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Scholars Laud Gandhara's Remarkable Efforts

The Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar (GHA) is actively working not only for the promotion and development of the Hindko language and literature but also for the advancement of Pakistan's diverse regional languages. In this context, prominent intellectuals and literary figures from Pakistan and abroad, as well as experts from various fields, used frequently to visit the academy. They have lauded it as a state-of-the-art institution.

Recently, senior professors from Pakistan's esteemed educational institution, Qaid-e-Azam University, visited the academy. Among them were Dr. Hanif Khalil, a renowned poet, writer, and researcher of Pashto language and literature with numerous publications in Urdu, Pashto, and English; Dr. Shahab Aziz, an expert in religious studies; Johar Khalil, a distinguished poet, writer, and researcher of Pashto; and Sher Ahmad Khalil, a prominent scholar and writer.

During their visit, they interacted with

the staff of GHA, reviewed its performance, and explored the rare collection of books housed in the Prof. Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan Library. They recognized this collection as a valuable literary treasure for the history, literature, and linguistics of the region and commended the academy's remarkable efforts.



Additionally, Col. (R) Nisar Ahmad Khan of the Pakistan Army also visited the academy in connection with his research work. He described the academy's publications as groundbreaking achievements and expressed admiration for the incredible progress made in such a short span of time, calling it both astonishing and extraordinary. During his visit, he also shared detailed insights about Peshawar, the Hindko language, and its speakers, highlighting their rich history and cultural significance.

Hindko Academy books nominated for awards

Three books published by the Gandhara Hindko Academy have been nominated for the prestigious Abaseen Literary Awards. According to a press release issued on Thursday, the nominated works include "Guzarte Lamhoon Ki Aahat" by Nasrat Naseem, selected for the Professor Muhammad Shafi Sabir Award. The second book, "Qustuntunya, Angora, Smyrna" by Muhammad Akhtar Naeem, has been chosen for the Raza Hamdani Award for Hindko prose. "Athru Dil De" by Muhammad Nawaz Sabir



has been nominated for the Hindko Poetry Award. The winners will be honoured at a special ceremony where they will receive cash prizes and certificates. The Abaseen Arts Council has awarded books by the Hindko Academy in the past as well. It is worth mentioning here that the academy has been working for the preservation and promotion of the Hindko language, culture, and literature along with other Pakistani languages since 2015. The academy carries out a variety of activities. It publishes books, dictionaries, and research papers on Hindko literature, history, and linguistics. The research body organizes seminars, cultural events, and workshops to create awareness about the importance of Hindko and other languages. The academy has taken steps to embrace modern technology to expand its reach. Digital archives and online resources have been developed to make Hindko literature and language learning accessible to a wider audience. These efforts align with the academy's vision of ensuring Hindko remains relevant in the contemporary world. The Hindko Academy collaborates with other cultural organizations to promote inter-regional understanding and thus furthering multicultural heritage.



“Abdul Rahman Peshawari Conference” on Turkey-Pakistan Cultural and Historical Relations

A conference titled "Abdul Rahman Peshawari Conference", symbolizing the cultural and historical ties between Turkey and Pakistan, was organized under the auspices of “Yunus Emre Institute Pakistan” and the “Idara Farogh Quomi Zaban (Maqtadra Qaumi Zaban)”. During the conference, Muhammad Zia-ud-Din, General Secretary of Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, delivered a special address. He discussed the board's efforts

and achievements related to languages and research, which was greatly appreciated by the attendees.

The conference was honored by the presence of Professor Dr. Kanwal Amin, Vice Chancellor of GC Women University, Faisalabad, as the guest of honor. Mr. Irfan Nazir Oglu, Ambassador of Turkey in Islamabad, delivered the opening remarks. Prof. Dr. Khalil Toqar, Country Director of Yunus Emre Institute, expressed gratitude

during his speech.

Professor Dr. Muhammad Saleem Mazhar, Director General of the Maqtadra Qaumi Zaban, Dr. Mehmet Toyran, Education Counselor at the Embassy of Turkey, Seema Noor Airjan, Abdul Akbar, Dr. Farooq Adil, and Dr. Sadaf Naqvi also shared their thoughts during the event. The event was beautifully moderated by Dr. Sheer Ali, who conducted the proceedings.

Condolences from Gandhara Hindko Board on the Passing of Sadiq Sabah and Sikandar Zia

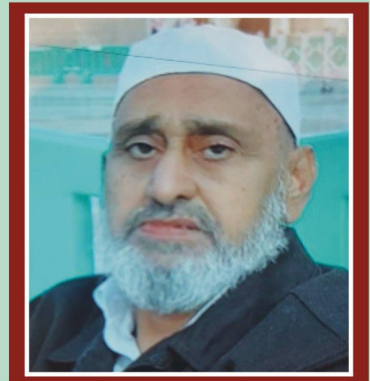
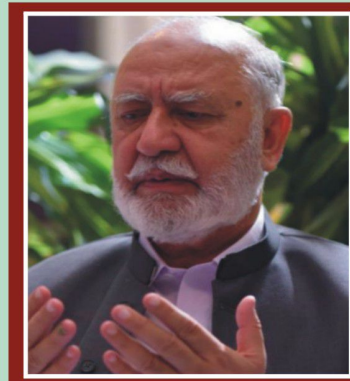
The members of the Gandhara Hindko Board, Peshawar, have expressed profound sorrow over the passing of two of their executive members, Sadiq Hussain Saba and Col. (R) Sikandar Zia.

The late Sadiq Hussain Saba was not only an exceptional poet, writer, and researcher but also the author of several books. He actively participated in the international Hindko conferences and regional events organized under the auspices of the Gandhara Hindko Board, where he also presented scholarly papers.

Likewise, the late Col. (R) Sikandar Zia was a dedicated member of the Gandhara Hindko Board, a former Director of Civil Defense, and a committed ideological worker of the Pakistan Muslim League (N). He also rendered distinguished services in the Pakistan Army during his career.

The contributions of both individuals will always be

remembered and cherished. The members of the Gandhara Hindko Board offered prayers for the departed souls, seeking Allah Almighty's mercy and forgiveness for them. They also prayed for strength and patience for the bereaved families to bear this irreparable loss. May Allah bless the departed souls with eternal peace (Aameen).



Launch Ceremony of Professor Muhammad Fareed's Poetry Collection "Waviny"

A launch ceremony for the poetry collection "Waviny" by the renowned Hindko language poet, Professor Muhammad Fareed, was organized by Bazm-e-Ilm-o-Fan Pakistan Hazara at the Modern Age College Girls Campus.

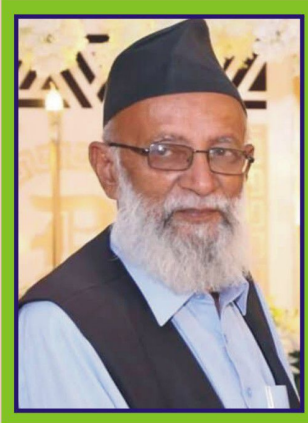
The event was chaired by Professor Waheed Qureshi, while the duties of the ceremony's host were carried out by Dr. Amir Suhail. Nasser Bakht Yar Khan and Dr. Muhammad Kashif Zia Khan presented their papers on the book and stated that Professor Muhammad Fareed's contributions to the promotion of Hindko literature are commendable. The Hindko language is rapidly gaining popularity. They also emphasized the need for the translation of "Waviny" into Urdu and English. Professor Muhammad Fareed has already published 8 books. He is well-

versed in Hindko orthography.

Dr. Amir Suhail mentioned that there are many mistakes in the orthography of Hindko and that attention is needed for orthography in Urdu and other languages as well. He also praised Professor Muhammad Fareed for his exceptional mastery of the Hindko language.

In his speech, the president of Bazm-e-Ilm-o-Fan and host of the event, Waheed Siraj, stated that Professor Muhammad Fareed holds a unique position in Hindko poetry. He has woven the

pearls of words in his poetry. Professor Muhammad Fareed and all the other scholars who have made invaluable contributions to the promotion of Hindko literature deserve our heartfelt congratulations. Syed Majid Shah also expressed his thoughts on Professor Muhammad Fareed.



Visit of GHB Hazara Chapter President Muhammad Akhtar Naeem to Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar

The President of the Gandhara Hindko Board Hazara Chapter, Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Naeem, visited the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar. During his visit, he met with the academy's Research Associates Mr. Ali Awais Kheyal and Mr. Muhammad Noman Qayyum, as well as Research Assistant Bilal Ahmad.

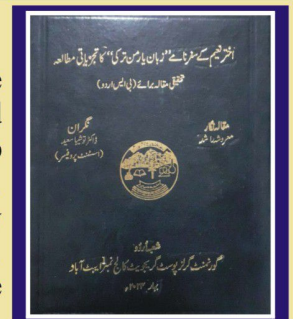
Mr. Muhammad Akhtar Naeem appreciated the efforts of Mr. Muhammad Zia-ud-Din and the Gandhara Hindko Academy in promoting and preserving the Hindko language. He also praised their contributions to language development. As a gesture of goodwill, Akhtar Naeem was presented with books as a gift from the Gandhara Hindko Academy.

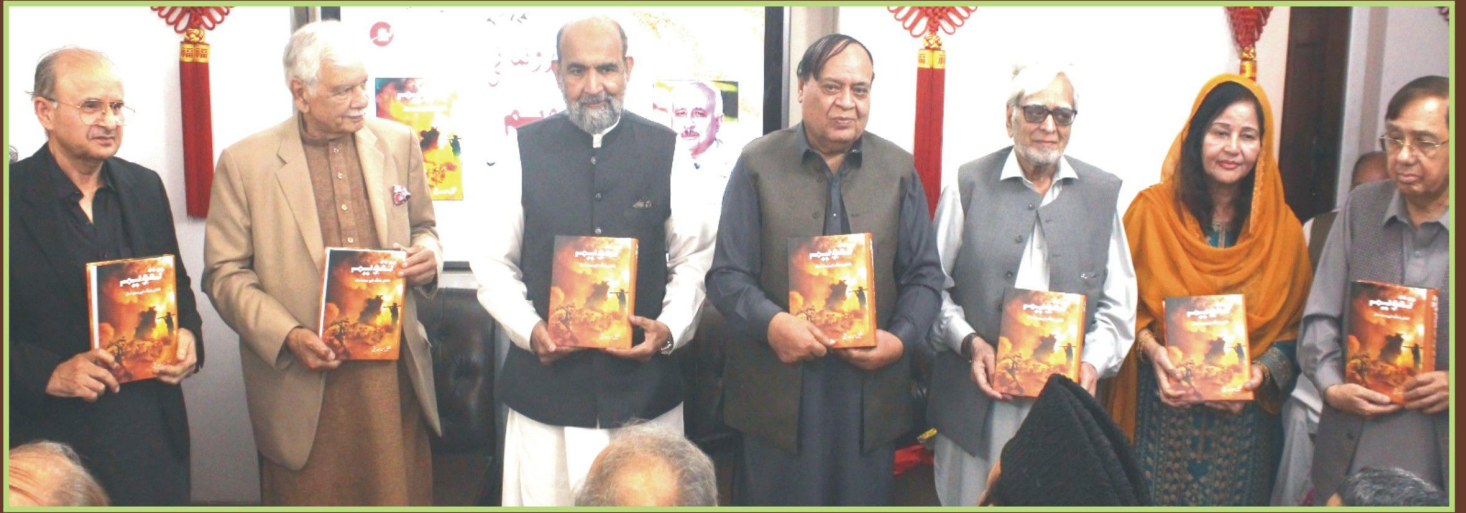
Research Paper by Maroosha Rashid (GC Women, Abbotabad) on Akhtar Naeem's Travelogue

Maroosha Rashid, a talented researcher from Government College for Women, Abbottabad, has written a research paper on the travelogue authored by Muhammad Akhtar Naeem, President of the Gandhara Hindko Board, Mansehra Chapter. This is Akhtar Naeem's first travelogue, detailing his journeys through Turkey, Syria, Iran, Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union, Afghanistan, and

Germany.

A distinctive feature of this travelogue is the inclusion of Turkish language lessons at the end of each chapter, enabling readers to easily grasp the basics of the Turkish language. Additionally, Mr. Akhtar Naeem has previously published a travelogue in the Hindko language. The travelogues have been published by the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar.





Launching Ceremony of Ateeq Ahmad Siddiqui's Book: "Taqweem"

A book launch ceremony was held for "Taqweem" (Afghan Jung Ke Bees Saal), a compilation of 100 columns by prominent columnist "Ateeq Ahmed Siddiqui", a distinguished member of the Gandhara Hindko Board and a Peshawar-born writer currently residing in the United States. The event was presided over by Prof. Dr. Qibla Ayaz, former Chairman of the Islamic Ideology Council, with Prof. Dr. Syed Amjad Hussain as the guest of honor.

The ceremony featured speeches and presentations by individuals from various fields, who shared their insights on the author and his recent work. In his address, Prof. Dr. Qibla Ayaz remarked that Ateeq Ahmed Siddiqui's columns on the Afghan war are a valuable addition to the historical record. He further emphasized that the diversity of topics covered in the book would serve as a significant resource for future research.

