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GCSE HISTORY MEDICINE THROUGH TIME TEACHERS' NOTES

How did Asian medicine try to keep people healthy?

It is regrettable that the Medicine Through Time course does not pay much attention to medical traditions from outside western Europe. This section enables students to gain some insight into some of the great medical systems of Asia. This not only counters the Eurocentricity of the course, but also enables them to make comparisons of similarity and difference. In this section, examples are drawn from India, Nepal, China and Japan.

Each ancient medical system worked at two levels: it developed a theory of health and illness, in order to explain the mystery of disease, and it discovered a range of practical cures and medicines. The first task asks students to examine theories of illness from Nepal, Mughal India and China. The second covers some practical remedies from India and Japan.

WEBSITES

There is a large amount of information on all aspects of Asian medicine, both in the countries of origin and as 'alternative medicines' in the West.

Accounts of Ayurvedic medicine in history:

www.painstudy.com/NonDrugRemedies/AyurvedicHerb

www.altmedschools.com/a_ayurvedic.asp#his

Accounts of acupuncture in history:

www.acupuncturecare.com/acupunct.htm

<http://acmusa.org/acuhisty.htm>

GENERAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE LINKS

History of Medicine information by period:

www.historylearningsite.co.uk/history_of_medicine.htm

Images:

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/cgi-bin/gw_44_3/chameleon?skin.nlm

<http://medphoto.wellcome.ac.uk>

Gateway site:

<http://medhist.ac.uk>

Timeline:

www.schoolscience.co.uk/content/4/biology/abpi/history/timeline.html

www.schoolshistory.org.uk/medicine.htm