

CONTENTS

Acknowledgement	iii
Foreword	v
Introduction	1
Part-I : Agriculture, Plant Science and Ecology	83
1. Agricultural Practices in Ancient India	85
2. Agriculture in the Vedic Period	145
3. Agricultural Practices in Kauṭilya's Arthaśāstra	175
4. Agriculture and Meteorology in Ancient India	190
5. Rice Through the Ages	200
6. Family Relations of Some Plants in the Atharvaveda	214
7. Environment and Ecology in the Rāmāyaṇa	240
8. Ecology in Āyurveda: Nature-Man Relations	264
Part II : Medicine	289
9. Vedic Medicine: Some Aspects	291
10. Anatomy in the Vedic literature	327
11. Methods of Sterilization and Sex Determination in the Atharvaveda and Bṛhadāraṇyopaniṣad	345
12. A Critical Study of Garbhopaniṣad	355
13. Āyurveda	362
14. Āyurvedic Medical Techniques and Practices in Medieval India	402

15. Principles of Āyurvedic Treatment in Pursuit of Beauty	458
16. Humoral Concepts of Unani and Āyurvedic Systems : A Comparative Study	470
17. Food and Health in Āyurvedic Thought	502

Part III : Alchemy, Chemistry and Technology 525

18. Rasaśāstra : Sanskrit Chemical and Alchemical Texts	527
19. Rasārṇavakalpa of Rudrayāmala Tantra	539
20. Mātrkābhedantram and Its Alchemical Ideas	547
21. Minerals and Gems in Indian Alchemy	560
22. Astronomy and Alchemy in India	587
23. Dyes in Ancient and Medieval India	594
24. Fermentation Technology	637
25. Pyrotechnics	653
26. Paper and Written Communication	671

Part IV : Miscellaneous 697

27. Concept of World in Vedic Thought	699
28. Man and Spirit in Vedas	728
29. Scientific Information in the Rāmāyaṇa	740
30. Some Aspects of Sanskrit Texts Dealing with Chemical, Iatro-Chemical and Biological Ideas	753
31. The Concept of <i>yantra</i> in the Samarāṅgaṇa Sūtradhāra of Bhoja	787
32. Village Settlements in Bengal : Some Epigraphic Evidence 5th Century A.D. to Early Medieval Period	798

Content of Tables xxvii

List of Appendix

List of Figures xxix

Index 827