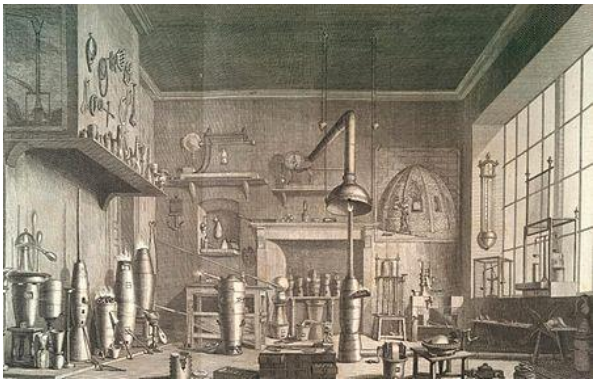
History of chemistry



The origin of the chemistry goes back to our first ancestors when they observed natural phenomena such as the transformation of wood in ashes by the action of the fire or the fermentation in wine, on the other hand they developed metallurgical techniques for the manufacture of copper, iron or bronze as well as transforming other materials to obtain glass, ceramics or dyes, chemistry has been present since the origin of humanity.

For centuries the chemistry was an art rather than a science until the ancient Greek philosophers deepened on the composition and transformation of matter the foundations of this discipline, Empedocles promulgated the theory of the 4 elements by which all matter was composed of fire, air, water and earth, on the other hand Democritus proposes the composition of matter by indivisible particles which called atoms.

Alchemy was the very basis of modern chemistry, the men and women who practiced this discipline not only sought the master formula to get gold from metals or the search for the elixir of eternal life, a great number of alchemists writing experiences and chemical reactions that were produced in his experiments which tried to explain from a philosophical point of view.

During the Renaissance it used the experiences and wisdom written by the old alchemist to give a scientific explanation and supported in experiments being born the science of chemistry, we can consider to Robert Boyle as the father of this science thanks to the publication in 1661 of his book "The chemical skeptical" where he bet for the scientific experimentation as a means to validate the theories chemicals.

Later in the Century XXVIII Antonie Lavoiser consolidated this science means of quantitative experimentation, so he promulgate the law of conservation of mass, studied the composition of the water as a part of hydrogen and one of oxygen, demonstrated the need for the presence of oxygen so that there is a process of combustion and participated in the development of the chemical nomenclature by means of which established the rules for naming the different chemical elements and compounds.

In the nineteenth century Jhon Dalton develops the atomic theory recovering the ideas of Democritus and remains the basis for explaining the chemical processes and the proportions in

which reacted the matter, Dimitri Mendeleyev presents the first periodic table modern organized with the 66 elements known at that time and J. J. Thomson discovers the electron.

In the twentieth century the chemistry enters on the composition of the atoms and of how these react and are connected to form molecules, compounds, materials, organisms … on the other hand the chemical industry expands throwing to the market different types of materials and medicines based on the realized investigations, examples as the synthetic plastic, adhesive materials or the fertilizers.

In the future thanks to the computational chemistry will be able to design complex molecular structures employed with a specific purpose, sintetizaremos new light materials, resistant, flexible and autoreparables, we will have new drugs that eliminate a large part of current diseases, we will be able to make food in the laboratory to a low cost removed hunger… without doubt the chemistry will improve our quality of life.

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