



Newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy (NISA)

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**Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences
Aligarh, India**

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EVENTS AT IBN SINA ACADEMY

(January – March 2021)

Ibn Sina Reading Club Meeting

Over the last few months we were happy to see the addition of new members which brought with them much diversity to the discussions held in the Club. We have continued with our culture of open ended dialogue while discussing issues such as leadership, role of philosophy and religion in taking decisions and how these affect the society we live in.

We also discussed, with our history as background, the various patterns of human behavior that keep on repeating itself. We also discussed the less talked about and taboo issues of casteism in Muslim communities in India and how we must tackle such a sensitive affair.

The goal with the discussions in the Ibn Sina Reading Club is always dismantling an often untouched matter and following it with a constructive discussion, with multi-faceted perspective pouring in from members, so that we as a community can pave way forward - in the right direction.

This Reading Club functions under the auspices of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Science. Every week, members of Ibn Sina Reading Club meet and discuss any predetermined topic of interest.

In line with the above objectives, Ibn Sina Reading Club organized a session to remember the life and contributions of a distinguished AMU alumnus, Syed Mohommad Afzal (IPS 1990 Batch) on 18th January 2021. The session was presided by Padma Shri Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman. The session was in the form of an obituary, written and rendered by Prof. Parvaiz Talib, Department of Business Administration of AMU, who based on his association spanning 40 years paid his tribute to the charming persona of the deceased, bringing forth his attributes and abilities.

Late S M Afzal was born in a noted religious family of Marehra, District Etah. After completing his High School from Kasganj, Mr. Afzal joined AMU in 1978. He pursued, PUC, BA, LLB and LLM from AMU. During his student days, he was in the forefront of literary activities and served as Secretary of the University Literary Club. In 1990, he qualified Civil Services Examination. Following worthy footsteps of his elder brother, he made it to the ranks with Urdu medium. He was selected for Indian Police Service and was placed in MP Cadre. There he served in Dabra, Gwalior, Murena, Sagar and Chhatrapur. During service he also served as Registrar of AMU (Aligarh) and Jamia Millia Islamia (New Delhi). His last posting was in Bhopal as Additional Director General of Police looking after the economic offences wing. He spent last 14 months of his life battling with brain cancer and left for his heavenly abode on 15th December 2020.

Professor Parvaiz Talib in his tribute recalled the hostel days spent with him, his proclivity to groom his youngsters, his nature of going out of the way to help others, his literary acumen, his sense of humor and his deep attachment to his alma mater.

Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman complemented the literary style of the obituary and desired its publication as a record for the posterity. He also recalled his long association with senior members of the Mahrera family. He also informed that some rare manuscripts of the family are prized possession of the Ibn Sina Academy. He desired that elders of the family visit the Academy to peruse those documents.

The session could see the light of the day due to active support of Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Department of Pharmacology and Mr. Abdullah Zaman, a student of the Department of Business Administration, AMU. Mr. S. M. Aman, Director, Albarkaat Islamic Research and Training Centre, eldest nephew of the

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deceased was also present in the session along with his other companions.

For the report of the condolence meeting held in memory of Late S. M. Afzal at Ibn Sina Academy, please see NISA Vol. 21, No. 1, page 6-7

Releasing ceremony of *Meri Siasi Sarguzisht*

A releasing ceremony of an autobiography by Late Dr. Hashim Kidwai entitled 'Meri Siasi Sarguzisht' was organised by Ibn Sina Academy on 6th March 2021. The function was graced by eminent scholars while the book was released by Prof. Tariq Mansoor, Vice-chancellor, AMU. Prof. Hakim S. Zillur Rahman, Prof. Shan Mohammad, Prof. Saleem Kidwai and Prof. Ali Nadeem Rezavi shared their views on the book.

'Meri Siasi Sarguzisht (My Political Journey)', is an autobiography of a freedom fighter, author, academician and Rajya Sabha MP, late Dr. Mohammad Hashim Kidwai.

"This book is an account of Dr. Hashim Kidwai's political and ideological journey as a freedom fighter, experience obtained in an academic environment, service to the nation and what all he witnessed and participated in the change of the old guard from the British regime to the birth of independent India," said AMU Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mansoor while releasing the book. Reminiscing association with Dr. Hashim Kidwai, the Vice Chancellor added: "Dr. Hashim was a dedicated political activist who never wavered from his ideals until his death."

Dr. Hashim Kidwai's colleague at the Department of Political Science in AMU, Prof. Shan Mohammad shared anecdotes from their long association. "Every time I was overwhelmed with difficulties, I would reach out to Dr. Hashim Kidwai to receive the best guidance I could expect. The lessons on national and international politics that I have learned from his books are still etched in my mind," reminisced Prof. Shan.

Meri Siasi Sarguzisht will provide the readers with the history of freedom struggle and the role of nationalist Muslims", said Prof. Hakim S Zillur Rahman, AMU Treasurer. He also spoke on how Dr. Hashim Kidwai tirelessly worked for the welfare of students in various positions such as the Provost of Mohsinul Mulk Hall and AMU Proctor.

"Reading this book will be a relishing experience, particularly for students as Dr. Hashim Kidwai stood for students politics and gave credence to the freedom of speech," said Prof. Ali Nadeem Rezavi.

Conducting the programme, Dr. Hashim Kidwai's son, Dr. Saleem Kidwai said that *Meri Siasi Sarguzisht* has eyewitness accounts of various important events that took place during the freedom struggle.

Welcome Ceremony in honour of Mr. Vijay Kumar Baghel

A small but graceful function was organised in honour of Mr. Vijay Kumar Baghel, an eminent environmentalist and 'Green Man of India' on 29.1.2021. Prof. R. Swarup welcomed the guests. Prof. K. C. Singhal presented his WHO Dictionary of ADRs, while Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman presented his book on 'Environmental Pharmacology'. Engineer Satya Prakash presented a poem in honour of guests. The programme was presided by Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman. The vote of thanks was given by Prof. Usha Singhal. Large number of environmental activists and scientists attended the programme.

AADHAR Card Camp organised for weaker section of the rural area

AADHAR Camp for the benefit of Academy's friends and members was organized by Ibn Sina Academy in collaboration with Vision Education and Training Society (VETS) Aligarh during 8.01.2021.

Advisory Committee Meeting of the Vision Education and Training Society

Advisory Committee Meeting of the Vision Education and Training Society (VETS)

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Aligarh was held at Ibn Sina Academy on 8.01.2021. The convener of the meeting was secretary VETS, Mr. Aqilur Rehman.

The meeting was attended by Prof. Imran Saleem, Prof. Mohd. Shamim and Prof. Asiya Chaudhary from Dept. of Commerce, Prof. Naseem Ahmad Khan from Dept. of Social Work, Mr. Salman, Former Principal ITI School, Aligarh, Dr. M. Obaid Siddiqui from Dept. of Anaesthesiology, Prof. (Hakim) Syed Zillur Rahman and Prof. (Dr.) Syed Ziaur Rahman from Ibn Sina Academy

During the meeting, following points were significantly deliberated by participants: Prof. Mohd. Shamim of Dept. of Commerce, AMU, pointed out that the nearby villages of Aligarh have large number of unemployment, lack of Bank account and Aadhaar. Needy people don't know the actual schemes of the Govt. of India. We can make them aware of these schemes. E.g. Govt. schemes for marriages, etc. We may arrange setting up camps for the various things mentioned above.

Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman stressed that if we don't focus on one program and expand the aegis of this organization a lot then we won't be able to do anything. He tried to say that we should focus on one work, be it anything such as education, Aadhaar card, bank account, poor girls marriages (get involved with government schemes about this) Summary is focus on one or two.

Prof. Naseem Ahmad Khan of Dept. of Social Work, also stressed to start from one unit, as per the suggestion of Prof. Zillur Rahman. People need return along with information. That goal should never be lost.

Prof. Imran Saleem of Dept. of Commerce, AMU, said that the efforts for Aadhaar like camps or something that you do show results soon. Take as many schemes or as many areas but do it step by step. But don't lose credibility, and don't claim something that you

can provide. So that people trust you based on the results that you provide.

Dr. Obaid Siddiqui said that the young generation could also be targeted in our forthcoming programmes. Some of them have basic education. For example, hospital staff at lower levels, can help us in spreading awareness of our programmes to their own families because of their basic education and better understanding.

Former SEBI DGM, Mr. Surya Kant Sharma, participated the meeting online and laid the stress to focus on small steps and schemes that show results.

Group discussion practice for MBA, AMU entrance

A group discussion for the purpose and practice for MBA entrance test at AMU was organized at Ibn Sina Academy by Mr. Ahmad Nadeem, Co-founder, FSN Consulting Services, Aligarh, during 6-9 January 2021. Fifteen candidates participated in the event.

International Women's Day

The 2021 UN theme for International Women's Day was "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world", highlighting the impact that girls and women worldwide had as health care workers, caregivers, innovators and community organizers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the auspicious occasion of International Women's Day, Aligarh's NGO, The Wings of Desire (WoD), organized two days cultural events during 8th and 9th of March at Ibn Sina Academy.

The main theme for the event was Women's education and empowerment. The Chief Guest for the Programs on 8th March was Ms. Zahra Hashemi who is a research pharmacist by profession and has a special interest in arts, culture and science and the Guest of Honour for the day was Dr. Sarwar Rais, retired Associate Professor at Department of Geology Aligarh Muslim University. The Chief Guest spoke on the importance of women in our life

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while the Guest of Honour shared his experience regarding girls' education.

On 8th March there were two events. The first one was 'open mic competition' based on the theme "causes of increase in rape cases in India". Following it, there was a poetry competition on the theme "Khwateen". The participants were very enthusiastic and showed great interest in the competition.

The winners for the open mic were Navjot Kaur who secured first prize whereas Iqra Qamruddin and Gaurav Yadav got second and third prize for their work. For the poetry competition, there were lots of young talents. Winners were Emad Shariq who got first prize for his beautiful poem following him was Sumaiya Rahman and Ahmad Ayaan who got second and third prize.

On 9th March, WoD organised a debate competition covering the theme "Masculism vs Feminism". The Chief Guest for the day was Dr. Shalini Maherwal, Director of Shantiniketan Public School and The Guest of honour was Mrs. Tahera Siddiqui, Vice Principal of Al Barkaat Public School. The chief guest Dr. Shalini Maherwal covered the topic of importance of women in daily life while on the other hand the guest of honour Mrs. Tahera Siddiqui shared that just like behind every successful man there is a woman, similarly it is true that behind every successful woman there is a man.

The winners of the competition were Alina Hadi who got first position following with Prachi Khandelwal and Amta Rehan Shamshi who secured the second and third position respectively.

The main organizers of the program were Mr. Sameer Sherwani (President The Wings Of Desires), Mr. Mohd Azeem (Secretary The Wings Of Desires) and Mr. Intezar Ali (Secretary The Wings Of Desires Social Club) and Mr. Ahmad Siddiqui (Joint secretary The Wings Of Desires Social Club) along with Mohd Sameer (Assistant Program Leader) and Airam Shakeel (Assistant Program Leader). They all played a vital role in making the

events successful. There were also lot of contribution given by the organization's team of interns like Amta, Faiza, Ashraf, Yash, Zebaish, Rakshi, Tayyaba, Afifa, Shadaan, Mehak, Abhishek, Ahad, Zainab and Alsaba.

One-day National Urdu Seminar on the services of Aligarh to promote Urdu Fiction

A one-day seminar on "Urdu Fiction ke Farogh main Aligarh ki Khidmaat" (The services of Aligarh to promote Urdu Fiction) was organized by Ehsan Foundation, Aligarh in association with Ibn Sina Academy on 6th March 2021. The seminar was sponsored by National Council for Promotion of Urdu Languages, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India.

AMU School Support Programme

Meeting regarding how to manage scholarship through Ibn Sina Academy was held on 14.3.2021. Mr. Sirajuddin (S. Arabia), Mr. Adnan Khan (S. Arabia), Mr. Adnan Hafiz, Mr. Fareed Farooqui, Dr. Misbah Azhar and Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman attended the meeting. Following decisions were taken.

1. Lists provided from Minto Circle and Girls School was discussed and approved.
2. All 22 candidates with their guardians /parents would be invited on 21.3.2021 for interview and final screening at Ibn Sina Academy. They would specifically be interviewed with our check-list. Girls will join the meeting from 2-4 pm and boys from 4-6 pm.
3. Final remarks after consensus would be jotted down on application forms. All application forms would be kept in a file folder.
4. Tuition fee would be paid and arranged by AEEF through the system as explained by Dr. Shaheer Khan (USA) in the last online meeting.
5. Uniform and stationaries would be provided from the locally available scholarship funds to each selected candidates. Payment for uniform and stationaries to selected vendors would be paid through cheque.
6. A separate account details would be maintained by Mr. Adnan Hafiz, Mr. Fareed Farooqui, Dr. Misbah Azhar and Dr.

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S. Ziaur Rahman. Donations other than AEEF in the form of cash or cheque for scholarship would first be deposited to the Bank.

7. From the next time, a register would be maintained for all meetings and minutes.
8. Meeting came to end with vote of thanks especially to people who have donated and contributed money for this noble cause.

On 21st March 2021, we were having interviews of candidates at Ibn Sina Academy for selection of candidates deserving for school scholarships. On the same day, candidates were given application forms. Refreshment was arranged by the courtesy of Sirajuddin.

The last date to submit application forms was 25th March. Nineteen candidates submitted their applications. Out of 19, fourteen candidates turned up again on 28 March for interviewing by the panel. Misbah specially asked some special questions and Okayed all applications. Five could not come...may be because of holi and Bara wafat. All 19 candidates were found deserving and will be given full package. It is decided that AAEF will support the tuition fee of all these candidates while uniform and course material including stationaries, will be borne by the local collection.

Since the new academic session in all AMU schools is going to be started probably from mid of May 2021, so all these candidates are asked to collect the course material and uniform from the designated vendors after promotion to the next class. A whatsapp groups is created for all the selected candidates for future conversation and messages.

The vendors will be identified by Misbah who will then be paid through online transaction or cheque. No cash will be given to anybody. Students are requested to try to return all course material books after finishing their session for the next batch candidates. These second-hand books will be stored at a room given by Misbah at his residence.

Lastly, we decided in the meeting to request all our friends and well-wishers to contribute in this cause. Please let us know each other when you deposit any money either to AEEF or Ibn Sina Academy.

Visitors at IAMMS

1. Prof. Sunita Singh (Head, Dept. of Pharmacology, North DMC Medical College & Hindu Rao Hospital, New Delhi), 11.2.2021
2. Prof. Shalini Chandra (Head, Dept. of Pharmacology, Rohilkhand Medical College & Hospital, Bareilly), 11.2.2021
3. Mr. Shakir Husain and his family visited and stayed at the Academy from 2nd March till 5th March 2021. The family was the guest of Ibn Sina Academy and stayed in the guest room. Mr. Husain is the correspondent of the Malaysian National News Agency (Pertubhan Berita Nasional Malaysia). He wrote a write-up on the Ibn Sina Academy (See detail on page 13-14)
4. Prof. Saleem Kidwai with his wife and daughter along with his brother Mr. Moiz Kidwai

Following are his observation on his Facebook page: "During my recent Aligarh visit, I was privileged to enjoy the warm and generous hospitality of Professor Hakim Zillur Rahman at Tijara House. Hakim sahib is an embodiment of rapidly vanishing Aligarh culture and traditions. He is a living encyclopedia. It was a real pleasure to interact with him and learn something in the process. He is not only an outstanding scholar but a great institution builder. He is the founder and Director of Ibn Sina Academy which contains a grand museum and a rich library. It took me around 2 hours to take a round of this magnificent building in the company of Hakim sahib who explained everything in detail. The idea behind the establishment of Academy is to preserve glorious past of Muslims in various spheres and highlight Muslim contribution in various fields. I felt greatly impressed after visiting it. What makes it more

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important is the fact that it is an individual effort. I have no hesitation in saying that Aligarh is not only famous for Muslim University but also for Ibn Sina Academy. Scholars and researchers interested in history of medicine, literature, history and Muslim culture and civilization must visit this great institution and benefit from it”
(Taken from FB Page, dated 11.3.2021)

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Prof. S. Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy, was invited to attend the following events and programmes:

1. AMU Executive Committee Meeting on 22.3.2021, AMU, Aligarh
2. Guest lecture on History, Importance and Evolution of Unani Medicine and released the Book, *Bayaz-e Junoon*, at a function organized by National Unani Doctors Welfare Association, Lucknow, 20th March, 2021 (See detail on page 9-10)
3. Presided, 18th Annual Meeting of Dr. Zakir Hussain Foundation, Aligarh (See detail on page 12)
4. Guest lecture, Unani Day Celebration 2021 at Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi
5. Presided, Seminar on Mujtaba Husain (See detail on page 10-12)
6. Presided, Aitaraf (A function organized by Dabistana-e Bhopal and Ilma Education Society, Bhopal), Iqbal Library, Bhopal, 22 February 2021. Dignitaries like Prof. Khalid Mahmood, Mohd. Khalid Abedi, Khursheed Anjum, Dr. Mohd. Ahsan (Regional Director, MANUU, Bhopal)
7. Presided the release ceremony of the book entitled, “Letters of Maulana Shibli in the name of Maulana Habibur Rahman Khan Sherwani”, Habib Manzil, Aligarh, 2nd March 2021
8. Presided, Releasing Ceremony of the book, ‘Ashok Sahni Sahil - Shakhshiyat wa Shayiri’ by Maulana Firoz Khan Nadvi, UP Press Club, Lucknow

Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Honorary Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy, was invited to attend the following events and programmes:

1. Keynote Speaker, Third Jundi Shapur International Congress (Online), Jundi Shapur University of Technology, Dezful, Iran, 9-10 March 2021 (Spoke on Indian Influence on Medical Science in Jundishapur). Dr. Rahman participated the same 2nd congress in 2019 in Dezful, Iran.
2. Resource Person, Online Webinar - Awareness Programme on Pharmacovigilance of ASU & H Drugs, Peripheral Pharmacovigilance Centre, PPvC, RRIUM, Mumbai, 9.3.2021 (Topic: Pharmacovigilance from Unani Perspective)
3. Guest Lecture, “Influence of therapeutic drugs on environment”, National Conference IPCON 2021. (Hybrid Offline and Online), Government Medical College, Surat, 25.2.2021.
4. Resource Person, Online Webinar - Awareness Programme on Pharmacovigilance of ASU & H Drugs, Peripheral Pharmacovigilance Centre, Hakim Syed Ziaul Hasan Govt./Auto. Unani Medical College, Bhopal, 22.2.2021 (Topic: Experiences in Safety Monitoring of Unani Medicine)
5. Resource person, Subject Refresher Course in Environmental Science, (Topic: Pharmaceutics in Environment/Recorded), UGC Human Resource Development Centre, AMU, Aligarh, 22.1.2021.
6. Resource Person, Online Webinar - Awareness Programme on Pharmacovigilance of ASU & H Drugs, Peripheral Pharmacovigilance Centre, Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine, Srinagar, 21.1.2021 (Topic: Issues, Challenges & Acquisition in Pharmacovigilance of Unani Medicine)
7. Resource person, Subject Refresher Course in Science, (Topic: AB Resistance), UGC Human Resource Development Centre, (Online through Google Meet), University of Kashmir, Srinagar, 6.1.2021.

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8. Participated, Workshop (Virtual) on AETCOM: “The Heart and Soul of Medical Education”, MEU, Faculty of Medicine, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh, 13.3.2021.
9. Participated as Faculty, MCQs Item Writing Workshop, Organised by National Board of Examination for Medical Sciences (NBEMS), New Delhi, 11.3.2021.
10. Vice Chancellor’s Nominee, Selection Committee for Professor under CAS, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, 25.3.2021.
11. Participated, Workshop (Virtual) on Self-directed Learning, MEU, Faculty of Medicine, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh, 30.3.2021.
12. Guest of Honour, Health Conference, Muktkash, Aligarh Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition, 11.2.2021.
The programme was organised by Dr. Masood Ahmad, President, Social Educational Welfare Association (SEWA) Trust, and was attended by a large number of guests and members of SEWA including Mr. Furqan Ahmad (Mayor of the City Municipality), Prof. M. Shabir (Ex-Dean Faculty of Law), Prof. Rakesh Bhargava (Dean, Faculty of Medicine), Prof. M. Shahid Siddiqui (Principal, J. N. Medical College), Prof. Suboohi Khan (Provost, Begum Azizunnisa Hall), Prof. Mohammad Muqem (Director, Aligarh College of Education, Aligarh College of Engineering and Management) Prof. Sameena Khan (Dept. of English), Dr. Shaiq Ali (Principal, Ishrat Inter College) and Dr. Sumbul Rehman (Dept. of Ilm ul Advia), etc.

Lecture on History, Importance and Evolution of Unani Medicine by Professor Syed Zillur Rahman and Book Launch of *Bayaz-e Junoon*

National Unani Doctors Welfare Association, Nadwa, Lucknow, organised an event on 20th March, 2021, at Picnic Spot, near Raheem Nagar Crossing. It was held in two sessions, the first session was a lecture by Professor Syed Zillur Rahman (founder of Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh) on history and evolution of

Unani medicine. Professor Zillur Rahman not only imparted his wisdom but also encouraged the Unani doctors to strive in order to elevate the Unani medicine to the same height as allopathic medicine. The lecture was well - received by the audience which comprised of Unani doctors, poets and intellectuals.

The most profound, thought provoking and empowering message was given by Professor Syed Zillur Rahman in his speech. He narrated the life and times of some of the greatest precursors and icons of Unani medicine and extracted the core values which enabled these men, each a colossus in his own right, to establish their legacy forever. It was their unshakeable confidence in their art of healing; their great pride and excellence in their line of profession which made these people the very pinnacle of brilliance in the society. India simply hasn't seen anyone half as glorious as Hakeem Nabeena, losing his sight in his childhood; he went on to develop such an incredible sixth sense that all royal heads of India's princely states and some of the greatest people of the time, including Allama Iqbal, consulted Hakeem Nabeena. Whether it was conventions of political parties or any inaugurations, social events, they simply couldn't proceed without the presence of Hakeem Ajmal Khan. Professor Syed Zillur Rahman proceeded to appeal to all the doctors in the audience to retain the excellence which these men strove hard to establish. We need to retain the people's faith in Unani medicine and we need to actively contribute to the improvement of nation's health.

The second half of the event comprised of the book launch of Muhammad Mujahid Syed's third poetic collection - *Bayaz-e Junoon* by Professor Syed Zillur Rahman, the chief guest. Mujahid Syed resided in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for more than three decades. He is widely known in the literary circles of India and Jeddah and has had numerous books published in neighbouring countries too. "It was our moon that shone in other countries", said Professor Zillur Rahman. The event was chaired by senior doctor Syed Hassan Nagrami and compered by Dr. Syed Moid. Dr. S.S.

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Ashraf delivered the vote of thanks. Professor Syed Zillur Rahman showed his great appreciation for the book and high regard for its poet. Important poets of the evening were Irfan Barabankawi (Lucknow), Khalid Fareedi (Aligarh) and Mujahid Syed (Lucknow).

Seminar on “Mujtaba Hussain and his Works”

The head and heart qualities of renowned litterateur late Mujtaba Hussain, the king of satire and humour in the Urdu world, were recounted deeply at a national day-long seminar entitled “Mujtaba Hussain and his Works” in Bhopal.

As papers were presented on late Mujtaba Hussain, a writer par excellence, he came “alive” with many unknown facets of his works and personality being revealed by the learned Urdu luminaries. The air was thick with the fragrance, charm and sweetness of the Urdu language pervading all around as the assemblage of Urdu lovers, which is fast becoming a rare species with the passage of time, enjoying the occasion to the hilt.

Those who presented papers on the occasion included: Dr. Azam Khan, Dr. Razia Hamid, Dr. Khalida Siddiqui, Dr. Mubashrah Raafe Arab and Rasheed Anjum. They threw light on various aspects of Mr. Mujtaba Hussain’s works and personality.

Padma Shri Prof. Hakim Zillur Rahman of Aligarh presided over the function while Dr. Sheikh Aquil Ahmad, Director of National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), New Delhi, was the chief guest of the seminar.

Dr. (Prof.) Khalid Mahmood, ex-Head of Urdu Department in Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi; Urdu’s leading lights Dr. Razia Hamid, Iqbal Masood, Dr. Tariq Zafar, former Vice Chancellor of Bhoj University; Haji Haroon, president of Jamiat-e-Ulema Hind, Madhya Pradesh unit, were guests of honour on the occasion.

Mujtaba Hussain was known for creating ripples of laughter across the Urdu world with his writings. The enduring appeal of his writings was a tribute to his uncanny sense of humour and the Urdu language itself. Man knows how to cry from birth, but laughter takes some learning. But with Mr. Hussain’s ready wit, the job sure became easier. In a bid to tickle the funny bone, Mr. Hussain did not compromise on the language either. The simple but literary touch in his works came as a breath of fresh air.

Meanwhile, in his own words, Mujtaba Hussain had once said: “It was not me who chose humour and satire but it was humour which chose me. I still remember the day of 12th August 1962. Shahid Siddiqui (a well know journalist and poet) used to write a regular column for Siasat. It was known as *Sheesha wa Teesha*. Shahid Siddiqui passed away in July 1962. On August 12 as I reached Siasat office my elder brother Jigar Saheb and Abid Ali Khan Saheb (the Editor and owner of the newspaper) called me in and proposed that I should start writing *Sheesha wa Teesha* column.

“In the morning at 10:30, I started writing my column and finished it before 2 pm. I wrote with my pen name *Koh Paima*; after a week people began asking who was writing the column. It has freshness, thrill, and was entertaining, they said. I was encouraged by the praise. Thus began writing regularly. The thing which began incidentally became the destination of my life and also the purpose of life. The only identity of my literary journey of 50 years is humour writing.”

At the proposal made by Mr. Zaheeruddin Ali Khan, Managing Editor of Siasat, he began writing a regular weekly humour column with the title ‘*Mera Column*’ (My Column). The column began receiving huge applause by the readers.

Soon Mujtaba Hussain’s name and fame crossed geographical boundaries and he attained global recognition and acclaim. He was often described as the Mark Twain of

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Urdu. In 2007, the government of India presented him Padma Shree award in recognition of his contributions to Urdu literature. He bagged numerous other awards. This purveyor of wit didn't believe in sitting on his laurels even after 25 books and 13 awards, including the coveted Padma Shree. He worked tirelessly for his Sunday column in *Siasat daily* of Hyderabad for over 55 years. But due to old age and ailments, he stopped writing. Thanks to *Siasat*, now all books of Mujtaba Hussain have been digitalised and can be accessed on his website.

Some years ago when Mujtaba Hussain was felicitated on his long humorous journey, and his website www.mujtabahussain.com was launched, he simply remarked "Lo aaj hum bhi saheb-e-website ho gaye", a parody of Akbar Ilahabadi's line on the birth of lawyer/advocate "*Paida hua Vakil to Shaitan ne kaha, lo aaj hum bhi sahib e aulad ho gaye...*" sending everyone into peals of laughter. Laughter may be the best medicine but for Mujtaba Hussain, it was the mother tongue of the entire humanity. "You may speak in English, French, Hindi, Telugu or any other language but you laugh the same way," he said.

It may be pointed out here that Mujtaba Hussain authored nearly two dozen books including: *Takalluf bar Taraf*, *Qata-e-Kalam*, *Qissa-e Mukhtasar*, *Urdu ke Sheher Urdu ke Log*, *Baherhal*, *Adminama*, *Safar Lakht Lakht* and *Japan Chalo Japan*. University Grants Commission (UGC) has included the Urdu book *Safarnama Japan Chalo* written by him in the syllabus of National Eligibility Test (NET), which is conducted for the recruitment of lecturers in Urdu. At least 12 PhDs were done on him by different scholars from across India. His works were translated into Oriya, Kannada, Hindi, English, Russian and Japanese languages.

Mujtaba Hussain returned *Padma Shri* award in December 2019 in protest against the "atmosphere of fear and hatred" created in the country by the government in power. Hussain had said that he was pained over the situation

in the country with those in power targeting minorities, especially the Muslims. He was concerned over the hatred and fear created among the community through the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), and proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). He said he was feeling suffocated and his conscience was pricking him. So he decided to return the award.

Meanwhile, it may be stated here that well-known writer-journalist, late Khushwant Singh, was an unabashed admirer of Mr. Hussain and felt he was rare among Indian writers of humour. While Pakistan writer, Syed Arif Hussaini, called Mr. Hussain a purveyor of wit and humour. "He excels in his field due to simplicity of his language, racy style and absence of overlapping themes," he said.

Sure, Mr. Hussain's brand of humour was wholesome and straightforward. He created humour without offending anyone. Borrowed brilliance was not his forte, said Mohammad Ali Siddiqui, Pakistan's well known critic. "His humour was laced with a bitter truth which only an honest person can perceive," says his daughter, Rashida Samdani. *Apni Yaad Mein* composition is a masterpiece of self-obituary wherein the author highlighted his own follies while taking pot-shots at life.

Mujtaba Hussain was born to Moulvi Ahmed Hussain in Chincholi village near Gulbarga on 15th of July 1936. Got his elementary education in Gulbarga and then moved to Hyderabad and joined Osmania University's Arts College in 1953. He had penchant for writing since his college days. He took part in many essay writing competitions and theatre presentations. Among his elder brothers Mahboob Hussain Jigar, was the founder joint editor of *Siasat Urdu daily*. The other brother Ibrahim Jalees was a distinguished journalist and writer who migrated to Pakistan soon after the partition of India.

The seminar was organised by Bhopal's Anwar-ul-Uloom Society in collaboration with the NCPUL at A. U. Higher Secondary School

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in Govindpura locality run by the society. The untiring efforts of Kalim Akhtar, president of the A. U. Society, were behind organising the first ever seminar on Mujtaba Hussain after his demise last year.

A book titled *Fahm-o-Idrak* penned by Dr. (Mrs.) Razia Hamid was also released on the occasion. Mementos were also presented to all the guests by Kalim Akhtar on behalf of A. U. Society on the occasion.

For the report of the condolence meeting held in memory of Mujtaba Hussain at Ibn Sina Academy, please see NISA Vol. 20, No. 3, page 3.

18th Annual Award Ceremony – 2021 by Dr. Zakir Hussain Foundation, Aligarh

Dr. Zakir Hussain Foundation, Aligarh organized 18th Annual Award Ceremony – 2021 followed by a Symposium on “Challenges And Barriers to Women’s Contribution During Covid Time” on 14th March 2021, complimenting International Women’s Day Celebrations, at Hotel Lemon Tree, Marris Road, Aligarh.

Dr. Zakir Hussain Foundation, Aligarh (ZHF) is a registered, an ISO certified organization promoting health, education, sports, general welfare and women empowerment among lower strata of the society. Dr. Zakir Hussain Foundation holds workshops, seminars, symposia, corner meetings and health camps etc. The Foundation also provides monetary support to needy and meritorious students and free medical treatment to poor patients. As part of these activities, the Foundation also organizes annual function followed by one day national seminar on a very important issue affecting the society at large. So far the Foundation has covered various important social issues in its Seminars/Symposium on different occasion.

These different categories awards have been instituted to recognize and celebrate mainly those men and women who have lived a transformational journey for themselves or

made a difference to their communities. This year, the ZHF awards ceremony was graced by Ms. Ira Singhal (IAS Topper 2014, Jt. Director Social Welfare, Delhi Govt.) as Chief Guest while Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman (Hony. Treasurer, A.M.U., Aligarh and Founder of Ibn Sina Academy) presided the function. Guest of Honors were Mr. Rakesh K. Malpani, IAS (ADM City, Aligarh), Mr. D.P Pal, PCS – ADM (E), Mr. Satish Chandra, PPS, S.P. Traffic, Aligarh, Ms. Burshra Bano, IPS (SDM – Sadar Firozabad), Ms. Leher Sethi and Ms. Yogita Bhayana, renowned social workers who lead the case of Nirbhaya.

A niche participation of 100 prominent faces ranging from Academicians, business to social work, attended the event. There were over 45 awardees from all India including 10 AMU Professors and in as many Categories. Amongst the proud recipients of these categorized awards were: Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman with ZHF Lifetime Achievement Award – 2021, Prof. Shahid Ali Siddiqui (Principal, JNMC), Prof. F.S. Sherani (Dean, F/o Unani Medicine) and Prof. Mohammad Shamim (D/o T.B & Chest Diseases) with ZHF Pentagon Excellence Award – 2021. Prof. Naima Gulrez, Prof. Salma Shaheen, Prof. Farzana Alim, Prof. Ayesha Farooq and Dr. Swasti Rao with ZHF Women Leadership Award – 2021. Prof. Zehra Mohsin, Prof. Saira Mehnaz, Dr. Deebea Khanam and Dr. Farah Naseem with ZHF Mother Teresa Memorial Humanitarian Awards – 2021.

Ms. Sajida Nadeem, Founder Director and Organizing Secretary welcomed all the Guests and presented Annual Report of the Foundation. Dr. Shariq Aqil, CMO, University Health Services, AMU, Aligarh moderated the program. Mr. Nadeem Raja, Founder President, Mr. S. M. Tauqeer Alam, Vice President, Prof. Samina Khan, Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Ms. Anam Rais Khan, Mr. A.R. Khan and many other dignitaries graced the occasion.

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Dimagheen revamped package launched

The revamped package of Dawakhana Tibbiya College (DTC) product, 'Dimagheen' to connect better with the target audience in a brand new look was today launched by Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Vice Chancellor, Prof. Tariq Mansoor.

Speaking on the new package of the DTC flagship tonic, the Vice Chancellor said that product's packaging is designed to communicate many things such as what it can do to the customers and to the DTC's values. A revamped packaging is as important as the product itself because it is a crucial marketing and communication tool, he added.

Prof Salma Ahmed (DTC Member-in-Charge) said: "Dimagheen is specially prepared for people, who are actively engaged in mentally active professions and students, studying long hours for exam preparations". "A trustfully used tonic since generations for improving memory, rejuvenating the body and freshening and relaxing the mind, needed to have a new improved package," she added.

Prof. Zaheeruddin (Pro Vice Chancellor), Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman (Honorary Treasurer), Mr. Abdul Hamid-IPS (Registrar), Prof. S. M. Jawed Akhtar (Finance Officer), Prof. Saud Ali Khan (Principal, A. K. Tibbiya College) and Mr. Taufiq Ahmad (Officiating General Manager) also attended the launch.

The tonic, not only maintains brain health; it also facilitates normal functioning of heart and nerves. It is a Vitamin C rich product made up of Amla, Sankhaholi, Brahmi Booti and Jadwar Shirin.

BOOK REVIEW

Pharmacology Practical Skill

It's my privilege to write a review on a very interesting and recent book written by Dr. Suyog Sindhu, who is an active faculty member at the Department of Pharmacology, KGMU, Lucknow. The title of the book is CBME Pharmacology Skills OSPE Practical DOAP, which is written in the light of the

latest recommendations of undergraduate competency-based medical curriculum 2018 by Medical Council of India (National Medical Commission, New Delhi) and published by Paras Medical Books, New Delhi.

Dr. Suyog Sindhu has attempted to provide a full range of practical exercises falling under small group teaching as per the new pharmacology skill-based competencies along with cognitive domain and level of assessment. These practical exercises have become easier to understand by all the students as all exercises are supported by checklist, relevant illustrations and case studies. Students after reading this book can easily demonstrate, *observe*, assist and perform among small group self-directed learning. With this book, even teachers can easily decide teaching-learning and assessment method for each practical exercise. Learning objectives and review questions would help to fulfill the need for the final examination.

The outline design of the book is very attractive. Both students and teachers can grasp the concept of all chapters as overall view and presentation of each chapter is written with nice flow and in a systematic way. Moreover, the book is written in a simple language which further makes the book easily readable. Colours used in diagrams and illustrations are catchy that also explain the text matter in a better way. The extra edge in this book which I feel to mention here is that, the author covered the entire syllabus along with other competencies such as PH 5.1 to 5.6, which have not been covered by other authors in the practical books available in the market. The overall rating of the book is excellent.

Syed Ziaur Rahman, Joint Editor, NISA

DOCUMENTATION

Delhi Diary: Ibn Sina Academy: Preserving History Of Medicine And Islamic Heritage

No serious discussion on the history of medicine is possible without exploring the legacy of Ibn Sina, the famous Muslim

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physician and philosopher known to the West as Avicenna.

In the university town of Aligarh, 136 kilometres from India's capital New Delhi, a library and museum pays homage to the Central Asian-born 10th century luminary.

With a collection of more than 26,000 books, the 20-year-old Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Sciences attracts scholars and researchers from India and abroad.

The museum's medicine-related collection is modest, but it aptly complements the library treasure, which includes 1,260 manuscripts in Arabic, Persian, and Urdu.

The entire project, though centred on Ibn Sina, has judiciously included Urdu literature, Islamic heritage, and Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) founder Sir Syed Ahmad Khan to widen its appeal.

"We have one of the best collections on Ghalibiyat (works related to the Urdu poet Mirza Ghalib) and other literary icons. There is one section dedicated to the erstwhile Indian Muslim rulers, Aligarh's history, Sir Syed, and former AMU students," Syed Ziaur Rahman, honorary treasurer of the academy and a professor of medical pharmacology, told *Bernama*.

"It is a matter of pride for us that many scholars from abroad have visited us to study these subjects," he added.

Ibn Sina Academy is the brainchild of his father Syed Zillur Rahman, a retired professor of Unani medicine and author of many books, who wants to create an enduring resource that would help students and researchers.

Meticulous efforts have been made to gather material on Ibn Sina's influence and contributions as the father of early medicine as well his thoughts and philosophy.

Ibn Sina's most famous works are *Kitab Al Shifa* (The Book of Healing) and *Al Qanun Fi Al Tibb* (The Canon of Medicine). Translations of *Al Qanun* in Urdu, Japanese, Russian, Persian, Hebrew and English are available at the academy.

Other major collections include Greek physician Galen's works translated by Arab scholar Hunayn Ibn Ishaq, and *Ainul Hayat*, written by Muhammed Ibn Yusuf Al Harawi in 1532. The four copies of *Ainul Hayat* in Persian believed to exist worldwide were collated by Syed Zillur Rahman and then edited and translated into Urdu. The book deals with behavioural and lifestyle issues related to ageing.

The academy organised its translation into Urdu and English, and later it was translated into Bahasa by an Indonesian university.

It works as a non-governmental and non-profit organisation with multiple aims and objectives. The academy has published 50 books, many on the Unani system of medicine, since its inception. It also regularly hosts lectures, seminars and academic events.

Private donations of items and books have been instrumental in building the sizable museum and library collections. The academy building houses two museums, one dedicated to medieval medicine and sciences, and the other focuses on Islamic culture and heritage.

"What we collect or acquire through donations has to fit within those themes. Donors are duly credited for the gifts," Syed Ziaur Rahman said.

His family's dedication has created a valuable cultural asset, but the academy needs more resources to grow its stature matching Ibn Sina's reputation.

By Shakir Husain, Correspondent of the Malaysian National News Agency (Pertubhan Berita Nasional Malaysia)

Courtesy:<https://www.bernama.com/en/world/>



CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India

The Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India. It was established on 30 March 1978; however, it started functioning in January 1979. Since inception, the Council has been busy in researching various fundamental and applied aspects of Unani Medicine. Over the years, the CCRUM has emerged as the world-leader in the field of research in Unani Medicine.

THE NETWORK

The CCRUM has 23 research centers functioning in different parts of the country, besides its headquarters in New Delhi.

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

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Some of the significant achievements of the Council are as follows:

Clinical Research

- Developed 27 Unani drugs, which are purely natural, standardized and without any side-effects, for successful treatment of vitiligo, sinusitis, infective hepatitis, eczema, filariasis, malaria, rheumatoid arthritis, bronchial asthma and some other common ailments.
- Obtained 15 patents on for developing certain novel therapeutic compositions and SCAR primers.



Drug Standardization

- Developed pharmacopoeial standards for 298 single and 150 compound drugs. Besides, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for manufacture of 50 compound drugs have also been finalized.
- Published six volumes of *National Formulary of Unani Medicine*, six volumes of *Unani Pharmacopoeia of India* (UPI), Part 1 (on single drugs), and three volumes of the UPI, Part 2 (on compound drugs).

Survey and Cultivation of Medicinal Plants

- Collected over 104,568 specimens of medicinal plants belonging to 1,800 species from the wild.
- Undertaken successful cultivation of 33 important medicinal species.
- Gathered and documented over 16,261 folk medicinal claims.

Literary Research

- Translated 56 volumes of 21 classical books/manuscripts from Arabic/Persian into Urdu and other languages.
- Prepared a database of 2,400 manuscripts of Unani Medicine.
- Reprinted over 70 rare classical books.
- Compiled Standard Unani Medical Terminology for 4,028 terms of Unani Medicine.
- Developed 'Standard Unani Treatment Guidelines for Common Diseases'.

Publications

- Produced over 2,000 research papers and brought out about 400 publications, besides regular publication of a quarterly bulletin *CCRUM Newsletter*, quarterly Urdu Journal *Jahan-e-Tib* and quarterly English Journal *Hippocratic Journal of Unani Medicine*.

For further information please contact:

Director General

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NISA is an official quarterly newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences, which is registered under Indian Trusts Act 1882 & designated as "Centre of Excellence" by Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India.

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.

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Print at: Muslim Educational Press, Aligarh, India

Ibn Sina Academy offers life membership of the Academy to individual and institutions. For membership of the Academy, please download the form from Academy website (www.ibnsinaacademy.org)



09726411