

The HABIBIAN

Onward & Upwards!

ALUMNI Newsletter of the HABIB PUBLIC SCHOOL

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EDITORIAL

It's a good omen, the coming together of old school pals and their seniors and juniors in celebration and support of the Institution that made them capable of engaging with the world and, so many years later, being around with their boots on, having sailed through many a turbulent sea and weathered many a fearsome storm, coming out with life experiences that have made us better and stronger people, by the Grace of Allah. The turbulent seas and fearsome storms persist. However, they no longer appear so turbulent or fearsome. Notwithstanding, we live in times that call for closing of ranks, and what better platform to rally around than one's alma mater.

Through the aegis of The HABIBIAN we look forward to keeping the alumni connected and informed of the many splendid activities our School is engaging in with a view to nurturing and educating the newer generations of Pakistan in preparation for leadership roles in the future.

The HABIBIAN will also feature the personal narratives of the alumni, so please keep us posted about your lives through Letters-to-the-Editor, and articulate your thoughts in both short and long articles that we will look forward to carrying.

70 years into its existence and Pakistan is still finding its feet. The time is upon us to pool our considerable mental resources and come up with enduring solutions that will help us all in our search for terra firma.

Thanking you and wishing you all the choicest of health, wealth and happiness.

NEWS FLASH!

HABIB PUBLIC SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (HPSAA) registers under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

FOUNDER MEMBERS OF HPSAA include Mr. Nazim Haji (1963), Mr. Ahsan Saleem (1968), Mr. Saeed Allawala (1970), Mr Abdullah Feroz (1970), Mr. Zafar Kaleem (1970), Mr. Syed Javed Zaidi (1971), Mr. Nusrat Jamshed (1971), Dr. Sulaiman Hasan (1971), Mr. Aftab Tapal (1971), Mr. Humayun Qureshi (1973), Mr. Altaf Nazim (1975), Mr. Amer Zahoor (1975), and Mr. Fazil Bharucha (1979).

HPSAA elects Office Bearers. **Nazim Haji**, in the hot seat as President, with **Saeed Allawala** and **Abdullah Feroze** in supporting roles as the two Vice Presidents; **Amer Zahoor** as General Secretary; **Syed Javed Zaidi** charged with the purse strings as Treasurer.

Other Executive Committee Members include Mr. Mohammad Fazil Bharucha, Mr. Nusrat Iqbal Jamshed, Dr. Suleman Hasan and Mr. Mohammad Zafar Kaleem.

HABIBIAN Alumni Association Chapter also initiated in the USA; Other Chapters planned for other locations where Habibians reside; Fill up Profile Form and Register Now!

MR & MRS SAEED ALLAWALA HOSTS HABIBIANS REUNION

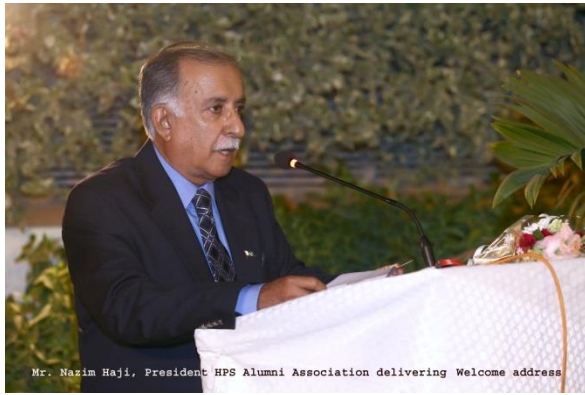
Over 200 HABIBIANS and their wives attended the Reunion Dinner at the residence of HABIBIAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Vice President Saeed Allawala. Proceedings began with the Tilawat-e-Quran, followed by the National Anthem and the HABIBIAN Pledge led by Mr. Saleem Raza. Thereafter came speeches by General Secretary Amer Zahoor and the President Nazim Haji. Also on the occasion the accomplishments of the outstanding HABIBIAN Alumni were shared with the gathering along with compiled Alumni profiles. As expected, there were plenty of trips down memory lane, and all present returned home rejuvenated and refreshed!



Mr. Saleem Raza leading the Habibian Pledge



Habibians reciting the Habibian Pledge



Mr. Nazim Haji, President Habib Public School Alumni Association, delivering the welcome address



With Mr. Abdullah Feroz, Mr. Azfar Fasih in the foreground and Dr. Sulaiman Hasan, Mr. Zafar Kaleem in the background, Habibians listening to the address by the President HPS Alumni Association.



Wives of the Habibians getting to know each other



Hostess of the evening Mrs. Rana Saeed Allawala welcoming the ladies



Mr. & Mrs. Saeed Allawala welcoming the guests Mr. & Mrs. Javed Zaidi



Mr. Saeed Allawala addressing Habibians gathered for the event



Mr. Nusrat Jamshed Master of Ceremony

Mr. Nusrat Jamshed was Master of Ceremony



Mr. Saeed Allawala (Vice President HPSAA), Mr. Nazim Haji (President HPSAA), Mr. Abdullah Feroz (Vice President HPSAA)



Mr. Saleem Raza, Mr. Shahid, Mr. Mohammad bin Ahmed, Mr. Anus

Mr. Saleem Raza Naqvi, Mr. Khawaja Shahid, Mr. Mohammad Bin Ahmed, Mr. Bashir Qureshi and Mr. Anus



Mr. Anus, teacher and mentor of 60's and 70's Habibians, addressing the Habibians



Mr. Abdullah Feroz was invited to speak to the Habibians, he came to the podium and said "Lets have dinner".



Mr Mohammad Bin Ahmed being welcomed to the event by Mr Hani and Mr. Amer

Mr. Mohammad Bin Ahmed, who commands great respect from Habibians, also graced the event with his presence. Mr. Hani and Mr. Amer Zahoor welcoming him.

PROUD HISTORY OF HPS

Founded in 1959, Habib Public School (HPS) is the realization of the dream of its founder Muhammad Ali Habib (1904 – 1959) for a good school that could provide quality education to all without discrimination. It caters predominantly to the middle and lower middle classes of society, but has had on its rolls a fair number that have risen to great heights in the service of Pakistan and made the cut for HPS's List of Prominent Alumni which has in the past included the scions of the Habib Family.

SPORTING POWERHOUSE

While academic excellence matters, HPS is one of the very few schools in Pakistan that lays tremendous emphasis on the pursuit of extracurricular activities, a fact borne out by its impressive list of accomplishments – HPS won the Sindh Swimming Championship 30 times, 16 of which were in consecutive years; 32 times Karachi Inter-School Athletic Champion; 37 times Inter-School Hockey Champion; 13 times All Karachi Inter-School Cricket Champion; and 5 times All Karachi Inter-School Table-tennis Champion. WOW!

14 Habibians have been international hockey players of which 2 have captained the national team, and as this report gets written the school is on its summer break and the HPS hockey team is on a five cities tour across Pakistan, playing against the local hockey academies. Its members are selected on merit and the school subsidizes those not able to afford the trip.

Four Habibians have been international cricketers, and 16 have represented Pakistan in athletics, with one playing the Under 16 British Open squash championship. Three Habibians have been national level divers, a sport in which the founder managing trustee Rashid D. Habib (1927 – 1994) himself excelled in.

MAJOR VALUE ADDITIONS

HPS is spread over 17.5 acres with two hockey fields, one of which is laid with AstroTurf thanks to trustee Ali Suleman Habib, with a Tartan track for athletics around the HOCKEY field's periphery. Both will serve as essential building blocks for international excellence in the two sports, one of which, athletics, is known as the mother of all sports, and the other, hockey, has been Pakistan's national sport presently in a state of utter neglect.

In addition to hockey, HPS is known for its swimming prowess and has the distinction of having its own 25 meters swimming pool which has recently been upgraded and heated by trustee Ali Suleman Habib to facilitate around the year utilization.

Badminton, basketball, body building, cricket, gymnastics, rowing, table tennis, Taekwondo and Volleyball comprise the other sports keenly participated in by the HPS boys, with a world class Gymnasium and Auditorium, complete with NBA recommended wooden floor and moveable bleacher seats for 1000 people providing an impressive platform for physical conditioning and showcasing the budding talent soon to make its mark at the highest levels, Inshallah. Once again, trustee Ali Suleman Habib is the driving force behind these improvements.

IMPROVING THE NATIONAL STANDARD

A total number of 2264 bright sparks comprise the student body at HPS, inclusive of 400 boys attending the newly added college. HPS offers both Matric and O Levels, and is affiliated with the Aga Khan Board. As the credibility of the Aga Khan Board has improved more students are shifting to Matric. HPS remains a strictly boys school, and increasingly Habibians are opting for college elsewhere in a coed setting.

Keeping teachers carefree and in a high state of motivation is a priority if they are to give their best to the students, and while female teachers mostly come from two-income families, male teachers need support after retirement, and the alumni can help in this regard. HPS has just started health insurance on the insistence of the trustees with them paying half the premium amount.

PROMINENT HABIBIANS

Raza Rabbani and Khaqan Abbasi are alumni. All three of Mamnoon Hussains sons are Habibians. The HPS has initiated the annual Convocation to which alumni are invited. Dr. Sulaiman Bashir Hasan, a leading cardiologist from the USA, was invited as chief guest. He returned from the USA because his mother needed him, sending a positive message to the boys that they have to put the needs of their family and country above their own. Classmates of the chief guest are invited and it's a great bonding opportunity.