



Fortnightly

The Gandhara Hindko Board online English Newsletter



# GANDHARA NEWS

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## First-Ever Hindko Language Debate Competition at Mansehra High School No. 1

A debate competition in Urdu and English languages used to be held at Mansehra High School No. 1 annually. This year, for the first time, debates in Hindko were also included in the annual school competitions. Akhtar Naeem, President of the Gandhara Hindko Board Mansehra branch, expressed gratitude to Principal Wajid Iqbal Turk for incorporating the Hindko language into the competition. He noted that this was a district-level event and expressed hope that Hindko would be included in the divisional competitions in the future.

## Remembering Dr. Salah Ud Din: Five Years Since His Departure



It has been five years since the renowned physician, writer, researcher, and celebrated columnist, Dr. Salah Ud Din, left this world. He served as the

former Vice Chairman of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar and was a prominent figure in various literary and social organizations. Dr. Salah Ud Din made significant contributions to Hindko language and literature, and his efforts remain unforgettable. He always wrote with integrity and represented the truth through his pen. Not only was he an exceptional writer, but he was also a highly effective administrator. His talent as a stage

secretary shone through at many prestigious events. His work "Bar-e-Sagheer ka Sir Syed," focusing on the distinguished scholar Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, was published under the Gandhara Hindko Academy and received recognition. Additionally, the late Dr. Salah Ud Din had served as the Speaker of the Shoora-e-Hamdard in Peshawar, further cementing his legacy in the region's intellectual landscape.



## Annual Multilingual Poetic Symposium at the Shrine of Syed Shah Qabool Aulia

Annual Multilingual Naat Symposium "Gulhae Marifat" was held in 12<sup>th</sup>, Rabi Ul Awal. As in previous years, this year too, under the patronage of Justice (R) Syed Yahya Zahid Gillani, the Sajaadah Nasheen of Hazrat Syed Shah Qabool Aulia (RA), a grand multilingual Naat symposium titled "Gulhae Marifat" was organized in celebration of Eid Milad un-Nabi (SAW) during the blessed month of Rabi al-Awwal. The

symposium was presided over by the renowned poet Professor Dr. Nazeer Tabassum, with the special guest being the presidential award-winning poetess Bushra Farukh, and the honored guest being the celebrated Pashto poet and author Saleem Bangash. The event was moderated by Ali Awais Khayal. On this occasion, distinguished poets presented their verses in homage to the Rehmat ul aalmeen, including

Professor Dr. Faqira Khan Faqri, Aziz Ejaz, Sameena Qadir, Iqbal Sikandar, Professor Malik Arshad Hussain, Dr. Noor Hakeem Jilani, Rais Kausar, Akbar Marwat, Syed Mazhar Hussain Shah, Saeed Paras, Sikandar Hayat Sikandar, Muhammad Azeem Niazi, Akhtar Mahmood Simab, Muhammad Nawaz Saber, Dr. Khadim Ibrahim, Muhammad Jabbar Jabbar, Haji Zar Gul, and Furman Ullah Jan.



## “We Admire the Achievements of Gandhara Hindko Academy” Ashraq Ameer Siddiqui

Ashraq Ameer Siddiqui, a prominent figure in the journalistic landscape of the subcontinent, visited the Gandhara Hindko Academy and met with Research Associate Ali Awais Khayal. During his visit, he not only commended the academy's performance but also

emphasized the critical importance of its efforts in the current times. He expressed his appreciation for the academy's initiatives on behalf of his elder brother and son of Peshawar, Ateeq Ahmad Siddiqui, recognizing their contributions with heartfelt praise.



## Solidarity with Earthquake Survivors: GHB Mansehra Team Stands United

As 19 years have passed since the devastating earthquake, no government official has visited Balakot on this occasion. The Gandhara Hindko Board Mansehra team reached Balakot to express solidarity with the earthquake survivors and spent the day with them. Local residents expressed their gratitude to the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, stating that their representatives visit Balakot every year on this date. However, the community grieved over that after 19 years, rehabilitation for the victims has still not been achieved. The majority of the population continues to live in shelters, and while every government promises

support, a permanent solution remains elusive. How long will the people of Balakot suffer from this deprivation? Land has been acquired for the New Balakot City project, yet rehabilitation has not materialized. Balakot, being the gateway to the Kaghan Valley, seems to be overlooked, leaving its residents in terrible conditions. The community cannot bear another tragedy. Survivors strongly urged the government to take action for their rehabilitation. As the harsh winter approaches, the New Balakot City remains uninhabited, forcing many victims to continue living in shelters.



## Poetic Symposium by Taj Kareem Literary Society in Haripur

A poetic symposium was held in Haripur under the auspices of the Taj Kareem Literary Society, featuring poets from Hazara who presented their Hindko and Urdu works. The event was presided over by Tahir Gul, with distinguished guests Qazi Bakhtiyar Nasir and Tajuddin Taj in attendance. Poets from Mansehra,

Abbottabad, Havelian, Haripur, and Khabal Bat captivated the audience with their performances, receiving much applause. During the event, organizer Adil Saeed Qureshi remarked that they have conducted numerous literary activities across various districts of Hazara and will continue these efforts in the future.



## Launch Event for Three Books in the Mankyali Language

A book launch was held at a local school in Abbot Abad, featuring three titles focused on the endangered Mankyali language, literature, and culture. The author of these books is Mufti Inayat-ur-Rehman. Speakers congratulated Mufti Sahib on his remarkable effort, acknowledging the significant impact of his work.

The special guest of the event was Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman, a former MNA from Mardan, who emphasized that Mufti Sahib deserves an award for his accomplishments, noting that such research endeavors are not easy. Mufti Inayat-ur-Rehman has made history with his work. He encouraged others to pursue similar research projects to guide future

