

PU NEWS



July-August 2023

NEWSLETTER OF UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB, LAHORE - PAKISTAN (SINCE 1882)

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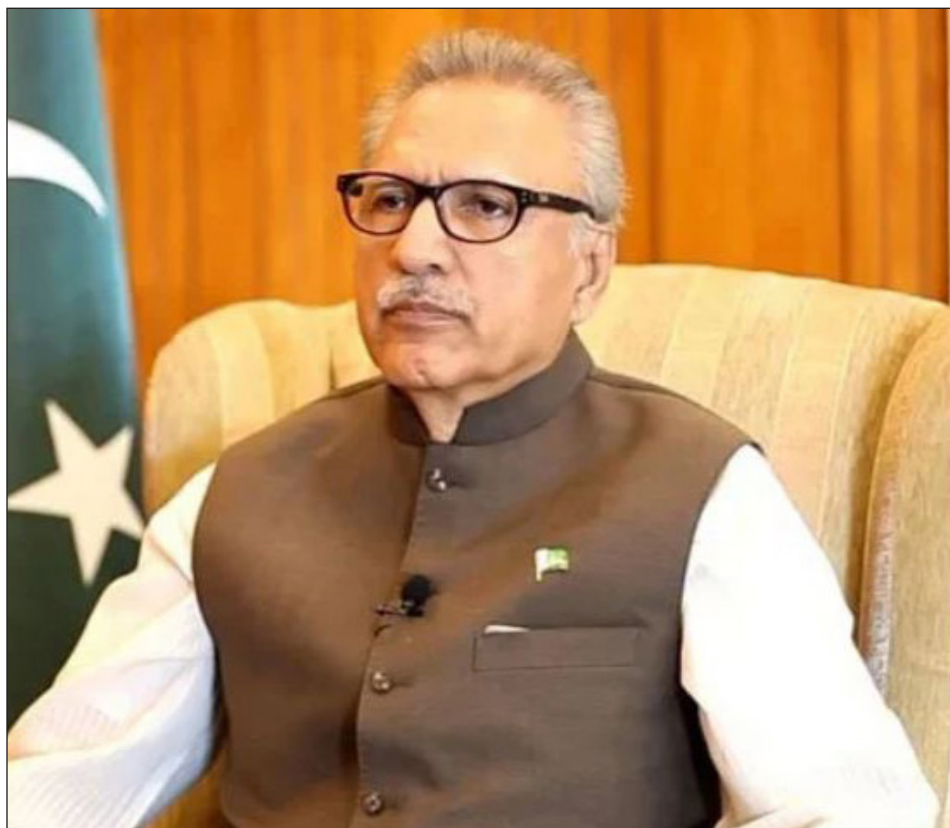
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Need to follow Quaid-e-Azam's principles

QUAID-e-Azam gifted us Pakistan after an epic struggle for which people paid a heavy price, many with their lives. President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi made this statement while addressing the participants of a solo exhibition of paintings and drawings by renowned artist and Punjab University's Assistant Professor Ali Azmat in connection with the Pakistan's 76th Independence anniversary.

We can be proud of achievements we made as a nation. I do feel that there are some areas where we could do better and we should reflect on the nation's progress so far, prevailing challenges, and opportunities for growth. It is a time to renew our commitment to building a stronger and more prosperous Pakistan as envisioned by the Father of the Nation. I urge my fellow countrymen to work for the welfare and uplift of deprived sections of our society. Let's pledge to uphold the principles of democracy, freedom, equality, tolerance, forgiveness, socio-economic justice, and moral and ethical values, as enunciated by Islam. ■

Pakistan Paindabad!



DR. ARIF ALVI
PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

Salute to freedom fighters' sacrifices



PROF. DR. KHALID MAHMOOD
VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB

PROF. Dr. Khalid Mahmood paid tribute to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Allama Iqbal and the leaders of the freedom movement while addressing the flag hoisting ceremony on the occasion of Independence Day.

The nation also pay tribute to the endless sacrifices of the Pakistan Army for protecting the country. In Occupied Kashmir and India, the minorities are still victims of persecution by Hindus. Religious, cultural and economic freedom in not available even today in India. Pakistani nation is not less than anyone in terms of capabilities.

Now, teachers and employees should play a role in their classrooms and offices for the development of the country. The value of freedom can be realized when we look at the slave nations. ■

Pakistan Zindabad!

Editor

Dr. Shabbir Sarwar

Associate Editor

Dr. Khuram Shahzad

News Editors

Rabia Yousaf

Javairia Shafiq

Photography

Sarfraz Ali

Sajid Baloch

Graphic Designer

Muneeb Ijaz

Publisher

Department of Public Relations,
Quaid-i-Azam Campus, University
of the Punjab Lahore

Printer

Department of Press &
Publications, University of the
Punjab, Lahore-Pakistan

Contact

Email: punews@pu.edu.pk

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Editorial Note

PUNJAB University has allocated Rs 264 million for research grant for FY 2023-24, 38 million more as compared to the last year. This budget will help disburse research projects funds among university teachers to promote research culture and university ranking. Out of total budget of Rs 16.6 billion, Rs 247 million have been allocated to award scholarships to students. Additionally, Rs 122 million scholarships will be provided by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan. Moreover, PEEF scholarships

will also be awarded to the students. Punjab University administration's special focus on research fundings is one of salient feature of the varsity policy to promote it's ranking and contribute in the national problem solving activities with a significant social impact. This is consistent policy during the tenure of various vice chancellors and the incumbent VC Dr Khalid Mehmood has also continued the practice with one step ahead. This is very positive gesture on part of the administration because consistency of policies help achieve major development goals. ■

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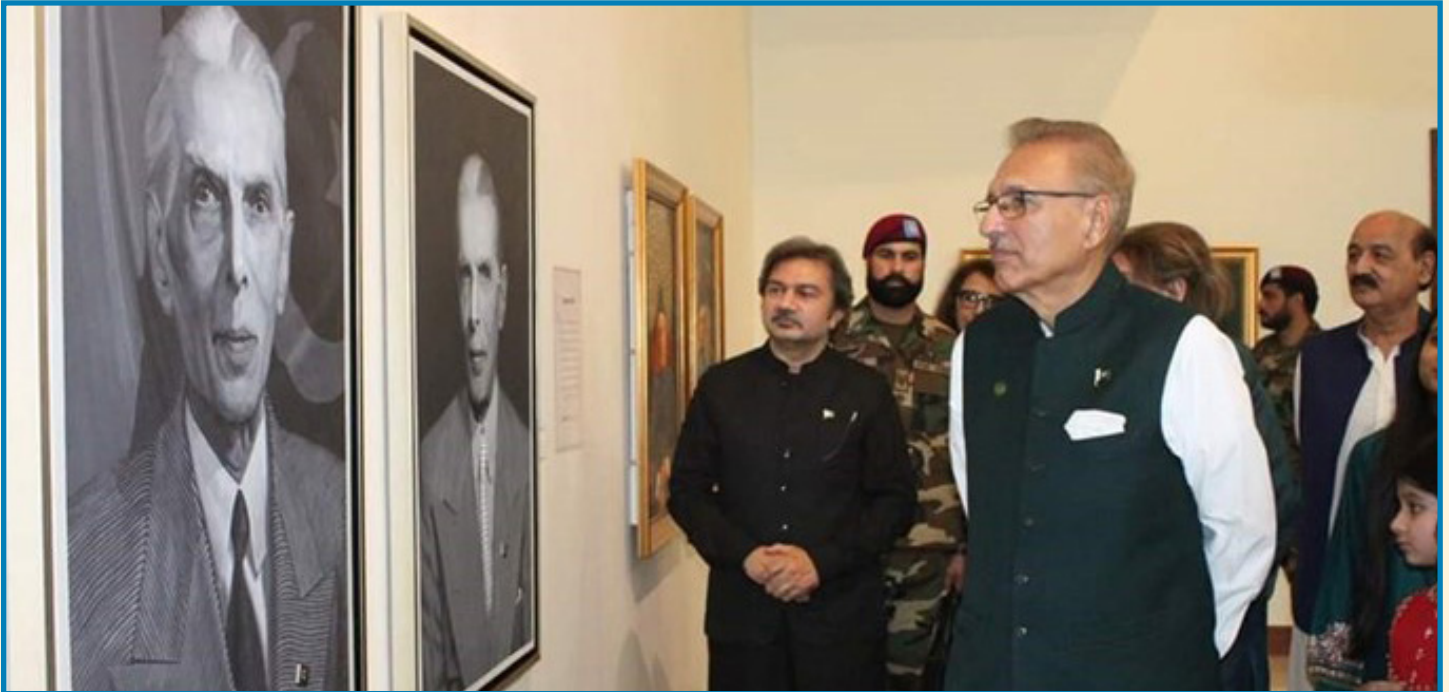
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PNCA hosts solo exhibition by Ali Azmat



President of Pakistan Mr. Arif Alvi visits a solo exhibition of paintings and drawings by renowned artist and Punjab University's Assistant Professor Ali Azmat in connection with the Pakistan's 76th Independence anniversary.

IN connection with the Pakistan's 76th Independence anniversary Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) in collaboration with ForArtSake curated by Amna I Pataudi and Dr. Rahat Naveed Masood hosted a solo exhibition of paintings and drawings by renowned artist and Punjab University's Assistant Professor Ali Azmat.

The exhibition was inaugurated by President of Pakistan Mr. Arif Alvi and his wife Begum Samina Arif Alvi.

Arif Alvi, in his address, quoted "Quaid-e-Azam gifted us Pakistan after an epic struggle for which people paid a heavy price, many with their lives. While we can be proud of achievements we made as a

nation. I do feel that there are some areas where we could do better".

Begum Samina Arif Alvi, first lady of Pakistan who appreciated the artist's contribution to the promotion of art and culture in the country. This travelling exhibition was shown before in Lahore and will be taken to Gilgit next. Through his works Ali Azmat adds color, aesthetics, and takes up the responsibility to bring clarity and awareness in the larger political landscape of the country. Ali Azmat has accomplished this feat remarkably well in his works.

As you walk from one painting to another, you can see how brilliantly Azmat Ali captures the changing expressions of the Quaid's visage. He has a benign smile in one, changes into mild bewilderment in the next, looks melancholy sometimes, and disappointed in others. The repertoire of expressions is as rich as the colorful strokes of the artist. His works reflect his love for nature, history, spirituality as well as his social commentary on contemporary issues. He uses various mediums and techniques, such as oil, watercolor, acrylic, collage and mixed media to create his unique style.

Ali Azmat quoted during his speech at the opening ceremony "The affection displayed in these paintings not only expresses my love for our leader but also serves as a humble effort to keep this love alive in the hearts of future generations. As for how successful my efforts have been, I leave that judgment to the observers", he further added.

The show was heavily visited by a large number of audiences including artists, students, VIPs, Government officials, press & media etc. A large number of students also visited the show and interviewed the artists about their techniques and art practices. ■



Freedom is priceless, PU VC



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood addresses the flag hoisting ceremony on the occasion of Independence Day.



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood plants sapling on the occasion of Independence Day.

PUNJAB University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has said that the value of freedom can be realized when we look at the slave nations. He was addressing the flag hoisting ceremony on

the occasion of Independence Day outside VC's office at Quaid-e-Azam Campus. On this occasion, Registrar Dr. Ahmad Islam, deans, heads of various departments, faculty members, administrative officers, employees,

students and children and women from PU residential colony were present.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood hoisted the flag outside the admin block and released pigeons. He also planted saplings on the occasion of Independence Day.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, paid tribute to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Allama Iqbal and the leaders of the freedom movement. He said that the nation also pay tribute to the endless sacrifices of the Pakistan Army for protecting the country.

He said that in Occupied Kashmir and India, the minorities are still victims of persecution by Hindus. He said that religious, cultural and economic freedom is not available even today in India. He said that the Pakistani nation is not less than anyone in terms of capabilities. He said that teachers and employees should play a role in their classrooms and offices for the development of the country. ■



A few glimpses from the flag hoisting ceremony.

PU students win Prime Minister National Innovation award



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood congratulates Prof. Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi and Dr. Aneeqa Ghafoor from Institute of Botany on attaining the prestigious Prime Minister National Innovation Award in Largest Idea Pitching Competition of Round II.

A team from Institute of Botany, consisting of Dr. Aneeqa Ghafoor, a young entrepreneur and recent PhD graduate, along with her supervisor Prof. Dr. Abdul Rehman Khan Niazi has been awarded Prestigious Prime Minister National Innovation Award in Largest Idea Pitching Competition of Round II.

The award includes a cash prize of 0.5M and an additional IM for startup to establish of Indigenous Mushroom Industry in Pakistan that will ultimately contribute to the vegetable market of Pakistan. Out of staggering total of 13,000 teams that appeared in this idea pitching competition Phase-II from across Pakistan, only 251 teams were shortlisted to present their business ideas in front of a distinguished jury comprising investors, top researchers and industrialists at NUST, Islamabad.

The team thanked Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood for all the encouragement and support towards research initiatives and also thanked to the Prime Minister for this

initiative to support entrepreneurial culture in the youth of Pakistan. ■

Prof gets Imam Bukhari International Scholarship



Director Shovosil Ziyodov congratulates to PU Sheikh Zayed Islamic Center's Associate Professor Dr. Mubasher Hussain on attaining the Imam Bukhari International Scholarship.

Punjab University Sheikh Zayed Islamic Center's Associate Professor Dr. Mubasher Hussain has attained the Imam Bukhari International Scholarship. Dr. Mubasher has a bachelor's, master's and doctor's degree in Islamic Studies and Islamic Law from Punjab University.

The scientist has published more than 100 articles and about 40 books and also winner of a number of scientific awards. He worked as the head of the Hadith and Sirat Department of the University. The scientist's scientific work is related to the methodology of the science of hadith and the interpretation of hadith, and the result of his recent research in this regard is reflected in the book "Legal Traditions and Iraqi Lawyers", published by the International Islamic University of Islamabad.

Dr. Mubasher at the Center explores the influence of Imam Bukhari as a Mujtahid on the interpretation of Islamic law in South Asia. The scholarship holder was welcomed by the Director of the Center, Shovosil Ziyodov. During the dialogue, the opportunities created by the international program for researchers were recognized and the importance of ensuring the success of scientific research was emphasized. ■

PU publishes 'Manzooom Tareekh of National Struggle'

THE poetry of Maulana Zafar Ali Khan, the famous leader of the freedom Movement, is the organized history of our national struggle; by protecting it we can preserve the entire history of our national struggle. This has been said recently in the book 'Manzooom Tareekh of National Struggle' published by Punjab University Urdu Development and Translation Centre and Maulana Zafar Ali Khan Foundation Lahore.

The complete history of Tan Hijaz, Habsiat and Armaghan Qadian has been described and a comprehensive index of Maulana's total words has been prepared and presented. With the help of this index, any stanza included in all the poetry collections of Maulana Zafar Ali Khan can be reached to his complete poems and books.

This book is the result of the efforts of well-known authors Dr. Zahid Munir Amir and Hafiz Muhammad Saad Abdullah. Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood and Chairman of Maulana Zafar Ali Khan Foundation and former provincial ombudsman Khalid Mahmood have congratulated the Urdu Development and Translation Centre and its head for the publication of this book.

Dr. Nosheen to receive ASIS&T James Cretsos award

The Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) has announced that Punjab University Institute of Information Management Director Prof. Nosheen Fatima Warraich is the 2023 recipient of the ASIS&T James M. Cretsos Leadership Award.



Dr. Zahid Munir Amir presents a book titled 'Manzooom Tareekh of National Struggle' to PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood.

The award's purpose is to recognize a new ASIS&T member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in professional ASIS&T activities.



Prof. Dr. Nosheen Fatima Warraich

Prof. Nosheen Fatima Warraich has been serving as Director PU Institute of Information Management. She is a young academician and has got Fulbright Post-Doc, SUNY at Albany (2015-2016) NY. She has authored more than 85 publications, including scholarly journal articles, conference proceedings and book chapters. She is the Editor of the Pakistan Journal of Information Management & Libraries.

Prof. Nosheen said, 'I am incredibly honored and humbled for this recognition to receive the James M Cretsos from ASIS&T. She said that ASIS&T provided her opportunities to network, collaborate and work with wonderful people. She said that for her, ASIS&T is like a family that supports, motivates and inspires in academic and professional career, giving a sense of ownership and training as a leader. She will receive the award at the 2023 ASIS&T Annual Meeting to be held 27-31 October, in London, UK. ■

Dr. Mehta delivers lecture at Netherland's varsity



A group photo of participants along with Principal Hailey College of Banking & Finance Dr. Ahmed Muneeb Mehta at the University of Wittenborg.

DR. Ahmed Muneeb Mehta, Principal, Hailey College of Banking & Finance was invited to deliver a guest lecture on Strategic Communication & Brand Development at the

University of Wittenborg, Netherlands where he proudly represented HCBF & University of the Punjab.

The audience comprised of graduate and PhD students. The University of Wittenborg

also showed interest in promoting future academic and research collaborations in terms of students and faculty development with HCBF under University of the Punjab's umbrella. ■

PU VC inaugurates committee room for student societies

PUNJAB University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has inaugurated the committee room for the student societies in the Directorate of Student Affairs.

On this occasion, Director Student Affairs Dr. Muhammad Ali Klasra, Treasurer Tasneem Kamran, Resident Officer-II Muhammad Kashif Nazir Hanjra and students were present.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, said that the committee room established under the auspices of the Directorate of Students Affairs would help the students of PU in promoting co-curricular activities. He said that co-curricular activities along with curricular activities are necessary to highlight the skills of students. He said that the Pakistani nation is not less than any other nation in the world in terms of capacity



A group photo of participants along with Principal Hailey College of Banking & Finance Dr. Ahmed Muneeb Mehta at the University of Wittenborg.

because we overcome crises through strong intentions despite having fewer resources. He said that in the current situation of Pakistan, everyone has to play their role together.

Dr. Muhammad Ali Klasra thanked the

VC for establishing the committee room for the training of students' co-curricular activities. He said that Dr. Khalid Mahmood listens to the problems of the students and takes steps to solve them on a priority basis. ■

PU Syndicate recommends Rs 16.6 billion budget: Rs 247 m for student scholarships, Rs 264m research grant approved

PUNJAB University Syndicate's 1751st chaired by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, recommended Rs 16.619 billion budgets for the approval of Senate for the year 2023-24.

On the direction of the Vice Chancellor to increase PU's international ranking further and socio-economic impact research, the university administration has allocated Rs 264 million, with an increase of Rs 38 million as compared to last year's amount, as per its policy to promote research culture.

According to other salient features of the budget, special students will also be provided with free education along with boarding facilities while students

Punjab University would continue to provide subsidy of millions of rupees to the students in hostel, transport and internet heads

be provided with free education. The university will continue to waive off tuition fee of Hafiz-e-Quran. Punjab University will provide Rs 247 million

scholarships to the students.

Moreover, HEC scholarships worth 122 million rupees and PEEF scholarships will also be provided to students. The deficit of Rs 2 billion would be managed by introducing new market-based programs, reducing expenditures and adopting austerity measures. On this occasion, the Syndicate members appreciated the efforts of the university.

In the budget, Punjab University would continue to provide subsidy of millions of rupees to the students in hostel, transport and internet heads and in addition to the above, subsidy on electricity bills in teaching departments is also being provided. PU has allocated Rs 1.1 billion for development projects. ■



PU, Chinese varsity for better future of mankind



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Professor Li Huailing, Prof. Zhang Yanqiu, Khalid Taimur Akram and others sit on stage during an International conference on "Community of shared future for mankind".

PUNJAB University Department of History & Pakistan Studies, Communication University of China and Pakistan Research Centre for a Community with Shared Future (PRCCSF) Islamabad in collaboration with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan organized an International Conference on "Community of Shared Future for Mankind".

The conference is aimed at understanding the most crucial aspects of China's vision of a shared global community and understanding how the concept of community of shared future can be implemented in the future and its usefulness in the CPEC project.

PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, made welcome remarks and discussed the historic friendship between China and Pakistan. He highlighted the prospects of the conference for sharing ideas and broadening research cooperation among academic institutions in both countries. He said that Pakistan and China can learn from

each other's experiences.

He said that political scientists and scholars can study the success stories of each other and can benefit. He said that security, extremist threats and environmental issues are faced by the two regions and can be resolved by mutual cooperation. He hoped that the conference will help give new policies to overcome the challenges faced by both the countries.

Professor Li Huailing, Dean of the Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China (CUC), Beijing shared his analysis on D-time and Community with Shared Future. He explained how the concept of community with a shared future adheres to equality and encapsulates an inclusive community of values. He said that it embraces differences, respects all, and advocates for universal prosperity and common development. He emphasized the need to establish partnerships of equal treatment, increase mutual consultation, and develop security patterns based on fairness

and justice.

Prof. Zhang Yanqiu, Deputy Dean of the Institute for a Community with a Shared Future and Director of the Africa Communication Research Centre at CUC highlighted that democracy is not a special right reserved to an individual country. She explained China's whole process of people's democracy and how China has been successful in its ability to enthuse and involve people in the political process.

She said that the CPC is different from the ruling political parties in some western systems where political parties represent only certain groups of voters. She appreciated the role of CPEC leadership in broadening the obligation to enhance the living standard and well-being of all Chinese people.

Khalid Taimur Akram, Executive Director PRCCSF also welcomed Chinese scholars and highlighted the role of PRCCSF for their efforts in fostering academic collaboration and building communities with a shared future. The concept of a community of shared

future provides new policies to overcome the challenges faced by the world today.

The conference successfully highlighted various aspects of China's BRI roads to prosperity and the openness and inclusivity of the Community of Shared Future. It created an opportunity for young scholars and researchers to broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of the concept of a community with a shared future.

Prof. Dr. Irum Khalid, Chairperson Department of Political Science presented her talk on Community of Shared Future as a greatest synergy for building a better world. She said China has made productive efforts as a major responsible country to champion the political settlement of crises, resolve international issues, facilitate peace and de-escalate tensions. She shared some recommendations to anchor world peace and how the world needs to work together. She also discussed challenges and ways to resolve them.

Prof. Dr. Mahboob Hussian, Chairman Department of History & Pakistan Studies welcomed the guests from China and other

speakers in the conference. He highlighted the role of the Regional Integration Centre in conducting various joint projects, including conferences, training, and exchange learning programs, to achieve shared aspirations.

Dr. Fouzia Hadi Ali, Director PU Regional Integration Centre highlighted the Regional Integration Centre's commitment to cultivating a shared community concept for regional prosperity. She said that this concept is rooted in the principles of inclusivity, cooperation, and mutual comprehension. She said that a community of shared future emphasizes active listening, respect for diverse viewpoints, and willingness to see the world through others eyes.

Prof. Dr. Rukhsana Iftikhar, Department of History and Pakistan Studies shared her perspective on China's international relations and CPEC. She highlighted socio-cultural exchange, exchange programs, and Pakistan's participation in different Chinese cultural activities between China and Pakistan. She also explained how CPEC has fostered people-to-people contacts, removed language barriers, and diversified academic collaboration

between two countries institutes. She said that the exploration of China and Pakistan's cultural relations in the arts, sciences, and media is growing.

Dr. Ge Yangling, Section Chief of the Office of the Institute for a Community with Shared Future, Communication University of China (CUC), China gave a speech on China's Women's All-round Development and Building a Better World for All. She highlighted China's contribution to women's empowerment and how women are taking charge of their lives through self-reliance and collaboration, breaking barriers, and generating economic growth. She also highlighted challenges and presented solutions to promote comprehensive development for women, protection of women's rights, education, and innovation for a bright future.

The seminar was attended by the faculty members of the Department of History and Pakistan Studies, the senior management of the Institute for a Community with a Shared Future and nearly 100 undergrad and postgraduate students. ■



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood addresses the participants of an International conference on "Community of shared future for mankind".

Local government to ensure national uplift, speakers



Adviser to Punjab Chief Minister Kanwar Muhammad Dilshad, PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood and others sit on stage during the opening ceremony of diploma in Local Self-Government for the second batch Punjab University Department of Political Science.

Adviser to Punjab Chief Minister Kanwar Muhammad Dilshad said that delay in local government elections is harmful to democracy. He was addressing the opening ceremony of diploma in Local Self-Government for the second batch Punjab University Department of Political Science in collaboration with Sangat Foundation and South Asia Partnership Pakistan.

On this occasion, PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Additional Secretary Admin Local Government and Community Development Department, Punjab Maleeha Rashid, DG Monitoring Local Government Mahmood Masood Tamanna, Director Center for Civility and Integrity Shabbir Ahmad Khan, Executive Director Sangat Zahid Islam, Chairperson Department Political Science Dr. Iram Khalid, Deputy Executive Director South Asia Partnership Pakistan Irfan Mufti, Executive Director Wise Bushra Khaliq, Analyst Salman Abid, representatives of various NGOs, faculty members and students were present.

Kanwar Dilshad, in his address, said that

the system of local governments is very old and the Election Commission and courts in Pakistan have always supported it. He said that in the upcoming elections, political parties should make the local government system a part of their manifesto. He said that the caretaker government is running on good governance and is on the same page with the Election Commission.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood congratulated the first batch who completed their diplomas and welcomed the newly admitted students. He said that this diploma will promote understanding of local government system and public awareness.

Dr. Iram said that we don't feel that we are good citizens that's why others don't care about it. She said that the continuity of the Diploma in Local Self-Government after twenty years and the commencement of the second batch after the completion of the first batch is a pride moment. She said that she is grateful to PU and NGOs for their support for this diploma.

Shabbir Ahmad Khan said that the first lesson of democracy, economic development

and justice comes from the local government, for which awareness is the need of the hour.

Maleeha Rashid said that research and suggestions of educational institutions lead to improvement in institutions.

Mahmood Tamanna said that we have never understood the importance of local government.

Bushra Khaliq said that for the improvement of the system, the involvement of women should be ensured at all levels.

Salman Abid said that the local government system can play a role in overcoming the crisis of governance.

Irfan Mufti said that it is very difficult to run the system of such a big country without local governments and to put it on the path of development.

Zahid Islam said that the solution to the problems of the people lies in the strengthening of local government system. He said that the local government department and PU have to work together for the admission of maximum number of students in the diploma. ■

Awareness about intellectual property rights stressed



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood presents a souvenir to guest speaker after a seminar on 'Intellectual property and patent essentials: Basic and legal aspects for university teachers' organized by PU Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC).

PUNJAB University Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) has organized seminar on 'Intellectual Property and Patent Essentials: Basic and Legal Aspects for University Teachers' in the Department of Botany's auditorium.

On this occasion, PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Director ORIC Prof. Dr. Shakil Ahmad, Saad Nasrullah and faculty members were present.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, expressed his utmost satisfaction with the seminar, emphasizing the quality and importance of the event. He said that the knowledge and insights gained from this

event will undoubtedly empower the faculty members to protect their intellectual capital and contribute to the advancement of research and innovation within the institution. He also highlighted the role of ORIC in facilitating preservation of intellectual property rights of university faculty.

Dr. Shakil Ahmad said that ORIC is committed to continuing its efforts in providing educational opportunities that empower faculty members and drive innovation within the academic community. He said that the seminar brought together esteemed faculty members from various disciplines to enhance their understanding of intellectual property rights and legal aspects

pertaining to patents.

Mr. Saad Nasrullah said that the seminar proved to be a resounding success, with participants expressing their gratitude for the informative and engaging sessions. The participants gained valuable insights into intellectual property law and discovered practical strategies to protect their intellectual capital effectively.

He highlighted comprehensive sessions on the fundamentals of intellectual property law and its relevance in the academic realm. He also gave practical guidance on patent filing, and protection, empowering faculty members to capitalize on their creative ideas. ■

Punjab University VC condemns desecration of the Holy Quran

PUNJAB University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has said in his message on the 'Youm e Taqdees-e-Quran' that around 14 hundred years ago, when the world including Europe was not familiar with human rights, such a book was revealed in the form of the Holy Quran that taught the world not only to respect humanity and each other's rights but also to take care of animals.

He said that in the Holy Quran, the secrets related to the creation and existence of the universe were revealed 14-hundred years ago, which today's scientists are surprised to know with the help of modern technology. He said that many scientists have also embraced Islam after being inspired by the knowledge of the universe in the Holy Quran.

The VC said that Islam is a religion of peace and the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden has caused grief and anger among the Muslims around the world. He said that certain elements want to achieve nefarious goals by inciting the feelings of Islamophobia. He said that all religions of the world condemn the spread of hateful sentiments and therefore, the United

Nations should play a practical role to permanently prevent such incidents of insulting religions. He said that the Swedish government should take strict action against the people involved in such incidents that hurt the sentiments of Muslims because Muslims will not tolerate any action against the sanctity of the Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W). ■

Webinar on Quaid's vision and citizenship

IN connection with the Independence Day celebrations, Punjab University Pakistan Study Centre organized a webinar on Quaid's Vision of Pakistan and Responsibilities of a Common Citizen. History Professor Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad Dr. Farooq Ahmed Dar, PSC Director Prof. Dr. Naumana Kiran, Associate Professors Dr. Amjad Abbas Khan Magsi, Dr. Ahmad Ejaz and others were present on the

occasion.

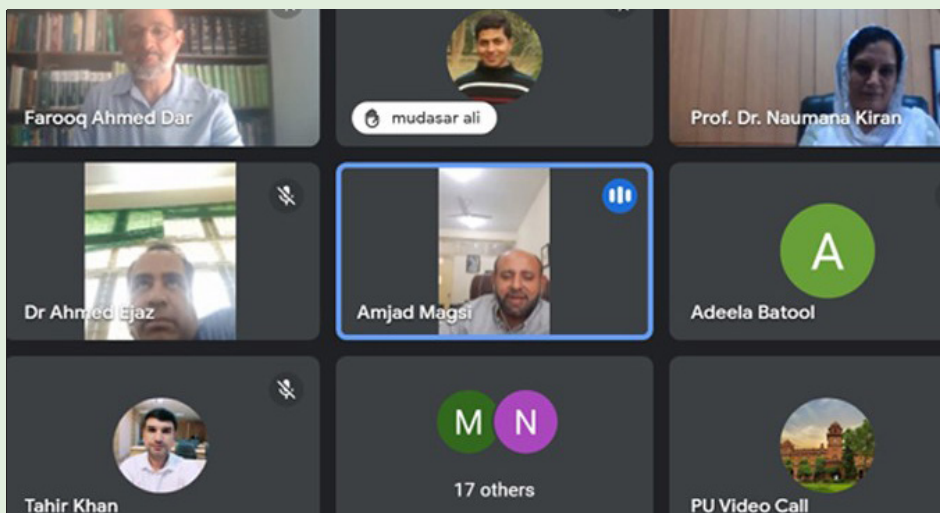
Dr. Farooq, in his keynote address, said that in the present time not only the elite but even the common people of Pakistan have totally forgotten what the father of the nation Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah wanted the country to be.

He said that a good look at the historical sources clearly suggests that Jinnah wanted the process of institutionalization to take place in Pakistan and that the institutions and not the individuals should take the driving seat.

According to his vision, Pakistan is to focus on the education, health and social welfare of its citizens and the state is responsible for taking care of the marginalized segments of the society. Religious and ethnic minorities are to be given fundamental rights and treated on an equal basis, he added.

Dr. Naumana said that Independence Day is the best time to evaluate ourselves, either we are fulfilling responsibilities or not. She said that Quaid's vision of a common citizen is of actually a responsible person, who should be disciplined, determined, hardworking, faithful and fair towards his objectives and have faith in merit. Quaid-i-Azam believed in communal harmony and wanted Pakistani citizen to be plural and tolerant, she added.

Dr. Ahmad Ejaz was of the view that Pakistan's dream was turned in to reality by Quaid-i-Azam. He said that the state of Indian Muslims was founded based on two nation theory. Quaid emphasized on establishing a liberal and tolerant Islamic society, socio-economic justice, a participatory and democratic polity, constitutionalism, equality of opportunities irrespective of caste, creed, religion or sex, and opportunities for education and development of natural and inherent qualities of the people, he added. ■



Participants share their views in a webinar organized by Punjab University Pakistan Study Centre in connection with the Independence Day celebrations.

Workshop on behavior at home, school and society

Dr. Aftab Khan talked about behavior, its different types and special behavior linked to exceptional children. In his extensive talk on the subject in two different sessions, an interactive approach supported with quality presentation was utilized. The

expertise in the field of special education of Dr. Aftab. Certificates were given to the participants at the end of the workshop. ■



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood presents a souvenir to Prof. Dr. Aftab Khan in a workshop organized by Punjab University Institute of Special Education (ISE).

PUNJAB University Institute of Special Education (ISE) in collaboration with Punjab Welfare Trust for disabled (PWTDD) organized a workshop on 'Behavior at Home, School and Society'.

On this occasion, PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Director PWTDD Dr. Izhar-ul-Haq Hasmi, Prof. Dr. Aftab Khan from Longwood University Virginia USA, Director ISE Prof. Dr. Humara Bano, faculty members and research scholars were present.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, said that compared to the past, the incidence of depression is increasing, for which everyone has to play a role. He stressed upon the need for a formal commitment from Longwood University and Punjab University. He said that it is not only an obligation on the part of developed countries but also a moral responsibility of expatriates living in developed countries. He appreciated the efforts of Dr. Humara and his team for conducting such a fruitful workshop.

audience which mostly comprised MPhil and PhD scholars along with faculty members engaged in the discussion and practical activity in a contributive way.

Dr. Humara thanked the VC, Dr. Aftab and other participants. She said that students would learn from the experience and

Training session for research journal editors

PUNJAB University Office of Research Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) Research Journals Steering Committee organized training and learning session for the editorial staff of PU research journals.

On this occasion, PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Director ORIC Prof. Dr. Shakil Ahmad, faculty members and others were present.

Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, appreciated the organization of the session and reiterated that Editors should be benefitted from the learning this session.

Dr. Shakil Ahmad thanked the participants and talked about the two PU Journals (Journal of Statistics and Operation Research; and Punjab University Journal of Mathematics) received their first Impact Factor in 2023.

Prof. Dr. Sohail Chand from Statistics and Dr. Zaeem-ul-Haq Bhatti from Mathematics shared their experiences and strategies of their journey to get an impact factor for their research journals.

Later, appreciation shields were presented to the Chief Editors of two PU Impact Factor Journals by the VC. ■



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood presents shield to the Chief Editors of two PU Impact Factor Journals.

Languages can play role to strengthen Pak-China ties, PU VC



A group photo of students along with PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood in a certificate distribution ceremony for the students who completed the Chinese language course organized by PU Confucius Institute.

PUNJAB University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has said that there are deep ties between Pakistan and China and Urdu and Chinese languages can play a role in strengthening these relations further. He was addressing the certificate distribution ceremony for the students who completed the Chinese language course organized by PU Confucius Institute.

On this occasion, Host Director PU Confucius Institute Dr. Shafiq-ur-Rehman, Chinese teacher Chen Meifen, faculty members and students were present.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, said that China is fulfilling its commitment to be a long-time friend by helping Pakistan in every possible way for development in every field. He said that the language of developed countries should be learnt to help understand their culture, economy, society and technology.

He said that the efforts of Punjab University Confucius Institute for the promotion of Chinese language are commendable. He congratulated the students of different levels who completed the course.

Chen Meifen said that Pakistani

students are very talented and it is always a pleasure to teach them.

She urged the students who completed the course to work hard and dedicate themselves for success in practical life.

Dr. Shafiq-ur-Rahman said that Punjab University Confucius Institute is playing a dynamic role for the promotion of Chinese language which will benefit the students in their professional life.

Later, certificates were distributed among the students who completed the Chinese language course from level one to five. ■

Dr. Lubna calls on Chairman Senate, Chairman Standing Committee on Education



DR. Lubna Zaheer had a meeting with Senator Irfan Siddiqui, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Education and Technical Training. During the meeting the academic programs and activities of the Film & Broadcasting department were discussed.

Senator Siddiqui expressed admiration for the department's dedication to preparing students for careers in Film, Drama, and Broadcast Journalism.

Following the discussion, Dr. Lubna Zaheer extended a cordial invitation to Senator Siddiqui to visit the Film department, which he graciously accepted, promising to schedule the visit in the near future.

She also paid a visit to the Senate of Pakistan where she received a warm welcome from Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani.

The Chairman guided her through various sections of the Senate, sharing intriguing



historical facts about this esteemed Upper House of Parliament. The meeting centered around significant issues concerning Mass Media and Higher Education in Pakistan.

As a gesture of gratitude, Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani presented Dr. Lubna Zaheer with a commemorative souvenir. ■

CEMBians celebrate 76th Independence Day



A few glimpses from the occasion of 76th Independence Day held at the Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology.

FLAG-hoisting ceremony, on the occasion of the 76th Independence Day, was held at the Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology.

Director Prof. Dr. Moazur Rahman hoisted the flag outside the admin block. Scientific and para-scientific staff participated in the ceremony. The national anthem was played on this occasion. This was followed by the recitation of the Holy Quran and prayers for the integrity, progress and prosperity of the country. ■

PU VC kicks off tree plantation drive

In connection with the Independence Day celebrations, Punjab University College of Earth & Environmental Sciences (CEES) in collaboration with Rotary Club Lahore



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood inaugurates the tree plantation campaign by planting the tree at the lawn of College of Earth & Environmental Sciences (CEES).

Garrison has organized a Tree Plantation Drive. On this occasion, PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Acting VC Kamalia University /

Principal CEES Prof. Dr. Sajid Rashid Ahmad, DG University of Management & Technology Abid Khan Sherwani, President Rotary Club

G.R. Siddiqui, faculty members and a number of delegates from various organizations including academia, civil society, Government officials and NGOs were present. Dr. Mahmood inaugurated the tree plantation campaign by planting the tree at CEES.

Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, said that it is our duty to safeguard natural environment. He urged the teachers and students to plant trees in their surroundings and look after them for their better future.

Dr. Sajid Rashid welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of trees. He said that it is a must to plant maximum trees for the survival of all living beings on the earth. He said that every Pakistani should participate in the tree plantation drive.

Other distinguished guests including Abid Khan Sherwani, Muhammad Kashif, G R Siddiqui and Mrs. Mariam Ijaz also planted a number of fruit trees in the lawn of CEES. ■

Training session on sustaining well-being amid pressure at work



Director IAP Prof. Dr. Rafia Rafique addresses the participants of a training session.

THE Executive Training and Development Centre (ETDC) at HCC recently orchestrated a comprehensive training session addressing the theme of "Sustaining Well-being amid pressure at work."

The session featured Director IAP Prof. Dr. Rafia Rafique and a distinguished authority in the field of mental health, renowned for her accolades such as the 6th Outstanding Research Award and the Pride of the Nation Award for exceptional mental health services.

Prof. Dr. Rafia's affiliations with the American and Canadian Psychological Associations underscored her expertise. Geared towards faculty members of HCC and its affiliated colleges, the training session encapsulated a spectrum of vital topics. Noteworthy among these were mental health awareness, encompassing the recognition and understanding of mental health intricacies; identification of risk factors, which illuminated potential triggers for mental health



Principal HCC Prof. Dr. Zafar Ahmad presents a souvenir to Director IAP Prof. Dr. Rafia Rafique after a training session addressing the theme of "Sustaining Well-being amid pressure at work."

issues; and the differentiation between stress and burnout, enabling participants to discern these states effectively.

Further, Prof. Dr. Rafia elucidated the signs and symptoms of burnout, thus facilitating its early identification. Practical stress management strategies were also communicated, empowering attendees with tangible techniques to mitigate stress and prevent burnout. The training session additionally delved into the nuances of time management, a pivotal skill in reducing stressors, and provided an in-depth comprehension of anxiety, a prevalent mental health concern.

The success of the training session was notably acknowledged by Principal HCC Prof. Dr. Zafar Ahmad who commended the efforts of Director of ETDC Dr. Sadia Farooq for her meticulous organization.

Prof. Dr. Zafar Ahmad extended his gratitude to Prof. Dr. Rafia Rafique for her informative contribution, acknowledging her commitment to enhancing the academic community's well-being. As educators assimilated the insights garnered from this session, its constructive influence promises to reverberate throughout the academic landscape, fostering an environment conducive to enhanced well-being and efficacy. ■

PU VC awards IEEE appreciation shield to deputy chief librarian



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood presents an 'IEEE Appreciation Shield' to Deputy Chief Librarian Kashif Khurshid.

PUNJAB University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has awarded 'IEEE Appreciation Shield' to Deputy Chief Librarian Kashif Khurshid and appreciated him for his dedicated efforts for the promotion of HEC digital resources.

On this occasion, PU Chief Librarian Dr. Muhammad Haroon Usmani and others were also present. The shield was announced by Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (IEEE) for successfully conducting 5th IEEE Quiz entitled 'IEEE Xplore Challenge for Researchers in Pakistan'. Rashid Pervez and Majid Lodhi participated on behalf of IEEE. ■

PU VC approves roll of honour, merit certificate



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood presents the Roll of Honour and Certificate of Merit notification to Director Student Affairs Dr. Muhammad Ali Klasra.

PUNJAB University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has approved the Roll of Honour and Certificate of Merit for PU's exceptional high achievers in co-curricular activities this academic year.

He congratulated Director Student Affairs Dr. Muhammad Ali Klasra for his efforts in getting the Roll of Honour and Certificate of Merit approved. He also lauded all co-curricular heroes who have brought good name for the varsity all over the country. Dr. Klasra appreciated them for their skills, dedication and their hard work has paid off honor achievements. He also thanked the VC for his support. ■

Syndicate approves Gujar Khan Campus

THE Punjab University Syndicate approved the establishment of its sub-campus at Gujar Khan to provide higher education opportunities to the young boys and girls of the area. The 1752nd meeting of the Syndicate was presided over by PU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood at VC office.

In the syndicate meeting, the members said that this step is being taken to provide higher education to the residents of Gujar Khan and appreciated the government for providing grants for this project. The syndicate members also requested the government to

increase the grant so that the Gujar Khan campus can be run well in the future and the campus be enabled strong financially.

The members said that the young students of Gujar Khan will be able to get quality education in their area from the campus. They said that the university administration will start professional degree programs at Gujar Khan Campus.

They said that due to professional degree programs, youth will be able to get better employment opportunities. It was also decided to establish committees to increase financial resources of Gujranwala and Jhelum campuses. ■

College of Pharmacy organizes 9th degree awarding ceremony



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood presents a gold medal to a student.

PUNJAB University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood has said that promoting links between industry and academia is the need of the hour. He was addressing Punjab University College of Pharmacy's 9th degree awarding ceremony.

On this occasion, College Principal Dr. Atif Raza, Controller of Examinations Muhammad Rauf Nawaz, Treasurer Tasneem Kamran, faculty members, students and their parents were present.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood, in his address, said that due to the high educational standards of the College of Pharmacy, students from foreign countries come here to study. He congratulated the students who received degrees and medals and said that the role of students is very important for the development of the country.

Dr. Atif Raza said that 558 degrees and 11 gold medals were presented to the students of D-Pharmacy, MPhil and PhD. He hoped that with hard work and devotion the graduates would earn fame for them and college as well. ■

Introductory talk on Dr. Zahid Amir's book on Egypt



A group photo of participants after an introductory talk on renowned scholar Prof. Dr. Zahid Munir Amir's travelogue 'Egypt: Dream and Interpretation' organized by Punjab University Department of Philosophy.

PUNJAB University Department of Philosophy has organized introductory talk on renowned scholar Prof. Dr. Zahid Munir Amir's travelogue 'Egypt: Dream and Interpretation'.

On this occasion, senior professor of philosophy and former chairman of PU Department of Philosophy Dr. Absar Ahmed, University of Al-Azhar, Cairo's Usman Abdul Nasser, humorist Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Virk, renowned poet Saud Usmani, Chairman Department of Philosophy Dr. Muhammad Jawad, Prof. Rozeena Saeed from Government Chunamandi College for Women, faculty members and students were present.

Dr. Absar Ahmed, in his address, said that Dr. Zahid Munir Amir has been bringing awareness to us for the past thirty years with truth and sincerity. He said that we should benefit from his books by studying them.

Mr. Usman highlighted the services of Dr. Zahid for the people of Egypt.

Dr. Ashfaq shed light on different aspects of his personality.



Saud Usmani discussed the contents of the book and the historical facts mentioned. He said that Dr. Zahid lived in Egypt for a long time, where he not only saw Egypt, but also researched its history and expressed doubts about known things.

Prof. Rozeena Saeed expressed regret over the non-appointment of teachers on dozens of Pakistan and Urdu chairs established in the universities of different

countries of the world and termed it as a national tragedy.

Dr. Uzma said that the services of Dr. Zahid are recognized at the global level. In this regard, she mentioned the acknowledgment of Dr. Zahid Munir Amir's knowledge by the famous scholar of Iran, Dr. Mohammad Mahdi Nasih.

Dr. Muhammad Jawad described the book as a unique travelogue and said that on this book he has written a complete thesis which will be published in a magazine soon.

Director Urdu Development and Translation Centre Dr. Zahid Munir Amir expressed his gratitude to the Department of Philosophy for organizing the ceremony and justified the creation of his travelogue, memories of his stay in Egypt. He mentioned his efforts as the chair Jamia Azhar.

He explained the importance and details of the Quaid-e-Azam's visit to Egypt. He said that the position of Egypt among the Arabs is like a heart and the movement at Egypt has impact on the world. ■



A group photo of Dr. Naheed S. Goraya along with Sichuan University delegation.

Sichuan University, Centre for South Asian Studies vow to enhance relations

A 5-Member delegation from Institute of South Asia, Sichuan University, China visited Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS), University of the Punjab, Lahore. The delegation was headed by Dr. Zeng Xiangyu, together with Gao liang and three Post-Graduate Students, He Xiagyi, Li Jialun & Deng Zhenglei.

Dr. Naheed S. Goraya, the Director CSAS welcomed the delegation and discussed about global politics, the progress in CPEC projects, future of Pak-US relations, Indo-Pacific region politics, Re-emergence of Taliban in post-US withdrawal.

The discussion focused on evolving geo-political environment at the global and regional levels and other developments in the economic and political realms. The Chinese students discussed about their dissertations which were mainly related to the strategic significance of Pakistan and Sanskrit language.

Dr. Zeng showed his interest to develop academic linkages between both sides' South Asian institutes.

Dr. Goraya agreed to initiate and strengthen mutual exchanges as a

part of academic collaboration.

The delegation added that both South Asian Institutes should explore the formation of a broader framework of institutional engagement, which identifies pathways for cooperation in the areas of common interest.

It was stressed that a pragmatic and holistic approach needs to be adapted to address the key issues, faced by South Asia with the aim to find practical solutions mainly through research activities that alleviate the concerns and maximize the convergences. ■

MoU to launch academic ventures on South Asian issues



CSAS Director Dr. Naheed S. Goraya and CSSPR Director Dr. Rabia Akhtar pose for a photo after signing an MoU to launch academic ventures on South Asian issues.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Center for Security, Strategy and Policy Research (CSSPR) & Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS), University of the Punjab, Lahore. The CSAS Director Dr. Naheed S. Goraya and CSSPR Director Dr. Rabia Akhtar signed the MoU. The MoU aimed at facilitating the cooperation between the two Centres in the areas of mutual interest and explore opportunities to involve academia in the multilateral fields.

Dr. Naheed S. Goraya said that this academic venture & collaborative relationship will promote a better understanding between the faculty and students of the respective institutions and provide mutual benefit to both sides. ■



CSAS Director Dr. Naheed S. Goraya and ASSA Director Syed Shaheen Hasan sign an MoU to collaborate for joint research projects.

Hands joined to collaborate for joint research projects

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Ambedkar Society for South Asia (ASSA) & Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS), University of the Punjab, Lahore.

CSAS Director Dr. Naheed S. Goraya, and ASSA Director Syed Shaheen Hasan signed the MoU. The MoU aimed at promoting joint lectures, workshops, seminars, National and International conferences, research activities and academic publications.

Dr. Naheed S. Goraya said that this academic collaboration is a major step stone which will foster the academic linkages not only within South Asia but with the outside world in future. ■

PU, MYU to strengthen academic ties

PUNJAB University and MY University, Islamabad has signed a memorandum of understanding



PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood and MY University VC Prof. Dr. Saeed-ul-Hassan Chishti exchange documents after signing an MoU.

(MoU) to promote academic, social and research activities. In this regard, the MoU signing ceremony was held at PU VC office's committee room.

On this occasion, PU VC Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood and MY University VC Prof. Dr. Saeed-ul-Hassan Chishti were present.

According to the MoU, both the universities will jointly work to strengthen

academic relations between institutions of both universities. Both the universities will work on academic and cultural exchange, joint academic programs, exchange of educational materials, research reports and other publications, faculty and staff development, joint research and development projects, student exchanges, transfer of technology and other scholarly pursuits. ■

PU traces Buddhism in Central Punjab



PU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Dean Faculty of Arts & Humanities Prof. Dr. Amra Raza, Secretary Tourism Asif Bilal Lodhi, PU Department of Archaeology Chairman Dr. Muhammad Hameed and others addressed the press conference.

Prof. Khalid Mahmood said that according to the prevailing perception for more than a century, Buddhism was limited to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Taxila region. He said that a research group under the patronage of Dr. Hameed discovered the 2000-year-old Buddhist civilization in Central Punjab.

He said that the discovery of the artifacts confirms that the followers of Buddhism were inhabitants of this area and they established their religious buildings, stupas and monasteries. He further said that PU has played a leading role in tracing Buddhism in Central Punjab and researchers were provided resources to explore the region.

Mr. Asif Bilal Lodhi appreciated the efforts of PU research team and said that the research has provided evidence regarding presence of Buddhist civilization. He extended his full support to launch joint ventures for exploring various tourist and heritage sites. He said that such unique discoveries would contribute to documentation of eminent tourist spots in Punjab.

Dr. Hameed said that in the recent field tour, innumerable evidences of ancient



settlement in form of cultural mounds were recorded. He said that prior to this discovery, there were unsubstantial evidences of Buddhism in Punjab. He stated that this great achievement of Punjab University researchers has opened a new chapter in the religious and cultural history of the province, which indicates that the followers of Buddhism established their center of worship in Punjab and adopted a unique method for dissemination and preaching of their religion.

He said that these facts remained invisible and unnoticeable to date. He said that after recent discovery, further research and visits of the aforesaid areas are needed to be carried out to find the answers of the several questions

including how and from where the Buddhism came into being in central Punjab, what types of stupas of Buddhism were available in the said region, how did they establish their religious buildings and monasteries, what was the duration of Buddhism, what was the school of thought of Buddhism, What were the characteristics of Buddhism, How did Buddhism disappear / displace in the region.

Dr. Hameed further said that the practical implementation of these follow up works depends upon the support from the government, society, law enforcement agencies in order to complete this task as well as to save our glorious cultural heritage scattered and waiting to be unearthed in the plain of the Punjab province. ■