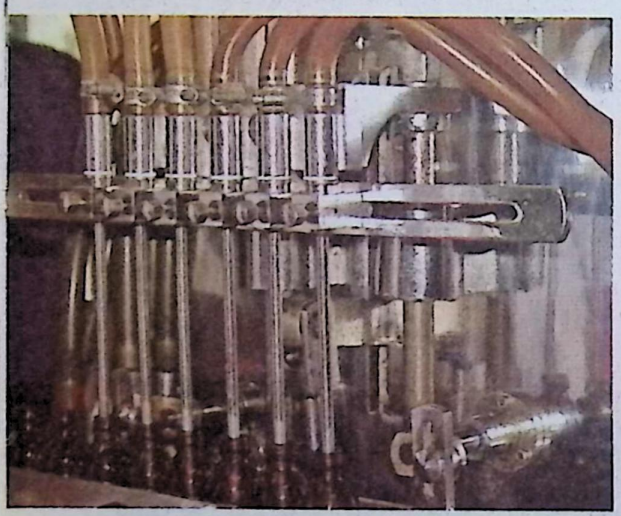
situations where tradition allopathic medicines fail. I might be a modern working mother but when it comes to medicine, I'm all for herbal medicines which, in my judgement, have far-lasting benefits when compared to allopathic treatments," she says.

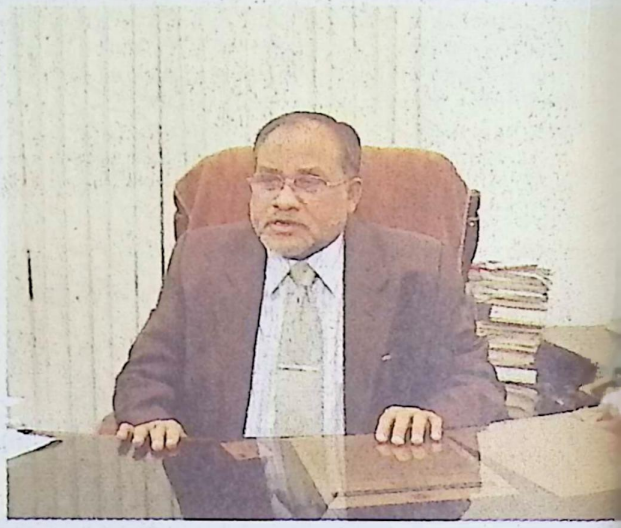
Hamdard has been around for 106 years, and is still running strong. It was founded by Hakim Hafiz Abdul Majeed who set up a small herbal shop in Delhi in 1906. In 14 years, the small shop turned to one of the largest herbal medicine producers in the world. Before his death in 1922, Majeed willed that Hamdard be donated to the Waqf boards, and eventually his will was followed. At present, Hamdard is run in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh with each country having its own board of trustees appointed by the Waqf Council of the respective country.





Hamdard's goal is to provide customers with quality products at affordable rates.

PHOTO COURTESY: HAMDARD



Hakim Md Yousuf Harun Bhuiyan. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

> "The basic principle of the practice is to treat patients after acquiring a holistic understanding of the mind, body and spirit. As nature is the driving force of every life, it will also help us fight against various diseases."

After his death, his sons, Hakim Abdul Hameed and Hakim Mohammed Said saw to the running of Hamdard for sometime before handing over the reins to the Waqf boards of the three countries.

"Hakim Hafiz Abdul Majeed imbibed some principles that are followed by every member of Hamdard even today," says Dr Hakim Md Yousuf Harun Bhuiyan, Managing Director of Hamdard Laboratories (Waqf) Bangladesh. "His main aim was to promote the preservation of the eastern tradition of herbal medicine as a science rather than just a culture. He could have continued making profits and his children could also defy the wishes of their father and thrived on the sales of Hamdard's products, but Majeed wanted to serve the people selflessly and that's what he taught his children as well," says Bhuiyan.

Traditionally, Hamdard would only offer Unani medicines but over the years they've changed their stance by manufacturing ayurvedic medicines as well. Under the leadership of Dr Hakim Md Yousuf Harun Buiyan, Hamdard has been successful in employing physicians of modern