The Thousand and One Nights is written down by Islamic Scholars

MATHEMATICS: al-Khwarizimi, pioneered the study of algebra

EDUCATION: The world's oldest degree-issuing university, Al-Karaouine, was established in Fez in 859 CE

History



Abu al-Qasim al-Zahrawi "Father of Modern Surgery"

Abu al-Qasim al-Zahrawi (936–1013 CE), was the "father of modern surgery". He invented and documented more than two hundred surgical instruments. There are approximately 200 drawings of surgical instruments ranging from a tongue depressor and a tooth extractor to a catheter (a small tube for fluids). He wrote extensively about injuries to bones and joints, even mentioning fractures of the nasal (nose) bones and of the vertebrae (spinal bones). In fact, the modern method for fixing a dislocated shoulder was described in At-Tasrif long before it was used by modern doctors! El Zahrawi fully described tonsillectomy (the removal of the tonsils), tracheotomy (creating a breathing hole in the throat) and craniotomy (brain surgery). He performed these operations on corpses (dead bodies). He was also a pioneer in the use of anesthesia (medicine for operations without pain).