



JANAB HAMMAD AHMED
CHIEF PATRON
CHANCELLOR, JAMIA HAMDARD



PROF (DR) M AFSHAR ALAM
PATRON
VICE CHANCELLOR, JAMIA HAMDARD

Bioactive Natural Products Conclave 2025 (BNPC 2025)

Theme: "Legacy, Tradition & Global Impact"

Celebrating journey for reconnecting roots and honouring tradition
in shaping the future of natural product research."



PROF UMA BHANDARI
DEAN
School of Pharmaceutical
Education and Research
JAMIA HAMDARD



PROF (DR) SAYEED AHMAD
DIRECTOR
Centre of Excellence in Unani Medicine
(Pharmacognosy & Pharmacology), Bioactive
Natural Products Laboratory
JAMIA HAMDARD



PROF ASGAR ALI
PRESIDENT, TAAJH
School of Pharmaceutical
Education and Research
JAMIA HAMDARD

REPORT

Organised by
Centre of Excellence in Unani Medicine
(Pharmacognosy & Pharmacology),
Bioactive Natural Product Laboratory, Jamia Hamdard

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For Query:

jhcoebnpl2022@gmail.com

+91 7983668096





The Bioactive Natural Products Conclave (BNPC) 2025, hosted by the Centre of Excellence in Unani Medicine, was a commemoration of BNPL's legacy and scientific footprint at Jamia Hamdard. The event provided a platform for bringing together renowned alumni working as researchers, and industry specialists for interactions. The event was able to strengthen the professional relationship among BNPL members worldwide.



The conclave commenced with gracious and warm opening addresses by Dr. Bushra Parveen, Organizing Secretary and Assistant Professor at the Department of Pharmacology, SPER, Jamia Hamdard. She gave a warm welcome to all the dignitaries, alumni, faculty, and current scholars on behalf of the organizing committee. The programme began on a spiritual and graceful note with the blessings of the Almighty, marked by the recitation of the Holy Verses of the Qur'an. Then Dr Bushra Parveen welcomed all present and formally inaugurated the event. In her address, she expressed gratitude for the presence of esteemed dignitaries, distinguished alumni, faculty members, and students, and highlighted the purpose of the conclave — to celebrate the legacy of BNPL and strengthen connections within the scientific community.

As part of the welcoming gesture, Dr. Bushra Parveen requested the Organizing Chairman, Prof. (Dr.) Sayeed Ahmad to honour the dignitaries, chief guest-Dr. N. Zaheer Ahmed, Director general, CCRUM, guest of honour-Dr. Mohammad. Khalid, Licensing authority Ayush, Dr Sarfaraz Ahsan-Registrar, Jamia Hamdard, Guest of honour-Prof Asim ali khan, Dean SUMER, Guest of honour-Prof Aanwar Hussain, Prof Asgar ali, president TAAJH, Prof Uma Bhandari, Dean SPER with mementos and planters as a token of appreciation and respect.



This programme was followed by welcome Address by all the dignitaries. As part of the inaugural ceremony, a significant highlight was the release of the BNPL Newsletter and the Abstract Book, which compiled the research contributions of alumni and current scholars participating in BNPC 2025. The **Newsletter**, titled "**CoE-UM Bulletin**", beautifully captured the journey, milestones, and recent developments of the Bioactive Natural Products Laboratory (BNPL). Alongside BNPL updates, the newsletter featured a special section- **Excellence in Research and Innovation in Ayush Drugs**, which highlighted developments, news, and activities in the AYUSH sector, especially focusing on traditional medicine and its growing scientific relevance on national and international platforms. Complementing the newsletter, the Abstract Book was also released, comprising carefully reviewed abstracts submitted by alumni and current researchers.

It reflected the diversity, depth, and innovation of ongoing research in the fields of pharmacognosy, pharmacology, phytochemistry, drug standardization, and natural product discovery.





The programme started with the keynote session featured inspiring talks from three distinguished senior alumni Dr. Kamal YT, Dr. Rajesh Kumar Verma, Dr. Md Tanwir Athar. Dr. Kamal recalled his days in BNPL working on pharmacognostic standardization and how those skills laid the foundation for his teaching and research abroad. Dr Rajesh K Verma elaborated how his BNPL training helped him transition to be a product innovator in FMCG industries. Dr Md Tanwir Athar emphasized the importance of scientific temperament nurtured at BNPL and how it influenced his clinical pharmacognosy teaching in Saudi Arabia. After the series of insightful and engaging sessions, there was a group photograph following the tea break provided a refreshing pause and served as a valuable opportunity for informal interactions between the alumni and current scholars. This segment of the program was instrumental in fostering meaningful conversations, rekindling memories, and strengthening the bond between past and present members of the BNPL family.



This session after tea break featured quick, impactful 5-minute talks from returning alumni, each sharing their topic of specialization at BNPL, the skills learned, their career trajectory, memories and gratitude for the lab. Dr. Washim Khan had his meeting Online. He is now in academia abroad, focused on metabolomics during BNPL days. Dr. Sultan Zahiruddin also had Online meet, pursuing Postdoc at NCNPR, USA. He spoke about his transition from traditional drug validation to global collaboration. Dr. Sadiq Umar (Online) Presented his journey into phytopharmacology research. Dr. Ennus Tajjudin Tamboli also shared his experience and how BNPL hard work transformed his life. Dr. Karishma Chetser: Now at Reckitt; reflected on quality control systems initiated during her training at BNPL. Dr. Mhaveer Singh & Dr. Kailash Chandra: Shared institutional development stories and how BNPL provided a framework for their success. Dr. Rustam Ekbbal: Now Principal at SBIPS; attributed leadership skills to BNPL mentoring. Each of the 20+ speakers praised the interdisciplinary environment of the lab, access to state-of-the-art equipment, and the guidance of Prof. Sayeed Ahmad. The sessions continued.



Scholars actively engaged with alumni to gain career insights, research advice, and motivation from their seniors now working in reputed organizations worldwide. The atmosphere was filled with warmth, enthusiasm, and shared nostalgia. This followed by lunch.





The post-lunch session was dedicated to emerging researchers and young alumni, offering them a platform to share their journeys and contributions. This session provided a glimpse into the expanding influence of BNPL training in diverse professional fields.

Dr. Ijhar Ahmad reflected on how his experiences at BNPL helped him navigate and contribute effectively in government health services. Dr. Md Javed Alam, now working at Reckitt, spoke about quality control strategies implemented in the herbal product manufacturing process, inspired by his training at BNPL. Dr. Tohfa Siddiqui is in academia and pursuing PhD and Dr. Jamal Akhtar shed light on their roles in regulatory frameworks and public health policy, elaborating how scientific accuracy and regulatory knowledge gained at BNPL support their current work. Dr. Uzma Bano, a practicing pediatric expert, discussed the integration of herbal therapies in child care, providing a unique perspective on traditional-modern healthcare fusion. Dr. Azhar Jabeen inspired the audience with her talk on female leadership and academic growth in Unani medicine, emphasizing empowerment through education and research. The current scholar also shared their journey to PhD. To bring a joyful and light-hearted tone to the program, a special session of facetious talks was conducted. Mohd Azam, Lovely Khan, Mohd Anshar, and Tamanna Taneja took the stage to share humorous anecdotes, fond memories, and behind-the-scenes stories from their student days at BNPL.





In the evening, a felicitation ceremony was held to honor those alumni who have made significant contributions to research, academia, public service, and industry. They were awarded mementos and certificates in appreciation of their achievements and continued connection with BNPL. This was followed by the BNPL Alumni Dinner, an informal yet emotional gathering filled with laughter, reflection, and heartfelt conversations. It served as a beautiful closure to the day, bringing everyone together as one united scientific family.



The **Bioactive Natural Products Conclave (BNPC) 2025** was not just a science conclave—it was a celebration of heritage, success, and academic cohesion. It reaffirmed the central role of BNPL in pharmacognostic and traditional medicine research development and showcased the work of its alumni who are now shaping global healthcare, policy, and education. From the laboratories of India to regulatory offices in Saudi Arabia, BNPL alumni continue to excel and lead with integrity. The success of this conclave, characterized by fruitful discussion, teamwork, and emotional reconnection, reaffirmed the universal appeal of BNPL's mission and its unshakeable commitment to the development of future leaders in herbal and Unani sciences. The vigor, zest, and participation over the day made a lasting impact on all participants, making BNPC 2025 a truly memorable milestone in Jamia Hamdard's legacy and the BNPL family.

