

# DENTAL TRIBUNE

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## ZIAUDDIN COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY HOSTS ORAL BIOLOGY CONTEST

The Department of Oral Biology at Ziauddin College of Dentistry (ZCD).

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## TACKLING ORAL HEALTH INEQUALITIES TO ALLEVIATE ECONOMIC BURDEN

In a country grappling with glaring socioeconomic disparities, the burden of oral health.

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## ENSURING ATHLETES' DENTAL WELL-BEING IN SPORTS ARENA

Participating in sports not only promotes physical and mental well-being but also necessitates prioritising safety.

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# 2,192 conferred degrees at DUHS 13th Convocation

DT Pakistan Report

KARACHI: As many as 2,192 graduates from diverse disciplines were conferred degrees at the 13th convocation ceremony of the Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS) held at the picturesque Ojha Campus Cricket Stadium.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Muhammad Saeed Quraishy, presided as the chief guest of the event.

Highlights of the ceremony included the awarding of 50 gold medals, 48 silver medals, and 48 bronze medals to exceptional graduates from various institutes and colleges affiliated with DUHS.

The graduates comprised a



Dr. Ashar Afaq, Registrar of Dow University, bestows an oath upon the accomplished MBBS and BDS graduates, marking the beginning of their professional journey.

—Photo: DT Pakistan

diverse group, including 321 medical graduates from Dow Medical College, 143 from Dow International Medical College, one from Sindh Medical College, 47 from Dow Dental College, 52 from Dow International Dental College, 104 from Dr. Ishrat UI Ebad Institute of Oral Health Sciences, and 137 Pharm-D graduates.

Additionally, 95 students received degrees in physical therapy, 29 in occupational therapy, and over 600 in nursing. Degrees were also conferred in fields such as radiology, nutrition, biotechnology, public health, dental sciences, and echocardiography.

During his address, Professor Quraishy expressed immense pride in DUHS's global ranking among the top 600 universities worldwide. He credited this achievement to the dedication and collective efforts of the entire Dow University community.

Emphasising the role of education and perseverance in education, he encouraged the

*Continued on Page 10*

# JSMU dental clinic, lab collection point opens at KPC

DT Pakistan Report

KARACHI: In a move aimed at enhancing healthcare accessibility for journalists, Jinnah Sindh Medical University (JSMU) opened the Shabana Shafiq Dental Clinic and Laboratory Collection Point at the Karachi Press Club (KPC).

At the opening ceremony, attended by JSMU faculty members and the KPC governing body, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the two institutions.

Named after the late Shabana Shafiq, a

distinguished health reporter from a leading newspaper, the facility will cater to the dental health needs of the press community.

In his address after inaugurating the facility, Sindh Caretaker Health Minister Dr Saad Khalid Niaz emphasised the importance of providing journalists with accessible and high-quality healthcare.

Lauding the continuous efforts of JSMU, he stated, "We have formulated comprehensive plans to enhance conditions at government hospitals and ensure satisfactory services for the public during this caretaker period."

Professor Amjad Siraj Memon, Vice Chancellor of JSMU, said he believed in the transformative power of healthcare and its profound impact on society. He expressed pleasure over the initiation of complementary dental services for journalists and their families at the KPC.

Acknowledging the collaborative efforts, Shoab Ahmed, Secretary of KPC, thanked Dr Memon for facilitating a 100pc fee waiver for one seat in the MBBS Program and one seat in the BDS Program with 50pc waiver for deserving students.

# AIMI teams examine 10,550 kids in 17 Abbottabad schools



The AIMI Department of Preventive & Community Dentistry Team! Here's a snapshot of team alongside school children. On the right, a child who underwent oral examinations and received personalised treatment. –Photo: DT Pakistan

ABBOTTABAD: The Abbottabad International Medical Institute (AIMI) Department of Preventive & Community Dentistry teams, in collaboration with Colgate, visited a total of 17 schools in Abbottabad, where they conducted a comprehensive oral examination of 10,550 children, providing their personal treatment plans and a free treatment card, as part of its community outreach programme for 2023.

Led by Dr Qurat-Ul-Ain, Associate Professor/Deputy Director Research Cell-AIMI, and her dedicated team, including faculty members Dr M Ali Tariq, Dr Iqra Sattar, and Dr Kiran, alongside house surgeons and 2nd-year BDS students, the initiative aimed to impart essential oral health knowledge

to school children.

Under the programme, each child underwent oral examinations, received personalised treatment planning, and was provided with a Free Treatment Card detailing observed issues and recommended treatments. This card allows recipients to avail themselves of free dental treatment at Abbottabad International Dental Hospital.

The outreach activities, carried out by the dental students and faculty, focused on raising oral health awareness within the community and promoting a scientific approach to oral health improvement.

The students, in four batches (A, B, C, & D), demonstrated correct tooth-brushing practices and educated the children on

oral hygiene throughout the year 2023, under the supervision of the Community Dentistry Faculty and dental surgeons.

The outreach programme covered various schools in Abbottabad, including Pakistan International Public School & College, Modernage Public School, Mera Muzaffar Government School, Wisdom Public School, Govt High Schools, The Educators School, and others. Colgate goody packs were also distributed at the end of each school visit, motivating children to prioritise oral care. The AIMI-Community Dentistry Outreach Program 2023 has made a significant impact on oral health education in Abbottabad, thanks to the collaborative efforts of the dedicated teams and Colgate. –PR

## New operative dentistry head at DCQ

QUETTA: Dr. Talha Asad Khan has been appointed as the head of the Operative Dentistry Department at Dental College Quetta.



Dr Talha Asad Khan- HoD, Operative Dentistry Department at DCQ. – Photo: DT Pakistan

The team at Dental News led by the Editor extends heartfelt congratulations to Dr Talha Asad Khan on assuming this prestigious role, expressing best wishes for his future endeavors and anticipating his valuable contributions to the field of dentistry. –PR

## Both father, son appointed examiners at DCQ

DT Pakistan Report

QUETTA: A historic moment unfolded at Bolan University of Medical and Health Sciences as a remarkable father-son duo took on key roles as examiners for the final year BDS exam in Operative Dentistry at Dental College Quetta. Former Head of the Operative Dentistry Department, Professor Asad Ullah Khan Tareen, was appointed as the external examiner, while his son, Professor Talha Asad Khan,

now leads the department as the head and also serves as the internal examiner.

This appointment not only reflects their dedication to the field but also shows academic excellence within their family.

The medical community congratulated them on this achievement and extended best wishes for success in their respective roles, marking a memorable chapter in the history of dental education at Bolan University.

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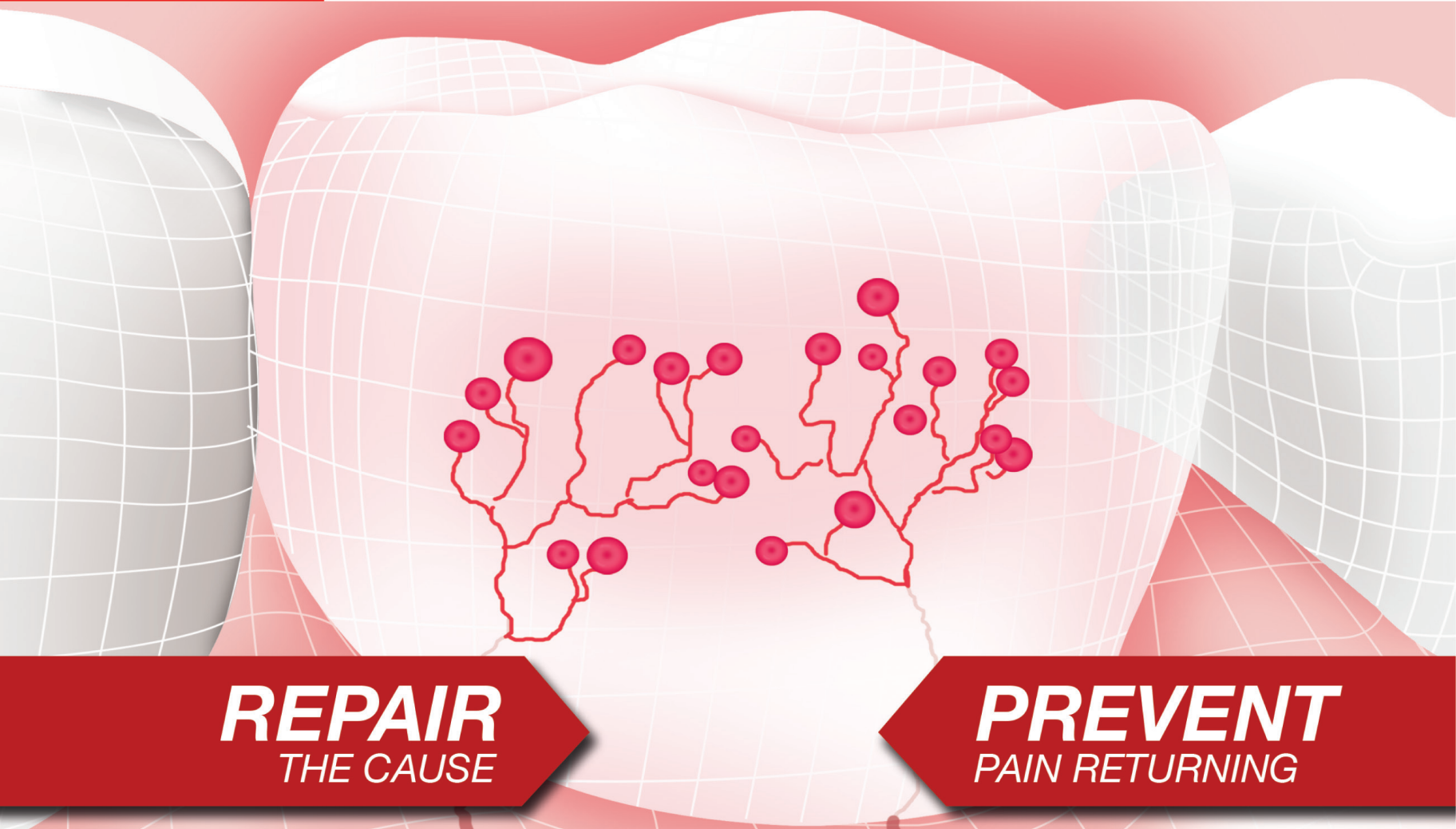
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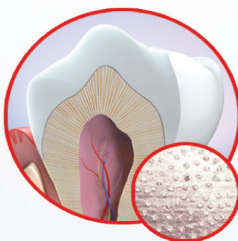
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**A SIDE BY SIDE COMPARISON**

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# Ziauddin College of Dentistry hosts oral biology contest



Picture shows the Principal of Ziauddin College of Dentistry (ZCD), Professor Wahab Kadri, along with dental professionals - Dr. Fizza Saher, Dr. Hira Batool, Dr. Khushbu Lohana, Dr. Bilal Bashir, Dr. Saad Sheikh, and Dr. Naseer Khan. –Photo: DT Pakistan

KARACHI: The Department of Oral Biology at Ziauddin College of Dentistry (ZCD) organised its first-ever Oral Biology Presentation Competition at the Ziauddin University.

The event, held under the guidance of Dr Fizza Saher, Head of the Oral Biology Department, witnessed the exceptional talent of BDS first-year students.

A team of mentors, including Dr Hira Batool, Dr Khushbu Lohana, and Dr Naseer Khan from the department, contributed to the event's success by guiding the participating students.

The competition, judged by Dr Bilal Bashir, HOD Oral Biology from Fatima Jinnah Dental College, and Dr Saad Sheikh, Sindh Institute of Oral Health Sciences, JSMU, featured presentations highlighting the basic morphological and identifying features of different types of primary and permanent teeth.

The judges appreciated the artistry of the presentations and the

impactful delivery by the students.

The event provided a platform for learning and collaboration, underscoring Ziauddin College of Dentistry's dedication to academic excellence. It also offered participants the opportunity to refine their research, presentation, and critical thinking skills crucial for their academic and professional careers.

Interactions with peers and faculty during the competition potentially paved the way for future collaborations and mentorship opportunities.

ZCD Principal 'Professor Wahab Buksh Kadri in his address on the occasion stressed the importance of scholarly pursuits and lauded the efforts by the participants.

The ceremony concluded with the distribution of prizes to the top three position-holders, along with certificates and shields presented to the judges and mentors. –PR

## MIHS dental team examines 100 school kids

RAWALPINDI: The Margalla Institute of Health Sciences (MIHS) Department of Community and Preventive Dentistry faculty and BDS students conducted dental check-ups of 100 children during their recent visit to two schools.

The MIHS team, as a part of its oral health awareness outreach programme, visited the Spirit School and Allied School (Gulraiz campuses).

The team comprising Dr Sadia Sajjad, Dr

Amna, house officers, and second-year BDS students, conducted free dental screenings of 100 children studying in the primary section of the schools for dental issues.

The team referred the students in need of treatment to the Margalla Dental Hospital.

The visit was aimed to educate children regarding oral health, right brushing techniques, a healthy

diet, and the prevention of common dental issues, highlighting the importance

of regular dental check-ups and treatment for the physical and emotional well-being of students.

The school children were also provided an opportunity to learn communication skills, group dynamics, dental ethics, and community problem identification.

The administrations of the schools lauded the effort of the MIHS team for promoting awareness about oral health among the children. –PR

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# AIDM first batch completes CHPE course



Dr. Shaur Sarfaraz, CHPE course Director celebrating the success of our dedicated participants who completed the CHPE course. –Photo: DT Pakistan

KARACHI: The first batch of Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine's (AIDM) Department of Medical Education (DME) comprising 23 participants has successfully completed Certificate in Health Professions Education (CHPE) course, says a press release issued by the institute.

It says the participants showed exceptional proficiency throughout the 6-month course because of the comprehensive training imparted to them at the DME-AIDM under the guidance of CHPE Director Dr Shaur Sarfaraz and Coordinator Dr Maria Ghani as coordinator.

The course position-holders include Dr Asra Khan Pahore (1st), 'Professor Naseer Ahmed, 'Professor Sheema Farhan Akram (2nd), Dr Sobia Hassan, and 'Professor Dinaz Gandhi (3rd), emerging as the top performers of the batch.

Dr Shaur Sarfaraz expressed immense pride in the achievements of the participants, stating, "The successful completion of the CHPE program by our batch 1 symbolizes the dedication and caliber of our faculty. Their remarkable performance attests to our unwavering commitment to fostering excellence in health professions education and producing competent healthcare professionals." –PR

## PADS body holds dental camp for schoolgirls in Lahore

LAHORE: The Pakistan Association of Dental Students (PADS) Prophylaxis Committee organised a dental camp at Unity School in Kahana, Lahore, in collaboration with Rotary International, focusing on enhancing dental well-being for 70 schoolgirls in an underprivileged area.

The event, led by the newly-elected National Prophylaxis Officer Noor Fatima, emphasised preventive dental care, moving beyond basic check-ups to include education and empowerment. It not only addressed the immediate dental needs of the schoolgirls but also aimed to instill lasting oral health habits within the community.

The collaboration with Rotary International expanded the reach and impact of the dental camp. A team of 12 volunteers from Rotary International worked with the PADS Prophylaxis Committee, offering their expertise for community service and healthcare for the schoolgirls.

The camp featured interactive sessions and practical demonstrations tailored to the participants' needs and not only provided essential dental care to the schoolgirls, but also contributed to the broader goal of community health education.

The school administration thanked the 12 volunteers and the entire PADS Prophylaxis Committee, besides the Rotary International, for conducting the camp and making a meaningful impact on the lives of the girl students.

This collaborative initiative stands as an example of the profound effects that community-driven healthcare efforts can have on underserved populations. –PR

## JMDC students examine Darul Sakun residents

KARACHI: The Department of Community Dentistry at Jinnah Medical and Dental College (JMDC) recently organized a field excursion for its second-year BDS students who conducted dental check-ups of individuals with special needs there.

During the visit, the students, under close supervision of the faculty members, conducted complimentary dental check-ups and distributed gifts to the patients, enhancing the overall experience for both parties.

The primary aim of this one-day excursion was to cultivate the development of the students' empathetic and counseling skills.

Simultaneously, the initiative sought to instill a sense of duty towards the broader community in the budding dental professionals. –PR

## JMDC hosts first moot on innovation in health science

KARACHI: Jinnah Medical and Dental College (JMDC), in collaboration with Sohail University, recently hosted its inaugural Innovation in Health Science Conference.

The event featured five pre-conference dental workshops, conducted by both in-house experts and visiting facilitators.

These workshops included lectures and hands-on sessions covering diverse topics such as implantology, face-driven orthodontic treatment planning, rotary endodontics, zirconia crown preparation, and the fundamentals of soft tissue coverage in periodontology.

The conference kicked off with an engaging plenary session that welcomed distinguished guest speakers, including 'Professor Naveed Rashid Qureshi, 'Professor Farah Naz, and Dr Hareem Sultan.

The agenda for the day included a free paper session, a poster competition, a career counseling session, and a public health awareness programme. 'Professor Junaid Lakhani, Principal of JMDC, and his team extended a warm welcome to guests and participants, who participated in dental events that contribute to student education and development. –PR

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**References:**

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# LCMD holds qualitative research, AI-based MCQs workshops

KARACHI: In order to improve the research proficiency of students, Liaquat College of Medicine and Dentistry (LCMD) organized an extensive workshop series focusing on qualitative research.

The inaugural session, titled "Introduction and Types of Qualitative Research," was tailored for participants contributing to the institute's research committees.

The workshop was supervised by Dr Sumera Saeed, former PMDC regional head and presently affiliated with Education Unlimited. She has done her MHPE from JSMU, and enriched the participants with her extensive knowledge and experience in the field.

The workshop was appreciated by attendees for its effectiveness in imparting knowledge about a topic that is often considered "dry". Dr Saeed was lauded for employing a hands-on approach through various individual and group activities that translated complex concepts into tangible, practical knowledge.

LCMD management thanked Dr Sumera Saeed for investing her time and expertise in conducting the workshop that enhanced students' understanding of qualitative research.

The workshop was moderated by Dr Sabaa Shahid, In charge DHPE, and Mr Moiz Majid, Officer DHPE, ensuring a well-organized and engaging learning experience for all participants.

Writing MCQs using AI: In a collaborative initiative led by the Department of Health Professions Education and the Curriculum Committee (Clinical Sciences), LCMD conducted a hands-on workshop to empower participants with the skills to develop higher cognition level Multiple-Choice Questions (MCQs) using Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The workshop was facilitated by 'Professor Tahera Ayub, Chairperson of the Curriculum Committee (Clinical Sciences), Assoc



(Top) Dr Sabaa Shahid, In charge DHPE, and Mr Moiz Majid, Officer DHPE, delivering an insightful lecture on "Introduction and Types of Qualitative Research" workshop.

(Bottom) A Group Photo of Workshop Participants. —Photo: DT Pakistan

'Professor Shirjeel Hussain, Deputy Director DSH, and Dr Sabaa Shahid, In charge, DHPE.

The workshop aimed to bridge the intersection of educational methodologies and cutting-edge technology, providing participants with practical insights into the integration of AI in crafting MCQs.

'Professor Tahera Ayub, an expert in curriculum development, along with the Assoc 'Professor Shirjeel Hussain and Dr Sabaa Shahid, ensured an enriching learning experience for the participants.

By incorporating AI into the design of MCQs, LCMD not only aims to enhance the skill set of participants but also embraces innovative approaches to assessment in clinical sciences.

During the workshop, the participants engaged in discussions about guidelines for creating technically correct MCQs. An interactive activity followed, enabling participants to self-identify technical errors in MCQs.

The concluding session was focused on the step-by-step utilisation of various AI tools. It not only emphasised the importance of staying updated with educational technology, but also showcased practical applications to improve the quality of assessments in dental education.

The workshop, moderated by DHPE Office Mr Moiz Majid, ensured that participants are well-equipped with the latest assessment methodologies. —PR

## AIDM holds implant dentistry workshop

KARACHI: The Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine (AIDM) recently played host to an enlightening workshop on implant dentistry for house surgeons and postgraduate students to enhance the clinical expertise of aspiring dental professionals.

The event featuring lectures and an implant placement demonstration was sponsored by Dynamark Pakistan (Izen Implant).

Conducted by 'Professor Naseer Ahmed, Dr Zaheer Hussain, Dr Maria Shakoor, and Dr Batool Sajjad, the session featured

'Professor Dinaz Gandhi and Dr Abid Ahmood on the expert panel. The organizing committee was led by 'Professor Hasnain Sakrani, Dr Resham Nadeem, Dr Aleesha Faisal, and their team.

The participants praised the workshop for its effectiveness in imparting practical knowledge,

with 'Professor Sakrani ensuring a well-structured and engaging learning experience for the participants.

The workshop not only provided invaluable insights but also stressed the importance of dentists comprehending unique techniques. —PR



# Survivors share breast cancer fight at FJDC Pink Fest



Photos capture the moments of unity and support at the inaugural festival ceremony, celebrating breast cancer survivors. The event featured a distinguished panel of healthcare professionals and educators sharing valuable insights with the audience. —Photo: DT Pakistan

KARACHI: The city recently witnessed a vibrant spectacle as the annual Pink Fest opened at the pre-clinical campus of Fatima Jinnah Dental College, adorned in various shades of pink, becoming a focal point of 'Pinktober' — Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The event brought together students, faculty, and community members, with a global reminder of the profound impact of breast cancer on countless women and their families.

Dr Hussain Askary, the CEO of FJDC, in his address on the occasion, underscored the increase in breast cancer survivor awareness over the past decade, because of the rising focus of oncologists and healthcare experts towards their concerns.

The breast cancer survivors, showing remarkable resilience, have united to advocate for their needs, prompting crucial reforms within the healthcare system and pointing out the deficiencies in patient care.

The inaugural ceremony of the festival celebrated the strength of unity and support for breast cancer survivors, with a distinguished panel of speakers, comprising healthcare professionals and educators sharing their insights and expertise with the audience.

The event's Speaker's Corner provided a platform to individuals from diverse backgrounds to share their breast cancer stories, delivering inspiration and courage to those grappling with the disease.

The campus was draped in pink ribbons,

balloons, and butterflies, reflecting the students' creativity and unity—a symbolic representation of support for various causes.

The festival included a much-anticipated fundraising segment featuring various stalls offering appealing items, from jewelry to books. Games such as Buzzer, Flip the Bottle, and Spin the Wheel added an element of excitement for the participants.

Culinary delights were also a highlight, with a menu offering a variety of treats, including drinks, French fries, Bun Kebabs, Kachori, and Aloo Chat. Photo props, ranging from various frames, allowed the participants to capture the memorable moments.

The Pink Fest 2023 attracted people from all walks of life. Each year, this event not only raises awareness and funds but also provides a platform for breast cancer patients to share their stories and seek support.

Breast cancer, a global concern impacting millions, leaves a profound impact on individuals and their families. Pink Fest promotes breast cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment, uniting people from diverse backgrounds in the shared pursuit of a cure.

The event stands as a symbol of hope and perseverance in the fight against this formidable disease, bringing survivors, supporters, and activists together to advance breast cancer research and support. —PR

## BDC students, faculty tour Baqai Medical Complex

KARACHI: The Baqai Dental College (BDC) Department of Community Dentistry organized a field visit for BDS Second Year students and faculty members focused on community engagement at the Baqai Medical Complex (BMC) in Khuda Ki Basti, Surjani Town, Karachi.

The BDC delegation, led by Professor Asghar Ali Shigri, Chairman of the department, included Dr Samreen Mazher, Dr Mahwish Bano, Dr Wajiha Anzar, and second-year BDS students.

The primary aim of the visit was to acquaint dental students with the late Professor Fareeduddin Baqai's mission and vision in establishing this community welfare initiative. Additionally, the visit sought to improve the oral health screening and oral health education skills of BDS students.

Mr Salman, the Administrator of BMC, Khuda Ki Basti, warmly received the faculty members and students, guiding them through a comprehensive tour of the complex, saying the complex provides free medical and dental services, along with free school education.

He underscored the complex's commitment to offering complimentary medical and dental amenities, coupled with free school education, besides imparting essential skills to nearby residents, empowering them to financially support their families.

The students, in groups, visited the BMC Out-Patient Departments (OPDs), wards and laboratories. Subsequently, they toured classrooms accommodating approximately 400 students from pre-nursery to 10th grade.

In these classrooms, the BDC team disseminated information about a tooth-friendly diet, proper brushing techniques, and other methods of plaque control.

These initiatives aim to contribute to the early prevention of periodontal diseases, alleviating the overall burden of such ailments. —PR