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Researcher Faiza Rasheed Visits Gandhara Hindko Academy, Meets Muhammad Zia Ud Din

Faiza Rasheed, an M. Phil student from the Pakistan Studies Department at Islamia College University, Peshawar, visited the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar to discuss her research. During her visit, she met with Muhammad Zia Ud Din, Chief Executive Committee of the Gandhara Hindko Academy. Faiza Rasheed discussed her research topic, "Contribution of the Gandhara Hindko Board in the Promotion of Hindko Language," in her meeting with Muhammad Zia Ud Din. Mr. Muhammad Zia Ud Din provided a briefing on the topic and assured her of full support for her research. He also presented her with several books related to the history of the Hindko language. Zia Ud Din emphasized the Academy's commitment to encouraging researchers and providing support from the Gandhara Hindko Board.

Library of Congress acquires Hindko language books

The Library of Congress has acquired Hindko language books from the Gandhara Hindko Academy.

A communication said the Library of Congress, Islamabad Office, Coordinator for Collection, Development and Outreach Services, Abdus Salam, made the purchases after visiting the academy, located in the University Town. Research Officer Ali Awais Khayal and other staff members received the Library of Congress official. Abdus Salam was told that the Hindko Academy had been working in Peshawar since 2015 under the public-private partnership. It seeks to promote the Hindko language and culture. He was informed that the Gandhara Hindko Board, a literary and cultural organization, managed the affairs of the academy with funding from the Higher Education Department of the government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

"The work of the Hindko Academy is not confined to Hindko alone as we have published books and publications in other Pakistani languages as well," explained Ali Awais. The visiting official was told that an executive



committee headed by a known research scholar of the Hindko language, Muhammad Ziauddin, was mainly responsible for the functioning of the academy.

Ali Awais said that Dr Elahi Bakhsh Awan Library set up at the Hindko Academy had over 4,000 books. "All books have been listed and catalogued. The information has been posted on the academy's website," he added. The Library of Congress official was informed that the academy had struck a collaboration with the Directorate of Archives and Libraries of KP for resource sharing. "The Hindko Academy and the

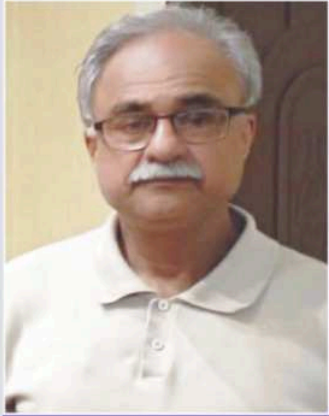
Directorate of Archives and Libraries have exchanged the lists of books. The information has been shared on the websites of both entities to facilitate the researchers,"

it was explained. The Library of Congress official was told that the library at the Hindko Academy had sections for newspaper clippings, manuscripts, audios, videos and photographs which were attracting researchers

Abus Salam evinced interest in research work being done at the Gandhara Hindko Academy and purchased several books for the Library of Congress Islamabad Office.

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Our Motherland Belongs to All: Dr. Adnan Gul



On the occasion of August 14, Dr. Adnan Mahmood Gul, Senior Vice Chairman of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, emphasized in a statement that "Our Motherland Belongs to All". He described August 14 as a historic day that commemorates the timeless sacrifices made for the creation of Pakistan. The creation of Pakistan is a result of the sacrifices of Muslims, which has granted us the privilege of living in a free and peaceful environment today. Dr. Adnan Gul highlighted that love for one's homeland is a matter of faith. Independence Day serves as a reminder of our freedom struggle and our success in achieving our goals. This day holds great significance in a nation's life, as it reflects a nation's identity, rights, and unity with enthusiasm and commitment. He

praised Pakistan for its vast natural resources, including fertile lands, mountains, seas, deserts, and forests, and noted that Pakistan is a leader in agricultural production and possesses significant gas reserves.

Dr. Adnan Gul emphasized that just as we take pride in our country, we should also take pride in our language and identity. Language is a crucial part of our identity, and nations that cherish and work towards the preservation and development of their languages have always prospered. He concluded by urging that we should rise above linguistic biases and should contribute to the service of languages. He also stated that the Gandhara Hindko Board continues to work for the development of languages without prejudice.

Board of Governors of Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar

Hindko is the second largest spoken language in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and the sixth largest language in Pakistan. Since the establishment of Pakistan in 1947 until 2014, no dedicated academy was established for the research and promotion of the Hindko language. Finally, in 2015, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government, in collaboration with the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, constituted the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar based on a public-private partnership model. The credit for this initiative goes to Mr. Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi, Chairman of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar. He believed that the academy should be formed on public-private model rather than solely under the public sector, and because the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar had been actively serving the Hindko language and culture for three long decades, it was decided that the board would manage and

administer the academy. In 2015, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government issued a notification for the academy, which led to the formation of a Board of Governors to oversee and approve its affairs. This Board of Governors includes both members of the Gandhara Hindko Board and government representatives. The Board of Governors includes:

1. Secretary Higher Education Archives & Libraries of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chairman
2. Mr. Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi Vice Chairman
Chairman, Gandhara Hindko Board, Peshawar, Pakistan
3. Secretary Culture, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/ Nominee Member
4. Dr. Adnan Mahmood Gul Member
Senior Vice Chairman, GHB
5. Syed Kamran Shah Member
Vice Chairman, GHB

6. Mr. Muhammad Zia Ud Din Member
General Secretary, GHB
7. Dr. Muhammad Adil Secretary/Member
Director Gandhara Hindko Academy

The Gandhara Hindko Academy, operating under the management of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, has been running so successfully that in the Board of Governors meeting chaired by the Secretary Higher Education Archives & Libraries of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Chairman of the Board of Governors praised its performance and approved its extension. This extension ensures that the academy continues to serve the Hindko language's literature and culture. Even today, the Gandhara Hindko Academy continues to operate under a public-private partnership model, with 100% of its management remaining under the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar.

Hindko Haroof e Tahaji, Qaida and Grammar Committee

In response to the demands of the modern era and recognizing the importance of technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI), the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar has constituted a committee to adapt the Hindko language for use in computer and mobile platforms. This initiative includes developing a standardized Hindko alphabet, script, and grammar to ensure accessibility for the general public.

The committee members include:

1. Muhammad Zia Ud Din
2. Dr. Khalil Toqar
3. Dr. Muhammad Nawaz
4. Dr. Muhammad Adil
5. Dr. Khawar Chaudhry
6. Aftab Ahmad
7. Amjad Ali Raja
8. Rizwal Kohistani
9. Qazi Nasir Bakhtiar

The Joint Secretary of the committee is Ali Awais Kheyal (Research Associate at Gandhara Hindko Academy). The goal of the committee is to introduce Hindko script, spelling, and grammar into the world of modern technology, just like English or Urdu are easily used on computers and mobile devices, the committee aims to enable translations between English and Hindko, as well as Urdu and Hindko, through these technologies. Furthermore, the committee plans to develop dedicated software for Hindko keyboard for computers and mobile devices, similar to existing keyboards and apps for other languages. The committee will also make recommendations regarding the addition or removal of letters in the Hindko alphabet. After thorough deliberation, practical



implementation of the Hindko keyboard will be pursued. The members are also working on integrating the Hindko key board into InPage software to facilitate its use.

It is worth noting that Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan made a significant contribution in 2011 by compiling the Hindko Qaida, which was published by Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar. The Board also takes pride in publishing Dr. Awan's books "Hindko in Europe" and "The Homeland of Hindko?". The Gandhara Hindko Board has begun its efforts to update the Hindko keyboard in accordance with modern technological needs.

Condolence Reference for Professor Yahya Khalid

A condolence reference was held in Abbottabad on the death anniversary of the renowned poet, writer, journalist, and biographer Professor Yahya Khalid. Professor Malik Nasir Dawood presented an article on the late professor's life and literary journey. The gathering included notable writers and poets such as Dr. Zafir Saqib, Dr. Adil Saeed Qureshi,

Syed Majid Shah, Imtiaz-ul-Haq Imtiaz, Professor Mumtaz Haider, and Qamar Zaman Sham. Usama Parvez recited Professor Yahya Khalid's ghazal with musical intonation. Professor Muhammad Fareed delivered the presidential address and shared many beautiful thoughts. At the end, prayers were offered for the forgiveness of the late professor.



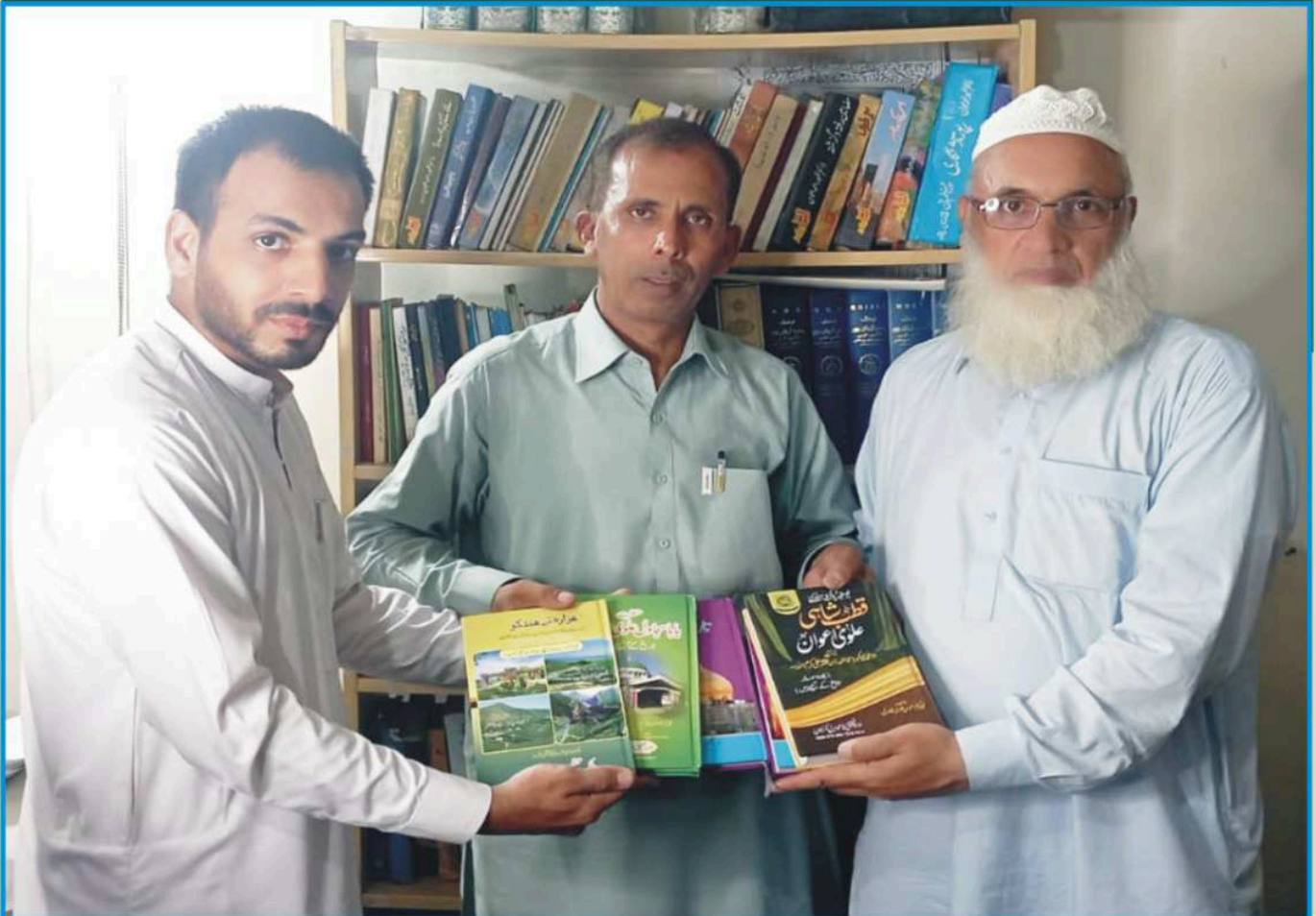
Gandhara has Kept the Hindko Language Alive: Azeem Nashaad

Esteemed scholars and writers from Mansehra, Mr. Azim Nashaad Awan and Mr. Muhammad Karim Awan, visited the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar. The purpose of their visit was to acquire research-based books related to the Hindko language in the Hazara region. During their visit, they met the Academy's Research Associates, Ali Awais Khayal and Muhammad Noman Qayyum.

The meeting focused on discussions about the role of writers and scholars from Mansehra in promoting the Hindko language, the contributions of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, and the Board's performance in promotion Hindko literature and culture. The guests also toured the Dr. Ilahi Baksh Akhtar Awan Library

established at the Gandhara Hindko Academy, where they expressed their interest in books related to the Hindko language, literature, and culture, as well as the Hazara region. Praising the Gandhara Hindko Academy's efforts in promoting the Hindko language and literature, Azim Nashaad Awan and Muhammad Karim Awan commended the Academy for its dedication to keeping the Hindko language alive.

During the visit, Azim Nashaad Awan and Muhammad Karim Awan were presented with books as a gift from the Gandhara Hindko Academy. They expressed their gratitude to Muhammad Zia Ud Din (General Secretary of the Gandhara Hindko Board), and also gifted some of their own books to the Academy's library.



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