

<u>نشرة الاتحاد العالم معلاجمعيات الطبية الاسلامية</u>

e-newsletter of Federation of Islamic Medical Associations Volume 81, Issue May 2024







MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



In the Name of Allah the Beneficent the Merciful Peace and Blessing be Upon the Messenger

Dear Members of the FIMA Family, Esteemed Sisters and Brothers.

Assalamu Alaikum

We praise and pray to Allah taala that this edition of the Newsletter meets our brothers and sisters from the global FIMA fraternity in the best of health, physically and spiritually. Aameen

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IMANA DOCTORS EXTENDS MEDICAL RELIEF SERVICES IN GAZA

The Israeli war on Gaza continues and the uninterrupted bombing has razed the Gaza strip to rubbles. The death toll has exceeded 35000 and around 78000 remains wounded. FIMA and its members are striving to extend most needed medical relief services in collaboration with Palestinian Government and UN agencies including WHO sine long but with a limited success. Since last month at least, the medics are permitted to work in medical camps inside Gaza. A few doctors from USA and Canada have returned after serving there for a week or two on rota basis arranged by the WHO authrorities.

Another dedicated team of volunteer doctors from USA entered the Gaza Strip for a life-changing mission last Friday. The trip is a result of the collaboration between IMANA and HEAL Palestine and marks an important moment in the medical relief efforts.

Led by Dr. Ismail Mehr, the IMR chair and past president of IMANA. The team comprised Vascular Surgeon Dr. Shariq Sayeed, Pediatrician and Emergency Medicine physician Dr. Kanwal Shazia Chaudhry, and Pulmonologist Dr. Azeem Elahi. It was reported by the German media



Editor: Dr. Tanveer Zubairi, Ex. President, FIMA | Assistant Editor: Sajjad Saleem Prof. Dr. Abdul Rashid Abdul Rahman, President, FIMA | Dr. Eka Ginanjar, General Secretary, FIMA house-Reuters, "A U.S. vascular surgeon who left Gaza after a stint as a volunteer said nothing had prepared him for the scale of injuries he had faced there.

Dozens of patients a day. Most of them young. Most facing complicated injuries caused by shrapnel. Most ending up with amputations.

"Vascular surgery is really a disease for older patients and I would say I had never operated on anybody less than 16, and that was the majority of patients that we did this time around," Shariq Sayeed, from Atlanta, Georgia, told Reuters in Cairo.

"Most were patients 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 years of age. Mostly shrapnel wounds, and that was something I have never dealt with, that was something new."

In his stint at the European Hospital in Gaza, Sayeed said his team would deal with 40-60 patients a day. The vast majority were amputation cases.

"And unfortunately there is a very high incidence of infection as well so once you have an amputation that doesn't heal, you end of getting a higher amputation," he said.

Around 70 percent of the surgeries he performed were on injuries caused by shrapnel, the rest mostly from blast injuries and collapsing buildings.

Ismail Mehr, an anaesthesiologist from New York State, who led the Gaza mission, said the volunteer medics were "speechless at what we saw" when they arrived in April in southern Gaza.

Mehr is chairman of IMANA Medical Relief, a programme that focuses on disaster medical relief and healthcare support and has provided treatment to over 2.5 million patients in 34 countries and counting. He has been to Gaza several times in the past, but could not imagine what he saw this time: "Truly everywhere I saw was destruction in Khan Younis, not a single building standing."

Out of 36 hospitals that used to serve more than 2 million residents, just 10 were somewhat functional by early April, according to the World Health Organization.

Health facilities lacked medical supplies, equipment, staff, and power supplies, Mehr said. His biggest fear now is an expected Israeli assault into the southern city of Rafah, where half of Gaza's 2.3 million people have sought shelter.

"I hope and I pray that Rafah is not attacked," he said. "The health system will not be able to take care of that. It will be a complete catastrophe."

Together, the IMANA team carried the hope of saving lives, changing futures, and making a profound









impact on the lives of Gazans in desperate need of medical assistance.

The healthcare heroes arrived in Gaza last week, after a 16 hour road journey from Cairo, carrying a total of 42 duffle bags, containing a wealth of medical supplies valued at approximately \$140,000.

These were essential disposables like hundreds of IV catheters, 10,000 sutures, chest tubes, LMAs, IV extension sets, burn dressings, and various medications, including a comprehensive range of IV antibiotics and much more.

The mission kicked off with an incredible momentum. From performing surgeries in the ER to prepping for future lifesaving procedures in the ensuing week, the IMANA team was on the frontline making a real difference with unwavering dedication, buoyed by high sprits despite the numerous challenges!

On the day 1, the doctors met Yassin, an 11-year-old double

amputee, who faced unimaginable trauma just days ago. With Dr. Sayeed's help, they tended his wounds, providing comfort and support. Members of the IMANA and HEAL team worked tirelessly to arrange for him to receive prosthetics in the USA, offering a glimmer of hope for his future.

From evaluating septic joints and pleural effusions in the ICU, conducting butterfly ultrasounds in the ER, to performing surgeries, impact of the team was truly remarkable.

The members of the IMANA and HEAL team remained active till late into the night, from handling ICU patients, managing OR cases, cleaning wounds, and performing amputations and revisions, making every effort to save lives and alleviate suffering. They encountered heartbreaking moments, including efforts to resuscitate a one-month-old baby and the loss of a young girl despite their best efforts.

Friday in Gaza was marked by a

flurry of activity as the team continued with their vital work amidst challenging circumstances. A patient in her mid-sixties suffered a blood clot to the leg, leading to a fatal pulmonary embolism despite CPR efforts. Another patient, whose leg was amputated last night due to severe gas gangrene, also did not survive. Our doctors made their sincere efforts and hopefully our next teams will continue to do so.

These casualties, often overlooked, are directly linked to the conflict, exacerbated by the lack of access to even basic healthcare and essential medications. Despite these somber moments, our team remained steadfast. The sad happenings did not dampen their spirits; there is simply no time to lose.

Amidst Gaza's ongoing challenges, our team continues to provide essential urgent care and make a tangible difference in the lives of many. From daily patient care to donating crucial supplies for the ICU & ER units of two hospitals, each moment reflects resilience



and hope.

During these days, we discovered a talented young artist whose poignant works capture the harsh realities of life in Gaza. Moved by her artistry and determination, we're exploring avenues to encourage and empower her and others like her, envisioning a brighter future for them through creativity.

On day 4, the team was fully charged and the sentiments were overwhelming, filled with both action and reflection. Amidst the chaos, they managed to provide crucial support to those in need.

Journeying through Khan Yunis to deliver a donation of medical

imana

equipment and supplies to Al Aqsa Hospital, they witnessed the heartbreaking devastation firsthand - a city once bustling that now lay in ruins. Night-time echoed with the ominous sounds of artillery and tank shelling. But despite the grim reality, their spirits remain unwavering.

Back at the ER, the influx of patients continued. From blast injuries to acute illnesses exacerbated by the acute shortage of essential medicines, each case reminded us of the urgent need for unimpeded flow of critical medical supplies into Gaza. 3 elderly patients lost the battle for life merely due to the need for prioritization of care caused by extreme shortage of even basic lifesaving drugs. It's a reminder of the harsh realities faced by the people of Gaza.

Our resilient team in Gaza remains extremely busy and focused to provide the best care possible.

Day 5: the morning's updates are from the ER and include insightful discussions among our physicians, from interpreting imaging results to addressing critical cases. Every detail matters in the mission to save lives, while using the opportunity to train the local professionals as well.

Beyond medical procedures, moments of camaraderie, love and caring shine through too. From light-hearted jokes to heartfelt







gestures like balloon-blowing for children, our team bonds amidst the chaos, finding compassion for the suffering.

As we navigated the complexities of healthcare delivery in a war zone, our shared goals and unwavering dedication kept us grounded. Together, we tried making difference, one patient at a time

Throughout their last day, our doctors in Gaza went above and beyond.

Dr. Elahi and Dr. Chaudhry donated blood, engaged in activities like balloon-blowing, temporary tattoos, and playing with children, not only treating those in need but also spreading joy to healthy kids, who literally live in the hospital premises for safety. Dr. Mehr visited the Kuwaiti Specialty Hospital, delivering critical medical supplies and touring the facilities for a new NICU sponsored in collaboration with HEAL Palestine.

In one particularly challenging case, Dr. Sayeed successfully treated a young male with a blast injury, showcasing the expertise and dedication of our team.

Despite it being our last day, the impact of our mission resonates deeply. Reflecting on our work, we realize the significance of the connections we've made and the lives we've touched. From delivering supplies to critical surgeries, each action has made a profound difference in the community and we're so blessed to be able to do that. As we prepare to depart, we're reminded of the importance of our mission and the lives we've impacted. It's a bittersweet moment to be returning home and leaving these people in such dire need of medical attention here.

Our team exited Gaza finally, with a heavy heart and teary eyes. As we bid farewell and begin our journey back, a sense of sadness lingers. Leaving behind the people they've grown to care for deeply is no easy task. The routine of greeting the children each day, a small gesture yet filled with warmth and connection, will be dearly missed. They reflect on their time spent, recognizing the power of humanity in their interactions.

(Dr. Ismail Mehr, chair IMR, IMANA Medical Relief)

FIMA SEMI ANNUAL EXCO MEETING ACCRA GHANA APRIL 2024























Reflect Care Heal IMASA INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONVENTION Cape Town



FIMA-IMASA Scientific Convention

08 & 09 August 2024

TAP HERE TO REGISTER

TAP HERE TO REGISTER

10 & 11 August 2024

Early rates for registration extended to 30th May 2024

HEALTHY**FAMILIES.** HEALTHY**COMMUNITIES.**

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

If you'd like to present at this year's Convention - pls note the following requirements

- 1. Deadline for submission: 15 May 2024
- 2. Format: Electronic
- 3. Abstract: 300 400 WORDS
- 4. Brief Bio of Presenter: 200 words
- 5. High Resolution head & shoulder pic

REGISTER NOW: www.imasa.org.za



10 - 11 AUG 2024 LORD CHARLES HOTEL, CPT

- ALL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WELCOME
- CPD ACCREDITED
- OPPORTUNITIES TO PRESENT, SPONSOR, EXHIBIT AND ADVERTISE

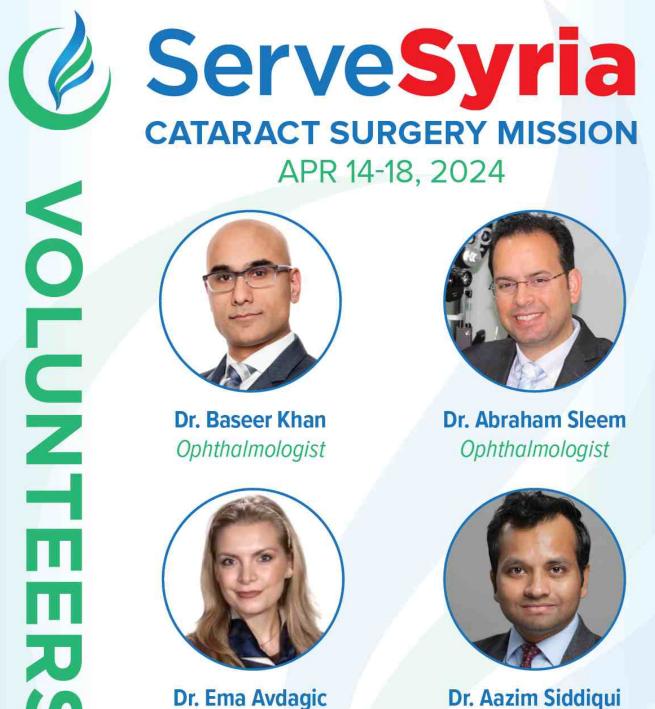
For more information contact IMASA Cape Town Branch: Zaid Dante: 0217621414 | convention@imasa.org.za

We're thrilled to introduce the incredible team of ophthalmologists who have arrived in Jordan for the ServeSyria Cataracts surgical

1

mission. These dedicated IMANA doctors will perform 200 sightsaving surgeries over the next four days to those in need.

Meet the Team: Dr. Baseer Khan Dr. Abraham Sleem Dr. Aazim Siddiqui Dr. Ema Avdagic



Dr. Aazim Siddiqui **Ophthalmologist**

Follow #imanacares for mission updates

Ophthalmologist

SUPPLIES PACK FOR THE GAZA MISSION AT DR. MEHR'S HOUSE

At Dr. Mehr's house a heartwarming scene unfolded as his family and friends banded together to pack supplies for the Gaza mission. They meticulously packed 10,000 sutures and substantial numbers of other medicines and supplies with care and precision. With each bandage, each vial of medicine, and

each comforting item packed, the room echoed with a sense of unity and purpose.



















Federation of Islamic Medical Associations

The team of the History of Islamic Medicine (HIM)

at

The Federation of Islamic Medical Associations (FIMA) invites you to attend this webinar

THE INTELLECTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS **OF WOMEN IN ISLAMIC MEDICAL** HISTORY

GUEST SPEAKER: DR. MARIUM HUSAIN, MD, MPH

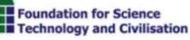
- Medical Oncologist, Ohio State University James Comprehensive Cancer Center, USA
- President of IMANA (Islamic Medical Association) of North America)
- Lead of the FIMA Save Earth project.
- Working on community service projects in the Columbus area and abroad for more than 10 years.

MODERATOR: PROF. SHARIF KAF AL-GHAZAL

- Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Bradford, UK
- Project Lead, FIMA- History of Islamic Medicine (HIM)
- Ex-President, British Islamic Medical Association (BIMA)
- Board member of Directors, Foundation for Science, Technology and Civilisation (FSTC)
- General Secretary, International Society for the History
- of Islamic Medicine (ISHIM)









SUNDAY

21 APRIL 2024

11.00 AM (NEW YORK)

4.00 PM (LONDON)

6.00 PM (MAKKAH)

10.00 PM (JAKARTA)

10 DOCTORS FROM JORDAN IN GAZA

Alhamdulillah!

10 doctors from Jordan in Gaza from yesterday, with subspecialties, seven from them will be in Shudaa Al Aqsa, myself and 2 brothers will move to Northern area to Kamal Edwan Hospital.









ELECTION RESULTS OF IMA OF AFGHANISTAN

Dear Professor Abdul Rashid, @+60 12-989 2399 and FIMA Secretariat @+60 12-320 0564 and the FIMA EXCO members, I am sharing an update. According to the constitution, on 29 March 2024, Afghanistan IMA, conducted its Election for the new 8th term of the AIMA for the period of 2024 - 2026 and considering the political situation in the country only AIMA senior members attended the voting process. In this election AIMA senior members from inside and outside Afghanistan voted and elected new AIMA president and AIMA EXCO members as below:

1. Dr Wahidullah Muslih elected as AIMA President, WhatsApp: +93782021220, Email; <u>aima.direct2008@gmail.com</u> General Secretary WhatsApp: +93700604649, Email; <u>aima.secretariat@gmail.com</u>

3. Dr. Ahmad Obaid Mujadidi, as previous the responsible for Relation and Advocacy WhatsApp: +93700602086, Email; AIMA Relation C o o r d i n a t o r aima.relation2008@gmail.com, <u>Ahmad.obaid.ns@gmail.com</u>

2. Dr. Homayoun Ludin, AIMA





ISLAMIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION CLINICS



The Islamic Medical Association Durban operates four stationary clinics alongside a mobile clinic in poverty riddled rural areas. These clinics collectively attend to approximately 4000 patients each month. However, the expenses, particularly for human resources such as health professionals and medications, are considerable. Currently, there is a monthly deficit of around R50 000.

The patients served at these clinics primarily consist of Black African non-Muslim individuals. Therefore, we extend this appeal to all healthcare professionals to assist in bridging this financial gap in the following ways:

- a. If you hold an account with City Medical, you can contribute an amount towards the IMA Clinics Medicine account.
- b. You could choose to sponsor a staff member from our team.
- c. Directly contribute to the IMA Clinics on a monthly basis through a debit order.

THESE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE CONSIDERED LILLAH.



Bank: Nedbank | Branch: Overport - 131326 Name of Acc: IMA Clinics | Acc No: 135 925 0492 Ref: Full Name

For Section 18A certificate, email Proof of payment and the following details to: imafinance@baytulnur.org.za [Full Name of Donor, Identity No, Tax No, Cell No, Email Address, Physical Address]. Any further queries, kindly contact: 031 209 7848



Tel: 031 207 2250 Email: imakzn@baytulnur.org.za

www.imasa.org.za

BIMA X PCRF WEBINAR: SUPPORT MEDICAL CARE FOR CHILDREN OF PALESTINE

BIMA are supporting the Palestine Children's Relief Fund (PCRF) on their work in Gaza.

Hear from renowned speakers Dr Ghassan Abu Sittah, Dr Mads Gilbert, and HRH Princess Dina MIred about the impact PCRF is having in Gaza and how the UK medical community can help. @ 7.30pm UK time

https://britishima.org/event/pcrfwebinar/

Friday 26th April

BIMA BRITISH ISLAMIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



SUPPORT MEDICAL CARE FOR CHILDREN IN PALESTINE JOIN OUR WEBINAR TO HEAR ABOUT THE IMPACT PCRF IS HAVING IN GAZA AND HOW THE UK MEDICAL COMMUNITY CAN HELP



HRH Princess Dina MIred

Head, PCRF Technical Advisory Committee

- Past President Union For International Cancer Control.
- Former Director General of the King Hussein Cancer Foundation.
- Patron of International Society for Pediatric Oncology.
- Honorary President of European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer.



Dr. Ghassan Abu Sittah

- Member, PCRF Technical Advisory Committee
- Founder, The Ghassan Abu Sittah Children's Fund.
- Co-founder of the Conflict Medicine Program at Global Health Institute at the American University of Beirut.
- Worked as a war surgeon in Yemen, Iraq, Syria, South Lebanon and during the current and previous wars in Gaza.
- Recently elected Rector at the University of Glasgow.



Dr. Mads Gilbert

- Prominent Norwegian physician.
- . Led medical missions to Gaza, Lebanon and the West Bank for decades,
- Long time advocate for Palestinian rights.

April 26th 2024 () 7:30 GMT To Join the webinar register here: https://bit.ly/PCRFwebinar

EXPANDING ACCESS: PIMA TELEMEDICINE CLINICS REACH BALUCHISTAN

PIMA has extended its telemedicine clinics to Baluchistan by establishing setups in Turbat and Dera Murad Jamali. With a total of 8 telemedicine clinics now providing medical care, including specialties such as dermatology, ENT, and diabetes, services are offered at nominal charges. Central President of PIMA Dr. Abdul Aziz Memon oversees the monitoring and supervision of the telemedicine project. During the previous month, a total of 300 patients were examined through these telemedicine clinics and provided with medication.



Federation of Islam Medical Association

Islamic Health Conference By Muslim Health Workers Association of Ghana which aims to ensure equity in Health By empowering communities for holistic Healthcare Services. Find full the post attached. Use the link below to register

https://forms.gle /n9ZqkFSyuDm hJn1aA



MDC/CPD points applied

MUSLIM

HEALTH

FIMASAC INSPIRE

Islamic Medical Association of North America IMANA

The World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY) invites you to attend the Fimasac Inspire Series 17

OUR JOURNEY IN VOLUNTEERING PLASTIC SURGERY: STORIES AND LESSONS

Presenter **DR. PARVAIZ MALIK** ~ Plastic Surgeon, Princeton, New Jersey USA ~ Awarded FIMA Lifetime Achievement Award 2023 ~ Senior Attending Plastic Surgeon, Penn Med Princeton Medical Center ~ Served as Assistant Professor, University of Southern Califonia ~ Past President of IMANA (2003-2004) ~ Past President of FIMA(2009-2013) ~ Member of FIMA Advisory Council and serving as FIMA **Executive Director for USA** ~ Represents FIMA at the United Nations ECOSOC - Conceived the FIMA NewsLetter ~ Founded FIMA SaveSmile and has led numerous cleft Lip /Palate Camps in various Countries Sat, 27th April, 2024 **4PM Makkah Time** Meeting ID: 822 0189 7352 FIMA Ø imana wamy zoom Passcode: 123456



Dr. Parvaiz Malik supporting pro-Palestine students protest at Princeton University, New Jersey, USA



NDMA PAKISTAN 🗇 @ndmapk

NDMA in support w/ of Al-Khidmat coordinated to send 8th tranche of relief assistance for Gaza. Palestinian Amb H.E Mr. @RabaieAhmed, Reps of Al Khidmat Foundation, Senior officials of NDMA, MoFA & Armed Forces attended the send-off ceremony at South Asia Pak Terminal Karachi.

SERIES



REMAINING MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

Alhamdulillah we are well into the last few days of Shawwal, a month celebrated as a month of victory in our endeavor to be closer to our Creator in Ramadhan. May Allah accept all our deeds of Ramadhan and may the next 11 months be filled with virtues and goodness.

The Executive Committee (EXCO) has just returned from our Semi annual meeting in Accra, Ghana. The semi annual was hosted by Muslim Health Workers Association of Ghana (MHWAG), a full member of FIMA, at the National Mosque of Accra, In the 2 days meeting the EXCO discussed emerging issues particularly those affecting the Muslim world especially the ongoing genocide in Gaza. Alhamdulillah some progress have been made in getting health personnel and aid from the FIMA fraternity. IMANA and Al Khidmat is in the fore front of this effort. On going discussions with the collaboration of the OIC, Ministry of Health Palestine and relevant NGOs within Palestine are on going to facilitate future endeavors. Other issues discussed in the Semi annual EXCO include implementation of the strategic planning approved by FIMA Council in Putrajaya, update from the various FIMA projects, preparation for the 41st Council meeting in Cape town in early August 2024. Also presented were future projects to be implemented in Africa by IMA Uganda and efforts to provide placement for Gazan medical students to continue their education in these challenging times

The EXCO meeting was followed by a historical meeting called the 1st Ghana International Health Conference. It was attended by close to 100 Muslim health professionals from all over Ghana. Speakers include imams, religious and health

leaders. Besides the high quality presentations by both local and international speakers, a highlight of the Conference was the resolution made by the 2 biggest associations of muslim health professionals (MHWAG and IMA Ghana) to work towards a merger in within the next 3 months, in time for the 41st FIMA Council Meeting, Insha Allah. I am optimistic that this historic Conference will herald the growth of FIMA in West Africa in particular and sub Saharan Africa in general.

This issue of the Newsletter continues to report on activities from FIMA fraternity with focus on relief work on Gaza from IMANA, Al Khidmat, IMA Jordan and BIMA (UK). Projects updates from FIMASAC and HIM Webinars are also featured. We welcome election of new office bearers of AIMA (Afghanistan) and activities from our newest associate IMA member, the Democratic Republic of Congo. I hope that other IMAs and projects will submit their activities to be included in future Newsletters

May Allah give us the health and well being to discharge our responsibilities and in the process make this world a better place, in the process obtaining the pleasure of Allah.

Walaikum Salam Prof. Dr. Abdul Rashid Abdul Rahman President, FIMA

HEADQUARTERS: 101 West 22nd Street, Suite 106, Lombard, IL 60148, USA. Phone: (630) 932-0000 Fax: (630) 930-0005

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