 1800-1982 (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1983), pp. xix, 453, ill. (Essays on the historical development of health care, preventive medicine, traditional medicine, personnel training, psychiatry, nutrition by Nancy Worcester, and family planning by Penny Kane.)

Dr Christopher CULLEN, Clare Hall, Cambridge, has published: 'Science and medicine in China,' in Information Sources in the History of Science and Medicine, edited by P. Corsi & P. Weinling (London: Butterworth, 1983), pp. 476-500.

Dr Felix MANN, President of the Medical Acupuncture Society, has the following book, in print: Scientific Aspects of Acupuncture, 2nd ed., London: William Heinemann, 1983. (Written for doctors.), and various others with the same publishers.

5. Indian medicine

Dr Dominik WUJASTYK, Assistant (Oriental Collections), at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London, has recently published the following articles:

'Hindu Science,' in Dictionary of the History of Science, edited by W.F. Bynum, R. Porter & E.J. Browne (London: Macmillan, 1982), pp. 186-188.

'The South Asian holdings of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine,' South Asian Library Notes and Queries, 16 (1984), pp. 3-5.

'The spikes in the ears of the ascetic: an illustrated tale in Buddhism and Jainism,' Oriental Art, New Series 30 (1984), 158, 189-194, 6 ill., 1 col. (A discussion of a parallel incident in the lives of Buddha and Mahāvīra in which they are attacked and healed. Illustrated from previously unpublished manuscripts of the Kalpasūtra and Astasahasrikāprajñāpāramitāsūtra in the Wellcome collection).

'An alchemical ghost: the Rasaratnākara of Nāgārjuna,' Ambix, 31 (1984), pp. 70-83. (It is argued that Nāgārjuna never wrote a work called Rasaratnākara, and some of the

confusion surrounding the alchemical and magical works of Nāgārjuna Siddha and Nityanātha Siddha is removed.)

'La scienza veterinaria Indiana nel Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine,' *Kos*, 6 (1984), pp. 18-19, col. ill. (A brief introduction to the history of asvacikitsā or Indian farriery with illustrations from a manuscript of Nakula's *Asvacikitsā* in the Wellcome collection.)

'Ravigupta and Vāgbhata,' *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 48 (1985), pp. 74-78, ill. (A recently discovered Kashmiri manuscript of the *Astāngahrdayasamhitā* in the Wellcome collection gives new evidence suggesting a family connection between the famous doctors Ravigupta and Vāgbhata.)

and the following booklet:

The South Asian Collections of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine (London: The Wellcome Institute, 1984), pp. 16 (7 col. ill.). An illustrated guide to the Wellcome collections, describing the provenance and character of the Sanskrit, Prakrit and other South Asian manuscripts and books.

Dr Wujastyk's current projects include work on the early history of smallpox vaccination in India, Indian alchemy, the on-going gathering of materials for a survey of Sanskrit medical authors and manuscripts, and the cataloguing of the Wellcome Sanskrit and Prakrit collections. The Wellcome Institute has approved in principle a project to compile a bibliography of the history of Indian medicine. This will be commenced in 1985 and is expected to take two or three years.

Dr Tom J.S. PATTERSON, of the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford, recently published the following articles:

'Science and medicine in India,' in Information Sources in the History of Science and Medicine, edited by P. Corsi & P. Weinling (London: Butterworth, 1983), pp. 457-475.

'La fabbrica del nasi,' *Kos*, 3 (April 1984), pp. 75-90, 16 ill., 1 col. (A history of rhinoplasty, the plastic surgery of the nose, discussing the origins of its techniques and the discovery by the East India Company doctors of the "Indian method" in Poona in 1793.)

Dr Patterson is currently writing: "The medical history of the East India Company and its relation to Indian medicine, 1600-1850." He is also collaborating with the team under Dr G.D. SINGHAL at Banaras Hindu University, to co-write the twelfth and last volume in the *Susruta* translation series, which is to be a synopsis of the *Susrutasamhitā* designed for the western reader.

Dr Ronald FRANKENBERG, Department of Sociology, University of Keele, Staffordshire, published the following article:

'Allopathic medicine, profession, and capitalist ideology in India,' *Social Science and Medicine*, 15 A.2 (March 1981), pp. 115-125.

Mr Daniel C. TABOR has studied the Ayurvedic classical tradition under Bapalal G. Vaidya in South Gujarat, in preparation for a doctoral thesis supervised by Dr Nicholas Allen, Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Oxford. He published the following article: 'Ripe and unripe: concepts of health and sickness in Ayurvedic medicine,' *Social Science and Medicine*, 15 B (1981), pp. 439-455.

Ms Poonam BALA is writing a doctoral thesis supervised by Dr Roger Jeffery, Department of Sociology, University of Edinburgh, under the title: "Indian medicine and the state in British India, 1800-1947."

Mr Christopher MORGAN, St. Anthony's College, Oxford, is writing a doctoral thesis supervised by Prof. B.K. Matilal, All Souls College, Oxford, under the title: "A study of the history and philosophy of an ancient Indian paradigm" (A study based on the *Carakasamhitā*). Mr Morgan is interested in the philosophy of science in general, and in particular in comparing the classificatory systems of Indian and 18th century European medicine.

Ms Helen LAMBERT is at present in Jaipur studying Rajasthani, in preparation for fieldwork on folk medicine and possession in Rajasthan. Her results will be submitted as a doctoral thesis supervised by Dr N. Allen, University of Oxford.

Dr G. Morrison CARSTAIRS, formerly Vice-Chancellor of the University of York, recently published:

Death of a Witch: A Village in North India 1950-1981, London: Hutchinson, 1983, pp. 176, maps.

This is a portrait of the village on which Dr Carstairs first reported in his classic *The Twice-Born* (1956), describing the response of the villagers to modernisation over a period of 31 years. Attention is given to health care and resistance to change (with the concomitant adherence to traditional healing methods), mental disturbance, and supernatural beings and magical powers. The episode which gives its title to the book concerns the beating to death by a group of villagers in 1951 of a woman believed to be a witch.

6. Tibetan medicine

Ms Marianne WINDER, consultant on Oriental medicine at the Wellcome Institute, London, is preparing a catalogue of the Wellcome collection of Tibetan manuscripts and xylographs. She recently published the following articles:

'Buddhism and Tibetology,' *Bulletin of Tibetology* (Gangtok: Sikkim Institute of Tibetology), New Series 1 (1984), pp. 10-13.

'Il Buddha della medicina,' *Kos*, 3 (April 1984), pp. 55-74, 13 col. ill. (On the use of Buddhist images for the healing of body and mind, illustrated from the Wellcome collection of Tibetan *Thankas*.)

Mr T.G. DUMMER, Principal of the European School of Osteopathy, London, has a book forthcoming on "Tibetan medicine and other medicines". Mr Dummer also publishes the *Newsletter, Study group for Tibetan medicine* (London: Jotom Educational and Secretarial Services, 1983-), a new quarterly journal, now in its third issue, for communications on current work in Tibetan medicine.

7. South-East Asian medicine

Drs M.C. RICKLEFS and P. VOORHOEVE included the Wellcome collection of six Batak manuscripts in their catalogue:

Indonesian Manuscripts in Great Britain: A Catalogue of Indonesian Languages in British Public Collections, Oxford: O.U.P., 1977, pp. xxix, 237.

This has now been updated with the addition of 28 more Batak, 11 Javanese, and 10 Malay Wellcome manuscripts in their:

'Indonesian manuscripts in Great Britain: addenda and corrigenda,' *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 45.2 (1982), pp. 300-322.

The Wellcome collection of Malay manuscripts were also described and discussed by Drs R.F. ELLEN, M.B. HOOKER and A.C. MILNER in their article:

'The Hervey Malay collection in the Wellcome Institute,' *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 54.1 (1981), pp. 82-92.

Ms Alyson PEBERDY has been studying the medical traditions of the Tolai people of East New Britain, off Papua New Guinea, for several years, under the supervision of Dr N. Allen, Department of Social Anthropology, Oxford.

Dr Gilbert LEWIS, St. John's College, Cambridge, whose major study on medical anthropology appeared as:

Knowledge of Illness in a Sepik Society: A Study of the Gnau, New Guinea, London: Athlone Press, University of London, 1975, pp. x, 379,

is now writing a study of general aspects of medical anthropology, based on studies of New Guinea, which may appear under a title such as "Reasons for care: aspects of fact and value in medical anthropology".

Visitors to London should not miss the opportunity of visiting the Wellcome Museum for the History of Medicine, now rehoused on the top two floors of the Science Museum, South Kensington. In addition to many displays of general interest to the historian of medicine, there are excellent displays specifically on traditional Tibetan, Chinese, Indian and other Asian medical systems.

