

Graduands Functions:

Pretoria

The Pretoria Branch organised a braai on the evening of Friday 24 November 2006 at the Halima Hall in Erasmia in order to honour health care graduates from the University of Pretoria and the Medunsa Campus of the University of Limpopo. Some 20 undergraduates and 3 post-graduates were honoured. Approximately 150 persons participated in this activity and the programme included a short recitation with English translation from the Holy Quran by Sheikh A W Hamdulay, a brief overview of the Pretoria Branch activities for the year by Dr Akhter Goolam Mahomed and the guest speaker was Dr Carina Ekstein from the University of Pretoria.

Dr Ekstein is a physiotherapist who volunteered on 2 occasions to visit Pakistan and assisted the IMA in relief for those affected by the earthquake. She presented the problems of those who were disabled following injuries sustained in the earthquake and shared some of her experiences in rehabilitating some individuals. She provided some training for local physiotherapists in Pakistan and even brought a Pakistani family over and accommodated them at a friend's home and provided special care. Dr Ekstein's humanitarian contribution was moving and left many with thoughts of our own meagre contributions to assist in times of serious need. Dr Ekstein was highly recommended by Dr Yacoob Essack the IMA Relief co-ordinator for her excellent contribution in the Pakistan Earthquake. A token was presented to her in recognition of her contribution.

The formal function concluded with a vote of thanks and a lovely relaxing braai in the gardens of the Al Ghazali College adjoining the Halima Hall and Sayedina Abu Bakr Siddique Musjid.

Prof. Anwar Hoosen

Durban

Alhamdulillah, the Durban Branch hosted the University of KZN, Faculty of Health Science Graduates at a Graduation Function on the 24th November 2006. It was well attended with 30 graduands and their families. Prof. Moosa Motara was the invited speaker and he delivered a truly motivating talk that benefitted all present. In addition, Professors A.S. Mitha and M.A.K. Omar were also asked to address the students and motivate them further during this period of transition in their lives.

Then it was time for the graduates themselves to take centre stage. They were all presented with copies of the Muslim Health Professionals' Oath as well as a gift bag. The students then recited the oath out loud together in a symbolic gesture to reaffirm their identity as being Muslim Health Care Professionals. Insha Allah, Allah Ta'ala will guide them in their careers and use them to benefit their fellow men.

We would like to thank Islamic Finance for part sponsorship of the function. I would especially like to thank the graduates for taking the time to join us. It was gratifying to see such a good response at what must have been a very hectic period in their lives. Shukrun to all.

Aslam Bhorat
Durban Branch Secretary



Prof. Motara addressing the graduands function in Durban

Gauteng

The IMA Gauteng Branch held its annual IMA Graduation at Karachi Restaurant, JHB on 6th December 2006.

This year saw a record number of Muslims graduating in the Johannesburg region. This comprised of 81 females and 44 males. Graduates came from various academic institutions which included Wits University Medical School, University of Johannesburg, Wits Tech and the College of Medicine. The graduation was well attended by about 280 guests and graduates. Undergraduates included Medicine and all allied health professions.

The night started off with a beautiful recital of the quraan by Qari Ziyaad Patel. This was followed by a presentation by Dr Zakir Patel, who highlighted the aims and goals of the IMA, its structure and projects

over the past year. Dr Zakir Patel then dispensed some advice on internship to the new and upcoming doctors. The main guest speaker was Dr Goolam Hoosen, who spoke about the transition from a student to professional life. He highlighted the social responsibility of being health workers and how Muslim professionals should be working towards making positive changes in society.

The night concluded with Professor Moosa Motara, the IMA National Director, presenting Muslim Health Oaths to the graduates. This was followed by a collective recital of the Muslim Health Oath.

We would like to congratulate all the graduates on their achievements. May Allah (SWT) guide everyone in their quest for knowledge and grant them success.

IMA Graduation Subcommittee.

2ND LIMPOPO I.M.A MINI CONGRESS

The second annual Mini Congress held in Polokwane on the 10th and 11th of November 2006

The Congress started on the evening of the 10th with a session for the community. Awareness in our daily lives was the theme.

The speakers were Sister Liz De Lange on Diabetes, followed by Moulana Bhaqi on "Islamic Guidelines in Charity and Service to Humanity".

Outreach activities by Dr Hamza Carim, IMA Gauteng, Dr. M.I.A.H. Rawat, IMA Klerksdorp and Dr. J. Omar, IMA Polokwane were presented.

The guest speaker for the evening was, Dr. Anwer Jeewa. He had the audience captivated with his message on the dangers of drug addiction. Drug abuse still remains a serious threat to the stability of any family and needs to be eradicated.

On Saturday the 11th of November, the CME organised by Jameel Omar was held at Ivory Lodge, Bendor in Polokwane. This was a well attended congress by the local Doctors and Health Personnel.

The two main topics of discussion were Lupus Erythematosus and Diabetes and their protein manifestations as seen by our different Medical Professions.

The highlight of the evening was the tribute to Dr. Goolam Mayet who served the community unselfishly for over six decades. Dr Mayet was presented with a commemorative plaque by Dr. Khalid Ismail.

We would like to record our thanks to the various pharmaceutical companies and friends that sponsored our congress.

Dr Ameerudin Chicktay

Bima Smalls

The following practices require locums:

Dr E. Ismail 013 2825451 Middelburg
Dr F. Elias 083 7860594 Warrenton
Dr F.E. Ally 083 5786179 / 021 3761112 Mitchells Plain

The following are looking for locum work:

Dr S.B.M. Bassa 083 7860329

Advert

Specialist Physician, OBS and Gynae, ENT for new Medical Centre in Klerksdorp. Contact Dr. MI RAWAT 0824138204

General Practice for sale in Foréburg / Newtown in rapidly developing area. Call 082 5627117

Congratulations and Masha Allah to Dr Mahomed Ismail Motala La Mercy for qualifying as an ophthalmologist from your parents.

Congratulations to Nasreen Solwa, daughter of Dr M.C. Solwa and Dr F. Shaik, on achieving top matriculation results.

Planning a new Practice

Rooms available Wynberg / Alexandria from Jan 2007 for General Practitioners, Dentists, Podiatrists, Physiotherapists etc. Contact 011 4407274 / 0724379309

Condolences:

Prof. AE Bhigjee, on the loss of his mother

Dr H. Patel, Dr Enver Bulbulia and families on the loss of their niece

Welcome to New Members

The IMA welcomes the following new members:
Dr M.Z. Moosa Lenasia,
Dr I. Carim Laudium,
Dr M. Moolla Lenasia,
Dr G. Essack Cape Town,
Dr S.M.H. Ismail Laudium,
Dr S.A. Ganchi Laudium,
Dr J.A. Omar Polokwane,
Dr A. Goga Durban,
Ms N.A. Dada Polokwane,
Dr Z. Abdool - Centurion

DATABASE UPDATE

CALLING ALL MUSLIM HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Kindly provide us with your e-mail address, indicating your name, postal address and fax number and stating whether you would prefer to have BIMA delivered via e-mail.

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IMA APPOINTS A NATIONAL DIRECTOR

At the 71st Council meeting of IMA a momentous decision was taken to appoint a National Director. Dr Moosa Motara was appointed to the position. Dr Motara is a familiar face in IMA circles. He has been a member of IMA since 1986.

Dr Motara obtained his Bachelor of Science (Honours) and Master of Science degrees, with distinction, from the University of the Punjab in Lahore, Pakistan. In 1973 he proceeded to the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, USA to read for a PhD degree. His doctoral dissertation on mosquito cytogenetics resulted in him being conferred the degree in May 1978.

Dr Motara returned to South Africa and accepted a lecturing position at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, where he was subsequently promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1984. While at Rhodes he was actively involved in the residential system and was the first non-white to be appointed as the Warden of Jan Smuts Hall. In January 1986 he moved to Durban and accepted a position as Professor and Head of the Department of Zoology at the University of Durban-Westville. In 1990 he was elected Dean of the Faculty of Science.

In January 1991 he returned to Rhodes University as the first non-white to be appointed in the Senior Administrative position of Dean of Students. In this capacity he was instrumental in overhauling the residential system at Rhodes University to the extent that it became the envy of all tertiary institutions in South Africa. He controlled an annual budget of more

than 60 million rand. He will however best be remembered for: (i) setting up a halaal kitchen and appointing Muslim caterers to oversee the needs of the Muslim students, and (ii) the one-man-effort that realized the construction of a jamaat khana on the Rhodes University campus. In December 2006, after spending almost a quarter century in Grahamstown, Dr Motara and his wife Tahira retired from Rhodes University and moved to his family roots in Potchefstroom.

He proposes to market the IMA in the various communities as well as government structures. Membership of the IMA, he feels, needs to be broadened to include other health care professionals besides the medical fraternity. Communication with members is another aspect he is keen to improve on. He is also keen to improve the research profile of IMA publications by involving academics and post-graduate students at Universities. IMA is known, through its clinics and relief operations within the communities, to have made a difference to the lives of many. Such outreach programmes require money and Dr Motara, together with his colleagues in IMA, is hopeful of embarking on National Fund Development.

In order to meet the rank and file of IMA members he will initiate a road-show which will ensure that he meets as many members and potential members at the various IMA branches. In the meantime, should anyone wish to contact him with ideas and suggestions, he can be reached at the email address of moosa.motara@ru.ac.za

Convention 2007

27th Annual IMASA Convention
Theme: Health in Southern Africa:
- Lifestyle • Youth • HIV/AIDS • Technology

See insert for
Registration
Brochure

GUEST SPEAKER Date: 6th - 8th April 2007 Venue: Protea Hotel Stellenbosch, Techno Avenue, Techno Park, Stellenbosch

DR AZZAM AL-TAMIMI

- Born in Hebron, Palestine in 1955, emigrated with his family in 1965 to Kuwait
- Studied in London and completed his PhD in Political Theory at Westminster University
- 1980-1985: Tamimi worked as a media monitor and news analyst at the US Foreign Broadcast Information Service
- 1991-1992: directed the Parliamentary Office of the Islamic Movement in Jordan
- 1992-1999: headed the Liberty for the Muslim World Institute in London, researcher for The Centre for the study of Democracy at Westminster University
- 1999-date: Director of the Institute of Islamic Political Thought, executive member of the Muslims Association of Britain and senior lecturer at the Markfield Institute of Higher Education
- Dr Al-Tamimi has published several books and articles on political thought, a prolific speaker and has delivered numerous lectures in Great Britain, Europe, America and South Africa
- We are privileged to host this dynamic and popular, yet humble international figure. He will address the following issues at this year's convention:
 - Islam and Democracy: Synergies and contradictions
 - Islam under threat
 - The future of Palestine and the Middle-East region after Lebanon

Convenor: Dr Shoyaeb Shaik
Email: dubs@mighty.co.za
Cell: 082 561 3427

Co-convenor: Dr Riaz Ismail
Email: riazismail@worldonline.co.za
Cell: 082 449 9200

IMA W/Cape Office: Tougheeda Parker
Email: imawcape@telkomsa.net
Tel: 021 762 1414

COUNCIL MEETING REPORT BACK



The 71st IMA Council meeting was held in Ladysmith on Saturday 4 November 2006. National Executive Committee (NEC) as well as representatives from the Pretoria, Durban, Western Cape, Ladysmith, and Port Shepstone branches were present. The meeting was Chaired by the National President, Professor Mohammed Tikly.

The important decisions taken at the meeting were:

- The essay competition, open to all students, was to be nationally advertised and the winner would be announced at the April 2007 IMA Convention
- Council re-iterated the policy whereby multinationals were not to be used for financial support, CME's, Branch meetings, and IMA Conventions but their funding would be acceptable for community projects where the benefit is not for IMA members but rather the needy community e.g. clinics, relief projects etc
- NEC may fund Branch activities but this would be dependent on the proposal received from the Branch concerned
- Council approved the appointment of Dr Moosa Motara as the IMA National Director with effect from 1 November 2006. The contract and job description to be circulated to all Council members
- Dr Motara presented a document outlining his "Vision for IMA". Due to time constraints the entire document could not be discussed in detail but Council members were asked to comment on the document and forward suggestions to the NEC and the National Director
- The National Director to liaise with the NEC about a "road show" in early 2007 with a view to visiting all the Branches
- The National Treasurer was required to prepare a standard operating procedures [SOP] manual/document for all branches to follow

- The National Director, the IMA President, and Dr Haroun Docrat are to meet and formulate a procedure with regard to National Fund Development
- To unlock formal tax exemption, it is necessary to get an NPO (Non Profit Organisation) number. This will unlock tax concessions for both IMA, its donors and provide more access to government funding. IMA is a PBO (Public Benefit Organisation) and can apply for formal tax exemption. Council agreed that the PBO of Baytul Nur IMA (BTN IMA) is to be used where possible for tax benefits and that receipts for monies received for community work/local relief and clinics will carry the PBO number. More importantly it was agreed that the financial statements of all local relief/clinics activities will be consolidated under the BTN IMA.
- Council agreed that each Branch should have a media committee. The lack of submitted articles to JIMASA as well as the quality of articles submitted was of concern. The view expressed was that BIMA was being delivered too late to members but it was agreed to send electronic as well as hard copies. The main complaint was that members were not forthcoming with articles, news items etc for BIMA, JIMASA, or the website.
- The 2006 Convention Committee reported a profit and indicated that 471 delegates registered.
- The 2007 Convention will be held, Insha-Allah, in Cape Town from 6-8 April. The venue for the Convention is to be either the Lagoon Beach Hotel in Cape Town or the Protea Hotel in Stellenbosch. One of the guest speakers will, Insha-Allah, be Dr Azam Tamimi
- Subcommittee reports from Clinics, Muslim Aids Programme (MAP), Membership, SAHUC, Relief, FIMA, and Women's Wing were tabled and briefly discussed
- Council unanimously agreed for the NEC to remain in Johannesburg for at least a further one year

AIDS VACCINE ADVOCACY COALITION CALLS FOR STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MALE CIRCUMCISION FOR HIV PREVENTION

New York, NY, December 13, 2006 - Mitchell Warren, Executive Director of the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition (AVAC) issued the following statement regarding the Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) decision to stop two NIH-sponsored trials one in Kenya and one in Uganda on male circumcision for evidence of efficacy in HIV prevention:

"The news is a milestone in the history of the AIDS epidemic. These data build on earlier results from a South African male circumcision study released in 2005 that showed male circumcision helps protect men from HIV infection.

"The benefits of this new prevention strategy will only be realized if male circumcision is included as a part of a larger package of prevention services.

"Implementation of male circumcision must be accompanied with appropriate HIV testing, risk-reduction counseling and condom provision. Women cannot be overlooked, since data is still pending from an on-going companion study in Uganda on whether male circumcision protects the female partners of circumcised, HIV-infected men.

Unlike other HIV risk reduction strategies, male circumcision is a surgical procedure. It requires trained personnel, sterile instruments, and adequate supplies of items like gauze and bandages. In the developing world, these resources are often in short supply, and, in their absence, the procedure can lead to infections and even death. We must work now to scale-up these resources in countries where HIV and AIDS have the greatest impact.

"Scaling up male circumcision can have a dramatic impact, but it is not a silver bullet. We must simultaneously continue to pursue other prevention technologies, including vaginal and rectal microbicides, cervical barriers and preventive HIV vaccines. A wide array of prevention and treatment options is essential in the fight against AIDS, and AVAC firmly believes that a safe and effective vaccine remains the best possible option for ending the epidemic."

AVAC's report on anticipating and understanding results of the male circumcision trials is available at www.avac.org.

FIMA SAVE VISION : From Darkness to Light

Somalia remained in civil war for 16 years which led this country to a state of massive destruction and poverty. Health facilities are in a miserable state and ophthalmic care is negligible. For 10.5 million population, only 6 qualified eye surgeons are available, out of which only 4 are actively performing surgeries. It is estimated that about 2% of the people are blind, more than 50% are due to cataracts.

FIMA and Arab Medical Union (AMU) representatives met in Cairo on November 22, 2006 to discuss the Save Vision Campaign in Somalia. WHO coordinator for Prevention Of Blindness (POB) in Somalia and the Director of MINHAL (Somalian N.G.O) were also present at this meeting.

After considering all aspects of the existing situation and requirements, FIMA and AMU agreed to work in Somalia as partners for Save Vision Project. Ten thousands surgeries are planned till 31 Dec 2007.

HOW CAN YOU AND YOUR IMAs HELP?

- You and your IMAs are requested to join hands with FIMA Save Vision for this ongoing global and charitable activity.
- IMAs can participate by sending your Eye Surgeons.
- You and your IMAs can provide finances to fund these charitable activities.

Kindly send your donations for FIMA Save Vision to the account mentioned below :
Federation of Islamic Medical Associations Trust
Account No. 36-61-01-0002
Al-Baraka Bank, Services Plaza, Mall Road, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

VISION PROJECT IN NIGER BY DOCTORS WORLDWIDE TURKEY

Doctors Worldwide Turkey, Hayat Foundation's sister organization for international relief, sent 5 volunteers from Turkey to perform eye operations in Niger. With the help of some Turkish NGOs, 3 ophthalmic surgeon and 2 nurses went to Tesova, Niger last week. They brought operating microscope, generators and other equipment and performed the operations at Tesova State Hospital.

Team leader Dr Erhan Sarisin gave the following brief. "Tesova is in the middle of the country. Total population of Niger is 14.5 million but there are only 10 ophthalmic surgeons. Cataract is very common here and because of poverty and insufficient number of surgeons, people live in darkness even at a young age. Niger is a very poor country. When we operated we requested to see them the following day for a follow up. They stayed outside of the hospital overnight because they had nowhere to stay. We worked till late nights and operated more than 250 cataract patient in 5 days."

We are planning to start fistula operations for women suffering from fistula complications from childbirth which is very common in Niger.
Dr. M. Ihsan Karaman MD
FIMA Representative Hayat Foundation
Chairman, Executive Committee, Doctors Worldwide Turkey

FIMA EYE CAMPS DEC 2006 - JAN 2007 - 15,000 EYE SURGERIES PLANNED FOR 2007

FREE EYE CAMP in CHAD

9th Dec - 14th Dec, 2006
200 surgeries are planned.
Two Eye Surgeons and One OTA from Pakistan and one from Saudi Arabia will participate.

FREE EYE CAMP in MOGADISHO (SOMALIA)

18th Dec to 25th Dec, 2006.
500 surgeries are planned.
Three Eye Surgeons and one OTA from Pakistan will participate.

FREE EYE CAMP in FIMA Eye Hospital (Genaina & Darfur in Sudan)

14th Jan to 28th Jan 2007.
1,000 surgeries are planned.
Four eye surgeons and one OTA will participate.

WORKSHOP FOR TECHNICIANS 3rd FIMA OPHTHALMIC WORKSHOP

Structured program for two weeks.
Venue.....FIMA Eye Hospital at Genaina, Sudan.
Dates.....14th Jan to 28th Jan 2007.
Beneficiaries.....Technicians of FIMA Eye Hospital and others from Darfur.
Trainers.....Eye surgeons and Technicians from Pakistan.

STUDENTS

ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

The IMA of South Africa invites all students registered with medical and allied health facilities in South Africa to write an essay not exceeding 2000 words on the following:

- Activities and Achievements of the IMA.
- The Relevance and need for the organisation in the present South Africa
- The IMA as a humanitarian relief organization
- The role of students in the IMA

So, get writing - and share your thoughts!

Deadline for submission: **14 March 2007**.
Please email your essay to [Badia\(imajhb@global.co.za\)](mailto:Badia(imajhb@global.co.za)).

Please include your:

- Name
- University
- Course title
- Year of Study
- Home address
- Contact telephone number
- Contact email address

Criteria

- Open to all religions and race groups.
- Must be original work and research
- Must include relevant bibliography
- Give the reader an overview of the events leading up to, and detail your experiences with the IMA.
- Outline your expectations of working with the IMA.
- Be sensitive to cultural, contextual and institutional differences
- Provide an individual and honest account.
- Sound structure, grammar and spelling is vital
- Do not exceed the 2,000 word limit.

The winning author will be attending the annual convention, all expenses paid. The essay will be posted on the IMA website and will be featured in our publications.

Please note: All essays once submitted to be regarded as property of IMA. We reserve editorial rights for any essays we choose to publish.

Winners to be announced at the Convention in Cape Town on 6 to 8 April 2007