EDITORIAL

REMEMBERING PROF. DR. FAREEDUDDIN BAQAI
(22-05-1935 to 10-07-2017)
MBBS, FRCS, FICS, FCPS
Founder Chancellor, Baqai Medical University

Prof. Dr. F. U. Baqai was born in Delhi, India in 1935. He completed his MBBS from Dow Medical College, Karachi in 1958 and FRCS from UK in 1964. He was a hardworking, highly motivated and visionary person. He laid the foundation of Baqai Hospital, Nazimabad in late sixties and later established Baqai Foundation in 1976 with an objective to serve the deprived, lower and middle income community. He along with his wife, who is also a highly qualified distinguished gynecologist, continued their efforts to fulfill the needs of the less privileged people in the community. Prof. Baqai was pioneer in establishing medical education in private sector. He realized that there was dearth of qualified medical professionals in the society. To overcome this scarcity, the idea for creating a community based medical college in private sector came to his mind. The dream, which was considered as joke of the year, becomes reality in 1985 when Baqai Medical College was established in the rural area of Karachi. The horizon expanded in 1992 with the establishment of Baqai Dental College, which was the first ever dental college in the private sector. Their continued effort resulted in the establishment of Baqai Medical University, which was granted charter by the Government of Sindh in 1996. A number of other allied health programs have since been initiated under the umbrella of this university, majority of which are first in private sector in Pakistan.

Since the inception of Baqai Medical University, thousands of medical professionals have graduated, who are serving the humanity not only in Pakistan but around the world. It was his idea, vision and success that have been followed by many others which resulted in the establishment of various medical colleges, institutes and universities across the country in private sector. Prof. Baqai was decorated with various awards both nationally and internationally, among those is Lifetime Achievement Award which he received in 2006 from the President of Pakistan. He is resting in peace at the university campus which he started and where he struggled and devoted his life in the betterment of the community.

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