

## A STUDY OF ARABIC VOCABULARY IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY MALAY MEDICAL MANUSCRIPT

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### ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the usage of Arabic words written in *Tayyib al-Ihsan*. Objectives of this study are to identify Arabic medicine vocabulary found in *Tayyib al-Ihsan* and to calculate the percentage of disease names in the Arabic language identified in this manuscript. This paperwork applied a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. The result of this study shows that there are 61 (71.7%) types of illness written in the Arabic language. The most used word is جذام “leprosy” 6 (9.83%), followed by برص “ichthyosis” and فالج “semi paralysis” 4 (6.55%), نقرس “gout” and خنازير “scrofulous” 3 (4.91%), and others.

**Keywords::** Arabic vocabulary, 19<sup>th</sup> century, Malay medical manuscript

### INTRODUCTION

The arrival of Islam to the Malay Archipelago plays a significant role in the socio-cultural and lifestyle of the Malays thus contributing to intellectual development among the Malays by introducing various fields of knowledge such as theology, philosophy, mysticism, logic, legislation, medical and many more (Shafie Abu Bakar, 1984; Syed Muhammad Naquib, 2018).

Later then, these knowledge were documented in old Malay manuscripts by Malay scholars since the 12<sup>th</sup> century. There has been rapid old Malay manuscripts development under the influence of Islamic literature, and Islam introduced Arabic words into Malay's life. According to Ronkel (1977), Russell (2008), Beg (1977), Nik Safiah Karim (2003), and Asmah Omar (1987), Arabic words are closely related to Islam and widely spread across the Malay Archipelago.

The Malay language is uniquely known for its ability to adapt foreign words like Arabic, Persian (Syed Muhammad Naquib, 2018), Sanskrit, Portuguese, etc. Based on historical studies, the Malays begin to write old Malay manuscripts in a form of translation works from Arabic to the Malay language (Mahayudin Hj. Yahaya, 1998; Wan Mohd Saghir Abdullah (2000; Siti Hawa Haji Salleh, 1997; Abdul Rahman Hj. Abdullah, 2000). Later, old Malay manuscripts are written in classical Malay language along with Arabic words. According to Abdul Rahman Hj.

Abdullah (2000) and Shafie Abu Bakar (1984), there had been a development in the Malay vocabulary with the Arabic language enrichment. Besides, the absorption of Arabic words has permeated into the Malay language and resulted in the existence of Malay loanwords derived from Arabic (Shahrul Anuwar, 2022; Rozanna Mulyani and Noordin Mohd Noor, 2018; Noor Azlina et.al, 2015; ). It also changed the Malay manuscript writing with a massive infusion of Arabic language vocabulary, for instance, the writing of Malay medical manuscript titled *Tayyib a-Ihsan fi Tib al-Ihsan* or Good Medical Practice for Human.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The methodology applied for this study is a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. A qualitative study is used in the manner of library research by gathering sources from studies on texts such as an old Malay manuscript, books, journal articles, paperworks, and websites related to the study. Meanwhile, a quantitative method is implemented for content analysis by attempting calculation and percentage of Arabic words of disease names identified in this Malay medical manuscript.

## **DISCUSSION AND FINDING**

### **Malay Medical Manuscript *Tayyib al-Ihsan***

Malay medical manuscript is also known as 'Kitab Tib'. The discussion in this manuscript is about Malay medical knowledge, local health practices, and medical prescriptions practiced by Malay ancestors that have been inherited for centuries (Harun Mat Piah, 2006). *Tayyib al-Ihsan*, one of the most well-known Malay medical manuscripts was produced in the 19th century. The full name of this manuscript is *Tayyib al-Ihsan fi Tib al-Insan Pembukaan Mata Hati pada Bicara Mengubati*.

It is authored by a Pattani scholar named Shaykh Wan Ahmad bin Wan Muhammad Zain al-Fatani. He is a very knowledgeable and prolific Malay author and received his early education in Pattani, then further his study in Mecca, Palestine, and Egypt. Besides, he is the first Malay graduate from al-Azhar University in Egypt (Wan Mohd Saghir, 2015; Ahmad Fathy, 2002).

The writing of this manuscript was completed on Monday 3 Zulhijjah 1312H or May 28th, 1895 in Mecca (Wan Mohd Saghir bin Abdullah, 2015). The manuscript contains 14 chapters beginning with general information on Islamic medicine, followed by local traditional medicine and the practice of pseudo-science in the Malay community. It also discusses Malay medical treatment for 85 diseases consisting of a head, face, chest, stomach, genitals, uterus, hips, thighs, feet, and the whole body (Norhasnira Ibrahim, 2020).

*Tayyib al-Ihsan* manuscript is clear and complete thus it is considered as a complete medical writing produced in the Malay Archipelago (Faisal@Ahmad Faisal and Helwana Mohammad, 2008). Mohd Affendi Mohd Shafri (2015) stated that this manuscript consists of Arab, Greek, Persian, and Malay medical knowledge. Therefore, this study will bring up the Arabic medicine vocabulary found in this manuscript by focusing on a list of disease names in the Arabic language.

### **Analysis on Arabic Disease Names in *Tayyib al-Ihsan***

As mentioned previously, *Tayyib al-Ihsan* contains 85 types of diseases. Based on the analysis, 61 (71.7%) of the diseases are written using Arabic names. Under this 71.7% Arabic names, the percentage is divided into two categories which are Arabic names only and a

combination of Arabic-Malay names. Below are some Arabic only and Arabic-Malay examples:

i) نوازل (*fluid in the brain*):

“Bermula penyakit نوازل (*tawazil*) iaitu basah-basahan yang turun daripada otak kepada setengah-setengah anggota. Maka hasil daripadanya penyakit seperti bengkak keng dan tupat hidung dan berhingus.” (Wan Ahmad Fatani, 1895).

Translation:

Fluids in the brain could cause other sicknesses like mumps, blocked, and runny nose.

ii) جذام (*leprosy*), خنازير (*scrofulous*) and سرطان (*cancer*):

“Dan menahankan muntah mempusakakan جذام (*judham*) dan buasir dan خنازير (*khanaziri*) dan سرطان (*surtan*) dan kurap dan gatal dan bisul.” (Wan Ahmad Fatani, 1895).

Translation:

And holding yourself from vomiting could cause semi paralysis, heamorrhoids, scrofulous, cancer, ringworm, itchy, and boils.

iii) فالج (*semi paralysis*):

“Dan mengekali makan zabib pada pagi-pagi menghilangkan penyakit فالج “*falij*.” (Wan Ahmad Fatani, 1895).

Translation:

Semi paralysis can be cured by eating grapes every morning.

iv) برص (*ichthyosis*) and نقرس (*gout*):

“Dan tiada pula makan ikan serta telur kerana membawa kepada penyakit “*judham*” dan “*baras*” dan “*niqris*”. (Wan Ahmad Fatani, 1895).

Translation:

Fish and egg should never be eaten together, this can cause leprosy, ichthyosis, and gout. While the remaining 24 (28.2%) diseases are written only using Malay names. For example:

i) Sakit gigi (toothache):

“Bermula ini beberapa ubat sakit gigi geraham dan lainnya. Ditumbuk lada hitam halus-halus serta bawang putih dibubuh akan dia pada tambung yang masih lagi panas ditempit pada gigi dan gusi yang pada kelilingnya...” (Wan Ahmad Fatani, 1895).

Translation:

For the treatment of toothache (in this context molar teeth), pound black peppercorn together with garlic then add them into hot flour to make a patch. Later apply the patch around the sick tooth and gum.

ii) Batuk (cough):

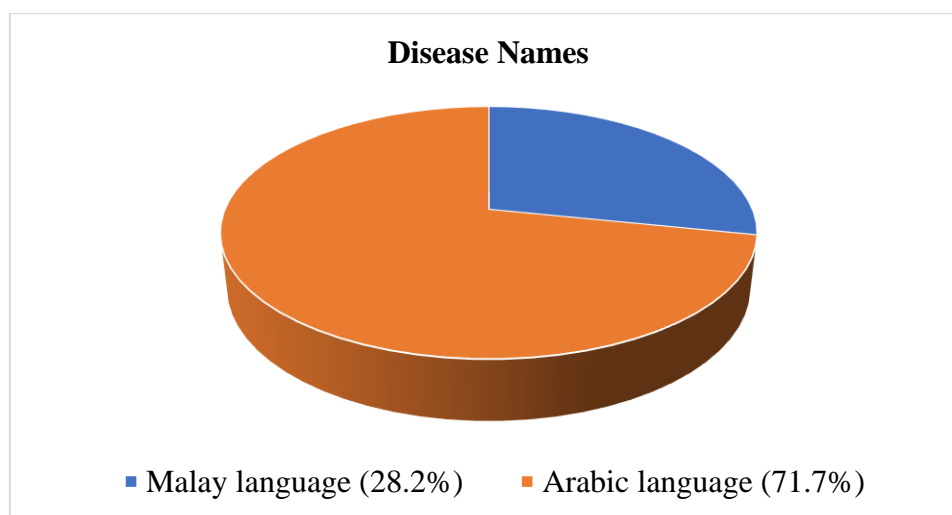
“Ini beberapa ubat batuk budak-budak yang kecil, inilah tahi tiram yang dicelup...” (Wan Ahmad Fatani, 1895).

Translation:

For the treatment of cough among children, give them a soaked oyster poop.

Meanwhile, the percentage of this calculation is shown in Table 1:

Table 1: The Percentage Disease Names in Malay and Arabic Language Identified in *Tayyib al-Ihsan*:



The content analysis of *Tayyib al-Ihsan* shows the number of disease names in the Arabic language documented in this manuscript. A total of 61 disease names are identified. The data is sorted in Arabic alphabetical order starting with the letter alif 'ا' انتصاب (*asthma*) and ends with the letter ya 'ي' يرقان اصفر (*jaundice*) with their English names in Table 2 given below:

Table 2: Arabic Disease Names Identified from *Tayyib al-Ihsan*

No.	Original Arabic Names in Manuscript	Provided Malay Translation in Manuscript	English Terms
1.	انتصاب	-	Asthma
2.	أدره	-	Scrotal hernia
3.	باسور	-	Haemorrhoids
4.	برص	-	Ichthyosis
5.	بهق	-	Tetter
6.	توازل	<i>Basah-basahan yang turun daripada otak kepada setengah-setengah anggota.</i>	Fluid in a brain
7.	جدري	<i>Penyakit cacar dan dinamakan pula ketumbuhan</i>	Smallpox
8.	جذام	-	Leprosy
9.	جرب	<i>Kurap</i>	Scabies or mange
10.	حفر	-	Inflamed gum

11.	حرقة المثانه	<i>Sakit di dalam tungdung</i>	Movement of the bladder
12.	حكه	<i>Gatal</i>	Scabies
13.	حمى الثاني	<i>Demam yang datang tiap-tiap hari dan kebah ia</i>	Type of fever
14.	حمى الدق	<i>Demam selalu panas dan tersembunyi ia</i>	Hectic fever
15.	حمى الربع	<i>Demam sehari dan lenyap dua hari memulai dengan panas yang sedikit</i>	Quartan fever
16.	حمى الغب	<i>Demam selang sehari</i>	Tertian fever
17.	حمى النافض	<i>Demam yang bersangatan dan kebah ia</i>	Type of fever
18.	حمى المزمنه	<i>Demam yang melintanginya padanya panas dan sejuk beserta</i>	Prolonged chronic fever
19.	حمى مطبقه	<i>Demam selalu tiada kebah</i>	Type of fever
20.	خراج	-	Pus or tumor
21.	خنازير	-	Scrofulous
22.	داحس	<i>Bengkak yang panas pada anak jari</i>	Whitlow, felon
23.	داع الفيل	<i>Penyakit betis dan sumbatnya</i>	Elephantiasis
24.	داء الثعلب	<i>Gugur rambut kepala</i>	Baldness
25.	دوار	<i>Penyakit pening</i>	Vertigo
26.	ذات الحنب	<i>Bengkak di dalam lambung</i>	Pleurisy
27.	ربو	<i>Lelah</i>	Dyspnoea
28.	رعاف	<i>Berdarah hidung</i>	Nosebleed
29.	زكام	-	Inflamed mocus membran
30.	زلق الأمعاء	-	Dysentery
31.	زهر	<i>Cerah memulas</i>	Dysentery
32.	سبات	<i>Tidur yang panjang yang berat serta bersangatan malas</i>	Lethargy
33.	سباتي	<i>Penyakit daripada otak</i>	Lethargy
34.	سداد	<i>Tersumbat beberapa jalan yang terus</i>	Blocked nose
35.	سرطان	-	Cancer
36.	سكته	<i>Penyakit yang menghilangkan perasaan dan gerak daripada sekalian anggota melainkan bernafas jua</i>	Stroke
37.	سل	-	Tuberculosis
38.	سهر	<i>Penyakit daripada otak dengan banyak safra ertinya hempedu maka hasil bagi empunya berjaga</i>	Sleeplessness
39.	شقيقه	<i>Sakit sebelah kepala</i>	Migraine
40.	صداع	-	Headache
41.	صرع	<i>Gila babi</i>	Fits, epilepsy
42.	عرق النساء	<i>Penyakit sendi</i>	Sciatica
43.	عشاء	<i>Ketiadaan melihat pada malam</i>	Night blindness
44.	فالج	<i>Penyakit yang mengenai sebelah badan</i>	Semi paralysis

45.	قوبا	<i>Kurap</i>	Tetter
46.	قولنج	-	Colic
47.	كلف	<i>Jerawat</i>	Freckles
48.	كمنه	<i>Umpama pasir di dalam mata</i>	Black cataract
49.	كورب	-	Ringworm
50.	لقوه	<i>Penyakit yang mengenai akan muka maka terbelok</i>	Paralysis of one side of the face
51.	مغص	<i>Senak perut</i>	Gripes
52.	مله الركب	<i>Bengkak pada lambung lutut</i>	Swollen knee
53.	نزلات	-	Catarrh
54.	نفث الدم	<i>Keluar darah daripada mulut</i>	Haemoptysis
55.	نقرس	<i>Bengkak dan sakit pada sendi buku kaki dan pada jari-jarinya</i>	Gout
56.	نوازل	-	Plethora
57.	وباء	<i>Berubah angin dengan sesuatu daripada beberapa sebab seperti perang dan terbuka beberapa kubur dan naik beberapa huwap yang fasad</i>	Plague
58.	وده	-	Vitiligo
59.	هصبه	<i>Biji ketumbuhan</i>	Measles
60.	هيضة	<i>Cirit muntah</i>	Asiatic cholera
61.	يرقان اصفر	<i>Penyakit kuning sekalian badan hingga mata dan kuku</i>	Jaundice

Next in Table 3 is the breakdown analysis of the 61 (71.7%) Arabic names into frequency and percentage:

Table 3: Frequency and percentage of Arabic disease names in *Tayyib al-Ihsan*

Disease Names in <i>Tayyib al-Ihsan</i>	Frequency in manuscript	Percentage from 61 (71.7%)
انتصاب	1	1.63%
أدره	1	1.63%
باسور	1	1.63%
برص	4	6.55%
بهق	2	3.27%
توازل	1	1.63%
جدري	1	1.63%
جذام	6	9.83%
جرب	2	3.27%
حفر	1	1.63%
حرقه المئانه	2	3.27%
حكه	2	3.27%
حمى الثاني	1	1.63%

حمى الدق	1	1.63%
حمى الربع	1	1.63%
حمى الغب	1	1.63%
حمى النافض	1	1.63%
حمى المزمه	2	3.27%
حمى مطبقه	1	1.63%
خراج	1	1.63%
خنازير	3	4.91%
داحس	1	1.63%
داع الفيل	2	3.27%
داء الثعلب	2	3.27%
دوار	1	1.63%
ذات الحنب	1	1.63%
ربو	2	3.27%
رعاف	1	1.63%
زكام	2	3.27%
زلق الأمعاء	1	1.63%
زهر	1	1.63%
سبات	1	1.63%
سباتي	1	1.63%
سداد	1	1.63%
سرطان	1	1.63%
سكته	2	3.27%
سل	2	3.27%
سهر	1	1.63%
شقيقه	2	3.27%
صداع	1	1.63%
صرع	1	1.63%
عرق النساء	1	1.63%
عشاء	1	1.63%
فالج	4	6.55%
قوبا	2	3.27%
قولنج	3	4.91%
كلف	2	3.27%
كمنه	1	1.63%
كورب	1	1.63%
لقوه	2	3.27%
مغص	1	1.63%
مله الركب	1	1.63%
نزلات	2	3.27%
نفث الدم	1	1.63%
نقرس	3	4.91%
نوازل	2	3.27%
وباء	2	3.27%
وده	1	1.63%
هصبه	2	3.27%
هيضة	1	1.63%
يرقان اصفر	1	1.63%

Table 3 shows the total frequency and percentage of 61 (71.7%) Arabic disease names in *Tayyib al-Ihsan*. The most used Arabic word for disease name is جذام (*leprosy*) with 6 (9.83%), followed by برص (*ichthyosis*) and فالج (*semi paralysis*) with 4 (6.55%), and the word نقرس (*gout*) and خنازير (*scrofulous*) with 3 (4.91%).

Meanwhile, the frequency and percentage of words بهق (*tetter*), حمى المزمنة (*prolonged chronic fever*), داء الفيل (*elephantiasis*), داء الثعلب (*baldness*), ربو (*dyspnoea*), زكام (*inflamed mocus membrane*), سكتته (*stroke*), سل (*tuberculosis*), شقيقه (*migraine*), قوبا (*tetter*), قولنج (*colic*), كلف (*freckles*), لاقوه (*paralysis*), نزلات (*catarrh*), نوازل (*plethora*), وباء (*plague*), and هصبية (*measles*) are 2 (3.27%).

## CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis, a total of 61 (71.7%) types of disease are written using the Arabic language has been identified in *Tayyib al-Ihsan*. From the data extraction, some Arabic words such as جذام (*leprosy*) with 6 (9.83%), برص (*ichthyosis*) and فالج (*semi paralysis*) 4 (6.55%) are among the popular words stated by the author in this manuscript. It shows that Malay medical manuscript writing has absorbed many Arabic words. Conclusively, an adaptation of the Arabic language has contributed to the Malay vocabulary enrichment in Malay medical manuscripts and is widely accepted by the Malay community since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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