Condition, causes and type of imtizaj determine the quality of life: An Appraisal

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Abstract

Tibb-e-Unani claims the approach to wellness and fitness enhancement should be individualistic and personality based. Maintaining health and avoiding disease can be promoted by understanding the constitutional form, learning how to feed, live and medicate properly. Temperament includes characteristics of behaviour such as sociability, emotionality, level of activity, level of attention, and persistence. Similar family temperaments can be attributed to shared genetics and to the environment in which an individual is raised. Experimental learning studies indicate that human personality can depend on the associative conditioning molecular mechanisms that are highly conserved in animals. Temperament is the manifestation of a specific mode of learning and memory which is a dynamic non-linear process associated with complex patterns of inheritance and growth. Temperament and personality play important roles in preserving quality of life.

Keywords: Tibb-e-Unani; Imtizaj; Mizaj; Humours; Quality of Life; Homeostasis

1. Introduction

Imtizaj is a condition, which appears during the action and reaction of the properties of different elements or chemical compound at the time of their mixing. [1] Rabban Tabri states different conditions of imtizaj, which are as follows; (a) Imtizaj-e-ithehad: The imtizaj which occurs during the during the mixing of such type of matters which are of similar nature as; Imtizaj of vinegar with vinegar, Imtizaj water with water or Imtizaj of oil with oil; (b) Imtizaj-e-Mumasat: It occurs when two different matters mix altogether as imtizaj of oil with water; (c) Imtizaj-e-Akhlat: For example, imtizaj of blackish with whitish persons; (d) Imtizaj-e-Kaifiyat: in Unani Tib this type of imtizaj is applied. Imtizaj-e-Kaifiyat occurs in between two different matters, which have different but not opposite qualities as imtizaj of hararat with rotoobat or imtizaj of hararat with yaboosat, similarly imtizaj of baroodat either with rotoobat or with yaboosat. [2, 3] Here we can see that the imtizaj of hararat or baroodat takes place in such things which can accept both the qualities i.e. Ratoobat or yaboosat. [4] If after imtizaj the qualities of any substance remain in balanced way, it results in normal functioning or healthy condition of body, while if there is any imbalance in the qualities, it results in abnormal functioning and this condition is known as disease or Su-Al-Mizaj. [5]

2. Types of Imtizaj: There are two types of imtizaj which are described below: -

2.1. Imtizaj-e-Sada: In this type of imtizaj two or more elements or chemical compound admix simply, without showing any chemical change in their structure. So the temperaments of mixing substance also remain unchurched, for example, mixture of sugar and water. [6, 7]

2.2. Imtizaj-e-Haqqi: When two or more than two elements mix with each other in such a way that each of them shows specific chemical changes due to which their basic qualities convert in to new qualities. [8] It means that each mixing elements gives up its own temperament and the newly formed compound adopt new temperament which becomes dominant over the mixing elements. Therefore, by the above description of two kinds of imtizaj we can conclude that the temperament formed after Imtizaj-e-Haqqi (real admixture) ant not only by the imtizaj-e-Sada. [9]
3. Causes of Imtizaj: There are two important factors, which are involved the causes of imtizaj as: Ulfat-e-Kimiayiyawah (chemical affinity), and Nafrat-e-Kimiayiyawah (chemical repulsion). [10]

3.1. Ulfat-e-Kimiayiyawah (chemical affinity): The property of a matter to combined with certain other elements or compounds is known as ulfat-e-kimiayiyawah (chemical affinity). The elements or compounds which possess this affinity combined together readily and form a new compound. [1, 2] This chemical affinity depends upon specific type of Qurwat, which is known as electrovalence of the elements. It is now proved that the elements whose atoms are unstable or which have less than eight electrons in their outer orbit react chemically with other elements to form a new compound. [11]

3.2. Nafrat-e-Kimiayiyawah (chemical repulsion): This quality is just opposite to the ulfat-e-kimiayiyawah which means that when certain elements put together they do not show chemical affinity to combined resulting is no compound formation. This property known as Nafrat-e-kimiayiyawah (chemical repulsion). [12] It is seen in such type of elements which causes eight electrons in their outer orbits and these are known as chemically stable elements. [13] By above described details of imtizaj we can conclude that imtizaj occur in between elements to form compounds and in between compounds to form Akhlat or Azu Mufridah and so on. [14] It is also noted that after Imtizaj of two or more substances in new and moderate quality or Mizaj is developed which become dominant on the all basic part. Therefore, Imtizaj of elements is a progressive procedure which results in ultimate Mizaj formation of each individual. [15] It is defined that all the definition and description of Imtizaj and there by Mizaj have relevance initially for inanimate and the simplest form of combination. All these changes might have taken place on the planet before the dawn of life; however, these process. Might have continued and paved way for the evolution of life. [15, 16] Thus simple and real admixing cold be prevalent in the simple form of life e.g. virus.

4. Mizaj-e-Ghayr Muatadil or Su-e-Mizaj (Immoderate Temperament/Inequable Temperament): The maintenance of normal Mizaj of the body is the basic cause of health or normal body functioning and any change in it results in unhealthy conditions. So this abnormal Mizaj, which can disturb the normal functioning, is known as Mizaj-e-Ghayr Muatadil or Su-e-Mizaj. Any disturbance in the Kammiyat (quantity), and kaifiyat (quantity) of Rutubat-e-Ustuquissiyah (internal environment of the cells) or disturbance in the homeostatic condition of the protoplasm of the cell causes Su-e-Mizaj of the cells or tissue locally and any disturbance in the kammiyat and kaifiyat of rutubat-Al-Tajawif or Rutubat-Al-Uroog (internal environment of the body) causes Su-al-Mizaj of the entire body. The effect of local Su-al-Mizaj on general temperament depends upon the type of cell or the tissue involved. Thus if the cell or tissues belong to an Uzu-e-Rais (vital organ) the extent of general Mizaj being effected is much more marked. [1, 10, 17]

5. Classification of Su-e-Mizaj (Immoderate or In Equable Temperament): Ibn Sina describes that in equable temperaments are classified according to race, individual and organs. There are eight variants, all of which agree in being contrary to the eight equable temperaments. Broadly, they are classified in to groups as: The simple types and the compound types. [8, 10, 18]

Simple immoderate temperament: - It shows a deviation from the normal equipoise only in respect of one contrary. It is of following types: - When it is an active contrary quality which is in excess, it is of two types: - Immoderate Hot Temperament: - When it is hotter (neither moist nor drier). Immoderate cold Temperament: - when it is simply colder (neither moist nor drier). Where it is a passive contrary quality which is in excess:-Immoderate Dry Temperament: - when it is simply drier (neither hotter nor colder). Immoderate Moist Temperament: - when it is simply moisture (neither hotter nor colder). [2] These four immoderate temperaments are only temporary, for when too hot, the body becomes drier than it should be; when too cold the body become moist then it should be; by assuming extraneous moisture; when much too moist, coldness supervenes more rapidly than dryness would. [19] If the dryness be not very great, the body remain in that temperature for a considerable time, though ultimately it will become colder than it should be. It will be clear that equipoise and health depend more upon heat than upon cold. [19]

Compound immoderate temperament: - The four compound temperaments are those in which there is a departure from equability in respect or two contraries. Thus, the temperament may be at the same time hotter and moist than it should be, hotter and drier than it should be. [1, 3, 9] Obviously, it cannot be simultaneously hotter and colder or drier and moist. Therefore, the four compound immoderate temperaments would be as follows: -
- Immoderate hotter and moist temperament
- Immoderate hotter and drier temperament
- Immoderate colder and drier temperament
- Immoderate colder and moist temperament

Each of these (simple and compound) immoderate temperaments is further sub divisible into two forms (thus making sixteen immoderate temperaments) as: - Su-e-Mizaj Sada (formal Type)- Here the temperament is altered only in regard to one quality. E.g. of heat (in fever) or cold (in extraneous cold). [1, 20] Su-e-Mizaj Maddi (Materialistic Type)- Here the body is only affected by the quality of the immoderate temperament by virtue of the increased amount of some particular body fluids. For instance, the body is cooled by vitreous serous humour, heated by green choleric humour. Thus from the above account, it is evident that there are sixteen types of immoderate temperaments, which are as follows:


5.2. Compound Immoderate Temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Murakkab): It also has eight sub types as: - 1. Immoderate formal hotter and drier temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Har-Yabis Sada), 2.
Immoderate formal hotter and moist temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Har-Ratat Sada), 3. Immoderate formal colder and drier temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Barid-Yabhis Sada), 4. Immoderate formal colder and moist temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Barid-Ratat Sada), 5. Immoderate materialistic hotter and drier temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Har-Yabhis Sada), 6. Immoderate materialistic hotter and moist temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Har-Ratat Maddi), 7. Immoderate materialistic colder and dry temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Barid Yabhis Maddi), and 8. Immoderate materialistic colder and moist temperament (Su-E-Mizaj Barid Ratat Maddi). [22] But as we know that the ancient Unani physicians have classified all body fluids in four major types, according to four colours, irrespective of their locations are as follows: - Khilt-e-Ahmar (Red humour)/Dam - All red colour fluids of the body, Khilt-e-Abyahd (white humour)/Balgham – All white colour fluids, Khilt-e-Asfar (Yellow humour)/Safra – All yellow colour fluids, Khilt-e-Aswad (Black humour)/Sauda-All black colour fluids. [23]

So they generally find out the signs and symptoms of Su-E-Mizaj in terms of only these four kinds of humours. It is evident for the following specific types of Su-E-Mizaj as follows: - Su-e-Mizaj Damvi (sanguine immoderate temperamen), Su-e-Mizaj Balghami (phlegmatic immoderate temperament), Su-e-Mizaj Safravi (choleric immoderate temperament), Su-e-Mizaj Saudavi (Melancholic immoderate temperament). It can be inferred from the above discussion that until the humours of the body remain in right proportion, both in quantity and quality, health is maintained, but as soon as they are disturbed in quantity or quality the body becomes diseased. [22, 23] Ali Ibn Abbas Majusi quoting the views of Hippocrates the profounder of the humoral doctrine writes: - “The human body contains four kinds of humours: Dam, Safra, Balgham and Sauda. The constitution of the human body is shaped by the temperaments of these four humours. [1, 7]

Health and disease both are related to them. The humour mixed in a balanced proportion, both in quantity and quality constitute health, and their disproportionate and irregular distribution in quantity and quality causes disease. [23, 24]

Whenever a humour gets isolated from other humours and remains in an unmixed condition, it produces disease in place from where it has been displayed by allowing domination of its opposite humour or by causing spillage, distension and discomfort in the place where it has been transferred to fulfilled the need. [7, 25]

Following on Hippocrates and Galen, the ancient Unani have also traversed the same path. They described and classified the disease according to their respective humours as:- Amraz-e-Balghami (phlegmatic disease), Amraz-e-Damvi (sanguine disease), Amraz-e-Safravi (yellow bile disease), Amraz-e- Saudavi (Black bile disease), But in later stage they have realized that the causes of disease are not only the alteration of quantity or quality of humours but they have mentioned the causes of diseases as immoderation of temperament and Ashbah-E-Sittah Zaruriyah and its humours when they altered. [24, 25]

According to Tibb-e-Unani the cause of the health is the maintenance of Mu’tadil Mizaj (normal temperament) within the cells, tissues, organs, and the entire body. [1, 6, 25] Maintenance of Mu’tadil Mizaj means the maintenance of static or constant conditions (homeostasis) in the internal environment of the cells or the whole body. [26, 27] The power, which maintains this E’tadal-e-Mizaj, is known as Tabiat Mudabbir Lil Badan, which is considered the supreme planner of our body and whose sole function is to maintain

Etadal-ul-Mizaj (homeostasis) in the body. [24-30]

6. Homeostasis

Homeostasis means a process of maintaining constant normal conditions in the internal environment of the body to enable its optimum normal functioning. [31] The structure of the various tissues and organs of the body is formed by aggregation of very large number of cells. It is estimate that there are approximately 100 trillion cells in the body. [32] To maintain the normal functions in the body, all the cells contribute towards the maintenance of homeostasis. Homeostasis is mainly brought about by the extracellular fluid of the body, through which nutrients are supplied to the cells. The nutrients are utilized by cells of the formulation of energy, which is necessary for their active functioning. [32] Ross and Wilson described the homeostasis as “The composition of the internal environment is maintained within narrow limit, and this fairly constant state is called homeostasis”. [29] Human homeostasis refers to the body’s ability to physiologically regulate its internal environment (milieu interior) to ensure its stability in response to fluctuation. [30]

In modern medicine, adaptation and homeostasis are considered to fundamentals features of life. Most of the physiological response of body is directed towards preservations of constant physical and chemical internal environment (milieu interior). The internal environment is constituted by the extracellular fluid, which surrounds the tissue cells. The electrolyte concentration, osmotic pressure etc., of the extracellular fluid must remain within the normal range. “Maintenance of a constant internal environment is called homeostasis, while failure of homeostasis mechanism results in disturbed body function known as disease”. [33] The principle of homeostasis was given by Claude Bernard, a great French physiologist who described that our body has an internal environment, which is practically almost constant, is spoken as homeostasis. [35] However, despite the challenges tendency to alter the internal environment, our body remains alive and healthy, and maintains the homeostasis because our body causes some homeostatic mechanisms, which counteract these challenges and cancel their effects. Thus, when there is a threat of temperature elevation, the body cools itself by dissipating the heat to the environment by vasodilatation of skin as well as evaporating the sweat. If the blood glucose level falls sharply, as an emergency the source the endocrine gland, adrenal medulla secretes and the glucose is mobilizing from the liver and disgorged into the blood and so on. [35] The term homeostasis is used by physiologist to mean maintenance of static or constant conditions in the internal environment. Essentially all of the organs and tissues of the body perform functions that help to maintain these constant conditions. For instance, the lungs provide oxygen that is being used by the cells, the kidneys maintain the constant ion concentrations, and the gastrointestinal system provide nutrients. [33]

7. Control System of the Body

The human body has literally thousands of control systems in it. The most intricate of these are the genetic control systems that operate in all cells to control intracellular functions as well as extra cellular functions. Many other controls system operates within the organs to control functions of the individual parts of the organs; other operates throughout the entire body to control the inter-relations between the organs. [34]
7.1. Types of Control Systems
Basically there are three types of control system in the body which are performing various physiological functions: -

Negative feedback control system: -Most control system of the body act by negative feedback system. This control system initiates when some factor becomes excessive of deficient. It consists of a series of changes that return the factor towards a certain mean value, thus maintaining the homeostasis. [35]

Positive feedback control system: The positive feedback itself is a part of an overall feedback process. For example: - In case of blood clotting the positive feedback clotting process is a negative feedback process of maintenance of normal blood volume. Also the positive feedback that causes nerve signal allows the nerves to participate in literally thousands of negative feedback nerves control system. [36]

Adaptive control system: - Adaptive control, in a sense is delayed negative feedback. For example: - Some movements of the body occur so rapidly that there is not enough time for nerve signals to travel from the peripheral parts of the body, all the way to the brain and then back to the periphery again in time to control the movements. Then sensory nerve signals from the moving parts, appraise the brain in retrospect whether the appropriate movement has been performed correctly. If not, the brain corrects the signals that it sends to the muscle, the next time when the movement is required. [37]
Then once again if still further correction needs to be made this to will be done for subsequent movements. This is called adaptive control. [38]

Thus, each cell benefits from homeostasis and in turn each cell contributes its share to word the maintenance of homeostasis. [39] This reciprocal interplay provides continues automaticity of the body until one or more systems that are functional lose their ability to contribute their share of function. When this happens all the cells of the body suffer. Extreme dysfunction leads to death, whereas moderate dysfunction leads to sickness. [40]

8. Factors Affecting Mizaj (Temperament of Homeostasis):
According to Unani system of medicine every individual, having a distinctive temperament, should also causes distinctive characters as well. The sum total of temperament specificities emerges out as personality and individuality. [24, 25, 28] Since temperament is not static rather it tends to vary from time to time in an individual and is also influenced by various exogenous factors. Because of that, an individual pass through enormous changes throughout his life. The factors affecting Mizaj of human body are classified into the following categories as:- Khilqi Awamil (hereditary factors), and Ikitisabi Awamil (acquired factors). [24, 25]

8.1. Khilqi Awamil: These are the factors which are transmitted from the parents to their offspring, through Ratoobat-e-Manwiya (semen fluid) i.e. chromosomesal genes. These factors determine the specific quality and quantity of ratoobat ghariziyah (protoplasm) of the fertilized ovum upon which the future development of the child and Mizaj of different Akhlat depends. Therefore, any alteration in the fertilized ovum, i.e., mutation of genes, alters the Mizaj of the offspring. This alteration may be limited localized one, or may affect the whole body. [25]
Various kinds of malformations and hereditary diseases are the example of this factor. [28]

8.2. Ikitisabi Awamil: - These factors depend upon the environmental conditions in which the person is living. These are known in Tib as Ashab Sitta Zururiyah (six essential factors) some other non-essential factors known as Ashab Ghayr Zururiyah. [25] Thus, it is evident that apart from genetic influence the ultimate physiological and anatomical set up of an individual (as temperament of an individual) is influenced by external factors, which are known as Ikitisabi Awamil. [28]

9. Conclusion
All objects in nature are believed to be composed of four primary elements, i.e. fire, air, water, and earth. When humours prevail in quantity and quality as normal and well mixed as eukrasia condition (in temperament), man remains healthy. However, when the balance becomes upset as a result of disturbances, dyscrasia prevails and individuals get sick. It stated that humors mixed in a balanced proportion, both in quantity and quality, constitute health and their disproportionate and irregular quantity or quality distribution causes disease. This balance is controlled by the body's innate power named Tabiat. But the body's state of humor is also affected by external factors such as diet, influence on the environment, etc. Tib recognizes six important factors (also known as lifestyle factors) that influence the personality (humour) composition of the human body. They are: (i) ambient air; (ii) food and drink; (iii) physical activity and rest; (iv) feelings and emotions; (v) sleep and awakeness; (vi) fluid retention and waste evacuation.

10. References

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