

A Message from the Editor

The devastating earthquake in northern Pakistan of October 8, 2005 has resulted in the death of close to 80,000 individuals and significant injuries to approximately 200,000 others. It resulted in significant damage to buildings and infrastructure. Many villages have been wiped out with the resulting displacement of population. It is estimated that at least 300,000 refugees still live in camps.

IMANA—alhamdulillah--has played a significant role in the provision of greatly needed emergency medical care despite our limited resources. Drs. Rehana Kausar, IMANA's president, and Dr. Parvaiz Malik, the chairman of the relief committee and member of IMANA's Board of Regents, were at site shortly after the earthquake struck and have been spearheading the relief efforts. May Allah reward them. Many more volunteers went and continue to go to provide on-site medical care. IMANA members were generous both with money and medical supplies and equipment that were flown to Pakistan. May Allah bless their efforts.

The acute phase of relief has almost passed but there is still the daunting task of taking care of the injured with long-term care as well as rebuilding people's homes and institutions.

There are still many unmet needs. Most of the injuries (90%) have been fractures of the long bones and spine. Many of these were open fractures. Hundreds lost their limbs and hundreds are paraplegic. There is a need for volunteer physicians and other health care professionals. Especially needed are orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, plastic surgeons, nurses and physical therapists for rehabilitation. Moreover, there is a need to update the medical equipment and to help the refugees and hence the need for continued monetary donations.

For details of regarding IMANA's relief efforts, read the reports available at the IMANA web site,
<http://www.imana.org>.

This is the second issue of JIMA. In this issue we selected articles that were presented in the IIIM/IMANA conference in Dubai, January 2005 and IMANA's annual meeting in San Francisco in July 2005. Also included is a biography of a prominent Muslim scientist—May Allah grant him mercy—Dr. Kazi Mubinuddin, the father of endovascular surgery. We have continued with review of books of general interest to us in North America, this time with a review of the book *Dying to Win*. We have also included the abstracts presented at the IMANA pre-ISNA meeting in Chicago September 1-2, 2005.

We want your input about these departments and your suggestions for other departments. We want your comments on the articles. We encourage you to write letters to the editors.

More importantly I want to encourage our members and readers to think about making JIMA a viable, respectable journal that all of you can be proud of. The only way to achieve that goal is for members to submit articles. As I mentioned in my previous editorial, these can be original clinical or research articles, review articles, case reports. We specifically encourage articles dealing with Islamic medical ethics, medical subjects that relate to Islamic teachings and history of medicine, especially Islamic contributions both in the past and the present.

Wassalaam,

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