

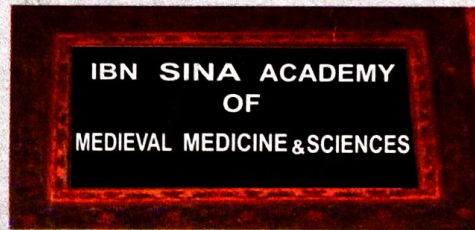
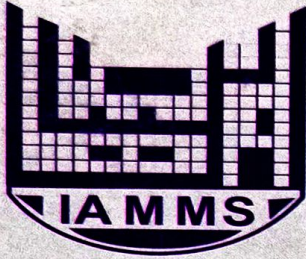
Vol. 13

No. 2

Issue 49

April-June 2013

ISSN No.: 0972-6411



# Newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy (NISA)

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Published by the Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences



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**EVENTS AT IBN SINA ACADEMY**  
**(January – March 2013)**

**Guest Lecture Series 31**

Professor Gordon Campbell, an expert of Renaissance studies, Leicester University, UK delivered a lecture on 'Education in the Muslim World' here at Ibn Sina Academy.

While welcoming the guests, Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy said that the Academy has been instrumental in preserving the Indian culture, heritage and educational values. Today's lecture is a series of guest lectures that has been organizing for the last 12 years on several topics of relevance.

Prof Abdur Rahim Kidwai, the executive member of Ibn Sina Academy, while introducing the speaker Prof. Campbell, said Prof Campbell is a renowned name in the Islamic world. He served as Chairman and President of the English Association and as Chairman of the Society for Renaissance Studies. Professor Campbell is a Fellow of several learned societies including the Society of Antiquaries, Royal Historical Society, Royal Geographical Society, Royal Asiatic Society, etc. He travelled widely including many Muslim dominating countries. He has been closely associated with the delivery of education in the Muslim world as the founding chair of the Consortium of British Universities in Iraq and Saudi Arabia. He has published extensively on English Literature, Cultural History, Arts, Architecture, Biblical Studies, Classical Antiquity, Garden History, Legal History, Historical Theology and the Islamic World. Presently he is engaged in writing a book entitled "Contemporary Islam" to be published by the Oxford University Press. He has a keen interest in Islam and the Muslim world.

Professor Gordon Campbell in his guest lecture, said, education among the masses of Muslims is very crucial for the progress of any country. No country can boast of development if its sizeable population remains illiterate and poor. He gave the example of Turkey, Iran and other countries. He praised that the large numbers of population of these countries engaged in higher education, reconstruction of community, and society. In an earlier era, political or religious leaders would prescribe, and others were supposed to follow. Today, the major impetus for change in religious and political values comes from below. In France, this has meant an identity shift from being Muslim in France to being French Muslim. In Turkey, it means that an increasing number of Turks, especially those of the younger generation, see themselves as European and Muslim at the same time. So forth so, some Iranians argue that the major transformations of the Iranian revolution occurred not in 1978-79 but with the coming of age of a new generation of Iranians who were not even born at the time of the revolution. These transformations include a greater sense of autonomy for both women and men and the emergence of a public sphere in which politics and religion are subtly intertwined, and not always in ways anticipated by Iran's formal religious leaders. Similarly, there are lots of developments in the life of Muslims living in France, Turkey, Iran, Indonesia, and elsewhere that suggest that they are living through an era of profound social transformation for the Muslim majority world. Mass education and mass communication in the modern world facilitate an awareness of the new and unconventional. He further said that mass education and mass communications are



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important in all contemporary world religions. However, the full effects of mass education, especially higher education, only began to be felt in much of the Muslim world since mid-century and in many countries considerably later. In country after country — including Morocco, Egypt, Turkey, and Indonesia — educational opportunities have dramatically expanded at all levels. Even where adult illiteracy rates in the general populace remains high, as in rural Egypt and Morocco, there is now a critical mass of educated people able to read, think for themselves, and react to religious and political authorities rather than just listen to them. Women's access to education still lags behind that of men, although the gap is rapidly closing in many countries. Both mass education and mass communications, particularly the proliferation of media and the means by which people communicate, have had a profound effect on how people think about religion and politics throughout the Muslim world.

In his presidential remarks, Prof Dr. Mohammad Nejatullah Siddiqui, a noted economist, scholar and Shah Faisal Award winner, said that the condition of Indian Muslims, especially in the field of education and financial system is not good. Indian Muslims are less privileged than other country fellows. We need to solve point by point.

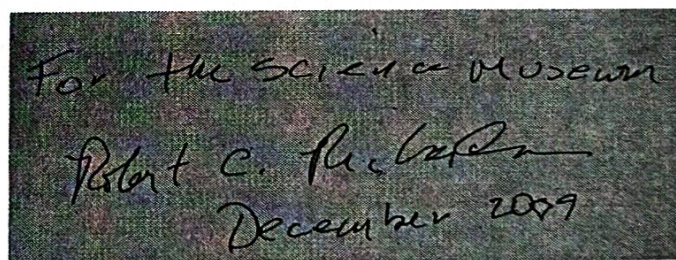
Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari, General Secretary, Ibn Sina Academy, very well conducted the program and proposed a vote of thanks. A large number of scholars and teachers attended the program, To name a few, Prof. Saeeduz Zafar Chughtai, Prof. Shan Mohammad, Prof. Hisamuddin Farooqui, Prof. Shahabuddin Iraqi, Prof. Abul Kalam Qasmi, Prof. Sagheer Afrahim, Prof. Tajuddin, Prof. Zafar Ahmad Siddiqui, Prof. Saud Ali Khan, Prof. Tariq Chattari, Prof. Pervez Talib, Dr. Abdul Latif, Dr. Shadan Nemat,

Mr. Zahoor Mohammad, Dr. Abdur Rauf, etc.

**Sad demise of Nobel Laureate Robert Coleman Richardson**

Ibn Sina Academy has recently got the sad news of the death of Robert Coleman Richardson, who shared the 1996 Nobel Prize in Physics for the discovery of the property of superfluidity in helium-3 atoms. Robert Richardson was not only a well-wisher of Ibn Sina Academy but also an online supporter of its museum. Below is the autograph of Richardson sent for the Science Museum of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Science.

Robert Richardson was born on June 26 1937 and died on February 19 2013.



The executive committee of Ibn Sina Academy pays a rich tribute to the friends and family members of Dr. Robert Coleman Richardson.

**Ibn Sina Academy Donation to AMU Museum**

Ibn Sina Academy has donated a set of postal stamps on Sir Syed and other personalities associated with MAO College and Aligarh Muslim University on the occasion of International Conference on Biodeterioration of Cultural Property during the valedictory function on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

The conference was organized by Department of Museology, AMU, Aligarh in collaboration with International Council for Biodeterioration of Cultural Property.



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**4th Annual Petroleum Geology workshop**

The 4th Annual Petroleum Geology workshop was held with great success on 24th March 2103 at Ibn Sina Academy. The workshop was taken by Mr. Fishan Ur Rehman from Paris, France, from 9 am to 8 pm. It was organised for MSc Final year Geology students of Aligarh Muslim University. 25 students out of 30 participated in the whole day workshop.

**VISIT OF DIGNITARIES**

1. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Agricultural Sciences, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, February 4, 2013.
2. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Physics, UGC Academic Staff College, AMU, Aligarh, February 9, 2013.

On these occasions, Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman addressed the participants and gave an account of the History of Unani Medicine and about the values of culture and heritage. He showed them also the Museums of the Academy.

**FUTURE ACTIVITIES AT IBN SINA ACADEMY**

**Guest Lecture Series 32:**

A guest lecture by Dr. Javed Jamil, a renowned scholar and thinker, will be delivered on the topic "Muslims are most civilized, yet not enough". The lecture will be held at Ibn Sina Academy on 5.4.2013 in association with IDB Scholarship Program in India. For more detail, please contact, Dr. Mohammad Shahid Malik, HSC, IDB Scholarship Program in India.

**World Health Day will be observed at Ibn Sina Academy.**

Each year World Health Organization (WHO) selects a very important global problem of health and targets this on World Health Day. This year the theme of

World Health Day (April 7) is "High Blood Pressure"

Ibn Sina Academy (Aligarh) has been celebrating WHO Day for the last many years. It also instituted an annual lecture series in the memory of Prof. Mohammad Nasim Ansari, FRCS. Since 2007 this lecture has been organized every year on World Health Day along with other activities commemorating the establishment of WHO.

Prof. Ansari is remembered as an eminent founder faculty of the medical college at Aligarh Muslim University. He commanded great respect in the medical college community as well as the university at large. The Academy organize this annual event to cherish his memories.

It is a great privilege to announce that this year Professor Arshad Hafeez Khan (Chairman, Dept of Plastic Surgery, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, AMU) has very kindly accepted to deliver the Seventh Prof. Nasim Ansari Memorial Oration on 7th April at 11:00 am. Prof. M. H. Beg (Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Chairman, Department of Cardio-thoracic Surgery) has consented to speak on the significance of WHD. Brig (Retd) Syed Ahmad Ali, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University, has agreed to preside over the function while Dr. S. Mohsin Raza (Senior Consultant, General Surgery) is requested to introduce the Ibn Sina Academy on behalf of the executive committee.

**MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES**

Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman (President, Ibn Sina Academy) attended following seminars and meetings.

- Guest of honour, Inaugural Function, National Seminar on Scope of Emerging Technologies in Unani Medicine, during 23 March 2013, organized by DRS I, Department of



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Ilmul Advia, AK Tibbiya College, Aligarh Muslim University. During the function, he was also awarded 'Lifetime Achievement Award' from the Department of Ilmul Advia, for his social and academic excellence. A shawl, citation and plaque were presented to him by the hands of Dr. G. N. Qazi, Vice Chancellor, Hamdard University, Delhi.

- Annual meeting of the All India Unani Tibbi Conference, Hyderabad Branch. Prof. Rahman was welcomed by the president of the Conference Hakim Syed Ghausuddin.
- Meetings to finalise the dossier of Unani System of Medicine, CCRUM, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, INA, New Delhi, during 12.1.2013, 20.1.2013, 27.1.2013, 30.1.2013 and 2.2.2013.
- Guest of honour, Nalin Smriti Sabha as a part of Smriti Diwas (In memory of Nalin Awasthi, IPS), Hotel Melrose Inn, Marris Road, Aligarh, 19.1.2013. Professor Rahman in his speech refreshed the memories of the time spent with Nalin Awasthi and his father.
- Guest speaker on the topic, "Ilm-e Tashreeh ki ahmiyat Tareekh ki roshni mein", At-Tashreeh, National Symposium on 'Areas of Research in Tahsreehul Badan (Anatomy)', 18.3.2013. Prof. Rahman also presided over the Inaugural Function.
- Presided, Condolence ceremony held in memory of Syed Amin Ashraf, a note Urdu and English poet, 9.2.2013, Department of Urdu, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

**Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman visits Pakistan**

Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, visited Pakistan from 13<sup>th</sup> February to 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013 on the invitation of Hamdard University, Karachi, Pakistan. He was very well received. Several programs were held

in his honour. Following are some of the programs in which he was honoured.

1. Awarded D. Litt (*honoris causa* on Unani medicine) in an annual convocation by Hamdard University, Karachi, Pakistan.
2. Invitation to visit to Shifaul Mulk Hospital (founded in memory of Shifaul Mulk Hakim Habibullah of Ajmer), Hamdard University. The staff including Dr. Umme Hani, attended and took a full round of the hospital.
3. Presided, Hind-Pak Mushaira, hosted by Senator Abdul Haseeb at his residence, Karachi.
4. Delivered Keynote Address as Vice President, International Association for Unani Medicine (IAUM), during the Inaugural Function of the Hamdard International Unani Medicine Conference - "Unani Medicine: Education and Research in the Contemporary World", 25th to 27th February, 2013 at Bait al-Hikmah Auditorium, Hamdard University, Madinat al-Hikmah, Karachi, Pakistan.
5. Reception at Anjuman Himayat Islam Tibbiya College, Lahore. Nazir Ahmad Tariq, Secretary of the College, presided over the function. Hakim Rahat Nasim Sohdarvi introduced the chief guest Prof Rahman.
6. Paid visit to the residence of Hakim Sikandar Wasti, son of a renowned scholar of Unani medicine Hakim Nayyar Wasti.
7. Paid visit to the residence of Hakim Mahmood Ahmad Barkati, a renowned scholar of Unani Medicine. The purpose was to pay condolence to his sons Hakim Mujahid Barkati and Hakim Mukhtar Barkati. Hakim Mahmood Ahmad Barkati was murdered in his clinic.
8. Addressed as chief guest, Seminar on Tibb Unani Aalami Fikr-o Nazar – Challenges aur Mawaqe, organised by Pakistan Association for Eastern Medicine at Hamdard Centre, Lahore. On the same occasion, Dr. Ajmal



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Niazi, Hakim Rahat Nasim Sohdarvi and Hakim Habibullah Cheema also addressed, while Prof. Hakim Arshad Jamil Farani, Hakim Mohammad Shafiq Khokar and Hakim Mohd Salim Akhtar presented poems. Prof. Hakim Syed Sabir Ali moved for vote of thanks. The program was conducted by Syed Ali Bokhari and large number of Unani physicians attended the program.

9. Addressed as chief guest, Seminar on Tibb Unani aur 21 wi sadi, organised by Pakistan Association for Eastern Medicine at Hamdard Centre, Rawalpindi. Naeem Akram Qureshi, Member Executive Hamdard, presided over the function. On the same occasion, Hakim Zarafat Hussain, Hakim Maulana Mahbub Qureshi and Hakim Bashir Bhairwi also addressed. A large number of Unani physicians from Rawalpindi and Islamabad attended the program.

10. Reception at Hakim Inqilab Tibbi Council, Lahore. Hakim Sabir's daughter Ms. Salma Sabir, Chairman Hakim Mohd Shafi Talib Qadri, Hakim Ghulam Farid Mir, Hakim Safdar Shaheen spoke on the occasion. Principal College, Hakim Naim Siddiqi, Dr. Habibullah Chima, Prof. Hakim Kausar Qadri and a large number of students attended the function.

In Pakistan, Prof. Rahman had been interviewed by City 42 TV channel (Lahore) and Paigham TV channel (Lahore). He also had a chance to visit Iqbal Academy, Bazme Iqbal, Majlis Taraqqi Adab, Oriental College, Ghalib Memorial Trust, Idara Thaqafat Islamia (Lahore), Muqtadera Qaumi Zaban, Sir Syed Memorial Society (Islamabad), National Council for Tibb (Islamabad), Anjuman Taraqqi Urdu, Idara Yadgar Ghalib, Darul Uloom Rashidia (Karachi), Jinnah Mausoleum (Karachi) and meet few significant personalities such Abdullah Dadabhoy (President, Dadabhoy Institute

of Higher Education), Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan (Nuclear Scientist), Dr. Shami (Scientist), Intesar Siddiqui, Dr. Anwar Sadeed, Mohammad Rashid Sheikh, Dr. Arif Raza, Hakim Rizwan Hafeez Malik (Administrator, National Council for Tibb), Tehsin Firaqi, Mufti Abdur Rahim, Prof. Muinuddin Aqil, Refaat Ali Shahid, Khalid Humayun, Dr. Arif Naushahi, Brigadier Iqbal Shafi, Hakim Mansoorul Aziz, etc.

**Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman** (Honorary Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy) has been invited as guest speaker

1. National Seminar on Scope of Emerging Technologies in Unani Medicine, during 23 March 2013. He spoke on 'Managing e-Library using RefWorks, EndNote, Mendeley and Zotero with an example how the EndNote works?' and chaired the same session.
2. Hamdard International Unani Medicine Conference - "Unani Medicine: Education and Research in the Contemporary World", during 25th to 27th February, 2013 at Bait al-Hikmah Auditorium, Hamdard University, Madinat al-Hikmah, Karachi, Pakistan. He spoke on pattern of usage and co-usage of serotonin antidepressants in an Australian population.

**AMU Alumni Association of Australia bids farewell to Syed Ziaur Rahman**

*"Don't be dismayed at goodbyes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetime, is certain for those who are friends" ~ Richard Bach*

*"It's very pleasing that you had been here in Australia for the past three years and pursuing PhD from the School of Medicine, University of Western Sydney. Three years went so fast; and your visit seems just a matter of yesterday. Now that you have also submitted your PhD thesis and are heading back to resume*



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*your duties at Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. So sorry that you're leaving, you'll be missed ever so much. I and the rest of the team would like to say thank you for attending almost all the functions of our alumni association and kept us so close. You were sincere well-wisher of our association! Your years of association are something memorable. Thank you for the years you stayed with us. We just wish you more success and good luck on your future endeavor; and please stay in touch. Good bye and God bless!"*

Mr. Fasihuddin Khan (President) and Dr. Mansoor Ahmad (Secretary)

**FORTHCOMING SEMINARS /  
CONFERENCES**

**First International Conference Islam, Science and Scientism and an Astrolabe Workshop**

The British Muslim Heritage Centre (BMHC) is pleased to announce the organisation of an international conference on Islam, Science and Scientism. This conference is the first of many scholarly events which will be organised by BMHC, which aims to offer a better appreciation of Islamic culture and civilisation and the Muslim contribution to modern science and civilisation, aspects of which are little appreciated or totally misunderstood today.

This event is also intended to develop a better understanding of the interactions and exchanges which have taken place between various faiths and cultures and enriched our common heritage. Scholars and participants of all faiths and backgrounds will attend.

**Islamic Astrolabe Workshop** is a workshop on the astrolabe, the most widely used astronomical instrument of the Middle Ages. An estimated one thousand medieval Islamic astrolabes are known to have survived and many of them

are currently exhibited in museums of Islamic art.

Despite the fact that many museums around the world have magnificent astrolabes on display, not many of them have special exhibits or programs aiming at educating the public on how these instruments actually work. This workshop aims at filling that gap and is a unique opportunity to be introduced to the astrolabe and learn more about its history, principles and anatomy and most importantly, how it works, by hands-on experience.

Submitted by

Prof Alparslan Acikgenç (Yildiz University, Istanbul), Prof Adel Sharif (Surrey University, London), Prof Salim Aydüz (Istanbul Medeniyet University, Istanbul/BMHC), Dr Mohammed Sarumi (BMHC, Manchester) and Emine Taskiran, London.

More information on the First International Conference Islam, Science and Scientism and an Astrolabe Workshop could be found at [www.islamandscience.co.uk](http://www.islamandscience.co.uk).

**DOCUMENTATION**

**The inaugural session of the third Hamdard International Unani Medicine Conference 2013 – A report**

The inaugural session of the third Hamdard International Unani Medicine Conference 2013 was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2013 and was presided over by Hamdard University Chancellor Sadia Rashid.

The conference was organised by the faculty of Eastern Medicine, Hamdard University on the topic of Unani Medicine: Education and Research Issues, Prospects and Challenges.

Chief Guest and former Sindh governor Lt. Gen (Retd.) Moinuddin Haider said that



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the people who were living in far flung areas mostly depended on system of traditional medicine or homeopathic for their treatment and if they did not get the same they would go to other spiritual healers. *Tibb-i-Unani* no doubt was an effective system of medicine and *Shaheed* Hakim Mohammed Saeed and Hamdard University played a great role in promotion of *tibb* and got it recognised by World Health Organisation. But without improving its teaching, training and state patronage it could not be able to meet the modern requirements, he added. He said that the German doctor, Prof Dr Stefan Reichmuth just read his research paper on Melancholia, a disease that filled the human brain with Sodawi matter, resulting in highly instable emotions and imaginations and might lead to madness. The people who made suicide bombings should be treated by Unani medicine to get the country out of the menace of terrorism and suicide bombing, he added. Physicians of unani and other traditional systems of medicine are being paid near about Rs. 65,000 per month in India, because the Indian government has recognised these systems. But in Pakistan, the traditional system of medicine is facing great problems.

In his keynote, Prof Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy of Mediaeval Medicine and Sciences, Aligarh, India said that *Tibb-e-Unani* was not a dead system of medicine but still existing, being a natural system of cure. He said thousands of people in subcontinent of Indo-Pak and Bangladesh and in many other countries are getting cure from this time honoured system of treatment, because it based on clinical experiments and scientific knowledge. "Today the whole world is in search of an alternative system of cure and people are taking interest in herbal and traditional medicine," he added. Being herbal the *Tibb-e-Unani* has full capacity to become an effective alternative medicine. He said

*Tibb-e-Unani* has holistic approach in treatment of diseases as it treats not a disease but the patient keeping in view his her whole body and personality. The major setback in Allopathic system of medicine is that it does not give emphasis on the relation of brain and body though it takes notice of effect of environment on health and disease but does not give importance to the connection of mind and health.

Another keynote lecture was delivered by Prof. Dr. Stefan Reichmuth, Director, Institute for Oriental and Islamic Studies, Ruhr-University Bochum Universitätsstr, Germany.

Speakers of a moot stressed better education and training facilities to promote Unani medicine.

**Concluding Session of the third Hamdard International Unani Medicine Conference 2013 – A report**

Speakers including Hakim Abdul Hannan, Vice Chancellor, at the concluding session of third Hamdard International Unani Medicine Conference on "Unani Medicine: Education and Research Issues, Prospects and Challenges", said that integration of different systems of medicine was necessary to resolve the problem of public healthcare, particularly in rural areas.

The concluding session was held on 27.2.2013 and presided over by Mrs. Sadia Rashid, Chancellor, Hamdard University at Bait al-Hikmah Auditorium, Madinat al-Hikmah, Karachi. Chief guest and president of Ibn Sina Institute of Tibb, South Africa, Rashid Bheka said that the problem of healthcare throughout the world could not be resolved without integration of all systems of medicine, including *Tibb-e-Unani*, as no system of medicine was complete and had the capacity to resolve the healthcare problem alone.



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He said it was his own experience that no single system of medicine could cure all patients. Because, when his daughter seriously fell ill and the doctors failed to cure her and even to diagnose her disease, he then took the facility of traditional medicine and his daughter got cured by the treatment of *Tibb-e-Unani* and this made him to believe in this system of medicine.

This particular event had changed his mind and his journey towards *Tibb-e-Unani* had started, he said, adding that he came in Pakistan in 1994 and met with Hakim Mohammad Said and he and Hamdard Pakistan had guided and cooperated with him, that's why he succeeded in establishing an institute of tibb in South Africa. 'I believe, there would be a big contribution of *Tibb-e-Unani* in resolving the public health care issue in future', he concluded.

Dr. Usman Ghani Khan took an account of conference's proceedings and said that the conference as a whole was successful. However, the education and training of Tibb-i-Unani was needed to be more emphasized on, he added.

Dr. Aftab Saeed, Director, Hamdard Research Institute of Unani Medicine, Hamdard University submitted the following recommendations in the session, based on the speeches, observations and papers presented in the 3 day conference: Unani/Herbal traditional medicines provide low-cost remedies for rural health care; therefore, the traditional medicine should be explored, encouraged and developed into primary health care programs.

Government and nongovernmental organizations should help to create and support education and use of traditional medicines on priority basis. Government of Pakistan should promote and support research and development at the

University level in order to introduce regimental therapies at large and to modernize techniques for producing effective natural health care products.

The Faculty of Eastern Medicine, Hamdard University be declared as WHO Centre for Collaborative Research on Traditional Medicine and that Shifaul Mulk Memorial Hospital, working under the Faculty of Eastern Medicine, Hamdard University as the Centre of Excellence for Primary Health Care.

The National workshops on traditional medicine practices and utilization should be further channelized so as to facilitate and promote innovative research strategies for traditional medicine through the coordination of interdisciplinary and collaborative research.

The recommendations made by the International Association of Unani Medicine IAUM, Faculty of Eastern Medicine FEM Hamdard University, Pakistan Association for Eastern Medicine PAEM and Herbal Manufacturing Association of Pakistan, National Institute for Health NIH Islamabad aim at strengthening the practice of Traditional, Complementary or Alternative Medicines should be given priority for implementation, harmonization and integration of traditional medicine into health care delivery systems.

Certificates were given away to the participants of the conference and cash prize to Saima Ghayas on winning the poster competition.

Hakim Rahat Nasim Sohderi, Senior Vice President, Pakistan Association for Eastern Medicine offered vote of thanks and Dr. Maham Munir Ahmed, Vice President, Hamdard Foundation Pakistan, gave concluding remarks.



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**National Seminar on Scope of Emerging Technologies in Unani Medicine – A report**

The Department of Ilmul Advia, Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College, Aligarh Muslim University organized a National Seminar on "Scope of Emerging Technologies in Unani Medicine" (SETUM-2013) under UGC DRS-I.

Dr. G.N. Qazi, Vice Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi and a renowned biotechnologist was the chief guest. Prof. K.C. Singhal, Vice Chancellor, NIMS University, Jaipur and Padma Shri Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman graced the inaugural function as the guests of honour.

Dr. Abdul Latif, Joint Secretary, Ibn Sina Academy and Coordinator, DRS-I Programme, Department of Ilmul Advia, as organizing chairman of the seminar said that more than 15 prominent experts of different technologies including Dr. K.K. Sharma, Pharmacologist, Sharda University, Greater Noida, Prof. M.A. Jafri, Unani Expert and Professor M.Z. Abdin, Hamdard University, Dr. Sayyada, Pharmacognist-NBRI, Lucknow, Prof. Alim H. Naqvi, Prof. Naeem A. Khan, Dr. Asad Ullah, Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Prof. Mansoor A. Siddiqui, Dr. Yassir H. Siddiqi, Dr. Masroor A. Khan, Dr. M. Shamim Khan, all from AMU and others delivered lectures on various topics.

About 80 delegates presented papers on different emerging technologies. On this occasion Padma Shree Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman was given Life time Achievement Award by Chief Guest Dr. G.N. Qazi. Prof. Zillur Rahman has been associated with this Department for more than 40 years as professor and contributed greatly to raise the status of the department at national and international level. He has been recently awarded D.Litt (*honoris causa*) by Hamdard University, Karachi, Pakistan.

**Reception at Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology**

A reception at Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology (Karachi) by Aligarh Muslim University Old Boys' Association of Pakistan (AMUOBA) was arranged in honour of Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman (President, Ibn Sina Academy) and Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman (Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy). The secretary of the AMUOBA, Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad Naqvi, warmly welcomed the guests and old boys and then requested the president of AMUOBA, Engr. Muhammad Adil Usman (Member Board of Governors, SSUET) to introduce the guests and requested them to share their thoughts in relation to Aligarh Muslim University. The talks of both the guests were followed by general discussion on past and current affairs of Aligarh Muslim University and ended with Aligarh flared lunch. Following prominent Aligarians apart from executive body of AMUOBA were present: Mr. Ali Zafar Khan Afridi (Consultant, Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation), Prof. Dr. M. Afzal Kazmi (President, The Zoological Society of Pakistan) and Mr. Shahid Noor Khan (Ex-DG Geological Survey of Pakistan), etc. The program arranged in such a short notice shows the interest and dedication for the cause of Muslim University Aligarh and alumni in particular.

**Reception cum Farewell – A Report by Fasihuddin Khan, President, AMU Alumni Association of Australia**

AMU Alumni Association of Australia arranged a farewell party in honour of Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman on his completion of PhD program from the University of Western Sydney, Australia.

AMU Alumni Association of Australia (AAAA) has a rich tradition of welcoming guests especially from AMU apart from other various philanthropic activities. The year 2013 started with a reception cum



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farewell party on February 3, 2013 at Himalaya Restaurant, Granville, NSW.

The program began with Qirat and prayer by Janab Siddiqui Sahib followed by presidential remarks by Mr. Fasihuddin Khan, who not only welcomed the guests but also threw light on the ongoing activities of AAAA.

President Mr. Fasihuddin Khan mentioned about most important component of Alumni activities, the ongoing Sir Syed Scholarship Program. He informed audiences the journey of Scholarship program and its gradual success and ongoing improvement. Total number of scholarship provided by AMU Alumni is 276 every year.

President Mr. Fasihuddin Khan announced very important initiative by AMU Alumni of Australia to start Skype services to connect student at AMU Campus. Through Skype services we will provide live help, support and information about academic, scholarship and various opportunities available in Australian universities.

President mentioned about legacy of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and importance of carrying out the same. He also briefed about Aligarh spirit, values, culture and traditions. Mr. Fasihuddin Khan summarized his time spend in Aligarh by quoting following Urdu couplet:

*Chaley tou aaye hain apna wajood ley kay magar  
Ham apnee rooh Aligarh mein bhool aaye hain*

At the end Mr. Fasihuddin Khan welcomed visiting guests, friends and members and emphasized for more involvement, cooperation and proactive participation. He ended his speech with following couplet:

*Ghazal mein bandish o alfaz hee nahi kafi  
Jigar ka Khoon Bhi Chahiye Asar ke liye*

The Secretary, Mr. Mansoor Ahmad then invited Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, who recently completed his PhD work, to say few words about his experience of three years in Australia. Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman thanked the organizing committee to welcome and bidding farewell on completion of his research work. He shared his experience of research work and compared the working atmosphere of two different Universities viz. Aligarh Muslim University and University of Western Sydney. He thanked all the persons who supported and making his life easier and comfortable in Australia in all these three years.

The Secretary then called upon another senior Aligarian, Mr. Naseemuddin Khan, former Director of Geological Survey of India, to share his experience about his life and administrative activities. Mr. Naseemuddin Khan told about the training which he got from AMU particularly from the teachers of Geology Department. He also discussed the rich resources of Australian earth particularly from the offshore of Victoria.

Dr. Mansoor Ahmad called another visiting guest Syed Shamsuddin to share his relation with Aligarh Muslim University. He thanked Alumni for inviting him and he mentioned his long lasting and ongoing bond with AMU.

Mr. Khursheed Anwar entertained the audience with his sweet voice by singing some Urdu couplets.

On behalf of AMU Alumni of Australia, the citation plaques were presented to all the three guests by the President Mr. Fasihuddin Khan along with Member of Advisory Board Ms. Saba Abidi. In the end, Mr. Zafar Siddiqui moved vote of thanks with his emotional speech and invited all guest for dinner hosted by AMU Alumni. A large number of Aligarians and their families attended the program.



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**The 17th convocation of the Hamdard University – A report**

The 17th convocation of the Hamdard University was held at its Madinat al Hikmah (City of Education, Science and Culture) on 24.3.2013.

Students of all seven faculties were awarded a total of 1,330 degrees, including PhD and MPhil, at the convocation. Thirty seven promising students, who secured first position throughout their academic career, were also presented the Hamdard University and Hakim Said gold medals.

Prominent Unani scholar, Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman (India) Urdu novelist and drama writer Fatima Surayya Bajia (Pakistan) were awarded honorary D. Litt degree.

Chief guest Dr Javed Leghari, Nuclear scientist Dr. Abdul Qadir Khan, Dr Shami and Hamdard University Chancellor Sadia Rashid awarded degrees and gold medals to the passing graduates.

Hamdard University vice chancellor, Dr Hakim Abdul Hannan, observed that Hakim Mohammad Said "did not believe in the commercialisation of education, and had therefore established Hamdard University to promote higher education".

Renowned nuclear scientist Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan, who is a member of the university's board of governors, joined the varsity's faculty members and parents on the occasion.

The varsity's chancellor, Sadia Rashid, congratulated the graduates and their parents, and said that they were fortunate to have a degree from a reputed university in a country where millions could not even read or write.

The varsity's staff members, as well as Higher Education Commission (HEC)

chairperson Dr Javed Leghari, who was the chief guest on the occasion, also paid tribute to the university's charismatic founder, Hakim Mohammad Said. Leghari said the Hamdard University was a distinguished educational institution, which was generally known for its commitment to providing quality education as well as the goals set by its founder Hakim Muhammad Said.

Talking about the Higher Education Commission (HEC), the chief guest said the commission had been formed to improve the quality of education and increase the number of enrolments. "The HEC has made remarkable success to achieve this goal."

**NEW BOOK**

***Science and Religion in Mamluk Egypt: Ibn al-Nafis, Pulmonary Transit and Bodily Resurrection (Culture and Civilization in the Middle East)* by Nahyan Fancy**

The discovery of the pulmonary transit of blood was a ground-breaking discovery in the history of the life sciences, and a prerequisite for William Harvey's fully developed theory of blood circulation three centuries later. This book is the first attempt at understanding Ibn al-Nafis's anatomical discovery from within the medical and theological works of this thirteenth century physician-jurist, and his broader social, religious and intellectual contexts.

Although Ibn al-Nafis did not posit a theory of blood circulation, he nevertheless challenged the reigning Galenic and Avicennian physiological theories, and the then prevailing anatomical understandings of the heart. Far from being a happy guess, Ibn al-Nafis's anatomical result is rooted in an extensive re-evaluation of the reigning medical theories. Moreover, this book shows that Ibn al-Nafis's re-evaluation is itself a result of his



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engagement with post-Avicennian debates on the relationship between reason and revelation, and the rationality of traditionalist beliefs, such as bodily resurrection.

Breaking new ground by showing how medicine, philosophy and theology were intertwined in the intellectual fabric of pre-modern Islamic societies, *Science and Religion in Mamluk Egypt* will be of interest to students and scholars of the History of Science, the History of Medicine and Islamic Studies.

### **FELLOWSHIPS**

**Research Associate for the project, Arabic Commentaries on the Hippocratic Aphorisms, The University of Manchester -School of Arts, Languages and Cultures**

The Hippocratic Aphorisms have exerted a singular influence over generations of physicians both in the East and in the West. Galen (d. c. 216) produced an extensive commentary on this text, as did other medical authors writing in Greek, Latin, Arabic, and Hebrew. The Arabic tradition is particularly rich, with more than a dozen commentaries extant in over a hundred manuscripts. The present project breaks new ground by conducting an in-depth study of this tradition through a highly innovative methodology: it approaches the available evidence as a corpus, to be constituted electronically, and to be analysed in an interdisciplinary way. Professor Peter E Pormann has obtained €1.5m from the European Research Council, and he will be the project lead.

There are two full-time posts which are both available from 1 October 2013 for three years. They will be based in the main University campus (Samuel Alexander Building) although some research will require travel to libraries and

conferences within in the UK, as well as Europe and the Middle East.

Interviews will take place on 5 June and 6 June 2013. Please send any enquiries to Professor Peter E Pormann (email: [peter.pormann@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:peter.pormann@manchester.ac.uk))

### **ICREA senior research position in History of Science**

The Centre for the History of Science (CEHIC) at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Spain, seeks potential candidates for an ICREA senior research position in History of Science. The CEHIC leads an active academic community of historians of science with growing international links.

The call for applications in all disciplines has been issued by ICREA, the Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies.

Potential History of Science candidates should contact Dr. Agustí Nieto-Galan [[agusti.nieto@uab.cat](mailto:agusti.nieto@uab.cat)], director of the CEHIC, before 12 April 2013, with an updated CV and a short statement of research interests for the next five years. For more information on the CEHIC, see <http://www.cehic.es/>.

### **Post-doctoral and Ph.D. positions**

Ptolemaeus Arabus et Latinus, is a project dedicated to the edition and study of the Arabic and Latin versions of Ptolemy's astronomical and astrological texts and related material. The project is funded by the Union der deutschen Akademien der Wissenschaften and hosted by the Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften in Munich for a period of 25 years starting in 2013. It is supervised by Prof. Dr. Dag Nikolaus Hasse (University of Würzburg). The closing date for all applications is 15 April 2013.

More information can be obtained from <http://www.philosophie.uni-wuerzburg.de/institut/allelehrsthlefrphilosophie/profdrdnikolaushasse/>



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**NISA is an official quarterly newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences - a non governmental, non political and non-profit trust.**

The News items, small notices or short communication on informative researched topics should be sent at least four weeks prior to publication, and whenever possible through e-mail or disk (Microsoft Word or Page Maker 6.5), accompanied by a hard copy.:

Please send all newsletter correspondence to

**Editor; NISA**

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Copies are free to members of the Academy, also available for \$ 20.00 / Rs. 150 per annum to non-members and institutions.

**Editor, Owner, Printer & Publisher:**

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

**Public Relation Officers:**

Mr. Harish Betab & Mr. Raja Babu

**Circulation Officer:** Dr. Md. Tauheed Ahmad

**Print at:** Muslim Educational Press, Aligarh, India

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