

# Newsletter of Ibn Sina Academy (NISA)

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Aligarh, India**



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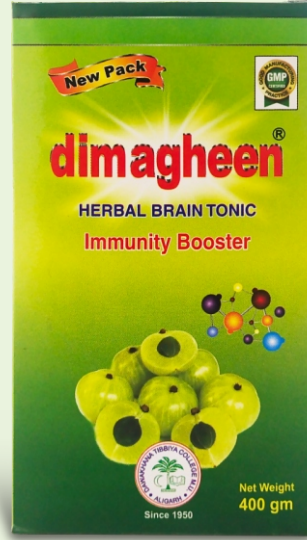
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**EVENTS AT IBN SINA ACADEMY  
(October – December 2021)**

**Thirteenth Ibn Sina Memorial Lecture**

The Thirteenth Ibn Sina Memorial Lecture 2021 was held on 30th December 2021 at the Library Hall of Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh. Dr. Taqi Abedi, an eminent writer, scholar and poet from Canada, delivered the lecture on "**Firaq Gorakhpuri - Works and Contributions**". Prof. Zakia Siddiqi, Former Principal, Women's College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, presided over the function.

Earlier, Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman, President, Ibn Sina Academy, introduced the guest speaker and thanked the Director, National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), Department of Education, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India, for sponsoring this series of lectures at Ibn Sina Academy. He informed that the speaker Dr. Syed Taqi Hassan Abedi is an Indian-Canadian physician and a poet and scholar of Urdu and Persian language par excellence. He compiled *Kuliyat-e-Ghalib Farsi*, *Kuliyat-e-Anees*, *Rubayat-e-Dabeer*, *Faiz Fahmi*, *Choon Marg Ayed* and *Iqbal Kay Irfani Zaweye* and many more similar works. Prof. Rahman further stated that we were fortunate to have such a renowned speaker for the 13th Ibn Sina Memorial Lecture. He informed earlier speakers of this series were Saiyid Hamid (2006), Syed Mushirul Hasan (2007) and Syed Shahid Mehdi (2008), etc.

Dr. Taqi Abedi firstly thanked the organisers and appreciated the efforts of Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman. In the lecture, he talked about his own book, *Kuliyat-i-Firaq Gorakhpuri*. He said the book includes more than 600 *ghazals*, 82 *nazms* and 50 *dohas*. Apart from that the quality of content (*matn ki sehat*) has also been paid attention to. There are *ghazals* in the book which stretch from 20 to 25 verses. Then there is a

*muqaddama* [preface or foreword] which is in four parts.

Dr Abedi focused his talk on Firaq's *ghazals*, although he also spoke on his *rubaiyi'at*. He said Firaq was born in 1896 in Gorakhpur and died in 1982 in Delhi. His place of birth was rich in producing noteworthy poets. His teacher urged him to read Mir Taqi Mir, which he did therefore Firaq's *ghazal* has many qualities: it is traditional, progressive, modern and postmodern. The poet taught English for 25 years wrote some stanzas in English and did some translations from that language. However, he earned a living mostly through *mushairas*, by writing articles and through the royalty of his books.

The scholar said if one were to look at the local theories of Urdu literature, one would notice that Urdu poetry is marked by meaningfulness (*maani aafreeni*) extracted out of our own soil, culture and civilisation. Language has its distinct charm. In the past, Urdu culture didn't allow the portrayal of the female body in an explicit way, but Firaq experimented with it for which he had to answer many questions. Since he taught English literature, he was familiar with mythology which provided him with the opportunity to benefit from that learning.

Dr. Abedi said the other experiment that Firaq did was the use of Hindi words in his poems. Keeping in context women's beauty he quoted from a *rubaiyi* whose last two lines were:

*Luqmey ke uthaney mein kalai ki lachak*  
*Dilkash kitna hai munh ka chalna kam kam*  
[Ah, the way her wrist turns when she picks a morsel  
How beautiful it looks when she gently eats it]

"This is the kind of expression that attracted readers' attention to Firaq," he said and

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claimed the modern ghazal penned by Firaq carries the subject of romance alongside everyday issues of life (*gham-i-dauran*). One of the last verses that he quoted in his lecture was:

*Chup ho gaey terey ronay waaley*  
*Dunia ka khayal aa gaya hai*

[Your mourners have gone quiet They've begun to think of the world]

In the end, Dr. Raihan Akhtar Qasmi (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Sunni Theology, AMU, Aligarh) presented a vote of thanks.

**Book on Maulvi Zainul Abedin Launch**

The book namely 'Khan Bahadur Maulvi Zainul Abedin & Aligarh Movement' was launched in a glittery ceremony at Ibn Sina Academy on 15th October 2021. The chief guest of the event was Prof. Tariq Mansoor (Vice Chancellor, AMU, Aligarh) while Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman (Hony. Treasurer, AMU, Aligarh) presided over the function.

Prof. Saud Alam Qasmi (Dean, Faculty of Theology), Prof. Syed Mohd. Hashim (Dean, Faculty of Arts), Prof. Parvez Talib (Former Dean, Faculty of Management), Dr. Mohd Shahid (Deputy Director, Sir Syed Academy), Prof. Saghir Afraheim (Former Chairman, Dept. of Urdu) and Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman (President, Ibn Sina Academy), presented their views.

All three co-authors: Mr. Atif Hanif (Joint Secretary, AMU Old Boys Association, Lucknow), Dr. Raihan Akhtar Qasmi (Asst. Professor, Deptt. of Sunni Theology, AMU, Aligarh) and Dr. Aftab Alam Najmi (Asst. Professor, Deptt. of Urdu, AMU, Aligarh) were present during the ceremony. In addition to the authors, Dr. Nadeem Ashraf (Asst. Professor, Deptt. of Sunni Theology, AMU, Aligarh) were the main organisers of the book launching. The programme was organised in collaboration with Sir Syed and Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Educational Welfare Society,

Shakeel Educational Social Welfare Society and Xtraordinary Life.

**National Mushaira**

National Mushaira on the theme, "*Shahr Tahzeeb Aligarh ki Sada-e Nau*" was organized at Ibn Sina Academy on 27.10.2021. The *mushaira* was a part of centenary celebration of AMU and was systematized for young Urdu poets. The programme was held under the guidance of Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman and Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Sabrhadi (Founder, Majlis Fakhre Bahrain). Mr. Atif Hanif and Mr. Humayun Kabir attended the program as special guests. Dr. Suroor Sajid compered the program while Dr. Raihan Akhtar Qasmi (Asst. Professor, Deptt. of Sunni Theology, AMU, Aligarh) and Dr. Aftab Alam Najmi (Asst. Professor, Deptt. of Urdu, AMU, Aligarh), were the main organisers.

**National Unity and Sir Syed's Thoughts**

A seminar was organised on 'National Unity and Sir Syed's Thoughts' at Ibn Sina Academy during 24.10.2021. On the same occasion, a CD based on Sir Syed's lectures on national unity, prepared by Johny Foster was released. Lots of teachers and students presented their views on Sir Syed's notions on communal harmony and unity. To name a few, Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman, Prof. Salahuddin Qureshi, Mr. Johny Foster, Dr. Neeraj Sharma and Ms. Priyanka Sharma.

**Poetical Sitting (*Shairi Nashist*)**

A small get-together to listen Urdu poetry in honour of visiting guests from Mumbai and Pune: Mr. Farooq Syed, Mr. Riazul Hasan, Mr. Khan Navedul Haque and Mr. Nasir Ali, was arranged by Aazar Academy (Aligarh) at Ibn Sina Academy on 11.11.2021.

Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman (President, Ibn Sina Academy), Mr. Mohammad Furqan (Mayor, Aligarh Division), Dr. Mairaj Ali (Noted physician) and Mr. Musharaf Mahzar (Councilor, Aligarh Corporation), extended help in honouring the guests from outside the

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city. In recognition of academic excellence and grand services rendered to Urdu language and literature, each guest was awarded with a citation and title. “*Shahryar-e Ilm*” was conferred to Mr. Nasir Ali, likewise, “*Ameen-e Ilm-o-Adab*” to Mr. Khan Navedul Haque, “*Manara-e Ilm*” to Mr. Riyazul Hasan and “*Ameen-e Sahafat*” was conferred to Mr. Farooq Syed.

On the same occasion, local Urdu poets: Dr. Ilyas Naved, Prof. Syed Siraj Ajmali, Shariq Adeel, Dr. Suroor Sajid, Nasim Noori, Babar Ilyas, Dr. Mujeeb Shahzar, Dr. Irfan Ansari, Dr. Rashidul Islam, Kalim Samar, Syed Basirul Hasan Wafa Naqvi, Dr. Razi Amrohavi, Mubashir Qamar, Ahmad Rais, Atiq Sahar, Mansoor Adab, Engineer Adil Faraz, recited their poems.

**International Seminar on Rights and Issues of Women in Indian Religions and Literature**

One-day International Seminar (Offline / Online, hybrid mode) on Rights and Issues of Women in Indian Religions and Literature was held at Ibn Sina Academy on 27.10.2021. It was organised in collaboration with Sir Syed and Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Educational Welfare Society and Shakeel Educational Social Welfare Society of Sabarahad, Jaunpur.

The chief guest was Mrs. Smrita Singh (Distt. Minority Officer and Distt. Probation Officer, Aligarh), while the guests of honour were Prof. Zakia A. Siddiqi (OSD, Aligarh Public School & Former Principal, Abdullah Women’s College, AMU, Aligarh) and Prof. Naima Khatoon (Principal, Abdullah Women’s College, AMU, Aligarh). Around 70 papers were read from all across the nation.

The programme was organised and conducted by a team of dedicated volunteers: Dr. Raihan Akhtar Qasmi (Asst. Professor, Deptt. of Sunni Theology, AMU, Aligarh), Dr. Aftab Alam Najmi (Asst. Professor, Deptt. of Urdu, AMU, Aligarh), Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman (Professor,

Deptt. of Pharmacology, AMU, Aligarh), Dr. Shaista Parveen and Ms. Ghazala Tehseen.

**Condolence Meeting**

A condolence meeting on the sad demise of Prof. Mohammed Baig Ehsas, who died on 8th September 2021 at the age of 73, was held at Ibn Sina Academy on 1.10.2021. Prof. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman remembered him as a good literary friend. He further informed that “Prof. Ehsas was a very learned person and excelled in literary world. He was the Director of the Idara-e Adabiyat Urdu, Hyderabad and Editor of *Subras* Monthly Magazine.

The library of Ibn Sina Academy, possesses few issues of *Subras* Magazine.

**VISITORS TO THE ACADEMY**

1. Prof. Yogesh Kumar Goyal, Department of Pharmacology, Sarojini Naidu Medical College, Agra (UP), 6.10.2021
2. Prof. Vinay Sharma, Head Department of Pharmacology, Rama Medical College & Hospital, Hapur, 17.11.2021
3. Mr. Taku Hiroki (Japanese Visitor), 20.11,2021
4. Dr. Sanjoy Das (Prof. and Head, Dept. of Forensic Medicine, Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences, Dehradun (U.Khand), 29.11.2021  
Dr. Sanjoy Das and Dr. S. Ziaur Rahman (Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy) attended the final session for FAIMER Fellow together
5. Dr. Shamim Ansari, St. Louis, Missouri, USA, 30.12.2021
6. Ms. Nusrat Ansari, Dusseldorf, Germany, 30.12.2021

**MEMBERS’ ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman**, President, Ibn Sina Academy, has been invited to attend the following events and programmes:

1. Presided, 32nd Anniversary of Samrat Aligarh Weekly Newspaper, Utsav Garden,

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- Aligarh, 5.10.2021. Chief guest of the event was Mr. Gaurav Dayal (Commissioner, Aligarh Division). The program was arranged by Mr. Mukesh Kumar Singh (Editor and Owner, Samrat)
2. Resource Person, BUMS Transitional Curriculum, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, 9.10.2021 (Topic: History, Philosophy and concepts of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani)
3. Invited as a guest (In capacity as Hony. Treasurer of AMU), Online AMU World Alumni Meet 2021, Administrative Block, AMU, Aligarh, on 18.10.2021. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Tariq Mansoor, presided over the function while Prof. M. M. Sufyan Beg, coordinated the Alumni Meet
4. Presided, Prize Distribution Function, Prophet Mohammad Quiz Competition, Organised by Insaniyat Foundation and Mansha Society, Aligarh, 20.10.2021. Both Mr. Rahat Sultan (Insaniyat Foundation) and Dr. Manzar Jamal (Mansha Society), were the forerunner of the event
5. Presided, One-day International Seminar (Offline/Online) on Rights and Issues of Women in Indian Religions and Literature, 27.10.2021 (For detail see page 5)
6. Chief Guest, The International Academic Conference on Medical Wisdom in Prophetic Tradition, Dept. of Science, Markaz Knowledge City, Jamia Madeenathunnoor, Calicut, Kerala, 5.11.2021 (Through Zoom Meeting).
7. Presided, Seminar on "*Daur-e Hazir main Taalim ki Ahmeyat aur Urdu Ka Mustaqbil*", organised on the occasion of birth anniversary of Allama Iqbal and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. The program was arranged by Mr. Kunwar Naseem Shahid (Patron) of the Shams Muslim Welfare Educational Society in collaboration with Uttar Pradesh Urdu Teachers Association, Aligarh on 9.11.2021.
8. Chief Guest, National Education Day, AMU Centre Murshidabad (WB), 11.11.2021. The programme was a part of the occasion of the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the First Education Minister of Independent India, and was organised by the Department of Education under the guidance of Dr. Nigamananda Biswas, Director In-charge, AMU Centre Murshidabad
9. Presided, International Online Seminar on Prof. Saghir Afrاهيم's work, 14.11.2021
10. Invited as a guest (In capacity as Hony. Treasurer of AMU), Online Special Convocation to award Honorary D. Sc. degree (*Honoris Causa*) to Mr. Natarajan Chandrasekaran, Chairman, TATA Sons Pvt. Ltd., on 15.11.2021. Chancellor of AMU, Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin, presided over the convocation, while the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Tariq Mansoor, handed over the "Degree"
11. Invited as guest of AMU in a function held in honour of the visiting NAAC Peer Team, AMU, Aligarh, 29.11.2021
12. Organised (In capacity as Hony. General Secretary), Executive Committee Meeting, All India Muslim Educational Conference, Aligarh, 6.12.2021
13. Attended, Executive Committee Meeting, Anjuman Tarraqi Urdu Hind, New Delhi, 13.12.2021
14. Presided, Felicitation Ceremony in honour of Prof. Abdur Raheem Kidwai, on his superannuated services as Director, UGC HRDC, AMU, Aligarh, 19.12.2021. Dr. Faiza Abbasi, the present Director, UGC HRDC, AMU, Aligarh, arranged the event
15. Chief Guest, Seminar and Mushaira on Sufi Saint Khwaja Khanon, Gwalior, 5.12.2021. Khawaja Khanon was born in 1434 A.D. (853 A.H.) in Nagore, a village near Jodhpur (Rajasthan). His ancestors come from Khurasan. Khwaja Sahib was barely fourteen years of age in 1448 when he completed his education and got himself enlisted in the Royal Army. Soon he began to realize the emptiness of life he was hitherto leading. A heavenly voice spoke within him. He was commanded to free himself from all worldly bondages. He distributed all his belongings amongst the

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poor peoples and cladding himself in a lone blanket, he set out on his holy mission. At the age of twenty-one he became a staunch disciple of Khwaja Jalal Sufi Hamiduddin Nagori and Khwaja Gharib Nawaz Ajmeri, who happened to be his ancestor from his mother's side. He reached Nagore to pay homage at the Dargah of Khwaja Jalal Sufi Hamiduddin Nagori. Here he also took farewell from his relatives and kinsmen and thereafter proceeded on foot to Ajmer. He took to prayers and penances at Ana-sagar in a cave, situated near the *Chilla* of Khwaja Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki.

**Professor Syed Ziaur Rahman**, Honorary Treasurer, Ibn Sina Academy, had been elected as “Fellow” of the National Academy of Medical Science (India) and IMA Academy of Medical Specialities.

These two medical science fellowships (FAMS and FIAMS) were awarded during the respective annual convocations: 61st Annual Conference of National Academy of Medical Science (NAMSCON 2021) at the Institute of Agricultural Science, BHU, Varanasi (27-28 November 2021) and Annual National Conference of IMA Academy of Medical Specialities (IMA AMS NATCON 2021; 19-20 December 2021, Tirupati, AP).

Professor Syed Ziaur Rahman was also invited to the following events as guest speaker and subject expert.

1. Resource Person, BUMS Transitional Curriculum, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, 8.10.2021 (Topic: Introduction about Modern Medicine and other system of Medicine)
2. Annual Meeting of International Association of Medical Colleges (IAOMC), University of Kent, England (UK), 8-9 October 2021 (Hybrid mode). Participated online as Secretary, IAOMC
3. Resource Person, MD Students of Unani Medicine, organised by Dept. of Tashreeh
4. Invited as a guest (In capacity as Member, AMU Alumni Affairs Committee), Online AMU World Alumni Meet 2021, Administrative Block, AMU, Aligarh, on 18.10.2021. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Tariq Mansoor, presided over the function while Prof. M. M. Sufyan Beg, coordinated the Alumni Meet
5. Participated, Revised Basic Course Workshop and Training in Attitude, Ethics and Communication (AETCOM), MEU, Dean Faculty of Medicine, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh under the supervision of NMC Regional Centre, Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences (Prof. Sanjoy Das as observer), Dehradun (UK), 28-30.10.2021
6. Resource person, Subject Refresher Course in Environmental Studies/Earth Sciences (Topic: Environmental Pharmacovigilance), UGC Human Resource Development Centre, CALEM, AMU, Aligarh, 3.11.2021 (For Batch 1) and 1.11.2021 (For Batch 2)
7. Organised, Medical Safety Week, Ibn Sina Academy, 2.11.2021 (Courtesy: Uppsala Monitoring Centre, WHO-CC Intl Drug Monitoring, Sweden)
8. Coordinators Meeting (via digital/virtual platform), Adverse Drug Reactions Monitoring Centres (AMCs), PvPI, IPC, Ghaziabad, 12.11.2021
9. Resource Person, Training Programme on “Role of Biomedical Engineers in Assessment of Medical Devices Adverse Events” to strengthen the materiovigilance programme pan India via digital/virtual platform, National Coordination Centre (NCC) for Materiovigilance Programme of India (MvPI), Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) in association with Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone (AMTZ), Vishakhapatnam (AP), 16.11.2021 (Topic: “Risk Minimization & Risk management guidelines: Medical Devices”)
10. Invited speaker, XI International Avicenna Readings - scientific conference on the

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- theme - "Ibn Sina and Covid 2019", Bukhara, Uzbekistan, 26.11.2021
11. Panellist, Condolence Meeting on the sad demise of Prof. M. N. Ghosh, organised by the Indian Pharmacological Society, West Bengal branch.  
The meeting was scheduled on 02.12.2021 through virtual mode from 7.30 to 8.30 PM to remember and pay respect to the memories of the following members: i) Late Manindra Nath Ghosh, ii) Late Madan Mohan Das, iii) Late Biswapati Mukherjee, iv) Late Subhadra Ghosh (Mukherjee), v) Late Radharamon De and vi) Late Arun Roychaudhuri. The meeting was organized with technical collaboration from Inovocare Healthsoft Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (Please see obituary of Prof. M. N. Ghosh on page 11-14)
12. Chaired, Session 12, 4th Annual Conference of Society for Alternatives to Animal Experimentation (SAAE-AS4), Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University, New Delhi, 12.12.2021 (Online)
13. Participated, 4th Annual Conference SAAE-India Post Conference Online Workshop on "Reconstructed human epidermis model for Skin Irritation (OECD TG-439) by Dr. Christian Pellevoisin, Scientific Director, EPISKIN, France, Organized by the Dept. of Zoology, Advanced Centre for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research in Cutaneous Biology (ACRem-Stem), University of Kerala, 13.12.2021
14. Panellist, Vice Chancellors' Conclave on Pharmacovigilance, on a theme, 'Better Public Health through Pharmacovigilance' organized by IES Institute of Pharmacy, IES University, Bhopal in collaboration with Society of Pharmacovigilance India (SoPI) and Healthcopeia Foundation, 18.12.2021
15. Subject Expert, Dept. of Pharmacology at AIIMS, Bhopal (6-10.12.2021), Dept. of Pharmacology, NIMS University, Jaipur (16-19.11.2021) and Dept. of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi for PhD Viva on 20.10.2021
16. Panellist, Webinar on "Husain Day – A message as humanity", Iran Culture House, Mumbai, Islamic Rep. of Iran (See below the excerpts of his speech)
- Speech delivered on 23.9.2021: "Respected panelists and participants. At the outset, I am thankful to the office of the Iran Culture House, Mumbai, Islamic Rep. of Iran specially, Agha Mohsen Ashouri, Director Iran Culture House Mumbai who arranged this Webinar on "Husain Day". I would like to take the blessing of Hujjatul Islam Agha Mahdi Mahdavi-pour, the Representative of the Supreme Leader of Iran Ayatullah Al-Uzma Sayyid Ali Khamenei in India, whose recorded speech we heard...Maazoone Da'wat Sa'eed ul-Khayr Bhaisaheb Imaaduddin ibn Da'i al-*Mutlaq* Abu Sa'eed ul-Khayr Haatim Zakiyuddin, Ra's ul-Hudood Da'wat Dr. Zulqarnain Bhaisaheb Hakeemuddin, to whom I met only last month at their Alavi Bohra Headquarters, Baroda. I would also like to recognize other panelists Mr. Milind Kher, *jinhone kya umda taqreer ki abhi Urdu main*, Mr. Satinder Pal Singh Ahuja, Mufti Manzur Ziayee, Maulana Syed Mohammad Jawad Faizan Jawadi and Mr. Mohammad Wajiuddin.
- So, we are assembled here to observe Husain Day – A message as humanity. Husayn ibn Ali ibn Abi Talib is the most significant personality among the Household of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), which we call *Ahl al-Bayt*. Imam Hussain was the youngest son of Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib and Fatimah (daughter of Prophet Muhammad). We know after the death of his elder brother Hazrat Imam Hasan, the family leadership came to Imam Hussain. He was a true devotee of Islam like his elders and knew the true meaning of Islam which he learned from his father Imam Ali and maternal grandfather Prophet Muhammad. Imam Hussain didn't compromise the domination of inequality against Islam. He stood beside the oppressed society and fought against the tyranny for the justice against injustices. The sacrifice that he



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had given along with his other family members at Karbala (a city presently in central Iraq) will always be remembered in the history of Islam. You know after his successful role of leadership as Imamate, his legacy continued, and led to the birth of galaxy of stars in the field of Islam like Imam Zainul Abedin, his son Imam Baqar, then Imam Jafar Sadiq then Imam Moosa Kazim, then Imam Ali Reza, then Imam Taqi, and then Imam Naqi. They were all glorious luminaries among the constellation of Islamic leaders. Because of them, the radiance of Islam (Noor-e Islam) is still seen and predominant. The incident of the death of Hazrat Imam Hussain is the most misfortunate and hurtful in the history of Islam, which the community didn't forget and won't able to forget till Qayamat. His sacrifice is a message for humanity, for high values and for the democracy of the society. Imam Hussain was against the kingship. To institutionalize the democracy, he gave a biggest example and sacrificed his family. Imam Zainul Abedin who was not well during the incident of Karbala, if not had been alive then the family of Imam Hussain could have been perished. But Allah Taala wanted to sustain the family of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). The blessings of *Allah Taala* were so immense that still a large number of *Saadat-e Rasool* are present and some are working for the propagation of Islam.

Though I am a very meaningless and worthless person in the society but feel proud to say that I also belong to this family of Saadat-Kiram. My family roots took branch from Imam Naqi's son Hazrat Jafar. My forefathers during the Changezi Massacre came to India from Mashhad via Sabzevar (Iran) and Gurdez (Afghanistan) in the year 1298, during the reign of Sultan Iltutmish. Just for the sake of many participants, I would like to further inform that currently, I am working as a volunteer in the Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh, where in addition to many other books and periodicals also has a good collection of Quraniyat, Seeratun Nabi and

biographical collection of eminent Islamic scholars."

Anyway, because of the shortage of time...once again, I would like to congratulate the whole team of the Iran Culture House, involved in organizing this event, Hussain Day. They deserve round of applause. I am grateful that they invited me as a speaker in this graceful function. Thank you. Khuda Hafiz..."

(The lecture was very well taken and appreciated by all panelists and participants.)

**MSNCON 2021**

Medical Students Network of Indian Medical Association (MSN IMA), Aligarh Wing, successfully organised the two-days 2nd UP State MSNCON 2021 at IMA House, Aligarh during 20-21 November 2021.

Apart from the office bearers of IMA Aligarh and UP chapters, Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman attended the event as patron of MSN IMA Aligarh Wing. While speaking, he congratulated the whole team of MSN IMA particularly Dr. Lakhan Prakash Gupta, Dr. Vibhor Gupta and Dr. Aatika. He said, "JNMC students have done it again! They have proved their talent in both academic and administrative abilities in-front of IMA UP State Office bearers". He further stated that "150 registrations from UP state medical colleges in this corona period was not a small number! Keep up the good work". He thanked all faculty members of JNMC who volunteered themselves as resource persons in various workshops and trained these undergraduates.

Dignitaries of the IMA UP State, Dr. Sharad Agarwal (Patron and Chairman, IMA- Hospital board of India along with Dr. MK Bansal (President IMA-UP) and Dr. Rajeev Goel (Hony. State Secretary IMA-UP) and Aligarh district also boosted the morale of organising team of the MSNCON 2021.

**DOCUMENTATION**

**Foreword by Prof. S. Zillur Rahman for the book, *Herbal Cosmeto Dermatology* by Prof. Abdul Latif**

Unani System of Medicine, like its theory and philosophy, also holds an enormous potential to successfully treat chronic diseases including arthritis, gout, paralysis, Bell's palsy, chronic coryza, asthma, gastric diseases, frigidity, depression, mental tension, blood pressure and other women's and children's specific ailments. Likewise, this system is also considered to be satisfactorily curable for various skin diseases.

Unani practitioners who had discovered the causes, symptoms, and cures of varied bodily ailments, had their attention from the beginning to focus on skin diseases.

The diseases of the exposed part of the body could not obviously remain hidden from the keen observation of earlier Unani physicians. As a result of continued investigations, inquiries and efforts, knowledge about many skin ailments was later on gained and acquired. In every important book of medicine, skin diseases were explained and that too segregated in a separate section. There is no reliable book on remedial therapy, where the causes and cures of skin diseases are not written. Ibn Sina in the third volume of his *Al Qanun fi al-Tib*, under the skin diseases chapter, mentioned many of its ailments.

In Unani practice, names of skin specialists are found. One of my friends, Late Hakim Ubaidur Rahman of Delhi, treated patients only for skin ailments. He had no concern with the treatment of any other disease. Every day in his clinic, there were throngs of patients visited after suffering from various kinds of skin ailments. Through his own experiences, he had gained such an ability and clinical skill that he confidently executed his responsibility as a virtuous medical practitioner. All of the

medicines in his clinic were prepared by himself. He never utilised external prescriptions or used ingredients from other medical stores. In his remedies, turmeric was a special ingredient that he used through various techniques and different ways. I actually insisted upon him several times to write a book on dermatology. He had also started some work on my humble request. As per his wishes, I had also got several pages of material typed and had given to him. These were English translations of Unani books available in Arabic language on skin diseases, prescribed drugs of dermatology, and unusual terminology. This was a case in 1967-68, but that work could not be finally accomplished.

Among the specific ailments that the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, has made local remedies available in Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy, Sui Rigveda, the Unani medicine is made accountable for the successful treatment of skin ailments. Concerning skin disease, this aspect and connection with Unani by the Ministry of Health is a big credential.

Prof. Abdul Latif has always had an interest in the treatment of skin diseases since student life. Some time back, he prepared Unani prescriptions and dosage based on cosmetic creams, powder, toothpaste, shampoo, and hair oil. He laboriously worked for the selection and preparation of these medicines. The pharmacology of cosmetics was always under study by him. His interest never waned during any part of his life.

In the present life, the importance of cosmetics has considerably been increased especially among young girls. The craze to use cosmetics has recently escalated and that is why many pharmaceutical and personal care products (PPCPs) have come into the market. Seeing the interest in the market, local remedy producers have also come forward to manufacture these products in a big way.

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Prof Latif's keen interest in advancing Unani Dermatology has not abated even after retirement. He organised two Training Workshops at Ibn Sina Academy on Unani herbal cosmeto-dermatology pharmacy. The first was with practicals, demonstrations, tutorials & manual methods for various cosmetic formulations on 8-9 December 2018 and the second was organised on Aloe Vera's various cosmetic recipes during 24 March 2019. Both these workshops were held under his guidance after his retirement.

Prof. Abdul Latif in this book of Herbal Cosmeto-Dermatology having 30 chapters, described the history of beautification through cosmetics in the first chapter. He has rightly mentioned about Leucoderma /Vitiligo that Ibn Sina was the first person who declared the skin disease as hereditary. Earlier, this Unani heritage was unheard of! Present medical science also accepts that Lecoderma /Vitiligo is hereditary. Besides the first chapter concerning history, 13 other chapters have been written by Prof. Abdul Latif, and in two of them, he is a contributory author. The remaining chapters in the book are the works of other experts' compilations.

Through this book on "Herbal Cosmeto-Dermatology", Dr. Latif has basically presented Unani medicine as a primary source for the said topic, which is unique in itself. Before this work, Prof. Abdul Latif had published many books. Like his other works, this book would also be widely accepted, and in reference to skin diseases, this attempt would further be acclaimed in the society.

### **End of a family of eminent pharmacologists after the sad demise of Prof. M. N. Ghosh**

**Syed Ziaur Rahman**

Prof. Rakhaldas Ghosh (1851-1902) was the grandfather of Prof. M. N. Ghosh. Prof. R Ghosh was the Professor and Head of the Materia Medica (now Dept. of Pharmacology),

Calcutta Medical College. According to Prof. R Ghosh, *Materia Medica* (The earlier terminology for Pharmacology) was an attractive subject that needed to be learnt. He thus wrote a very concise and complete textbook of *Materia Medica* to successive generations of students, and as a reference book to practitioners in 1901. The book endeavoured to minimize the labour of the student by condensing the subject matter, and treating the same on simple methods. In his book, he took help of the past extraordinary standard books and treatises of pharmacology such as *British Pharmacopeia* of 1898, *Whitla's Elements of Pharmacy*, *Martindale's Extra Pharmacopoeia*, *Squire's Companion to the British Pharmacopoeia*, *Luca's Practical Pharmacy*, *MacEwan's Art of Dispensing and Pharmaceutical Formulas*. Since it was the first textbook in India, many other scientists of that era helped him in completing this task such as Prof. Thomas R. Fraser of Edinburgh, Mr. E. W. Harper (Pharmaceutical Chemist), Dr. Hale White, Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, Dr. J. Mitchel Bruce, Dr. William Murrell and Dr. Sydney Ringer. The second edition of the same book came just after 3 years in 1904.

It is an honour that the book "Pharmacology, *Materia Medica* and Their Therapeutics" perpetuated with same rhythm and was read by all successive students for many years till 1989 in spite of his son Prof. Birendra Nath Ghosh (6. 2. 1882 - 3. 11. 1957) published another updated textbook in 1956.

Prof. B. N. Ghosh was intimately connected with Pharmacology in India for more than fifty years. His attachment to pharmacology teaching and research apparently started during his post-graduate studies in Edinburgh around 1910 when he came in contact with Prof. Arthur Robertson Cushny (1868-1926)<sup>1</sup>. On his return to India, he joined as a teacher of *Materia Medica* and Therapeutics and by 1915 he emerged as joint author with Colonel B. H. Deare, then Principal of the Calcutta

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Medical College of the Sixth Edition of his father's book (R. Ghosh's *Materia Medica*). The name of the book was "A treatise on *Materia Medica* and Therapeutics: including Pharmacy, Dispensing Pharmacology and Administration of Drugs". This venture was a success and showed for the first time, Dr. B. N. Ghosh's depth of knowledge in the subject and his ability of presenting to the undergraduate students the balanced and discreetly chosen current facts and trends in the rapidly growing field of the action and uses of drugs. Through successive editions, the original book on *Materia Medica* became reoriented and transformed in his hands into an up-to-date and popular student textbook on pharmacology with a competitive circulation in India and abroad. Around the forties of the 20th century, R. Ghosh's *Pharmacology* was almost a household word amongst the medical student groups in several parts of India. The 9th edition of the same book by the same editors (R. Ghosh, B. H. Deare & B. N. Ghosh) came in 1922 (Hilton & Company, Kolkata). The 10th edition by the name "Handbook of Pharmacology including *Materia Medica*" (R. Ghosh & B. N. Ghosh) came in 1925 and the 15th revised edition by the name "Pharmacology, *Materia Medica* & Therapeutics (R. Ghosh & B. N. Ghosh) published in 1939. The last edition of R. Ghosh's *Pharmacology* edited by B. N. Ghosh was seen in 1952 (Nineteenth Edition).

In addition to the edition of his father's book, Prof. B. N. Ghosh wrote many research papers. He was closely associated with Prof. R. N. Chopra (17.8.1882-13.6.1973), the father of Modern Indian Pharmacology, on whom the Government of India issued a postal stamp on R. N. Chopra<sup>2</sup>.

After 1950, Prof. B. N. Ghosh became involved along with the writer in the compilation of the first Indian National Pharmacopoeia and this made it necessary to constantly keep abreast of the very rapid changes that were taking place in the world of Pharmacology at that

time. During several discussions with the writer, he often expressed his keen desire to write a completely new book on pharmacology, as that would offer him the freedom to deal with the subject matter in no more modern lines than would be possible in just another new edition of his father's 50 years old text book. In spite of a rather indifferent health, he undertook the difficult task with his characteristic boldness and vigour and worked unaided for this cherished goal almost day and night. The first edition of his new book 'Textbook of Pharmacology and Therapeutics' appeared in 1956. Those who had the opportunity of looking through this book were all impressed with his masterly, critical and integrated presentation of a complex and rapidly growing subject in convenient proportions. The book was rapidly sold out even before his death in 1957 and led to the reprint of the same book in 1962. His colleagues, students and admirers all felt that such an excellent book should not be permitted to fade out with the first edition. Thus, the second edition was brought out and edited by renowned Pharmacologist Prof. Praphulla Kumar Chakraverti in 1966 with introduction by Dr. B. Mukherji (Ex-Director, CDRI, Lucknow). Mr. Nandalal Ghosh, the second son of Prof. B. N. Ghosh, publisher of Scientific Publishing Company, played a significant role in publishing the book. The same edition was again reprinted in 1969, 1972, 1974, 1979<sup>3</sup>.

As mentioned above, many eminent Pharmacologists continued editing the book written by R. Ghosh. Prof. Samir Kumar Biswas (Dept. of Medicine, National Medical College, Calcutta and Examiner in Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Calcutta) edited the 21st edition of R. Ghosh's *Pharmacology, Materia Medica and Therapeutics* in 1965. He thoroughly revised after consultation of the most standard and recent works of pharmacology and therapeutics. Dr. Sudhendu Sekhar Sen Gupta (Professor and Head, Department of

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Pharmacology, Medical College, Calcutta) edited the 22nd edition in 1969. Dr. S. S. Sen Gupta even after retirement but as Honorary Consultant in Pharmacology in 1976 edited the 23rd edition of the same book. Till the 23rd edition the original title of the book was maintained. Dr. M. M. Das (Professor & Head, Dept. of Pharmacology, Medical College, Calcutta) and Dr. S. K. Dutta (Dept. of Pharmacology, Bankura Sammilani Medical College, Bankura) edited the 24th edition by the name “R. Ghosh’s Modern Concepts on Pharmacology and Therapeutics” in 1989 (abridged version; Part 1). The same full version appeared in September 1991. In both publications, editors wrote dissimilar prefaces for both abridged version and full version. They have recast and rewritten the whole of the text with the help of many authors for each chapter.

Prof. Manindra Nath Ghosh, an illustrious pharmacologist of our times passed away at the age of 94/95 years, in his Kolkata residence on 28th October 2021. Dr. M. N. Ghosh was an eminent teacher and internationally famed researcher in medical pharmacology. He had a distinguished credit that he played a significant role in establishing two national importance institutes of India. Firstly, he was appointed Professor and Head of Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla from 1966 to 1968 and then served the Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Pondicherry, as the first Director during July 1978 to July 1982. In both these institutes, he demonstrated his academic excellence. While serving JIPMER, he became the chief editor of the Indian Journal of Pharmacology (1978-1980) and then President of Indian Pharmacology Society (IPS) in 1982. During his tenure as president of IPS, he donated a corpus fund to the Society and instituted Prof. B. N. Ghosh Oration in memory of his late father.

Prof. M. N. Ghosh has rich contributions in the field of Pharmacology, and particularly in experimental pharmacology. He was the author of a reputed book on the subject of experimental pharmacology, namely, ‘Fundamentals of Experimental Pharmacology’, that had been extremely useful to young researchers and postgraduate scholars in pharmacology for more than five decades, ever since the first edition published in 1971. In his first edition, he laid stress that like medicine cannot be taught or learnt without ward clinics, similarly pharmacology without animal experimentation. The book that he wrote was different from available foreign writers’ experimental books. It was easy with suitable examples and helped postgraduates, research workers and junior teachers in the training for a higher degree, in the planning of research, or in organizing demonstrations and exercises in experimental pharmacology particularly in Indian set-up. Prof. H. O. Schild, Department of Pharmacology, University College, University of London, wrote the introduction of this book. He observed in his introduction that “Its purpose is to provide a concise account of some of the methods and general principles which form the basis of pharmacological experimentation. Books of this sort are rare and by no means easy to write because pharmacology, more than most natural sciences, lacks a well-established theoretical foundation. Yet, without theory, a subject, however rich in facts and observation, cannot truly advance and will eventually get bogged down....One of the useful aspects of the book is that it contains a number of worked-out examples, which will help to translate theory into practice”.

In 1984, he further updated the book based on phenomenal progress in physicochemical and biological techniques in pharmacology. New topics were incorporated such as receptors, uptake mechanism of biologic amines, PGs, etc. For the second edition, he took help of other pharmacologists like Dr. V.

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Gopalakrishnan, Dr. N. S. Parmar, Dr. S. Ramaswamy, Dr. N. Padmanaha Pillai and Dr. C. H. Sashindran in writing a few additional chapters. The third edition of the same book came in 2005 with necessary additions and alterations without affecting the basic nature and style of the book. For example, a small introductory chapter on nitric oxide was incorporated. Similarly, a number of new drugs with their dose and concentration have been added in the respective sections. ANOVA found a place in the chapter on the Statistical Method. In this third edition, he acknowledged the significant contribution by his colleagues and students such as Dr. J. Rajan Vedasiromoni, Dr. Minati Das, Dr. Aparna Gomes and Dr. N. S. Parmar<sup>4</sup>. The last edition was seen as 6th edition in 2008.

Prof. M. N. Ghosh has been cordially endeared by his innumerable students and scholars, and shall be remembered by one and all whoever came in touch with him.

Prof Subhadra Ghosh was the niece of Dr. M. N. Ghosh. She died only few days back before Prof. M. N. Ghosh due to COVID '19 and was the Professor and Head of Pharyat RG Kar Medical College, Kolkata. She did not however author any pharmacology book<sup>5</sup>. Her husband Prof. Biswapati Mukherjee (died 2.7.2021) was the Professor & Director of the S. N. Pradhan Centre for Neurosciences and had a good scientific work in the field of Neuropharmacology.

Thus, after the death of Prof. M. N. Ghosh, Prof Subhadra Ghosh and Prof. Biswapati Mukherjee in the recent past led to the end of four generations' contribution in the field of Indian Pharmacology! May their souls rest in peace!

***The library of Ibn Sina Academy (Aligarh), where a good collection of pharmacology text books, reference books and periodicals exist, has the following books and journals of this reputed Ghosh family:***

1. R. Ghosh's Pharmacology, Materia Medica and Their Therapeutics (1965), Edited by S. K. Biswas, 21st edition.
2. R. Ghosh's Pharmacology, Materia Medica and Their Therapeutics (1965, abridged version; Part 1), Edited by S. K. Biswas, 21st edition.
3. R. Ghosh's Pharmacology, Materia Medica and Their Therapeutics (1969), 22nd edition, Edited by Dr. S. S. Sen Gupta.
4. R. Ghosh's Pharmacology, Materia Medica and Their Therapeutics (1976), 23rd edition, Edited by Dr. S. S. Sen Gupta.
5. R. Ghosh's Modern Concepts on Pharmacology and Therapeutics 24th edition, Edited by Dr. M. M. Das and Dr. S. K. Dutta (1989, abridged version; Part 1). The Academy has a copy with authors' autographs presented to Prof. K. P. Gupta of JNMC, AMU, Aligarh
6. R. Ghosh's Modern Concepts on Pharmacology and Therapeutics 24th edition, Edited by Dr. M. M. Das and Dr. S. K. Dutta (full version; September 1991)
7. B. N. Ghosh's Textbook of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 1974 Reprint of the 2nd Edition (1966), Edited by Praphulla Kumar Chakraverti, Scientific Publishing Co., Calcutta
8. M. N. Ghosh's Fundamentals of Experimental Pharmacology, 2nd Edition (1984), Scientific Book Agency, Calcutta
9. M. N. Ghosh's Fundamentals of Experimental Pharmacology, 3rd edition (2005), Hilton & Company, Kolkata
10. Indian Journal of Pharmacology, Edited by Prof. M. N. Ghosh from 1978-1980 (Volume 10 to Volume 12)

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1. PSRK Haranath. Reflections on the evolution of Pharmacology in India during Twentieth Century. Indian J Pharmacol 1999; 31: 1-13.
2. SZ Rahman. Stamp on Col. R. N. Chopra (Filler). Indian J Pharmacol 2002; 34: 255.
3. Bhattacharya SS. B. N. Ghosh's Textbook of Pharmacology and Therapeutics. Indian J Pharmacol 1979; 11 (4): 307
4. M. N. Ghosh's Fundamentals of Experimental Pharmacology, 3rd edition (2005), Hilton & Company, Kolkata
5. Personal communication. Professor Santanu K Tripathi (Professor & Former Head of Clinical & Experimental Pharmacology, Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata). 11.11.2021



## CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE

### Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India

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

#### THE NETWORK

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

#### AREAS OF ACTIVITY

The Research Programme of the Council has four major components:

- Clinical Research
- Drug Standardization
- Literary Research
- Survey and Cultivation of Medicinal Plants

#### MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

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

##### Clinical Research

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



##### Drug Standardization

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

##### Survey and Cultivation of Medicinal Plants

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

##### Literary Research

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

##### Publications

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

**For further information please contact:**

**Director General**

**CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE**

**Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India**

61-65 Institutional Area, Janakupri, New Delhi – 110 058 (India) | Tel: 91-11-28521981

E-mail: [unanimedicine@gmail.com](mailto:unanimedicine@gmail.com) Website: <http://ccrum.res.in>

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**Editor, NISA**

Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences,  
Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh-202002, U.P. India  
E-Mail: [ibnsinaacademy@gmail.com](mailto:ibnsinaacademy@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.ibnsinaacademy.org](http://www.ibnsinaacademy.org)

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**OWNER, PRINTER & PUBLISHER**

Professor Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman  
Publication Division, IAMMS  
Tijara House, Dodhpur, Aligarh-202001, U.P. India  
Mobile No. 09358259740  
E-Mail: [rahmansz@yahoo.com](mailto:rahmansz@yahoo.com)

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