



NEWSLETTER OF IBN SINA ACADEMY NISA

أبو علي ابن سينا

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NEWS ITEMS OF IAMMS

Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation between the Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences (India) and the School of Hotan Uyghur Medicine (China) in the field of "Medicinal, Scientific and Literature"

There is a consensus amongst researchers of the history of medicine and sciences that early Arab, and particularly Muslim, physicians and scientists had played a very important role in the development of natural and medical sciences during the blossoming of Islamic civilization, which later spanned over eight centuries. This development was achieved through translating earlier medical and scientific texts and developing further the then known antique sciences.

Despite the above fact, it is well known that the full potential of the Islamic scientific and particularly medical heritage has not been investigated exhaustively to-date, and thereby has not comprehended its basic role and importance in the development of modern medicine and its effect on the European Renaissance. Most of the manuscripts of Islamic medicine are lying unutilized on the shelves of private and some public libraries around the world and only a few have been studied comprehensively.

In the light of the above-mentioned, Unani physicians, scientists, scholars and historians are appealed to study and work out this great heritage at least on our national level. Obviously, this aim can be achieved only through an organization and teamwork which is the underlying idea to found the **Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences (IAMMS)** in Aligarh.

Abu Ali Ibn Sina is a very well known personality among the physicians of Unani medicine and scientists of physical sciences since medieval times. To commemorate and to institutionalize an academy named after him, led to the foundation of **Ibn Sina Academy of**

Medieval Medicine & Sciences on March 1, 2000. The Academy has been registered under Indian Trusts Act, 1882 on August 14, 2000. It was formally inaugurated on April 20, 2001. The Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India gave accreditation to the Academy in 2004. The Academy is now a non-governmental, non-political and non-profit organization with multiple aims and objectives. The Academy encompasses a Medical Library, a Museum of Arts, Culture and Sciences, a Centre for Safety and Rational Use of Indian Systems of Medicine, Publication Division, Division of History of Medicine & Sciences, AIDS Cell and Ghalib Study Centre.

Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences (India) and School of Hotan Uyghur Medicine (China) for a period of five years (beginning from February 27, 2007 to 2012) will cooperate in studies and activities concerning Abu Ali Sina, that is, introduction, review and application of medicinal herbs, exchanging studies and information about Ibn Sina and related educational programmes and conferences within the framework of the current regulations of Government of India and China.

If one of the two parties does not inform the other one about the extension of this agreement exactly three months before the end of the above-mentioned period, this memorandum of cooperation will not be valid for a further period of five years".

Signed by Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences, (India) and by Dr. Tuerhong Aimaier alias Turgan, President, Xinjiang Higher Vocational School of Traditional Uyghur Medicine (China).

Lecture Series 24:

Dr. Abdul Jamil Khan, a noted paediatrician at New York, USA, delivered a lecture on "Evolution of Urdu & Hindi - A Panoramic View" here at Ibn Sina Academy on 12th March 2007.

The function which was presided over by Prof. Abul Kalam Qasmi of Urdu Department, was very well attended by many senior teachers of AMU including Prof. Shamim Ahmad (formerly, Civil Engineering), Prof. Mirza Khalil Beg (Linguistic), Prof. Fasih Ahmad Siddiqui (formerly, Chemistry), Prof. Hamida Ahmad (Sociology), Prof. Hisamuddin Farooqui (formerly, Zoology).

The meeting started with the introductory remarks of Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman, founder president of the Ibn Sina Academy, followed by a formal introduction of Dr. Abdul Jamil Khan by Prof. Fasih Ahmad Siddiqui. Prof. Siddiqui introduced Dr. Abdul Jamil Khan extensively. Dr. Khan did MBBS from King George Medical College, Lucknow, MD (Paediatrics) from PGI, Chandigarh. He taught in the Department of Paediatrics, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh as clinical registrar during 1968-69. He shifted to USA in 1970 and studied further about the infant speech development in New York.

He served as chairman of a teaching hospital and a professor of pediatrics specializing in infant speech development. He has now extended himself into linguistics studies, challenged by the pseudo science of race and religion driven linguistics, which he implicates in the anti-semitic Holocaust; its Indian parallel, the partition massacre; and other human right violations, a gross anathema to a physician-humanist.

Dr. Khan, an author of some hundred medical publications, has lately spoken on humanities, linguistics and cultural themes at universities and elsewhere, including Brooklyn Historical Society. He also authored a book on his Afghan ancestors' migration to India. Dr. Khan is a co-editor of a periodical "Health Message" and has received media attention in the US and in India. He was featured by Brad Gooch in *God Talk* (Random House 2002), and by Linda Cateura in *Voices of American Muslims* (Hippocrene Books 2005).

In the function, Dr. Khan enlightened with some of his recent story plots. He penned many Urdu novels and short stories, such as *Teen Mulk aik Kahani*, *Namon ka Egwa*, etc. In his speech, he also praised the activities of Ibn Sina Academy and its library and museum. Prof. Iftihar Alam Khan, Prof. Hisamuddin Farooqui, Prof. Mirza Khalil Beg and Prof. Aulad Ahmad Siddiqui also spoke and praised Urdu writings of Dr. Khan.

In the end, Prof. Masood Hasan, moved with the vote of thanks.

Lecture Series 25:

Dr. Mirza Hasan Beg, FRCS and a noted ENT practicing consultant at Kirkcaldy, Scotland, UK, delivered a lecture on "Waqai Babar" here at Ibn Sina Academy on 23rd March 2007.

The function, which was presided over by Prof. Shahabuddin Iraqi, chairman department of History, AMU, Aligarh, was very well attended by many senior teachers of AMU including Prof. Qazi Abdus Sattar, Prof. Nafees Baig, Prof. S. Hashim Rizvi, Prof. Anis Ahmad Ansari, Dr. Anjuman Ara Anjum, Mr. Zahoor Mohammad, Mr. Kafeel Ahmad Siddiqui, Mr. Mohd Abid Ali, Mr. Meher Ilahi, Mr. Z. H. Siddiqui, Prof. Liaqat H. Moini, Mr. M. Shamim Riaz, Prof. M. S. Z. Chaghtai, Prof. Ather H. Siddiqui, Prof. S. M. Razauallah Ansari, Mr. Khalid Nadeem, Prof. Masoodul Hasan, Dr. Abdul Mateen, Mr. Syed Mohd. Yunus Jafri, Ms. Hina Rasheed, Prof. Aulad Ahmad Siddiqui, Prof. Iftikhar Alam Khan, and Dr. Abdul Latif.

The meeting started with the introductory remarks of Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman, founder president of the Ibn Sina Academy, who informed the Speaker about the mission of the Academy and familiarised the audience about the personality of Dr. M. H. Beg. He told specifically, how Dr. Beg took care of him when he visited Scotland. Although, he belongs to the medical discipline, yet he takes lot of interest in literature, particularly that of Mughal history. He edited *Bairam Khan* (1992) of Prof. Sukumar Ray, which was published by

the Institute of Central and West Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Karachi, Pakistan. He is married to the granddaughter of Hakim Jamil Ahmad Khan, who was the son of Hakim Ajmal Khan.

Prof. Syed Yunus Jaffrey, a noted Persian Scholar (of Zakir Hussain College, New Delhi), translated *Waq-i-Babar* from Persian into Urdu. He threw light on works of Babar and appreciated Dr. Beg's substantial contribution in writing commentaries and notes to *Waq-i-Babar*.

Dr. Hasan Beg also showed a documentary film of his travels in the footsteps of Babar highlighting the architecture, memories and grandeurs of history, sights and sounds described by Babar from Farghana to Hindustan.

Chinese Delegation at Ibn Sina Academy

A Chinese delegation from Xinjiang consisting of 11 members visited Ibn Sina Academy on February 27, 2007. The delegation met office bearers of the Academy including some active life-members. After a formal introduction, dialogues, and discussion, a mutual interaction for future cooperation was formalised between the Hotan Uyghur Medical College and Ibn Sina Academy.

President, AMU Alumni Association of Chicago visits Ibn Sina Academy

In honour of Dr. M. Muzaffaruddin Farooqui, Former President, AMU Alumni Association of Chicago, a welcome ceremony was organized here at Ibn Sina Academy on 25th February 2007.

The function, which was presided over by Prof. M. Hisamuddin Faruqi, was very well attended by some of the respected senior teachers of AMU including Prof. Aulad Ahmad Siddiqui, Prof. Iftikhar Alam Khan, Prof. Ather Hussain Siddiqi, Prof. Fasih Ahmad Siddiqui, Prof. Nafees Baig, and Prof. Durdana Beg.

The meeting started with the introductory remarks of Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman, founder president of the Ibn Sina Academy, followed by formal introduction of Dr. M. Muzaffaruddin Farooqui by Prof. Fasih Ahmad Siddiqui. Prof. Siddiqui introduced Dr. Farooqui in his unique style. Dr. Farooqui did his graduation and post-graduation in Chemistry from Osmania University (Hyderabad) and then doctorate (Ph.D.) from Aligarh Muslim University (Aligarh) under the able guidance of Prof. Wahiduddin Malik. Dr. Farooqui also taught at Aligarh in the Department of Chemistry for some time on the request of Prof. Akhlaqur Rahman Qidwai before he shifted to USA.

At the function, Dr. Muzaffaruddin Farooqui enlightened with some of his recent experiences while living in USA. In his speech, he also praised the activities of Ibn Sina Academy and its library and museum. In addition, Mr. S. Sarfraz Zaidi a noted artist of AMU exhibited his recent paintings on Aligarh and Sir Syed for this special function.

Visits of Prominent Figures at IAMMS

Mr. Irfan Ghazi, Mr. Umar Ghazi, Ms. Lubna Ghazi and M. Ghazi (Virginia, USA), Dr. M. I. H. Siddiqui and Mrs. B. J. Siddiqui (Milton Keynes, UK), Shabneez (St. Port Louis, USA), Dr. Shaheer Khan (CA, USA), Mr. Mashkooor Siddiqui (USA), Dr. Aslam Shaheer Khan (Australia), Dr. M. Hossein Mozafferi (Cultural Councilor, Iran Culture House, Embassy of Islamic Republic of Iran, New Delhi, India), Prof. M. Hasan (Jaipur), Ms. Parvin Toorawala (Mauritius), Dr. M. Muzaffaruddin Farooqui (USA), Dr. Abdul Jamil Khan (NY, USA), Prof. Dr. Humra Mahmood (NY, USA), Ajjalkebaier Aisa (China), Tuerxun-Shadier (China), Wang Xuecai (China), Zhang Xunying (China), Paerhati-Keremu (China), Silafu-Aibai (China), Yan Ming (China), Abudureyimu Abudukerimu (China), Kaisaier Abudoukeremu (China), Lu Qiaoying (China), Dr. Tuerhong Aimaier alias Turgan (China), Dr. Akhlaq Asar (Bhopal), Dr. Mirza Hasan Beg (Scotland, UK), Prof. S. M. Yunus Jafri (New Delhi), Dr. Syed Kalble Sadiq (Lucknow, India).

**INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS
OF IAMMS**

INTERNATIONAL MEETING

Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman was invited to attend the Advisory Council Meeting of the International Association of Medical Colleges (IAOMC) at UN Millennium Plaza, New York, USA, on 17th March 2007. Dr Rahman is one of the site visitors and member of the Advisory Council's Medical Educator Section I of the IAOMC.

The Advisory Council of the IAOMC sponsored a discussion and debate on the Potentials and Limitations of Distance Learning. Council members, medical educators, regulators and medical schools using distance learning helped to define its potentials and limitations. The session was taped and transcribed. Following personalities significantly contributed in the discussion - Dr. Mike Golding, Chair of the Medical Regulator Section of the Advisory Council, Dr. James Hillard (Randy) Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs, University of Cincinnati School of Medicine, Dr. Dorian Shillingford, Chair of the Dominican Medical Board, Dr. Eugene Kucharz, Professor of the University of Silesia, Dr. James Appleyard, former President of the World Medical Council, Secretary of the Advisory Council's Executive Committee, & Chair of the Council's Medical Ethics, Dr. Wojciech Zaluska, Professor at the University of Lublin, Poland, Dr. Ansel (Ray) Marks, Executive Secretary, New York Board for Professional Misconduct, Dr. Nancy Perri, Dean, Ross University and IAOMC Vice President, Dr. Bernard (Bernie) Ferguson, President, CEO, IAOMC, Dr. Nivritti Patil, Assistant Dean Education and Student Affairs and Director, Centre for Education and Training, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine University of Hong Kong, Dr. Mahendra Patel, Founder and President, Hope Medical Institute, Assistant Treasurer, IAOMC and voting representative of Hope Institute, Mr. Arun Acharya, Executive Assistant at Hope Medical Institute and Dr. Elizabeth Katchur, Consultant in medical education, New York, USA.

NATIONAL CONFERENCES

Prof. S. Zillur Rahman & Prof. Anis Ahmad Ansari represented AIDS Cell of the Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh, during "**Unani Medicine in HIV/AIDS - National Consultation**" organised by CCRUM as a part of System Rejuvenation Initiative-IV, on 22nd January 2007 at India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi. Both Prof. Rahman & Prof. Ansari also jointly presided over a technical session-1. During the Workshop, eminent speakers including Dr. Jotna Sokhey, Additional Project Director, NACO, Dr. V. P. Singh, Asst. Director CCRH, Dr. BTC Murthy, Director CCRYN, Dr. GS Lavekar, Director CCRAS & Hakeem S. Khaleefathullah (Chennai), delved into the subject of AIDS and its implications in Unani Medicine. Dr. M. Khalid Siddiqui, Director CCRUM & Executive Member of Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh, presented his introductory comments while Mr. Shiv Basant, Joint Secretary, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India, inaugurated the function.

Prof. Rahman and **Prof. Ansari** also attended **National Workshop on Recent Trends in Arthritis and Unani Medicine**, organised by Faculty of Unani Medicine, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, on March 16, 2007. During the seminar, both Prof. Rahman and Prof. Ansari, chaired scientific sessions.

Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman, Prof. Anis Ahmad Ansari and **Dr. Abdul Latif** attended the **Seminar on Historical and Literary Research in Unani Medicine**, organised by the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, during March 20-22, 2007. During the seminar, **Prof. Rahman** delivered a keynote address and spoke also at the inaugural function. He chaired two scientific sessions including the first session and took part in most of the deliberations. He also spoke at the valedictory function. **Prof. Ansari** and **Dr. Abdul Latif** chaired other scientific sessions.

Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari participated in the following Seminars.

1. Two-Day National Seminar on "Translation as Cultural Transaction: Persian as a Bridge", held at the Department of Persian, University of Delhi, Feb.27-28, 2007. The topic of **Prof. Ansari's** paper was: "Translations of Sanskrit Scientific Texts into Persian and Vice Versa: Instances of Cultural Interaction".

2. International Seminar on "Persian Literature Produced during the Sultanate Period", Department of Persian, Aligarh Muslim University (Aligarh), March 27-29, 2007. **Prof. Ansari** read his paper on "Promotion of Exact Sciences During the 14th-15th Centuries".

3. A National Seminar on "Science Institutions in Pre-Independent India", organised under the auspices of the Project of History of Indian Science, Philosophy and Culture, held in Guwahati, Feb. 28-March 2, 2007. **Prof. Ansari** presented his paper on "Early Indian Observatories during 19th Century India".

Taking advantage of the proximity of Guwahati to Kolkata, **Prof. Razaullah Ansari** visited the Asiatic Society Library (Kolkata), and The National Library (Kolkata), to meet there the Librarians of the two institutions, in order to discuss the logistics of organising the International Project: *Islamic Scientific Manuscripts Initiative*. The readers may refer to the last issue in which a brief note on ISMI has already been published. Dr. Mithali Chatterjee, the Librarian of the Asiatic Society and Prof. Mandel, the Director of The National Library appreciated the Project and promised Prof. Ansari to cooperate fully in its implementation.

4. As a recently appointed member of the Indian National Commission for History of Science, which operates under the auspices of the Indian National Science Academy (New Delhi), Prof. Ansari attended its meeting held on March 26-27, 2007, at New Delhi. NC deliberates on the various projects concerning History of Science and Technology. At the same time it is a liaison between National Academy and the International Union for

History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS). The National Commission has approved the formation of a sub-committee to monitor the activities of IUHPS Council. Prof. Ansari has been appointed as the member-Secretary of this Sub-committee.

Prof. S. Zillur Rahman was invited to attend the Workshop of Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM) to finalise the list of Equipments, Instruments, Machineries, Charts, Models, etc., which are essentially required for various departments of Unani Colleges and Hospitals. The meeting was held at the Auditorium of Combined Councils' Building, New Delhi during 26th and 27th February 2007.

Prof. Mustahsin A. Jafri and **Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman** participated in The First Indian Congress on Alternatives to the Use of Animals in Research, Testing & Education, I-CARE, Chennai, January 29-31, 2006. Chennai is a beautiful Dravidian city of India – a sun soaked city, sunk in traditions, a land famous for beautiful doors, temples, hand woven saris, philosophy and intellectual power. It is the capital of the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu and a home state of Nobel laureates Sir C.V. Raman and Subrahmanyam Chandrasekhar.

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman and **Dr. M. Tauheed Ahmad** participated in WHO Second Annual Forum of MCH Community by Solution Exchange of UNAIDS, held at Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Sewagram, Wardha (Maharashtra) during 9 – 10 February 2007.

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman and **Dr. Misbahuddin** participated in 'Academia Industry Synergy Continuum Symposium on Promotion of Pharmacovigilance in India' under the aegis of Department of Pharmacology, AIIMS, New Delhi and Johnson & Johnson Ltd., held on March 15, 2007 at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

Mr. S. Hasan Zahid Jamal, participated in the One-day Workshop on 'Prevention Conservation of Manuscripts and Library Materials', that was organized for MCPC's by Rampur Raza Library (Rampur) and National Mission for Manuscripts (New Delhi), during November 7-11, 2006 at Rampur. Mr. Jamal represented the Library of Ibn Sina Academy, which is a member partner of National Mission of Manuscripts (NMM).

Dr. Mohd Tariq Salman participated and presented papers in 3rd International Symposium on Current Trends in Drug Discovery Research, Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, during 17-21 February 2007 and UP MICROCON (UP Chapter of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists), Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh during 24-25 February 2007.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITY OF IAMMS MEMBERS

Dr. M. Athar Ansari and **Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman** will act as coordinators for CME Programme (3 sessions) for Private Physicians on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Awareness. The programme will be jointly organized by National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), Indian Medical Association and Clinton Foundation during April 7, 15, and 22, 2007 at Aligarh under the banner of IMA Aligarh Branch. Similar programme (in 6 sessions) were also held last year. In all the sessions, Dr. M. Athar Ansari was also invited as resource person.

Dr. Rahman is also nominated as one of the representatives of the AIDS Care Watch (ACW) Country Focal Points in India. ACW is an international body whose headquarter lies in Chiang Mai, Thailand. AIDS Cell of the Ibn Sina Academy is already a partner member of the ACW for the last 3 years. With this nomination, AIDS Cell of the Academy will further be strengthened.

REPORTS OF THE CONFERENCES HELD (MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTION)

First Indian Congress on Alternatives to the Use of Animals in Research, Testing & Education, I-CARE, Chennai, January 29-31, 2006.

The Congress was more than an ordinary conference with scientific lectures and paper sessions on the concept of alternatives and their use. It was unique, that participating scientists / scholars had the opportunity to have direct experience in the use of the state-of-the-art alternatives currently employed in research, testing and education worldwide.

Invited speakers were world renowned scientists, heads and directors of international platforms of alternatives research and corporate like the ECVAM of the European Union, ZEBET (Germany), CAAT (Johns Hopkins, USA), L'Oreal (France), Invitro Tech (UK), Invitro AdMet Labs (USA), Kennedy Krieger Center (USA), Oregon Health & Science University (USA)

The Congress was held in Sri Ramachandra Medical College, which, according to its website, (<http://www.srmc.edu/university>) is one of the top medical schools on the national level. It is dedicated to excellence in education, research, and patient care. Woven throughout all these pursuits is a strong commitment to public service, a collaborative work ethic, and to provide care for our diverse communities. Sri Ramachandra Medical College & Research Institute was established in the year 1985 as part of the Sri Ramachandra Education & Health Trust under the leadership of Shri N.P.V. Ramasamy Udayar. Ever since its inception, the institute grew from strength to strength gaining the status of a "Deemed University" in the year 1994. The Deemed University, now consisting of 9 Constituent Colleges with over 45 Departments, offers about 85 courses. Over 3,500 students benefit from the excellent facilities available there. The institute is committed to advancement of medical education, health care and research

and is set to achieve a greater level of excellence in all these fields.

The International Centre for Alternatives in Research and Education (I-CARE) that has been established in India promotes the "science of alternatives" and aims to create a strong and positive presence of alternatives to the use of animals in research testing and education both in India and abroad. I-CARE is a unit of "People for Animals", the largest animal welfare movement in India, founded by world renowned environmentalist Maneka Gandhi. I-CARE is dedicated to work for the cause of laboratory animal welfare and use of alternatives.

WHO Second Annual Forum of MCH Community by Solution Exchange of UNAIDS, held at Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Sewagram, Wardha (Maharashtra) during 9 – 10 February 2007.

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Community of Solution Exchange opened its Second Annual Forum at Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (MGIMS) in Sevagram on 9 February 2007. During the two-day workshop over 200 MCH Community members had a chance to interact face-to-face, identify and discuss emerging maternal and child health issues, and look for opportunities to take action in these critical areas. The Forum was sponsored by a panel of distinguished guests from the MGIMS, Government of India, Government of Maharashtra and the facilitating agencies in United Nations.

The scientific sessions inaugurated by Dr. Arvind Mathur (WHO, India) who presented the emerging issues on the new 'WHO Recommended Growth Standards', followed by Dr. S. R. Patel (Government of Gujarat) who spoke on 'Public Private Partnership in Health Care Delivery', and Dr. Nozer Sheriar (FOGSI) who gave his views on 'Access to Safe Abortion'. The second half of the day saw four conveners: Dr. Bulbul Sood (CEDPA) and Dr. Rajiv Tandon (USAID) who deliberated on

'Skilled Birth Attendance'; Dr. B. S. Garg (MGIMS) shared his experience and concerns on 'Community Based IMNCI' and Dr. Dinesh Agarwal, (UNFPA) spoke on 'Access to Emergency Contraception'.

On the second day, six groups visited MGIMS community based interventions sites to get first hand experience on three projects: 'ICMR-Home-based Neonatal Care (HBNC) and ICDS'; 'Community Led Initiatives for Child Survival (CLICS)'; and the MMR Reduction Project. The field visit ended with a free flowing discussion between project staff and Community members to crystallize the learning, which were later presented to all the Forum participants.

During the Forum, a short newsletter was published on the first-day sessions and a preview of second day activities.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE

Themed Lecture Series: Second Term 2006/2007

Dr Sanjoy Bhattacharya of the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL, London (UK) arranged Histories of the Global Eradication of Smallpox.

Senior managerial and field personnel involved in the smallpox eradication programme of the 1970s presented their own views of that historic campaign. By demonstrating the participants' perspective this series offered original insights into one of the greatest public health achievements of the twentieth century as it unfolded across the globe.

28 March 2007: Dr. Larry Brilliant (Executive Director, Google Foundation and Google.org USA) - spoke on 'How we Eradicated Smallpox from India?'

04 April 2007: Dr. Claudio do Amaral (Poliomyelitis National Eradication Programme Director & Smallpox Eradication Programme Director, Brazil) -spoke on 'Brazil's Smallpox

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Eradication Programme, its consequences and further developments'.

25 April 2007: Dr Isao Arita (Chairman, Agency for Cooperation in International Health, Japan) –spoke on the successful eradication of smallpox and the prospects for disease eradication efforts in the 21st century.'

02 May 2007: Dr. **Ciro A de Quadros** (President & CEO, and Director of International Programs, Albert B Sabin Vaccine Institute (SVI), Washington DC, USA) –spoke on 'The Last Challenge: The Horn of Africa'.

30 May 2007: Professor Donald A Henderson (Professor of Medicine and Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, and Resident Scholar, Center for Biosecurity, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, USA) –spoke on 'The Global Eradication of Smallpox: Historical perspectives and future Prospects'.

For further information, contact Dr Sanjoy Bhattacharya (sanjoy.bhattacharya@ucl.ac.uk)

(Courtesy: Prof. H J Cook, Director, Wellcome Trust Centre, h.cook@ucl.ac.uk)

Special Seminars in the History of Biomedicine

Dr. Marcia Meldrum of the University of California, Los Angeles, presented a seminar, titled "Measure for Measure: James Hardy and Henry Beecher on the Problem of Pain and Analgesia, 1940-57," on March 29, 2007.

Dr. Terry Sharrer of the National Museum of American History presented a seminar, titled "Collecting a Revolution: Interpreting Medicine since 1950" on April 3, 2007.

Dr. Leo Slater of the Office of NIH History presented a seminar, titled "Telling the Story of NIH: Two Episodes in Malaria Research at NIAID" on April 4, 2007.

Dr. John Swann of the FDA History Office presented a seminar, titled "Superfluous Flesh and Desiccated Thyroid: Origins and Etiology

of Obesity and Its Pharmaceutical Therapeutics," on April 5, 2007.

Dr. Robert Martensen of East Carolina University presented a seminar, titled "History in NIH/ NIH in History: accomplishments, challenges & opportunities," on April 12, 2007.

[Courtesy: Buhm Soon Park, Ph.D., Associate Historian, Office of NIH History]

LECTURES HELD

History of Biomedicine Seminar at the NIH

Dr. Arthur Daemmrich (Director of the Center for Contemporary History and Policy at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia) presented a lecture, titled "International Harmonization of Clinical Trials: Historical Lessons and Prospects for the Regulatory Future," on February 13, 2007.

About the speaker:

Author of a recent book, *Pharmacopolitics: Drug Regulation in the United States and Germany*, Dr. Daemmrich published widely on biotechnology policy and politics, the sociology of medicine, and pharmaceutical drug regulation. At the Chemical Heritage Foundation, he is supervising the projects on issues in innovation, globalization, risk, health and environmental policy.

About the commentator:

Dr. Daemmrich's lecture was followed by a formal commentary by Dr. Peg Barratt, Deputy Director of the NIH Clinical Research Policy Analysis and Coordination Program at the Office of Science Policy.

Abstract of the lecture: A series of meetings between national regulatory agencies and pharmaceutical industry trade groups in the U.S., EU, and Japan over the course of the 15 years have forged consensus on technical standards for the pre-clinical and clinical testing of new pharmaceuticals. Pursuing a vision of global drug approvals, participants in this International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) hope to speed market approval of new

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potentially life-saving therapies. Yet, the invention, testing, and marketing of new pharmaceuticals have reached a point of deep contention, with vociferous debates over which patients benefit from new drugs and what controls are in place to reduce conflicts of interest and ensure patient safety. With increasing frequency, industry, government regulators, physicians, and disease-based organizations find themselves presenting contrasting views of patients' pre-disease health status, economic well-being, and geographical location (often as a proxy for access to health care infrastructure). A divide has become apparent, on the one hand, between 'individualized' therapy and 'global' patients, and on the other, between a rational economic drive for low-cost clinical trials and attention to ethics, equity, and health care infrastructures. This talk explores these issues and argues that differences in disease definition and distinctive roles for medical experts and government officials in advanced, industrialized countries continue to play a determining role in how clinical trials are run and how their results are interpreted. Challenges to international harmonization are therefore two-fold: from patients more interested in care than efficiency and from national medical cultures that resist technocratic standardization & harmonization. The talk concludes with an analysis of diverse constructions of patient identity and how these may shape the international harmonization process.

This presentation was co-sponsored by the Office of NIH History and the Biomedical Research History Interest Group (BRHIG). For more information about the BRHIG and upcoming events, One can visit the websites at <http://history.nih.gov> or www.nih.gov/signs/brhig.

History of Biomedicine Seminar at the NIH

Dr. Dale C. Smith (Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medical History at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Maryland) presented a lecture, titled "How Do You Do 'Medical Science'? NIH and the Development of Clinical Research in

the Mid-Twentieth Century," on March 12 2007.

About the speaker:

Dr. Smith is the author of numerous papers and books on medical history, including his most recent book: "Centennial history of the American Gastroenterological Association (1999)". His professional interests include the history of graduate medical education, the history of infectious diseases, the history of surgery, and the problems of patient evacuation in military operations.

About the commentator:

Dr. Smith's lecture was followed by a formal commentary, by Dr. Alan N. Schechter, Acting Director of the Office of NIH History and Chief of the Molecular Medicine Branch, NIDDK.

Abstract of the lecture:

The National Institutes of Health is the nation's premier medical institution but it had its origins in the laboratory tradition rather than the clinical tradition. As medicine searched for a clinical science in the twentieth century, NIH was called upon to move outside its origins and engage in an effort to contribute to medical science in the clinic. It did this in both intramural and extramural venues and through both actual research and the support of the research tradition. This paper recounts the internal origins of the Clinical Center and some of the challenges of intramural clinical research at NIH as well as the efforts of NIH in the extramural world through the provision of training grants, the general medicine study sections and the intellectual contributions of NIH to the development of clinical trials as a research tool in 20th century medicine.

This presentation was co-sponsored by the Office of NIH History and the Biomedical Research History Interest Group (BRHIG). For more information about the BRHIG and for upcoming events, visit the websites at <http://history.nih.gov> or www.nih.gov/signs/brhig

ELECTRONIC BOOK

The Bodleian Library in collaboration with The Oriental Institute, University of Oxford, announces the electronic publication of *The Book of Curiosities of the Sciences and Marvels for the Eyes*, a newly discovered medieval Arabic treatise on the depiction of the Heavens and the Earth. The treatise is one of the most important recent finds in the history of Islamic cartography in particular, and for the history of pre-modern cartography in general. The publication of the treatise is mounted on a dedicated website employing a new method for publishing medieval maps:

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/bookofcuriosities>

The *Book of Curiosities* is an illustrated anonymous cosmography, compiled in Egypt during the first half of the 11th century. The only known copy of this manuscript, probably made in the late 12th or early 13th century, was acquired by the Bodleian Library in 2002. The manuscript contains a unique series of maps and diagrams, most of which are unparalleled in any other medieval work. These include diagrams of star-groups and comets; a rectangular map of the world with a graphic scale (the earliest surviving example of such a map); a circular world map; individual maps of islands and ports in the eastern Mediterranean, including Sicily, Tinnis, Mahdia, Cyprus, and the Byzantine coasts of Asia Minor; maps illustrating the Mediterranean Sea as a whole, the Indian Ocean, and the Caspian Sea; and maps of five major rivers (the Nile, Indus, Oxus, Euphrates, and Tigris).

The website contains an electronic high-quality reproduction of all the folios of the original manuscript, linked by mouse-overs to an Arabic edition and an annotated English translation of the text of the treatise as well as the labels on the maps. The site also allows users to search for English and Arabic terms, consult an extensive glossary, and study explanatory diagrams. The treatise is available in its entirety except for five chapters from Book 1 on astronomy and astrology that will be available shortly.

This is the first electronic publication of a work of medieval Islamic cartography, promoting research in a relatively neglected field. It is also intended to be widely used as a teaching tool in graduate and undergraduate courses on Islamic history, Islamic culture, and the history of science. For younger students, the website contains a downloadable Teacher's Pack based on portions of the manuscript, suitable for Key Stage 3 of the UK National Curriculum (aimed at 11-14 year olds).

NEW WEBSITES AND LINKS

1. Balm of America

The Smithsonian Institution announced the launch of the new website, "Balm of America." This website documents the National Museum of American History's collection of historic patent medicines. The first group posted consists of 294 objects; searchable by keyword, maker, place made & therapeutic use. A short history of patent medicines has been provided, as well as the opportunity to submit questions or comments. Additional objects will be added in the near future. The address is <http://americanhistory.si.edu/collections>

It can also be reached through NMAH's webpage at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/>. Go to the collections page & click "object groups" on the left hand side.

Courtesy: Eric Jentsch (jentsche@si.edu)

2. Book on History of Medicine

<http://muslimheritage.com/topics/default.cfm?ArticleID=676>

Courtesy: Professor S. M. Razaullah Ansari (raza.ansari@gmx.net)

3. Review articles published on two books

- *Medieval Islamic Medicine* by Peter E. Formann and Emilie Savage-Smith published by Edinburgh University Press, 2007.

<http://muslimheritage.com/topics/default.cfm?ArticleID=676>

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- *Islamic Science and the Making of the European Renaissance* by George Saliba. MIT Press, 2007

<http://muslimheritage.com/topics/default.cfm?ArticleID=675>

The articles consist of complete bibliographic references, short review of content, extracts, endorsements, and purchase information.

Courtesy: Mohammed Abattouy, Professor of History and Philosophy of Science Mohammed Vth University, Rabat-Agdal Faculty of Letters, Philosophy Department Rabat, Morocco. Email: abattouy@menara.ma

4. Ziauddin Sardar: *Islam and science: beyond the troubled relationship*

<http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/page.asp?tip=1&id=5747>

Video streaming of the lecture can be viewed at: <http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/page.asp?tip=1&id=5723> [Scroll down to the page bottom and choose the video streamer (Real Player or Media Player), depending on the width of your broadband].

JOBS OPENING

Historian of Science and Medicine

History Associates Incorporated is actively seeking a historian of science and medicine to participate in a digital archives project.

History Associates has been a leader in providing historical, archival, and records management services to both the public and private sectors for over 25 years. We have built this reputation by consistently providing the highest quality of service to our clients.

Responsibilities:

The historian will provide historical research and writing services necessary to make the archival collections of pioneering biomedical scientists, public health officials, and science administrators of the 20th century available through its *Profiles and Science* project on the World Wide Web

Duties: The historian shall identify and select documents for inclusion in the *Profiles in Science* digital publication according to historical significance; analyze and interpret them; edit them online; conduct research in the history of biomedical science, medical research policy, public health, and health care related to the documents; and write concise interpretive narratives that provide historical context for the documents.

Required Qualifications:

1. PhD in 20th century U.S. history
2. Specialization in the history of medicine, either with a doctoral dissertation or through subsequent scholarly work.
3. Demonstrable knowledge of 20th century American science and medicine, public health, and health policy and strong writing skills through peer reviewed publications and/or exhibit work.
4. Experience in surveying and evaluating large amounts of primary archival manuscript sources and expertise in the use of electronic archival and bibliographic databases.
5. Demonstrable ability to successfully carry out highly specific research, interpretation, and writing tasks according to a tightly defined scope and schedule.
6. Strong communication skills and the ability to work independently and in a team setting.

History Associates offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits package including paid holidays, annual and sick leave; medical, dental, life insurance, disability insurance, and a 401(k) plan.

Qualified applicants should send a cover letter that includes salary requirements, resume, writing sample, transcripts and three references to: History Associates Incorporated, 300 N. Stonestreet Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850. Attn: Doris Miles

Position opens until filled. History Associates is an Equal Opportunity Employer

www.historyassociates.com

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Trainee curator for European and Islamic scientific instruments

For the first time in its history, the British Museum is offering the post of a trainee curator for European and Islamic scientific instruments. This post is jointly funded by the Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers and the British Museum for a period of two years. The deadline for application is 7th March 2007. Details can be found on: <http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/jobs/72711W.doc>

OBITUARY

Prof. Pierre Julien passed away on 11th March 2007. He had been for many years a very active member of the French society of history of pharmacy and an active member of the international academy of history of pharmacy.

The Ibn Sina Academy mourns the sad demise of Prof. Pierre Julien.

DOCUMENTATION

The 1st International Congress of the International Society for History of Islamic Medicine

The First International Congress of the International Society for History of Islamic Medicine was held during February 20-23, 2007 in Doha-Qatar. 35 papers were delivered with 45 participants from 18 countries: Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Algeria, Iran, Turkey, Malaysia, Azerbaijan, France, Switzerland, Italy, UK, Ireland and USA. A meeting of the executive committee of ISHIM was held in the last day of the congress, with reelection of board member.

The results of the reelection were as follow:

- Dr. Hajar A. Hajar Al-Binali (Honorary president)
- Dr. Abdul Nasser Kaadan (President)
- Prof. Faisal Al Nasir (General Secretary and treasurer)
- Prof. Nil Sari (1st Vice president)

- Dr. Madhi Muhaqak (2nd Vice president)
- Dr. Hussain Nagamia (3rd Vice President)
- Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Awadhi (Member)
- Dr. Sharif Kaf Al-Gazal (Member)
- Prof. Mustafa Shehata (Member)

The board expressed its deepest thanks and appreciation to Dr. Hajar Al-Binali and the State of Qatar for facilitating and hosting the congress.

Courtesy: Prof. Abdul Nasser Kaadan, MD, PhD. (a.kaadan@scs-net.org)

Medieval Muslims made stunning mathematical breakthrough

Magnificently sophisticated geometric patterns in medieval Islamic architecture indicate their designers achieved a mathematical breakthrough 500 years earlier than Western scholars, scientists said on Thursday.

By the 15th century, decorative tile patterns on these masterpieces of Islamic architecture reached such complexity that a small number boasted what seem to be "quasi-crystalline" designs, Peter Lu of Harvard University and Paul Steinhardt of Princeton University wrote in the journal 'Science'.

Only in the 1970s did British mathematician and cosmologist Roger Penrose become the first to describe these geometric designs in the West. Quasi-crystalline patterns comprise a set of interlocking units whose pattern never repeats, even when extended infinitely in all directions, and possess a special form of symmetry.

"Oh, it's absolutely stunning," Lu said in an interview. "They made tiling that reflects mathematics that was so sophisticated, that we didn't figure it out until the last 20 or 30 years." Lu and Steinhardt in particular cite designs on the Darb-i Imâm shrine in Isfahan.

Islamic tradition has frowned upon pictorial representations in artwork. Mosques and other grand buildings erected by Islamic architects throughout the Middle East, Central Asia and

elsewhere often are wrapped in rich, intricate tile designs setting out elaborate geometric patterns.

The walls of many medieval Islamic structures display sumptuous geometric star-and-polygon patterns. The research indicated that by 1200 an important breakthrough had occurred in Islamic mathematics and design, as illustrated by these geometric designs. "One can go through and see the evolution of increasing geometric sophistication. So they start out with simple patterns, and they get more complex" over time, according to Mr. Lu.

Islamic Achievements

While Europe was stuck in the Dark Ages, beginning in the 7th century the Islamic culture flourished with achievements in mathematics, medicine, engineering, ceramics, art, textiles, architecture and other areas over numerous centuries.

Lu said, that the new revelations suggested Islamic culture was even more advanced than previously thought.

While traveling in Uzbekistan, Lu noticed a 16th century Islamic building with decagonal motif tiling, arousing his curiosity as to the existence of quasi-crystalline Islamic tiling.

The sophistication of the patterns used in Islamic architecture has intrigued scholars worldwide.

Emil Makovicky of the University of Copenhagen in Denmark in the 1990s noticed the relationship between these designs and a form of quasi-crystalline designs. Makovicky was interested in particular in a tomb of 1197 A.D. built in Maraghah (Iran).

Joshua Socolar, a Duke University physicist, said, "It is unclear whether the medieval Islamic artisans fully understood the mathematical properties of the patterns they were making. But the fact remains that the patterns are tantalizingly close to having the structure that Penrose discovered in the mid-

70s. And it will be a lot of fun if somebody turns up with that sort of bigger tilings to make a more convincing case that they understood even more of the geometry than the present examples show".

[Source: Reuters service (Washington), dated Feb.23, 2007.

For details visit the website:
http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20070223/sc_nm/architecture_patterns_dc].

Translation Work of the "Treatise on Smallpox and Measles" by Abu Bakr Mohammad Ibn Zakariya Razi

A translation by William Greenhill was published by the Sydenham Society in 1847 (1848?) and the Classics of Medicine Library reprinted it in 1987. Physical copies of the original are extant in the library of UTMB (Galveston), the Southwestern Medical Center, and the Houston Academy of Medicine has a copy of the reprint.

Another translation into Persian with original text in Arabic was done with extensive commentary by Dr. Mahmood Nadjmabadi (1903-1995), published by the University of Tehran in 1965 (Publication series 1940). A copy of the above book was presented to the President of the Ibn Sina Academy, Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman by the author Dr. Mahmood Nadjmabadi with his autograph on 30th June 1968, which is now extant in the library of Ibn Sina Academy.

(The above information was posted at one of the discussion forums Islamsci@lists.mcgill.ca by Professor Michael McVaugh, USA (mcvaugh@email.unc.edu) and Professor S. Zillur Rahman, (ibnsinaacademy@gmail.com) in reply to Prof. Mohammad Reza Mohebbi, Department of Neurology, The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, 6431 Fannin, Suite 7.044, Houston, TX 77030 (USA) E-mail: Mohammad.R.Mohebbi@uth.tmc.edu).

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.

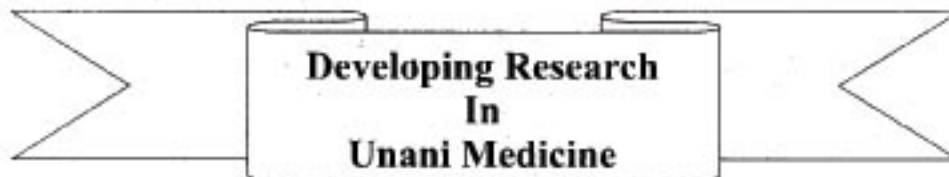
THE AREAS OF ACTIVITY

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 8650 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

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE

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Medieval Medicine & Sciences**

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

1 Name:

2 Educational Qualifications:

3 Addresses:
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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 postmark charges.
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