

Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (abbreviated DMCH) is a public medical college and hospital located in Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh. It houses medical school as well as a tertiary care hospital on one campus.

The country's first ever autologous bone marrow transplant took place in its bone marrow transplant unit.[5][6]

Contents

1 History

1.1 Site during pre-college years

1.2 Establishment of the college

1.3 Expansion

1.4 Origin of 'K'

2 Undergraduate course

3 Postgraduate courses

4 Principals

5 Hospital wing

5.1 Facilities and services

5.2 Clinical teaching

5.3 Hospital administration

6 Student life

6.1 Students' accommodation

6.2 Sports facility

6.3 Cultural activities

7 Role in national politics

7.1 Bengali Language Movement (1948-1952)

7.2 Liberation War (1971)

8 Notable people

8.1 Alumni

9 See also

10 References

11 External links

History[edit]

Site during pre-college years[edit]

The college's original building was built before the Partition of Bengal of 1905. As of 1904, the building was being used as the secretariat (headquarters) of the newly formed provinces of East Bengal and Assam.

In 1921, it was turned over to the University of Dhaka, which was founded that year. A part of the huge building was used as the university's medical center, another part as the students' dormitory, and the rest as the office of the administrative wing of the Arts faculty.[7]

In 1939, the Dhaka University council requested the British Government to establish a separate medical college in Dhaka. The proposal was postponed because of the onset of the Second World War.[7]

During World War II the medical center building became an American armed forces

hospital. The Americans vacated the building at the end of the war.[7][8]

Establishment of the college[edit]

In 1946, due to the partition of India, all the advanced students (From K-4 to K-1) as well as many lecturers and professors were transferred from Calcutta Medical College to start academic studies and maintain hospital facilities in the newly established Dhaka Medical College. Academic classes started on 10 July, which is celebrated as DMC Day.[9][10]

Major W. J. Virgin, the head of the committee formed to establish the Dhaka Medical College, was the first principal. In the beginning there were only four departments – medicine, surgery, gynecology and otolaryngology (ENT).

Since the college did not initially have anatomy or physiology departments, the students at first attended those classes at Mitford Medical School (now the Sir Salimullah Medical College); but, after a month, Professor of Anatomy Pashupati Basu and Professor of Physiology Hiralal Saha joined the staff and their specialties were taught in ward no. 22 of the hospital.[10]

Expansion[edit]

There was no lecture hall nor dissection gallery at first. These needs were met after the construction of new academic buildings in 1955. The college did not have any student housing. Male students were allowed to reside in the Dhaka University's student halls, but female students did not have the use of that facility.

The college and hospital premises were expanded with temporary sheds, some of which were built for outdoor services of the hospital and some for student housing. New buildings for housing, college, and hospital were constructed in phases: a dormitory for girls in 1952, a dormitory for male students in 1954–55, a new complex of academic buildings in 1955, and a dormitory for internee doctors in 1974–75.[8] A new academic and hospital building, adding 500 beds, Dhaka Medical College Hospital-2 (DMCH-2), was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 3 October 2013.[11]

Origin of 'K'[edit]

Every student batch, or class, of Dhaka Medical College is tagged with the prefix K along with a number. The 1st year, the beginning batch of the college, was named K-5, likewise 2nd year as K-4, 3rd year as K-3, 4th year as K-2, and 5th year K-1. In 2021, DMC is hosting its 78th batch, hence branded as K-78. Many theories about the origin of the letter K exist, the most popular being that K stands for Kolkata, as many students of DMC's earlier batches migrated from Calcutta Medical College.[12]

Though Kolkata was officially known as Calcutta until 2001[13][14][15] the city was widely pronounced as Kolkata/Kolikata in Bengali. Though the first ten medical schools didn't follow this tradition, yet another theory proposes that, as the institute was the 11th medical school in Indian subcontinent, K, the 11th letter of English alphabet, is used to represent that.[10]

Undergraduate course[edit]

A countrywide combined medical admission test for MBBS course is held every year under the supervision of DGHS. Students after passing Higher Secondary School Certificate or equivalent examinations with the required grades can apply for the test. In 2020, 226 general seats and 4 seats for freedom fighter quota (Total 230) were allocated for MBBS

course in Dhaka medical college.[16][17]

The qualified candidates, according to their preferences, get the opportunity to study at Dhaka Medical College. Foreign candidates from both SAARC and non-SAARC countries are selected by DGHS and MOHFW as per required qualifications.[18]

College runs 5-year MBBS course according to the curriculum developed by BMDC. A student studies Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pathology, Pharmacology, Microbiology, Forensic Medicine, Community Medicine, Medicine & allied subjects, Surgery & allied subjects and Gynecology & Obstetrics during the course period.

The course is divided into 4 phases. Four professional examinations, one at the end of each phase, are held under University of Dhaka. After passing the fourth or final professional examination, a student is awarded with MBBS degree. Course curriculum follows percentage system grading. Pass mark for the college's internal as well as professional examinations is 60 percent. Student shall have to pass written (MCQ + SAQ + formative), oral, practical and clinical examinations separately.[19] Students scoring 85 percent or above in a subject are awarded with honors.[citation needed]

Postgraduate courses[edit]

College offers MD, MS, Diploma, Mphil in 43 different subjects in affiliation[1][2] with University of Dhaka and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.[20]

College also runs three fellowship courses of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons in different disciplines.[20]

Principals[edit]

Sl

Name

hide

Duration in office

From To

1. Major William John Virgin[21] 01.07.1946 14.08.1947
2. Lt. Col. Edward George Montgomery[22] 15.08.1947 19.07.1948
3. T. Ahmed 19.07.1948 01.01.1952
4. Colonel M. K. Afridi 01.01.1952 20.03.1953
5. Nawab Ali 21.03.1953 10.04.1954
6. A. K. M. A. Wahed 11.04.1954 20.01.1955
7. Nawab Ali 21.01.1955 01.02.1957
8. Md. Refat Ullah 01.02.1957 01.09.1958
9. Habib Uddin Ahmed 02.09.1958 04.06.1959
10. Lt. Col. M. M. Haque 04.06.1959 11.09.1963
11. A. K. S. Ahmed 11.09.1963 28.12.1963
12. G. Kibria 28.12.1963 08.02.1964
13. Lt. Col. Borhanuddin 09.02.1964 27.01.1969
14. K. A. Khaleque 27.01.1969 30.12.1970
15. Saifullah 01.01.1971 20.05.1971
16. M. R. Chowdhury 25.05.1971 02.07.1974
17. M. A. Jalil 03.07.1974 06.05.1976

18. M. A. Kashem 07.05.1976 01.10.1978
19. Md. Shahidullah 02.10.1978 25.11.1980
20. Mazharul Imam 25.11.1980 01.10.1981
21. M. A. Mazed 01.10.1981 02.07.1982
22. M. I. Chowdhury 02.07.1982 31.01.1985
23. Mirza Mazharul Islam 31.01.1985 13.12.1986
24. Waliullah 13.12.1986 30.01.1990
25. M. Kabiruddin Ahmed 31.01.1990 30.03.1991
26. Zwahurul Moula Chaudhury 30.03.1991 14.01.1995
27. Md. Shofiullah 14.01.1995 22.01.1995
28. M. A. Hadi 22.01.1995 18.07.1996
29. A. B. M. Ahsan Ullah 18.07.1996 19.09.1999
30. A. K. Md. Shahidul Islam 19.09.1999 29.08.2001
31. Md. Abdul Kadir Khan 29.08.2001 15.11.2001
32. Tofayel Ahmed 15.11.2001 07.08.2003
33. Md. Fazlul Haque 07.08.2003 29.09.2003
34. Hosne Ara Tahmin (Charu) 29.09.2003 26.06.2006
35. Syed Mahbubul Alam 26.06.2006 01.03.2007
36. M. Abul Faiz 01.03.2007 07.01.2008
37. Quazi Deen Mohammad 17.01.2008 09.01.2014
38. Md. Ismail Khan 09.01.2014 13.05.2017
39. Md. Shafiqul Alam Chowdhury (Acting) 13.05.2017 13.06.2017
40. Khan Abul Kalam Azad[23] 13.06.2017 31.12.2020
41. Md. Titu Miah[24] 01.01.2021

Hospital wing[edit]

Facilities and services[edit]

Dhaka Medical College has a 2600-bed[25] teaching hospital as Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) within the same compound. It is a tertiary referral hospital. It has a 300-bed facility dedicated for burn & plastic surgery. It was the largest burn unit of the country until Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery was set. In 2015, Hospital's Out-Patient Department provided services to 799,896 patients.[25] More 346,580 patients attended at the emergency and 149,122 patients got admitted in different facilities of the hospital in 2015.[25] The surgical staffs performed 58,355 surgeries in 2015.[25] Expansion plan to turn the hospital into a 5000-bed facility has been contemplated.[26]

Country's first bone marrow transplant center was set in this hospital in October 2013 in collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital.[27][28][29] This unit conducted first ever successful autologous bone marrow transplant in the country in March 2014.[30][31][32][33][34] The unit also introduced allogeneic bone marrow transplant on 3 July 2019, the first in the country.[35]

Clinical teaching[edit]

It is one of the major teaching hospitals in the country.[citation needed] Bedside teaching and clinical examinations of the undergraduate as well as postgraduate students take place

at the hospital wing.[citation needed]

Dhaka Medical College Hospital is a recognized clinical examination centre for fellowship examination of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons.[citation needed]

Hospital administration[edit]

Director of the hospital is the administrative chief of the hospital service. Deputy director, assistant directors and other officials give him assistance in this regard. Faculties from different departments of the college act as clinical and administrative superiors of the respective department. They actively supervise the clinical services as well as clinical training of the trainee doctors.[citation needed]

Student life[edit]

Students' accommodation[edit]

In the past, Ramesh Chandra Majumdar, the then vice chancellor of University of Dhaka, arranged accommodation for the medical college students. Muslim students were accommodated in Salimullah Muslim Hall, Hindus were accommodated in the then Dhaka Hall (now Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah Hall). Baptist mission hostel at Sadarghat accommodated the Christian students. Nursing Hostel was allocated for the female students. Later, 20 medical barracks were built and students were accommodated there. As of 2019, there are four hostels for accommodation of the students as well as interns.[citation needed]

Shaheed Dr. Fazle Rabbee Hall (established in 1955) - For male students (named after martyred[contentious label] intellectual Mohammed Fazle Rabbee)[citation needed]

Dr. Alim Chowdhury Hall - For female students (named after martyred[contentious label] intellectual AFM Alim Chowdhury)[citation needed]

Shaheed Dr. Shamsul Alam Khan Milon Intern Doctors' hostel (Male) (named after the martyred[contentious label] activist of anti-autocracy movement in 1990, Shamsul Alam Khan Milon)[citation needed]

Shaheed Dr. Shamsul Alam Khan Milon Intern Doctors' Hostel (Female)[citation needed]

Dr. Fazle Rabbee Hall and Dr. Milon Intern Doctors' hostel (for male) share the same compound at Bakshibazar, Lalbagh, Dhaka. Dr. Alim Chowdhury hall and Dr. Milon Intern doctors' hostel (for female) share the same compound inside the territory of the college.[citation needed]

Sports facility[edit]

DMC has a sports ground inside Fazle Rabbee Hall. It is used for football, cricket, and other athletics. Fazle Rabbee Hall also houses a basketball ground and a tennis ground. Besides, college building and hostels have students' common rooms with indoor game facility[citation needed]

Cultural activities[edit]

College has an auditorium with 1200 sitting capacity.[citation needed] DMC day is celebrated each year on 10 July, the foundation day of the college.[9]

Role in national politics[edit]

Bengali Language Movement (1948-1952)[edit]

The college dormitories that were known as barracks were at the heart of the Bengali Language Movement from 1948 to 1952. The barracks were formerly situated at the

current location of the Shaheed Minar.[citation needed]

There were about 20 tin shed barracks where the medical students resided. Because they were close to the Parliament of East Pakistan (presently Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University), the medical dormitories were chosen as the center of the student movement.[citation needed]

In the early hours of 21 February 1952, all the students of Dhaka Medical College gathered in front of the medical college dormitories. In the afternoon the group headed for the parliament which was in session. No procession was allowed due to the imposition of Section 144 (a section of the penal code that prohibited unlawful assembly). The students decided to defy Section 144 at 4:00 PM at the historic Aam-tola (which was situated beside the present day Emergency gate).[citation needed]

The police fired at the procession, resulting in the deaths of Salam, Barkat, Rafique, Jabbar and Shafiur.[36][37] After sunset on 21 February, at the site of the deaths, the students of Dhaka Medical College decided to build a monument. Badrul Alam and Sayed Haider the then students of Dhaka Medical College planned and designed the structure. They worked continuously on 22 and 23 February and finished the construction, using bricks, gravel and cement reserved for the hospital. A paper with Shaheed Smritistambha(Monument in memory of the martyrs) written on it was attached on the monument. It was inaugurated by the father of Shofiur Rahman, a martyr of language movement. However, the monument was demolished by government forces on 26 February 1952.[38][39][40][41]

Liberation War (1971)[edit]

Many staff and students took part in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War, as fighters or in treating the injured.[42] DMC's doctors, teachers and students laid their lives in the war. Many eminent physicians and academics were abducted from home and killed during the war.[citation needed]

Notable people[edit]

Alumni[edit]

Sitara Begum, doctor, army officer awarded the Bir Protik[43]

Mohammed Fazole Rabbee, cardiologist, intellectual killed during the Bangladesh Liberation War[44]

AFM Alim Chowdhury, ophthalmologist, intellectual killed during the Bangladesh Liberation War[45]

A. Q. M. Badruddoza Chowdhury, Former President of Bangladesh , Independence Day Award awardee in 1993[46]

Sayed Haider, activist in the Bengali language movement, designer of Shaheed Minar, Ekushey Padak awardee (2016)[47][48]

Golam Moula, activist in the Bengali language movement, Eksushey Padak awardee (2010) (posthumous)[49][50]

Badrul Alam, activist in the Bengali language movement, designer of first Shaheed Minar, Ekushey Padak awardee (2014)[51][52]

Ahmed Rafiq, activist in the Bengali language movement, writer, researcher, Ekushey Padak awardee (1995)[53]

Mirza Mazharul Islam, surgeon, language movement veteran, Ekushey Padak awardee

(2018)[54]

Abdul Malik, cardiologist, National Professor award winner, founder of National Heart Foundation, and National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, awardee of Independence day award (2004)[55]

Shahla Khatun, National Professor award winner, obstetrician/gynecologist[[Obstetrician][citation needed]]]

Dipu Moni , Education Minister, former Minister of Foreign Affairs[citation needed]

A F M Ruhul Haque, former Health and Family Welfare Minister, orthopedic surgeon, former President of [[Swadhinata Chikitschak Parishad|Swadhinata Chikitschak Parishad[citation needed]]]

Syed Modasser Ali, former health advisor to Prime Minister [[Sheikh Hasina|Sheikh Hasina[citation needed]]]

Shamsul Alam Khan Milon, activist killed during the 1990 Mass Uprising in Bangladesh[[Sheikh Hasina][citation needed]]]

Abul Kalam Azad, Director General of Directorate General of Health Services[56]

Rashiduddin Ahmad, neurosurgeon, awardee of Independence Day Award in 1999 and Bangladesh National Sports Award in 2007, first captain of East Pakistan National Basketball team[57] and Captain of Bangladesh team in Davis Cup 1989[57]

Lutfor Rahman, cardiac surgeon[58]

AKM Fazlul Haque, pioneer [[Colorectal surgery|colorectal surgeon[citation needed]]]

Quazi Deen Mohammad, neurologist, Founding Director of NINS, President of [[Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons|Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons[citation needed]]]

Meerjady Sabrina Flora, epidemiologist, former Director of [[Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research|IEDCR[citation needed]]]

Mostofa Jalal Mohiuddin, President of Bangladesh Medical Association, formerly President of [[Bangladesh Chhatra League|Bangladesh Chhatra league[citation needed]]]

M Iqbal Arslan, President of Swadhinata Chikitschak Parishad[59]

Kanak Kanti Barua, neurosurgeon, Vice-chancellor of [[Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University|BSMMU[citation needed]]]

AHM Touhidul Anowar Chowdhury, obstetrician/gynecologist, awardee of Independence Day Award in 2017[citation needed]

A K M Ahsan Ali, Pulmonologist, pioneer of the DOTS method of treating tuberculosis, awardee of Independence Day Award in 2018[citation needed]

See also[edit]

List of medical colleges in Bangladesh