

A tribute to Professor Mohammad Hafeezullah

*“But be not afraid of greatness; some men are born great, some achieve greatness,
and some have greatness thrust upon them.”*

William Shakespeare

It is only appropriate that I write my first editorial for JPMI, as a tribute to my very close friend & colleague Professor Muhammad Hafizullah, who needs no introduction. He has so many facets to his personality that it is difficult to decide where to start – the caring and compassionate cardiologist who mends broken hearts, the prolific and witty writer of the regular newspaper column, the spiritual soofi whose head is shaved after umrah almost twice a year, the motivating mentor of many trainees, the active and energetic faculty member of PGMI, a dynamic chief Executive of Lady Reading Hospital or the intellectually astute and gifted Chief Editor of JPMI.

Since the forum is JPMI I will focus on only one aspect of this multitalented icon i.e. Chief Editor JPMI. PGMI was established in 1984 and JPMI started in 1986 as a biennial journal. From 1986 to 1993 it was run by Dr Sahibzada Muhammad Anwar an eminent chest physician of his time. In 1993 Prof. Mohammad Hafeezullah was handed over the responsibility of Chief Editor, and JPMI caught on like a house on fire. Under his able stewardship JPMI, went from strength to strength with the online edition appearing in 2002, the journal becoming quarterly in 2004, and getting indexed in IMEMR, Index Copernicus, Index Academicus, Global Health and EMBASE, besides recognition by PMDC. What is most remarkable about the success story of JPMI is that it was due to the solo and single handed, efforts of Professor Hafeezullah to start with, in elevating JPMI to one of the top medical journals of the country. Subsequently managing to identify, train and associate a group of talented editors with JPMI, was an equally impressive achievement.

Like all good things Hafeez`s term as Chief Editor JPMI has come to an end of his own choice. He has moved onto higher challenges and loftier goals at KMU as a Vice Chancellor, to propel medical education and research in NWFP into the fast lane.

We wish him the best of luck & assure him of our all out support in his endeavors.

We at JPMI will always miss him and try to maintain the high standards which were the hallmark of Prof Hafeezullah.

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