



HDF-THANKS SCHOLARSHIP

27

Established 2018



SABIKA SHEIKH



Sabika Sheikh was a 17 years old Pakistani exchange student, who was among the ten students killed in a school shooting in Santa Fe, Texas, in May, 2018. She had come from Karachi, Pakistan, on a six-month rotation, which was to end in a few weeks.

She was initially hosted by a Pakistani origin family and later by the local Cogburn family. During her stay in the U.S, she showed herself to be an exemplary citizen, bonded well with the fellow students, the host families and was well liked. Joleen Cogburn, her host mother, said that she wanted the world to know about Sabika, her heart and her courage. How she wanted to have an impact on the world. Every single thing about Sabika was amazing. Her laugh was the best thing about her. The world needs to know, how amazingly awesome, fun and loving, she was. Ms. Cogburn thanked God for every day, that He gave her family, the most precious treasure in Sabika.

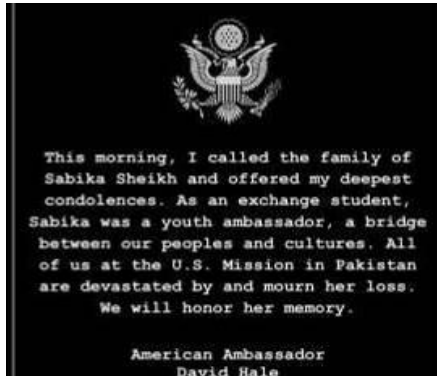
The death of a teenager is an unspeakable tragedy for the family, the friends and the humanity at large. It is a loss of dreams, hopes and aspirations. A sense of permanent loss, a void which is never filled. Memories, hopes, unrealized potential, what could have been? The survivors are left to contemplate these questions for the rest of their lives. And Sabika's death was no different. What made it different was, that it was felt and mourned across a wide spectrum of humanity-----in Pakistan, in the U.S., by the common people, the officials, the Muslims and the non-Muslims alike. The tragedy of her death brought the people from two different countries, two cultures, two religions together and enabled them to see the humanity in each other.

In a tribute to her life, Sabika's bedroom in the U.S. was decorated with the drawing of a plane, with an inscription saying " Up in the clouds, on my way to the unknown things."

Rest in peace, dear Sabilka.



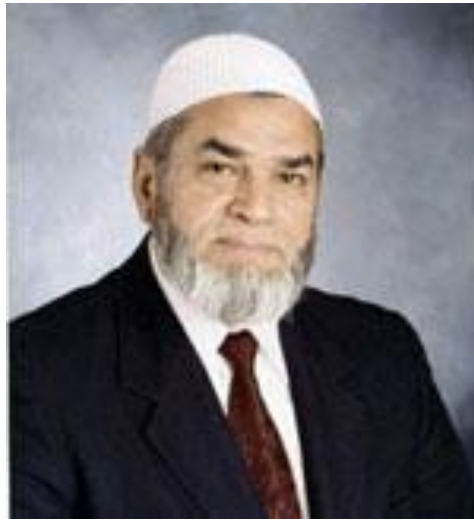
Karachi Public School



By King Edward Medical College-Class of 1970



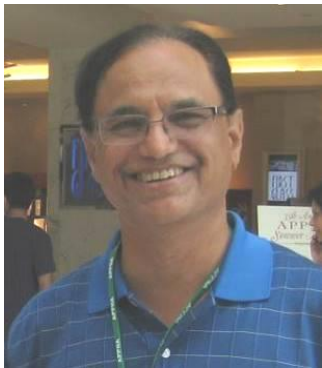
Nasim Ahmed



Mukhtar Anees



Abdul G. Chaudhry



Bashir Chaudhary



M. Ashraf Chaudhary



Sultan Akbar Hayat



Naheed Hilal



Rashid Javed Khan



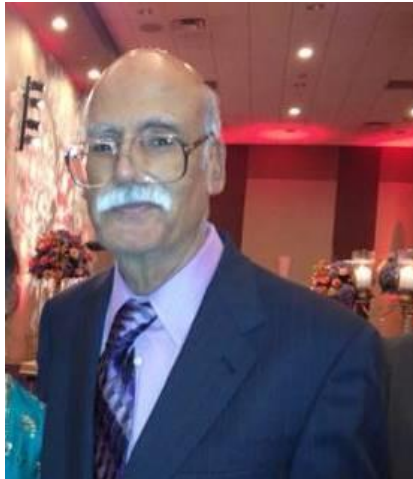
Riaz Lone



Naseer Mobashar



Ghulam Murtaza



Mohammad Nawaz



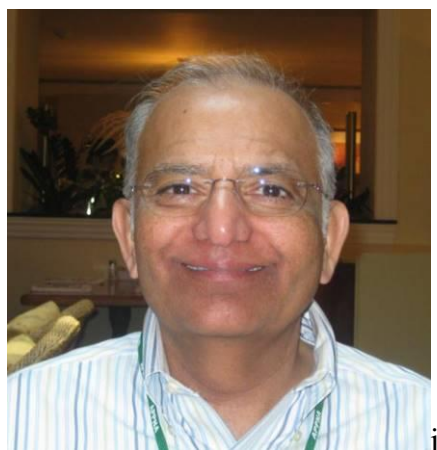
Naeem Pervaiz



Yousaf Sandhu



Shaista Usmani



Amjad Zaheer

Coordinator's note.



<https://www.texasmonthly.com/articles/remembering-sabika-sheikh-pakistani-student-killed-santa-fe-school-shooting/>

The news of shootings at schools is always gut wrenching and, unfortunately, happening just too frequently. The news of Sabika's death was shocking to all parents, particularly to the Pakistani American community. We felt as if somebody had died in our own family. She represented our roots and was studying in our adopted country with great hopes of doing something good in this world. This scholarship represents our tribute to Sabika. This scholarship, starting in 2019, will recognize 3 bright students of her school for awards (First-50%, second-30%, third-20%) as many of them will have qualities and ambitions similar to Sabika.

Bashir Chaudhary

Sabika's family in Pakistan



Parents: Abdul Aziz Sheikh and Farah Aziz Sheikh

Children: Sabika Aziz Sheikh, Sania Aziz Sheikh, Ali Aziz Sheikh and Soha Aziz Sheikh

Message from the family

"A brave daughter, the dedicated young student who went to America for study on August 21, 2017 on a merit scholarship. On May 18, 2018 Sabika embraced martyrdom while fasting inside " Santa Fe High School " in Houston, Texas, USA.

Sabika, the girl who had a thousand dreams. Dreams of bringing about a change. Dreams of becoming a diplomat. She was an intellectual individual who was passionate about her studies. She was a feminist! She wanted to change the lives of the less fortunate, of those who didn't get their rights. Not only that, but she also wished to make Pakistan's image better in the world for which she went all the way from Pakistan to United States."