



## EMERGENCE OF NATIVE MEDICAL COMMUNITY IN MADRAS PRESIDENCY, 1835-1947

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### ABSTRACT:

*The British rulers make a social political changes and scientific imparted regularity of medical system, institutionalization and medical practitioners in India. Historians argued on colonial administration used western medicine as a tool in India. This articles emphasis on the Indigenous medical physicians or experts. The Indians were trained in western medicine as native doctors in the medical service. Medical institutions were training in western medicine imparted in local Indian languages. Though, the Native doctors were comprised with the training ranging from western medical education in English or vernacular on appointed in the company hospitals. This paper emphasis on emergence of native medical community and specialize on the medical field.*

**KEYWORDS:** social political , medical system, institutionalization and medical practitioners.

### Emergence of Native Experts

Colonies had become centers of employment for the experts from the natives. They were experts in different areas of medicine such a general physician, specialists on malaria, antibiotic and so on. Madras Presidency accommodated giving the opportunity to natives, like M. Abraham Pandithar, Dr. Dharmavadani Krishnier Viswanathan, Dr. Yerlagadda Subba Row, Dr. Ayyathurai Mathuram, Pandit M. Duraiswami Aiyangar, Srinivasa Murthi, Dr. M.R. Guruswami Mudaliar, Dr. Senjee Pulney Andy, Dr. T.S.S. Rajan, Diwan Bahadur Sarukkai Rangachari, Dr. T. S. Tirumurti, Ramakrishna Venkata Rajam, Dr. D. Ranga charyulu, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy, Dr. N. Kesavacharlu and Dr. A. Gangadhar Petro.

First among these are, **M. Abraham Pandithar** (specialist in plague) was Renaissance man who was renowned in traditional medicine, education, music, agriculture and photography. He was born on August 1, 1859 to Muthusami Nadir and Annammal at Sambavar Vadakarai near Surandai in Tirunelveli District. His primary education was at C.M.S Mission School at Ungaow Surandai. As an avid collector of manuscripts on native Indian medicine, he started contacting the ascetics and holy men travelling from Dindigul to Palani to learn more about Ayurveda. In 1877, he met Karunananda Maharishi, at the Suruli Hills who taught him, how to formulate a range of Siddha medicines, which ultimately made his name. In gratitude to his teacher, Pandithar prefixed all his medical and allied ventures with the name 'Karuna'. As their herbal cures, particularly for snakebite and cholera, became popular. Pandithar quit teaching to take up practice and manufacture



of traditional medicine full-time. After a period of privation, Abraham Pandithar's '*Karunananthar Sanjeevi Medicine*' became a huge success, especially when the '*Senthoor Sanjeevi*' formulation was effective in fighting cases of plague in Coimbatore and Mysore. The '*Gorasana*' pills that he formulated are still being used in native medicine. Pandithar purchased a property with a house in Thanjavur that later came to be called the Karunanithi Medical Hall. He decided to make his two siblings and their families stay with him. In 1911, he was conferred with the Rao Sahib title by the British Government for his services to medicine.<sup>1</sup>

Among the native experts, **Dr. Dharmavadani Krishnier Viswanathan** was a specialist in malariology. He was born on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1901 in Tirunelveli (Madras State). He obtained his medical degree at the Madras Medical College (MMC) in 1923. He took diploma in Public Health at the same school five years later. In 1937, he obtained a degree of Master of public health at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene Baltimer, U.S.A. He was a member of the committees of the Indian Council of Medical Research, the Council of Scientific Industrial Research, the World Health Organization (WHO) expert advisory panel on malaria and fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences. The loss of (Dharmavadani Krishnier) "D. K.," as he was affectionately called came as a brutal shock to all his friends. Malariology has lost in Viswanathan one of its outstanding specialists, a man who has blazed a trail towards malaria eradication in India and in the world. In 1935, he got the task of controlling malaria over an area of 142,000 square miles with a population of 47,000,000. In this, he was assisted by one entomologist and by a budget of about \$ 26,000. In 1943, until 1952 he held the post of Assistant Director of Bombay State. The successfully of this first trial was conducted on 1949 to 6,000,000 people who were under protection in Bombay State. His book *Malaria and its Control in Bombay State*, published in 1950, contains many ideas which were in advance of that time. His 1958 monograph *Conquest of Malaria in India* makes delightful reading because of its liveliness and interesting historical sketches. He was senior regional malaria adviser to the regional office for South East Asia and he was died on 27<sup>th</sup> March 1960.<sup>2</sup>

In a presidency, dominated by the family speaking people in modern medicine, **Yerlagadda Subba Row** was perhaps, only one from Telugu speaking area. He was born in 1895 at Bhimavaram in the Madras Presidency. He passed the intermediate examination from the Presidency College and entered the MMC, where his education was supported by friends and Kasturi Suryanarayan Murthy. Consequently, though he did well in the written papers, he was awarded the lesser Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery (LMS) certificate and not the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree. He then took up a job as lecture in anatomy at Dr. Lakshmiopathi's Ayurveda College at Madras. He was fascinated by the healing powers of ayurvedic medicines and began to engage in research to put Ayurveda on a modern footing. He obtained the diploma of the Harvard School of Tropical Medicine in June 1924 and he joined Biochemistry Department.



He developed a method for estimation of phosphorous in body fluids and tissues. In 1930 he got PhD degree and he continued his research work. He employed Dr. Benjamin Dugger to screen thousands of soil samples for anti-biotic bacteria and fungi. This was provided to be a potent antibiotic producer. His formulation of the new drugs and for the first time, a single drug called Aureomycin could be used for controlling both gram-positive and the gram-negative bacterial germs. Fleming's penicillin could battle only the former, whereas Waksman's streptomycin only the latter. American

<sup>1</sup>NahlaNainar, 'The Renaissance Man of Thanjavur', *The Hindu*, January 8, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> L. J. Brace Chwatt, 'D.K. Viswanathan-in Memoriam', *Mosquito News*, Vol. 20, No.2, June 1960, p.216.

Cynamidhonoured his memory with a plaque at its research laboratory and inaugurated the Subba Row Library. A drug was named *Subbaromyces Splendens*.<sup>3</sup>

Another native specialist in malaria and anemia was one of the famous native experts, **Dr. Ayyathurai Mathuram**. Dr. Smauel's son Ayyathurai was born in 1877 in Irungalur near Trichinopoly. He completed his studies at the Prince of Wales Medical School at Thanjavur in 1900 and served in the government for five years before deciding to strike out on his own. Starting his practice in Virudhunagar, he moved to Viswanaikanpettai (near Tennur) in Trichinopoly choosing two adjacent houses to function as his clinic and residence. Unlike other doctors of the period who were rejecting native cures in favour of western medicine, he promoted Ayurvedic therapies. The most common ailments at that time were Anemia and Malaria cures for which people thronged the doctor's clinic. By the early 1900's Dr. A. Mathuram's formulations were selling well in Burma, Malaya and Sri Lanka. Among the more famous of these were *Guru Santhana Sornam* (to treat female infertility), *Guru Ague Mixture* (malaria), *Guru Soga Sanjeevni* (anemia), *Guru Vallara Legyam* (skin disease), *Malabar Koonthal Thailam* (for hair growth) and *Manorama Hair Oil* (anti-dandruff). The British honored him with titles such as Rao Bahadur and Rao Sahib were conferred on Dr. A. Mathuram as his medical career flourished.<sup>4</sup>



Many did not take interest in venereal disease as it was considered taboo. But, Pandit **M. Duraiswami Aiyangar** has emerged as expert in their area. He was born in April 1887. He was a qualified leading ayurvedic practitioner. His father Vijayaraghavachariar of Malpukkam was great Sanskrit scholar. When he lost his father he was obliged to go to Madras and joined the Government Oriental Mss. library. In 1903, Prof. Rangachariar advised him to join the SKPDA ayurvedic College (known as Madras Ayurvedic College). The professor personally introduced him to the late Vaidyaratna Pandit D. Gopalacharlu, the principal of the college. He was getting scholarship from the SKPDA ayurvedic College charities for 4 year and he passed his ayurvedic examinations in 1907 and was given Vidvat scholarship and he got diploma of Ayurved Bhushana. Then he went to Calcutta and got some special training under Mahamaho Padhyaya Kaciraj Dwarakanathasen and he came back to Madras. He set up his practice originally at Trichinopoly in 1910. His Guru Pandit D. Gopalacharlu then wanted his service in his Madras Ayurvedic College (MAC). He was appointed as a lecturer in the college and he got the post of senior physician in the SKPDA ayurvedic College. While he was practicing at Trichinopoly. He was contributing very valuable articles in series called Arogya Prakasika to the journal *Sahridaya* in Sanskrit and the subject and the language of his articles were highly appreciated by eminent scholars.

He translated Sanskrit into Tamil works like *Kadambari Sangraha*, *Bana's Kadambari*, *Megha Sandesa*, *Sarngadhara Samhita*, *Ashtanga Hridayam* and *Rasaratna Samuchchyaand Madhava Nidanam*. In 1913, when the whole of Tamil country know nothing about Ayurveda literature, he started a Tamil medical journal which was first of its kind then and it was contributed by a number of eminent Ayurveda and Allopathic medical men. He was editing and publishing seven years and unfortunate communal trouble forced to discontinue the journal. Not a single Ayurveda work was found in Tamil before 1913. He also wrote in Sanskrit some treatise called *Tri-dosha Tattwa*, *Panchalakshana Nidana* etc. His hundreds of medical article published in *Swadesamitran* and he is the author of *Kiratarjuniya Gadya Sangraha* in Sanskrit and also translator of Kalidasa's *Sakuntala*, *Kiratarjuniya*, and *Hamsa Sandesa* etc. He was the General Secretary of the All Indian Ayurveda Mahamandal and Vidya Peetha for four years. His Sanskrit and Tamil learning and his thorough knowledge in Indian Medicine were well known to those contributors. He was the member of the Board of Examiners, Government Indian Medical School and Gwalior State Government Ayurveda School. The active public career and his service

<sup>3</sup>R. Parthasarathy, 'Discoverer of Miracle Medicines-Y. Subba Row (1895-1948)', *the Hindu*, March 13, 2003.

<sup>4</sup>NahlaNainar, 'Medicine Man', *The Hindu*, November 13, 2013.

were recognized by the government and he had been honoured by the government conferring the title of *Vaidyaratnaon* him in the year 1935.<sup>5</sup> One of the native expert through narrative by the British officers.

**Srinivasa Murti**, born in 1887 at the village of Gorur in Mysore and Brahmin family was the only medical expert from Kannada linguistic background. In 1901, he did matriculation in Madras University. He joined MMC with State scholarship. He secured the majority of available prizes and medals etc. He served successfully as lecturer, medical school at Tan jour and then Royapuram Medical School (RMS) and at MMC as assistant professor of biology and medical jurisprudence. He served as lecturer in surgery at the RMS and first surgeon at the Government Royapuram Medical Hospital. Meanwhile here he was selected as the secretary to the Madras Government Committee on the Indigenous system of medicine. As a result of the study he submitted to the committee a memorandum on "*The science & Art of Indian Medicine*". When this work was completed, he became first principal of the Government School of Indian Medicine. He also served as president of a number of Ayurveda Conference all over India, the first Karnataka Ayurveda Conference at Belgaum, The Andhra Ayurveda Conferences at Guntur, and the Siddha Ayurveda Conferences at Nasik in 1920. He was the recipient of the title of "*Vaidya Ratna*". He was the one of the founder of the Madras Medical Association and served as its secretary and was also the editor *Madras Medical Journal*.<sup>6</sup>

**Dr. M.R. Guruswami Mudaliar** (specialist in flu disease) was a medical practitioner of 20th century. He was born in Nalamangala village in Mysore. Ramaswamy Mudaliar was his father, who was a successful contractor of Mysore. He relocated to Bangalore after finishing high school studies and joined the famous central college. He studied there for four years and took his B.A. degree with flying colors. After that, he moved back to Madras and joined the MMC. There he stood first in the Presidency College and it indicated his brilliant future career in the world of medicine. Then he was appointed in the British Indian medical department and worked for many years at the Tanjore Government Hospital. He worked brilliantly even at the time when the higher slots of the medical profession in the Madras Presidency were dominated by British. He along with his contemporary Dr. Sarukkai Rangachari became unforgettable icons of the medical world in Madras.



Both of them were still remembered by the old-timers of the Madras Presidency. These British people came all the way to India and in particular to Madras to work for the provincial government and its hospitals in several cities and towns. The civil service cadre called 'Indian Medical Service' was also dominated by them. But Guruswami Mudaliar somehow managed to make a place of his own in the medical world of Madras and acquired a legendary status in the city. He became the first Indian during the British rule to get the post of Professor of therapeutics in the MMC. This post was regarded to be a very high position and of high status, which was earlier occupied only by the British.<sup>7</sup> It was a great achievement for a mere Indian in those days. He was brilliant and talented in medical skills and he had an in-depth knowledge on the subject. Therefore, he deserved to be on that highly respected post. Once at a noted Tamil family weekly magazine named "*Ananda Vikatan*" interviewed Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar. In that particular interview, he told the interviewer that the Elkosin tablet was the best and recommended medicine to take even when one's neighbour was struck by the epidemic 'flu' disease. This statement by him created sensation all over the Madras Presidency and other parts in the country and abroad where Tamil was spoken. Most of the local doctors went against this. They criticized Doctor

<sup>5</sup>N.S. Mooss, '*The All India Ayurvedic Directory 1937*' The Vaidya Sarathy, Kottayam 1937, Pp.104-105.

<sup>6</sup>N.S. Mooss, '*The All India Ayurvedic Directory 1938*', Vol II, The Vaidya Sarathy, Kottayam, 1938, Pp. 200-201.

<sup>7</sup>Randor Guy, 'A Simple Doctor with a Simple Prescription', *Madras Musings*, Vol. XVIII No. 25, April 16-30, 2009, p.3.

Guruswami Mudaliar said that it was against medical ethics and code to prescribe a branded tablet in a magazine article. While replying on the issue, Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar said that for him the healthcare of fellow men was supreme and not if a tablet was branded or not. He died in 1958 at an age of 78 years. After his death, an over-bridge was erected in his memory in the Kilpauk area in Chennai, where he lived and it was named after him as 'Guruswami Bridge'.<sup>8</sup>

**Senjee Pulney Andy**, who was the first Indian doctor with a foreign degree at England, appears prominently in the pages of 19th century Madras medical history. Andy was born in Trichinopoly in 1831. He studied in Madras Christian College (Examination in Arts' class). He qualified for his Doctor of Medicine (MD) five months after his *Medicinae Baccalaureus et Chirurgiae Magister* (MBCM) from MMC. MBCM was the 19th Century equivalent of MBBS degree, which was offered at MMC from 1857. Between 1850 and 1857, he promised his mother that he would before he left Madras for the England, he would remain a Hindu during his stay overseas. Andy kept his promise to his mother until her death, even though he suffered castigation by his relatives for 'crossing the seas', a taboo of the Hindus of the time. After serving the Madras Government, Andy returned to the England because he was unable to tolerate social rejection in Madras. He married an English woman and died in the England in September 1909. Andy had a son, Stephen Andy who, lived in Pondicherry, and a daughter. Andy was elected as a fellow of the Linnean Society, London.<sup>9</sup>



**Dr. Tiruvengimalai Sesha Sundara Rajan** (T.S.S. Rajan) was the only native medical expert who was also active in politics. He was former Health Minister of Madras and well-known Congress leader. He was born in 1880 at his native village of Tiruvengimalai. He was a student of the RMS where he took a first class Licensed Medical Practitioner (LMP). In 1907, he left for London for higher medical studies. But after a couple of years left for England to take up higher studies in Medicine. He had a very distinguished career in London. He worked in the Middlesex hospital. He was not only a prizeman in surgery but also in practical medicine besides getting distinction in all other project. He took his Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons (MRCS) degree in 1911 and returned to Burma, and stayed there till 1914 as a practitioner.



From 1914, he turned as the secretary and president of the Trichinopoly district congress committee for over three decades. Dr. Rajan became a member of the Indian Legislative Assembly representing the Tanjore-Trichinopoly Constituency in 1934. In 1937, when Rajaji formed a congress ministry in Madras, Dr. Rajan became Minister for public health. He continued then in the cabinet as minister for public health, religious endowments and resettlement of ex-army personnel. He wrote *Veettu Vaidyar*, a treatise on medicine for the layman and *Ninaivu Alaigal*, an essay in autobiography.<sup>10</sup>

Among local experts, **Diwan Bahadur Sarukkai Rangachari** perhaps, very few who were specialized in gynecologist? He was a well-known Physician, Surgeon and gynecologist from the Madras Presidency. He was born in a Vaishnavite Brahmin family of Sarukkai near Kumbakonam on 28 April 1882. His father Krishnamachari was an engineer who was of Sarukkai in the construction of the Napier Bridge and the General Hospital, Madras while his uncle, S. Gopalachari was a distinguished lawyer who served as Diwan of Travancore. Rangachari studied at the Town High School, Kumbakonam and graduated from the Madras Christian College. At the encouragement of two European surgeons Mr.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*, p. 4.

<sup>9</sup> A. Raman, 'First Indian Doctor with Foreign Degree', *Madras Musings*, Vol. XXII, No. 21, February 16-28, 2013.

<sup>10</sup> 'Dr. Rajan Passes Away', *The Hindu*, 28 October 2003.

Nibblock and Mr. Gifford, Ranchari joined the MMC in 1900 graduated in 1904. Dr. Rangachari joined the government service as an Assistant Surgeon in 1906 and served in Egmore, Hyderabad, Mayavaram, Tanjore, Negapatam, Kumbakonam and Berhampore. In July 1917, he was made the deputy superintendent of The Egmore Women's and Children's Hospital, the first Indian to hold the post. In 1919, he became surgeon and served till 1922, and then he quit government service to set up private practice at Kensington Nursing Home on Poonamallee High Road. His three students namely Lt. Col. C.R. Krishnaswami, Dr. R. Sankaran and Dr. V. Rama Ayyangar late made prominent marks in the medical field in the state of Madras. In 1975, the Association of Surgeons of India started Hari Om Ashram Dr. S. Ranchari Research Endowment Awards in the revered memory of this great surgeon philanthropist.<sup>11</sup>

In like many local medical experts **Dr. T. S. Tirumurti**, was not expert in medicine but an academican. He was the first Indian principal. He was born on November 1885 and he had his secondary education at Pollachiand intermediate, Coimbatore. He joined MMC and got his M.B C.M degree in 1909. He was recruited as civil assistant surgeon in Madras Medical Services and he was elevated as professor pathology, the first Indian hold that post. He was sent to England and got his Diploma in Tropical Medicine & Health (DTM & H) degree and he was third physician at the General Hospital at Madras and he was the first Indian Principal, Stanley Medical College (SMC) at Madras in 1936-40. He was professor in MMC and also professor of Vizagapatam Medical School (VMS) in 1925. He had trained a few hundred doctors who remember him as an outstanding Prof. of pathology and medical jurisprudence in the Madras and VMS and also in SMC. He started several medical centers for the poor in Andhra Pradesh and his accessibility. The British government conferred on him the title of Rao Sahib and Rao Bahadur.<sup>12</sup>

Simultaneously, **Ramakrishna Venkata Rajam** was another academic expert. He was born on 9th January 1893 at Kumaralingam, Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu. He had his schooling at Erode at the diamond Jubilee High School at Gopichettipalayam, Coimbatore. He did his Inter Science at the Madras Presidency College from 1911 to 1913 and then joined the MMC for his MBBS, from 1913 to 1918, passing with a first class and first rank in the Madras University. He was awarded the prizes in pathology, surgery, clinical medicine and the Ramabhadra medal for the highest mark in the MBBS examination with distinction in medicine, surgery and midwifery. He was the Johnstone Gold Medalist - given to the best outgoing medical graduate. He obtained his M.S in April, 1930; Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of Edinburgh (MRCPE) in July, 1931 (Specialty - Venereal Disease); Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP) in 1953 of the Indian Academy of Medical Sciences in 1961. He served as temporary commissioned officer of the IMS from April, 1918 to October, 1920.

He became an Assistant Professor of Surgery, MMC in 1920-21, Assistant District Medical Officer in 1921-1924, Lecturer in Surgery, Medical School, Tanjore in 1924-1928, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Madras in 1928-1930 and Assistant to Venereal Disease Specialist, Government General Hospital and Madras in 1930. He was sent on study leave to Edinburgh 1930-31. On return with his MRCPE, he was appointed lecturer in venereal diseases, MMC and venereal disease specialist, Government General Hospital, Madras from 1931 to 1948. He became the first dean of the MMC and the Government General Hospital, Madras: 1949-1952, and later director of the Institute of Venereology, MMC and Government General Hospital, Madras, 1952-1959. After retirement he was appointed as professor emeritus in venereal diseases, MMC and Government General Hospital, Madras.<sup>13</sup>

Among the local medical experts, Prof. **D. Rangacharyulu** the only experts naturopathy. He has born in 1897 on 4<sup>th</sup> July in the family that produced eminent like Pandit D. Gopalacharyulu., the founder of MAC and the Indian Medical School. Almost all his ancestors were well reputed physicians of Ayurveda. He made a special study of Sanskrit and vernacular before he completed Secondary School

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<sup>11</sup>P.S. Venkateshvaran, 'The Flying Doctor a Medical Legend', *Madras Musings*, April 16-30, 2005, p. 8.

<sup>12</sup>Siva Kumar, 'T. S. Tirumurti,' Gemi Publication, Chennai, 2015, p.1.

<sup>13</sup>A.S. Thambiah, 'Ramakrishna Venkata Rajam, Formerly Professor of Dermatology', Madras Medical College, Madras, 1952, p. 23.

Leaving Certificate (SSLC). He had great fondness for medicine and he was practicing medicine while a student. Due to sickness he was unable to join the allopathic medical service. During the time of study of Ayurveda and allopathic, he practiced medicine as a hobby and help to poor people. He treated with Ayurveda and allopathic medicine. But those failed to cure he attended with naturopathy medicines which improved his condition. Then he resumed his medical activities as a naturopathy doctor. He also enriched his knowledge in naturopathy by studying other comparative systems of medicine namely Chiropractic, Osteopathy, Mesotherapy, Chromopathy, Spondilotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Electrotherapy, Blood-Washing Method, Physiculotherapy and Fasting etc. Thus, combined Ayurveda treatment and Naturopathy. Then he had an idea of studying homeopathy.<sup>14</sup>

Only women native medical experts were **Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy**. She was one of the outstanding South Indian women of her time house-surgeon. She had several firsts to her credit. She was the one of the first South Indian woman doctors of the country. In 1907, she came to Madras to join the MMC on a stipend from Maharajah of Pudukkottai. She was the first South Indian woman to join the MBCM class in the MMC. She graduated in medicine in 1912. After graduating, she joined Women and Children Hospital at Egmore. Before, though many numbers of LMS and apothecaries had applied she was thus again the first lady House-Surgeon in Madras medical history. After completing her House-Surgeon in 1913, she set up practice in Egmore. Dr. T. Sundara Reddy the first Indian to qualify for the Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeon in April 1914. In 1918, the Women's Indian Association of Madras was founded by two European women theosophists, Mrs. Margaret E. Cousins and Mrs. Jine Radha Dasa. Dr. Reddy was its first Indian member. She was the member of the Madras Legislative Council, the first woman to be elected as its Deputy Chairperson. Muthulakshmi Reddy was concerned about the plight of women and deeply interested in liberating them. She fought for their upliftment in several fields. When one of her cousins died of cancer, she took an interest in cancer studies and pursued it at the royal cancer hospital in the United Kingdom. She was instrumental in starting the cancer institute in Adyar, Chennai, and founded the Avvai Home for the benefit of destitute women.<sup>15</sup>



Not only experts in medicine, but also publishers were needed for popularization of native medicine. Dr. N. Kesavachari editor of *Ayurvedachandrika* was one such person. He after completing SSLC joined the MAC as a stipendiary student. He qualified to practice medicine & Surgery in 1926. He worked at Kottapatam L.F. Dispensary from 1926 to 1935 during which time, he made it into an Ayurveda hospital in Guntur district for indigenous treatment. He worked as sub editor of "*Vaidya Pradeepika*" and honorary editor of "*Ayurveda Chandrika*". For same time, he was sub editor of *Sree Dhanvanthari* as which he published on behalf of the MAC. Besides this, he had been contributing to the research. He was the general secretary of the MAC Graduates Association, president of the Guntur District Hereditary Ayurveda Doctors League.<sup>16</sup>

Among local native medical experts, **Dr. A. Gangadhar Patro**, were the only experts in leprosy. He was born on 1912 at Bellugunta in Ganjam District Orissa. He passed the SSLC examination in 1933 with distinction. Then, he became doctor in order to fulfil his long cherished desire to study Indian medicine with a view to serve the suffering humanity and to start a big pharmacy for the welfare of the poor and he joined Government Indian Medical School, Madras in 1933. On his second year, he passed the competitive examination and secured a scholarship and passed all the examinations with merits. He was the first man to study medicine in his community. He set up his private practice at Berhampur,

<sup>14</sup>N. S. Mooss, '*The All India Ayurvedic Directory 1937.....*', Pp.272- 273.

<sup>15</sup>SarasaBharatiArumugam, 'Dr. S. Muthulakshmi Reddy', *Tamil Arasu*, Government of Tamil Arasu Press, Madras, 1989, Pp.15-16.

<sup>16</sup>N.S. Mooss, '*The All India Ayurvedic Directory 1937.....*', p. 235.

Ganjam for one and half years and he introduced special Malabar treatment in Orissa. During this period he studied the post graduate course in Leprosy at Lady Willingdon Leper Settlement Changleput and passed in April 1940. When he saw that during Second World War despite the impartation foreign medicine, malaria, epidemic of cholera at Orissa, were spreading, he resigned his job and established Pharmacy named *Bis Wish Pharmacy* (Patro's Tonic Fame). His preparations were highly effective on diseases. His genuine medicines and sincere practice and free treatment to the poor earned him a good name in the field. His invented specifics *Patro's Tonic* – Antimalaria specific, *Patro's Karpoorarista*-Specifics for Cholera, *Biswasudha*-the Nectar of Life, *Dadruhari*-Ringworm Specific etc. made him an eminent doctor in Orissa. On the request of many doctors and *kavirajs* he wrote *Ayurveda Jogavali* medical preparations first of its kind as per the list of the Government Indian Medical School, Madras.<sup>17</sup>

Some of the experts in the Andhra state were Pandit D. Gopalachari, Bhishagratna Achanta Lakshmipathi, Arcot Lakshmanasawami Mudaliar and Dr. P.V. Krishna Rao. Pundit D. Gopalachari was born at Masulipatam in 1872. His education was in Mysore Sanskrit College. He came to Madras and established his Ashramam in 1898, Madras Ayurveda College in 1901 and Ayurveda Pracharini Sabha in 1902. He was awarded many gold medals and titles both by the government and native states. He presided over All India Ayurveda Conferences of 1909 and 1913 besides many provincial and district conferences.<sup>18</sup>

**Bhishagratna Achanta Lakshmipathi** was specialist in influenza epidemic. He was born on March 3, 1880 in Madhavavaram, a village in Andhra Pradesh's West Godavari District. His high school teacher was Kandukuri Veeresalingam and he met Dr. Sitaramayya, a Vaidya at Rajamahendravaram, who taught him the rudiments of Ayurveda. After completing his Bachelor of Arts (BA) in 1904, he won a scholarship to study medicine at MMC, where he completed his MBCM in April 1909. As a medical student, Lakshmipathi used to treat poor patients using his knowledge of Ayurveda. In 1910, he started his medical practice in Madras soon becoming physician to the elite the Raja of Venkatagiri. Vaidyaratna Pandit Deevi Gopalacharyulu principal of an Ayurveda College in Madras, where students came from the Punjab, Rajasthan and Sri Lanka, invited him to become professor of anatomy and surgery. He continued his ayurveda education from 1914-1919 under his guidance. In 1914, the Madras Government passed the Madras Medical Registration Act to brand ayurveda as an unrecognized system of medicine and abolish its practice.

In protest Dr. Lakshmipathi declined to enroll in the allopathic medical register. During the shortage of allopathic medicines in the worldwide influenza epidemic of 1919, he prescribed ayurvedic medicines like "*Panchtikta or Triphala Kashyams*" finding them effective. Thereafter, he dropped allopathic medicines. A student at MMC, Dr. Yellapragada Subbarao fell ill, with symptoms of no appetite, poor digestive capacity, burning sensation in the abdomen, dysentery and uncontrolled purging. He was treated for spruce by the distinguished Dr. Guruswamy Mudaliar with no improvement. He was particularly impressed by Lakshmipathi success's cured difficult of jaundice using the herb Bhrigaraj together with pepper and buttermilk. He became keen to integrate ayurveda and allopathy to improve healthcare. Similarly moved to ayurveda influenced by Lakshmipathi's treatment successes. In 1920, he established *Aarogya Ashrama Samithi*, a charitable trust in Avadi near Madras, a Health Village to protect and preserve people's health.<sup>19</sup>

Simultaneously, **Arcot Lakshmanasawami Mudaliar** was specialist in obstetrics and gynecology from Andhra. He was born in on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1887, in Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh to Chidamma and A Kuppaswami Mudaliar who belonged to a middle class Vaishnavite family. He was one of the twins name Dr. Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar. His early education was in Kurnool and higher education after the matriculation. He joined the Madras Christian College which was then in the busiest

<sup>17</sup> N. S. Mooss, '*The All India Ayurvedic Directory 1949.....*', Pp. 32-33.

<sup>18</sup> '*Indian Medical Gazetteer*', Government of India, Delhi, p. 78.

<sup>19</sup> Sathya N. Dornala and Snehalatha S. N. Dornala, '*Bhishagratna Achanta Lakshmipathi Ayurveda in Public Health*', *Journal of Ayurveda & Integrative Medicine*, Vol- 3, Issue- 3, July-September 2012, Pp. 159-160.



part of Madras. After passed FA course, he took to medicine. He completed it successfully. After taking their degrees began to shine in their respective fields. After completing medicine, specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology. He became principal of the College in 1939, the first Indian to occupy the post. His book on *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, regarded as a classic was prescribed even in foreign countries. He was also leader of the Indian delegation to annual conferences of the WHO in the 1940s and 1950s. He became chairman of the executive board of the WHO in 1949-50 and that of United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural (UNESCO) during 1954-56, besides chairing the 14<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly in 1961. He was also known for emphasizing the need for postgraduate course in subjects such as engineering and medicine. He was elected to the senate in 1923 and he became Vice-Chancellor 19 years later. It marked the remarkable phase in the history of the University. To perpetuate his memory, two arms of the University- Post Graduate Institute of Basic Medical Science and the Center for Basic Science Development- were named after him. He was passed away in 1974.<sup>20</sup>



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<sup>20</sup>T. Ramakrishnan, 'The Twin Stars of Arcot', *The Hindu*, May 31, 2017.