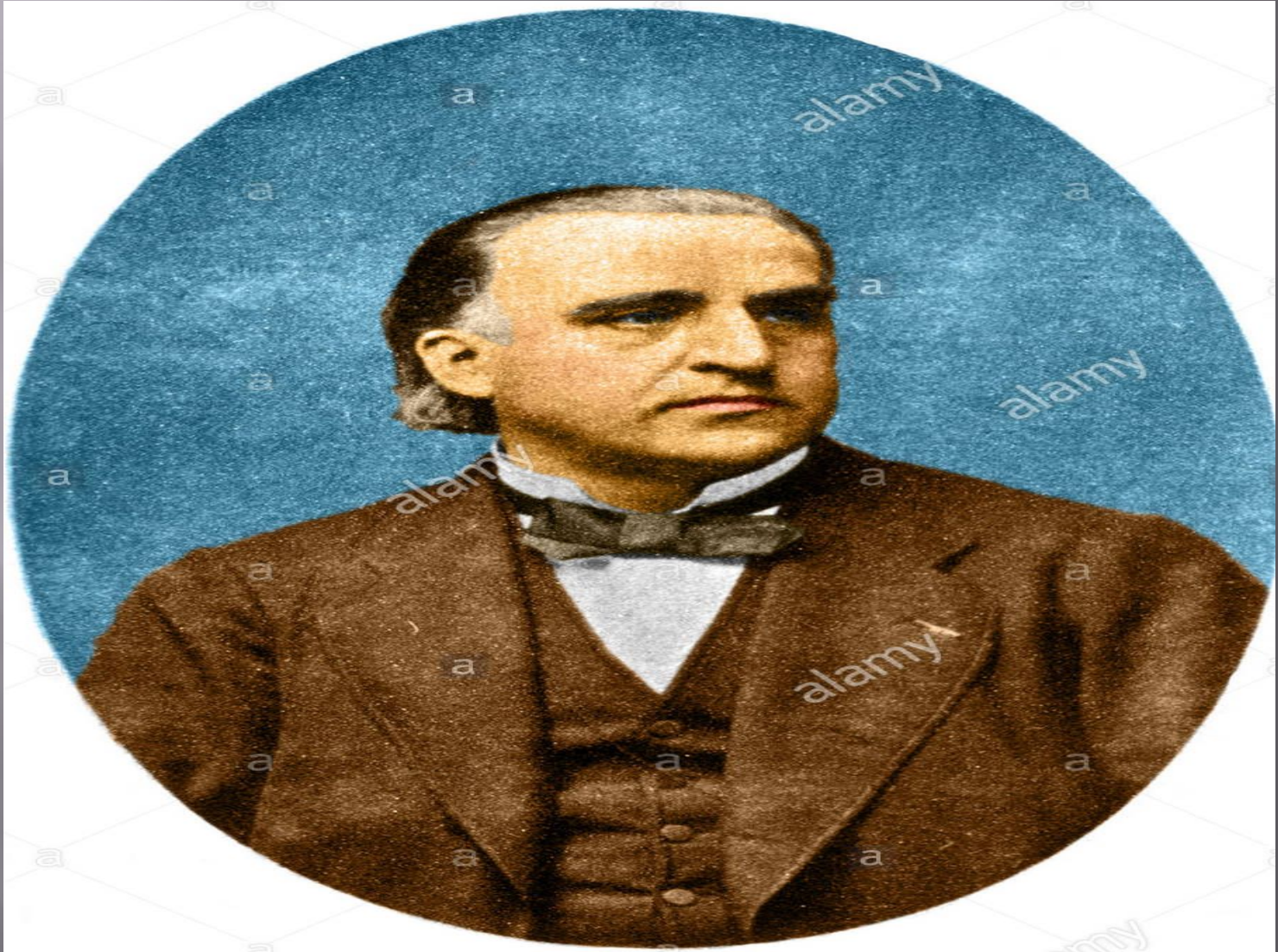


JEAN MARTIN CHARCOT (1825-1893)



BIOGRAPHY

- Jean-Martin Charcot (French.; 29 November 1825 – 16 August 1893) was a French neurologist and professor of anatomical pathology

European
Neurology

Historical Note

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Jean-Martin Charcot at the Birth of Russian Neurology

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Key Words

Charcot · Russian neurology · History

Abstract

Russian neurology was virtually nonexistent in the middle of the 19th century which made a traineeship abroad an absolute necessity. Charcot and his school did not just offer professional training, but created the best minds, which would determine the direction of neurology and psychiatry in Russia for many decades. After returning home, young Russian doctors not only implemented everything they had learned in Western Europe, but proceeded to make their own original contributions. The most talented pupils of Charcot, including such prominent names as Kozhevnikov, Korsakov, Minor, Bekhterev and Darkshevich, became the founders of neurological schools in Russia. They laid the basis for the further development of neurology and psychiatry. Remarkably, though trained by the same teachers, each of these future 'founding fathers' of these neurological and psychiatric schools followed his own individual path which resulted in an undeniable diversity in Russian neurology and psychiatry during the period of their formation.

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Introduction

Jean-Martin Charcot is considered to be the founder of modern neurology, a title he rightly deserves, not only because of his clinical descriptions and classification of the nervous diseases, but also because it is through his pupils that modern neurology emerged as a discipline. Having himself been a grateful and dedicated pupil, Charcot made teaching one of his main priorities. He devoted every morning at Salpêtrière entirely to teaching and private conferences with the students, reserving Tuesdays and Fridays for his official public lectures [1]. Obviously, the core of his pupils was shaped by his close collaboration with names such as Marie, Babinski, Pitres, Gilles de la Tourette, Marinesco, Janet, Souques, and many others, who designed the way in which French neurology developed over many years. Charcot's main goal was the creation of a Chair of Neurology by the Faculty of Medicine and his accession to the Académie des Sciences et de Médecine. Receiving foreigners and chairing their theses belonged to his approach to achieve his goal and to eliminate any competition from other colleagues in France. Charcot's knowledge, enthusiasm and artistry attracted a huge number of pupils from abroad, and as his

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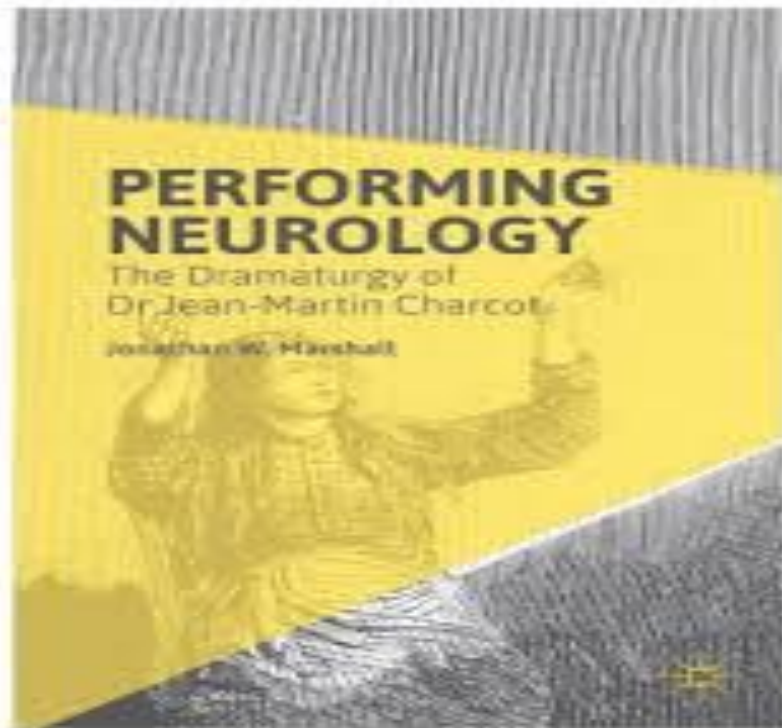
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- ❖ He is best known today for his work on hypnosis and hysteria, in particular his work with his hysteria patient Louise Augustine Gleizes.
- ❖ Also known as "the founder of modern neurology.
- ❖ his name has been associated with at least 15 medical eponyms, including Charcot–Marie–Tooth disease and Charcot disease.

Charcot has been referred to as "the father of French neurology and one of the world's pioneers of neurology".

His work greatly influenced the developing fields of neurology and psychology



Contribution To Medicine

In addition to providing a complete clinical description coupled with the pathological changes associated with a variety of neurological diseases, allowing for their precise classification, Charcot's other significant accomplishments include the following:

describing the brain's vascular supply, differentiating tremors found in Parkinson's disease with those of patients with multiple sclerosis, differentiating hysteria from epilepsy, being one of the first physicians to set up rehabilitation clinics for the treatment of his patients, and formulating a triad (known as the Biliary Triad) for diagnosing acute cholangitis which consists of right upper quadrant pain, jaundice and fever.

Working at the end of the nineteenth century, the celebrated neurologist, Jean-Martin Charcot, used this disorder as a prototypic example of the power of his research method, termed "méthode anatomoclinique." Using clinical cases and autopsy material, he showed how anatomical lesions in the nervous system could be .

Conclusion

Charcot's contributions to medicine and the medical literature are legendary. His lectures have been published in a variety of languages and still remain an essential part of any neurologist's library.