

History of Science Must be Included in Curricula

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We are all living history. We are making history, every day, We are all living history. We are making history, every day, good or bad. We also learn from history; what mistakes we and others made and how to avoid those mistakes? What we and other people did good; we must learn from them too. We learn from all mistakes, all ill planning, all ill actions no matter and all good acts who committed; and if we don't do that then we commit the biggest blunder. Wisdom is a believer's lost possession which he/she must pick up from any place he finds, said the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Fortunately, Muslim history of education, civilization, research, science, and medicine had been extremely bright. Muslim Golden Age began with Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who was born in a place that was quite behind in terms of education, science, and research. Muhammad (PBUH) received final divine Quran from the God all mighty, the book that took the Muslims to the skies in no time. The seeds put by Quran giants in all disciplines of science and social sciences were born and foundations of all modern sciences were laid down; on which modern sciences were built. The modern medical system (Allopathic system) is entirely created by Muslims including modern hospitals, medical colleges & universities, pharmacology, all branches of medicine & surgery, hygiene & public health, and nursing as well medical licensing. That glorious Golden Age also pulled the West out of Dark Ages and enlightened them with renaissance and industrial revolution. The Golden Age saw entire Muslim society becoming electrified and extremely craving for knowledge that had unsatiable passion for research and inventions. They had literally climbed over the stars and encircled the earth. How and why? These questions could only be answered by the honest study of the history.^{2,3}

International Journal of Pathology (IJP) has often on its pages, introduced these great scientists and gracious generous patrons of sciences. These included great rulers, mighty kings, and conquerors. Instead of submerging in worldly luxuries they were zealously engaged in promoting education, improving the

society, providing utmost justice and all other essential components needed for promotion of sciences, education, and research. These great rulers included such magnificent rulers as Haroon Rashid, Ma'moon Rashid, Slahuddin Ayubi and Mahmud Ghaznawi.

This golden age lasted from 7th till 16th centuries. But then what happened? Why Muslim society underwent decay and degeneration. Why they lost the environment which was so apt for research? What were those factors which caused all this? Unfortunately, we are still entangled by those very same elements and until and unless we ourselves learn from our mistakes we will never be untangle ourselves from these problems and embark on the road of progress which will bring blessings and tranquility not only to Muslims but to all mankind. Quran clearly emphasizes the importance of constant self-evaluation and purification, removing our faults and improving ourselves.

I recently listened to a non-Muslim scholar who mentioned great Muslim achievements and said Muslims have that potential today as proven in the past. He then said he can't sleep when he recalls that we are deprived of potentials of over 1 billion Muslims. We can understand his anguish as Muslims carried out the most selfless, greed free superb research which is still benefitting all human beings today in almost every sphere of their lives. Can we do it again? Yes, we can insha Allah. Let's begin with including history of science in all our educational curricula. Still our students & doctors can learn a lot from their zeal, passion, enthusiasm, and hard work.

References

1. <https://www.uopeople.edu/blog/why-is-history-important/>
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3. Quran, Surah Ash-Shams (91), Aya 9-10