

Exploring New Territories

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Abstract

Keywords

- ▶ Homeopathy in decline
- ▶ Homeopathy for the soul
- ▶ Initiation process
- ▶ New homeopathy
- ▶ Intuition
- ▶ Pioneering

In this article, the author investigates reasons for the unstoppable decline of homeopathy in the West. She argues that old homeopathy in a world that has changed might not meet the need of the 'new patients' any longer. Homeopathy has to move forwards, balancing reason with intuition and mind with heart. Homeopathy essentially is an initiation process into becoming a healer. We already have arrived in the pioneering stage and are exploring new territories.

The Decline of Homeopathy in the West

The last couple of years we have witnessed the decline of homeopathy (at least in many European countries, culminating in Belgium with a ban) without us being able to stop it. In attempts to find an explanation, many ideas circulated: 'After the peak of the eighties and nineties it's a natural swing of the pendulum', 'big pharma wants to extinguish homeopathy because it's a threat', 'mainstream media campaigns leading to the point of homeopathy bashing', 'the result of ever-increasing restrictions making it less visible and available', 'trying to reduce homeopathy to a medical specialism', 'modern trends making a travesty of classical homeopathy' and the like.

In a former article¹ I added a few: the discord amongst homeopaths and the overemphasis on the masculine aspect (knowledge, analysis, objectivity) together with underevaluation of the female aspect (perception, intuition), which makes the practitioner unbalanced and disharmonious to the paradigm he—mostly she—claims to adhere to. The homeopathic community reacted to this downward spiral with all possible means. They spread information as much as possible: Countless case reports, research, books and articles are offered for publication but only rarely published. Mainstream media bias unfortunately ends up in publishing negative news. An article that was refused because of the word 'potentisation' in the text received praise when the

same article was presented and the offending word was replaced by 'kinetic energy'. This proves that even one or two words in a scientific article that would to some extent suggest having to do with homeopathy will be traced and rejected unread (the editorial board didn't recognise the article as being the same).

In 2009, the Homeopathic Action Trust called 100 prominent homeopaths from all over the world and a team of marketing professionals to Cambridge, to brainstorm for 3 days about how to meet the problems homeopathy was facing. In the background was probably the assumption that homeopathy wasn't successful—despite being cheap and effective—because of bad marketing. However, the idea that one can sell anything when it's well branded highlights the discrepancy between paradigms, rather than solving it by using old paradigm methods for selling new paradigm medicine. Under the motto 'One Vision, One Voice', a slogan emerged at the final session: 'Homeopathy, a Potent Part of My Life', never to be heard of again.

Some took a media training course; some kept vehemently delivering polemic, well-substantiated replies to outraging false articles. Meanwhile the homeopathic knowledge accelerated enormously due to software programs and fast communication. But even though the quality of the offered homeopathy improved massively and the prescriptions became more sophisticated, nothing could stop the downfall.

What Is Wrong with Us?

Nowadays there are more schools for homeopathy than students and the average age of the homeopath in the West is maybe approaching sixty. Homeopathy doesn't seem to appeal to young healers.

Still we don't understand what is wrong ... why is this miraculous healing system not thriving? In the developing countries, homeopathic charities treat and train the locals with success. India delivers hundreds, if not thousands of homeopaths yearly; in Africa, a continent that hasn't to unlearn much, it is the solution for their health problems. And wait for the Chinese to come! Homeopathy is the second most applied healing system worldwide, even though in 'Old Man Europe' homeopathy is dying and in young nations it's blossoming.

Maybe there are a few more reasons why homeopathy is so successful in developing countries, while we have to work so hard, study so much and have such inconsistent and often slow results.

Our patients' vitality is depleted, they are saturated with toxins, their energetic body has collapsed and new diseases have emerged. They suffer from mental/emotional stress from loss of security, foundations and social cohesion. Since all services became commodities, we are 'liberated' from relationships and mutual dependency and totally free to be completely on our own and lonely.

Some argue the stage of our society is reflected in the Periodic Table by the radioactive period of disintegration. In Michal Yakir's Plant Scheme,² the West evolved to the ninth row of the sixth column, again the end stage. This leaves us the choice between total destruction and starting all over again or making a leap from these maps to another one. If we are to make that quantum leap, ideally it'll contain the lessons we learned so far, in short, how to go back to a oneness-consciousness while maintaining individuality.

To Evolve or to Perish

We have to evolve or won't make it. Who can claim today to cure the modern diseases with the old homeopathy, which cures in Africa the most deadly epidemics.* The big successes of Hahnemann's time were achieved with epidemics in relatively vital people. But although it is true our patients are energetically drained, loaded with toxins and weakened by continued stress, it is not the whole story. If it were, we would be clearly doomed. Suffering from the old paradigm story that tells us we are separate material beings in an indifferent universe, here for no other purpose than spreading out selfish genes in a survival struggle, we feel in our very hearts this can't be the way things are. And they aren't.

The other pole of this gloomy picture of a world in deterioration heading for destruction is according to my understanding, underemphasised: the rising global consciousness and the understanding that if we are going to

make it we will have to act as one humanity, taking care for all and everything. More and more people reclaim their divine nature and their power and want to devote their lives giving their unique gift to the world for the benefit of all. The tremendous speeding up on all planes was so tangible that many expected the end of times in 2012; which in fact was true. Time has changed. The rules from the past don't apply any longer as we are dealing with a different reality. Is it coincidental that around this time laws were put forwards to restrict or criminalise homeopathy?

We often asked ourselves, why us? There are hundreds of alternative medicines out there. Why is homeopathy the target of all this aggression? Again answers differ from 'they know damn well it works' to 'big light attracts big dark' or blaming Big Pharma. But could it be that the outside world is giving us a hand by limiting the old homeopathy? Could it be thinkable that, by making it into a medical specialisation, they actually force the aspect of homeopathy not fitting in that box to redefine itself? Aren't most of our patients not looking for solace for their soul, as much as for their body?

Homeopathic Training: An Initiation Process

What I would like to call 'homeopathy for the soul' has to meet the needs of patients on that path. Often, they suffer from self-doubt or worse, shame, guilt, confusion, being ungrounded and neglecting the material realm and influences of the collective unconscious. The majority of their physical complaints come down to a disturbed etheric body, pains, hormonal, immunological and neurological problems. Under the circumstances we live in, it isn't surprising that the viruses go haywire in our bodies, corresponding what happens with an unprotected computer.

The training in classical homeopathy³ is in essence to be considered as an initiation process. The 5 years training I created at the Center of Classical Homeopathy took into account a gradual deepening of the understanding of what we like to call 'Life in General and Homeopathy in Particular'.

First, the student becomes familiar with data and philosophy, which can be understood by the rational mind. When introduced in case taking, she/he is exposed to the mental/emotional reality of the patient (and therefore himself) and witnesses how everybody is unique and lives in her/his own world. This brings the realisation it holds true for us healers as well. The fact we then see how everybody is right from his own perspective automatically discourages our judgements and makes place for compassion. In the fifth year, exploring the source of this uniqueness we fall short of words or invent too many ... I'd say we enter the realm of the soul, carrying the signature of individual expression of the divine in each person. It is not an easy path, some can't take the threshold of being nonjudgemental and others feel incapable of ever finding the simillimum of the patient.

Though the anamnesis done with full attention is healing in itself, it still carries the implied presumption of a 'me' and a 'you', separate from each other. How does that fit with the conviction we are all one?

* Van der Zee, H. "It's easier to cure AIDS in Africa than a running nose in Holland." Personal remark.

Some argue you can only help yourself and may conclude helping others is not possible. But despite the fact that by helping yourself the collective is healed at the same time (one could call it the reversed hundredth monkey) helping the other is still possible. It's more to be considered as a late postmodern crisis, similar to those in arts and anthropology (art is impossible; anthropology is impossible) who both eventually came with a solution. Anthropologists claimed that making observations was impossible as the observer influenced the observed, a discovery made in all fields of investigation. Nevertheless it didn't stop scientists making observations. They continued to do so, keeping in the back of their minds the inevitable effect of the subject on the objectified.

It isn't 'only' the listening ear, time and attention, the placebo effect of the magic pill and the hope homeopathy as such evokes (for homeopathy claims to cure chronic disease for which allopathy has no cure). When the homeopath is an initiate, he can be considered as a healer. Gabriella Serban^{4,5} says that it doesn't matter which method a healer applies because he'll have results with all while one who is not, won't have (the same) results. The problem is, similar to the arts, one has to train first to discover if one has the talent. Luckily, the author concludes, more often than not, it's the talent or the vocation that impels one to start studying art or homeopathy.

To summarise the initiation process:

- Homeopathic philosophy introduces a holistic paradigm on health.
- This philosophy validates the uniqueness of everybody without judgement.
- This philosophy develops love and compassion.
- This philosophy dissolves the illusion of separation.

It is then only a small step towards the 'healing modus', I mean the state in which the homeopath allows healing to happen. Once a particular method is fully mastered in the mind set described here, she/he can then rely on inspiration and being led by intuition. Being firmly rooted in understanding and method he can always check whether prescriptions based on intuition make sense on a cognitive level as well. This will prevent proliferation and wild speculation. And at the same time permits different styles to live happily and peacefully next to each other.

The Next Step

The most radical next step homeopathy can take is to drop the idea it has to be a cure-all for everything, but rather regard it as one instrument among the many in the orchestra. As all musicians allow music to happen, all healers allow healing to happen. This brings us to the question of the role of the healer in the whole process. Is he determining the outcome? Is his understanding, purity of his channel, personality, ego, comprehension of importance? Or does healing energy just use any suitable channel: come as you are....?*** Is the healer in

any way determining the transmission of healing energy? Is his coherence creating coherence? Does he have to be able to apply the law of entrainment*** or does it simply not matter what he does? Or are both possible?

Do we have a yardstick for truth? While the adagio in homeopathy is that everybody lives in his/her own truth, we, however, must have enough in common to communicate all together, because taking this idea to its radical consequences results in chaos and madness. We are all stars in a unified universe but finite forms in infinite reality.⁶

Those who had the opportunity to take a look on the other side⁷ all report love and beauty; nobody comes back with the verdict whose truth was right and whose was wrong. If we are to make 'the better world our hearts know is possible',⁸ we'll develop respect, compassion, love and care for all, and knowledge or truth will no longer take a prominent place and create conflict as it does today.

If discoveries are made, they will be shared; if somebody takes the next step in some field, we'll be jubilating and we'll find joy in giving to the collective, from what is given to us.

New Homeopathy in a Changed World?

I imagine the new homeopath to be honest and to 'walk his talk', and while being serious at his calling and devotion, creative in his work. He'll assist the patient to discover the star in himself rather than measuring the success of his treatment to the extent that the patient organises his/her life to his/her liking. Dissolving the 'conditions to be OK' so that one can experience being unconditionally OK is what the simillimum prescribers always aimed at and hoped to achieve when finding a simillimum (which occurs often enough to keep them going).

I wonder whether the presence of the healer makes the difference with only taking a remedy, as listening to the CD differs from the live concert? Sometimes it is said that the presence of an avatar transmits his higher energy vibration and everyone who is near receives it. It's a known fact that the energy fields of our fellow men influence us be it in a positive or negative way. Therefore it is likely that the homeopath will somehow influence the effect of the prescription by her/his very being or presence.

Men are such complex beings that only even limiting their research to material level scientists are completely perplexed. And while able to measure and rationalise about the material

*** Discovered by the Dutch physicist Christian Huygens in 1665, according to my understanding the physical concept of **entrainment** explains homeopathic action. "A basic **definition of entrainment** is the tendency for two oscillating bodies to lock into phase so that they vibrate in harmony. (...) it can also be described as a state where whenever two or more oscillators in the same field are pulsing at nearly the same rate, they tend to "lock in" and begin pulsing at exactly the same rate. The powerful rhythmic vibrations from one source will cause less powerful vibrations of another source to lock into the vibration of the first source". The powerful source in that matter is the homeopathic remedy, by definition a harmonious representative of the disharmonious 'vital disturbance' in the patient. The **result** will be resonance.

** Often unwilling channels, as with the famous Edgar Cayce.

facts, at more subtle levels we are to surrender to feelings, intuition and the mysterious 'deeper knowing'. It's a knowing that doesn't come forth from thinking, which is ever-changing and hypothetical in nature, but from a source of certainty. Whole libraries are written on occult and esoteric knowledge, but at this moment we have truly no idea in which niche homeopathy fits.

But, trying to get our legitimacy and the proof that we were right all the way from mainstream medicine, which holds on to obsolete beliefs, won't help us either.

We can only move forwards. Because we feel the times have changed, the patients have changed. We are pioneering into a new homeopathy, which will have to take a quantum leap. By definition the pioneer is walking in unknown territory. She/he has no other tool than inner guidance, an inner compass telling him where to go and what to do. He might take some wrong turns here and there, but ultimately he prepares the path for the ones that follow. The pioneer can't tell where he'll arrive and how the new will look like. He works his way through the unknown because it is what he came to do. He won't be believed by the mainstream who wants certainty, direction and explanation, as the pioneer doesn't see where he's heading himself. He only feels whether he's on the right track or not. Finally, he'll bring us safely to a better place where we can start a new life.

In that sense we might forgive him not to have all the answers yet, not to see the destination yet and not to be able

to draw the map. We might put our trust in his courage and respect his willingness to go first and take all the risks.

It's my idea we have arrived in that stage in homeopathy where homeopathic pioneers are exploring new territories, leaving the boundaries of their belief systems. Let's give them the space to experiment and trust that the gods will show them the way.

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