

## ACTIVITIES OF IAMMS

### ***Karam Hussain Museum of Art, Culture & Sciences***

(A Unit of Ibn Sina Academy of Medieval Medicine & Sciences (Trust), Aligarh)

Ibn Sina Academy is presently engaged to give final shape to this Museum, the artifacts of which are somewhat disorganized at present. The Museum currently has a large collection of Coins, Postal Stamps, Paintings, Utensils, Photographs, Sculptures, Busts, Pens (Old & New), and Memoirs & Relics of some prominent personalities. Construction work is going on for the building of the Museum at Aligarh.

The Curator of the Museum is Ms. Nazneen Rahman with the following consulting members: Prof. S. P. Verma, Mr. S. Sarfraz Zaidi, Ms. Afrina Rizvi, Dr. Tasawwer Husain, Ms. Safia Akhtar, Dr. S. Shoeb Ahmad, Ms. Soofia Shoeb and Ms. Asifa Haneefa.

Please visit the following site for details: <http://www.ibnsinaacademy.com/museum.html>, which will be upgraded from time to time.

### **New Publication of IAMMS**

*Science for the Masses – Dynamics of Popular Communication* (ISBN No. 81-901362-1-6) by Afrina Rizvi (Dept. of Mass Communication, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh).

### **Selected Correspondences / Messages**

*From: Mr. Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.* (Excerpts of the notes written for the Library of Ibn Sina Academy at the time of its inauguration dated 20.4.2001)  
 “This is a collection of books which would gladden the heart of any bibliophile. It speaks for itself and is by any measure a commendable one-person effort. What is particularly admirable is the effort made by Prof. Zillur Rahman Saheb to put this collection to greater extent by building around it an Ibn Sina Academy, which has initiated some promising academic research programmes. In the years to come this collection would become an Aligarh landmark and benefit scholars.”

*From: Mrs. Salma Hamid Ansari, Aligarh Muslim*

*University, Aligarh, dated 20.3.2002.*

“No history is irrelevant. It is history that gives us a sense of today. Respected Hakim Saheb’s library the past, the present and the future make beautiful fabric of life. I wish him good luck”.

*From: Professor Abdul Nasser Kadaan, Secretary General, International Society for the History of Islamic Medicine, Aleppo, Syria, a.kaadan@scs-net.org, dated 9.3.2002*

“Dear Prof. Syed Zillur Rahman, Thank you for your message and the newsletter. I found NISA very interesting and attractive. We will get some material from it to be published in ISHIM Newsletter, which we hope to publish soon”.

*From: Dr. Asad Ahmed, Professor Emeritus, University of Edmonton, Edmonton, Canada, asad.ahmed@attcanada.net, dated 25.2.2002*

“Dear Ziaur Rahman Sahib: Thank you very much for sending me the Newsletter. It looks scholarly and very impressive. Hakim Zillur Rahman Sahib is doing excellent work”.

### **New Addition of important books/Special Numbers to the Zillur Rahman Library of IAMMS**

1. *Jahan-i Tibb*, Ibn Sina Number, Vol. 2. No. 2, 2000, CCRUM, Govt. of India.
2. *Proceedings of the First International Conference of Society of Pharmacovigilance* held on February 8-9, 2002 at S. N. Medical College, Agra (India).
3. *How to develop and implement a national drug policy*, Department of Essential Drugs and Medicines Policy, Documentation Centre of the WHO, 2002.
4. *Armughan-e Suroor*, Ed. Asghar Abbas, Anjuman Taraqqi Urdu (Hind), N. Delhi, 2001.
5. *Irfan-e Saiyid Hamid*, Ed. Asghar Abbas & Shahabuddin Saqib, Educational Book House, Aligarh, 2001.
6. *Tanqidat* by Nazir Ahmad, Ghalib Institute, New Delhi, 1997.
7. *Talash-e Ghalib* by Nisar Ahmad Faruqi, Ghalib Institute, New Delhi, 1999.
8. *Taakub* by Khursheed Jabin (Chandni), Intl. Printing Press, Aligarh, 2001.

9. *Akhbar Jamhur: Bartnavi Amriyat wa Istebdad se Takrao – Tajziya wa Intikhab* by Abida Samiuddin, Excellent Printing Service, Delhi, 1995.
10. *Al-Quran* with translation in five languages (Arabic, English, Urdu, Hindi & Gujrati), Maktaba Ilm-al-Quran, Bhopal.
11. *Bagh Ka Darwaza* by Tariq Chatari, Educational Book House, Aligarh, 2001.
12. *Matan wa Mani* (Literary Criticism) by Khursheed Ahmad, Ablagh Publication, Aligarh, 2001.
13. *Ilaj biltadbeer* by, Dr. Mohd. Ahsanullah & Dr. Mohd Inayatullah, Lucknow, 2002.
14. *Zindagi Kay Rang* by Iffat Ara, Universal Book House, Aligarh, 2001.
15. *Shahnama* by -, - pages, folio size, illustrated year of publication – (donated by S. M. R. Ansari).
16. *Ghiyathul Lughat* (a well-known Persian Dictionary) by —, (donated by S. M. R. Ansari).

### Notices of Publications/Works of Members of IAMMS

1. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman: Tasaneef-e Shaikh Al Rais Abu Ali Ibn Sina, *Jahan-i Tibb*, Ibn Sina Number, Vol. 2. No. 2, (2000) pp. 20-32, CCRUM, Govt. of India.
2. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman: Tibb Mein Tashrih ki Ahmiyat, *Al Nisa*, 1999-2000, pp. 206-211, New Hall for Girls, AMU, Aligarh.
3. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman: Aligarh Aur Bhopal, *Fikr-o-Agahi (Aligarh Number)*, 2000, pp. 374-382, Delhi.
4. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman: Hakim Ghulam Mahmud Khan, *Al-Habib Magazine*, 2000, pp. 29-36, AMU, Aligarh.
5. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman: Hakim Mohammed Said - Hayat wa Khidmat, *Aina-e-Tib* 2000, pp. 18 – 27, A. K. Tibbia College, AMU, Aligarh.
6. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman: Asmaul Advia by Hakim Azam Khan, *Fikro-Nazar*, Vol. 38 (4), December, 2001, p. 18-35, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
7. Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman: Hakim Hammad Usmani – Aik Danishwar Tabib, *Jahan-e Tibb*, Hammad Usmani Number, Vol. 2. No. 3, January-March, 2001, pp. 4-5, CCRUM, Govt. of India.
8. S. M. R. Ansari: XXI International Congress of History of Science (held at Mexico, July 2001), *Indian Journal of History of Science*, Vol. 36, No.

3-4 (2001), pp. 203-211, Delhi.

9. A. Latif: Traditional Herbal Drugs in Cancer: A Classification & Scientific Evaluations, *Ethnomedicine & Pharmacognosy* (Eds. V. K. Singh, J. N. Govil & Gurdip Singh), Vol. 1, pp. 253-263, Sci Tech Pub., USA.
10. S. Z. Rahman & K. C. Singhal: Problems in Pharmacovigilance of Medicinal Products of Herbal Origin & Means to Minimize Them, *Supplement to Uppsala Reports*, Issue 17 January 2002, pp. 1-4, WHO Collaborating Center for ADR Monitoring, UMC, Sweden.
11. S. Z. Rahman, R. Ahmad & K. C. Singhal: ADR Monitoring of Medicinal Products of Herbal Origin, *Proceedings of the First International Conference of the Society of Pharmacovigilance, India (SOPI)*, February 8-9, 2002, pp. 94-100, Agra.

### NEWS ITEM

• **S. M. Razaullah Ansari (Aligarh)** has been elected as the first President of the Indian Society for History of Astronomy (ISHA), at its first meeting held in Jaipur, February 27, 2002.

• **Abdul Nasser Kaadan (Aleppo)** has been designated as head of the History of Medicine Department, Institute for the History of Arabic Science, Aleppo University. He took this responsibility after the retirement of its former head Abdul Kareem Chehadeh in September 2001.

### The Terrible Plight of Abul Kalam Azad Institute

Once a hub of intellectual discussions and research, the Abul Kalam Azad Oriental Research Institute (Hyderabad) has been experiencing a slow death for quite sometime. The fund-starved Institute, which houses a collection of 15,000 books and 155 rare manuscripts, is finding it difficult to retain whatever it is left with. Despite repeated pleas from the authorities of the Institute, the State Government has shown no signs of interest to revive the glory of the Institute, which was named after the first education minister of India and who was a renowned scholar of Islamic studies.

Originally established at the Aiwan-e-Urdu in Punjagutta, the Institute was shifted to its present premises at Public Gardens in 1964. The Institute functions in two old buildings on either side of a mosque. Before the Institute was shifted to its new premise, the

two buildings were used as *Niaz Khana*— a place where the poor were fed during the reign of the Nizams. Though the Institute had been passing through a bad time since 1990, its real trouble began in 1995 when the State Government stopped its grant worth of Rs 20,000. This cancellation of its grant coincided also with the cancellation of a similar grant from the Promotion of Urdu Bureau of the Central Government. According to the President of the Institute who was former Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Mohammad Bin Muhammad, the State Government in 1997 issued a Government Order (No-216) asking the Institute to vacate the premises. The long-term lease for the Institute to use the building was also cancelled. Consequently the Institute filed a writ petition in the same year against the above-mentioned order and was given a stay order by the High Court in 1998. However, taking advantage of the financial crunch faced by the Institute, the State Government in November 2000, asked the Institute authorities to withdraw the court case. The government promised that the Institute could then approach for an extension of lease and release of grant. With that assurance from the government, the Institute withdrew the case against the Government in December 2000. However, instead of extending the lease, the Government went back on its promise and announced that it would provide an alternative site to house the Institute. But neither of these promises has been fulfilled despite repeated requests to the Government by the President of the Institute.

The Institute does not even have funds to buy necessary chemicals to treat the books to preserve them. "We are using camphor and moth balls to save the books, some of which are more than 100 years old," according to the Librarian of the Institute, Mr. Kamaluddin, the Institute's Librarian. The Library also houses some of the books written by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, including his famous books: *India wins freedom* and *Sufi Sarmad*.

(Courtesy: Times News Network, Sunday, February 03, 2002)

### Video On Sale

1. A video showing traditional techniques of drug manufacturing, prepared by Danish Historians, may be purchased by writing to professor Poul Kruse, Copenhagen (Denmark). E-mail: pf@mail.dfh.pk
2. Another video from the German Museum for the History of Pharmacy located in Heidelberg Castle,

may be purchased at <[www.deutsches-apotheken-museum.de](http://www.deutsches-apotheken-museum.de)>

### Drug History

Phenformin was introduced in 1957 in the wake of the development of the sulphonylurea oral antidiabetic drugs. It is a biguanide analogue of the alkaloid galegine obtained from *Galega officinalis*, goat's rue.

Galegine was the first of several guanidines investigated in the 1920s to see clinical application. It was somewhat toxic. Slotta and Tschesche synthesized biguanide analogues of galegine, one of which was marketed by Schering in 1926 under the name Synthelin. It was still too toxic and had to be replaced by Synthalin B. This was withdrawn in the 1940s on account of its hepatotoxicity.

Courtesy: Dr. Walter Sneader, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sci., Univ. of Strathclyde, UK

### Newsletter of International Society for Islamic Medicine

The first issue of the newsletter of International Society for Islamic Medicine (ISHIM) could be found at: <http://www.ishim.net/newsletter1.htm>

### Editorial Board for the Journal of ISHIM

The Editorial Board for the Journal of International Society for History of Islamic Medicine has been formed. The first issue of the journal is expected to be released in April 2002. Following are its members:

**Chairman of Editorial Board:** Dr. Hajar A. Hajar (Qatar).

**Editors in chief:** Dr. Aysegül Demirhan Erdemir (Turkey) & Dr. Abdul Nasser Kaadan (Syria)

**Associate Editors:** Dr. Sahin Aksoy (Turkey) & Dr. Sharif Kaf Al-Ghazal (England).

**Editorial Board:** Dr. Mehdi Mohaghegh (Iran), Dr. Husain Nagamia (USA), Dr. Nil Sari (Turkey), Dr. Faisal Al-Nasir (Bahrain), Dr. Mostafa Shehata (Egypt), Dr. Rachel Hajar (Qatar).

**International Advisory Board:** Dr. Alain Touwaide (Belgium), Dr. Ahmad Kanaan (KSA), Dr. David W. Tschanz (KSA), Dr. Keishi Hasebe (Japan), Dr. Mustafa Abdul Rahman (France), Dr. Bacheer al-Kateb (Syria), Dr. Plinio Pioreschi (USA), Hakim Syed Zillur Rahman (India), Dr. Abdul Mohammad Kajbfzadeh (Iran), Dr. Riem Hawi (Germany), Dr. Esin Kahya (Turkey), Dr. Mamoun Mobayed (England), Dr.

Taha al-Jasser (Syria), Dr. Rolando Neri-Vela (Mexico), Dr. Zafar Afaq Ansari (Malaysia), Dr. Husaini Hafiz (Singapore), Dr. Talat Masud Yelbuz (USA), Dr. Mohamed Rashed (Libya), Dr. Nabil El Tabbakh (KSA), Hakim Naimuddin Zubairy (Pakistan), Dr. Ahmad Chaudhry (England), Dr. Farid Haddad (USA), Dr. Ibrahim Syed (USA), Dr. Jurnal Uddin (Indonesia).

### In Memoriam

#### Shabbir Ahmad Khan Ghorī (1911- 2002).

Maulana S.A. Khan Ghorī, the very well known historian of Islamic science and philosophy was born in Aligarh on March 15, 1911, and breathed his last also in Aligarh, strangely enough, on March 15, 2002. His father, Ghiyathuddin Khan Ghorī was a businessman. Ghorī Saheb, as he was fondly called, had been a student of the famous Madrasa Lutfi (Aligarh), from which he got his first degree ('*Alim Fazil*') in *Dars-i Nizami* with distinction. He completed also his *Munshi Fazil* (in Persian). Even during his Madrasa education, he was very much interested in the Islamic Sciences, that is, the sciences as developed in Arab peninsula, Iran and other Central Asian countries. He told me that he used to take private lessons in Arabic recession of Euclid Geometry and al-Chaghmini's astronomical treatise. After leaving the Madrasa, he joined the then Muslim University at Aligarh, and completed his triple M. A. in Arabic, Persian and Urdu, in due course of time and also the degree of LL.B. He joined then M. A. (Mathematics) during the tenure of Sir Ziauddin Ahmad's Vice-Chancellorship.

After completing his education, he secured several positions: Lecturer in the Muslim University for a short period; his major post of Inspector-head of Board of Arabic and Persian Examinations (Allahabad), 1945-66, from where he retired; Lecturer in the Department of Urdu (Delhi University) during 1966-72; and Senior Research Officer in the Literary Research Unit of Tibbiya College (Aligarh Muslim University) during 1972-77. Since he was almost the only Arabic and Persian scholar with an expertise in history of exact science, I had the privilege of having him as a colleague, precisely speaking as Senior Research Officer, in two projects: 'Jai Singh Astronomical Instruments', and the

'Critical Edition of Jai Singh Astronomical Tables (*Zij-i Muhammad Shahi*)', 1980-83, 1984-87; both sponsored by Indian National Science Academy (New Delhi).

Apart from the above-mentioned, Ghorī Saheb had been very actively engaged in diverse studies pertaining to Islamic history and culture, and history of Islamic science and philosophy. He published a few hundred articles in Urdu in well known periodicals, for instance, in Ma'aarif (Azamgarh), Burhaan (New Delhi), Journal of the Dept. of Islamic Studies (Aligarh Muslim University), also in Indian Journal of History of Science (New Delhi), to name just a few. His expertise and scholarship in both Arabic and Persian was recognised on national level, when he was awarded President of India Award for Arabic in 1991, and Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad Ghalib Award by Ghalib Institute (New Delhi) in 1992.

Noteworthy is that with the untiring efforts of Abid Raza Bedar (Formerly Director; Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Library, Patna) and his successor, Habibur Rahman Chighani, quite a substantial part of Ghorī Saheb's research publications has been collected under the general title: *Ghorī Research Studies*, 8 volumes of which have been published by Khuda Bakhsh Library (Patna) during 1997-98. Here, I list only the title of each volume.

1. *Rational Sciences in Medieval India*, pp.248, 1997.
2. *Philosophy and Scholasticism (Kalam) in Muslim India*, pp.389, 1997.
3. *Islamic logic and Philosophy— A Review*, pp.446, 1988.
4. *Muslim Astronomy — An Assessment*, pp.388, 1998.
5. *Development of Scientific Thinking ('Ilm wa Hikmat) in Islam*, pp.262, 1998.
6. *Muslim Contribution to Mathematics*, pp.431, 1998.
7. *Iqbal Studies*, pp.182, 1998.
8. *Islamic Culture*, pp.203, 1998.

This series comprising over 2449 pages is spread over only 63 most significant articles. The title of each volume is a clear indicator of its contents. However, it may be mentioned that most of the articles deal with the historical side of the *problematique*, and the

technical side of the exact sciences especially was almost not treated. Ghorī Saheb had to opt for the former, for the simple reason that Urdu periodical literature, even today, is devoid of mathematical formulas or of astronomical or philosophical technicalities. It is a pity that one of the very few great experts of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, S. A. Khan Ghorī, could not present his comprehensive knowledge and expertise, specifically in the field of history of sciences of Medieval Indian period, due to linguistic limitation.

Working together with him on any primary scientific source was a sheer delight. He inspired every one by his in-depth knowledge and by his devotion and commitment to the scholarship. By his demise the Ibn Sina Academy (IAMMS) and in particular the whole community of Arabic and Persian scholars have lost a doyen of Islamic learning in the present scenario of *diminishing rigorous* scholarship. May God rest his soul in peace.

S. M. Razaullah Ansari (Aligarh)

6

### Roy Sydney Porter (1946 – 2002)

Roy Porter was a famous historian, writer and a scholar of great creativity and productivity. He was born on December 31, 1946 and died at 55 years of age on March 4, 2002. Porter wrote extensively on topics of medical history, some of which touched on the history of pharmacy. Roy took his historical scholarship seriously, from 1993 onward till last year. He was professor of the social history of medicine at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. He moved easily between social, medical and psychiatric history, and was never better than when describing eccentricity and extremes of temperament. Within medical history, he pioneered the now fashionable concern with patients (instead of doctors), and his books on 18th-century medical history (two of them written with his third wife, Dorothy Porter as a co-author) rescued this century from the clutches of historians blind to its medical richness. He also wrote widely on the history of psychiatry and its patients, on sex and the history of the body. *The Greatest Benefit To Mankind: A Medical History of Humanity* (1997) was a blockbuster history from Plato to Nato. Other books of Porter were: *The Making Of Geology* (1977), *London: A Social History* (1994), and *Enlightenment: Britain And The Creation Of The Modern World* (2000).

## CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS HELD

### 5<sup>th</sup> National Seminar on “ Ancient Indian Astronomy

This 1-day Seminar was organised by B.M. Birla Science and Technology Centre (Jaipur) and co-sponsored by B.M. Birla Science Centre, Hyderabad, on Feb.27, 2002. The convenor of the Seminar was Dr. B. G. Sidharth (Director of the B.M. Birla Science Centre, Hyderabad). Dr. Sidharth welcomed the participants. The Executive Director of the Jaipur Centre then addressed the audience and informed them about many research projects carried out at the Jaipur Centre. The first session started with the invited talk of Prof. B.M. Ballabh (Director of the UGC Advance Centre for Astronomy, Osmania University, Hyderabad) on “Some Comments on the Epoch of Kaliyuga”, which was followed by the following invited talks.

Dr. Ramasubramanian (Madras University, Chennai), “Highlights from Yuktibhasha— A Commentary on Tantrasangraha “.

Dr. B.G. Sidharth (B.M. Birla Science Centre, Hyderabad), “Astronomical Link between India and Mesoamerica”.

Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari (Formerly Professor of Physics Dept. AMU, Aligarh), “ Ancient Indian Astronomy in Indo-Persian Sources”.

Dr. Sambasivian (Formerly, Editor of CSIR Journals, New Delhi), “ Modern Astronomical Optics”.

At the close of the Seminar in the afternoon, the first meeting of the ad-hoc Organising Committee of the Indian Society of History of Astronomy (ISHA) was held, wherein the first Executive Council of the ISHA was instituted, see the details in the Documentation section of this issue. After the meeting, a press conference was called to interact with Executive Council of ISHA, and to explain to the press the aim and objective of the Society and the rationale for its establishment.

### ISN Sponsored Workshop on “Brain Microdialysis & Neurochemical Analyses”

A one-day workshop on hands-on training in neurochemical assays in brain dialysate samples was organized at the Laboratory of Experimental & Clinical Neuroscience, Indian Institute of Chemical Biology,

Calcutta, during 21<sup>st</sup> March 2002 for 13 Young Neurochemists (less than 40 years of age) from India and neighboring countries. The International Society for Neurochemistry (ISN) provided travel funds to these young investigators to attend not only this Workshop but also the International Symposium on Neurodegeneration & Neuroprotection on 18<sup>th</sup> March as well as the Indian Academy of Neuroscience Annual meeting on 19-20 March 2002.

The Following faculty from India and abroad delivered lectures and demonstrations: Dr. Alexander Storch (University of Ulm), Prof. Santy Daya (University of Rhodes), Dr. K. P. Mohanakumar, & Dr. Sumantra Das (Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Calcutta), Prof. Sasanka Chakraborty (University College of Medicine, Calcutta University). Besides lectures, practical demonstrations included Brain Stereotaxy, micro dialysis, sample collection, assays of catecholamines and their metabolites, dopamine transporters, and calcium.

Following investigators were selected for the workshop: Dinesh Pal (New Delhi), Shoeb Zafar Khan (New Delhi), Indrani Sen (Bangalore), Avinash K. Rawal (Nagpur), K. Vijay Kumar (Lucknow), Jitendra Narain Singh (Varanasi), Syed Ziaur Rahman (Aligarh), Laxmi Bose (Manikunj, Bangladesh), Varduhi Knaryan (Yerevan, Armenia), Anindita Joardar (Kolkata), Ranil De Silva (Ratmalana, Sri Lanka), Dinesh Jayakumaran (Colombo, Sri Lanka) and Arna Katewa (Vadodara).

#### **(A) Seminar on Invisible Monuments and the Costs of Pharmaceutical Regulation: Twenty-five Years of Drug Lag Debate**

Mr. Arthur Daemmrch of the Chemical Heritage Foundation spoke on Invisible Monuments and the Costs of Pharmaceutical Regulation: Twenty-five Years of Drug Lag Debate on February 20, 2002 at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. This essay reviews the drug lag issue, a highly-politicized debate about the speed with which new drugs are approved in the United States from its start in the early 1970s through its apparent resolution in the mid-1990s. Throughout the debate, the author argued that different visions of "the patient" were at stake. Winners at any given moment were those who could best portray in an easily visualized or better yet, actually visible, victimized patient. During the 1970s, critics portrayed an abstract, often invisible

patient who suffered due to the delay in approving helpful therapeutics. The Food & Drug Administration, on the other hand, described an easily visualized patient that needed protection from the pharmaceutical industry. This patient was readily seen on television and in print due to media attention to the deformed children born during the thalidomide tragedy and other victims of adverse drug reactions. In the 1980s and early 1990s, however, the tables turned. Critics, now including cancer and AIDS activists, gave a visible face to patients needing more rapid access to new drugs. The FDA initially tried to retain its precautionary stance based on the potential harm of side effects, but then relented and changed regulatory procedures. As a result, new drugs came on the market more quickly, ending the political saliency of comparisons with approval rates in other countries. Though no longer a burning political issue, drug approval rates have longer-term implications in contemporary disputes about the costs and duration of clinical testing.

Arthur Daemmrch recently completed his Ph.D. at Cornell University on the topic, "Therapeutic Cultures: Pharmaceutical Regulation and Medical Politics in the United States and Germany". He has held fellowships from the Social Science Research Council/Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies, the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and is currently the Gordon Cain Fellow at the Chemical Heritage Foundation. Daemmrch has published on DNA typing (genetic fingerprinting), biotechnology policy and politics, and pharmaceutical drug regulation. His next project will explore the topic of industry and governance, focusing on changing relations among science-based corporations, national governments, and consumer groups.

#### **(B) Seminar on Spanish Fly as a Therapeutic in Nineteenth-Century Psychiatry**

Dr. Edward C. Leonard, Jr., of Friends Hospital spoke on Some Medicinal Properties and Deleterious Qualities of Cantharides (Spanish Fly) in Early American Psychiatry on March 20, 2002 at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Early 19th-century physicians applied cantharides (the crushed carapace of the Spanish fly) to raise skin blisters. Patients and doctors hoped that this local irritation would diminish the inflammation of internal organs thought to cause disease. When

improvement in the symptoms of mental disorders occurred, it was attributed to reduction in inflammation of the brain or its blood vessels. Thomas Kirkbride and Pliny Earle, resident physicians at Philadelphia's Friends Hospital in two early 19th-century decades, often used blisters and other anti-inflammatory treatments. Their case notes from the 1830s and 1840s document a decline in mortality among patients blistered with cantharides. Mortality appears to have been associated with application of cantharides to the scalp. These cantharides cases were discussed in the context of 19th-century and current medical knowledge.

Dr. Edward C. Leonard, Jr., M.D. has practiced psychiatry in Philadelphia since 1970 at Friends Hospital. His study of nineteenth-century sources (published and manuscript) has led to several psychiatric history articles in sub-specialty journals. A recent one, "Suicidal Contagion: An Accepted, But Never Implemented 19th-Century Idea," reviews the development of professional opinion and highlights an early psychological autopsy. He presented some entrepreneurial aspects of the first woman psychiatrist at Friends Hospital at a previous Wood Institute seminar. He has focused his recent reading on the origins and endings of several potentially deadly nineteenth-century psychiatric therapies. Nothing resembling a product recall has been found for four treatments that could kill if misapplied: digitalis, conium maculatum, compression of the carotid arteries, and cantharides blisters.

To get the details of the above two seminars and about the two speakers, contact: Ed Morman (Director), Wood Institute for the History of Medicine, The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 19 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia PA (USA). E-mail: emorman@collphyphil.org

## REPORTS OF THE CONFERENCES

### International Conference of the Society of Pharmacovigilance, India: A Report by Syed Ziaur Rahman

The First International Conference of Society of Pharmacovigilance, India was held at S.N. Medical College, Agra during 8-9, February 2002. The organizing secretary was Dr. Shobha Kulshrestha, Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmacology, S.N. Medical College, Agra.

In 1998, an idea was generated during the International Workshop on Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring to establish Pharmacovigilance as a distinct and influential clinical discipline in India. To give shape to this idea, a meeting of interested scientists took place at Lucknow at the time of the annual conference of Indian Pharmacological Society. Some decisions were taken at the meeting and as a follow up action society was registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 at Ahmedabad. Prof. K. C. Singhal (J. N. Medical College, AMU, Aligarh) drafted the Memorandum of Association for the said society. After all formalities, it was decided to hold its first annual conference at Agra.

The announcement of the programme was made through circular letters to various Medical / Pharmacy Colleges, Pharmaceutical Industry, Health Care Administrators in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The information also appeared in *Uppsala Reports* published by WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring Uppsala, Sweden.

In spite of the fact that the Conference was being organized for the first time on Pharmacovigilance in India, 162 participants registered themselves as delegates including 4 foreign delegates. If we compare the professional data, then 34 were consultants, 55 were academicians, 48 were private practitioners and 25 were Postgraduates. In addition, 17 were invited as resource persons.

The inauguration ceremony began with the lighting of the lamp at 10:00 AM. Dr. G.P. Saxena (Vice Chancellor, Agra University) was the chief guest and Prof. John Autian (Dean Emeritus and Former Vice Chancellor, University of Tennessee, Memphis, USA) was the guest of honour. Prof. K. C. Singhal (President of the Society) in his presidential address emphasized the need of concerted efforts for organized activities of Pharmacovigilance, monitoring adverse drug reactions (ADR), medical devices, drug abuse, counterfeit drugs, the need to dissociate the hazards caused by medical errors from the medical negligence and to revamp laws and judicial panel adjudication cases of alleged negligence against physicians. Prof. John Autian suggested that ADR Monitoring Center and Poison Centres should jointly be established in every medical institution and

the findings and observations be published in newsletters and journals. Prof. Saxena stressed the following requirements: rational drug therapy, approaching poor population for providing effective medical care, conducting research and finding usefulness of Ayurvedic, Unani and Sidha Medicines in comparison with drugs of modern systems of medicine.

During the inauguration, Prof. John Autian gave a cheque of US \$ 900 for establishing a prize for best paper presented by a young scientist at the annual conference of the Society of Pharmacovigilance. A *Pre-Conference Publication* (Proceedings) was also released in which articles from leading physicians / pharmacists engaged in Pharmacovigilance activity and consultants from WHO Centre for International Drug Monitoring in India and abroad are included.

The first John Autian Endowment Lecture was delivered by Prof. K.C. Singhal (Chairman Deptt. of Pharmacology, J.N. Medical College, AMU Aligarh and the president of the Society). Prof. John Autian has offered the endowment to the society for this lecture.

The deliberations of the conference were held in ten sessions. The eighth session was particularly designed to emphasize different aspects of Pharmacovigilance, while sessions 4 and 10 were dedicated for free papers. The deliberations aroused interest in the participants and very useful discussions took place especially with experts from WHO. The discussions were held in a friendly and healthy environment.

Overall the programme was highly educative and useful in updating knowledge of pharmacologist, pharmacists, General / Specialist practitioners, Academicians, medical teachers and consultants. It was very well organized. All delegates including foreign one were very happy and satisfied with all scientific sessions.

At the General Body Meeting, following members have been elected as the Office Bearers' of Society of Pharmacovigilance (India) on 8.9.2002: Dr. K. C. Singhal – President; Dr. Alice Kuruvilla - Vice-President; Dr. Shobha Kulshrestha - Vice-President; Dr. Sandeep Agarwal - Gen. Secretary; Dr. G. Parthasarthy – Editor; Dr. Naresh Khanna - Jt. Secretary; Dr. Pipasha Biswas - Secretary International

Affairs; Dr. Govind Mohan – Treasurer; Dr. P. Savita - Member, EC; Dr. P. Sharma -Member, EC; Dr. Baruna Ganguly - Member, EC; Dr. S. P. Singh- Member, EC; Dr. V. K. Srivastava - Member, EC; Dr. Pawan Gupta – Member, EC.

Following physicians from J. N. Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh attended the above conference: Prof. K. C. Singhal, Prof. Rakesh Bhargava, Prof. Usha Singhal, Dr. M. L. B. Bhatt, Dr. D. K. Sharma, Dr. M. Nasiruddin, Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Dr. Razi Ahmad and Dr. Siraj Ahmad.

To sum up the ideas thrown during the deliberations, we may stress the following: Pharmacovigilance is an emerging discipline. It is relatively new to India. Limited number of physicians, pharmacists and faculty members in medical colleges has awareness of methodologies and activities in the field of Pharmacovigilance. Experts both from outside India and within the country are actively engaged in facilitating efforts for rationale therapy, ADR monitoring, patient event monitoring, monitoring of medical errors and pharmacoepidemiology.

Pharmacovigilance activities should be carried out in coordinated manner under the auspices of Government agencies, apex hospitals and Society of Pharmacovigilance, India. Collaboration should be sought from WHO Centre for Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring (Uppsala, Sweden) at levels other than National Centres to facilitate ADR monitoring and reporting. ADR Monitoring and other aspects of Pharmacovigilance should form a part of curriculum for medical undergraduate (MBBS.), Pharmacy (B. Pharma and M. Pharma) and postgraduate medical students (MD/MS).

Regional centres may be established for Pharmacovigilance activities. The main activities of these centres should be ADR Monitoring, Error Monitoring, Poison Information and to promote Rational Drug Therapy. General practitioners and specialists in private practice be involved in Pharmacovigilance activities.



## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

### Commemoration Conference on Mulla 'Abd al-'Ali Birjandi

The Conference will be held in Birjand (Iran) during May 25–26, 2002. The aim of the conference is to pay tribute to the scientific activities of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Iranian mathematician and astronomer, who is especially famous for his commentaries on standard works of Islamic mathematics and astronomy. From India, Prof. S.M. Razaullah Ansari (Secretary of the Ibn Sina Academy) has been invited to attend.

Contact address: Dr. A.-A. Puyan, P.O. Box 79, Birjand, Iran.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Maghrebian Symposium on the History of Arabic Mathematics

This symposium will be held at Marrakesh, Morocco, from May, 30 to June 2, 2002. A special session, organised with the help of the International Study Group for History and Pedagogy of Mathematics (HPM), will be reserved for HPM. The Symposium themes are: mathematics, astronomy, applied mathematics, mathematics and society, and history and pedagogy of mathematics.

For contact, visit: [www.ensma.ac.ma/comhisma7](http://www.ensma.ac.ma/comhisma7).

### International Colloquium on History of Mathematics

The International Conference of Mathematicians (ICM) will be held in Beijing on August 20–28, 2002. Some 30 satellites conferences on various topics of mathematics will be held outside Beijing. The Northwest University will hold such a conference on the History of Mathematics during Aug. 15–18, 2002 in Xi'an (China). The themes are: transmission and transformation of mathematics: east and west; mathematical thought in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, mathematics in China and neighbouring countries; and mathematics in Islamic countries. It is a pleasure to note that Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari (Secretary of the Ibn Sina Academy) has been invited to attend this Conference.

Contact persons: Profs. Qu Anjing, and Jianjun Liu of the Northwest University, Xi'an (China), or visit the site: <http://hismath.go.163.com>

### ICHA/IAU International Conference on Astronomical Instruments and Archives from Asia-Pacific Region

To commemorate the inauguration of the NHA IL-SEONG MUSEUM OF ASTRONOMY, this conference will be held in Cheongju (Korea), between July 2–5, 2002. The Conference is organised by the History of Astronomy Commission (41) of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the newly formed Inter-Union Commission for History of Astronomy (ICHA). In Korea, the Conference will be sponsored by the City of Cheongju, the Korean Astronomy Observatory and the Ministry of Science and Technology. The programme will include paper sessions, business meeting of C41/ICHA, a city tour and a visit to the Korea Astronomy Observatory. Noteworthy is that Prof. S. M. Razaullah Ansari (Secretary of the Ibn Sina Academy) has been invited to attend the Conference.

Contact person, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Prof. Il-S. Nha <SLISNHA@chollian.net>, or visit the site: [www.nhamuseum.org/conference2002](http://www.nhamuseum.org/conference2002).

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on the History of Arabic Sciences

The twenty-third annual conference on the History of Arabic Sciences is going to be held from October 22–24, 2002 at Institute of Arabic Sciences, Jamia Halab (University of Aleppo), Aleppo, Syria.

### Seventy-Fifth Annual Meeting of AAHM

The 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) is scheduled to be held on April 25 to 28, 2002 in Kansas City, Missouri. Various sessions/ workshop on varied subjects are expected to be covered, following sessions would be of relevant for our readers:

#### a. Learned Medieval Medicine

Florence Eliza Glaze: Salerno in the 12th Century: Debunking the Morpurgo Thesis

Luke Demaitre: The Art and Science of Prognostication in Early University Medicine

Linda Ehram Voigts: Middle English Dissemination of Learned Medical Prognostication

**b. England in the Long Eighteenth Century**

Josephine M Lloyd: Medical Collaborations Between William Hey FRS (1736-1819) and the Rev. Dr. Joseph Priestley FRS (1733-1804) in Leeds 1767-1773  
 Vivien Dietz and Andrea Rusnock: 'Support under Sickness and Misfortunes': British Female Friendly Societies and Working women's Health, 1780-1830.  
 Samuel S. Thomas: Portrait of an Elite Midwife in Restoration York

**c. Workshop**

Unlocking the Promise of the Internet: A Sampling of the History of Medicine Websites

**d. The Politics of Bio-medicine**

Paul A. Lombardo: Tracking the "Mongoloid" Chromosome: Theophilus Painter and Eugenic Research  
 Neal R. Holtan: Weeding the Human Garden: Surgical Sterilization in Minnesota, 1926-1936  
 Derek S. Linton: 'The World Thanks Behring': Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Serum Therapy in Nazi Germany

**e. Eighteenth Century America**

Catherine L. Thompson: John Denison Hartshorn: A Colonial Apprentice in Physick and Surgery  
 Richard J. Kahn: Publish or Perish: Noah Webster and the Publication of A Brief History of Epidemic and Pestilential Diseases, 1799 and the Recently Uncovered Manuscript Correction Copy, circa 1832  
 Jonathan M. Beagle: 'There is Quackery in everything as well as in Medicine.' The Application of Medicine in the Political Discourse of Post-Revolutionary Boston, Massachusetts

**f. Medicine in Germany**

Sabine Marx: The Public's Perceptions of Physicians in Trier, Germany, 1880-1914  
 Carsten Timmermann: Hippocratic Heretics: Weimar Medical Culture and the Insider as Outsider  
 Lynne Fallwell: Labor Pains: Midwifery and the Professionalization of Modern Childbirth in Germany

**g. Medical Models**

Deborah Kuhn McGregor: Nutrition and the "Accidents of Childbirth" Rickets in the Mid-Nineteenth Century US  
 Heather Munro Prescott: 'A Most Obnoxious Form of

Contract Practice': Private Physicians versus College Health Centers, 1900-1940

Elise Carpenter: The Transformation of Medical Models of Menopause

**h. Garrison Lecture**

David J. Rothman: The Courtroom as Archive: Vanderbilt, Radiation, and the History of Human Experimentation

**i. Medieval and Early Modern Bodies**

Walton O. Schalick: Mephobosheth in the Middle Ages: Disabilities, Children and the Most Vulnerable of the Venerable in Medieval Europe  
 Victoria Sweet: Computing the Medieval Body  
 Frederick Holmes: The Death of Charles II, Medicinal Chemistry Gone Wrong

**j. Medicine and Race in America**

Tammy L. Ingram: Body Snatching and Anatomical Dissection at the Medical College of Georgia: A Re-evaluation of the Nineteenth Century Theory of Southern Medical Distinctiveness.  
 Tom Ward: Association and Agitation: African-American Medical Associations of the Jim Crow South  
 Martha H. Verbrugge: Gym and Swim at the Y: Conflicts over Interracial Recreation at the Young Women's Christian Association of the United States, 1920s-1950s

**k. Medicine and Public Culture**

Anne Taylor Kirschmann: Homeopathy and the Politics of Healing: A Twentieth-Century Perspective  
 Maarten Ultee: "Persistent as Vermin" and "Strong of Race" – Anti-Semitism and Philo-Semitism among the Founding Fathers: Fielding Garrison and Max Neuburger  
 Simon Baatz: The Bobby Franks Murder: Leopold-Loeb and the Making of American Psychiatry

**l. Ethics**

Alex Dracoby: Dr. Max Simon, Nineteenth Century Medical Ethicist  
 S. Ryan Gregory: Honest Mistakes: A consideration of Richard Cabot's Reports on Errors in Diagnosis and Responses from the Medical Profession  
 Sydney Halpern: Medical-Research Abuses of the 1960s and 1970s: How Investigatory Conduct Became a Public Problem

Registration and a preliminary version of the full program are now available on-line at:  
<http://www.kumc.edu/aahm/>

### Phytotherapy Research Conference

Bioforce (UK) is hosting a Phytotherapy Research Conference on 19th April 2002 at the Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow. It is hoped the conference will act as a forum for advances in phytotherapy research, as well as give healthcare professionals and representatives of the phytotherapy industry the opportunity to become more closely involved in scientific research.

The full day programme includes a selection of speakers tackling a range of subject areas - traditional medicinal plants, drug regulation and licensing of plant products, clinical trial developments, recent developments and research in plant products. Dr Desmond Corrigan from Trinity College Dublin will present a keynote speech on licensing of herbal medicines. There shall also be a display of research posters to view on the day.

12

For more information, contact Lorna McIntyre, Bioforce (UK), 2 Brewster Place, Irvine, Ayrshire KA11 5DD Tel 01294 204 757 E-mail: <lorna@bioforce.co.uk>

## DOCUMENTATION

### American Association for the History of Medicine

The American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) is the oldest continuously functioning scholarly organization of North America devoted to the study of all aspects of the history of the health professions, disease, public health, and related subjects. It comprises professional historians, practicing health professionals, librarians and archivists in the history of the health sciences, graduate students and students' actively seeking professional degrees. Its annual meetings are held each spring and spread over a two and a half day period and consist of several workshops, plenary sessions, and competitively peer-reviewed scholarly papers. The meetings are hosted by the History and Philosophy of Medicine at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Teaching in the history of medicine began at KU when

Logan Clendening, internist, popular author on medical subjects, and ardent bibliophile took up a full-time position as historian of medicine in 1939. Since that time, the Department has grown around Clendening's collection of rare books. It has been expanding to include almost 30,000 texts related to the history of medicine and bioethics and approximately sixty journals.

### Indian Society for the History of Astronomy (ISHA)

Long back in nineties the first *Indian Society for the History of Astronomy* (ISHA) was established as the follow-up of the "International Symposium on Indian and Asiatic Astronomy", held at Hyderabad and sponsored by B.M. Birla Science Centre (Hyderabad). Then, an ad-hoc Organizing Committee was also set up to carry out the formalities of the registration of ISHA, compilation of its constitution etc. Due to some extremely bureaucratic formalities, viz., naming the Society as *Indian Society*, the registration papers had to toss between Government machinery at Delhi and Hyderabad. Thank God, that all hurdles were overcome by the untiring efforts of the Secretary of the Society, Dr. B. G. Sidharth (Director, B.M. Birla Science Centre, Hyderabad).

It is a matter of great pleasure to announce that ISHA has now been established *formally* as a registered society. The first meeting of the Ad-hoc Organizing Committee was held recently on February 27, 2002, in Jaipur, at the closure of the "National Seminar on Ancient Indian Astronomy", organized by B. M. Birla Science Centre (Jaipur). The following is a brief report of the deliberation of the meeting.

It has been unanimously decided that the ad-hoc organizing committee would be the First Executive Council of ISHA, as follows: Prof. S. M. R. Ansari (Aligarh) - President, Prof. K. T. Abhyankar (Hyderabad) - Vice President, Dr. B. G. Sidharth (Hyderabad) - Secretary, Prof. G. M. Ballabh (Hyderabad) - Treasurer, Mr. Y. Ravi Kiran (Hyderabad) - Joint Secretary, Prof. M. S. Sriram (Chennai) - Councilor, Dr. A. Bandopidhyay (Calcutta) - Councilor, Prof. S. D. Sarma (Patiala) - Councilor, Dr. B. V. Subbarayappa (Bangalore) - Special Advisor.

It was also resolved, that the constitution of ISHA will

be similar to the constitution of the Astronomical Society of India, evidently with some appropriate changes in consonance with the aims and objectives of this Society. Further a biannual Newsletter of ISHA will be issued for members and a General Body Meeting will be held at least in two years along with the scientific meeting and /or seminar ,conference etc.

It is also intended that ISHA will closely collaborate with the Commission for the History of Ancient and Medieval Astronomy (President ,S.M.R. Ansari) which operates under the auspices of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science(IUHPS) , and with the Organizing Committee of the International Conference of Oriental Astronomy (President , Il-Seong Nha ,Korea). Historians of Astronomy are cordially invited to support ISHA by becoming members ,and to contact the President or Secretary. Their E-mail are respectively: [Raza.Ansari@vsnl.com](mailto:Raza.Ansari@vsnl.com) ,and [birlasc@hd1.vsnl.net.in](mailto:birlasc@hd1.vsnl.net.in) .

### The Indian Academy of Neuroscience

The concepts of brain functions have been continuously reshaped by the discovery of the new substances, which are concentrated in neural pathways. The current upsurge of interest in the nervous system occurred only recently with the development of highly refined experimental and analytical techniques, which enabled studies at levels of intensity, and with a precision not possible previously. For some time a need was felt to bring research workers engaged in different disciplines: neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, biochemistry, biophysics, toxicology, psychology, psychiatry, pharmacology, etc. on a common platform, so that they could share their knowledge and methodology, and plan future strategy for effective collaborative research.

Realizing this fact, late Prof. K.P.Bhargava (Director, King George's Medical College, Lucknow) in collaboration with Prof. B.N. Dhawan (Central Drug Research Institute - CDRI) and Dr. P.K. Seth (Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow initiated the groundwork for establishing a *Society for the Neuroscience* in India. Consequently, the first conference under the auspices of the Society was held in 1982 at CDRI and the Pharmacology Department, King George's Medi-

cal College, Lucknow. It was attended by neuroscientists from all over the country and was addressed by Prof. Merton Sandler from the United Kingdom.

The second annual conference was organized by Prof. Mahdi Hasan, at the Inter-disciplinary Brain Research Laboratory, J. N. Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh on February 5 and 6, 1983. The conference was largely attended and was addressed by Prof. S.S. Parmar (University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, U.S.A). The participants stressed the need for a permanent forum and accordingly the *Indian Academy of Neuroscience* was established on February 5, 1983. The constitution of the Academy drafted by Dr. K.C. Singhal (Department of Pharmacology, J. N. Medical College, AMU, Aligarh) was approved by the General Body, following which elections to the various posts of the Executive Council were held.

The third annual conference of the Indian Academy of Neuroscience was held at the Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow, during February 4 - 6, 1984. The fourth annual conference of the Academy was held jointly with the Asian Congress of Pharmacology in New Delhi during January 15-19, 1985. The Academy also co-sponsored the Satellite Symposium of the Asian Congress of Pharmacology on *Brain Neurotransmitter Mechanism and Hypertension*, which was held at the Department of Pharmacology, King George's Medical College, Lucknow. The fifth to tenth conferences were held respectively in Aligarh (1986), Tirupati (1987), Calcutta (1988), Chandigarh (1989), Lucknow (1990) and Delhi (1990). The eleventh, to nineteenth conferences were held at Lucknow (1992), Jhansi (1994), Vellore (1995), Bombay (1996), Bangalore (1997), New Delhi (1998), Gwalior (1999), Lucknow (2000) and Kolkatta (2002) respectively. During the Bangalore conference, a symposium entitled *Molecules to Behaviour* was organized in collaboration with Neuroscience Society of India as a tribute to Prof. B.K. Bachhawat, an eminent neuroscientist of the country. Similarly, a symposium entitled *International Symposium of Neurodegeneration and Neuroprotection* was also organized in Kolkatta. A large number of foreign neuroscientists also participated in all these annual meetings.

In addition to organize annual meetings at regular intervals, the Academy has been sponsoring and co-sponsoring international symposia and conferences to promote the national and international scientific activities in its discipline. Following international workshops/symposia have been sponsored by the Academy:

1. ITRC-IBRO Symposium on Neurotoxic Substances and their Impact on Human Health, 1984.
2. Neuroscience Component of the Asian Congress of Pharmacology, 1985.
3. Indo-U.S. Workshop on Chemistry and Biology of Centrally Acting Peptides, 1987.
4. Indo-US Workshop on Current Approaches For Receptor Studies in Neurobiology, 1991.
5. 2<sup>nd</sup> Congress of Toxicology in Developing Countries, 1991.
6. Colloquium on cellular and Molecular Advances in Neuropharmacology, 1992.
7. Colloquium on Advances in Neurotransmitter Receptors: Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms, 1994.
8. Symposium on Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Centrally Acting Agents, 1997.

The regular features of the annual conferences of the Academy are plenary lectures and symposia on current topics in neuroscience in addition to the oral and poster presentations. Workshops on techniques of neuroscience have also been organized. One of the attractive features of the conference is to bring together basic life-scientists and clinical researchers to discuss many problems inherent in this area of research. The Academy encourages participation of young scientists so that they could get an opportunity to interact with eminent neuroscientists. This endeavour has been quite helpful to stimulate and widen their outlook in their future research.

At present the Academy has grown into a sizeable organization of dedicated members of about 450 spreads all over the country and abroad.

The Academy also elects eminent neuroscientists as Fellows and Honorary Members. The Academy publishes a Newsletter, *Neurosciences Newsletter*, for the benefit of members and neuroscientists of the country at regular intervals. A Journal, *Annals of Neuroscience*

is published by the Academy since 1991. A membership directory is published and updated from time to time. Nominations for the following prizes awarded at the annual conferences are invited every year.

1. Tulsa Bai Somani Educational Trust Award, for best oral presentation by a young neuroscientist below 40 years age at the time of an Annual Conference.
2. D. M. Kar Prize, for best oral presentation by a young neuroscientist below 35 years age at the time of an Annual Conference.
3. Prof. S. S. Parmar Foundation Award, for best poster presentation by a young neuroscientist below 35 years age at the time of an Annual Conference.
4. Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Award, for the best paper published in any current year in the field of neuroscience, including the disciplines of neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, neurochemistry, neuropharmacology, neuroimmunology and neurotoxicology. The age of the competitor (the first author) should not be more than 40 years. At least one of the authors of the paper should be a member of the Academy.

The Academy confers fellowship to outstanding neuroscientists. Nominations may be sent with complete curriculum vitae, list of publications and any other relevant information. A Life Member of the Academy or a member of the Academy with at least 10 years of research experience in the field of neuroscience can be nominated. Nominations, supported by three members of the Academy, are forwarded to the General Secretary of the Academy.

## NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS/WORKS

Following articles on Ibn Sina appeared in Ibn Sina Number of *Jahan-e- Tibb* (Urdu Journal), Vol. 2. No. 2, 2000, CCRUM, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

1. Ibn Sina and His Era, by Tanvir Ahmad Alvi
2. Works of Ibn Sina, by Syed Zillur Rahman
3. Ibn Sina as a Physician, by Mohd. Tayyab
4. Ibn Sina – an outstanding physician, by Mukhtar Islahi
5. Ibn Sina and philosophy of temperament, by

Hamdullah Farahi

6. Ibn Sina's Insight regarding Heart and Cardiac Diseases, by Khursheed Ahmad Shafqat Azmi
7. Ibn Sina and Psychological Analysis of Cardiac Drugs, by Kamaluddin Husain
8. Qasida Al-Ruh of Ibn Sina, by Syed Alim Ashraf Jaisi
9. Ibn Sina as a Poet, by Syed Ghulam Mahdi
10. Ibn Sina in the Perspective of Medical Works, by Wasim Ahmad Azmi
11. Impact of Ibn Sina on Modern Medical Science, by Abdul Hannan
12. Ibn Sina's Philosophy of Humours, by Mohd Ismail and Syed Jalil Husain
13. The lost volume of Al-Qanoon, by Syed Mohd Hassan Nagrami
14. Selected Cardiac Drugs mentioned by Ibn Sina and their mechanism of action, by Abdul Samad
15. A study of Kitab Al Mufradat of Al-Qanun, by Khalid Jawed Shamsi
16. Ibn Sina and Europe, by Ashhar Qadeer
17. Ibn Sina – A Great Expert Physician, by Abdul Nasir Farooqui
18. Personality of Ibn Sina in the light of Al-Qanun, by Ahmad Bashir Alvi
19. Importance of Al-Qanun in the Modern Period, by Abdul Razzak
20. Ibn Sina's contribution in the field of medicine, by Jurnalish Uddin
21. Ibn Sina – as a Mystic Hakim, by Mary Graham
22. Contribution of Muslim Scholars in the Modern Biological Thought, by A. H. Zikri
23. Some aspects of Ibn Sina's life and study of Al-Qanun by Hakim M. Zaman Hussain – A Review, by Moudud Ashraf
24. Bibliography of Ibn Sina, by Wasim Ahmad Azmi