

### نشرة الاتحاد العالمي للجمعيات الطبية الاسلامية

#### e-newsletter of Federation of Islamic Medical Associations

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Last week in Abuja, IMA of Nigeria hosted the 33rd Federation of Islamic Medical Associations (FIMA) International Conference, which was simultaneously holding its 17th Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference. The FIMA Conference had as its theme "Eradication of Communicable Diseases: West African and Nigerian Experience" considering the recent major outbreaks of Ebola in West Africa, Lassa Fever in Nigeria, and now the much-feared Zika across the Atlantic in Latin America.

The conference brought together about international Muslim health professionals from FIMA member countries such as Pakistan, Indonesia, Palestine, Malaysia, Bangladesh, North America, Turkey, Uganda, Algeria, Niger Republic, Lebanon, South Africa, Sudan and more than 500 delegates from the host, Nigeria, led by its President, Dr. Salisu Isma'il of Usmanu Danfodio Continued on Page 11

## FIMA HOLDS 33rd COUNCIL MEETING & FIMA-IMAN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE IN ABUJA, NIGERIA

A week long historic medical and scientific activity concluded in Abuja yesterday, with the conclusion of 33<sup>rd</sup> FIMA council meeting and FIMA-IMAN International Scientific Conference. The conference was preceded by a series of very well organized events which included cataract surgery camp and Vesico-vaginal Fistula repair camp. These ventures were patronized by the first lady of Republic of Nigeria, her excellency Hajiya Aisha Muhammadu Buhari.

The FIMA delegates arrived in Abuja on 18<sup>th</sup> July and the pre council ExCo meeting was held in the evening and presided over by the FIMA President Dr. Tanveer Zubairi.

The 33<sup>rd</sup> FIMA council meeting was held in the Ahmad Bello Hall, Hotel Stone hedge, Abuja. It was a very well attended meeting and more than forty delegates from 14 countries attended. The meeting discussed the reports of



Inaugural Ceremony of the FIMA-IMAN Scientific Meeting in Hotel Nicon Luxury Abuja.
Sultan of Sokoto and FIMA-IMAN office bearers with Sisters.

Editor in Chief Dr. Tanveer Zubairi, President, FIMA - Editor Dr. A. Rashid A. Rahman, Secretary, FIMA Managing Editor Dr. Aly Mishal Executive Director, FIMA, Assistant Editor Sajjad Saleem

FIMA ExCo, Finances and Executive director and a review of the FIMA projects including CIMCO (Consortium of Islamic medical colleges), IHC (Islamic Hospitals Consortium), FIMA Relief, FIMA Save-Vision, Save smile, Save dignity, Medical students chapter, FIMA Year book, FIMA website and e-newsletter etc. The reports of individual IMAs were presented by the respective representatives and office bearers of IMAs. Discussion on issues relating to the activities conducted during last one year was thoroughly discussed and future plans were presented by the FIMA ExCo and council members. Dr. Misbahul Aziz, past president of PIMA was appointed as the new chair for FIMA save vision and Dr. Ibrahim Sule was appointed as chairman of FIMA save dignity project, whereas Dr. Eka Ginanjar was appointed as the co-chair for FIMASAC (Medial students chapter). It was decided to hold the 34<sup>th</sup> FIMA council meeting in Istanbul, Turkey in 2017.

Islamic Medical Association of Nigeria also arranged a parallel student's leadership workshop in the conference hall of National Mosque of Abuja. FIMA delegates attended a session and got mixed with the students, FIMA president made a brief speech and congratulated the future medicos for holding such a useful academic activity focusing towards nurturing the leadership skills amongst the medical student leaders. Dr Eka Ginanjar announced the news of forthcoming international FIMA

student's camp in Makassar, Indonesia and invited the student leaders to attend the meeting.

The delegates also visited the Ushafa pottery village (Bwari area) in the outskirts of Abuja and took keen interest in the efforts of preservation of a very old indigenous art of clay pottery and ceramic cottage industry.

The Inaugural session was a great success and was rendered as one of the best opening ceremonies of the FIMA meeting held during so many years. The Sultan of Sokoto His eminence Muhammad Saad Abubakar IV mni, the President of Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs, the spiritual head and Amir ul Momineen of Muslims in Nigeria and West Africa graced the



Dr. Rashid, FIMA Secretary making council meeting arrangements.



Delegates in traditional Nigerian attire.



Dr. Goolam Husain presenting the report of IMA South Africa.



A view of FIMA post council meeting in progress.



FIMA President and secretary with delegates from IMAN.



Medical students with FIMA President during the Students camp held at National Mosque auditorium, Abuja



Speakers at the FIMA Council Meeting and FIMA-IMAN Scientific Conference

occasion with his presence as the chief guest. His great grandfather Sheikh Osman Dan Fadio was a mujadid and amir ul Momineen of whole West Africa which now constitute five independent countries. The meeting was also attended by important Government dignitaries and functionaries including deputy health minister, representative of President of the Senate and Minister of Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Prof Abdulafatai Mbadeje Biola, the founder President of IMAN, Prof Dr. Abu Agyue and Dr. Ibrahim Babminin Sule the past presidents of IMAN. In addition to a large number of medical luminaries and senior faculty members from the medical institutions all over the country. Dr Salisu Ismail President of IMAN in his opening speech

elaborated the objectives of IMAN and he was delighted to receive the Sultan of Sokoto, the spiritual father of Muslim in Nigeria as the chief guest and foreign FIMA delegates who traveled to Nigeria to attend the FIMA-IMAN meetings from all over the world. FIMA president Dr. Tanveer Zubairi introduced the federation before the audience, he said that FIMA was the largest body of Muslim medical organization in world with 50 members in its fold. He also appraised the house of deplorable healthcare situation in the underdeveloped Islamic countries and communities with highest maternal and infant mortality rate. He also revealed that the rate of avoidable deaths was highest in these countries due to rampant infectious and

communicable disease especially Tuberculosis, Malaria and HIV-AIDS.

He congratulated the Nigerian Government and health authorities for bringing an end to the deadly disease of polio in Nigeria, he appreciated the role of Sultan and religious scholars who pleaded the issue through advocacy and clarified taboos and myths attached with vaccination.

The chief Guest; Sultan of Sokoto who himself remained an Army general emphasized the need of fostering ties between the medical associations of Muslim countries so as to bring improvement in provision of curative and preventive healthcare facilities in marginalized communities. He



Dr Ishak Masud presenting souvenir to Dr Salisu Ismail on the completion of IHC seminar.



Dr Tanveer H. Zubairi, President FIMA receiving his Nigerian dress.



Dr Abdul Malik, President PIMA receiving his Nigerian dress.



Dr Yusuf (IMAM) displaying the IMARET slides in his presentation.



Day I of the 33rd FIMA Council in Abuja (19th July)



Day I of the 33rd FIMA Council in Abuja (19th July)



International FIMA delegates in the Inaugural Session.

said that he convened the meeting of 36 head Muslim scholars and non-Muslim faith leaders to help fight against the menace of polio and devised a common strategy to assist the ongoing effort of polio eradication in rural areas of Nigeria, although there was considerable opposition from the ignorant and misguided people and life threats to the vaccination workers by miscreants. He offered his full cooperation to IMAN in thrashing out the healthcare problems in Nigeria and also encouraged IMAN to develop a model Islamic Hospital open to the underprivileged patients irrespective of religion or creed. He said that Holy Prophet practiced tolerance and love for all the humanity and he was Rehmatul

Aalamin, a mercy and blessing for the entire humanity. He urged the participants to extend him advice regarding opening of a female medical school in Nigeria. The meeting was also addressed by the representative of President of Senate and deputy to the Mayor of Abuja who welcomed the FIMA delegates.

Prof Dr Jurnalis Uddin from Indonesia was awarded the FIMA lifetime achievement award by his eminence the Sultan of Sokoto on recommendation of FIMA council.

A sumptuous Gala dinner was arranged by IMAN in the honour of FIMA delegates with delicious Nigerian food followed by a colorful cultural program

exhibiting a tribal touch.

A new project of FIMA save-heart was also proposed before the FIMA council by Dr. Abdul Malik & Dr. Salisu Ismail, the house invited a detailed proposal on this project in the next council meeting. The republic of Niger was accepted as an associate member of FIMA.

Parallel sessions of Islamic Hospital Consortium and Consortium of Islamic Medical Colleges were conducted by Prof Abdul Rashid General secretary of FIMA and Dr. Ishak Masud, Chairman of IHC. The meeting was presided over by Prof Jurnalis Uddin and Dr. Iwang Yusuf Chairman of CIMCO. Two days long scientific session attracted a



Speakers at the FIMA Council Meeting and FIMA-IMAN Scientific Conference



Dr Jurnalis Uddin with local fans in IMAN



The FIMA delegates with their local host Dr. Audi, the general secretary of IMAN.



A view of opening ceremony of Fistula camp.



Day 3 of the FIMA council meeting, 20th July 2016



Inaugural ceremony of the FIMA-IMAN Scientific meeting in Hotel Nicon Luxury Abuja.

large number of medical professionals from all over the country. The delegates benefitted from the interactive scientific sessions and got an opportunity to meet with the senior faculty members who shared their wisdom and expertise.



Speakers at the FIMA Council Meeting and FIMA-IMAN Scientific Conference



Dr. Ibrahim Sule chanting Nigerian national songs, Dr. Rashid and Dr. Nazar showing their solidarity.



Medical Students camp held at National Mosque auditorium, Abuja



Medical Students camp held at National Mosque auditorium, Abuja



Dr Musa Nordin busy in taking notes.



Dr. Zerina Khan(South Africa) and Dr Mrs Ishak Masud with the local hosts.

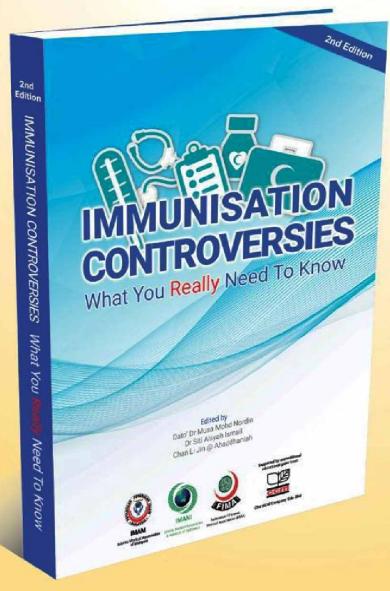


The IMAN leadership form Kano and Sokoto.



International FIMA delegates in the Inaugural Session.

# Scientific & Islamic Perspectives On Immunisation



- Myths & Misperceptions Debunked
- Maqasid Shari'ah Perspective
- ✓ Shari'ah Basis For Medical Treatment
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#### DR JURNALIS UDDIN FROM INDONESIA AWARDED FIMA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR YEAR 2016

One of the founding members of FIMA in 1981 in Orlando, USA and the founder of IMA in Indonesia, Dr. Jurnalis Uddin was



awarded the prestigious FIMA lifetime achievement award in recognition of his untiring, selfless and meritorious services for the cause of FIMA. Dr. Jurnalis Uddin is an emeritus professor of anatomy and is the president of

YARSI University, Jakarta, Indonesia. Dr. Jurnalis Uddin attended the meetings of IMA of North America even before the foundation of FIMA was laid. He along with other 11 doctors from various countries gathered in Orlando to lay the foundation stone of FIMA. He is the only FIMA founding member to have attended 31 FIMA meetings since He is an its inception. academician par excellence and has educated generations of medical graduates and is considered one of the very renowned figures in medical profession of Indonesia and ASEAN nations. He was awarded the FIMA lifetime achievement award by Sultan of Sokoto during the 33rd FIMA Council meeting in the inaugural ceremony of FIMA-IMAN scientific ceremony. The citation on his outstanding

services was read by Dr. Eka Ginanjar, President of IMANI. FIMA ExCo and council unanimously endorsed his nomination earlier.



Dr. Jurnalis Uddin being presented the FIMA lifetime achievement award by Sultan of Sokoto and FIMA President.

## HAYAT FOUNDATION, TURKEY TO HOLD 34th FIMA COUNCIL MEETING IN ISTANBUL IN 2017

Hayat Foundation Turkey will host the 34thFIMA council meeting in 2017, it was finally decided and announced in the 33rdFIMA council meeting held in Abuja, Nigeria. Hayat Foundation hosted the last FIMA council meeting in 2007. The FIMA Council urged all IMAs to start their preparation well ahead of time to attend the next year's meeting. Dr. Ihsan Karaman, Vice President of FIMA thanked FIMA council on accepting to the request

of Hayat Foundation. He said the Turkish brothers were excited to see and welcome the FIMA family in Istanbul next summer.



DWW volunteer in a medical camp in Suruc.



## CIMCO & IHC HOLDS PARALLEL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS IN THE FIMA-IMAN SCIENTIFIC MEETING IN ABUJA-NIGERIA

The CIMCO (consortium of Islamic Medical Colleges) lead by Dr. Iwang Yusuf and IHC (Islamic Hospital consortium) under the

chairmanship of Dr. Ishak Masud hold joint scientific meetings in the joint FIMA-IMAN scientific meeting on 22nd July 2016. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Jurnalis Uddin.

## GLIMPSES OF FIMA MEETINGS, EYE SURGERY & FISTULA CAMPS HELD IN NIGERIA



Award of certificates to the students delegates



Female delegates and medical students with chief guests.



Dr Ismal Mehr (IMANA-USA) showing how to carry the traditional Nigerian wear.



Excellent hospitality by the local hosts, the FIMA family relaxing after a sumptuous meal, Hotel Stone Hedge.



First lady of Nigeria, Hajiya Aisha Buhari was the patron of the Fistula camp.



The patients and attendants at the Fistula camp held from 16-18th July 2016 UMY Memorial Hospital, Niger state.



Chief Guest at the opening ceremony.



Fistula camp held from 16-18th July 2016 UMY Memorial Hospital, Niger state.



President Salisu Ismail, at the opening ceremony of VVF camp.



The representative of first lady of Nigeria at the opening ceremony of VVF camp.



The dignitaries at the Fistula camp held from 16-18th July 2016 UMY Memorial Hospital, Niger state.



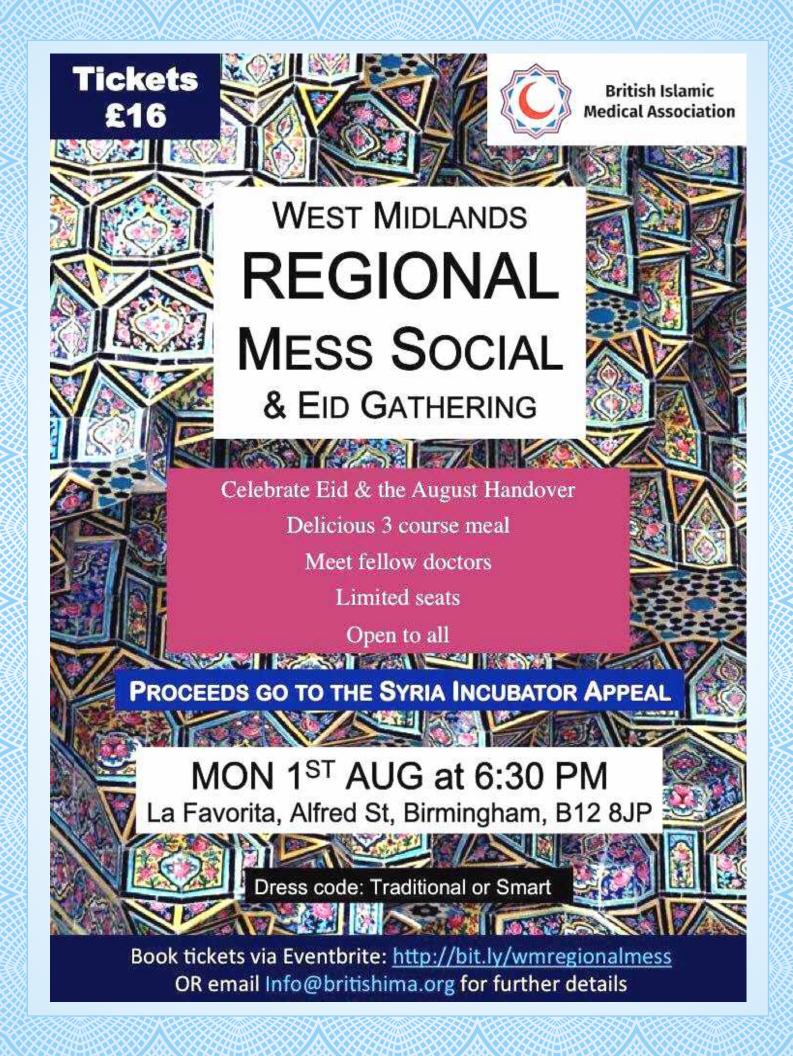
Bilateral mature and neglected cataract, got surgery for her both eyes.



The dignitaries at the Fistula camp held from 16-18th July 2016 UMY Memorial Hospital, Niger state.



The youth program attracted hundreds of medical students from various states and provinces.



#### A VISIT TO THE USHAFA POTTERY VILLAGE IN THE BWARI AREA OF ABUJA BY FIMA INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES

FIMA council members and international delegates visited Ushafa pottery village in the Bwari area of Abuja. It is renowned for its finest pottery art preserved in its original form since it was practiced from the time immemorial.



Traditional method of burning fire for the reinforcement.

The delegates took interest in viewing the various steps of making of utensils and ceramics by the tribeswomen. The village has gained international fame and the visitors included US Presidents and several other head of states.



Pottery art in the process of final finishing.



A visit to Ushafa pottery village in the Bwari area of Abuja.



A potter is examining the pitchers for any flaws and leaks.



## DR. EKA GINANJAR APPOINTED AS THE CO-CHAIR OF FIMASAC

President of IMANI from Indonesia Dr Eka Ginanjar has been appointed as the co-chair for FIMA students chapter, it was decided in the 34th FIMA council meeting held in

Abuja on 19th July 2016. Dr Eka announced holding of Students camps in Indonesia and Turkey in the next two years period.

#### DR MISBAH UL AZIZ ELECTED AS FIMA SAVE VISION CHAIR

On the recommendation of FIMA ExCo the 33rd FIMA council meeting unanimously appointed Dr. Misbah ul Aziz, FRCS former president of Pakistan Islamic Medical Association as the chair of FIMA flagship project, FIMA

Save Vision. Dr. Misbah ul Aziz is a renowned ophthalmic surgeon in Pakistan and was previously holding the office of Director POB (Prevention of blindness trust) a project of PIMA.





The participants of 33rd FIMA council meeting held on 19-20 July 2016 Abuja Nigeria.

University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto.

During the scientific sessions, a total of 28 papers were presented organized while two professional seminars were organized by the Islamic Hospital Consortium (IHC) and 'Consortium of Islamic Medical Colleges' (CIMCO). Furthermore, a 2-day Students' Leadership Training Programme was organized for students of Nigerian health institutions.

FIMA was formed in 1981 with objectives such as to foster the unity and welfare of Muslim medical and healthcare professionals all over the world; to promote Islamic medical activities including health services, education and research through cooperation and coordination among member organizations; to promote the understanding and the application of Islamic principles in the field of medicine; and to mobilize professional and economic resources in order to provide medical care and relief to affected areas and communities, among others. The hosting organization, IMAN, was founded in 1989 by a group of Nigerian health professionals with similar objectives to FIMA, to wit, to bring into closer union all Nigerian Muslim healthcare professionals (doctors, pharmacists, lab technicians, health administrators, etc.) and to render services to humanity with the fear of Allah (exalted be His Name) in mind. Working under the motto "Health is a Priceless Treasure", IMAN also aims to create unity among Muslim medical/health professionals in Nigeria; and to enhance better understanding of healthcare within the framework of Islam, among others.

Highlight of the Conference was the Opening Address by Sultan of Sokoto Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar, who is the Grand Patron of IMAN. The Sultan called on Muslim health professionals to do all their duties only for the sake of Allah and the expected divine rewards, and not for worldly gain. He further called on them to avoid unnecessary strikes, as strikes only succeed in alienating health professionals from the people, their patients. He added that the health and well being of the society should be paramount in all health professionals do, and that would only be possible if they are dedicated to their work.

In a Communique issued at the end of the Conference signed by IMAN President Dr. Isma'il and Secretary Dr. Muhammad Audi, participants observed that the problem of communicable diseases remains a significant challenge in the West African sub-region, and much needs to be done to ensure the battle with Ebola and Lassa Fever is completely won. This situation is also confounded by the many unmet needs of victims of armed conflicts such as inadequate health care, poor nutrition and low health literacy. Similarly, there is poor understanding, limited research and misapplication of Islamic Prophetic medicine, while there is poor adherence of healthcare professionals to Islamic principles toward the care of Muslim patients.

In response to the Sultan's admonitions, the participants also observed that there is persisting industrial disharmony in the health sector, and that, according to them, is quite worrisome. One other observation was the poor funding of the country's health insurance scheme which has contributed to the consistent decrease in accessing qualitative healthcare services. Participants also lamented the deliberate inadequate acknowledgment of the contributions made to modern medicine by founding Muslim scholars especially in Western medical discourse.

The Conference therefore recommended that healthcare professionals and governments in Nigeria and West Africa Sub-region should intensify efforts toward eradication of communicable diseases particularly immunization-preventable diseases like polio; it also urged the government to provide the much-needed medical and relief materials to improve the living conditions of victims of armed conflicts, especially the Internally Displaced Persons all over the country; and that Muslim healthcare providers should equip themselves with the necessary skills and knowledge of Tibb Nabawi (Prophetic Medicine) to bridge the gap in its understanding and application.

Further, participants recommended that as it is the responsibility of every healthcare provider to preserve the faith, life, intellect, lineage and wealth of their patients which are all encompassed in the purpose and guidelines of the Islamic Shariah, Muslim health care professionals should to continue to serve as role models by fostering harmony and promoting the spirit of teamwork and positive communication in the health sector; and that government should make health a fundamental human right and enforce this right by providing universal health insurance to all citizens with adequate funding of healthcare.

The conference enjoined the global community to give due recognition to all the neglected Muslim scholars who were some of the founding fathers of modern medicine; and that there should be improvement in the awareness of Islamic injunctions on medicine and care by all Muslim health professionals; and finally that government and all stakeholders should intensify effort to provide qualitative treatment to people with addiction problems but also to prevent others from imbibing this habit and create a purposeful leadership forum for constant orientation of undergraduate health students in the areas of leadership and ethics.

Elsewhere, the Conference was informed of current IMAN activities to include establishment of clinics and hospitals; supporting indigent patients morally and financially; visitation to patients on sickbeds; rendering free medical services to prison inmates; medical caravans to rural communities; rendering subsidized health services to the poor and the needy through collaboration with other Islamic organizations; provision of relief materials to the needy; and bathing, shrouding and burial of unclaimed corpses in hospitals.

Other major and significant interventions by FIMA and IMAN include free surgeries for blindness (cataract surgery) which they call Save Vision; free surgeries for patients with vesicovaginal fistula (VVF) which they call Save Dignity; and free surgeries for children with cleft lips and palate, which they call Save Smile.

International delegates expressed surprise at the beauty and tranquility of Abuja, as they were taken on mini-tours around the FCT and neighboring Niger State.

**Dr. Tanveer H. Zubairi**President FIMA

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