



APPNA NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hussain Malik, M.D.

Dear APPNA Members, AOA!

I feel honored and privileged to communicate with you about the present and future activities of APPNA.

• **APPNA Charitable Foundation:** The foundation was approved during the January meeting in Houston. It will be an umbrella organization for all APPNA Charitable projects like APPNA Sehat, Free Clinics, and Educational Scholarships. We will not compete with any other foundation but rather collaborate with them and support projects mostly in the U.S. I still hope and pray that APPNA will have only one foundation in the near future.

• **APPNA Trip to India: March 7-17th:** Most physicians and their families felt that they had a wonderful time and that this was one of the best trips that APPNA has ever taken. We had an excellent C.M.E program in collaboration with Escorts Heart Institute, Apollo Hospital in New Delhi, and Tata Hospital and Wockhardt Hospital in Bombay. We visited sites rich in Muslim history and architecture, but unfortunately some of them are not well maintained. The main objective of Building Bridges, People to People and promoting goodwill between the people of Pakistan and the people of India was achieved beyond our expectations. We met with the common people at the airports, hotels, restaurants, shops, but also local physicians and executives from different hospitals. We met with and had interactions with several leaders of the ruling Congress party including Dr. Anbumani Ramdass, Minister of Health; Mr. Pranob Mukerjee, Minister of Defense; Mr. Praful Patel, Minister of Aviation, Mr. Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture; and Mr. Sunil Dutt, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports. We met with Mrs. Vasundera Raje, Chief Minister of

Ragistan. We met with members of parliament Mr. Amar Singh, Mr. Raj Babbar, Dr. Najma Heptulla and also Mr. David Mulford, US Ambassador to India. We also met with Mr. L.K. Advani, the Opposition Leader, and the Ex-Deputy Prime Minister of India during the BJP Government. We had excellent news coverage, both on the TV and print media in Lahore, New Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, and Bombay. APPNA name was promoted to its highest level as the educational and humanitarian organization of American Physicians of Pakistani Descent.

The success of this trip would not have been possible without many months of hard work by the dedicated members of the Organizing Committee i.e. Dr. Shaukat Khan, Chairman, Dr. Rizwan Naeem, Co-Chair, Dr. Nisar Chaudhry, Co-Chair, Dr. Asaf Qadeer, and Dr. M.H. Qazi. I am personally indebted to Dr. Shaukat Khan for his organizational skills, and Dr. Rizwan Naeem for an excellent CME program and also Dr. Nisar Chaudhry for the monumental task of facilitating the Visa process. My special thanks to Dr. Najma Heptulla, Mr. Zakaria and Dr. Naresh Trehan our local hosts for this memorable trip.

After we got home, controversy was generated regarding the plaque to Mr. L.K Advani. I realized that it was a mistake. I accepted full responsibility for it and offered my sincere apology to the membership.

In order to sustain the goodwill, APPNA is planning to adopt a village near Amritsar subject to approval by the APPNA Council. The village has a population of 5,000 people, with the

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Nadeem A Kazi. MD

for President Elect APPNA 2006



Dear APPNA Member
ASSALAAM O ALAIKOM

I have been an active life member of APPNA for the last several years. For the past eleven years, I have been serving APPNA in various positions. As a **chair of the membership committee**, we increased the membership to a record high of **2200**. When I was the **chairperson of the finance committee**, for the first time in the last five years, life-time dues portfolio of APPNA outperformed the market contributing substantially in APPNA's financial health. At a local level, I started a very vibrant **Arizona chapter** of APPNA three years ago. As the elected **treasurer of APPNA**, I prepared a comprehensive budget for the first time in APPNA history that made the APPNA able to run the organization in a professional manner. During my leadership of SMCAANA, our teamwork brought the membership from **60 to 224**. During my Presidency we also started a successful **BLS/ACLS** training program in Pakistan with the help of many dedicated SMCians.

I will continue working to make APPNA a strong platform to promote the interests of APPNA members in North America by providing legal assistance and resources to **protect our civil liberties during these unique times**. I will make every effort to continue existing programs with common sense and fiscal responsibility. I will focus more on **human rights issues** in Pakistan and United States. I will help in educating our members regarding current special circumstances and guide and assist them to integrate socially, politically, and professionally into their communities without losing their own identity. I will **facilitate our newer medical graduates** to obtain J-1 Visas and Residency Positions, create centralized bank of information for **waiver positions** and **unmatched residency positions**, work with APPNA Chapters to start **free clinics** in USA and enhance the relationship of Pakistani Americans by getting involved with their own local communities.

I have already been elected twice by APPNA membership and served as a **Treasurer** and currently I am serving as the **Secretary**. This year, I am running for **President Elect**. I am requesting your support for my candidacy. **Please vote base** on candidates **past efforts** and **record** not on the basis of alumni or who they know. I will spend all my energy to bring every one on one platform to work as team. I believe in **team work** as this is the only way to deliver. We will move forward with your support and achieve what is rightfully ours. I request your vote. 2005 will not be a year of politics as usual for APPNA; rather it will be a year of hope and inspiration. Together we can make it happen.

Please visit my website Nadeemkazi.com or you can contact me at nakazi@pol.net. Thanks in advance for your support.

– Paid Advertisement –

President's Message

continued from page 1

initial budget of \$22,000-27,000 and maintenance cost \$1,200/Mo (APPNA Sehat provides for 70,000 people at a maintenance cost of \$140,000 per year). Confederation of India Industry and Escorts Heart Institute in New Delhi, have committed to provide the manpower and APPNA Sehat will provide the funding for the Village. They will also reciprocate and adopt a village near Lahore. In my personal opinion, this is a very noble cause to promote goodwill between the people of two countries and will elevate APPNA stature to the new heights.

• APPNA Council Spring Meeting Washington, DC:

April 28th-May 1st 2005

In order to build on the success of the Day on the Hill last year, we will be holding our Spring Meeting in the Nations Capital. We will have a Day on the Hill, April 28. The issues to be discussed with our Legislatives will be Civil Rights and Visa

Problems for young Pakistani Physicians. We are planning for a half day of CME Programs, followed by a Seminar on Civil Rights, Terrorism and Visa Issues April 29th and a Council Meeting on April 30th and May 1st.

• Summer Convention Hilton Americas Houston, TX: June 28th-July 4th 2005.

Dr. Asaf Qadeer, Chairman, Dr. Rizwan Naeem -co chair. Dr. Yaqub Sheikh, President Houston Chapter, Dr. Amin Karim and other members of the host committee are working very hard to have a memorable Annual Convention with excellent CME program, superb Music and Mushaira Program and delicious Pakistani Food combined with Houston Hospitality.

• Winter Meeting Lahore, Pakistan: December 21st-24th 2005

This year the Winter Meeting will be held at King Edward Medical College, Fatima Jinnah Medical College and possibly Allama Iqbal Medical College, Lahore. We are planning to invite leaders of other ethnic medical community from US like India, Bangla Desh and other SE Asian countries.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Nadeem A Kazi, M.D.

Last year several issues were identified in the way we handle the APPNA accounting and concerns on how to streamline office management. The interim executive director worked closely with the officers and gave some recommendations at fall meeting last year. The report was presented in January 2005 planning meeting in Houston. We are still in process to hire at least an executive secretary, if not an executive director, due to financial constrain.

We had a planning meeting called by the president on January 29th. Out of 38 EC members 15 were present which fulfilled the quorum requirement according to the new bylaws. There we discuss the APPNA charitable foundation; Office management plans; Chapter requirement/policies; and Free Clinics proposal.

Dr Hussain Malik presented the bylaws of foundation which were approved with 3 amendments 1) 3years stager terms instead of two years 2) on dissolution of foundation funds will be transferred to APPNA 3) except APPNA chapters, alumni and committees, other organization cannot use APPNA as platform to raise the fund. There are some questions that need to be answered; 1) how the board will be elected or selected, 2) how long the initial 3 members will serve (Dr Hussain Malik, Dr Omar Atiq, Dr AR Piracha), 3) when and how the board of directors will be elected. These issues will be discussing in next Executive Council meeting.

I presented the issues involving office management and accounting. These have already been published in the last journal. This year we are trying to implement the changes required, however, we are facing some difficulties as we don't have an executive director in the office. All the officers are working hard to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Dr Mehmood Alam proposed that the Chapters bylaws shall be streamlined with APPNA bylaws. The fund collection & disbursement obey the legal requirements (501 3 (c)status). Annual Financial/Treasurer's report gets to the central office in timely manner. The Chapters shall be oversight by President-Elect /

Executive Director and central APPNA (Executive Director) Secretary or President-Elect should have effective communication with Chapters.

Dr Piracha gave us a report on the Young Physician Task Force. Data suggested that since days on the hill difficulties in the J1 visa has improved, however, much more needs to be accomplished. He proposed several plans addressing different impediment from educating applicants and program directors, US embassy in Pakistan, State office in US, and using media. Please see his report on these issues

Constitution and bylaws committee is asked to "Propose all necessary and appropriate amendments and changes to the APPNA CBL, including but not limited to establish and delineate clearly the election, term, responsibility and authority of the BOT and whatever else the committee may deem appropriate."

In March we had arranged a 10 day CME trip to India. The theme of this trip was "Building Bridges; People to People". This was a very well organized trip in regards to CME and sightseeing. Conversely the President of APPNA made some unilateral decisions without getting any approval from the executive committee or council. These decisions included adoption of a village in India and awarding plaque to Advani on behalf of APPNA. This has enraged several members. Dr Hussain Malik realizes his mistake and this issue will be discussed in upcoming EC and general body meetings.

The summer meeting preparation is at the finishing point. More than 3000 nights of room at the hotel have already been reserved. This is going to be a memorable meeting, please join us in Houston. This year so far membership is also doing great. As of March 31st we have 1761 members. The target of the membership committee is 3000. We need help from each and every one of you to achieve this goal.

Thank you for your support.



EDITORIAL LINES

Rizwan Naeem, M.D.

"Guns or Butter"

Aaron Segal, professor of political science at the University of Texas, El Paso writes in his article:

"By any index, the Muslim world produces a disproportionately small amount of scientific output, and much of it relatively low in quality. In numerical terms, forty-one predominantly Muslim countries with about 20 percent of the world's total population generate less than 5 percent of its science. This, for example, is the proportion of citations of articles published in internationally circulating science journals. Other measures – annual expenditures on research and development, numbers of research scientists and engineers – confirm the disparity between populations and scientific research". For example Japan, United States, Germany, and other Western countries spend 2 percent or more of their gross domestic product (GDP) annually on research, no Muslim country spends more than .50 percent of its (much lower) GDP on research.

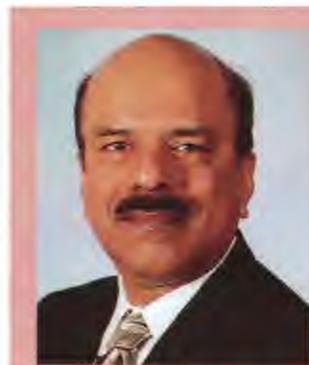
Why this disparity:

In 1987 due to the internal political pressures and particularly influential role of the hard line clergy, the government of Zia-ul-Haq in Pakistan introduced a fundamentalist doctrine in the teaching of science at all levels. The regime organized international conferences and provided funding for research on such topics as the temperature of hell and the chemical nature of jinns (demons). Scientist finally in 1988 won the right to teach and research modern science.

Pervez Hoodbhoy, a Pakistani physicist and science policy writer, identifies a clergy in Egypt declares epidemics to be a form of divine punishment ("God developed the microbe and kept it away from those He wished to spare") and argues against scientific efforts to eradicate the problem. Pervez Hoodbhoy in his 1991 book *Islam and Science* appealed for tolerance to permit reason and faith to coexist within each sphere. He also insisted that science is universal, not Western.

Issues like these and the factors such as dictatorial regimes, violation of human rights and unstable funding are the key obstacles to science and technology in so called third world. Irrespective developing countries have lost considerable ground.

In Pakistan the number of research scientists and engineers remains well below that of rich countries as well as Latin America and South and East Asia. Science and engineering students are drawn primarily from urban middle-income back-



"Dr. Chauhan is the chairperson of publication committee for the year 2005. He would like to invite all the members of publication committee and APPNA to be part of journals by contributing news and articles. If you have any suggestion please e-mail him or write a note."

grounds. Participation by women in science remains low, as the disincentives, formal and informal, for women to study science or engineering are formidable.

"Guns or butter" is an age-old question that every society must ask itself for an effective survival planning. In Pakistan defense expenditure still eats up a big chunk of the available resources to the extent that there is always extremely little left for the developmental and educational activities.

"A little boy in Pakistan, who received medical care in Indian hospital, said that if my wounds can heal, why not 55 years of wounds between India and Pakistan?" said a journalist, demanding that the money for weapons should be spent on healthcare and education.

What can be done?

This is the time re-establish our future role in this world. There is a dire need to invest in science and education to improve day to day living of common people. We have seen culture of war for more than 50 years. Now its time to teach and develop a culture of peace and prosperity that go together.

Professional societies like APPNA, given sufficient autonomy and independence from dictatorial regimes, can play an important role in improving science education, scientific communications, and the place of science in popular culture. Small-scale projects can establish links between the public and private sectors and universities and technical schools. We have seen KE and DOW Alumni contributing significantly in uplifting their colleges in past. In 2004 a giant small step was taken when APPNA membership as a group donated generously to help setup a state of the art cytogenetic laboratory with the help of Child Aid Association at the National Institute of Child Health in Pakistan. We hope formation of APPNA charitable foundation will accelerate these joint public private partnerships to build more center of excellence in our biological homeland. I am an optimist and always hope for the best.



CLASS REUNIONS:

King Edward Medical College • Class of 1965

40th Class Reunion

When: July 1st –3rd 2005

Where: Hilton Americas Houston

Contact: Dr. M. Ramazan Chohan

Tel: 440-282-1072 (home) • 440-967-3149 (work)

e-mail: mafsj5@hotmail.com

Sindh Medical College • Class of 85

20th Class Reunion

When: Thursday June 30th

Where: Hilton Americas Houston

Contact: Dr. Syed Ali Kausar Naqvi

Tel: (832) 875-9826 (cell) • (281) 829-1248 (home)

e-mail: alikausar58@hotmail.com

Dr. Rizwan Naeem

Tel: 713-662-2859 (home) • 832-646-4363 (cell) • 832-824-4138 (office)

rizwannaeem@yahoo.com

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT

Abdul Rashid Piracha, MD



Assalaam-o-alaekom!
Spring is here, and I wish all members of APPNA a most pleasant time and much happiness. The leisure cannot, of course, detract people with responsibility from their day-to-day duties. Physicians undoubtedly shoulder the heaviest responsibilities of a society. And while physicians are busy attending to their unavoidable obligations, it is important that someone look after their professional needs and concerns. It is my belief that for the American physicians with Pakistani background, that someone is APPNA.

I, as the President-Elect of APPNA have been engaged in looking after the interests of young physicians in the Association. To substantially advance their cause, we have established a standing "Young Physicians Committee" (YPC). It is now to the benefit of all visa applicants for higher training in the United States, as well as others with any difficulty, to utilize the website of YPC, www.ypprc.org, to register and avail themselves of this committee's services.

In today's climate, the American physicians with Pakistani

background are facing, in addition to purely professional matters, unfair issues related to their ethnicity and religion. I was personally perturbed, like many APPNA members who conveyed their concern to me, over the recent firing by Dell in Nashville, Tennessee, of 30 Muslim employees who sought to perform Mughrib Salaat (the post-sunset evening prayer). Although this was a clear violation of the religious rights granted to those employees by the U. S. Constitution, no ripples developed in the press, human rights organizations, or the watchdog groups for Constitutional violations. This general insensitivity to Muslim persecution has clearly been spawned by relentless anti-Islamic disinformational propaganda. However, if Muslim organizations continue to raise a voice against this unjust discrimination, things will change, Inshaa Allaah, for the better.

Southern hospitality. We invite you to bring your family and friends to enjoy a memorable Convention.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mahmood Alam, MD

The accounting practices of APPNA have been going through major changes. Those changes were initiated in the last fall. I am trying to do my best to maintain the functionality of our treasury during this period until a desirable system is in place. I propose the following budget, which I will present for approval in the spring council meeting at Washington, DC.

BUDGET (Proposed) 2005	
Administrative expense.....	\$165,000
Journal & newsletter.....	\$40,000
APPNA Sehat.....	\$140,000
Executive Director.....	\$75,000
Web Site.....	\$6,000
Social Welfare Fund.....	\$5,000
Miscellaneous.....	\$5,500
Total.....	\$436,500

REVENUE (Projected) 2005	
Membership dues.....	\$125,000
APPNA-Sehat fundraising*.....	\$140,000
Meeting surplus*.....	\$80,000
Advertisement*.....	\$60,000
CME reimbursement.....	\$25,000
Election fees.....	\$3,000
Royalty.....	\$3,500
Total.....	\$436,500

*Please note that projected revenue items with a star are subject to extreme variance. It is incumbent on those responsible for these items to be mindful about our Association's dependence on these funds. Its' my vision that APPNA - Sehat should stand independently on its feet. APPNA Journal should bring in more revenue from advertisements. I propose to increase the lifetime membership by launching a campaign this summer and profit from such investment should be used to defray the administrative costs. I will present the balance sheet for first quarter in the spring meeting and we'll be able to see how we are doing so far. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the organization. Any comments/suggestions welcome. ALAMMD@aol.com.



Finance Committee Report

Lifetime Dues Investments as of March 25, 2005 consist of a portfolio of 5 accounts amounting to \$882,734 held at Smith Barney, Citigroup under the supervision of Financial Consultants: Hank Bashore and Mac Hargrove. The overall investment objective of this portfolio is to achieve modest long-term growth of capital with some income via high-quality investments. Diversification and risk is controlled through a balanced portfolio of stock and bond money managers, and preferred stocks and cash. The current fixed income to growth equity allocation is \$350,867(40%) to \$531,867(60%). As of March 25, 2005, the total portfolio is down -1.07% since January 1, 2005, while the Dow Jones Industrials are down -3.2%, the S&P 500 is down -3.3%, and

the NASDAQ is down -8.5%. The 5 Lifetime Dues Accounts comprise of: (1) 10 Preferred Stock Positions and Cash: \$271,360, (2) Rittenhouse Large Cap Growth Balanced: \$155,185, (3) MDT Advisors Optimum Q All Cap Core Growth Equity: \$193,791, (4) Lord Abbett Large Cap Value Growth Equity: \$165,524, (5) Atalanta Sosnoff Large Cap Core Growth Equity: \$96,872. This portfolio is positioned to be defensive, meaning that it should not decline as much as the major market indices in down markets and may slightly lag or match the major indices in up markets.

I have been in contact with Hank Bashore and have discussed our investment strategy at length. The Finance committee is going to have a Tele-Conference Meeting on April 13, 2005 to further discuss and approve the investment strategies. The recommendations of the committee will be presented in the Spring Council Meeting of APPNA at Washington, DC.

Committee Reports

Dow Alumni Report

Syed Samad MD, FACP, FACG

DOGANA has seen remarkable progress in the last few years. It is actively involved in a number of projects both in Pakistan and the U.S. It has worked hard to establish itself as a progressive and effective organization with a well defined mission and a carefully planned strategy to achieve its objectives. Currently, executive committee members are busy working on several projects. The most notable project and success so far is the set up of an endowment fund for Dow "Endow," which is being structured under trusted leadership of Zia Moiz Ahmed and other members of the board of trustees. Approximately \$650,000 has already been pledged and this year we plan to take our pledges to one million dollars, and put the collection process in high gear. An independent board of trustees has been set up to supervise this fund, to ensure complete transparency and absolutely guarantee the use of this fund for endowment purposes only. The board, comprised of senior and active DOGANA members, forms the life line of all future projects that we will undertake. An *Endow* magazine is underway with the untiring efforts of Naseem Shekhani. The magazine will be reaching you shortly. It will highlight in greater detail the aspects of this project.

Other projects which executive committee members are working on include: a visiting faculty and mentorship program framework being streamlined by Nasar Qureshi. Kazi Salahuddin and his team are working to enhance DOGANA membership. Dow retreat arrangements are underway with the efforts of Ahsan Rashid, Salma Haider Khan, and Yasmeen Qasim. Zafar Iqbal, who is known to arrange quality symposia on human rights and women's issues, will spearhead a team to arrange workshops and symposia for the Dow retreat and summer meeting. Nadeem Zafar, Farid Qazi, and Abdul Qadir Sheikh are working hard to draft a proposal to revise the constitution and bylaws. Dr. Amin Karim and his team will represent Dow in the host committee for the summer meeting. Dr. Nasar Qureshi is chairman for the winter meeting at Dow this year. He has already had preliminary discussions with Dow Vice Chancellor, Masud Hameed, and his Pakistan counterpart Professor Salahuddin. Our special thanks to Nadeem Zafar and Rizwan Karatela for all their wisdom, untiring efforts and continued support.

The Dow Alumni Retreat will be held in Irvine, Orange County, California from April 15th-17th, 2005. The aim of the meeting is to identify and prioritize our goals for 2005, and activate the Dowites into some productive service for Dow. We plan to provide a platform to all interested Dowites to plan projects for Dow/CHK and express their thoughts and ideas on issues pertaining to medical education, civil rights, American Pakistani Community, etc. It is my earnest request to each one of you to be there. The last Dow retreat in St. Louis was a roaring success. Every effort is underway to ensure an even better meeting this year. More details of the retreat can be seen on our website, www.dowalumni.com.

The New Year has brought with it an opportunity to consolidate on the achievements of the previous administrative team and to move our efforts one notch up. While the deaths of Dr.

Mushtaq Khan (Dow 1965) and Dr. Subia Parveen (Dow 2004) early in the year have brought everyone much grief, there is a silver lining even in this hour of hurting. While we pray for the departed souls, it is also an opportunity for us to think of the factors that linked these departed colleagues. They both hailed from Dow, both were physicians and both died of cancer. When we met earlier in the month of February, we realized that the huge city of Karachi could really benefit from a high class adult oncology unit in the public sector and it was our burning desire that this unit be under the auspices of Dow. A task force has been set up to look into the feasibility of this project and to contact our esteemed colleagues in Karachi to get their feedback and demonstrate our commitment to such a project.

News of interest is the significant rehabilitation of Khawaja Qayyum Ahmed (Dow 1987), for whom funds were raised last year. Through these funds, the family is able to get back considerable normalcy and is able to restart their life in real earnest. I thank all those who contributed to this fund and this noble cause. Dr. Subia Parveen's fund, after her demise, has been given towards treatment of Dr. Anwar Saeed, who is our colleague under SMC undergoing gastric cancer treatment in Boston.

With our efforts, goodwill, and the blessings of Allah, we shall achieve many mile stones together for the Dowites all over the world. We have much work to do. We need to keep improving the facility at our alma mater, help meet their educational and clinical needs, and to fund projects like PWA, without which life at Civil Hospital Karachi would be at a stand still. DOGANA can help harness the tremendous energy that we all feel whenever we think of, or work for, our alma mater. It is Dow that links us together. Let us all work together; worldwide. Long Live Dow.



Office Management Committee Report

Riaz A. Akhtar

Bank accounts are being transferred to Bank One (New name is Chase Bank); to make it practical and easy for financial transactions being closer to the Central APPNA office. A new check signing policy was implemented by the decision of the executive council.

Book keeping and accounting procedures are being developed. It is of paramount importance that all the member subsidiary affiliates of APPNA send their financial reports in due time as requested in order to prevent problems and cost overruns.

Search for permanent Executive director for APPNA office is on. Physical improvements in the office are needed for efficiency and the need of storage areas are being worked on.

Committee Reports

Young Physician Committee Report

Dr. Abdul Rashid Piracha, Chair

Dr. Rubina Inayat, Co-Chair

Dr. Rashid Piracha, Chair

Dr. Busharat Ahmad

Dr. Nisar Chaudhry

Dr. Nasir Gondal

Dr. M. Rizwan Khalid

Dr. Zeelaf Munir

Dr. Rubina Inayat, Co-Chair

Dr. Raana Akbar

Dr. Faisal Cheema

Dr. Zaffar Iqbal

Dr. Tahseen Mozaffar

Dr. Ashraf Sabahat

This year began with heartening news for those concerned with the issues young Pakistani physicians are facing. An important milestone was reached in the history of APPNA, and a standing committee, "Young Physicians Committee" (YPC) was formerly established to replace the ad hoc "Young Physicians Taskforce". This committee has been very active, and has had several teleconferences. YPC has made the following significant achievements over the last several months:

Contact with U.S. Embassy in Pakistan: On December 20, 2004, YPC members had a special meeting with Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker in Islamabad. The problems and difficulties the young Pakistani physicians have recently faced regarding the issuance of visas were effectively brought to his attention. He understood the problem and its undesirable implications, and the reassurance he gave in this matter has made us very encouraged. Also, a regular communication has been established between the YPC chair and Ambassador Crocker. The Committee is now quite hopeful that the situation will be improved this year at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad.

Contact with U. S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. YPC members have had several face-to-face meetings with the Director of Public Liaison and Visa Services at the U. S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. We are truly grateful for all of her help in expediting and obtaining security clearances for many of our young physicians who were stuck in Pakistan.

Help with Visas and Security Clearance: Several physicians whose visas were either denied at the U.S. Embassy or were awaiting security clearances have been cleared. By closely working with the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan, YPC has been instrumental in clearing many cases for security clearance and in obtaining visas for those who were previously rejected. At the time of this report, we are aware of only six physicians whose security clearances are pending. YPC believes that there were many more young physicians who may have benefited from our efforts, but since there was no system in place to get information related to them, YPC could not get directly involved in their cases. We hope to establish contact with the majority of the young physicians this year through the use of our newly designed website.

Contact with Embassy of Pakistan in Washington, D.C.: The committee has met with Ambassador Jahangir Karamat to seek his assistance in arranging meetings with higher officials in the Homeland Security and the State Department. He has promised to extend his help.

Communication to Seek the Help of President of Pakistan:

The chair of YPC sent a written communication to President Musharraf seeking his help and requesting that he use his influence with the U.S. Government to facilitate the visa-related issues for young Pakistani physicians. This communication has been handed to Ambassador Jehangir Karamat, who promised that he would see to it that it's delivered to the President of Pakistan.



Contact with the U.S. Legislators: As was done in 2003, YPC is planning to again campaign in the United States to impress upon local congressmen and senators to extend their help in resolution of the issue of delay in background checks and visa refusals.

"Day on the Hill": The committee is planning to hold a "Day on the Hill" for highlighting this issue. YPC will coordinate this activity with the Spring Meeting of APPNA.

The Media Involvement: YPC is continuing its efforts to keep this issue on the forefront in the Pakistan media, including the national television channels and the print media.

The YPC Website: Our website, www.ypprc.org, is now fully operative, and all applicants are advised to register on this website at the time of applying for visa and/or in case their visa applications are denied. YPC will then utilize all its resources in pursuing these cases until favorable outcomes are achieved. Furthermore, the committee will send the names of all the applicants to the Director of Public Liaison and Visa Services in Washington, D.C. as soon as they are registered with us. YPC will put its every effort into obtaining clearances before their residency programs begin on July 1 of that particular year. YPC urges that those who can volunteer for YPC or can be mentors for young physicians to kindly register through our website.

YPC is committed to assisting young physicians and medical students from Pakistan. We hope that this year the situation will be different from the previous two years in terms of the statistics of visa rejections and unusual delays in security clearance. Insha Allah, we will try our best to make the post-graduate training a reality for young Pakistani physicians.

**King Edwards Medical College
Class of 1979/80
is organizing a
SILVER JUBILEE CLASS REUNION
at Pearl Continental Hotel Lahore
on December 24, 2005
Please contact Dr. M. Alamgir Khan
at (248) 321-0628**

Committee Reports

Election 2005 Report

Mohammed Suleman, MD

Dear APPNA members,

This is the election time again. This year we are going to have election for all the positions of APPNA executive committee. The last date for nomination was 15th of March. We have received nominations for president elect, secretary and treasurer for the year 2006. According to the new constitution and bylaws we have done away with the councilors to reduce the size of the executive council. The following is the list of candidates.

President Elect:

Dr. Nadeem A Kazi
Dr. M.H.A. Qazi

Secretary:

Dr. Zahid Asgher
Dr. Mahmood Alam,

Treasurer:

Dr. Syed Abdul Samad
Dr. Shahid Usmani

The last date to become a voting member was March 31, 2005. The ballots will be mailed to the confirmed members by May 31, 2005. Please remember the ballots postmarked after June 24th, 2005 will not be counted. Ballots counting and election results will be announced on July 2nd, 2005 in the general body meeting in Houston, TX. We are expecting a clean and healthy election campaign by all the candidates. The list of eligible voters will be mailed to the candidates after March 31st, 2005 in the first week of April as soon as it is available.



Membership Committee Report

Syed Samad MD, FACP, FACG

APPNA was created in 1978, and in a short span of 27 years it has emerged as an effective ethnic medical organization providing a platform for advocacy and outreach efforts, building bridges of goodwill and understanding with many of our medical, civil rights and ethnic organizations. Continuation of these activities is only possible with enhancement of membership and membership services. Thus, it is crucial that our organization continues to grow.

APPNA started the year 2005 with a special executive council meeting January 29-30 in Houston, Texas. The conference was designed to identify and prioritize our goals for 2005. Enhancement of membership and membership services was identified as a key factor for continued growth of the organization. Extensive deliberations led to the following recommendations, which were thought to be of prime importance in increasing and sustaining membership.

- ◆ Creation of an informative, member friendly, and interactive website
- ◆ Membership benefit brochure outlining recent achievements, ongoing projects, and future goals
- ◆ Compiling a comprehensive electronic database of physicians of Pakistani descent to offer APPNA membership.
- ◆ Combining APPNA/Alumnus/Chapter dues into one form.
- ◆ Media coverage for the membership drive in collaboration with alumni and chapter presidents.
- ◆ Hotly contested elections

Membership Committee Activities

The Membership Committee Teleconference on February 17th discussed the following: Membership criteria as outlined in the revised constitution and bylaws of November 2004; Review of 2004 membership committee minutes and recommendations of 2005 special executive committee meeting; Road map

to achieve membership goal of 2500; After extensive debate the following recommendations were made:

- ◆ Membership process should be made very easy and done via the web
- ◆ Make the APPNA website fully functional, interactive and user friendly
- ◆ All chapter and alumni meetings are to be attended by members of this committee to introduce APPNA to potential members
- ◆ Financial incentives should be offered to alumni and chapters for recruiting members.
- ◆ APPNA lifetime and annual membership cards with car rental discounts etc.
- ◆ APPNA MC/VISA with airline discounts
- ◆ Chapters and Alumni should provide updated membership lists to the central APPNA office
- ◆ Limited time reduction in lifetime dues to boost membership
- ◆ President of APPNA to send a membership drive letter to 5600 physicians on electronic database of APPNA requesting them to join, and encouraging each member to recruit one additional member this year.

The membership committee plans to update the membership about the progress of various projects. Meetings and teleconferences will be held with all alumni and chapter presidents to put the membership drive in high gear. We will attend all APPNA gatherings to introduce APPNA to potential members. If every APPNA member just makes one more member this year, we will be 4000 in number. March has been designated as "Membership Drive Month." Our slogan is "Join APPNA – together we are stronger."



India Tour Report

Dr. Shaukat Khan
 Chairperson APPNA Spring 2005 India Tour:

My name is Dr. Shaukat Khan, I am one of the past president of APPNA 1997. It was about a year ago when Dr. Hussain Malik, then president elect of APPNA, assigned me the responsibility to organize a trip to India. It was a bold and a very unique idea to take American Physicians of Pakistani Descent on a goodwill mission to a country with 50 + years of hostilities with Pakistan. Many people discouraged us, raised question like, why India? Who will go to India? But the members of APPNA proved these skeptics wrong. We had tremendous response from APPNA members and 250 members were enrolled in this great trip (we had to close enrollment at this point). This was the largest APPNA tour group ever and managing this large group was a real challenge.

I visited India with other members and President in December 2004 and visited each and every hotel our group supposed to stay to make sure we provide the best possible entertainment. While visiting India, the organizing team and APPNA members met several people including politician, medical doctors, hospital administrators, travel agents, hotel Staff and American and Pakistan Embassy staff. We were overwhelmed by the hospitality and support for this noble mission of "Building Bridges People to People". It was the leadership of our President Dr. Hussain Malik, which made this trip possible.

We are also thankful for the efforts of Najma Ji, mother in law of Rizwan Naeem.

Now let me tell you about the trip. These 250 people will testify to the fact that this trip was like a dream come true. We had lots of sightseeing, visiting many places with Muslim history including a visit to the monument of love, Taj Mahal. We went to

Delhi, Agra, Jaipur & Bombay. We enjoyed first class accommodations in 4 and 5 star hotels, variety of foods & entertainment every night. Who could forget Rajasthani Dinner at Ram Bagh Palace in Jaipur with fireworks, camel rides and elephant rides.

We had top-notch CME program organized by Dr. Rizwan Naeem in collaboration with Escort Cardiac institute, Wockhardt hospital and Tata Memorial hospital which was live webcast for medical community far away from India in cities and villages of Pakistan and all over the world.

Why am I writing all this? Just to remind every body that our efforts were very successful and the success of the trip should not be forgotten by the controversy initiated by some members of APPNA. Let me address the controversies now.

continued on page 35

Pak doctors from US hope to improve ties with India

Times News Network
 Mumbai: India and Pakistan were parts of Mother Earth for over 50 years they were like estranged brothers. But they are now looking at developing a useful partnership. If this month's bond pact from Islamabad to be signed, it was perhaps meant to be. After all, Dr Hussain Malik, president of the Association of Physicians of North America (APNA), who made the statement, is an un-ashamed Hindi film buff. His partnership is talking about in the caption of a column, 'Healing Touch'.

Dr Hussain Malik, who is APPNA's president, is planning to visit India for a week, including a visit to the Taj Mahal. He is also planning to visit the Taj Mahal. He is also planning to visit the Taj Mahal.

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APPNA'S 4th International CME Conference - India - March 7th - 17th, 2005 - Scientific Affairs Report

Helen Allen, Rizwan Naeem and Raza Dilawari

The 4th International CME Conference of the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America was held in India March 7th - 17th, 2005.

Planning for the meeting began over a year prior to the conference with the organization of a committee appointed by President Elect Hussain Malik. The following APPNA members comprised the India Trip Committee: Shaukat Khan, Nisar Chaudhry, Rizwan Naeem, Mohammad Qazi, and Asaf Qadeer.

Dr. Rizwan Naeem was asked to assume the position of Chairman of the CME Program. An invitation was extended to physicians interested in making a CME presentation with literature announcing the trip. Comments, suggestions and recommendations from members were reviewed, discussed, and taken into consideration during planning sessions. Dr. Naeem established communication in India and it was decided to coordinate a program that would be diverse in nature and yet address diseases and concerns that were common between both countries.

Careful consideration was given in the planning as the program had to be of interest not only to physicians but medical students, healthcare workers, and a general audience as it would be web cast on the Internet to anyone interested.

Dr. Naeem and a committee in India reviewed topics of general interest. After much discussion it was decided to sponsor two major events; one in New Delhi and one in Bombay. Speakers in the United States submitted objectives of their presentations to Dr. Naeem and Dr. Raza Dilawari, Scientific Affairs Chairperson, for consideration. Dr. Naeem and Dr. Dilawari reviewed and discussed their proposed presentations and contacted potential speakers. After careful consideration individuals selected were sent letters of invitation. Speakers from the United States, participating in the International Conference, were offered the opportunity to make presentations with the understanding that no compensation would be paid. This CME program was entirely funded by group of hospitals in India. Presentations submitted by physicians in India were reviewed for content and interest. The program was then decided with focus on Cardiology, Surgery, Transplantation, Cancer, and Radiology.

This meeting provided an excellent opportunity for an exchange of information between two countries both treating a population that shows an increase in diseases that are of concern. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity to compare progress being

continued on page 35

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Building Bridges People to People

A Personnel Story

Farah Ahmed

During my recent trip to India with APPNA I became an instant friend with two ladies, Shahlah Masood and Shaheen. One day in Bombay, we were wondering where to go for shopping and Dr. Najma Haptullah went out of the way and dropped us off at a shopping area. There was an exclusive exhibition in one of the shops in which members of the elite class of Bombay were attending. As we were exiting the shop we met Indu Ji, wife of Tarachand Chawla, the Director of Kamani Oil Industries. Mrs. Indu Ji's elegant shawl caught our attention and we were brought ourselves to ask her where she had bought such a beautiful shawl.



known each other since childhood.

The next morning at nine-thirty her driver arrived at our hotel and took us to her house so that we could go shopping during the day. She invited us in her house and gave us

She responded by telling us where she bought it from and also offered us a ride to the shop and other exclusive stores that only a native would know.

We spent the rest of the day with one another and exchanged numbers at the end.

With out any hesitation we became so close to each other that it feels as though we have

the grand tour of it. She introduced us to her family and then we headed out. We invited her to Bollywood Night and she arrived with her husband and was introduced to many of the APPNA members. In return she invited a few of us with our spouses for dinner at a ritzy restaurant. It was heartening to see her love for all of us and we were impressed by Mrs. Indu Ji's extraordinary act of hospitality.

In the end Mrs. Indu Ji and her husband promised us that they would try to visit us in America and we promised them we would visit them in Bombay too.

During this APPNA trip we have made friends not only through the APPNA organization but also through the real interaction between the people to people I guess that's why we went.



L to R: Shaheen Iqbal, Dr. Neelum Sethi, Shahla Qureshi.

Save A Colleague - Save A Family

Dear All,
ASA,

Sind Medical College Alumni of North America requests to our colleagues, all respective Alumni of Pakistan in General and association of Pakistani Physicians of North America to donate generously for our dear friend and colleague, Dr. Anwer Saeed.

Anwer graduated from Sind Medical College in 1987. He is married with Dr. Aisha and has three children, two sons and a daughter. The youngest one is just 3 year old.

Anwer is suffering from Metastatic Adenocarcinoma of Stomach. He has traveled all the way from Pakistan to USA in the hope of getting best available treatment for his deadly disease. He is staying with his sister in Albany, New York. He has until now received three sets of chemotherapy. He will be assessed, and further evaluated for his possible surgical treatment in next couple of weeks.

Anwer has limited resources at his disposal. We all are aware about medical expenses especially when somebody is here



from foreign country, and with no medical insurance. It is extremely difficult to bear the burden without the help of his family members and friends.

Today our dear friend is in need of our help. We are asking everybody to please help him out during this difficult period with monetary and moral support, and prayers.

We have developed an account in the name of Anwer Saeed Fund under APPNA. Please send your checks payable to APPNA, and write in memo Anwer Saeed Fund. You can also charge to your

credit card by calling Ms. Tina on (630) 968-8585

The mailing address for sending checks: 6414 S Cass Avenue; Westmont, IL 60559

Thank you for all your support.

Anwer Saeed Fund Committee:

Chair: Saleem A. Zaidi, MD. Tel No: 713-664- 8507

Co-Chair: Azeem K. Niazi, MD..... Tel No: 606- 862-2987

Co-Chair: Adil Rasheed, MD..... Tel No: 631-839-0105

APPNA March 2005 tour to India was a very special one for me due to the visit to Aligarh. The meeting at Aligarh University brought back many memories involving its founder Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, a great scholar, visionary, and intellectual and the role this institution played in the upliftment of the Muslims after the struggle of 1857. After the loss of the Mogul Empire, the British took complete control of India and targeted Muslims in every aspect of their lives and there was a great decline in Muslim education. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan realized that Muslims needed a platform to deal with the British – they would have to learn English and be educated in all aspects of modern and scientific learning. Despite great opposition and hardship Sir Syed established the first Muhammadan Anglo Oriental College for the intellectual cultural and scientific development of the Muslims to cope with the new challenges of modern times. In his first speech he said, " From the seed which we sow today their shall spring up a mighty tree, whose branches, like growth of the banyan of the soil, with in turn strike firm roots into the earth and themselves send forth new and vigorous saplings. This college shall expand into a University whose sons will go forth throughout the length and breadth of the land to preach the gospel of free enquiry, of large hearted toleration, and of pure morality." The MAO College later grew into Aligarh Muslim University in 1920 and this was the first institution which laid ground to the secular traditions where all religions and ethnic groups were to blend in harmony. This educational and intellectual environment created many leaders and movements, eventually leading to the independence of India from British rule. The creation of Pakistan and secular India is the result of this visionary educator who not only awakened the Muslims of India, but also shaped secular India.

Considering the role of Aligarh University in initiating intellectual movements it was felt that APPNA should contact Aligarh University in its mission of building bridges people to people.

Our group left for Aligarh by van and Aray group, who were televising the trip, also followed. The journey was quite interesting – giving us the chance to see the busy highways of India, bumpy roads, right-of-way for the cows on the highway, beautiful scenery on both sides of the road filled with meadows, crops,

APPNA's Trip to Aligarh

*Usman A. Siddiqui, M.D., Ph.D.
Cincinnati, Ohio*

farmers working, bulls plowing the fields and the many mango gardens. After about four hours of journey we entered Aligarh University through Bab-e-syed. We were greeted by Dr. Rahat Abrar, PRO of Aligarh University who guided us through the University and eventually took us to the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College – this dream of Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmed was realized with the effort of Dr. Zakir Hussain and opened in 1962. Today, it is an eminent center of medical education and considered one of the best centers of medical education in India. In Aligarh University we were greeted by Professor Mobashir, the principal of the college, and Professor Shamin J. Rizvi, the Dean of Faculty of Medicine. We were taken to the Medical College auditorium and were greeted by the faculty and the students. Members of the delegate team of APPNA addressed the meeting, who were Dr. Rizwan Naem, Dr. Muhammad Suleman, Dr. Muhammad Haque and Dr. Usman A. Siddiqui. The APPNA message was very cordially received by the students and the faculty. Later a reception was also given by the medical staff and the students in the reception hall. Afterward a press conference was held by the news media where the mission of APPNA and the concept of building bridges people to people and the need to create an environment of mutual cooperation and coexistence was discussed. An elegant lunch was also provided with the press and the formal meeting in Aligarh was ended. Later a tour of the Aligarh University was also given and we saw Moulana Azad Library, Arts and Science Building, Womens College and we were also shown Muhammad Habib Hall, Victoria Gate, Strechly Hall and Aftab Hostel where initial draft of Pakistani Constitution was written. Later we were taken to the original building of MAO College and to the Tomb of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, which is adjacent to the University Mosque. Some flowers were placed on the grave of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and finally we thanked Mr. Abrar of Aligarh University who accompanied us throughout these meetings and we departed Aligarh University.

It was a very enlightening experience to see this elegant academic institution – An institution that created many leaders and intellectuals who later became Presidents, Prime Ministers and educators in India and Pakistan – and further to see how meaningfully the dreams of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan were realized. In keeping with APPNA's theme for building bridges people to people this was the perfect place to initiate this idea of friendship, social and culture cooperation by putting aside the ethnic, linguistic and religious differences and work together hand to hand for the upliftment of human spirit. Our group reached safely by 7 PM to Delhi. It was really a memorable trip and a step forward with APPNA's goal of building bridges people to people.

Announcement for Golf Lovers

Dr. Ali from Akron, Ohio has suggested that during the forthcoming APPNA meeting in Houston (June 29 thru July 4, 2005) there should be a golf outing for the golf enthusiasts coming to this meeting. The golf outing can be held on Friday June 30 or Sunday July 3rd. Please circulate this message. Those who are interested please contact Dr. Ali.

Syed Ijaz Ali M.D
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The Visionaries:
Who are they?
What do they do?
Why do they do it?? How
do they do it??? Visionaries
are people who dream the seemingly
impossible, believe in it,
and set out to accomplish it. With single-
mindedness, a great
sense of purpose and
against all odds, they do what needs to be done!
Their passion for the vision and mission that
they have chosen invigorates them; each adver-
sary situation energizes them; every instance of
criticism is seen as an opportunity to improve
how they do things!

A few decades ago, in the villages, cities, and
cantonments of Pakistan, there were some boys
and girls growing up, attending school, working
hard for a successful future: representing the
small percentage of Pakistani children who had
the opportunity to acquire a good education, and
finally obtain a medical degree from various institutions of
Pakistan. The quest for higher learning and better professional
opportunities brought them to the USA, where they excelled in
their chosen specialties and went on to be successful Pakistani
American professionals. They were an enterprising lot: along
with active participation in the local civic and political activi-
ties, they formed the Association of Pakistani Physicians (later
APPNA), to provide a platform for the many educational, social
and philanthropic activities that they felt were necessary for a
meaningful survival of the young immigrant community.

Whereas in the living rooms of most Pakistani-Americans, the
after dinner conversations centered around the "sorry state of
affairs" in Pakistan, resulting from a self-destructive socio-eco-
nomic structure; the rampant corruption and injustice that is
eating away the foundation of that bureaucracy driven,
feudal lords sub-
servient country where the middle
class was fast
becoming extinct;
the inevitable out-
come always being a
pregnant inertia and
an eternal hopelessness:
"you cannot change Pakistan,"
"Nothing works in
Pakistan," and even
"Pakistanis are by
nature..." there
were other conversa-
tions, by those who refused to accept this hopelessness and dis-
mal future as a predestined verdict for Pakistan!!! These were

The Visionaries: Progress for Peace

*Naheed M Qayyum
Chicago, IL*



the visionaries who
dared to believe that
there are greater things
in life, than life itself:
They knew that the
majority of people of
Pakistan had never
been given a fair
chance to reach their
full potential and make
their mark in the global
community.

These few brave men and women had a differ-
ent vision: the UNDP figures of Human
Development Index in Pakistan showed not only
a level of poverty, disease and illiteracy that
belied the seeming affluence of Karachi, Lahore
and Islamabad, but also showed where the prob-
lem was, and how to address it. They knew that
the difference between success and failure is the
opportunity. What shakes the socio-economic
structure is the social injustice; what makes a
nation a third world country is the absence of a
people who are not only educated, but also not

aware of their civic rights and responsibilities and hold their
governments and political leaders accountable. These were the
Visionaries, who believed that freedom from poverty, illiteracy,
and sickness was essential for a meaningful survival of any
nation, and Pakistan was no exception, and that not doing
something about it was NOT a choice!! And thus a new chapter
was started in the history of APPNA.

In 1996, Dr. M. Mushtaq Sharif*, the then President of APPNA,
appointed a human development task force, comprising of Drs.
Waheed Akhbar*, Zeenat Anwer, Nasim Ashraf*, Omar Atiq*,
Shahnaz Khan, and M. Khalid Riaz* to look into establishing an
affiliate organization that will give APPNA membership a plat-
form to promote issues related to human development. The

task force came up
with a model that
took the form of a
non-for-profit,
autonomous entity
called Human
Development
Foundation of North
America. It was in the
APPNA Summer
Meeting of 1997,
amidst a very emo-
tional celebration of
the 50th anniversary
of Pakistan's
Independence Day,
that the President of
APPNA, Dr Shaukat A
Khan, announced a
gift from APPNA to
the people of
Pakistan, and HDFNA



was launched. Dr. Shaukat Khan (who still chokes with emotion
when mentioning that momentous occasion) to date calls this

event the highlight of his achievements during his presidency. APPNA membership rose to the occasion and vowed to make this endeavor a success for the underprivileged communities of Pakistan and fulfill the mission of facilitating a grassroots movement with programs that provide quality edu-



cation, basic healthcare and economic sustainability.

HDF now has projects in all four provinces of Pakistan, including rural and urban models, where underprivileged populations are empowered improve their living conditions. Here in the US, HDF operates on the enthusiasm and untiring dedication of its Board of Directors, Volunteers, Staff, and donors. With a mission to be accomplished, a vision to be attained, a nation to be given the opportunity to reach their maximum potential, the work of HDF never stops. The quarterly BOD meetings, the strategic brainstorming sessions, the ever increasing participation of the regional networks in holding fundraising events and many other community awareness programs have already made HDF a household name in the Pakistani Diaspora. Surely but slowly, through our neighbors, colleagues and various organizations, such as the local rotary clubs, the mainstream Americans and other community leaders are also learning about HDF and how it is changing lives! HDF had become one of the most credible organizations delivering education, health care, micro-credit, and community development programs. Education, enlightenment, and socio-economic stability were increasingly being recognized as a deterrent to extremist ideology by Western policymakers and the media.

Thus the stage was set for a PBS documentary about HDF: Visionaries Inc., a not for profit production company, is dedicated to using the power of media to tell stories of people and organizations making positive social change. HDF was chosen for the organizations extraordinary commitment to improving the living conditions in the most underserved areas of Pakistan, and fight the conditions that become the breeding grounds for extremist ideologies :hence the title "Progress for Peace."

In spring of 2004, the Visionaries productions' crew that included Founder and Executive Producer Mr. Bill Mosher traveled through Pakistan with several members of the HDF staff and visited HDF project sites in Mardan, Karachi Katchi Abadi, Shamsabad, and Islamabad, in addition to the national office in Rawalpindi. They visited with the beneficiaries, interacted with the staff members, and interviewed the local Sustainable Development experts, and filmed what amounted to 24 hours of raw footage capturing. The essence of the vision and mission of HDF, its programs and beneficiaries, and the impact it has made on the lives of so many. All the crewmembers, the photographers

and the executive director, Bill Mosher, deserve credit. They have taken the time to get to know these people as individuals, as fellow human beings, who are willing to learn new skills, work hard and establish self sufficient communities. The human bond established between these people from across the oceans lends a new meaning to

the phrase "Progress for Peace".

Accompanying the production crew was Kevin McDermott, the Executive Director of HDFNA, who could not help but notice a group of children playing a game, that he recognized as "Ring around the Rosey" and was struck by the overwhelming similarities of the children all over the world. He observed that people and humanity at large all over the world, their joys, sorrows, needs, and desire to live in peace and prosperity transcend all international boundaries. Donna McDermott, who is an ardent supporter of the cause and an energetic volunteer of HDF, was visibly moved upon viewing the documentary, stating " this is all so genuinely compassionate and caring!" That was the most precious tribute any non-Pakistani American can pay to the Pakistani-Americans: to see them as caring, compassionate human beings, striving to help those less fortunate than them; reaching out across the continents to helping people help themselves.

The PBS documentary will help spread the message of HDF to the mainstream American public, showing HDF as an organization building bridges, people to people, so our American neighbors, colleagues, and friends can appreciate the deep commitment that Pakistani-Americans have towards achieving global peace through human development. It also defies the stereotyping of Pakistani Americans, Immigrant Physicians and Muslim charities, and shows the world that as American citizens we take our responsibility very seriously and are not only making a contribution towards global peace, but are an asset that is indispensable in the global peace process. Visionaries documentary, hosted by Donald Watertson, will be featuring HDF in the episode called "Progress for Peace", and will be aired nationally on PBS. For more information visit www.yespakistan.com

Meanwhile, we the APPNA visionaries, will continue to work hard and follow our mission, which started as a dream:

*We dream of a Pakistan,
Where every child must attend school,
Where basic healthcare is accessible to all,
Where clean drinking water is not a luxury,
And communities are vibrant and self-sustaining.*

Let us realize this dream together.

A COMPARISON State of APPNA SEHAT

Hassan I. Bukhari MD. and Shafiq ur Rehman MB,BS.

APPNA SEHAT was established in 1989 as subsidiary of APPNA, to launch practical low cost primary health care projects for marginalized rural communities of Pakistan. For this to happen, APPNA SEHAT developed a self-help based educational model after extensive feasibility study at that time. As a first step APPNA SEHAT was registered with Social Welfare department. But astonishingly APPNA SEHAT was registered only for Capital territory where APPNA SEHAT has no operations except a small project during December 2000 through November 2002. All other activities and operations outside Capital territory stand illegal and authority may close it down at any time. Secondly NO local rules and regulations were drafted ever since its inception and NO local board of Directors established which was a legal and foremost requirement. This issue has always been

put up to all Chairpersons in States along with all its consequences but no action was taken. This dreadful and demoralizing issue remained pending for years. During first ever visit of Dr. Hassan Bukhari to APPNA SEHAT Pakistan the same issue was raised again. And at last, this serious issue was considered seriously. Registration of NGO in Pakistan became an uphill task after 9-11 incident but the decision was taken to end up the uncertainty. During the same visit APPNA SEHAT Board of Director was formulated and go ahead signal was given to initiate the process of APPNA SEHAT registration and all necessary guidance and support was provided by the Chairperson. Now process of registration is in the last stages and expected to be completed in a matter of weeks. This will end up uncertainty for all times to come which spanned 15 years. This certainly imparted new confidence to management of APPNA SEHAT in Pakistan. This also wiped out the impression of being neglected by policy makers, as they seem to be more interested in newer organization they developed. The BOD in Pakistan comprises of Hassan Bukhari-Chairperson, Professor Riaz Chaudhry-Secretary, Justice(Rtd) Mohammad Aslam Arain, AVM (Rtd) Ehtisham Akram and Dr.Shafiq ur Rehman, who is also the CEO of APPNA SEHAT and Country Director in Pakistan.



Financial issues also remained one of the top most problems. There had been instances when salaries of the whole APPNA SEHAT staff could not be paid for three months in a row and late payments also been a common phenomenon during previous years. Even by the end of year 2003 APPNA SEHAT had to graduate most of its units by taking a drastic and desperate management decision, as there was no more funds as well as no

policy available in this regard. Any unit once came on board remained on ever rising APPNA SEHAT financial support which set off self-destructive phenomenon. Now a concrete policy has been devised which clearly dictates the duration of project activities and interventions in any given unit coming on board and number of units (20 units) on board at any given time. This would be for the first time in the history of APPNA SEHAT that committed funds reached

Pakistan well in time without asking for it. Financial manual of APPNA SEHAT, delineating procedures and authorities which used to be unclear and uncertain, is developed for the first time and now in operation. In 2003 to make the payrolls and other operational expenses funds were borrowed from the employee Provident Fund. In 2004 APPNA SEHAT was able to raise enough funds to meet all its expenses in

Pakistan and pay off the loan from the Provident Fund. No financial help was drawn from APPNA even though the running of APPNA SEHAT was a budgeted item.

Another issue that had been prevailing was lack of communication. Communication is the only two-way channel which is used for harmony between leadership in States and Pakistan that facilitate decision making process and understanding of ongoing activities. This infrequent communication resulted in lack of guidance. Last year i.e. 2003 was the hectic year in this respect. Now this situation is reversed as almost weekly telephonic conversation happens between APPNA SEHAT management and APPNA SEHAT Chairperson. This is seen as conscious efforts on the part of the chairperson to keep himself fully involved and knowledgeable of organization's situation and direction. This regular communication provides the opportunity

to discuss each and every aspect of project implementation and facilitates well thought out decision in the best interest of APPNA SEHAT and the beneficiaries. This helped a lot in regaining self-assurance which resulted in renaissance of APPNA SEHAT.

Another issue was poor condition of project vehicle at head office which had potential dangers to life of commuters. Breakdown of the vehicle during field visits had also been on record. But decision about change of project vehicle at head office had been deferred for long time. Although most of the Chairpersons had been apprehended the problem but for unknown reasons could not take decision. But during the current year (2004) it was decided then and there to replace the vehicle. This not only relieved the persons on monitoring visits who usually worried about personal safety but also improve the mobility for monitoring. This must be considered as cost effective decision as it reduced maintenance cost as well as opportunity cost of person involved in maintenance and also time wasted on getting it repaired.

Now Board of Directors is reviewing critically all procedures and discussing and deliberating on all such issues which should have been done long ago. Board of Director under direct supervision of Chairperson is working on staffing of APPNA SEHAT. The Accounting practice is being changed to Accrual basis rather than current Cash basis. Separate rules and regulations have been made as require by laws, to manage and invest the Provident Fund.

This is for the first time that APPNA SEHAT changed her welfare view back to its main premise of time bound health education. In the past, it was satisfying for all decision makers that they had opportunity to provide jobs to few hundred people. This really obscured the aim of the organization, improving health indicators in Pakistan and stuck in same units for years. Now there is clear policy about duration of interactions in any given unit. This would provide equal opportunity to all rural communities to be added into the project.

The endeavors made during the current year to streamline organizational working and confidence build-



ing measures are exuberant in all respects and are more than made in the history of APPNA SEHAT. This process does not stop here and is still going on.

Future plans for APPNA SEHAT.

1. In the future, we plan to raise funds by getting firm pledges from individuals on a recurrent basis. This could eliminate frequent fundraisers.
2. We are planning to buy an office building in Islamabad so that the rent money can be channeled into equity for APPNA SEHAT.
3. The current monthly budget is \$ 12,000.00 for 65,000 lives. If we increase the expenditure by 30% we can double the number of lives from 65,000 to 120,000 and addition of another 20 units, thus bringing total units to 40. Please help us achieving these goals and fill out the pledge form today.
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SHEEDA vs. BUSH

Syed Ijaz Ali M.D.

Akron, Ohio

George Bush was sitting in his office wondering whom to invade next when his telephone rang. "Hello, Mr. Bush" a heavily accented voice said. "This is Sheeda from chuck no 3 District Gujranwala, Pakistan. I am calling to inform you that we are officially declaring war on you." "Well, Sheeda," Bush replied. "This indeed important news. How big is your army?"

"Right now," said Sheeda, after a moments calculation. "There is myself, my cousin Basheera, my next door neighbor Karam Deen, and entire kabaddi team from the village. That makes eight." Bush paused "I must tell you Sheeda that I have one million men in my army to move on my command."

"BLOODY hell," said Sheeda. "I will have to ring you back." Sure enough the next day Sheeda called again. "Mr Bush, this is Sheeda from Gujranwala, Pakistan. The war is still on! We have managed to acquire some infantry equipment." "And what equipment would that be, Sheeda?" Bush asked.

"Well, we have two combines, a donkey and Amjad's tractor." Bush sighed "I must tell you Sheeda, that I have 16000 tanks and 14000 armored personnel carriers. And, I have increased my army to one and half million since we last spoke."

"Oh teri" said Sheeda. "I have to get back to you."

Sure enough Sheeda rang again the next day. "Mr Bush, the war is still on. We have managed to get ourselves airborne. We have modified Amjad's tractor by adding a couple of shotguns, sticking on some wings and the pond's generator. Four boys from Sahiwal have joined us as well!" Bush was silent for a moment and then cleared his throat. "I must tell you, Sheeda, that I have 10,000 bombers and 20,000 fighter planes. My military complex is surrounded by laser guided surface to air missiles. And, since we last spoke, I have increased my army to TWO MILLION!"

"Tera pala hovay" said Sheeda. "I have to ring you back."

Sure enough, Sheeda called again the next day. "Kehsay? Mr Bush!" I am sorry to tell you that we have had to call off the war."

"I am sorry to hear that," said Bush. "Why the sudden change of heart?"

"Well," said Sheeda, "We all had a long chat over a couple of paratha and decided there's no way we can feed two million prisoners!"

Anonymous writer. Note by the submitter of this article: By calling off the war Sheeda from Gujranwala was wiser than the mullahs and chiefs of religious parties who sent innocent boys and men from Pakistan to Afghanistan to fight U.S army.

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A salaamu Alaikum, SAYA Members -

It is my privilege to serve as the SAYA President for the 2005 year. SAYA is very eager to establish itself as a more active organization this year, through an even more active summer meeting but also programming for the spring meeting in Washington, DC, in April as well as the fall meeting in Las Vegas, NV, in October.

In the past two years, SAYA has increased programming at the APPNA conferences through a more involved fashion show and dances, more active entertainment at our dinners, and an increased involvement in mentoring and academic affairs through the newsletter and panel presentations held on Friday and Saturday mornings at the APPNA summer conference. Additionally, SAYA has hosted numerous debates on issues that impact Pakistani-Americans today, as well as issues that impact Pakistani children. Examples of these achievements range from a discussion and screening of a Pakistani-Canadian film director's movie on honor killings to an Admissions session led by two Harvard MBA students as well as a presentation of child labor issues in Pakistan held by Rugmark at the Washington, DC Summer conference.

The following are a list of efforts and plans for the 2005 year:

SAYA Listserv and Web Site

This year, SAYA would like to increase membership involvement. Two ways in which members can voice their opinions more are through subscribing to our listserv, by emailing SAYAlist-subscribe@yahoo.com and by visiting our Web site at <http://www.appnayouth.com>.

SAYA Spring Meeting: Friday, April 8 & Saturday, April 9, 2005

SAYA will be present at the spring meeting in Washington, DC, this year making plans for the summer meeting, and would like to work to strengthen ties with national groups such as the National Pakistani Students Association, the Pakistani Embassy's Pakistani American Leadership Initiative (PALI) and the Pakistani Embassy's Rising Leaders program. SAYA is planning a gathering for Saturday, April 9th, which will be a strategy session, luncheon, and networking opportunity. In the evening, some of the SAYA college age students would like to also explore Washington, DC and have an entertainment component to the evening. All interested in attending should contact Sahar Dar at sdar@law.upenn.edu

SAYA

Sahar A. Dar
SAYA President, 2005



SAYA Summer Meeting: June 29th - July 4th, 2005

The SAYA Executive Board is working hard to plan numerous events for this summer's meeting in Houston, TX! Specifically, SAYA's *tentative* plans include:

Mentoring Luncheon/School Reunions: This will be an opportunity for high school and college students to

seek advice from current undergraduate students and graduate students, as well as young professionals who are recent alumnae, of various colleges across the United States.

Internship Session: SAYA members will be sharing their knowledge of internship experiences to all college students considering doing internships or co-op experiences. These experiences range from working for Johnson & Johnson to working at the United Nations.

Muslim Americans Discussion: SAYA is trying to host a Muslim American speaker session and discussion and is currently working to attain a prominent scholar and professor in this area to come to speak. We would like to co-sponsor this with APPNA.

Issues that Impact Pakistanis in America Today: SAYA will be hosting a session to learn about how they can play a role in immigration issues by speaking with a prominent Pakistani immigration attorney from the Houston area who will speak about immigration issues raised for South Asians wishing to immigrate to the United States these days.

SAYA Dinner: SAYA is *tentatively* hoping to host a buffet-style dinner at the Aquarium Restaurant on Friday, July 1st, which is one of the most upscale restaurants in the Houston area. The dinner will include a tour of the state-of-the-art aquarium as well as a Variety Show following the dinner, which will include choreographed dances, slam poetry reading, skits, and musical and/or instrument performances. All are welcome to participate in this show but first preference will be given to those who submit a statement of intent to Atiya Husain by the end of May. Atiya can be reached at atiya@umich.edu

SAYA Fashion Show: SAYA will be hosting its annual fashion show on Saturday, July 2nd, in the afternoon. All those people who are interested in contributing choreographed dances, being a part of the catwalk, participating in the first-ever four provinces portion of the show, or participating in the Heer Ranjha skit, should feel free to contact



Arooj Sheikh immediately at Sheikh.22@osu.edu.

I encourage all of you to attend these great events and to get involved with planning some of these activities. I look forward to seeing you all in Washington, DC and Houston.

Walaikum Asalaam,

MEET THE 2005 SAYA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sahar Dar, President, 23

Sahar is a second-year law and business student at the University of Pennsylvania and Wharton School. She graduated from Case Western Reserve University with a bachelors degree in Economics, International Studies, & Psychology and a Masters degree in Bioethics. Her interests include movies, Broadway musicals, cultural shows, and painting. Sahar's favorite quote is, "People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within." ~ Unknown



Atiya Husain, President-Elect, 19

Atiya is a sophomore at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor. She is a double major in Islamic Studies, Asian Languages, and Arabic, and is aspiring to be a professor. Her interests are music, playing guitar, politics, and Amnesty International. Her favorite quote is "By the time, verily man is in loss, save those who believe, and do good deeds, and exhort each other to truth and exhort each other to endurance." ~ Al Asr

Ayesha Ashai, Secretary, 18

Ayesha is a senior at Magnificat High School in Cleveland, Ohio. She is currently undecided about what college she would like to attend but she would like to major in Psychology/Journalism with a Spanish minor. Ayesha's interests include reading, music, television, and friends. Her favorite quote is "When

one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us."
~ Alexander Graham Bell

Raafeh Waseem, Treasurer, 23

Raafeh is a recent graduate from the University of Maryland, College Park, where he attained a bachelors degree in Biology. Raafeh is currently a research

assistant at JHH. His interests include chilling, partying, relaxing, reading, writing, hanging out with friends, driving, music, and sports. His favorite quote is "The harder you work, the harder it is to surrender" ~ Vince Lombardi

Iram Qureshi, Past President, 21

Iram is a senior at the Ohio State University, where she is a biology major. Iram's interests include web page design, jewelry making, drawing, painting, cooking, sewing, and computer graphics. Her favorite quote is, "Discipline is the refining fire by which talent becomes ability." ~ Roy L. Smith

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Barakah Hajj & Umrah is guided and led by Riaz A. Akhtar, MD, FACC,

*Lifetime member of APPNA, KEMCAANA, PPS, Regional Councilor APPNA-2005
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Truth Is More Than Fiction!

Thank You APPNA for the Opportunity to Say Thanks

*Dr. Ayyaz Qureshi
North Carolina, Dow Graduate of 75*

When we arrived at the Delhi airport and the Intercontinental Hotel, we experienced the usual tourist welcome, greetings from employees who wanted to place garlands around our necks to women dressed in elaborate saris, throwing rose petals in our path and so on. At the entrance of the hotel lobby my wife Shahla noticed that on one of the walls was an oversized painting by a local Delhi painter Satish Gujral. The painting, which had obvious influences from Surrealist painter Dali and Mexican folk artist, Diego Riviera, depicted a classical colonial scene - the fate of Bahadur Shah Zafar at the hands of the British in 1857. I must admit that I am not an art connoisseur, but something about the artist's name sparked my memory.

For the next few hours I thought about it and vaguely remembered that it was a name which was particularly ingrained my family's history as I remembered my father's stories about his best friend and the fellow artist. I felt an inherent need to meet him and embarked upon navigating the Indian information system. My daughter, back in the US, found his personal website and the address of his art gallery. Finally, we had his phone number.

My father had told me that he and Satish were extremely close friends in Lahore. During the time of the Partition, my father found himself in Amritsar or the wrong side of the border. It was Satish who had put my father in the luggage compartment of his car and smuggled him across the border safely into Muslim territory of Lahore. Satish had risked his life to save my father's.

My father and Satish were such friends that he had given his own house in Lahore to my father when the Partition took place. I could hardly believe that my father's close friend, his savior of sorts, had become such an esteemed artist in India; it was an almost poetic story that one saw on Oprah, hardly something that happened to an ordinary doctor from Eden, North Carolina. Soon, I had his address in my hand and was at his home.

The meeting was emotional to say the least; he was so happy to see us. Satish related of his good times he and my father spent and recalled events. What was even more fortuitous and coincidental was that my wife's cousin, Shaheen Iqbal, had actually lived in the house Satish had given to my father. Satish told us that he had even written a biography entitled, *A Brush with Life*, in which he mentioned my father. What truly struck me about the experience was that after living in America for

thirty years, I had become so accustomed to reunion stories of this kind occurring between Holocaust survivors and the Gentiles who had helped them. It became almost a surreal moment to realize that this reunion was mine and more than that, it was truly symbolic. That day at the famed painter's house was Indians and Pakistanis realizing that despite the violent memories of the Partition, there were moments of valiant humanity in



Mrs. Shahla Qureshi and Dr. Ayyaz Qureshi

the face of such animosity such as Satish's actions towards my father.

All of the emotional moments and traveling throughout Delhi had taken a toll, but we had the dinner to attend. My wife was really tired and almost falling asleep. An Indian doctor, Dr. Neelum Sethi, at our table utilized Shahla's tiredness as a conversation starting point and began to talk to us. Soon small talk gave way to more personal questions of the past. Shahla told her that her father, an irrigation engineer, had been transferred to the small town of Churkana, Punjab. On hearing this tears began to roll down the woman's cheeks. Dr. Neelum told us her own father was originally from Churkana (now called Farooqabad). She said she owned the Heart and Lung Institute in Delhi and that her husband was a cardiologist. The next day we toured her facility. She was so extremely hospitable that she canceled all of her patients and took us shopping and showed us the various sites that the tourists often missed. We bid her goodbye, knowing full well that we had made a lifelong friend.

When we reached Jaipur, Neelum was not satisfied with the hospitality she had extended to us in Delhi. While touring the Rajasthan Palace with the APPNA group, our cell phone

suddenly began to ring. To our surprise, "Neelum auntie" had appointed Vicky and Ritu of Jaipur, a young couple who was in the jewelry business. They spent the whole day taking us shopping at their personal jewelers and clothing shops. When Shahla selected some jewelry from their store, they refused to accept any payment, and it was with only great difficulty that we could convince them that they should accept some payment from us even if it was at wholesale cost. When we attempted to give their children cash gifts, they would not accept it. Since our visit to India was entirely tourist oriented, we had not planned to make social calls to say the least, much less life-long friends. As a result, we had no gifts to give Vicky and Ritu so Shahla found a tie and shirt of mine that I had planned to wear on Bollywood Night to give to our new friends. They told us that next time we would visit India, we would stay with them and told us that when our daughter got married, we shop for her with them in Jaipur.

Thinking this stroke of good luck could not last forever, the APPNA tour took us to Mumbai next. But, Bombay had more in store for us. While waiting in the lobby on the second morning we ran into Dr. Najma Heptulla and asked her advice on where the good stores were to shop. My wife soon assembled a shopping expedition, which included Farrah and myself. Najma Appa, a member of Parliament, told us where to shop but that was not all - she gave us a ride to the local shopping center. With connections like Najma we had an easy time and were ushered into posh shops like royal guests. While shopping at the Nilofer Boutique, my wife saw a woman wearing a beautiful shawl. When she complimented the woman on her unique shawl, the woman asked us if where we were from. When we told her Pakistan, she offered to help us shop for the day. She introduced herself as Indu Ji, wife of Tarachand Chawla, and then said she would help us shop at boutiques, which usually will see customers by appointment.

The same day Indu, also formerly from Karachi, took us around Bombay and even bargained with the shopkeepers to give us a better price. She even sent for her daughter to come and join us. Indu got a phone call that one of her relatives was sick. Upon hearing this, she ordered another car for herself left us with her car, telling us to continue our shopping.

The next day once again we had a car and chauffeur at our service. We shopped and even presented ourselves at Sharukh Khan's residence and requested to see him. The chaukidaar told us that he was not home. To test whether he was bluffing or not we told the chaukidaar that we were Sharukh Khan's sisters for Lahore and were at his door. The chowkidaar told us "Woh to theek hai maggar wo ghar pay nahin hain." (That is all right but he is not home.) Feeling disappointed we decided to bag another great Khan and soon we were at Salman Khan's



L to R: Dr. Kamal Sethi, Dr. Ayyaz Qureshi, Shahla Qureshi, daughter of Drs. Sethi and Dr. Neelum Sethi in Delhi.

residence but luck had eluded us we could not be lucky all the time. Indu invited us to her house, a beautiful beachfront property in Pali. From there, Indu and her husband took us to a Chinese restaurant. Having finished that day, we were sure that that is all we would hear of Indu Ji but we were wrong.

The third morning like clockwork we were greeted by our host with a car and driver parked for our convenience at the Hilton. Like before we were taken around places but we decided to take

them to lunch. Alas we were not lucky in paying for the lunch. On this day our entourage consisted of two cars since she and her daughter had joined us. Tarachand had instructed the hotel already not to accept our payments despite our much protest. When we reached our hotel room later that evening we were presented with a box of "jalaybees" to take to Lahore from Indu ji and her family.

Indu was quite intrigued by our presence in the country of our group. We felt that we should invite her to the Bollywood Night at our hotel. By now we had forgotten that we were tourists or that Indu was really a stranger who had entered a shop and her shawl had caught my wife's eye. Mr Chawla Tarachand and Mrs Indu Tarachand came to the Bollywood night. Drawing Shahla aside, Mrs Indu Tarachand and told all of us to forget that we belong to different religions. Our friendship had grown so fast and was so deep that she even offered a rishtah for our daughters, putting aside the animosity that often permeates Hindu/Muslim relationships. Although Farrah, Shaheen, and Shahla are much more traditional in their ristahs for their children, we were still impressed by Indu ji's open heart and kindness. Later, she explained that it was all "bhagwaan ke marzey" (will of God) that she had worn a particular shawl and it was some force from beyond that had drawn Shahla to it.



L to R: Dr. Ayyaz Qureshi, Shahla Qureshi, Shaheen Iqbal, Indu and Tarachand Chawla

This trip was full of unforgettable memories for us - most were so unexpected as we had just thought that we would tour India, buy some Polky jewelry, shalwar kameezes, and shawls, and perhaps take that clichéd picture in front of the Taj Mahal. Instead, we made new, lifelong connections in every Indian City we went to and reconnected with old ones. We experienced such hospitality from the Indian people that we had not even received in our home city of Lahore from our families and friends. Back in the United States, Shahla and I tell our friends partly in jest but mostly in seriousness that the name of this APPNA trip was called "People to People: Building Bridges." Looking back on our trip, I truly realize that we literally built bridges with the extremely generous people we met there. Indu ji, Dr. Neelum Sethi, Vicky, and Satish are all literal embodiments of something much larger than us - they represent ambassadors of a sort that allow the deep wounds of history between Pakistan and India to heal.

CHILD SLAVERY:

The real issue to deal with.

Dr. Mujahid Ali Rizvi

Camel racing is one of the oldest and more popular sports in the Arab World. In the backdrop of the spectacular cities in the United Arab Emirates, wealthy Sheiks compete for some of the biggest prizes in racing. To an onlooker it looks like a typical scene, trans-

planted from anywhere in the world, a sort of Arab Ascot or Churchill Downs. But you look a little closer and the grim reality becomes apparent. While living in Pakistan in the 1980's and 90's, I had heard about children being used as camel jockeys in the United Arab Emirates. It made 'headlines' when Prince Charles of England unknowingly paid a visit to one of these races where children, some of them under the age of four, were being used as jockeys. The UAE government was pressurized then by the international community and in fact, passed a law twice, once in 1993 and then again in 2002, banning the use of children as jockeys. Last fall, "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel", a cable sports show in the United States, revealed the awful truth about camel racing in the UAE.



Ansar Burney, a Pakistani human rights activist, took hidden cameras to the racetracks as well as the 'slave' camps. What they discovered was a modern day 'slave' trading involving children mostly from Pakistan and Bangladesh. These children, some of them as young as two, are either kidnapped or sold by their parents for less than \$500.

The bone chilling reality is that there are still some children kept behind barbed wires in desert camps, away from the public eye. They are starved to keep their weight down. If they make mistakes, they are beaten and hung from the ceiling by chains. They are also reportedly sexually abused. Some of the children are too young to ride so they are tied to the camel's back. The children often fall off and get trampled by the camels. The camels, on the other hand, spend afternoons in their specially designed swimming pools, and, if injured, have access to the most modern health care. Unfortunately the Crown Prince of the UAE, Sheikh Mohammad, owned the camps shown in this video.

I am not sure whether the Pakistan Government can do anything about this. Due to the economic disparity between the two countries, and the fact that Pakistan depends on the UAE and the Middle East for foreign exchange, I am not sure how effective the Pakistan Government can be. They can, however, enforce their laws so that it becomes more difficult for the traffickers. I feel, as Pakistanis and as human beings, it is our responsibility to 'internationalize' this story. This will hopefully bring an end to this horrific crime. I feel we should write letters to newspapers and leaders around the world. My friends and I are determined to continue doing so. The question is could an organization like APPNA do something? I am sure they can if they are truly independent and people of conscious. Please look at the website listed at the bottom for the detail information.

Mujahid Ali Rizvi

Class of '97

The Aga Khan University

Hematology/Oncology Fellow at the Northwestern University
<http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/cameljockeysgallery/gallery.htm>



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Libelous Labels

Dr. Mahjabeen Islam

After a while one gets inured to the defamation of Muslims in western media. Whilst it is invariably an "Islamic" terrorist, fundamentalist or extremist, any non-Islamic semi-violent person or group is always secular or agnostic enough to never need religious qualification.

One cannot entirely blame the West for these labels, for the perpetrators of 9/11 permanently damaged all things Islamic. It is when Muslims themselves echo these slurs and invent new ones to boot that it hurts. And it hurts not just the insulted but the Muslim community as a whole.

Fundamentally speaking Fundamentalism was an organized militant Evangelical movement originating in the late 19-early 20th centuries in opposition to Protestant liberalism and its thrust was inerrancy of the Scripture. In common parlance it had acquired the connotation of rigid adherence to fundamental principles, opposition to secularism and most importantly intolerance. And then Islam came along radar screens and even though "fundamentalist" was born a Christian it is now any devout Muslim, man or woman, violent or peaceful, bearded or clean-shaven, fashionable or head-covered.

To be Muslim one must believe in the fundamentals of faith that is belief in God, the angels, the prophets, the Books, the Day of Judgment and fate and predestination. This iman-e-mufassil causes entry to the fold of Islam and by definition a billion of the world's people are fundamentalists, excuse me, I mean "Islamic fundamentalists".

Not only have we accepted this slur without protest we propagate and add to it. An objection to the denigration of Islam in social conversation can earn you that title and the Pakistani accent already hard on the ears, in this emphasizes the D, and you are suddenly a fundo. But then perhaps he does know it is fundo, and that funda carries more punch. It does indeed and actually verbalized by him would definitely send my heart into fibrillation.

Reeling under this fundo-funda onslaught, I felt balm by Khusro Mumtaz's article "Attack of the Liberal Fundos" that appeared in The News in January. That the ultra-liberal set in Pakistan has its own deep-rooted prejudices and mindsets is a point very well taken. And yet here the word "liberal" is a misnomer for the word "liberal" carries connotations of open-mindedness, progress and freedom from prejudice. Mumtaz illustrates well the blinders of bigotry that these pseudo-liberals carry, making them as much the fundos they denigrate albeit at the other end of the moral/social spectrum.

Until 9/11 all things relating to Islam were Islamic. Since that had no oomph the word Islamist has been coined and though dictionary definitions are gentle and relate Islamism to the faith and practice of Islam, in my mind it is a hybrid of the words "Islam" and "extremism". If you are shy and retiring you get to being called a Muslim, if you get hot and bothered by the assaults on your religion and speak up, you are an Islamist. Actually the air headed socialite of Pakistan calls the religiously inclined Muslim a fundo, the Western media and brown-sahib sycophants call them Islamists. Like the Americans say: same difference.

As though fundo and Islamist were not slurs enough, Muslims and, I believe, Pakistanis have coined the word "jiha-

di". Contrary to popular thought Jihad-e-Akbar or the major jihad is the constant, daily struggle against our base instincts (nafs-e-ammara) so that nearness to God is achieved through observance of the five pillars of Islam as well as constant zikr or remembrance of Him.

After returning from battle of Khyber the Prophet (pbuh) said that he had returned from Jihad-e-Asghar, the minor jihad to now Jihad-e-Akbar. Jihad-e-Asghar is harb or war with the enemies of Islam. Interestingly by scholarly tradition Jihad-e-Akbar is to be far more brutal than Jihad-e-Asghar, and with the continual onslaught of our inner desires coupled with the magnetism of the material world it is indeed the greater battle.

Pronouncing the name Mahjabeen has been a challenge for most non-Pakistanis. An Arab gentleman introducing me for a presentation stumbled all over it and called me "mujahideen". Evoked laughter and was affectionate. Labeling another a "jihadi" however is not funny, and actually in this day and age of The Patriot Act a potential ticket to deportation or Guantanamo Bay for the one thus labeled. Hapless Muslims use these slurs to avenge themselves and sadly their purpose is not achieved and in the larger analysis they have only contributed to the steady disenfranchisement of Muslims in America.

Whilst the world was busy in 2004 with the fallout of the Iraq war and the War on Terror, legislation was passed in the US Congress making anti-Semitism a punishable offense. After 9/11 hate crimes, at times homicidal, against Muslims and those resembling Muslims have risen exponentially. Muslims outnumber Jews in the United States but in terms of political maturity they are in virtual infancy. Whereas a backlash against Muslims for the crime of one group is understandable it should by no means be condoned. The irony is that instead of mobilizing a political voice for representation of Muslims targeted by the ignorant as well as the government, Pakistani-Americans are busy hurling insults and pursuing petty personal vendettas.

The Quran advises against judging others and specifically against mocking them: "O you who believe let not one group mock another for it may be that the latter are better than the former" (Hujarat 49:11). Additionally unity is enjoined on us by the Quran "and hold fast together to the rope of Allah and be not divided" (Imran 3:103) just as it was urged by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and became part of the motto of Pakistan. Ironically one sees historically that Muslims are typified by their difference of opinion with another Muslim, the "deyrh eent ki masjid" syndrome.

Throwing around fundo, Islamist, jihadi and other variations of the same are irresponsible at the minimum and endangering at the extreme. The day should dawn that Muslims should protest Islamophobic slurs the way that our Jewish friends have objected to anti-Semitism and legislation protecting them has been passed. Infighting typifies Muslims but its time that we graduate beyond petty domestic politics and work together toward protecting and enhancing our community. Not just in America but the world over.

Mahjabeen Islam is a physician practicing in Toledo Ohio. Her email is mahjabeenislam@hotmail.com

APPNA India Trip
 March 10th-17th, 2005
 Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Mumbai

The India trip included two well attended CME sessions and included leaders in the medical field both in the business and professional sectors. Grass roots contact also occurred between tourists and general Indian public. A video of the tour is in the process of being compiled.



Dr. Ijaz Mahmood (Secretary KEMCAANA) Shazia Mahmood (member APPNA Alliance Board of Directors) on arrival at Delhi airport.



On their first day touring Delhi eager visitors are entertained by a snake charmer. Tourists keep their distance.



Dr. Athar Ansari, presents a paper on cardiology at the Delhi CME



APPNA delegation news was well reported in Indian media both English and Hindi newspapers. Dr. Hussain Malik, President APPNA answers reporters questions.

(Picture Right) L to R Harbal Singh, Drs Rizwan Naeem, Shaukat Khan and Najma Heptulla, MP discuss upcoming conference events at the Delhi CME



(Below) APPNA's own tour talent show is now a tradition. (L - R) Qawwals Mohammad Awan, Shaukat Khan, Zahid Asgher, M. Hafeez Qazi, Amer Akmal (rear), ? and Mushtaq Sheikh render a qawwali



Above Dr. Nisar Chaudhry begins the first day's festivities in Delhi. Dr. Shaukat Khan to the right. Photo right Dr. Nadeem Kazi caught in a candid pose. Far right Jaipur festivities are joined in by tourists.





Art was everywhere. A 30 second henna application at India Gate, Delhi where tour buses may stop for 5 minutes only. At Gateway of India, Mumbai, vendors sell henna appliques which are applied in seconds and have more ornate design. (Right) Vase needle work made by Shamsuddin for his wife. (Left) Works of Late Ustad Shamsuddin at Kohinoor Gallery in Agra. His needle work was so fine that he would split silk fibre strands.



(Above) Mrs Zubeda Arain tries a necklace reputed to be once owned by Mumtaz Mehal. (Left) Shoppers mesmerized by the display of exquisite jewelry at Kohinoor, Agra. (Right) Rajastani dancer at Jaipur's dinner function. (Below) A performance of classic Indian dance styles at the Nehru Center in Mumbai. The world class performers won praise for the high calibre of art.





(L-R) Iftekhar Haq, Surriya Haq, Mohammad Shafi, Ishrat Malik, Inayat Malik, Zahra Yousof, Kausar Minhas, Tasleem Minhas, I. Raza Khan, Maryann Khan, Mrs. Parveen Nawaz, Dr. Nawaz, Tanvir Ahmad, Farah Ahmad (Sitting) Saira Shafi, Farida Shafi, Khalida Anees Awan, Saeed Awan, M. Shahid Yousof, Naeem Kohli



(Extreme Left) Dr. Adnan Zaidi and Samina Zaidi of Canton (OH) at Jaipur function.

(Center Left) (L-R) Drs. Shamshad and Zeenat Anwar of Port Huron (MI) at the Badshahi Mosque Delhi.

(Right) Dr. Mahmood and Shireen Qalbari of St. Louis, MO at the Awane-Khas, Lal Qila.

(Below Right) Village women pose with a tour member second from right.



(Left) The steep climb into Lal Qila Delhi taps into physiological reserves of the tourists who quickly seek shade and seats.

(Right) Heavy press coverage often made the tourists object of videographer's attention at Lal Qila, Delhi



(Left) As a village stop on way to Jaipur (L-R) Dr. Aziz Arain and M. Haque listen to the farmer's problems following a hail-storm in which life and livestock was lost. (Right) (L-R) Drs. Ayesha Khan, Zeenat Anwar and Sumaira engage in discussion while trying to avoid dust. (Far Right) Dr. Athar Ansari talks to tour guide and cameraman regarding village life.





Elephanta Cave Explorers (Top) Mrs Sabiha Qureshi (Middle Row L-R) Drs. Ahmed (L) Amer Akmal, Farooq Mirza (OH), Zahid Chauhan(NY), Arif Qureshi(NY), Athar Ansari(CA). (Front Row) Mrs. Ahmed, Samina Mirza, Sara Ansari and Naureen Chauhan(Photos by Dr. Farooq Mirza)



Harsh sunshine greets tourists at Gateway of India, Mumbai. (L-R) Front row Mrs. Ansari, Dr. Bashir Ahmad, Mrs. Ahmad, Dr. Afzal Arain, Dr. Shaista Usmani, Dr. Javed Akhtar, Dr. Raza Dilawari (Photo Dr. Shahid Usmani)

(Below Right L-R) Dr. Shaista and Shahid Usmani at Jaipur Palace



(Left) Snake seems difficult to charm as a number of "beans" are used by the snake charmer to make the snake sway. (Photo Dr. Shahid Usmani)



Mumbai CME conference which was webcast live was well attended.



Dr. Rizwan Naeem moderates final CME session, Mumbai (Below) Delhi CME session was not only well attended but had heavy media coverage as can be seen by the many videocams



Dr. Afzal Arain presents his findings at Banda Aceh soon after the Tsunami hit the region. (Below) L-R Drs. Asaf Qadeer, Rizwan Naeem, Hussain Malik, Sunil Dutt, Johnny Lever and Dr. Shaukat Khan at the Bollywood Night which too drew heavy attendance.



Dr. Raza Dilawari presents a paper on breast cancer. (Below) Sunil Dutt addresses the audience and lauds the spirit of "bhaichara" or friendship which APPNA was displaying.



The Editor thanks Dr. Shahid Yousuf for his contribution of pictures.



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_____	_____	_____
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CAPPNA - AGES 13-17	DOB	E-mail
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please list all family members and guests who are attending the meeting. Due to strict security, nametags will be required for entrance into the **APPNA Business Expo** and other **APPNA** events. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Guest Names

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1. Registration Categories	Before May 1st	May 1st- June 1st	After June 1st	
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___ Members Includes CME and Registration	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$350.00	\$ _____
___ Life Members - CME only	\$200.00	\$225.00	\$250.00	\$ _____
___ Physicians in Training	No Charge			

(Must attach a letter from your Program Director if not on file with the APPNA office)

2. APPNA BANQUET	# of tickets	Price/Person		
Saturday, July 2nd at 6:00 p.m. (Maximum seating 2,250)				
Dinner and Entertainment	_____ x \$75.00	\$85.00	\$100.00	\$ _____

Membership and meeting registration required to purchase banquet tickets. No exceptions.

3. ALUMNI DINNER	# of tickets	Price/Person		
Friday, July 1st at 6:00 p.m.				
Alumni Name #1: _____				
Dinner and Entertainment	_____ x \$65.00	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$ _____

Alumni Name #2: _____				
Dinner, Entertainment and Mushaira	_____ x \$65.00	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$ _____
Friday Entertainment and Mushaira	_____ x \$40.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$ _____

4. ALLIANCE				
Membership Dues	_____ x 25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$ _____
Family Night Dinner Thursday, June 30th 6:00 p.m.				
Adults	_____ x \$55.00	\$60.00	\$75.00	\$ _____
Children 13-17 Yrs.	_____ x \$40.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$ _____
Children 6-12 Yrs.	_____ x \$25.00	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$ _____

5. SOCIAL FORUM				
Membership Dues	_____ x 25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$ _____

Name (s): _____

6. SAYA (Ages 18+)

Membership Dues	_____ x 30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$_____
SAYA Dinner				
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7. CAPPNA (Ages 13-17)

Membership Dues	_____ x 15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$_____
CAPPNA Dinner				
Friday, July 1, 6:00 p.m.	_____ x 45.00	\$50.00	\$55.00	\$_____

8. LOCAL TOURS IN HOUSTON

NASA

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Thursday, June 30, 2005				
Friday, July 1, 2005				
Private Bus Tour to NASA	_____ x \$50.00	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$_____

The following are tours that are available in Houston and the surrounding areas: Metro Rail Tour to Medical Center, Downtown Shopping, Galleria Shopping, Minute Maid Park, Moody Gardens, Magic Island, and the Aquarium. Registration and information will be available on site.

9. Babysitting services for children 14 years of age and younger

Friday, July 1st				
5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.				
(Price per Child)	_____ x \$50.00	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$_____
Saturday, July 2nd				
5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.				
(Price per Child)	_____ x \$50.00	\$60.00	\$70.00	\$_____
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.				
and day during meeting				
(Price per Child)	_____ x \$75.00	\$85.00	\$95.00	\$_____

Dinner will NOT be provided for the evening session. Please make sure children are fed before being dropped off for babysitting for the evening sessions. Parents please also provide feeding bottle, diapers, wipes and change of clothes, etc.

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Scientific Affairs Report

made in treatment methods and was beneficial as physicians could compare and contrast the success of both innovative medicine as well as every day medical issues. Various study programs and trials were presented. It also provided a list of resources for all those in attendance as well as for those who tapped into the website. On the first day over 5000 Internet hits were recorded. This number is expected to grow and will continue to provide medical staff with unlimited resources and will certainly benefit physicians who live in remote areas where consults are limited.

APPNA physicians were invited to come to India to work for a period of time to have a better understanding of health issues that are encountered. Dr. Malik also extended the same invitation to the physicians from India to come to the United States. Dr. Malik indicated that he hoped that the communication between physicians would be ongoing.

Members of APPNA were encouraged to see the large delegation of physicians and healthcare workers that attended the CME sessions. Many of them became actively involved in the question and answer periods that followed presentations. Conversations often extended into the lunch periods and during this time many physicians were able to establish friendships, which will be continued through e-mails and invitations for physicians from India to visit the United States.

The presentations made were excellent and everyone was highly motivated by the interaction that took place between members of APPNA and physicians from India. With the use of the advanced technology the presentations made were outstanding.

Several sponsors had displays which presented information about various medical products and services provided by hospitals. Informational literature was obtained by Helen and is on file. Anyone interested in reading about the various products, hospitals or services can obtain a packet.

Attendance sheets were signed for each session and program / evaluation booklets were distributed to all individuals. At the conclusion of the program Declaration of Attendance forms were distributed and participants submitted them along with the program evaluation booklets to receive their CME certificates.

The maximum number of hours for the CME program was 12, however, those physicians who went to Aligarh were awarded 3 additional hours.

Physicians interested in any particular presentation were informed that it could be reviewed via the Internet website or a tape recorded presentation could be obtained from the CME Administrative Assistant,

Helen Allen.

India Tour Report

Plaque to Mr. Advani: I understand the sensitivity of some APPNA members & their objection to this plaque, However this plaque was given to him to thank him for his hospitality given to this group. This plaque in no way endorses his past actions but this plaque was given to have a new beginning. Please do not forget we were there to build bridges, people to people. Mr. Advani is the leader of a major political party, representing people. I hope and pray that our gesture was able to change his perception of Pakistani Muslims. Let us not politicize this issue.

Adoption of village in Amritsar. I have been to all APPNA international trips except for Spain. I can testify to this fact that in each trip we have done good things for the country we visited eg. Donation to a mosque in China, donations to Mosque in Jerusalem, contribution to local medical school etc. In past the members traveling with the group and the organizers of the trip make all these decisions. The situation in India is different, our CME program, two dinners and three lunches were sponsored by the generosity of people from India. We wanted to reciprocate and idea of starting a health care program in a village and donating to a school were some of the ideas discussed by the committee. Nothing has been finalized yet as our President has said. No long-term project will be started in India without proper discussion and approval of APPNA executive committee.

Let me end by saying once again. India trip by APPNA was a mission to bring good will to People of India from Pakistani Americans who feel that 50 years of war & animosity has to end. People of the subcontinent want peace and prosperity in the region. Our effort will go a long way in attaining that future. Thank you for kind attention and I am planning to present a detail report at the executive counsel meeting in Washington DC. If you have any questions please do come to DC and ask questions.

M.H.A. Qazi M.D.

Candidate for APPNA President Elect 2006

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AGENDA

- ◆ Focus on the needs of Pakistani Physicians and their families in America.
- ◆ "APPNA DOCS" - Free Health Check program for the needy.
- ◆ "APPNA Placement Bureau" for the young Pakistani Physicians.
- ◆ "APPNA Health Talk" - prerecorded DVDs for broadcast in Pakistan and U.S.
- ◆ "APPNA Medical School in America"-a joint Feasibility Study with IMA.
- ◆ "APPNA WARDS" in teaching hospitals in Pakistan.
- ◆ "APPNA Guest Housing" for PMGs in America.
- ◆ "APPNA Medical Student" exchange program.
- ◆ Build bridges between other minority **Professional Medical Organizations**.
- ◆ Join hands with national organizations to fight against discrimination and promote "Civil Rights Plus" agenda in America.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ◆ President Elect APPNA -Florida - 2005-2006.
- ◆ Co-chairman APPNA Village Committee.
- ◆ Co-chairman Host Committee APPNA summer meeting 2003, Orlando, Florida.
- ◆ Co-chairman Host Committee APPNA fall meeting - 1994.
- ◆ Co-chairman Host Committee APPNA spring meeting - 2002.
- ◆ Co-chairman APPNA organizing Committee for trip to India - 2004-2005.
- ◆ Vice president APDSA (Association of physicians and Dentists from Southeast Asia) 1992.
- ◆ Chairman MBPA (Muslim Business and professional Association) - 1998-1999
- ◆ Member Board of Directors SOP (Seeds of Peace) - 2003-2004.
- ◆ President of American Muslim Alliance-Orlando - 1995-2004
- ◆ Organized Town Hall Meetings "Meet the Candidates" - 1996-2004
- ◆ Organized Muslim Culture Fests in Orlando - 1996-2000
- ◆ Chairman of the Fundraising Committee for Senators and other politicians in Florida.
- ◆ Chairman of the Media Committee- AMA-Orlando appeared in several radio, T.V. and newspaper interviews
- ◆ Chairman of American Muslim Alliance- Florida 1998-2004
- ◆ National Coordinator of American Muslim Alliance - 2001-current
- ◆ Secretary Tutorial Club at KEMC - 1964-1966
- ◆ Contributor to Local Islamic Centers and Islamic Schools.

PUBLIC SPEAKING EXPERIENCE

- ◆ AMA - Local and National Conventions
- ◆ AMT - (American Muslim Task Force) Town Hall meetings.
- ◆ CAIR - Regional conventions.
- ◆ AMA - Press conferences.
- ◆ APPNA - MC annual summer entertainment 2003 in Orlando.
- ◆ TEMA - (Tampa Bay Muslim Alliance)- Politics in the Park.
- ◆ APPNA - CME Speaker
- ◆ AMS - (American Muslim Society) - Florida
- ◆ ICBR - (Islamic center of Boca Raton)

MEMBERSHIPS

- ◆ Member of APPNA since its conception
- ◆ American Muslim Alliance
- ◆ American Muslim Council
- ◆ Executive Committee Florida Hospital, Kissimmee - 1995-2004
- ◆ Florida medical Association
- ◆ Radiological Society of North America
- ◆ CAIR
- ◆ Arab American Community Center
- ◆ Member ICCFL (International Council of Central Florida)

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How Do You Choose an APPNA Secretary?

Candidate for Secretary

Zahid Asgher, MD



Zahid Asgher, MD

Experience and Contribution

Leaders are made from experience. With patience, understanding, and hard work we add value to roles small and large.

- Terms as Secretary and President of APPNA Upstate NY-PA
- Terms as Secretary, Treasurer, and President of the Islamic Association of the Finger Lakes (IAFL)
- Co-Chair APPNA Ethnics & Grievance Committee
- Coordinator APPNA Alliance Entertainment Program
- Active and Regular Participant in Council and General Body Meetings

Shared Values

Our values will define what APPNA becomes in the future. I believe in taking care of my family, patients and community. Integrity is important, and so is never, ever losing sight of our heritage. My work with the professional, South Asian, and general community is a reflection of my values.

- Charter Member, Doctors Hospital and Medical Centre, Lahore
- Cofounder and General Secretary of Regional Community Alliance (RCA), Finger Lakes Chapter; a political and social awareness organization
- Campaign and Fund Raising Co-Coordinator for US Congressional Candidate 2004
- Visiting Consultant with Department of Pathology at Lahore Medical and Dental College
- Participant in "Walking Together," an interfaith project involving Christians, Jews, and Muslims
- Speaker to Community Organizations; including Rotary Club, Educational Institutions, and Businesses on medical and Islamic topics
- Coordinator for Cultural Outreach Programs in the Local Pakistani and Indian Community
- Organizer of Release Movement of Innocent Female Inmates in Pakistani Prisons
- Patron of Scholarship Fund for Needy Medical Undergraduate Students and Assisted Placement of Fresh Graduates in US Residencies

Vision

My vision is for APPNA to serve the needs and be the voice of Pakistani-American Physicians and the greater Pakistani-American community. In my role as Secretary, I will work closely with the President and Treasurer to see that APPNA achieves its greatest potential.

Email: zasgher@stny.rr.com

Ph: 607.937.7503

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Shahid F. Usmani, MD., FAAP. for Treasurer APPNA 2006



Dear APPNA friends:

Assalam Alaikum: I wish to represent you as treasurer of APPNA 2006, and request your vote and more importantly your support in this endeavor. With your membership and active participation our organization has evolved as the premier and most effective Pakistani organization representing Pakistanis, outside the land of our descent. At this stage more than ever we need dedicated and trained professionals who can lead us to the next level. I submit to you that I am uniquely qualified for the task of treasurer, as in addition to being an MD; I am also an MBA, and a CPA. I can, and will apply all my expertise, efforts and energy in leading APPNA to a sound financial footing. I can work with APPNA accountants more effectively in streamlining accounting and budgeting practices if given the opportunity to serve you. A brief summary of my qualifications and experience is listed:

Personal:

- ◆ Captain Pakistan Army Corps of Signals. BSc. Telecommunication Engineering. Resigned 1975.
- ◆ Master of Business Administration. Pace University, Graduate School of Business, New York 1979
- ◆ Certified Public Accountant, State of New York 1979
- ◆ Doctor of Medicine. Universidad Tecnologica de Santiago, Dominican Republic. 1986
(I am also fluent in Spanish)
- ◆ Diplomat of American Board of Pediatrics
- ◆ Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics
- ◆ Currently in Private Practice heading a seven member Pediatric group.

Administrative:

- ◆ Chief of Staff: Health Central Hospital, a 240 bed hospital in Orlando with 488 physicians on staff representing all specialties. 2004 and 2005 (Two years)
- ◆ Chief of Medicine: Health Central Hospital 2002 and 2003 (Two years)
- ◆ Chief of Pediatrics: Health Central Hospital and also South Lake Hospital (120 Bed) Current.
- ◆ Board Member American Muslim Alliance Orlando
- ◆ Member Organizing Committee Seeds of Peace Florida Chapter.

Service to APPNA:

- ◆ Chairman – Local Host Committee, 26th Annual Summer Meeting Orlando, Florida. This meeting is remembered as one of the most successful summer meetings.
- ◆ President – APPNA Florida Chapter 2003 and 2004. I am also one of the founding members of Florida Chapter.
- ◆ Member Hotel Selection Committee 2003 and 2004
- ◆ Member Membership Committee 2005.
- ◆ APPNA life member.
- ◆ Florida Chapter Life Member.

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Syed A. Samad, MD, FACP, FACG For Treasurer APPNA 2006

Dear APPNA Member:

Assalamo-Alaikum. APPNA is well on its way to being a progressive and effective organization. Yet, challenges remain. We need hardworking, dedicated and judicious leadership at the helm of APPNA to transform these challenges into opportunities. We ought to continue our advocacy and consensus building endeavors. We must also augment the financial stability and the organizational strength of APPNA.

I pledge my continued, sincere and untiring efforts towards achieving that goal. I request your vote and support for Treasurer APPNA 2006.

Goals:

- Improve fiscal management and enhance financial strength.
- Streamline the preparation of budget.
- Introduce systems for transparency and accountability.
- Ensure implementation of standard operating procedures.
- Develop a long term plan to financially strengthen APPNA.
- Enhance central office systems for better communication between treasurer, finance committee, accountant and auditors.

Personal

- Graduate of Dow Medical College, 1983.
- Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.
- Diplomat American Board of Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology.
- Fellow of the American College of Physicians.
- Fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology.

Services to APPNA

- Chairman, Membership Committee 2005.
Targeting record increase in membership in collaboration with Alumuni and Regional Chapters.
Working to have an informative, member friendly and interactive website.
Preparing membership benefit brochure outlining recent achievements, ongoing projects and future goals.
- President-Elect, Mid-South Chapter, 2005.
Organized Mid-South chapter meetings with CME in 2002 and 2004.
- Member, Constitution and Bylaws Committee, 2005.
- Chairman, Resource Development Committee 2004.
Helped to raise well over \$500,000 for various projects including APPNA SEHAT.
- Member, Research, Education and Scientific Affairs Committee, 2004.
- Organized alumni sponsored symposia during APPNA summer meeting on "Nuclear Proliferation in SE Asia", Women prisoners in Pakistan - 2003 and Hudood Ordinance in 2004.
- Actively working with key government agencies and ECFMG promoting young physicians visa and licensing issues.
- Active participation in all six APPNA meetings in 2004.
- Life member of APPNA.



Services to Dow Medical College Alumni Association

- President, Dow Medical College Alumni 2005.
- President-elect 2003-2004.
- Mid-South Councilor 2002.
- As President, currently revising constitution and bylaws, structuring Dow endowment fund, enhancing membership and financially strengthening DOGANA. Propose to create an adult Oncology ward at DUHS. Attempting to streamline credential verification service. Arranging Second Dow retreat and regional meetings. Raising funds for various civil hospital projects in Karachi, Pakistan.
- As President-elect, supported creation of endowment fund, visiting faculty and mentorship program, First Dow retreat, and formation of World Association of Dow Alumni.

Services to Pakistani and Muslim American Community

- Past President, Muslim Association of Arkansas.
- Past President, Islamic Center of Pine Bluff.
- Actively involved in advocacy on behalf of Pakistan and Muslim causes.
- Member of a delegation of Muslim leaders in Arkansas to meet the Governor and Senators in the immediate aftermath of September 11, 2001.
- Member of Arkansas delegation "Day on the Hill" meeting both Arkansas Senators and Congressmen in Washington DC, 2004.
- Member of Islamic Society of North America.
- Member of Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR).
- Member of Human Development Foundation.
- Member of PAK-PAC.
- Member of American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

Services to Local Community

- "National Leadership Award" by National Congressional Committee for leadership in area of health care reform.
- Honorary Co-Chairman Arkansas Physicians Advisory Board.
- Recognized as "One of the top Gastroenterologists in Arkansas", by Consumers Research Council of America.
- "National Scientific Speaker" for Wyeth, Astra-Zeneca and Tap Pharmaceuticals.
- "Teacher of the Year" University of Arkansas, family medicine residency program.

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Mahmood Alam, MD, FACP, FACC
Diplomate American Board of Interventional Cardiology

Candidate for APPNA Secretary - 2006



Dear Members:

Assalamu-Alaikum: Thank you for the trust in electing me as APPNA Treasurer 2005. I value it dearly. I count on your continued support for my candidacy for **Secretary APPNA 2006** as I work diligently to manage APPNA finances to the best of my ability.

To make APPNA a fiscally stable organization by building its foundations on **endowment** that caters for our present & future needs.

To organize APPNA at grass root level by **strengthening the local Chapters** at major Metropolises

To lend support and **provide guidance to Young Physicians** by establishing an effective resource center at APPNA Headquarters

To run APPNA as an effective organization **by consensus building & Unity.**

Pakistani-American community development by building bridges with other fraternal organizations.

Brief review of my Services to APPNA & the Community

Treasurer APPNA	2005	Participated & helped organizing
Life Member APPNA	1996	Days on the Hill,
Co-founder, NY Chapter	1997	September 2003, June, 2004
Founding Member AIMCAANA.....	1998	Co-Chairperson
Past President, NY Chapter.....	2000	Membership Committee
Organized & Directed First		2003-05
Young Doctors Seminar, NY.....	2000	Young Physicians Taskforce
Member Executive Council	2000-02	2003-05
Councilor Region II.....	2001	Directed, Tri-State
Project Evaluation Committee	2001	Young Doctors' Seminar
President AIMC Alumni	2002	2003
Committee for Medical Clinics.....	2002	Sponsor APPNA-SEHAT.....
Member host committee		2003-04
Annual Summer Meeting	2002	Chairperson, Spring Meeting.....
Founded New Jersey Chapter.....	2003	2004
Pleaded cases of visa rejections by making		Life Member IMANA
three visits to US Embassy in Pakistan,	2003-4	1997
		Active Member, CAIR since.....
		1999
		Trustee, HDFNA, since.....
		2000
		Founding Member HDFNA.....
		2004
		Founding Member APCNA
		2004
		Secretary, SIH
		2000-04
		Secretary,
		Foundation of the Faithful (FOF)
		2000-05

Dear Friends. Presently, I am actively involved in **Social welfare, Membership, Young Physicians, Finance, and APPNA-Sehat committees** along with my responsibility as a Treasurer. This is my commitment. With this commitment, I present myself for **APPNA Secretary 2006 and ask for your vote.** Lets' make APPNA a more representative, vibrant, and effective organization of Pakistani-Americans that can deliver and stand up to present day challenges. Together we can make a difference. ALAMMD@AOL.COM

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