



Monthly

The Gandhara Hindko Board English Magazine



# GANDHARA NEWS

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## National Literary Award Announced for Two Books Published Under Gandhara

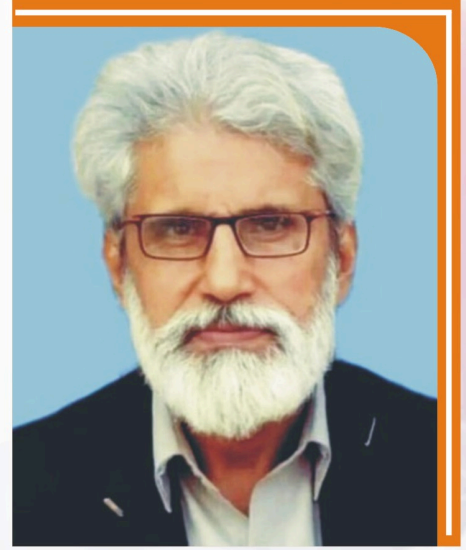
The Gandhara Hindko Academy has achieved another significant milestone as two books published

the National Academy of Letters, Pakistan.

appreciation. The Gandhara Hindko Board and Academy remain firmly committed to their



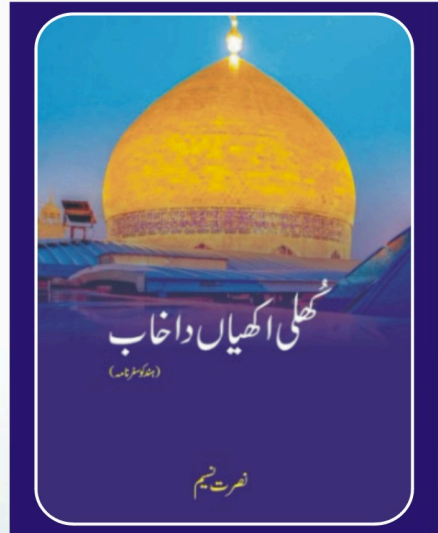
These awards are given in recognition of outstanding literary contributions by distinguished writers. Among the selected works, in the category of Hindko poetry, the book “Dungiyaa'n'Sochaa'n” by AfzalHazravi has been chosen for the Saaien Ahmad Ali Award. In the category of Hindko prose, “KhuliAkhiyan Da Khwab” by NasratNaseem has been selected for the KhwajaKhizer Nawaz Award.



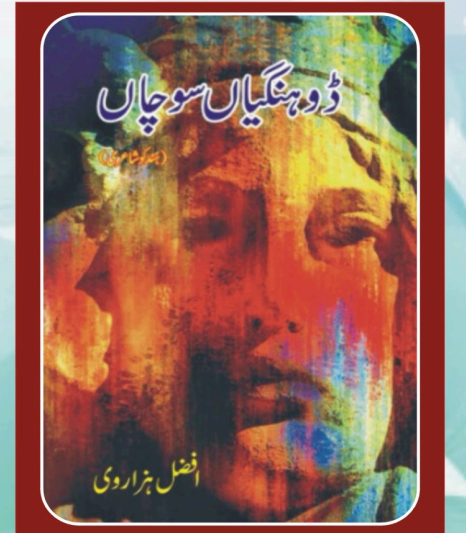
under the Gandhara Hindko Board have been selected for the National Literary Awards 2024 by

Each award-winning author will receive a cash prize of two hundred thousand rupees. It is worth mentioning that the Gandhara Hindko Academy was established in 2015 under a public-private partnership between the KP Government and the Gandhara Hindko Board. Despite facing financial constraints for the past three years due to a lack of government funding, the board has continued its projects independently through self-support and limited resources.

mission of promoting Hindko and other regional languages with dedication and consistency.



Previously, several books published by the Gandhara Hindko Board have also received multiple literary awards and honors from various national and international literary organizations, earning widespread



## PTV Hosts Vibrant Hindko Humorous Poetic Gathering for Eid Special Transmission

Under the auspices of Pakistan Television Corporation, a “Hindko Humorous Mushaira” was recorded at the PTV Peshawar Centre as part of the Eid special programming. The event was hosted by renowned Hindko poet and literary figure Malik Arshad Hussain.

This vibrant and entertaining Mushaira

featured prominent poets of the Hindko language, who delighted the audience with their witty and graceful poetry. Alongside Ahmed Nadeem Awan, several members of the Gandhara Hindko Board also presented their poetry, receiving tremendous appreciation and

applause from the audience.

A distinctive feature of the gathering was the lively atmosphere maintained throughout the program. The stage remained filled with humor and cheerful exchanges, as the poets frequently responded to one another with spontaneous witty remarks after almost

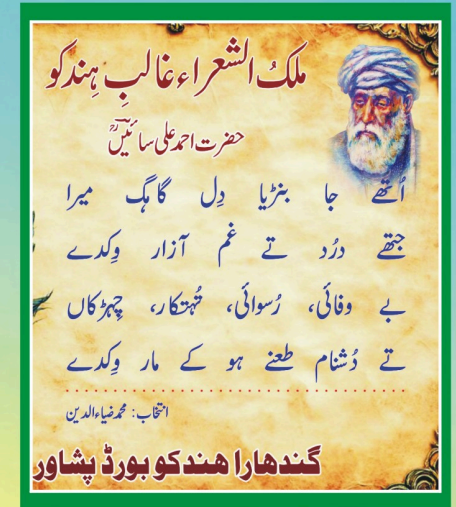
every verse, keeping the audience thoroughly entertained. Other distinguished poets who participated in the Mushaira included Professor Sabeeh Ahmed, Rani Bano, Gul Arbab, Naseem Sahar, Dr. Khadim Ibrahim, Nawaz Sabir and Akhtar Seemab..



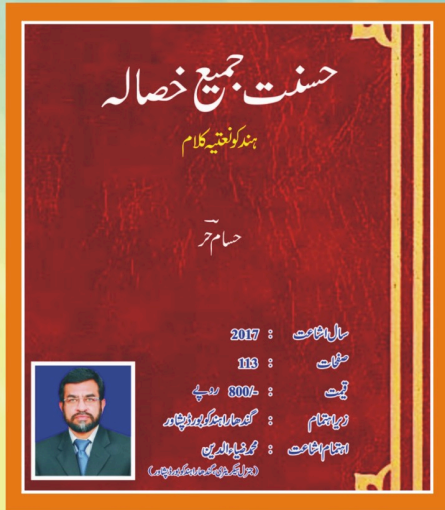
## Popularity of Ahmad Ali Saaïen's Poetry on Social Media

across various fields. As part of these initiatives, selected poetry of the renowned Sufi poet Hazrat Ahmad Ali Saaïen is being shared daily on different social media platforms, where it has gained significant popularity and appreciation among the public.

This initiative has not only helped extend the reach of Ahmad Ali Saaïen's poetry to a wider audience, but has also enabled admirers of the Hindko language to further promote and share their favorite verses. In addition, the Gandhara Hindko Academy regularly shares



various forms of literary and cultural content on social media, including covers of Hindko books and other related material.



Under the banner of the Gandhara Hindko Academy, efforts for the promotion and development of the Hindko language and literature continue

### Second Volume of "Ganjeena-e-Mir Ahmad Mitthu" Nearing Completion

Ustad Mir Ahmad Mitthu holds a distinguished place among the classical poets of the Hindko language, owing to his extraordinary poetic command and eloquent expression. Originally associated with Peshawar, a considerable part of his life was spent in various cities of undivided India, where he earned immense literary recognition and left behind hundreds of devoted students. As Ustad Mitthu was an unlettered poet, he did not personally preserve his poetry in written form. Instead, his verses were transmitted orally through his students and the elderly literary connoisseurs of Peshawar, eventually reaching later generations.

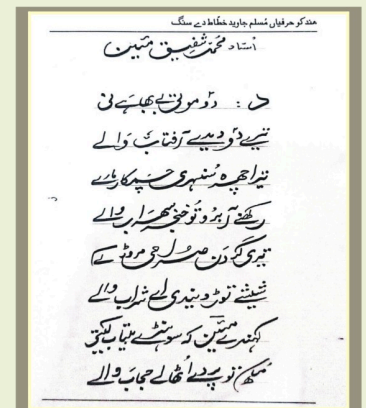
After extensive efforts alongside Professor Khatir Ghaznavi, Muhammad Zia-Ud-Din succeeded in collecting this rare poetic treasure. The first volume, published under the title "Ganjeena-e-Mir Ahmad Mitthu" has already appeared in print and received considerable appreciation within literary circles.

Work is currently underway on the remaining material constituting the second volume. Ali Awais Kheyal, serving as Research Associate at the Gandhara Hindko Academy, is actively engaged in completing this important literary endeavor, and the second volume is expected to be published in the near future.

### "Brang-e-Khattati" Project: Classical and Modern Hindko Poetry in Calligraphic

Work has officially begun on the publication of "Brang-e-Khattati" a unique collection featuring the poetry of both classical and modern poets of the Hindko language written in artistic calligraphic style. This ambitious project is being undertaken by renowned Pakistani calligrapher Muslim Javed, who has previously served in various capacities at newspapers such as the former Anjaam (now Daily Mashriq) and other local publications. Earlier, he also completed a remarkable artistic project by presenting the complete poetic works of the famous Hindko Sufi poet Hazrat Ahmad Ali Saaïen in large-format, hand-calligraphy decorative charts with vibrant illustrations;

marking a historic first in the preservation of Hindko literary heritage. It is worth noting that for the first time in Hindko literary history, the complete poetry of Ahmad Ali Saaïen has been preserved in a calligraphic artistic format, an achievement that has brought significant recognition to the Gandhara Hindko Academy.



## Gandhara's Vision of a Cultural Renaissance

**GANDHARA**  
HINDKO BOARD



Under the banner of the Gandhara Hindko Board, the promotion and development of the Hindko language has been actively pursued for more than three decades. A new phase of this ongoing journey has now begun from its sub-office located at Kareemi Plaza, Peshawar.

In 2015, the Gandhara Hindko Academy was established under the board. Despite limited time and resources, the academy has carried out remarkable work for the promotion of Hindko as well as other regional languages of Pakistan. Its efforts have been widely appreciated at regional, national, and even international levels. During this period, appeals were also made to the government for financial support; however,

adequate funding was not provided. For the past four years, the academy has continued its work independently without government assistance, significantly reducing expenses and operating through self-reliance.

Recently, the academy's office has been shifted back to the Gandhara Hindko Board's Kareemi Plaza premises to streamline operations and improve efficiency. From April onwards, a renewed strategy and approach have been adopted to carry forward its mission using available resources.

The board remains committed to continuing this self-supported initiative based on donations, dedication, and collective effort.

## Gandhara Academy Working for All Languages of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Beyond



In a recent statement, Muhammad ZiaUd Din said that the Gandhara Hindko Academy Peshawar, established under the Gandhara Hindko Board Peshawar, has been actively working for the development and promotion of Hindko and other regional languages for the past ten years.

He stated that the Academy's efforts are not limited to Hindko alone, but also extend to all major languages spoken in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including Pashto, Gojri, Kohistani, Khovar, Dameli, Shumashti, Kalkoti, Gawar-Bati, and Yidgha. Similarly, in other provinces of Pakistan, the Academy recognizes and supports Punjabi, Saraiki, Potohari, Sindhi, Urdu, Balochi, Brahui, Pashto (Balochistan), and in Gilgit-Baltistan languages such as Shina, Balti, and Wakhi, as well as Kashmiri, Pahari, and Hindko in Azad Kashmir. He further highlighted that under the Academy's initiatives, seven international Hindko conferences and nine regional

language conferences have been successfully organized. Researchers from various linguistic backgrounds presented their papers in these conferences, which were carefully preserved and later published in book form by the Academy.

In addition, more than fifteen journals in different languages are regularly published under the Academy, receiving strong appreciation at regional, national, and international levels.

Former Chairman of the Academy of Letters Pakistan, Dr. Yousuf Khushk, during his visit to the Gandhara Hindko Academy in Peshawar, praised its work and called it a "State-of-the-Art Academy." The Academy also receives an annual grant from the Academy of Letters Pakistan. However, Muhammad ZiaUd Din noted that since the last three years, funding from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has been suspended, resulting in a serious financial crisis for the institution.

He appealed to the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to personally intervene and allocate funds from discretionary resources to the Gandhara Hindko Board, so that the mission of preserving and promoting regional languages can continue without interruption.



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