



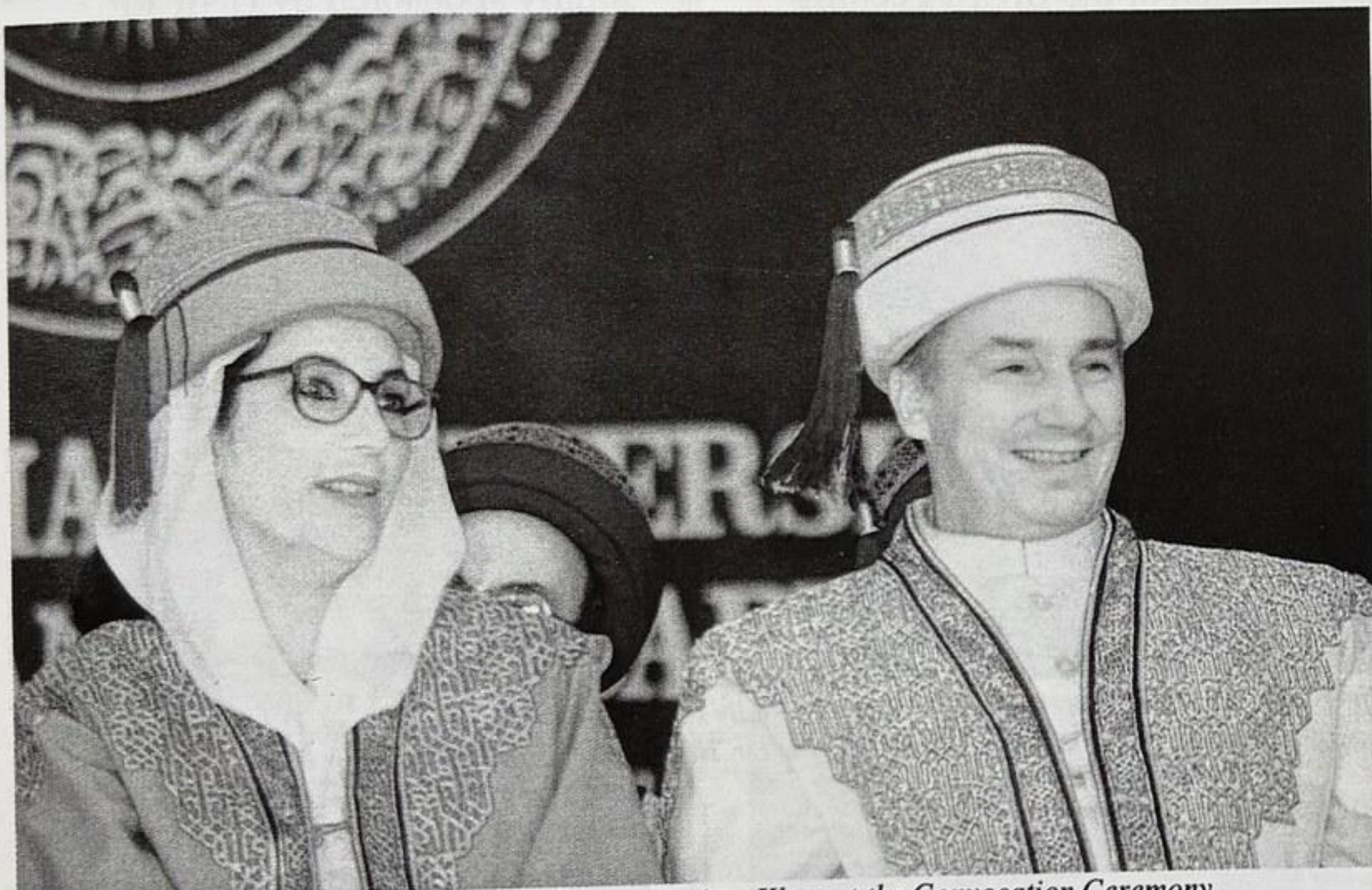
The Aga Khan Health Services

International Newsletter

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Convocation 1994 Prime Minister Commends AKU's Role in National Development

"During its young ten year history, the Aga Khan University has paved the way for academic excellence", stated Benazir Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan while gracing the University's 1994 Convocation as its Chief Guest. Welcoming His Highness the Aga Khan to Pakistan, the Prime Minister was pleased to note that Karachi was his second home, and that it was a matter of great pride for Pakistan that this city was also the birth place of his grandfather, Sir Sultan Mohamed Shah Aga Khan.

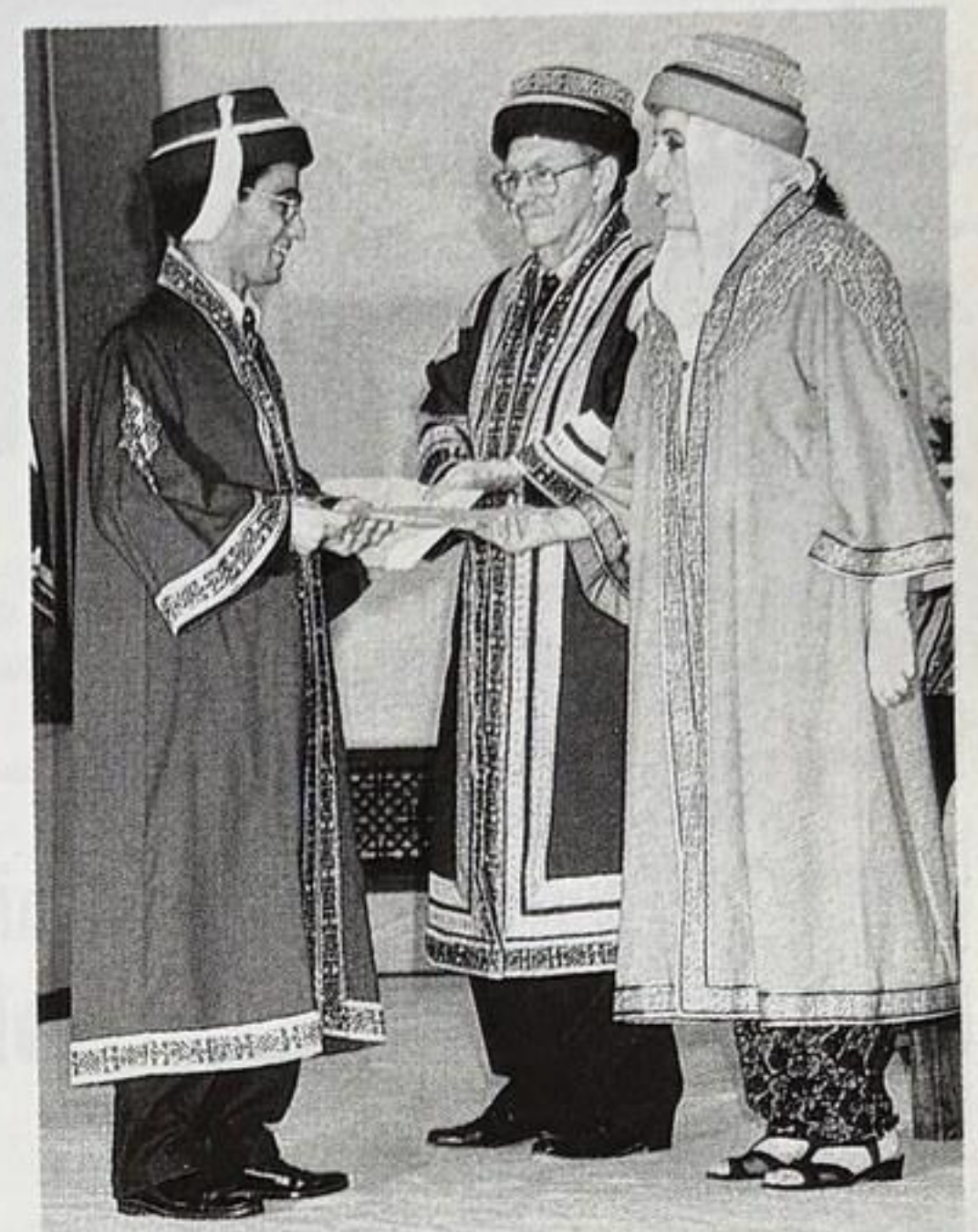


Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and His Highness the Aga Khan at the Convocation Ceremony.

The Prime Minister, in her address, pointed out three essential prerequisites of a great university: That the totality of human knowledge should be its provenance; it should inculcate a questioning spirit of relentless research; and prepare the youth of the day for leadership roles in society. She said: "I avail myself of this opportunity of being present at this premier institution to ask all those who are

concerned with higher education in Pakistan a simple question: Is the Pakistani university fulfilling these three essential attributes of a university?" If the answer is in the negative, then suggested the Prime Minister: "We all have to sit together and find out how to restore the pristine value of a higher seat of learning, which I am happy to say exists at the Aga Khan University."

AKU Tenth Anniversary Special Issue



A Medical College student receiving his Honours Award from the Prime Minister.

She continued that her government had closely followed the development of nursing education at the Aga Khan University, and on a more personal note remarked: "As a woman leader, I am delighted to find that the Aga Khan University campus has more women students than men".

The Prime Minister urged AKU's medical and nursing graduates to go forth into practical life with confidence in their own abilities and with compassion for others. She advised the young graduates to reach for the highest standards of achievements, and told them that once they had reached that goal they would discover that it was not so unattainable after all.

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ended the wounded during the time of
nsion of AKUSON has been made
sity of the Jaffer Ali Feerasta Family
US \$ 3 million.

schools. Most of all it will house
AKUSON's entire faculty and
student body, with provision of
student and faculty lounges and a
computer room for students.

The new building will additionally
provide a separate dedicated
Nursing Skills Laboratory, much
bigger than the present one, fully
equipped with the most modern
technology.



His Highness the Aga Khan with members of the Feerasta family—donors of the Rufaida Al-Aslamiya Building.

Cardiac Services Inaugurated at AKUH

An exciting new addition was made to the tertiary care programmes at the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH), during the Tenth Anniversary Celebrations of the Aga Khan University (AKU). The Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery Programme was inaugurated by His Highness the Aga Khan on 14th November 1994 in the presence of Princess Zahra, the Chairman and members of the University's Board of Trustees, senior administration and faculty members of AKU. Also present were donors, whose generosity has made the implementation of this vital unit at AKUH a reality.



His Highness the Aga Khan being briefed on the workings of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory.

Cardiac Services at AKUH

Welcoming the guests, Dr. Farhat Moazam, Chairperson of the Department of Surgery, explained the need to embark on the development of Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery at AKUH. She said: "Pakistan has a high incidence of heart disease. Our initial survey of the data available in other hospitals and at our own, revealed that 15 out of every 1000 adults in this country have some form of ischemic heart disease, or conditions that reduce blood supply to the heart and result in heart attacks. Almost 20% of these patients are less than 40 years old, in the prime of their life, and often the main bread earners of their families. The number of children born with cardiac defects appears to be much higher here than that reported in the West".

Dr. Moazam further elaborated on the two equally important components of the programme i.e. the Medical and the Surgical. She introduced Dr. Alnoor Abdulla, from Sudbury Memorial Hospital (Canada), who heads the team of Cardiologists at AKUH. Under his expert guidance, a team of dedicated nurses and technicians, trained in Canada, is responsible for the workings of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, and providing training to their Pakistani counterparts.

Additionally, the surgical arm of the programme, through the availability of the Heart Lung machine, enables cardiac surgeons to perform open heart surgery. For this component AKUH has sought expertise and training from the University of Maryland in the United States.

Dr. Moazam stated that post-graduate training programmes in Cardiology, Cardiac Surgery, Cardiac Anaesthesiology, Coronary Nursing Care, etc, are already on the anvil at AKU. Such specialized training will impact health delivery not only in Pakistan but also regionally through the Aga Khan Health Network.