

Newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy (NISA)

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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 7 2,000 specimens of medicinal plants belonging to 1 800 species from the wild.
- Undertaking successful cultivation of 15 important medicinal species.
- Has gathered and documented over 1 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.

For further information please contact:

Director General

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**EVENTS AT IBN SINA ACADEMY
(October – December 2013)**

Eighth Annual Ibn Sina Memorial Lecture

The Eighth Ibn Sinā Memorial Annual Lecture 2013 was delivered by Muhammad Zakaria Virk (Ontario, Canada) on 17.11.2013. His topic of lecture was History of Islamic Medicine from European perspective. He is an author of 5 books on history of medicine and translated 14 books into Urdu and English.

Guest Lecture No. 34

Prof Ashraf Khan, Director, Surgical Pathology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, USA delivered guest lecture on 'History of Cancer: From Demons to Genes' on 10.10.2013.

Guest Lecture No. 35.

The topic of this guest lecture was "Shamans, Mystics and Doctors: A brief history of Medicine". It was delivered by Prof. Farida Jamal of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia on 30th November 2013.

"Shahar be khwâb hai" of Raisuddin Rais released

"Shahar be khwâb hai" of Raisuddin Rais released by Prof. Shafey Kidwai. The programme was presided by Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman and organized by Harfzar Literary Society in collaboration with Ibn Sina Academy on 17th November 2013. It was well attended by many literary figures including Prof. Khalid Mahmood (New Delhi), Prof. Shahpur Rasool, Prof. Hameedullah Khan and Dr. Samiullah Khan. The programme was conducted by Dr. Mujeeb Shahzar and Owais Jamal Shamsi.

Felicitation to Vasudev Sharma 'Vashav'

Mr. Vasudev Sharma 'Vashav', an eminent writer, is honoured by an NGO 'Hamari Pahal' (Human Rights Organisation) at Ibn Sina Academy on 13.10.2013. The program was conducted by Mr. Rohitash Kumar Vicky. Mr. Vashav is also named in the 'Promotion and Facilitation of Voluntary Body Donation for teaching and research, in the Department of Anatomy, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, AMU.

Books donated to the Academy

The library of Ibn Sina Academy has already a good collection of rare manuscripts and vintage printed books. Today, it received an Urdu dictionary (printed 1848 C.E) which originally belonged to a renowned freedom fighter Maulana Fazl-e-Haq Khairabadi (1797-1861). This rare book is kindly donated by his related descendant Mr. Mohd Zaheer S/o Shandar Husain.

Hakim Habibur Rahman of Kanpur donated fifteen books on Ghalib, which is a great addition in the collection of Ghalib Study section of the Academy Library.

Other donors of few books were Maulana Ahmad Said Nadvi of Bhopal and Mr. Ayub Hussain of Aligarh.

An Appeal to Support the Ibn Sina Academy

As we all know in this fast growing world, and particularly in the "globalization era", we Muslims are losing the major pillar of our heritage

and culture, i.e., the Urdu language. It is a moment of grief for all of us that we are unable to restore this precious language to its past glory. If efforts are not put in soon, humanity might lose a part of a rich heritage.

I along with my friend Mohd Zaigham Khan (ex-President of AMU Old Boys' Association, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) visited Ibn Sina Academy on 27th of October, 2013 at Aligarh. This Academy has been established by Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman Sahab through his personal efforts. It has an objective of preservation and promotion of the Urdu language highlighting the contributions of the Muslim scholars in the field of science and medicine in the period known as the golden age (i.e., spanning 7th century to 17/18th century).

It may be known that Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman Sahab had been conferred the Padma Shri by the Government of India in the year 2006 in the field of Unani Medicine. He is an author of 45 books and several papers in various journals and magazines, and recipient of many awards and honors from various organizations of the world.

The Academy, with an initiative by Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman and his son Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman, is engaged in improvising the present condition of our language, culture and heritage and bringing it back to its past level.

Various sections of the Academy, for example: the Library, the Museum, the Conference Hall and the Guest House

etc. are still in the various phases of development. The library has the largest collection of books on Ghalib. Its Museum opens gates to the traditions and cultures of the bygone eras of Muslim life and to the present generation. Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman Sahab has traveled extensively to various parts of the world. He has collected and brought home himself the artifacts and other objects of cultural and historical importance from 39 countries to preserve them in the museum of the Academy. The museum offers plenty of information on various subjects and stimulates learning. It is important for every Indian (in particular the Muslim) to be aware of this priceless heritage and to be aware of the need for the preservation of this rich heritage of ours.

It is regrettable to note that, while the Academy and the efforts of the Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman Sahab have been highly recognized in many other parts of the world, our own people, particularly the Aligarians are lagging behind to pay attention to the Academy. The AMU Alumni Associations from all over the world are contributing a lot in the form of scholarships for education and other purposes. It is equally important for such organizations of Aligarians and individuals also to support the growth and success of the Ibn Sina Academy, established by Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman Sahab with the aim to preserve the rich heritage of ours.

Unfortunately, due to lack of our support, the Academy is unable to function properly and attain its proposed objectives. Hence, it is our duty to join

hands together, help and appreciate this noble cause.

“With public sentiments nothing can fail, without it nothing can succeed”. With this positive thought in mind it is my humble request that all Aligarians should make collective efforts as wholeheartedly as possible to help the Academy to succeed and grow.

May Allah bless you all.

With kind regards,

1. Naushad Ahmad Ansari, ex-Secretary, AMU Old Boys' association, Dehradun.

2. Mohd Zaigham Khan, ex-President, AMUOBA, Riyadh, KSA.

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MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman, President, IAMMS, has been appointed as Member, Unani Pharmacopoeial Committee (UPC), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India (dated 23.12.2013) for a period of 3 years.

Prof. Rahman has also been invited as guest during the three-day “International Conference on Revisiting Abul Qasim Al-Zahrawi's Legacy in Medicine and Surgery” during December '13-15, 2013 held at New Delhi, India. He also presided a session during this Conference on “Revisiting Abul Qasim Al-Zahrawi's Legacy in Medicine and Surgery”, held at the India Islamic

Cultural Centre, New Delhi (15.12.2013).

2. He was invited as chief guest to inaugurate and preside the National Workshop cum Training Programme in the specialty treatment for paralysis (*Falij*) with reference to regimental therapy (*'ilaj bit tadbeer*) for Unani Doctors, organised by Dr. Ahmed Ashraf Memorial Unani Specialty Treatment Center for Paralysis (*Falij*), Hyderabad on 24.11.2013.

3. Presided, Executive Committee Meeting of All India Muslim Educational Conference on 8th December 2013 at Habib Manzil, Marris Road, Aligarh. In the meeting two important issues were discussed and resolved. (a) Increment of salary of the staff working in the Conference office (b) Starting a school (Green School) at the Conference compound in collaboration with New Millennium Foundation. Following members attended: Dr. Shahid Qamar Qazi, Ahmadur Rahman Khan Sherwani, Shujaur Rahman Khan Sherwani, Fawad Qazi, Prof. Asif Naim Sidiqi, Dr. Madihur Rahman Suhaib, Asadyar Khan, Mohammad Ahmad Sherwani, Meer Mohammad Ali, Ahmad Omar Farooq and Prof. Riazur Rahman Khan Sherwani.

4. Participated as special guest in the Fourth Meeting of the Subject Panel on Unani Medicine, National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India, New Delhi, on 12.12.2013. The meeting was called to review the progress on different approved projects, and to evaluate as well as approve new projects.

5. Invited as guest during the function when Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav distributed free laptop to intermediate pass students of Aligarh under a scheme as promised in the party's manifesto during assembly elections last year.

Mohammad Abid Ali Abid, a noted Urdu poet and an active member of Ghalib Study Centre of Ibn Sina Academy has come up with a compilation of his several selected poems. It has also some thematic material on renowned personalities of Aligarh such as Qazi Abdus Sattar, Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, Syed Mohammad Ashraf, etc. The book is dedicated to Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy.

Three - day Seminar on unpublished Manuscripts on Medicine in Hyderabad – A Report

Andhra Pradesh Govt. and Oriental Manuscripts Library organized three days seminar on unpublished manuscripts on medicine during 21-23 November 2013. Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, who was invited to its Inauguration ceremony said; "Thousands of rare manuscripts on medicine along with manuscripts on other subjects are extant in large libraries of India such as Andhra Pradesh Govt. and Oriental Manuscripts Library, Salar Jung Library (Hyderabad), Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library (Patna), Raza Library (Rampur), Nadwatul Ulema (Lucknow), Darul Uloom (Deoband), Jamia Hamdard (New Delhi), besides some small and big personal collections. Some of these manuscripts are never reported nor known in foreign libraries. Because of this exceptional availability of manuscripts, India occupies a unique place in the whole academic world. I am happy that from today Andhra Pradesh Govt. and Oriental Manuscripts Library is organizing three days seminar on unpublished manuscripts on medicine. I hope with this and after deliberation some more medical manuscripts extant especially in some small and personal

collections would come into limelight about which we are still unaware. Finally, I wish to congratulate organizers to hold this important seminar".

During the seminar, Prof. Rahman released *Qarâbâdîn Ma'sûmî*, written by Ma'sûm ibn Kabîruddîn al-Tabîb al-Shûstrî al-Shîrwânî in 1639 AD in Persian language which contains the tested and tried formulations and prescriptions of ancient physicians as well as of the author himself. This book needs to be accessible in libraries and research institutes as a meaningful resource for the physicians, researchers and scholars, and should be welcomed among the community of Unani physicians. In view of the importance, utility and worldwide interest in Unani pharmacopoeia, Andhra Pradesh Government, Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Institute (APGOMLRI) thought it necessary to publish this unpublished manuscript. The work of editing of this Persian treasure was assigned to Dr. Ashfaque Ahmad (M. D. Unani). The book was printed and published by APGOMLRI, Hyderabad. It was released in the inauguration ceremony of the 'National Seminar' on 21 November.

The book was printed and published by APGOMLRI, Hyderabad. It was released in the inauguration ceremony of the 'National Seminar on unpublished Manuscripts on Medicine' on 21 November 2013 by Prof. S. Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh and Dr. S. Subrahmanyum, Director, A. P. Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Institute, Hyderabad. Publisher: A. P. Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and Research Institute, Osmania University campus, Hyderabad, 500007 Phone: 040-27097709 Price: 235/-

On this occasion Prof. S. Zillur Rahman had expressed his views as follows: *Qarâbâdîn Ma'sûmî* is one of the most important Unani pharmacopoeias. It has been unpublished so far. Dr. Ashfaque Ahmad discovered the various copies of the manuscript as per the modern academic research parameters and prepared a final text after making a copy the base manuscript and collating it with other copies. I immensely appreciated it after looking the corrected text. He has also clarified the differences of various copies in the footnote. It is a great work done by the editor. Such kind of work is needed to be carried out also for n other medical manuscripts. Dr. Ashfaque Ahmad belongs to the young generation of Unani physicians who are occupied in carrying out academic tasks with enthusiasm and commitment. I have a great expectation from him. Insha Allah he will be among the great Unani researchers, if he continued such standard editing work by care and perseverance.

Prof. H. S. Zillur Rahman, Prof. Anis Ahmad Ansari, Prof. Nazar Abbas and Prof. Tafseer Ali from Aligarh have been empanelled as International Scientific Committee of the 6th International Congress of the International Society for the History of Islamic Medicine, which is slated to be held in Yüzüncü Yıl University Campus, Van - Turkey during 23-26 September 2014.

Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari (formerly at Physics Department, AMU and General Secretary of IAMMS) was invited to the "*International Symposium on Ottoman Science and Philosophy in the XVIth Century*", which was organized in Memory of Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of Aydin Sayili, held 13– 15 November 2013 at Kastamonu University, Kastamonu

(Turkey). This symposium in Sayili memory was organized jointly by the University of Kastamonu and Kamal Atatürk Centre for Culture, Language and History. Late Prof. Aydin Sayili of Turkey became world renowned historian of science, when he completed the *first* Ph.D. Thesis in history of science under George Sarton, who held the *first* chair at Harvard. Sayili got published a unique book, entitled: *Observatories in Islam*, (Istanbul 1960).

After retirement from the Physics Dept. AMU, Prof. Ansari has devoted himself to research in History of Science in Medieval India. Prof. Ansari was the only Indian scholar invited to this important Symposium. He presented an invited lecture on "*Astronomical–Astrological Activities in Medieval India during 16th–17th Centuries*", in which he covered the reigns of Babar to Shahjahan, his sources being Indo-Persian writings.

Prof. S.M.R. Ansari is known both nationally and internationally as a historian of science. He is a member of Indian National Commission of History of Science. Recently he participated in the *24th International Congress of History of Science and Technology*, held in Manchester (July 22-28, 2013) as the Leader of India Delegation to the Congress.

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Honorary Treasurer, IAMMS, has been nominated and invited as:

1. Editor, Scientific Proceedings and Souvenir, CT-CME 2013 (Thoracic Surgery), Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, AMU, Aligarh.
2. Convener, Committee for final vetting of the "Evaluative Report of the Department" for SSR of AMU for NAAC.

Dr. Abdul Latif Honorary Joint Secretary, IAMMS, has been appointed as Chairman, Department of Ilmul Advia, Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College, AMU, Aligarh with effect from 20.12.2013 for a period of 3 years.

IAMMS Members' Participants at SoPI

The 13th Annual Conference of the Society of Pharmacovigilance, India (SoPI) is well attended by faculty members and PG students of Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College (JNMC) and Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College (AKTC) at Pramukhswami Medical College, Karamsad, Anand (Gujarat). Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Associate Professor, JNMC and Hony. Treasurer, IAMMS, was invited to deliver an invited talk on 'Research and Publications on Pharmacovigilance' during a special symposium on teaching and research. He also chaired a scientific session on 'Pharmaceutical Issues of Pharmacovigilance'. Dr. Abdur Rauf, Assistant Professor, AKTC and Member, IAMMS, presented a paper on "Monitoring of Adverse Drug Reactions with special reference to detoxification of Unani Drugs". Dr. Ajay Gupta (Resident, Department of Pharmacology, JNMC) got selected for the first prize in the poster presentation. The paper of Dr. Sangeeta Bhat (Resident, Department of Pharmacology, JNMC) was shortlisted in the prize sessions and was praised for her best presentation. During the Annual General Body Meeting (GBM), Dr. Abdul Latif, Associate Professor, AKTC and Hony. Joint Secretary, IAMMS, was nominated as executive member of the Society, while Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman was nominated as associate managing editor of the Society's Journal. In the meeting, Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman has also won the bidding to hold the next annual conference at Aligarh. In the valedictory

function, Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman invited all the delegates and briefed about the next venue Aligarh Muslim University.

Pressing for Unani Medicine in Nepal

Some members of Ibn Sina Academy under the leadership of Mr. Salahuddin Akhtar Siddiqui are successful somewhat in convincing the top leaders of Nepal to recognize Unani medicine in the country. Second constituent assembly elections are going to be held to compile a new constitution of Nepal. It is right time to peruse the matter for the commitment of the political party.

Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) led by Mr. "Prachand" has agreed and put the commitment to recognize the Unani medicine in Nepal in their political manifesto in forthcoming election, which is going to be held on 19 November 2013.

We think this is the first step of success to see Unani medicine in the manifesto of any political party. It is now an earnest request from all well-wishers of Unani medicine particularly based in Nepal to please send the letters of appeal and do whatever they can to get the due recognition of Unani medicine in Nepal. It is already a great leap in success mentioning Unani medicine in the manifesto of Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist). We wish the Party led by Mr. "Prachand" to win the election. We hope with our constant perseverance and interest, the Unani medicine would soon be recognized by the Nepal government.

During election time Mr. Salahuddin Siddiqui also met to Mr. Shushil koirala, President of Nepali Congress party, at Nepalgunj during his visit to his house for election campaign. He put his views about recognition of Unani medicine in

Nepal. Mr. Koirala told him that some work is needed to draft a law and policy. He suggested him to mount first a campaign and to follow it appropriately. Mr. Siddiqui has asked his daughter to move forward with a NGO. Hopefully she will do it under the guidance and support of Ibn Sina Academy.

Academic Staff College, AMU,
Aligarh, December 11, 2013.

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

Distinguished Visitors

1. Saifuallahjan aka Saifullah Ansari, Jalalabad, Afghanistan, 18.10.2013.
2. Dr. Amina Jamal, Associate Professor of Social Science, Ryerson University and Prof. Farida Jamal, Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Putra, Malaysia, 30.11.2013
3. Mr. Devendra Dixit, Additional Commissioner, Aligarh District, 16.12.2013.
4. Pharmacologists of India comprising of Prof. N.A. Ansari (Bareilly), Prof. C.D. Tripathi (Delhi) and Prof. I.P. Jain (Kanpur), 20.12.2013.

Visitors' Remarks and Comments

"It was a real pleasure to visit Ibn Sina Academy during my recent visit to Aligarh. I was immensely impressed to see one man's dedicated efforts to build such a wonderful institution. The rich collections in the library and museum reminded me of Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad. I salute its founder Prof. Zillur Rahman and wish him best of success, I strongly feel he needs help and assistance from all those who are interested in preserving Muslim heritage and culture"

Dr. Salim Kidwai
(FB message 17.10.2013)



Mr. Salahuddin Siddiqui is seen with International Election Observation Team at Nepalgunj, Nepal

VISIT OF DIGNITARIES

1. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Women's Studies, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, November 11, 2013.
2. Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Agricultural Science, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, November 16, 2013.
3. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Subject Refresher Course in Computer Applications, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, December 5, 2013.
4. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Special Winter School, UGC Academic Staff College, Aligarh Muslim University, December 10, 2013
5. 'Educational Tour' for Delegates, Orientation Programme, UGC

"Ibn Sina Academy is, I think, the best kept secret of Aligarh. What a great collection of manuscripts and artifacts, related to medieval science and medicine especially on Ibn Sina himself and in addition a room full of material on Ghalib and Sir Syed with all the passion, vision and hard work of one person Prof. Hakim S. Zillur Rahman and now his son S. Ziaur Rahman is doing also this fantastic job to carrying the tradition forward. Anyone visiting Aligarh should try to visit this institution. I was honored to be invited to give a lecture at the Academy"

Prof. Dr. Ashraf Khan, USA

[Professor Ashraf Khan is an alumnus of Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College 1973 batch. After getting his MD (Pathology) degree, he started his career as Lecturer in the Department of Pathology, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh. In 1985, he moved to England from where he received the Fellowship of Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPath). At present, he is the Professor and Director of Surgical Pathology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester Campus, Massachusetts, USA. He has several research papers to his credit and authored a number of books. He has very kindly donated one of his books: "Surgical Pathology of Endocrine and Neuroendocrine Tumors" to the Library of Ibn Sina Academy.]

DOCUMENTATION

Minsk hosts international scientific conference dedicated to Avicenna

Minsk hosted the Avicenna: Thinker, Scientist, and Humanist international scientific conference aimed at the promotion of the spiritual heritage of the Eurasian nations on 18 December 2013.

The event was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO and the Cultural Department of the Embassy of Iran in Belarus. The event was organized by the Philosophy Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus and the Belarusian State Medical University. Attending the conference were scholars and researchers from Iran involved in the promotion of the great scientist and philosopher.

The UNESCO recognizes the importance of the heritage of Avicenna. The 1000th anniversary of the encyclopedia "The Canon of Medicine" written by the scientist was included in the list of events celebrated by the organization and all its member states.

Chairman of the National Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO Vladimir Makei sent a welcome letter to the participants of the conference. UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova also addressed a letter to the conference participants.

The Belarusian Foreign Ministry believes that the Avicenna: Thinker, Scientist, and Humanist international scientific conference will become a joint contribution of the Republic of Belarus and the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UNESCO's celebrations of the event and will strengthen the intercultural dialogue.

The great medieval Iranian scientist Abu Ali al-Husayn ibn Abdullah ibn Sina (Avicenna) was a philosopher and natural scientist, encyclopedically educated scholar and medical practitioner, poet and statesman. Avicenna's teaching spiritually unites

historical epochs, nations, and continents. His life and career demonstrate that knowledge has no limits and people, regardless of their cultural differences, always aspire to understand one another.

NEW BOOK

Science and Religion in Mamluk Egypt: Ibn al-Nafis, Pulmonary Transit and Bodily Resurrection, Routledge 2013 by Nahyan Fancy

The book is the first study of Ibn al-Nafis's anatomical result within the context of his own works, and the larger epistemological and theological concerns of that period. It brings out the fact that Ibn al-Nafis had posited a physiology significantly different than that of Galen and Avicenna, which consequently also led him to posit a new theory of pulse. The book also shows how he used this new physiology to solve the problem of individuation to defend bodily resurrection. The book should be of interest to scholars of Islamic philosophy, science and medicine.

CONDOLENCE

Abdelhamid Ibrahim ("Bashi") Sabra, Professor Emeritus of the History of Arabic Science at Harvard University, passed away on December 18 in Lexington, Massachusetts after a long illness. Born in 1924 to a family of modest means in the Egyptian city of Tanta, Sabra was able to receive an education because he was his parents' only child to survive infancy. After attending the local Coptic school, he won a scholarship to study philosophy at the nascent Alexandria University. There he studied with scholars such as Yusuf Karam and Abu al-'Ala 'Afifi. His group of college friends included the later literary critic, poet, and translator,

Mohammad Mustafa Badawi, the actor Mahmoud Morsi, and the novelist Edward al-Kharrat. In 1950, the Egyptian government sent him to study at the London School of Economics, where he pursued a doctorate in Philosophy of Science under the supervision of Karl Popper. His dissertation was later published by the Cambridge University Press under the title *Theories Of Light from Descartes To Newton*. In England, he met a fellow student, Nancy Sutton, whom he married in 1955, before returning to Egypt to teach at Alexandria University. In 1962, they decided to leave Egypt and Sabra took up a position at the Warburg Institute in London. Always an admirer of British society, he enjoyed the friendship of scholars such as Popper, Ernst Gombrich, Frances Yates, and D. P. Walker. In 1972, Sabra accepted an offer to join the History of Science Department at Harvard. He taught there until his retirement in 1996, serving one term as department chair. Although he never lost his interest in Early Modern science, Sabra is best known for his contributions to the study of medieval Arabic science. In particular, he was interested in optics and in the work of al-Hasan ibn al-Haytham, whom he regarded as the greatest scientific thinker of the medieval Arabic tradition. He prepared a critical edition of most of Ibn al-Haytham's *Optics* (*Kitab al-Manazir*), and provided an English translation and commentary. Towards the end of his career, he focused on the physical theory of Islamic theology (*'Ilm al-Kalam*), which he regarded as an alternative to the Aristotelian tradition that informed so much pre-modern scientific thinking. In 2005, he was awarded the George Sarton Medal for lifetime achievement by the History of Science Society. He also was awarded a prize by the Kuwait Science

Foundation. He is survived by his wife of fifty-eight years, Nancy, and his sons, Adam and Peter.

I have no words to express my heart-felt grief over the passing away of I. Sabra. He and his work was for me a model for emulation. I have read his contributions with great reverence and I have been benefited by his classic edition of Ibn al-Haitham's *Kitab al-Manazir*, with which I was acquainted by my teacher Mathia Schramm (Tübingen), during his lectures in sixties. It is a great privilege for me that I could meet him personally in Harvard in 1990, while on a visit. He was extremely friendly and full of humility that belonged to a really great scholar. He was also very nice to present me a copy of *Âyat al-Kursî*, handwritten on a modern Egyptian papyrus, which is my proud possession.

I present my heart-felt condolence to his bereaved family and students. I pray sincerely for his *Maghfirat*.

S. M. Razaullah Ansari
Secretary General, IAMMS

Establishment of Islamic Parasitology By David W. Tschanz (Freelance Writer - Saudi Arabia)

Ibn Zuhr, known in the West as Avenzoar, was one of the greatest physicians, clinicians and parasitologists of the Middle Ages. Some historians of science describe him as the leading Muslim physician after Al-Razi (Rhazes) and Ibn Sina (Avicenna), while some of his contemporaries called him the greatest physician since Galen.

Abu Marwan Abd al-Malik Ibn Zuhr was born in Seville, Spain in 1091 C.E. He graduated from Cordoba Medical University and after a brief stay in

Baghdad and Cairo, returned to Spain and worked for Almoravides as a physician. Later, Ibn Zuhr worked for 'Abd al-Mu'min, the first Muwahid ruler, both as physician and a minister. He devoted his career to Seville and died in 1161 C.E.

Ibn Zuhr confined his work only to medicine, contrary to the prevailing practice of Muslim scientists who typically worked in several fields. Still, by focusing in one field he made many original and long-lasting contributions. He emphasized observation and experiment in his work.

Ibn Zuhr made several breakthroughs as a physician. He was the first to test different medicines on animals before administering them to humans. Also, he was the first to describe scabies and the itch mite in detail, and is thus regarded as the "Father of Parasitology."

He was also the first to give a full description of the tracheotomy operation and practiced direct feeding through the gullet in those cases where normal feeding was not possible. As a clinician, he provided clinical descriptions of intestinal phthisis, inflammation of the middle ear, pericarditis, and mediastinal tumors among others.

Ibn Zuhr wrote a number of important books for both the medical specialists and the common people. Several of his books were translated into Latin and were in great demand in Europe until the late Eighteenth Century, unfortunately only three of his greatest books have survived.

Kitab al-Taisir fi al-Mudawat wa al-Tadbir, (The Book of Simplification

concerning *Therapeutics and Diet*) was written at the request of Ibn Rushd (Averroes). The work contains many of Ibn Zuhr's original contributions, particularly in its detailed discussions of pathological conditions and therapy.

The second book, *Kitab al-Iqtisad fi Islah Al-Anfus wa al-Ajsad* (translated as the *Book of the Middle Course concerning the Reformation of Souls and the Bodies*), summarizes different diseases, therapeutics and the hygiene. It also discusses the role of psychology in treatment.

This book is written in an easy to understand format for the nonspecialist. The third book, *Kitab al-Aghziya* (*Book on Foodstuffs*), discusses numerous drugs and the importance of food and nutrition.

Invitation to Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman for the Award: In the field of Unani, during the 'International Conference on Multidisciplinary Healthcare, AIIMS-2014'.

"The Organizing Committee of ICMHAIIMS-2014, is pleased to invite and honour you with a 'Life Time Achievement Award' for your extraordinary contribution to the field of Unani, during the valediction ceremony of 'International Conference on Multidisciplinary Healthcare, AIIMS-2014' on 12th January 2014 at J.N.L Auditorium, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

ICMHAIIMS 2014 is a multidisciplinary conference which is providing a common platform to all the healthcare fraternities to share skills and knowledge between diverse groups of healthcare professionals and their respective

Associations / Councils to come to the common goal of providing most effective and affordable healthcare services to the Patient. Individuals with life-limiting illnesses often have complex and multifaceted needs. In most cases, these needs are best managed using a multidisciplinary approach to care that includes opportunities for multidisciplinary discussions and care planning. Effective multidisciplinary care embeds collaborative and patient-centered approaches to care planning and provision, and leads to the achievement of care goals that are unlikely to be achieved by health professionals acting in isolation. This Mega event is designed to promote multidisciplinary healthcare practice and to strengthen the referral system in health and wellness field.

As a symbol of appreciation of your exceptional contribution/years of services to the field of Unani, I invite you to collect your award from our Honorable chief guest of the Valedictory function. You are also requested to be present during the other events being organized during ICMHAIIMS 2014.

Thank you for your contribution to the field. You are a valuable member of the healthcare multidisciplinary team. Please honour us with your gracious presence.

Thanks and Regard

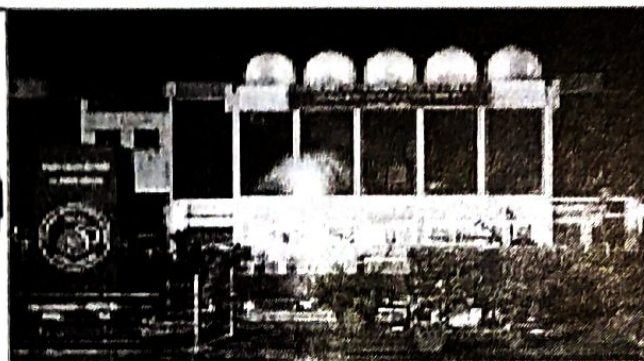


Dr. G.K. Meena,

Organizing Secretary, ICMHAIIMS-2014
Room No-17, 6th Floor, NSC, AIIMS, New Delhi-110029.

Email: icmhaiims2014@yahoo.com and
icmhaiims2014@gmail.com

Conference Website: www.icmhaiims.com



**National Workshop cum CME
On
Alternatives to Animal Experimentation in
Medical Science Education
24-25 February 2014**

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Department of Pharmacology,
J.N Medical College,
Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh 202002 (U.P)**

**Renowned speakers in the field of Alternatives to
Animal experimentation are invited to deliver
lectures and demonstration.**

For further information please contact:

Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman

Organising Secretary

Department of Pharmacology

J.N Medical College, A.M.U

Allgarh 202002 INDIA

E-mail: pharma.jnmc@gmail.com

Blog: <https://workshopcumcmejnmc.blogspot.com>

**Registration is limited to 40
participants. Last date of
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