

Major Figures in the Early History of Abnormal Psychology

The Ancient World:-

Hippocrates (460-377 B.C) — A Greek Physician who believed that mental disease was the result of natural causes and brain pathology rather than demonology.

Plato (429-347 BC) — A Greek Philosopher who believed that mental patients should be treated humanely and should not be held responsible for their actions.

Aristotle (384-322 BC) — A Greek Philosopher a pupil of Plato who believed in the Hippocratic theory that various agents, or humors, within the body when imbalanced were responsible for mental disorders. Aristotle rejected the notion of psychological factors ~~as~~ as causes of mental disorders.

Galen (130-200 AD) — A Greek physician and advocate of the Hippocratic tradition who contributed much to our understanding of the nervous system. Galen divided the causes of mental disorders into ~~physical~~ physical and mental categories.

The Middle Ages:-

Avicenna (980-1037) — An Islamic Arabian-born physician who adopted principles of human treatment for the mentally disturbed at a time when Western approaches to mental illness were the opposite.

Martin Luther (1483-1546) - A German theologian and leader of the reformation who held the belief, common to his time, that the mentally disturbed were possessed by the devil.

Paracelsus (1490-1541) A Swiss Physician who rejected demonology as a cause of abnormal behaviour. Paracelsus believed in psychic cause of mental illness.

The Sixteenth through the Eighteenth Centuries.

Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) - A canonized Spanish nun who argued that mental disorder was an illness of mind.

Johann Weyer (1515-1588) - A German Physician who argued against demonology and was ostracized by his peers and the Church of his progressive views.

Reginald Scot (1538-1599) - An Englishman who refuted the notion of demons as the cause of mental disorders and was castigated by King James I.

Robert Burton (1576-1640) - "Anatomy of Melancholie in 1621"
Book

William Tuke (1732-1822) - An English Quaker who established the York Retreat, where mental patients lived in human surroundings.

Phillippe Pinel (1745-1826) - A French Physician who pioneered the use of moral management in La Bicêtre and La Salpêtrière hospitals in France where mental patients were treated.

Benjamin Rush (1745-1813) — An American Physician and the founder of American Psychiatry who used moral management, based on Pinel's humanitarian method, to treat the mentally disturbed.

The Nineteenth And Early Twentieth Century

Dorothea Dix (1802-1887) — An American teacher who founded the mental hygiene movement in United States, which focused on the physical well-being of mental patients in hospitals.

Clifford Beers (1876-1943) — An American who campaigned to change public attitude towards mental patients after his own experiences in mental institutions.

Franz Anton Mesmer (1734-1815) — An Austrian physician who conducted early investigations into hypnosis as a medical treatment.

Emil Kraepelin (1856-1926) — A German Psychiatrist who developed the first diagnostic system.

Sigmund Freud (1856-1938) — The founder of the school of psychological therapy known as Psychoanalysis.

Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1920) — A German scientist who established the 1st experimental psychology lab in 1879 and subsequently influenced the empirical study of abnormal behaviour.

Lightner Witmer (1867-1956) — An American, Journal "The Psychological Clinic" in 1896.

Ivan Pavlov (1849-1936) — classical studies in learning

William Healy (1869-1963) — the idea that mental illness was due to environmental or sociocultural factors

John B. Watson (1878-1956) — father of Behaviourism.

Instrumental Conditioning — Operant conditioning
(B.F. Skinner)