

# Tariq H. Cheema, MD

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**Tariq H. Cheema** is a renowned philanthropist and social innovator, best known for founding the World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists and the Global Donors Forum. Opting to leave behind a promising surgical career in 1997 to tackle global disparities, he has since distinguished himself as a leading senior executive in nonprofit management and corporate philanthropy. He has orchestrated a series of high-impact social initiatives, expertly managed substantial grant portfolios, and collaborated closely with distinguished leaders and funders to devise strategic philanthropy and impact investing frameworks. Embodying a visionary approach to promoting equitable economic empowerment and social progress, he integrates the power of philanthropy, entrepreneurial acumen, and political influence. His pioneering work toward modernizing and institutionalizing Muslim philanthropy globally has earned him international acclaim. He ranks among the top 500 Most Influential Muslims shaping our world today.

## RECOGNITIONS

**The Muslim 500** | 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

**Ukraine, Chernivtsi Oblast Commendation** | 2022

**Governor of Punjab Commendation** | 2021, 2022

**Pride of Pakistan - Hall of Fame** | 2018

**UNAOC Global Expert** | 2013

**Louis T. Delgado "Social Justice in Philanthropy" Award** | 2010

**APPNA Presidential Award** | 2009

**United States Congressional Commendation** | 2007

**Asian American Community Service Award** | 2005

**Northwestern University, Kellogg Entrepreneur Mentor Award** | 2004

**Indo-Pak Peace Building Award** | 2003

## ASSIGNMENTS

**ALIGHT** [Formerly American Refugee Committee]  
Executive Director, Pakistan-Afghanistan | 2013 - Present

**National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan**  
Isolation Hospital & Infection Treatment Center, Islamabad  
Project Director | 2020 - 2021

**EAA-Educating One Million Out-of-School Children Project, Pakistan**  
Chief of Party | 2018 - 2021

**Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America (APPNA), United States**  
Executive Director | 2006 - 2010

**Nonprofit Empowerment Group, United States**  
President | 2003 - 2006

**Doctors Worldwide, United States**  
Founding Executive Director | 2000 - 2003

**WHO-Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), Switzerland**  
Civil Society Advocacy Coordinator | 1999 - 2000

**Islamic Medical Association of North America (IMANA), United States**  
Associate Director | 1997 - 1999

**Karachi Chamber of Commerce Hospital**  
Project Director | 1995 - 1996

**Southeast Business Group, United States**  
Principal Shareholder | 1992 - Present

## ACADEMICS

### **Indiana University, Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, United States**

Certificate in Fundraising Management | 2012

### **The University of Illinois at Chicago, United States**

Executive Education, International Health Leadership  
2006

### **Loyola University Chicago, United States**

Graduate Certificate, Advanced Study in Philanthropy  
2000 - 2001

### **American College of Physician Executives (ACPE)**

Member | 1995

### **İstanbul Üniversitesi-Cerrahpaşa Tıp Fakültesi, Türkiye**

Doctor of Medicine | 1987 - 1993

### **Ankara Üniversitesi-TÖMER, Türkiye**

Diploma in the Turkish Language | 1983 - 1984

### **Forman Christian College, Lahore, Pakistan**

Higher Secondary Education | 1980 - 1982

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Global Solutions Journal [THINK20]**

Global Solutions Summit Edition 2021- Contributor

### **Global Best Practices for CSO, NGO, and Other Nonprofit Boards**

BoardSource, Wiley, 2018 - Co-Author

### **Alliance Magazine: Special Feature on Muslim Philanthropy**

September 2018 - Guest Editor

### **Journal of Muslim Philanthropy & Civil Society**

Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, IUPUI  
Member, Editorial Board, since 2018

### **Global Fundraising: How the World is Changing the Rules of Philanthropy**

Wiley, John & Sons, 2013 - Co-Author

### **Global Philanthropy: The Past and Present**

Mercator Fund, 2010 - Co-Author

## FELLOWSHIPS

### **Indiana University, Lilly Family School for Philanthropy-MPI, United States**

Senior Philanthropy Leadership Fellow | 2023

### **Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE)**

Visiting Senior Fellow | 2021

### **El-Hibri Foundation, United States**

Adaptive Leadership Fellow | 2022  
Public Narrative Fellow | 2019

### **New Westminster College, Canada**

Distinguished Fellow in International Development | 2013

### **Salzburg Global Seminar, Austria**

Philanthropy Studies Fellow | 2012

### **The Bellagio Initiative, Italy**

Philanthropy & Development Fellow | 2012

### **Madinah Institute of Leadership & Entrepreneurship, Saudi Arabia**

Advanced Leadership & Management Fellow | 2011

### **Rockefeller Foundation, United States**

Next Generation Leadership Fellow | 2001-2003

## AFFILIATIONS (past and present)

### Founder

World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists (MuslimFunders) | Global Donors Forum (GDF) | US National Network of Diaspora Giving | Medical Tourism Association of Pakistan | Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education (PAGE) | HEED Foundation

### Co-founder

Diversity Forums | Doctors Worldwide | Academy of Philanthropy | Policy and Research Institute of Zakat Economics (PRIZE) | Pakistan Philanthropy Forum | Pakistan Action Consortium for Education (PACE)

### Trustee

Islamic Medical Association of North America | Momina Cheema Foundation | Doctors Worldwide Trust Hospital | Taaleem Foundation | Pakistan Children Heart Foundation | Kashmir Education Foundation | Food Security & Agriculture Center of Excellence (FACE)

### Advisor

Lingshan World Philanthropy Forum, China | International Zakat Organization, Malaysia | Finocracy, UAE | Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies at George Mason University, US | AFG College, Qatar | Spark, Netherlands | American Islamic College, US | Nonprofit Empowerment Group, US | Zakat Foundation Institution, US | Shifa International Hospital, Pakistan | IU Muslim Philanthropy Initiative, US

### Member

APPNA | Hayat Sağlık Vakfı | IMANA | Lahore Gymkhana | Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry | Istanbul University Alumni | Loyola University Chicago Alumni | Forman Christian College Alumni

## PRESS COVERAGE

Aljazeera | Alliance Magazine | Anadolu Ajans | Arab News | Associated Press | BBC | Chicago Tribune | Chronicle of Philanthropy | Daily Sabah | Dawn | Financial Times | Global Citizen | Gulf News | Independent | Khaleej Times | Los Angeles Times | New York Times | NPR | Philanthropy Age | Saudi Gazette | The Express Tribune | The National | The News International | The Star | TRT World | Voice of America

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Gaza - Relief Mission | 2023

Türkiye-Syria Earthquake | 2023

Pakistan Floods | 2022-2023

Ukraine-Russia Conflict | 2022

Afghan Refugee Crisis | 2022

The Covid-19 Pandemic | 2020-2021

Pakistan FATA IDPs Crisis | 2015

Pakistan Floods | 2010-2011

Pakistan Swat IDPs Crisis | 2009

Pakistan Earthquake | 2005

Hurricane Katrina | 2005

Indian Ocean Earthquake & Tsunami | 2004

Kosovo Medical Mission | 2000

Turkey Izmit Earthquake | 1999

Chechen-Russia Conflict | 1999

Bosnia & Herzegovina Medical Mission | 1997-1998

Turkey Erzincan Earthquake | 1992