

Gazette

AMUOBA -Kuwait

November 2020



**From Acting President's Desk
By Mohammed Nauroz Ahmad**

Continuing a tradition is a very Aligarian way of doing things and when something has been set only a few months back -repeating it is sheer pleasure, therefore we are back with our second issue of 'Gazette'.

It is worth noting that the actual first gazette of the University was launched in the year 1866 by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. He is known for his devotion and dedication to the cause of education support for intellectual pursuits and commitment to public welfare. Keeping his legacy alive, AMUOBA-3 started its online gazette and this is the second edition of the gazette. The rationale is to connect and to exchange positive ideas.

As the year witnessed upheavals due to Covid-19, so it is time look back at our achievements. Team AMUOBA was active even during the lockdown owing to the digitalization which connected to the entire world from the comfort of your home. To keep the community informed and entertained we organized quite a few programs for both elders and children in the last 6 months.

This edition of the Gazette briefly highlights the events and plays a role in documenting the learning that was attained during the course of the event. List of events undertaken in the last 6 months in the order of its occurrence:

- Virtual Eid Get Together on first and second day of Eid-UI-Fitr
- Fake News and Hate Speech
- Webinar on, Mental Health during Pandemic Crisis
- An Evening with Janab Mohammad Adeeb, Ex Rajya Sabha MP
- Webinar on Investment Opportunities in Post Pandemic Era
- Toastmasters
- AMP and AMUOBA collaboration
- Independence Day Celebrations
- Bid Adieu to one of our senior most Alumnus Mr. Usman Abdul Qadir on 30th October 2020.

Eid Celebrations

وَلِتُكْمِلُوا الْعِدَّةَ وَلِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَاكُمْ
وَلَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

"and so that you may complete the number, and magnify Allah for guiding you, and that you may give thanks."

Virtual Eid-ul-Fitr was organized on zoom on two consecutive days. All the alumni wish each other and prayed for the wellbeing of the entire world.

Later everyone had a light chitchat. A milieu of Aligarh as well as Eid Milan was created. Eid-ul -fitr of 2020 will always be remembered for social distancing, everyone prayed Eid Salah at his home. we couldn't visit each other and have a taste of Sheer Khurma but virtually we greeted each other and shared brotherly penchant. During this time most of us use to visit our families back in india but due to lockdown we were not able to even visit our friends here in Kuwait. Through this virtual meeting we were able to greet and see each other

"Eid-ul -fitr 2020 will always be remembered for social distancing"



Fake news and hate speech

In last few months we have organized quite a few virtual meetings and webinars covering different topics. One such successful session was on the topic of Fake news and Hate speech. The two eminent speakers, Dr. Farrukh Khan and Mr. Firoz Khan Ghazi - Member, Delhi Bar Council were the keynote speakers for the event.



The session went far beyond our expected timelines, it continued for 3 hours much longer than we anticipated, guess the reason was level of interest in the topic and how relevant it is in our lives today. Both the speakers being highly qualified individuals threw light on how social media is making money by spreading hatred among the society. They also suggested ways for the audience on how to counter this growth and become harbingers of facts and fight spread of hate speech.

The program was a big success credit goes to the organizers of the event Mr. Irfan Mohammad Khan who tirelessly worked on it, and the result was a lot of appreciation and good attendance in the program.

Mental Health during the pandemic

Webinar on Mental health and pandemic crisis was the need of the hour. During the lockdown our collective mental and physical health was put to test and was precariously at stake. Everyone was surrounded with lots of negativity leading to general depression and lethargy.

This webinar was organized under the aegis of two EC Members, Ms. Shazia Mansoor and Ms. Saima Rafat, whereas Ms. Talat Fatima coordinated with the Keynote speaker.



Dr. Syed Ashraf Imam, who was the keynote speaker is a licensed Clinical Psychologist, practicing in California, USA. He has been an alumnus of AMU where he earned his Ph.D. His interactive session was a stress reliever for the audience.

Dr. Imam, addressed issues which haunt and pose challenges to carry out day to day tasks for people at large. Many people undergo daily trauma and live with the dread of unknown. His lecture to the audience consisted of myriad solutions to the issues of insomnia, depression and other common problems which lead to gradual deterioration of physical and mental health.

Investment Planning in post pandemic era

In the month of June a webinar was organized on the topic of **'Investment Planning in post pandemic era'**. Keeping in view the coronavirus outbreak across the globe has led to high market volatility, with sharp movements on both sides, it was the time to think where and how to keep investments safe.



The guest speakers of the evening were, Mr. Imran Abrar and CA Muhammad Faisal Faridi both alumni of AMU have a successful career in the field of investments, accounting and taxation.

To make the evening memorable, Prof. Nawab. Ali. Khan (Chairman) and Prof. Imran Saleem (Dean) from Faculty of Commerce, AMU were invited as special guest of the evening. Introduction of the guest was done by Mr. Abdus Samad Khan. Mr. Tariq Waseem, Mr. Ahtesham Ullah Khan and Ms. Shazia Mansoor were the coordinators of the event.

The Webinar was highly informative and the queries of the audience were addressed by the guest speakers, with everyone getting a good insight into the financial complexities and the best possible options available for investment during these tough times.

An evening with Janab Mohammed Adeeb Sb.

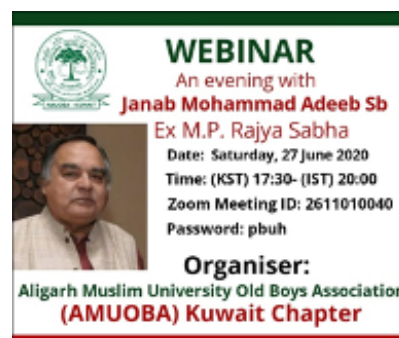
Another laurel to the AMUOBA activities in the last 6 months was the virtual interaction with Mr. Mohammad Adeeb, a famous politician and Ex-member of Rajya Sabha.

The meeting was organized with him as a sequel to Fake news and hate speech webinar. Adeed Sb spoke about spreading of fake news and misinformation by the mainstream media, he noted that this has become a major concern in India and their targets are the Muslims of India. Media persons and news channels have contributed largely to the growing intolerance in our country.

Moreover, he pointed out that this hatred has acquired primetime legitimacy due to the massive reach of these channels.

In order to negate this and spread awareness, Janab Mohammad Adeeb Sb. has taken an initiative and started a digital news channel which will be like a minority mouthpiece on the lines of 'the wire' and 'satya hindi'.

By organizing this meeting AMUOBA Kuwait Chapter helped the alumni living in Middle East to connect with Janab Adeeb Sb, people listened to him with great enthusiasm. A kind of brotherly environment was created and everyone captivated by his charisma and his eternal desire to do something for the community. The event was well planned and organized by Mr. Irfan Mohammad Khan, the peak audience for which turned out to be more than 100.



Toastmasters Club Meeting



All these months AMUOBA office bearers tried their best to keep the Alig community busy, entertained and well informed. General Secretary Mr. Masroor Alam arranged '**An evening with Kuwait Toastmasters Club**', for Alig Community and their family members in Kuwait. Investment Planning in post pandemic era

Toastmasters began as a series of speaking clubs organized by Ralph C. Smedley during his time working for the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) in Bloomington, Illinois, United States.

He named the group the Toastmasters Club; '**toastmaster**' was a popular term that referred to a person who gave toasts at banquets and other occasions.

The rationale is to give children of AMU alumni community a platform to develop communication and leadership skills. Joining Toastmasters allows people to build the skills they need to become a confident public speakers and strong leader in every area of their lives.

Independence Day Celebrations

Team AMUOBA took the virtual program to another height. For the kids to understand the importance of Independence Day and to have some activity during these hard times virtual Independence day Program was organized.

The program was held on 15th August, the stage was set performers were ready.

Due to social distancing only few kids performed from one location rest of the children performed from their houses. All the children worked hard day in and out to make the event successful.

The program started with a introductory speech from Vice President of AMUOBA Kuwait Mr. Nauroz Ahmad followed by Kuwait National Anthem and Indian National Anthem and a welcome note by President of the Association Mr. Irfan Mohammed Khan.

The program had variety of performances ranging from patriotic song to speeches. A total of 12 children participated in the event.



It was proud moment for all of us, as we watched our little champs perform with patriotic fervor, enthusiasm and joy.

The anchors of the program Miss. Sarah Mohammad Maseeh, Syed Amaan Shahaab. Mohammad Abdullah and Miss Yusra Nauroz Ahmad spoke on the importance of Independence Day in Indian history.

Patriotic poems were recited by Miss. Khadeejah Seerat Khan and Miss. Ayesha Jamil. A young boy, Master Ibrahim Javed Warsi stunned everyone with his rendition of a patriotic song. There were two group songs sung by Miss. Kulsum, Miss. Sarah, Miss. Sidra, Miss. Aamna, Miss. Hiba and Miss. Samia, which added vigor, energy and patriotism to the program. As a token of appreciation, the Association distributed gift bags and snacks to the participants, which were delivered to their doorsteps.

Mr. Yusuf Abdullah, an EC member of the Association concluded the program with the vote of thanks. The program was well executed by EC members, Ms. Shazia Mansoor and Ms. Saima Rafat. It is worthy to note the timely support of Mr. Masroor Alam and Mr. Tariq Waseem to the events success..

Finally without the active participation of Ms. Iram Chaudhry, Ms. Hena Warsi, Ms. Talat Fatima, Ms. Maryam and Ms. Shireen who worked hard to prepare their children for the event, the program would not be such a big success.

Collaboration with Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP)

AMP is a Platform for all Muslim professionals and volunteers to share their knowledge, intellect, experience, and skills for the overall development of not just the Muslim community but also the society at large. AMP in a pursuit to serve the Indian community in Kuwait has been doing similar events in the past; conducting SDL's (Skill Development Lectures).

As AMUOBA doesn't have any such platform to serve the association, in greater cause and to take the advantage of AMP's long standing team AMUOBA decided to collaborate with AMP. This will largely benefit the Alig community in Kuwait.

Both the organizations, AMP (Association of Muslim Professionals) & Aligarh Muslim University Old Boys' Association (AMUOBA) will work jointly in the following fields:

- Skill Development Programs
- Employment Assistance Cell
- Job Oriented Training Programs
- Outreach Programs such as Blood Donation Programs.



Mr. Usman Abdul Qadir- Farewell to a senior Alig

Nothing is permanent in this world, so is the stay in Kuwait. When you start feeling it more like a home away from home it is time to say goodbye.

After retiring from his job on 30th October 2020, Mr. Usman Abdul Qadir relocated to Kakori near Lucknow in U.P., he was not only a senior Alig but a very well respected and admired personality amongst us.

Usman Sb and his entire family is an alumni of AMU and the passion that he has for AMU is clearly visible from his lifestyle. His wife Anjum Fatima Alavi a senior AMU alumni had a very successful career as an announcer in Radio Kuwait Urdu service. She served the Radio for almost 20 years. Her voice is known to every Urdu speaking family in Kuwait. The entire Alig community is proud of her accomplishments.

A day before his return flight a team from AMUOBA honored him with a memento, which Mr. Yusuf Abdullah managed to arrange at a short notice. Mr. Nauroz Ahmad, Mr. Mateen ur Rahman, Mr. Ahteshaam Ullah Khan along with Mr. Yusuf Abdullah presented him this memento. Many of our alig brothers and sisters accompanied him and his family to the airport to say their final goodbye. It was a nostalgic moment for all, hope we meet some day.



AMUOBA Kuwait extends help to victims of Super Cyclone Amphan in West Bengal

The dual disaster of super cyclone Amphan and COVID-19 pandemic brought forth unimaginable misery to the people of West Bengal. In this hour of need, Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association, Kuwait, directly contacted a few humble local volunteers on the ground and joined hands with them to support the affected people in suburbs of Kolkata (Gosaba, Basirhat, Diamond Harbour.)

We received immense support from the Alig fraternity in Kuwait, and similar to AMUOBA's previous charitable drives like 'Aligarh-Delhi lockdown' and 'Ramadan Kits distribution' we managed to collect about 1,220 KWD.

With this amount around 500 affected families were supported with the basic groceries, medicine, drinking water and plastic sheet for their damaged huts.

We would like to thank you all who came forward, showed trust and choose us to get your help reach the needy. You helped us in the noble cause to support the people of West Bengal who were suffering from dual calamities COVID-19 and Amphan Cyclone.

May Allah reward you multiple times for your good deeds,. Ameen!



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