

Hassan Sohaib Murad, Every time I come across this name, tears start flowing from my eyes. I am constantly reminded by my conscience that I have lost my source of strength and inspiration. I feel as if all the good people have left this world.

My relation with Sir Hassan was no different than a relation of a father and son. I am grateful to the UMT management for giving me the opportunity to express my feelings. Although, I have spent 5 years of my life under Sir Hassan's personal care but I feel as if I knew him since childhood and grew up in his shadow. My relation to him started when I took admission in UMT, the year was 2013 and I was an enthusiastic football player aspiring to become a professional player someday. But since our country lacked in facilities for professional player my parents were against the idea of playing football. From that point I decided to put my focus on studies, but due to scoring 70% in intermediate I could not get admission in any government institute. Upon facing frustration of not getting admission a friend suggested that I should apply in UMT, I was reluctant because I could not afford the tuition fees. Some people suggested that I should talk to Rector Hassan Sohaib because my problem was genuine and I was determined to study, he would solve my problem for sure. To my luck I got the scholarship without consulting Sir Hassan, of course this was possible because of the policies he created.

My first year was difficult from study perspective and I was inclined more towards football because of the sports facilities on campus. I was consumed by my love for the sport, but unfortunately one day while playing a friendly match I got severely injured resulting in a fracture in my right leg. I was immediately taken to the hospital and given first aid. The following day I asked for Sir Hassan's number which I received very conveniently. I called him 9 am in the morning, the moment he picked the call and said Salam in a very generous tone I felt a sudden rush of relief. I shared the details about the incident and how the management was irresponsible. Upon hearing this he showed his concern and I felt as if it was my own father on the other side of the call, he inquired about my medical condition and asked if I can visit his office. Even though I was bound to the wheelchair I said that yes I will see him, upon which he said "come to my office soon I will be waiting for you and if its not possible for you then send in a written application and I will try to help in any way possible". I was taken to his office by my uncle Umair and supportive friends Asim Chughtai and Kanwar Danish. Sir Hassan welcomed me in his office with utmost generosity which made me very emotional. He reassured that I have his support and suggested that I get my leg checked again as he was not satisfied with my medical reports and said that I should get a second opinion on whether I should get my leg operated or not.

I listened to his advice and saved myself from the trouble of getting a rod implant in my leg, and today I am able to stand on my own feet and run like I use to before the incident. From that point onwards my relation with Sir Hassan was strengthened as he would call me during my recovery period and ask for my health condition. After returning to university I was lagging behind in studies and Sir Hassan scolded me for my previous academic failures. He said that now I am under his observation and I have to focus on my studies. I was facing more difficulties in my academics since I came from interior Sindh where the education system is below average and competing with the students in UMT felt like a daunting task, especially when you do not have the means to pay for your education. I felt like discussing my stressful situation with sir Hassan and called him, which he was unable to attend because of his extremely busy schedule that day. Next day I received a call from him after fajr and he said Salam in his generous tone and told me that he is very busy these days but called me to ask if everything was alright.

His immense generosity left me speechless, and I told him about my situation upon which he said that I should focus on finishing my studies right now, we'll worry about the tuition fee later. His words inspired me to be stronger than my difficulties and through his support and guidance, an academic failure like me graduated with resilience. A graduate who can proudly say that he has acquired and retained the knowledge well enough to qualify for government jobs on merit. My father prays and weeps for his afterlife. Whenever I raise my hand for prayer I always remember my father like figure sir Hassan and his little seed (UMT) that he sowed long ago which has flourished into a tree, under whose shadow thousands of students benefit.

When such a decent and God fearing human left us suddenly, it felt as if the whole world has lost so precious. I felt like I lost the guiding shadow upon my head. There is so much I could write about that even a book would not do justice. I keep praying to Allah almighty that Sir Hassan was a blessing for us given by you who spent his life for the well being of others, please give him the highest ranks in Jannah and let me be the witness for his deeds. Amen

Regards,

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