

Dr. Zulekha Daud





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Greetings from Zulekha Healthcare Group!

Almost five decades ago, Dr. Zulekha Daud migrated to UAE as young girl in her early twenties from the comfort of an air conditioned home in Nagpur to pursue her dream of serving people in need.

Now as a septuagenarian, she heads the renowned Zulekha Healthcare Group which has its presence in the UAE and India. Dr. Daud's legacy has spawned two DQA winning multi-speciality hospitals accredited twice by JCI and three Medical Centers in the UAE. In addition she has also founded Alexis Hospital in her home town of Nagpur in India and started charitable Educational Institutes in 2009.

As an endearing beacon of care, Dr. Zulekha Daud believes in the truism of humanity "I have never worried about money or the profitability of any venture. I knew that I had been entrusted with a special responsibility and gave it only my very best. Everything else fell into place." As a practicing Gynaecologist she has completed over 15000 deliveries which include thousands carried out while she travelled door to door in the sweltering climatic conditions of UAE.

While establishing the legacy of Zulekha Healthcare Group, Dr. Daud has directly employed thousands of Indians in five decades. Her staunch faith for Indian Healthcare professionals who provide better care despite growing up in impoverished conditions is evidence to her continued support of Indian medical professionals. In her own words, "Beyond the technology, besides the specialists, something more is there - the magic of a caring touch"

Her concern for fellow Indians extend beyond medicos and she founded Zulekha College in her home town of Nagpur. The educational support facilities are provided at subsidized cost and Dr. Daud has given financial aid to non-functional Educational institutes in the region. Her immediate aim is to provide 'Clean Drinking Water' to everyone and she has initiated steps to ensure that Drinking Water is available at all the Educational institutes under her wingspan.

Thanking you

With respectful regards,

Staff & Management of Zulekha Healthcare Group

Encl: Profile of Dr. Zulekha Daud, Snapshot of her life and a photo essay of ongoing projects in UAE and India.





Dr. Zulekha Daud

**Founder & Managing Director
Zulekha Healthcare Group, UAE & India**

Dr. Zulekha Daud is the first recognized Indian woman medical professional and seniormost lady entrepreneur in UAE who has worked tirelessly towards the welfare of Emiratis and expats when healthcare access was very limited in the 60's. In the past 5 decades she has revolutionized the healthcare landscape and inspired others to follow suit. Today, Zulekha Healthcare Group boasts of super-specialty hospitals, medical centres, educational institutes and pharmacies in UAE & India.

Dr. Zulekha Daud received her medical degree from the Government Medical College in Nagpur; her parents were her role model constantly encouraging her to take up challenges - she arrived to UAE in 1964 to work in the Kuwaiti Mission Hospital located in Sharjah when there was a dearth of female doctors in the region. In a short time Dr. Zulekha Daud was able to capture the hearts of the UAE nationals and expatriates with her dedicated service and was soon became known as Mama Zulekha.

This fueled her to create world-class medical facilities providing compassionate care at affordable costs with the establishment of Zulekha Hospital Sharjah in 1992. The following years saw the establishment of Zulekha Healthcare Group (ZHCG) through a second hospital in Dubai, 3 medical centers and another new building in Sharjah in addition to pharmacies. The Group became the first in UAE to have both hospitals accredited by Joint Commission International for high quality care.

Dr. Zulekha Daud firmly believes in societal development and affirms, "Community service means giving back to the culture and people that surround you. It means supporting the immediate community on a local scale." She has been actively associated with many NGO's and Corporates for CSR drive - notable being - Diabetes, Cancer, Kidney and Arthritis awareness in the region.

Recognizing the need for Educational intervention in her home town Dr. Zulekha Daud founded a vocational training institute with a Charitable Trust to provide education and vocational training for the needy, deserving and rural population. She is also engineering the cause of 'Clean Drinking Water' in the region and has started by adopting neighbouring non-functional educational institutes as her first foray in to reviving the Educational landscape at the center of India.

For her notable work, Dr. Zulekha Daud received the Dubai Quality Appreciation award from His Highness Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. She was also ranked by the Arabian Business magazine as the most influential Indian Woman in Middle East. She was also conferred several accolades for her pivotal role including Forbes listing her as the Top Indian Leader in Middle East.

Still young at heart Dr. Zulekha Daud is on her way to realize her parents' dream - by setting up an ultra modern Hospital in her home town Nagpur - under the name Alexis Hospital - which she dreams to nurture all across India in time to come. Her secret of success - a true inspiration for all - "Beyond the technology, besides the specialists, something more is there... the magic of a caring touch"

Dr. Zulekha Daud

Founder & MD of Zulekha Healthcare Group, UAE & India
MD of Alexis Hospital and Chairperson of Zulekha Colleges, India



“The strength of a woman can carry the weight of the world” – Sarah Pezdek Smith, American-born Ukrainian Artist, poet and writer.

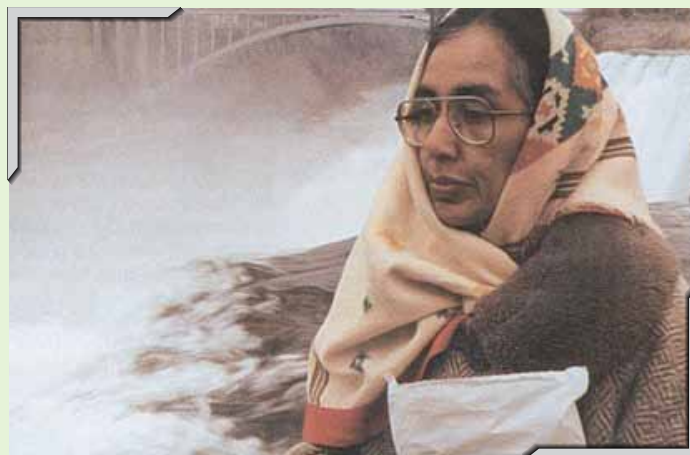
There is no doubt that the endearing matriarch of Zulekha Healthcare Group (ZHCG) and one of UAE’s first expatriate woman doctor; Dr. Zulekha Daud makes a perfect protagonist in this context. She has not only healed thousands in the UAE through her caring touch but she continues to be the beacon of hope and servitude for several thousands back in India through her philanthropic activities.

Back to the start - In the early 1960's when she migrated to UAE from The American Mission Hospital in Kuwait, the region was a vast expanse of desert without basic living amenities such electricity or potable water and the medical facilities were rudimentary to say the least, this is when she decided to stay on and serve the people with a rare display of selfless dedication. As a gesture of gratitude from the Royal Family of UAE Dr. Daud was offered special privileges in the UAE which she humbly declined stating that “Even though I have received such warmth from the people of this great nation, I’ll always be a proud Indian.”

The Zulekha legacy across borders - Dr. Daud’s personal opinion about her own achievements in the past 5 decades is equally humble “What I did was nothing greater than the

need for medical attention. I borrowed strength from this overwhelming need of the people of this country,” says Dr. Daud. From humble beginnings of a single clinic in Sharjah, Dr. Zulekha Daud steered ZHCG to be one of the prominent privately run Healthcare brands in the region providing highly specialized care over 30 medical disciplines. Dr. Daud’s brand of care has since spawned 5 tertiary care units in the UAE that includes 2 multi-speciality hospitals, 3 Medical Centers, Pharmacies and an upcoming hospital building. In addition to these a tertiary care 200-bed Alexis Hospital and a not-for-profit Educational institute in Nagpur, India is part of her legacy of care that has also helped all those who have been employed at any Zulekha Group unit through five decades positively affecting thousands of families in India.

Mama Zulekha - Dr. Daud’s journey of healing began in the extremely orthodox society of UAE as a qualified female Gynaecologist. In the absence of hospitals she used to travel door to door even for normal delivery cases earning her the fond monicker of Mama Zulekha. “It was a tough life but it was very challenging and I have always loved challenges” smiles Dr. Daud displaying the iron-will of this soft spoken frail looking septuagenarian.



Medico with a heart - During a time when medicolegal cases have become the order of the day Mama Zulekha has always held humane values very close to her heart and she thinks being a woman has helped her. “A woman’s maternal instinct

Zulekha Hospital in Dubai.



Zulekha Hospital in Sharjah with upcoming new building



of love and compassion is a vital ingredient in the healing process,” she explains. Indeed she has attended to more than 15,000 deliveries till date, offering an empathy that only a woman can feel for another.

Approachable Leader - Even today she is available at the first Hospital that she built with the doors to her cabin wide open as it used to be in the early days. She is till date perhaps the only Entrepreneur in the region who never had to use the services of an Executive Assistant whilst practicing the ‘open door to all’ or ‘No appointments required’ approach. “I treat every one equally with concern, compassion and respect which would not be rightly represented if you had to speak to someone else when you needed to talk to me” explains Mama Zulekha.

A mother of people - Mama Zulekha is roundly admired by the old and young due to her ability to reach out and touch the lives of people around her. Beyond this, she strives to retain her ever-growing ‘care tribe’ and is one of the rare organizations that has almost 100 people who have been with The Group for over 15 years and 25 people who have been a part of the Legacy for more than 20 years. “People are all the same across the world, we all yield to love” is her simple explanation to justify this people magnetism.

The beacon of hope for three states - Despite having worked in the Gulf region for decades Mama Zulekha always nursed her dream to build a tertiary care hospital (Alexis Hospital) in her hometown of Nagpur. Being acutely aware of the fact that Nagpur lacked tertiary care while adjoining regions in Madhya Pradesh lacked even primary care, she successfully partnered IFC for 200-bed Alexis Hospital; the first multi-speciality hospital offering secondary and tertiary care (Cancer and Cardiology treatments) in the region. This endeavour of Mama Zulekha on completion will see over 1 Lakh patients in one year thereby galvanizing the healthcare landscape at the epicentre of India. Alexis Hospital has the potential to affect the GDP of the territory with employment

opportunities and peripheral growth as a direct result of the hospital.

The paragon of knowledge - Somewhere in between setting up her dream project of building a tertiary care hospital in the heart of India, Mama Zulekha managed to address the need for Educational strife in her hometown. She engineered the cause of bringing affordable education and professional courses for the down trodden and deserving students in and around Nagpur. She set up Zulekha Colleges in 2010 with the help of a Charitable Trust offering basic Commerce and Science faculty. True to the reputation of Mama Zulekha, within a short time the wing span of Zulekha Colleges increased to include professional curriculum such as Polytechnic, B. Ed and M. Ed. Currently, Zulekha Colleges enlighten over 5000 students and have adopted some of the non-functional Educational institutes in the neighbourhood in a bid to revive them as knowledge centers.

The spirit of a people’s champion - Her approach towards society and her duty towards humanity remains as simple as her personality. Mama Zulekha’s concern areas remain basic and rudimentary “When we take good care of the small things in life, the big things take care of themselves” is her personal viewpoint about life. As a medical professional she lives a life dedicated to caring for society and she has founded a charitable Educational Institute in Nagpur while at a grass root level she works tirelessly towards providing ‘Clean Drinking Water’ through her philanthropy partnership. Her humble pledge to stay committed at every level has been the bedrock of ‘work culture’ at ZHCG. Over the years Mama Zulekha’s resoluteness to adhere to compassion became the ‘spirit of caring’ for every one in the Group. She has identified and adopted schools that were non-functional in Nagpur to champion her ‘Clean Drinking Water’ initiative. Towards this she continues to organize fund raising and relentlessly works towards finding partners who can support this simple yet vital cause.



Recognition for the doyen of care and compassion - Mama Zulekha's compassion never made light of Quality and as a recognition of her consistent commitment to bring the best for society, she has received several felicitations including the latest Forbes Middle East as Top Indian Leaders, Arab Health Award, the Most Influential Indian Woman in the Middle East to name just a few.



H.H. Shaikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum (Vice President of the UAE & Ruler of Dubai) presenting the DQAP certificate to Dr. Zulekha Daud



Dr. Zulekha Daud receiving the prestigious Dubai Quality Award 2011 from H.H. Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum (Deputy Ruler of Dubai and the Chairman of Dubai Media Incorporated)



Dr. Zulekha Daud is honoured by H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Executive Council at the Accreditation ceremony which was hosted and conducted by DHA for all accredited healthcare facilities in Dubai



Dr. Zulekha Daud receiving the Forbes Award from H.E. Shashi Tharoor (Minister of State for Human Resources and Member of Parliament, Govt. of India) and Nasser Al Tayyar (President of Forbes Middle East) amongst Top Indian Leaders recognized by Forbes Middle East



Dr. Zulekha Daud was bestowed the Award for 'Outstanding Contribution of an individual to the Middle East Healthcare Industry' at Arab Health 2013.



Dr. Zulekha Daud felicitated with LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN HEALTH CARE by Ms. Reem Al Hashimy (UAE Minister of State) and Brand Guru Prof. Arindham Chaudhuri



Dr Zulekha Daud was presented with Lifetime Achievement Award at the fifth Masala Awards by Bollywood icon Shabana Azmi for her tireless contribution to healthcare



Dr. Zulekha Daud receives plaque from H.E. Sheikh Dr. Majid Bin Saeed Al Nuaimi, (Chairman Ruler's Court, Ajman) in recognition of her exemplary achievements in the field of Gynaecology and her service to the community.



Dr. Zulekha speaking at the Gala function where she was felicitated amongst Great Indian Achievers Award during Women's Day celebration at JYK Fashion House, Dubai.



Dr. Zulekha Daud, Founder and Managing Director, Zulekha Healthcare Group was conferred International Women's Day Excellence Award by 'Dhwani'.



THINK PINK
Joyalukkas for breast cancer awareness



**“Think Pink”
Breast Cancer Awareness
initiative in association
with Joyalukkas Group**



Beat diabetes
A Landmark Group Initiative



**“Beat Diabetes”
Diabetes Awareness
initiative in association
with Landmark Group**



Go slow on sweet snacking.

Know the risks and warning signs of Diabetes
Know how to manage and take control.

“Stop Smoking Initiative”
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STOP SMOKING Smoking induced Cancer has stopped countless talented careers

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Zulekha Hospital partnered with Landmark Group for their initiative on 'Diabetes Education and Prevention Walk' that was organized by Oasis Centre.



Zulekha Hospital supported the 'Walk for Education' event that was organized by Dubai Cares



Gratitude

I take this opportunity to thank you for spending some of your precious moments to read about me, my life and my humble contributions to society and mankind in general. I consider myself fortunate to get this chance to be of service to humanity because I know that in our hearts we all would love to leave this planet a better place than how it was before us.