

Symposium — From Base Pairs to Better Care

The pediatric nephrology department held a symposium on 14th June 2025 to discuss how genomics is reshaping the landscape of healthcare. Dr. Ali Lanewala and Dr. Seema Hashmi, Pediatric Nephrologists at SIUT, were the organizers of the symposium. The symposium brought together leading national and international geneticists, clinicians, and researchers. The specialists shared compelling insights with evidence linking consanguineous marriages, especially between cousins, to diseases like thalassemia and congenital kidney diseases. According to experts, over 60% of marriages in Pakistan are between close relatives, leading to a compromised genetic pool. There were three sessions. The morning session was on the fundamentals of genetics. Dr. Habib Qaiser, Nephrologist at SIUT, gave a talk on the “Burden of Hereditary Kidney Disease in Pakistan”, Dr. Jawad Hassan, Medical Geneticist, Shifa International Hospital, Islamabad, gave a talk on “Genetic Concepts for Clinicians”, and Dr. Ayesha Abid, Head Center for Human Genetics, SIUT, gave a lecture on “Genetic Testing and its Application in Nephrology”. The second session was on Genetics in Kidney Care. Ms. Zohra Hassan, Perinatal Genetic Nurse at Aga Khan University Hospital, talked about “Prenatal and Perinatal Genetic Testing for Kidney Disorders”. Dr. Salman Kirmani, Medical Geneticist and Pediatric Endocrinologist at AKUH, talked about “Interpretation of Genetic Results – What Clinicians need to know”.

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SPEAKERS



Dr. Salman Kirmani



Dr. Moin Saleem



Dr. Jawad Hassan



Dr. Friedhelm Hildebrandt



Dr. Habib Qaiser



Dr. Natasha Anwar



Ms. Zohra Hassan



Ms. Mahrukh Nasir



Dr. Ayesha Abid



Lifetime Achievement Award for Dr. Altaf Hashmi

Dr. Altaf Hashmi, Professor of Urology at SIUT was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by Jinnah Sindh Medical University on 19th April 2025. The awards are given to Alumni for their outstanding services in the field of Medical Sciences. The award was presented to Dr. Hashmi by Professor Amjad Siraj Memon, Vice Chancellor of the University. ■

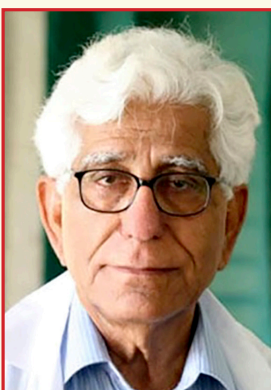
First-ever Harmony valve implant in Pakistan FAJR Scientific (USA) Collaborates with SIUT: Advancing Care for Children with Congenital Heart Disease

Congenital heart disease (CHD) is the most common birth defect in children, affecting 8–10 out of every 1,000 live births. In countries like Pakistan, where the birth rate is high, this translates to around 50,000–60,000 new cases annually. With limited human resources, equipment, and cardiac centers, the healthcare system struggles to meet the needs—especially for complex CHD cases, which make up about one-third of the total burden.

To address this gap, members of Fajr Scientific (USA) including lead Dr. Sarah Badran, Dr. Asad Abdul Qadir, Dr. Osamah Taha Al Doss, Dr. Sameer Khan, Dr. Haseeb Khawaja, and Mr. Plutko Robert Jeffrey joined hands with SIUT as a sustainable collaboration—

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Dr. Adib Rizvi honored by British Medical Journal



Prof. Adib Rizvi, Director of SIUT was awarded the Prestigious British Medical Journal award for his outstanding contribution to medical sciences in South Asia. The award was conferred at a ceremony in New Delhi on 29th March 2025. Dr. Sanjay Nagral, Co-Chair of the BMJ Advisory Board accepted the award on Dr. Rizvi’s behalf. Dr. Nagral commended Dr. Rizvi’s vision in creating a free health care model in Pakistan, describing it an inspiration for lower middle Income countries. Speaking on Zoom Prof. Rizvi thanked BMJ for the award and applauded its ongoing efforts in advancing medical education and research. ■

Symposium — From Base Pairs to Better Care

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Ms. Mahrukh Nasir, Consultant Genetic Counselor at AKUH, lectured on “Genetic Counselling for Families with Hereditary Kidney Disease”. The last lecture of this session was by Dr. Natasha Anwar, Consultant Molecular Pathologist, AKUH, Lahore, on “Ethical Pitfalls and Dilemmas in Genetic Testing for Pediatric Patient Care”. The final afternoon session was on Understanding the Genetic Links and Clinical implications. The first online

lecture was by Dr. Moin Saleem, Consultant Pediatric Nephrologist at Bristol Royal Hospital for Children UK, on “Genetics of Nephrotic Syndrome and Gene Therapy”, and the second online lecture was by Dr. Friedhelm Hildebradt, Pediatric Nephrologist and Geneticist, Chief of the Division of Nephrology at Boston Children’s Hospital, USA. His lecture was on “Monogenic Kidney Disorders: Nephrotic Syndrome, Nephronophthisis, and others”. ■

First-ever Harmony valve implant in Pakistan FAJR Scientific (USA) Collaborates with SIUT: Advancing Care for Children with Congenital Heart Disease

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not only to treat children but to build lasting local capacity. Through this partnership, international experts work alongside SIUT’s dedicated team to share expertise, bring in critical equipment, and support complex interventions that were previously unavailable locally.

During the first mission on 14th – 15th April 2025, a major milestone was achieved: SIUT successfully

performed its—and Pakistan’s—first implantation of a new kind of transcatheter pulmonary valve. Unlike traditional open-heart surgery, this minimally invasive approach allows for valve replacement through a catheter, significantly reducing recovery time and surgical risk. Globally, such procedures have become standard for children who need repeat valve interventions following earlier heart surgeries. However, in Pakistan, this option has remained largely inaccessible due to high costs and lack of availability.

This collaboration is not just about delivering care—it’s about transforming systems, transferring knowledge, and creating a future where children in Pakistan and other low-resource settings can access the same level of care as anywhere else in the world. ■



Prof. Adib Rizvi with Dr. Sarah Badran and other team members

Seminar on Percutaneous Dialysis Access Creation

Dr Rashid Sharaf, MD, FASDIN, an interventional nephrologist from STAR vascular access center, San Antonio, Texas. He gave an enlightening lecture on “Percutaneous arteriovenous fistula (pAVF) creation: current status and future innovation” at Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT), Karachi on 16th April 2025. This seminar was attended by vascular surgeons, and trainees from SIUT vascular surgery department, Aga Khan University (AKU), Karachi institute of Kidney diseases (KIKD) and vascular unit at Shaheed Mohatarma Benazir Bhutto Institute of Trauma (SMBBIT), Karachi. Dr Sharaf specializes in percutaneous AVF creation, dialysis access management and peritoneal dialysis catheter placement.

Following his talk, he gave a live demonstration on performing ultrasound and evaluating the anatomy for the percutaneous AVF creation. ■



SIUT

Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation

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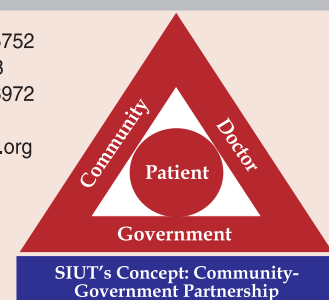
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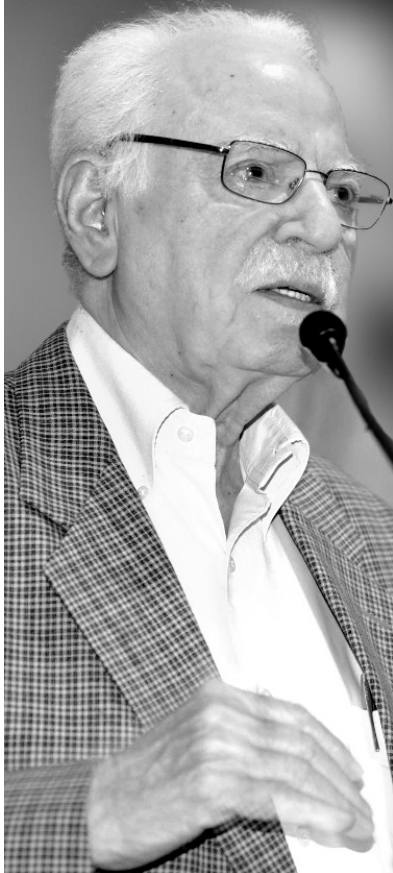
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Dr. Haroon Ahmed Memorial at SIUT

SIUT organized a memorial for Dr. Haroon Ahmed on 2 May 2025 on eminent psychiatrist and physician and a friend and supporter of Prof. Adib Rizvi and SIUT. The memorial was largely attended by people from all walks of life. They included members of medical profession, politicians, parliamentarians, and human rights activists.

Prominent among them were Raza Rabbani, former chairman of the Senate, renowned journalist Husain Naqi, leading columnist Ghazi Salahuddin, Dr. Syed Ali Wasif of the Pakistan Psychiatric Society, Prof Anwar Naqvi of the SIUT and Director SIUT Dr. Adib Rizvi. Ms Anis Haroon, the wife of the late psychiatrist, also spoke on the occasion.

While paying rich tributes to Dr. Haroon, speakers encompassed the various aspects of his personality and described him as an exceptional human being who, apart from being a compassionate physician, was also a person who all his life strived for the well-being and betterment of the people, particularly those who are marginalized and deprived.

Speakers said Dr. Haroon was a torchbearer in the struggle of students in the initial years of Pakistan by raising his voice for better education and basic rights of the students.

Discussing various phases of his life, they said that as a physician he was soft-spoken and compassionate, who healed his patients by going deep into the miseries of his patients. Speakers said Dr. Haroon left a rich legacy that may be a role model for the generations to come. ■

International Laboratory Day

To celebrate International Laboratory Day, the Patient Safety & Quality Assurance Department (PS&QA), SIUT, and Abbot organized a collaborative quality control (QC) Workshop and a structured training session on May 9, 2025

The workshop facilitator was Mr. Zia Ashrafi, technical solution design specialist from Abbott- Saudi Arabia, holding Certified LEAN six sigma BB, Certified CAP surveyor and consultant, Certified Project Management, Certified Lead Auditor for ISO 901-2015, Certified Lead Auditor for ISO 15189 and PGD, TQM (Total Quality Management).

The workshop aimed at educating clinical laboratory staff about quality control processes, techniques, and best practices.

The facilitator also highlighted the need to improve the understanding and implementation of quality assurance



practices to ensure that products or services meet established standards and specifications. He also discussed QC tools like control charts, Pareto analysis, fishbone diagrams, and statistical process control (SPC)

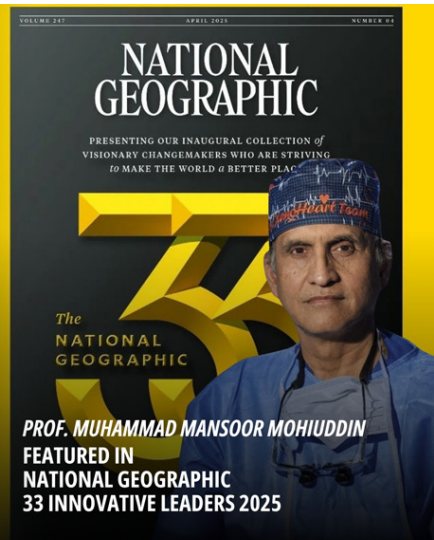
Professor Dr. Mubarak, Muhammad Maaz Ali Naqvi (PS&QA), and senior clinical lab faculty and staff attended in large numbers. ■

Dr. Mansoor Mohiuddin Lecture on "Paving the Future of Transplant Science"

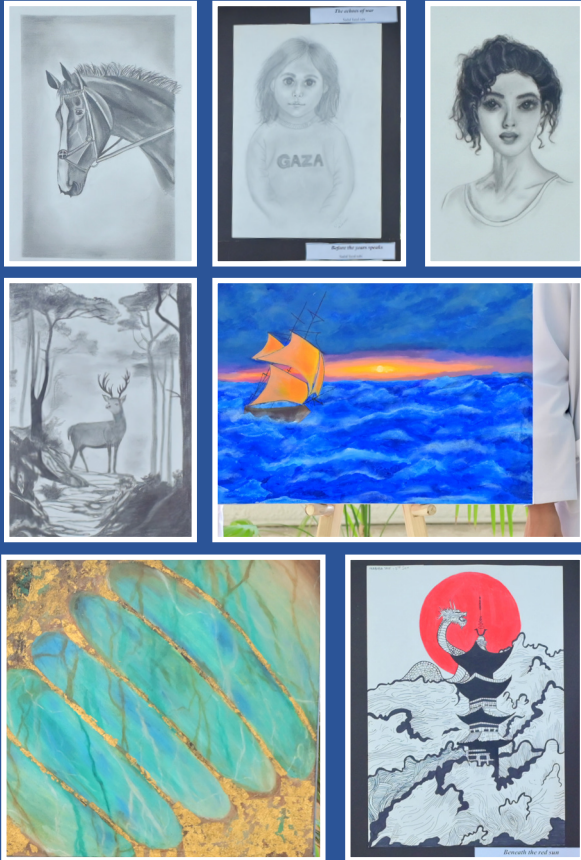
SIUT was honoured to host Prof. Muhammad Mansoor Mohiuddin—a pioneer in xenotransplantation and one of National Geographic's 33 Innovative Leaders of 2025—for a riveting on-line talk at SIUT on 10th May 2025.

Prof. Mohiuddin shared his groundbreaking journey from Pakistan to the forefront of transplant innovation, offering insights into the future of organ transplantation and the possibilities xenotransplantation holds for saving lives.

His work is not only advancing science but also inspiring countless minds—proving that a Pakistani voice can lead on the global stage of medical innovation. ■



“Strokes and Stories” Arts and crafts exhibition by the students of ZA School of Medical Technology — SIMS



An arts and crafts exhibition by the students of ZA School of Medical Technology was held on May 12th, 2025. Students displayed their remarkable artwork which included paintings, sketches and crafts. The Chief guest and Judge was Mr. Farrukh Shahab, Chairman of the Fine Arts Committee at the Arts Council of Pakistan. The event was arranged by Dr. Salma Batool, Chair of Co-curricular activities of ZA School of Medical Technology. The event was attended by Provost Dr. Rana Muzaffar of SIMS, Dr. Nayab Tariq, Principal ZA School and other staff and faculty of SIUT. ■



From Right: The Chief Guest Mr. Farrukh Shahab, Dr. Rana Muzaffar, Dr. Salma Batool and Dr. Nayab Tariq.

SIUT Opens PET/CT Cancer Center at Sukkur

SIUT PET/CT facility for Cancer diagnostics started functioning on 9th May 2025. This will help thousands of patients who had to travel to Karachi and other major cities to avail PET/CT Tests. The PET/CT (POSITRON EMISSION TOMOGRAPHY/COMPUTER TOMOGRAPHY) scanner is known for its precision in detecting and monitoring cancer. The facility, fully operational was completed at a cost of approximately Rs. 1.5 billion. Similar to other facilities PET/CT will be offered free to all patients. This is another step of SIUT Philosophy of taking the facility to the doorstep of the patient. ■



SIUT Faculty with FCPS team

SIUT — recognized for FCPS Training in Medicine

A team of the College of Physicians and Surgeons visited SIUT on 3rd May 2025 for an inspection to consider accreditation of SIUT for FCPS training in the Medicine discipline. The inspection team comprised Dr. Asif Niaz Chaudhary, Professor and Medical Specialist, PAF Hospital Islamabad, and Col [Retd] Shaikh Hussain, Administration Department, CPSP. SIUT was granted accreditation on 12th May 2025. ■

SIUT — NEW Facility for Children Starts Outpatient Services

SIUT – Mariyam Bashir Dawood Children’s hospital is designed to provide expensive Urology, Nephrology and Cardiology services for Children. The hospital started OPD services in April 2025. The Rupees 10 billion facility is set to become operational later this year. ■



Prof. Adib Rizvi and Dr. Kathy Jenkins

Dr. Kathy Jenkins’ Professor of Pediatrics at Howard Medical School visits SIUT

SIUT was honored to host Dr. Kathy Jenkins, Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and Executive Director at Boston Children’s Center for Applied Pediatric Quality Analytics, during her visit to Pakistan in support of the Pakistan IQIC (International Quality Improvement Collaborative) initiative.

As part of her visit, Dr. Jenkins conducted a physical audit at SIUT and met with clinical teams at NICVD and AKU to discuss strategies for implementing robust data collection and benchmarking systems—an essential step toward enhancing congenital cardiac care nationwide.

She also delivered an insightful talk at SIUT on “Building a Quality and Safety Program for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease” on 17th April 2025.

Dr. Jenkins’ visit represents a meaningful step in advancing quality, equity, and collaboration in pediatric cardiac care across Pakistan. ■



Dr. Mirza Naqi Zafar was invited by the Rotary Club Karachi for a talk about “Deceased Organ Donation”

President of Rotary Club Karachi, Ms. Naila Masood, invited Dr. Naqi Zafar to give a talk to Rotarians of Karachi on 24th June 2025 on “Need for Deceased Organ Donation in Pakistan”. A large number of Rotarians attended the lunchtime lecture. He informed that over 200 thousand people die each year of End-Stage Organ failure. However, the total transplant in Pakistan in 2024 was 2287, 1671 kidney transplants, and 616 liver transplants. He emphasized that the answer is to increase deceased organ donation to save these 200 thousand people. He informed that in Pakistan in 2024, 5608 patients died of road traffic accidents. If 50% of these become organ donors, more than 30,000 lives can be saved by organ transplantations ■

Dr. Babar Hasan at the 75th anniversary of Boston Children’s Hospital

Dr. Babar Hasan, Head and Chair of the Division of Cardiothoracic Sciences, SIUT, was invited to present at the 75th anniversary of Boston Children’s Hospital—a global center of excellence in pediatric cardiology.

Dr. Hasan’s presentation reflected his deep commitment to developing pediatric cardiology in Pakistan. A former fellow of Boston Children’s Hospital, he returned to serve his country and now leads SIUT’s Department of Pediatric Cardiology, where he is working to ensure that children

with complex heart conditions receive quality care — free with dignity.

This recognition underscores SIUT’s mission to build and strengthen local expertise in highly specialized fields while upholding its founding values of equity, dignity, and access for all. ■



Dr. Paul Barach from Massachusetts General Hospital visits SIUT

Dr. Barach an internationally recognized leader in patient safety, human factors, and health systems redesign. A double board-certified physician-scientist trained at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital, he brings a unique blend of clinical expertise and systems innovation.

As Principal of J Bara Innovation, he advises academic institutions and major hospital systems worldwide on curriculum development, operating room design, performance management, and the cultivation of high-performance healthcare organizations.

During his visit in April 2025 we shared our ongoing work on patient data dashboards and were grateful for his thoughtful input—shaped by decades of experience in health system transformation. His curiosity, warmth, and collaborative spirit left an impression—one that



will no doubt spark ideas well beyond this brief exchange.

Encounters like these reinforce the value of collaborative thinking in driving smarter systems—and ultimately, better outcomes for patients. ■

When Safety is the Standard: Embedding Infection Prevention & Control in Everyday Care”

To strengthen Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), the Directorate General Health Services Sindh in collaboration with the Centre of Disease Control at NIH Islamabad, is focusing on improving IPC practices across healthcare facilities. In this context, an official designated team visited our facility on 7th May 2025 to conduct an assessment using the WHO’s Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Framework.

SIUT’s Infectious Diseases (ID), IPC, and Patient Safety & Quality Assurance teams jointly facilitated the visit, sharing practices aligned with WHO’s core IPC components and emphasizing IPC as central to both patient safety and quality through coordinated support.

Key IPC efforts were appreciated during the visit, while also highlighting valuable opportunities to further strengthen our practices for safe, effective care. As one team member shared, “Infection prevention isn’t a one-time effort, it’s a continuous journey of commitment and collaboration.” ■



Members of Health Services team with SIUT Faculty and IDS and IPC teams

World Hand Hygiene Day

On May 5th, SIUT commemorated World Hand Hygiene Day with an engaging session focused on the critical role of hand hygiene in preventing hospital-acquired infections.

The event saw active participation from over 100 nursing staff members and featured lectures, interactive quizzes, and giveaways—all reinforcing the importance of hand hygiene in ensuring patient safety and quality care. ■



International Nurses Day 2025

Theme: "Our Nurses. Our Future. The Economic Power of Care."

The School of Nursing, SIMS-Karachi, at SIUT proudly organized a memorable event on Friday, May 16, 2025, to celebrate International Nurses Day, an annual global observance held every May 12 to honor the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale. This special day acknowledges the dedication, compassion, and professionalism that nurses consistently bring to healthcare systems worldwide.

The School of Nursing, SIMS-Karachi at SIUT, were united with the international community in embracing this year's theme, "Our Nurses. Our Future. The Economic Power of Care." The celebration underscored the vital contributions of nurses not only in delivering exceptional patient care but also in reinforcing healthcare infrastructure, promoting public health, and supporting national development. Our nursing students and future nurses continue to exemplify the core values of



Dr. Anila Kazmi, HoD PSQA, Mrs. Ranjeeta Rajesh, Principal, School of Nursing, SIMS along with the participants

empathy, ethical practice, and clinical excellence, which form the foundation of truly compassionate care. Looking forward, we renew our commitment to empowering nurses through quality education, ongoing support, and deserved recognition, ensuring they remain essential to building a healthier future for all. ■

Faculty Development Workshops on Assessment Methods



Dr. Aroosa Baig



Ms. Shagufta Yamin

The workshop was organized by the Department of Medical Education, SIUT on 16th May 2025 and facilitated by Dr. Aroosa Baig – Assistant Professor, Medical Education and Ms. Shagufta Yamin – Senior Lecturer, Medical Education

As part of its ongoing Faculty Development Program, the Department of Medical Education recently conducted a series of impactful one-day training sessions aimed at enhancing the assessment capabilities of faculty members. The workshops focused on two critical areas of health professions education.

This workshop was designed to empower faculty members with essential skills in constructing effective BCQs that assess higher-order thinking, encourage deep learning, and align with learning objectives and the Table of Specification (TOS).

This workshop focused on refining faculty skills in writing well-structured short answer questions—an essential tool in evaluating student understanding in health professions education.

These sessions were conducted under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Rana Muzaffar, Provost SIMS, in collaboration with the Department of Medical Education. ■

Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Workshop Ignites Innovation Among Nursing

The Department of Patient Safety & Quality Assurance (PSQA) hosted a focused 2-hour CPD workshop, "Lead with Purpose: Inspiring Change through Nursing Leadership," on June 17, 2025, aimed at strengthening leadership among nursing leads in today's dynamic healthcare environment.

Facilitated by our guest - Mr. Sardar Waqar Azam, Master Trainer with both national and international credentials, and supported by Dr. Anila Kazmi-HoD PSQA, and her team – the session brought fresh energy, honest reflections, and practical strategies for leading amidst the everyday complexities of healthcare settings.

Participants explored how strong, agile leadership is not a luxury but a necessity for delivering safer, smarter care. From tackling daily hurdles to driving a culture of improvement, the session challenged attendees to lead with intent and impact. ■



Mr. Sardar Waqar Azam with participants and Faculty

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Dubai Islamic Bank Pakistan Limited	0067305002	PK26DUIB0000000067305002	0067305001	PK53DUIB0000000067305001
Emaan Islamic Bank	5058-5000041515	PK48SAUD0050585000041515	5058-5000041523	PK26SAUD0050585000041523
Faysal Bank Limited	01440060000253	PK58FAYS0001440060000253	01440060000252	PK85FAYS0001440060000252
First Women Bank Limited	0001-00157531-0000	PK78FWOM0001001575310000	0001-00157531-0001	PK51FWOM0001001575310001
Habib Bank Limited	00087900270001	PK04HABB0000087900270001	00087900270101	PK20HABB0000087900270101
Habib Metropolitan Bank Ltd	6-1-1-20311-714-439493	PK59MPBL0101027140439493	6-1-1-20311-714-439486	PK54MPBL0101027140439486
JS Bank Limited	0000150960	PK83JSBL951400000150960	0000150961	PK56JSBL951400000150961
Meezan Bank Limited	0100910129	PK95MEZN0001050100910129	0100909625	PK26MEZN0001050100909625
MCB Bank Limited	0026-0644067911000841	PK61MUCB0644067911000841	8067-0000000000415747	PK86MUCB0000000000415747
National Bank of Pakistan	4082131051	PK18NBPA0010004082131051	4082131042	PK67NBPA0010004082131042
Sindh Bank Limited	0315-096275-1000	PK86SIND0003150962751000	0315-096281-1000	PK83SIND0003150962811000
Soneri Bank Limited	20001789431	PK76SONE0004120001789431	20001789229	PK98SONE0004120001789229
Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited	01-8061610-01	PK81SCBL0000001806161001	01-8062528-01	PK25SCBL0000001806252801
Bank Makaramah Limited	1-2-30-20311-714-136983	PK76SUMB0230027140136983	1-2-30-20311-714-136991	PK54SUMB0230027140136991
Telenor Micro Finance Bank Ltd	104-029002334-001	PK53TMFB0104029002334001	104-029002335-001	PK19TMFB0104029002335001
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