



Prof. Fareeduddin Baqai
MBBS, FRCS, FICS, FCPS

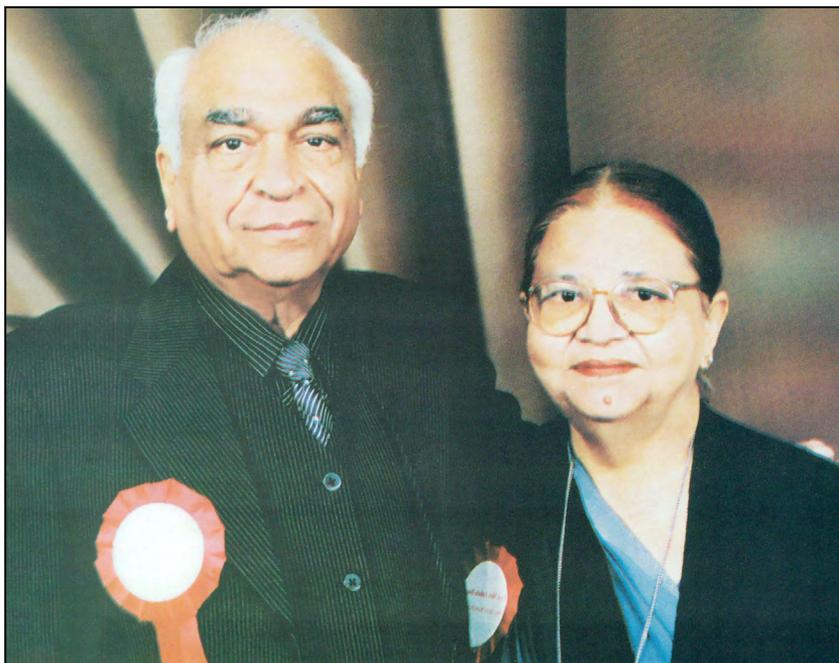
Prof. Fareeduddin Baqai
MBBS, FRCS, FICS, FCPS
(May 22, 1935- July 10, 2017)

Founder Chancellor of Baqai Medical University Prof. Dr. Fariduddin Baqai was born on May 22, 1935 in Delhi. His father Nizamuddin Baqai was a Hakeem. Baqai family was famous due to their contributions in the field of Hikmat. Baqaullah and Zakauallah were famous Hakeems of India. Children of Hakeem Baqi are known with the surname of Baqai while those of Zakauallah are known as Zakai. Dr. Fareeduddin Baqai was one of the five sons of Hakeem Baqaullah. His father passed away in 1940 due to tuberculosis when he was only five years of age.

At the time of partition his family migrated to Lahore and later shifted to Karachi in January 1948. Dr. Baqai's mother used to do sewing and stitching and that was the source of the family income. His eldest son Moinuddin did PhD in Economics from USA and went to become Joint Secretary Economic Coordination and External Affairs Secretariat in Presidency in Islamabad. His mother Fatima Baqai died in 1992 in Karachi. Prof. Baqai was a very foresighted hard working, enthusiastic and devoted person from the very beginning. He did intermediate from D.J.Science College and to meet the financial needs of medical education, Prof. Baqai used to give tuition and write letters for uneducated people. He got admitted to Dow Medical College Karachi in 1953 and graduated in 1958. He started his career at Spencer's Eye Hospital and got some training as ophthalmologist. To pursue his career in surgery, he joined Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Center Karachi and got training with Prof. Col. Saeed Ahmad. He got fellowship of Royal College of Surgeons (FRCS) in 1965

and FICS in 1967. Later in 1993, he was honoured by CPSP with its fellowship (FCPS).

Dr. Baqai worked in Pakistan Navy from 1965-1969 as Surgeon Commander at PNS Shifa Hospital and during the war of 1971 with India, he voluntarily provided his services at Combined Military Hospital Rawalpindi. He was selected as Secretary of Pakistan Chapter of International College of Surgeons USA in 1965 and became its President in 1986. He was the founder President of Private Hospitals Association.



Prof. F.U. Baqai and Prof. Mrs. Zahida Baqai

His wife **Dr. Zahida Baqai** graduated from Dhaka Medical College and later did her fellowship in Obstetrics & Gynaecology and worked at different hospitals. Dr. Baqai's brother Moinuddin proposed the marriage of Dr. Baqai with Dr. Zahida to his father Mr. Abul-Mukarim Salimullah Fahmi who was a renowned scholar, famous poet of Urdu and Persian and a civil servant. Mr. Fahmi responded positively and agreed to this marriage. As both Dr.

Baqai and Dr. Zahida were in UK, Dr.Moinuddin and Mr.Fahmi went to London in 1965 and a small engagement ceremony was held there. Their wedding took place on 25th February 1966 in Hotel Shahbag at Dhaka after their return to Pakistan. Prof. Baqai had a joint family system to which Dr.Zahida Baqai adjusted very well. Dr.Baqai was very fond of listening Ghazals of Munni Begum and Gulshan Ara Syed. Prof. Baqai once said during an interview that “the basis of our successful married life is the understanding between us. We respect each other and our families a lot. We have patience to tolerate our decisions; we both are highly committed to our profession.”

The inspiration of establishing a private hospital and university came to his mind during his fellowship in UK in 1960 while standing in the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland in Dublin. Baqais finally established the Baqai Hospital in Nazimabad Karachi which was inaugurated on June 20, 1969. Later they established Baqai Medical College which pursued Community Oriented Medical Education. It is owned by Baqai Foundation which was established in 1976. The idea of establishing a medical college in private sector was floated by Prof. Baqai in 1974 the vision behind Baqai Foundation was to start projects related to human development, poverty alleviation, medical education and training progress towards healthcare, food and nutrition and many other associated challenges. Fahmi Health Education Center was established in 1980. Baqai School of Nursing was established at Baqai Hospital in 1986. Seventy acres of land was acquired by Baqai Foundation and the first ever rural medical center supported by secondary and tertiary healthcare facilities was developed. The foundation stone of Baqai Medical Complex was laid on Friday September 24th 1976. Hakeem Mohammad Saeed laid the foundation of construction of Baqai Medical Complex. After getting permission from Government, Baqai Medical College was established. First batch of fifty students were admitted to Baqai Medical College in 1988.He had to face lot of difficulties, opposition, and criticism regarding its affiliation as well. Finally Baqai Medical College was affiliated with University of Karachi. A delegation of PM&DC visited Baqai

Medical College in 1990 and recognized it. The first batch of MBBS graduated in 1993. Baqai Dental College was established in 1992 and the first batch of twenty five dentists passed out in 1995.

Other institutions

Dept. of Community Medicine at the college was upgraded to Baqai Institute of Health Sciences and a postgraduate Masters programme in Public Health was initiated. Baqai Institute of Hematology was established in 1993 which started Diploma in Hematology and Master of Science in Hematology while later M.Phil. and PhD in hematology were initiated. Hakeem Muhammad Saeed, when he was Governor of Sindh, approved an ordinance for Baqai University of Health Sciences.



Prof. F.U. Baqai alongwith Mr. Hakeem Muhammad Saeed.

Baqai Institute of Oncology was established in 1994 while Fatima Teaching Hospital was established in 1995 at Baqai Medical University at its campus on Super Highway. Baqai Institute of Diabetes and Endocrinology (BIDE) was established in

September 1995. The same year Baqai Institute of Reproduction and Developmental Sciences was developed. Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences was established in 1996. Baqai Institute of Chest Diseases also started the same year. Pakistan's first Diabetic Foot Clinic was also established at BIDE. Baqai College of Nursing was set up in 1996 while Baqai Institute of Medical Technology got established in 1997. The same year Dept. of Social Obstetrics was started for less privileged communities along with establishment of mother friendly clinic, schools for mass education and poverty alleviation programme were important component of social obstetrics. Foundation stone of Baqai Cadet College was laid on April 22, 1999. Baqai Institute of Health Management Sciences was started in the Year 2000 and the Baqai Institute of Psychiatry was also initiated the same year. Baqai Medical University established its own printing press in 2007.

Prof. Baqai proposed Baqai Model for development which consisted of Health, Education and Poverty Alleviation. Yet another important project of Baqai Foundation was establishment of Shehar-e-Baqa, the City of Health and Education for which land measuring two thousand acres was purchased on main Super Highway. This city will have medical institutes, hospitals, clinics, a technical university and a pharmaceutical university. Construction work on this project was started in 2005 when Prof. F.U.Baqai along with Dr.Zahida Baqai laid its foundation stone. At present Baqai Medical University has about two dozen affiliated institutions in health, education sector?

God Almighty had blessed Dr. Fareeduddin Baqai an orphan with numerous qualities of head and heart. He never underestimated any kind of work on the basis of importance. He was capable to control his anger and aggression. He was fond of making friends and had many friends in different spheres of life in the society. He knew the art of wining hearts. Dr. Fareeduddin Baqai continued his job very patiently on the basis of no profit or no loss. His honesty and hard work made him priceless.

Late Prof. F.U. Baqai was recipient of numerous Awards by the Government of Pakistan and overseas i.e, Maldives National Award was presented to him by President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom. Prof. Baqai was not keeping good health for quite some time and finally he passed away on July 10, 2017. He is buried at the Baqai Medical University Campus.

Acknowledgment: BAQAI- Man with a Vision Biography by Dr. Muhammad Ali Sheraz. Published by Baqai Medical University December 2017.

Medical Ethics

- Obligations of a moral nature which governs the practice of medicine
- Ethics has a lot to do with morality
- Commonsense and Ethics do not change. They have been the same since the beginning of civilization
- The people and how we define them may change.

*Rod Robrich
UT South Western Medical Center,
USA.*