

ŞEHREMİNİ CENTRAL PHARMACY FROM LATE OTTOMAN PERIOD

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INTRODUCTION

In Turkey there are two old pharmacy museums located in two different universities for the time being. One is located in İstanbul at Yeditepe University and it is established lately in 2006¹. The other one is the first established pharmacy museum located at Hacettepe University which is the main theme of this poster.

MATERIALS & METHOD

The findings of this presentation is the documents and materials existing in the Şehremini Central Pharmacy. Besides the published articles related to the topic are reviewed.

FINDINGS

Şehremini Central Pharmacy, was purchased from Pharm. Konsantin Sava Mondiana's spouse on 20 October 1922 by Pharm. Ahmet Hamdi Emgen with paying 500 Ottoman Liras. Pharm. Konsantin Sava Mondiana was a graduate of "Mektebe-i Tibbiye-i Mülkiye" (First civil school of medicine) in 1894. This record is from the "Salname-i Nezaret-i Maarif-i Umumiye" (Ministry of Education Almanac). Thus Şehremini Central Pharmacy was under the management of Pharm. K. Sava Mondiana for 25 years. The pharmacy's location was changed by Pharm. A. Hamdi Emgen in 1932. This new location was near Çapa Hospital. Pharm İhsan Gezgin was a graduate of İstanbul University School of Pharmacy. She was graduated from this school in 1947. Until her marriage in 1954 she worked with his father Pharm. A. Hamdi Emgen in Şehremini Central Pharmacy. When A. Hamdi Emgen died in 1973, the pharmacy was taken over by his daughter Pharm. İhsan Gezgin and managed by her till 1980. In the end of 1980 the pharmacy was closed down because of the health problems of Pharm. İhsan Gezgin².

The time when this pharmacy was closed down it was almost 85 years old. The pharmacy was under the management of Pharm. Ahmet Hamdi Emgen and his daughter for 51 years. In 1981 yılında Prof. Dr. Ekrem Sezik called upon Pharm. İhsan Gezgin for turning this historical pharmacy into a museum. This offer seemed to be acceptable by Pharm. İhsan Gezgin².

The pharmacy was donated to Prof. Dr. Ekrem Sezik with all it's cabinets, medicines, furnishings, and documents. Şehremini Central Pharmacy has a unique character as being the first pharmacy museum located in a faculty of pharmacy building and preserving it's originality. The pharmacy museum was opened out on 23 December 1983 with the presence of it's benefactor deceased Pharm. İhsan Gezgin in the entrance of Pharmacognosy Department² (Pic. 1).

Interior of the pharmacy is almost the same built in those old days: The medicines are provided from the little serving window. On the serving bench there are drug labels and receipts³.



Picture 1. Şehremini Central Pharmacy Museum at Hacettepe University Faculty of Pharmacy (view from outside)

The prescription registration notebook is a history itself. The magistral prescriptions, names of the doctors and patients written on the notebook are not in use and/or alive any more. The oldest prescription registration notebook was from 1923. In the drawers of the pharmacy the followings are found: Inspection notebook, personnel notebook, empty ampoules (which proves that injectable preparations could be made in the pharmacy before 1980)³.

On the two sides of the laboratory door there are the diploma of Pharm A. Hamdi Emgen and his framed picture. Also the bust of Atatürk (founder of Turkish Republic) is on the top of the door (Pic. 2).



Picture 2. Şehremini Central Pharmacy Museum at Hacettepe University Faculty of Pharmacy (view from interior)

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The old pharmacies has a unique value in terms of shedding the light on the history of pharmacy profession; the art of making medicines first started in the labs of private pharmacies as well as this activity led mass production in drug industry.

REFERENCES

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