

Abu-Ali Ibn Sina (Avicenna) - philosopher, doctor and poet

Abu 'Ali ibn Sina is better known in Europe by the Latinized name "Avicenna." He is probably the most significant philosopher in the Islamic tradition. He was born in 980- Islamic golden age. He was a self-taught intellectual. He grew up near Bukhara, in the village of Afshana, in Uzbekistan today.

Avicenna studied Indian arithmetic from food trader. At his young age, he deeply studied the metaphysics of Aristotle and began studying medicine from the age of 16.

In the framework of Islamic religion, he had the ability to critically analyze antiquity philosophy and science and systematization all the knowledge. His main work is a philosophical encyclopedia, which includes logic, physics, mathematics and metaphysics.

Ibn Sina's poetry heritage has partially reached us (he wrote in Arabic and Persian). In his poems he expressed his philosophical beliefs. In this respect it is worth mentioning "the Spirit Casida". He preached the goodness of the science and education. The allegorical nature has Ibn Sina's philosophical-artistic works "Salaman and Absal", "Letter to the bird" and "Live, the Son of the Wisdom", which is too similar with Dante "The Divine Comedy". Ibn Sīnā's commentaries on Aristotle often criticized the philosopher. Ibn Sina was distinguished as a translator and literary theorist. Ibn Sina (folk name_ABU-Ali) has become a hero of the fairy tale of almost all the Middle East.

Ibn Sina's most important medical work 'The Law of Medical Science' was translated into Latin in the XII century and was first published in Milan in 1473, An Arabic original was published in 1593, in Rome. There are 30 editions of this work. The author refers to the cultivation of plants, especially the medicinal plants and the physiology.

He had hypothesis that contagious diseases was caused by some invisible organisms and diseases were spread by air and water. He denied the opinion that the spirits were causing mental illness. Ibn Sina's described many diseases. He gave great importance to hygiene and nutrition. He created new pharmacy. His pharmacopoeia has included lots of means of folk, especially Chinese medicine. In 1037 Avicenna had a severe intestinal disease and died at the age of 58. He was buried in Iran in the city of Hamadan.