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DOW *Link*

NEWSLETTER

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SUMMER, 2002

President's Message



PASSING THE GAVEL

Dear Dow Alumni,

It has been a great honor for me to serve as the President of DOWANA. The recent increase in the interest and growth of our association stem originally from the dedication and continued interest and guidance of our seniors such as Dr. Iltifat Alavi, Dr. Mushtaq Khan, Dr. Saleem Chowdhery, Dr. S. Sultan Ahmed, Dr. Busharat Ahmed, Dr. Shahid Yusouf. With tireless efforts of Zeelaf Munir we saw tremendous increase in our membership last year. The larger membership meant more responsibilities. The current cabinet had the task of consolidating the organization, realizing potentials of political activism, creating greater Dow International network and maximum use of electronic resources.

Since last annual meeting we were faced with new challenges. First, the tragedy of September 11, redefined the role we all must play here in USA, then the issue of killing of Doctors in Pakistan particularly demanded our active involvement in the affairs of Pakistan. The awareness of **political activism** for important issues is now clearly evident (see the articles in this issue). **Consolidation** of our membership support was one of our prime objectives. Keeping track of the current and expired membership, establishment of membership statement, renewal notices, identifying newly arriving Dow graduates, creating "welcome kit - resource" for those who are starting or looking for residency, these were some of the key points established.

Taking full advantage of the electronic medium the **communication** greatly improved and the alumni experience enhanced. Our vision of creating Dow International Network for the Dow alumni spread across the globe also saw promising results. Now more organized Dow alumni activities in UK and in Pakistan are underway. This year a delegate from UK would be joining us in New York meeting.

I have great confidence in Sadeem Mahmood and his new cabinet. I have no doubt that DOWANA will continue to grow. It has been an excellent and productive year and I thank you all for your support and help.

Rizwan A. Karatela, M.D.
President
DOWANA 2001-2002.

Editorial

Keep Dow's Tradition Alive

The political season is descending upon us once again and political positioning is already in top gear. This year the only up for grabs at the central AAPNA level is that of president, since the other two office bearers have already been elected unopposed. Contest at the top is fairly heated, though according to some the jockeying lacks substance. It is not surprising therefore that many have chided the AAPNA elections as a campaign for the Homeowners Association.

Over the years AAPNA has emerged as the most respectable professional organization of Pakistani anywhere in the globe. At times leadership has used and even abused its clout in Pakistan in the corridors of power. Presidency of AAPNA therefore has turned into highly desirable honor. There is nothing wrong with it. After all the elected leadership devotes its time and resources and some glitter is well deserved. At present, however there is more than glitter that is at stake. The leadership does not have to always play the role of sycophant for the ruling elite in Pakistan. We are in a position to guide, influence and speak the truth in front of the often delusional and grandiose leadership of Pakistan. The physician community would have been better served if our leadership had run a paid advertisement in a Pakistani newspaper condemning the killings of Doctors in Pakistan rather than endorsing a controversial referendum.

We hope that the rumors about some

unethical practices undertaken by the candidates are just that. We hope that our candidates will take some lessons from the recently held referendum in Pakistan and refrain from winning elections at any cost. Dignity of the organization and the general body is far more important than winning the office of the president. Let us make this election a referendum on real issues.

Coming to the publication itself, we are trying to turn it into more than a newsletter. In tradition of our Alma Matter we are trying to turn it into a forum for putting our ideas and point of view on all the topics that we all think of, even the opposing views are always welcomed. To make it more interactive forum we need an involvement of our readers. While pages of this publication may be limited, there is always room to put the views on DOGANA's website.

As this will be the last issue before the Annual meeting, I would like to thank Rizwan Karatela, Zia Moiz Ahmad, Zeelaf Munir and Sadeem Mahmood for all there help in bringing out the publications and making them a reality. ♦

Editor
Naseem A. Shekhani

DOGANA does not hold itself responsible for statements made by any contributor. Statements or opinions expressed in **Dow Link** reflect the view of the author(s) and do not represent official policy of Dow Graduate Association of North America unless so stated.

Request for Articles:

If you would like write for the Newsletter then please send your articles/essays/news to Dow Link by Email using editor@dowalumni.com

Online Information:

Please visit DOGANA official website and explore the information available, news, events, and database of more 2500 Dow alumni residing in North America.

www.dowalumni.com

We Remember Them

Rizwan A. Karatela, MD – President DOGANA

On behalf of the executive committee of Dow Graduate Association of North America I write this section again with deep sorrow and anguish over the killing of doctors in Pakistan.

Over the past several years and particularly within the past few months several of our dear friends have been brutally killed. More disturbing is the continued killing of doctors without any protection and safety of doctors currently working in Pakistan. Many have decided to return to the United States for obvious reasons. Many are still struggling, and many are hiding in terror and fear thinking they might be the next target. The list is certainly not complete but we remember each one of our friends killed.

How can we stay quiet? Many of the Dow graduates and physicians from Pakistan expressing their concerns and anger against these horrific acts. Many have organized various forums not only to protest but also to help grieving families cope with the situation. **Visit DOGANA website for more Info.**

PLEASE HELP and SUPPORT

Please help in whatever way you can to fight terror and violence against our colleagues

Dr Nishat Mallick
 Dr Amir Mauvia
 Dr Anwar-us-Salaam
 Dr Syed Rashid Mehdi
 Dr Alay Safdar Zaidi
 Dr Reza Jafri
 Dr Muzaffar Ali Samoo
 Dr Zahid Hussain
 Dr Asad Bukhari
 Dr Raza Mehdi
 Dr M. Raza Peerani
 Dr Sibtain Dossa
 Dr Karamat Hussain
 Dr Mehtab Kazmi
 Dr Nayyar Hussain Zaidi
 Dr Mansoor Hussain
 Dr Anisul Hasan Rizvi
 Dr Iqtidar Sajjid Naqvi
 Dr Syed Jaffer Abbas Jafri,
 Dr Shakir Ali
 Dr Pervaiz Akhtar Naqvi
 Dr Syed Alijah Jafri
 Dr Muhammad Hussain
 Dr Mehdi Hasan
 Dr Nadeem Hasan Amrohvi
 Dr Kausar Ali Zaidi
 Dr Syed Zulfiqar Haider
 Dr Muhammad Ali
 Dr Abul Qasim Jeeva
 Dr Ishrat Hussain
 Dr Khajista

And many many more

APPNA has shown more active role in speaking against this violence. This form of violence is the worst form of terrorism we all must fight. Please join your colleagues in action we must take. I would urge every one of you to please take a moment and support and help in various things that APPNA and DOGANA and its members are trying to achieve. Only with combined effort we can make any progress on this issue.

This issue is indeed beyond sectarian killing. It has gone too far and for too long unchecked. Government of Pakistan must take definitive actions.

Killing of Doctors Must End This Violence Must Stop

Second Letter to the President of Pakistan April 22, 2002

Honorable President of Pakistan,
 General Parvez Musharraf,
 Islamabad, Pakistan.
 Dear Mr. President

Assalamo Alaikum.

With deep regret and disappointment I write this letter again to ask for your attention to this very important matter which has now turned into a crisis. We as Pakistani physicians feel great frustration to see continued violence against the most productive and vital section of the society. It is very heart breaking to know that we lost another of our colleague Dr. Amir Mauvia, another victim of vicious violence against Doctors. With his loss many lives have been shattered again. Another family will mourn and many more children will be orphaned.

With your ambitious vision to root out all the evils of our society, what could be more pressing at this time than to stop at once this violence against doctors in our homeland. With every killing of doctors, not only many young professionals are lost but many more young professionals are now so much terrorized with this continued violence that they have no other choice but to leave the country. This situation will only cause more brain drain from the country at a time when you aspire to heal the wounds of this nation, build the nation more forward thinking and modern. Today doctors in Pakistan are desperately requesting security for their lives, this security must be provided to them in order for them to continue saving lives of the others.

We again earnestly request but this time also firmly demand that you take more effective and concrete action so that killing of doctors must end and this violence must stop. Furthermore, we fully support the request of the representative and action committee of Pakistan Medical Association and Dow Medical College & Civil Hospital to meet with you and to discuss and bring this matter to your immediate attention. The whole Pakistani Physician community in Pakistan and abroad is desperately requesting for your immediate attention and help. I am sure this time you will look into this situation with more swift and positive action. This time also hope to see reply from your office.

Sincerely,
 Rizwan A. Karatela, MD, FACC
 President DOGANA

Military in Politics

Zafar Iqbal, MD – Class of 1995

Economy and political stability are essential for the progress of any country. Looking back at the short history of Pakistan we have failed on both accounts. Political stability, pivotal for economic development, has never taken root in our society. Why has our society not matured politically?

Nawaz Sharif made a fatal mistake and paved the way for Musharraf to come to power. Hopes were pinned on Musharraf. Liberal, honest and sincere he was thought to be the messiah we were waiting for, yet again ignoring that there are few if any short cuts to political stability. He was hailed as a hero and started his campaign urging to abolish the Blasphemy law but soon realized his limitations and backed off. Liberals failed to appreciate that his hands were tied as he was representing the military institution which has although helped him to come to power is keen to legitimize its own role in politics. Previously Zia had taken steps towards this by proposing the National Security Council but was given the Eighth amendment as a compromise from the parliament. It appears that this time the military will succeed in its unfinished agenda and destabilize our political environment for a long time to come.

Referendum an exercise in futility will never legitimize a military dictator. In the process the back door to power will be open for less popular leaders to collect the crumbs from the military table. The military is making a mockery of democracy. If the military was confident about its popularity the October polls would have been a better time to gauge its popularity when all the political parties would be spending their resources to bring people to the polling booths. Military might be popular in some segments of the society but the poor masses that have suffered during their (mis)rule in past and will not be taken for a ride that easily. It is perhaps a mute point because "doctrine of necessity" has been regularly preferred over the rule of law in our country. Intellectuals and liberals have many times supported the rule of man over the rule of law. How can a structure bridging constitution, parliament and court of law through checks and balances flourish in this environment of hate and fear? Hatred for politicians, lack of patience for the political process and fear that this perhaps is the most crucial time for the country had been used effectively by military to keep its cancerous hold on power. Society needs to better understand the reality based on facts rather than emotions.

Musharraf, governors and (selected) Nazims are bound to clash with popularly elected Prime minister, Chief ministers and ministers. Corruption is rampant in our politicians and has been used effectively by military in the past to make them obedient and change sides. Every dictator has

promised to deliver a corruption free "real" democracy ignoring the fact that democracy is a process which evolves over time getting rid of its weaknesses and eventually delivering the fruit to its followers. Who ever promises "real" democracy has failed to understand this process which is hampered every time it is stopped to be restarted.

Military promising plurality is a comical idea and disastrous if followed in their own institution. Iskander, Ayub, Yahya, Zia and now Musharraf are the examples of the same failed experiment whose cost is borne by the common citizens. During their regime we went to wars, lost half of our country. It took more than 25 years for Hammod-ur-Rehman report to surface and now the military adventure in Afghanistan will go under the rug for long times to come.

Pakistan (ISI) helped the Taliban regime come to power. Afghanistan was then used as a safe haven to train Jehadi groups which were serving ISI's interest by bleeding India in Kashmir. Because of official patronage these Sunni Jehadi Groups grew stronger at home and there was an exponential rise in shia killings that has continued even during Musharraf era. Credit goes to the Musharraf for abandoning first the Afghanistan policy and then turning his back on the Jehadi's groups. The monster created will eventually be vanquished, but in the process will further bleed our society.

IMF and World Bank have always poured money for obedient dictators. The countries in the end have to payback the debts with interest and are left poorer. Our Foreign exchange reserves (FER) have increased from less than one billion to in excess of \$ 5 Billion since Musharraf came to power. Lets assess this fact, July 2000 State Bank changed the methodology of assessing FER and has included the foreign exchange in Commercial banks into FER that has resulted in increase by about 2 B \$ overnight (as mentioned on their website). Three other notable factors resulted in these increased reserves: 1. Increase in remittance from outside because of the fear of the account being frozen in connection with post sept anti-terrorism campaign. 2. Grants from Japan, EU and USA. 3. A call to Washington in December 2001 gave us a breathing space as our debts were restructured and this amounted to about another \$ 1 B which would have to be paid later.

Increase in Gross Domestic Product is pivotal to decrease unemployment and hence alleviate poverty. GDP is dependent on investment in the country's economy. Private investment generally follows public investment. GDP during the two completed years of military government has been averaging 3.2 % and projection for this year is 3.5%. Compare this to the GDP average of 4.9% from 1988-99. Hence (According to the Labour Force Survey) not surprisingly the rate of unemployment which in 1998 was 6.1% increased

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Dow Alumni for Dow – Giving Back to Dow

Rizwan A. Karatela, MD - Class of 1984

The foundation stone of the new building was laid in Karachi on December 10, 1945 by **Sir Hugh Dow**, the then Governor of Sind, after whom this medical college was named. The medical college was transferred from Hyderabad to Karachi on December 31, 1945. It was temporarily housed in the N.J.V. High School building. Dow Medical College started functioning in the new building in the November of 1946. In the December of 1946, Bombay University's team of inspectors recommended to continue its affiliation for the pre-clinical years and a conditional affiliation for the clinical subjects. Since that marble stone which was plastered on the wall of Principle's office remembering the foundation of our Alma Mater, Dow has produced thousands of doctors who are now excelling in academics and prospering in their careers. That is why we proudly say "we are from Dow".

Dow has given us our future. We owe to our Dow and our teachers, we owe to our patients and their families, we owe to our hospital and its workers and we owe to our city and our country. Many of us feel special reverence to our institution and are eager to give back as much as possible.

Here is just the few of the notable things that I would like to highlight and share with the other Dowites. There are tens and thousands of Dow alumni who have given their time, effort and money to Dow. The notable initiatives undertaken by the individual classes have produced extraordinary results. The list is by no means complete but I am sure it would be viewed with the same spirit as it is presented. If someone would like to add more information I would be happy to put it on the website. Lastly, we must not forget hundreds of Dow Alumni working currently in Dow and CHK with little or no resources and still making a big difference.

Class of 1954 - Dr. Nizam Ul Hasan Child Aid Association

I wish to inform you about a charity working at the National Institute of Child Health Karachi for the last 23 years. Initially we started with helping poor patients with medical aid, and donation of life saving equipment to NICH like ventilators etc. In 1997 the association decided to set up Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant unit at NICH. We were able to construct a floor for this purpose and furnish it along with a supporting state of art laboratory. The unit started functioning in April 1999. Our association decided to finance the staff required to run this unit. This also put responsibility on our association for supply of free medication to poor patients, that is, nearly 98% patients. We have managed to equip the lab for the purpose of Bone Marrow transplant except blood irradiator, which is essential for safe blood transfusion in BMT. I wonder if APPNA can help us in this regard. Further information about our project is available at www.caa.sdnpc.org I shall be grateful for your help in this regard.
Yours Sincerely Dr Nizam ul Hasan.

Class of 1956 - Dr. Busharat Ahmed Youth Excellence Award Program

In 1990, Dogana President Busharat Ahmed instituted the Youth Excellence Award Program. Commemorative plaques and cash awards were distributed to six meritorious high school graduates.

Class of 1963 - Dr. S. Sultan Ahmed Handbook of Cardiology

In 1989 Professor Sultan Ahmed wrote a handbook of Cardiology for the students and junior staff. DOGANA sponsored its publication and 1,000 copies were distributed at the Dow medical school. On numerous occasions Dr. Sultan Ahmed has donated to cardiac cath equipment to help operate cardiac cath lab in Civil Hospital.

Class of 1976 - Dr. Abid Nisar, ... Emergency Operating Theatre Project

The organizing committee included Dr. Fatima Siddique and Dr. Moheet and Dr. Abid Nisar of class of 1976. This project was the brainchild of the organizing committee after the Jubilee celebration of class of 1976. In planning their celebration for this year, they proposed Building and Emergency Operating Theatre for the Emergency Department of Dow Medical College and Civil Hospital Karachi. This emergency department being one of the three receptacles for all trauma cases, is a very busy place with meager resources. This emergency department does not have its own operating theatre, in spite of a large number of cases requiring emergency surgeries on a daily basis. It was recognized that there is a crying need to help improve the medical care given to these patients. Hence, this project was undertaken. This was an ambitious project requiring a tremendous amount of financial and personal resources but with the hard work, dedication, and perseverance of the graduating class of 1976 the project slowly but definitely progressed. The physical structure has been completed. The next stage involves getting the required equipment, and proper running of the emergency department operating theatre. **The graduates of class 1976 in the United States took it upon themselves to raise \$50,000.00 for equipment. Our fundraiser was arranged under the banner of Dow Medical Association of North America (DOGANA) and PPA of St. Louis on Friday the 23rd of November 2001 at Maryville Center Marriott of St. Louis., Missouri.**

Class of 1984 - Dr. Shamvil Ashraf Children Cancer Foundation

Shamvil has been working tirelessly to achieve his dream to create the foundation for the poor. Started the project just a few years ago they have made good progress with the Children Cancer Foundation. "By the grace of Almighty Allah we have been able to start new phase of Children Cancer Hospital in Karachi. I want to raise Zakat and donation this Ramazan to make budget for the next "

- Dr. Shamvil Ashraf - Children Cancer Hospital

A Project of Children Cancer Foundation.
Cancer is not for us. We are not for it! Join the noble cause, help the children fight against cancer.
Ph#: 92 21 4381995-6
Address: 66, Jinnah Cooperative Housing Society, Near Duty Free Shop, Shakra-e-Faisal, Karachi
Email: ccf@cyber.net.pk, shamvil@cyber.net.pk

**Class of 1986 - Dr. Abdul Bari Khan ...
Friends of Cardiac Surgery ...**

The rising incidence of ischemic and other surgically correctable heart disease affecting all strata of the Pakistani society draws our attention toward the said plight of those who can not afford high cost of such treatment nor can prevent these miseries due to lack of information and support. Though facilities for the rich exists in plenty in the cities of Pakistan. However, for the poor population the only public sector hospital the NICVD (*National Institute of Cardio Vascular Disease*) at Karachi has a long waiting list for the patients of Sindh and Baluchistan.

Thank God a Department of Cardiac Surgery has been established at the Dow Medical College and Civil Hospital Karachi through the sole efforts of our friends and Dowite Dr. Abdul Bari Khan cardiac surgeon and former PWA activist a social worker. Many of us know him personally as *PWA Wala Bari* who is honest and a goal getter. After his FCPS in cardiac surgery he joined Civil Hospital Karachi and formed the **Friends of Cardiac Surgery** a registered group of dedicated, professionals and philanthropists for the establishment of Cardiac Surgery department at Dow Medical College & Civil Hospital Karachi entirely through philanthropic efforts, since no funds were coming from the government.

Class of 1989 - Dr. Nadeem Ahsan

A little Bit of Good ...

When one is determined to help there is no limit. Here is what Nadeem Ahsan was able to show in 2000.

"Using the meager resources at our disposal, we set about sorting, sifting, refurbishing, cleaning, packing, labeling, and storing the goods. A Christian charity organization based in southern Ohio provided invaluable help in organizing volunteers who shouldered the bulk this task. Eventually, after about six months of groundwork, a shipment was dispatched to Karachi. It consisted of a 40 foot container filled to capacity with medical equipment. The supplies included, amongst many other things, the following:

- Ventilators
- Anesthesia Machines
- Monitoring Equipment – BP machines, Oximeters, EKG monitors, etc.
- Suction Machines
- Syringe Pumps
- Recovery Gurneys
- Labor and Delivery Beds
- 50 Hospital Beds
- Nightstands
- Examination tables
- Baby cribs
- Orthopedic shoes, braces
- Rehab Equipment
- Sterilizing Equipment
- Storage and Supply cabinets
- Surgical Equipment
- Baby warmers

Plus, thousands of gowns, scrub suits, syringes, needles and other disposables. In all, the shipment was probably worth well in excess of refurbishment, packing and shipping. Customs duties in Pakistan were waived due to the efforts of certain well placed well-wishers in Karachi. The entire shipment went to Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Center (JPMC) in Karachi and in fact, most of the equipment was used to furnish the new OB/GYN wing built there through the donations of the Mariam Ali Tabba Foundation. The container was delivered on the 29th of April, 2000 and everything was in place in time for the inauguration which was held on the 5th of May, 2000." - Nadeem Ahsan

Note: If you or a friend of yours has been involved in any help project for Dow then please share with us. Any alumnus or Dow Class working on any Project for Dow, please let us know. ♦

Something to Think About Giving Back to Dow

Many of us may remember that our annual Dow Medical College Fee was Rs. 244 per year! For some it was even cheaper than that...

The idea of having one class to take up a small or a big project for Dow and CHK (Civil Hospital Karachi) and then financing it, and running it under their supervision with the help of their colleagues working in Dow/CHK coordinating with their colleague from here. This would be very attractive idea. Assurance of proper use of funds and delivery of service. The project can become class project and everyone can contribute to it.

Some of the Projects one can think ...

1. Internet – Computers / College Library

Dr. Shafi Quraishy's ambitious program was never truly materialized when he was seriously injured. New computers, staff support etc needed in Dow and CHK.

2. Medical Journal Subscriptions:

Establishing by one class this project can be used effectively. Medical Journal Subscriptions will make available easy access for literature etc.

3. Out Patient Clinics:

One class may take responsibility of running the the OPD by one class.

4. Laboratory Services:

Establishing or adopting a lab in CHK would be tremendously helpful.

For Suggestions Email to US

Rizwan@karatela.com

The Wrong Tree?

Nadeem Ahsan, MD – Class of 1989

For me, the knee-jerk/reactionary arousal of political awareness in the minds of American Muslims is one of the most significant fallouts of the tragedy that 9/11 was. Suddenly every one (myself included) and their best friend is writing to their congressman -- mostly to appeal for clemency for the Palestinians, and to protest Israeli transgressions. We're drafting and signing petitions, flooding listservers with appeals for more involvement and even patronizing sympathetic newspapers in far flung lands. Which is all well and good...

...but what if we're barking up the wrong tree?

As I am sometimes given to, I will play the devil's own advocate here. Suppose tomorrow we wake up to find that all transgressions against the Muslims, by both the Israelis and their various surrogates, have suddenly ceased. Suppose tomorrow Sharon were to accidentally fall on his own bloody sword and die swiftly of complications of widespread syphilis and exsanguination. Suppose Israel pulls out of all occupied lands and the Dome of the Rock is restored to its rightful owners. Suppose the American political leadership, after recognizing the error of their ways, starts sending 10 billion dollars worth of aid to the newly created state of Palestine and Israel is suddenly left to its own devices. And suppose Kashmir is liberated and the massacred Gujratis are miraculously resurrected?

What then?

Would the hapless *ummah* then be delivered? Would the Muslimahs in America's mosques be promoted to a location where they can actually be seen and heard? Would the Iranis and the Iraqis then stop torturing their dissidents? Would the Algerians stop slashing the throats of pro-democracy activists? Would the autocratic Saudis stop exporting their brand of bigotry called Wahabiism and would their women be freed of repression? And would the Saudi and Kuwaiti royals stop plundering their country's wealth and start promoting the freedom of expression? Would the Palestinians shun corruption? Would the Pakistanis then start treating their women and their minorities as equal citizens? Would the humiliation of the women and the slaughter of the minorities suddenly stop? Would illiteracy and

overpopulation, with their attendant tragedies, suddenly vanish? Would the hypocrisy that permeates every pore of Pakistani existence suddenly disappear? Would the subjugation of the masses suddenly cease? Would Islamic lands become the centers of creativity and industry? Would they then become beacons of democracy and human advancement?

And if not, who would we then blame our wretchedness on?

But then, do we even need to be indulging in self-examination when the Zionist lobby here and the Zionists there are available for us to rage against? Because *bayghairti hai tau badshahat hai?*

Could we then possibly be barking up the wrong tree? Could our activism be better directed? ♦

Dow Alumni in North America Top 5s

From the Database: [FYI]

State Ranking – # of Alumni Living

	State	
1	New York	344
2	Texas	220
3	Illinois	210
4	California	156
5	Michigan	154

Class Rank – # of Alumni

	Class	
1	1989	221
2	1990	190
3	1988	132
4	1984	120
5	1991	119

The Nascent Immigrant

Najeeb Shirwany, MD – Class 1986

There is a compelling movie image of a boy, perhaps 7 or 8 years old, wearing a ragged woolen cap staring at the camera with an expression that is impossible to judge. His flaxen hair whip back and forth in what is probably a strong wind. His face has evidence of at least one layer of grime and the tiny hand that emerges into view must have escaped a mother's attention as well. He cups his mouth with the hand as one would to hide embarrassment, but I suspect only a smile lingers under the caked fingers. His features suggest northern European descent and his eyes silently speak of great distances measured in hunger pangs instead of miles. As the camera shifts, a distant shadow takes shape over the child's shoulder and instantly the geographic location of the short film is recognized. It's a murky yet unmistakable shape of a flaming torch held aloft by a figure adorned with a crown of seven rays.

The journeys of our lives have unmistakable effects on our minds. In dramatic ways, they bring to reality our dreams and desires, suddenly confronting us with the physical form of our destiny. But the process of such discovery is clearly inefficient. It affects the mind of man in ways that are connected to our perceptions, attitudes, beliefs and indeed, our age. Ellis island would have had a varying impact on the millions that came to the shores of this country in centuries past. The fathers would have struggled with immigration officials speaking a language unknown to them. The mothers might have descended into the constant panic of keeping track of young children. And in this melee of chaos, those children must have seen things through eyes awash with indescribable emotions centered on fearful wonderment. Whatever the perception, each individual might have taken in the sights and sounds of their newly acquired homeland in equally individual ways. Thus the seed that was sown on a particular day of arrival would blossom into many blooms or never grow into more than stunted foliage.

But, the relentless tide of time has moved on. Ellis island is now a monument. Liberty island and its single, ever vigilant resident is almost never the first sight an immigrant might see on approach to New York. Instead, a 7 or 8-year-old boy may be witnessed entranced by the plastic airline toy that he has played with for eight hours in the comfort of an ergonomically designed seat. The world he has left behind is no longer the dusty byways of Sicily, the frigid winter of Copenhagen or the Jewish quarter of Prague. Instead, he is now more likely to be from the emerald spires of Ispahan, the rice paddies of Laos or the stifling heat of Karachi. Irrespective of his origin, his world has changed in irrevocable ways. And he has to adjust, without knowing how or why. Indeed, without even realizing that he is changing.

The change works at many levels and has a range and depth quite unlike a child's natural experiences. In

some ways it is a hugely amplified version of moving from one neighborhood to another or from one city to the next. There is the constant specter of acceptance by a new school, a new playground and new friends. Like Scout and Jem in "To Kill a Mockingbird", every new town, new street, new house has potential to harbor a "malevolent phantom". But there is more to the change than just a nameless fear. Clearly, our children are uniquely positioned and acutely sensitive in sensing our own fears and phantoms but unlike the adults are poorly equipped to deal with these flooding emotions. We, as parents must cope with the challenges of new careers and a work environment unlike anything we were previously trained for. We battle the "culture shock" in a continuous overwhelming stream. And in most cases, we bring this burden home at the end of the day. Our nervous energy is acutely felt. Our spouses can learn to compensate for our grumpy moods, our unsettled manner. But our kids, themselves lost in a sea of flux can only find outlets that are ultimately deleterious, reflected in adjustment issues and declining scholastic performance. Of course, I have stated the most dramatic and extreme dynamic. In reality, some fraction of this interaction exists in every one of our households.

Are we good parents? In the sense of uniformity and consistent affect, perhaps not. In terms of intent we ought never to have any doubt. But, we cannot have all the answers for our brood. In a native land, the instinct born of decades if not centuries of existence, provided many explanations for the young mind. The amalgam of culture, social norm and religious practice drove the child in a predictable direction. When transplanted to the west, this drive is suddenly removed. The diversity, freedom and permissiveness of this culture have no natural mechanism to be attenuated in the process of acclimatization. Thus, in much greater measure than ever before, our parenting role needs to tune out the noise and receive only the meaningful signal that our child sends our way. How can we do this when we struggle ourselves to understand, assimilate and take root in the strangeness of a newly tilled soil? The only answer can be: Educate ourselves.

Our effectiveness as parents pivots on our ability to successfully de-condition our thoughts and actions from preconceptions and prejudice. It takes succor from our willingness to learn the true nature of this society. It ultimately depends on our own capacity to become American, or British, or Canadian. But must we do this at the expense of our own values? My confident answer is a firm NO! We can be part of these nations and cultures without losing sight of the teachings of our forbears. In this conviction, I am reassured that not only can we become better parents and better citizens but also better people. If this goal is reached, then in looking back at our lives, our children will derive positive memories of enduring love and righteous direction. ♦

(continued from Page 4)

Military in Politics – Zafar Iqbal

to 7.8% in 2000. According to official statistics the investment – GDP ratio in the year 2000-01 was 13.3%. This was the lowest level of investment in the economy since 1966.

Government has reduced the Budget deficit to 5.6% of GDP as compared to 6.1 % in 1990's. 41% of this is achieved through slashing public investment. In the first two years of the military regime the public investment to GDP ratio averaged 5.9% whereas the average for the 1988-99 period was 8.8%. In the year 2000-01 the private investment-GDP ratio was at its lowest since 1975.

Our "real" masters (IMF and World Bank) are intelligent to impose a 15% GST on edible oil that is not only important for the rich but is also required by the poor to fry his onions for dinner. Slashing in public investments and inappropriate taxes would give us enough to pay them back but will make the masses poorer.

Let me conclude by saying that we should help military return respectfully back to the barracks. Military's efforts to share or divide the power with president and prime minister will not only destabilize our political arena more but will even politicize the army and our well-disciplined military will suffer gravely. Political problems have political solutions and military with its intervention has only become a part of the problem. Military can boast of a wonderful economy in Ayub's era but it never translated in social changes for the poor. The poor became poorer. Our masses will vote for the politicians no matter how much we hate them because they see little hope from the military especially after military operations in interior Sindh and Baluchistan (1973-77).

The poor will only get their rights once they assert themselves directly into politics without the brokers (read elite politicians) of power and they will inshallah do that one day. Their journey to power will be turbulent and the affluent classes should help them creatively so that it is less violent. ♦

LOOKING FOR DOW PICTURES

I am looking for old Dow pictures for my book titled "Archive of Dow in Pictures". Pictures will be returned and contributors names would be duly acknowledged.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Shakeel Kouser
416 E. Calhoun Street
Anderson, SC 29621

Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee has proposed the following candidates for the year 2002-2003

President-Elect:

Zia Moiz Ahmed, MD – St. Louis, MO

Secretary/Treasurer:

Aamir Zain Jamal, MD – Walnut, CA

According to the constitution other nominations for the office of President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer shall be accepted from the general body members provided:

1. The nomination is received duly proposed and seconded from eligible members at least one week prior to annual meeting.
2. The proposed office accepts the nomination
3. The nominee and member proposing, seconding the nominee shall be present at the annual meeting.



Dow Alumni Annual Meeting In New York City

Friday July 5th 2002

Program

- Annual General Body Meeting
- President DOGANA report
- President-Elect – new cabinet
- Dow in Pictures Presentation
- DOGANA Life Time Achievement Awards
- Updates on Projects for Dow
- Dow CD rom – Electronic Alumni Directory
- Dinner
- Entertainment Program

Please note that hotel reservation, CME and travel /airfares are handled by APPNA. For DOW alumni information:

Telephone Contact: 561-333-9406 or 561 704-3401

Mail Registration (use the enclosed form)

Mail to: DOGANA Registration 2002

Rizwan A. Karatela

11242 Edgewater Circler

Wellington, FL 33414

President Elect's Column

Sadeem Mahmood, MD - Class of 1989

Dear DOGANA Members,
Asslam-o-alaikum.

Recent events that occurred here in US and back at home were not only troublesome and disturbing but also eye opening in many ways. Changes which all of us have seen and felt have left us pondering what's next.

September 11, '01 created a sense of alienation, whereas killings of physicians in Pakistan filled us with disgust. Despite all that's happened one thing was very obvious people all over the country and in Pakistan looked at us for guidance, support and reassurance. They expected and got a sense of maturity and compassion from our members who actively addressed these issues both at community and international levels.

Keeping all this in mind now we have to go forward in life. It has become imperative for us as an association to show the beautiful and elegant side of our culture and our people. It has become our duty to wipe out this negative image and replace it with a respectful one. This said is easy but practically a very uphill task. You my colleagues now by reason of default have been chosen as the torchbearers to perform this monumental task. This is the time those immortal words ring through our ears "Ask not what the country can do for you but ask what you can do for the country".

In previous two years the President's of DOGANA have lived up and exceeded the spirit with which our organization was created. Zeal against all the odds was able to rekindle the fire to make our organization a formidable force in the mainstream of APPNA, not only gaining the respect in our hearts but also winning the respect of all members of APPNA resulting in her being elected as Treasurer unopposed. Rizwan started the DOGANA web page and performed the monumental task of updating the database and placing it on the Internet. These are just of the few examples besides setting up the document verification service and increasing the DOGANA and APPNA membership by unbelievable numbers.

Come this July this baton is being passed over to me. The bar has already been raised but it will be my endeavor not only to gain the same respect which these two have achieved but try my best to surpass them. The team that has been working with them is the same I have chosen to work with. This comprises both experienced veterans and energetic young fresh visionaries. I am confident that not only we will be able to serve DOGANA in highest level but also will establish us as a formidable force in the ranks of APPNA.

Besides continuing to increase the membership of DOGANA I will see to encourage all members of our organization are also members of APPNA. I am also looking forward to formalizing and activating the "DOW endowment fund", starting a yearly journal for DOGANA, printing a directory for all DOW graduates currently in US and America. Setting up regular regional meetings and get-togethers with the help of my regional councilors for DOGANA where other regional chapter and APPNA members would be invited to partake in festivities. I will also start a regular think box on our web site where new ideas and projects can be brought and discussed.

I am looking forward to the support of our senior members and all of the DOGANA brotherhood to make it a very successful year. I urge all DOW graduates to become member of DOGANA and partake in these historic and future changing times. I urge all DOGANA members to be also members of APPNA and cast their votes in upcoming elections to their choice of candidate as in these times these few will not only represent us but our whole nation and our whole image on the world. ♦

Thank you,

Sadeem Mahmood, class of '89.
President Elect-DOGANA.

Calendar – Events

Appna Annual Summer meeting:

July 4th to July 8th 2002
Sheraton, Manhattan NY

DOGANA Annual Summer meeting:

Friday July 5th 2002
Sheraton, Manhattan NY

Dow 25th year Class re-union – class of 77

Saturday July 6th 2002
Sheraton, Manhattan NY

Dow Class re-union - Class of 84

Saturday July 6th 2002, Picnic, New York, NY

Dow Class re-union - Class of 89

Saturday July 6th 2002, New York, NY

For Details Please

Visit DOGANA Website or Forums

www.dowalumni.com

DOGANA

Membership & Banquet Registration Form

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR INFORMATION & PAYMENT

Directory Information			
Name:		Year Of Grad:	
Address:		Tel (H):	
City, State & Zip:		Tel (O):	
Email:		Specialty:	
APPNA Member		Yes No	
Membership Dues and Banquet Tickets			
	Life Membership (L)	Reduced Rates at	\$ 350.00
	Annual Membership (A)	1/1/2002 - 12/31/2002	\$ 50.00
	Alumni In Training (T)	Proof of Training	\$ 00.00
	Banquet 2002	\$ 60 per person	\$ 60.00 x
	Entertainment Eve	After Banquet	\$ 00.00
	Payable to: "DOGANA"	Total Amount:	
General Information			
Hotel Information Please note that Hotel registration is handled by APPNA and the hotel Management.	Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers (From July 4th to July 7th 2002) 811 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10019 Attn: Jacquie Paccone, Convention Services		
	Call 800-223-6550, Fax: 212-315-4265 Ask for Group Code: APG03A or ask for APPNA group rate Deadline: June 24, 2002		
Travel Information	US Air , Valid thru 6/30/2002 to 7/10/02, 877-874-7687 [8 am to 9:30 pm EST] Refer to Gold File #64162315 for APPNA		
	American Airlines , Valid thru 7/2/02 to 7/10/02, 800-433-1790 Refer to File #6472AH for APPNA		
	Delta , Valid 6/30/02 to 7/9/02, 800-241-6760 [8 am to 11 pm EST] Refer to File # 185756A under APPNA		
	Mail	Telephone & Fax	Online
Pre-Registration Methods (Please Make Check Payable to "DOGANA")	Mail this Form To DOGANA c/o Rizwan A. Karatela 11242 Edgewater Circle Wellington, FL 33414	561-333-9406 or 561 704-3401 Fax: 561-333.6278	ONLINE Fill out all the information and submit. GO to: www.dowalumni.com ONLINE REGISTRATION STARTS ON March 7, 2002
On-Site Registration	Last Date for Pre-Registration is extended 6/25/2002 On-Site Banquet Tickets will be \$ 70.00 per person		

Dow Graduate Association of North America
11242 Edgewater Circle
Wellington, FL 33414

1ST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Westmont, IL
Permit No. 104

Dr. Mohammed Shahid Yousuf
3084 Woodcreek Way
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1862

Dow Alumni Get Together 2002 in Orlando

Photo as usual – courtesy of one and only M. Shahid Yousuf, MD (75)



From Left to right from bottom to up

Sitting: Amir Awan (91), Syed Imran Ali (85), Rizwan Karatela (84), Jafar Mahmood (84), Faisal (90), Riaz Rahman (89). **Standing:** Mrs Asif Muhiuddin, Asif Muhiuddin (89), Abid Rasool (90), Farid Qazi (83), Zeelaf Munir (89), Aftab Naz (72), Shabtab Karatela (88), Iltafat Alavi (59), Naima Imran (92), Syed Samy (91), Ahmad Masood (88) and father, Adnan Ahmad (87), Bilal (91), Shoaib Anwer (85)

For More Pictures and detail visit the Website www.dowalumni.com