

Promotions/ Appointments

- **Dr. Abdur Rehman Khan**
Professor Dept. of Radiology
- **Dr. Azmat Talaat**
Professor Dept of Pediatrics
- **Dr. Shakeel ur Rehman**
Associate Prof. Dept. of Operative Dentistry & Endodontics
- **Dr. Faisal Saeed**
Asst. Prof Dept. of Paedodontics
- **Dr. Farida Afzal**
Asst. Prof Dept of Radiology
- **Nighat Shafiq**
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Oral Biology
- **Dr. Aiman Khan**
Asst. Prof Dept. of Sciences of Dental Materials
- **Dr. Sofia Haider Durrani**
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Oral Pathology
- **Dr. Kawish Syed**
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Peridontology
- **Dr. Shabir Hussain**
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Pharmacology
- **Dr. M. Asim**
Lecturer Dept. of Orthodontics

Quran Khawani

The students, staff and faculty of Gandhara University mourn the loss of innocent lives in the Army Public School tragedy. A Quran Khawani was held through the use of social media with students contributing by reciting the 30 Quranic siparabs on the individual basis to complete it together. The Khatam was meant to pray for the lost souls especially for the parents and those who are left behind to mourn the children's loss. There is no doubt that only Allah alone can heal the wounds and grant courage and strength, also that He alone is our sole protector and guide. May he amend all that has gone terribly wrong amongst us and within our society. Ameen.



Fare Thee Well & Welcome to the New

Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed, Principal Kabir Medical College recently took retirement from his office in the month of September. Having served for nearly 40 years both in Khyber Medical College and in Kabir Medical College Dr. Mumtaz would be greatly missed by colleagues and students alike. All pray for his long, healthy life so that he may continue to be associated with us and his profession. A farewell was held at the University for Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed in which Dr. Abdus Salam was also welcomed in as the new Vice Chancellor of Gandhara University. Brig. (Rtd). Ahmed Hussain Mashwani has been appointed as the Principal of Kabir Medical College while Dr. Shaheed Iqbal is now Dean of Post Graduate Dental Sciences while Dr. Nazir Ahmed is serving as the Deputy Dean of Post Graduate Dental Sciences. Congratulations to all. We also wish Haj Mubaraks to our faculty and staff who have recently performed the religious rite. The appointments, farewells, promotions and of course Haj Mubaraks were celebrated with a sumptuous and delicious lunch served in the board room venue Gandhara University. All wished them well, good health and happiness.

Dr. Abdus Samad Bangash (1925-2014)

Dr. Abdus Samad Bangash (1925-2014) the former head of Prosthodontics Department Sardar Begum Dental College has recently passed away due to a severe illness. He was 89 years old. Dr. Bangash was born in Hangu, KPK and rose to fame as a dentist especially in prosthetic dentistry. After retirement from Khyber College of Dentistry he joined Sardar Begum Dental College in 1997 in which he served till 2006. His pleasant personality, immense skill and splendid company will be greatly missed.

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GANDHARA NEWS

Gandhara University's Biannual Newsletter

Foreign Minister of Japan's Commendation for President (PJCA) KPK

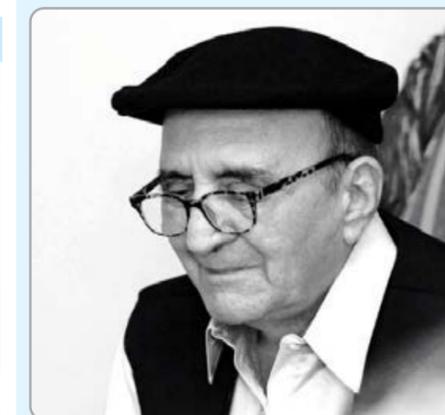
FOR HER MERITORIOUS SERVICES



26th August 2014 was marked as an important and auspicious day in the history of Japan-Pakistan cultural relations when, on behalf of Mr. Fumio Kishida, Foreign Minister of Japan, Mr. Hiroshi Inomata, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, conferred the Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation to Mrs. Roaeda Kabir, President of Pakistan-Japan Cultural Association (PJCA), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in recognition of her significant contribution for promoting Japan-Pakistan cultural relations. The Commendation Ceremony was held at the Embassy of Japan Islamabad which was attended by the select gathering.

This year the Commendation was awarded to 108 individuals and 30 groups of which, 20 individuals and 10 groups are from Japan, and 88 individuals and 20 groups are from overseas. The Foreign Minister's Commendations are awarded to individuals and groups with outstanding achievements in international fields, to acknowledge their contributions to the promotion of friendship between Japan and other countries and

A Rare Gem of a Man



Prof. (Emeritus) Dr. Rashid Ahmed Khan Tahirkheli (4th April 1928 -13th Aug 2014)

Celebrating His life on Page 2

areas. The Commendation also aims to promote the understanding and support of the Japanese public for their activities. Mrs. Roaeda Kabir was elected as the President of the Pakistan-Japan Cultural Association (PJCA), KPK in 2003. Under her dynamic leadership, PJCA KPK has been acting as a bridge of friendship and goodwill between the people of Japan and those of

Pakistan. Ambassador Inomata while speaking on the occasion highly eulogized the services rendered by the Pakistan-Japan Cultural Association KPK. He congratulated her on receiving this commendation award given in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the promotion of friendship and goodwill between the peoples of Japan and Pakistan.



A Rare Gem of a Man

Many in the academic world have sadly bid farewell to Dr. Rashid Ahmed Tahirkheli, Professor Emeritus, former Vice Chancellor of University of Peshawar and at the time of his demise serving as Vice Chancellor of Gandhara University.

Professor Dr. Rashid Ahmed Khan Tahirkheli was born on 4th April 1928 at Ghazi, district Haripur Hazara in NWFP, hailing from the Tahirkheli tribe of Hazara. Upon completion of his early education in his native district, he joined Muslim University, Aligarh in 1945 and graduated in Geology. In 1951 he joined the Geological Survey of Pakistan and was awarded a Colombo Plan Scholarship in 1960. In 1961 Dr. Tahirkheli joined the University of St. Andrews, Scotland to pursue his PhD research programme followed by a post doctorate in the same. On Dr. Tahirkheli's return in 1964, he joined as Reader (Associate Professor) and Chairman of Department of Geology, University of Peshawar with which he remained associated till his retirement in 1988.

Dr. Tahirkheli's contribution to the growth and development of Earth Sciences in Pakistan are manifold. He succeeded in establishing the National Center of

University of Peshawar. After his retirement from the University of Peshawar, Prof. Tahirkheli became the Vice Chancellor of the Gandhara University, Peshawar on October 28th, 1998 with a vast rich experience and expertise in the field of Education and remained on this post till his last breath. He also remained Professor of Emeritus in the NCEG.

Dr. Tahirkheli played a vital role in getting financial support for his young colleagues to



pursue higher studies abroad. His enthusiasm, encouragement, support and personal involvement led to a considerable understanding of the geology of the northern Pakistan- the abode of the mighty Himalayas, Karakorum and Hindukush ranges and one of the most rugged and inaccessible terrains. Dr. Tahirkheli's hard work and remarkable grasp of geology of Pakistan attracted the attention of numerous international geologists for collaborative research work. He was (1) appointed an Adjunct Professor at Dartmouth College, USA., (2) made a member of the National Commission on Science and Technology, (3) elected as Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences, (4) an honorary fellow of the Geological Society of America, and (5) conferred upon Sitara-e-Imtiaz and Medals for Academic Excellence by the Government of Pakistan. His publications of international repute are landmarks for the national and international geologists working in the northern Pakistan. His quiet dignity and deep understanding of all things related to his subject Geology and his experience in



Excellence in Geology (NCEG) in 1975 of which he remained the founding Director till his retirement in 1988. He became the Vice Chancellor of the University of Peshawar in 1982 and successfully completed his tenure of five years whereby he brought reforms in the academics of the university and also established new departments. These departments turned out to be amongst the most productive departments of the



Today I feel really hollow and very sad, but I want to celebrate your life by showing my gratitude and thanking you.

Thank you for being my friend, my cousin and my father in law.

Thank you for sharing part of your glorious and wonderful life.

Thank you for all your help and guidance throughout my life.

Thank you on behalf of the Tahirkheli family and non-family for helping those in need whenever and wherever possible.

Thank you for showing generosity to those in need, with humbleness and humility.

Thank you for dedicating your life to educating and serving others as well as your country.

Thank you for the precious memories and may Allah bless your soul. Rest in peace.

I only wish you had lived a few more years, but then I would say that even if you'd lived over 100. You asked me to pray for you in our last conversation, but Inshallah you'll not need prayers, your scale shall already be so heavy that you will be up there with the best of them.

Afzal Khan

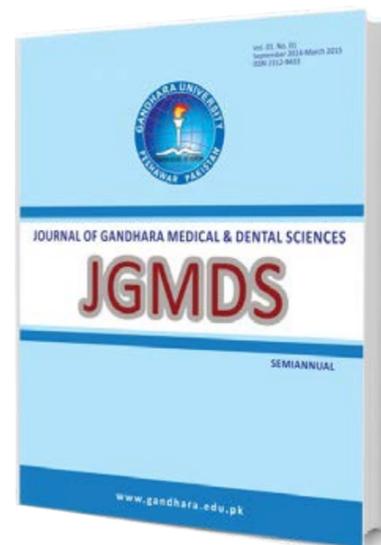
academic management was a source of much inspiration to the academia. Dr. Rashid Ahmad Khan Tahirkheli, a renowned geologist, was laid to rest in his ancestral graveyard in Ghazi near Turbela, KP.

A cheerful, generous, gracious, and tolerant person, a true friend and a good host, it is a matter of pride for all those who have been associated with him. His death is a big loss to our nation. We have been bereaved of our teacher, mentor, and the most dependable and caring colleague. May Almighty Allah bless his soul in eternal peace. (Amin)

(National Centre of Excellence in Geography, UoP and Gandhara University)

Journal of Gandhara Medical & Dental Sciences

The first issue of the Journal of Gandhara Medical & Dental Sciences Sep 2014 – March 2015 is out!



On December 6th 2014 the Journal of Gandhara Medical & Dental Sciences was launched into the literary world of human sciences. The biannual Journal has been published under the editorial and managing eye of Dr. Sofia Shehzad and the editor-in-chief Dr. Ahmed Hussain Mashwani. A soberly arranged launching ceremony was held at the Kabir Auditorium in the University premises. The chief guest on the occasion was Prof. Dr. Ejaz Hassan Khan Khattak, renowned Academician and Principal of Khyber Medical College, Peshawar. Prof. Dr. Khattak lauded the effort starting with the memory of his dear teacher, Principal and colleague Dr. Muhammad Kabir – the founder of Gandhara University. Referring to Dr. Kabir as not just a good administrator, surgeon, person but also

as a great philanthropist, Dr. Khattak said that it was this side of the founder which shines even more through such advances into the literary and research world. According to the Chief Guest, the Journal is "an exemplary milestone, in the process of evolution". Dr. Khattak ended the address with some positive points for

years of study and research work. Prof. Dr. Abdus Salam the Vice Chancellor of Gandhara University in his address said that "we at Gandhara work towards positive activities within the boundary walls but the start of a Medical and Dental Journal is worth reaching to the world outside". While wishing only

& Dental Sciences to only grow stronger day by day. Dr. Sofia Shehzad, the chief editor thanked the authors, the staff and the faculty for the help, faith and unchallenged encouragement extended out to her in this difficult yet fruitful task. According to Dr. Sofia the journal "shall soon be sitting comfortably in the



the editorial board, asking them to consider initially delegating a portion for students' works. Later eventually they may have their own journal with published papers for each student – a feat in their 4-5

the best for the journal and the team behind it, Dr. Salam called it "the first step towards greatness". The editor-in-chief Brig. (Rtd). Ahmed Hussain Mashwani prayed for the Journal of Gandhara Medical

world of national journals". The Journal of Gandhara Medical & Dental Sciences was then launched by the Chief Guest Dr. Ejaz Hassan Khan Khattak and the Vice Chancellor of Gandhara University Prof. Dr. Abdus Salam. The authors of the five research articles were then awarded certificates and a copy of the journal. The Vice Chancellor also presented the Crest of Gandhara University to the Chief Guest Dr. Khattak. Later a sumptuous tea was presented to the guests which everyone thoroughly enjoyed on the cold day and wished for the prosperity of the journal in future.



International AIDS Day



To raise awareness and show solidarity with those who are infected with the AIDS virus, every December 1st is marked as the World AIDS day. It is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show their support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who have died. World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day and the first one was held in 1988.

On December 1st, 2014, Gandhara University also brought together its staff and students to mark the sobriety of the disease and the affected. Director of Health Services, Dr. Ali Ahmed was the Chief Guest on this

occasion. In this regard, three lectures were delivered by leading Professors of Medicine: Professor Dr. Masood ur Rehman delivered an informative lecture on the causes and prevention of AIDs. Prof. Dr. Haji Fida Mohammad shed light on the religious aspects of AIDs while Dr. Inam delivered an important message by the General Secretary of UN on World AIDs Day. In the end, a walk was also carried out with students displaying placards regarding more awareness on AIDs.

Some hard-hitting facts about the disease (as shown on its website) are:

- HIV continues to be a major global public health issue, having claimed more than

39 million lives so far. In 2013, 1.5 million people died from HIV-related causes globally.

- There were approximately 35.0 million people living with HIV at the end of 2013 with 2.1 million people becoming newly infected with HIV in 2013 globally.
- HIV infection is usually diagnosed through blood tests detecting the presence or absence of HIV antibodies.
- There is no cure for HIV infection. However, effective treatment with antiretroviral (ARV) drugs can control the virus so that people with HIV can enjoy healthy and productive lives.



The Month of the Pink Ribbon

Though no longer a taboo subject, breast cancer is still considered untreatable



The whole month of October was marked as a Pink Ribbon Month to help spread awareness regarding Breast Cancer. All faculty, staff and nurses of Gandhara University wore pink ribbons during the month to raise awareness and to encourage questions regarding breast cancer. In this regard a lecture as well as a walk on Cancer Awareness was arranged at Gandhara University. Dr. Safoora Shahid, Oncologist at IRNUM delivered some important facts regarding cancer especially breast cancer. She explained the different

stages as well as the fact that the most important sign of this cancer is best caught in time by regular self-examination. Nearly 1.7 million new cases of Breast Cancer have been diagnosed in 2012. It is considered to be a dreaded, killer form of cancer although if detected early in stage 1 or stage 2 the survival rate is 85% to 90% sometime even 100% recovery rate.

The population especially the women need to be made aware of the signs and symptoms of the disease to help curb the alarming rise.

Thankfully it is no longer considered a taboo subject but the reason behind this is a sombre and tragic fact.

The students and faculty of Gandhara University held a walk after the lecture in order to raise further awareness about breast cancer amongst the people. They carried banners highlighting hard-hitting facts regarding the disease as well as slogans which give hope alongwith good advice to the patients.



Farkhanda Institute of Nursing & Public Health



Located in suburban Peshawar, in a classic 1970s construction style particular to University Town, the Farkhanda Institute of Nursing & Public Health is a neat, clean and quiet school exhibiting all the signs of the discipline associated with the profession of Nursing. Students were to be found deeply engaged in group studies as exams were around the corner. Classes displayed equipment needed to further understand the science of



nursing, and teachers were busy in their daily planning and routine. Mrs. Tasleem Rehman Khattak is the Principal of the Institute since 2013. Praising her preceding seniors she guided us through the development of the Institute underwent over the years. Being a top notch professional nurse herself, Mrs. Tasleem has a thorough understanding of the nitty gritty involved in forwarding the lure of nursing as profession and as an excellent means to serve our nation deeply and thoroughly.

Established in 1998, the institute was a tribute of late Surgeon Mohammad Kabir to his dearly beloved sister Farkhanda Naseer. In her lifetime, Miss Farkhanda Naseer served as an educationist, retiring in 1996 in the capacity of Principal Government Girls Higher Secondary School. She held a deep yearning to do something constructive for the economic uplift and welfare of the poor.

It was this driving force which motivated her brother to embark on establishing a nursing college in her name, which according to (Late) Surgeon Kabir, "has been a most gratifying, fulfilling and rewarding experience".

Farkhanda Institute of Nursing and Public Health is recognised by Pakistan Nursing Council Islamabad and is affiliated with Nursing Examination board of NWFP. It employs highly qualified, experienced and masters in their respective medical fields, as staff for training and teaching purposes. The young nurses are given stipends with no bonds executed for service in return. In order to obtain clinical experience the students work at Naseer Teaching Hospital, Govt. City Teaching Hospital and a Community Centre established to provide free help to the surrounding locals.

The Farkhanda Institute of Nursing and Public Health aims to enhance a good standard of nursing, midwifery and LHV's. Also to impart knowledge, training and technical skills in the field alongwith inculcating a sense of responsibility and discipline into the future nurses profession.

Boasting a varied scheme of studies which includes diploma courses in General Nursing, in midwifery and LHV's each involving study and training in multiple specific subjects; the Institute is also soon to embark on more updated, better equipped and enhanced specialised courses to deal with the latest developments in nursing as a profession. It is direly needed that nursing needs to be taken as a non-gender specific profession. Ignorance and chauvinism are two evils which can lead a most noble of a profession down the gutter if allowed to lead one astray. Similarly, nursing and the Farkhanda Institute of Nursing and Public Health strives to not just remain afloat but to win the challenge of leading its students to much safer, wider and gracious waters.

Dear Editor,

Recently a group of students of 4th year MBBS, Kabir Medical College submitted a study to the Head of Community Medicine Department KMC. The carried out research is on the frequency, risk factors and impact of cigarette smoking among male medical students in Gandhara University, Peshawar. Through your newsletter I wanted to share the thought-provoking results with your readers.

Firstly as is mostly the case, the limitations in the study were: being carried out in a single university, being based on a self-reported questionnaire and also being conducted only on male students. The astounding results show the frequency of smoking to be 39% with a common starting age of 15-19 years. Sadly smoking has a higher frequency among a high socio-economic group with more pocket money to spare. The common factors which were found to have induced smoking were stress, depression and for mood stabilisation followed by peer acceptance, fashion, personality inspiration and having smokers in the family.

Sadly while smokers are fairly accurate in the assessment of their situation, they may not understand how to take control over their fears and conduct a successful attempt to quit. The primary reasons they have cited are fear of losing a grip on stress, cravings, fear of nicotine withdrawal and being in the company of smokers and other. An anti-smokers campaign needs to be enforced in educational premises alongwith greater enforcement of regulations to prohibit access to tobacco products. Most importantly counselling and emotionally stabilising efforts are needed to be enforced by the direct parties.

Sincerely

T.B Program (Global Foundation)



A Memorandum of Understanding between the T.B. Program (Global Foundation) and Gandhara University was signed in September which delegates starting of a T.B. program in Naseer Teaching Hospital. It is expected that the program should be able to help curb, check and keep a record of any possible cases related to tuberculosis and its specific treatment. Although tuberculosis in Pakistan, is in a much more controlled form still the disease needs to be completely eradicated from our records. The MoU assures us of all needed assistance to achieve the same end.

3D X-Ray Imaging Now at SBDC



The Radiology Department at SBDC has recently upgraded its high-tech list of dental equipments by procuring a state-of-the-art 3D X-ray machine. It provides accurate treatment planning and diagnostics with 3D imaging in the form of digital panoramic x-ray system and ofcourse 3D x-ray imaging. This is dynamic imaging at a whole new level.

Free Medical and Dental Camp

A medical camp was held at Town Teaching Hospital on the 26th and 27th of November. Banners advertising the approaching day had brought in scores of patients from the surrounding areas to the hospital premises. The doctors and other hospital staff as well as students and nurses from Gandhara University played an active role in the camp.



Family Health Program

Starting from the 18th of Dec 2014, a Family Health Program has been launched by Gandhara University for the Abdara locality. The program involves surveys carried out for different health related problems, diseases, medical and dental needs as well as check-ups. It is a state-of-the-art program meant to cater to the locals of nearby Abdara area and shall involve the premises, staff and equipment of newly established Town Teaching Hospital (TTH). It is anticipated that the program shall be a success with successive programs to follow.

Conference on Dental Research



The 1st Annual Conference of Pak Association for Dental Research was held on 25th-26th Oct 2014 in Lahore, venue being The University of Health Sciences. The theme chosen was 'Translating Research Evidence into Dental Practice'. Dr. Tahir Ali Khan, Head of Dental Materials and his team of Postgraduates attended the conference. The postgraduates also participated in presenting their research topic. Dr. Tahir's PG student Dr. Aiman Khan won the prize for best presentation. Kudos to him and his department.

PPA Conference



From the 29th-31st August, the International Pakistan Prosthodontics Association (PPA) held its 3rd Conference at the National University of Sciences & Technology, Islamabad Pakistan. The title of this year's conference was "Emerging Trends in Prosthodontics". All staff and students of the Prosthetics Department got to attend the conference under the leadership of Dr. Nasser Ali Shah. House Officers Dr. Nayyab, Dr. Zehra and Dr. Shandana participated in a quiz competition held for undergraduates and house officers. They won the 3rd Prize worth Rs. 10,000, a trophy and certificates. Congratulations!

New Session Entry Test

As summer recedes, Gandhara University braces itself for a new batch of juniors for both MBBS and BDS degrees. Conducted on September 8th, approximately 1200 applicants (girls in equal ratio to boys) were seen taking the test on the University premises. Overseeing the test, the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor as well as other senior faculty and administration were also present, seated at the entrance to the



University, lending their support and encouragement to the whole procedure.

Seminar on Medical Ethics



A seminar on Medical Ethics was held in the Surgeon Muhammad Kabir Auditorium on the 11th of Dec 2014. The talk was organised by Gandhara University in collaboration with National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Peshawar. Held on account of the

raise knowledgeable and responsible future leaders. Our religion has also taught us ethics in all aspects of life which if imposed on oneself can truly transform lives. The same focus was shed on Gandhara University students to help inculcate medical ethics and its implementation with a true spirit. The Chief Guest at the seminar was Mr. Farmanullah Khan the Director Investigations, NAB. Also gracing the occasion was Capt (Rtd) Mr. Abdul Majeed Niazi DG Press & Information



international anti-corruption week (8th-13th Dec 2014) the NAB Department in KPK has laid emphasis on educational institutions as well so as to help

Department and Mr. Irfan Naeem Mangi, DG NAB as both departments are working hand in hand for the same cause. Different aspects of ethics were

discussed in the seminar with input from the staff and the guests: VC Prof Abdus Salam, Prof Haji Fida Muhammad, Dr. Riaz Gul, the Chief Guest and the other guests all chipped in to share their thoughts on the topic. The seminar was a success in terms of guests taking time out of their busy schedule and students attendance in the event. Various activities have been initiated by NAB within Gandhara University specially the Character Building Society for the student, anti-corruption themes in the

curriculum and faculty members being members of the Prevention Committee – all for the sake of having a long term effect on the lives of the future doctors.

Breast Cancer Awareness

October or Pinktober as it is more aptly named, is the month of the pink ribbon or breast cancer awareness. The whole month is dedicated to the spreading of awareness of breast cancer globally. In Pakistan, it is slowly gaining momentum and gradually Pakistanis are working towards spreading awareness. This year 30th October was chosen by Khyber Medical University to hold an event for the breast cancer awareness. The venue was Khyber Girls Medical College. It was a pamphlet and

oral presentation competition among all the medical colleges of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The students of Sardar Begum Dental College also participated in the competition. Only 10 best presentations and pamphlets were selected in the whole of KPK for the competition and our students were among them. In the pamphlet



competition 3rd year BDS's Sarmad Syed and Sheherbano Yahya won first prize along with a membership of the Asian Medical Students Association while 3rd year BDS's Haseeba Arif, Wahaj Anees, Sarmad Fayyaz and Maria Rahim won 3rd prize. The chief guest on the occasion was KPK's Minister for Health Sharam Khan Tarakai who distributed certificates along with cash prizes were distributed among the victors. The students of Gandhara University made their college proud.

Speech Competition



On 25th September, a speech competition was held at the Kabir Auditorium, Gandhara University. A total of 10 schools participated in the battle of wits, the topic of which was Pak-Japan Friendship Mr. Muhammad Atif Minister for Elementary & Secondary Education KP was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Held under the banner of Pak-Japan Cultural Association, the annual event is always keenly looked forward to by the students and staff of participating schools. The knowledge, the intellect and the delivery of speeches as displayed by the students is a treat to behold. Their teachers were full of praise and mentioned how beneficial such events turn out to be for their students mental and physical health. The Chief Guest distributed the prizes amongst the winners at the end of the event.



Exams

The Professional examinations for MBBS, BDS 1st, 2nd and 3rd years were held in October this year. Congratulations to all on passing their exams with flying colours. New sessions have begun for all classes.

MPH

The 3rd batch of Master in Public Health (MPH) passed out with good results and the new batch of students has been inducted. Classes for the new batch started on 10th Nov 2014.