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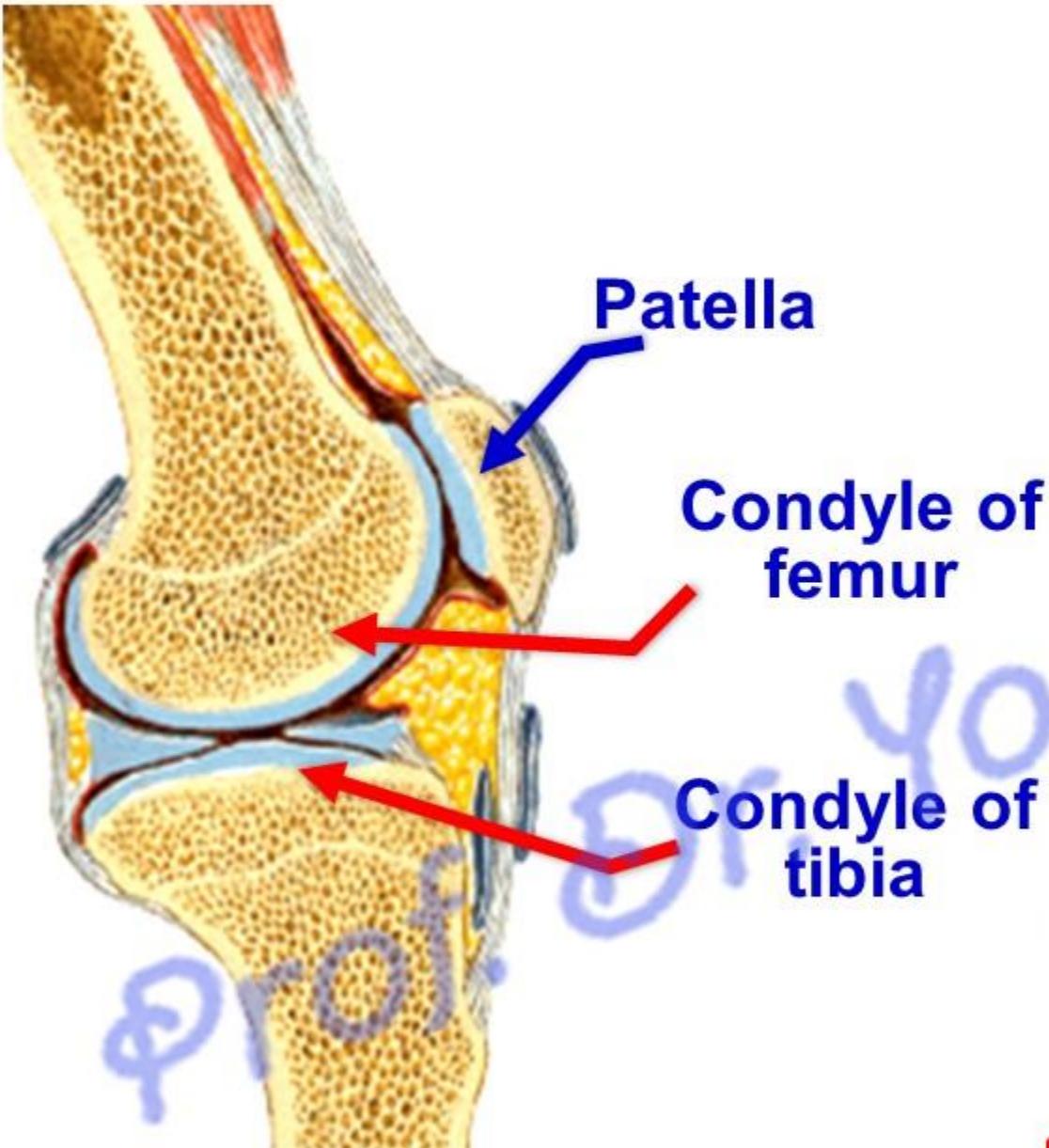
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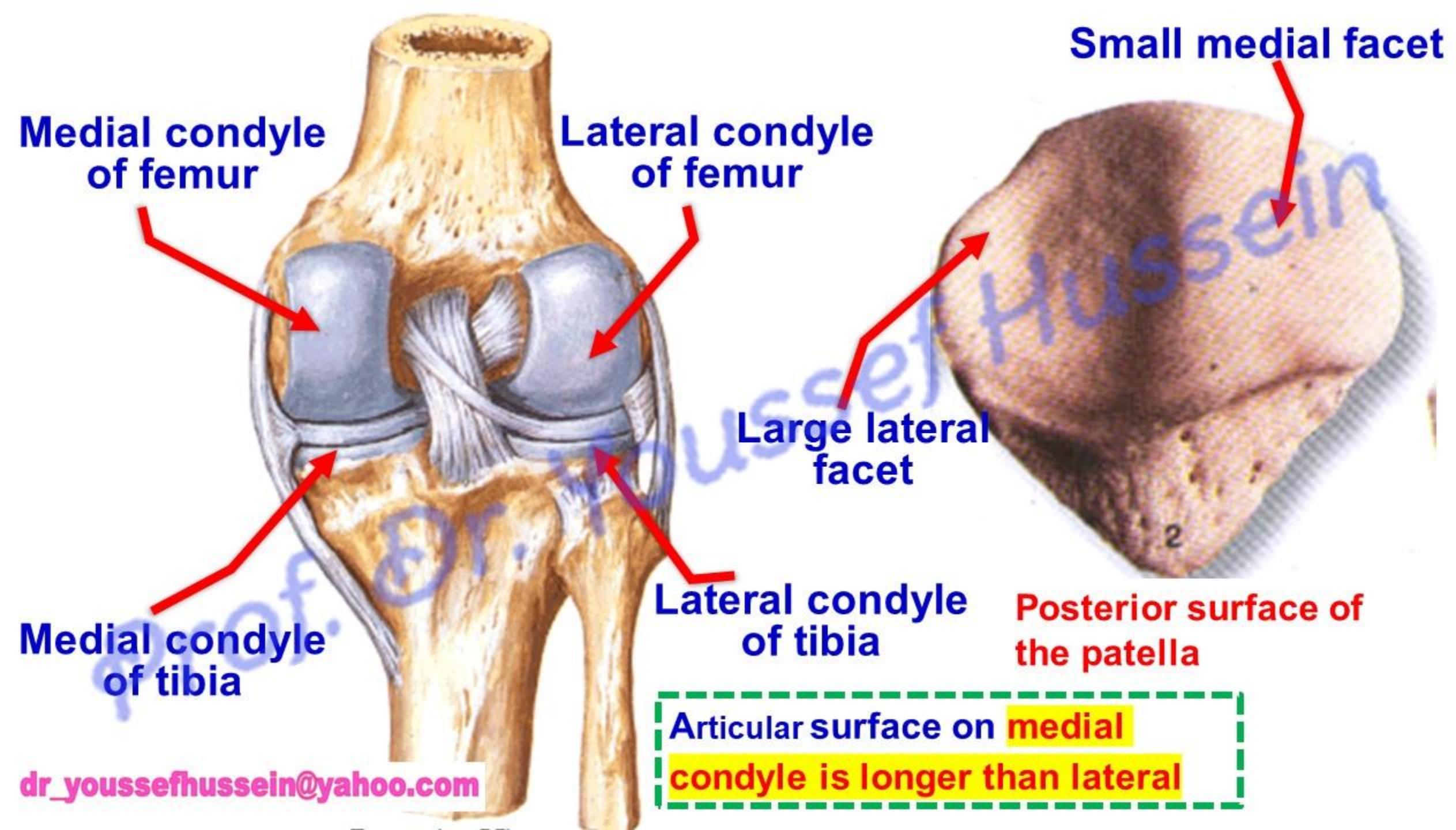
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# Knee joint

prof.



- **Type:** synovial joint; modified hinge.
- **Articular surfaces**
  - 1- Lower surfaces of both femoral condyles
  - 2- Superior surfaces of both tibial condyles (**Plateau**)
  - 3- Posterior surface of the patella.
- **Complex:**
  - a- Femoropatellar articulation
  - b- Femorotibial articulation



## ❖ Capsule of knee joint

is relatively thin

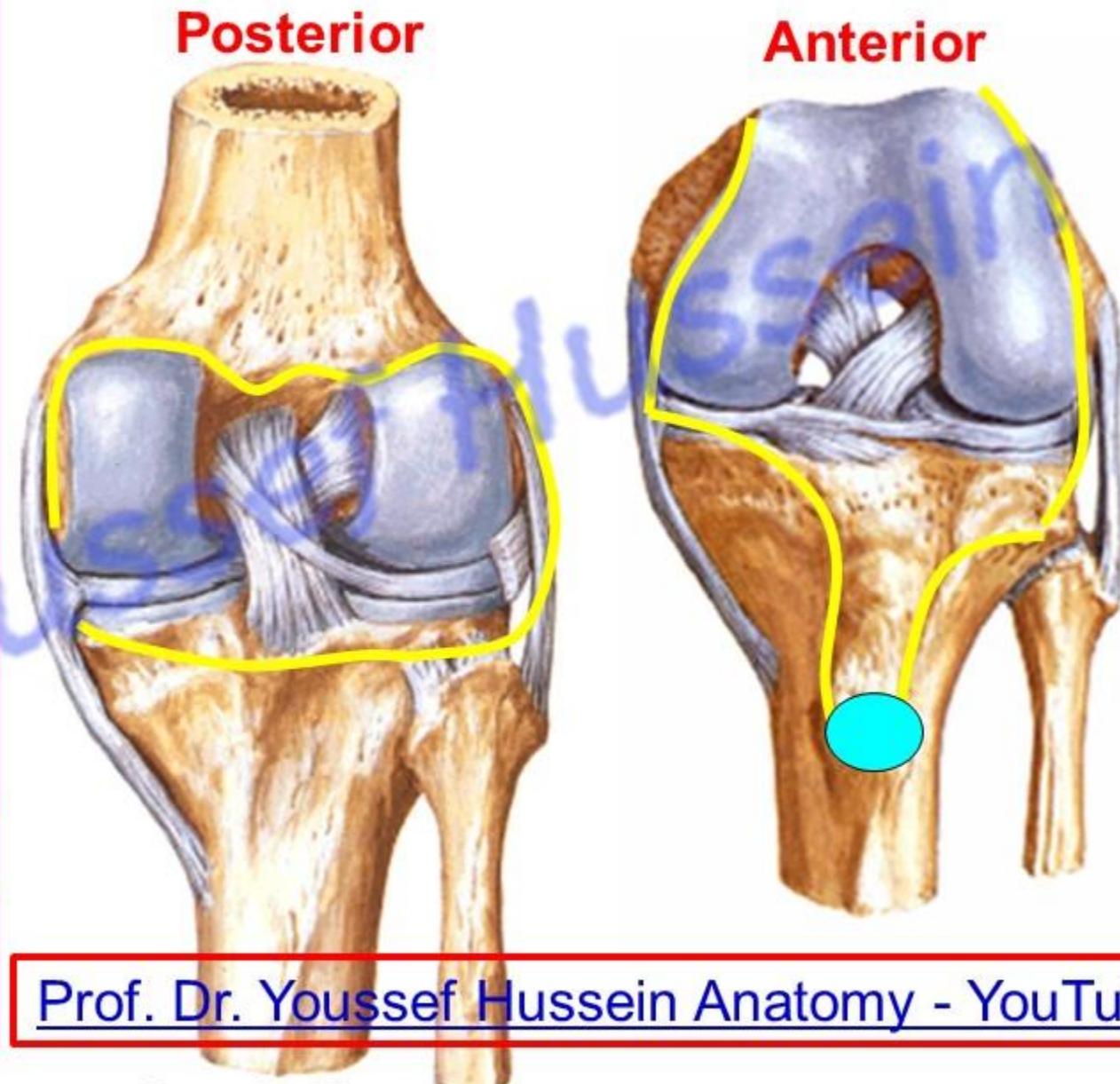
**1- Attachment to the femur:** to articular margin of the medial condyle.

- **Laterally**, articular margin to lateral condyle outside origin of **popliteus** muscle (popliteus is intracapsular extrasynovial)

**2- Attachment to the tibia:** to articular margins of both condyles.

**3- Anteriorly**, margins of patella.

**N.B;** the capsule may be absent **anteriorly** and replaced by quadriceps tendon and ligamentum patellae.



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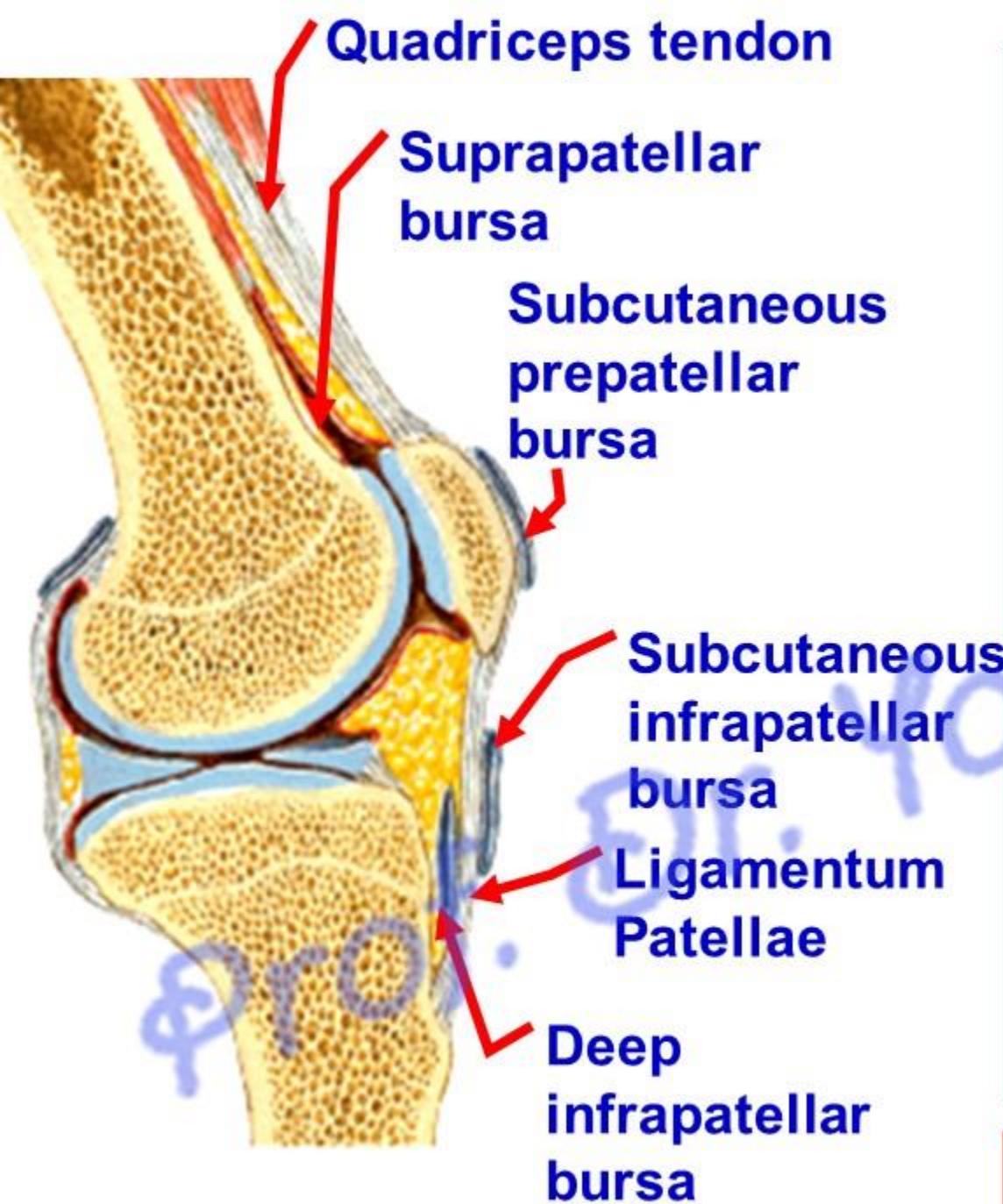
## ❖ **Synovial membrane**

-It lines the capsule and nonarticular structures

- 1) **Anteriorly**, extends upward above the patella forming **suprapatellar bursa**.
- 2) **Below the patella**, it forms **infrapatellar fold**.
- 3) **Laterally**, it forms a synovial sheath **around tendon of popliteus**.

## ❖ **Bursa On the medial aspect of knee joint**

- 1- A bursa between medial head of gastrocnemius and capsule.
- 2- A bursa between tibial collateral ligament and tendons of (S.G.S).
- 3- A bursa between Semimembranous and medial condyle of the tibia.



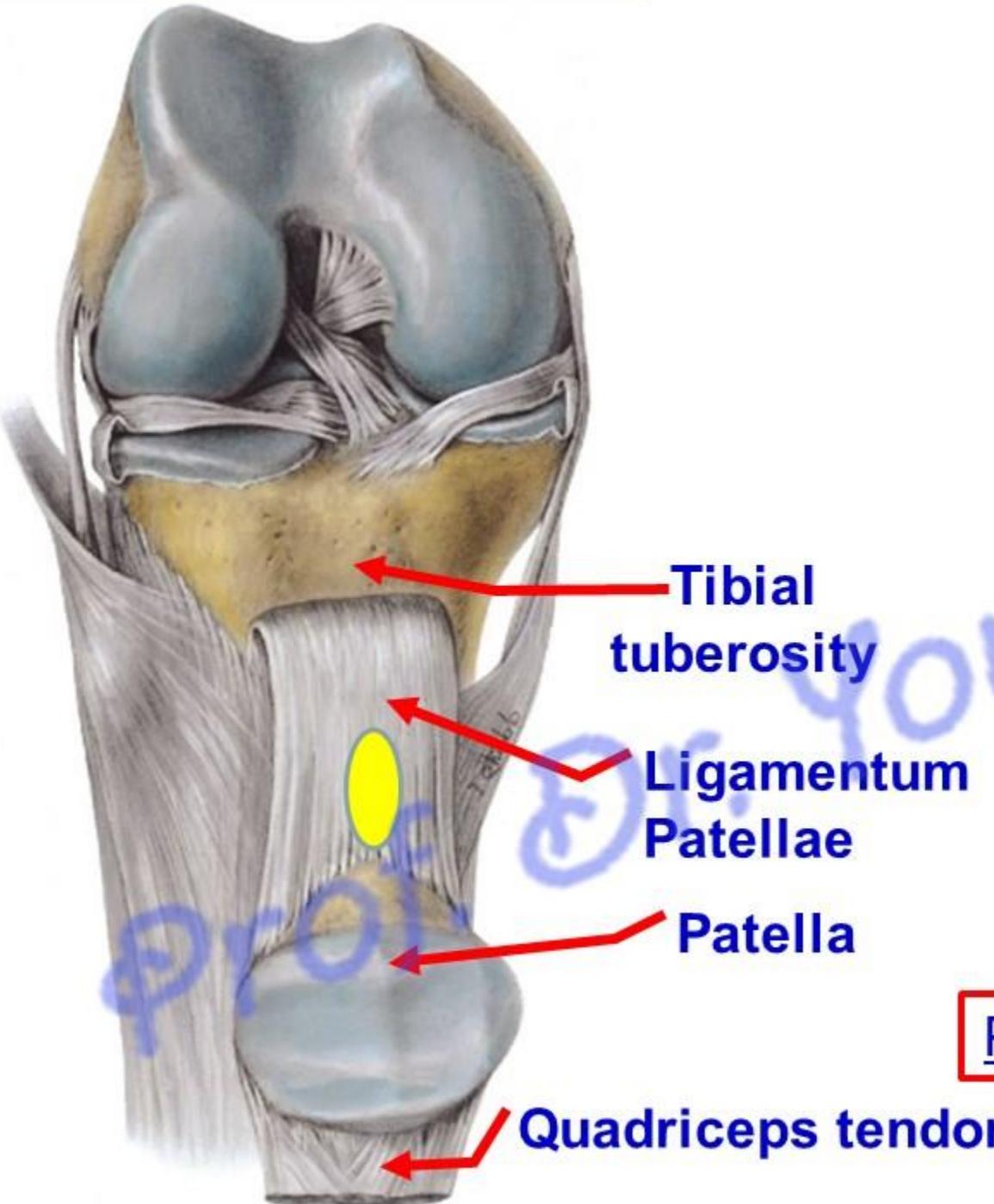
❖ **Bursa On the anterior aspect:**

- 1- Suprapatellar bursa:** between lower part of anterior surface of femur and quadriceps tendon, continues with synovial membrane.
- 2- Subcutaneous prepatellar bursa:** between skin and lower part of the patella.
  - Inflammation and enlargement of this bursa usually affects persons who kneel over the knees during work. This condition is known as “**house maid’s knee**”
- 3- Subcutaneous infrapatellar bursa:** between skin and lower part of tibial tuberosity.
- 4- Deep infrapatellar bursa:** between upper end of tibia and ligamentum patellae.

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# Extracapsular Ligaments

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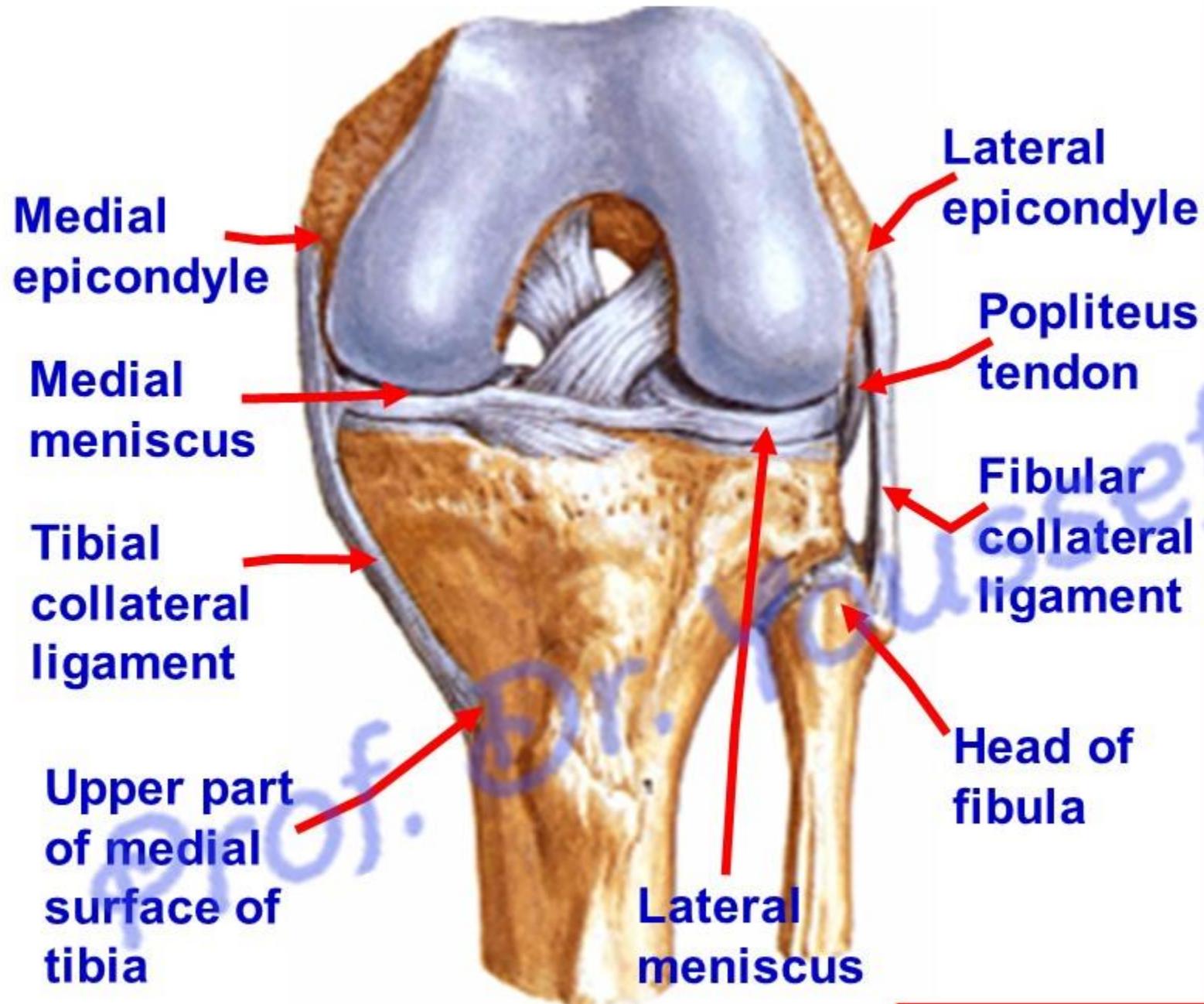


## Ligamentum patellae (anterior):

- It is a strong ligament.
- It extends from the **apex** of the patella to the upper part of the **tibial tuberosity**.
- The deep surface is separated from the upper end of tibia by the **deep infrapatellar bursa**.

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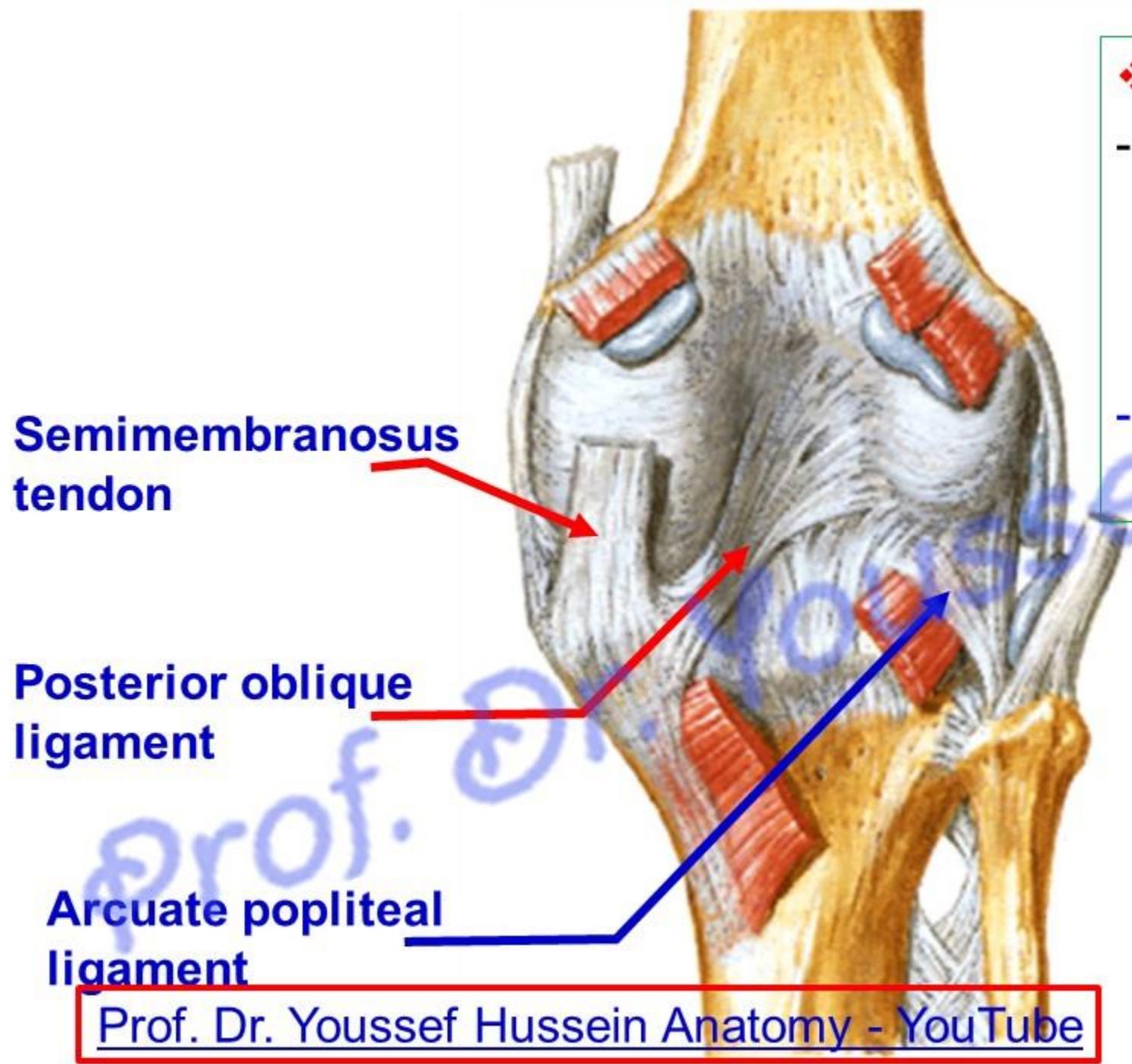


❖ **Medial collateral (tibial) ligament:** extends from medial epicondyle of femur to medial condyle and upper part of medial surface of tibia.

- It is **adherent** to the capsule and medial meniscus.

❖ **Lateral collateral (fibular) ligament:** extends from lateral epicondyle of femur to head of the fibula (*styloid process*).

- It is separated from the capsule and lateral meniscus by popliteus.



❖ **Posterior oblique ligament:**

- It is a reflection from the semimembranosus tendon extends upwards and laterally to the lateral condyle of the femur.
- **Arcuate popliteal ligament.**  
Arches over Popliteus tendon

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# Intracapsular Ligaments

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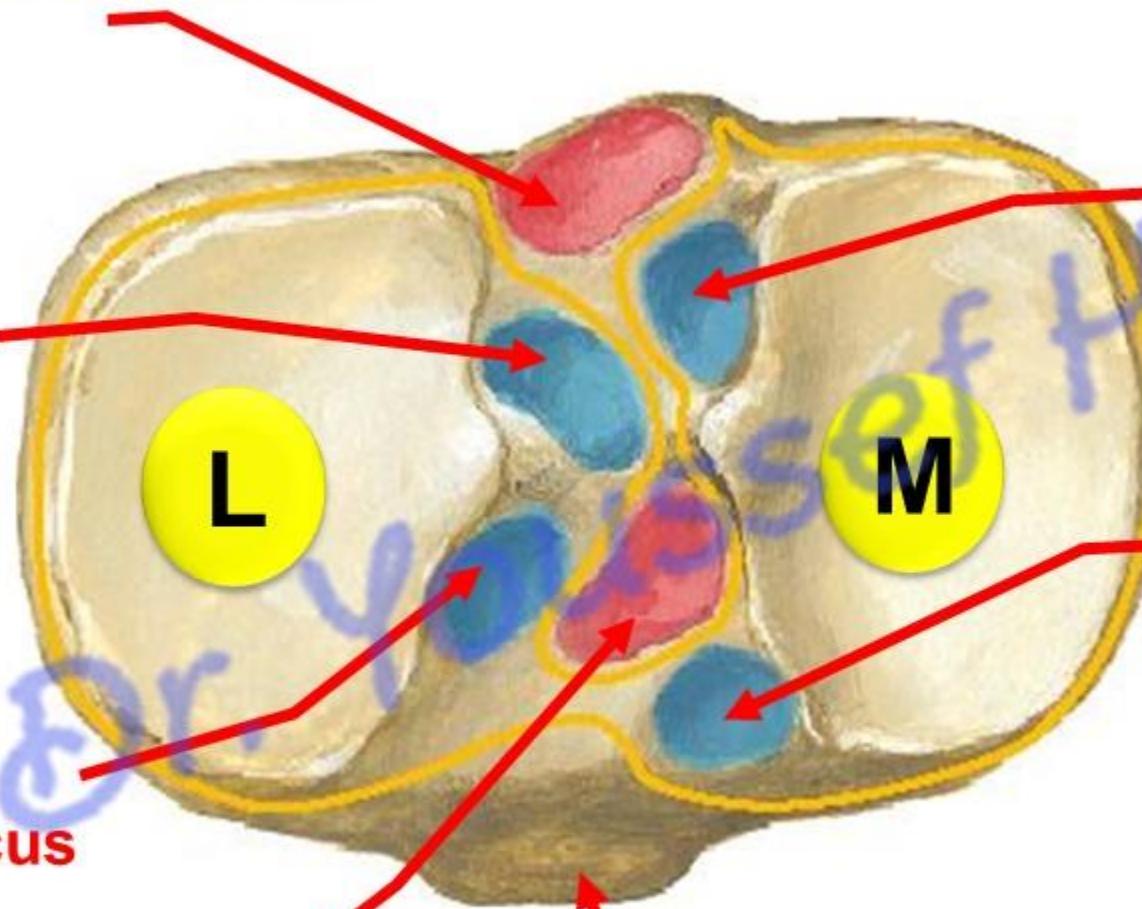
## 6 Posterior cruciate ligament

4

Posterior horn  
of lateral meniscus

3 Anterior horn  
of lateral meniscus

2 Anterior cruciate  
ligament



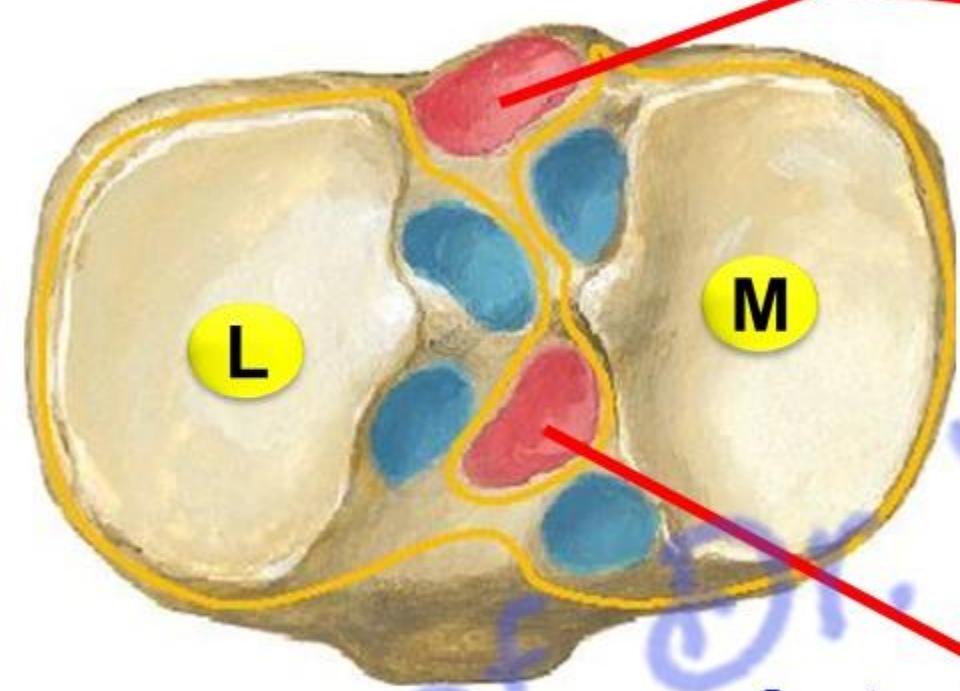
5 Posterior horn  
of Medial  
meniscus

1 Anterior horn of  
Medial  
meniscus

Tibial tuberosity  
(Anterior)

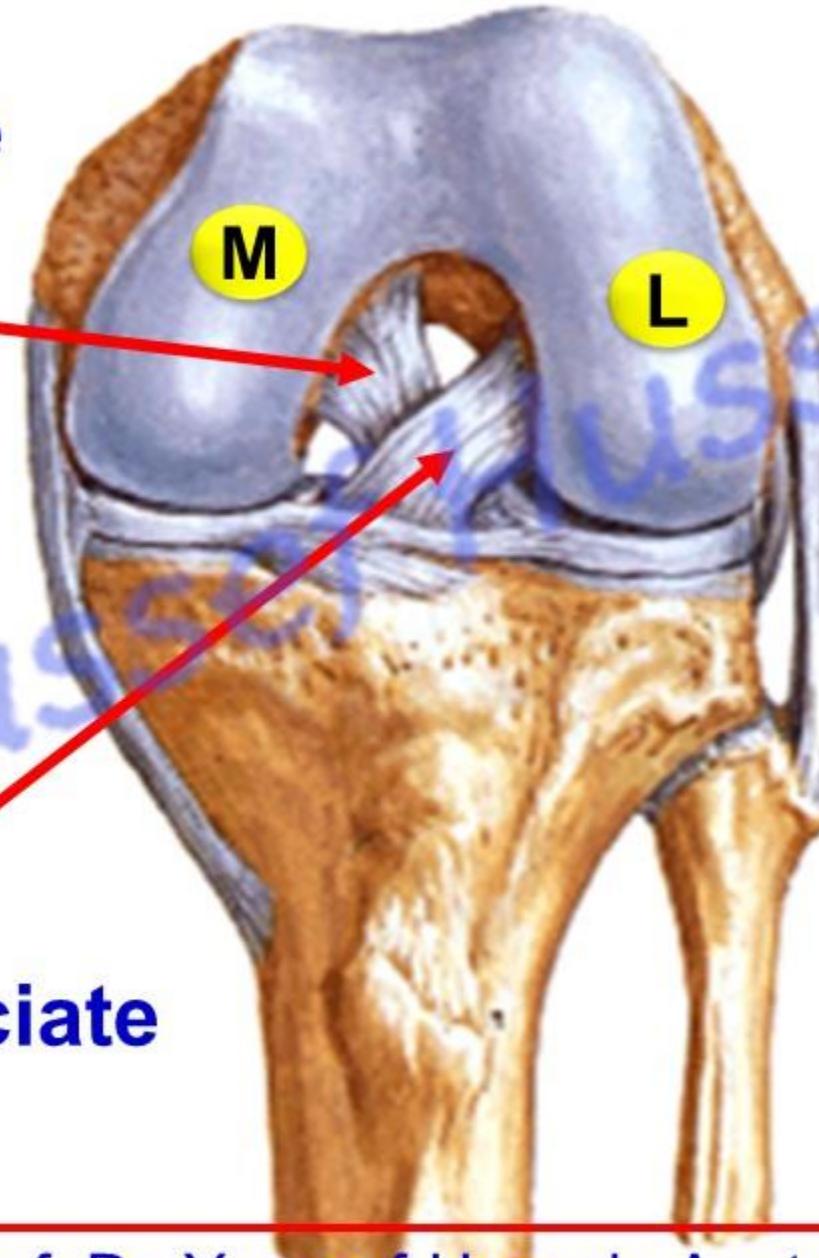
# X-shaped figures

Posterior cruciate  
ligament



Intercondylar  
area of tibia

Anterior cruciate  
ligament



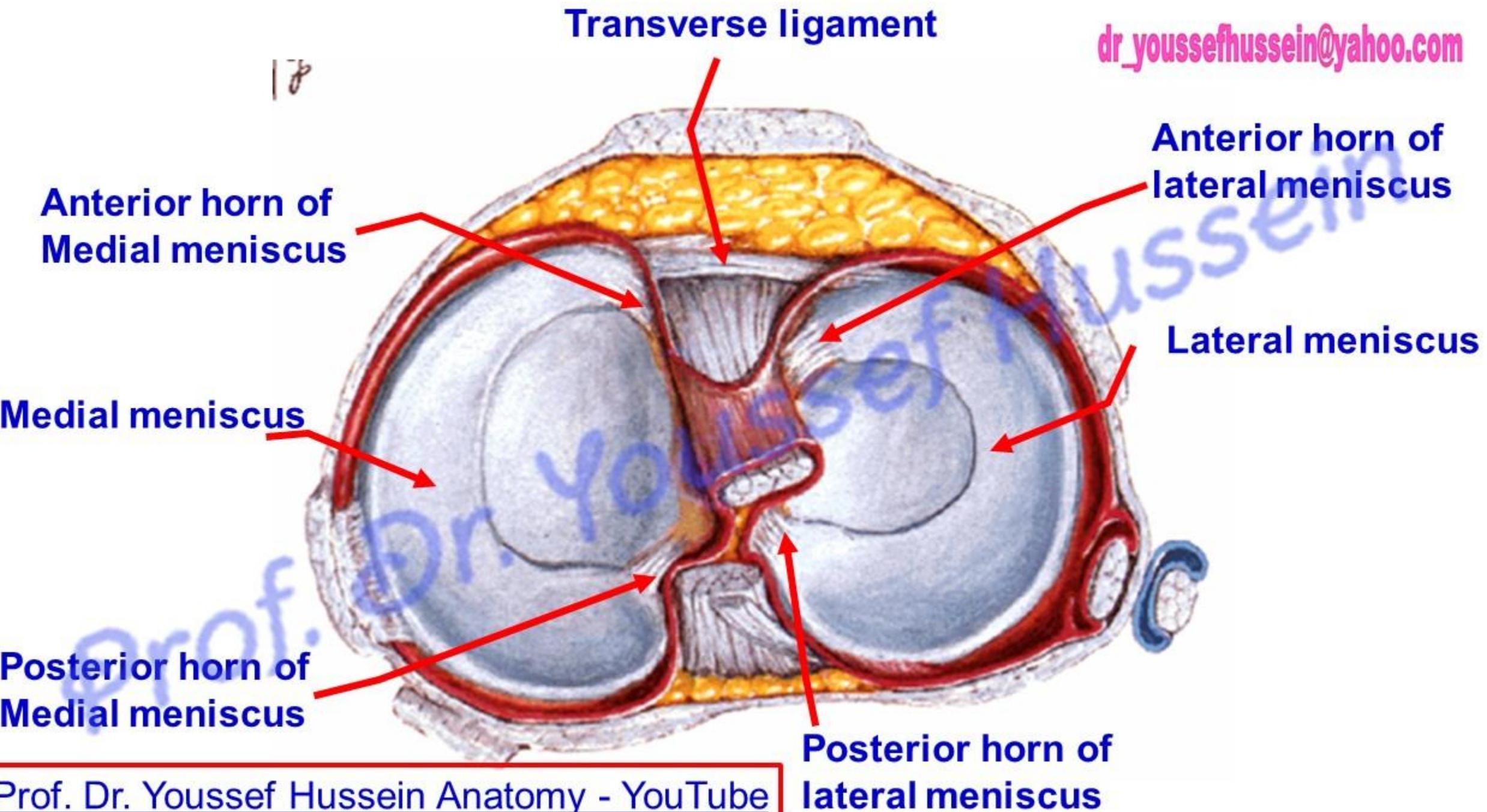
- They are so called because they form an **X-shaped figure**.
- They are named anterior and posterior according to their attachment to the tibia.

**a- Anterior cruciate ligament:** the most common to injury.

- **Attachment to the tibia;** anterior intercondylar area behind anterior horn of medial meniscus.
- **Course;** It extends upwards, **backwards** and **laterally**.
- **Attachment to the femur;** to posterior part of the medial surface of the lateral condyle.
- **Function:** 1- Prevents posterior displacement of femur on tibia.  
2- Prevents hyperextension of the knee.  
- **Lax in flexion while tense in full extension**

**b- Posterior cruciate ligament** (*larger and stronger than the anterior*):

- **Attachment to the tibia;** posterior intercondylar area behind posterior horn of medial meniscus.
- **Course;** It extends upwards, **forwards** and **medially**.
- **Attachment to the femur;** to the anterior part of the lateral surface of the medial condyle.
- **Functions;** It prevents anterior displacement of femur on tibia.  
- **Tense in flexion while lax in extension**



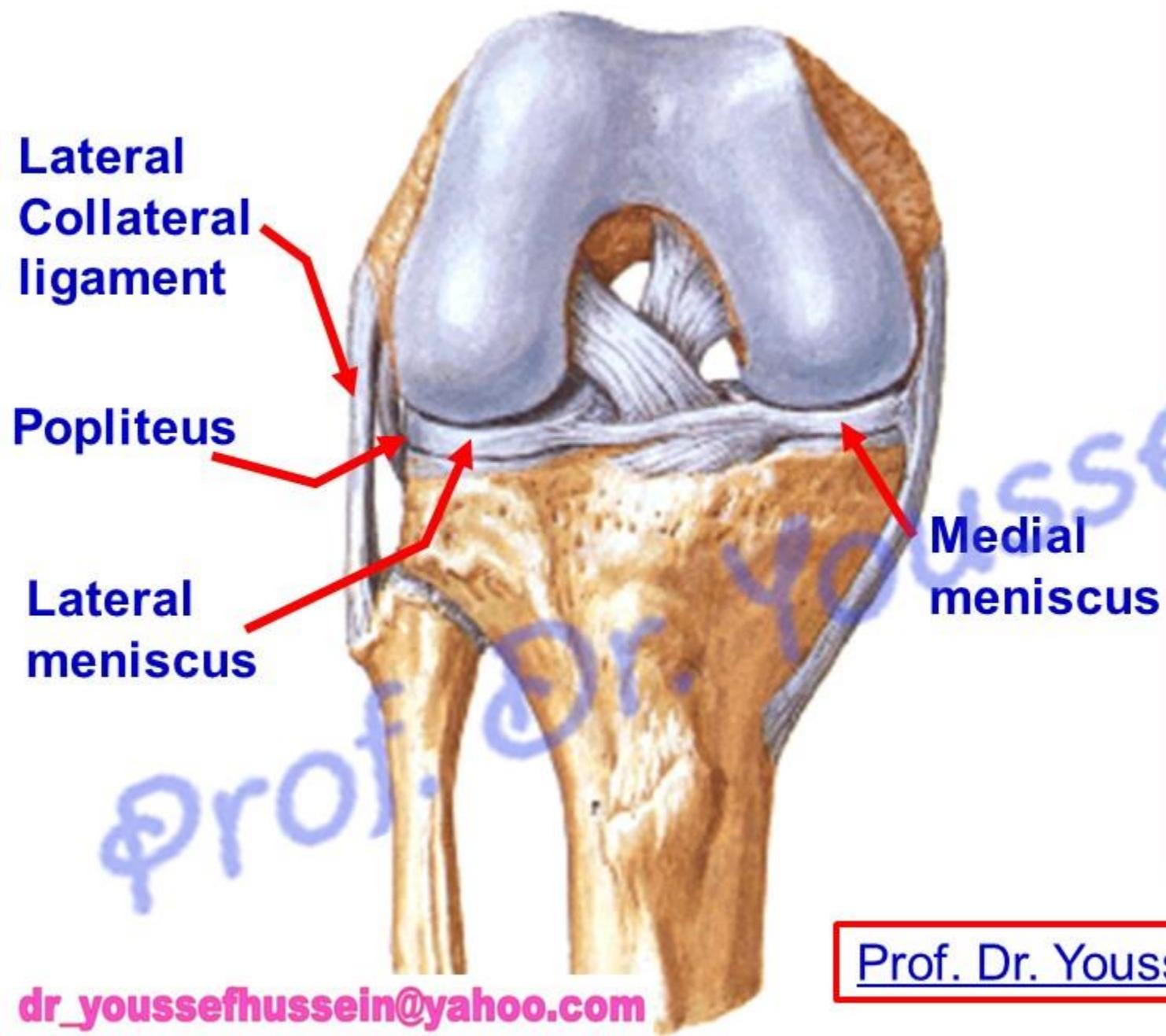
- **Menisci (Semilunar cartilages, C-shaped):**

- They cover the articular surfaces of both tibial condyles.
- Their peripheral borders are thick, but they gradually become thinner towards their inner borders.
- It is not covered by synovial membrane.
- They are attached to the intercondylar area by anterior and posterior horns.
- **Medial meniscus** is larger than **lateral meniscus**, SO The lateral horns inside the medial horns.

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- **Transverse ligament:** It connects the **anterior** horns of both menisci

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- \* **Lateral meniscus, more mobile** because the outer border is separated from the capsule and fibular collateral ligament by the tendon of **popliteus**. **So**, it is less frequently to injury.
  - Injury of menisci and cruciate ligaments are common especially in football players.
  - It is caused by sudden rotatory movements of the partially flexed knee with the foot fixed on the ground.

- **Movements of knee joint**

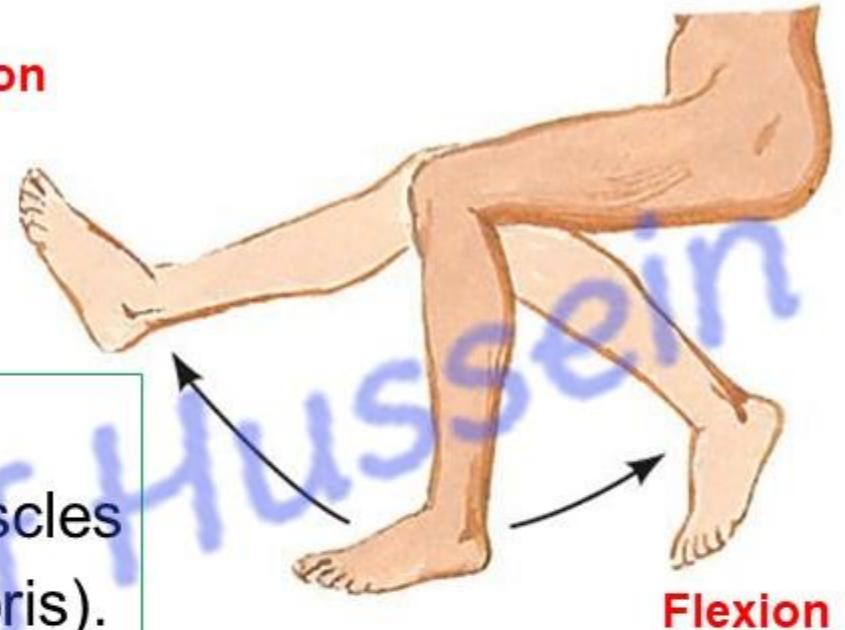
**I- Flexion:** mainly by the hamstring muscles (semimembranosus, semitendinosus and biceps femoris).

- **Gastrocnemius, plantaris when the foot is fixed on ground**

**2- Extension:** by the quadriceps femoris (rectus femoris, vasti medialis, lateralis, and intermedius).

**3- Medial rotation:** (SGS) Sartorius, gracilis & semitendinosus and semimembranosus .

**4- Lateral rotation** by the biceps femoris only.



## Unlocking of knee joint



**At the beginning of flexion by  
Popliteus muscle**

**Lateral rotation of femur on tibia  
by Popliteus when the foot is  
fixed on the ground**

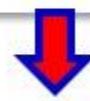
**Or Medial rotation of tibia on  
femur by Popliteus when the  
foot is raised from the ground**

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## Locking of knee joint

- At the end of extension: tightening of the **anterior cruciate ligament** terminates the movement of the **lateral condyle** of femur
- Full extension: The articular surface on the **medial condyle is longer than lateral.**



**Medial rotation of femur on tibia when the foot is fixed on the ground**

**Or Lateral rotation of tibia on femur when the foot is raised from the ground**

## Nerve supply

- 1- **Femoral nerve** through nerves to 3 vasti muscles.
- 2- **Obturator nerve** from the posterior division.
- 3- **Tibial nerve:**
  - a- Superior **medial genicular** nerve.
  - b- Inferior **medial genicular** nerve.
  - c- **Middle** genicular nerve.
- 4- **Common peroneal (lateral popliteal) nerve;**
  - a- Superior **lateral genicular** nerve.
  - b- Inferior **lateral genicular** nerve.
  - c- **Recurrent** genicular nerve.

## Anastomosis around the knee joint

### - 5 Branches from popliteal artery

- 1- Superior **lateral genicular** artery.
- 2- Inferior **lateral genicular** artery.
- 4- Superior **medial genicular** artery.
- 5- Inferior **medial genicular** artery.
- 3 - Middle genicular artery.

### - 2 Branches from femoral artery

- 1- **Descending** genicular artery.
- 2- **Descending** branch of lateral circumflex femoral artery.

### - 2 Branches from anterior tibial artery

- 1 - Anterior **tibial recurrent** artery.
- 2- Posterior **tibial recurrent** artery.

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### - 1 Branch from posterior tibial artery

- 1- Circumflex fibular artery.

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