



Newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy (NISA)

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10th Prof. Nasim Ansari Oration and World Health Day Theme Lecture at Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh, India

Prof. Dipti S. Tripathi, Former Director, National Mission for Manuscripts, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, delivered the “10th Prof. Nasim Ansari Oration” on Indian *culture, knowledge systems and manuscripts* at Ibn Sina Academy (Aligarh). She stressed the significance of India’s ancient knowledge systems in the contemporary life. She said, “India has a rich tradition of intellectual inquiry, and a textual heritage that goes back to several hundreds of years. India was magnificently advanced in intellectual activity during the ancient and medieval times. The intellectual achievements of Indian culture lay scattered across several fields of study in Ancient and Medieval Indian texts”. According to her, there is wide variety and multiplicity of thoughts, languages, lifestyles and philosophical perceptions in India. To understand this rich and classical heritage, we require good knowledge of Sanskrit and also of Persian languages. She informed the audience that for this very reason the National Mission for Manuscripts was launched in February 2003, in order to develop a holistic approach in preserving and making accessible the significant components of India’s textual heritage.

The Academy organises “Prof. Nasim Ansari Oration” every year on 7th April, and couple of lectures on the occasion of WHO’s World Health Day. Dr. Nema Usman, Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, JN Medical College, spoke on World Health Day Theme, “Halt the Rise: Beat Diabetes”. She informed, “that Diabetes is fast

becoming one of the top causes of deaths in the world”. She shared some data of WHO, namely, the number of adults with diabetes has almost quadrupled worldwide to 422 million since 1980. Statistics shows that by 2040 the number of diabetic patients will increase to over 640 million people. She reported also that the number of young people suffering from diabetes is also growing. She drew attention to the following: People should exercise regularly to prevent diabetes and eat healthy food that diabetes has been leading the list of chronic diseases globally and its prevalence is too high. That is why, WHO focuses it on global community level. The rate of diabetes of type 2 particularly has become very high in the developing nations. Type 2 is linked to heredity and weight, which emphasizes the importance of long-term awareness programs to prevent diabetes by educating members of the community and urging them to adhere to healthy and nutritionally balanced behaviors and focus on physical exercises which eventually help a person to stay fit, and not to be a prey to obesity.

An exhibition of posters and other reading materials based on WHO Health Kits 2016 was arranged for general public. The Kit was provided by the courtesy of Anika Singh, Focal Person for the World Health Day 2016, Non-communicable Diseases Unit, Department of Non-communicable Diseases and Environmental Health, World Health Organization, Regional Office for South-East Asia, New Delhi.

On the same occasion, a book, *Descriptive Catalogue of Unani*

Periodicals in Urdu, preserved in Ibn Sina Academy and edited Mr. Asad Faisal Farooqui, a research scholar in Department of Mass Communication, Aligarh Muslim University, was also released by Prof. Dipti Tripathi. Mr. Farooqui is doing PhD under the supervision of Prof. Shafey Kidwai.

At the start of this function, Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman, President Ibn Sina Academy, welcomed the guest speakers and distinguished audience. Dr. Abid Reza Bedar, Former Director, Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library (Patna) presided over the function. A large number of scholars, teachers and students attended the programme.

“Nazr-i Abul Kalam Qasmi” released at Ibn Sina Academy

A book “Nazr-i Abul Kalam Qasmi” was released at the Ibn Sina Academy, which comprises of articles and essays on noted scholar and accomplished Urdu critic, Prof. Abul Kalam Qasmi. Compiled by Dr. Moidur Rahman. These articles and essays have been rendered by distinguished scholars, colleagues, friends and students of Prof. Qasmi, and they seek to highlight the various aspects of Prof. Qasmi’s contributions to Urdu literature and his accomplishments as a model teacher. The book release function was presided over by Padma Shri Prof. (Hakim) Syed Zillur Rahman, while noted English scholar Prof. Masoodul Hasan graced the occasion as chief guest.

In his presidential address, Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman said that Prof. Qasmi was a distinguished Urdu critic who always has an edge over his contemporaries because of his knowledge of Arabic and Persian. He said that Prof. Qasmi always used unique terminologies and metaphors to describe various literary

trends that got prevalence over the last one century.

Prof. Masoodul Hasan said that Prof. Qasmi has created a special place for him amongst the accomplished Urdu critics and litterateurs and he appears to be standing tall amongst his contemporaries not only because he has treated the various nuances of Urdu criticism differently, but also because he has evaluated the different critical approaches and trends through the canons of eastern aesthetics.

Prof. Iftikhar Alam Khan, former Director, Sir Syed Academy, AMU said that Prof. Qasmi is not only an eminent critic but also an excellent teacher who always seeks to provide personal guidance to his students. Professor Emeritus Farhatullah Khan presented a short but evaluative study of Prof. Qasmi’s critical approaches and affirmed that the way Prof. Qasmi has treated criticism of Urdu poetry is unique. Dr. Mahtab Haider Naqvi presented a poem dedicated to Prof. Qasmi while Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad spoke on Prof. Qasmi’s non-literary writings including his more than 70 editorials published in the reformative Urdu monthly *Tahzibul Akhlaq*. Dr. Bakar Alam Siddiqui elaborated on the articles and essays included in the book.

Presenting a citation on this occasion, Dr. Khaleequzzaman outlined the literary journey of Prof. Qasmi, especially mentioning his books and other scholarly achievements.

Senior teachers including Prof. Fasih Ahmad Siddiqui, Prof. Zakia A. Siddiqui, Prof. Kafeel Ahmad Qasmi, Prof. Najma Mahmood, Prof. Khurshid Ahmad, Prof. Saghir Afrahim, Prof. Durdana Qasmi, Prof. Tariq Chhatari, Prof. M.E. Zuberi, Dr. Syed Ziur Rahman and a large

number of students were present on the occasion. Dr. Khalid Saifullah conducted the programme while Dr. Furqan Sambhli proposed a vote of thanks.

Old and Rare Books Display on World Book and Copyright Day

On the occasion of UNESCO's World Book and Copyright Day on 23 April, Ibn Sina Academy arranged an exhibition of old and rare books. The purpose of exhibition and projection was not only to encourage youngster and scholars to discover the pleasure of reading but also to gain a renewed respect for the irreplaceable contributions of those, who have furthered the progress in the field of science, medicine, literature and humanity. Some of the rare manuscripts that were displayed included: 1. "Kitâb ilâ Aglûqan fî Shifâ al-Amrâz" – This Arabic translation, related to Galen's Commentary, by Hunayn ibn Ishâq, scribed in 13th Century; 2. 'Risâlah al-Nabîdh' dated 1745 AD derived from another manuscript dated 1291 AD as Qustâ ibn Lûqâ its translator from the original text on Nabidh by Rufus of Ephesus' 3. Risâlah Af'yûn by Imâd al-Dîn Mahmûd Shîrâzî of 16th-century Persian manuscript scribed between 1737 and 1744. In addition, some rare printed books were also displayed such as 1. Diwan-i Ghalib, 1863; 2. Tahzîbul Akhlâq, 1872; 3. Invitation to Christian Religion, 1624, etc., etc.

On the same day (April 23, 2016), Amar Ujala (Aligarh Edition) published a special feature covering the interview of Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman

Recent publications of Ibn Sina Academy

In the last quarter of the year, Ibn Sina Academy published following three books:

1. *Diwan-e Ghalib* (Facsimile 1863 Edition) published on the occasion of 175th Anniversary of 1841 Edition, Edited by Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman with his detailed introduction about published editions of the Diwan in the lifetime of Ghalib.
2. *Mujarrabat-i Karam Husain* (Unani Prescriptions by Hakim Syed Karam Husain [1870–1953]), Edited By Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman
3. Descriptive Catalogue of Unani Periodicals in Urdu extant at Ibn Sina Academy, Edited by Mr. Asad Faisal Farooqui (Aligarh).
4. Self-rated memory of individuals' associated with demographic profiles, lifestyle parameters, health status and medication use, Authored By Syed Ziaur Rahman

Book releasing ceremony and Mushaira

Releasing ceremony of *Diwani-i Suroor* by Suroor Mahrahravi and grand Urdu Mushaira was organized at Ibn Sina Academy on 2.6.2016. On this occasion, large number of local Urdu poets such as Jamuna Prasad Rahi, Basirul Hasan Wafa Naqvi, Samar Badaunvi, Razi Amrohavi, Sabiha Sumbul, Abdul Mannan Sarmadi, Khalid Faridi, Fikr Parwi, Azhar Zaidi, Meraj Nishat, Nasir Shakeb and Arshad Ghazi participated in the Mushaira. Some outside guests like Dr. A. K. Sahai from Shimla and Dr. Sandeep Kaushal from Ludhiana attended and enjoyed the Urdu couplets.

Quarterly Meeting Seminar cum Felicitation Ceremony of AIGA/ISA

IDB/MET Scholarship Program's "Quarterly Meeting Seminar cum Felicitation Ceremony of AIGA/ISA Slum Project for Health and Education was arranged at Ibn Sina Academy on May 8, 2016. During the function, cheques were distributed among IDB/MET Scholars and the Slum Children adopted

for the overall development were felicitated for their good performance. An updated overview of AIGA/ISA Slum Project and AIGA Charitable Clinic was also presented.

Review Meeting of All India Muslim Majlis-i Mushâwarat (Aligarh Branch)

Two ordinary meetings of All India Muslim Majlis-i Mushâwarat (AIMMM, Aligarh Branch) were held at Ibn Sina Academy under the guidance of President, AIMMM, Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman on April 20 and May 6, 2016. Brother Amanullah Khan, General Secretary, AIMMM, expressed his views in detail and discussed the strategy about the future 2017 Assembly Election in UP. Prof. Humayun Murad, Prof. Shakil Ahmad Samdani, Mr. Ubaid Iqbal Asim, Dr. Masood Ahmad, and others attended these meetings.

Condolence Meeting on the Demise of Prof. Asloob Ahmad Ansari

Ibn Sina Academy has lost one of its great supporter and well-wisher Prof. Asloob Ahmad Ansari (1925-2016). Ibn Sina Academy arranged a condolence meeting on 5 May 2016. During the meeting, Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy, briefed about his life and long standing relationship with him. He conveyed his heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family and friends. Prof. Ansari earlier was member of Executive Committee of Ibn Sina Academy.

(For a short note on his personality and academic achievements, please see page 11).

VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

1. Delegates, Special Summer School, UGC Human Resource Development Centre, AMU, Aligarh, 25.05.2016.

2. Hakim Fazlur Rahman Misbahi and Hakim Syed Ahmad Khan, Delhi, 20.4.2016
3. Mr. Md Usman Ghani, National Library of India, Kolkata, 16.5.2016
4. Dr. Shairullah Khan Wajih, Rampur, 4.6.2016
5. Dr. Ashfaque Ahmed, Research Officer (Unani), NIHM, Hyderabad (see following detail),

Deputation of Dr. Ashfaque Ahmed, Research Officer (Unani) at Ibn Sina Academy

Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), New Delhi deputed Dr. Ashfaque Ahmed, Research Officer (Unani) to visit important libraries of India including the library of Ibn Sina Academy for collection of material related to IMR project. Dr. Ashfaque Ahmed worked in the Library of Ibn Sina Academy from 31st May 2016 to 2nd June 2016.

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, Former Dean, Faculty of Unani Medicine, Aligarh Muslim University and Founder President, Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh, was invited to participate:

1. The First Annual Convention on Promotion of Herbal Medicine and Excellence Awards.

While presiding over the programme, Prof. Rahman explained that Herbal Medicine is a vague term as it does not cover any health system. He emphasised that Unani is the only global health system, which after travelling from oldest civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Iran and Central Asia, finally settled in India. Padma Shri Dr. Nityanand, Padma Shri Dr. Mansoor Hasan, Dr. Sikander Hayat Siddiqui, Dr. M. Iqtedar Husain Farooqi, Dr. Syed Mohammad Hassan Nagrami also

addressed the gathering. This glittering programme was organized by Janta Dardmand Dawakhana on 10th April 2016 at Scientific Convention Centre, Daliganj, Lucknow. On this occasion a book *Tarikh-i Tibb ka 'Ilmi Sarmayah* of Hakim S.M. Hassan Nagrami was also released by Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman. Hakim Kausar Ahmad Sadique, Managing Director of Janta Dardmand Dawakhana presented mementos and excellence awards to many guest including Hakim S M Hassan Nagrami for his excellent research work in Unani Medicine.

2. Attended meeting regarding performance review of TKDL Project Staff on May 26, 2016 at CSIR-Traditional Knowledge Digital Library Unit, New Delhi.
3. Nominated as Member, Editorial Board, *Hamdard Medicus*, a journal of repute in the circle of Unani Medicine from Hamdard University, Karachi, Pakistan (For detail, see page 12).
4. Attended meeting of the Unani Medicine Panel of National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) to review the progress on different approved projects and to evaluate new projects, received under the panel. The meeting was held on 9.5.2016 in the Conference Room of Farogh-i-Urdu Bhawan, Jasola, New Delhi.
5. Attended joint meeting of the Research Council and the National Commission for History of Science and Project Investigators' Meet during 12-13 April 2016 at INSA, New Delhi. This Joint Meeting of INSA's Research Council and Indian National Commission for History of Science, short listed the list of candidates for 'young historian of science awards' and cleared many projects on history of science in addition to other items discussed. It

was also decided that in the next meeting of the Commission, a seminar should be held on History of Unani Medicine.

6. Attended, Website launching ceremony of Maulana Azad Memorial Academy at Lucknow's Indira Gandhi Pratishthan on 21.5.2016. On this occasion, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Mr. Akhilesh Yadav announced a grant of Rs. 85,79,54,000 for the year 2016-17 in comparison to Rs. 47,96,72,000 in 2011-12 for various projects on Unani Medicine in UP State. Selected number of Muslim Scholars also addressed on the same program including Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, who specifically advocated the case of Unani Medicine and interacted CM on personal ground.
7. Presided, Annual Meeting of All India Muslim Educational Conference at Habib Manzil, Aligarh on May 15, 2016 (also see page 11-12)
8. Presided, Review Meeting of All India Muslim Majlis-i Mushâwarat (Aligarh Branch) at Ibn Sina Academy on April 20 and May 6, 2016 (also see page 6)

Prof. S.M. Razaullah Ansari (General Secretary of Ibn Sina Academy) has been invited to the International Conference to celebrate the 600th Birth Day of Kim Dam, a Royal Astronomer during the reign of King Sejong of Korea. The Conference will be held during 28 Nov. - 3 Dec. 2016 in Seoul (South Korea). He has been invited also to be a member of the Scientific Organising Committee (SOC) of the Conference by its chairman and organiser Prof. Il-Seong Nha (Seoul).

It is a matter of pleasure that Prof. Ansari's substantial paper (40 pages) on

"A Survey of Calendars of Islamic Countries and Medieval India" is now being printed in the *Proceedings of the International Seminar on Indo-Portuguese History - XIV*, (held in New Delhi, Feb. 11 – 13, 2013). It is edited by Pius Malekandathil (JNU) and Lotika Varadarajan (New Delhi). The publisher is Primus Books (New Delhi). The Proceedings are expected to appear by the end of the current year, and contain 56 contributions.

Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman, Honorary treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy and Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh, has been nominated as Member Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the 16th Annual Meeting of International Society of Pharmacovigilance or ISoP (<http://isop2016agra.org/>). The meeting will be held in association with the 16th Annual Conference of the Society of Pharmacovigilance (India) at Hotel ITC Mughal, Agra during 16-19 October 2016.

Dr. Rahman has also been invited as guest speaker during the DIA sponsored conference on "Innovations in Pharmacovigilance – the era of e-PV" at Holiday Inn, Mumbai on 14th May 2016. He was requested to deliver a talk on "*Pharmaco Environmentology – Aligning PhV with Environment*".

Drug Information Association (DIA) is an association dedicated to improving communication and collaboration in drug development. DIA's foundation was closely tied to the 1962 passage of sweeping legislation passed in the US in response to the finding that use of thalidomide to treat morning sickness caused birth defects. Although the problem was global, there was no organization at that time, which could

foster cooperative efforts across the entire world. Seeing the need, a group of 30 pharmaceutical professionals, medical writers, and academics created DIA as a fully independent unbiased association. For more than 50 years, DIA has served as a global forum for all those involved in health care product development and life cycle management to exchange knowledge and collaborate in a neutral setting. DIA is an essential resource that provides opportunities to extend debate and discussion to advance scientific and medical innovation. Today, DIA is a worldwide organization in more than 80 countries with regional offices covering the Americas, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

The theme of recently held conference in Mumbai was Innovations in e-Pharmacovigilance. The discipline of Pharmacovigilance has undergone immense transformation throughout the world, in the last decade than ever before. With more regulatory actions being pronounced and with many countries enacting Pharmacovigilance legislations, it is being increasingly recognized that patient safety is a concern for not only the regulators but other stakeholders too. Application and adoption of appropriate technology coupled with the exponential growth in the science of Pharmacovigilance is revolutionizing patient safety in real time. Developing innovative workflows and deployment of relevant automation in carrying out Pharmacovigilance activities indicates that the era of Electronic Pharmacovigilance has already arrived and is here to stay.

Today, India holds a unique position in the Pharmacovigilance space as the most preferred destination for global pharmaceutical companies to outsource their drug safety activities. In parallel,

India is also firming up the country's regulatory system to ensure utmost safety in clinical trials as well as in the post-marketing stages, which is a significant step into a promising future.

Dr. Rahman in his lecture talked about the latest development in the field of Environmental Pharmacovigilance of both human and veterinary medicines. He said, more problems are generated when we face the presence of illegal drugs, lifestyle drugs, designer drugs and counterfeit drugs in the environment. He further stated that there was a lack of substantial protocol for prospective monitoring of drug concentration in the environment and evident adverse effects. Very few studies have been done on Environmental Pharmacovigilance. Necessary action is to be taken up rigorously during Clinical Trials by regulatory agencies like FDA and EMEA. Although, regulatory bodies have set some cut-off limit for environmental concentration of drugs, but still no actual testing is conducted after drug is marketed to see, if the environmental concentration is estimated correctly.

The present conference aspired to bring together thinking leaders representing many of the stakeholders of Pharmacovigilance to deliberate the current best practices, debate on the available technology tools for data mining, elucidated on novel initiatives to augment handling of drug safety data and many other niche topics, with the focus being on Pharmacovigilance and related professionals of at least 100 heads of safety pharmaceutical companies in India and abroad. The two-day conference ensured enough opportunity to interact with speakers and colleagues from the entire spectrum of the Pharmacovigilance domain in India."

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman delivered Welcome Address on World Earth Day on April 22, 2016 (See detail on page 12-13)

Dr. Farhan Ahmad Khan, Chief Editor, International Archive of Biological Research (IABR), an official journal of Ibn Sina Academy, has been appointed as Professor and Head Department of Pharmacology, Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (HIMSAR), New Delhi.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE

International Conference on Unani Medicine

National Institute of Unani Medicine, an autonomous organization under the Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India, is a premier institute imparting post graduate education in eight disciplines and research fellowship in two disciplines.

NIUM intends to organize a three-day International Conference on Unani Medicine from 25-27 October, 2016. The theme of the conference is "*Unani Medicine from Tradition to Evidence Based Medicine*". The conference will be held to disseminate the knowledge of various branches of the system, to explore possibilities for integration of knowledge of Unani medicine with the present available tools and techniques for evidence generation, assessment of objectives and empirical approach to the curriculum development and acquaint the Unani medicine personnel with global trends in developing Unani medicine on rational basis. The conference will also attempt to accumulate inputs for developing methods for evaluating philosophical and logical principles underlying the fundamentals of Unani medicine.

For more information, please contact:
Prof. M .A. Siddiqui, Director, National
Institute of Unani Medicine (NIUM),
Kottigepalya, Magadi Main Road,
Bangalore – 560091; Tel: 080-23584260
E-mail: niu.bangalore@yahoo.com

Seminar on History of Unani Medicine

Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, intends to hold a one day Seminar on History of Unani Medicine in Delhi during September 30 / October 1, 2016.

According to Prof. Balasubramanian, an eminent historian of science, the seminar will professionally be organized and of the highest order. It will cover important aspects of Unani medicine, updated - incorporating all advances that have been made in recent times, not repetitive in themes and subjects but spread over the entire spectrum of this field, and aimed at a broad-spectrum audience who are not experts in the area.

The seminar will focus on the following specialties: (a) History and development of Unani medicine, (b) Basic principles of the system, (c) pharmacology, (d) Medicines offered and their details, (e) physiology and anatomy of the individual as considerations for medication, (f) Social and preventive medicine, and most importantly, (g) comparison of Unani system with Ayurveda, Siddha, Homeopathy, Oriental, and Modern systems of medicine- the commonalities, uniqueness, sources of medication, extracts, potions, lotions and tonics, etc.

There will not be more than 8 invited speakers. Each of them will be given no more than 30 minutes, and have 5 minutes of discussion after each talk.

Indian Journal of History of Science has not had an issue devoted to this

important area of Unani medicine. After successful completion of the seminar, INSA will publish a special issue of Unani Medicine.

For more information, please contact:
Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman,
President, Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh.
Email: ibnsinaacademy@gmail.com

25th International Congress of History of Science, and Technology

International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST) will be holding its 25th International Congress of History of Science, and Technology in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil during 23–29 July 2017. The theme is *Science, Technology and Medicine between the Global to the Local*.

For more information, please visit the website: www.ichst2017.schc.org.br/

DOCUMENTATION

Coverage on Ibn Sina Academy in the Program "Urdu Duniya" by ETV (Urdu)

A brief documentary on Ibn Sina Academy and its founder president, Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, was telecasted as a part of the Program "Urdu Duniya" on 18.6.2016 at 8 pm and on 19.6.2016 at 10:30 am by ETV (Urdu). Similar programs had been documented by several channels but this was the latest version by ETV (Urdu).

Appeal for conservation of a rare copy of Holy Quran

An appeal for conservation of a rare copy of Holy Quran gifted to the Library of Ibn Sina Academy by Prof. Aslam Qadeer was made by Alim Naqvi in the Urdu daily newspaper, *Avadhnama* (Lucknow Edition) on 11 June 2016. The

appeal was well taken, and one philanthropist Mr. Arshad Raza from Bijnor came forward to help in this noble venture.

A feature leading article, *Ibn Sina Academy aur Azmat-i Pârînah ka Minar*

A lengthy feature leading article on *Ibn Sina Academy aur Azmat-i Pârînah ka Minar* by renowned journalist, Masoom Moradabadi, was published in *Jadîd Khabar*, Urdu Daily Newspaper on 17.5.2016.

A feature leading article, *Dada Dadi aur Nana Nani se Pehchân karata Aik Jîvan*

Coverage on Ibn Sina Academy entitled, *Dada Dadi aur Nana Nani se Pehchân karata Aik Jîvan*, by Kaushal Kumar Ojha, was published in *Amar Ujala*, Daily Newspaper (Aligarh Edition) on 9.5.2016. It is an interesting article for those who cares for heritage.

Obituary: Professor Asloob Ahmad Ansari's demise

Professor Asloob Ahmad Ansari (born 1925) passed away on 04 May 2016. His demise represents a void in both English and Urdu literary world. He was a reputed scholar of both English and Urdu literary studies and was held in much esteem in both India and abroad. A brief account of Professor Ansari's accomplishments is given below.

Asloob Ahmad Ansari was formerly Professor of English at the Aligarh Muslim University. A notable literary critic, he extensively published both in English and Urdu. He was also the editor of the prestigious *Aligarh Critical Miscellany* and *Naqd-o-Nazar* (Urdu).

Born in Delhi, Professor Ansari was educated in Delhi, Aligarh and later graduated from the Honour School of

English Language and Literature in the University of Oxford. His first publication, *Arrows of Intellect*, came out in 1965; it was subsequently reprinted in the USA in 1970; his second book, *William Blake's Minor Prophecies*, was published by the Edwin Mellen Press, Wales (UK) in 2001. Besides being an internationally recognized Shakespeare and Blake scholar he has also published substantial critical studies on Ghalib and Iqbal. In English studies he made his mark by his significant contribution to Shakespeare scholarship and this has been recently climaxed by his book: *The Existential Dramaturgy of William Shakespeare*, published by the Edwin Mellen Press, Wales (UK). In Urdu he was indisputably held as the initiator of Practical (Text-based) Criticism. He participated, a number of times, in the World Shakespeare Conferences in Stratford (UK). He also attended the conference on Time and Space in Islam in Chicago (USA). Abstracts of his articles on Shakespeare have been included from time to time in the *Year's Work in English* (London). He received Sahitiya Academy Award, President of Pakistan Award, Mir Taqi Mir Award, UP Urdu Academy Award and Ghalib Award. He has been cited in *Shakespeare's Poetics* (Cambridge) and *Watchmen of Eternity* (London and Boston). The honorary degree of D.Lit. was conferred on him by the University of Gorakhpur in 2006.

Abdur Raheem Kidwai
Ph.D. 1981, Aligarh

Annual Meeting of All India Muslim Educational Conference

The annual meeting of executive committee of All India Muslim Educational Conference was held on May 15, 2016. Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman presided over the meeting. Prof. Riyazur Rahman Sherwani, General Secretary of

the Conference threw light on the agenda, presented annual budget of the year 2016-2017 and audit report of the year 2014-2015. Besides, the agenda items, some other issues were also discussed in the meetings, specially the elections of the representatives of the Conference to the AMU Court.

A book on “Climate Change and Human Health Scenario in South and South East Asia” by Prof. Rais Akhtar released

The Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University, Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah today released a book titled “*Climate Change and Human Health Scenario in South and South East Asia*”. The book, authored by Prof. Rais Akhtar, Adjunct Professor, International Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR, New Delhi) and formerly Visiting Professor, AMU, has been published by Springer.

Prof. Akhtar, a leading author, is also on Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and a recipient of Nobel Memento. Prof. Akhtar’s book explores the geo-medical aspects focusing on climate change and health impacts in South and South-East Asia from the regional perspective and is the first to present a regional analysis of climate change and human health, with emphasis on geographically and socio-economically distinct countries of South and South-East Asia. It includes geo-medical studies from India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand, Nepal and Taiwan. The book deals with natural disasters including flood, droughts, heat waves, urban heat island and outbreaks of vector-borne diseases in the region.

The Vice Chancellor Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah and Prof Rais Akhtar interacted on climate change impacts on glacial melting and warming in the mountainous region in the context of availability of water and altitudinal rise of malaria.

It has now been realized that climate change is a significant and emerging threat to human health which represents a range of environmental hazards and is likely to affect people in both the developed and developing countries. The mortality in Europe, due to the heat wave in 2003, Katrina hurricane disaster in 2005 in southern USA, Sandy hurricane disaster in the eastern United States, forest fire in California, and Australia, current scenario of flooding in France and Germany shows that even developed countries are vulnerable to climate change. In particular, climate change also affects the regions, like South and South-East Asian Countries, where the current burden of climate-sensitive diseases is high.

Prof. A.R. Kidwai, Director, UGC Human Resource Development Centre, Prof. Shadab Khurshid and Prof. Akram Javed, Department of Geology, Prof. Haris M. Khan, Department of Microbiology, Prof. Athar Ansari, Department of Community Medicine and Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Department of Pharmacology were also present on the occasion.

World Earth Day observed

On World Earth Day, a workshop was organized at University Polytechnic, Aligarh Muslim University (Aligarh, India), under the aegis of ‘*Wings of Desire*’, an NGO run by students of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

While delivering the welcome address, Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman (Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy), who is also a medical advisor of the 'Wings of Desire', tried to sensitize the participants about the impact of medicines on environment, particularly about the environmental persistent pharmaceutical pollutants (EPPP). The basic concept of Eco-pharmacology and Pharmaco-environmentology was also explained.

Addressing the workshop, the District Magistrate of Aligarh District and the Chief Guest Dr. Balkar Singh said that the initiative, undertaken by the students run NGO, deserves appreciation. He told that the general public needs to be made aware about these serious and critical topics. Dr. Singh informed that the Earth is our home planet and we need to preserve it. Celebrated every year on April 22, Earth Day aims to encourage people across the world to be more environmentally friendly, he added.

Professor Syed Iqbal Ali, Principal, AMU Polytechnic, pointed out that the natural resources should be preserved in order to ensure sustained development.

On the same occasion, Professor Abdul Munir, Dean, Faculty of Science, shared his views on importance of Earth Day and tried to distinguish between the management of hydrosphere and atmosphere. Professor Afifullah Khan from the Department of Wildlife, shared his views on forest management and implication of afforestation. While, Professor Shahid Farooq of the Department of Geology revealed the sources of mineral resources and their proper utilization for the development of next generation. At the end, Professor Izharul Haq Farooqui from Department of Environmental Engineering told the listeners about the preservation of

atmosphere. Filled with enthusiasm and zeal, students enjoyed listening to him and discussed about the rainwater harvesting methods.

Mr. Sameer Sherwani, President, 'Wings of Desire', said that everybody should come forward and work towards the preservation of natural resources. A large number of teachers and students of AMU were present during the workshop and plantation drive.

Letter regarding Fulbright-Nehru student researcher at Ibn Sina Academy

"Dear Prof. Rahman, Greetings from the United States-India Educational Foundation!

USIEF is thankful to you for your continued support of the Fulbright-Nehru program. As a host institute, we are interested in your evaluation of Fulbright-Nehru student researcher, Ms. Kathleen Longwaters who was affiliated with your institution and her accomplishment during the grant. We cherish our partnership and we would really appreciate, if you could share with us your valuable feedback that would help us make the program stronger in the coming years. We would request you to please fill out the attached form and return it by May 12, 2016.

Regards,
Kalden. K. Shringla,
Program Coordinator - U.S. Program,
United States-India Educational
Foundation, Fulbright Commission in
India

Letter to Mr. Bektemir Pirnafasov, First Secretary, Embassy of Uzbekistan in New Delhi

Subject: Cooperation between
International Fund of Uzbekistan and Ibn
Sina Academy

Dear Mr. Pirnafassov, kindly refer to your mail of May 2, 2016, on the above mentioned subject. On behalf of the President of Ibn Sina Academy, Prof. Hakeem S. Zillur Rahman, I have the pleasure to acknowledge your mail in the first instance.

We appreciate very much that the International Fund of Uzbekistan Ibn Sina wishes to develop cooperation of sort with *Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Science* (Aligarh, India), in order to have joint pursuits of Ibn Sina's Heritage in all possible ways. This Academy accepts your offer and wishes to forge joint endeavours, and explore venues of cooperation very eagerly.

Prof. Zillur Rahman and the undersigned (Secretary of the Academy), agree with your listed suggestions for cooperation. However, it will take some time to compile for you lists of Indian scholars interested in Ibn Sina's works, of libraries and institutions in India having special collection of Ibn Sina's works, and of available audio-visual aids on Ibn Sina's life and works.

So kindly have some patience. This mail is the first step in our cooperation and soon we shall send you also the above - mentioned lists. Meanwhile, Prof. Zillur Rahman and I will very much like to invite you to visit The Academy here at Aligarh according to your convenience, so that you have a firsthand information about our holding. It takes just a couple of hours to travel by car to Aligarh by Jamuna-Agra Express Way. Let us work out the logistic of your visit here.

Thanking you for taking this admirable initiative in our mutual field of interest,

Sincerely, S. M. Razaullah Ansari
(Secretary of Ibn Sina Academy),
11.5.2016

"Science in a Golden Age" – A Documentary Film by Al-Jazeera TV Channel

Few members of Ibn Sina Academy watched an interesting program on Al Jazeera entitled "Science in a Golden Age", which is a series of half-hour segments to highlight the contribution of Muslim scientists, medical researchers, engineers and astronomers during the 500 year period from 900 AD - 1400 AD.

It was a fascinating documentary and urge other members to watch it and share it with friends. Ibn Sina Academy would once again try to showcase the same to help improve the image of Muslims and make the public aware of the huge contribution Muslims made to the development of humanity. Hope our members would enjoy the series - one can watch all of it online, in stages, at:

<<http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/science-in-a-golden-age/>>

Syed Ziaur Rahman
Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh

Hamdard Medicus – A Journal of Medical Science

Hamdard Medicus is an English quarterly journal of Hamdard University primarily providing a forum for hakims, scientists and doctors to share their research findings, bridging a gap between Western and Eastern drugs, and usage to fight against various ailments. Another objective is to promote Eastern Medicine through research findings globally.

During the 58-years of its publication this journal has played a pivotal role in

acquainting medical institutions around the world with the valuable contributions made by the Eastern System of Medicine. It has also brought natural or herbal practitioners and scientists closer by emphasizing evidence based treatments. Plant-based drug discovery research is a multidisciplinary approach combining ethnopharmacology and traditional knowledge on one hand, while botanical, phytochemical, biological, toxicological, pharmacological and molecular techniques on the other hand. Keeping this in mind *Hamdard Medicus* will provide a broad platform of research in various related disciplines. It is noteworthy that ~25% of currently used prescription drugs contain at least one herbal derived active ingredient and several such drugs are either available in the market or are in the last phases of clinical trials. This journal facilitates to provide and encourage ethnomedicine knowledge as well as the emerging trends in research for upgrading quality of life, in general.

The journal is widely circulated among scientists, research scholars, academic institutions, as well as health authorities, medical libraries, journals, associations of the World Health Organisation throughout the world. The purpose is to generate interest in the Eastern System of Medicine. It is gratifying to note that considerable interest in medicinal, botanical and the Eastern art of healing has been evoked. *Hamdard Medicus*, is abstracted and also referred in international indexed journals of Science and Medicine published by Hamdard Foundation of Pakistan. It mainly focuses in the field of Eastern medicine (Unani medicine) and publishes research articles on medicinal plants, history of science and medicine, therapeutic procedures and health in developing countries. It also includes translations of rare texts on Islamic

medicine by scholars in related areas. To meet the current challenges and improve its present status according to the requirements laid down by the Higher Education Commission, for the promotion of science and technology in Pakistan, a few measures have been undertaken. In this regard, from 2016 onwards, *Hamdard Medicus* will be published under the umbrella of Hamdard University and the Advisory Boards will be revised to attain prompt and regular frequency.

Contributed by
Prof. Dr. Ghazala H. Rizwani,
Advisor, Research and Post Graduate
Studies and Editor, *Hamdard Medicus*

Stay in touch with many activities of Ibn Sina Academy by following the FaceBook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/IAMMS.Aligarh/>

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The news items, small notices or short communication on informative researched topics for publication should be sent at least four weeks prior to next issue and whenever possible through e-mail (Microsoft Word), accompanied by a hard copy.

Please send all newsletter correspondence to:

Editor, NISA

Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences, Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh-202002 INDIA

E-mail: ibnsinaacademy@gmail.com, website: <http://www.ibnsinaacademy.org>

Phone: +91-5713290275

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Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, Publication Division, IAMMS, Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh-202002 India. E-mail: rahmansz@yahoo.com

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

1. Name:

2. Educational Qualifications:

3. Addresses:
Office with Phone #

Residence with Phone #

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

5. Field of specialization:

6. Type of membership desired:
Individual Life 2,500/-
Institutional Life 6,000/-

Date

Signature

The admission fee of Rs. 50/- shall be chargeable at the initial admittance to the academy. All the payment be made either in cash, or through demand draft in favour of "Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences" and should be sent along with this form completely filled-in and mailed to the treasurer. Please add Rs. 50/- for outstation cheques.

Treasurer, IAMMS, Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh-202002 (UP), India)



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