

Bio sketch

Dr. Akef El-Maghraby

Dr. El-Maghraby is the founder and Chairman of the Magrabi Eye Hospitals and Centers (34 total) in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. Each year, this network of eye hospitals provides quality eye care to over a million patients and performs over 120,000 sight-preserving surgeries. He has also founded five non-profit eye hospitals and centers in Bangladesh, North Yemen, Sudan, North Lebanon, Egypt, and Cameroon. Treatment and surgery are available for poor patients in all these hospitals free and minimal charge.

He also founded the Magrabi Eye Foundation (first non-profit organization for prevention of blindness) in the Middle East. He co-founded the Middle East Journal of Ophthalmology, which is the only peer reviewed journal for ophthalmology in the Pan Arab Middle East and African regions.

Dr. El-Maghraby Founded the Middle East African Council of Ophthalmology (MEACO) and was its President for 18 years. He is now MEACO Honorary President for Life. He is the former Vice-President of the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO).

Dr. El-Maghraby is board member of many non-profit organizations, including Future Foundation for Housing, Nile University of Egypt and formerly in the Egyptian Fund for Social Development. He is also Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Saudi Institute of Health Services, and the Chairman of the Board, El-Mansour & El-Maghraby Investment and Development Company, Egypt. Former Board Member of Board of Trustees of John's Hopkins University in USA.

His great concern for Prevention of Blindness in developing countries is instrumental in the formation of the International Federation of Eye Banks. He donated six eye banks to different Arab and East European countries. He also endowed a Professorship chair for prevention of blindness at the Wilmer Eye Institute at the Johns Hopkins University. He is a former member of the advisory Board of Trustees of Wilmer Eye Institute, USA.

He operated and lectured in 23 countries all over the world and has 30 publications to his credit.

His many international awards and recognition include among others the Shield for Outstanding Work in Humanitarian Causes from the Red Cross in 1997 and the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health Dean's Medal-2000. He was chosen Physician of the Year, 1993 in the Arab World by the International Public Opinion Association. He was also awarded the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Senior Achievement Award in 2003. Recently, Dr. El-Maghraby was awarded the Knight of the Order of Valor (Chevalier de l'Ordre de la Valeur) by the President of Cameroon in 2017.

Dr. El-Maghraby was decorated with the Lion Badge of Honor by the President of Senegal in 1993; the Order of Merit by the late King of Jordan in 1997, the Order of the Two Niles, by the President of Sudan in 1998, the Cedar of Lebanon by the President of Lebanon in 2001, also decorated by the President of Tunis in 2003, and was awarded the Golden Medal Award of the Algerian Ophthalmological Society in 2004.