

J.B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital

J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital is a public Ayurvedic medical college and teaching hospital in Kolkata, West Bengal, India. It was founded in 1916 by Ayurvedic physician, Sanskrit scholar and philanthropist Jamini Bhushan Ray as the **Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya**. The college is affiliated with the West Bengal University of Health Sciences and recognised by the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine.

The institution was established as part of efforts to introduce organised teaching, clinical training and public medical service into Ayurvedic education in Bengal. It moved to its present Raja Dinendra Street campus after Mahatma Gandhi laid the foundation stone of the new building in 1925. In 1964, the college, its teaching hospital and the associated Patipukur hospital were transferred from private trust management to the Government of West Bengal.

One of India's oldest surviving Ayurvedic medical colleges, the institution became an early centre of organised Ayurvedic education in Bengal. It offers the Bachelor of Ayurveda, Medicine and Surgery degree and operates teaching hospitals at Raja Dinendra Street and Patipukur. Its development was shaped by figures including Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee, Gananath Sen, Mahatma Gandhi, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and Bidhan Chandra Roy.^{[1][2]}

History

The institution was founded on 10 February 1916 by Jamini Bhushan Ray, a physician trained in both Ayurveda and Western medicine. It was formally inaugurated on 14 April 1916 (1 Baishakh 1323 BS) as the **Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya** in a rented house

J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital

যামিনী ভূষণ অষ্টাঙ্গ আয়ুর্বেদ বিদ্যালয় ও আয়ুর্বেদীয়
আরোগ্যশালা



College logo

Former names	Ashtanga Ayurveda College and Hospital Jamini Bhushan Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya and Ayurvediya Arogyashala
Type	Public Ayurvedic medical college and teaching hospital
Established	10 February 1916
Founder	<u>Jamini Bhushan Ray</u>
Affiliations	<u>West Bengal University of Health Sciences</u>
Academic affiliations	<u>National Commission for Indian System of Medicine</u>
Location	170–172 Raja Dinendra Street, Shyambazar, Kolkata, West Bengal, India 22°35′53″N 88°22′39″E﻿ / ﻿22.59806°N 88.37750°E﻿ / 22.59806; 88.37750
Campus	Urban
Website	jbrsamch.org.in (https://jbrsamch.org.in/)



Jamini Bhushan Ray,
founder of the institution

at 29 Fariapukur Street in north Calcutta. The college began with twelve students and three teachers, while tuition, board and lodging were provided free of charge in keeping with Ray's

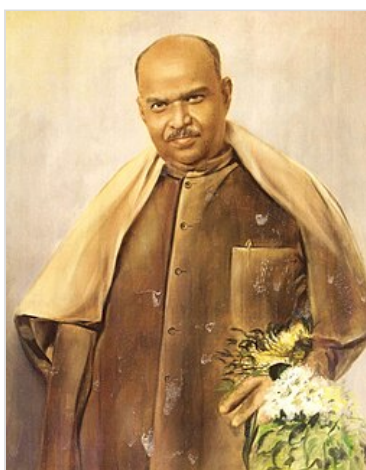


philanthropic vision of making Ayurvedic education accessible.^{[1] [3]:18}

The institution formed part of a wider movement to modernise Ayurveda in Bengal through organised teaching, clinical training and public medical service while preserving its classical traditions. Jamini Bhushan Ray sought to integrate the principles of Ayurveda with selected aspects of Western medical education while preserving the distinctive character of the indigenous tradition.^[4]

Contemporary institutional recollections state that Ray intended the college to replace the traditional guru–shishya system of Ayurvedic instruction with organised teaching by specialist instructors and practical clinical training through an attached teaching hospital. The educational programme was designed to prepare graduates for both clinical practice and broader public health responsibilities while remaining grounded in the principles of Ayurveda.^[4]

The college soon attracted students from different parts of India as well as from Nepal and Sri Lanka. Together with Gananath Sen, Ray prepared a combined syllabus for the students of Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya and enlisted both Ayurvedic physicians and Western-trained doctors in the institution's teaching programme.^{[5][6]}



Dr. Shyama Prasad
Mukherjee, former Chairman
of the Board of Trustees

In 1919, when the institution was reorganised under a public trust, the eminent Ayurvedic physician Gananath Sen became Chairman of its first Working Committee, while founder Jamini Bhushan Ray continued to serve as Principal. Jurist and educationist Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee served as the first Chairman of the institution's Board of Trustees, a position later held by his son, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. Following Ray's death in 1926, Sen served as Principal of the institution.^{[3]:20}

Rapid public demand and the growth of the charitable dispensary, which reportedly treated more than 100 outpatients daily, soon made the original premises inadequate. The institution consequently relocated in 1921 to larger premises on Shyamabazar Bridge Road (now R. G. Kar Road), providing space for its subsequent expansion.^{[1][3]:18}

During the inquiry of the Madras Government's Committee on the Indigenous Systems of Medicine (1921–1923), which culminated in its 1923 report, a touring subcommittee inspected the Ashtanga Ayurveda College while collecting evidence on the future of indigenous medical education. Founder Jamini Bhushan Ray also submitted written

evidence and was interviewed by the committee in Calcutta.^{[7]:50–53} The committee subsequently cited the evidence of Ray and Gananath Sen extensively in its discussion of indigenous medical education, diagnosis and treatment, reflecting the institution's standing within contemporary debates on the future of Ayurveda.^{[7]:50–61,99,103}

Mahatma Gandhi's foundation stone laying ceremony

On 6 May 1925, Mahatma Gandhi laid the foundation stone of the institution's new building on Raja Dinendra Street, where the present college and hospital stand.^[2]

In his address, Gandhi discussed Ayurveda and Unani medicine in relation to public service, scientific inquiry and medical ethics. The ceremony became an important milestone in the institution's history and reflected the wider debate in colonial India about indigenous medical systems, modern education and public health.^[2]



Mahatma Gandhi, who laid the foundation stone of the college's Raja Dinendra Street campus on 6 May 1925

Development and state takeover



Historic view of the Raja Dinendra Street campus of Ashtanga Ayurveda Hospital, Kolkata.

Following the 1925 foundation stone ceremony, construction began on the permanent Raja Dinendra Street campus on land leased

by the Calcutta Corporation for ninety-nine years. Although Jamini Bhushan Ray died in 1926 before its completion, the new hospital building with fifty charitable beds was formally inaugurated by Deshapriya Jatindra Mohan Sengupta in June 1927. Over the following decades, the institution expanded under successive Boards of Trustees before entering a new phase of development under government administration.^{[3]:20}^[8]

During the chairmanship of Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherjee, the institution continued to expand its hospital facilities. Nellie Sengupta, the English-born Indian freedom fighter and social worker, inaugurated the hospital's separate female ward.^{[3]:22} The institution's Silver Jubilee celebrations in

1941 were presided over by philosopher and statesman Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who later became the second President of India.^{[3]:7,22}

Before the creation of modern statutory bodies for Ayurvedic education, the institution conferred qualifications such as L.A.M.S. (Licentiate in Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery) and Vishagratna. In 1937 it came under the General Council and State Faculty of Ayurvedic Medicine, Bengal, which was succeeded by the Paschim Banga Ayurveda Parishad in 1961.^[8]

By the early 1960s, however, the Trust Board faced increasing financial pressures in maintaining the expanding college, hospital and associated charitable services. Following discussions with the Government of West Bengal, an agreement was reached in 1964 under which the institution was transferred to state administration, ensuring its continued development as a public teaching hospital. Former Calcutta High Court judge and Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University, Charu Chandra Biswas, helped facilitate the negotiations leading to the transfer.^{[3]:24}

The management and maintenance of the institution, then known as Jamini Bhushan Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya, together with Patipukur T.B. Hospital, were transferred to the Government of West Bengal with effect from 1 August 1964. The transfer marked the institution's transition from a privately managed charitable trust to a State Ayurvedic College and Hospital. Governor Padmaja Naidu and Chief Minister Prafulla Chandra Sen participated in the commemorative ceremonies marking the transition.^{[8][3]:8-9}

On 21 August 1964, President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan conveyed his good wishes on the occasion of the institution becoming a State Ayurvedic College and Hospital in a message addressed to the Jubilee Committee through his Secretary at Rashtrapati Bhavan.^[9]

Academics

The college is affiliated with the West Bengal University of Health Sciences and recognised by the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine. It offers the Bachelor of Ayurveda, Medicine and Surgery (B.A.M.S.) degree, the standard undergraduate qualification in Ayurvedic medicine in India.^{[8][10]}

According to the institution's official course information, the B.A.M.S. programme comprises four and a half years of academic study followed by one year of compulsory rotatory internship. The programme has a sanctioned annual intake of 60 students, expandable to 75 students in accordance with government reservation rules.^[11]

Academic instruction is organised through fourteen departments staffed by approximately thirty teaching staff and supported by approximately sixty non-teaching staff.^{[12][13]}

The college's academic departments span the principal areas of Ayurvedic medical education, from foundational subjects such as anatomy and physiology to clinical disciplines including general medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, preventive medicine and Panchakarma. The departments retain the Sanskrit names for their respective disciplines, including Kriya Sharir (physiology), Rachana Sharir (anatomy), Kayachikitsa (general medicine) and Shalya Tantra (surgery).^[14]



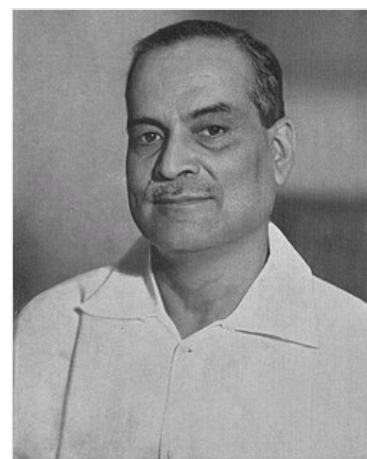
Letter dated 21 August 1964 from Rashtrapati Bhavan conveying President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's good wishes following the institution's transition to a State Ayurvedic College and Hospital.

Hospitals and campuses

The institution operates two teaching hospitals in Kolkata: its principal campus at Raja Dinendra Street and the annexed Patipukur Ayurvedic Hospital at 29 S. K. Deb Road.^[15]

Raja Dinendra Street campus

The Raja Dinendra Street campus serves as the institution's principal academic and clinical centre. According to the college's infrastructure information, the teaching hospital has 120 beds and provides undergraduate clinical training together with inpatient and outpatient services.^[15]



Bidhan Chandra Roy, who laid the foundation stone of the original Patipukur T.B. Hospital

Patipukur Ayurvedic Hospital



Historic view of Patipukur T.B. Hospital, later reorganised as Patipukur Ayurvedic Hospital.

Patipukur Ayurvedic Hospital is the institution's annexed clinical campus. It originated as the Patipukur T.B. Hospital, established in 1933 on the site of Jamini Bhushan Ray's suburban villa at Patipukur, which he had made available for institutional purposes.^{[3]:22} The foundation stone was laid by physician and statesman Bidhan Chandra Roy.^{[3]:22–23[16]} In 1951, a new three-storey hospital building was inaugurated by the Governor of West Bengal, Harendra Coomar Mookerjee, marking a further stage in the hospital's expansion before its later reorganisation as Patipukur Ayurvedic Hospital.^{[3]:22} According to the college's infrastructure information, the hospital now has 94 beds and provides both inpatient and outpatient Ayurvedic services.^{[15][16]}

Research and public health

Research at the college has included clinical investigations, public health initiatives and externally funded projects relating to Ayurvedic medicine.^[17]

A 2012 study published in the *Journal of Ayurveda and Integrative Medicine* investigated adjunct Ayurvedic therapy alongside anti-tubercular drugs in the management of pulmonary tuberculosis. The study included researchers affiliated with J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital.^[18]

According to the institution's official records, completed projects have included clinical investigations supported by agencies such as the Department of Science and Technology, Government of West Bengal, while additional externally funded projects are currently in progress.^{[19][20]}

In 2016, the *Millennium Post* reported that the Government of West Bengal had approved projects to strengthen the college's Ayurvedic infrastructure, including the construction of a dedicated Panchakarma hospital and improvements to facilities at Patipukur Ayurvedic Hospital.^[17]

Legacy

The college is regarded as one of the early institutions that helped establish organised Ayurvedic medical education in Bengal. During the early twentieth century, the institution attracted students from across the Indian subcontinent, including Nepal and Sri Lanka. Among them was the Sri Lankan Ayurvedic pioneer G. P. Wickramarachchi, who later became an important figure in the development of Ayurvedic education in Sri Lanka, replicating this model of institutional learning.^{[1][5]}

More than a century after its founding, the institution continues to function as one of India's oldest surviving Ayurvedic medical colleges. It reflects Jamini Bhushan Ray's enduring vision of integrating traditional Ayurvedic knowledge with organised medical education, clinical training and public healthcare.^{[1][8]}



Marble bust of Jamini Bhushan Ray at J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata.

See also

- Healthcare in India
- Ministry of Ayush
- List of ayurveda colleges

References

1. Bhushan, Shakti (2024). "Kaviraj Jamini Bhusan Roy: The man who led the Ayurveda renaissance in Bengal" (https://doi.org/10.4103%2Fjras.jras_364_23). *Journal of Research in Ayurvedic Sciences*. **8** (Suppl 1): S43–S47. doi:10.4103/jras.jras_364_23 (https://doi.org/10.4103%2Fjras.jras_364_23).
2. *The Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi* (<https://web.archive.org/web/20220206153842/https://www.gandhiserve.org/cwmv/VOL031.PDF>) (PDF). Vol. 31. Publications Division, Government of India. pp. 280–283. Archived from the original (<http://www.gandhiserve.org/cwmv/VOL031.PDF>) (PDF) on 6 February 2022.
3. "JBRay Ayurvedic College Commemorative Booklet" (<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:JBRay-Ayurvedic-College-Commemorative-Booklet-1964.pdf>) (PDF). *Wikimedia Commons*. Jamini Bhushan Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya Jubilee Committee. 30 September 1964. Retrieved 5 July 2026.
4. "Address by Kaviraj Premananda Kavyatirtha at Jamini Bhushan Ashtanga Ayurveda College Reunion" (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Address_of_Kaviraj_Premananda_Kavyatirtha_at_Jamini_Bhushan_Ashtanga_Ayurveda_College_Reunion.pdf) (PDF). *Wikimedia Commons*. Jamini Bhushan Ashtanga Ayurveda College Reunion Committee. 15 May 1964. Retrieved 11 July 2026.

5. Sen, Srabani (2018). "Project Report: The State of Ayurveda in Colonial Bengal" (https://ins.a.nic.in/writereaddata/UploadedFiles/IJHS/Vol53_3_2018_Art13.pdf) (PDF). *Indian Journal of History of Science*. **53** (3): 380–386. doi:10.16943/ijhs/2018/v53i3/49469 (<https://doi.org/10.16943%2Fijhs%2F2018%2Fv53i3%2F49469>).
6. Sarkar, Prasanta Kumar (2022). "Contribution of Bengal School for the Protection of Traditional Ayurvedic Knowledge in Colonial India" (https://journals.lww.com/ijar/fulltext/2022/07000/contribution_of_bengal_school_for_the_protection.5.aspx). *International Journal of Ayurveda Research*. **3** (2): 102–117. doi:10.4103/IJAR.IJAR_20_22 (https://doi.org/10.4103%2FIJAR.IJAR_20_22).
7. Committee on the Indigenous Systems of Medicine (1923). *Report of the Committee on the Indigenous Systems of Medicine* (https://archive.org/details/b32176946_0001) (Report). Madras: Government Press. Retrieved 21 July 2026.
8. "Prospectus 2023–2024" (https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/0/0a/JB_Roy_State_Ayurvedic_Medical_College_and_Hospital.pdf) (PDF). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital, Government of West Bengal. 2023.
9. "Letter from President of India to Jamini Bhushan Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya Jubilee Committee" (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Letter_from_President_of_India_to_Jamini_Bhushan_Ashatanga_Ayurveda_Vidyalaya_Jubilee_Committee.png). *Wikimedia Commons*. Wikimedia Foundation. 21 August 1964. Retrieved 29 June 2026.
10. "List of Permitted Ayurveda Colleges for the Academic Year 2025–26" (<https://ncismindia.org/List%20of%20Permitted%20Ayurveda%20Colleges%20for%20the%20A.Y.%202025-26%20as%20on%2011.07.2025.pdf>) (PDF). National Commission for Indian System of Medicine. 11 July 2025.
11. "Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery" (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/Courses/200/>). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital. Retrieved 19 July 2026.
12. "Teaching Staff" (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/alldeptforteachingstaff.php>). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital. Retrieved 18 July 2026.
13. "Non-Teaching Staff" (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/Non-Teaching-Staff/189/>). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital. Retrieved 18 July 2026.
14. "J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital" (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/>). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital. Retrieved 24 June 2026.
15. "Hospital Infrastructure" (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/Infrustrcture/177/>). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital. Retrieved 24 June 2026.
16. "Kaviraj Jamini Bhusan Ray" (<https://luminaries.ccras.res.in/kaviraj-jamini-bhusan-roy/>). Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences. Retrieved 24 June 2026.
17. "Construction of hospital dedicated to Panchakarma to start in December" (<https://www.millenniumpost.in/construction-of-hospital-dedicated-to-panchakarma-to-start-in-december-153737>). *Millennium Post*. 10 July 2016.
18. Debnath, P. K.; Chattopadhyay, Jaydeb; Mitra, Achintya; Adhikari, Anjan; Alam, Mirza Samsur (2012). "Adjunct therapy of Ayurvedic medicine with anti tubercular drugs on the therapeutic management of pulmonary tuberculosis" (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3487240>). *Journal of Ayurveda and Integrative Medicine*. **3** (3): 141–149. doi:10.4103/0975-9476.100180 (<https://doi.org/10.4103%2F0975-9476.100180>). PMC 3487240 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3487240>). PMID 23125511 (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23125511>).
19. "Past Research Projects" (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/Past-Research-Projects/215/>). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital. Retrieved 18 July 2026.
20. "Ongoing Research Projects" (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/Ongoing-Research-Projects/214/>). J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital. Retrieved 18 July 2026.

Further reading

- A Short Report on the Growth & Development of Jamini Bhushan Ashtanga Ayurveda Vidyalaya & Ayurveda Aragyashala (Report). 7 January 1953.
- Palit, Chittabrata; Dutta, Achintya Kumar. *History of Medicine in India: The Medical Encounter* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=Yz-zE8waQukC&pg=PA228>). p. 228. ISBN 978-81-7835-323-4.

External links

- Official website (<https://jbrsamch.org.in/>)
- J. B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital centenary celebration website (<http://web.archive.org/web/20160430190926/http://jbroyayurvedacentenary.org/>) – archived at the [Wayback Machine](#)

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=J.B._Roy_State_Ayurvedic_Medical_College_and_Hospital&oldid=1366830609"