

Istanbul Maltepe Military Hospital Pharmacy

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Introduction:

Maltepe Military Hospital was built with the suggestion of Chief Physician Mustafa Behcet Efendi during the reign of Sultan Mahmut II.

The building has four facades, and there is a big courtyard in the middle. There is one floor in the front facade and the other facades have two floors. When it was first built, it had the capacity of 600 beds, but its capacity was raised to 1000 in the following years.

The building was used as a hospital until 1922, and in this year it was abolished and was not used until 1941. From this date to 1950, it was used as Maltepe Military School. The building was deserted after the moving of Maltepe Military School to Kuleli Military School, and today, Maltepe Military School, which was assigned to General Police Office by National Defence Ministry in 1980, has been used by İstanbul General Police Officer

We see a lot of documents about Maltepe Military Hospital in the Ottoman Archives of Prime Ministry.

According to some of these sources:

It is said in the third copy of Takvim-i Vekayi, printed on 20 November 1830, that 423 soldiers were taken to Maltepe Asakir-i Mansure (*God's victorious soldiers*) Hospital in September, and 366 of them recovered.

In the archive document, dated 23 September 1834, we see 5 tents to accommodate the patients, and 2 cauldrons for washing and cooking were demanded from the ammunition store of war (*Mühimmat-i Harbiye*), because it was thought that diseases of the aforesaid patients who were coming from Asakir-i Mansure to Maltepe Hospital might spread, and it was necessary to keep them away from the building and care them outside the hospital. Again, in an other archive document, dated 5 September 1834, the necessary precautions were taken on the matter of preventing contagion of the disease appeared in Yedikule Slaughterhouse, it was deemed convenient that the workers who were working in the slaughterhouse

should work outside and tents and other necessary materials were given to these people.

In the archive document, dated 14 May 1837, it was mentioned that the 62 officers and soldiers from Asakir-i Mansure died between the dates 9 March and 6 April 1837 in Maltepe and Sakizagaci Hospitals, and the funeral expenses were paid by managers of the hospitals. The total cost of the funerals expenses was 1863 piastres. It is also mentioned that after 509 piastres on the corpses were taken out, the remaining 1394 piastres would be paid by the treasury of the Army. In the document, we see the names and the hometowns of the dead people, the amount of the money on them, and 27 piastres were spent for each funeral.

The Names, Cadre and Salaries of the Staff Working in that Period

The number of the patients who died in a month, patients who were on a diet or not, patients who came to the hospital and recovered, the number of the patients came from Asakir-i Mansure and their health conditions and the personnel charged in Maltepe Hospital were given in the archive document, dated 1835. According to this document;

Personnel on duty

Chief Physician, Assistant Chief Physician

Imam, Secretary Specialist Physician

Assistant Surgeon, Pharmacist

Distributor, Guard

Laundryman, Personnel

Servant

Were pointed.

It was stated in the document, dated 22 October 1835 (28 Cemaziyelahir 1251), that in Maltepe Hospital, where 1104 sick officers and soldiers stayed, an inspection was made, and it was seen that all the wards were in perfect condition, all the patients were asked how their health conditions were, patients' files were put for each patient, appropriate drugs were prepared according to their disease, the patients were given these drugs by personnel and patients' feet were washed with warm water every day, the personnel served them voluntarily, patients' beds were frequently changed and the clothes worn by the patients were clean, food and drinks were

served to the patients who were on diet and those who were not on diet. It was pointed in the report that everything was perfect.

In addition to Maltepe Military Hospital's services of treatment, we also see that all kinds of drugs and treatment stuff of the military troops which were tied to the hospital or patients who were in the hospital were supplied by the hospital pharmacy.

In a document, dated 11 May 1837 (5 Safer 1253), the sealed and signed books in which the amounts and the kinds of medical stuff were stated should be sent with an official writing to Ahmet Efendi who was assigned as a principal and chief physician to Maltepe Hospital. These books were necessary for the Asakir-i Mansure infantry regiments and cavalry regiments that went to the hospitals in Istanbul or provinces by duty, also, it was stated that the contents and compounds of the drugs which were demanded by Ahmet Efendi's examination would be prepared in Maltepe Hospital and would be given. According to the same document, the drugs which would be given to the Asakir-i Mansure regiments that were on duty in provinces and the hospitals in Istanbul would be demanded according to the seasons and numbers of the patients every month or once in three months and it is seen that some precautions were taken against overusing of drugs.

Maltepe military hospital reform studies and pharmacy

Dr. Rigler and Dr. Eder, who were invited from Austria to make reform in military hospitals where the mortality rates were high in Istanbul in 1842 and they found out that the drugs in those hospitals and their distribution were bad. As it was understood from the article which was published in a German newspaper by Austrian Dr. Bernard there was a pharmacy in Mekteb-i Tibbiye-i Sahane in Galatasaray in 1843 and according to the regulations in those days, free drugs were distributed to the poor patients in big amounts. It is supposed that the drug store in the Medical School might be the "Pharmacie Centrale" whose name was frequently seen in the work of Bernard called "Pharmacopoea Ottomana". Dr. Bernard says a big amount of money is saved with this "Pharmacie Centrale" which meets the drug needs of all the military hospitals.

The students who were studying at the Military Medical School were needed to complete their 6-year education with a practice in pharmacy or hospital to obtain their diplomas. In this way, the

student was educated in pharmacy after a 3-year practice and according to his achievement in the examinations of Turkish and Arithmetic in French. With this diploma, he was authorised to run a pharmacy either in the hospitals of Istanbul or provinces.

In 1843, practical pharmacy courses started at the Military Medical School for the first time. So, with the joining of these qualified pharmacists who were examined at the Military Medical School to the military hospitals and troops the needs in this area were covered.

In 1842, Sultan Abdülmecid applied to the government of Austria and requested two physicians to be sent to Turkey. The reason of this request was to inspect the unbelievably high mortality rates in Maltepe Military Hospital. The two chief assistants who were chosen for this reason were Dr. Eder and Dr. Rigler.

These two physicians arrived in Istanbul on 14 October 1842, and on the next day they started to their duties at Maltepe Military Hospital, which was built by Sultan Mahmud in 1826.

In 1844, the Minister of War accepted the *Regulation of Military Hospitals*, arranged by Dr. Rigler and Dr. Eder.

On 20 January 1844, Dr. Eder died from meningitis, and two new physicians, Dr. Reinwald and Dr. Warthhicler, were appointed as assistants to Dr. Rigler.

The great achievements of Dr. Rigler in this area provided his promotion to the posts of general inspector of health and counsellor in Ministry of War.

Some of the military hospitals were the institutions of training for the graduates of Military Medical School at the same time. In these institutions, all the young physicians had to practise under the supervision of the clinic chiefs. Only after this training, young physicians, according to their abilities, were appointed to battalions, batteries or personnel.

Because of the lack of place, it was impossible to increase the number of beds which had already been increased three times since Dr. Rigler came. So, between the years 1844 and 1849, a new military hospital was built with the suggestion of Dr. Rigler, and in this way, the capacity of bed was increased to 2000.

Dr. Rigler replaced the practical (?) pharmacists in all the military hospitals with pharmacists who graduated from the Pharmacy class of the Medical School after 1840.

Maltepe MILITARY HOSPITAL PHARMACY

When the personnel of Maltepe Military Hospital is examined, it is seen that there was a pharmacist.

The pharmacy which was situated in the main building behind the entrance door served in providing medicines for patients for years.

We see these services in the below mentioned documents in the Ottoman Archives of Prime Ministry.

24 November 1833 (11Recep 1249)

25 September 1834 (21 Cemaciyelevvel 1250)

20 August 1835 (25 Rebiyülahir 1251)

For instance, in the archive document, dated 22 March 1836 (4 Zilhicce 1251), we see that Brigadier Iskender, who was in the guard of Iskodra, says that one-month needs of medical drugs of 1st and 2nd regiments cannot be enough, so he wants the necessary drugs for the aforesaid regiments to be given from Asakir-i Muntazama-i Hazret-i Sahane Pharmacy, and the compositions to be sent after they are produced in Maltepe Hospital. In this document, the lists and amounts of 80 pieces of drugs and 95 types of compounds which were produced, prepared and arranged in Maltepe Hospital are given.

Some of these are:

The list of pharmacy stuff and various drugs, and the goods which were bought monthly for organised soldiers:

LATIN	TURKISH	
A. YAGLAR (OILS)		
Oleum Amygdalae	Badem Yagi	24 Kiyye –67.2 lb.s
Acide Sulfurique	Zac Yagi	120 “-336 lb.s
Oleum Ricini	Hint yagi	33 “92.4 lb.s
Oleum Bergamide	Bergaman yagi	307 “-859.6 lb.s
Adeps Suillus	Domuz yagi	147 “-411.6 lb.s
Oleum mentahae piperitia	Nane yagi	259 “725.2 lb.s
Oleum Rosmarinus	Biberiye yagi	500 “1400 lb.s
B- AROMATIK SULAR		
Aqua Cinamomi	Tarcin Suyu	110 “-308 lb.s
Aqua Aurantii Floris	Cicek Suyu	39 “109.2 lb.s
Aqua Menthae	Nane Suyu	39 “-109.2 lb.s
Aqua Rosae	Gül Suyu	32 “89.6 lb.s
Aqua Laurocerasi	Taflan Suyu	12 “33.6 «

C- CICEKLER		
Folium Malvae	Ebe gümeçi	240 “-67.2 „
Flos Desoufre	Kükürt Ciceği	279 “-781.2
Convolvulus Seammonia	Cadir Cicegi	150 “-420
Flos Tiliae	Ihlamur Cicegi	107 “299.6
D- OTLAR		
Melissa Officinalis	Melissa Otu	39 “-109.2
Conium maculatum	Baldıran Otu	4 “11.2
Digitalis Purpuea	Yüksük Otu	30 “84
E- EKSTRELER		
Extractum de Cique	Baldıran Hulasasi	1 “2.8-
Extractum Belladone	Belladon	2 “5.6
Semen Hyoscyami Albus	Banotu	2 “5.6
Fructus Rosae	Kusburnu	50 “-140
F-KÖKLER		
Radix Liquiritae	Meyan kökü	36 “100.8
Rhizoma Graminis	Ayrik	139 “-389.2
Radix Violaie	Menekse	9 “-25.2
Radix Heleniim	Andız Otu	139 “389.2
G- TUZLAR		
Chlorure de Sodium	Sodyum	8 “22.4
Sulfur Lotum	Süblüme	8 “-22.4
H- ZAMKLAR		
Gummi Cinchoane	Kina kina Zamki	370 “1036
Gummi Arabic	Zamki Arabi	39 “-109.2
K- BALMUMU		
	Balmumu	92 “257.6
	Beyaz Balmumu	76 “-212.8
L-TOHUM		
Fructus Apii	Kereviz Tohumu	10 “28
Semen Lini	Keten Tohumu	363 “1016.4
Semen Hyoscyami	Ban Tohumu	1
Semen Sinapsis Nigrae	Hardal Tohumu	10

L-DİGERLERİ			
	Sirke	96	“
	Gül Sirkesi	2	“
	Kursun Sirkesi	10	“
	Taflan yakisi	16	“
	Frenk yakisi (8)		

The list on 20 august 1835 (25 rebul ahir)

Radix Liquiritiae	Meyan Kökü	10	“
Ammonium Chloride	Nisadir	6	“
Sirop de Morus	Dut Surubu	150	“
Semen Sinapsis Nigrae	Hardal tohumu	10	“
Soufre	Kükürt	80	“
Carbonate Sodii	Soda	½	“
Sennae	Sinameki	25	“
Salvia Officinalis	Ada cayi	1	“
Thea	Cay	2	“
Apis Mellifera	Bal Arıs	1	Sise (bottle)
Melissa	Melissa	15	Adet (pieces)
Ricinus	Hint Yagi	8	Kiyye
Oleum Olivarum	Zeytin yagi	200	Kiyye
Pimpinella Anisum	Anason	150	Dirhem (drachms)
P. Asetfenatin	Phenacetinum	20	Dirhem
Opium	Afyon	2	Kiyye
Oleum Terebentim	Terebentin yagi	1	“

Conclusion

Maltepe Military Hospital and pharmacy were built with the suggestion of Chief Physician Mustafa Behcet Efendi during the reign of Sultan Mahmut II and they provided the demand of the hospital and the troops around for many years.

In 1842, Sultan Abdulmecid gave a lot of importance to the hospital and that's why many physicians were brought from abroad.

According to the documents of Ottoman Archives of Prime Ministry nearly in all the present drugs, herbal drugs are seen and it is stated that the synthetic drugs are less.

It was pointed that herbal drugs were provided from our country and some herbal oils were brought from abroad and they were sent to the troops by bottling rather than packaging.

The toxic drugs were used a little for skin diseases and because of the abundance of herbal drugs and the scarcity of synthetic drugs, some of the formulas containing synthetic formulation that were made in pharmacy laboratories were seen in prescriptions. Nowadays, herbal originated formulas which were used in the past and are still used today are not made in pharmacies in Turkey. In the light of new discoveries, they are replaced by the formulas which contain synthetic substances. In Turkey, doctors' prescriptions that contain synthetic substances are now made in Turkey.

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İbrahim Başağaoğlu, Doğan Üvey

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