

## **BMANA News Letter:**

Bangladesh Medical Association Of North America

4250 Hempstead Turnpike, Suite 17, Bethpage, NY 11714-5707

(516) 796-4245 also (610) 891 2771. Visit the web at [www.bmana.com](http://www.bmana.com)

December 2003

### **The 24<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of Bangladesh Medical Association of North America**

will be held at **Crowne Plaza Times Square Manhattan Hotel in New York.**

<http://manhattan.crowneplaza.com/nycmh/index.shtml>

The dates of the event are Friday July 30<sup>th</sup> 2004, August July 31<sup>st</sup> 2004 and Sunday August 1<sup>st</sup> 2004.

Located in Midtown Manhattan at Broadway and 49th Street in the heart of New York's New Times Square, it is adjacent to the Theater District, Radio City Music Hall and Rockefeller Center. World-famous Fifth Avenue shopping is just 3 blocks away.

We are pleased to announce that we are able to offer the membership a hotel rate of \$159.00 per night plus applicable taxes. Reservations can be made by calling **(800) 243 6969** and mentioning group code **BMANA**.

**Please make your reservation as soon as possible.** We have a limited block of rooms set aside for which the group rate is guaranteed. If we are able to reserve this initial block rapidly, we always have the option of going back to the hotel and requesting more rooms at the lower rate. However this depends on availability. Once the group rate is no longer available, those that have not booked their rooms will most likely pay significantly higher rates. It would benefit you and the organization if your reservations were made by February 15<sup>th</sup> 2004. For your information the address and contact information of the hotel is as follows:

Crowne Plaza Hotel ,TIMES SQUARE MANHATTAN, NY,1605 Broadway  
between 48th and 49th streets, Manhattan, NY 10019 .Toll-Free: 1 800 243 6969  
Tel: 1-212-9774000 ,Fax: 1-212-3337393 ,Email: [info@cpmny.com](mailto:info@cpmny.com)  
<http://manhattan.crowneplaza.com/nycmh/index.shtml>

We have a magnificent **three-hour cruise of Manhattan by moonlight** planned for everyone on Friday evening. To accommodate this, we were forced to change the format of our traditional program. The member's program will be on the boat.

The **children's talent show** has been given a slot from 4pm – 8pm on Friday evening in the Hotel. Please make a note of this change. If your child is interested in participating, please make sure you make arrangements to arrive before the start of the show.

The Children and member program's coordinator : Dr. Najmul Khan

Coordinator of scientific seminar: Dr. Shafiq Rahman

Coordinator of the Moon light Cruise: Dr. Maksud Choudhury

Dinner fees

Membership fees

Registration fees

Cruise: \$30/person

Waleđ Choudhury, M.D. Convener

**A report on: The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual meeting in Michigan**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual meeting of Bangladesh Medical Association Of North America was held on August 1-2, 2003 at the Marriott of Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Friday evening after registration the **children's culture program** was begun. The spontaneous participation by many talented Children from all over the USA in music, poetry, songs, and dance was very heartfelt. The clear evidence of the parents' relentless effort to continue our very rich Bengali heritage was very encouraging. Tanzia Islam conducted the program beautifully.

**The member's cultural evening** was started afterwards. The Michigan Chapter presented a unique program that included Folk, Jarrie-gan, Puthi (Ancient scripts), and Bangla Kawali. This excellent presentation by a 20 member group was very informative, innovative and extremely nostalgic. Other beautiful performances were solo songs by Dr. Syed Shawkat Hussain, Mrs. Poly Ahmed, Dr. A. Hafiz, recitation by Dr. Debashish Mridha, Dr. Sunil Das, Dr. Nazra Chowdhury and music in guitar by Dr. Kiron Debnath. Members couldn't stop talking and sharing their beautiful memories and exciting life with old and new friends until midnight. Dr. Sultana Guznabi and Mrs. Poly Ahmed conducted the member's show.

**The scientific seminar** was started in early Saturday morning. The chairman of seminar was Dr. Shamsuddoha and the director of the CME program was Dr. Najmul Haque. The speakers were Dr. Debashish Mridha (New concepts in treatment of Dementia), Dr. Gary Edelson (Lipid management in Modern Era), Dr. George Grunburger (Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in type 2 Diabetes Mellitus), Dr. Shamsudoha (Update on Hepatitis C), Dr. William O'Neill (Percutaneous management of CAD), Dr. Nasirul Haque (Rejuvenation of Coronary Arteries by Growth Hormones), Dr. Jack Sobel (What's new in Infectious Disease), Dr. S. Shaha (Advances in Surgical Management by Sentinel lymph mapping) and visiting guest speaker from Bangladesh Dr. Mahmudul Hasan (Development of Gastrointestinal disease in Bangladesh). The excellent program was very highly appreciated. For the last few years **the seminars were dedicated to the martyrs of Bangladesh's liberation war**. This time it was dedicated to two martyrs both of them Army physicians. After a moment of silent prayer, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed discussed their life, sacrifice and contribution to the independence of Bangladesh. They are Shaheed Dr. Colonel Badiul Alam (Commandant of Chittagong Military Hospital in 1971; his daughter Dr. Yasmin Alam is a talented Oncologist in Windsor, Canada) and Shaheed Lt. Colonel Dr. Jahangir (Commandant of Comilla military Hospital in 1971; his son Maruf and daughter-in-law Tahmina Jahangir reside in North Carolina).

There was a simultaneous session organized by the **BMANA auxiliary committee** in the morning chaired by President Mrs. Moni Akbar. The program included a lecture on nutrition by Dr. Yasmin Alam, Salsa dance and exercise, poetry session, discussion on proper usage of cosmetics etc. There were few stalls by the drug companies, two Bengali Books and music stalls and two saree and jewelry stores which were visited by a large numbers of the attendees.

President of BMANA Dr. Waled Choudhury started the afternoon **business meeting** with silent prayers on the recently departed souls of Dr. Ahsanul karim of Los Angeles, Dr. Mahfuza Anam of Chicago and Mrs. Rebecca Costa of Virginia Beach. Dr. Abu F. Islam presented treasurer report, and Dr. Ehsanur Rahman presented Secretary's report. Participants of vibrant discussions on the future activities of BMANA included Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed, Dr. Hamiduzzaman, Dr. Ahmed J Khan Rumi, Dr. Zakaria, Dr. Abdul Hafiz and Dr. Sajjad Islam. The topics included: CME in Bangladesh, College alumni association in USA, Telemedicine and Clinical practices in Bangladesh, CPR and ICU training in Bangladesh, how to assist a new hospital in North Bengal. etc. The BMANA chapters' reports were presented by Abul Imam (Carolina Chapter), Abul Kalam Azad (New York), Dr. Mohiuddin Mozammel (Midatlantic), Dr. Shafi Zakir Ahmed (Michigan).

Dr. Syed Showkat Hussain, election commissioner, along with Dr. Qazi Moslehuddin Ahmed and Dr. Shafiq Rahman conducted the **election of the BMANA executive committee for year 2003 to 2005**. There was a proposal to extend the numbers of the executive committee. This could not be implemented this year because of inadequate process as per constitution. Discussion on the proposal was very constructive and positive. The support was strong for its implementation in the next election. **The new committee** includes Past president: Dr. Waled Choudhury

(NY), President: Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed (Pennsylvania), President-Elect: Dr. Ehsanur Rahman (Delaware), Secretary: Dr. Abu F. Islam (Michigan), Treasurer: Dr. Najmul Khan (New York), Members: Dr. Abul Imam (North Carolina), Dr. Husna Siddique (New York), Dr. Maksud Choudhury (New York).

The new president Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed announced 8 new subcommittees and urged members' to participate in the activities. To encourage wider and active participation, formation of alumni association of different medical colleges and class reunions under the umbrella of BMANA was encouraged. Membership drive is considered a high priority. Funding and donation on BMANA projects were encouraged. Individual and groups with any new or ongoing projects and ideas on Bangladesh were encouraged for possible joint ventures.

After evening dinner Dr. Nasirul Haq conducted an emotional **oath taking ceremony** for the new committee. The **special guest** of the dinner was the secretary of the ECFMG and an active member of the AMA Dr. Busharat Ahmed. He gave a passionate speech on the history of international medical graduate's struggle in USA and their responsibilities in the mainstream politics. He explained his life experience and suggested that physicians should be involved in different associations, from their own ethnic association to other, broader professional associations including American Medical Association.

To ensure one's future one should take charge by getting involved in the processes that formulate destiny.

This year **BMANA recognition awards** went to three outstanding persons. Dr. Waled Choudhury, president of BMANA handed over the awards. Dr. Ehsanur Rahman, Dr. Abu F. Islam and Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed presented the awardees.

Dr. Khondoker Alamgir received the award for his contribution in the 1951 language movement and his very active role in organizing support from the USA for war of liberation in Bangladesh. His life long contribution in promoting Bengali culture, social justice, and communal harmony in USA was acknowledged. Dr Alamgir is suffering from cancer in New York.

The BMANA award also went to Professor Syed A. Shakur (Ex.prof. of Radiology) for his life long contribution to medical education, and cultural enrichment to the medical community in Bangladesh.

The BMANA award also went to Professor S.N.A. Faiz, present vice chancellor of Dhaka university for his contribution to higher education in general, and private medical education in Bangladesh. Dr. Shafi Zakir Ahmed, the convener of the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting gave vote of thanks and expressed his appreciation for all the support by to members of the Michigan chapter's organizing committee.

The last important function was an **evening cultural gala**. The first part included an excellent dance performance by Miss Naushin Hasan followed by songs by Dinu Islam. The next performance of Sitar and tabla by Indrojit and Gourishonkor (Visiting Musicians from India) was spell bounding. The great finale was the presentation by our best Rezwana Choudhury Bonna (visiting Tagore singer from Bangladesh). This time Rezwana's style included a brief discussions followed by songs of D.L. Roy, Atul Prosad and Rabindranath Tagore. It was a superb experience in a surreal environment until past mid night. Dr. Waled Choudhury invited every one to attend the next meeting on July 30- 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Manhattan, NY.

### **New Central Auxillary Committee of BMANA**

Past President: Moni Akbar (Michigan), President Elect: Fedrous Islam (Nargis) (Michigan)  
President: Ruqsana Ahmed (Polly) (Michigan), General Secretary: Anisa Rahman (Delaware)  
Treasurer : Nazma Amin (Michigan), Members-At-Large: Shirin Iman (North Carolina), Nasreen Islam (Texas), Shamim Anam (New Jersey), Mr. Yousuf Siddique (New York),  
Shamsul Siddique (New York). Contact: [RuksanaAhmed@hotmail.com](mailto:RuksanaAhmed@hotmail.com), Phone: (810) 694 8501

### **Sylhet Medical College (Osmany) Alumni Association is formed:**

Recently in NY Dhaka club, Sylhet Medical College (Osmany) Alumni Association was formed. Enthusiastic members from far and near made a serious commitment to uphold its agenda. The members of the new adhoc committee: President: Dr. Humayun Kabir, Vice-president: Dr. Muhammed Nazrul Islam, Secretary: Dr. Muhammed A. Rahman, Treasurer: Dr. Muhammed M. Zaman, Members: Dr. Zakir Ahmed and Dr. A.K.M. Juber Ahmed. The President of the committee Dr. Humayun Kabir pledged to form a full committee within one year after extensive membership drive. He gave full support to BMANA and offered joint ventures on development projects in

Bangladesh and USA. He also has proposed to sponsor cultural night for the next BMANA meeting. They have hosted a web with excellent service potential at [www.sylmed.com](http://www.sylmed.com). All Sylhet graduates are requested to contact them.

**Rajshahi and Sir Salimullah Medical College ex.students: A notification:**

**Rajshahi Medical College Alumni** are planning to host their first meeting in July 2004 in NY during the BMANA annual meeting. All Rajshahi graduates are requested to attend the meeting. Contact Dr. Shafi Jakir Ahmed at Phone: (810) 694 8501 .

**Sir Salimullah Medical College Alumni** please contact Email. [obayedurkhan@pol.net](mailto:obayedurkhan@pol.net) or [saleh\\_rahman97@post.harvard.edu](mailto:saleh_rahman97@post.harvard.edu)

**Join the BMANA service group:**

On behalf of the BMANA we are trying to organize the Primary care and Specialties groups in order to maximize our participation in different projects. You are very welcome to join this effort. We are receiving a request to provide assistance in mini consultation over fax e-mail, visiting lectures, setting up a US Bangladesh Medical center in Dhaka, professional support in existing Hospitals, new centers and Telemedicine (For a fee) project). Please contact: [za28@drexel.edu](mailto:za28@drexel.edu).

**Dr. Mohammed Hamizzaman of New York** has accepted responsibility to spearhead a Medical center in Bangladesh. If you want to participate please contact [mzaman@brookdale.edu](mailto:mzaman@brookdale.edu). (516) 294 3926 or e-mail: [za28@drexel.edu](mailto:za28@drexel.edu)

**Funds for BMANA project:**

We are soliciting donations for BMANA Projects. Dr. Sajjad Islam from Odessa, Texas has donated \$2000 towards CPR equipment which was promised to Dr. Omar Faruq of BIRDEM. Dr Faruq is doing a tremendous job in training physicians in Bangladesh in CPR. Dr. Sajjad Islam also pledged \$10,000 for other projects. We encourage every one to donate so we can undertake more serious projects in Bangladesh.

**Mosabbir Cancer Center in Bangladesh: A philanthropic effort**

Recently a specific request also came from Lt.Col (rtd) Modasser H. Khan , (a relative of a BMANA member ) to help build a cancer center in Dhaka. His young son (Mosabbir) died in the USA of cancer. He is determined to build a cancer center for charitable reasons. Some of the members have expressed interest in helping his effort. To raise funds for the project he has started a transcription service for minimum fees and also started an out patient medical clinic where visiting Bangladeshi Physicians can provide medical service in Bangladesh. His contact information: 7913 Amber Hills Lane,Nashville, TN – 37221,Tel: (615) 662 3508, e-mail: [mosabbir16@hotmail.com](mailto:mosabbir16@hotmail.com)

The center is Registered as a non-profit organization under State of Tennessee Control # 0458895, Federal ID # 04 – 3774498/ **Please donate to the charitable fund of the center and send your check to**

AmSouth Bank, 7608 Highway 70 South

Nashville, TN – 37221

For the Credit of Mosabbir Cancer Care Center, ACCT#0044517467

**Khawaza Yunus Ali Medical college and Hospital ( KYAMCH) in Pabna.**

Dr. Zakaria introduced KYAMCH, a 500 bed state of the art hospital and Medical and nursing College in Sirajganj, Pabna. Away from an already crowded Dhaka Metropolitan area, this facility is near completion. The founder Dr. Amjad Hussain , a successful industrialist and owner of a pharmaceutical company *Drug International Ltd* invited members of BMANA to participate in his project. This unique challenge needs to be encouraged. Its success in the Mofassil community may be a crucial determinant of future efforts to decentralize the Dhaka-centric health care system in Bangladesh. Contact: Dr. Zakaria at [zakaria@pol.net](mailto:zakaria@pol.net)

**BMANA Member Honored**

Dewan Abdul Majid,M.B.B.S.PhD, Associate Professor Of Physiology at Tulane University , Neo Orleans, a recipient of Heart Foundation and many national and international awards is invited as a chief guest in the 15<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of Physiological society of India on December 2003.

### **An invitation from Cholera Research ( ICDDR,B) Bangladesh:**

“My name is Julia Ackley and I am writing to you on behalf of ICDDR,B: Centre for Health and Population Research (Centre), commonly known to many in Bangladesh as the "Cholera Hospital."

The Centre was established in 1960 to conduct research on diarrhoeal diseases that plagued the people of Bangladesh. Research conducted led to the development of Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) - a simple therapy that is now used extensively in Bangladesh and worldwide and estimated to save 3million lives annually.

Today the Centre remains the only international health research institution based in Bangladesh. It has transitioned from an organization highly focused on diarrhoeal diseases to one with a broad research agenda, addressing the greatest health challenges facing people living in Bangladesh and other developing nations. These issues form the Centre's eight cross-cutting programmes: child health, reproductive health, nutrition, infectious diseases and vaccine sciences, health and family planning systems, population sciences, HIV/AIDS, and health and poverty.

In addition to the Centre's critical research, it provides basic health services to the Bangladeshi population - treating hundreds of patients everyday. The Dhaka and Matlab hospitals treat over 120,000 patients annually and thousands of others are reached through the Centre's urban and rural clinics. In conjunction with care, preventive services such as child and mother immunization, breastfeeding and family planning counseling, and health education are provided. With no hidden costs, high quality services and equitable treatment to all patients, the Centre's hospitals and clinics have become well known and trusted within the community especially among the poor.

We believe the Centre's work on behalf of the people of Bangladesh would be of interest to the members of the Bangladesh Medical Association of North America (BMANA) and that is why I am writing you today. The Centre is beginning a new outreach programme to Bangladeshi Americans, hoping to make contact with old friends and garner support for our work. In December or January we will be sending a mailing to Bangladeshi Americans. I am hoping that the BMANA could assist us with gathering addresses of Bangladeshi Americans, specifically by sharing your membership mailing list with us. We will be certain not to share this list with others and not to overwhelm members with mass mailings.

We are planning to jump start our efforts to raise funds for the Centre's hospitals in Matlab and Dhaka and for educational scholarships for young doctors and scientists. Primarily we have relied on individual donors for these efforts – mostly alumni and friends. However, we have not fully explored the potential support from Bangladeshi Americans. In this way, the Bangladesh Medical Association can be extremely helpful. In addition, you could help raise awareness of our efforts through e-mail or your website. Maybe there are others ways that we could collaborate as well fundraising dinners or other endeavors? The Centre simply wants to reach those who would be interested in our work. Any assistance would be tremendously appreciated.

Sincerely,"

**Julia Ackley,**

Senior Associate,

External Relations and Institutional Development;

ICDDR,B: Centre for Health and Population Research

E-mail: [julia@icddrb.org](mailto:julia@icddrb.org),

[www.icddrb.org](http://www.icddrb.org)

**The Following Members agreed to take part in the following projects during the last annual meeting: All other members are requested to join the following activities:**

#### **Sponsors of Journals:**

1. Ahmed J. Khan ( Rumi) 2. Ayesha Sikdar: Pulmonary and Critical Care, 3.M.A.Hafiz, Pathology

4. Humayun Kabir: Pulmonary,

#### **Telemedicine project:**

Ahmed J Khan ( Rumi): Pulmonary, Ayesha Sikder: Pulmonary, B.M. Atiquzzaman: Gastroenterology.

Rumana Rahman: Pulmonary, Muhammad H. Zaman: Pulmonary , Ziauddin Ahmed, M.D. Nephrology  
Yasmin Alam, M.D. Hematology Oncology, Humayun Kabir: Pulmonary,

**CME Program for Bangladesh:**

Ziauddin Ahmed: Nephrology, Mohammad H. Zaman: Pulmonary and Critical Care, Ayesha Sikder: Pulmonary and critical care, Ahmed J. Khan ( Rumi): Pulmonary and critical Care, Shafiqur Rahman: Infectious disease  
B.M. Atiqzaman: Gastroenterology, Tim. S. Chowdhury: Interventional, Pain management. Kiron Debnath:  
Anesthesiology. 1500 Woodspath lane,

**Mentors of new Bangladeshi graduates in the USA:**

M.A. Hafiz. Baltimore, M.D.(732) 864 1262, Ahmed J. Khan ( Rumi). Email: [rumi\\_ahmed@yahoo.com](mailto:rumi_ahmed@yahoo.com)  
Mohammad H. Zaman. [mzaman@brookdale.edu](mailto:mzaman@brookdale.edu). (718) 240 5236, Dabiruddin Humayun. [dhumayun@comcast.net](mailto:dhumayun@comcast.net)  
(810) 720 4334. Address: 6455 W. Cimarron trail, Flint, MI 48532, Tim S. Chowdhury. (956) 631 9041  
B.M. Atiqzaman [Atiqzaman@pol.net](mailto:Atiqzaman@pol.net). (718) 935 0712, Ferdous Khan, Humayun Kabir: Pulmonary, (423) 784  
0197

**Lecture during Bangladesh visit**

B.M. Atiqzaman: Gastroenterology, Tim S. Chowdhury: Interventional Radiology and pain management  
Mohammad H. Zaman; Pulmonary and Critical Care. Ayesha Sikder. Pulmonary and Critical care  
Ahmed J Khan ( Rumi): Pulmonary and critical care

**Contribute money for books to different medical college libraries:**

Dabiruddin Humayun, M.A. Hafiz , Ayesha Sikder , Sajjad Islam, Humayun Kabir: Pulmonary,

**Procure and Donate equipment to Bangladesh:**

Sajjad Islam, M.D., Saleh Sarwar, M.D., B.M. Atiqzaman , Ziauddin Ahmed, M.D.

**Arrange training for visiting Bangladeshi physicians:**

Tim S. Chowdhury: Interventional Radiology and Pain management, Kiron Debnath. Anesthesiology.  
M.A. Hafiz. Pathology , Ziauddin Ahmed, M.D. Nephrology

**Other Projects:**

M.A. Hafiz, Dabiruddin Humayun, Shafiqur Rahman, Rumana Rahman .B.M. Atiqzaman

**Other Suggestions:**

Sharing Bangladeshi medical cases on the BMANA web page: Ziauddin Ahmed

Media campaign in Bangladesh: Ahmed J. Khan ( Rumi),

Discussion groups with physicians and new graduates in diagnostic work up of diseases: Ayesha Sikder

Establish a forum for US medical graduates of Bangladeshi origin. Enroll the second generation.

Initiate an aggressive campaign to include resident and fellows: Mian A. Siddique. Psychiatry

**In the last annual meeting the following members showed interest in the different Subcommittees: All the members are welcome to participate in the following groups:**

**1. CME committee:**

Dhiraj Shah, M.D. Chairman: Members: Mohammed Badruzzaman, M.D., Dilip Sarkar, M.D., Ziauddin Ahmed, M.D., B.M. Atiqzaman, M.D., Mohammad H. Zaman, M.D., Ferdous Khandekar, M.D.  
Ahmed J Khan ( Rumi), M.D.

**2. Telemedicine:**

Atiqzaman, M.D. , Yusuf, M.D., Ahmed J Khan (Rumi), M.D.,

**3. Membership Committee;**

Mahboob ( Ohio), B.M. Atiqzaman, Ahmed J Kahn Rumi

**4. USA Bangladesh Medical center in Bangladesh**

Mohammad H. Zaman: Chairman

**5. Technology Transfer committee**

Sajjad Islam , Odessa, Texas: Chairman

**6. Publication committee:**

Ziauddin Ahmed, M.D.(PA): Chairman, Members: Choudhury Hafiz Ahsan, M.D. (Irvine, CA), B.M. Atiqzaman, M.D.(NY)

**7. Research Committee:**

Abdullah Al Baki, MBBS, PhD, Mahbub Rahman, M.D. PhD., Hyder Ali, PhD, Mohmmmed Munir Khan, MBBS, PhD

**8.Social welfare committee**

Mrs .Moni Akbar: Chairman

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