The Power of Colored Gemstones

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Colored gemstones have always fascinated mankind. There are many myths, legends, tales of fortune, financial ruin, curse of ill health even death associated with colored gems. As gemologist it is very difficult to believe in these tales. Nevertheless it is interesting to know whether these myths can be correlated to some scientific facts. There is a well known myth about how the oceans were churned and the gemstones were brought out. In fact if one visits the Departure Lounge of the Suvarnabhumi Bangkok Airport (Fig1.) one can see the mammoth monument depicting how oceans were churned and how Thailand has all gemstones!



Fig1. Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport Lounge: Monument depicting Oceans being churned

Actually about 245 million years ago all the continents were one land mass called Pangea (Fig2.). Due to certain earth movements the land mass broke into many pieces which we call continents. These continents moved to different corners of the globe and are said to be still moving. This movement gave rise to tremendous pressure and heat formation, literally churning of the oceans, bringing up the gemstones formed deep inside the earth's bosom.

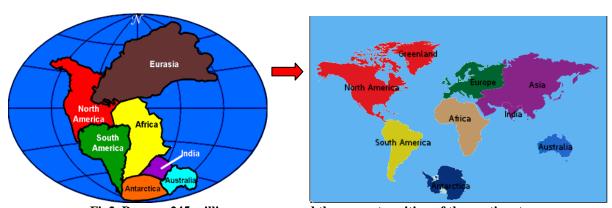


Fig2. Pangea, 245 million years ago and the present position of the continents

The rocks below the African continent must had awesome activity which resulted in the formation of diamonds, rubies (Fig3.a), emeralds (Fig3.b), tanzanites (Fig3.c), green tsavorite and orange spessartite garnets (Fig3.d) to name a few colored gemstones regularly mined in the African countries.



In fact the island of Madagascar is super rich with gemstones. The land mass of the Australian continent moved towards east while the Indian subcontinent along with Sri Lanka moved from the southern hemisphere towards the northern hemisphere, rammed into the sediments of the Tethys sea to form the great Himalayan range. There is still movement going on and the Himalayas are growing about 1cm per year in height!

During this entire migration of the Indian land mass along with the Sri Lankan one, the rocks must have undergone a lot of dynamo-thermal metamorphism resulting in a wide range of gemstones. As we know today the mines in Sri Lanka have abundance of rubies, blue and yellow sapphires, zircons, sphenes, chrysoberyls, alexandrites, garnets, sinhalite and many more gems! India is known for its famous diamonds and almost all the *Navratnas* (nine gems).



Fig4. Movement of the Indian land mass and famous diamonds it gave rise to



Fig 5 Famous Kashmir Sapphire may have crystallized after this movement of the Indian land mass

NAVRATNAS

There are many people in India who believe that diamonds can bring bad luck. This is not true diamonds do not bring good or bad luck. Diamonds like all gemstones give out certain radiations (every object emits radiations) and these radiations definitely do have some effect on the human body. These vibrations may not be suiting the wearer. If you see the arrangement of the nine gems in "Navratnas" ornament you would be amazed to see that the precise arrangement is followed meticulously from ancient times! There must be some reason for this particular formation and placement of gems.







Fig6. Arrangement of the nine gems is very precise in whatever ornament these gems may be studded

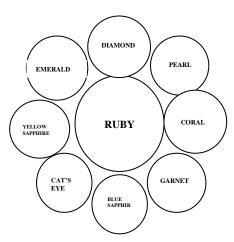


Fig6a Arrangement of the Navratnas

The central stone in the *Navratnas* is always the ruby, surrounded by eight other gems with pearl, diamond, emerald and yellow sapphire on one side and coral, cat's eye, blue sapphire and hessonite garnet on the other side. It is said that this arrangement gives a perfect equilibrium of positive and negative energies and thereby giving the wearer the benefit of celestial energies!

This theory is further interpreted by associating each gem with some celestial body. It is a religious ritual in many households, when a new house is constructed these *navratnas* (nine gems) in the same formation are actually buried in the floor to give good vibrations!

Energy from Gems...

Spectrum colour Celestial Body Gem

• Ultraviolet light Rahu: Hessonite garnet

Violet, Indigo Venus : Diamond

• Blue Sapphire

• Green Mercury: Emerald

Yellow Sapphire

Orange, Red Sun: Ruby

• Red Mars: Coral

Infrared light Ketu: Cymophane(Cat's Eye)

Fig7. Gems associated with celestial bodies

If you see in Fig7 the yellow sapphire is associated with the planet Jupiter. All of us know that the Moon which is 384,400 km away from the Earth and having a size which is $1/4^{th}$ the size of the Earth influences tides and the fluids in our bodies. Therefore the Jupiter which is 11 times bigger than the Earth at a distance of some 588million km will certainly have some influence.

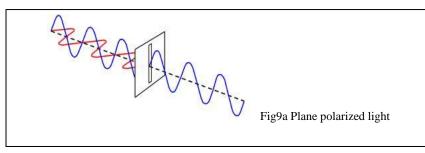


Fig8. Yellow sapphires are very popular in India

So it is quite likely that particular vibrations which are emitted from the yellow sapphire would have some effect on the human body. It is no wonder that many Indians are seen wearing the yellow sapphire ring on their forefingers.

LASER

Gemstones barring pearl and coral are single crystals. If one analyzes the fundamental properties of light, then light transmitted through gem is plane polarized light. This means that the vibrations of the waves of light emitted would be in one particular plane. This would be somewhat analogous to squeezing out different shapes of pasta, depending on the shape of the slit in the press. The waves of light emitted through a ruby for example would be having a characteristic wavelength and all these waves would be vibrating in a particular plane. This type of emitted light definitely would have some different effect on human body as compared to normal white light.



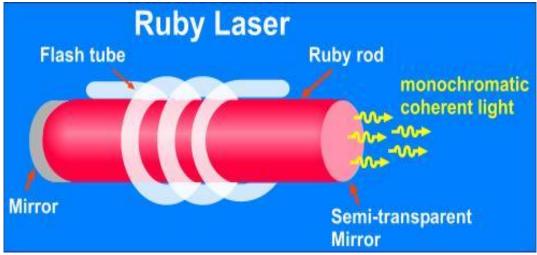


Fig9b. Ruby Crystal being used to propagate laser beam

Today the energetic properties of gems are also being used to improve people's health at a fundamental level. Crystal therapy and crystal healing is being carried out using various gems. Aura healing and Electro-gem healing are also to a large extent working on the similar principles. Many a time the problem with these healers is that they are not aware whether they using the correct gemstones. There are cases where the healer used green fluorite thinking it to be an emerald, naturally there was no effect.

There are methods like Kirlian photography which can actually show the effect of rays emitted from a gem having effect on the human body. But at present all this research is at very basic level and therefore there is not much data on this topic at present. Nevertheless the fact that crystals of ruby and other gems are used in the laser technology and the laser beams have tremendous power is an established fact.

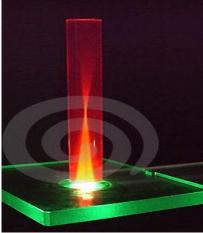


Fig10. Laser beam emitted from a ruby

QUARTZ WATCHES

Quartz crystals have a unique property of piezoelectricity. This means the crystal can generate electricity or energy when under pressure or when the crystal is given electric current or energy the crystal can actually move with precision! This is indeed a great discovery! The piezoelectric effect was discovered in 1880 by the Jacques and Pierre Curie brothers. They found out that when a mechanical stress was applied on crystals such as tourmaline, topaz, and quartz electrical charges appeared, and this voltage was proportional to the stress.

How many televisions, quartz watches, portable phones, and personal computers run smoothly thanks to Quartz crystals! The fact remains that crystals generate energy and are powerful!

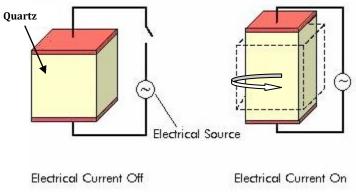


Fig 11. Quartz crystal in electric circuit

Gemstones give energy

The filtered light through a gem is definitely energized. If a gem is set in a ring in an open setting then there would be some rays getting filtered through the gem and the skin directly below the stone is exposed to these filtered rays. These rays then sensitize the nerve endings and the blood vessels and the flowing blood carries the effect throughout the body creating some higher energy level. One can see that there are famous cases where a person has certainly changed for the better after using gems. Gemstone studded thrones and crowns do give energy! Indians are known to check their horoscopes and use certain prescribed by the experts.

Astrologers, Reiki healers, Vastu Experts, Crystal therapists and many others recommend gems for better future. To what degree this theory is correct has to be verified. But the fact remains that the light emitted by gems has some unique energy and power if properly analysed and channelized then it would indeed lead to great benefits for health, wealth and prosperity!.