



THE ALIG

AMU Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 11

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In This Issue

[AMU News](#)

[AMUAs News & Events](#)

[Alum News](#)

[AEEF News](#)

[Feature Article](#)

[Opinion](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Obituary](#)

[Mail Box](#)

Sir Syed Speaks to you

"When a nation becomes devoid of arts and learning, it invites poverty. And when poverty comes it brings in its wake thousands of crimes."

- Sir Syed

[AEEF](#)

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[AEEF](#)

Greetings!

We hope everyone will join us in congratulating Najam Ansari for giving a new look to AMU Directory (www.amudirectory.com) and having achieved over 14000 registrations from 89 countries. To the best of our knowledge no such online directory has been made for any institution on volunteer basis. The credit goes to Najam for his dedication and single handed efforts. The success of this praiseworthy undertaking would depend on the inclusion of maximum number of alumni and keeping the information up-to-date. It appears that at present majority of us, after getting ourselves registered, do not visit that site to update the information. We would request all alumni to take a few minutes of their time and register themselves. Those of us who are already registered should revisit the newly designed site and update our information.

The closest thing to amudirectory.com that we have is the four volume directory (1920-1975) compiled by Prof. K.A. Nizami and published by Sir Syed University, Karachi, few years ago. This is undoubtedly a worthwhile effort by another dedicated Aligarian. Credit also goes to Mr. Z.A. Nizami for making the publication of this directory possible.

Such directories are normally maintained by all successful institutions to keep track of the progress of their alumni, and commonly used for keeping the alumni informed, fund-raising campaigns, and networking among alumni. AMU is; however, do not have any such directory. We have noticed that various departments at AMU are trying to collect the information about their alumni for the upcoming World Alumni Summit at AMU in October this year. We hope all the information collected will be stored in a central depository at AMU for future use.

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Editorial Team

AMU NEWS

58th ANNUAL CONVOCATION AT AMU ON JUNE 18, 2008

Aligarh, June 18: "If the energy of 540 million youth gets channelized properly then India will become the best destination for the most talented scholars, scientist and investors where none feels alienated", said Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India while delivering Annual Convocation Address at Aligarh Muslim University today. Delineating distinctive profile of India by 2020, Dr. Kalam stressed the need for developing infrastructure in the rural areas through provisions of urban amenities in rural areas. It can be achieved three connectivities physical, electronic and knowledge leading to economic connectivity. According to him the number of provision of urban amenities in rural areas is estimated to be 7000 and educational institutions can participate in evading road map for development of these facilities in their region. Dr. Kalam also pointed out that the vision of 2020 can be achieved through quality resource backed with value system derived from our civilizational heritage.

Harping on youth power, Dr. Kalam described youth as the most powerful resource as the country, above the count and under the cast, and if it is properly directed and controlled, could bring about transformational changes in humanity for its progress. He asked the youth of AMU to spread literacy at least to live in his life.

Former President of India Dr. Abdul Kalam also administered a ten-point oath to the students of the Aligarh Muslim University.

The Aligarh Muslim University conferred honorary D.Sc. degree to Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam and Wipro Chairman, Mr. Azim Premji.

Mr. Premji in his acceptance speech urged the students to learn to lose and also to enjoy wining. Evening in defeat, one must not lose the lesson. For him excellence is not an act but a habit one must also remember problem also carries solution.

Presenting Annual Report, Professor P K Abdul Azis informed that 2008 is being celebrated as a year for the academic rejuvenation of the University and the faculty members are submitting projects that would bring at least 200 crores by way of external fundings. This year a number of new courses including MD in Psychiatry MDS, M Tech, and

Post-graduate diploma in Nanotechnology was introduced. The University has decided to launch a media center comprising community radio and TV. The Department of Mass Communication has started three camera studio recently. Internet services are being provided on optical fiber bone and its bandwidth is being upgraded to 8 mbps.

Highlighting the academic achievements of the last year, professor P K Abdul Azis that 190 Ph.D. degrees were awarded and 1406 Post graduate and 296 graduate students got their degrees. The University also intends to organize a World Alumni Meet in October to raise funds for the modernization of the campus.

AMU Chancellor, former Chief Justice of India, A M Ahmadi presided over the function. On the occasion 55 gold and 135 silver medal were awarded, according to the Controller, professor Mohd. Irfan more than 4500 degrees were awarded. Professor V K Abdul Jaleel, AMU Registrar extended the vote of thanks.

(Dr. Rahat Abrar)
Public Relations Officer

Related Stories:

[58th Convocation at AMU was most high profile in recent years](#)

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[Kalam, Premji enlighten academia at AMU convocation](#)

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[A.P.J. Abdul Kalam interacts with schools' student in AMU](#)

[A memorable encounter in Aligarh](#)

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR PROF. P.K. ABDUL AZIS AT 58TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION

It is my proud privilege to extend a very warm welcome to every one of you, on the occasion of the 58th Annual Convocation of the Aligarh Muslim University. Each convocation of the university is a joyous and memorable occasion, but this year, it is very special. Very special, because we have today in our midst two icons of this great country, who rose from humble beginning and attained almost unassailable heights in their respective areas. One is scientist, par excellence, the "Missile Man of India" who succeeded not only in his endeavors to "Ignite Indian minds", to unleash the power of the country, but also inspired the people of India to be creative, courageous and claim their rightful place in a globalized environment. The other is a personality, revered by all software professionals and a role model to the aspiring youth of the country, Shri Azim Premji, who never ceased to inspire young entrepreneurs and whose stewardship never failed to deliver its best, be it as a CEO of a modest cooking oil company or as a software giant. Ladies and gentlemen, ordinarily universities honour their graduates by awarding them degrees, but, by conferring degrees on icons like Dr. Abdul Kalam and Shri Azim Premji, Aligarh Muslim University is adding laurels to its own glorious past.

[Click to Read Full Report](#)

AMUAA's NEWS & EVENTS

VISIT OF PROF. M. SALEEMUDDIN TO BOSTON - AAANE

Mrs. Zakia & Prof. M. Saleemuddin Sahib, Coordinator Interdisciplinary Biotechnology Unit, AMU visited the Boston area on 26th June 2008. AAANE arranged for a "get-together". Many alumni came to meet him & discuss the current state of affairs at AMU. He has been very instrumental

in bringing the SSELISA to fruition. Prof Saleemuddin has been the PVC and an Acting VC of AMU. Everyone enjoyed the evening. Prof. Saleemuddin for the benefit of all gave an insight into the upcoming World Alumni Summit, at AMU. He also gave a brief on life at AMU & the progress being made by AMU under the present VC, Prof. P. K. Abdul Azis. He lauded the efforts of the AMU alumni all over the world and hoped that they will continue to act as ambassadors and play a proactive & constructive role in its development as an institute of higher learning & its positive perception in industry and business.

ALUM NEWS

WASFIA JALALI RECEIVED THREE GOLD MEDALS

Ms. Wasfia Jalali, who was last year's topper in the department of Journalism and Mass Communication, AMU, Aligarh received three gold medals on the occasion of 58th convocation on June 18th.

ASIM ZAHEER FAROOQI SELECTED FOR IIM

Mr. Asim Zaheer Farooqi has been selected at the Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode (2008-2010) PGP Program this year. He did his B. Tech. (Electronics) from Aligarh Muslim University in 2006.

Congratulations to Asim!

AEEF NEWS

The Aligarh Education Endowment Fund (AEEF) has been established for the enhancement and modernization of education, and improvement of educational opportunities for the underprivileged sections of the Indian society. This should result, in the long run, in economically uplifting these groups and helping them to become productive members of the Indian society.

Over the last decade, India has undergone tremendous economic growth, fueled by the Information Technology revolution supported by its large pool of college graduates. Unfortunately, a large section of the Indian society has been left behind primarily because of lack of educational opportunities, especially in Science and Technology. The digital divide is continuing to widen for this section of the society. A glaring example of a component of this underprivileged section of the society is the Muslim community. The fact that Muslims are educationally the most backward community in India was acknowledged for the first time by the government in 1986, vide Program of Action - New Education Policy and again in 2006 through Sachar Committee (appointed by the Prime Minister of India) report. Unless major efforts are undertaken to boost the educational standards, the economic backwardness of this underprivileged group would become a drag on the economic growth of the country. Moreover, for its own prosperity as well as to play its positive role fully in this globalizing economy India needs to tap every ounce of its manpower talent.

The AEEF is being organized as a non-profit, secular, non-partisan, and non-political organization, under Section 501(c) (3) of IRS, to serve the educational needs of the underprivileged communities in India. The AEEF will fund a broad variety of educational projects, ranging from high school to post-graduate levels, including areas such as Information Technology, Biotechnology, Medicine, Management and Business Administration, Mass Communication, Basic Sciences, Social Sciences, and Law with emphasis on areas, which will accelerate the flow of the young generation into the economic mainstream.

Individuals, corporations, foundations, and organizations are requested to donate generously to this humanitarian, educational cause.

Visit us at : [AEEF](#) or call (650) 969-AEEF

Tax Exempt Status

Aligarh Education Endowment Fund (AEEF) was granted a tax-exempt status, 501(c) (3) designation, by the United States IRS in 2005, Tax ID # 20-1000034. Donations to AEEF are tax deductible in USA as allowed under the law.

Donations

Your support of AEEF is crucial to its efforts to serve the educational needs of the underprivileged communities in India. Make a pledge to donate today. Together we can make a difference.

How to Give?

There Are Many Ways You Can Help.

There are many quick and easy ways to make a gift to AEEF.

AEEF accepts gifts by checks, credit cards, stocks, and electronic fund transfers.

Many of these gifts offer tax advantages to the donor.

Checks

Please make your check payable to "AEEF" and mail to:

**ALIGARH
EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND (AEEF)
849 Independence Avenue, Suite A
Mountain View, CA 94043, USA
Credit Cards**

Giving online using your credit card is fast, easy and secure. You can donate online using your credit card (one time or on ongoing basis) by clicking on the link below.

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Click on link to Donate Online

Electronic Fund Transfers (EFTs)

EFT's offer a fast, convenient way to contribute to AEEF on an ongoing basis. With your permission, AEEF will automatically withdraw an amount you specify from your checking account around the 1st of each month.

Your monthly bank statement will provide you with a record of each transaction and, for tax purposes; you will also receive a receipt from the AEEF each January showing your entire year's contribution.

You may cancel or change your EFT authorization at any time simply by contacting us.

To begin an EFT, please contact us:

Email: AEEFund@yahoo.com

Tel: (650) 960-AEEF

Gifts of Stocks

These gifts can be donated via registered mail or electronic transfer to AEEF. A letter of intent stating the purpose of your gift, the number of shares and the name of the stock are required.

Please contact us to receive a copy of letter of intent that you can fill and fax or mail to AEEF office.

Matching Gifts

Many employers in USA sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. To find out if your company has a matching gift policy, please check with the HR department.

If your company is eligible, request a matching gift form from your employer, and send it completed and signed with your gift. We will do the rest. The impact of your gift to our school may be doubled or possibly tripled! Some companies match gifts made by retirees and/or spouses.

Thanks for your support.

SEE ALSO:

Giving Back: Aligarh Endowment (Silconeer)

Aligs meet in US, launch Aligarh Education Endowment Fund

What if Aligarh Education Endowment Fund (AEEF) earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

www.GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

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Hundreds of great stores including Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting AEEF.

Just go to www.GoodSearch.com and be sure to enter [Aligarh Education Endowment Fund] as the charity you want to support. The more people who use this site, the more money will go to support educational projects. So please spread the word to your friends and family. Please download the Good Search Toolbar on your computer and encourage the family members use it is they would use any other search engine.

So start raising money for Aligarh Education Endowment Fund right now just by searching the Internet or shopping online with GoodSearch - powered by Yahoo! To search Click on the link below.

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Do not underestimate the power of numbers. Please click on the link above to see the revenues generated so far.

Here's an example of how much AEEF can earn:
5,000 People doing 4 searches/day for one year can raise \$73,000*. We already have over 5000 people who are receiving this Newsletter. The more people use GoodSearch, the more money will be directed towards AEEF. The sky is the limit!

***Revenues generated through online shopping are additional.**

FEATURE ARTICLE

CONVOCATION ADDRESS BY DR. APK ABDUL KALAM, FORMER PRESIDENT OF INDIA

I am indeed delighted to participate in the 58th Annual Convocation of Aligarh Muslim University. I consider it as a great honor to me for being awarded the Honorary D.Sc. Degree by the prestigious Aligarh Muslim University, whose core values are innovation, creativity and collaborative team work. I take this opportunity to congratulate the University students for their excellent academic performance. I greet the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Members of AMU Court, Academic Council, Executive Council, Professors, teachers and staff for shaping the young minds and preparing them to contribute to the nation in multiple fields. Dear graduates, when you

complete your education in this university, the learning and in turn the empowerment will certainly assist you to meet the challenges in life. My best wishes to all of you.

Establishment of Aligarh Muslim University by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was part of India's intellectual and social renaissance in the 20th century. Many distinguished personalities like Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, Dr. Zakir Hussain were some of the illustrious alumni of this University. I pay my tribute to Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and his successors for nurturing AMU against many challenges and odds and transforming it as an institution of excellence for higher education. When I am in the University environment, I would like to talk on the topic "Power of the Youth".

[Click Here to Read Full Speech](#)

OPINION

IN LOVING MEMORY: QURATULAIN HYDER

Rabab Naqvi

MUCH has been written about Quratulain Hyder as a literary icon. Indeed, there are few who can reach her level of distinction in any line of endeavour. At every Urdu literary function held around the world, critics and admirers alike have paid homage to her. But I want to remember Anie Baji as a person I knew.

I was in Montreal when my cousin, Muzaffar, telephoned to give me the sad news of her demise. Millions of images flashed through my mind. I did not think immediately of her writing, but of her love, warmth and spontaneity. Unpretentious, most unlike some other writers and artists I have known, she never promoted herself or her work. If you congratulated her on the many awards she had received, she would dismiss your comments saying, 'Ama choro, yeh to miltay he rehtay hain.' She was happy to receive them, but never let it become her point of reference.

She did not care for publicity. She did not like giving interviews. She was not convinced even when I promised to show her the write-up before sending it for publication. I could

not help but think of another eminent personality who was so assertive that he came just short of dictating his whole interview. Or, still another writer who was circling around journalists at a conference in order to get interviewed. Anie Baji was delightfully different. She was secure in her identity and in no need for any external reinforcement. She did not write for recognition or out of any sense of achievement. Her accomplishments are the expression of her innate ability. Both her parents were writers and writing was in her genes. She was genuinely interested in people. She always had lots of visitors and she loved entertaining them. 'Anie Baji don't bother about lunch, it is too much work.'

'Mein bhi tumhare liyeh pulao naheen paka rahi hoon', she would promptly reply. Delhites remember her lively parties, particularly a fancy dress party in which she dressed up as an old English woman.

Anie Baji liked not only writing, but also talking. She kept everyone amused narrating stories about people and places. She is reputed to have said, 'I worship intelligence.' Yet, in family gatherings she never indulged in high brow conversation. It was always remembering people, places, and incidents that younger and older generations could relate to. She had a marvellous style and was a great narrator, recounting small insignificant details with a humorous twist.

She had a photographic memory as readers of Kar-i-Jahan Daraz Hai can testify. In it she writes about so many happenings and incidents describing each one of them in vivid detail. Much to my embarrassment, whenever I met her, she would invariably tell me about a rather embarrassing situation from my childhood. The last time I met her it was in February 2007, when I took my cousin, a journalist from Pakistan, to her place. Her health and her memory were failing. Yet her interest in people had not diminished. She asked us to stay for lunch. And sure enough, she looked at me and started off with what happened in Lucknow the year her father passed away.

As a kid I was fascinated with her short hair (a 'no, no' in those days), long painted nails and graceful appearance. She stood out in any gathering. As I grew older, I marvelled at her beautiful mind, the depth of her knowledge and the fluency of her language. The storage capacity of her photographic memory was greater than that of any compact disc. She could

recall both historical events and family tidbits in great graphic details.

Friendly, gregarious, she was a great conversationalist. In her presence one was never bored. She remembered with some sadness the attitudes of the newly rich; their vulgar display of wealth, the passing away of old world culture and all the other casualties of change. Once when someone she had known as a child started bragging about his newly acquired riches, she very innocently asked him, 'All this is great, but have you visited your village.' On another occasion, after a visit to another nouveau rich who had gold faucets in his marbled bathroom, she remarked, 'I like my lota balti.' Indeed, in our college days that was the only way to have a hot water bath. Her house in Delhi was equipped with a geyser. This was her way of reminding us not to forget our past.

Her hospitality, spontaneity, lively and intelligent conversation is hard to forget, but most of all I will remember Anie Baji for her respect for traditional values that are fast disappearing. Most people probably think of her as a modern person writing about high society. But for all her modernity, sophistication, high society exposure, deep down in her heart she held on to the old world culture which valued certain attitudes and behavioural norms.

When she was invited by the UP government, arrangements were made for her stay at the only high quality hotel in Lucknow at the time, and a chauffeur-driven car with an attendant was at her disposal. Instead of going to the hotel, she came to her cousin's apartment and declared, '*Kia mera dimagh kharab ho gaya hay keh mein azeezon keh hote huweh hotel jatee.*' The apartment offered her no comfort of a five star hotel. It was so small that she had to share the room with her hostess.

She did not need a desk or a chair to write. She would pull out a pad and start writing sitting up in bed. In a very short time, she could compose a significant amount. Writing came to her naturally. It was effortless and that shows in the fluency of her prose.

When the car came to pick her up, she refused to let the guide, a decent gentleman, sit in the back seat with her. He

had to sit in the front seat with the driver.

When her cousin's husband passed away, she wrote to her, 'Each word of condolence and consolation will only deepen your grief and pain your father told me when Abbajan died 'Jab Ahmed-i-mursil na rahay to kon rahay ga' and remember Zahra I am always there if you need me.'
I have heard so many people wonder why she never married. I don't know, but when my aunt asked her, 'Anie tum nay shadi kyun nahi ki?' she had spontaneously replied:

'Yeh to buzurgon keh karneh ki cheez hoti hay.'

Source: Adopted from Dawn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aligarh Alumni Association Events in USA/Canada

*

Host: AMU Alumni Association of Northern California

What: Summer Picnic

When: Saturday, July 12, 2008 at 12-5.00 PM

Where: Lake Elizebth Park, Fremont, CA

Phone: (650) 212-ALIG

[Email](#)

*

Host: AMU Alumni Association of Toronto, Canada

What: Summer Picnic

When: Saturday, August 2, 2008

Where: Milne Park, Markham

Phone:

[EMail](#)

**VII Annual Convention of the Federation of Aligarh
Alumni Associations**

**Prof. P.K. Abdul Azis (Vice Chancellor of AMU)
- Chief Guest**

August 8-10, 2008

Cleveland, Ohio, USA

[Click here for more details](#)

Sir Syed Day 2008 - Mushaira Schedule for USA

October 10 - November 28

**Please click on Federation's website below for
Mushaira details in your city.**

[Mushaira Schedule 2008](#)

World Summit of AMU Alumni at Aligarh

October 18 & 19, 2008

**Please save the Date and mark your calendar.
More details will follow.**

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MULTIMEDIA, SIGNAL
PROCESSING, AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (IMPACT-
2009)**

14-16 March 2009, AMU, ALIGARH

Further details can be obtained by visiting the conference
[Website](#)

M. Salim Beg, Ph.D.
Convener, IMPACT-2009
[EMail](#)

OBITUARY

Dr. S.M. Ijteba Nadvi

Dr. Ijteba Nadvi died in Delhi on June 20. Maulana S.M. Ijteba Nadvi completed his Ph.D. in Arabic from AMU.

He served as Head of the department of Arabic, Kashmir University.

Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon.

Mr. Nasrullah Khan

AMU Alumni Association, President of Malaysia Haji Nasrullah Khan passed away on Monday the 16th of June. He was hospitalized almost three weeks ago. He was in Aligarh from 1947-1951.

Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon.

Mr. Nadeem Akhtar

Mr. Nadeem Akhtar, MCA 1994 Batch, died due to Heart Attack in Banglore pray for the departed soul and entire family.

Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon.

MAIL BOX

June 18, 2008

40th Anniversary of Sultan Jahan Coaching Center

Started on 18th June 1968.

Dear Friends: SALAMOALAIKUM

It is one of the happiest occasions in my life when I send this message of congratulations to Prof. Abdul Rahim Qidwai, the President of MSUS and the president of Sultan Jahan Coaching Center and other office bearers and employees of the Center on the 40th anniversary of the Center. The Coaching Center held its 1st day of Coaching on June 18th 1968.

I would be failing in my moral duty if I don't start with paying tributes to the souls of 2 great benefactors of the Center.

Prof. Rahman Ali Khan marhoom who motivated and convinced the then Secretary of All India Muslim Educational Conference to allow the Medical Coaching classes in the Sultan Jahan building.

Alhaj Obaidurehman Khan Sherwani Saheb Marhoom, the Secretary of Conference (former Acting VC and Treasurer of AMU) who very kindly granted permission and opened the Hall of the Sultan Jahan Manzil to conduct Coaching classes for Medical competitive Examination.

The magnificent Hall of the Sultan Jahan Manzil was infested with Ababeels and bats and surrounded with cobwebs; its upper balcony was store of stationary of Anjuman Taraqqi Urdu Board, covered with an inch of dust, bird's excreta and debris.

The Hall was probably not used for any activity after 1947. Alhaj Obaidurrehman Khan saheb had the credit of at least keeping the office alive along with a frail, very talkative, sincere and active Office Secretary Ibne Ali sahib marhoom.

All India Muslim Educational Society's (All India Mohammedan Educational Society formed by Syed Ahmad Khan in 1886), building was constructed by Begum Sultan Jahan the ruler of Bhopal State in 1914. Prof. SAH Haqqi the then treasurer of AIMES was also helpful in allotment of Hall and Ibne Ali marhoom saheb the office secretary for helping (not obstructing) in the affairs.

The Hall was practically cleaned of cobwebs with brushes on bamboos and floor swept with brooms by Prof. Rahman Ali Khan marhoom, Saedurrehman Zaini (alias Molana Zaini, now at Sultan Qaboos University Oman), Prof. Irfan Ahmad Khan (now in Chicago) Musheer Siddiqi (a former leading Air-

conditioning Company co-owner in Abu Dhabi) Yusuf Ali Khan (now a Ghziabad Industrialist), Mazhar Ali, Feeroz Talat, Arif, a tall friend from Hyderabad, Javed Iraqi of Kanpur, Dr. Badrudduja Khan, Retd CMO Central Jail, London), late Dr. Basir Khan (Former member of Her Majesty's Medical Services London), Prof. Mohammad Farooq (Retd HOD and Prof. Orthopedics All India Institute of Medical sciences, New Delhi), late Prof. Rafatullah Khan, former HOD Medicine JNMC), Arif Mohammad Khan the former Union Minister, then a junior student, Prof. M. Anwer (retd Prof. from Shibli College Azamgarh and a popular Ajjju Bhai, for me only Ajjju (Dr. Aziz Ahmad now a leading Congress Politician and Physician at Gorakhpur), late Dr. Shafeeq Ahmad Rao of Saharanpur, Prof. Saleem Qidwai, Delhi University and few more, I may be excused for those names which I cant recollect (If some one else has better memory than me, may add the names, they will be included in the later postings).

1. The Class was attended by 41 students held at 5PM sharp, the 1st lecture was taken by Prof. Mahdi Hasan the greatest Anatomy teacher, then reader in Anatomy Deptt J.N. Medical College, Topic "How to write a competitive examination" 13 students were selected out of 25 local seats (Total seats were only 50 at that time) lectures were by following teachers;
2. Prof. Mohammad Ahmad of Medicine.
3. Prof. Saleem Siddiqi of Chemistry
4. Prof. Mahmoodurrehman Khan Afridi of Botany
5. Prof. Masoodul Hasan saheb of English
5. Prof. Ziauddin Botany-then lecturer
6. Zaki Bhai marhoom popularly known as Stalin
7. Prof. Comrade Wasi Hyder (then Research Scholar in Physics)
8. Prof. Jameel Ahmad Khan of Zoology, then lecturer
9. Prof. Kamal Rizvi of Zoology-then lecturer
10. Prof. Jameel Ansari Zoology-then lecturer
11. Prof. Nurul Islam -then lecturer in Chemistry
12. Prof. Aftab Zaidi of Chemistry

The most important teacher whose name must go in Golden words in the history of Medical Coaching at the Center was Mr. Ashfaq Hussain of Polytechnic who infact rescued the coaching scheme when the Physics department teachers refused to participate. He taught Physics and was the most regular, popular and dedicated teacher of Physics for several years. It may be noted that Teachers from all the popular groups Islamic group, Communists and Leftists and independents joined hands in the efforts.

There were some more teachers who all participated without any remuneration and were very strictly punctual in their

schedules of teaching. I offer my apologies for not being able to recollect their names at the moment. If updated we will post in subsequent postings.

Office Bearers

The Center and society worked without any Office bearers in the initial years, Dr. Feeroz Talat became Secretary in 1970 and he enlarged the activities from Medical Coaching to Engg, and Business administration and financing for IAS Coaching in Delhi. He was responsible running the Coaching activities round the year with crash coaching in summer. A special arrangement was made for the girl's security to attend evening classes up to 10 pm with the permission of Mumtaz Aapa marhooma the then Principal of Women's college.

After Feeroz Talat, Mohammd Anwer, Research Scholar Botany department became the Secretary; he retired as Prof. of Botany from Shibli College recently.

In 1980 Prof. Amanullah Khan, now Professor of Surgery became President. He did very well during his tenure. In 1987, Prof. Abdul Rahim Qidwai Professor of English became the President of the Society and Coaching Center.

Prof. A.R. Qidwai who is currently the President is the most dynamic but very cool and composed person who is responsible for saving the organization from several threats by various quarters. Be it asking for rent of 2000 Rs per month for 10 years by the AIMES Office, Court litigations, threats of evictions from the building, converting the Hall into Shadi Center to raise money for Scholarships to poor students. He Alhamdolillah overcame all the threats and hurdles. He bought land and constructed the Society building and extended the services many folds, which run round the year. It includes the Coaching of all the Competitive Examinations in the University.

The Society awards scholarships to needy and meritorious students, mainly technical and others also on behalf of several alumni associations and individuals. Scholarships come from AMU Alumni Association of Northern California, Aligarh Alumni Association of Washington, AMU Alumni Associations of Australia Alumni association and are given to needy and meritorious students. The highest one-man personal scholarship donation is by one Senior Consultant Pediatrician in Oman who gives 35 Scholarships (He prefers to remain anonymous). He is the 1st product of Coaching Center, selected in 1968. More than 30 additional scholarships are from Oman

Recently a scheme for sponsoring the children of 4th class employees for education has been started by Prof. Qidwai.

Thousands of Students have received coaching, scholarships and help from the Coaching Center during last 40 years but I regret to say that the people who benefited from this service and returning the favor can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

Last but not the least, I shall pay tributes to the souls of Prof. Shah Mashood Alam Marhoom who gave black boards and few chairs and chalks and Mumtaz Aapa marhooma the then Principal of Women's College who sent boards and other teaching material.

May the souls of all those who helped establishing the Coaching Center rest in Peace in the best Corners of Heaven and Peace of mind and health to all of those who helped and are running the Center and Society and I pray for their long life.

Let us pray for the very good health and safety of Prof A.R. Qidwai, the President of the Organization. He is on his way to London at this moment for research purposes; I wish him safe journey, pleasant stay there and safe return.

Dr. Mohsin Raza
MBBS'67
MS'73
Muscat, Oman

Views on Convocation

June 18, 2009

Dear Aligs ASAK

It would certainly be written as golden day in the history of the Aligarh Muslim University when two towering personalities visited our campus. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam BHARAT RATNA came a day before the Convocation and interacted with school children. The function was marvelous. Dr. Kalam, a great visionary spoke to the kids in a most beautiful manner. Students understood the message he wanted to convey to them. Today he gave the convocation address, again a masterpiece. Azim Premji, CEO of WIPRO industries, a GIANT organization spoke very well in his acceptance speech and

then interacted with students in a separate function. The message he gave was loud and clear that during the era of stiff competition only excellent can survive. He and Kalam Sahab asked the students to work hard to achieve their goal. Prof. P.K. Abdul Azis Hon'ble Vice Chancellor deserves congratulations of every one for inviting such luminaries on the occasion of 58th Annual Convocation. Presence of such personalities would surely send good signals to the outside world. AMU needs many more such events. Those who never visited this great institution do not have any idea of it. We should not always be talking our past glory rather think about future. Time has come to modernize our thinking, and present AMU as one of the finest institution which is striving hard to convince the others that we are not lacking in any thing. It is hoped that the present Vice Chancellor would invite many more such people in the months to come. Students in general love such events. They were very happy today and interacted with the VC and Hon'ble Chancellor Sahab who were present during AT-HOME given to the Degree and medal holders. Congratulations once again to everyone who worked day in and day out to make all the programs a great success.

Suhail Sabir, Ph.D.
Department of Chemistry
AMU, Aligarh

The Mission of the AMU Alumni Summit at Aligarh

June 23, 2008

The AMU Alumni Center of Aligarh Muslim University should be a human network that must promote the welfare of AMU, broaden and sustain friendships among its alumni, and stimulate alumni interest in the University.

The Alumni Center should be the governing body of all Alumni Associations in the world. The AMU Center if established in Oct, 2008 must consist of approximately 150 members reflecting the domestic, national and international geographic distribution of the all alumni. The governing body of the Center should also include student representatives, from each Faculty and Hall of Residence of the University. The full governing body of the Center should meet once a year during Sir Syed Day celebration, and also through internet, to establish policy, re-acquaints members with the University and its programs, and advise the University on alumni affairs.

The Executive Committee of the Alumni Center of several

members should be elected and nominated from the pool of Alumni Associations scattered all over the world. Like the Alumni Center, the Executive members reflect the geographic distribution of all alumni. The Executive Committee holds regular half yearly meetings through internet and conference calls and makes operational decisions, carries out the policies of the Center, and receives Committee reports and reports from the professional staff.

The work of the Center should be accomplished by standing committees and ad hoc committees appointed as necessary. The committees are comprised of members of Executive Committee and Alumni Associations at large. The committees include Chapter Development, Community Service Internship Program, Membership Development, and Student Services.

Syed M. Naseem, Ph. D.
Washington DC

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We hope you enjoyed the newsletter and encourage you to share it with your friends.

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Sincerely,

AMU Alumni Association
Tel: (650) 212-ALIG

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