



آغا خان یونیورسٹی
THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

To : All Faculty and Staff, AKU Pakistan

cc : President/Provost

From : Dr Rozina Karmaliani
Professor and Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery

Subject : Appointment of Dr Rafat Jan as Associate Dean, Outreach and Policy Unit, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Pakistan

Date : November 23, 2020



I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Rafat Jan as Associate Dean for Outreach and Policy Unit at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, SONAM.

Working with Dean SONAM, Dr Jan will provide leadership and strategic direction to the nursing outreach initiatives, particularly for the Gilgit Baltistan and Chitral and the International Programme offices. She will offer technical direction and expertise to the programmes to ensure that they meet the national and international quality standards. She will also strive to build and maintain partnerships and collaborations with donors, governments, alumni, nursing and midwifery leaders and institutions in Pakistan and abroad, and with the AKDN agencies in programme countries, especially where AKU teaching sites are available.

Dr Rafat Jan is a Professor at SONAM from where she also completed her Diploma in Nursing in 1983 and was part of the first graduating class of the School. She then went on to do a Diploma in Midwifery from the then Jan Bai Maternity Home, Kharadar in 1984, a Post-RN

Bachelor of Science in Nursing from AKU in 1991 and a Master of Science in Nursing from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1994. She defended her PhD in Nursing at the University of Iowa in 2004.

Over the years, Dr Jan has made unparalleled contributions to the improvement of nursing and midwifery education and practice. In 2012, she was one of the key people who sought UNFPA funds to initiate Pakistan's first Post-RM Bachelor of Science in Midwifery programme at SONAM for which she became the founding director. Later, in 2013, she also became the first board member from Pakistan for the International Confederation of Midwives.

She was appointed President of the Midwifery Association of Pakistan in 2014 and in 2015, she became the first nurse-midwife to be elected as President, Pakistan Nursing Council - all previous heads had been doctors. Later, in 2017, she established and became the Editor of one-of-a-kind Journal of Asian Midwives giving way to evidence-based literature in midwifery. She has also served as the Nursing and Midwifery Dean at the National University of Medical Sciences, Rawalpindi.

Dr Jan was the first midwife to respond within 48 hours of the devastating earthquake in Kashmir in 2008. She led a team of several nurses and midwives and provided emergency care and support to the women and children in the affected areas. Later, she was presented the Distinguished Alumni Award in the Service category for her humanitarian services by the University of Iowa as well as the first international Research Award for her dissertation. During the recent COVID-19 pandemic, Dr Jan volunteered at the AKUH Community Health Centre for the 24/7 Employee Helpline following which she also supervised SONAM's Trainee Nurse Interns in GBC, facilitated staff development and developed Covid-19 indicators and tools for the Aga Khan Health Services, Pakistan and the Emergency Response Centre.

With four decades of active involvement in nursing and midwifery academics and practice across public and private institutions, Dr Jan holds a very strong and diverse portfolio.

Please join me in congratulating Dr Rafat Jan on her appointment to this new role. I look forward to your wisdom and support as she works to advance the School's vision and mission with the AKU family.

Thank you.