

## UNIT-1

# Historical trends and current perspectives in Midwifery and Obstetrical Nursing

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# School of Nursing

Course Code : BSCN3004

Course Name: Midwifery & Obstetrical Nursing

- **HISTORICAL TRENDS OF MIDWIFERY AND OBSTETRICAL NURSING**



Name of the Faculty: Mrs. Shilpa Katoch

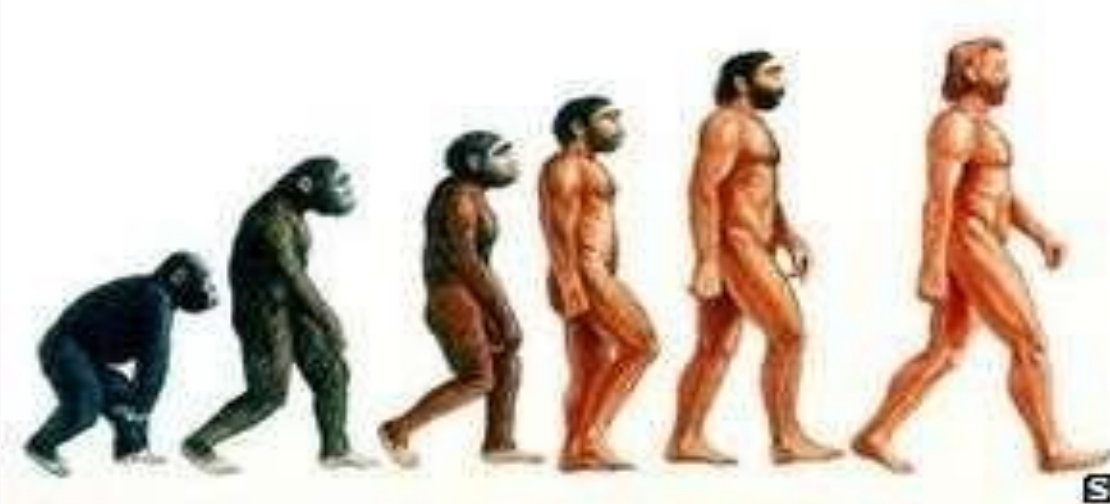
Program Name: B.Sc. Nursing

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Midwifery is as old as the history of human species. Archeological evidence of woman demonstrates the existence of midwifery in 5000 BC.



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- King of Egypt spoke to the midwives, who helped Hebrew women when they gave birth. They were the first midwives found in the Literature.

**Shiphrah and Puah the Hebrew Midwives**



**Exodus 1:15 -22**

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Hippocrates(460BC), the father of scientific medicine, organised trained and supervised Midwives. He believed that the fetus had to fight its way out of the womb



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Aristotle (384-322 BC), the father of embryology, described the uterus and the female pelvic organs. And the essential qualities of the midwife.



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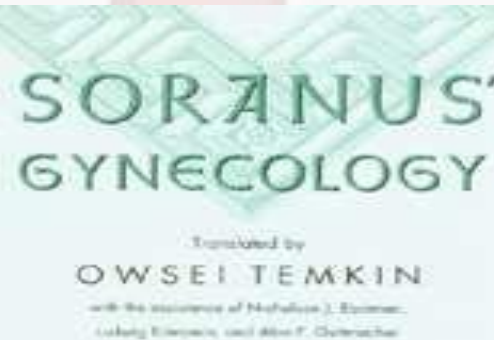
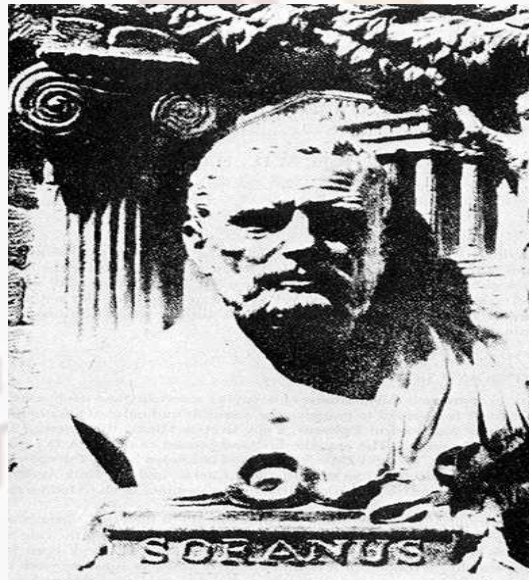
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- Soranus in the second century was the first to specialize in obstetrics and gynecology. He used vaginal speculum, advised on cord care, and wet nursing.

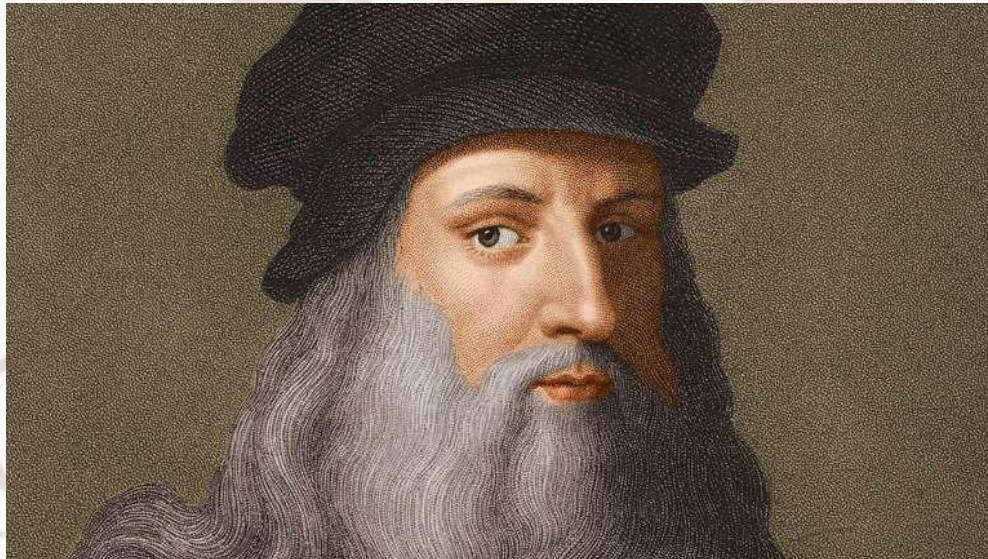


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Leonardo da Vinci(1452-1519) made anatomical drawings of pregnant uterus.





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- In 1513, the first book on midwifery was printed in Germany, based on the teachings of Soranus. In 1540, the book was translated into English.
- Vesalius in 1543, opened full term pregnant uterus in a lower animal, extracted the fetus, demonstrated uterus as a single chamber organ

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□ Ambroise Pare (1510-1590) laid the foundations of modern obstetrics. He performed internal podalic version and skillfully delivered women. He also sutured perineal lacerations. He founded a school for midwives in Paris, France. Louise Bourgeois, recommended induction of labour for pelvic contraction.



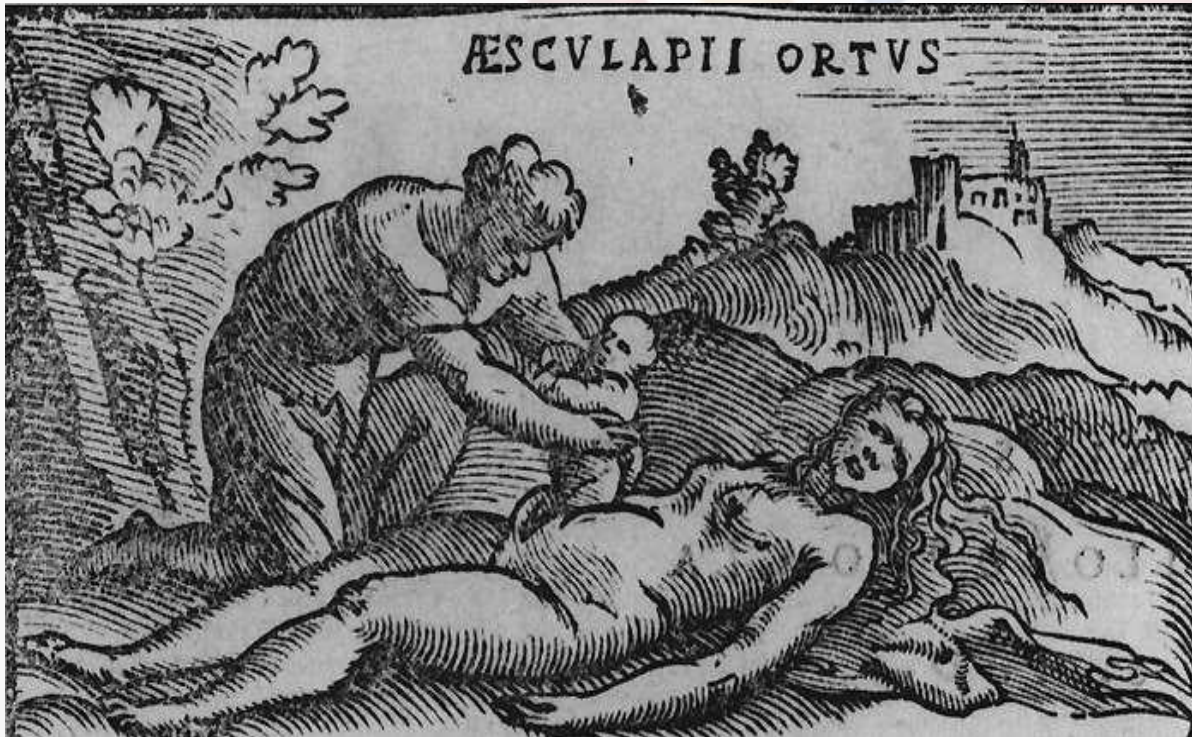
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Julius Caesar Aranzi wrote the first book for Italian Midwives. He advised Cesarean section for contracted Pelvis.



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- William Harvey (1578-1657), the father of British midwifery, wrote the first English text book on Midwifery. He described the fetal circulation and the placenta
- The first to deliver the placenta by massaging the uterus. And initiated the study of uterine sepsis.



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- Mauriceau was the greatest physician in 17<sup>th</sup> century. He described the attitude of the fetus in the womb.
- Chamberlen in 1675 designed the obstetric forceps.

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- William Smellie (1697-1763) is called the father of British midwifery. He explained labor as a mechanical process. He introduced Pelvimetry, cephalometry, and lock for the Obstetrical forceps.
- In 1772 John Leake replaced the obstetrical stool by a specialized bed.

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- Charles white in 1773, stated that Puerperal fever is infectious and he used lime for disinfection.
- Fielding Ould (1710-1789) described the normal mechanism of labor and performed the first episiotomy.
- Francois 1818, first recognized the fetal heart sounds in pregnant uterus.

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- Young Simpson in 1847, used Chloroform first for the obstetrical anesthesia.
- Florence Nightingale in 1862, organized a small training school with King's college Hospital where she conducted training for midwives.

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- Semmelweiss in 1861, demonstrated the cause of puerperal sepsis and suggested preventive measures.
- Louis Pasteur in 1879, wrote the thesis on Puerperal sepsis.
- The first antenatal clinic was started about the time of First World war.

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- The french obstetrician Mauriceac first reported the caesarean section in 1668.
- In 1876 Porro performed subtotal hysterectomy.
- Max sanger in 1882, first sutured the abdominal wall.
- In 1912, Kronig introduced lower segmental vertical incision.
- Munro kerr in 1926 introduced the present technique of LSCS and popularized it

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- Maternal and child health services in India were started with the help of voluntary organizations. Modern maternal and child health work was begun in India by foreign missionaries with an effort to train dais. The time line are as follows:
- 1885 – An association for medical aid by the women of India was established by the Countess of Dufferin.
- 1918 – Lady Reading Health School was started in Delhi, offering health visitors course, which was another stepping stone in MCH Services
- 1921 – Lady Chelmsford League was formed in India for developing maternity and child welfare services.
- 1931 – The Indian Red Cross society established MCH Bureau in association with the Lady Chelmsford League & Victories memorial

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- Madras was the first state then to set up a separate section for maternal and child welfare in the public health department under the charge of an Assistant Director of Public Health. It was again Madras state which first attempted to replace by the better qualified personnel such as midwives and nurse midwives.
- 1938 – Indian Research Fund Association was established which formed a committee that undertook the investigation into the incidence and cause of Maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. Sir A. Mudaliar was the key person of the committee.

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- 1911 ANM programmes
- Nurses league in 1946 had two boards of nursing education .... The mid India board of nursing education and the board of nursing education.
- INC constituted in 1949.

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## *CURRENT PERSPECTIVES OF OBSTETRICS*

- In current view all the focus from obstetrics care shifted to perinatal care.
- Advancement in Obstetrics care has reduces the MMR.
- Govt. has started programme to identify high risk mothers.
- Training of health personnels, Allocation of facilities & equipment decreases MMR.

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## MMR can be reduces:

- Early registration of pregnancy.  
Atleast three antenatal check-ups.
- Dietary supplements can correct anemia.
- Prevention of infection and haemorrhage during puerperium.
- Prevention of complications e.g.  
Eclampsia, malpresentation, ruptured uterus.

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## CONTD.....

- Treatment of medical conditions e.g. hypertension, DM, TB.
- Anti-malaria and tetnus prophylaxis.
- Clean delivery practice.
- Institutional deliveries for women with BOH and risk factors.
- Promotion of family planning.

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## CONTD.....

- ❑ MCH services has started which aims at reduction in morbidity and mortality rate of mother and baby.
- ❑ Baby friendly hospital scheme has launched in 1993 for effective breastfeed to child.
- ❑ Genetic counselling to the couples.
- ❑ Screen the mother for HIV.

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