



GANDHARA NEWS

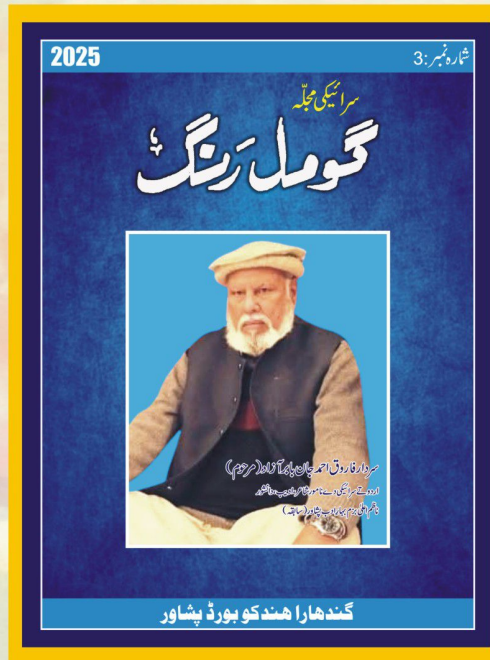
گندھارا نیوز

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Chief Editor: Muhammad Zia ud Din Editor: Dr. Muhmmad Adil Sub Editors: M. Nouman Qayum, Ali Awais, Haris Zia, Umar Zia

Saraiki Magazine "Gomal Rang" Released

The new issue of the Saraiki language magazine, "Gomal Rang," has been published under the auspices of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar and Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar. This follows the successful publication of the first two issues of "Gomal Rang," which featured the poetry and research work of the writers, poets and researchers who attended the Saraiki conferences held in Dera Ismail Khan under the Gandhara Hindko Board. Those earlier issues were warmly received and highly appreciated in literary and academic circles. This third issue of



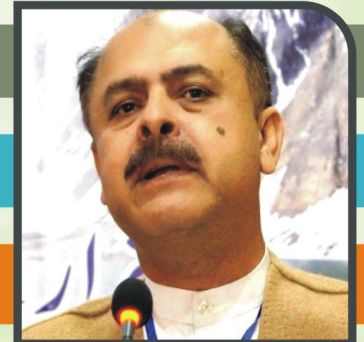
"Gomal Rang" compiles and publishes writings originally shared on various social media platforms. The magazine's

patrons and editorial team are as follows: Patron: Ijaz Ahmad Qureshi, Chairman of the Gandhara Hindko Board. Managing Editor: Muhammad Zia-Ud-Din, General Secretary of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar. Editor: Muhammad Noman Qayum, Research Associate at the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar. Deputy Editor: Ali Awais Kheyal, Research Associate at the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar. The cover of the magazine features a portrait of the renowned Urdu and Saraiki poet, writer, and intellectual, Late Sardar Farooq Ahmad Jan Babar Azad.

Six years since the passing of Dr. Salahuddin

It has been six years since the passing of Dr. Salahuddin, the former Vice Chairman of the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, and a renowned physician, writer, researcher, and famous columnist. Dr. Salahuddin was a multi-faceted personality with significant contributions in academic, literary, and various other fields. He not only held key positions in the Gandhara Hindko Board but also in various other literary and

social organizations. His services for the Hindko language and literature are unforgettable. He always wrote the truth with his pen and advocated for truthfulness. He was not only an excellent writer but also a very fine administrator. Another notable aspect of his personality was his skill as a stage secretary, where he showcased his talent by masterfully managing major events. His book "Bar-e-Sagheer Ka Sir. Syed", published by the



Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar, shed light on the distinguished intellectual figure of the Indian subcontinent, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.



Gandhara's Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan Library: **AN EXEMPLARY COLLECTION**

The Professor Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan Library of the Gandhara Hindko Academy currently houses over 4,000 books. This library holds the distinction that within a short span of time, not just hundreds but thousands of students, researchers, poets, and writers have benefited from its vast collection. Among these are not only scholars from Pakistan but also

from other countries, who have highly appreciated the resources of this library.

Another significant feature of the Gandhara Library is its diverse collection of books in dozens of languages, covering a wide range of genres and subjects. Recognizing the value and rarity of these books, the Archives Library, the largest in the province, has entered into a formal written agreement with the Gandhara Hindko

Academy. According to this agreement, the entire record of books available in the Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan Library can also be viewed on the Archives Library's website.

Extensive Praise for “Hindkowan Newspaper” on Social Media

Hindkowan Newspaper, published under the auspices of the Gandhara Hindko Board, is the only weekly newspaper in the Hindko language, and its popularity continues to grow day by day. For the past seven years, Hindkowan has been regularly published, reaching 381 issues so far. It is the first and only newspaper of its kind in the Hindko language, devoted not only to the promotion of Hindko language, literature, and culture but also to providing translated coverage of news from

Peshawar, across Pakistan and around the world. The editorial page, adorned with the writings of renowned columnists, is highly appreciated in literary and intellectual circles. On page two, the “Gosha-e-Adab” (Literary Corner) features poetic and prose contributions in Hindko, that have gained widespread popularity among readers. Through various social media platforms, the efforts of the Hindkowan Newspaper and the Gandhara Hindko Board are being widely acknowledged and praised.



The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly has unanimously approved the inclusion of the Gojri language in its official assembly rules. This historic decision was made through an amendment presented by former Law Minister Aftab Alam, which received full support from all members of the house. Speaking on the occasion, Speaker Babar Saleem Swati stated that previously, assembly proceedings were conducted only in English, Urdu, and Pashto, later expanded to include Saraiki and Hindko. With this new decision, Gojri has now been recognized as the sixth official language of the provincial assembly. The Speaker highlighted that a large

number of Gojri speakers reside across various regions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and the language has

Inclusion of Gojri Language among Assembly Languages

been an integral part of the province's culture and traditions for over twelve centuries. He further noted that Gojri possesses a rich heritage of literature, philosophy, poetry, and radio

programs, which makes its inclusion a truly historic step toward linguistic recognition. Members of the assembly expressed great joy over this development, emphasizing that the inclusion of Gojri will further strengthen cultural harmony and linguistic respect within the province.

The Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar also welcomed this decision, stating that from its very inception, the Board has worked tirelessly for the promotion of regional languages, including Hindko. It added that Gandhara takes pride in having published several books in the Gojri language as well, considering this decision a positive and progressive milestone for linguistic diversity in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan A Legacy Forever Remembered

Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan, the author of more than forty books in Hindko, Urdu, and English, was a distinguished linguist, educationist, researcher, historian, poet, writer, critic, orator, translator, journalist, and radio as well as television broadcaster. In 1959, he laid the foundation of an organization dedicated to the promotion and development of the Hindko language, aptly named “Bazm-e-Shaoor-e-Hindko”. Under this organization, the first-ever published Diwan (collection of poetry) of a Hindko poet was brought to light in 1960; a milestone in Hindko literary history.

Dr. Awan earned the



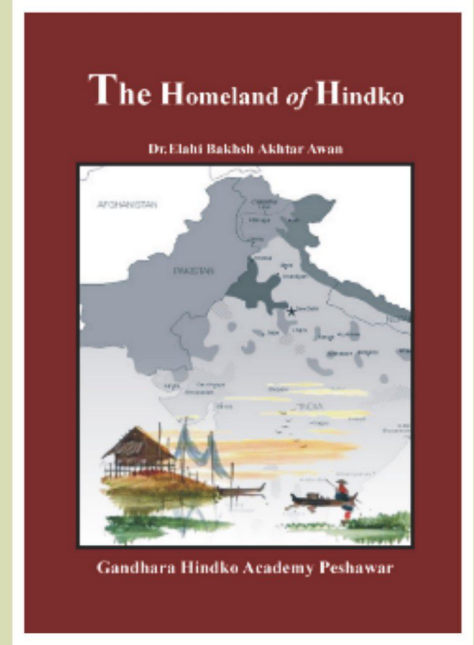
distinction of being the first scholar to obtain a Ph.D. in the history of the Hindko

language from London. He also achieved the unique honor of conducting the first-ever research on Hindko phonetics, published in 2004 under the title “Hindko Sotiyaat” (Hindko Phonetics). One



of his monumental contributions was the first comprehensive Hindko dictionary, containing nearly 25,000 words, which remains a cornerstone for researchers and linguists. In addition to this, Dr. Awan authored numerous scholarly papers on various aspects of Hindko language and literature, many of which were later published under the banner of the Gandhara Hindko Board.

Throughout his life, he remained devoted to teaching and to the service of his mother tongue, spreading the love of Hindko with passion and dedication. In 2012, while visiting Pakistan from London



to attend the Second International Hindko Conference, Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan sadly passed away. After his demise, the Gandhara Hindko Board brought his valuable works; including his dictionary and various research papers to the public, ensuring his legacy continues to inspire future generations. The services and contributions of Dr. Ilahi Bakhsh Akhtar Awan will forever be cherished in the history of Hindko language and literature.