

Event Report: World Oral Health Day Celebration (20th March 2025 – 20th April 2025)

World Oral Health Day is celebrated annually on 20th March to raise awareness about the importance of oral hygiene and educate the public on the adverse effects of poor oral health. The theme for World Oral Health Day 2025, “*Healthy Mouth is a Happy Mind*”, underscores the vital connection between oral health and mental well-being. In alignment with directives from the Dental Council of India (DCI) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), a month-long celebration from 20th March to 20th April 2025 was organized by the Faculty of Dentistry focused on oral health promotion and preventive care. Dr. Aditi Verma and Dr. Bushra Karim, Associate Professors from the Faculty of Dentistry, were the coordinators under the guidance of the Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Prof. (Dr.) Keya Sircar for organizing a series of events during this month. The overarching goal of World Oral Health Month 2025 is to encourage individuals across all age groups to adopt and maintain adequate oral hygiene practices.

Key Activities and Events Organized:

- **Educational Campaign**

Educational banners and posters were strategically placed in the patient reception area, reinforcing the importance of daily oral hygiene practices. These visual materials served as constant reminders to both staff and patients about maintaining a healthy smile.

- **Selfie Point for Awareness**

A unique and engaging Selfie Point was set up within the patient reception area, designed to inspire patients and visitors to take photos and share them. This interactive element helped amplify the message, encouraging greater public participation.

- **Rangoli Competition – A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind**

The Faculty hosted a creative Rangoli competition in the patient reception area on 20th March 2025. The theme, “A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind,” was skillfully interpreted by students who designed vibrant and intricate rangoli artworks. These artistic creations not only beautified the space but also conveyed important messages about the connection between oral health and overall wellness. The competition was met with enthusiastic participation, and the winners were recognized with certificates to celebrate their artistic and educational contributions.

- **Health Education Sessions**

In addition to the creative activities, health education sessions were conducted by students for the benefit of patients. These sessions focused on key topics such as the role of oral hygiene in overall health, preventive measures against dental diseases, and the impact of diet, tobacco use, and other harmful substances on oral health. These interactive sessions aimed to instill lasting changes in the habits of patients, encouraging them to practice better oral care daily. Furthermore, informative pamphlets on maintaining oral health, along with toothpaste and mouth rinse samples, were distributed to patients on 20th March 2025 to mark World Oral Health Day. This initiative provided

patients with practical tools to implement what they had learned in the education sessions.

- **Outreach activity (Dental Camp at Mandapur Kadar)**

One of the standout events of World Oral Health Month was the dental camp organized in Mandapur Kadar on March 24th, 2025. This outreach initiative targeted vulnerable populations, especially children who have limited access to dental care. During the camp, free dental check-ups were conducted, and oral health education was provided. Sessions covered common dental diseases, effective prevention techniques, and proper brushing methods. Educational materials like pamphlets were distributed to children, ensuring they were well-equipped to maintain their oral health in the future. The success of this event demonstrated the positive impact of extending dental care and education to underserved communities.

- **Health Talk for Sanitation Workers**

On April 4th, a special health education session was organized for sanitation workers at the Faculty of Dentistry. Recognizing the vital role that these workers play in maintaining community hygiene, the session emphasized the importance of oral hygiene in their daily lives. Topics covered included common dental problems, prevention strategies, proper brushing techniques, and the relationship between diet and oral health. The session also guided how to avoid the harmful effects of tobacco and other substances. By empowering sanitation workers with this knowledge, the Faculty of Dentistry aimed to help them improve their oral health and serve as ambassadors for oral hygiene in their communities.

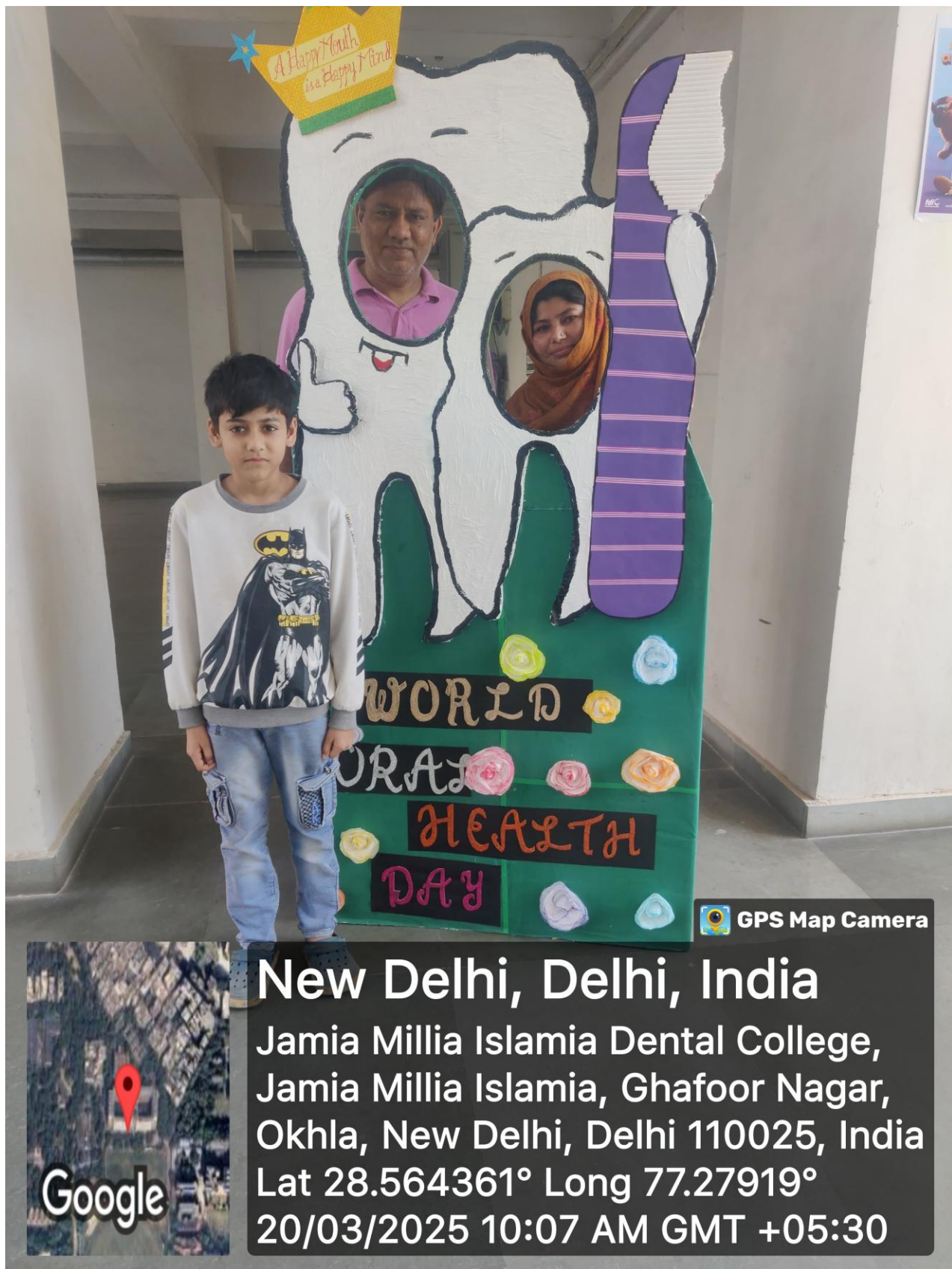
- **E-Poster Competition – A Digital Call for Awareness**

The E-Poster competition, held from March 20th to April 10th, invited students to create digital posters themed “A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind.” The competition encouraged participants to explore different artistic expressions while communicating essential oral health information. The e-posters were judged on creativity, informativeness, and clarity of message, with winners announced on April 11th, 2025. The best e-posters were awarded, and all participants received certificates to acknowledge their contributions to spreading awareness. This event demonstrated the creativity of students and their dedication to promoting oral health in the digital space.

- **Pledge Ceremony for Oral Health Advocacy**

To mark the culmination of various events held during the World Oral Health Month 2025, a Pledge Ceremony was held after every event i.e. for the patients on 20th March, sanitation staff on 4th April and oral health professionals (faculty members and students) on 11th April to take an oath to uphold good oral hygiene practices. The ceremony was a powerful reminder of the collective responsibility we all share in advocating for better oral health practices.

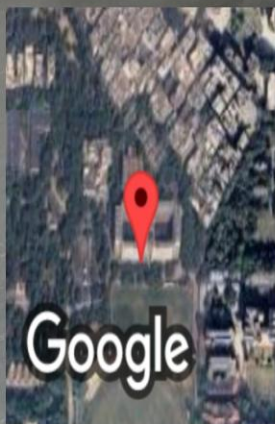
The Faculty of Dentistry is committed to continuing this important initiative in the future, expanding its reach and impact. By building on the success of this year’s celebrations, the faculty aims to strengthen its role as a leading institution in promoting oral health education and awareness in the community.



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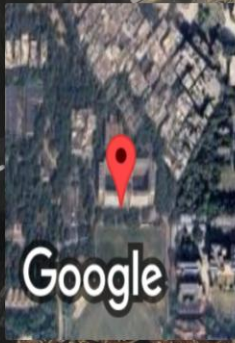




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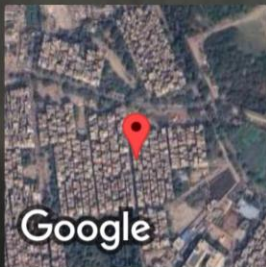
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