

RESEARCH IN MEDICAL SCIENCES

إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ
وَإِخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لَآيَاتٍ
لِّأُولِي الْأَبْصَارِ ۗ الَّذِينَ يَذْكُرُونَ
اللَّهَ قِيَامًا وَقَعُودًا
وَعَلَىٰ جُنُوبِهِمْ وَيَتَفَكَّرُونَ

Our Islamic teachings direct us to think and ponder upon the various articles that exist in the universe and to conquer them for the benefit of mankind. This divine message through Islamic Holy Book is the basis of scientific research, which comprises systemic observations culminating into different scientific disciplines. The Muslim era, with this message as a guiding principle, is replete with scientific discoveries and achievements. The beacon of Islam carried with it a wave of knowledge and culture of research all across the globe including today's centres of research and development. The Muslim scientists nurtured and developed almost every branch of science including Astronomy, Geography, Mathematics, Medicine, etc. As a result the names of Muslim scientists such as Al-Razi (Rhazes), Ibne Sina (AB Sina), Ibne Rushd and Al Nafees are still recognized as pioneers in their fields.

The directions for education in the country were set by the founder of the nation, Qaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, right at the very inception of the country. Mr. Jinnah speaking at All Pakistan Education Conference, Karachi on November 27, 1947 said, "You know that the importance of education and the right type of education cannot be over emphasized... I regret, sufficient attention has not been paid to the education of our people, and if we are to make any real, speedy and substantial progress, we must tackle this question and bring our educational policy and programme on the lines suited to the genius of our people, consonant with our history and culture, and having regard to the modern conditions and vast developments that have taken place all over the world...." However, these directions have not been fully implemented. No society can make economic progress and attain political stability and peace without significant and sustained investment in education in general and higher education in particular. An integral part of higher education, which has remained neglected all along, is the research. Therefore, there is a great need for firm commitment of all concerned quarters for promotion of research and raising standards of higher education

including medical education.

The erstwhile Liaquat Medical College, the oldest seat of medical learning in the province, had made significant contribution in medical education as well as in providing health care to the people of the region and country. Its faculty had also been engaged in various research projects. It is a matter of great pride that the Pakistan Medical & Research Council has decided to upgrade PMRC Regional Centre of Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences chairs for research are to be established by PMRC and it has been also recommended as a sentinel centre for infectious diseases surveillance and Health System Information Management for Sindh. With the up-gradation to the first public sector medical university of the country the pace of research activities is anticipated to enhance manifold, as research is the main feature of a university. The Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences is now expected to undertake huge number of research projects for which separate sizable allocation of funds and facilities are being put into place. A number of projects are being identified for research to be carried out by faculty members scholars and postgraduate students at local departmental level, in collaboration with national and international agencies. We expect that this university will become a hub of all medical research in the province and the country. This will also contribute significantly in raising the standards of medical education and quality of health care.

In order to promote a culture of research and to apprise about the research work conducted at LUMHS for national & international audience, there was a great need of a scientific journal of our own. With these objectives in mind we are bringing about this first issue of LUMHS Journal. This Journal will be an addition to the existing scientific literature in the country. We are thankful to the Chairman, University Grants Commission for his all out support in initiating this journal.

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