



LECTURES ON
ORGANON
of
MEDICINE

Volume 1

Dr. Manish Bhatia

LECTURES
ON
ORGANON OF MEDICINE

- Part I -

Dr. Manish Bhatia

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Foreword

Reading Dr. Bhatia's *LECTURES ON ORGANON OF MEDICINE (PART I)*, I found that his comments are to the point. He seems to have understood the Organon quite well and his examples and explanations are lucid and informative.

What is also important I think is the fact that in this work the real principles of the Organon have been separated from several nonsensical ideas that have been developing from 'modern' homeopaths lately, who are trying to bypass and therefore to confuse the authentic laws set by Hahnemann in his Organon with irrelevant ideas calling them classical homeopathy.

I can say that his comments on Organon, as far as I know, are the best existing so far in our literature.

I wish the author same success in the next volumes of his work.

Prof. George Vithoukas

Alternative Nobel Prize, 1996
Director, International Academy of Classical Homeopathy, Greece
Hon.Prof. University of the Aegean, Greece
Prof. Kiev Medical Academy
Hon. Professor Moscow Medical Academy (Dept.Rest. Medicine)
Collaborating Professor Basque Medical University

Foreword

As a homeopath studying this art for twenty one years, I was delighted when Dr. Manish Bhatia sent me the manuscript of his book. He has been a colleague and friend for nearly a decade, and I've read many of his essays on Organon. Dr. Bhatia founded Hpathy.com, the world's most widely read homeopathy website. He is a highly regarded homeopath in India and his lectures on Organon have appeared worldwide.

The Organon is a monumental work, and it requires considerable effort from the reader. Hahnemann introduced so many new concepts, ideas and terms, that students often miss much of its meaning. The different translations just add to the dilemma. Someone wishing to truly understand Organon, must do so through total immersion in Hahnemann's writings. He must study and compare the different translations, consider the times in which the book was written and finally, know the author so well as to infer his intent. That was the level of scholarship which Dr. Bhatia brought to this project. He's done all the hard work for us, handing us the final product in comprehensible form. This book was driven by his passion for homeopathy, which is apparent on every page, and pulls the reader along. He wants us to be true to this profession, and by so doing, succeed.

In this work he examines the core aphorisms (1-70) deeply, exploring Hahnemann's intent, while carefully teasing out the meaning of Hahnemann's words. He shows us how slight differences in

interpretation will have important consequences. He reveals misconceptions that many students hold, like the idea that homeopaths don't treat disease, or that the vital force is a religious concept. Tucked away throughout the book are little clarifications of items that the reader might otherwise ponder indefinitely. He thoughtfully includes a historical context which explains homeopathy's place in history, and even accounts for Hahnemann's rare errors. Past and present meet when Dr. Bhatia invokes current knowledge of thermodynamics to demystify the vital force. In a clear, step by step fashion, he takes us to the heart of Hahnemann's meaning and makes accessible the richness of the Organon. You'll find that he carefully explains each idea, how it relates to the whole and why it is important.

Why, you may ask, do I need to learn Organon this deeply? The answer is simple. It is the rule book for homeopathy that tells us how to practice. It reveals what disease is, what we can cure (and cannot), instructs us how to proceed, and how to do so safely. It provides the background for every decision we will make. Materia Medica and repertory are essential to master, but they can't guide you in how to practice. Over the life of your career, countless novel problems will present themselves. How do you interpret unusual changes in the patient's symptoms? Should you repeat the remedy, or will that spoil the case? If a patient starts to decline after a remedy, what do you do? What should you not treat with homeopathy? Only a comprehensive knowledge of Organon will allow you to determine the answers.

Without in-depth knowledge of Organon, you will often be helpless in deep water. Cases that started out simply will suddenly overwhelm you. You will never experience homeopathy's true potential, or your own. With this knowledge, you will reason out seemingly impossible cases and deal with virtually any circumstance. You will speak with authority and be worthy of the trust of your patients. Finally, you will always have confidence that the master is standing by your side, guiding you.

Alan V. Schmukler

Chief Editor – Homeopathy 4 Everyone
Author: Homeopathy - An A to Z Home Handbook.
Leola, PA. 2012

Preface

I was just seventeen when I was offered admission to the homeopathic college. The only reason I accepted was because my parents felt that a bird in the hand is better than two in the bush. I had no intention of pursuing homeopathy as a career but destiny had other plans for me. I happened to lay my hands on a copy of the Organon and out of curiosity, I started reading it.

As I devoured page after page, I realized, for the first time, what medical science means; what health, disease and cure really is; what it means being a doctor. With every aphorism I jumped with joy as if I had found a treasure. It was an awakening of sorts! I fell in love with Organon and Hahnemann, and decided to pursue Homeopathy as a career.

However college brought another shock. I soon found that nobody read or taught Organon at the college from the source book. Organon was considered non-essential and guidebooks with questions and answers were used to clear the exams. The philosophy that drew me towards homeopathy was not implemented in practice. Polypharmacy and complexes were in vogue. These facts were not local but applied to most colleges in India. I was disillusioned but still loved homeopathy enough to not leave it. When everyone around was happy reading notes and guidebooks, I continued to read the original works. Every time I felt low, I read the Organon again and every time I felt rejuvenated.

Immediately after college, I set up my clinic and also started teaching Organon at the local college. Teaching was fun and illuminating. It made many concepts clear. However the initial years of practice were difficult. I had kept Hahnemann as my *guru* and never had a mentor with strong classical roots. The initial years were filled with failures. I soon realized that practice is not as easy as theory. I was, however, determined to follow the principles. I wanted to see in practice, the miracles I had read about; or I did not want to practice Homeopathy. Every failure took me back to the Organon; I read books by modern authors, attended seminars, experimented and failed... and came back to the Organon again. It took several more years to learn from my failures and to learn how to implement the principles in practice. I am still far from perfect but after more than a decade of teaching and clinical practice, I now understand the principles better and have learned to live them too. Hahnemann's words are still relevant and his principles are still ahead of the times...and I am still in love with him!

Teaching Organon has also become a passion. From classroom teaching to using the Internet to deliver text, audio and video lectures around the world, I have used every medium to make Organon easier for students. My lectures have been used as teaching aids at several colleges and students kept asking for a book with all the lectures. Yet, I felt I needed to learn more before I committed myself to a book. I kept delaying this project.

However, there were people around who saw this book in me before I visualized it myself. I need to thank them for their presence in my life.

My parents, who always supported me as a homeopath and instilled the character and goodness in me to follow the chosen path; my sisters Jyoti and Greeshma for having faith in me as a homeopath; my wife Manisha, my constant companion in homeopathy who wanted my lectures to be my first book; my mentor and guru late Dr. Arvind Sharma for his unwavering belief in my abilities; my friends Amit and Ravish, whose presence gave me the much needed confidence and support during all the trying times; small nudges from Dr. Firuzi Mehta, Dr. Ajit Kulkarni and Dr. GR Mohan helped me finally commit to this work; my daughters Umang and Vani, who inspire me to be a better 'me'. I am also indebted to my friends Firuzi Mehta, Alan Schmukler and Siegfried Letzel for proof reading this work. Special thanks to George Vithoukias and Alan Schmukler for gracing this work with a foreword.

Life is not worth living without the people who love you and without a purpose to live for. I am fortunate to have both. Homeopathy is my passion and making the Organon accessible and comprehensible to every student is one of my life's purposes. Be with me on this journey!

Introduction

Hahnemann wrote his Organon of Medicine between 1805 and 1842. A large part of his work focused against the then prevalent medical system. Nearly 200 years have passed since then and human life and the medical system have changed beyond recognition during these years. No medical text of that time is in publication now – none except the Organon of Medicine by Samuel Hahnemann. Homeopathy has also survived numerous attacks since then. The question that comes up frequently is – are Hahnemann's words still relevant?

To answer this question honestly, one needs to understand his words in great detail and also needs to understand the medical practices of his time and those of the modern era, equally well. But understanding Hahnemann's words is not easy. The German language of 200 years ago was different from the one that is commonly used nowadays. Words and writing styles have changed significantly. Even the translations available are in old English, with long-winded sentences and difficult words. Most of the translators have also introduced some translation errors, which sometimes give a different meaning to Hahnemann's words. For e.g., read the first aphorism from various translations.

The physician's high and only mission is to restore the sick to health, to cure, as it is termed. - Dudgeon (Hahnemann, 1829b) /Boericke (Hahnemann, 1921a)

The physician's highest and only calling is to restore health to the sick, which is called healing. - Wesselhoeft (Hahnemann, 1829c)

The first and sole duty of the physician is to restore health to the sick. This is the true art of healing. - Hering (Hahnemann, 1824)

The physician's highest calling, his only calling, is to make sick people healthy – to heal, as it is termed. - Künzli (Hahnemann, 1921b)

The physician's highest and only calling is to make the sick healthy, to cure, as it is called. - O'Reilly (Hahnemann, 1921c)

Can you see the differences? Boericke and Dudgeon use the word 'mission'; Hering uses 'duty'; Wesselhoeft, Künzli and O'Reilly use the word 'calling'.

The original is:

Des Arztes höchster und *einziger* Beruf ist, kranke Menschen gesund zu machen, was man Heilen nennt.

The problem lies in the translation. In German we have "Berufung", which means: mission, calling, and "Beruf", which means occupation, vocation, business, and trade. If you change the word 'mission' to 'occupation', the aphorism can be interpreted in a different way.

You might also notice that Künzli and O'Reilly have not used the word 'restore' in their translation. The word 'restore' actually qualifies how the sick should be made healthy. The depth of the aphorism changes without it. Such mistakes or differences in words may seem insignificant to a casual reader, but can have far reaching consequences and often change the meaning of the aphorism.

Through this work, it is my humble effort to make the words of Hahnemann easy to understand and follow. I am not a scholar in German language; to take care of the translation errors, I have studied all the translations of the 4th, 5th and 6th editions of the Organon in parallel, and my friends Siegfried Letzel and Hans Weitbrecht have helped me trace and correct several translation errors. I have kept the Dudgeon/Boericke translation (6th edition) as the base for this work as it is the most popular of all the existing translations, but wherever there were significant differences or errors in translation, I have made corrections to the aphorisms to make this work accurate and authentic. To add stress, I have also highlighted several phrases and words in aphorisms by either making them bold or with underlines. Some words have been explained/defined within the text of aphorisms using square brackets [].

People can debate about the choice and meaning of certain words in the original German text, but those who have studied all of Hahnemann's works thoroughly can understand the soul behind those words. It has been my effort to reveal that soul through these lectures.

I have also tried to explain most of the aphorisms in modern language using modern day examples, clinical cases and correlating the words with modern science wherever possible. The first volume of this book covers lectures up to aphorism seventy. Two more volumes will follow soon to cover the rest of the Organon.

The Organon is often considered difficult to understand and Homeopathy difficult to practice. In the preface to the 5th edition of Organon, Hahnemann (1829b) also wrote:

The application of homeopathic principles appears easy, but in reality is most difficult and irksome; it demands most careful thought and the utmost patience, but these find their reward in speedy and permanent recovery of the patient.

I agree with him totally. This work is just a small effort to share my understanding of his work with all of you. If this work helps you understand the Organon better, if it inspires you to practice homeopathy, to stay true to the principles, I'll consider myself successful.

Buy this book from

<http://books.hpathy.com>

I can say that Dr. Bhatia's comments on Organon, as far as I know, are the best existing so far in our literature.

- Prof. George Vithoulkas
Alternative Noble Prize Winner

Someone wishing to truly understand Organon, must do so through total immersion in Hahnemann's writings. He must study and compare the different translations, consider the times in which the book was written and finally, know the author so well as to infer his intent. That was the level of scholarship which Dr. Bhatia brought to this project. He's done all the hard work for us, handing us the final product in comprehensible form.

- Alan Schmukler
Chief Editor, Homeopathy 4 Everyone

Dr. Bhatia has displayed his deep and profound understanding of the Organon through this book. He has simplified the seemingly complicated language of the Organon, making it a pleasure to read and understand. This book is sure to give a healthy boost to the correct applications of homoeopathic philosophy and will be a welcome addition to the libraries of all homoeopaths, whether student or professional. I wish I'd had this book when I was a student! Better late than never, this book will play an important role in the world of homoeopathy for a long time to come.

- Dr. Firuzi Mehta
Editor, Hpathy.com

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