

## 10<sup>th</sup> National Conference of Society of Nuclear Medicine, Bangladesh and International Symposium, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 10-11 February 2005: A Report

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The Society of Nuclear Medicine, Bangladesh organized its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference at Dhaka on 10-11 February 2005. The theme of this year's convention was "Interventional Nuclear Medicine". Besides the faculty from Bangladesh including consultants from various clinical specialties, four International experts, namely; Prof. A.K. Padhy (India), Prof. J. Konishi (Japan), Prof. Felix X. Sundram (Singapore) and Dr. A.K. Das (India) also participated in the two day meeting. Prof. M.A. Karim, Director, Bio Sciences Division, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, Government of Bangladesh was the host and President of the Congress. Institute of Nuclear Medicine, Dhaka was the hosting institute. Founded in the sixties by the Government of Bangladesh as the premier institute in nuclear medicine in Bangladesh, the institute is situated inside the campus of Dhaka Medical College. The institute will soon move into the new four-storey building within the same campus covering an area of 60,000 square feet. Institute of nuclear Medicine is a modern, well equipped nuclear medicine set up with a staff strength of over one hundred and equipped with several gamma cameras and SPECT systems, including the latest edition of Siemens double head SPECT system.

The pre-congress CME was held in the premises of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission on 10 February and was inaugurated by Dr. Khadiza Begum, Chairman of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission. Several lectures on the management of Thyroid Disorders using radionuclide techniques were delivered by a distinguished national and international faculty. The lectures were attended by a large audience with a packed auditorium, mostly nuclear medicine specialists, general physicians, surgeons and endocrinologists from Dhaka and other places of Bangladesh. There was good interaction and participants took active part in the discussions.

The actual Annual Convention of Society of Nuclear Medicine Bangladesh (SNMB) was held at the convention venue of Hotel Dhaka Sheraton, Dhaka on 11 February 2005. The convention was attended by more than 250 registered participants, including nuclear medicine physicians, clinicians, residents, and technologists, representative of the Atomic Energy Commission and pioneers of nuclear medicine in Bangladesh.

The convention started with an elaborate opening ceremony (Figures 1-7), which started with an Islamic Invocation by an Islamic Scholar. After the invocation,



**Figure 1.** Inaugural ceremony. Distinguished guests on the podium (from left to right): Dr. C.S. Karim, Member Physical Science, BAEC), Dr. K. Ahmed (Former Member, BAEC), Abdul M. Khan (Minister, Science & ICT, Government of Bangladesh) and Prof. M.A. Karim



**Figure 2.** Delegates inside the auditorium at the inaugural ceremony of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of SNM, Bangladesh.

welcome remarks were made by the president of the Bangladesh Society of Nuclear Medicine, Dr. M.A. Karim. Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan, the Hon. Minister of Science and ICT, Govt. of Bangladesh was the Chief Guest, who formally declared the convention open. The Hon'ble Minister also handed over the Young Scientist Award to Dr. Ashok Kumar Paul, Senior Medical Officer at the Centre for Nuclear Medicine and Medical Ultrasound of Khulna (Figure-4)



**Figure 3** Delegates inside the auditorium at the inaugural ceremony of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of SNM, Bangladesh. Another section of the auditorium.



**Figure 5** Dr. Felix Sundram (Singapore) receiving a souvenir from the Hon. Minister Abdul M. Khan at the inaugural ceremony.



**Figure 4** Dr. A.K. Paul receiving the Young Scientist Award from the Hon. Minister Abdul M. Khan at the inaugural ceremony.



**Figure 6** Prof. J. Konishi (Japan) with his plaque soon after delivering his lecture at the pre-conference CME on Interventional nuclear medicine.

A total of 10 invited lectures, 34 oral papers and 24 posters were presented during the day long conference, which culminated in a highly entertaining cultural programme in the evening. Prof. Karim invited six of the top professional singers and TV and Cinema artistes to perform during the evening.

It was truly a memorable conference. Prof. M.A. Karim (The President, Society of Nuclear Medicine, Bangladesh who is the real architect of the society), Prof. M.F. Kabir (The Vice President of SNMB and Director of Institute of Nuclear Medicine), Dr. Faridul Alam (General Secretary of SNMB) and all the Members of SNMB deserve all the praise for their wonderful contributions in creating a vibrant nuclear medicine society in Bangladesh.



**Figure 7** Prof. A.K. Padhy, Executive Editor, World Journal of Nuclear Medicine addressing the delegates at the inaugural ceremony.

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**Figure 8** Singing in one voice “Amar Sonar Bangla” (In praise of Bangladesh). The annual convention culminated in a highly entertaining cultural programme in the evening. Prof. Karim invited six of the top professional singers, TV and Cinema artistes of the country to perform during the evening.



**Figure 9** Prof. J. Konishi (Japan) in a different role, singing with Mrs. Konishi during the cultural evening.