



Amroha International Society

Amroha International Society was formed in 2003 to encourage communication amongst those with origins in Amroha and highlight vehicles through which charitable activities can be funded, carried out and monitored.

NEWSLETTER

This is the society's fourth quarterly newsletter in which we provide information to the Amroha community as we receive it. We encourage you to share your news

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

I am delighted to inform you that our charity work has commenced. Two scholarships have already been awarded. We hope to announce more scholarship winners soon. With the help of the Hashmi Trust we have started treating TB patients and vaccinating children. To further develop the AIS educational and health activities we would like to raise money from our AIS family and we would encourage you to give some thoughts as to how we can do this. Please forward your ideas to ikenaqvi@yahoo.co.uk.

Our membership is growing fast – an astounding rise from 128 to 331 in just three months. Your assistance in finding more Amrohvis would be most appreciated. I would like to thank Jawad, Noreen, Anand, Khalid, Suhail and Faraz for sharing their stories with us seen in this Newsletter. These stories help to keep our community in touch and to inspire those among us to pursue goals we may not have even thought of before. It is of interest that Sharfuddin Shah Wilayat's death is now celebrated worldwide. The celebrations in North America are reported below. Health is very important for our well being. For this reason we have given some

information on search engines to visit to obtain information on the benefits of yoga and herbal (*hikmat*) medicine.

Finally I would like to thank all those people who have taken part in the Discussion Forum. I would urge you to participate in it and have your voice heard.

AIS WEBSITE

Have you visited our website www.amrohainternationalsociety.com

Several members have contributed to the Discussion Forum and provided photographs of their visit to Amroha. We look forward to receiving your contributions. Members are invited to put up to six personal photos on the website under "Member's Gallery".

Discussion Forum: Numerous topics have been initiated with several discussants taking part.

The following are excerpts of two topics that have had several member participation. For more details visit the AIS website.

Topic: The 'next' generation

Safia Khan, (at 4:12AM Wednesday 13th of June 2007, GMT)

As the 'next' generation raised in the west, what do you feel is the role of and the significance of going 'home' in your personal development?

Kamal Naqvi, (at 1:08PM Sunday 17th of June 2007, GMT)

I think going to India/Amroha is critically important to placing the 'learned' culture in contact. It allowed me to work out when a certain culture should be more dominant than another. I don't think you have to apply a particular cultural approach to all situations and going there and seeing how my peers reacted to similar situations as faced in the west - e.g. group dynamics amongst a similar age group or the fun created out of meeting at large events, be it a wedding or religious - was a very important part of my personal development.

Ram Chand, (at 12:28PM Saturday 10th of November 2007, GMT)

I believe that this applies to me. Raising children in the west is not easy as the dominant culture is so different to ours. But I believe that culture is an evolving thing. So we need to move with the time.

Tanvir Ali, (at 1:55PM Sunday 11th of November 2007, GMT)

I tend to agree with Kamal. Going to Amroha was also very important in my personal development. What challenges did you face while in Amroha?

Waseem Siddiqui, (at 10:30PM Monday 12th of November 2007, GMT)

I can identify with many things mentioned by early contributors. Extremely important topic. I would be interested to see the views of others.

Nargis Siddiqui, (at 12:26PM Sunday 18th of November 2007, GMT)

I can identify with this topic. Unfortunately I have not visited Amroha yet. But I am looking forward to it as I have heard so many stories. Love to hear from people who have personal experience like Kamal. Love this Discussion reading various contributions.

Topic: AIS Website

Maryam Jahan, (at 1:21AM Sunday 25th of November 2007, GMT)

I also want to add my appreciation for the website. Newsletters are very interesting and informative. I love photos. More personal stories and participation in Discussion will make it more interesting.

Nargis Siddiqui, (at 7:59PM Sunday 25th of November 2007, GMT)

I like this Discussion section. It is an excellent way to exchange ideas. Love to hear more human stories of my fellow Amrohvis, particularly about the challenges that they had to face.

waseem Siddiqui, (at 12:43PM Monday 26th of November 2007, GMT)

Like others I also enjoy visiting the website. I am very proud to be an Amrohvi. To look at the Directory makes me very happy by the success of my fellow Amrohvis. We seem to be every where. This Discussion section is an excellent way to express our views and share our experiences with each other. I would like to see more children's stories like the ones on the website. Thanks Safia for asking suggestions. I hope that more Amrohvis will accept your challenge

Visit the website www.amrohainternationalsociety.com for other topics discussed.

MEMBERSHIP

We now have 331 AIS members. We extend a warm welcome to the new Canadian, Danish, Norwegian and Swiss members. The directory is available to all members. Please contact ikenaqvi@yahoo.co.uk with your advice, contributions and membership information or visit our website.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF AIS

With the efforts and cooperation of several individuals in Amroha and Austin (Texas) we have selected two very deserving students to receive the AIS scholarship for the continuation of their education.



K M Samia Zakir and Khem Chand are recipients of the Amroha International Society (AIS) scholarship. Samia is the daughter of Zakir Husain and Yazdan Uroof Naqvi. She is a student of RCCV Girls College in Ghaziabad, UP. India

Khem Chand and his family are from Faridpur, UP, India. Currently he is doing Advanced Diploma in Hardware & Networking Engineering from Nice College Bareilly



Khem Chand is sponsored by Anand Raj of Austin Texas. Anand is pictured with Khem Chand and his parents.

AIS will monitor the scholar's progress and will continue to encourage Samia and Khem to continue their education.

AIS SCHOLARSHIPS

At present we have eighteen scholarships provided by our members for our education program. We look forward to receiving more sponsorship. For information contact ikenagvi@yahoo.co.uk or visit our website and download a sponsorship form.

CHARITABLE AND HEALTH PROJECTS OF AIS

In collaboration with the Hashmi Trust in Amroha we are helping in the treatment of Tuberculosis (TB) patients. TB is rampant in Amroha and we are very keen to help as many residents as possible. In addition, we also have a TB vaccination program in progress. More details to follow in the next newsletter.



Some Tuberculosis (TB) patents under treatment in Amroha in collaboration with the Hashmi Trust.

Further information on the Educational and Charitable activities of AIS are available on the AIS website.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Keasbey

“Photography is my obsession” by Suhail Naqvi

My regards to all who have emigrated from Amroha. My name is Suhail R. Naqvi, son of Syed Riaz Mohammed Naqvi and grandson of Syed Abu Mohammed Naqvi of mohalla Darbar-e-Kalaan. I was born in Amroha, but I emigrated from Amroha when I was 8 months old! I was brought up in Bombay, spent 32 years in Bombay to be precise, so please pardon my lack of Amrohvi vocabulary. I am a software engineer by profession and have been working in New York City and living in Central New Jersey for the past seven years.

This note is about my passion for photography, digital wildlife photography to be precise. The seeds of my interest in photography were sown when I had an opportunity to volunteer as a field assistant in an environmental research. The research was conducted to analyze the impact of the protective area (called the buffer zone) created around Sanjay Gandhi National Park in Bombay. That research was sponsored by the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS). During that study I met many members of BHNS who were keen naturalists as well as passionate photographers. The pictures they presented in evening talk shows were captivating – at least I found them so. The research started in 1989 and lasted for 2 years;

however, I continued my association with BNHS, as a member, for several years until I came here.

Between 1989 and 1999 I roamed in and around Sanjay Gandhi National Park and the surrounding Sahayadri hills almost every weekend. Watching wildlife and places of natural beauty became my primary means of recreation; and whenever I saw something that I had never seen before, I wished I had a camera to capture that moment. In 1999, that wish came true; I bought my first camera, a Nikon FM10. At that time, I had a job offer here in U.S. and I was certain I would more than make up for the money I splurged on the camera. It's been 8 years since then and my hobby has only intensified. I find it very relaxing; it helps me exercise the mental faculties that do not have much use in my profession. Friends who know me, and also know that my father and my grandfather earned their living from photography, say that I have a genetic propensity for photography. I say, if only they could experience the joy of capturing a moment and sharing it with others, they would say different. Here are a few of my favorite frozen moments (for more you may visit

<http://picasaweb.google.com/suhail.naqvi>):

Tree Swallow, Brooklyn NYC



Fall colors, Upstate New York



Chocolate Pansie, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Bombay
Hiking in Matheran with friends, Hills near Bombay

Editor's note: We look forward to more stories like this. AIS appreciates Suhail's contribution. Thank you

Copenhagen

"An Amrohvi in Denmark" by Ali Amrohvi

"My father first came to the UK back in the early 60's. Then in 1972 he was the first European Union citizen who migrated to Denmark, when Denmark became a member of the Union. So my father has been in Denmark since 1972 and in England long before that. My uncle Syed Najeeb Hussain Naqvi lives in Norway (Oslo) and came there in the late 60's early 70's."

Editor's note: We are delighted to welcome Ali Amrohvi and his family in Copenhagen and Denmark to our membership. Ali Amrohvi is a dress designer. His company "Amroha" is a clothing company created by him in November 2006. He is a British designer born and raised in Copenhagen, Denmark the fashion capital of Scandinavia. (Information from his website www.amroha.dk) Ali has recently completed his Masters degree in IT.

Congratulations Ali!

London

"Chinese Martial Arts" by Faraz Naqvi

Editor's note: Faraz, elder son of Manzar Naqvi of Oxford, England went to Yanta China to attend a three month course at the Martial Arts Academy. He has completed the course and was joined by his father in Yanta to receive his certificate.

"Hello everyone, my name is Faraz Naqvi and I just returned from a fantastic 2 month trip to China. I stayed in the Kunyu Shan Martial Arts Academy in a small northern city called Yantai. The academy had in it roughly 40 foreign students from all over the world and 7 Kung Fu Masters, all who have trained for nearly 10 years plus. My daily routine consisted of waking up to a cold shower at 5.30am every day. After this I practiced the ancient arts of Qi Gong, which is an aspect of traditional Chinese medicine involving the coordination of different breathing patterns with various physical postures and motions of the body and Tai Chi which is considered a soft style martial art – an art applied with internal power – to distinguish its theory and application from that of the hard martial art styles. Then at 8.30 am I would go on a 2 km run, followed by stretching and then practicing another ancient shoalin form called Wushu, which is both an exhibition and a full-contact sport derived from traditional Chinese martial arts. In the evening I would practice Sanda which is a modern Chinese hand to hand combat, self-defence system, and combat sport. During the

week I would also practiced Baji, Mantis and Bagwa all deadly forms of Shoalin.

The experience was an incredible one, and I learnt a huge amount, not only about myself but about my health and my environment. The icing on the cake in the trip came when I realized I had lost 12 kg in my two months at the academy. It was a fantastic experience that I would recommend to everyone.”



Thank you Faraz for sharing your experience in China

San Diego

“Photographs of ‘Life in Amroha’”by Khalid Haque

Editor’s note: These are wonderful photographs of ‘life in Amroha’ as seen by a young visitor on her first visit to her father’s home town.

(These photographs as well as others from Khalid can be seen on the AIS website, “Life in Amroha”).



Thank you Khalid for sharing these photographs.

Mississauga

“New arrival in Mississauga, Canada”

AYAAN MOHAMMED RIZVI

“I am writing you this email to inform you that my wife Saira Bano Hyder gave birth to a baby boy on Wednesday September 12, 2007 at 8 PM in Credit Valley Hospital in Mississauga, Canada. We named him Ayaan Mohammed Rizvi. Ayaan meaning gift of God. Mashallah my father Syed Waseem Hyder son of Naseem Amrohvi and my mother Kamal Zehra Hyder daughter of Fakhr-e-Shamim Rizvi (Professor at Karachi Polytechnic) both have become proud grand parents. I would also like to share this information with you that my son would be the Janasheen of my Grand father Naseem Amrohvi as he is the first (eldest) great grand son of Naseem Amrohvi.”

Thank you Jawad and Saira for sharing this wonderful news



Proud parents Saira and Jawad with baby Ayaan

Congratulations from AIS to Jawad and Saira’s family.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

SHAH WILAYAT REMEMBERED IN NORTH AMERICA

The death anniversary of Shah Wilayat, the Sufi believed to have developed the town of Amroha, is celebrated with an Urse in Amroha and Karachi on 21st Rajab. This year three cities in North America also celebrated the 645th anniversary with qawwalis. The events were attended with enthusiasm and Amrohvis traveled long distances to participate.

Houston

As mentioned in our August newsletter a qawwali was held in Houston in honor of Sharfuddin Shah Wilayat in August 2007.

Mississauga

The following week a qawwali was held in Mississauga (Canada) in which several Houstonians were participants. The renowned Qawwal of Canada, Mr. Sahid Ali Khan and his sons started the program with the traditional Qawwali 'Man Kunto Maula'.

For more about this event and other society activities in Canada, see www.amrohacanada.com.



Qawwals and visitors at the qawwali held in Mississauga Canada

Rahway

Amrohvis in Mount Laurel and Livingston, New Jersey, also started a new tradition by initiating a qawwali in honor of Shah Wilayat. This was organized by Saiyed (Shandar) Naqvi and Fahim Alam) and was held at the Taj Palace restaurant Rahway New Jersey on November 17, 2007. The event was enjoyed and appreciated by all participants.



Saiyed (Shandar) with opening remarks. Qawwals Nazakat Ali and party



**The audience participated with enthusiasm
Pictures courtesy of Suhail Naqvi. Thank you**

Austin

Anand Raj visits Faridpur and Amroha:

Recently Anand Raj visited Faridpur and Amroha. He not only brought back some wonderful pictures of Amroha but was very successful in finding a deserving young student (Khem Chand) to receive an AIS scholarship. (See 'Educational activities of AIS.





Street scenes of Amroha

AIS appreciates Anand's contributions and efforts.

Chicago



Congratulations to Noreen Abbasi and her husband for the arrival of their son Rhoshan Ali Das. Proud grandparents were in Chicago to join this wonderful occasion.

The photo shows proud Nana (Dr Qamar Abbasi) with Rhoshan in Chicago.

AIS appreciates this news from Noreen.

Mount Laurel

AIS extends the communities wishes to Wasif (Chandan) for speedy recovery from his recent surgery. He and his family are in our thoughts.

CANADA

Mississauga

An Eid Milan Party was arranged by Anjuman Sadate-e-Amroha Canada on 19th November 2007. News courtesy of Mr. Hasan Hadi Naqvi.

SCOTLAND

Glasgow



Yousuf and Narjis Naqvi of Glasgow became proud parents of Zara Batool on 13 November 2007. Heartiest congratulations to the parents.

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne



Islam Husain Naqvi (brother of Ikram Naqvi) married Noor Bano from Hyderabad, in Melbourne, on September 12, 2007. Congratulations to the couple and wish them a healthy and happy future.

HEALTH TIPS

Many members of our community have an interest in health maintaining practices. Yoga and herbal (Hikmat) medicine have become very popular around the world. We encourage our members to research these topics further on search engines like 'Google'.

We Look Forward to your feed back and would be interested in receiving your personal news and stories about your experiences as an Amrohvi living in other countries.

PLEASE VISIT US AT www.amrohainternationalsociety.com