

ABSTRACT

Chakrapani Datta, was the greatest and a renowned Commentator of various Ayurvedic samhitas. He was intelligent enough to critically analyse & reveal the hidden secrets of Charaka Samhita and Sushruta Samhita. He was the son of Narayan Datta and Naradatta, a courtier of the king, was his spiritual guide. Chakrapani's best known books on ancient medical science are Chikitsa samgraha, Dravyaguna and Sarvasara samgraha (Collection of the essence of things). It is the landmark contribution of Chakrapani in the history of ancient ayurvedic medical science. Entire Chakradatta is composed of 4800 verses which are divided into 79 chapters. Chakrapani was awarded the titles 'Charaka chaturanana' and 'Sushruta sahasranayana' for Charakatattva pradiipika and Bhanumati, which were annotations on Charakasanghita and Sushruta respectively. He had excellent knowledge of Sanskrit language and grammar. Chakrapani has also seen so many faults while reading of Caraka Samhita and he has deliberately rejected all those, stating as unauthoritative. The present article highlights some of the glimpses of whole work done by him in the field of Ayurveda. This article represents the in depth knowledge & wisdom of a great Ayurvedic physicians like Chakrapani as well as his skill to elaborate and analyze the samhitas.

Ayurveda, the pioneer indigenous medical science, distributed in octa-divisional approach though medicine in general is its prime area which has been grown in a long period of time. This growth of medicine is published in its best in the name of Agnivesh Tantra rather popularized as Charaka Samhita with its best modified form. In the 4th Century AD, Dridhabala again reconstitute the text with some addition of chapters following the Charak's form which were missing in the then time. After that many a commentaries had been written from beginning of early part of medieval period of Indian history to clarify the view point of the text for understanding and application. In this context role of Chakrapani Datta is most fabulous for his commentary Ayurveda Deepika. It is written in 11th century AD which later regarded as most popularized commentary so far. The commentary is an explanatory notes in certain parts of the text which is not easily understood in the common pupil. In Charak Samhita, two types of writings are furnished, principles and applications. Commentators always try to explore the terms and theories as well as the ingredients, processing of the applicable areas according the present scenario. Chakrapani, a legend clinician took the authorship in the role of commentator of the Charak Samhita

to explore the clinical orientation for that period, but the stall worthy character of Chakrapani is still most prime for Ayurveda clinics as Charak Samhita as it is regarded as the best treatise of Ayurveda Medical Text.

The unexplored and not understood subject written in Charak Samhita is well commented by the commentators for better onward transmission of knowledge and an intact state of proceedings of the clinical practice. Chakrapani Datta had classically magnified the encapsulated thought of Charak Samhita in such a way which has definitely a clinical entity. All the eight sthanas and its related chapters are related to Basic science, Philosophical thoughts, Physiology, Anatomy, Pathology & Clinical medicine, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutics, Medical ethics, Community medicine, Toxicology, Gynae & Obstetrics, Pediatrics, Surgery, Eye & ENT and General medicine. All the domain of medical sciences as mentioned in the compendium has been clarified in his commentary with the effective clinical practice and subsequently that has been specified in relevant context. For better clinical efficacy in the present scenario, regarding betterment of the Ayurveda practice in the purview of preventive and curative health, evaluation of Ayurveda Deepika is very essential which is not so much used rationally. For this purpose, the current study will be evaluated the clinical contribution of Chakrapani Datta with special reference to Charak Samhita to understand his role for the application in clinical medicine.

The whole Caraka Samhita is consisted of 8 sthanas and 120 chapters. Those are sequenced as sutra, Nidana, vimana, sarira, indriya, cikitsa, kalpa and siddhi chronologically. In each sutra & cikitsa sthan is consisted of thirty chapters where as indriya, kalpa and siddhi sthana are having twelve chapters each and rest Vimana, Nidana and Shareera are distributed in eight chapters each. Each sthana and chapter has its own meaning.

Though all the chapters are having its clinical entity but from the clinical angle the vimana sthana, specifically trividha roga vishes vinjaniya vimana and roga bhishagjeeteeya vimana; from nidana sthana jvara, raktapitta, gulma, prameha kushtha, shosha, unmada and apasmara as general pathology; kalpana, roga and yojana chatushaka of sutra sthana, atulyagotriya shareera and jatisutriya shareera in specific of Shareera sthana; and all the chapters of rest sthanas, i.e., Indriya, Chikitsa, Kalpa and Siddhi are quested for imparting the inculcated knowledge.

In the ancient period Charaka Samhita was the best medical treatise and was written by the high intellect medicos who were classically followed by the then medical practitioners because of his classical validity and effectiveness. In due course of time, quality of the degree of medical personalities was degraded as a result of which it was required to explore the nut shell keys. Chakrapani had tried to magnify of the encapsulated keys with his profound clinical observation and discovered the treasures of Charaka Samhita. This leads to medical practitioners to justify and practice the clinical orientation of Chakrapani Datta. In day to day practice though it made the sustainable state of Charaka Samhita with its stalwart commentary but the scattered thoughts of Charaka Samhita and its contextual commentary by Chakrapani Datta in different branch of Ayurveda is required to be described in a group or sequence so that the idea of relevant branch will be highlighted at a glance and the specialty branch will be enriched in the perspective of clinical approach. No study has yet been carried out in respect to specialty wise thoughts written by

Chakrapani Datta and therefore this work will be important for the Ayurvedic practitioner to achieve the knowledge in specific.

It will explore the unexplored thoughts of Chakrapani Datta in the consequence of specialty wise study in parlance to Modern Medical Science.

Chakrapani is considered to be the most authoritative commentator of Charaka. The full version of Ayurveda dipika is available with us (except on a few verses). He was acquainted with the input made by Dridavala and other scholars on Charaka Samhita. He has made justifications almost all interpretations made by him. While doing so, some portions of the text which even now appear to be later interpolations may be overlooked by Chakrapani. Chakrapani also made significant contributions to Sanskrit grammar and Nyaya philosophy (described earlier). One of his famous books is Vyakarana tattva chandrika (Treatise on theories on grammar). It is believed that he also annotated Gautama's Nyayasutra and compiled the dictionary Shabda chandrika. Chakrapani has seen so many faults while reading of Charaka Samhita and he has deliberately rejected all those stating as unauthoritative. Although we have no known information regarding his appearance, we will always remember him as the most influential physician of Ayurveda in Indian history.

Chakrapani was the greatest commentator in the history of Ayurveda. He is the only person who has given us an insight for the understanding of Charaka properly. His

contribution in the explanation of Charaka, annotations, specific yogas will always be remembered in the history of next generations. The legacy of therapeutic principles specific for the disease recommended by Chakradatta will continue in the ages to come.