History of psychiatry & psychology

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Ancient times

- Starting in the 5th century BC, mental disorders, especially those with psychotic traits, were considered supernatural in origin.
- In 4th century BC, Hippocrates theorized that physiological abnormalities may be the root of mental disorders.
- Religious leaders and others returned to using early versions of exorcisms to treat mental disorders which often utilized cruel, harsh, and barbarous methods.
Middle ages

- Medieval Christian physicians relied on demonological explanations for mental illness (Mental illness are due to the sin, devil, cin etc)
- Lunatic = influenced by moon
Four humors theory held that the human body was filled with four basic substances. All diseases and disabilities resulted from an excess or deficit of one of these four humors. The four humors were identified as black bile, yellow bile, phlegm, and blood.

Bodily treatments in general use included purges, bloodletting, whipping.

And exorcism of those possessed by the devil.
Middle ages

- The first psychiatric hospitals were built in the medieval Islamic world from the 8th century.
- Medieval Muslim physicians relied mostly on clinical observations.
- They made significant advances to psychiatry and were the first to provide psychotherapy and moral treatment for mentally ill patients, in addition to other forms of treatment such as baths, drug medication, music therapy and occupational therapy.
Middle ages

- In the 11th century, İbn-i Sina recognized 'physiological psychology' in the treatment of illnesses involving emotions.

- He first described hallucination, insomnia, mania, nightmare, melancholia, dementia, epilepsy, paralysis, stroke, vertigo and tremor.
Early modern period

- Psychiatric hospitals were built in medieval Europe from the 13th century.
- They were utilized only as custodial institutions and did not provide any type of treatment.
- Mentally disturbed people were victims of the witch-hunts.
- In England, George III, was known to be suffering from a mental disorder. Following the King's remission in 1789, mental illness was seen as something which could be treated and cured.
Humanization in psychiatry

By 1792 French physician Philippe Pinel introduced humane treatment approaches to those suffering from mental disorders.¹
At the turn of the century, England and France combined only had a few hundred individuals in asylums. By early 1900s, this number increased to the hundreds of thousands. Psychiatrists and asylums were being pressured by an ever increasing patient population. Asylums were once again turning into custodial institutions.
Jean-Martin Charcot (1825-1893), who studied hypnosis and hysteria. Charcot considered that these were due to an organic instability in the central nervous system.

Pierre Janet, hypnotised many patients and discovered that, under hypnoses, they could remember traumatic events and that those memories could help in the cure of mental disorders.
The term psychiatry, coined by Johann Christian Reil in 1808, comes from the Greek word (soul or mind) and (healer).
The psychoanalytic theory became popular among psychiatrists because it allowed the patients to be treated in private practices instead of warehoused in asylums.
Kraepelin (1856-1926) studied the "hard" psychiatry (psychoses and asylums) while Freud (1856-1939) studied the "light" psychiatry (neurosis and psychiatric office). Kraepelin gave importance to data from clinical observation, rather than anatomo-pathological. With Freud, personal biography gains importance and the acquired psychological factors have a predominant role on the elaboration and valorisation of the disorder.
The 20th century introduced a new psychiatry into the world. Different perspectives of looking at mental disorders began to be introduced.

Emil Kraepelin began to study and promote the ideas of disease classification for mental disorders.
The discovery of the syphilis agent, the bacteria Treponema pallidum inclined psychiatry even more to an organicist orientation. However, with the spread of freudian theories, the conceptual bipolarity of psychiatry became more accentuated. In the Between Wars, psychiatry was divided between two irreconcilable theories: the first of organic and the second of psychological nature, that considered disturbing emotional mechanisms and conflict situations as main causes of mental disorders.
In 1911 Bleuler created the term "Schizophrenia" (morbid process of personality split) to replace the term "dementia praecox" or "precocious dementia" created by Bénédict Morel in the XIX century and used by Kraepelin.
Psychopharmacology became an integral part of psychiatry starting with discovery of the first neurotransmitter, acetylcholine.

The discovery of chlorpromazine's effectiveness in treating schizophrenia in 1952 revolutionized treatment of the disease, as did lithium carbonate's ability to stabilize mood highs and lows in bipolar disorder in 1948.
20th century

- Invention of Imipramine was very important for treatment of depression.
- Discovery of Fluoxetine (prozac) was a 2nd step for treatment of depression
- The prevalence of psychiatric medication helped initiate deinstitutionalization, the process of discharging patients from psychiatric hospitals to the community
1973

- Homosexuality removed from DSM
  After intense debate, the American Psychiatric Association removes homosexuality from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM). The widely used reference manual is revised to state that sexual orientation "does not necessarily constitute a psychiatric disorder."
1976

- **Evolutionary psychology**
  Richard Dawkins publishes *The Selfish Gene*, which begins to popularize the idea of evolutionary psychology. This approach applies principles from evolutionary biology to the structure and function of the human brain. It offers new ways of looking at social phenomena such as aggression and sexual behavior.
At the end; Psychiatry understands mental disorders as part of...

- Human brain +
- Environment (Physical, cultural, and interpersonal elements)