



HISTORY OF
COMMUNITY
HEALTH
NURSING IN
INDIA

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In order to understand the evolution of community health nursing in India , it is essential to know the evolution of community health in India.

1.VEDIC PERIOD 3000 BC

- The public health had its origin in Vedic period. During this period there were well planned cities with proper housing, good drainage system, water supply, public toilets and baths. This suggests the practice of good environmental sanitation



RIGVEDA
SAMVEDA
YAJURVEDA
ATHARVAVEDA

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Course Code : BSCN 4002

Course Name : COMMUNIT HEALTH NURSING

- In 1400 BC Ayurveda & Siddha systems of medicine advocated holistic health care i.e., taking care of physical, mental and spiritual aspects of life simultaneously in an integrated way to have sound body, mind and useful life.
- The principles of holistic health care are described in MANU SAMITHA.
- Principles of hygiene and dietetics were practised. Midwives practiced hygienic practices.
- The care to sick people in their own homes and hospitals was done by old women and men.

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POST VEDIC PERIOD (500 BC-700AD)

- **This period was influenced by Buddhism.**



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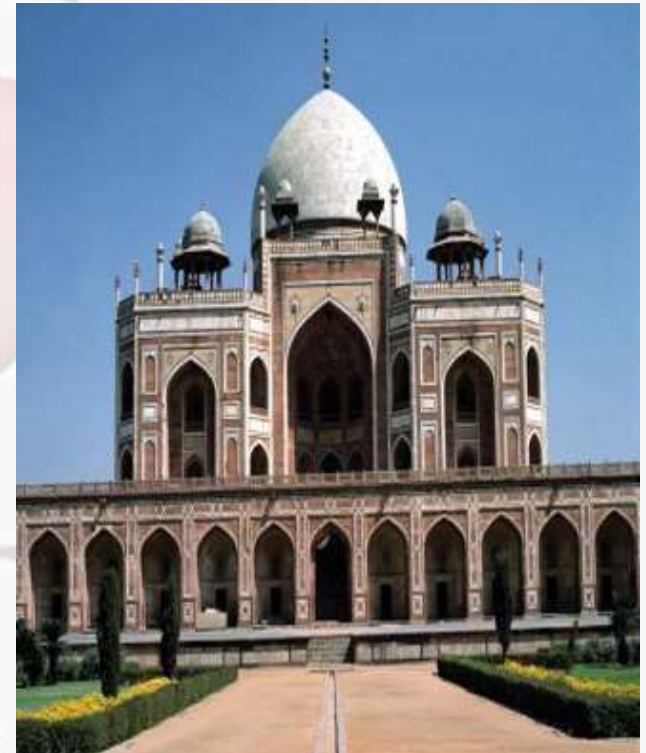
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Course Name : COMMUNIT HEALTH NURSING

- One of the principles of Buddhism was care of the sick and welfare of the humanity.
- King Ashoka (220-250 BC) contributed greatly in the exercise of this principle.
- He established many hospitals, instituted medical system and one doctor was appointed for every 10 villages.
- Sick were treated in homes and hospitals.
- Monastic universities were set up in Taxila and Nalanda to train doctors.



MOUGAL PERIOD



MOUGAL PERIOD(700-1850 AD)

- During this period there was set- back in the field of public health practice partly because of decline of Buddhism and partly due to changes in political environment.
- All hospitals and universities were demolished.
- Around 1000 AD Arabic system of medicine, popularly known as UNANI was introduced. This is now a part of the Indian system of medicine.

BRITISH PERIOD (18 CENTURY-1947)

- During this period the civil and military services was started by East India Company in 1757.
- The actual public health services was started in 19 century when in 1859 the administration of India was taken over by the British crown from the East India Company.
- During this period, the heavy mortality among European soldiers in India sought the attention of British Parliament.



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- Florence Nightingale contributed a lot in the improvement of health and sanitary conditions for army and civil population as well.
- She collected various informations about the prevailing conditions through questionnaire and discussions with important persons.
- During this period various commissions with specific were set up from time to time to deal with various situations such as sanitation problems, communicable diseases etc.
- Modifications were done in the administrative set up at the centre, province and local levels to provide public health services to people.



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Various Acts were passed.

These Acts included Birth and Death Registration Act 1873, Vaccination Act 1887, Indian Factory Act 1881, the Local Self Government 1885.

The Epidemic Disease Act 1887, the Govt of India Act 1935, the Madras Public Health Act 1939, the Drug Act 1940.

These Acts helped in providing public health services through legislation.

During early 20 century various central level bureaus/institutions were set up to provide specialized services and to conduct research and training activities.



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- These included central Malaria Bureau at Kasouli in 1909, the Indian Research foundation in 1911 (now known as ICMR),
- the department of health Education in 1912.
- The Nutrition research Laboratory at Coonoor in 1918,
- maternity and Child Welfare Bureau by Indian Red Cross Society in 1930, All India Institute of Hygeine and Public health in 1930,
- the Tuberculosis Association of India in 1940.



Faculty: PROF. Dr.ASHIA QURESHI

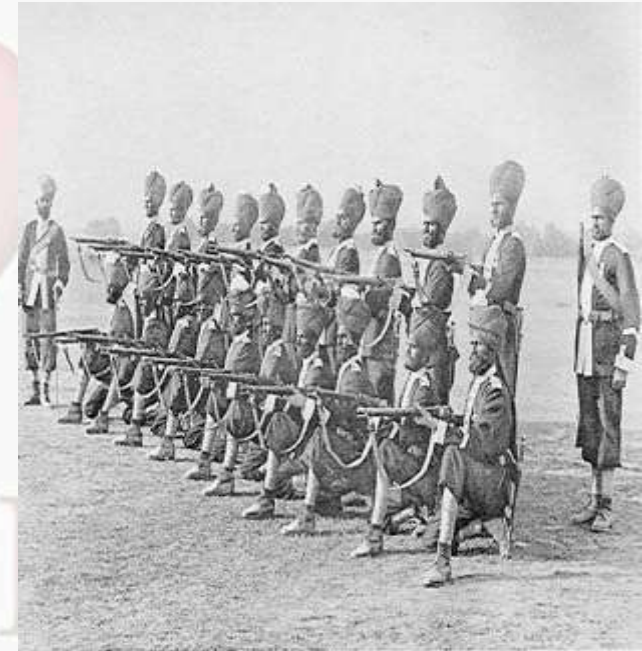
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POST BRITISH PERIOD (1947 ONWARDS)

Following independence, the Govt of India developed a well organized health care delivery system on the guidelines provided by the Bhore committee.

Comprehensive primary, secondary and tertiary level preventive services were provided through three tier structure (Village Post, Urban Health Post, HSc, PHC,CHC,Dist Hosp, State & Central level hospitals)

Since then there has been a continuous development of health care services thorough Five Year Plans



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- **The following major areas have been considered on priority basis in each FYP.**
- Control & eradication of communicable & non communicable diseases.
- strengthening of medical & community health
- Population control.
- Improvement of environmental sanitation.
- Development of health manpower resource and research.
- Health services.
- Development of indigenous system of medicine.
- Drug control.
- Various national level programmes, schemes, institutions, bureaus, legislative acts have been set through successive FYP in relation to these major areas on priority basis depending upon the needs & resources available at given point of time.

EVOLUTION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING IN INDIA

- The development of public health nursing in India dates back to late 19 century (1886).
- During this period maternal and child welfare services were started to prevent maternal and child morbidity & mortality rates.
- By and large services were provided by trained English Medical Missionaries. Thus in 1920 a health School to train “Lady Health Visitors” was started at Nicholson Road, Delhi where dais were trained.
- Later in 1926, it was shifted to Bara Hindu Rao and was named as Lady Reading health School. Similar health schools were opened in Lahore, Calcutta, Madras, Nagpur and Puna

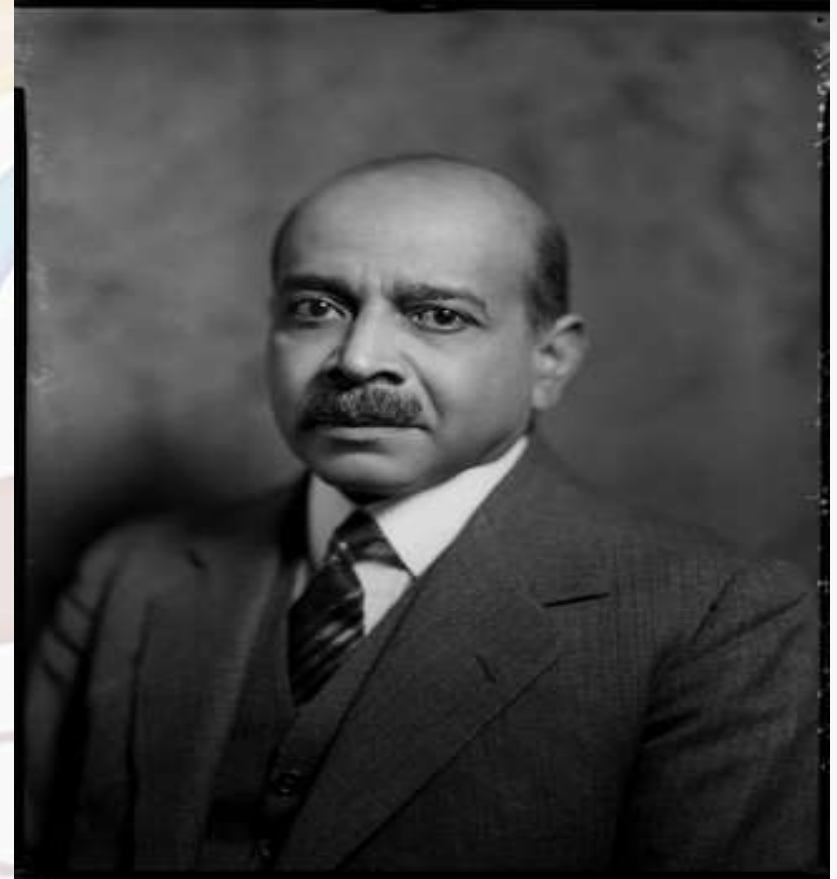
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- Funds were raised by lady Curzon and Lady Chelmsford to train dais and provide maternal and child welfare services.
- In 1918, the need for better prepared personnel was felt, who could provide better services and also supervise and guide dais/midwives.
- Once again the need for better prepared personnel was felt who could supervise and guide health visitors and provide comprehensive public health and nursing services to people.
- In 1946, two colleges of nursing were started one each in Delhi and Vellore and offered B.Sc., degree in nursing. The public health nursing was integrated in the curriculum.
- The graduates from these colleges could work as public health nurses.

The same was recommended by Bhore committee in 1946.



COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING-TRENDS

- As evident, the practice of public health nursing started with the services to mother and children, industrial workers and elderly during the second half of 19 century.
- The services were initially rendered by lady health visitors and later from 1930 onwards with the support of trained public health nurse.
- From 1952 ANMs have been trained to provide primary health care services in the villages and urban communities under the supervision of Lady health Visitors/ health Supervisors (F) and Public Health Nurses.
- Community Health Nursing in the present context is comprehensive but lays major emphasis on preventive and promotive services. The services are community focusses and are provided to individual, family and groups in the community at their palce of living and work.
- The community health nursing services contribute in achieving the goal “Health For All” The community health nursing services contribute in achieving the goal “Health For All”
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The logo of Galgotias University is a stylized circular emblem composed of several overlapping, curved segments in shades of yellow, blue, and red, resembling a globe or a flower.

THANK YOU

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