



# THE ALIG

## AMU Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

April 20, 2009

### In This Issue

[AMU News](#)

[AMUAs News & Events](#)

[Alum News](#)

[AEEF News](#)

[Feature Article](#)

[Opinion](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Book Reviews](#)

[Obituary](#)

[Mail Box](#)

### Sir Syed Speaks to you

*"It is the categorical verdict of all the nations and great seers of the world that national progress depends on education and training (of the people)."*

- Sir Syed

[AEEF](#)

Greetings!

Welcome back to new edition of "The Alig". The past year has been a time of uncertainty and many challenges but also time of new hope. We witnessed a historic event as the first African-American was elected as the 44th president of the United States of America. A few years ago this would have seemed unimaginable to many of us yet it has happened. There is a renewed sense of optimism in America and around the globe.

AMU alumni associations provide the forum to hold us together and we need to strengthen these forums. Therefore, it is important that we become a member of our respective alumni associations. Membership provides us an opportunity to have a say in the affairs of the association and define the direction of the organization.

Today's alumni associations are strong thanks to members and active volunteers, as well as dedicated and committed office bearers. I am confident that the new members will take the progress of the past and extend it even further.

We look forward to receive your feedback.

Enjoy the current issue of THE ALIG.

Sincerely,  
Editorial Team  
Email: [TheAlig@yahoo.com](mailto:TheAlig@yahoo.com)

**DONATE**

[Donate Online](#)

### Quick Links...

[AEEF](#)

[FAMUAA](#)

[AMU Network](#)

[AMU's Website](#)

[Alumni Directory](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

### Our Sponsors

[AMU Alumni Association  
of Northern California](#)

**Space Available for  
Sponsors**

**To Sponsor**

**Please Contact:**

[TheAlig@yahoo.com](mailto:TheAlig@yahoo.com)

**Raise money for  
Aligarh Education  
Endowment Fund just  
by searching the  
Internet or shopping  
online with  
GoodSearch - powered  
by Yahoo! To search  
Click on the link.**

**GoodSearch**

Tel: (650) 212-ALIG  
Fax: (303) 379-5606

## AMU NEWS

### AMU TO BE CONNECTED TO NATIONAL KNOWLEDGE NETWORK (NKN)

ALIGARH, April 18: The Government of India has identified the Aligarh Muslim University as a Node to be connected to National Knowledge Network (NKN) with gigabit capabilities to interconnect all universities, libraries, hospitals and agricultural institutions to share data and resources all over the country. The network connect some 5000 nodes country all major institution and in the first phase between 500 to 1000 nodes will be setup. Aligarh Muslim University was selected as anode in the very first phase and will be soon linked to the National Knowledge Network (NKN).

The Vice Chancellor, Professor P.K. Abdul Azis said that AMU becoming a node of National Knowledge Network will help the University immensely by bringing the AMU into the fold of the world of high speed data exchange mode. It will be a big leap in harnessing the research potentials of AMU researchers and teachers.

The AMU will be interconnected to knowledge and research institutions in the country through an electronic digital high bandwidth network. It would facilitate the flow of information and knowledge across more than 1000 institutions in India.

The network will address critical issues of access, create a culture of collaboration and enrich research efforts in the country. The NKN will enable use of specialized applications which will allow high performance computing facilities, e-libraries, virtual classrooms, e-governance platforms and very large databases.

Prof. Muslim Taj Ahmad, Principal, Zakir Husain College of Engineering & Technology has been nominated as Nodal Officer to coordinate the activities of AMU with the National Knowledge Network. The University will also be appointing a

technical team to oversee the entire programme in the University.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **AMU TO GET ASTRO TURF**

ALIGARH, April 18: The Sports Authority, of India has considered the proposal submitted by the Aligarh Muslim University for constructing Astro-Turf under the Hockey Club of the University at an estimated cost of Rs. 3 crores.

According to information received at the University, the Sports Authority of India is taking necessary actions to get the estimate prepared by the CPWD. The project will be implemented under the overall supervision of the AMU Games Committee. In order to implement this project, the AMU will be signing a MoU with Sports Authority of India. This Synthetic Hockey Surface, once it is commissioned, will provide necessary fillip and improve the standard of hockey at the AMU. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor P.K. Abdul Azis while congratulating Prof. Tariq Mansoor, Games Committee Secretary, and Prof. Jaowad Ali, President of Hockey Club for their efforts said that such modern and high-tech sports facilities at the University level bound to give a big fillip to sports of substance and contribute to the quality of world class sports in the country. The AMU can play once again a leading role in the resurgence of hockey to win back its pristine glory at the global level which the country enjoyed in previous decades, he added.

Since its inception, the University has been a nursery of outstanding sportsmen and players, and it has maintained this interest and tradition with fervour.

In the field of Hockey, Aligarh has produced several national stars including Mohammad Jafar Masood Minhas, Ali Saeed, Inamur Rehman and Govinda played for India. Abdul Qayyum, Anwar Ahmad Khan for Pakistan and Doraswamy for Malaysia. Zafar Iqbal was India's hockey captain in the mid 1980s. Guru Sewak Singh, Joginder Singh and Aslam Sher Khan were other distinguished players of Hockey.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **SYMPOSIUM ON LIMB SALVAGE IN MALIGNANT BONE TUMORS AT AMU**

Aligarh, April 13: Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Aligarh Muslim University and Aligarh Orthopaedic Club is organizing a symposium on "Limb Salvage in Malignant Bone Tumors" on April 26, 2009 in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University. Prof. M. K A. Sherwani is the Organizing Chairman and Dr. Abdul Qaiyyum Khan is the Organizing Secretary of the Seminar. Eminent speakers from various centres of academic excellence in country will share their experiences in the field of orthopaedic oncology. The one day symposium will be contributing a vast knowledge to the field of bone tumours.

Dr. Abdul Qaiyyum Khan said that bone tumour was earlier considered to be incurable and the amputation was the only treatment modality for it. He said that bone tumours will be discussed at the symposium in the light of latest developments (imaging and chemotherapy/radiotherapy) with special emphasis on limb salvage. He said that the symposium will enlighten all the attending delegates, especially the young orthopaedic surgeons.

Dr. Khan said that limb salvage is developing as a specialty in orthopaedic surgery. Many patients who once have had an amputation are now having their limb saved. The speed at which it is growing requires everyone to keep pace with it, hence the need for such symposium where varied aspects of limb salvage will be discussed by the eminent faculty. Dr. Abdul Qaiyyum Khan said that the deliberations will help in addressing the treatment of musculoskeletal tumours and improve the understanding of the subject providing new insight into the current concepts of the orthopaedic oncology.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON 'VARIOUS DIMENSIONS OF INDIAN ART' AT AMU**

ALIGARH, April 15: Addressing the inaugural session of the two National Workshop on 'various dimensions of Indian Art', the Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University, Professor P.K. Abdul Azis said that the Department of Fine Arts is the creative spirit of the University.

Prof. Azis said that Indian Art is primarily ideal and spiritual in

character underwent a change during the medieval times and the secular themes occupied a prominent place. He urged the artists to respect the sentiments of other communities and a sense of harmony should be prevailed in their paintings.

In his Key Note Address, Professor S.P. Verma said that there is a need to rewon an understanding of the art of India. In our times, numerous modern artists are working with full awareness to share the 'original talent' and art growth of a tradition reaching back to ancient times.

Dr. Madhu Rani, Chairperson, Department of Fine Arts extended hearty welcome to delegates from all parts from India. She felt that an adoption and incorporation of the trends alien to Indian art should be rotational. She hoped that deliberations at the seminar will highlight the changes taking place in our outlook related to an interpretation of art and its appreciation.

Prof. Seema Javed proposed the Vote of Thanks and Dr. Bedar Jahan, Organizing Secretary conducted the programme

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FIRST e-MAGAZINE OF AMU CAMPUS**

In a significant development, few members of University Film Club, General Education Centre, AMU by their own effort few months back launched the first website by any Club of AMU under the domain name of [www.ufcamu.com](http://www.ufcamu.com).

University Film Club has also published its first ever magazine called "MONTAGE" in both English and Urdu comprising articles on different aspects of cinema. We have loaded it on our website so that we can reach those ALIGs who are eager to read articles written by the current students of Aligarh Muslim University.

Montage English <http://www.ufcamu.com/montageeng.pdf>

Montage Urdu <http://www.ufcamu.com/montageurdu.pdf>

---

## **AMUAAs NEWS & EVENTS**

**SIR SYED DAY 2008 CELEBRATED IN THE SAN**

## FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Ras H. Siddiqui



October 17th of the year 1817 was the birthday of a remarkable individual from South-Asia. Today his legacy lives on in many parts of the world, even far beyond the countries of Bangladesh , India and Pakistan as pockets of the populations worldwide look back at the educational institution that he founded keeping the spirit of this unique alma mater alive today. The name of this individual was Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and his unique contribution to the world was the Mohammedan Anglo Oriental (MAO) College located in the North-Indian town of Aligarh. This college later became the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) whose illustrious graduates (and their children) are today spread around the globe. In the San Francisco Bay Area the Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association (AMUAA) is one such group. And their annual Sir Syed Day Banquet and International Mushaira (Urdu Poetry Recital) attracts quite a bit of well deserved attention, this year being no exception. This year on November 15th this event was held at India Community Center (ICC) in Milpitas, California.

After dinner in the Mughlai tradition and light entertainment by Raghu Kedar , Sir Syed Day 2008 started off with a recitation from the Holy Qura'n (Tilawat-e-Quran) by Afzal Saeed Khan. Emcee for the evening was Faisal Zakaria Siddiqi who made an introduction and stressed that education was the key to many societal and historical challenges. He then invited Nihal Nazim Khan, President of the AMUAA of Northern California to present his words of welcome.

Mr. Nihal Khan while thanking everyone for participating in the event directed them to look back 110 years after Sir Syed's death and to reflect on the vision that he presented to a then sleeping community (after the ascent of the British and the demise of Muslim rule in India during the mid 19th century). He pointed out that the light of knowledge that Sir Syed lit is still shining around the world as the graduates of Aligarh carry it forward. Nihal Khan elaborated on the AMUAA Sir Syed Scholarship program which has distributed approximately 5 million Rupees to about 1300 deserving students in India. He also highlighted the Aligarh Education Endowment Fund and recognized Drs. Hasan Kamil and Talat Hasan for its genesis. He also took the opportunity to thank all of the sponsors for their support along with all the volunteers who made the evening a success.

Dr. A. S. Nakadar, Trustee of AFMI (American Federation of Muslims of Indian Origin) next presented his keynote speech. He started his talk by complimenting Dr. Shaheer Khan on the success of AMU Network, a global online discussion group established by him 10 years ago. "The global community enjoys the fruits of the AMU Network today," he said. "Many have tried to emulate your success but your work remains on the top," he added. Dr. Nakadar dwelled for a moment of AMU as a part of history, heritage, culture and identity. "This Muslim university emerged on the map of the world education about 110 years ago, much after Harvard, Yale, Oxford, Stanford or even Al Azhar. And yet, no other University in the world can claim to have enriched the lives of millions of people as this university has done in a short span of time," said Dr. Nakadar. Revisiting the demise of Muslim rule in India in 1857 and the somewhat similar challenges that the community faces today, Dr. Nakadar talked about images and mirrors and about bringing educational, economical and socio-political emancipation. "We need to build another AMU brick by brick and block by block. I am not talking about building an AMU in its physical structure but I am talking about building the AMU in its spirit and soul," he said, as he highlighted steps that can be taken to achieve that goal. "If you can motivate one student you already have laid one brick of AMU." Concluding on a spiritual note he added that, "Taking education to the last man and woman of our community is a noble task and indeed a task most liked by God and His Messenger."

Dr. Shaheer Khan was next honored for his long years of service to the AMUAA with an award presented by Abdus Salam Qureishi. From our long years of association with him we can certainly attest to the fact that his efforts have been exemplary, especially due to his association with the Sir Syed Day Aligarh Magazine which can be obtained from the association (please visit [www.amualumni.org](http://www.amualumni.org) or call (650) 212-2544 for details).

No Aligarh program is complete without the singing of the University Anthem or "University Tarana" written by Maiaz

Laknavi. The stage at the ICC echoed the words as a tour of AMU was graphically presented.

The second part of the evening was the International Mushaira or Urdu poetry recital which draws lovers of the language from great distances. Headlining the Mushaira this year at this venue were local poets Tashie Zaheer and Mahnaz Naqvi along with Nausha Asrar (Houston), Shahnaz Noor (Pakistan), Popular Meeruthi (India), Dr. A. Abdullah (Washington), Azhar Inayati (India) and Himayat Ali Shair (Pakistan/Canada). This segment was conducted by Dr. Abdullah and Presided over by Himayat Ali Shair.

Dr. Abdullah started the proceedings with praise for the vision of the people who helped to build this cultural center where the event was being held. He kicked off the poetry segment with a remembrance of the late poet Ahmed Faraz who had graced many Aligarh gatherings like this one over the years and had agreed to be at this one, sadly that was not to be. His "Kaali Dewaar" (Black Wall) poem that he wrote on the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. was read passionately by Abdullah Sahib, certainly setting the mood for a great poetry evening.

Tashie Zaheer started by entering a modernistic time warp with "Daylight Savings" as his searching stopped and then started in verse, followed by Mahnaz Naqvi with inclusion (Shumaar karna) and flowers (Phool Usnay Bhejay Hain). Dr. Nausha Asrar next illuminated the event with some profound words explaining the Ghazal, "Jab Lahu Aakhon say Ublay to Ghazal Hoti Hai" (When blood cries from the eyes, that is a Ghazal...). Nausha Asrar is a versatile presenter who took us through a journey that ended on an empty bottle that could talk (Khaali Botal).

Shahnaz Noor started off with Tarannum (song-like style) with self discovery, birds and the feminine spirit being crushed by stones (symbolism noted). And from that seriousness we ventured into comedy and "Popular" Meeruthi who expresses himself both through his words and facial expressions causing contagious laughter. Abdullah Sahib next brought us back to reality revisiting water and stones causing ripples and visiting a dwarf (Bona).

Azhar Inayati, a synthesis of India 's Aligarh and Rampur cities, next commanded a great deal of attention. "Humaray Sheher Main Kirdar Qatal Hotay Hain" (Characters (not life) are murdered in our city). His poetry reached great depth that generated appreciation. "Is Raastay mein jab Koi Saaya Na Paayay Ga, Yeh Akhri Darakht Bahot Yaad Aayay Ga" (On this path when no-one will be able to find shade, this last tree will be very fondly remembered). "I have lit a lamp, now the winds are responsible," he recited in Urdu.



The last poet to present his work was Himayat Ali Shair (Shayar) who currently resides in Toronto . Canada . Amongst the most prolific lyric writers for film songs in Pakistan , one who is fondly remembered in the songs of the late Noor Jehan (Na Chura Sako Gey Daman) and Mehdi Hasan (Nawazish Karam, Khuda Wandha), Shair was chosen to preside over the poetry segment due to both his seniority and years of writing. "Aaknen Khulin to Apni Hageeqat Bhi Khul Gayi" (When my eyes really opened, so did my realization of where I stood), he said. Highlighting the plight of the immigrant no matter where he lived, Himayt Ali Shair journeyed through the new shorelines of our experience. "Jis ko Jahaan Bhi Sukoon Milay Who Wahaan Rahay", (One should live wherever one can find peace). And possibly because of his long association with the world of entertainment, he said that music and poetry were inseparable Siamese twins.

Vishnu Sharma of ICC, Milpitas said, it was really a wonderful Mushaira, with the poets' sensitivity to modern day world coming to the fore. I and my wife both enjoyed every minute of it, as it was indeed so inspiring and thought provoking. And then add to it the subtle (and not so subtle) humor of Popular Meeruthi. "AMU Alumni in the bay area is really setting the bar for top quality events as a befitting tribute to Sir Syed," he said.

In conclusion, it is always a pleasure to cover an event held by AMU Alumni. These "Partners" or once "Aligarh Old Boys" (and now "Old Girls" included too) represent a vision of the founder of the Aligarh institution which is not exclusive to Muslims. The original vision was to produce an educated and open-minded Muslim in British India due to which Sir Syed faced many obstacles. But thank God that he persevered. Today, there is an urgent need to emulate this vision to counter many problems facing our community.

**Click on the links below to read published reports:**

[Celebrating Excellence: The Aligarh Spirit](#)

[The Aligarh Spirit Lives on in the San Francisco Bay Area](#)

[Grand Mushaira in Silicon Valley](#)

[Sir Syed Day Celebration](#)

**Please Save the Date and mark your calendar: Sir Syed Day 2009**

and International Mushaira in San Francisco Bay Area on  
Saturday, November 14, 2009

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SIR SYED MEMORIAL LECTURE BY PROFESSOR P.K. ABDUL AZIS IN OMAN**

April 13, 2009: Professor P.K. Abdul Azis, Vice Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University exhorted Indians to re-launch the Aligarh Movement initiated by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, the pioneer of Modern Education in India, who founded the Mohammadan Anglo Oriental College in 1877 to attain 100% literary and enrollment in schools, creating an educational revolution in India.

He was addressing an impressive gathering consisting of eminent Oman citizens, leading NRIs including a large number of AMU Alumni working in the Sultanate of Oman. The function was arranged in the Indian Embassy Auditorium. Professor Azis was in Oman at the invitation of the AMU Alumni Association of Oman. Mr. Anil Wadhwa, the Indian Ambassador was the Chief Guest. Dr. Ali bin Saud Al-Bimani, Vice Chancellor, Sultan Qaboos University, Mr. P. Mohammadali, Mr. Ameer Ahmed, President of the Alumni Association of Oman were present on the occasion.

In his Sir Syed Memorial Lecture entitled "Educational Challenges in India", Professor Azis told the audience that despite impressive growth and expansion attained by India, in the area of education, the given enrollment ratio was lower than the national average of 11% in the states like - Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura and Jharkhand. Of the total 373 educationally backward districts, 3% had GER of less than 3%, 21% had GER between 3 and 6, 38% had GER between 6 and 9% and remaining 37% had GER between 6 and 11%.

Prof. Azis lauded the initiative taken by MHRD, Government of India for creating greater access, equity and social inclusion by sending a national goal of 15% GER during the XI Plan. Professor Azis mentioned, in absolute numbers, India has to achieve of about 7 million students by 2012. He welcomed the establishment of 15 new Central Universities, 8 new IITs, 20 NITs, 20 IIITs, 3 IISERs, 7 IIMs and 2 SPAs, besides the community colleges.

The rural - urban gap in GER is a disturbing trend, Prof. Azis said. The GER is only 6.73% in rural areas, whereas it is 19.8% in urban areas. The Inter-caste disparity was seen to be a matter of great concern, demanding careful social engineering by the State and Central Governments. The GER for Christians is 16.68% and for Hindus it is 11.94% whereas for Muslims it is only 6.84%. The lowest

GER for Muslims should open the eyes of every one, particularly the intelligentsia and leaders of the community. The deprivation suffered by Muslim in 21 minority concentration districts in UP is startling, he said. The literacy rate of Muslim is very poor in states like Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Haryana, wherein lived 60% of Indian Muslims.

Prof. Azis felt that panacea for addressing this deprivation will be the re-launching of the Aligarh Movement. The 'Aligarh Declaration on Education' approved by the National Seminar on Minority Education held by AMU during March 7th 2009 should be the National Agenda for Muslims for the next decade. He wanted the Muslims to observe a 'Dead for Education'.

The successful Model of Educational initiatives seen in the South Indian states should be replicated in the North. He wanted the Alumni of AMU to create a synergy and be in the for-front of the Aligarh Movement and work for the Educational Advancement of the deprived segments of Indian population.

Prof. P.K. Abdul Aziz, during his short stay in the Sultanate of Oman, took time to visit the Sultan Qaboos University, the premier Educational Institution in Oman. He was received at the University by its Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ali bin Saud Al-Bimani. Both Vice Chancellor evinced keen interest in evolving collaborative programmes and Dr. Al-Ahmad and Mr. Ameer Ahmad were present during the discussion.

---

## ALUM NEWS

### SIR SYED AHMAD KHAN INTERNATIONAL AWARD 2008 FOR LITERATURE



member jury comprising eminent personalities after

First Sir Syed Ahmad Khan International Award 2008 for literature has been given to Mr. Zakir Ali Khan for his outstanding literary contributions and passion with which he depicted the unique literary and cultural ethos of Aligarh coupled with a great sense of humor in all his writings and for promoting the vision and mission of Sir Syed through his engagements in the field of education. The eight

thorough evaluation and careful deliberations unanimously recommended the name of Mr. Zakir Ali Khan for the illustrious international award instituted for the first time by any University in the country.

While evaluating his work the jury felt that Mr. Zakir Ali Khan was not only a distinctly proud author but a true lover of the glorious traditions and ethos of Aligarh. In his writings the Aligarh Muslim University appears not as an institution made up of bricks and stones but as a passionate beloved. Some of his notable books are Deewan-e-Aam, Yadon Ka Dastrakhwan, Mai Baap, Bara-e-Naam, Merhaba Alhaj, Miyan Ki Atarya Taley, Kham Ru, Rakht-e-Safar and Rewayat-e-Aligarh.

Born in 1926 at Rampur (UP) Zakir Ali Khan did his B.Sc. in 1945 and B.Sc. Engineering in 1948 at the Aligarh Muslim University. He has been a prolific writer who has authored a number of books highlighting socio-cultural life of the Aligarh Muslim University. His work is widely acknowledged and he was awarded lifetime achievement award by the Aligarh Alumni Association of New York (USA) in 2000.

The members of jury comprised of Mr. Syed Hamid, Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard University, eminent literary personality Professor Namvar Singh, Senior Diplomat Ishrat Aziz, Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor Mr. Naved Masood, Member Commission on Center State Relations, Government of India Professor N R Madhvan Menon, President Ibne Seena Academy Professor Zillur Rahman, Registrar, Aligarh Muslim University, Professor V K Abdul Jaleel and Professor P K Abdul Azis, Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University.

On the occasion of Sir Syed Day 2008, the Chancellor of AMU, Justice A. M. Ahmadi presented the award to Zakir Ali Khan carrying a cash prize of Rs. 5,00,000 and Citation.

Zakir Ali Khan expressed his gratitude for the award and he donated the whole prize money to the welfare of AMU students. He asked the students to imbibe the spirit of Aligarh which stipulates to rise to the occasion despite all odds.

\*\*\*\*\*

## From Amroha To The Moon

THE ENTRANCE to Chaugori Mohalla, a small Muslim locality in Uttar Pradesh's Amroha town, about 200 km from Delhi, isn't the least bit inviting. A sixfoot- wide serpentine stretch, rutted and grimy, lies beyond - the only way into the neighbourhood. Today, however, it does not deter a stream of people eager to visit the house of the Mirzas, a short distance in. The woman they have come to meet, Khushboo Mirza, opens the door and welcomes them warmly. Khushboo is soon joined by her spirited mother, Farhat, and the mother-daughter duo proceed to smash one stereotype after another in an hour-long chat. "Hindi or English?" I ask Khushboo. "English will be fine," comes the confident reply from the 23-year-old, who studied in the local Hindi-medium school till Class 10.

The flow of guests to the Mirza home is growing everyday. "I had never imagined that I would become such an icon," says Khushboo, as her mother glances at their six-seat dining table, now covered with commemorative inscriptions and bouquets. Khushboo, an engineer with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), is the youngest member of the team of 12 engineers of the Check-Out Division of India's maiden moon mission, Chandrayaan-I. Her task was to carry out the vacuum, thermal and assembly examinations in different simulated conditions on various components of the satellite. "We had to check and see how the satellite would perform in space," says the engineer, who joined India's premier body for space research in 2006.

More people have come to congratulate the Mirzas since Chandrayaan-I was launched in October 2008 than have visited the Mirzas on Eid in several years put together. "Kai log to sochte hain ki Khushboo chaand par gayee thi (Some think Khushboo had gone to the moon and ask her when she returned)," Farhat chuckles.

A few years back, however, the Mirzas were in very different circumstances. Farhat, widowed at 30 after her husband Sikandar passed away in 1994, worked at the family's petrol pump to pay her children's school fees and keep the house running. Khushboo was seven at that time; her younger sister Mehak, now a student of engineering at Moradabad Institute of Technology, was four; and her older brother, Khushtar, now a BTech graduate from Jamia Millia Islamia in Delhi, was 10. "My husband was an engineer and it was his dream to see his daughters excel. And I knew it wasn't possible without giving them a good education," says Farhat. For the Mirzas, education for women wasn't a novel idea as Farhat is a graduate from a Moradabad college. Moreover, Farhat's sister teaches English at a public school in Dehradun and her two nieces are doing their PhD in the US. "I taught my children to reach for the stars," states the 45-year-old proudly. They did.

After her Class 10 examinations, Khushboo, a district level volleyball player, joined the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and later applied for a BTech at the same university. She became the first girl to fight an election in AMU. Though she did not win, she managed to encourage other girls to take the plunge, one of whom even won election the following year. Subsequent to her graduation, Khushboo received a job offer from Adobe Software, but gave it up in October 2006 to join ISRO for a salary much lower than what Adobe offered. Farhat, who accompanied her daughter to ISRO training programmes across the country, says there was no question of rejecting the ISRO offer for the extra money Adobe offered. "Khushboo was eager to contribute to Indian science and I was only happy to let her do so," she says.

For a year and 10 months, Khushboo says, she worked conscientiously with her team to accomplish the mission. "I observed my Ramzan fasts, prayed and even celebrated Eid at the testing centre," she says, spelling out that she is no different from any other Muslim woman who follows Islam and its customs. However, she acknowledges that she owes her success to her family's liberal background.

Back in Amroha for a 15-day winter break, Kushboo is acclimatising herself to the newfound attention. "I was only a small part of a big mission, of a bigger dream that the country had seen. The praise I'm getting is overwhelming."

HER FIRST brush with stardom began when she had barely reached her house in Amroha on a night last month, her first visit after the success of Chandrayaan-I. She was confronted by a reporter and his photographer who had been outside the house of the Mirzas to photograph Kushboo for the paper's edition the next day. That was only to preempt the numerous visits and accolades from well-wishers and invitations for the aeronautical engineer to address and "inspire" students in the town's schools and colleges. Asked why she thinks the floodgates of commemoration and recognition have opened, she says, "I am a Muslim girl from a small town and yet I have contributed to Indian science." She is quick to clarify that education and religion are independent of each other. "Times have changed and the attitude of people towards Muslim girls also needs to change. Our families do educate us," she says. At 23, Khushboo is proud of the fact that unlike other women her age, she chose a modest government job over a lucrative one for a foreign software firm. The need she perceived, of contributing to research in pure sciences in the country, has led the way. Chandrayaan-1 is the result of many such individual compromises.

So what does being an icon for young girls in a town 70 percent of

whose population is Muslim, signify? "Muslim girls don't have a role model to look up to in small towns like Amroha. Their education is often truncated, which confines them to domestic life," she says as she prepares to address another gathering of local students. "Wherever I go, I underline the significance of education for girls. I encourage them to stand up for themselves and speak up." Khushboo realises that she needs to divert the spotlight on her, to the more urgent issues of educating young Muslim girls. Not just Amroha, but girls in the country have few women icons who have raced past the hurdles of chauvinism, and reached for the moon.

[Source](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Norman R. Farnsworth Excellence in Botanical Research Award To Dr. Ikhlas Khan**

This year the Norman R. Farnsworth Excellence in Botanical Research Award will be presented to Ikhlas A. Khan, PhD, professor of pharmacognosy at the University of Mississippi. The Norman R. Farnsworth Excellence in Botanical Research Award is named for ABC co-founding Board of Trustee, Prof. Norman R. Farnsworth, PhD. ABC presents this award each year to a person or institution who has made significant contributions to botanical and/or pharmacognostic research.

Dr. Khan is a man of many titles. At the University of Mississippi's National Center for Natural Products Research alone he is the director of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center of Excellence, a research professor, and a professor in the Department of Pharmacognosy. Additionally, he is the director for Sino-US TCM Research Center, director for the Center for Research of Indian Systems of Medicine (CRISM), research professor and coordinator for the Natural Products Research at the Center for Water and Wetlands Research, and an adjunct professor for the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Born in Amroha, India, Dr. Khan received his bachelors in chemistry in 1980 and his masters in organic chemistry in 1982 (both from the Aligarh Muslim University in Aligarh, India). In 1987, he received his doctorate in pharmacy from the Institute for Pharmaceutical Biology in Munich, West Germany, where he studied under the renowned Prof. H

Wagner. He joined the University of Mississippi in 1988 and then completed postdoctoral studies at Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich. In 1992, he re-joined the University of Mississippi and currently resides in Oxford, Mississippi.

Dr. Khan's primary research interests include standardization of herbal products and the improvement of product quality and safety, particularly through the development of new analytical methods. He has authored or co-authored over 300 original publications and is invited to speak at events and conferences around the world. He also serves as co-editor of *Planta Medica* and a foreign editor for *Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine*.

Dr. Khan serves on several important professional committees. This includes committees for the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) in Washington, DC, an expert panel of the United States Pharmacopoeia (USP) committee, an expert advisory committee of the Natural Health Directorate of Health Canada, and the Advisory Board of ABC.

Dr. Khan speaks 4 languages: English, German, Hindi and Urdu. He is the recipient of several awards, such as the Cumberland Pharmaceuticals Inc. Faculty Research Award for the years 2007-2008 for the School of Pharmacy, the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) Award for Meritorious Service in 2005, the Researcher of the Year Award in the National Center for Natural Products Research in 2001, and now the well-deserved 2009 Norman Farnsworth Excellence in Botanical Research Award from ABC.

I was really surprised, said Dr. Khan. I was not expecting it so soon in my career. I am honored and humbled to receive this prestigious award named for Norman Farnsworth, whom I admire and respect and who is legendary in the field of pharmacognosy and natural products. It is also a very personal honor to follow behind last year's recipient, Prof. Hildebert Wagner, under whom I received my doctorate. This is certainly a high point in my career.

\*\*\*\*\*

---

**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.

**DONATE**

**[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](mailto:AEEFund@yahoo.com)  
**Tel:** (650) 969-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](http://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!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! 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](http://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.

## **Goodsearch**

**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**

## INDIA'S MUSLIMS IN CRISIS

**Aryn Baker**

**Time Magazine (November 27, 2008)**

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, who founded the Anglo-Mohammedan Oriental College at Aligarh in 1877, studied under the same teachers as the founders of Deoband. But he believed that the downfall of India's Muslims was due to their unwillingness to embrace modern ways. He decoupled religion from education and in his school sought to emulate the culture and training of India's new colonial masters. Islamic culture was part of the curriculum, but so were the latest advances in sciences, medicine and Western philosophy. The medium was English, the better to prepare students for civil-service jobs. He called his school the Oxford of the East. In architecture alone, the campus lives up to that name. A euphoric blend of clock towers, crenellated battlements, Mughal arches, domes and the staid red brick of Victorian institutions that only India's enthusiastic embrace of all things European could produce, the central campus of Aligarh today is haven to a diverse crowd of male and female, Hindu and Muslim students. Its law and medicine schools are among the top-ranked in India, but so are its arts faculty and Quranic Studies Centre. "With all this diversity, language, culture, secularism was the only way to go forward as a nation," says Aligarh's vice chancellor, P.K. Abdul Azis. "It was the new religion."

[Read Full Article](#)

---

## OPINION

### The Price Of A Degree

**Srawan Shukla**

Putting the brakes on a spiraling controversy over higher education in Uttar Pradesh, the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court has, for the moment, bailed out over 15 lakh disadvantaged upper and backward caste students. It has stayed Chief Minister Mayawati's dramatic cut in scholarships for these students, who are seeking degrees in medicine, engineering, management and other fields from

private, unaided institutions.

On January 29, the court directed that students enrolled before the scholarship was in force "be allowed to continue with their studies without asking them to make payment of any fee. Students admitted after the May 29 and 31, 2008 orders shall also be allowed to continue with their studies without asking for further fees." The Bench also stated that no further fees are to be sought till the government-appointed committee on the row gives its recommendation and a decision on the same is taken, or till the court issues further orders, whichever is earlier.

Though the students are happy with the court order, private colleges and institutions are in a fix. They can neither claim reimbursement from the government till the committee makes its report nor can they charge anything from the students. For some institutes, this has resulted in great financial pressure, such as the Babu Banarsi Das National Institute of Technology and Management in Lucknow. "All our problems come from the fact that we claimed fee reimbursements for the current session as per the May 2008 orders," muses SK Garg, the institute's administrative officer. These totalled up to over Rs 5 crore. Not being able to realise them is costing the institute every day, says director AK Mitra. He refused to say if he would move court on the issue.

Uttar Pradesh is the only state to have extended the Central scheme for dalit students to other castes. Former Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav did this when he brought upper caste students, with an annual household income of less than Rs 1 lakh, under the scheme in August 2006. He then included OBC students in February 2007. A budget of Rs 148 crore was sanctioned for the scheme in 2007. An additional Rs 50 crore was approved after the inclusion of the OBCs.

While students of state-aided and privately- run institutions can seek the scholarship, the cost-discrepancy between the two is tremendous. The cutback in scholarship for non-dalit students has enraged Mayawati's detractors, who are calling it a betrayal of her 'Sarvajan Samaj' (all-inclusive politics) plank that she came to power on two years ago.

Mayawati has overturned Mulayam Singh Yadav's inclusion

of upper caste and OBC students in a programme that elsewhere benefits dalit youth alone. Social and backward welfare department sources told TEHELKA that they were under great pressure to ensure that the scheme was restored to its original beneficiaries as soon as possible.

The rectification got underway in May 2008 when the government, having completed a year in power, issued two orders that placed the scholarship reimbursements given to students in private colleges at par with those given to students in government-aided ones. For instance, an MBBS student in a private institute was reimbursed Rs 3.42 lakh, the cost of the course. A government student was reimbursed Rs 13,000, the cost of the course there.

The order putting reimbursements in government and private institutions at par means the private MBBS student also gets Rs 13,000 reimbursement now, like the government student. Private OBC and upper caste students now have to pay the difference while dalit students continue to enjoy the benefits of full scholarship in both.

The order has had grievous impact on impoverished upper caste and OBC students. They now have to pay a difference of Rs 3.3 lakh a year for continuing their MBBS; nearly Rs 2 lakh for BDS; Rs 45,200 for BTech, BArch, BPharma, MBA and MCA studies; Rs 4,000 for Bsc; and up to Rs 3,500 for BA and BCom. As for their annual hostel fees, which in private institutions can go up to Rs 45,000, the students are entitled to Rs 7,400 after the government decision.

Many students had to withdraw from their courses as their parents were now unable to pay their fees, a director of a private college in Allahabad said, asking not to be named because the issue was sensitive. The government has constituted a committee to look into their grievances. But champions of their cause have already emerged. One such is an NGO called Meritorious Education for Youth's Development and Humane Activities (MEYDHA) run by a senior PCS officer Laxmi Kant Shukla. B.Tech first year students Anand Jaiswal, 20, and Mohammed Afsar 21, both from Lucknow, credit the NGO with keeping them still enrolled in their course, and it is Shukla who has led to the court's stay order. "The orders are arbitrary, caste discriminatory and violate the students' fundamental right to education," says Shukla, who filed the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) that triggered the order.

The funding slash has been a point of controversy for several months now. Mayawati is unlikely to risk ceding the issue to her opponents, who are already making capital of it. But she will need to act fast to stem the disaffection it is causing her nondalit constituency.

[Source](#)

---

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### VIII Convention of Federation of Aligarh Alumni Associations

**Host:** AMU Alumni Association of New England

**When:** Friday-Sunday, July 17-19, 2009

**Where:** Boston, MA

[Website](#)

[Email](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sir Syed Day 2009 - Mushaira Schedule for USA

**October 2 - November 25**

Please click on link below for Mushaira details in your city.

[Mushaira Schedule 2009](#)

-

\*\*\*\*\*

-

---

## BOOK REVIEWS

**Muslims and Media Images: News versus Views**



**Author:** Ather Farouqui (Ed.)

**Reviewed by:** Shams Afif Siddiqi

**Available at:** Oxford University Press, New Delhi

The media have always played a significant role in the life of modern man. But they became an even more heightened force ever since the visual media changed the rules of the game. Today, it is the media that make or mar the image, be it of an individual, community or even a commercial product. In India, the effect of the media on communities is all the more strong because of the presence of different religions, caste and creed in society. Some of the most complicated issues in India relate to the Muslim community that has suddenly gained importance in the global media after the infamous attack on the Twin Towers of the United States of America, terrorist attacks in different parts of the world including India, and the US invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq. The Muslim question remains the most complicated one in India because, like other communities, the Muslims are a part of the democratic civil society and yet, unlike them, are generally looked upon with suspicion by others.

Muslims and Media Images takes up this sensitive issue and tries to show how the media depict the Indian Muslims and how the community is grappling with subtle distortions such as those that take place when, in the garb of news, different television channels air their own views regarding the community. The book is a collection of some 20 essays, with an Introduction by Ather Farouqui covering aspects of the question from different perspectives.

If Indian Muslims are caught in between anti-Muslim propaganda and the zeal of the jihadi Muslims, other communities here do not know much about the extent to which the pan Islamic jihadi movement is a part of the Indian Muslim psyche. All the contributors included in the book are significant names in the field of media and other related areas such as film, education and journalism. The first part of the book deals with the English media and their depiction of the Muslims. The essay by Howard Brasted is significant because he talks about the image of Islam in the Australian press.

The second part deals with Muslims in India and abroad. There are six articles in this section. The article, "A Journey through the Cultural Prism of West Bengal", gives a glimpse of the mind of the state. There is an interesting piece on Goan Muslims. Susan B. Maitra's "Islam and the West" is worth reading. There is also an article on the Ayodhya controversy as reported in the Czech press.

The third part of the book deals with Muslim journalism, especially the Urdu press, and points out the dichotomy inherent in it. Farouqui's "Urdu Press in India" apart from pointing out the causes

of backwardness of the Urdu press, makes the startling revelation that certain English print media houses wanted to start Urdu versions of their newspapers but could not because of the wrong information they received from sources with vested interest.

The fourth and the last section takes us to the world of films and shows how the depiction of Muslims in most Indian films is damaging the image of the community. The essays by Moinuddin Jinabade and John W. Hood take up the issue in earnest. If the first lashes out at the stereotypical image of Muslims and other minorities presented in films, the second goes deeper into the realities of Indian society and explores the resentment amongst diverse communities.

The book on the whole is sure to generate interest among readers keen to understand the largest minority community of India and the ways in which it is trying to live in one of the most difficult times in its history.

[Source](#)

---

## OBITUARY

### PROF. NAZIR AHMAD

Noted Persian scholar and Prof. Nazir Ahmad of Aligarh Muslim University died on October 19, 2008 at Aligarh.

\*\*\*\*\*

### DR. MOHAMMAD ABDUL BARI

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. (Saturday, November 01, 2008)-- Dr. Mohammad Abdul Bari, 77, of Concord, a physician whose devotion to Staten Island's seniors made him an integral part of the borough's health care system, and an early pioneer of the borough's Muslim community, died yesterday at home.

He came to the United States from Karachi in 1959, for an internship at Harlem Hospital in Manhattan. A year later, he came to the Island to complete a residency at the former Richmond Memorial Hospital in Prince's Bay. He later completed specialty residencies in pulmonology at St. Joseph's Hospital in the Bronx, and pathology at Pal House University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He was the chief resident in cardiology at St. Michael's Hospital in Newark.

When Dr. Bari returned to the Island in 1966, he joined the medical practice of Regan & McGinn, M.D., P.C., New Dorp. The practice is

now known as Island Medical Specialists. He also served as director of house physicians at Richmond Memorial from 1970 to 1985, and was medical director of Golden Gate Nursing Home, Meiers Corners, from 1975 to 1980. He also was affiliated with the Clove Lakes, Eger and Vanderbilt nursing homes.

Mary Baxter of New Dorp, office manager for Island Medical Specialists, worked with Dr. Bari for 35 years.

"He was very kind and caring to both the patients and the staff," she said. "He always treated the patients with respect and was always there if you needed someone to talk to."

Dr. Bari was a pioneer in catering to the needs of special patients. He founded Staten Island's first geriatric center in 1972, at Richmond Memorial Hospital, and advocated for important ancillary services, such as free transportation. He organized a Thanksgiving Dinner for 25 years at which he, hospital administrators and other physicians would serve dinner to seniors who weren't able to be with relatives.

In 1983, Dr. Bari was selected by "People to People International" to join a team of geriatric medicine specialists from the U.S. to exchange expertise with leading geriatric specialists in Australia and New Zealand. He also is credited with founding a special care clinic for Staten Island's developmentally disabled community.

#### **MANY AWARDS, TITLES**

Throughout his lifetime, he received scores of awards and citations from local and national civic organizations and politicians for his volunteer and community services. He was honored as Physician of the Year by the Richmond County Medical Society and the Islamic Medical Association, and received the Physician Recognition Award for Service to the Community by the American Academy of Medicine of Richmond. Last year, he was recognized for 50 years of service by the Richmond County Medical Society.

Dr. Bari was a charter member of Masjid-al-Noor Muslim Majlis of Staten Island, originally located in Tompkinsville, now in Concord. He also was a founder of the Pakistani Student Association of North America, an organization whose purpose was to encourage medical researchers. It is known today as the Islamic Medical Association, a 1,500-member worldwide organization; Dr. Bari served as president of its North American chapter.

#### **AN ESTEEMED ACTIVIST**

He was active in the American Muslim Alliance to educate the Pakistani community about the American political system in an effort to transform Pakistanis into Pakistani-Americans, and was invited to the White House by former President Bill Clinton for his efforts.

He also was active in encouraging dialogue between the FBI and the Pakistani-American community on Staten Island following the

terrorist attacks of September 2001. He was an active member of the American Muslim Alliance/Staten Island Chapter and the Pakistan Cultural Society. He also served on the editorial board of "Al-Majlis," Staten Island's Pakistani community magazine.

"Dr. Bari was one of the pioneers of the Muslim community of Staten Island," said Imam Ghulam Rasul, the spiritual leader of Masjid-al-Noor. "Among the Muslim population he holds a very esteemed position, and he was as popular with non-Muslims. It's a great loss for the Muslim community and the Staten Island community."

Dr. Bari was active in supporting education in his homeland, leading scholarship efforts for hundreds of medical students and collecting medications for shipment to Pakistan and India, where those supplies were unavailable. He also was president of the Aligarh Alumni Association, which was dedicated to furthering the education of students of the Aligarh University in India, his alma mater.

He was a member of the New York Medical Society, New York State Medical Director Association, American Society of Contemporary Medicine and Surgery, American Academy of Medicine, Society of Internal Medicine and the Richmond County Medical Society. He also was a past president of the Staten Island Chapter of the Society of Internal Medicine, and was a fellow of the American Geriatric Society, American College of Angiology and International College of Angiology.

Dr. Bari was a world traveler who visited many countries in Europe and all of the Middle East, as well as Morocco, New Zealand and Australia. He told the Advance during an interview in 2001 that no matter where he went, he was always able to find a mosque.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Sarwath Basith, and his two daughters, Samina Bari Neale and Huma Bari.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MAQBOOL MAHMOOD**

Maqbool Mahmood died in First week of December 2008. His involvement with AMU Students Union, Mock Convocation, Drama club, Program Director of AMU General Education Centre for almost 3 decades is well known in Alig community. He was also involved in writing the traditional Anti pamphlets and manifestos of Students Union elections and also Namak Daans.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SAEED CHATTARI**

Saeed Chattari (MBA 88) died in a road accident in Calcutta on January 12, 2009. He was the grand son of Nawab Chattari of Aligarh.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **TAUFIQ ZAMAN KHAN**

Taufiq Zaman Khan passed away on January 15, 2009. He was a first class student all through his educational career, securing first class first with Honors and Gold Medal in B.Sc. Engg. (Elect.) in 1951 at AMU. He was a successful Electrical Designer, Contractor & Consultant Electrifying all big Airfields, Industries including Pakistan Steel Mills. He was a great friend, popular with his classmates in ZH Engineering College.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SYED SHAH ZIA-UR-REHMAN**

Syed Shah Zia-ur-Rehman passed away early morning on January 22, 2009 in Karachi, Pakistan where he spent most of his life with his family.

Zia-ur-Rehman Sahib was resident member of VM Hall; he graduated law LLB & LLM from Aligarh Muslim University in 1946. He went to England for Barrister studies and served as the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Rajshahi University, East Pakistan from 1961 to 1971. Apart from numerous academic position and career success his main contribution is attributed towards the preparation of the summary for the first Constitution of Pakistan.

Janab Zia-ur-Rehman Sb was 86 and is survived by his wife and three children.

\*\*\*\*\*

---

#### **MAIL BOX**

Reader's feedback goes here. Please send your feedback to [us](#).

---

We invite readers to share their thoughts with us by expressing their opinion on newsworthy topics to "The Alig". We reserve the right to condense and/or edit them for clarity and space. We don't use anonymous letters. Because of the heavy volume of mail received at The Alig, we request writers to limit to one letter per issue. No

attachments please.

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

---

This message is being sent to you because of your affiliation with AMU or AMU Alumni Association.

We hope you enjoy hearing from us, but will honor your request should you choose not to receive messages in the future. To unsubscribe, please use the link at the end of the newsletter.

Please take a couple of minutes of your valuable time to update your profile. This will allow us to address you in a proper way in our future personalized mailings. To update please click on the link "[Update Profile/Email Address](#)" at the end of this newsletter.

NOTE: If you have more than one e-mail address in our database, you will have to unsubscribe from all of them. Otherwise, the address that you did not unsubscribe will continue to receive messages.

**Sincerely,**

**AMU Alumni Association**  
**Tel: (650) 212-ALIG**

### FAIR USE NOTICE

This newsletter may contain copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in our efforts to advance understanding of environmental, political, human rights, economic, democracy, scientific, and social justice issues, etc. This material is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for research and educational purposes. We believe this constitutes a 'fair use' of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law. If you wish to use any of this material for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

### DISCLAIMER

Views expressed in the messages/articles are those of the author and not necessarily those of owner of this mailing list.