
**TO THE MEMORY OF DR. HAIDER T AL BA'AJ, WHO
DIED BY CRIMINAL HANDS IN 2003**

Haider Al-Ba'aj was born in 1966 in Messan to a religious family that goes back, in origin, to the Profit Muhammed (peace may be upon him). He completed his primary and secondary education in Basrah to join Basrah College of Medicine, from which he gained his M.B.Ch.B. in 1990. He then completed his military service after which he was accepted as a candidate of the Iraqi Commission of Medical Sciences in 1994 and passed the Commission's final examinations, in general surgery, in 1999 which granted him Fellowship of the Iraqi Commission of Medical Sciences. He joined the staff of, then, Basrah Teaching Hospital as Specialist Surgeon where he showed an early interest in surgical research and presented two papers at the Basrah Medical Joint conference with another paper accepted in the medical conference in Bejen, China. He became Manager of Alsader Teaching Hospital in Basrah after the war and the fall of the previous regime. The late Dr. Haider was known for his modesty and refined manners in addition to his dedication to revolutionize the performance of his hospital and Basrah health facilities at large. His memory will always enlighten our work and effort in this hospital as well as Basrah as a whole.

Al Mahfooz N A.