Editorial article:

Dr. Aly was a father, mentor and friend, an inspiration to the fraternity of physicians and allied health professionals in Islamic Medical Associations (IMA) in 50 countries. His stewardship of the Federation of Islamic Medical Associations (FIMA) since her early beginnings in the 1980s has been outstanding and unrivaled. Is it any wonder that he was decorated with the FIMA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010 in Beirut, Lebanon.

He helmed FIMA for 2 terms from 2001-2005. I had the unenviable task of filling his giant shoes from 2005-2009 but this arduous job was relieved by Dr. Aly always being by our side as FIMA’s Executive Director from 2005 until his demise. He has unfailingly attended virtually all of FIMA’s Council and EXCO Meetings except for the post-Istanbul, March 2018 EXCO in Madinah. And Sheikh Aly was a favorite guest at all our IMA national conferences. Our latest rendezvous was at the PIMA National Conference in Allama Iqbal Memorial Hall in Lahore in April 2018. The previous year in 2017 we were PIMA’s guests at their Conference in Peshawar. So our Pakistani brothers in PIMA loved him ever so much, just like all our other IMAs did. They never got tired of inviting Sheikh Aly to their Annual Conferences. And Sheikh Aly despite his deteriorating health never refused their invitations.

He was the pioneer and brainchild behind most of FIMA’s medical and humanitarian relief programs. His visit to Darfur, Sudan in 2004, unleashed the now infamous FIMA Save Vision, which has seen in excess of 1.5 million outpatients in 600 eye camps in 20 different countries, operating 150,000 cataract surgeries, involving more than 2,000 ophthalmologists. For this charitable achievement, FIMA was awarded The Linda Rosenthal Foundation Award 2009 by the American College of Physicians.

He previously served as the Chief of Medical Staff (1986-2009) of The Islamic Hospital (IH), Amman, Jordan and until his passing was the Chairman of its Institutional Review Board (1987-2018). The IH was the flagship model of a Shari’ah Driven Hospital

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which inspired the establishment of the FIMA Islamic Hospital Consortium (IHC) at the 18th FIMA Council in Sarajevo, Bosnia in June 2001. His lifelong passion of mainstreaming the Islamic perspectives of medical ethics was manifested in his editorial leadership of the FIMA Year Book (2002-2018). And more recently FIMA’s International Journal of Human & Health Sciences, which contributed a lot in enriching our knowledge on medical humanities. He did his residency training in the University of Illinois, Chicago (1971-1974) and is Board Certified in Internal Medicine (1976) and Endocrinology & Metabolism (1983).

Whenever we were at his home in Amman, he would show us the keys to his ancestral home in Al-Quds (Jerusalem). Among his many projects for Palestine, the latest was the provision of safe and clean water through well drilling and the installation of a desalination plant in Gaza. Many doctors in Gaza owe their training in various medical and surgical specialties to the initiatives of Dr Aly in the Islamic Hospital in Amman. Upon learning of the massacre of the Rohingyas in August 2017, he raised funds from Muslim physicians in Al-Quds, who despite being persecuted under Zionist occupation, contributed towards the mobile clinics in the refugee camps in Cox’s Bazaar.

His dedication and commitment to Islamic works and the betterment of humanity was unparalleled. He has left a large void in our hearts and we already miss him ever so much. The only way we can heal our souls and cherish his memories in our broken hearts is to continue his unfinished work and uphold his medical and humanitarian legacy.

O Allah! Our father Al-Marhum Sheikh Dr Aly Mishal has led a truly blessed life in Your service and in the service of Your Deen.

O Allah! Accept all our father’s deeds as Amal Soleh and bless him bountifully.

O Allah! Bless our father with Your Highest Gardens of Paradise in Jannatul Firdaus.

O Allah! Bless his family, friends and the Palestinian community with patience and forbearance, upon this great loss of their Palestinian son.

[To the righteous it will be said], “O reassured soul, Return to your Lord, well-pleased and pleasing [to Him], And enter among My [righteous] servants And enter My Paradise.” (Al-Fajr 27-30)

Your son and mentee,
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