IBA ALUMNI

Pushing boundaries, Redefining success

e-Magazine

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Since 1955

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Message from Alumni Department

Dear IBA Alumni

Heartiest congratulations to you on IBA's 60 anniversary! Your continued support and thirst for success has turned IBA into an institution par excellence. No other educational institution in Pakistan can boast such achievements of its graduates like IBA who have made a name for themselves around the globe. Due credit must also be given to the successive management of IBA who succeeded in maintaining the standards and producing quality products both for local and global markets.

In connection with your feedback provided through the first-ever Alumni survey, we at the Alumni Department are doing our level best to keep you connected to your alma mater in various exciting ways. While we strive to make a dynamic cyberspace commensurate with international standards, we seek to engage you in social initiatives with sizeable discounts on plays and movie shows. Another worthwhile initiative has been the Lifetime Alumni card which has not only eased the access of Alumni to both the campuses but also offer benefits and discounts on numerous renowned brands.

To augment the nostalgia and intensify the excitement for the IBA community on its 60th year, management at IBA has decided to celebrate this momentous occasion with 4 mega events taking place throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you on all the events to reconnect, reminisce and celebrate 60 years of IBA magic.

Keeping in view the festivity on IBA's 60 years, you would be witnessing some refreshing changes on the Alumni website and our functioning this year. This will be a token of our appreciation to you for being part of such a wonderful community.

This issue will be part of a series of issues this year dedicated to Alumni fraternity on the joyous occasion of IBA's 60 years of making. Hope you will find it a worthwhile read.

Cheers!

Haris Tohid Siddiqui
Manager Alumni Affairs & Resource Mobilization
IBA Karachi

IBA KARACHI
60 YEARS
Celebration
grooming leaders since 1955

IBA Institute of Business Administration Karachi

Leadership and Ideas for Tomorrow

IBA KARACHI 60 YEARS Celebration grooming leaders since 1955

Celebrating IBA's 60th Anniversary

Message from the Dean & Director

Dear IBA Alumnus

It gives me great pleasure to announce that IBA is celebrating its 60th year. The continued success of IBA is a matter of pride for all of us. In 60 years the institution has now produced more than eleven thousand graduates and shaped the business and economy in Pakistan.

IBA was conceptualized by a group of visionaries and established with the support of University of Pennsylvania's Wharton of School of Business in 1955. In its infancy it was housed in small building in the heart of Karachi and was a bold, new experiment in Pakistan's educational landscape. Today we boast two state-of-the-art campuses, multifaceted international affiliations, the finest faculty from around the world and a number of programs that respond to the needs of a diverse student body and prepares them for the professional world, both local and international. This journey of excellence could not have continued without the continuous hard work of the faculty and administrators who took the institution forward and maintained standards of excellence that define IBA.

To celebrate this momentous year IBA will be hosting a number of events that showcase the achievements of our alumni, engage the larger community and highlight the long and distinguished history of the institution. We have created a rich program that spans the entire year I invite you all to join us in these events and support the institution that has shaped your lives. I look forward to welcoming you to these events and taking the institution forward to even greater glory.

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Ishrat Husain
Dean & Director
Institute of Business Administration
Karachi

Celebration Events

A Night to Remember: Featuring Rahat Fateh Ali
Saturday, March 21, 2015 | Football Ground, Main Campus

Enjoy your homecoming Dinner with a musical performance by maestro Rahat Fateh and hang out with your IBA friends.

Student Week
Friday-Sunday, May 1-3, 2015 | Main Campus

Get to know IBA like never before. Just Fun and Games with your IBA friends, students, faculty and staff. Events include Sports, Plays, Instagram Exhibit, Movie Night, Carnival & Concert.

Hidden Treasures of Sadequain
Tuesday, June 30, 2015 | 1st Floor, Aman Tower, City Campus

Indulge your senses as we bring to you an exhibition of rare and unseen works of iconic artist Sadequain.

Launch Ceremony of 'Chronicles of the IBA: A History'
Saturday, December 19, 2015 | G&T Auditorium, Main Campus

Be the first to get a copy of the first ever book on the official history of IBA at the launch ceremony.

Feature Story 2014 in Review

Click photos to view details.

Alumni Activities

IBA Hall of Fame

IBA not only holds the distinction of being the oldest business school outside North America but also takes pride in producing some of the biggest names in the history of Pakistan. From holding the most exalted position in the country to serving as heads of myriad of public and private sector organizations, IBA Alumni have literally changed lives of millions of Pakistani in very strata of society through their policies and decisions. In honor of their services rendered to society as a whole, IBA has put up a Hall of Fame for its celebrated Alumni in Alumni Students' Centre, Main Campus.

For the first time in the history of IBA, its shining stars and source of inspiration and pride, the IBA Alumni have been bestowed upon this honor by its Alma-mater. Moreover, no business school or otherwise has a Wall of Fame which in itself provides a niche to IBA and its venerated graduates.

Dean and Director IBA, Dr. Ishrat Husain and Program Director, Alumni Affairs, Mr. Zafar A. Siddiqui in consultation with Alumni Representative on the IBA Board of Governors, Mr. Shahid Shafiq prepared a list of names for this honor and following criteria was kept in mind:

Reputation - The degree to which the nominee is known nationally and/or internationally.

Professional Achievements - The degree to which the nominee has benefited society.

Service and Career Contributions - The degree to which the nominee has made an impact on the world with contributions beyond his/her professional achievements.

Uniqueness - The degree to which the nominee is a distinguishable and unique role model.

The names of these venerated Alumni can be found on the Alumni website:
https://alumni.iba.edu.pk/booklet.html

This list however does not end here and with your help we can add many more such high achievers to this Hall of fame. Send us your choice at alumni@iba.edu.pk and don't forget to mention their full name, year of graduation (if possible), current and previous designation and respective organizations.

A Job Well Done!!

After more than 4 years of continued guidance and cooperation in resource mobilization efforts, IBA Advisory Council held its last meeting on Monday, December 08, 2014 at the Sind Club under the Chairmanship of Mr. Tariq Kirmani, former MD PIA and PSO. The Council comprises of distinguished and accomplished professionals from all over Pakistan and abroad, who, through their vast professional and personal network, helped muster funds for IBA's five year strategy.

Mr. Kirmani appreciated the efforts of the members in not only identifying and establishing contacts with the prospective donors but also in helping organize fund raisers. Although the Council will cease to function, members will continue to pursue the target of bridging the shortfall to meet the financial requirements.

The Council first met for a networking session in Sind Club in May 2010 followed by another session in Dubai in December 2010. In February 2013, Advisory Council organized a "Thank you Donors' Dinner" at Frere Hall, Karachi, honoring the generous contribution of major donors. Over the past 4 years, Advisory Council held more than 70 meetings and helped garner funds for IBA in various funds. In 2009, this committee was known as Friends of IBA Committee which was later renamed to IBA Advisory Council.

We received overwhelming response from our alumni who wanted to volunteer for this event. Surprisingly, within half an hour of circulating the invitation, our required quota for alumni was met and registration was closed. Venue of the dinner was lounge of the newly built Visiting Faculty Residences (VFR) at IBA Main Campus which also helped our alumni to personally witness the infrastructure development at IBA.

On behalf of IBA, we extend our heartiest gratitude to Advisory Council members for their relentless efforts and hope they will continue to guide IBA towards its vision.

MBA Admissions' Interview Panel Spring Intake

This November, IBA Karachi conducted interviews for MBA intake for Spring Semester 2015. As has been the tradition at IBA, alumni were invited to be a part of judge's panel and actively engage in helping IBA find the right candidate. On November 19, 2014, faculty and alumni sat together in Interview Panels to assess candidates' suitability in one-on-one interviews.

Alumni are tremendous help in understanding the young applicants' drive and determination. They understand the importance of this process as future prestige of the institution is based on their decisions. They select candidates who would eventually be brand ambassadors of IBA.

In this admission round, about 80 MBA candidates cleared the aptitude test and were called for the group discussion and interview session. As perthe requirement by IBA Testing Department, Alumni with 10 years and more work experience were invited and like every time, the alumni department received overwhelming response. Most of the alumni who volunteered for this activity alumni were graduated in 1990s and were functional heads at their respective organizations. This fact not only reflects the commitment from our alumni but also the high quality of evaluation they must have provided in the selection process.

Fact Sheet

Date: November 19, 2014
Venue: Aman CED Building, IBA Main Campus
No. of Interviewees: Around 80 students
Programme: MBA
No. of Alumni: 10
Alumni Work Experience: 10 years +
Panel Structure: Faculty + Alumni

IBA Alumni Department is grateful to all the interview panelists who took out time from their busy schedules and aided IBA in choosing the best talent in the country.

Eid with Exclusive Movie Screening of 'Bang Bang'

As part of alumni engagement activity, a recent Bollywood block buster movie "Bang Bang" was screened exclusively for the IBA alumni, faculty and students at Nueplex Cinema, Karachi on third day of Eid-ul-Adha, Wednesday, October 8, 2014 on a subsidized rate.

The feedback received from the alumni has been thoroughly encouraging regarding these events. Due to such an overwhelming response received from the alumni, special screenings of popular movies and plays have now become a regular social engagement activity to bring the alumni together.

Even though tickets for this event were sold out within a few hours, we continued to receive requests for the movie tickets up until the next day. Alumni and their friends and families thoroughly enjoyed the movie and commended the efforts put in to involve the alumni through social activities.

Testimonials:

I am glad that faculty and students are also included along with alumni.
Many thanks for taking out so much of your valuable time to enable us to meet our old friends while watching good movies.
- Afroz Ali Merchant, MBA Class of 1986

It's always great to see an increasing number of alumni events being arranged under the aegis of IBA and its alumni network, both officially and unofficially.
- Syed Shariq Munir, MBA Class of 2013

Exclusive Movie Screening of 'Happy New Year'

As part of alumni engagement activity, a recent Bollywood block buster movie "Happy New Year" was screened exclusively for the IBA alumni, faculty and students at Nueplex Cinema, Karachi on Friday, October 24, 2014 on a subsidized rate.

The feedback received from the alumni has been thoroughly encouraging regarding these events. Due to such an overwhelming response received from the alumni, special screenings of popular movies and plays have now become a regular social engagement activity to bring the alumni together.

Even though tickets for this event were sold out within a few hours, we continued to receive requests for the movie tickets up until next couple of days. Alumni and their friends and families thoroughly enjoyed the movie and commended the efforts put in to involve the alumni through social activities.

IELTS Information Session

IBA Alumni Society, in collaboration with British Council Pakistan, arranged an 'IELTS Information Session' on Wednesday, December 03, 2014. Considering the importance of IELTS for students willing to study or immigrate abroad in future, the session was planned and executed by IBA Alumni Society, under patronage of Mr. Mirza Sardar and Manager Danish Khan.

The session was led by Mr. Kashif Amin, Marketing Manager- Exams British Council while IBA Alumnus Mr. Tauseef Ur Rehman, Business Development Manager British Council, and Mr. Maarij Raheel, Business Development Consultant British Council, were also present. Mr. Kashif talked about various prevalent myths and misconceptions about IELTS. After introduction and Q&A session, one of the outstanding achiever of IELTS and guest speaker- Zarlasht Altaf took forward the discussion with attendees.

Zarlasht Aftab, after introducing herself, shared her experience of taking IELTS. She emphasized that there is no need to join any institution to prepare for IELTS as she prepared herself and managed to become an outstanding achiever. She also shared some useful tips and tricks with audience about how to improve their English Skills and to score better in each section of IELTS i.e. Reading, Listening, Writing, and Speaking.

The session ended with the official launch of Brand Ambassador of IELTS British Council at IBA -Owais Aslam Parvaiz who was given IELTS Brand Ambassador Card. Mr. Kashif declared him as the focal point of any concerns or query related to IELTS in IBA. In the end, IELTS coupons, collateral, and IELTS T-shirts were distributed in the audience.

Exclusive Movie Screening of 'PK'

Aamir Khan's latest release, "PK" was screened exclusively for the IBA alumni, faculty and students at Nueplex Cinema, Karachi on Sunday, December 28, 2014 on a subsidized rate. This event was organized as part of alumni engagement activity.

As always, we received highly encouraging response from IBA alumni, faculty and students. Special screenings of popular movies have now become a regular social engagement activity to bond the IBA family.

Tickets for this event were sold out within a few hours. Alumni and their friends and families thoroughly enjoyed the movie and appreciated the efforts put in to involve the alumni through highly entertaining events.

Testimonials:

This is a very good effort to engage with the Alumni.
-Bilal Yousuf, Alumnus 2010

I'd like to appreciate such efforts from the Alumni Department in order to form stronger bonds across family and friends.
-Ahmed Azam Khan, Alumnus 2013

I congratulate you on arranging the movie show. It was a good effort, and I applaud the intent of bringing the alumni closer to each other through social events..
-Nooruddin Hyderabadwalla, Alumnus 2007

NBEAC Accreditation – Peer Review Team Session

Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi has initiated a process of acquiring National Business Education Accreditation Council (NBEAC) accreditation for its BBA and MBA programs. This is a national level accreditation of our programs. You will recall that IBA has received a regional level SAQS accreditation in 2011. These accreditations assist in making IBA and its programs recognized and accepted all around. And it paves our way towards a prosperous future.

We feel honoured to share the fact that we have successfully overcome initial stages of the NBEAC accreditation process. As the final step, a team of peer reviewers visited IBA to meet our institutional stakeholders including staff, faculty and alumni on Friday, December 19, 2014.

Peer Review Process is a systematic evaluation and assessment by Accreditation Inspection Committee (AIC). Peer Review process is a 3 day (max) on site visit during which AIC adopts various assessment methodologies i.e. meetings, site visits, interviews etc. to verify the information provided by Business School in Self-Assessment Proformae. Once the evaluation is completed, the AIC forwards its findings and recommendations to Secretariat.

We received overwhelming response from our alumni who wanted to volunteer for this event. Surprisingly, within half an hour of circulating the invitation, our required quota for alumni was met and registration was closed. Venue of the dinner was lounge of the newly built Visiting Faculty Residences (VFR) at IBA Main Campus which also helped our alumni to personally witness the infrastructure development at IBA.

Peer Review Team got feedback from alumni and other corporate representatives about their views of IBA and its progress through candid one-on-one conversations.

We are expecting to receive detailed report along with the accreditation decision in January 2015.

Testimonials:

Thanks for arranging the event. I was honored to be part of this activity.
Also, I loved the informal nature of the event where Dr. Ishrat shed some light on pursuing the US accreditation.
- Nooruddin Hyderabadwalla, Alumnus 2007

It was wonderful experience attending subject event on last Friday evening.
- Muhammad Mustafa Saleem, Alumnus 2012

chapter updates

IBA Alumni (UAE Chapter) Annual Dinner 2014

The IBA Alumni, UAE Chapter, held their Annual Dinner on 12th December 2014 at JW Marriot Marquis Dubai.

The event was attended by over 130 Alumni and numerous dignitaries. The event was graced by H.E. Asif Durrani, Pakistani Ambassador for UAE, H.E. Javed Jalil Khattak, Consulate-General of Pakistan and the IBA Dean and Director Dr. Ishrat Hussain.

The event provided a great opportunity for the Alumni to network with each other and to catch up with old classmates.

The proceedings of the event began with a welcome address by Uzzam Malik, Vice President of the IBA Alumni UAE Chapter, who provided details on the formation of a formal Alumni body and the purpose of its creation. He explained that it was an opportunity for more alumni to come forward to organize various events and support the alumni body.

It was followed by a keynote speech by Mr. Tabish Gauhar, Chairman KE, Partner and Country Head of The Abraaj Group for Pakistan, who spoke about the turn around and success story of K-Electric.

Dr. Ishrat Hussain spoke to the Alumni regarding the numerous projects being undertaken at IBA and the progress that has been made over the years.

Syed Arfeen Alam, President of the IBA Alumni UAE Chapter concluded the proceedings with a thank you note, with special acknowledgements being given to Mr. Waqar Siddiqui and Mr. Irfan Mustafa, both senior IBA Alumni who have been pivotal with their support for the Alumni body.

Following a sumptuous dinner, a lucky draw was conducted to give away 2 Samsung Galaxy Note 4 handsets, 1 LG LCD TV and 2 copies of Hottie's Handbook (How to lose 10kgs in 10 weeks) to the alumni attending the event. The event ended on a melodious note with Ghazal singing by Salman Alvi.

For further information on the alumni activities in UAE, write to UAEibaAlumni@gmail.com or contact the alumni body members:

Arfeen Alam, President: ArfeenAlam@hotmail.com
Tabassum Valley, General Secretary: tamasum@yahoo.com
Rehan Ali, Treasurer: Rehanali1979@yahoo.com
Uzzam Malik, Vice President: Uzzam@hotmail.com

IACC PANEL DISCUSSION ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN CANADA

The IBA Alumni Canada Chapter (IACC) recently organized a panel discussion on "Entrepreneurship in Canada" on November 18, 2014. The discussion included the following as key speakers:

Jim Ragas, President Second Cup International - a Canadian specialty coffee retailer operating more than 345 franchised stores in Canada.

Asif Dadabhoy, President Healthy Planet - fast growing chain of retail and online stores selling high quality vitamins, supplements and remedies for different lifestyle needs.

Aneela Zaib, VP emergiTEL - A leading recruitment company that partners with its clients to deliver the best and most cost efficient resources for full-time, part-time and contract employment requirements.

Rameez Ansari, Partner Highland Creek Partners - a unique investment firm focused on acquiring and growing a single small to medium sized company through active management and a world-class Board of Directors.

Kamran J. Niazi, Senior Manager Human Capital at Deloitte Consulting - with over 150 years of experience, Deloitte is one of the leading professional services firms in Canada.

The highly experienced and successful panelists from a wide array of businesses spoke mainly about the opportunities and challenges that exist for a new entrepreneur in the existing market conditions in Canada. Some of the key features of the discussion were importance of doing thorough research and having a business / financial plan before starting up a new business, how to introduce and market your business as new entrant into the market, how to fuel both vertical and horizontal growth, how to sustain sales and profits after reaching the maturity stage of the business life cycle, and then knowing when and how to exit from a business by either selling it or handing it over to another family member/partner.

The panelists also discussed the challenges of finding a niche of customers and retaining them, the challenge of disciplining oneself in giving the required time to the business, how to interact and learning to both agree and disagree with partners and other stake-holders, developing a good team of employees, learning to find different and alternate opportunities, and having enough work-life balance to enjoy time with the family and to enjoy the profits earned from the business.

The panelists spoke from their own real life experiences, and openly shared the knowledge with the attendants on all aspects of running a business which included entrepreneurial, financial, personal and human.

At the end of the session, the attendants gained a deeper understanding of setting up and managing a successful business in Canada. The panelists were all very good and all came from different kinds of businesses and backgrounds. They readily shared their experience and knowledge, and were very eloquent about it. The information and knowledge transfer was excellent.

Kamran Niazi, as the moderator did a great job in leading the discussion. He came well prepared with a set of questions, and provided enough time to all participants to answer them. The sequencing of the questions was also well arranged, and he provided enough time to participants in the end for questions and comments. His handling of the discussion was laced with intelligent humor.

The networking that took place before and after was also great, as it brought together many new and different kinds of current and aspiring entrepreneurs who shared their contacts and ideas. It was equally good for new-comers to Canada, who got important leads into the job market, and tips on resume writing and job search. The panel discussion, which was organized by IACC, also included members from other professions besides IBA Alumni members. The attendees also enjoyed the pizza dinner and coffee arranged by IACC for them.

The event ended with a speech by Anwar Ahmed, President IACC, who thanked the panelists and the moderator for leading the discussion on an important subject in Canada, and handed out gifts to them on behalf of IACC as a goodwill gesture. Anwar also thanked the out-going director Ghalib Salam for his services rendered towards IACC, especially for the lead taken by him in arranging the panel discussion.

Overall, the event portrayed a very professional and positive image of IACC, and those who attended, benefited greatly from it. It also achieved its objectives of gaining/sharing knowledge, building up the network, and promoting IACC in a positive manner. It is another feather in the cap of IBA Alumni Canada Chapter.

Alumni Impressions

Thank You IBA

by Dr. Asim Jamal, IBA Alumnus, 1998

Dr. Asim Jamal, Alumnus 1998, became General Manager and Managing Director of Sanofi Bangladesh Ltd in 2012. Dr. Jamal has worked for some of top global companies, such as Novartis, Eli Lilly, & currently Sanofi-aventis during his 19 years' of experience in the industry.

"When I decided pursuing a career in business after graduating from Dow Medical College, I was told by my elder brother to acquire MBA and only from IBA if I wanted some practical worth out of this qualification. It was a great advice as I ended up getting into IBA evening program in 1995 and eventually obtaining my MBA degree in 1998. It was tough with job, especially with subjects I never touched for almost a decade… math and stats were especially dreadful. However, I have some good memories of that period with my elder daughter turning one and a half, continuously interrupting during group studies at home. Those were the golden days!

During the process, what IBA taught me though, was the ability of facing challenges in life, performing at peak with an objective in mind and delivering consistently – my definition of success. IBA assessment system was robust enough to provide me with that rigorous training to be there. It was that particular training for over 3 years that added a lot of value to my way of approaching life.

Since 1995, I have been successfully climbing corporate ladder taking up assignments of increasing importance in Pakistan as well as abroad. My first international assignment with Eli Lilly was that of Regional Marketing Manager Asia in 2001, based out of Hong Kong for two years. Later I returned back to Pakistan as the Marketing Director for the company. In 2003 I joined Sanofi Group (then Aventis) as the Business Unit Head. Between 2008 and 2010, I was posted in Ho Chi Minh City as the Director Marketing for Sanofi Vietnam, the largest pharmaceutical company in the country. After a two years' home stint of Director Business Development and Excellence, in September 2012 I was promoted and expatriated as the CEO of Sanofi Bangladesh. Based in Dhaka, Alhamdulillah, I have been successfully able to discharge my duties on this important assignment for the last two years in the largest MNC in the country amongst Pharmaceuticals, employing over 1,000 people.

On each of my international postings, my family has been with me right from day one. As a result, my children are able to obtain quality international education and a truly multi-cultural perspective of life.

That three and a half years' training at IBA allowed me to challenge myself again on the academic front. While my elder daughter will be completing her 12th and final grade of IB (International Baccalaureate) Diploma from International School Dhaka next year, I have been just able to complete my Global MBA with Merit this year after 3.5 years of consistent efforts from the University of Manchester. It was tough, but I had been trained for taking up tough challenges and difficult assignments in life back in mid 90's… Thank You IBA!"

Top to Bottom:
Random Images of IBA from the 90's

Why China is One of the Best Expat Destinations

by Fariha Samad , IBA Alumna, 2012

Fariha Samad, IBA Alumna, 2012 has lived for two years in Shangai, China . She can be reached at contactfariha@gmail.com

Life abroad is one of the most challenging, exciting, exasperating, rewarding, and incredible experiences you can have. Add a country like China to this equation and you can easily add "most unforgettable" to the above list of experiences. A few decades ago, only businessmen travelled to the Middle Kingdom in hopes of bringing back cheaper goods, spices and fabric. China had one of the world's largest and most advanced economies prior to the nineteenth century. The economy stagnated during most of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

As China opened its gates more widely to the international community in the late 1970's, the economy lifted again. Today, China is third on HSBC's ranking of best expat destinations.

Like a pearl in an oyster, China is a place which reveals little to the outside world, but well rewards the daring ones who choose the path less travelled. Now known as the world's factory, it is common knowledge that there's more to China than Kungfu, noodles and pandas. According to a survey of 9,300 expats in 100 countries by HSBC, China is the third most desirable expat destination, just behind Singapore in second place and Switzerland in the first.

With most of the MNCs having a presence in the "Big Three" (the three cities with the largest expat communities, i.e. Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, which are mega-cities with tens of millions of inhabitants) there's no dearth of employment opportunities for experienced professionals. Fresh graduates with knowledge of mandarin will also have an edge over their local counterparts.

According to the ranking by HSBC, expats in China reported better quality of life and higher salaries than back home. With the low cost of living and on average, a six-figure expat salary package for international executives, expats have more disposable income and hence an increased overall life satisfaction. On top of that, a huge support network of expats themselves helps ease the emotional transition for newcomers. Shanghai alone boasts of at least 150,000 expats.

For the ones yearning for a change or adventure, settling in Asia is now a desirable option. Alternatively, wealthy Chinese nationals are looking to move to the West in search of a better environment and quality of life for their children. 47% of Chinese nationals plan to move abroad in the next five years hence creating a demand supply gap which can benefit international executives. Some of the fast growing sectors include financial services, retail and e-commerce, software development, development of alternative sources of energy, pollution control and many more.

Apart from white collar jobs, China has a huge demand for English language teachers with some ESL training. There are ample opportunities for native English speakers willing to commit a few years to life to this kind of adventure. Chinese universities are also attracting international students via government scholarships, grants for PhDs and several attractive options for those willing to study in China.

Culturally, China presents an interesting mix of eastern values and western ways. While some of the Chinese ways may take getting used to, the contemporary Chinese culture is fairly welcoming of foreign cultures. In big cities differences are celebrated as people are more tolerant of foreigners blending in to the Chinese ways. For example in Shanghai and Beijing, almost all types of cuisines from around the world can be found easily. The language barriers have also been minimized greatly, making day to day living fairly easier for those completely unaware of the local language.

The major cities boast of a remarkable transportation system. Be it the taxis, the local buses or the subways, Shanghai's transportation system is at par with Western standards in terms of efficiency and cleanliness, and even better in terms of affordability.

China's impressive e-commerce growth is envy of the world as well. Recently thrust into the news due to one of the biggest IPO's in NASDAQ, Alibaba group's consumer e-commerce platforms like Taobao.com and Tmall.com are the leading e-commerce websites. In China you can get anything from food to consumer products to home appliances delivered to your doorstep in a day. Shopping online is a norm and it is often much more economical than shopping at the malls.

Personally I believe China is becoming more and more receptive of anything and anyone that can help them become more international. This is a positive sign for those looking to expand their exposure. Whether you are a student, a recent graduate or a seasoned professional looking for international experience, I would suggest giving China a chance. While the culture shock may be intimidating at first, you will find yourself navigating your way around like a pro, in no time!

Stand Up for Your Health

by Faisal Ghani, IBA Alumnus, 2003

Faisal Ghani, Alumnus 2003, completed is MBA with an emphasis on Marketing from IBA Morning program in May 2003. He was employed at Packages Limited for a while after which he switched to J & P Coats Pakistan in 2005 and is currently the Marketing Services Manager.

Like most of the people in the corporate world, I too was guilty of spending hours in my chair. From the start of the day I used to sit down and boot up my computer, sitting hours on end glued to the screen churning out Excel or replying to e-mails.

Our offices and work places are designed so all our work is done sitting down. We sit down, work our computers, sign documents, hold meetings, and attend seminars and trainings.

However, the bulk of research points to the fact that sitting down is bad for you. The simple act of sitting down triggers our metabolism in ways which we are not aware of. The change in metabolism results in enzymes and hormonal releases that eventually lead to diseases such as diabetes and heart conditions. For some sitting down also causes physical problems like pressure on spine results in back problems or pinching of nerves results in pain sensations.

So I started to do a bit of research on it myself and came on to the concept of a standing desk. I came to know that people such as Winston Churchill and Ernest Hemingway used to have standing desks. In recent examples, Michael Dell of Dell Computer company fame also has a standing desk in his office. I discussed this concept with a few of my friends who were working in Europe and US and to them this was normal. Many of their offices already had standing desks and in one case the office had abolished chairs altogether.

So I thought why not give this a try? The first thing of course was to see what solutions I could implement that would give me flexibility to stand up in my office so if the idea did not pan out I could revert back to sitting down. After a brief search I came to find a portable laptop table which when I placed on my existing table extended the height enough so I could work while standing. After thinking about it for a while I pulled the trigger on my purchase.

Now I have been working on my stand up desk since April this year. And the benefits are evident. I have lost weight (touchwood). I feel more active throughout the day. While before I used to be lethargic, I have found some new source of energy. I even found that I am sleeping more soundly and wake up more refreshed than ever before. Yes, in the beginning it was difficult. For the first few weeks my calves were killing me (I switched to wearing sneakers in the office for a while to relieve the pain in my feet and calves). But as time has passed, I have become used to it and now sitting down for work (meetings, seminars etc) seems uncomfortable.

Having gone through the experience first-hand, I would recommend others to take the initiative and implement standing desks in their offices as well. It is a wonderful experience. (Yes, I wrote all this standing up.)

Focus On The Good In Others

by Saad M. Siddiqui, IBA Alumnus, 2008

Saad M. Siddiqui, alumnus 2008, is a SHRM/HRCI Certified Human Resources Professional. His interests include Organizational & Leadership Development and Team Dynamics. He may be contacted at saad.iba@gmail.com.

In today's fast paced, digitally connected world - where material gains are of paramount importance - genuine, compassionate face to face contact is getting less and less common and relationships are becoming more transactional in nature – as opposed to the formation of long term bonds based on trust, respect and empathy. This has given rise to negativity in how we perceive others. We tend to focus only on the negative traits of people and judge them based on our limited interactions with them.

Think about the number of people you interact with and whether you are able to see their positive character traits first or their negative ones. Some introspection will alarm you. How can we focus on the good that people have and minimize their perceived weaknesses?

Here a few tips:

Give people the benefit of the doubt - A subordinate not interested in work may have family issues at home. A colleague who does not respond to a call or message may have been driving or may have decided to contact you the day after. Or, a person may simply just not be capable of responding to you in a way you expected them to. We tend to jump to conclusions based on first impressions and frame people negatively without giving them the benefit of the doubt.

Focus on the positives – No one is perfect. Try to focus on the good traits of people and highlight and appreciate those. Focus on how others are better than you in terms of their personal characteristics and how you can look to emulate these positive traits. Try to grab these positives and overlook the negatives.

Don't spread the negatives – If you are aware of a person's weakness or negative trait, do not spread it by discussing it with others. This will lead to conflict and the spread of negativity and distrust. Try to focus on your own short comings how you can mitigate them – you'll find that you are far from perfect yourself.

Generate genuine care and compassion for others in yourself – People need to be given respect. They need to be empathized with and treated sympathetically. This treatment will bring out their best and will also allow them to think about how they interact with you.

To gain the respect of others and be treated as such, we need to treat others with care and compassion. As they say – "what goes around comes around."

The day the terror struck at APS

by Arsalan Faruqi, IBA Alumnus, 2006

Arsalan Faruqi, Alumnus 2006, did his MBA from IBA City campus. He is currently an entrepreneur. He can be reached on arsalanfaruqi@gmail.com.

December 16, 2014 shall always be remembered as the darkest day in the history of Pakistan. This is our 9/11 without a doubt. The Peshawar massacre is a grim reminder to all of us as to where humanity stands today. The savages, holed up inside their safe havens, struck ruthlessly and created history by targeting innocent boys and girls within the age bracket of 3 and 16 years of age. Teachers, who are supposed to be the beacons of knowledge, were brutally murdered while the principal of the school was burnt alive right in front of students. 141 innocent lives lost to this savagery and close to 150 injured. The mental trauma the surviving kids went through is another story. Those images of blood and gore will remain imprinted in their innocent minds for the rest of their lives.

Had the murderer of the late governor of Punjab, Salman Taseer been hanged, terrorists on the death roll been executed and a system of instant justice been implemented; the situation wouldn't have been this bad. With no fear of punishment, criminals strike with impunity, knowing that they'd get away with anything in this land of the pure. For a jail-break, all they need is a few hundred hardened militants and impotency on part of the government. It's as simple. Breeding grounds are plenty, with madressahs mushrooming throughout the country under the patronage of jihadi elements and providing foot soldiers in the name of religion. Lal Masjid, the epicenter of all such recruitments and militant activities, is once again proving itself a monster that was earlier crushed by the then military ruler of Pakistan. Musharraf should've finished the job back then, instead of letting these terrorists regroup, strengthen themselves and strike back. He should've razed the mosque and established the writ of the government with an iron fist.

The issue of afghan refugees is another crucial matter that the government isn't too willing to address. These refugee camps, well stocked with heavy weaponry, are home to hardened criminals and sanctuary for Uzbek and Chechen militants who fled Afghanistan during the war against terrorism. These fully trained men are not just confined to the camps but are conveniently operating within cities and provide their services to individuals and groups causing instability in Pakistan. The government however is silent and showing no concern towards this menace.

What needs to be done?

- Through a presidential order, the ban on state executions should be lifted.
- All prisoners on the death should be executed as soon as possible.
- Immediate deportation of all foreign criminal elements holed up in refugee camps.
- Strict monitoring should be ensured of all foreigners settled in Pakistan.
- Madressah reforms should be strictly implemented by the state.
- Intelligence agencies should beef up their networks and flush out all the elements within the agencies who have vsympathies with the terrorists.
- A grand military operation should be carried out in major cities like Karachi and Lahore targeting the strongholds of such militants. Urban settlements provide an excellent camouflage to terrorists and therefore the law enforcement agencies should focus their energies towards the no-go areas within the provincial capitals.
- The on-going operation Zarb e Azb should be intensified and diplomatic pressure on Afghanistan should be increased to force them into handing over Molvi Fazlullah.
- The government should consider cutting off ties with all the countries who are actively involved in destabilizing our homeland.

We are a resilient nation and each catastrophe makes us stronger. Such cowardly acts won't break our resolve but instead will make us more determined in this fight against terrorism and extremism.

And Then Came Kabeer…

by Manzar Naqvi, IBA Alumnus, 2007

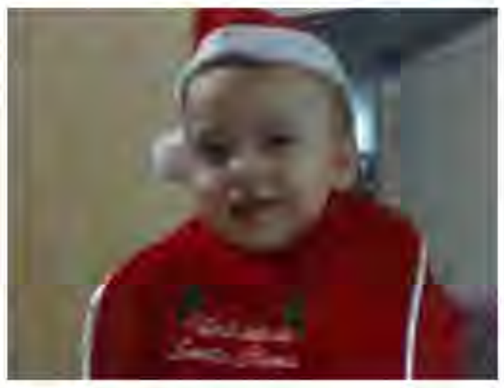
The writer is an IBA graduate with over 13 years of professional experience in Global Brand Management, Strategic Planning and 360 Degree Media Management. During his various international assignments, he had the opportunity to live and work in Egypt, UAE, Lebanon, Turkey, Cyprus, the Netherlands, Germany and the USA. Currently managing the integrated media strategies of various Local and Global brands. The writer could be reached at manzar.naqvi@gmail.com

His first hour…

Kabeer, my nephew, was born to my sister at the time when struggle was a constant feature in my life. Being laid off by a multinational firm sure puts one in such an indescribable frame of mind… it overwhelms you in a way that you keep wondering whether your stint at a successful career has already ended. I used to spend most of my day thinking about my losses, the wonderful perks I enjoyed and the business trips that took me around the globe. I was engulfed with all those negative thoughts that come naturally to anyone going through such a phase.

Last month was Kabeer's 6th birthday. I was at his birthday party and making some mental notes of how this little fellow had taught me things over the years which no one else could have explained.

The most powerful lesson that I learnt from him is to be curious and fearless. Hunger of knowing more, learning new things, reaching out for more; I guess for us adults, we're not curious anymore. Many of us can relate to kids putting their tiny little fingers in the electrical plug holes or hiding behind the cupboard for no reason. Kabeer will have a gazillion questions ready for you and he needs logical answers to all of them. Once you think you are through, there are million more waiting to be answered. This curiosity makes him absolutely fearless. A kid's prime objective is to learn and to excel, without fearing for themselves and saying whatever it is on their minds. They don't have the fear of unknown, fear of being judged, fear of rejection, and fear of what the future might bring. AND THAT FEROCITY IS WHAT A TINY 6 YEAR OLD TAUGHT ME AGAIN.



I remember an incident when he was a toddler of one. While bouncing the ball, I could see his entire focus was on the ball, fascinated with how it managed to bounce back. He jumped towards the glass cup on the table and threw it on the floor! My mother ran towards him shouting "Uff Kabeer!!! You broke the glass cup" while this young explorer looked at me with the eyes, saying "I just wanted to know if this glittering object would bounce back too!"

In the hard times I mentioned earlier, memories of my glory days used to ruin my day. Cut off from the friends, fighting with those who motivated and cheered me on, I was the proverbial "down in the dumps" guy.

On the contrary, I have never seen Kabeer crying and wasting time thinking about the things that happened in the past, or just an hour ago! Every day is a new day, a new beginning for him. No matter how hard his few hours of studies are on him, those will never have any effect on the things he is enjoying in life. Be it a normal weekend or summer vacations, he believes and realizes that every single day is bringing new opportunities for him. But look at us adults, we are so consumed by our "problems" that we tend to neglect those small little moments of happiness that come along. We fail to realize that these little moments of happiness should be cherished. We have the ability to make these moments bigger and even happier.

Kabeer's best friend was Shakeel; the son of my sister's maid. I still remember how much he cried when their maid was moving out of town. He never used to consider if Shakeel had a bath or not, or whose clothes Shakeel wore or which car Shakeel's father drives. He was just concerned about the basic things about having a good time with Shakeel, his buddy, his mate. This level of equality that our kids portray is seriously mind blowing. Just imagine the society where everyone is equal, nobody is judging you and you are being treated the same. I can bet, more than half of our worries will automatically vanish once we are in that world. This is a Divine excellence in any kid; to love unconditionally. We should learn to give without expecting anything in return, for that is what real and absolute love is all about, and that is what our kids teach us.

Today I feel so proud calling him my savior in tough days. He taught me not to confine myself by fears of failure or rejection. He pushed me to experience each and every moment of life. He helped me march forward with hope and determination because there exists nothing better and embrace the life and all it has to offer with open arms.

Time Management – A Must Tool For Every Business Manager

by Saad Hassan, IBA Alumnus, 2003

Saad Hassan, IBA Alumnus, 2003, is currently associated with NBP as Product Manager-Compliance. He has been into NBP for more than 7 years in different areas like Islamic Banking, Commercial Credit/Relationship Marketing, HRM, SBP Audit, Basel-II, BPR/COSO and Compliance. He has over 12 years of banking and teaching experience.

Time-Management Strategies

Time-management is an essential and vital skill, one that is necessary in our chosen career as well as in university. People have different time clocks and what works for one student might not work for the other.

The following are some time-management strategies that we may want to incorporate into our time-management routine. It is worth to test them out to see what works and what doesn't work for us. It might be a good idea to start by monitoring and reflecting on how we currently use our time for our various tasks of the day.

First, some basic strategies:

1. Prioritize! We probably have a lot of things to do, so assess how important and how urgent the tasks are; then make sure high priority tasks get done first and are not put off on a regular basis. Avoid time wasting activities.

2. Be specific! Make the task as specific as possible - we tend to follow through then, especially if we write it down. For example, instead of telling ourselves "I'll do some statistics this week," try "I'll do 3 descriptive statistics problems Tuesday at 7pm."

3. Small bite-size pieces! It's easy to feel overwhelmed, so try breaking tasks down into smaller sub-tasks. Once you've started it's easier to keep going.

4. Use all available time! This is an especially good strategy if we are pressed for time. We don't necessarily need a block of time in order to study. Students often have time between classes, travel time, etc. There are lots of study tasks that can be accomplished in short periods, such as reviewing main points of a reading or a lecture.

5. Structure the environment! Find a place, preferably one we can use regularly and with limited distractions. Make sure we have all the essentials so that we have no excuses.

6. Establish a routine! We are creatures of habit. If we always study at a certain time or day then it will be easier to get into concentration mode. Also, it is better to study briefly and regularly.

7. Use time management and scheduling tools.

Scheduling Tools and Tips:

1. Create a master schedule that indicates on a term or yearly basis when holidays, exams, reports, essays etc. are due. Post it in a prominent spot!

2. Create a weekly schedule.

- At a regular time, e.g. Sunday evening, plan week taking into account our master schedule and our study/other goals for that week.
- Mark out commitments such as meetings, household works, family works, classes, labs, work, sport, meals, etc.
- Make a list of tasks - be specific and prioritize.
- Schedule into available time slots these tasks.
- Consider the purpose of the task(s).
- Schedule tasks that may require maximum concentration during our "peak" or periods of maximum alertness – this varies from person to person.
- Allot time for relaxation, exercise, etc. and be sure to include a "Cease " time that allows time to unwind and relax before sleep (and it gives us something to look forward to!).
- Monitor and Evaluate: review what has been accomplished at the end of a day and decide if the schedule needs to be changed the next day.

3. Some people work better off a detailed daily To Do List. Again, at a regular time (for example last thing at night or first thing in the morning) plan the day taking into account the master schedule and the tasks/goals for the week.

4. When we have finished a particular task, cross it off from timetable or list.

5. Avoid too much detail - a schedule has to remain flexible or it becomes a dinosaur! Everyone has different needs; perhaps start with just organizing important tasks or only list the priorities.

The above will help us in achieving a peaceful and balanced life.

NOTICE BOARD

Get your Alumni Card!

New Alumni Card Partners Added

Shout out to Class of '74 !!

The MBA class of 1974 had a mini reunion in London around the visit of our classmate Javed Rahmat. It was attended by Anjum Iqbal, Aslam Aziz and Imran Saeed Khan. These 4 put forward a suggestion to hold the 40th Anniversary reunion in 2015 for the MBA Class of 1974 graduating in 1975.

The idea was picked up by the direct MBA Section and now our 40th Anniversary Reunion is being held over the weekend of July 25th and 26th 2015 in Surrey, UK. It is the first time many of us will be meeting in 40 years so we are very excited about it. We have located 8 Classmates in the USA, 6 in the UK and 4 in Pakistan, 2 in MEA . We are still looking for the contact details of 4 of our classmates these are Tariq Owais, Hamza Siddique, Akbar Panjwani, and Valliullah Zarsav from Iran. If anyone knows their whereabouts or contact details please let us know.

This is a very important reunion for us now that we are in our 60's! We have asked all our classmates to share their old photos and memorabilia with us for the greatly awaited reunion next year. We will also look at IBA archive pictures to make up a rich collection.

Readers can either contact Aftab Khan at aftabkhan@homemail.com or me on my email address (kishwer.aziz@banktandd.com).

We will also try to open our reunion to other alumni a few years either side of our graduation year on one of the two days so we can catch up with old friends

New Card Partners

IBA Alumni Department is proud to announce the addition of the following companies to its list of Alumni Card Partners.

GIORDANO

15% discount for IBA Alumni on regular priced merchandize.

VERTIS

10% discount for all alumni card holders

The Kids Store

10% discount to alumni card holders and 15% discount for minimum 3 products purchased

King's Group

IBA Alumni will be given discounts on Booking of unit (Apartment / Bungalow) with any project of King's Group as per below description:

- 25% discount on full cash payment at time of booking
- 10% discount on payment of 40% upfront payment
- 2% discount on booking of unit (Apartment/Bungalow)

IBA Alumni will get priority for unit allocation subject to availability. Extra charges like corner unit, park/road facing, west open etc. will be offered at subsidized rates

For a detailed list of the IBA Alumni Card partners and their offers, please visit
https://alumni.iba.edu.pk/alumni_card_benefits_details.html

You can apply for your lifetime alumni card online! For details, please visit
https://alumni.iba.edu.pk/iba_alumni_frequently_asked_questions_alumni_cards.htm

Get your Lifetime IBA Alumni Card!

The extended access to services and benefits using the old Alumni cards has expired on July 31, 2014 and now only the Lifetime IBA Alumni Cards will be valid. You are requested to please apply for your lifetime alumni card to avoid any inconvenience.

We recommend that you visit our FAQ section to acquaint yourself of the appropriate process and to avoid any delay in the processing of your request.

How to apply for Lifetime Alumni Card:

1. Login at the IBA alumni website: https://alumni.iba.edu.pk/ using your Username and Password.

2. Go to My Profile -> Basic Information.

3. Check the option marked Yes in "Do you want IBA Alumni Card?"

4. The following information is mandatory for receiving the Alumni card:

- Name

- Graduation Year

- CNIC/Passport No.

- Address

- City

- Profile Picture (preferably a CV/GD picture in .jpeg or .png format)

5. Update your profile, providing the required information, which will allow us to update the alumni records as well as allow the processing of the alumni card. Upon updating your profile, the information will be automatically downloaded by the system. Once your profile is updated, your alumni card will be processed in due time and you will be updated accordingly.

How Your Card Processing Could Get Delayed:

1. Photo on the profile is not up to the requirement. (Please see the instructions on our FAQ section)

2. Correspondence Address is incorrect / incomplete.

3. Information on the online profile is incorrect / incomplete.

Alumni Diary

Miles to go before I Sleep

Mr. Irfan Mustafa reveals his secret ingredient to success

Interviewed by Sibtain Naqvi, Alumnus 2005 & Transcribed by S. Komal Jafri, Alumna 2013

Irfan Mustafa, IBA Alumnus 1973, is currently Chairman, Delicious Holdings, & Managing Partner, KFC Pakistan. Previously, he was the Managing Director for the Middle East, North Africa, Pakistan and Turkey region for Yum Restaurants International (parent company of KFC, Pizza Hut, Taco Bell, A&W and Long John Silvers). He is also Chief Leadership Development officer (CLDO), and his primary role is developing global systems and personally facilitating high powered sessions in developing next generation leaders. He holds two post graduate degrees in Business Administration - one from IMD (Lausanne, Switzerland) and second from IBA Karachi, Pakistan.

Among many notable achievements, Mustafa's charitable and philanthropic efforts were particularly heralded. For several years he has been actively involved in social and community-based projects that focus on the development of youth, education and poverty alleviation. Mustafa is especially passionate about reaching the Muslim youth in Pakistan, the Middle East and the United States to steer them away from violence and to "use their minds" to compete in the world, to co-exist with those who have opposing values and views, and to elevate their stature as global citizens.

Here's how we shares his journey of brilliance spanning almost 4 decades:

Q: What led you to seek admission in IBA?

A: I wanted to go to United States for my higher education but my parents had other plans. My mother wanted me to stay back so she could spend time with me. She convinced my father who incidentally was a pioneer of management education in Pakistan and on the board of IBA. He asked me to meet the then heavyweights of IBA, Dr. I. A. Mukhtar Dr. Abdul Wahab and Dr. Matin A. Khan. Well as they say, the rest is history and I ended up spending some memorable years in IBA.

Q: How was the IBA experience for you as a student?

A: In short, before coming to IBA, I was a brute young man with not much goals in mind. But all that changed during my stay at IBA. Bludgeoned with constant quizzes and assignments coupled with competitive atmosphere and strict timelines put me on a track to success. I can never forget IBA. It has to go with me in my grave.

Q: Tell us a memorable anecdote from your days at IBA.

A: I can never forget the classroom sessions by Mr. Danishmand. Unlike other faculty members, he used to engage students in and beyond classroom. No faith in lectures or books. We used to sit in groups and have open discussion on topic. Now this was a hardcore experiential learning in very informal setup where you were forced to contribute and engage and learn communication. Even beyond classrooms we had a healthy relationship with Mr. Danishmand.

Q: What in your opinion makes an IBA student stand out from the rest?

A: I was on board of LUMS for few years and whenever I lectured there, students would ask me to draw comparison between the two institutions. So I used to tell them that if IBA were a brand and a human being; he would be Charles Bronson (tactical, street smart, decisive, roll-up-the-sleeps, doers) and LUMS would Robert Redford (broad, hero, aura, drama, charisma, slightly hollow). Probably, this differentiation could be attributed to the impact of Karachi. Karachi's ethos or culture is also the same (street smart, down-to-earth) playing out there. You could rely on IBA's students. This is IBA's strength.

Q: Do you think that IBA degree is marketable globally?

A: My point of view is that why do IBA graduates want to move out of country. Pakistan needs talent and leadership so IBA should focus on marketing their students in Pakistan. IBA should be developed into a brand serving to the local market.

Q: How did you start your career? Was it an eventful journey to where you are now?

A: After my MBA from IBA, I went to IMD University, Switzerland for my second MBA in 1975. Upon returning, I joined Unilever as Management Trainee. During training, I was asked to spend around 3 months with Sales Department. The company sent me to Hyderabad for a month to spend time with sales team/sales rep. In scorching heat, we would walk on foot through the cities selling soaps and stuff. I ended up getting a heat stroke. I was admitted into hospital where I was made to lie on an ice slab. My father came to fetch me and took me back to head office in Karachi only to see me land in Hyderabad after sometime. In retrospect, this exhaustive training taught me the worth of hard work and the art of bread winning.

Miles to go before I Sleep

Contd.....

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Q: If you had the chance to start your career over again, what would you do differently?

A: In my 14 year career with Unilever I never did field assignments. Had I acquired on-the-field sales experience I would have been in completely different league. I'm not complaining as I have done quite well but sales experience would have helped me. Moreover, if given a chance I would work on the social aspect of my professional career. At the end, it is all about relationships. Understanding informal dynamics is absolutely critical. Getting along with people and keep your eyes and ears open.

Q: What do you think is the most important factor for being a success in today's world? What do you attribute your success to?

A: What matters most is EQ and not IQ. Soft skills are most important. There is a huge gap in this area because no institution is working on it. You must be able to embrace diversity and multicultural environment and coexist; from native citizen to a global citizen. This transaction is most important and nobody is teaching us that. Intelligent graduates from great universities lag behind in lives because of lower EQ. Your level of confidence, self-esteem, belief in yourself, and your inside-out approach helps you race ahead.

In my case, I will attribute my success to God. There had been too many invisible hands I owe my success to; mother's prayers and my partner has helped me through so many problems. Hard work, focus, clarity, ambition, passion is a must but without God's help you can achieve nothing.

Q: Define happiness as you understand it in today's fast paced world?

A: Grass is always greener on the other side. There is no one in the world who isn't troubled. It is important to understand and accept. Happiness is not linked with material. I have learnt this with bitter experiences. How you positively impacted and changed other people's lives; now that's your legacy. Nobody will remember your bank balance, your cars, or any material possessions. If you keep this in mind there will not be greed or envy. Instead of looking at others, go for your personal best and this will give you happiness.

Miles to go before I Sleep
Contd.....

Q: Tell us something about your family and your interests other than work. How do maintain your work-life balance?

A: Generally speaking, I am a serious art/antique collector, mostly, Middle East and the Indian sub-continent. This includes paintings, furniture, carpets and pieces of decoration.
I am also actively involved with the youth on leadership development in the capacity of a teacher, mentor and coach. I also actively and unashamedly promote Pakistan and showcase its positive side.
On the family front I have a partner/spouse (Yasmin) whom I met at IBA in 1972 and fell in love with. She is my backbone and my right hand. I also blessed with 3 great kids (Ayesha, Harris amd Gibran) each one of whom are making a mark in their own right, especially Ayesha who is highly celebrated and accomplished entrepreneur in the field of Ethical Fashion based out of London. She runs her own online boutique under the brand name Fashion Compassion. Both Harris and Gibran are involved in the food business and developing into success entrepreneurs.

Q: Over the years, what noticeable changes have you observed in IBA Graduates?

A: I have observed positive changes in IBA graduates. From tactical, they are becoming more strategic. Their view is getting broader. IBA was seen as a solid product but not brand. Now they are beginning to become brands. They are much more confident now.

Q: What role can alumni play in the success and development of IBA?

A: We owe it to IBA. I especially owe it all to IBA. Alumni must recognize the institutions. Look at what others have done for their alma maters. The will to do comes from inside. Everybody is self-centered. It's the problem with country, and institution is suffering from the same. Only with individual effort, people are doing a lot!

Q: What message would you like to give to the present IBA students as well as the alumni?

A: First of all, current students, as soon as you get opportunity choose your life partner at IBA. I have had an extra ordinary journey. Secondly, you need to self-reflect and listen to your inner voice. Your inner self never lies. You have to make your own narrative and your country's narrative. Seek help and take mentorships that will help you change your narrative.

Q: What would you consider to have been your greatest achievement?

A: My greatest achievement has been as a pioneer of so many initiatives and as a change agent. I hate status quo. 'Don't fix it if it isn't broken' is most ridiculous statement. Because if you fix it you get performance. I have taught at some of the prestigious universities on the globe including Stanford, Berkeley, and Columbia. During these almost 40 years of my career, I have unashamedly been optimistic about Pakistan and promoted it at every forum I could lay my hands on.

Top to Bottom:
Random Images of IBA from the 70's

IBA Activities

IBA's Convocation 2014: A Celebration of Ongoing

On December 06, 2014, in the midst of a state of the art, revamped campus, IBA Karachi commemorated its annual convocation at IBA Main Campus. A total of 482 students were conferred degrees for the successful completion of various undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs. An audience of approximately 700 included proud parents, members of faculty, eminent personalities from academia, corporate and public sectors; Dean and Director IBA Karachi, Dr. Ishrat Husain, honorable Chief Guest - the President of Pakistan, Mr. Mamnoon Hussain and Governor of Sindh, Dr. Ishrat-ul-Ebad Khan – Patron IBA.

Dr. Ishrat said Convocation 2014 was an important milestone in IBA's journey towards its goals of academic excellence. He thanked the Almighty Allah for IBA's successful completion of its 5-year strategic plan (2009-2014), which is yet another reason to celebrate. Shedding light upon expansion of programs, he said the most significant change at IBA is the diversification of IBA from a Business School to a broad based institution of higher learning. IBA now offer degree programs in Social Science and Liberal Arts, Accounting and Finance, Economics and Mathematics in addition to Computer Sciences. These offerings have been possible due to the satisfactory attainment of three other pillars of the strategic plan; physical infrastructure development, technology up gradation and faculty development.

Mr. Mamnoon Hussain, along with Dr. Ishrat and Dr. Eshrat ul Ebad distributed medals, awards and shields to the high achievers to celebrate dedication in their respective disciplines. Each gold medalist received PKR 10,000, thanks to Indus Motors. The Institute also gave prizes to twenty one best performers amongst its dedicated staff that are the part and parcel of IBA.

DICE-INVENT 2014

On December 19-20, 2014, IBA AMAN CED, hosted DICE-INVENT 2014, a two-day Innovative, Entrepreneurship Exhibition, Competition and Mega event at IBA main campus. Renowned International & local Entrepreneurs and faculties not only attended the event to promote entrepreneurship in Pakistan but also inspired the students and also meticulously judged the numerous, spectacular entrepreneur initiatives. Participants, who attended from various universities from all over Pakistan, availed a great opportunity to showcase their talent, gain confidence and build social networks, nationally & internationally.

Addressing the audience, Chief Guest, Dr. Shamshad Akhtar Exec. Director ESCAP (Former Governor Central Bank of Pakistan) said, "IBA's programs are in league with the Asia Pacific region as well as the global standards and IBA is on the right track as far as entrepreneurship is concerned, entrepreneurship needs to be ignited as it creates jobs and brings news goods and technologies to the market."

Womenx First Batch Final Presentations

Saturday 12th December 2014 marked the ending of an interesting journey of first batch of IBA's flagship Women Entrepreneurship Program. On this special day our batch of 39 brilliant women entrepreneurs presented their final Business Action Growth Plan after four months of business education training at IBA AMAN CED. A very special guest Mr. Bob Stringer from USA had flown in to witness the final presentations of these dynamic women entrepreneurs. Mr. Bob is an MBA from Harvard Business School, USA and also an author of a book on business strategy. He is currently associated with number # 1 Entrepreneurship college in the world Babson College as an adjunct faculty. Previously he served as a faculty member at Harvard Business School. Bob Stringer has been an active angel investor for over 15 years.

The event was also graced by Mr. Majeed Aziz, Former President KCCI, Ms. Bina Ali leading women entrepreneur, Azra Maqsood CEO INJAZ Pakistan, Dr. Sarosh Lodi, Dean of Civil and Architecture Engineering, NED University and Gerrit Ribbink Team Lead Entrepreneurship Enclude.

All the judges and mentors thoroughly enjoyed the presentations made by our participants and also appreciated their efforts. The event was concluded by our Dean and Director Dr. Ishrat Hussain where he took candid feedback from the participants about the program.

Fringe 2014

Intra-IBA drama competition, The Fringe 2014, happened from December 09-11, 2014. It was the first mega event to be held in the newly-constructed Jehangir Siddiqui Auditorium in City Campus and the Society's second annual Fringe competition.

This was also one of the few events where the use of lights and the fog created amazing 3D effects visible on stage. The premiere night closed off leaving the audience moved. On Day 2 and 3 of The Fringe, a total of 16 teams that were shortlisted for the event, competed for the category awards of best actor, best actress, best director, best script, best play and the FRINGE CHAMPIONS. A total of Rs.50,000/- was given as cash prizes to the winners of these awards.

Career Counseling Session with ICAP

Last year, IBA and ICAP signed the MOU. Under this MoU, graduates of IBA (BS accounting and finance program) have to complete only two modules E and F for getting CA certification.

Considering needs of IBA students, IBA Finance Club arranged a seminar on 10th December 2014, for the students to clarify their queries. The students availed the opportunity at its full and had every single query answered by the representatives of ICAP. We wish for a better and informed future of the students.

The Jackal Has Escaped

Held on October 29, 2014 at the GT Auditorium in Main Campus, "The Jackal Has Escaped" is yet another talk held by Poetic Reconstructions. These talks are held to rejuvenate the interest of youth in literary arts and classical literature.

In the third lecture of the series, the talk opened to a full house. Mr. Arif Hasan arrived to grace the event with his wisdom. He talked about the importance of harnessing positive energy, proportions and harmony and balance in architecture. Dr. Nomanul Haq talked about the issue of cultural transmissions across linguistic and political boundaries.

Launch of PGD Programs

IBA, Karachi launched three Post-Graduate Diploma Courses on November 15, 2014, in Healthcare Management, Supply Chain Management, and Human Resource Management at the JS Auditorium, City Campus. Mr. Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, Commissioner, Karachi Division, graced the occasion as chief guest. Designed to develop highly skilled practitioners with an in-depth understanding of strategic, tactical and operational issues; each PGD is spread over a span of 1 year, with 12 courses, a live project and practicum. These programs will help bridge the competency gap in Pakistan and help enhance the professionalism of those involved in the industry.

Diwali Celebrations at IBA Boys Hostel

The Diwali festival which is the beginning of the Hindu New Year was celebrated at IBA boys hostel on Thursday 23rd October 2014.

Students exchanged sweets with friends and students residing in the hostel. By sharing joy and happiness and recognizing the cultural diversity, we set an example of celebrating our differences in culture and religion. The celebrations made the minorities in our student body feel at home.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

IBA Alumna selected for the Emerging Leaders of Pakistan Fellowship 2014

The Emerging Leaders of Pakistan Fellowship Program seeks to empower the next generation of Pakistan's leaders. The program identifies, cultivates, and supports young people in Pakistan who have the potential of becoming future leaders by providing resources and opportunities to strengthen their engagement within civil society. It builds an online and in-person forum of engagement and collaboration for young leaders from Pakistan to discuss and make an impact on important issues, such as democracy, economic development, employment, and governance. This year Adiya Amjad a BBA from IBA got selected for this fellowship.

After a pre-departure orientation in Islamabad with representatives of the US Embassy's Community Engagement Office, the 2014 cohort of Emerging Leaders of Pakistan visited the United States from November 1-23. During the three weeks, they participated in a wide spectrum of meetings and training sessions designed to help them expand their network, garner new ideas, and glean lessons in order to be more effective civil society leaders in Pakistan.

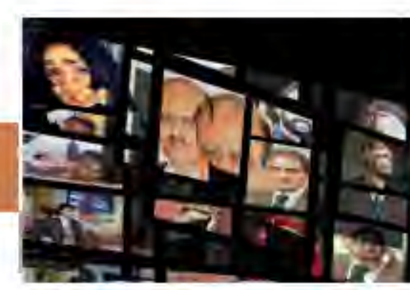
In New York City, the meetings focused on international media, philanthropic organizations and NGOs, grassroots movements, and access to education. Washington DC centered around policy making, the US-Pakistan relationship, interfaith engagement, and skill building workshops. The Beltway community also heard perspectives from these Pakistani changemakers at a public event at the Atlantic Council.

Adiya's interview with Carenegie Corporation USA.

The Fellows at the Atlantic Council

In Detroit the group promoted international understanding and cultural exchange through homestays with local host families and learned about social entrepreneurship, serving the underserved communities and activism in the US, Detroit's economic recovery, and urban environmentalism. The final stop was San Francisco which exposed them to innovation in technology, social venture funds, social media, and the role of arts in social change.

This project is funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the US Embassy Islamabad's Community Engagement Program, through its partnership with Meridian International Center in Washington DC.



Alumni Memories

MBA Class of 1975

Submitted by:
Ghulam Haider Choudhry
Alumnus 1975

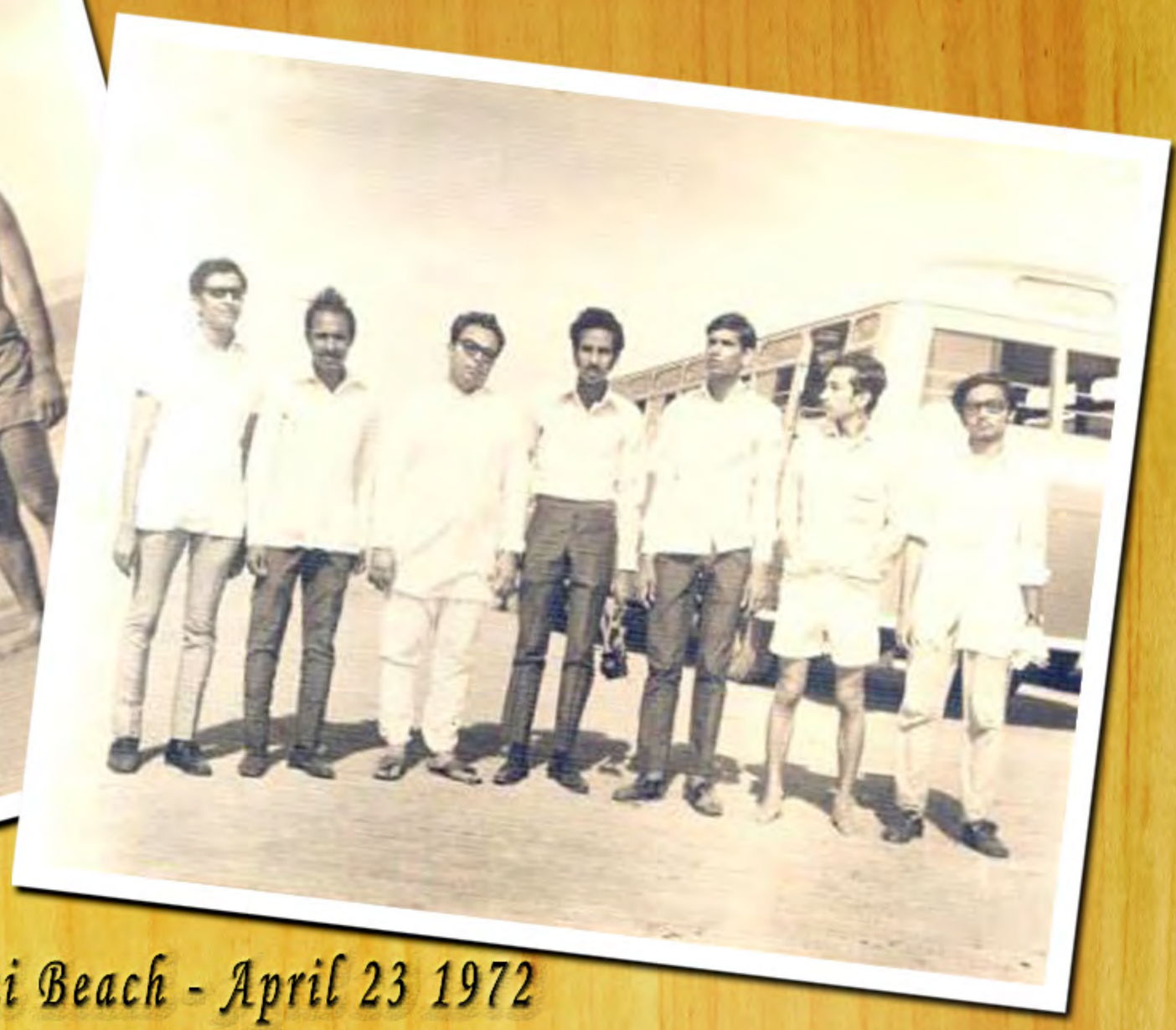
IBA in 1975

IBA Panoramic View

IBA Library

IBA Lawn at Sunset

Submitted by:
Ghulam Haider Choudhry
Alumnus 1975



IBA Picnic to Gidani Beach - April 23 1972
Submitted by: Ghulam Haider Choudhry
Alumnus 1975

H. Aftab Ahmad receiving IBA's BBA-Hons. (Overall) and MBA (Marketing) Gold Medals from Begum Ra'ana Liaquat Ali, Governor Sindh at 1973-74 Karachi University Convocation
Submitted by: H. Aftab Ahmad, Alumnus 1973

IBA Hostelers - March 1975

Installaton Ceremony - March 1972

Submitted by:
Ghulam Haider Choudhry
Alumnus 1975

Yasmeen Ahmed and Zaina Nosherwan
Alumnae 1993
Graduation Photograph

Yasmeen Ahmed and Zaina Nosherwan
Alumnae 1993
Washington DC Jan 01, 2015

Submitted by:
Yasmeen Ahmed
Alumna, 1993

Alumni Team

Zafar Ahmed Siddiqui
IBA Alumnus , 1978
Program Director,
Alumni Affairs &
Professor of Practice.
zsiddiqui@iba.edu.pk

Haris Tohid Siddiqui
IBA Alumnus , 2006
Manager,
Alumni Affairs &
Resource Mobilization
hsiddiqui@iba.edu.pk

S. Komal Jafri
IBA Alumna , 2013
Executive,
Alumni Affairs &
Resource Mobilization
skjafri@iba.edu.pk

Syed Ali Akber Moosvi
Web Graphics Designer
IS-ICT Department
e-Magazine Designer
amoosvi@iba.edu.pk

Tatheer Zehra Nathani
IBA Student, 2016
Intern Alumni Department
Asst. e-Magazine Designer
tatheer.nathani@khi.iba.edu.pk

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- *Saifoo Khan Studios*
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