

Rajan Sankaran

The Substance of Homoeopathy incl. 2 CDs

Leseprobe

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von [Rajan Sankaran](#)



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THE CONCEPT OF MIASMS: A SUMMARY

Hahnemann postulated a theory of causation to understand, simplify and treat chronic disease conditions more effectively. While a history of suppressed scabies, gonorrhoea or syphilis is often not available, diseases do show a pattern that corresponds to the above mentioned conditions, enabling us to classify them accordingly. The miasmatic concept treated here is, therefore, not a "theory" of causation but a convenient classification of some practical utility. As an extension of the concept of disease as a delusion, a classification of the disease states becomes a classification of delusions. An acute state often has various kinds of pathology, even of chronic expression, and is often recognized. It is included here with the other three basic miasms.

Studying the acute, psoric, sycotic and syphilitic miasms through an analysis of the most prominent remedies belonging to each miasm makes it easier to understand the situation and delusion of that miasm.

ACUTE STATE

The delusions of these remedies represent an acute threat and the reaction is strong and instinctive; for example *Stramonium*: "Delusion, alone in wilderness", "Desire for light and company", "Clinging".

PSORIC STATE

The delusions show a difficult situation where he has to struggle in order to succeed. There is anxiety with doubts about his ability, but he is hopeful and failure does not mean the end of the world; for example *Sulphur*: "Delusion, getting thin", "Fear of poverty", "Ailment from scorn, embarrassment", "Egotism".

He must struggle in order to recover or maintain his position.

SYCOTIC STATE

A feeling of a fixed, irremediable weakness within the self, with an attempt to cope with it and hide it from others - hence covers up with egotism, secrecy, compulsive

acts, etc.; for example *Thuja*: "Delusion, body is made of glass", "Will not be approached or touched".

SYPHILITIC STATE

The delusion is that he is faced with a situation beyond salvage, leading to complete hopelessness and despair. In a desperate effort, he tries to change the situation and the result is usually destruction - do or die! For example *Mercurius*: "Surrounded on all sides by enemies", "Anarchist", "Kill, desire to".

TYPES OF REACTION

A man is driving on a mountain when suddenly the tyre bursts with a loud blast. He is excited and panicky, gets out of the car immediately and without thought (acute). He studies the damage and tries to repair it, wondering if he can do it (psoric). After struggling a lot, he realizes that he is not capable of doing it, accepts the situation and smokes a cigarette while waiting for someone to pick him up (sycotic). After two days he realizes no one is going to come and that he is in a desperate, hopeless situation - stuck on a mountain without food. In a drastic measure, he kicks the car down the mountain or gives up totally and awaits death.

To cope with the needs of life (stress) we need a certain capacity. Depending on our actual state and intensity of the stress, we move between the acute, psoric, sycotic dispositions. Only if we lose all ability to deal with or to accept the situation do we fall into the syphilitic state.

Acute	:	instinctive response
Psoric	:	struggle
Sycotic	:	cover up of internal weakness
Syphilitic	:	no recovery possible - change or destroy

Acute personalities

Acute personalities react totally instinctively to stress, which they see as a threat or attack from outside. All miasms have compensated / uncompensated states, but acute personalities appear to have especially wide mood swings (change between compensated and uncompensated); they are either excited, excitable, hyperreactive or seem to be completely shut off (of course the personality is mostly compensated; imagine an uncompensated *Hyoscyamus*, *Stramonium*, *Aconitum* in a train!). But we find neither the fixed ideas of sycosis nor the aggressive self-destruction of syphilis. *Hyoscyamus*, as an example of an uncompensated acute state: loud, foolish, senseless, excited, insane, delusion of supposed blames/injuries.

Psoric personalities

Psoric personalities lack self-confidence, and so constantly have fears and anxieties, especially under pressure and stress. Therefore they suffer from anticipatory anxiety. They are very restless, active, and struggle with their problems. Psoric patients present many and varied dreams; they are expressive and can present and describe their complaints well. You find nervous, hyperreactive personalities; all fears express themselves in a feeling between hope and despair. The despair is not deep-seated. Hope returns very soon.

Psorinum: despair of recovery (3) - but always with hope, fear of poverty (poverty means loss, so actually a fear to lose, but this again contains the hope to gain), anticipatory anxieties. In one word: struggling.

Sycotic personalities

Sycotic personalities are above all secretive; they want to hide their weakness; dreams are more fixed and more specific. They develop fixed habits to cover up their fixed (constantly present) weakness. This may express as egotism, secrecy, fastidiousness, etc. They are typical middle-age remedies, less flexible and never hope to get rid of their weakness. They will say: "If I do this or that I can cope and nobody will know my weakness."

Syphilitic personalities

Syphilitic personalities are given to extremes but often show a strong pessimism. They want total change or destruction, trifles may cause suicide, for example failing in an exam.

Syphilinum: despair of recovery but without hope; antisocial, drunkard, liar... has given up, is finished.

Aurum metallicum: despair of salvation, delusion has lost hope or forgiveness, delusion, has neglected his duty and therefore deserves reproach.

HOW CAN WE UNDERSTAND A PATIENT USING THE CONCEPT OF MIASMS?

1. We have to answer the question: What is the element in the case?
 - Acute (threatening);
 - Psoric (struggle);
 - Sycotic (weakness);
 - Syphilis (destructive).

2. Understand and differentiate the remedies, for example *Hyoscyamus* (acute) vs. *Lachesis* (psora).

***Hyoscyamus*:** (delusion of a) man whose wife tries to poison him, someone tries to hurt and injure him, someone persecutes him. This is why he loses control of himself, becomes foolish. He is never sarcastic, there is no satire in him, he is always excited and presents an instinctive, instant reaction.

***Lachesis*:** (delusion of a) person feeling a weakness in herself. She tries to compete with someone better, her survival depends on her winning. Thus she develops egotism, talks a lot about herself, becomes loquacious, sarcastic (putting others down), deceitful (putting herself up). It is the situation of someone who has to compete against a person with better qualities, like a menopausal woman whose husband has a young girlfriend.

The game of musical chairs represents the *Lachesis* theme: two people running around one chair, winner the one who sits down first after the music stops playing.

3. Use and understand the Repertory:

Many rubrics contain remedies of all miasms, but all react in different ways, for example "Kill, impulse to": behind this rubric stands the delusion that something is pursuing him. The acute miasm will react in an instinctive way. The psoric state will struggle. The sycotic will try to hide. The syphilitic remedies will collapse or hit back.

So, we have to ask ourselves what is the type of reaction, and which type of reaction is the person choosing now (reacting - struggling - building - breaking).

4. Expect a sequence of remedies coming up in a case.
If a sycotic case is treated, a psoric root can come up. We can see a cycle of syphilitic, sycotic, psoric remedies.
5. Prognosis:
The acute state has the best prognosis.
The syphilitic state has the worst prognosis: the patient has given up already.

A CHART OF THE MIASMS

MIASM	ACUTE	PSORIC	SYCOTIC	SYPHILITIC
Remedies	Aconitum	Sulphur	Thuja	Mercurius
	Belladonna Hyoscyamus Stramonium	Calcarea Lycopodium Psorinum	Medorrhinum	Aurum Syphilitinum
Key word	REACTION (instinctive)	STRUGGLE	BUILDING (masking)	BREAKING
Central Delusion	Threat is too strong.	Inadequate capacity to face stress; problems only in face of stress. When no stress is present: latent psora.	Weakness in self. which he has to cover up, to mask, to keep secret.	Situation is beyond repair: so change or destroy.
Reaction to stress	Instinctive reaction; with no sense of fault in oneself; fault is entirely on the side of stressor.	With stress: active; without stress: latent psora; in stress: over reaction, hypersensitive and hyper-reactive; no stress: fear of stress.	Fixed ideas leading to compulsions and compulsive actions out of a feeling of inner weakness.	Destruction of self or stressor.
Form of reaction	REFLEX ACTION	HYPER REACTION	COVER UP	DESTRUCTION

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