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**Celebrating 50th Issue of NISA**



# Newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy (NISA)

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**Published by the Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences**



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

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. The CCRUM was established on 30 March 1978. However, it started functioning in January 1979, and since then the Council 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 of research in Unani Medicine.

**THE NETWORK**

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

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

**Clinical Research**

- Has developed 27 Unani drugs, which are purely natural, standardized and without any side-effects, for successful treatment of leucoderma, sinusitis, viral hepatitis, eczema, malaria, rheumatoid arthritis, bronchial asthma and some other common ailments.
- Has obtained patents on seven Unani drugs. Applications for Patents on 35 drugs are under active consideration of the concerned authority.

**Drug Standardization**

- Has developed pharmacopoeial standards for 298 single and 100 compound drugs. Besides, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for manufacture of 100 compound drugs have also been developed.
- Has published six volumes of National Formulary of Unani Medicine, six volumes of Unani Pharmacopoeia of India (UPI), Part I (on single drugs), and two volumes of the UPI, Part 2 (on compound drugs).

**Survey and Cultivation of Medicinal Plants**

- Has collected over 72,000 specimens of medicinal plants belonging to 1800 species from the wild.
- Undertaking successful cultivation of 15 important medicinal species.
- Has gathered and documented over 1,500 folk medicinal claims.

**Publications**

- Has produced over 1800 research papers and brought out 250 publications, besides regular publication of a bimonthly bulletin CCRUM Newsletter, quarterly Urdu Journal Jahan-e-Tib, quarterly English Journal Hippocratic Journal of Unani Medicine and Annual Report.

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**EVENTS AT IBN SINA ACADEMY**  
**(April – June 2013)**

**Seventh Prof. Nasim Ansari Memorial Oration and World Health Day**

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) was "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 organizes this annual event to cherish his memories.

This year Professor Arshad Hafeez Khan (Chairman, Dept. of Plastic Surgery, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, A.M.U.) delivered the Seventh Prof. Nasim Ansari Memorial Oration. He apart from the works and life of Prof. Nasim Ansari and Prof. Masood Hasan Khan, also enlightened his experience, progress and achievements done so far in the field of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. His lecture was very well appreciated by all the participants.

Prof. M. H. Beg (Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Chairman, Department of Cardio-thoracic Surgery) spoke on the significance of World Health Day. Brig (Retd) Syed Ahmad Ali, Pro-Vice

Chancellor (PVC), Aligarh Muslim University, presided over the function while Dr. S. Mohsin Raza (Senior Consultant, General Surgery) was requested to introduce the Ibn Sina Academy on behalf of the executive committee. The PVC and Dr. Mohsin Raza spoke very high about the activities of Ibn Sina Academy.

**Guest Lecture Series 33**

Mr. Nick Jukes, Coordinator, International Network for Humane Education (InterNICHE), participated here at Ibn Sina Academy as a guest speaker and moderator of the panel discussion on 'Alternatives to Animal Experiments: Exploring Intersectionality and Change' on 21.6.2013. He expounded that alternatives to animal experiments include all type of humane tools such as multimedia computer simulation, training mannequins, simulators and humane approaches such as student self-experimentation, clinical work with patients, and the use of ethically-sourced animal and human cadavers. These methods can better meet teaching objectives when developed and implemented by teachers themselves to support successful learning in the medical and veterinary sciences. He gave reference to his book: *From Guinea Pig to Computer Mouse* that provides information and arguments to catalyze further curricular transformation for the benefit of students, teachers, animals. He also mentioned about his InterNICHE website <<http://www.interniche.org>> that provides free access to database of references, abstracts and other details of published studies, searchable by discipline, author and keyword. Links from individual studies to the PubMed database allow users to identify related citations. Each study has been researched and

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included for its relevance to the pedagogical, ethical and economic issues presented by the use of animals, alternatives and technology in education and training.

Before the guest lecture by Mr. Nick Jukes, Dr. Sangeeta Bhat, Resident, Department of Pharmacology, presented an introductory overview of the concept and reforms in the animal experimentation – past, present and future.

Professor Hisamuddin Farooqi, former Head of the Department of Zoology, AMU, and Prof Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, President Ibn Sina Academy, presented a memento to Nick Jukes on behalf of Ibn Sina Academy.

Professor Hisamuddin Farooqi, while presiding over the panel discussion shared some anecdotes of his life as a zoologist. Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Hon. Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy, conducted the program and moved a vote of thanks.

In a nutshell, the panel came to the conclusion that at present, these alternatives can be used and taught but probably might not be useful for high level of neuronal and sensory studies e.g. emotions, anxiety and psychological distress where we still need the help of animal experimentation. A large number of undergraduate and post graduate students of Medical and Tibbiya colleges of AMU attended and participated in the panel discussion.

Prof. Kamal A. Rizvi, Prof Humayun Murad, Prof Mobarak Hossain, Dr. Mohsin Raza, Dr. Moiz Shams, Prof Saud Ali Khan, Dr. Abdul Latif, Mr. Sardar Husain, Prof S. M. Razaullah Ansari, Dr. Tasawwer Hussain, Prof. Masood Hasan, Mr. Atul Agarwal, Mr. Zahoor Mohammad, Dr. Sumbul Rehman, Dr. Badrul Hasan, and many other teachers, staff of the

faculty and students attended the lecture. Post lecture event was followed by hand-on experience with few alternatives, which the speaker brought with him from London, UK.

Ibn Sina Academy also arranged an exhibition of all books, posters, CDs, periodicals and artifacts extant in its library and museum.

#### **Guest Lecture Series 32**

Dr. Javed Jamil, a renowned medical scholar and thinker, delivered a guest lecture on the topic "Muslims are most civilized, yet not enough". The lecture was at Conference Hall, Ibn Sina Academy on 5.4.2013 in association with IDB Scholarship Program in India. Another lecture on "Quranic Paradigm of Health" was held at Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, AMU.

Eminent scholar and thinker, Dr. Javed Jamil called upon the medical fraternity to develop an alternative paradigm of health for the larger benefit of mankind. He was delivering a lecture on "Quranic Paradigm of Health: at J. N. Medical College of Aligarh Muslim University. The lecture was organized by the students of the college. Speaking in an auditorium packed with students of the medical college and faculty members, Dr. Jamil said, "the current health policies and programmes of the world have evolved under the influence of the forces of economics that are primarily concerned with economy rather than the survival and wellbeing of human beings". Making a power point presentation, he highlighted the differences between the Current Model and the Quranic Paradigm, which he called "Dynamic Model of Health." He said that in the current world health paradigm, health occupies a secondary position, the interests of the market forces remaining at the top. On the other hand, in Islam, the wellbeing occupies top position in all schemes of

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things. All *Faraidh*, *mustahabbat*, *Halal* and *Haraam* have a direct relationship with health. He said that the current health policy holds only an individual responsible for his own health, while the system is exposing him/her to all such practices that are threatening to life including alcohol, gambling, unhealthy sexual practices and unhealthy foods, and that is being done "in the name of freedom of choice, which has become the biggest ploy in the hands of corporation for commercializing human weaknesses." Further he added, "there is no concept of family health and peace". He gave a Quranic definition of health as "a state of complete physical, mental, spiritual and social wellbeing, which must be safeguarded not only through the maintenance of a health preserving regime at the personal/individual level, but also - through the establishment of a health-protective and promoting family system and a health-protective and promoting social system."

Dr. Jamil showed with the help of slides how the sequence of *Wudhu* corresponds to the order of the representation of human organs inside Postcentral Gyrus and by mere washing of around 20 pc of the superficial areas of the body, more than 80 percent of the sensory area inside brain is activated. He said that the Islamic prohibitions have a direct impact on health. He quoted data to show that alcohol reduces life expectancy by around 10 years, gambling by around 5 years, and homosexuality reduces life expectancy by up to 25 years. He said that the so-called sexual revolution has become directly related to death, with more than 40 million people already having lost life due to AIDS. In addition, more than 1 billion human lives have been aborted in last 25 years in the name of women's rights. He said that there are now conclusive evidences in favour of the HIV preventive role of Circumcision. "But Sexual Transmitted diseases will continue

to haunt mankind forever", he stressed, "if the so-called sexual freedom continues and there is no curb on prostitution, pornography, promiscuity and homosexuality."

Dr. Jamil introduced the concept of "Therapeutic Sociology", which means that the system must be responsible for protecting the health of citizens, and not only medical but also social solutions should be found out to control epidemics and endemics. He argued that while the current world health organisations promote only "secondary prevention" meaning vaccinations, condoms, jellies etc., Islamic Paradigm stresses "Primary Prevention" emphasizing avoidance of practices that are dangerous for health. Dr. Jamil had also a dig at the WHO, which he described as a failed organizing playing in the hands of corporate lobbies, and has failed to save lives despite the advancement of medical technology.

This lecture generated a lot of enthusiasm among the students who are increasingly becoming conscious of the need of promoting Islamic values in all spheres of life.

Dr. Javed Jamil was in Aligarh for delivering a series of lectures in Faculty of Law, Sunni Theology and Ibn Sina Academy. He was interviewed by Plea Motion pictures as well.

#### **International Museum Day Celebrated**

In honor of the International Museum Day on May 18, CNN International channel documented 10 World's weirdest Medical Science Museums including the Museum of Ibn Sina Academy on Medical Science (see documentation).

To celebrate this recognition, Ibn Sina Academy arranged a program in collaboration with the Department of

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Museology, AMU, Aligarh. Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman presented a profile of the museum of Ibn Sina Academy while Dr. Abdur Rahim K, Chairman Department of Museology presided over the function. Nawab Ibn Saeed Khan Chattari and Padma Shri Qazi Abdussatar were chief guest and guest of honour respectively. A large number of teachers and students of AMU participated and attended the program.

**Releasing ceremony of *Nawa-e Zindagi***

An autobiography *Nawa-e Zindagi* by Professor Sajida Zaidi (Edited by Dr. Zoya Zaidi) was released in a glittering function at Ibn Sina Academy on 9.3.2013. Prof. Irfan Habib, Prof. Qazi Abdul Sattar, Prof. Saeeduzzafar Chaghtai, Prof. Abul Kalam Qasmi, and many eminent teachers graced the occasion.

**A cultural event**

*Mehfil-e Mushaira* was organized by Dayar-e Adab (India) and Harfzar Literary Society in collaboration with Ibn Sina Academy on 25.4.2013. A large number of poets participated in the Mushaira including Masood Hassas (Kuwait), Shams Ramzi (Badaun/Delhi), Mujeeb Shehzar, Owais Jamal Shamsi, Khalid Faridi, etc. During the function, an award felicitation of eminent poets and releasing ceremony of *Alfaz ki Mehak* (poems for children) was also held by Padma Shri Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman and Prof. Saghir Afrahim.

**Felicitations Ceremony on Qazi Abdul Sattar**

In a special and memorable measure, Ibn Sina Academy in collaboration with Aazar Academy organized two graceful literary events in the honour of celebrated litterateur and fictionist Prof. Qazi Abdul Sattar on 29 June and 30 June, 2013. Noted author and journalist based in Delhi, Dr. Muzaffar Husain Syed, graced the evenings with two of his literary pieces

during the events. On first day, he presented his prolific lengthy write-up on the many faceted personality of Qazi Abdul Sattar. The well-knit literary piece, virtually described all significant (some unknown) aspects of the veteran author, in fine details.

On second day, Dr. Muzaffar Husain Syed read out his already acclaimed critical article on Qazi Abdul Sattar's classic novel *Dara Shikoh* in English. He successfully covered all literary, creative and historic dimensions of the celebrated work of the great writer.

Qazi Abdul Sattar, a renowned author and fictionist has become a legendary figure in his life time. Honoured by almost all literary awards and having attained unmatched positions in literary world, his works have already been transformed into Arabic, Hindi and Bangla, among other regional languages, while same English translation in the offing.

The critical article on *Dara Shikoh* by Dr. Muzaffar Husain Syed, is the first piece of criticism on the art and style of the celebrated author in English. Dr. Muzaffar Husain Syed is also translating the novel *Dara Shikoh* into English, which is destined to be published by an esteemed publishing house.

In addition, famous poets and writers, Musail Kidwai, Musharraf Husain Mahzar and Abid Ali Abid, recited their well composed poetic compositions, in adoration of Qazi Abdul Sattar. Both the events were presided over by Padma Shri Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman and conducted by Prof. Saghir Afrahim. Well-known short story writer, Prof. Tariq Chattari, was the main spirit behind the memorable events. A large number of friends and students of Qazi Abdul Sattar attended the functions.

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**Condolence Meetings**

**1. Asghar Ali Engineer (1939-2013)**

Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, during the condolence meeting held on the sad demise of Asghar Ali Engineer at Ibn Sina Academy, stated, "we got the sad news of the death of Asghar Ali Engineer, a renowned scholar of Bohra community today through newspaper and internet! He would always be remembered for his in-depth scholarship and the role that he played in communal harmony and secularism. Ibn Sina Academy pays a rich tribute to the departed soul".

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

Sd/- Asghar Ali Engineer

While, Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, in his unhappy note remarked, 'so sad to hear the news of the demise of Asghar Ali Engineer. I would always remember his visit to Ibn Sina Academy along with Amit Pandya from Stimson Center, Washington DC, USA'.

**2. Professor Nafees Baig**

On the sad demise of Professor Nafees Baig, former Dean Faculty of Commerce, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, Ibn Sina Academy held a condolence meeting under the presidentship of Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman. Prof. Rahman remembered Prof Baig as his one of the best friends. His friendship lasted for about 50 years. He said that Prof. Baig admitted at AMU in 1956 and since then we had been meeting with each other. Prof Baig was an excellent student. He topped in B.Com and M.Com and was appointed as lecturer

after obtaining PhD. He promoted and became Chairman and Dean Faculty of Commerce. His books in the subject keep a great value. He was also on executive committee of Ibn Sina Academy. In the condolence meeting, Prof. Masood Hasan, Mr. Zahoor Mohammad, Mr. Khalid Faridi, Dr. Mujeeb Shahzar and Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman also spoke about his life and paid rich tribute to the departed soul. May Almighty grant him a place in his *jawar-e rahmat* and *sabr-e jameel* to his family particularly his wife Prof. Naushaba Baig.

**3. Prof. Hakim Mohammad Tayyab**

It is very unfortunate that Prof. Hakim Mohammad Tayyab passed away on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013, exclaimed Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman. He stated that Hakim Tayyab Sahib was a bright student, a favorite of Shifaul Mulk Hakim Abdul Lateef, the Principal of Tibbiya College in 1950's. Hakim Tayyab became Principal of Tibbiya College in 70's and Professor of Ilmul Advia. It is sad to hear that he died after fallen in the bathroom, sustained some injury on forehead, then he is said to have dragged himself to bed, where he was found dead with his arm stretched to hold an inhaler. His TV was on. Hakim Tayyab was a good physician. He is survived by his wife and a daughter. Ibn Sina Academy shares the grief of his family.

**4. Dr. M. Arif Hanif**

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman in the condolence meeting held soon after the demise of Dr. M. Arif Hanif, said, "Very sad to know the sudden and untimely death of Dr. Arif Hanif! Innalilaha....rajeoon, I knew him as a true Aligarian...who did BSc and MBBS (7<sup>th</sup> Batch) from AMU and later on became well absorbed with the culture and traditions of AMU. He used

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to share so many factual and whimsical stories of JNMC with his typical Aligarh spirit. He witnessed many ups and downs of the JNMC life so closely that hardly anybody else ever noticed it. Although, he was running an X-ray clinic at Dodhpur (opposite to Ibn Sina Academy) after returning from Gulf, yet due to continued ill-health and nephrectomy he, as well joined as demonstrator the Department of Pharmacology where I was pursuing M.D. Dr. Arif was the son of Dr. Mohammad Hanif who was once a leading practitioner of Aligarh (People may recall Dr. K. P. Shah, Dr. Shikari and Dr. Pannalal as other leading practitioners at that same time). Dr. Arif Hanif will always be remembered by his friends and colleagues for his jolly nature and a benign human being. He never complained his illness and lived his life fully. In addition, he was very polite in conversation and a good listener. May Almighty God bless his soul and grant patience to Prof. Shaukat Arif Hanif and his children". Dr. Arif Hanif died on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in Delhi. He was a regular visitor of Ibn Sina Academy and used to attend most functions.

#### **VISIT OF DIGNITARIES**

1. Delegates and Scholars met for quarterly meeting seminar of IDB/MET Scholarship program on 3.05.2013. Mr. Bijender Singh, (Retd.) Additional DGP, Aligarh, chaired the session, while Dr. Mohd Shahid Malik, Ms. Naseeha Tarannum and Dr. Mohibbul Haque spoke on different issues and topics.
2. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Hindi, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, April 3, 2013.
3. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Social Science, UGC Academic Staff College,

Aligarh Muslim University, April 9, 2013.

4. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Orientation Programme, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, April 17, 2013.
5. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Environmental Studies, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, May 13, 2013.
6. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Summer School Programme, UGC Academic Staff College, AMU, Aligarh, May 27, 2013.

On these educational tours, 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.

7. Daniel Majchrowicz, PhD Candidate and Fellow of United States-India Educational Foundation, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University, Massachusetts, USA. He is primarily interested in the development of travel writing in India, and that attracted to visit Ibn Sina Academy (see his article in the documentation section related to travelogues extant in the library of Ibn Sina Academy)

#### **MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES**

**Bahadur Shah Zafar Award to Prof. Asloob Ahmad Ansari**

Delhi Urdu Academy has given its prestigious Bahadur Shah Zafar Award to eminent scholar, critic and educationist, Prof. Asloob Ahmad Ansari, retired professor, Department of English, Aligarh Muslim University. The award was given to him by Nawab Ibne Saeed of Chhatari and Padma Shri Prof. Akhtarul Wasey, Vice President of Delhi Urdu Academy

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and Director, Zakir Husain Institute of Islamic Institute, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

*The Executive Committee of Ibn Sina Academy wishes to congratulate Prof. Asloob Ahmad Ansari, an eminent critic of Urdu and English literature and expert of Shakespeare and Iqbal poetry, for being awarded Bahadur Shah Zafar Award of Urdu Academy, Delhi. Prof. Ansari is also a senior life member and former executive member of Ibn Sina Academy.*

Addressing the felicitation programme organized at the UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, Prof. Akhtarul Wasey said that Prof. Asloob Ahmad Ansari has been selected for the prestigious award for his lifetime contribution to the development of literary criticism in Urdu and English. He said that Prof. Ansari has served academics without any lust for name or recognition and the award was a small tribute to his academic dexterity and critical approach. He said Prof. Ansari is also an authority on Allama Iqbal.

Mr. Anees Azmi, Secretary, Delhi Urdu Academy said that Prof. Asloob Ansari deserved the award and it was a proud moment for the Delhi Urdu Academy to express its indebtedness to the tall literary figure whose works will illuminate minds of scholars and critics in Urdu. He said that Aligarh Muslim University has given the largest number of great literary personalities to the Urdu language and they have also received highest awards and recognitions.

Padma Shri Prof. Hakeem Syed Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy, said that Prof. Ansari was Aligarh's pride and Aligarh Muslim University was recognized in this way around the world being a home city of Prof. Asloob A. Ansari.

Prof. A. R. Kidwai, Director, UGC Academic Staff College highlighted many facets of Prof. Ansari's life and presented a sketch of his life as a teacher and his academic pursuits.

Prof. Asloob Ansari has published 33 books in Urdu and English. He has received Pakistan President's award for his work on Allama Iqbal and an honorary D. Lit. from Gorakhpur University.

The Governing Body and Member of Delhi Urdu Academy and eminent journalist Masoom Moradabadi proposed a vote of thanks.

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

1. Invited as guest of honour, Inauguration of Extended 32 Points Dental Hospital of Dr. Abdul Bari, Aligarh. Mr. Rajeev Rautela (IAS), District Magistrate, Aligarh and Mr. Zafar Alam (MLA) were also invited as chief guests.
2. Invited to attend consultative meeting on April 13, 2013 at the Institute of Objective Studies, in respect of organizing a conference on 'Revisiting Abul Qasim Al-Zahrawi's Legacy in Medicine and Surgery' in November 2013

**Inauguration of 'Halchal' by Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman**

A new Urdu monthly magazine, *Halchal*, was inaugurated and released by Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman on 23 June 2013 at Bhopal. The chief editor of the magazine, Jawed Yazdani and assistant editor, Mukhtar Shamim, welcomed Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman and presented a bouquet as a token of memento on behalf of the management team. The programme was very well attended by many scholars, poets and authors including Kausar

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Siddiqi, Khalid Abidi, Asad Siddiqi, etc. It is to be noted here that Jawed Yazdani also publishes another literary magazine, *Karwan-e Adab*, from Bhopal for the last 12 years.

**Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari** (Secretary, Ibn Sina Academy) has been invited as one of the organisers of the Symposium of the International Commission for the History of Ancient and Medieval Astronomy (CHAMA), at the 24th International Congress of History and Philosophy of Science, Technology and Medicine (ICHSTM) to be held in Manchester, July 22-28, 2013.

It is a matter of great pleasure for the Academy, that Prof. Ansari has been nominated also as the *Leader of the India Delegation* to the ICHSTM 2013 by the Indian National Science Academy (New Delhi). Prof. Ansari will be chairing also a session at CHAMA symposium. The title of his invited talk is: "*The Astronomical Writings of the Descendants of Ahmad Ma'mâr, the Architect of Taj Mahal*".

It may be noted that ICHST Congresses are organised by International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST), every four years. Prof. Ansari has been very active in these Congresses since 1977. He has been successfully elected as the President of a couple of its Historical Commissions and twice elected as a member of its Executive Council also. In view of his work on international level, Indian National Science Academy (INSA), which is the adhering body to IUHPST, has nominated Prof. Ansari for the position of Vice President of the Ex. Council of IUHPS.

This Academy congratulates Prof. Ansari for his nomination and also wishes for his successful election as the Vice President of the Council.

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

1. Appointed as Associate Professor at Department of Pharmacology, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, AMU, Aligarh, with effect from 29 May 2013.
2. Extension Guest Lecture, Department of Community Medicine, JN Medical College, AMU, Aligarh, 15.4.2013
3. Resource Person, Special Subject Refresher Course, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, Faculty of Medicine, AMU, Aligarh, 6.4.2013
4. Arranged and Coordinated a 'University Extension Lecture' on Alternatives to Animal Experimentation by Nick Jukes, 22.6.2013. Following is the press release of the University.

**University Extension Lecture held at JNMC**

"Time has come when we need to adopt best practices in animal experimentation and find out various alternatives in place of animal experiments for teaching and learning", said Dr. Nick Jukes, Coordinator, International Network for Humane Education (InterNICHE), UK, while delivering the University Extension Lecture on "Best Practices and Alternatives to Animal Experiments in Education" at the J. N. Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University.

Dr. Jukes further elaborated that 'Alternatives' include humane tools such as multimedia computer simulation, training mannequins, simulators and human approaches such as student self-experimentation, clinical work with patients, and the use of ethically-sourced animal cadavers. These methods can better meet teaching objectives when developed and implemented by teachers

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to support successful learning in the medical sciences.

InterNICHE Co-ordinator, Nick Jukes, pointed out that the recent developments in technology have provided educators with a superb range of cutting-edge alternative methods, with significant advantages over conventional procedures. Such tools, combined with other humane approaches, have already replaced harmful animal use in many university departments. He appreciated the efforts of Prof. RA Khan and Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman for establishing and setting-up a separate lab on alternatives to animal experiments in the Department of Pharmacology at JN Medical College replacing harmful animal use.

Dr. Jukes said that InterNICHE website <<http://www.interniche.org>> provides free access to database of references, abstracts and other details of published studies, searchable by discipline, author and keyword.

Prof. M. H. Beg, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, while introducing the speaker said that Nicholas David Jukes is one of the prominent figures in the field of alternatives to animal experiment. He appreciated the efforts of Nick for the welfare of animals and the way his association InterNICHE is supporting the cause of animal reduction in the field of medical and veterinary science.

Chief Guest, Prof KC Singhal, Vice-chancellor, NIMS University, Jaipur applauded the lecture and said that the software and mannequins which Dr. Jukes demonstrated were very useful for teaching and learning for undergraduate and post graduate students.

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, conducted the program and presented a

vote of thanks. Prof. Usha Singhal, Prof. Mobarak Hossain, Prof. Aijaz Ahmad, Prof. Meenakshi Gupta, Prof. R.R. Sukul, Prof. R.A. Khan, Prof Anil Kumar, Prof. M. Ansari, Prof Munawwar Hussain, Prof. Ather Ansari, Dr. Fazlur Rehman, Dr. Jameel Ahmad, Dr. Sajjad Haider, Dr. Shaista Afroz and many other teachers, staff of the faculty and students attended the lecture. Post lecture event was followed by hand-on experience with few alternatives, which the speaker brought with him from London, UK.

### **DOCUMENTATION**

**World's 10 weirdest medical museums  
by Bryan Pirolli (for CNN, May 24, 2013)**

It is a great pleasure for all of us that the Museum of Ibn Sina Academy has been listed amongst the top 10 weirdest medical science museums of the world.

*Editorial Team*

With its vast array of freaky specimens that seem to belong in some haunted manor, Philadelphia's 150-year-old Mutter Museum may be the gold standard in medical museums. But it's not alone.

Museums dedicated to niche medicine, pathology, anatomical curiosities and cultural trends keep visitors fascinated and appalled with their educational and grotesque displays.

Whether it's an over-sized parasite, a diseased organ preserved in formaldehyde or a historical look at the outrageous medical practices of yore, there is bound to be an address to discover some sort of unnerving discovery even in less traveled destinations.

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In honor of International Museum Day on May 18, here are the world's weirdest medical museums.

**Bart's Pathology Museum, England**

A university collection started in 1879; this exclusive medical oddity exhibit is part of the Queen Mary, University of London.

It is open only for special soirees and events that fill up quickly. It is even hosted a pop-up cake shop by Eat Your Heart Out bakers. The nearly 5,000 specimens include various objects pulled from human bodies over the last 150 years -- toothbrush in the esophagus, anyone? Also on display: the dissected body parts of assassin John Belingham among other relics dating to the 1700s.

*Bart's Pathology Museum, Robin Brook Centre, West Smithfield, London; +44 20 7882 8766; open for select events at the moment*

**Berlin Museum of Medical History at the Charité, Germany**



Just 1,800 specimens of the museum's original 23,000 survived WW II bombings.

Snippets of Germany's medical history find a home in this restored 19th-century building that houses 1,800 of the 23,000 original specimens that survived World War II bombings.

The oldest artifacts include bladder stones from the 1700s. Other curios include a 60-pound megacolon from a patient who died in 1960, an 18th-century birthing chair and various tumors alongside forms of other disease. The museum also traces the darker side of German medicine, including how the National Socialists used science to justify their horrific actions toward race purification.

*Berlin Museum of Medical History at the Charité, Charitéplatz 1, Berlin; +49 30 450 536 156; Tuesday-Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.;*

**Choowondang Korean Medical Museum, South Korea**

Opened in 2008 in a thriving medical center dating from the 1800s, this museum details the history of Korean medicine. Items including medical chests and documents are on display, giving insight into the development of Eastern medical practices.

The adjoining clinic launched just after the Korean War broke, which was when the Yoon family moved their practice south from North Korea.

A main feature of the building is the herbal-production lab with gleaming metal drums shining through the glass walls.

*Choowondang Korean Medical Museum, 153-1, Nakwon-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul, South Korea; +82 2 3672 2005; Monday-Wednesday, Friday 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.;*

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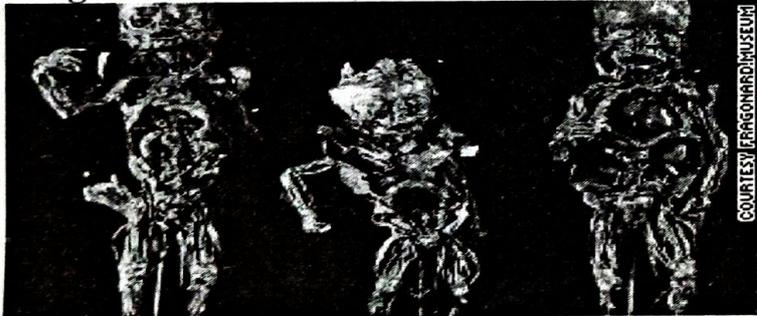
**Museum of Human Disease, Australia**

This educational museum helps you to "know your enemy," presenting more than 2,000 examples of human diseases past and present.

Among the samples are a 19th-century tuberculosis lung, an ovarian tumor featuring teeth and hair and brains infected with mad cow disease. Largely geared toward students, welcoming nearly 10,000 a year, the museum is the only one of its kind in Australia open to the public. Opened in 1960, the museum continues to update its collection.

*Museum of Human Disease, Ground Floor Samuels Building, UNSW Sydney, New South Wales, Australia; +61 29385 1522; Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; AU\$11 (\$11)*

**Fragonard Museum, France**



Horses, monkeys and human fetuses are on display.

Originally an anatomy collection for veterinary students begun in the 1700s just outside Paris, the curiosities-filled Musée Fragonard opened to the public in 1902, closing in the 1990s for renovations that lasted until 2008. Skeletons and anatomical displays fill the rooms, but the main event is in the cabinet of unsettling specimens.

The skinned bodies flayed by expert 18th-century anatomist Honoré Fragonard are some of the most renowned yet unsettling specimens in Europe. Horses, monkeys and even human fetuses are on display, showing all of the gory innards that our skin (fortunately) covers.

*Fragonard Museum, 7 avenue du Général de Gaulle; Maisons Alfort, France; +33 143967172; Tuesday-Wednesday 2 p.m.-6 p.m, Saturday-Sunday 1 p.m.-6 p.m;*

**Museum Vrolik, Netherlands**

This medical and anatomy museum is just one of many trippy experiences in Amsterdam. The 10,000 oddball items from the Vrolik family's collection dating to the 1700s include one-eyed creatures, preserved conjoined twins and so-called mermaid fetuses.

The 16th-century bladder stone the size of a human fist is especially painful to look at, but no more than the pathologically deformed bones or corset livers.

*Museum Vrolik, Academic Medical Center, Meibergdreef, Amsterdam; +31 20 566 4927; Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; free admission*

**The Maude Abbott Medical Museum Osler Collection, Canada**

A varied collection of about 150 organs dating to the late 19th century is the major draw at this Canadian academic museum. The only problem is that you can't visit it -- yet.

The museum is, for the moment, exclusively online, featuring detailed images and information for the collection, but McGill University is making room for a

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physical exhibition to showcase the extensive array of innards, skeletons, autopsy log books and pathological specimens. Many of the organs come from across North America, but are primarily from local Montreal hospitals.

*The Maude Abbott Medical Museum Osler Collection, Duff Medical Building, Room B4, 3775 University Street, Montréal, Quebec; collection only available online at the moment*

**Paul Stradin's History of Medicine Museum, Latvia**



Two heads aren't always better than one.

Latvia doesn't scream medical tourism, but this museum's hodgepodge of items started by Latvia's greatest surgeon and medical historian is worth a visit.

Dr. Paul Stradins started the collection in the 1920s. It includes, among other things, both a two-headed canine and the dog named Chernushka, who was launched into space aboard Sputnik 9, and survived.

The museum houses more than 203,000 items, with dioramas including a recreated medieval pharmacy and town that explores healing techniques of the Middle Ages.

*Paul Stradin's History of Medicine Museum, Antonijas iela 1, Rīga, Latvia; +37 167222665; Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; 1.50 lats (\$3)*

**Meguro Parasitological Museum, Japan**



Skin-crawling, skin-burrowing creatures aplenty here

Celebrating its 60th birthday this year, the Meguro Museum started out when Dr. Satoru Kamegai began exhibiting parasites to raise public awareness after World War II.

His specimens evolved into one of the most intriguing medical museums in the world, with two floors dedicated entirely to hundreds of skin-crawling (and burrowing) parasites. The museum owns approximately 60,000 specimens.

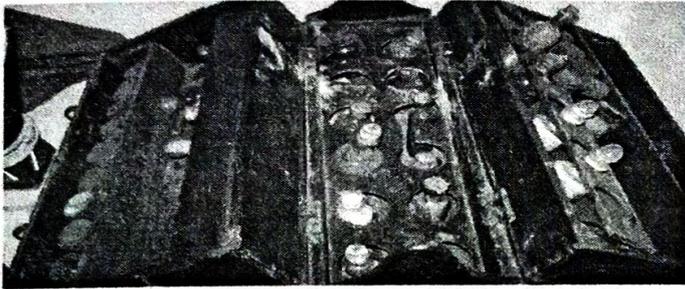
An impossibly long *Diphyllobothrium nihonkaiense*, or tapeworm, is on display. Those who want to keep the experience alive can purchase a T-shirt with the creature printed on it, more or less where it would be living inside of you, feeding parasitically.

*Meguro Parasitological Museum, 4-1-1 Shimomeguro, Meguro-ku, Tokyo, Japan; +81 337161264; Tuesday-Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; free admission (donations welcome)*

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**Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval  
Medicine and Science, India**

Named after a 10th-century Islamic philosopher and physician, this museum takes a glimpse into medicine across the Middle East and Asia.



Its modest but ancient collection includes artifacts from Greco-Arab doctors and medical manuscripts dating to the tenth century.

Unani drugs and some dusty-looking tools are on display alongside a large array of busts of then-famous scientists, few of whom will be familiar at all. There are also handmade antiquated clay and mud molds showing the Gastrointestinal and respiratory systems.

*Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine and Science, Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh, India; +91 571 3290275; Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday 4 p.m.-8 p.m.; free admission*

**Some of the rare travelogues extant in  
the Library of Ibn Sina Academy  
by Daniel Majchrowicz (Harvard)**

One of the great joys of writing a dissertation on Urdu travel writing is that such a project is itself a journey, in every sense of the word. A journey through time, across intellectual frontiers, and, of course, a journey in its most basic sense,

that is, across space. Like their authors, Urdu *Safarname* have been incredibly itinerant, and can be found in libraries spread across three continents. Over the past two years, I have traveled through the US, UK, Pakistan and India in search of rare travel accounts.

Despite these extensive searches, a number of travelogues from the 19<sup>th</sup> century continued to elude me, that is, until a recent visit to Aligarh. There, through the kindness of Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, himself a noteworthy *sahib-i safarname*, I discovered a trove of rare works in pristine condition at the Ibn Sina Academy in Dodhpur, Aligarh.

The purpose of this short article is to bring the merits of this small, but extremely important collection of works to the notice of the community. In the lines that follow, I will mention briefly a number of rare works from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, many of which only have two or three surviving copies. In addition to the works I mention here, there exist in the library's collection a number of other important travelogues that are also relatively rare and of significant historical value. These include, for instance, Vali Muhammad Mir's *Safarname-yi Andalus*.

The intent here is not to give full bibliographic or annotated accounts of these works, but rather to draw attention to them, as the only surviving copies of an important historical archive.

**Arzhang-i Chin and Farhang-i Farang:** These two works, both published in 1891, are the work of the self-styled "*Ra'is-i himmat-buland, Sayyah-i Chin o Farang, Nawab-i mu'alla alqab, Muhammad Umar Ali Khan, Bahadur Feroz-Jang.*" The brave Nawab of Basodah (to be more prosaic) wrote at least nine travel accounts, which took him all over the globe at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. As such, he belongs to a

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group of royal travelers in fin-de siècle India who made a tradition of writing about their princely tours. Despite his prodigious output, the nawab's works are exceedingly rare today. I have only located six of his nine books. The two mentioned here are each available in three libraries worldwide, but these copies are at significant risk, or are already damaged, making their preservation and availability extremely important.

**Arzhang-i Farang:** The *Arzhang-i Farang* is the translation of work originally written in English and published in Bombay, entitled *My Impressions of England*. To my knowledge, it is the only extant copy of the Urdu translation, which differs from the original English in some respects.

**Safarnamah-yi Haramain:** Muhammad Muhiuddin Husain's Hajj account was published in Urdu from Madras. The copy at the Ibn Sina Academy is likely the only currently existing copy.

**Nazir al-Tariq ila Bait al-Atiq:** This work was published from Bombay in 1911 by Muhammad Nazir Husain. It includes a number of lithographed etchings of the holy places, including Jerusalem. The only other known copy is available at the Raza Library, Rampur.

**Safarnamah-yi Baghdad:** Munshi Mahbub Alam, the founder of Lahore's seminal *Paisa Akhbar*, was a firm believer in the importance of traveling. He coupled this belief with his devotion to publishing and produced several travelogues intended to be beneficial to the public (He even argued that any traveler who did not write about his or her experiences abroad for the benefit of the public had wasted their time on "*khud-gharzana ayyashi*") Amongst these is his *Safarnamah-yi Baghdad*, written in 1917 as a war correspondent in Iraq. This work is available in four libraries world-wide, including one copy at the British Library.

The copy at the Ibn Sina Academy is noteworthy for being exceptionally-well preserved.

**Sarguzasht-i Hijaz, yani Wafd-i Khuddam-i Haramain ki report:** As will be known to readers of the Academy's Newsletters, the first quarter of the twentieth century saw a large scale effort to protect both the *khilafat* and the Hijaz from the turbulent events taking place in the Ottoman Empire. In 1925, after the consolidation of Saudi rule over the Hijaz and Najd, a small delegation traveled to Arabia to speak with Abd al-Aziz bin Saud about his plans to protect the holy cities. This small work narrates the experiences and demands of those *khuddam-i haramain*. I have not encountered this document elsewhere; it seems possible that this is the only remaining copy.

**Rahnuma-e Hajjaj:** This magisterial work, by Munshi Sayyid Barkat Ali, was written in 1891, making it among the earliest Hajj accounts written in Urdu. For its period, it is without a doubt the largest. It is available at the Raza Library, Rampur, in addition to the Ibn Sina Academy.

While the sheer existence of such works is cause for celebration, it goes without saying that a library's collection is only as valuable as the access which is given to it. In this respect, Ibn Sina Academy Library is one of the most welcoming, comfortable and useful libraries that I have visited in India. The library's policies, which allow scholars unfettered, quick access to valuable research material surely increases the academic value of that material manifold. Given the attention devoted to the preservation and accessibility of these materials, it is certain that they will be available to scholars like myself for many generations to come.

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[The above write-up is contributed by Daniel Majchrowicz, who is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University, Massachusetts. He completed his M.A. in South Asian studies and B.A. in Spanish literature, both at University of Texas, Austin. When not traveling or writing, Mr. Majchrowicz is active on campus as a cultural-intellectual fellow and facilitates a workshop dedicated to scholarship on South Asia. His publications include work on late nineteenth- and early twentieth century travel literature. By combining tools from sociolinguistics and literary analysis, Mr. Majchrowicz's Fulbright research project, "Writing Language, Reading Travel: Language, Politics and Identity in the Indian Travelogue," will explore how self and other are discussed in increasingly inventive and expressive ways in this literature. He will also explore why the travelogue suddenly became one of the most popular literary genres in India from the mid-nineteenth century and how the interest in travel writing grew and expanded beyond this foundation through independence. Travel can be one of life's most liminal experiences; how is this conveyed through discussions of language?]

**Donations of books to the Academy**

1. Dr. Danish Usmani, son of Hakim Mazhar Subhan Usmani, donated about 200 books of his late father. He sent all these books through transport and arranged 'home delivery'. The Academy is grateful to Dr. Usmani for his kindness and the trouble that he faced in sending the books.
2. Prof. Masood Alam, retired professor, Department of Urdu, AMU, donated seven medical books.
3. Mr. Habib Ahmad of Bhopal donated complete set of books of a renowned Urdu writer Sadat Hasan Manto.

Earlier, Mr. Habib Ahmad also donated hundred books to the Academy.

**Ibn Sina Academy's profile**

Students of Abdullah Hall and Nadeem Tarin Hall, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, published their Annual Hall Magazines, *Imtezaj* and *Sentiments* respectively, wherein an extensive coverage are made on artifacts, memoirs and collection extant at Ibn Sina Academy with an interview of its founder president Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman.

**NEW JOURNALS/PROJECT**

**1. Perso-Indica**

Perso-Indica is a research and publishing project that will produce a comprehensive Critical Survey of Persian Works on Indian Learned Traditions, encompassing the treatises and translations produced in India between the 13th and the 19th century. Perso-Indica intends to become the first major reference work for this domain of studies and will offer a unique and innovative contribution to our understanding of the History of Persianate and Indic Asian Intellectual and Literary Traditions and their cross-cultural interactions, as well as of modern South Asian identity construction.

Out of the 10 works on medicine under Perso-Indica project, 2 are based on the manuscripts extant in the Library of Ibn Sina Academy viz. *Mufradāt-i Hindī* by José da Silva and *Mufradāt-i Hindī* by Muḥammad Šarf al-Dīn.

Source: Perso-Indica. An analytical Survey of Persian Works on Indian Learned Traditions.

**2. History of Science in South Asia**

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new international journal, entitled History of Science in South Asia. HSSA publishes high-quality academic research in the

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history of science, technology and medicine, with a focus on South Asia.

For the journal's publishing model we have adopted the best and most up-to-date codes of practice: The journal is internationally peer-reviewed and indexed. The journal is Open Access. Articles can be read at no charge.

There will be no article processing fee for submissions made in the first two years of the journal's existence. Authors retain copyright of their submissions. Authors are required to publish their papers under a Creative Commons license, to facilitate wide dissemination.

Papers are published on the journal's website as soon as editorial tasks and typesetting are completed (rolling publication). The journal is published online and in print. Print issues and print subscriptions to the journal are sold on demand. The journal is free of charge both for readers and authors. This is made possible through the generous support of the publishers, the Sayahna Foundation (sayahna.org). After two years, any charges that may become necessary will be kept within reasonable bounds; several innovative business models are under active consideration, and it may continue to be possible to avoid article processing fees.

#### **Scope**

We take "South Asia" as an inclusive, non-political, socio-geographic term referring to the area from Afghanistan to Sri Lanka, from Pakistan to Bangladesh, and of course India. Research on the influences of South Asian cultures beyond these borders is also welcome, for example Nepalese or Tibetan influences on China, Sri Lankan influences on the Maldives, or Indian influences in South-East Asia.

We take "Science" to be broadly

conceived, and to include all forms of rigorous intellectual activity that adopt at least to some extent a quantitative and empirical approach, as in the German "Die Wissenschaft," that covers most forms of academic scholarship. Theoretical discussions of the meaning of the history of science in the South Asian historical context are welcome. They should presuppose some familiarity with topics such as those raised in sources like Grant, *A History of Natural Philosophy* (2007), Latour, *Laboratory Life* (1979), Staal, *Concepts of Science in Europe and Asia* (1993), Shapin, *Science and the Modern World* (2007), Netz, *The Shaping of Deduction* (2003), Pollock, *The Languages of Science in Early-Modern India*, and similar reflective works that explore Global History, the interpretation of Modernities, and the general meaning of science in the pre-modern world.

#### **Submission guidelines**

Factual articles reporting discoveries, or interpretative revisions, are also welcome, as are editions and translations of science texts in the languages South Asia. Full submission guidelines are available on the HSSA website.

The journal's website and email addresses are: <<http://hssa.sayahna.org>> and [hssa@sayahna.org](mailto:hssa@sayahna.org), while the postal address is: Krishna G. S., Editorial Support, History of Science in South Asia, Sayahna, JWRA 34, Jagathy Trivandrum 695014, Kerala, India

Submitted by Prof. S.R. Sarma,  
Düsseldorf, Germany

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

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

