

Medicine in History and Society

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Hormoz Ebrahimnejad is a lecturer in the history of Modern Iran in the School of Humanities. A specialist in the history of eighteenth and nineteenth-century Iran, his research in the last 15 years has been mainly focused on the history of medical modernisation within the framework of the relationship between medicine and the state. Medical modernisation in nineteenth and twentieth-century Iran was an integral part of the military and institutional reforms undertaken by the state. Modern institutions such as sanitary councils, the modern army, military hospitals and modern schools, all created by the state, hosted modern medicine in a local context dominated by traditional medicine. This phenomenon had an important impact on the development of medicine and played a crucial role in the transition from traditional to modern medicine in Iran. Being sponsored by a state that also introduced modern medicine, traditional medicine itself engaged with modern medicine, which it did not consider colonial unlike Yunâni medicine in India. Hormoz Ebrahimnejad is currently working on a monograph on the transition from traditional to modern medicine in nineteenth and twentieth-century Iran. His research interests also cover the assimilation of the Alexandrian School of Greek medicine in Islam and the development of what is called 'Galenico-Islamic Medicine'.

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