



KEMCAANA

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY
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Welcome KEMCAANA Members

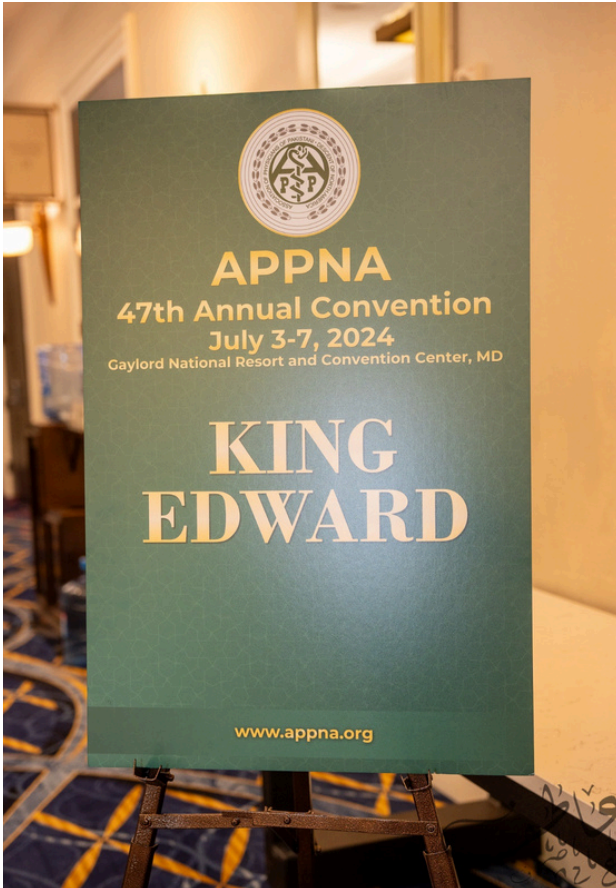
I am delighted to introduce the KEMCAANA Monthly Newsletter. This newsletter will keep our community informed about our projects, events, and achievements, and celebrate the contributions of our alumni in the USA, Canada, and beyond. It will serve as a platform for sharing news and fostering unity among members. I encourage everyone to contribute their news and suggestions to make this newsletter engaging and valuable. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to KEMCAANA.

Shahzad Khan, MD
President, KEMCAANA 2024



KEMCAANA Summer Meeting 2024

We are delighted to share the highlights and updates from the KEMCAANA Summer Meeting and General Body Meeting held on July 5, 2024, at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, Maryland. This event was part of the 47th APPNA Summer Convention 2024, which took place from July 3-7, 2024.



About Summer Meeting

Reconnecting Kemcolians and celebrating our achievements with camaraderie and purpose.

The KEMCAANA Summer Meeting and Banquet on July 5th was a wonderful occasion for reconnecting with colleagues and friends from King Edward Medical University (KEMU). Kemcolians from various parts of the USA and Canada gathered to reminisce about their time at KEMU and create new memories. This meeting provided an excellent opportunity to strengthen bonds and continue the tradition of camaraderie among Kemcolians in both the USA and Pakistan.

The event featured a welcome by the Secretary of KEMCAANA, a recitation of the Quran, and the national anthems of Pakistan, the USA, and Canada. The President of KEMCAANA introduced the Executive Committee and delivered an address, followed by a brief speech from the APPNA President. The gathering paid tribute to Dr. Aisha Zafar and Dr. Hamdani, and Dr. Mohammad Aslam presented the mission statement. Dr. Naseem Sheikh recognized Dr. Jamal Khan, and a sponsor video was shown.

Special highlights included the introduction of the Chief Guest, Prof. Mahmood Ayyaz (VC KEMU), who delivered a speech and presented awards.



Dr. Arif Agha received the Gold Medal, Dr. Ayesha Najib was honored with the Life Achievement Award, and Dr. Mariam Khalid and Dr. Umar Tariq were named Volunteers of the Year. The evening also featured fundraising for a cardiology clinic, with an introduction to the clinic's goals and initiatives. The event concluded with a Q&A and open mic forum, followed by dinner.



About the General Body Meeting

Discussing future plans and committee updates to strengthen our community's impact.

The KEMCAANA General Body Meeting was held at 11:30 AM on July 5, 2024, in National Harbor 10 Hall at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center. This meeting provided an opportunity for members to discuss important updates and future plans for KEMCAANA.



The agenda included a recitation of the Quran, remarks from the President and President-Elect, and reports from various committees including Finance, CABL, Scholarship, Student, and Membership. The Board of Trustees Report was presented by the Chair of the BOT, and a resolution for chapter creation was discussed. The meeting concluded with a question-and-answer session, providing a platform for members to engage and share their insights.



Glimpse from Summer Meeting



KEMCAANA Chapter Creation

We are excited to announce the creation of KEMCAANA Chapters, a new initiative designed to introduce local communities and increase membership. This proposal has been approved by the Council and EC and is now being presented to the membership for voting. The establishment of local chapters will enable us to strengthen our network, provide more localized support, and enhance engagement among Kemcolians across different regions.

KEMCAANA Membership

We are thrilled to announce that KEMCAANA membership has increased by about 10% so far this year, reflecting our community's growing commitment and engagement. To continue this momentum, we are offering free annual memberships for a limited time. Our diverse membership now spans alumni across the USA and Canada, all dedicated to upholding the values and traditions of King Edward Medical University. By joining KEMCAANA, members gain access to exclusive events, professional development opportunities, and a supportive network of fellow Kemcolians. Additionally, our members play a crucial role in our various charitable initiatives and projects aimed at giving back to our alma mater and supporting medical education and healthcare in Pakistan. We encourage all KEMU alumni to become part of this vibrant and impactful community, contributing to and benefiting from the collective strength of KEMCAANA.

KEMCAANA Cardiac Clinic Project

We are excited to announce KEMCAANA's initiative to open a Cardiac Clinic in the Cardiology Department of Mayo Hospital, Lahore. This project aims to enhance the treatment of cardiac patients by upgrading the existing infrastructure and providing state-of-the-art equipment. The Cardiac Clinic will offer specialized care and advanced medical services, significantly improving the health outcomes for cardiac patients in the region. To make this vision a reality, we are actively fundraising to support the establishment of the clinic. Your generous contributions will directly impact the lives of countless patients, helping to provide them with the high-quality care they deserve. We invite all KEMCAANA members and supporters to join us in this vital endeavor and contribute to the betterment of healthcare in Pakistan.

KEMCAANA loss of a shining star



Aisha Zafar, M.D. (KE-1987)
July 17, 1963- June 7, 2024

I write this farewell note for Aisha Zafar with mixed feelings of sadness and sense of pride for her beautiful journey.

From the college days at the King Edward Medical University in the early 80's, through our work together at the Mayo Hospital Lahore, when she was my house officer, and for the next 35 years in the USA till her passing on June 7, 2024, Aisha Zafar was my dear sister, very close to my heart and close to my wife and our family. It is sad to see her leave, but I am proud of her cherished journey and feel privileged to be part of it.

She was an outstanding student, an excellent doctor, a valiant patient, a charismatic person with an instinctive sense of humor and, above all, she was a philanthropist par excellence.

Aisha possessed an innate ability to see the needs of others and an unwavering determination to meet those needs, no matter the cost. Her philanthropic spirit was not just a part of her—it defined her.

The daughter of two medical giants, Professor Hayat Zafar (Principal Nishtar Medical College) and Professor Bilquis Jamal Zafar (Professor Pharmacology, KEMC), Aisha was an internist in Indianapolis, Indiana. Her passion and the "real life" were however at APPNA and KEMCAANA where she dedicated herself wholeheartedly to causes that uplifted the marginalized, supported the vulnerable, and brought hope to the hopeless. Whether she was organizing fundraising events, leading the Social Welfare Committees, donating scholarships, bringing vision to corneal blinds, or simply lending a listening ear, her actions spoke volumes about the depth of her compassion.

Her legacy is not just the tangible changes she made in the world, but also the intangible ones—the lives she touched, the hearts she warmed, and the spirits she lifted. Her philanthropy was not confined to grand gestures or public acts. It was woven into the very fabric of her daily existence. She was the type of person who would give anything to a needy, who would spend hours mentoring and supporting a struggling student, who would quietly pay for someone's groceries when they were short on funds. Her kindness and generosity knew no bounds.

For over 25 years she fought a spirited fight valiantly against metastatic cancer. This marathon was not just about battling a disease but about living life with grace, dignity, and an unyielding passion. Despite the rigors of targeted therapies, immunotherapies, and countless other treatments, she maintained a positive outlook. She dressed impeccably and wore a vivacious smile far more elegantly than her colorful sarees. If one did not know about her illness, no one could ever imagine what courage it took to look so beautiful as she did. Her great sense of humor was a testament to her joy for life, reminding us that laughter is a powerful healer.

She is survived not just by her husband Shahid Bashir, by her siblings Saima Zafar and Fawad Zafar, by her nephews that she was a godmother to but also by hundreds of KEMCAANA and APPNA members who loved her and by thousands of people whose lives were changed through her efforts.

In our grief, let us remember that Aisha lived a life of purpose and passion. Let us honor her memory by continuing her work, by embodying the principles she held dear, and by striving to make the world a better place, just as she did every single day.

To my beloved sister, thank you for your boundless love, your unwavering dedication, and your incredible spirit. You have shown us all what it means to live a life of resilience and true philanthropy. I am certain that heaven awaits you with open arms. May God bless your soul.



OBITUARY BY: ARIF H. AGHA, M.D. (KE 1984)