

Prof. Brig. Munir Ahmed Cheema (Late)

We deeply regret to announce that Prof. Brig. Munir Ahmed Cheema passed away in Rawalpindi due to heart failure.

Born in Punjab, Prof. Cheema earned his MBBS from King Edward Medical College, Lahore. He completed a house job in Surgery at Mayo Hospital, then pursued postgraduate and Fellowship training in Orthopaedic Surgery in the UK, followed by advanced training in the USA.

Upon his return to Pakistan, Prof. Cheema joined the Pakistan Armed Forces Medical Services on 22nd June 1967. He served as an Orthopaedic Surgeon at various Army and Air Force hospitals. He developed Orthopaedic Departments at several Military Hospitals across the country and significantly advanced orthopaedic care within the Armed Forces.

He married on 1st May 1968. In 1979, he joined the Nigerian Armed Forces Medical Services, serving with distinction at the Lagos hospital. His professionalism, humility, and surgical skill earned him broad respect for himself and for Pakistan.

Returning to Pakistan in 1984, Prof. Cheema joined the Surgical Department of the Army Medical College, Rawalpindi. He was later promoted to the rank of Brigadier and appointed Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery. During my tenure as Professor of Medicine and Principal/Dean of the Army Medical College, I had the privilege of working closely with him. I witnessed his remarkable contributions to the institution and to medical education.

In 1985–1986, he served as Surgeon to the Prime Minister and President of Pakistan, which testifies to his professional excellence and dedication.

Colleagues, students, and patients deeply respected Prof. Cheema for his unwavering honesty,

compassion, and dedication to ethical medical practice. He shunned materialism and showed generosity toward needy patients. As an outstanding surgeon, he exemplified the character and principles of a true gentleman.

After retiring from the Armed Forces, he served at Hearts International Hospital and devoted himself to his patients, especially those in need. He also reconnected with his former army colleagues and friends, and treasured the enduring bonds of camaraderie that marked his life.

In addition to his medical career, Prof. Cheema was a gifted writer with a deep appreciation for English literature. He authored four books published in the United States. One of these, the widely acclaimed “Ramblings of a Military Surgeon,” offered poignant reflections on his professional and personal journey.

We will remember Prof. Munir Ahmad Cheema as a brilliant surgeon, an inspiring teacher, an exceptional human being, a talented author, a loving father, and a devoted husband.

He is survived by his wife, a homemaker, and two children. Dr. Farrah Cheema is a Pulmonologist at a research institute in the USA. Mr. Omar Cheema is a Senior Engineer in a leading U.S. firm.

May Allah bless his noble soul and grant him the highest place in Jannah. Ameen.

Prof Mahmud Ahmad Akhtar, HI (M)

HI[M]

Former Surgeon General Pakistan Army & DGMS [IS]

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