

# NEWSLETTER OF IBN SINA ACADEMY NISA

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**CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE**  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India  
Department of AYUSH

**THE COUNCIL**

The Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Department of AYUSH. Established in 1978; the CCRUM started functioning from 10 January, 1979, and ever since it has been busy researching into various fundamental and applied aspects of Unani Medicine. Over the years, the CCRUM has emerged as the world-leader in the field.

**THE NETWORK**

20 research Centres of the Council are functioning in different parts of the Country.

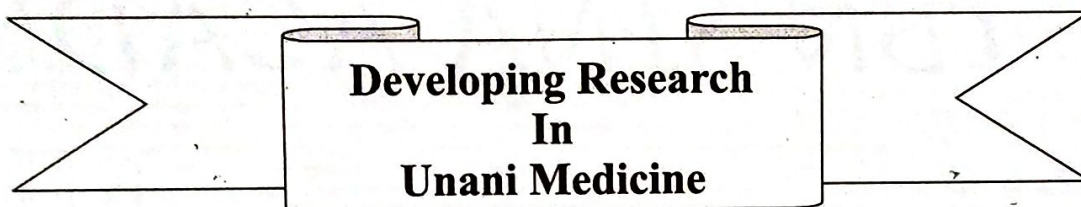
**THE AREAS OF ACTIVITY**

The Research Programme of the Council has four major components:

\* Clinical Research \* Drug Standardization \* Literary Research \* Survey and Cultivation of Medicinal Plants

**THE MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS**

Some significant achievements of the Council are as follows:



**CLINICAL RESEARCH**

- Has developed 24 Unani Drugs which are purely natural, standardized and without any side-effects, for successful treatment of leucoderma, sinusitis, viral hepatitis, eczema, malaria, rheumatoid, arthritis and bronchial-asthma.
- Has filed patents on seven of these drugs.

**DRUG STANDARDIZATION**

- Has evolved standards for 222 single and 385 compound Unani drugs.
- Has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for taking up advanced research in the field of drug development

**LITERARY RESEARCH**

- Has translated from Arabic and Persian into Urdu language 25 Unani Medical Classics mostly manuscripts. And has edited and published these works.

**SURVEY & CULTIVATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS**

- Has collected 59462 specimens of 1730 medicinal plants from the wild
- Undertaking successful cultivation of four important medicinal species
- Has gathered and documented 6650 folk medicinal claims

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Has produced over 1000 research papers and brought out 116 research publications, besides regular publications of a bimonthly CCRUM Newsletter, Quarterly Urdu Journal Jahan-e-Tib and Annual Report.

For further information, please contact

Director

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IAMMS ACTIVITIES

THE ACADEMY IN THE NEWS

1. *Khaas Baat*, A programme based on interview and documentary film about the Ibn Sina, was telecasted by EtV News on 19.9.2008 from 6:00 to 6:30 PM. The next part of the series will be broadcasted on 6.10.2008 from 6:00 to 6:30 PM.
2. Feature on Ibn Sina Academy and Its Museum, Dainik Jagran (Aligarh Edition), 21.7.2008
3. More than 100 public interest organizations including Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences from around the world called on officials from the countries negotiating Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) - the United States, the European Union, Switzerland, Japan, South Korea, Canada, Mexico, Australia and New Zealand - to publish immediately the draft text of the agreement. There were just over 175 endorsements (just over 100 of which were from civil society organizations; the remainder were experts and individuals). Secrecy around the treaty negotiation has fueled concerns that its terms will undermine vital consumer interests. The letters were faxed to the relevant trade ministers on 16.9.2008. The full text of the letter and the list of signers can be downloaded at: <http://www.essentialaction.org/access/uploads/ACTA-signon.rtf>. More information can also be obtained from Sarah Rimmington, Attorney Essential Action, Access to Medicines Project Washington, DC  
[www.essentialaction.org/access/](http://www.essentialaction.org/access/)

ACTIVITIES AT IBN SINA ACADEMY

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

(.....A day to acknowledge individual loss and family grief when loved ones have suffered overdose)

The Academy organized the "Overdose Awareness Day" on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008 to remember those who have died or are suffering permanent injury from drug overdose under the chairmanship of Prof. M. Ashraf Malik (Principal & Chief Medical Superintendent of Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College & Hospital, AMU, Aligarh).

Dr. Asad U. Khan\* delivered the keynote lecture on medico-social aspect of overdoses. He highlighted and discussed the epidemiology, physiology, signs and symptoms and legal status of various drugs' overdose particularly opiates with all possible measures and antidotes to preventing fatal overdose – SKOOP (Skills and Knowledge on Overdose Prevention).

Dr. M. Tauheed Ahmad presented a self composed poetry\*\*. Dr. Md Tauheed Ahmad, Circulation Officer, NISA & Resident, Department of Community Medicine, J. N. Medical College, AMU, Aligarh, is an award winning poet. His first collection of poems was published in 2006. He is also the author of Project Poetry To Combat Tobacco (PTCT), which is a collection of poems focused on breaking the vicious positive image attached to tobacco.

Medical students of JN Medical College (Yasir Alvi, Nusrat, Raunaque, Sadaf Hayat, Aaliya Ehsan, Amrin, Naghma, Shairin) organized posters exhibition on many facets of drug overdoses.

Prof. M. Ashraf Malik while presiding over the function, stressed the need of such

awareness programme for common people of all walks of life, he also laid the stress on the role of NGOs in spreading such messages and promised to cooperate himself in such endeavors.

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Chief Organizer of the event, while conducting the programme, said, "drug overdose may occur accidentally, intentionally or for suicidal reasons. Both 'drugs of abuse' and 'therapeutic medicines' are responsible for overdose toxicity. Medically, several reasons, such as genetic, accumulation of drugs and their metabolites in the body, long duration of drug exposure, and in any pathological conditions mainly of liver and kidney disorders, are also responsible for drug overdose".

The programme was a part of the project of the Salvation Army Crisis Service, Australia. Participants shall wear "Silver Badges" of the Salvation Army that signify the profound loss of someone cherished.

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\*Dr. Khan is a senior lecturer in the Interdisciplinary Biotechnology Unit of Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. He has been a Postdoctoral Research Fellow & Research Associate at the Department of Biochemistry, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, UMDNJ, Piscataway, NJ, USA. He also worked as Visiting Scientist, Department of Microbiology and Preventive Medicine, University of Napoli; Federico II; Napoli, Italy). He is a recipient of Young Scientist Project of Department of Science Technology, Young Scientist Award of Association of Microbiologist of India in Medical Microbiology, Indian National Science Academic Visiting Fellowship, BOYSCAST Fellowship of Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi. He is a reviewer of several scientific manuscripts submitted in the area of clinical microbiology and

Molecular biology for the publication in peer reviewed international journals. He delivered series of extension lectures in Banaras Hindu University, on Genomic and Library construction, PCR, Structural and functional studies of secondary structure domains of group I intron of *nrdB* gene of Bacteriophage T4, etc.

### **\*\*Over Dose**

A bunch of promising, colorful dots  
They lay in the nurse's palm  
Marvels of the healing science.  
My doctor wrote so fast.  
They acted and reacted  
At times they derailed the task.

One day the Nature had a date  
And said in a pleading vein  
Thou work is to aid me repair  
And not to overpower, overstrain.

The doctor goes slower with the pen now  
And smiles more often.

### **AIK SHAAM SHAIRON AUR KAVIYON KE NAAM**

A programme to honour few poets of India was organized by Shikhar (NGO) as a part of its monthly celebration on 31.8.2008 at Library Hall of Ibn Sina Academy. During the programme, few poets such as Ramgopal Varshney, Jamunaprasad Rahi, Moazzam Ali Khan Moazzam, Babar Ilyas, Harish Betab, Rizwanur Raza Rizwan, Musharraf Husain Mehzar, also recited their favourite poems under the presidentship of Prof. Anis Ahmad Ansari (executive member, Ibn Sina Academy & former advisor Unani, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India).

Mr. Harish Betab (PRO, Ibn Sina Academy & Secretary General, Ganesh Shankar Journalist Press Club, Aligarh) conducted the whole programme as a poet of national eminence.

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### **WELCOME CEREMONY IN HONOUR OF DIRECTOR, SIR SYED ACADEMY**

A welcome ceremony in honour of Prof. Shan Mohammad on his appointment as director, Sir Syed Academy, was organized on 20.7.2008 at the library of Ibn Sîna Academy. Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman welcomed Prof. Shan Mohammad and said that he has been working on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan for the last many years. He is the author of many books on Sir Syed; recently, he compiled all university convocations in two volumes addressed by many luminaries of that period. Dr. Badrul Hasan, former Principal of City High School of AMU, Aligarh, praised the works of Prof. Shan Mohammad and further quoted his good works while he served as Principal; Women's College of AMU, Aligarh. Prof. Iftikhar Alam Khan, former Director, Sir Syed Academy, in his speech, said that Prof. Shan Mohammad had earlier served the Sir Syed Academy as Director. He did lots of research work at that time also. It is hoped that he would further strengthen the Academy by doing more works. The ceremonial function was attended by lots of well-wishers of Prof. Shan Mohammad including Prof. Khalil A. Beg, Prof. Zahid Ali, Dr. Tajuddin, Dr. Abdul Latif, Mr. Ata Khursheed, Mr. Harish Betab, Mr. Vipin Chaudhary, Mr. Arshad Ghazi, Mr. Shakeel Ahmad, Mr. Zahoor Mohammad, Mr. SH Zahid Jamal, etc.

### **CONDOLENCE MEETING ON THE SAD DEMISE OF NIRMAL GUPTA**

Virendra Singh Arora, Dr. Jagdish Lavania (Hathras), Rajneesh Singh, Pradeep Saxena, Dr. Abdul Latif, Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Anand Srivastava, Pradeep Gupta, Dilshad Khan, Vipin Chaudhary, Karan Chaudhary, Sanjay Kumar.

### **VIEWS OF PROMINENT PERSONS EXPRESSED IN THE VISITORS BOOK**

"I visited this unique museum cum library. It has very very valuable collection, which can be of great help to researchers and scholars all over the world. I congratulate Hakim Zillur Rahman Sahib for his delightful collection"

Asghar Ali Engineer, 18.9.2008

"A visionary idea and a marvelous institution; the seed of what is and will become an institution of global importance – a precious resource for the world of Islam and for the whole world"

Amit Pandya, 18.9.2008

### **IDB MEETINGS WEEKLY/QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

Islamic Development Bank (IDB) scholars met to discuss academic talks of many intellectuals at Ibn Sîna Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences. Dr. Shahid Malik, Honorary Students Councilor (North Zone) convened these meetings on Friday either weekly or quarterly for every present scholar of IDB. IDB, Jeddah scholarship programme is basically to improve the educational standards of the Muslim Community in India and in 46 other countries. The Bank aims to develop the potentialities of the Muslim Students by awarding Loan Scholarship to those who are meritorious and enthusiastic, but are unable to pursue higher studies due to financial difficulties.

### **VISIT OF IMPORTANT PERSONALITIES**

Following dignitaries visited the Academy:

1. Maulana Mohammad Tauqueer Raza Khan, Sodagram, Bareilly, 13.7.2008
2. Dr. Shirzad Gholami, Department of Parasitology & Mycology, Faculty of Medicine, Mazandaran University of Medical sciences, Sari, Iran, 14.8.2008.

3. Asghar Ali Engineer, Centre for Study of Society and Secularism, Mumbai, 18.9.2008.
4. Amit Pandya, Stimson Center, Washington DC (USA), 18.9.2008

### **The Henry L. Stimson Center**

Founded in 1989, the Henry L. Stimson Center is a nonprofit, nonpartisan institution devoted to enhancing international peace and security through a unique combination of rigorous analysis and outreach.

The Stimson Center's work is focused on three priorities that are essential to global security:

- strengthening institutions for international peace and security
- building regional security, and
- reducing weapons of mass destruction and transnational threats

The Center's approach is pragmatic — geared toward providing policy alternatives, solving problems, and overcoming obstacles to a more peaceful and secure world. Through in-depth research and analysis, the Center seeks to understand and illuminate complex issues. By engaging policymakers, policy implementers, and nongovernmental institutions as well as other experts, the institution crafts recommendations that are cross-partisan, actionable, and effective.

The Center is after the name of Henry L. Stimson who served as Secretary of War under William Howard Taft, Franklin Roosevelt, and Harry S. Truman, as well as Secretary of State under Herbert Hoover.

5. Prof. Ishtiyaq A. Zilli, Director, Darul Musannifin (Shibli Academy), 13.7.2008

**Prof. Ishtiyaq Zilli appointed as Secretary & Director of Darul**

### **Musannefin Shibli Academy, Azamgarh India**

On 16th February, 2008, in an emergency meeting, Darul Musannefin Shibli Academy has appointed Prof. Ishtiyaq Ahmad Zilli as its new Secretary & Director. Prof. Ishtiyaq Ahmad Zilli had served in the department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh till 2004. His experience and qualities will help Darul Musannefin Shibli Academy to regain its past glory. The position was vacant after the accidental death of Maulana Ziauddin Islahi, on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2008. This is a rare event when someone from outside of Darul Musannefin took the leadership responsibilities. Most of the recent past Secretaries & Directors were originally Darul Musannefin research scholars like Maulana Shah Moinuddin Nadvi, Maulana Sabahuddin Abdur Rahman and Maulana Ziauddin Islahi.

Prof. Ishtiyaq Ahmad Zilli was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1942 in a small village "Chhaun" of Azamgarh (UP). After completing his Fazilat from Madarsatul Islah, Saraimir, Azamgarh in 1962, he joined the University of Medina for a brief period. Later he joined Lucknow University from where he completed his B.A. in 1966 and took admission in Aligarh Muslim University in M.A. After completing his MA in 1968, he was appointed as Research Associate in the Department of History, AMU Aligarh. During that period, he completed his M.Phil in 1969. He was a resident of Hasrat Mohani Hostel in Sulaiman Hall. He completed his Ph.D. in 1978 from AMU, Aligarh. From 1990-91, he had also served as Provost of Mohammad Habib Hall, AMU, Aligarh. In 2000, he was appointed as Professor in the Department of History. He retired from the Department of History in 2004 and lives in Aligarh with his family.

Prof. Zilli is a respected scholar of Quran and Founding President of Idarah Uloom

Al-Quran, Aligarh since 1984. He is also Editor of biannual journal Uloom Al-Quran which is published by Idarah Uloom Al-Quran. He is a member of the management committee of Darul Musannefin Shibli Academy since 2000, Association for the Study of Persianate Societies (ASPS), Iranology Foundation, Tehran. He is on board of editorial of the Journal of Persianate Studies to be launched soon from E. J. Brill, Leiden. He was invited to present paper and give talk to various universities such as Georgetown University in Washington D.C. (USA), Leiden University (Holland), Tangiers (Morocco), Dushanbe (Tajikistan) and Tehran (Iran). In June 2007, he attended the 3rd Biennial Convention of Association for the Study of Persianate Societies (ASPS) in Tiflis-Georgia. In November 2006, University of Chicago invited him to deliver a talk on Shibli - his role in Muslim League.

Dr. Zafarul Islam Khan, President All India Majlis-e-Mushawarat and editor of Milligazette expressed his confidence in Prof. Zilli and termed this appointment as a positive step in the right direction to regain the past glory of Darul Musannefin.

Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman (Padma Shri), former Dean faculty of Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College, AMU, Aligarh and President of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Sciences (IAMMS), Aligarh said, "It gives me great pleasure to learn about the appointment of Prof Ishtiyah Ahmad Zilli as Secretary and Director of Darul Musannefin (Shibli Academy). Prof. Ishtiyah Ahmad Zilli is an academician at par. He is not only a historian but also an expert in Islamic studies. Since the Academy has been engaged in many socio-cultural avenues of Islam including history since its foundation. The selection of Prof Zilli is thus a good step in the progress

of Darul Musannefin. He has been an active alumnus of Aligarh Muslim University and has worked in various capacities in the University. The experience of founding Uloom al-Quran in Aligarh would also help him in running the Darul Musannefin successfully. I hope the Academy will work more in research and publishing true Islamic subjects under the able guidance of Prof Ishtiyah Ahmad Zilli".

Dr. Omar Farooq, Reader in the Department of Electronics Engineering, AMU, Aligarh (presently in England on a research project) greeted the news with excitement and said. "He is more than suitable for this position academically and his research and publications will be helpful for people working in Shibli Academy. He will bring a new set of experience which can change the pace and can put people there on right pace; an area which has not prospered much in the recent past at the academy. He is very kind, gentle and soft spoken person to everybody and can bring people of different mindset on one boat. Present situation at Academy needs some major bold steps to regain its past glory.

Source:<http://shibliacademy.org/news-views>

Submitted by: Afzal Usmani, Austin TX (USA). Mr. Usmani is a life member of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences for the last 4 years.

### **FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES AT IAMMS**

#### **To Honour Poets of Eminence**

A programme to honour two poets of Aligarh viz Dr. Moazzam Ali Khan Moazzam (Urdu Poet) and Dr. Gopal Babu Sharma (Hindi Poet), will be organized by Shikhar (NGO) as a part of its monthly celebration on 4.10.2008 at Library Hall of Ibn Sina Academy. Mr. Harish Betab (PRO,

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Ibn Sînâ Academy & Secretary General, Ganesh Shankar Journalist Press Club, Aligarh) will convene the whole programme as a poet of national eminence.

### Sir Syed Day Celebration

For the past few years, Ibn Sina Academy & its attached Aligarh and Sir Syed Section, has been organizing the painting competition for school children as a part of Sir Syed Day celebration. This year the competition will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at 9:30 AM under three categories viz. Group A (Class I – III), Group B (Class IV – VI) and Group C (Class VII – X). The prizes (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Special) will be given to each group at a special function. It is requested to please send a list of participants of three students from each group latest by 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The drawing-sheets will only be provided at the site of venue - Library Hall of Ibn Sînâ Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences, Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh. Mr. S.H Zahid Jamal and Dr. S. Tasawwer Hussain will convene the whole programme.

### IAMMS MEMBERS ACTIVITIES

**Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman**, President, Ibn Sînâ Academy, has been invited as

1. Chief Guest, Kaviyon & Shairon ki Shaam, Aligarh, July 31, 2008. The event was an amalgamation of national poets, which was organized by Shikhar, an NGO, to honour few poets of India on the occasion of centenary commemoration of freedom fighter, Chandrashekhar Azad.
2. Guest, A programme organised by AMU Old Boys Association of Brunei & Malaysia, 31.8.2008 and 4.9.2008, respectively.
3. Steering Committee Member, World Summit of AMU Alumni, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, 18-19 October 2008

4. Nominated in the panel of jury for the nomination and conferment of the Sir Syed Ahmad Khan International Award 2008, AMU, Aligarh.
5. Elected Vice President, UP State All India Muslim Majlis-e Mushawwarat, July 13, 2008.
6. Nominated, Member, Managing Committee, Sir Syed Academy, AMU, Aligarh, August 21, 2008.

He also attended the following meetings and conferences:

1. First Meeting, Scientific & Academic Committee, National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore, July 7, 2008.
2. Unani Pharmacopoeia Committee, CCRUM Headquarters, New Delhi, July 5, 2008.
3. Meeting, Finalisation of SOPs for Regimental Therapies, CCRUM Headquarters, New Delhi, August 4, 2008.
4. Meeting, Steering Committee for Publication of rare books, CCRUM Headquarters, New Delhi, August 5, 2008.
5. ICMR & NIH Workshop on Bio-Medical Ethics, CCRUM, Aligarh, August 2, 2008.
7. First Meeting, Board of Management, Sir Syed Academy, AMU, Aligarh, September 10, 2008.

**Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari**, Secretary of the Ibn Sina Academy has to his credit the following.

He was invited by the renowned national daily, The Hindu, to give an interview on Aug.5, 2008 at his residence in Aligarh. The interviewer was Mr. Anuj Kumar. The subject matter was the composite culture of Medieval India. Prof. Ansari emphasized in his interview that both Muslim and Hindu scholars were then learning from one another. Hindus wrote scientific texts also



in Persian and contributed in the translation of Sanskrit scientific texts into Persian.

2. As President of International Commission for Astronomy, Prof. Ansari submitted to the International Programme Committee of the History of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Science Congress (Budapest-2009) a proposal to organize a Symposium on Ancient and Medieval Astronomy at the Congress. His proposal has been accepted by the Programme Committee just now.

3. Prof. Ansari has been invited to deliver a Lecture at the "Natural Science Info Fest", organized by the Faculty of Natural Sciences (Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi), to be held during the Foundation Week of Jamia. The topic of Prof. Ansari's Lecture is "Exact Sciences in Medieval India. A Brief Historical Survey of Sources".

**Prof. Abdur Raheem Qidwai**, Executive Member, Ibn Sina Academy, has been appointed as Director, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

**Dr. M. Athar Ansari**, Reader, Department of Community Medicine, J.N. Medical College, AMU, Aligarh and LM, Ibn Sina Academy, attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Bangladesh Public Health Conference held at BRAC INN, Mohakhali, Dhaka during 13 to 14 June, 2008. The conference was organized by Unnayan Onneshan, Dhaka.

Dr. M. Athar Ansari along with Prof. Zulfia Khan (recipient of Ibn Sina Public Health Award) jointly presented a paper entitled "Utilizing NGO Network to Access Hard to Reach Urban Slums for Maternal Health Care". In the paper they have comparatively discussed the existing maternal health practices in two underserved areas of Aligarh - Nabi Nagar and Jamalpur. Before the main presentation, a short introduction was given

regarding A.M.U., which was very much appreciated and participants from various countries were delighted to see the beautiful pictures of prestigious Aligarh Muslim University.

**Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman**, Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy and lecturer, Department of Pharmacology, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh, has attended the following conferences / meetings as:

1. Guest Speaker to deliver a talk on "Medical Aspects of Renal and Endocrinology Adverse Drug Reactions" during a Certificate Course on Pharmacovigilance & Pharmacoepidemiology, Symogen India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, September 20, 2008.
2. Participant, Special Summer School 2008, UGC sponsored Orientation Programme / Subject Refresher Course, UGC Academic Staff College, AMU, Aligarh, 4.8.2008-27.8.2008 (108 contact hours).
3. Organizer, Review State Workshop, IMA UP State (Unit III), GFATM-RNTCP-PPM Project, IMA UP State, Aligarh, 26-27 July 2008.

Following projects are assigned to Dr. Rahman as a part of the Certificate course in PV and PE:

1. Dr. Chetan: Off-label drug treatment and related problems in children: A 3 month hospital study.
2. Dr. Aniruddh: Adverse Drug Reaction-Related Hospitalizations: A 3 month study in a major hospital.

Dr. Rahman has also been appointed as:

1. Secretary, Organizing Committee and Member, Correspondence Committee, World Summit of AMU Alumni, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, 18-19 October 2008.
2. National Coordinator, ITP-IPS National Pharmacology Quiz, 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of Indian Pharmacological

Society, AIIMS, New Delhi, 18-20<sup>th</sup>  
December 2008.

**Ms. Zahra Hashemi**, Consultant, Centre for Safety & Rational Use of Indian Systems of Medicine, Ibn Sina Academy, got admission to the certificate course on pharmacovigilance & pharmacoepidemiology, which is offered by Symogen India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi. The course is affiliated to Royal College of Pharmaceutical Science and is endorsed by Uppsala Monitoring Centre, WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring, Sweden. She is assigned to work on a project entitled, *Detecting ADRs / Signals from routine investigations in patients undergoing treatment in a medical ward of a hospital*, under the guidance of Dr. Pipasha Biswas, CEO, Symogen UK Pvt Ltd., London, UK.

#### **ACTIVITIES AT OTHER PLACES**

##### **World Summit of AMU Alumni**

Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, is organising the World Summit of AMU Alumni from 18 to 19 October 2008. Participation from the most accomplished alumni of AMU from all corners of the world are expected to attend this Summit.

For more information, please visit [www.amualumni.com](http://www.amualumni.com) for an update and registration at the earliest.

Submitted by  
Syed Ziaur Rahman, MD  
Secretary, Organising Committee  
& Member, Correspondence Committee  
AMU World Alumni Summit 2008  
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##### **International Congress of Traditional and Complementary Medicine**

International Congress of Traditional and Complementary Medicine is being hosted

by the Traditional and Complementary Medicine Research Centre affiliated to the Mazandaran University of Medical Science, Sari, Iran from October 28-31, 2008. Apart from various scientific sessions, a workshop on recognition of herbal drugs, preparation of traditional drugs, methods of diagnosis in traditional medicine, relation between traditional and modern medicine and methods of therapy in traditional medicine especially massage therapy, unctio, cupping, phlebotomy, leech therapy, etc. is also arranged.

Prof. S. Zillur Rahman (President, IAMMS), Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman (Treasurer, IAMMS) and Ms. Zahra Hashemi (Consultant, CSRUISM, IAMMS) are invited to participate at the above conference.

For more information, please visit the following web address: <http://www.ictcm.ir>  
E-mail: [info@ictcm.ir](mailto:info@ictcm.ir)

##### **60<sup>th</sup> Indian Pharmaceutical Congress**

The 60<sup>th</sup> Indian Pharmaceutical Congress 2008, (Diamond Jubilee) will be held from December 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> 2008 at Netaji Subhas Institute of Technology (NSIT), Sector 3, Dawarka, New Delhi.

Every year, the Indian Pharmaceutical Congress is organized by the India Pharmaceutical Congress Association (IPCA). This year the Diamond Jubilee Congress is being hosted by Indian Pharmacy Graduates' Association on the theme "Pharma Vision 2020: Regulations for Better Healthcare" The conference will bring together national and international experts on regulations, health management and healthcare professionals, to discuss opportunities and challenges for healthcare reforms in India.

The 60<sup>th</sup> Indian Pharmaceutical Congress will be tentatively inaugurated by Hon'ble

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President of India on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008 at 10.00 a.m. at NSIT.

Details can be downloaded from [www.ipcdelhi.com](http://www.ipcdelhi.com), [www.scientificipca.org](http://www.scientificipca.org). Please contact following persons for any clarifications or further details.

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### 7th Hamdard Symposium

The 7th Hamdard Symposium will be held from December 19-21, 2008 at Hamdard University Dental Hospital, North Nazimabad, Karachi, Pakistan. The theme of the symposium is "Access to healthcare for all". The scientific sessions will be on various disciplines of medicine. The inauguration will be at 4:00 PM on Friday. The scientific sessions will be from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday. There will be six pre-symposium workshops on Laparoscopic Surgery, Primary Trauma Care, Neonatal Resuscitation, Operative Dentistry, Prosthodontics and Haematology.

Submitted by  
Prof Saleem Khan, Chairman, Organizing Committee, 7th Hamdard Symposium, Hamdard College of Medicine & Dentistry, Hamdard University Hospital, Karachi, Pakistan.

### First International Conference on Pharmacovigilance & CDM

The 1st International Conference on Pharmacovigilance & CDM will be held

from 2-5 November at Mumbai, India. There is a tremendous and overwhelming response to this first ever international conference that will address the entire spectrum of pharmacovigilance & CDM in India.

Pharmacovigilance is a very important aspect of clinical drug development and much needs to be learnt and done in India.

In this context, interested persons are requested to register for this important conference and learn from world renowned professionals from academia, regulatory and pharmaceutical companies.

Lets us all participate to make pharmacovigilance a success world wide including India.

Submitted by,  
Dr Pipasha Biswas, [www.symogen.net](http://www.symogen.net)  
Telephone: +44 7769583321

### Lectures at University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA

1. October 10, 2008: The first meeting of the Workshop in History and Philosophy of Science by Anya Plutynski (University of Utah): "A Tribute to S. J. Gould: Return of the Hopeful Monsters?"
2. October 21, 2008: The Formal Philosophy Workshop by Timothy Bays (University of Notre Dame): "Skolem's Other Paradox"
3. November 5, 2008: Dewey Lecture in Law and Philosophy: "Interacting with Animals: A Kantian Account" by Professor Christine Korsgaard.

Submitted by Robert J. Richards, Morris Fishbein Professor of the History of Science, Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science, University of Chicago, Chicago.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Publication of CHAMA Newsletter

"We are preparing the next Newsletter (Nr 7) and we wish to update and to revitalize the website of the Commission for History of Ancient and Medieval Astronomy. That is why we are requesting your collaboration. We ask the members and their colleagues to send us information especially concerning their recent publications, work-in-progress, doctoral thesis, meetings, exhibitions and other activities. The bio-bibliographical information is available on the website but is in great need to be updated. Please, inform us about any change of address or of academic/scientific appointment (change of university for example).

We thank you for your collaboration. Yours sincerely, Dr (Mrs) Laurence Tuerlinckx, Asstt. Editor CHAMA Newsletter (laurence.tuerlinckx@uclouvain.be) & Prof. Anne Tihon, Secretary of Commission for History of Ancient and Medieval Astronomy (anne.tihon@uclouvain.be). President of the CHAMA is Professor SMR Ansari (raza.Ansari@gmx.net).

### Ph.D. positions in History of Science

Office for History of Science hereby declares the following positions to be open for application:

The *Office for History of Science* is a research unit within the *Department of History of Science and Ideas* and announces one to two 4-year PhD positions in history of science. The Office' research programme aims at investigating the nature of scientific thought and practice as a historical phenomenon. This involves studying the emergence and development of techniques of knowledge production in specific historical contexts. It equally involves investigating the social and cultural

conditions that made possible different modes of natural inquiry and favoured a specific kind of knowledge called 'science'. This research field "Knowledge and Science" is of an interdisciplinary kind and ranges from the 17th until the 20th century, although currently an emphasis is laid on the mid 18th until mid 19th century.

The holder of the position will pursue his/her doctoral studies full-time and is expected to participate actively in departmental activities, by attending seminars, etc. The position might also entail teaching and other assignments. The working language in the unit is English and it would be appreciated if the research would be conducted in that language. The position is available from 2009-02-01.

During the first two years, the successful candidate will receive "utbildningsbidrag", which represents a salary of approximately 15000 sek/month. During the following years, s/he will hold a "doktorandanställning" where the starting salary currently is 21800 sek/month. The latter position is a proper employment the holder of which qualifies for the standard Swedish social benefits, such as paid parental leave.

Please note that admission for the PhD at Uppsala University is highly competitive and that a Masters Degree in the Humanities or Sciences or equivalent at the time of application is a prerequisite for a successful application.

Your application should include (a) a brief CV, outlining your academic progress to date; (b) a statement (of no more than 2000 words) outlining your proposed research; (c) a copy of your MA thesis; and (d) the name and address (including e-mail address) of two referees that are familiar with your work. Deadline for submitting an application is October 7th, 2008. Please

send your application to Uppsala Universitet, Institutionen för idé- och lärdomshistoria, "History of Science", Box 629, SE-75126. Applications will not be returned.

For further questions please contact either the director of the Office of History of Science Professor H. Otto Sibus, tel. 018-471 1480, e-mail: [otto.sibus@idehist.uu.se](mailto:otto.sibus@idehist.uu.se), the prefekt Torbjörn Gustafsson-Chorell, tel. 018-471 7677, e-mail: [Torbjorn.Gustafsson@idehist.uu.se](mailto:Torbjorn.Gustafsson@idehist.uu.se) or the studierektor för forskarutbildning Professor Magnus Nyman, tel. 018-471 1575, e-mail: [Magnus.Nyman@idehist.uu.se](mailto:Magnus.Nyman@idehist.uu.se).

For applicable government rules and regulations, see "Högskoleförordningen, kap 5, 6 & 7". For the university's guidelines (in Swedish) for doctoral studies, go to: <http://info.uu.se/internet/nsf/regelsamling>. For Swedish advertisement see [www.idehist.uu.se](http://www.idehist.uu.se)

### **Position in Anthropology**

Wesleyan University, Department of Anthropology invites applications for a tenure-track position starting July 2009 at the assistant professor level from scholars whose work engages science and nature, whether in the anthropology of science, medical anthropology, or environmental anthropology, with serious attention to interdisciplinary science studies. The successful candidate will also contribute to Wesleyan's Science in Society Program (SiSP), an interdisciplinary major in science studies. Ethnographic research experience and ongoing research concerns required, as well as commitment to innovative undergraduate teaching. Regional specialization is open, but we have a strong preference for candidates whose work involves Africa, Asia, the Pacific, or the Middle East. Topical specializations of interest include but are not limited to: scientific research institutions and practices, science as a transnational phenomenon, social and cultural

implications of reproductive technologies, technology and the body, bio-medical ethics, the political economy of health, indigenous healing and global healthcare, the politics of environmental struggles, local movements and global environmentalism. Applicants should have PhD in hand or near completion. Please send cover letter outlining research and teaching interests, CV, work sample, and names of three references with contact information to Elizabeth Traube, Chair, Anthropology Department, Wesleyan University, 281 High Street, Middletown, CT 06459. Applications may also be submitted electronically. Applications received by November 6 will be given full consideration. We will interview selected candidates at the AAA meeting. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Submitted by,

Adrian Johns, Professor, Department of History, Chair, Committee on Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science, University of Chicago, 1126 East 59th Street, Chicago, IL 60637

### **ARTICLE ON IBN SÎNÂ**

Not long after Al-Razi's death, Ibn Sina (980-1037) was born in Bukhara in what today is Uzbekistan. Later translators Latinized his name to Avicenna. It is hard to describe Ibn Sina in anything other than superlatives. He was to the Arab world what Aristotle was to Greece, Leonardo da Vinci to the Renaissance, and Goethe to Germany. His preeminence embraced not only medicine, but also the fields of philosophy, science, music, poetry, and statecraft. His contemporaries called him "the prince of physicians."

Ibn Sina's life was in fact the stuff of legend. The son of a tax collector, he was so precocious that he had completely memorized the Qur'an by age 10. Then he

studied law, mathematics, physics, and philosophy. Confronted by a difficult problem in Aristotle's *Metaphysics*, Ibn Sina re-read the book 40 times in his successful search for a solution. At the age 16, he turned to the study of medicine, which he said he found "not difficult." By the time he was 18, his fame as a physician was so great that he was summoned to treat the Samanid prince Nuh ibn Mansur. His success with that patient won him access to the Samanid royal library, one of the greatest of Bukhara's many storehouses of learning. At the age of 20, Ibn Sina was appointed court physician and twice served as vizier to Shams al-Dawlah, the Buyid prince of Hamadan in western Persia. His remaining years were crowded with adventure and hard work, yet he somehow found time to write 20 books on theology, metaphysics astronomy, philology and poetry and 20 more on medicine – including *Kitab al-Shifa'* or *The Book of Healing*, a medical and philosophical encyclopedia. Ibn Sina's supreme work, however, is the monumental *Al-Qanun fi al-Tibb*, "The Canon of Medicine." Over one million words long, it was nothing less than a codification of all existing medical knowledge. Summarizing the Hippocratic and Galenic traditions, describing Syro-Arab and Indo-Persian practice and including notes on his own observations, Ibn Sina strove to fit each bit of anatomy, physiology, diagnosis and treatment into its proper niche. The Canon stressed the importance of diet and the influence of climate and environment on health. It included discussions of rabies, hydrocele, breast cancer, tumors, labor, and poisons and their treatment. Ibn Sina differentiated meningitis from the meningismus of other acute diseases; and described chronic nephritis, facial paralysis, ulcer of the stomach and the various types of hepatitis and their causes. He also expounded the dilation and contraction of the pupils and

their diagnostic value. He described the six motor muscles of the eye and discussed the functions of the tear ducts. In addition, he noted the contagious nature of some diseases, which he attributed to "traces" left in the air by a sick person.

The Canon also included a description of some 760 medicinal plants and the drugs that could be derived from them. At the same time Ibn Sina laid out the basic rules of clinical drug trials, principles that are still followed today. (side bar *Testing New Medicines*) Not surprisingly, The Canon rapidly became the standard medical reference work of the Islamic world. Nizami-i Arudi of Samarkand spoke for generations of physicians when he wrote, in the early 12th century, "From him who manages the first volume [of *The Canon*], nothing will be hidden concerning the general theory and principles of medicine." The Canon was used as a reference, a teaching guide and a medical textbook until well into the 19th century, longer than any other medical work.

## **DOCUMENTATION**

### **Directory of History of Medicine Collection, US National Library of Medicine, National Institute of Health, USA**

The collections described in the *Directory of History of Medicine of US-NIH* provide research, reference, and interlibrary loan services to scholars interested in the history of the health sciences, including medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, nursing, and pharmacy. While the *Directory* is by no means exhaustive, it serves to draw attention to the depth and variety of history of medicine collections available to researchers.

The records are arranged alphabetically by U.S. state and city, followed by foreign

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collections grouped alphabetically by country. For each record, the Abstract field indicates the collection's scope of coverage and services provided. The Holdings field lists the substance of the collection and identifies guides to the collection. The person named as Contact has provided information about the collections. Interested researchers should get in touch with the contact person for more details.

The Directory is an online version of the History of Medicine component of DIRLINE (Directory of Information Resources Online), a NLM database, which contains location and descriptive information about a wide variety of health and biomedical resources. Developed by NLM's History of Medicine Division, the DIRLINE History of Medicine component aims to assist scholars and researchers in identifying useful medical history collections throughout the world. For further information about the DIRLINE database, please consult the DIRLINE Factsheet at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/dirlinefs.html>.

For more information, contact Crystal Smith History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD 20894, USA. Email: [crystals@mail.nih.gov](mailto:crystals@mail.nih.gov)

**The Library of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences is the only library from India, which is listed in the "Directory of History of Medicine Collection".**

**Following is the description of Zillur Rahman Library as listed in the Directory:**

**Zillur Rahman Library, Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences**  
Prof. S. Zillur Rahman established his personal library-cum-museum in the early

1960s. After founding of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences in 2000 AD, this Library became a part of the Academy. The Academy is a non-political, non-governmental and non-profit organization registered under Indian Trust Act, 1882. It is also an accredited organization by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

The library of the Academy at present houses one of the most precious and valuable collection of over 400 medical manuscripts, 17,000 printed books in many languages like Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Sanskrit, Hindu and English, 11,000 periodicals, hundreds of special magazines, medical conference souvenirs and many specimens of oriental calligraphy on medical sciences and the practice of medicine. Books on the following sections in the Library are worthy to be mentioned: History of Medieval Medicine and Sciences, Unani, Ayurvedic & Tibetan Medicine, Greeco-Arab (Unani) Materia Medica and Modern Pharmacology.

Any person wishing to consult the historical collection can contact through email ([ibnsinaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:ibnsinaacademy@gmail.com)). Information if feasible will either be provided by e-mail or through surface mail. Visitors may visit the library during office hours. The library provides free and open access to all scholars.

**SERVICES:** Photocopying and reference services are available. Opening hours are from Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

**HOLDINGS:** 500 manuscripts, hundreds of manuscripts' catalogues of both Indian and foreign libraries, hundreds of monographs; 35 current serials; microforms; films, videos; medical stamps, photographs and images; archives; medical museum and publications on medieval period

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/directory/151.html>

أبو علي ابن سينا

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Please send all Newsletter correspondence to:

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I wish to become a member of the Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences. I have read the objectives & bylaws of the academy and agree to abide by it.

1 Name:

2 Educational Qualifications:

3 Addresses:  
Office with phone #

Residence with phone #

E-mail:

4. Are you actively engaged in work concerning history of medicine & sciences:

5. Field of specialization:

6. Type of membership desired:

Individual Life 1500/-

Institutional Life 5000/-

Date: Signature:

The admission fee of Rs 50/- shall be chargeable at the initial admittance to the Academy. All the payments be made either in cash, or through demand draft in favour of 'TREASURER IAMMS' and should be sent along with this form completely filled-in and mailed to the treasurer. Please add Rs. 45/- for outstation cheques.  
(Treasurer, IAMMS, Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh-202002 (UP), India)

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