



Celebrating
60
YEARS | Because of my
**EISENHOWER
FELLOWSHIP...**



DR. ABDUL BARI KHAN, 2004 PAKISTAN

Founder, Indus Hospital

Dr. Abdul Bari Khan began working as a cardiac surgeon in 1996. Shortly thereafter, he set up a cardiac unit at Dow Medical College in Karachi, Pakistan, to provide free surgery to the poor. In an effort to broaden his knowledge of cardiac care, his fellowship goals were to visit renowned heart centers throughout the U.S. and examine the U.S. health care delivery system. A secondary aim of his fellowship was to re-establish relationships with Pakistani-American surgeons who had chosen to practice permanently in the U.S. Lastly, Dr. Bari wanted to use his fellowship to further his vision for a hospital in Karachi that would deliver free, high-quality health care to the poor.



Throughout his fellowship, Dr. Bari developed relationships with a number of medical institutions that agreed to develop international exchange opportunities for American and Pakistani surgeons. He also built linkages with organizations such as Medical Bridges in Houston and Medwish International in Cleveland that provide medical equipment and disposable items to other countries. On a more personal level, Dr. Bari spoke publicly to several groups of Pakistani physicians throughout the U.S. in an effort to secure their services in their native country for one or two weeks per year.

Using the advice of the numerous U.S. health care professionals he met during his fellowship, Dr. Bari opened the Indus Hospital in Pakistan in 2007. The hospital is a state of the art tertiary health care center providing premium, completely free quality health care services. The hospital is Pakistan's first paper-free hospital and also the first to use mobile and GPRS technologies to treat people in remote, inaccessible communities.

Indus has taken a leading role in the country towards the control and prevention of tuberculosis by collaborating with the National Tuberculosis Program and by establishing a DOTS (Directly Observed Therapy Short-course) Program for the management of TB patients according to WHO (World Health Organization) guidelines. Indus has also partnered with IRD (Interactive Research and Development), a nonprofit research and service organization committed to saving lives through improvements in global health, with the goal of new innovation and research.

In addition to these collaborations, Indus has also developed a free comprehensive community based MDR-TB (Multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis) Control Program in collaboration with the International Research and Development Center, the Sindh Government, and the Marie Adelaide Leprosy Center. Some key components of this program include free monthly consultations, investigations, counseling, free medications, household mapping, screening of close contacts, daily observation of treatment, and social support programs to encourage adherence to treatment.

Dr. Bari returns to the U.S. annually to collect donated hospital supplies and to persuade doctors to give their vacation time to volunteer at Indus. Today, Indus is the only initiative of its kind in Pakistan, providing specialized medical care to people who do not have the means to bear the high costs associated with quality medical treatment. More than 600,000 people have received free treatment at Indus.

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