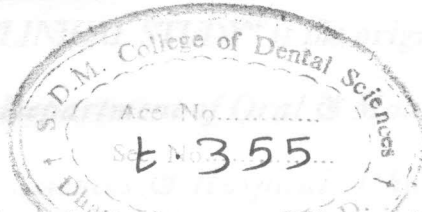


AESTHETIC AND CLEFT LIP RHINOPLASTY - A CLINICAL STUDY



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INTRODUCTION

Students of the human psyche have long been aware of the powerful cultural significance of the nose. Reading the original sources of rhinoplasty reveals that the origins of reconstructive rhinoplasty are to be found in the unique cultural heritage of northern India. To the people of the Fertile Crescent, the nose has a special significance. Of all the organs in the body, the nose is considered the organ of respect and reputation.

The famous physician Sushruta Samahita, who practiced in Benares during the 5th century BC, described the earliest nasal reconstruction. He described the reconstruction of the nose using a cheek flap shaped in the pattern of defect shaped out of a leaf; he also used a forehead skin pedicle flap for the reconstruction of the nose. The presence of the English colonial empire in India facilitated the rapid dissemination of this knowledge to Europe, where the basic Indian reconstruction technique was modified and used.

The history of aesthetic rhinoplasty is inextricably bound with nasal reconstruction. Reconstruction was the major impetus for operating on the nose, and the aesthetic results became a major consideration only after the basic techniques of reconstruction had been established. The first mention of aesthetic rhinoplasty operative technique was by Dieffenbach in 1845.
