

DR. SALAM HONOURED BY ZIA

Pages with reference to book, From 78 To 81

President Ziaul-Haq who is also the Chancellor of the Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, conferred the degree of Doctor of Science (Honouris causa) on Prof. Abdus Salam, a renowned physicist and the co-winner of the 1979 Nobel Prize in physics, at a colourful and impressive special convocation of the university at the National Assembly Hall held on December 18.

Speaking on the occasion Prof. Salam called for a passionate commitment by the nation to acquire mastery of science and technology. He urged the government to lay the foundation for a five-year science and technology plan.

Prof. Salam said science was not cheap. Investment in it needs sacrifices on the part of the nation as a whole and not just the Government.

Prof. Salam said he was not aware of the actual amount earmarked for the scientific development in Pakistan at the moment, but ten years ago when he was associated with it, these figures did not exceed eight million dollars and this included then East Pakistan.

Prof. Salam said Pakistan had a GNP of the order of 10 billion dollars. He said Pakistan should spend around 100 million dollars a year on scientific and technological research alone. Prof. Salam suggested that the Planning Commission in Pakistan should have a science and technology cell.

Prof. Salam explained at length the theory for which he had been honoured. The theory concerned the fundamental forces of nature. He explained the contribution made by Muslims in the field of science and also analysed the external and internal causes which contributed to decline of contribution to science in Muslim lands.

CITY PMA EXECUTIVE RETURNED UNCONTESTED

The entire executive of Pakistan Medical Association, Karachi, has returned uncontested for 1980 term. The polls were scheduled for December 25, as usual, but only present office bearers and executive committee members offered to contest for the offices they already held. As such, there were no polls.

Thus, the 1980 cabinet of city PMA is ranked as follows:

President: Dr. Badar Siddiqui, Vice-President: Dr. Aziz Khan Tank, Hon General Secretary: Dr. Syed Tipu Sultan

Hon. Joint Secretary: Dr. Mirza Zaka-ullah Baig, Hon. Finance Secretary: Dr. Mohammad Abdul Hafeez Qureshi, Hon. Librarian: Dr. Zeenat Issam, Hon. Editor: English Journal: Dr. Tahir Hussain and Hon. Editor Urdu Journal: Dr. Abdul Sultan Memon.

There are eighty six members on the Executive Committee and all of them remain unchanged.

U.N. REPORT-

LIFESPAN OF PAKISTANIS INCREASED !

Pakistanis born in the 1970's can look forward to an average lifespan of 49.8 years or 9.1 years longer than the 40.1 years expectancy of the generation which saw the light of day in the 1960's.

The lengthening lifespan of Pakistanis was reported by the United Nations from the latest demographic data it had called world-wide.

No specific reasons were cited by the UN report on the lengthening lifespans of peoples in some countries. It suggests, instead that economic development was one of the major factors to consider.

Japan is at top spot with 73.3 years, Hong Kong at second with 70, Singapore with 69.5 at third, Sri Lanka with 67.8 at fourth and China at fifth with 61.6.

PLANS TO WIPE OUT RHEUMATIC FEVER

A young Mauritan Heart Specialist Dr. Selva Mootien Pillay has announced plans to wipe out rheumatic fever which is rife in Central Africa and the Indian Oceans Islands of Madagascar and

Mauritius.

He addressed an international symposium in Johannesburg Nov. 30 outlining new methods of fighting the heart illness, which is common in poor countries.

Like tuberculosis, rheumatic fever is one of the few diseases that requires both medical and political co-operation between the governments and health service of various countries.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that it can only be controlled if such co-operation is increased, Dr. Pillay said.

ELECTIONS OF PESHAWAR CHAPTER OF OFM HELD

Dr. Mohammad Aslam has been elected President of Peshawar Chapter of College of Family Medicine at a General Body Meeting.

Following are other office bearers: Snr. Vice-President: Dr. Siraj Ali, Jnr. Vice President: Dr. Sher Ahmad Sethi, General Secretary: Dr. Saeedul Majid, Joint Secretary: Dr. Mohammad Ismail, Finance Secretary: Dr. Mohammad Huma-yoon, Public Relations Sec: Dr. Mohammad Anwer.

Executive Members are Dr. Mohammad Nisar, Dr. Haji Mohammad Yunus, Dr. Mohammad Arif, Dr. Imtiaz Sultan Bokhari, Dr. Riaz Ahmad.

Although the Peshawar Chapter is a small unit with limited facilities there is tremendous motivation and enthusiasm for status, knowledge and better patient care among the members. Some members from the Chapter had in the past attended WONCA SESSION AND World Conference on Family Medicine at Canada and Switzerland.

BMA INVITES PMA FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The British Medical Association has invited one delegate from Pakistan Medical Association to attend the Annual Representative Meeting of the B.M.A. as an observer.

The meeting will be held from July 7 to 11 in the Civic Centre, Newcastle The meeting will deal with important questions of policy already affecting the B.M.A. and the Medical Profession in Britain. The B.M.A. has asked the PMA to communicate the name of the delegate by first week of March.

CAN CHOLESTEROL FOOD CAUSE CANCER OF THE BREAST?

In a recent published study Prof. Dr. Michael Kunze and Dr. Christian Vutuc of the Institute of Hygienics of the University of Vienna established a clear statistical connection between the increase of cancer of the breast and the consumption of fat and animal protein within the last 20 years in Austria. Although a purely statistical connection is no proof for an actual connection between two factors having increased at the same time in the same extent, there are reasonable grounds for suspicion that excessive consumption of fat and animal protein enhances the development of mammary carcinoma in women.

The study confirms a suspicion long since voiced in several countries of the world. Epidemiologists have suspected such a connection for a long time.

In animal experiments mammary carcinoma could be triggered off only by excessive fat nutrition. The inner connections of this phenomenon still remain a question mark.

The statistical study of the two Viennese social doctors shows that death caused by cancer of the breast rose by 52 per cent between the period 1957 and 1974 (that is within 17 years only)-in Austria. In the same period the per-capita consumption of fat increased by 25.4 per cent, that of animal protein by 27 per cent.

OBITUARY NOTE

Dr. Nusrat Ali Sheikh died on 21 December 1979 at the age of 56.

Dr. Sheikh hailed from Lahore and had qualified MBBS from the Punjab University in 1947. After his house appointment in the Mayo Hospital Lahore under Prof. M.A. Pirzada he was appointed R.M.O. in the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (then Jinnah Central Hospital) in 1949.

He was later appointed Demonstrator in Physiology, Dow Medical College from which post he went to U.K. and "took his Membership from Edinburgh in 1955 with Dermatology as his additional subject having been trained in the speciality, principally at the Institute of Dermatology in London.

He returned to his post for a couple of years before finally shifting to the Skin and Social Hygiene Centre Karachi in 1956 as its Director which post he held until his death. While he held his office, he was accredited to Dow Medical College as Assistant Professor in Dermatology.

Dr. Sheikh organised The Skin Centre to a remarkably high standard of efficiency and was responsible for arrangements for indoor treatment, of patients in it. His teaching was known for its ready availability and high quality. He illustrated his subject with slides prepared by himself which were remarkable for their number and photographic technique.

He was elected F.R.C.P. (Ed) in 1989 F.C.P.S. (Pak) in 1972.

Dr. Sheikh was on W.H.O. Expert Advisory Panel on Treponematoses and Venereal Diseases since 1954.

He was Member, Board of Directors of Asian Branch of the International Society of Tropical Dermatology in U.S.A. since 1965, Member advisory Editorial Board of J.P.M.A., and was Founder President of Pakistan Dermatological society.

Due to his position of eminence in Dermatology he was appointed Honorary Consultant Dermatologist to Pakistan Navy in early 1966. In this position he helped organise Dermatology in P.N.S. Shifa and was much in demand for consultations from the Armed Forces.

He was instrumental in getting Dermatology recognised as a special subject in the M.C.P.S. examination. His publications on Dermatological subjects are many.

Dr. Sheikh was a quiet, sober, soft spoken sincere and highly ethical man who was held in high esteem in his large circle of friends and admirers in the profession and the public at large. In the words of Surg. Capt. M. Mohsin Pal, P.N., Commanding Officer P.N.S. Shifa. he was scholarship and humility incarnate. His eminent place in Dermatology prematurely vacated through Fate leaves a void which will be felt for quite some time in his country.

Dr. Sheikh leaves behind a charming little family of four: two daughters, a son and his wife. They may derive some comfort in the fact that their grief is very widely shared.