

## OBITUARIES

### ZAHIDA BANO

We announce, with deep sorrow, the passing of a quiet but strong pillar of Hamdard Pakistan: Zahida Bano Sahibah, Director of English Publications. *إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ* (To Allah [s.w.t.] we belong and to Allah [s.w.t.] is our return).

Zahida Bano entered the service of Hamdard almost four decades ago. She worked with Hakim Mohammed Said, Mrs Lily Anne D'Silva and Mrs Sadia Rashid, and formed bonds of friendship and trust, which she earned with her hard work and dedication to duty. Neither advancing years nor worsening health turned her away from her strong work ethics, which may have forced her to adjust her working hours, but did not allow her to compromise the quality of her work or interfere with the job in hand. Though her physical step sometimes wavered and even caused her to fall, her professional step remained sure and firm. These traits, along with her simple dignity, earned her the respect of all her colleagues, senior and junior alike.

She handled much of the editing and all of the proof-reading of Hamdard's Felicitation Volumes honouring various world renowned scholars and scientists. This was also her well-undertaken responsibility for the journal *Hamdard Medicus* and occasionally *Hamdard Islamicus*, as well as four volumes of collection of essays of Hakim Mohammed Said.

In the month of October 2015, she suffered a heart attack,

which left her too weak to return to her professional duties. A gradually worsening condition, caused her to breathe her last at about 'Isha on 10 January 2017. Well educated, well read, exemplary worker, staunch friend: Zahida Bano, you are – and will be – much missed.

*Hamdard Islamicus*

**DR. HAMIDA KHUHRO**

Dr. Hamida Khuhro, (1936-2017) an eminent historian and daughter of Mr. Muhammad Ayub Khuhro, one time the Chief Minister of Sindh, passed away in February this year.

Although Dr. Khuhro belonged to a prominent political family of Sindh, she preferred an academic life and authored a number of books on history. She also served twice as Sindh Education Minister.

Dr. Hamida Khuhro got her early education in her village Aqil (Larkana district), but later she moved to Karachi. She got her master's degree from the University of Karachi. She then studied at Cambridge, Oxford and London, and completed her doctorate in South Asian History from the University of London. The title of her PhD thesis was "The making of modern Sindh: a study of British policy and its effects on social change in the region in the 19th century" (pbd. 1978 and 1999).

Dr. Khuhro's other works are: *Sindh through the Centuries*, a compilation of papers read at the international seminar on Sindh in 1975; *The Making of Modern Sindh: British Policy and Social Change in the Nineteenth Century* and *Mohammad Ayub Khuhro: A Life of Courage in Politics*, a biographical sketch of her father. She co-authored a book entitled *Karachi: Megacity of Our Times* as well.

Besides these books, she studied and wrote on *Hur* Movement (1890) in a paper entitled: *A Nineteenth Century Guerrilla War*.

Dr. Hamida Khuhro did not ignore our younger generation. She authored four books for children entitled *A Children's History of Sindh*, *A Children's History of Punjab*, *A Children's History of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa* and *A Children's History of Balochistan*. Urdu version as *Sindh ki Kahani* and Sindhi version as *Sindh ji Kahani* of her book *A Children's History of Sindh* have also been published also.

Dr. Khuhro taught at the universities of Oxford, Karachi and

Sindh. At the University of Sindh in 1978, she was made the head of the newly established Pakistan Study Centre. She edited its research journal, the *Grassroots* as well.

She also represented Pakistan at various international forums such as the United Nations.

Dr. Hamida Khuhro was quite close to the Pakistan Historical Society and was one of its fellows. Despite her poor health, she kindly accepted to be the Chief Guest for the inaugural session of the 23rd International Pakistan History Conference which was held at the University of Karachi on 12th March 2013.

Her funeral prayers were held on 12th February 2017 and she was buried in Karachi. May Allah rest her soul at peace!

*Hamdard Islamicus*