

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF



Greenwich University

# Gvision

## THE SYRIAN AMBASSADOR VISITS GREENWICH

### Our Hearts Beat in Unison

— H.E. Adnan Bernieh

**S**YRIA and Pakistan have deeply-entrenched historical, religious, and cultural ties," said H.E. Adnan Bernieh, while addressing a select gathering at Greenwich University, on 31 July 2004.

Mr Adnan Bernieh, who is the Head of the Mission (Ambassador) of Syrian Arab Republic in Pakistan, paid a visit to Greenwich with a view to acquainting himself with the functioning of one of the most prestigious universities of Pakistan in the private sector.

H.E Adnan Bernieh, who had earlier in the day visited two other business schools in Karachi, made no secret of his satisfaction with what he had seen at Greenwich University.

After taking a round of the campus, the Ambassador was given a multimedia presentation followed by a formal address of welcome. In his absorbing

and thought-provoking speech, H.E. Adnan Bernieh informed the audience about his priorities as a diplomat. Making a radical departure from the routine duties, he said that he accorded greater priority to promoting educational contacts and developing cultural interaction between Syria and Pakistan.



Exchanging views with the Faculty.

Mr Adnan Bernieh was visibly impressed by all that he had seen at Greenwich. Paying rich tribute to the management, faculty, and students, he said that Greenwich was a business

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The audience listening with rapt attention to H.E. Adnan Bernieh's thought provoking address.

## MILAD AT GREENWICH

### Let our Deeds Testify to our Love for the Prophet (peace be upon him)

— Farah Moazzam

**L**OVE is ever demanding – it requires sacrifice, time, attention and, of course, gifts," said Ms Farah Moazzam, while addressing a congregation of faculty, students and a large number of guests on the occasion of Jashn-e-Miladun-Nabi (peace be upon him) at Greenwich University on 8 May 2004. However, expression of love for Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) should not be restricted to occasions such as this one, Ms Moazzam continued. While rituals, no doubt, have their own significance, the only meaningful way of showing our love and reverence for the Holy Prophet is



to try and emulate his practices (sunnah) in our daily lives. Mere verbal protestations of love are not sufficient.

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## A VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

### The Mystique of Malaysia

**T**HERE is much truth in the proverbial wisdom that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy!

The philosophy of education at Greenwich is somewhat unorthodox; it does not restrict learning to the classroom environs and the library. Our approach to education is more in

tune with the emerging trends at the first world universities.

We do not believe in churning out graduates who are only bookworms and passers of examinations. We aim to produce individuals who have rounded personalities, and not mere specialists in their respective disciplines. Contd. on P/2



Greenwich Students attend a briefing session by JobStreet.com., in Malaysia.

## YAKJEHTI WALK

**G**reenwich University Students Responded enthusiastically to the call of Governor Sindh, Dr Ishrat Ul Ebad Khan, in making Karachi "A City of Peace and Harmony"

Karachi, the city of lights, was subjected

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## WHY ENGLISH?

**E**NGLISH is no longer the language of English men only; in the age of globalization, English has come to be accepted as the undisputed international language of the world," said Prof Rafat Karim while addressing the faculty and students of Greenwich University on Saturday, 19 June.



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## Greenwich Newsmakers

Gvision is introducing a series of interviews with those alumni who have achieved prominence in their respective professional spheres. Ladies & Gentlemen! We present – **DEWAN ABDULLAH!**



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**Malaysia Tour**

It is for this reason that we have opted for the concept of "co-curricular activities" rather than "extra-curricular activities".

An important component of such co-curricular activities is the priority assigned to educational trips / excursions to foreign countries by students, accompanied by faculty members. Such tours have taken place in the past, too. But, in May 2004, a group of students, led by Mr. Shoaib Shamsi, made a trip to Malaysia. The group comprised students of GUCS

it is serving the needs of more than 10,000 corporate clients from its 10 offices across Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, and India.

The trips to Tenaga National Berhad, AKN Messaging Technologies, ABN AMRO Bank gave a wealth of information and insight, to the delegation about the secret of success of these famous organizations. But the visit to the Multimedia University in Cyberjaya 9 Internet City), was truly mind-boggling.



501 (Marketing Sales and Promotion of e-Business) and GUMK 507 (Advance Marketing Policy).

The stated objectives of the tour were:

- To study the various industries and



their development pattern.

- To look for similarities, and differences, between the economic and industrial growth of Malaysia and Pakistan.
- To have a lot of fun, and adventure (this was, of course, an unstated but clearly understood objective)!

Though the group set out on April Fool's Day, there was nothing silly about the expedition. In fact, it turned out to be a great learning experience. For instance, the visit to Jobstreet. Com, which is one of Asia's leading recruitment companies, resulted in some startling revelations. Currently,

The Multimedia University opens its doors to aspiring students from all over the world, as it believes that a multi-cultural, multinational campus is pivotal to the development of globalization, and " a borderless era" that the future millennium holds.

The sight-seeing included a trip to the famous Petronas Tower. It is 452 meters high, comprising 88 storeys. The overall character of the building is high-tech and international, but distinct.



So far as the fun side was concerned, a visit to Bombay Street proved to be the high point. Bombay street is famous for its Indian food, and knick-knacks. Unable to resist the temptation, the group ate at the posh "Banana Tree" restaurant, which served its exotic food on banana leaves, with 20 different varieties of Indian cuisine.

Finally, the visit to Batu Caves was



**SEMINAR**  
**Islam in Dialogue with Modernity**  
- S.A. Waheed

**M**R Hussain Abbas, Director, Teacher Development Center gave a thought provoking talk on "Islam in Dialogue with Modernity" at Greenwich University on 15 May, 2004.

He started by explaining the difference between dialogue, debate and discussion. Quoting the first sentence from the book "Understanding Islam" by Frithjof Scheuon - Shaykh Nur al

Din 1907 - 1998 (perhaps the students must not have heard of him) but by way of introduction T.S Eliot (hope the students know who he was) had this to say of him "I have met with no more impressive work in the comparative study of Oriental and Occidental religion".

The sentence in question is "Islam is the meeting between God as such and

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Greenwich students attend a briefing by Jobstreet.com in Malaysia.

truly memorable. It has three main caves, Temple Cave or Cathedral Cave being the biggest and the most famous. To reach the top, one had to climb 272 rock steps. It vindicated Darwin's theory of the survival of the fittest!.

One has to be bold and brainless (with

apologies to all concerned) to manage the Dark Cave, which even requires a change of clothes and shoes.

There is an art gallery at the foot of the temple Cave. The statues and wall paintings depict scenes from the Hindu mythology - a real treat for the culturally inclined!.

— Contd. from P/1 **Millad at Greenwich**

Only our deeds can testify to the earnestness of our love for Allah and His Messenger, the erudite scholar opined.

She drew specific attention to the various facets of the Prophet's life, such as a father, as a husband, as a mentor, and as a friend. She pointed out that Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was in the habit of bestowing his benevolent smile on all and sundry, and



how he would always be the first to extend greetings (Salam) to others, even if it happened to be someone younger than himself. Such was his kind nature that he would never be the first to withdraw his hand after a warm handshake. She posed the rhetorical question as to what could be the possible reason for the fact that Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) made sure that even his most private acts were recorded – something which, in normal circumstances, one would never do.

Obviously, he did this for the sake of posterity, she explained. He wished to leave a legacy for his followers to emulate. "Cleansing of the soul is the only way to achieve salvation," Ms Farah Moazzam concluded.

Ms Moazzam was deputizing for Dr Farhat Hashmi, who was scheduled to be the main speaker on the occasion. Dr Hashmi, however, could not make it this time, as she was held up at Dubai owing to an important professional engagement.

Ms Farah Moazzam, received her education in Islamic theology at Al Huda International, where she is now teaching comparative religions. She is also a free lance journalist. Her articles are carried by various national dailies and reputed journals.

Ms Moazzam rose to the occasion, and mesmerized the audience with her brilliant oration. She endeared herself to the educated audience by eschewing a stereotyped and sanctimonious approach. There was a ring of sincerity and conviction in all that she said.

Ms Khushbakht Shuja'at, who was the other leading speaker on the occasion, began by appreciating the tradition established by Greenwich



University of celebrating the birthday of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in such a grand and befitting manner. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was a great blessing of Allah, not only for Muslims, but for the entire mankind.

Ms Shuja'at particularly dwelt on the status of women in Islam. She strongly dispelled the myth that a woman should remain confined to home. "Hazrat Khadija" she pointed out, was the first business woman in Islamic history". While arguing for the full and active participation of women in all fields of life, Ms Shuja'at made an impassioned plea to women not to neglect their responsibilities towards the upbringing of their children. "In



the contemporary situation, with all the distractions of computers, cable television, and mobile phones, the proper upbringing of children amounts to nothing less than Jihad on the part of Muslim women," Ms Khushbakht Shuja'at concluded.

The Milad was laced with a number of beautifully rendered Naats and Darood-o-Salam by eminent Naat Khawns of the country such as Muneeba Shaikh, Fareeda Rizvi, Hooria Rafique, Rushda Chughtai, Haseena Jabeen, Deeba Naz, Sarah Moin, and the talented students of Greenwich University, Erum Khan, Orooj Fatima, Nadia Obaid, Nida Jawaid, Afsheen Kanwal, Ayesha Shaikh, and Sahifa Rasheed who also recited the Naats.

The observance of Jashn-e-Milad-un-Nabi (peace be upon him) has now come to be accepted as a major event in the annual calendar of Greenwich University. After the tremendous success of last year's Milad, Karachites had been looking forward to this year's event with a sense of eager anticipation. Once again the management, faculty, and the students worked hard over the weeks to make this year's Milad, too, a truly memorable event.

The entire campus wore a festive look, and the illumination evoked a fairy-land atmosphere. The guests were received by female students of Greenwich, who were all dressed in costumes tailor-made for the



## "PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF MANAGEMENT"

PROF DR ASRAR H. SIDDIQI'S NEW BOOK

**T**HE renowned scholar and banker Dr Asrar H. Siddiqi has the distinction of being the only Pakistani who has authored such books on banking and finance which are regarded as the most authentic reference and base material on the relevant subjects.

The subject of management has not attracted any professional manager to write about it so far. Maintaining his established tradition, this distinction, too, goes to Dr. Asrar H. Siddiqi who has chosen to address the theme of "Principle and Practice of Management" in his latest book.

The book has been written in a very simple language so that a reader with average knowledge of English should have no difficulty in comprehending the basic concepts and principles.

The hardbound first edition has been published by Royal Book Company, Karachi. The book comprises ten chapters spread over 210 pages. Each chapter has been arranged with systematic sub-headings and explanations. The chapters cover the basic theories of management, development of management thought in the West, basic function of management, and the responsibilities of the managers including those pertaining to human resource.

An important chapter, entitled "Management in Pakistan" provides a lot of food for thought specially for those who are aspiring to attain managerial positions in trade, commerce and industry in Pakistan. ■

### PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MANAGEMENT



Dr. Asrar H. Siddiqi

— Contd. from P/1 **Yakjehti Walk**

to a series of violent terrorist attacks in the past few weeks, causing a sense of anguish and depression across Pakistan. Taking a bold and unconventional initiative, the Governor of Sindh, Dr Ishrat Ul Ebad Khan appealed to all citizens of Karachi to join him in a Yakjehti Walk on 6 June 2004, with a view to demonstrating to the world at large that the hearts of all citizens of Karachi throb in unison – regardless of religion, race, or ethnicity.

Like the rest of the citizens of Karachi, the students of Greenwich University responded positively, nay, enthusiastically, to the sincere call of their Governor and joined the Yakjehti Walk in large number. We hope and pray that the nightmare is over, and the happy days for Karachites will be back soon, Insha Allah. ■

occasion. Each guest was given a "gajra", "attar", and a packet of flavoured supari.

Keeping to the true traditions of Milad, each participant was also given a beautifully packed box of quality sweets (mithai) specially prepared for the occasion.

The participants were truly overwhelmed by the lavish hospitality of the Vice-Chancellor, who had left no stone unturned to make this auspicious occasion a high profile and colorful event. Participants were overheard as saying that such a magnificent Milad was unprecedented in the history of any educational Institution in the country, and the Vice-Chancellor, Ms Seema Mughal, truly deserved credit for making it possible. The beaming look on the face of the Vice-Chancellor denoted her complete satisfaction with the excellent teamwork of her staff and students. ■

— Contd. from P/1 **Why English?**

Prof Rafat Karim has been teaching English language and literature at Karachi University for over 32 years. Currently, he is the senior most Professor of English in the country. He is also President of the Shakespeare Association of Pakistan.

Prof Karim impressed upon his audience the need for acquiring proficiency in English for a wide variety of personal and professional reasons. "English is the language of science and technology, of international trade and commerce, and of e-mail and website", Prof Karim pointed out. He went on to say that higher education in any discipline was not possible without a sound proficiency in English. He emphatically repudiated the suggestion that quality education at the tertiary level could be imparted through Urdu only, in the absence of adequate books in Urdu language. He was of the opinion that it was altogether misleading to cite the example of Japan. "Analogies have relevance and meaning only when circumstances are identical or similar," Prof Karim argued. He continued: "Urdu has a lot of potential but it is still evolving, unlike the Japanese language which is more than 2000 years old, and is fully developed. Translation too, is not a feasible proposition, as we do not have enough resources at the moment for the massive and quick translation which is required to keep pace with the advancement in knowledge."

Prof Rafat Karim said that the Government of President General Pervez Musharraf has taken a step in the right direction by introducing English from Class-I in all government schools. "The cause of Urdu will not be promoted by de-emphasizing English", the erudite scholar cautioned the champions of Urdu. ■

## ADDICTION

– Nasim Mughal

Life can be magnificent and satisfying. It can also be devastating. Life can bring us to our knees in a pitiful and hopeless state. It can leave us feeling overwhelmed, powerless with problems that can be too big and too numerous. In these troubling situations we feel we don't have the resources to handle the problem, and tend to succumb to relief measures that are easiest and readily available for quick relief. Desperately struggling to control a problem results in the problem's controlling the individual. Addictions develop out of situations like these. There is a big payoff, the relief in achieving a relaxed state, comfort, self-confidence; excitement and pleasure are the direct benefits.

Drugs have been a part of almost everyone's life. Medical and pharmacological sciences have done wonders and have improved human life in quality and longevity. However, such drugs rarely produce an altered state of consciousness. On the other hand, there are some drugs or substances



that people in almost every culture have used to alter states of consciousness. These substances are known as 'psychoactive drugs' and they can

influence a person's emotions, perceptions, and behaviour. Psychoactive drugs vary widely in the effects they have on their users. All affect the nervous system by acting on the operation of specific neurotransmitters across the synapses.

The most dangerous psychoactive drugs are the ones that produce a biological or Psychological dependence in their user. This dependence or addiction can be termed as biologically based when the body cannot function in the absence of the addiction drug. The dependence will be termed as psychologically based when the user needs the drug to respond to the stresses of everyday life. Why do people take drugs?

Psychology supports the view that humans will *only do anything* for two reasons; to gain pleasure and to avoid pain. Addiction seriously circumscribes people's lives and detracts them from their daily functioning, yet it exists.

Is there a type of character organization that predisposes a person to use psychoactive substances rather than some other defensive pattern of coping with stress? Research informs us that certain characteristics have shown strong positive correlations especially to alcohol abuse, and may be true for other substances as well. Potential alcoholics tend to be emotionally immature, carry high expectations from others, need a lot of praise and appreciation, have low frustration tolerance, and feel inadequate and unsure of their abilities to fulfill expected



male or female roles. [Morey, Skinner, & Blashfield, 1984]

Individual lifestyles and personality features play a crucial role in the development of addictive behaviour. The physical environment is crucial at this point, a high school student or a dropout, a college student or a young unemployed adult will be more likely to avail the possible opportunities present. Pakistan may have had a long history of drug abuse, but recently it has become an issue of a huge magnitude and is affecting individuals at all levels. Middle class morality, religious values and cultural design automatically acted as deterrents to people at large. We are at a place where acceptance and acknowledgement of addiction and substance abuse needs to be looked upon with no social stigma involved. Eradication Models need to be evolved at all levels to educate the public about this issue and the dangers involved; implementation of policies already existing can be extremely helpful.

We live in a society that believes there is a cure for everything from the common cold to new life in drugs. Easy availability, access, and loose prescription laws make it easier for

our general public to indulge in these practices without at times realizing how dependent they have become. At times, even close friends or family members fail to realize when occasional social use of drugs or alcohol has turned into abuse/misuse. However certain readable signs can help such as:

- Getting high to have a good time.
  - Being high more often than not.
  - Getting high to get oneself going.
  - Going to work or class high.
  - Driving a car while high.
  - Coming to conflict with the law because of drugs.
  - Being high in nonsocial, solitary situations
  - Being unable to stop getting high.
  - Becoming physically unhealthy.
  - Avoiding family or friends while using liquor or drugs and other such signs.
- [Source: Archambault, 1992; National Institute on Drug Abuse, 2000]

A combination of these symptoms indicates a serious drug problem. Help from professional sources must be sought, be it medical, psychological, homeopathy or acupuncture. Addiction when it is used for drug use or misuse means something entirely different. Here, one needs to clarify how dangerous the drugs being used are - do they produce a physical or psychological dependence and are overdoses responsible for convulsions and unnecessary death? The dynamics 'of and for' addiction are complex and have not been fully comprehended as yet. All agree that it is one of the most difficult behaviours to modify. Every year the number of people who become addicted to psychoactive drugs is increasing at an alarming rate and a large number of them eventually die from drug overdoses. ■

Often, we hear from the parents that their children have learning difficulties in any combination of the basic skills or in some application areas. The difficulties in learning affect one's ability to read, write, speak or compute math, and can impede social skills to an extent. Experts explain the learning difficulty as a disorder of the central nervous system and a variety of factors may contribute to their occurrence. There are many types of learning disabilities; the main one being Dyslexia, but the process that this article will concentrate on is that of Math-related learning.

Math-related learning disorders are known as '*dyscalculia*.' In its term, dyscalculia is a class of neurological disability that affects the mathematical skills and is not due to a lack of intelligence or improper instruction. The affected students face difficulty in understanding mathematical concepts, recalling and carrying out mathematical procedures and solving a range of mathematical problems. Unfortunately, the research on dyscalculia over the past ten years, progressed at a snail's pace; even then the experts have identified a range of effective mathematics interventions for students with disabilities. Lets now look into the causes of mathematical disabilities.

One of the reasons of mathematical disability is due to the complexity of the field of mathematics that comprise one

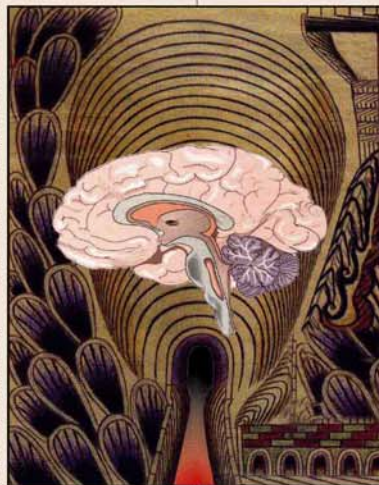
## Learning Disability

Moez Allidina (BS12 892)

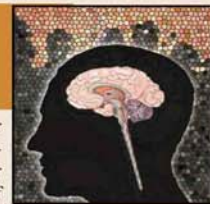
of the many domains such as arithmetic, algebra, geometry or the most fearsome of them all, calculus. For example, to some people arithmetic is very easy; for most of the people, it takes some effort to learn it; and a few people never get the hang of it despite massive instructions and an enormous effort.

The second reason is the lack of visual and perceptual processing. For a student to be really successful in mathematics, they need to be able to visualize numbers and math situations. Those students who face difficulties in organizing detailed information often face difficulties in remembering specific facts and formulas for completing mathematical calculations. Another reason being that some students develop a fear

or phobia of mathematics either because of their past experiences or lack of self-confidence.



Social and environmental characteristic is yet another important variable in math performance of the students with learning disabilities. For example, it is believed that repeated academic failure frequently results in low self-esteem and emotional passivity in mathematical learning. The emotional reaction of some individuals to math is so negative that they develop math anxiety. Finally, the language aspects of the subject of mathematics, particularly hampers the learning-disabled students. As a result, the students tend to face confusion about terminology;



difficulty following verbal explanations; and/or weak verbal skills for monitoring the steps of complex calculations.

These were some of the reasons due to which students face this problem but there may be other reasons as well. Our problems cannot end but they can definitely be minimized. Perhaps, that is why many schools, colleges and universities including Greenwich University, have set some foundation courses to reduce this problem. In my opinion, if you want to overcome your fear of mathematics, the only key to it is practice. As the saying goes, "Practice makes a man perfect." I hope this article helps you all in expanding your knowledge about such learning difficulties. It is not a mere instance that some of us face this problem or are a victim of such phobia, as this problem can afflict anyone of us. However, if this is not the case then we are lucky and should be thankful to God, for He has given us something that may not be enough for us from our perspective, but from someone else's perspective, it may be everything. I conclude with the words of Tennessee Williams that, "High station in life is earned by the gallantry with which appalling experiences are survived with grace." ■

## Greenwich Making Waves from the Arabian Sea to Margalla Hills

Islamabad Campus

**M**ANY outsiders feel that Islamabad is a sleepy city. But this surely is not true of the Greenwich University campus, which has been pulsating with academic and co-curricular activities throughout.

### VISIT OF (OPF) EXPERTS

The Joint Director and Assistant Director (Education) of Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF) visited the Islamabad Campus on 25 March 2004. They were received by Prof. Abdul Hayee Sheikh, Director Academics. They were much impressed by the computer lab and library facilities being provided to the students.

Both the officials were given a detailed presentation about Greenwich University and its achievements. They were given a briefing about the programs being offered at the main campus and two branch campuses. The main purpose of their visit was to seek allocation of seats for the children and dependents of Overseas Pakistanis at all the campuses of the university.



### FLOWER SHOW

Jashan-e-Baharan was celebrated in the capital city of Islamabad from 1 to 4 April 2004. A flower show was arranged at Rose & Jasmine Garden. The Islamabad Campus students also participated in the show. Sheikh Rashid Ahmed, Federal Minister for Information was the Chief Guest on the concluding day. The students of Greenwich University (Islamabad Campus) were awarded shields and prizes. TV/press coverage was also given to our students Abid Ali Chaudhry, Aysha Baksh and Mehwish Shaukat. They also presented Greenwich University's catalogue along with flowers to the Information Minister.



### CRICKET MATCH

A friendly cricket match was played between the students of Management Sciences and Computer Science on 24 March 2004 at Marghazar Cricket Ground F-7/3, Islamabad. It was a good experience for both the teams. The students of the campus and others enjoyed and appreciated the performance of both the teams. The Computer Science team won the match convincingly. Farooq Mughal was declared the best bowler while man of the match prize went to Mubashir Habib Gahzi. Refreshments were served to all the students and guests at the playground after the match had ended. ■



## Greenwich Reverberations from Karachi to Khyber

Peshawar Campus

**P**ICNICS, excursions, and expeditions form an important aspect of the Greenwich way of life.

Co-curricular activities are accorded a high priority at Greenwich, as now there is a consensus among educationists about Learning should not be restricted to classrooms and libraries.

Greenwich students of Peshawar Campus, in coordination

with the students of Islamabad Campus, recently arranged picnics and excursions to various places in the Northern areas of Pakistan. We bring to you some glimpses of these excursions. ■



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school with a difference, as it was not a money-making venture. "Here they teach business but do not practice business", Mr Bernieh put it succinctly. He took particular note of the sound professional lines on which



Greenwich functioned, such as the strict enforcement of discipline and attendance regulations, inter-action among the teachers and the taught, and the stress on inculcating moral values along with imparting knowl-



edge. "Teaching is a two-way street. The right kind of inter-action leads to a harmonious relationship between the faculty and the students. In the absence of such an equation, nothing much can be achieved," Mr Bernieh observed. He pointed to Mr Abdullah Dewan and held him up as a living example of the fine individuals Greenwich has been producing over the years. "Mr Abdullah has not distinguished himself in Pakistan only but is also known and respected abroad. He is an embodiment of the quality education being imparted at Greenwich," the Ambassador added.

Mr Bernieh conveyed the love and greetings of the Syrian people to the people of Pakistan. He said that ever since he had come to Pakistan, each and every Pakistani he had met appeared to have special affection for Syria. He attributed this to the fact that Islam actually came to the region which now constitutes Pakistan, through 'Sham', as Syria was once called. He was also moved by the fact that Pakistanis still fondly called Syria, "Sham".

He emphasized the need for Muslims to acquire knowledge, in order to survive in the all encompassing wave of glob-

H.E. Adnan Bernieh

alization, and the emerging economic world order in the wake of the WTO. He reminded his audience that the very first word of The Holy Quran is 'Iqra', which is an exhortation to the believers to read and acquire knowledge.

He also referred to the saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), in which he urged the believers to travel to China in pursuit of knowledge. It is, indeed, sad and ironic that despite such priority given to acquisition of knowledge, Muslims of today should be lagging behind so much in different branches of learning, particularly in the domain of science.

Mr Bernieh expressed his disapproval of the smug attitude of those who imagine themselves to be erudite and scholarly. "Since there is no cut-off point or limit to knowledge, a truly well-informed person should always be modest and imagine himself to be ignorant", Mr Bernieh observed.



"It is a hallmark of ignorance for anyone to claim that he knows everything", the Ambassador went on to say.

Making a passionate plea for honesty and fair-play in one's business dealings, Mr Bernieh pointed out that one might accumulate a lot of wealth but might not be able to enjoy it owing to the ill health of oneself, or an affliction to a member of one's family.

Islam is a pragmatic religion, and there is no restriction against making legitimate profit. He cited the example of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), who himself was a businessman. As a shepherd, he once bought a

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Islam in Dialogue

man as such; from thereon he elaborated the above by stating, if man being made in the image of God is distinguished from the other creations by having transcendent intelligence, free will and the gift of speech, then Islam is the religion of certainty, equilibrium and prayer, to take in their order the three deiform faculties and thus we meet the triad traditional in Islam that of el-Iman (the Faith) el-Islam (Literally "Submission") and el-Ihsan (the "Way" literally "Virtue").

Man thus appears a priori as a dual receptacle made for the Absolute and Islam comes to fill that receptacle first with the truth of the Absolute and secondly with the law of Absolute. Islam then is in essence a truth and a law- or the truth and the law- the former answering to the intelligence and the latter to the will.

The doctrine of Islam hangs on two statements; first "There is no divinity outside the only Divinity (or Reality, or Absolute)" (La Ilaha illa 'Llah), and 'Muhammad (the "Glorified", the Perfect) is the Envoy the mouthpiece, the intermediary, the manifestation, (the symbol) of the divinity (Muhammadur Rasool 'Llah ); these are the first and the second "testimonies" (shahadat) of faith.

In order to understand the full scope of the Quran, we must take three things into consideration; its doctrinal content, which we find made explicit in the great canonical treatises of Islam; its narrative content, which depicts all the vicissitudes of the soul, and its divine magic or its mysterious and in the sense miraculous power; these sources of metaphysical wisdom, but also of passages majestic in rhythm, woven of every fiber of the human condition.

The prophet is the human norm in respect both of his individual and of his collective functions, or again in respect of spiritual and earthly functions. Essentially he is equilibrium and extension; equilibrium from the human point of view and extinction to imitation of the Prophet implies, first, strength as regards oneself, next, generosity as

sheep for two Durham and sold it to someone for four. It was a transparent and above-board transaction, without a hint of a exploitation.

Mr Bernieh also expressed his satisfaction at the fact that Business education at Greenwich was not entirely theoretical, but also had a hard-core practical side to it. ■



regards others and thirdly, serenity in God and through God. It could also be said serenity through piety in the most profound sense of term.

The virtue, claimed by Quran, of being the last Revelation and the synthesis of the Prophetic cycle reveals itself, not only in the external simplicity of a dogma which is inwardly open to every degree of profundity, but also in the capacity Islam has of integrating all man as it were into its center, of conferring on all the same unshakable and if need be combative faith and making them particular at least virtually through effectively in the half- Celestial, half-earthly nature of the Prophet. ■

CONDOLENCES

FULL MANY A FLOWER IS BORN TO BLUSH UNSEEN...



With feelings 'too deep for tears, the Vice-Chancellor, the Administration, the Faculty, and the students of Greenwich University, express their profound sense of grief at the sudden demise of Mr Muhammad Gohar Khan, a student of Greenwich University, in a road accident while returning to Karachi from Quetta on 21 April.

Ms. Seema Mughal, Vice-Chancellor accompanied by Sports Manager, Mr. Khalid Khan, and a few students visited Quetta to personally express condolence to Gohar Khan's Family.

May Allah rest the departed soul in peace, and grant the members of the bereaved family the strength to bear this irreparable loss! Amen.

We regret to announce the sad demise of the mother of Mr Riza Jewani, a student of our university, who passed away on 20 June 2004, after a brief illness. May Allah rest her soul in peace and grant courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss! Amen.

It is with profound sorrow we announce that Mrs Haseena Begum, the mother of Mr Ehtesham Ali, a senior member of our administrative staff, passed away after a prolonged illness, on 5 July 2004. A large number of students and staff attended the funeral. We pray to Almighty Allah to rest her soul in eternal peace, and grant the bereaved family the strength to bear this irreparable loss! Amen.

## GREENWICH NEWSMAKERS

## Dewan Abdullah: An Industrialist With a Vision

Elvan Rehman & Seema Khokhar

**D**EWAN ABDULLAH is quite different from the stereotyped image of a Pakistani *seth* masquarding as an emancipated industrialist – one whose sole purpose of existence is the expansion of his industrial empire!

**Qvision.** Could you tell us something about your days at Greenwich as a student?

**Dewan:** I joined Greenwich as a student in 1993. I could have joined any university or business school in



Dewan Abdullah sharing his dream of a progressive Pakistan.

After an exchange of pleasantries, we shot our first question at him.

**Qvision.** How would you counter the impression that you made it to the top position in your organization owing to the fact that you were born into an affluent family – with a silver spoon in your mouth, as it were. Could you throw some light on your personal contribution towards the growth of your industrial venture?

**Dewan:** It is indeed, true that I was born into an affluent family. But, from the very beginning, I had a streak of creativity in me, and I wanted to do things differently. So, when I had finished my formal education, everyone was shocked and dismayed when I declared that instead of join-



Abdullah – A Greenwichian talking to his fellow Greenwichians.

ing the family enterprise, I wished to establish an automobile plant.

And that too, at a time when the investment climate in Pakistan could not have been more forbidding. Foreign capital was shy after sanctions had been imposed on Pakistan in the wake of Pakistan's nuclear explosion. Yet, I decided to accept the challenge. One should not be daunted by the magnitude of a task. There was a market for only 40,000 cars in Pakistan in those days. Now, it has soared up to 1,10,000. I believe that if one is passionate about something, one should just go for it.

Pakistan, or, for that matter, in any part of the world. Yet, I chose to join Greenwich. I would like the students at Greenwich to learn from my example and not to suffer from any kind of complex vis-à-vis other universities and business schools. I am really proud of Greenwich.

Greenwich students get the best education – in fact they are brighter and more confident than others.

Being one of the top industrialists of the country does not prevent Dewan Abdullah from finding time to teach at Greenwich. He is truly passionate about his teaching, and when asked why he was so committed to it, he said it gave him a sense of fulfillment. "It gives me



Abdullah with his wife Farah Jabri – setting a trend for the Ummah

a real sense of satisfaction, and pleasure, that I have managed to pass on my knowledge, and enthusiasm to a bunch of young students.

Actually, it all depends on you. If you suffer from a low self-esteem, obviously others are going to treat you accordingly. One should try to develop 'I am the best' – attitude," Abdullah advised the Greenwich students.

Strangely enough, with so much work on his plate, Abdullah does not complain of the pressure of time.

He shared his secret with us. "it is all about being organized, and punctual. I have always acted on the maxim early to bed, and early to rise.

I usually get up around 6 O'clock in the morning, and leave for work by half-past seven at the latest. That gives me all the time to finish my work during regular office hours.

I do not allow work pressure to build. With the result that I get ample time to spend with my family, and for leisure. I also retire early, usually by 07:30 or 08:00. It is a habit I formed in my childhood. Even during the days of my exams, I would sleep by 07:30."

Punctuality is another virtue which Abdullah has, and much admires in others. Punctuality does not merely mean being on time. "In Japan, if one has an appointment at 9, one is actually supposed to get there at least ten minutes before 9.

He also cited the example of Heathrow airport, where a delay of even 3 to 4 minutes could lead to a delay of upto five hours in the departure of flights. He lamented the fact that Pakistanis "have not yet realized that 'time' is a precious resource – a resource which is available to each and every individual. And yet, we waste time in a most careless – nay callous manner".

Asked about his interests in music, Abdullah was full of praise for Iqbal Bano, Farida Khanum, and the inimitable voice, and style, of Madam Noor Jehan.

Abdullah is very much a family person. He enthusiastically supports the idea of marriages between Pakistanis and people from other Muslim countries. This is totally in consonance with the concept and spirit of Muslim Umma. He is himself happily married to Farah Jabri, a charming lady from Syria. "It was a totally arranged marriage," Abdullah clarified, as



Small is beautiful. Santro – fast capturing the public imagination.

if he had read our mind. He has a one and half year old daughter, called Michelle, who is exceedingly cute.

Asked about his interests in life, Abdullah mentioned reading, going places, and playing with models of aircrafts. He finds anything to do with aviation particularly thrilling. He also has ambitions and aspirations about doing something truly extraordinary in the field of aviation industry in Pakistan.

Abdullah's work style is dynamic, and innovative. He is ever ready to take risks, and experiment. He leads from the front, and has the knack of getting the best out of every individual.



Michelle – Looking to the future, an embodiment of Abdullah's aspirations.

He had the following to say in response to some of our short questions:

- 1) Favorite Book: An analytical review of life of Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) by Khalifa Muhammad Saeed.
- 2) Favorite Poet: Amir Khusrou
- 3) Best ever film: Pakeeza (Indian)
- 4) Role model in life: Sir Richard Branson (Chairman Virgin Group)
- 5) Verse which always haunts you:  
Hast Nahim talab nahin  
Raah nahin rahnuma nahin  
Ishq hai khud hi muddua  
Ishq mein muddua nahim
- 6) Philosophy of Life:  
Sharr e dilo nazar Zaheen, Sar re  
Zabaan e Ishq hain  
Lafz nahin, bayan sood nahin, sada  
nahin zia

Unlike most of his contemporary industrialists, who tend to be perpetually cynical about the future of Pakistan and its economy, Abdullah is a great believer in a glorious and prosperous future for Pakistan. As we left his office, we felt as if some of his enthusiasm and faith in Pakistan had rubbed off on us, too. ■

# ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2004

**I**N 2002 Greenwich University established an alumni excellence award to acknowledge the achievements of its graduates.

Once again the University proposes to present this prestigious award to one of its distinguished alumni. To search for the person most deserving of the award, applications/ nominations are invited for consideration by the selection committee set up by the Vice-Chancellor for this purpose.



Mr Imran Qureshi, recipient of last year's award.



Mother of Mr Imran Qureshi receiving the award on her son's behalf.



The nominees of the award 2002..

It is proposed that not only will the person chosen be awarded a trophy at the upcoming convocation, but the recipient and his family members will also be

invited to a special dinner. The person who nominates the winner will also be invited to both these events.

Application/nomination forms may be obtained from the University Communication Center or downloaded from:  
[www.greenwichuniversity.edu.pk](http://www.greenwichuniversity.edu.pk).

Please help in the search for our alumnus of the year 2004. ■



## ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION FORM

**Nominee** \_\_\_\_\_

**Roll No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year of Graduation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Field/Profession** \_\_\_\_\_ **Current Designation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Achievements:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominated by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Roll No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

## DEAN'S LIST

### KARACHI

| Undergraduate — Winter 2003-2004   | G.P.A. |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. BS11 857 Ayesha Leghari         | 3.80   |
| 2. BS 8 616 Arifa Anwer Ali Bhagat | 3.60   |
| 3. BS10 753 Omar Mukhtar           | 3.60   |
| 4. BS11 836 Seema Khan Khokhar     | 3.60   |
| 5. BS12 894 Mohsin Abdul Sattar    | 3.60   |
| 6. BS151088 Imran Nasir            | 3.60   |
| 7. BS11 858 Imran Khan             | 3.50   |
| 8. BS 8 654 Ume Laila              | 3.40   |
| 9. BS11 799 Armoghhan Absar Rizvi  | 3.40   |
| 10. BS141008 Rabia Waqar Ali       | 3.40   |

### Graduate — Winter 2003-2004

| G.P.A.                              |      |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1. MS10 779 Shazia Gul              | 4.00 |
| 2. MS13 666 Asad Wahid              | 3.67 |
| 3. MS11 818 Muhammad Azfar Siddiqui | 3.67 |

### ISLAMABAD

| Undergraduate — Winter 2003-2004    | G.P.A. |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. BSI 9 274 S.M. Uzair             | 4.00   |
| 2. BSI 9 273 S.M. Umair             | 3.80   |
| 3. BSI11 283 Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi | 3.80   |
| 4. BSI12 289 Waqas Ayub             | 3.60   |
| 5. BSI 5 149 Ahmed Hussain          | 3.50   |
| 6. BSI 2 012 Ahmad Masood Khan      | 3.40   |
| 7. BSI 8 240 Asad Ali               | 3.40   |

### Graduate — Winter 2003-2004

| G.P.A.                             |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 1. MEI11 282 Yaser Waheed          | 4.00 |
| 2. MEI 9 270 Muhammad Omer Rafique | 3.83 |
| 3. MEI11 280 Mehwish Shoukat       | 3.60 |

### PESHAWAR

| Undergraduate — Winter 2003-2004     | G.P.A. |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. BSP 1 726 Meraj Ud-Din            | 4.00   |
| 2. BSP 4 768 Muhammad Sohail         | 4.00   |
| 3. BSP 7 809 Munazza Zeb             | 3.80   |
| 4. BSP 1 720 S. Qamar Ali S. Bukhari | 3.60   |
| 5. BSP 1 733 Usman Ali               | 3.60   |
| 6. BSP 4 763 Kiran Sardar            | 3.60   |
| 7. BSP 7 810 Humaira Mushtaq         | 3.60   |
| 8. BSP 1 707 Muhammad Asif           | 3.50   |
| 9. BSP 7 811 Asad Ali                | 3.40   |

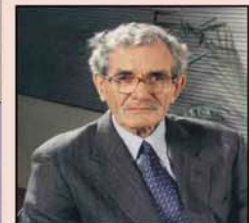
## Congratulations

We offer our heartiest felicitation to all the distinguished students who have made it to the Dean's List:

**WEL DONE!**

## I.E.L.T.S.

**M**ICHAEL GLEDHILL who is an IELTS certified examiner gave a presentation on IELTS to the students of Greenwich on 19 June 2004.



The presentation which was given on the multimedia was very comprehensive and covered various aspects of the testing system – test administration, test formats, timing, results, scores and interpretation of results. Mr. Gledhill explained that IELTS is rapidly becoming the world's No. 1 English language certification qualification. The IELTS examiners are regularly tested and standards are scrupulously maintained. A good IELTS score enhances an applicant's chances of getting admission in a university and securing employment. ■

*Grision* is a quarterly newsletter distributed free of charge.

Your valuable comments and suggestions are solicited



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Designed & Produced by:  
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♦ Views expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of the University or its officials.

## GREENWICH UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION 2004

**A** Convocation marks a climax in the life of a graduating student at any University. Greenwich is one of the few universities in Pakistan which has been holding its Convocations with regularity. Greenwich Convocations are not run-of-the-mill events. They are held in a grand and unique style. These convocations may not be the greatest

shows on earth, but they certainly constitute a high spot in the memory of the graduates and their parents.

The convocation 2004 is scheduled to be held towards the end of this year. All the graduating students, are advised to get in touch with the communication center for further details. ■

## INTERNSHIPS Never Mind Degrees: The Smart Move Is To Have Work Experience

**I**NTERNSHIPS are an integral part of the Greenwich University programme. Students must complete a period of eight weeks of internship: after completing 90 credit hours of Undergraduate and 35 credit hours of the Post Graduate level; to qualify for obtaining their degrees from the University. This requirement

ensures that a student has had an opportunity to understand the practical importance of the theoretical know how gained in a business school. The valuable experience thus gained helps students to channelize their experience into result orientated perspectives and plans. ■

NASEEM MUGHAL, Counsellor