

National Heritage

&

Culture Division



Year
Book
2024-25

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FOREWORD

Rule 25 of the Rules of Business 1973 requires every Division of the Federal Government to prepare a Year Book on its activities and achievements during the year. The Year Book is prepared for information of the Cabinet as well as the general public. The annual publication of this Year Book is also a recognition of the public's right to information.

In compliance with its responsibility under the above Rules, the National Heritage & Culture (NH&C) Division has prepared the Year Book for 2024-25. The contents of the document will showcase the various important activities undertaken by this Division and the organizations/bodies/departments working under its administrative oversight.

The National Heritage and Culture Division under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Aurangzeb Khan Khichi, Federal Minister of this Division took many initiatives in line with its mandate given under the Rules of Business, 1973. The active role of Mr. Attaullah Tarar, former Minister and Mr. Hassan Nasir Jamy, former Secretary helped in achieving the objectives and goals of this Division.

This publication will serve as a useful reference book for the students, researchers and the general public.

Asad Rehman Gilani

Secretary

National Heritage & Culture Division

MESSAGE BY FEDERAL MINISTER NATIONAL HERITAGE & CULTURE DIVISION

It gives me great pleasure to present the Year Book 2024–25 of the National Heritage and Culture Division, which documents the performance, achievements, and initiatives undertaken by this Division and its attached departments during the reporting period.

Guided by its mandate under the Rules of Business, 1973, the Division worked with renewed focus to safeguard Pakistan’s rich cultural heritage, promote national identity, and strengthen cultural institutions.

This Year Book reflects collective efforts aimed at preservation of tangible and intangible heritage, promotion of arts and literature, strengthening of museums, and libraries, and advancement of policies aligned with national priorities.

I appreciate the efforts of all departments and acknowledge the valuable support extended by partner institutions. I am confident that this publication will serve as a useful reference and a source of institutional learning for the future.

I extend my best wishes for continued success and reaffirm the Government’s commitment to protecting and promoting Pakistan’s heritage and culture.

Aurangzeb Khan Khichi

Federal Minister

National Heritage & Culture Division

NATIONAL HERITAGE & CULTURE DIVISION

Preamble

In the wake of the 18th amendment in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1973, the Federal Ministry of Culture was evolved on 05th April, 2011 and its functions were subsequently allocated to a newly created “Ministry of National Heritage and Integration” on 26th October, 2011. The Ministry was merged with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on 07th June, 2013. Afterwards, on 05th January, 2016, a separate Division was created by the Federal Government which was named as National History and Literary Heritage Division. In 2020, the Federal Government renamed this Division as the National Heritage & Culture Division.



BUSINESS/FUNCTIONS OF THE DIVISION:

The following functions have been allocated to the National Heritage & Culture Division under the Rules of Business 1973:

1. International Agreements, cultural pacts and protocols with other countries, and assistance in the field of archaeology, national museums and historical monuments declared to be of national importance.
2. National and other Languages used for official purposes.
3. Naming of institutions in the name of Quaid-e-Azam and other high and distinguished personages
4. Quaid-i-Azam Academy, Karachi
5. Pakistan Academy of Letters, Islamabad.
6. National Language Authority, Islamabad, Urdu Dictionary Board, Karachi, Urdu Science Board, Lahore.
7. Quaid-e-Azam Academy, Karachi.
8. Aiwan-i-Iqbal and Iqbal Academy Pakistan, Lahore.
9. Quaid-e-Azam Mazar Management Board (QMMB), Karachi
10. Quaid-e-Azam Memorial Fund (Quaid-e-Azam Mazar Management Board)
11. National Library of Pakistan, Islamabad
12. National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage of Pakistan (Lok Virsa)
13. Pakistan National Council of Arts

PAKISTAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE ARTS

Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) is an autonomous body established in 1973 under the National Heritage and Culture Division, Government of Pakistan. It serves as the national platform for the promotion and development of visual and performing arts. PNCA organizes art exhibitions, stage dramas, music and cultural events, and builds linkages with provincial and international cultural organizations to promote Pakistan's rich cultural heritage and project a positive soft image of the country.



Activities

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

Musical Tribute to Master Ghulam Haider, 13th September 2024

PNCA paid a homage to the late master composer of Punjabi music, Ghulam Haider. The event featured performances by well-known singers such as Bano Rehmat, Raees Ahmad, Niazi Brothers and Humera Channa.



Exhibition on Workplace Harrasment, 12th December 2024

The Federal Ombudsperson for "Protection against Harassment" at Workplace collaborated with PNCA to hold an art exhibition on 'Workplace Harassment: Its Forms and Impact'. The exhibition was part of the 16 days of activism campaign against gender-based violence by FOSPAH.



National University Student Theatre Festival, 15th December 2024

Pakistan National Council of the Arts hosted organized a drama festival titled ‘Tamasha 24’ with the help of university students across country. The students presented various plays, Sufi dances, Ghazal performances and a puppet show.



Timeless Serenity of Calligraphy and Arts, 07th January 2025

An exhibition showcasing masterpieces from ECO member states was held at the National Art Gallery, highlighting the beauty of calligraphy and arts. The event was inaugurated by Ambassador Asad Majeed Khan, Secretary General of ECO.



Celebrating China-Pakistan Friendship: Spring Festival Exhibition, 23rd January 2025

A joint collaboration between PNCA, the Embassy of China, and the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, the exhibition was organized to honor the enduring friendship between China and Pakistan.



Kashmir Solidarity Day Celebrations: "Katehra" Stage Play, 05th February 2025

PNCA organized a stage play titled “Katehra” at its auditorium, accompanied by a musical performance and a photographic exhibition, to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day.



Commemorating Sadquain: A Tribute to a Legend, 10th February 2025

To mark the 38th death anniversary of the legendary painter Sadquain, an exclusive exhibition, film screening, and talk were held at the National Art Gallery (NAG). The event was inaugurated by Kyrgyz Ambassador H.E. Arazbek Atakhanov, Mr. Rehmat Hindarta Kusuma, Chargé d'Affairs of Indonesia, and Mr. Ayoub Jamali, Director General of PNCA.



Rang-e-Pakistan Cultural Festival, 21st - 24th February 2025

PNCA presented a vibrant array of cultural performances at the Rang-e-Pakistan Cultural Festival, showcasing Pakistan’s diverse heritage through qawwali, folk and regional dances, mushaira, and musical performance.



Mirror to the Soul: Prof. Zhao Yingming Art Exhibition, 20th - 25th March 2025

The National Art Gallery showcased 60 sketches and paintings by Chinese artist Prof. Zhao Yingming, curated by Amna Ismail Pataudi and Rahat Naveed Masud.



Baluchistan: Air Panoramas & Landscape" Photographic Exhibition, 21st March 2025

A photographic exhibition and the launch of a coffee table book, “Baluchistan: Air Panoramas & Landscape,” was held at PNCA, highlighting the captivating scenic beauty of Baluchistan. The exhibition was inaugurated by Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari, Federal Minister for Energy and Power Division.



Pakistan Day Celebrations, 23rd March 2025

Various events marked Pakistan Day, including a painting exhibition titled “Tribute to Quaid-e-Azam” at NAG, showcasing a unique collection of portraits of the Quaid. The celebrations also featured folk dances and musical performances.



Jashn-e-Dastaan: A Three-Day Storytelling Festival, 11th - 13th April 2025

The Repertory Theatre of PNCA, in collaboration with Barfi Productions, organized a three-day storytelling event, "Jashn-e-Dastaan," drawing in aspiring actors and enthusiastic students.



Youm-e-Tashakur: Tribute to Pakistan's Armed Forces, 16th May 2025

Special celebrations were held at the PNCA auditorium to pay tribute to the Armed Forces of Pakistan on "Youm-e-Tashakur".



NATIONAL HEIRTAGE FOLK & TRADITIONAL HERITAGE (LOK VIRSA)

National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage (Lok Virsa) is an autonomous body that was established in 1974 under National Heritage and Culture Division with an independent Board of Governors. Its mandate is to research, collection, documentation, preservation and dissemination of Pakistan's tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Over the years, the Institute has played a vital role in creating harmony among the federating units through various national and community-based activities.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

14th August Celebrations, 14th August 2024:

Independence Day 2024 was celebrated at Lok Virsa, featuring Cake cutting ceremony, musical performances, and puppet show organized by the Pakistan National Council of the Arts.



Anniversary of Shaheed Syed Ali Geelani, 1st September 2024:

Eminent Kashmiri leader Shaheed Syed Ali Geelani's anniversary was commemorated at Lok Virsa Pakistan Monument Museum under the Ministry of Kashmir Affairs.



Kashmir Black Day, 27th October 2024:

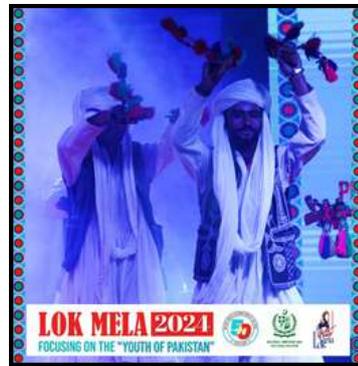
Lok Virsa special programs to mark Kashmir Black Day, 27th October 2024 included a photographic exhibition on Kashmir, screening of documentaries on Kashmir, milli naghmas to pay tribute to the Kashmiris and display of banners bearing slogans in favor of Kashmir cause.



Lok Mela 2024, 8th to 17th November 2024:

Lok Mela, a regular mega folk cultural extravaganza held since 1981, celebrated the golden jubilee of Lok Virsa (established in 1974) from November 8th to 17th, 2024. The event ran daily from 10 AM to 10 PM at the Mela Grounds, Lok Virsa, Garden Avenue, Shakarparian, Islamabad. This year's theme, "Youth of Pakistan," focused the vibrant energy, talent, and innovation of the nation's younger generation. Special features of the festival included International, Youth, and Golden Jubilee Pavilions. Tickets were affordably priced at Rs. 200 for adults and Rs. 100 for students, making the event accessible to the general public.

Approximately sixty thousand kids accompanied the parents making a total tally of visitors at 288,210. The event featured four musical pits where folk artists from various regions of the country performed throughout the day.



Seminar Series during Lok Mela 2024

This year, under the theme “Legends that Unite and Inspire,” Lok Virsa featured engaging talks spotlighting Pakistan’s folk heroes—figures whose stories of resilience, bravery, and wisdom have shaped the nation’s cultural heritage.

These sessions, celebrated heroes like Pir Rokhan, Zarsanga, Rai Ahmed Khan Kharal, Rawal Jugni, Watyo Faqeer, Sachal Sarmast, Mir Gul Khan Naseer and Atta Shad highlighting their enduring values of peace, justice, and unity.

Quaid Day Celebrations, 25th December 2024:

The celebration featured exhibition of artisans-at-work, showcasing master artisans practicing various traditional crafts throughout the day (10 am to 6 pm), a cake-cutting ceremony, atribute segment featuring patriotic national songs dedicated to Quaid-i-Azam and screening of documentaries highlighting Quaid-i-Azam’s life and contributions.



Christmas Day Celebrations, 27th December 2024:

Christmas Day celebrations at Lok Virsa featured a vibrant cultural show that included performances by different choirs as part of a Christmas Choral Competition among church choirs. The event also included traditional cultural performances, the erection of a Christmas tree, a cake-cutting ceremony, and the distribution of sweets among children by Santa Claus.



Kashmir Solidarity Day, 5th February 2025:

Lok Virsa organized a series of programs to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day to promote the cultural heritage of Kashmir and to express solidarity with the innocent Kashmiri people struggling for their right of self-determination in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir through a cultural perspective.



Rang-e-Pakistan Festival, 22nd to 24th February 2025:

The "Rang-e-Pakistan 2025" festival at Lok Virsa was a vibrant three-day cultural event held from February 21 to 23, 2025, in Islamabad. Organized jointly by Lok Virsa, the Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA), and other institutions under the administrative control of Culture and Heritage Division.



23rd March Celebrations: 23rd March 2025:

On 23rd March 2025, Lok Virsa celebrated Pakistan Day with a vibrant program featuring artisans at work, a puppet show, and patriotic songs, held at the Heritage venue.



NATIONAL LANGUAGE PROMOTION DEPARTMENT

The National Language Promotion Department (NLPD) was established on 04th October, 1979. The NLPD is now working as Attached/Executive Department under the administrative control of National Heritage & Cultural Division.

Since its establishment, the NLPD has been developing material for the promotion of the National Language to comply with the Article-251 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973. The department has been promoting the national language through its publication, seminars/conferences/workshops and translation services.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

Book Inauguration: "Saat Jaanam" by Shafqat Naghmi, 5th November, 2024

National Language Promotion Department inaugurated Mr. Shafqat Naghmi's novel "Saat Jaanam". Mr. Hafeez Niazi, prominent Urdu journalist, was the chief guest.



Event: Books Exhibition & Seminar, 20th November, 2024

National Language Promotion Department organized a books exhibition and seminar at Post Graduate Boys College, Bagh, AJK, under the Endowment Fund Program. Prominent Urdu scholars shared their thoughts on the national language in AJK.



National Heritage and Culture Endowment Fund Program and Books Exhibition, 19th November 2024.

National Language Promotion Department organized a books exhibition and seminar at Poonch University, Rawalakot, AJK, under the Endowment Fund Program. Scholars from AJK presented papers on the national language, engaging university students from various faculties.



International Conference: Afghanistan and Urdu Language & Literature, 22th November 2024.

National Language Promotion Department and Muslim Institute organized an international conference. Eminent scholars from Afghanistan and Pakistan presented papers.



International Conference: Roomi O Iqbal Quaid Day, 17th December 2024.

National Language Promotion Department and Younas Emre Institute, Turkey jointly organized a seminar symbolizing Abdul Rahman Peshawari Remembrance. Ambassador Dr. Irfan Neziroglu was the chief guest, and Prof. Dr. Halil Tokar was the guest of honour. Notable literary figures and historians participated.



International Seminar: Türkiye and Pakistan Historical Relations Symbol: Abdul Rahman Peshawari Remembrance, 24th December 2024.

National Language Promotion Department and Younas Emre Institute, Turkey jointly organized a seminar symbolizing Abdul Rahman Peshawari Remembrance. Ambassador Dr. Irfan Neziroglu was the chief guest, and Prof. Dr. Halil Tokar was the guest of honour. Notable literary figures and historians participated.



Event: International Conference & Books Exhibition, 13th-14th February, 2025

National Language Promotion Department, partnered with Ghazi University, Dera Ghazi Khan, for an international conference and books exhibition under the Endowment Fund Program of National Heritage and Culture Division.



Event: Internal Seminar on Maulana Rumi's Education, 15th February, 2025

National Language Promotion Department organized a seminar and books exhibition at Govt. Post Graduate College, Jamia Muhammadi, Chiniot, under the Endowment Fund Program. The event aimed to promote academic engagement and outreach through sessions and book exhibitions.



Website Inauguration: Virsa Foundation International, 21st February 2025

Virsa Foundation, Urdu Markaz, New York, and National Language Promotion Department jointly inaugurated a website designed by Virsa Foundation International. The event's chief guest was Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Mr. Khalid Maqbool Siddique, alongside notable personalities from Pakistan and abroad.



Rang-e-Pakistan Festival, 21st - 23rd February, 2025

National Language Promotion Department participated in the Rang-e-Pakistan Festival at Lok Virsa, showcasing book and calligraphy exhibitions, and conducting a calligraphy workshop to promote Pakistan's cultural heritage.



One Day Seerat Un Nabi Seminar, 24th March 2025

A one-day seminar was held by National Rahmatul-lil-Alameen Wa Khatamun Nabiyyin Authority (NRKNA). Notable guests included Dr. Allam Muhammad Raghیب Naemi, Chairman, Council of Islamic Ideology, and Mr. Khurshid Ahmad Nadeem, Chairman, NRKNA. Dr. Nasir Mehmood, VC, Allam Iqbal Open University, was the chief guest.



Book Inauguration: Mr. Afraz Khan Book "Cheen, Aaj Aur Kal" 10th April 2025

National Language Promotion Department inaugurated Mr. Afraz Khan's book "Cheen, Aaj Aur Kal". The chief guest was Special Advisor to PM for National Heritage and Culture Division, Mr. Huzefa Rehman, and Senior Joint Secretary, Mr. Sabino Sikandar Jalal, also attended.



International Conference: Conference on Sultan Bahoo & Moulana Rumi, 22nd-24th April 2025

National Language Promotion Department, Muslim Institute of Pakistan, and Yunus Emre Institute, Turkey, jointly organized a three-day conference. Chairman Senate, Mr. Yousaf Raza Gilani, was the chief guest, and diplomats from the Islamic world participated.



Books Distribution Ceremony, 27th May 2025

National Language Promotion Department handed over books to 25 colleges in Rawalpindi Division. The ceremony aimed to enrich institute libraries with NLPD's publications, totaling over 700 books promoting national language.



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF PAKISTAN

The National Library of Pakistan (NLP) is the country's legal depository mandated under the Copyright Ordinance, 1962 to acquire, preserve, and maintain the published intellectual heritage of



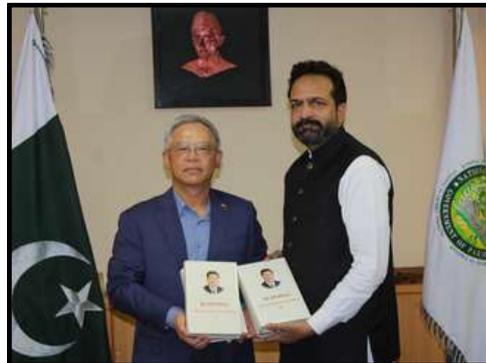
Pakistan; whereas it maintains national and international collections, serves as the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) Agency for Pakistan, and participates in national and international bibliographic and professional cooperation; now, therefore, this document is framed to support and regulate the statutory functions and responsibilities of the National Library of Pakistan.

Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

Cultural Counsellor at the Embassy of China, 26th July 2024

Mr. Zhang Heqing, Cultural Counsellor at the Embassy of China, paid a visit to NLP. The event focused on strengthening library cooperation between the two countries, discussing publication exchanges, cultural linkages, and sharing professional experiences.



Book Exhibition to Celebrate Pakistan's Independence Day, 13th August 2024

A special book exhibition to celebrate Pakistan's Independence Day. The event showcased books and documents highlighting Pakistan's history, culture, and heritage. Officers, staff, researchers, and visitors attended the inauguration, aiming to promote national consciousness and reading culture.



Development of CPEC and Possibilities for the Youth, 9th September 2024

The event explored CPEC's progress and opportunities for youth in education, employment, and economic growth. Scholars, students, and officials discussed ways to enhance awareness and leverage CPEC for national development.



26th Public Policy & Governance course of Punjab Institute of Management, 9th October 2024

The delegation was briefed on NLP's mandate, services, and role in supporting research and policy formulation. The visit included an orientation session and tour of key library sections.



Embassy of Indonesia signed a Record of Understanding for an Indonesian Corner, 5th December 2024

The initiative aims to promote cultural and educational cooperation, showcasing Indonesian books and materials. The corner will strengthen people-to-people contacts and foster academic exchanges.



Visit of Mr. Chen Peng, Counsellor and Director of China Cultural Center, 16th January 2025

Discussions focused on NLP's mandate, services, and potential collaboration areas like cultural exchanges and joint events. The visit aimed to strengthen Pakistan-China cultural cooperation and knowledge-sharing.



Meeting of National Assembly Standing Committee on Education, 7th February 2025

National Library of Pakistan hosted the meeting. The meeting discussed matters related to education, training, and cultural heritage. NLP provided venue and administrative support, showcasing its role as a national knowledge hub.



Visit of Mr. Hashimu G. Abubakar, Minister Counselor at Nigeria High Commission, 25th February 2025

National Library of Pakistan hosted the dignitary. Discussions focused on cooperation in libraries, cultural exchange, and knowledge-sharing between Pakistan and Nigeria. The visit aimed to strengthen institutional linkages.



Russian Federation Embassy Delegation Visit, 28th February, 2025

National Library of Pakistan hosted a Russian Federation Embassy delegation, discussing cultural exchange, library cooperation, and knowledge-sharing initiatives to strengthen Pakistan-Russia ties.



Ambassador of Kyrgyz Republic Visit, 10th March, 2025

National Library of Pakistan hosted H.E. Avazbek Atakhanov, Ambassador of Kyrgyz Republic, discussing NLP's mandate and potential cooperation to strengthen Pakistan-Kyrgyz cultural relations.



“China’s Golden Ten Years” Seminar, 22nd April, 2025

National Library of Pakistan hosted a seminar with China Media Group, highlighting China's development and regional cooperation. Scholars and students attended, aiming to enhance Pakistan-China intellectual and cultural exchanges.



Turkic Academy Visit, 10th May, 2025

National Library of Pakistan hosted Dr. Askhat Kessikbayev, Vice President of Turkic Academy, discussing research collaboration, cultural exchange, and establishing a Turkic Academy Corner at NLP to strengthen ties.



PAKISTAN NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY (PNB)

The National Library of Pakistan compiled the annual volume of the Pakistan National Bibliography 2022. Pakistan National Bibliography (PNB) has also been made accessible through the National Library of Pakistan website which has become an important tool for research.

QUAID-I-AZAM ACADEMY

Quaid-i-Azam Academy was established in 1976 through Resolution. In pursuance of Establishment Division's O.M. No. 1/98/2004-E-6 dated November 30, 2005, Quaid-i-Azam Academy vide F. No. 1/25/2014-QAA dated 13th June, 2014, was declared as Sub-Ordinate Office of M/o Information, Broadcasting & National Heritage. The employees are civil servants. The Director is the administrative and research head of the department who exercises routine administrative and financial matters of Academy. Academy's head office is located at M.A. Jinnah Road, Karachi. It has a sub-office which is housed in National Archives of Pakistan building, Islamabad.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

The Importance of Unity and Harmony in Independent Pakistan, 13th August, 2024

An essay competition was held at Quaid-i-Azam Academy, Karachi, with 30 students from various colleges and universities participating in bilingual (English and Urdu) essays.



Prize Distribution Ceremony, 16th August, 2024

Chief Guest Dr. Aurangzeb Khan, VC of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Dewan University, distributed certificates, shields, and cash prizes to winners. Certificates were also given to judges: Professor Abdul Hadi, Professor Muhammad Ali Panhyar, and Mr. Muneeb Hassan.



Defence Day Special Event: 1965 Ki Jang aur Milli Tiranay: Geet Banay Hathyar, 10th September, 2024

Quaid-i-Azam Academy and University of Karachi's Mass Communication Department jointly organized the event. Mr. Absar Ahmad presented milli naghmat, paying tribute to 1965 war martyrs. Col (R) Mukhtar Ahmad Butt was Chief Guest. Students participated, with some singing milli tiranay. Mr. Qamaruz Zaman Siddiqui recited poetry. Shields and Ajraks were presented to guests.



76th Death Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, 11th September, 2024

Quaid-i-Azam Academy and H.I. Osmania Govt. Girls Degree College, Nazimabad, jointly organized Quran Khawani, Seminar, and Mehfil-e-Mushaira. Poets paid tribute to Quaid, students sang milli naghmay. Chief Guest Commissioner Tariq Hussain Shaikh presented shields to poets and students.



Inter-Departmental Speech Competition: Millat Ka Pasban Hay Mohammad Ali Jinnah, 12th September, 2024

Quaid-i-Azam Academy and University of Karachi's Urdu Department organized the event. Students spoke on various aspects of Quaid's life. Chief Guest Syed Abid Rizvi and others paid tribute to Quaid. Shields, Ajraks, cash prizes, and certificates were distributed.



73rd Death Anniversary of Liaquat Ali Khan, 16th October, 2024

Quaid-i-Azam Academy and Hamdard University's Education Department organized a Seminar and Mushaira. Poets paid tribute to Liaquat Ali Khan through poetry. Chief Guest Justice Retd. Zia Perwez attended. Shields, Ajraks, and certificates were distributed to students.



147th Birth Anniversary of Allama Dr. Muhammad Iqbal, 14th November, 2024

Quaid-i-Azam Academy and Govt. College of Education, F.B. Area, Karachi, organized a Seminar on Iqbal's role in Pakistan Movement. Speakers paid tribute to Iqbal's services. Poems of Iqbal were sung, shields and Ajraks presented to speakers. Cake cutting ceremony held.



148th Birth Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, 20th December, 2024

Quaid-i-Azam Academy, Sir Adamjee Institute, and Pakistan Quiz Society International (Regd) organized an Inter College Quaid-i-Azam Quiz Competition. Dr. Aurangzeb Khan was the Chief Guest. Government Degree College for Girls, Nazimabad, Shaheed Flying Officer Maryam Mukhtar Girls College, and Bibi Asifa Government Degree Girls College Muzaffarabad, Landhi secured 1st, 2nd, and 3rd positions, respectively. Sixty students participated in the competition.



148th Birth Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, 23rd December, 2024

QAA and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Dewan University hosted the event. Prof. Dr. S. M. Tariq Rafi presided. Notable guests attended. Winners: North City School of Arts (1st & 3rd), Institute of Arts & Crafts (2nd). 40 students participated.



Panel Discussion: Quaid Aur Aaj ka Pakistan, 24th December, 2024

Prof. Dr. Shuja Ahmed Mahesar, Prof. Dr. Waseemuddin, Prof Dr. Shama Afroz, and Prof. Nazra Ambreen discussed with Musrat Rana Dar as Moderator. Mr. Munawwar Ali Mahesar presided, Prof Dr. Hakeem Nasar Ali Askari was Chief Guest.



148th Birth Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah Seminar and Mushaira, 6th January, 2025

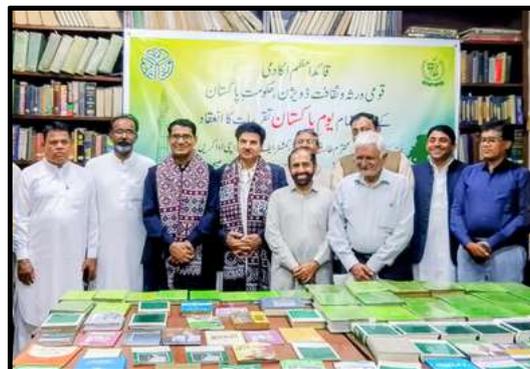
Speakers: Dr. Iftekhar Malik, Ms. Nusrat Sultana, Syed Naseem Shah, Dr. Rana Khalid Mehmood Qaisar, Prof. Sajida Zaheer. Chief Guest: Mr. Justice Retd. Zia Perwez. Presided by Mr. Mehfoozun Nani Khan. Mushaira led by Mr. Ronaq Hayat with poets Alhaj Najami, Qamaruzzaman, Captain Hadi Rizvi, Sadaf Izhar, Ishrat Habiba, and Shaban Sahar.



Quaid-i-Azam & the Principle of Self-Determination Seminar and Walk, 4th February, 2025
QAA and Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University, Lyari organized the event. Speakers included Dr. Erum Muzaffar, Prof Dr. Asghar Ali Dashti, Mr. Nusrat Baig Mirza, and Prof Abdul Rahim Shar. Students also participated. The event concluded with a walk.



Rare Books Exhibition on Quaid-i-Azam, 19th-20th March, 2025
QAA organized the exhibition. Mr. Tarique Hussain Shaikh, Commissioner FBR, Karachi, inaugurated the event. Featured rare books on Quaid-i-Azam and Freedom Movement, plus QAA publications.



Pakistan Day Makalma, 23rd March, 2025
QAA organized "Kirardad-e-Lahore aur Mojooda Pakistan: Mushkilat aur Mawaqay". Dr. Aurangzeb Khan presided. Participants: Mr. Mehfoozun Nabi Khan, Mr. Shaikh Tariq Jameel, Rana Ashfaq Rasool, and Nusrat Baig Mirza.



Pakistan Day Seminar & Mushaira, 25th March, 2025

QAA and Bismil Arts Council, Karachi organized "Kirardad-e-Lahore: Tehreek-e-Pakistan Main Ahm Mor". Syed Muneef Ashar presided. Speakers: Prof Muhammad Ali, Prof Abdur Rahim, Mr. Sharifuddin, and Shaikh Tariq Jameel. Poets included Alhaj Najmi, Afsar Ali Afsar Aadil, and others.



Iqbal's Death Anniversary Seminar, 21st April, 2025

QAA and Federal Urdu University hosted the event. Speakers included Prof. Dr. Rizwana Jabeen, Prof. Dr. Asghar Ali Dashti, and others. Students presented papers. Ms. Javeria Saeed recited Iqbal's poem. Chief Guest: Prof. Dr. Sadia Khalil Samija.



Labour Day Seminar, 1st May, 2025

QAA hosted "Quaid-i-Azam K Afkar Aur Youm-e-Mazdoor". Speakers: Mr. Waseem Jamal, Mr. Mukhtar Hussain Awan, Mr. Qamar Abbas, Mr. Mehfoozun Nabi, Prof. Muneebul Hassan, Prof. Muhammad Sajid, Syed Aoun Abbas Jafri, and Mr. Absar Ahmad. Mr. Qamaruz Zaman Siddiqui recited labour tribute poetry.



AIWAN-E-IQBAL COMPLEX

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex, situated on Egerton Road, Lahore, has been established as a national monument to honor Shair-e-Mashriq and Mufakkir-e-Islam Allama Muhammad Iqbal, for the promotion of his philosophy of continuous struggle, unity of the Ummah, and revival of Islamic spirit.

The Complex, spread over an area of 42 kanals, comprises a Conference Centre featuring a 1,050-seat Conference Hall, a 250-seat Banquet Hall, committee rooms, foyers, and lounges, along with three interconnected 27-storey towers and cultural facilities reflecting the intellectual heritage of Allama Iqbal.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

Khawateen Bazm-e-Iqbal Ijlas, 7th July, 2024

Event started with Quran recitation by Shakila Begum, Na'at by Salma Noor. Highlights: Samreen Younis shared meeting proceedings, Farakhunda Kardar narrated Prophet Ibrahim's trial, Kishwar Malik presented Iqbal's Persian verses. Razia Sultana recited Iqbal's poetry. Ended with National Anthem.



Independence Day Visit to Iqbal Museum, 13th August, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex and Ilmo Hunar Foundation delegation visited Iqbal Museum (Javed Manzil). Led by Anjum Waheed and Muhammad Arshad. Viewed Allama Iqbal's belongings, tribute ceremony held. Muhammad Arshad paid tribute, Anjum Waheed presented bouquet.



Independence Day Celebrations, 14th August, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex celebrated Pakistan's 77th Independence Day. Special guest Salman Ghani, speakers highlighted Iqbal and Quaid's vision, national unity. Flag-hoisting, cake-cutting ceremony held with public participation.



iMehfil-e-Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH), 14th September, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex and National Women Journalists Forum organized the event. Featured Quran recitation, Naat, poetry, and speeches. Begum Amna Mujtaba Shuja, MPAs Mumtaz Begum, Rukhsana Kausar, and Fatima Begum participated. Spiritual event marked reverence for Rabi-ul-Awwal.



Speech Competition, 1st October, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex hosted “Difa-e-Watan aur Talaba” for female students. Chief Guest: Salman Ghani. Participants showed confidence, patriotism, and oratory skills inspired by national ideology and Allama Iqbal.



Sufi Musical Evening, 4th October, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex and National Heritage & Culture Division hosted "Sufi Night". Featured Sufi performances by Saen Zahoor and Shabnam Majeed. Promoted spiritual harmony and cultural heritage.



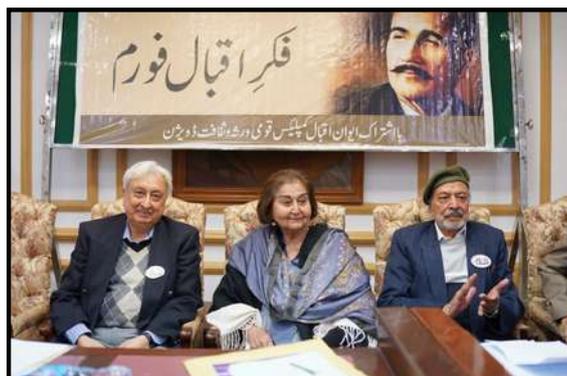
Iqbal Day Celebration, 8th November, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex commemorated Allama Iqbal's birth anniversary. Speakers: Salman Ghani, Brigadier (Retd.) Dr. Waheed-ul-Zaman Tariq, Dr. Saleem Rao, Prof. Dr. Saima Iram, and Anjum Waheed. Highlighted Iqbal's philosophy, youth role, and Iqbalism's relevance in strengthening Pakistan.



Fikr-e-Iqbal Session, 10th December, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex hosted session presided by Justice (Retd.) Nasira Javed Iqbal. Scholars shared insights on Allama Iqbal's life, poetry, and philosophy. Shields presented to guests.



Iqbal Festival: Diyar-e-Ishq Mein Apna Muqam Paida Kar, 12th - 13th December, 2024

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex hosted “Diyar-e-Ishq Mein Apna Muqam Paida Kar”. Featured speeches, panel discussions, student competitions, Mushaira, and Mahfil-e-Samaa. Promoted Iqbal's message of self-realization and national consciousness.



Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's Birth Anniversary, 25th December, 2024

Speakers at Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex highlighted Quaid's leadership, principles, and vision. Emphasized following his ideals for national progress.



Speech Competition “Sitaron pe jo daltay hen Kamand”, 24th January, 2025

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex hosted a speech competition for female students from various institutions.

Winners:

- 1st Prize: Masooma Nasar
- 2nd Prize: Ayesha Safdar
- 3rd Prize: Sapna Rani

Chief Guest Farah Diba awarded trophies, and other participants received encouragement prizes.



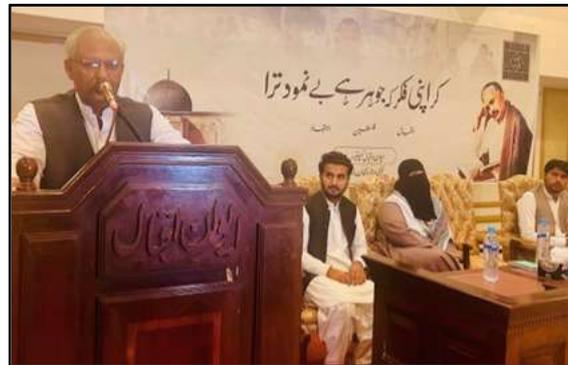
Pakistan Resolution Day Commemoration, 23rd March, 2025

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex observed Pakistan Resolution Day. Chief Guest Salman Ghani and Prof. Yousaf Irfan highlighted Pakistan's history, youth's role, and Quaid-e-Azam & Allama Iqbal's vision. Included Quran recitation, Naat, and speeches on national unity and ideological identity.



Literary and Awareness Session, 29th April, 2025

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex hosted students from GCU and other institutions. Focused on Iqbal's philosophy, Palestine issues, and Ijtihad concept. Speakers: Sajjad Bashir and Dr. Rabia Ali. Included Quran recitation, Naat, poetry, and interactive session.



Ma'raka-e-Haqq and Youm-e-Takbeer Commemoration, 27th May, 2025

Aiwan-e-Iqbal Complex marked Ma'raka-e-Haqq and Youm-e-Takbeer. Speakers Col. (R) Syed Sakhawat Hussain Bukhari and Dr. Muhammad Saleem Rao praised Pakistan's defense achievements, urging youth to excel. Concluded with a group photo.



Quaid-i-Azam Mazar Management Board

Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah (RA) breathed his last on September 11, 1948. The Quaid-i-Azam Memorial Fund (QMF) was created soon after the sad demise of the Quaid-i-Azam. It came into being through donations made by the public in response to an appeal by the then Governor-General of Pakistan. In August 1968 a Board was appointed to deal day to day affairs of the Mazar. On April 3, 1972 the President of Pakistan reconstituted the Quaid-i-Azam Memorial Fund (QMF) as Quaid-i-Azam Mazar Management Board (QMMB) under clause 5(1) of the Quaid-i-Azam Mazar Protection & Maintenance Ordinance 1971 later on validated by the Parliament vide Act (63 of 1975).



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

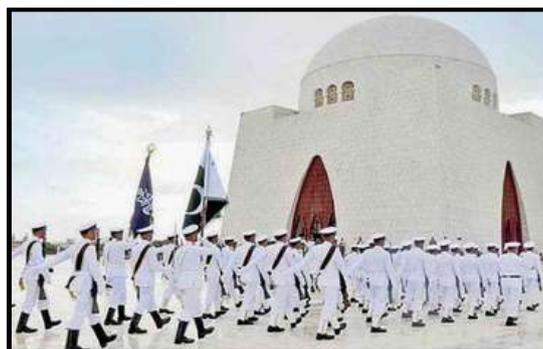
Madr-e-Millat Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah's 56th Death Anniversary, 9th July, 2024

Quran Khawani held at Quaideen Grave Hall, Mazar-e-Quaid, Karachi. Leader of Opposition Sindh Assembly laid floral wreath, paying tribute.



77th Independence Day Celebrations, 14th August, 2024

Quaid's Mausoleum marked the day with enthusiasm. Naval cadets took over ceremonial guard duties at 6:50 am, adding to the patriotic fervor.



Flag Hoisting Ceremony, 14th August, 2024

Governor Sindh and Chief Minister Sindh, along with cabinet members, performed the ceremony at 8:00 am. Ambassadors, Consul Generals, and dignitaries from various countries participated.



77th Independence Day Celebrations, 14th August, 2024

Prominent citizens and over a thousand students from Karachi schools attended the Flag Hoisting Ceremony at Mazar-e-Quaid. National Anthem and songs followed. Governor Sindh, Chief Minister Sindh, and dignitaries laid floral wreaths, making it Sindh's biggest ceremony.



Foreign Dignitary's Visit, 4th September, 2024

Mr. Scott Urbom, U.S Consul General Karachi, visited Mazar-e-Quaid and laid a floral wreath, paying respects to Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah.



Defense Day Commemoration, 6th September, 2024

Pakistan's Defense Day marked with zeal at Mazar-e-Quaid. Change of guard ceremony held, Air Vice Marshal Ghazanfar Lateef as chief guest. Lt. General Babar Iftikhar and representatives of Army, Navy, Air Force, and Rangers laid floral wreaths at Quaid's grave.



76th Death Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam, 11th September, 2024

Quran Khawani held at Mazar-e-Quaid. Governor Sindh, Chief Minister, and dignitaries including foreign ambassador laid floral wreaths, paying tribute to Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah.



73rd Death Anniversary of Quaid-i-Millat Liaquat Ali Khan, 16th October 2024

Quran Khawani held at Quaideen Grave Hall, Mazar-e-Quaid. Governor Sindh and Pakistan Navy Commanding Officer laid wreath, paying tribute to Liaquat Ali Khan.



Russian Ambassador's Visit, 11th November, 2024

H.E. Albert Khorev, Russian Ambassador to Pakistan, visited Mazar-e-Quaid with Consul General and officials, paying respects to Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah.



Quaid-i-Azam's 147th Birthday, 25th December, 2024

Celebrated with fervor at Mazar-e-Quaid. Pakistan Army cadets took over ceremonial guard duties. Governor Sindh, Chief Minister Sindh, and dignitaries laid floral wreaths, paying tribute to Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah.



Quaid-i-Azam's 147th Birth Anniversary, Digital Exhibition of Rare Pictures, 21st - 25th December, 2024

Aiwan-e-Nawadrat-e-Quaid-i-Azam, Mazar-e-Quaid Karachi hosted a digital exhibition showcasing rare pictures of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah to commemorate his birth anniversary.



84th Pakistan Day Celebration, 23rd March, 2025

Mazar-e-Quaid marked the day with fervor. Governor Sindh, Chief Minister Sindh, and dignitaries laid floral wreaths, paying tribute to Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah. Representatives from Army, Navy, Air Force, and Rangers participated.



Ministerial Delegation Pays Tribute at Mazar-e-Quaid, 19th May 2025

A high-level delegation led by Federal Minister Mr. Aurangzeb Khan Khichi, accompanied by Advisor to PM Mr. Huzaifa Rehman and Secretary Mr. Asad Rehman Gilani, visited Mazar-e-Quaid and paid respects at the founder's resting place.



IQBAL ACADEMY PAKISTAN

Iqbal Academy Pakistan is the centre of excellence for Iqbal studies and the oldest statutory body of the country, established through the Iqbal Academy act, 1951, and later through the Iqbal Academy Ordinance No. XXVI of 1962. In order to translate its objectives into action and activity

Iqbal Academy undertakes the measures those are: Publication programme; IT Projects; Outreach activities; Iqbal Award Programme; Website; Research and Compilation; Audio-video; Multimedia; Archive Projects as well as Exhibitions, Conferences; Seminars; Projection Abroad; Research Guidance; Academic Assistance; Donations and Library Services etc.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

Iqbal Encyclopedia Project Workshop, 11th - 12th September, 2024

Iqbal Academy Pakistan hosted a 2-day workshop on Iqbal Encyclopedia Project. Director Iqbal Academy presided, with renowned Iqbal scholars attending.



Webinar on Iqbal's Concept of Self, 13th September, 2024

Iqbal Academy hosted a webinar exploring Allama Iqbal's concept of self and modern psychology. Speakers included Dr. Khalid Almas, Dr. Nadeem Ishaq Khan, Ms. Gulshan Ali, and Dr. Tahir Hamid Tanoli, hosted by Mr. Zaid Hussain.



International Iqbal Conference, 17th - 19th November, 2024

Jointly organized by Iqbal Academy Pakistan and ECO Cultural Institute, Tehran. Scholars from 9 countries participated, highlighting Iqbal's universal message and contributions.



Special Seminar: Dr. Taqi Abidi, 23rd December, 2024

Iqbal Academy Pakistan honored Dr. Taqi Abidi as a contemporary Iqbal scholar. Distinguished guests praised his efforts in promoting Iqbal globally.



Special Lecture: Iqbal Studies in Middle East, 21st January, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan hosted a lecture on "Beacons of Iqbal Studies in the Middle East". Dr. Khalid Asadi shared his efforts to promote Iqbalism in the region.



Kashmir Solidarity Day, Panel Discussion, 3rd February, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan organized a panel discussion on Jammu & Kashmir's historical background and current situation. Participants expressed solidarity with Kashmiris, praising their sacrifices, and hoping for their freedom soon.



International Seminar: Iqbal Studies in Turkiye, 3rd February, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan and NUML University Lahore organized a seminar on "Beacons of Iqbal Studies in Turkiye". Speakers shared insights on promoting Iqbal's teachings in Turkiye.



Literary Session & Educational Visit, 3rd February, 2025

Students and teachers from Quetta, Balochistan visited Iqbal Academy Pakistan. Iqbal scholars Dr. Abdul Hameed Barayshaq and Dr. Khalid Asadi shared insights on Iqbal's connection with students.



Kashmir Solidarity Day Event, 5th February, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan organized a seminar on "Allama Iqbal and Jammu & Kashmir" at Expo Centre, Lahore. Speakers expressed solidarity with Kashmiris and appreciated students' love for Iqbal's poetry. A book fair and poetry competition were also held, with prizes awarded to participants.



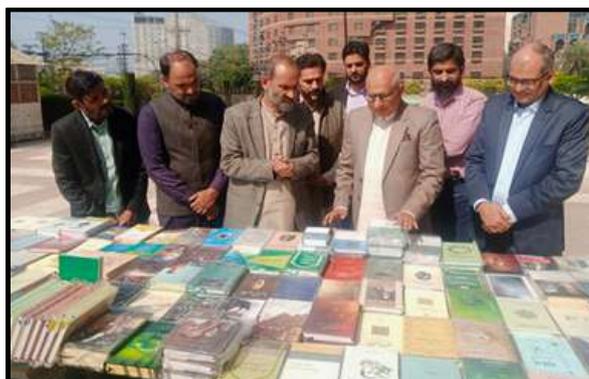
Special Seminar: Iqbal Studies in Balochistan, 17th February, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan hosted a seminar on "Trends of Iqbal Studies among the Youth of Balochistan". Distinguished guests addressed students and teachers from Quetta, sharing insights on Iqbal's connection with students. A visit to the Iqbal Academy Library and Gallery was also arranged.



International Mother Language Day, 21st February, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan celebrated International Mother Language Day with a special event and book exhibition. Brigadier Humayun Zia Chauhan was the chief guest.



National Presidential Iqbal Award 2021, 21st April, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan presented the National Presidential Iqbal Award 2021 to Dr. Muhammad Arif Khan at Aiwan-i-Iqbal, Lahore. Federal Minister Mr. Ahsan Iqbal handed over the award. Several dignitaries attended the ceremony.



Iqbal Conference, 21st April, 2025

Iqbal Academy Pakistan organized a conference on "A Review of Iqbal's Thought in the Contemporary Era" at Aiwan-i-Iqbal, Lahore. Mr. Ahsan Iqbal and Mr. Muneeb Iqbal (Iqbal's grandson) graced the occasion. The event featured recitation of Iqbal's poetry and discussions by distinguished guests.



PAKISTAN ACADEMY OF LETTERS

Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) is a government-sector organization established on 1st July 1976 for the promotion of literature in Pakistani languages and the welfare of writers; and

Whereas the Academy, comprising eminent scholars and literary figures as its founding members, was restored as an autonomous body through the Pakistan Academy of Letters Act, 2013, and presently functions under the National Heritage & Culture Division, Government of Pakistan; and Whereas the mandate of the Academy includes the promotion of Pakistani languages and literature, advising the Federal Government on literary policy, representation in international literary forums, publication of literary periodicals, recommendation of literary awards, and liaison with national and international literary organizations.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

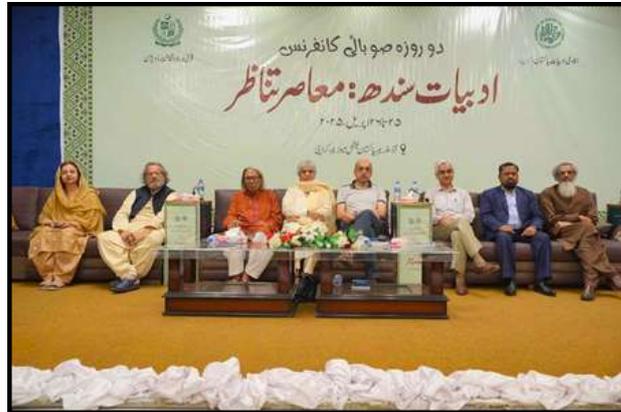
Inter-Provincial Young Writers' Residency Program, 16th-25th January, 2025

Pakistan Academy of Letters hosted a 10-day residency program for young writers from across Pakistan, featuring literary events, interactions with senior writers, and visits to cultural institutions in Islamabad.



Adabiyat-e-Sindh Conference, 25th - 16th April, 2025

A two-day literary conference at Pakistan National Museum, Karachi, featured writers from Sindh discussing contemporary Sindh literature in Urdu and Sindhi.



Adabiyat-e-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Conference 29th - 30th April, 2025

A two-day conference at Pakistan Academy of Letters, Peshawar, brought together writers from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, representing Pashto, Urdu, Hindko, Saraiki, Khovar, and other languages, focusing on contemporary perspectives.



Youth Literature Festival, 14th - 16th August, 2024

Pakistan Academy of Letters, Islamabad, hosted a 3-day festival for young writers under 30, featuring creative workshops, activities, and visits, aiming to nurture emerging literary talent.



Chai, Baatain Aur Kitabain, Ongoing Wednesdays, 4:00-5:30 pm

Pakistan Academy of Letters initiated informal literary meetings, attracting writers, students, scholars, and book enthusiasts. 43 sessions held in the PAL lobby, fostering literary discussions and connections.



National Literary Awards 2023, held in 2024

The Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) has announced the National Literary Awards for 2023, recognizing outstanding books in 8 Pakistani languages, English, and translation works. Here are some notable winners:

- **Urdu Prose (Creative Literature):** Saadat Hasan Manto Award - Tahira Iqbal, "Harrpa"
- **Urdu Poetry:** Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal Award - Ghulam Hussain Sajid, "Tajawuz"
- **Punjabi Poetry:** Syed Waris Shah Award - Qabil Jafferi, "Uppar"
- **English Prose:** Pitras Bukhari Award - M. Athar Tahir, "Second Coming"
- **Translation:** Muhammad Hasan Askari Award - Shaukat Nawaz Niazi, "Jalawatni Aur Saltanat"

The Kamal-e-Fun Award, a lifetime achievement award worth 1 million rupees, was presented to Mr. Iftikhar Arif



Welfare of Writers' Community, 2024-2025

Pakistan Academy of Letters initiated projects for writers' welfare, including:

- Monthly stipends and financial assistance to deserving writers and bereaved families: Rs. 145.859 million distributed among 940 writers and families (July 2024-June 2025)
- Financial assistance to needy writers: Rs.800,000 paid to 9 deserving and ailing writers.

International Literary Collaborations, 2024-2025

Pakistan Academy of Letters strengthened ties with national and international organizations, including:

- Translating and publishing Chinese novels under a joint project
- Signing MoUs with Azerbaijan and Vietnam
- Hosting ambassadors and scholars from Portugal, Azerbaijan, Vietnam, Bulgaria, Russia, Palestine, China, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, and USA

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS

The National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA), Karachi, is a premier institution dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and development of performing arts. It was established in 2004. It is a section 42 company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) that offers training in various disciplines such as classical music, theater, and dance, aiming to cultivate skilled artists who contribute to Pakistan's cultural heritage.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

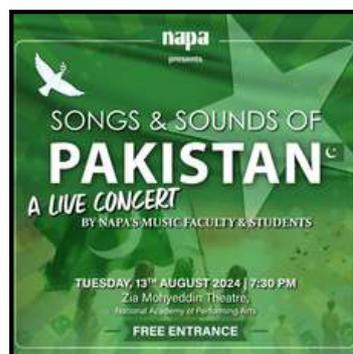
An Evening to Share Sagar Veena with Noor Zehra Kazim, 05th July, 2024

Evening with Noor Zehra Kazim, renowned classical musician and master of the Sagar Veena, a unique instrument crafted by her father, the late musicologist and lawyer, Raza Kazim.



Song and Sounds of Pakistan, 13th August 2024

Honouring the Spirit of Pakistan's Independence Day: A night of unity and pride at NAPA, celebrating Pakistan's Independence Day with music and more.



Kamra e Afsana – Theatre Play 5, 11th - 15th September, 2024

A play by Syed Qasim Shah, adapting Manto's "Inqilab Pasand" & "Khol Do", presented by NAPA



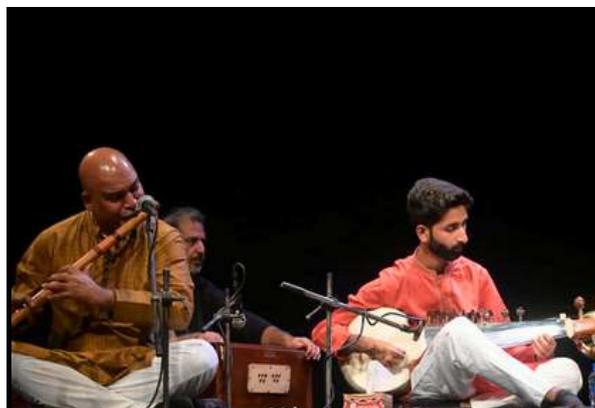
Nukkar Natak – Street Theatre Festival , 29th September 2024

8 impactful stories, 1 evening of street theatre! NAPA's Nukkar Natak, 5pm, open space adjacent to Zia Mohyeddin Theatre, NAPA. Entry free. Themes: land rights, climate change, women's rights, environment, food security, global warming, minority rights, workers movement.



A Rare Chance to Experience Sarod, 26th October 2024

Sounds of the Sarod



A Music Workshop Babey Lok by Arieb Azhar, 7th November, 2024

Arieb Azhar's Sufi Poetry Workshop, November 7th at NAPA. He explored the profound wisdom of legendary Punjabi Sufi saints Baba Farid Ganj Shakar and Mian Muhammad Bakhsh, offering participants a deep spiritual connection to the essence of Sufi poetry through translation, narration, and performance.



Budha Mar gya Kya – Theatre Play, 27th November - 1st December 2024

The play tells the story of two veteran comedians, Kamal Raziuddin and Omar Malik, who reunite after years for a comedy sketch. Their quirky personalities lead to endless bickering, unexpected tension, and plenty of laughs! Cast: Saad Zameer Faridi, Samhan Ghazi, Kashif Hussain and Rachna Kirpalani.



Book Launch, Celebrating Joy of Urdu- Gulistan-e-Saadi, 29th December, 2024

The National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) recently hosted the launch of the bilingual coffee table book, Three Tales from Gulistan-e-Saadi. The event was organised in collaboration with the Joy of Urdu initiative to promote the Urdu language through literary works. The book was conceived by Zarminae Ansari, founder of Joy of Urdu, a volunteer-driven organisation dedicated to making Urdu accessible to younger generations, especially those from Urdu-speaking families living abroad.



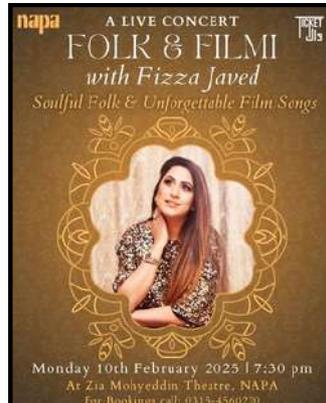
Dasht-e-Soos – Theatre Play, 25th - 26th January 2025

Experience an extraordinary theatrical adaptation of a powerful excerpt from Jamila Hashmi's acclaimed novel Dasht-e-Soos. The play delves into the story of the mystic Hussain bin Mansoor Hallaj, brought to life under the direction of Shahnawaz Bhatti. Adaptation and Direction: Shahnawaz Bhatti.



Folk & Filmi with Fizza Javed, 10th February 2025

Folk & Filmi with Fizza Javed. Get ready for a night of soulful music with Fizza Javed, as she brings the best of folk and filmi tunes to the stage.



International Women's Day Programme, 11th March 2025

NAPA pays tribute to its women alumni on International Women's Day. Freelance journalist Sarah Danyal conducted the program, featuring a poem reading by Adina Hussain and a panel discussion with alumni Zarqa Naz, Shireen Maqsood, Samina Nazeer, Naheed Waheed Qureshi, and Uzma Azhar. The evening concluded with performances by first-year music students Shahzana Darya Khan and Samra Tahir.



Tasneef – Original Playwright's Festival, 13th - 20th June, 2025

NAPA presents Tasneef - Original Playwright's Festival 2025. Celebrating 20 years of theatrical excellence, NAPA unveils Pakistan's first-ever festival dedicated to original plays by emerging playwrights. Fresh stories, new voices, and a stage for original Pakistani theatre.



NAPA Presents: 'Darbar-e-Sitar', 25th June 2025

NAPA presents Darbar-e-Sitar. Five of Pakistan's most distinguished sitar players take the stage: Farhan Raees Khan, Rakae Jamil, Waqas Hussain, Shehroze Hussain, and Shehzad Hussain. A celebration of tradition, virtuosity, and eastern classical music.



New Initiatives

1. Literary Awards

2. NAPA for children - NAPA for Children is back with its Performing Arts Summer Camp! Let your child explore creativity through Theatre, Dance, Music, and Storytelling in a fun and nurturing environment.

3. NAPA Publications

- a) Mehdi Hasan
- b) Noor Jehan
- c) An Actor's Prepare (HB)
- d) Adakar aur us ki awaz
- e) Theatre aik Jeeta Jagta Fun
- f) Great Masters
- g) Tufail Niazi
- h) Kaml Dasgupta

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND MUSEUMS

The Department of Archaeology and Museums formerly called Archaeological Survey of India, is one of the oldest departments of the sub-continent established in 1860 for Archaeological survey, researches including excavations, protection, preservation and conservation of the moveable and immovable antiquities. After creation of Pakistan we inherited the same department and renamed as Department of Archaeology & Museums which is custodian of Nation's Cultural Heritage to protect, preserve and promote cultural heritage of Pakistan.



Activities:

Following activities were undertaken in the period reported:

International Exhibitions, 29th July 2024

A loan agreement between Department of Archaeology and Museums, National Heritage & Culture Division, Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Stichting Het Rijksmuseum of Kingdom of Netherland was signed and Asian Bronze Exhibition held from 26-09-2024 to 02-02-2025 in Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.

Gandhara International Symposium 2024, 24th September 2024

Korean Heritage Agency held an International Symposium on digital transformation of Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management in Pakistan, at Islamabad. Scholars, experts, and researchers from all provinces attended the symposium, focusing on Pakistan's cultural heritage.

iTraining Workshops of Conservation and Digitalization of Heritage Sites, October 28th to November 8th, 2024

The Conservation Analysis Laboratory of the Korean mission, in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology and Museums, conducted a training program on "Bronze Artifacts" at the Gandhara Cultural Heritage and Research Center Islamabad. Experts from various museums and universities attended the training course.

Submission of Nomination Dossier,

Archaeological Site of Ranigat (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) nomination dossier submitted to UNESCO for inscription on the World Heritage List.



Submission of Nomination Dossier for “Port of Banbhore”,

“Port of Banbhore” (Sindh) nomination dossier submitted to UNESCO, Islamabad for inscription on the World Heritage List.



Excavation License and Artifact Transportation,

French Archaeological Mission received excavation license and transportation license for laboratory analysis in France.

Excavation License and Artifact Transportation,

Italian Archaeological Mission issued excavation license and license for transportation of artifacts for laboratory analysis



Workshop on Underwater Cultural Heritage,

Two-day workshop on ratification of the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.



ix. Buddhist Manuscript Conservation

Gandhara Manuscript Conservation Room, established by Associate Professor Mark Allon, University of Sydney, Australia, ongoing work on Buddhist manuscript conservation and laboratory analysis.



x. Cultural Artifact Repatriation and Exhibition

Department of Archaeology and Museums, Pakistan, collaborated with Kingdom of Netherlands for Asian Bronze Exhibition, showcasing 3 bronze artifacts. Pakistan's DOAM is also working on repatriation of stolen cultural artifacts, with efforts underway with USA, UK, and France. Repatriation successes include:

- USA: 46 artifacts (2021), 104 artifacts (2023), 191 artifacts (2025)
- UK: 198 artifacts (2024)
- France: 490 artifacts (Pakistani origin, process ongoing)
