



Key Themes across the Timeline

1. Control of Three Core Problems

Pain → *Bleeding* → *Infection* have sequentially been conquered (anaesthesia, ligature/blood-banks, antiseptics/antibiotics).

2. Miniaturisation & Visualisation

From Sushruta's fine-pointed *vrihimukha śāstra* to fibre-optics, laparoscopy, and 8 K 3-D robotic consoles.

3. Integration of Technology

Imaging (X-ray, CT, MRI), digital planning, 3-D printing, and AI now fuse with operative skill—realising Suśruta's dictum: *दृश्यं यथा दृश्यं तथैव कर्तव्यं* - "What is visible should be acted upon with the right instrument."

Mnemonic - "S-C-A-L-P-E-L" to remember the march of surgery

Letter	Epoch
S	Stone-Age trepanation
C	Classical Suśruta & Celsus
A	Arabic Al-Zahrawi
L	Ligature Paré & Lister antiseptics
P	Pain-free ether anaesthesia
E	Electro-imaging (X-ray → CT)
L	Laparoscopy → da Vinci & beyond

Take-Away

The chronicle shows a **continuous quest to remove "śalya" — anything that obstructs life**. Whether with a flint scraper, hemp-wine anaesthetic, or 5G robot, the surgeon's aim echoes Suśruta's ideal: *दृश्यं यथा दृश्यं तथैव कर्तव्यं* - perform the act so that pain and pathology are both pacified. Knowing this lineage equips modern BAMS learners to integrate classical principles with today's technological frontiers—carrying forward an unbroken surgical heritage spanning ten millennia.