

The Chronicle

Department of History & Pakistan Studies

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Newsletter



Chairman: **Prof. Dr. Mahboob Hussain**

Editor/Student Advisor: **Dr. Muhammad Altaf**
Assistant Editor: **Muhammad Usman Janjua** (PhD Scholar)

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Department of History &
Pakistan Studies



@historians_pu



chairman.history@pu.edu.pk
Ph: +92 42 9923 1170

CHAIRMAN'S VISIT TO US TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SAN FRANCISCO (4TH-7TH JAN 2024)

Dr. Mahboob Hussain presented at the 2024 annual meeting of the American Historical Association, held in San Francisco, California, in the United States of America, from January 4 to January 7, 2024. Dr. Mahboob presented an academic paper titled "The Failure of Parliamentary Institutionalization in Pakistan: The Performance of the First Constituent Assembly, 1947-54".



PROFESSOR NAVEEDA KHAN'S SEMINAR ON CLIMATE CHANGE (12TH JAN 2024)



A seminar on "The Architecture of Global Climate: Negotiations and Its Inner Contradictions" was arranged in the Department of History & Pakistan Studies, University of the Punjab Lahore. The seminar was presided over by Prof Dr Mahboob Hussain, chairman of the Department of History. Professor Naveeda Khan was invited to this seminar. She is a Professor of Anthropology at Johns Hopkins University. Her doctoral and postdoctoral projects focused on Islam, the state, and every day in

Pakistan. She is the editor of *Beyond Crisis: Re-Evaluating Pakistan* (2010). She spoke of Pakistan and Lahore's climatic and environmental changes in the seminar. She also discussed her interactions with different social classes. She suggested sociological, political and environmental research topics for the department's students and concluded the seminar with a question-and-answer session.

DR. SHER ALI TAREEN'S COMPELLING BOOK TALK (13TH JAN 2024)

Ibn-e-Khuldoon Society, Department of History, organised a seminar, and Dr Sher Ali Tareen was invited as a guest speaker. He is Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at Franklin and Marshall College, Pennsylvania, USA. The seminar was chaired by Prof. Dr. Mahboob Hussain. The topic of discussion was his book, *Perilous Intimacies: Debating Hindu-Muslim Friendship After Empire*. He comprehensively discussed different sects to illuminate the disparities between Hindu and Muslim communities. He also



mentioned the idea of sovereignty and religious aspects. The session was very interactive and ended with a remarkable question and answers.

SLANDERING THE SACRED: J. BARTON SCOTT'S PROVOCATIVE BOOK TALK ON FREE SPEECH IN COLONIAL INDIA (15TH JAN 2024)



A lecture was arranged on the topic "Slandering the Sacred: Free Speech and Religious Feelings in Colonial India" by J. Barton Scott. He is an associate professor of historical studies at the University of Toronto, Canada. He very informatively described the religious freedom and feelings in colonial India. He briefly talked about different secular states and free speech. The book talk ended with an exquisite question-and-answer session.

FOLLOWING FOOTSTEPS: AMARDEEP SINGH'S INSPIRING TALK ON BABA GURU NANAK IN PAKISTAN (15TH JAN 2024)

The Ibn e Khuldoon Society organised a Special Talk at the Department of History on "Footsteps of Baba Guru Nanak in Pakistan". Amardeep



Singh, an author and filmmaker in Singapore, was invited as a guest speaker. He talked about the teachings of Baba Guru Nanak. He guided the student to follow their passion and face all the challenges. He showed the documentary and guided the students about different trends and traditions he observed worldwide.

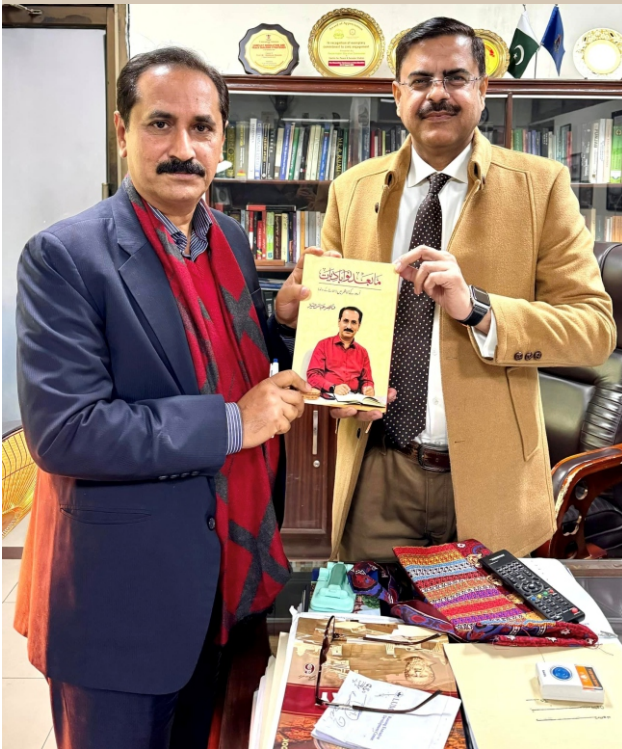
DR. ZIA UL HASSAN'S CAPTIVATING TALK ON 'KAI CHAND THE SAR-E-AASMAN' (17TH JAN 2024)

The Ibn Khaldun Society organized a talk on the famous novel "Kai Chand the Sar-e-Aasman,". The Society invited Dr. Zia ul Hassan as the guest speaker. Dr. Zia ul Hassan's expertise and engaging presentation captivated the audience, sparking a lively discussion and deep appreciation for the novel. At the end, the Chairman of the Department of History, Professor Dr. Mahboob Hussain, thanked the guest speaker for sparing his time to interact with the students.



PROFESSOR NASIR ABBAS NAYYER'S BOOK TALK ON 'MABA'AD NAU ABADIYAAT' (23RD JAN 2024)

Professor Nasir Abbas Nayer talked on his book Maba'ad Nau Abadiyaat. The event provided an in-depth exploration of postcolonial themes, highlighting the book's critical perspectives on contemporary issues. Professor Nayer's



insightful commentary and scholarly expertise engaged the audience, fostering a deeper understanding of postcolonial discourse. The session concluded with a round of questions and discussions, enriching the academic experience for all attendees.

PRESERVING KARACHI'S LEGACY: HAREEM MIRZA'S ENLIGHTENING TALK ON CULTURAL HERITAGE (25TH JAN 2024)

Ibn e Khaldun society organised a special talk in the Department of History, University of the



Punjab, Lahore. Ms. Hareem Mirza was invited from the University of Royal Holloway, London in this talk. This talk on the preservation of cultural heritage in Karachi, Pakistan, proved to be an enlightening and thought-provoking event. She shared valuable insights into the rich history of Karachi and the challenges and opportunities associated with preserving its



cultural heritage. She explained the architectural heritage of Karachi, shedding light on the unique structures that stand as witnesses to the city's storied past. Examples included were colonial-era buildings, ancient marketplaces, and religious sites that reflect the city's multicultural identity. In the end, the Chairman of the department, Prof. Dr Mahboob Hussain, commented that this was a comprehensive overview of Karachi's cultural heritage and emphasized upon the steps needed to preserve its rich history. The session ended with an exquisite question and answer session.

DR. ALI USMAN QASMI'S DISCUSSION ON 'QAUM, MULK, SULTANAT' (26TH JAN 2024)

Dr Ali Usman Qasmi, Associate Professor, History Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, LUMS, was invited over for a book talk on his book "Qaum, Mulk, Sultanat" in the Department of History, University of the Punjab Lahore. In his talk, he discussed the summary of his book by highlighting the main points of each chapter he wrote. He began by delving into the foundational principles that shaped Pakistan's ideology. He explored the concept of an Islamic state and how it has been articulated in the country's constitution. The author emphasized the dynamic nature of this ideology and its evolution over time. He provided insights into the events surrounding partition, emphasizing how the ideology of Pakistan emerged as a response to the aspirations of a separate Muslim identity. At last, there was an interchange between queries and answers. Prof Dr Mahboob Hussain, thanked the scholar for his excellent talk.



A SEMINAR ON KASHMIR DAY (2ND FEB 2024)



In the Department of History & Pakistan Studies, University of the Punjab, Lahore, a Seminar on Kashmir Day was organised by the Ibn-e-Khaldun society. The society requested Prof Dr Mahboob Hussain, Chairman of the department, to speak regarding February 5th, Kashmir Day, in Pakistan. The seminar began with introductory remarks from Mr Hussain Khawar; he explained the importance of the Kashmir issue and that the rights of Kashmiris

should be given to them internationally. Then, Dr Mohammad Altaf explained the brief historical context of how this issue began, the mistakes made, and the role of princely state rulers and the Political parties. At last, Prof Dr Mahboob Hussain said it is a day to express solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He raised awareness about the ongoing Kashmir conflict and advocated for their right to self-determination. He said that events like seminars, rallies, and discussions are essential to highlight the Kashmiri struggle for freedom and justice.



ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER AND SUFI NIGHT (6TH FEB 2024)



The Ibn-Khaldun Society organized an annual Get-together and Sufi Night for the students, creating an evening filled with camaraderie and cultural enrichment. Students had the opportunity to connect, relax, and enjoy the mystical melodies of Sufi traditions, making it a memorable and enriching experience.



THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL ALUMNI DINNER (18TH FEB 2024)



The department arranged an annual alumni get-together. Prof Dr Khalid Mahmood, Vice Chancellor of the University of the Punjab, was the chief guest of this dinner. A large number of students, particularly alumni, participated, making it a memorable event.



DEPARTMENT'S SPORTS GALA (21-23 FEB 2024)



The Department of History & Pakistan Studies organized its Annual Sports Gala at the end of February 2024. It was a three-day event with indoor sports on day one, Cricket and Football matches on day two- and Cultural activities on day three. The Gala was formally inaugurated by the worthy Chairman, Professor Dr. Mahboob Hussain, along with the entire faculty of the department. Overall, the students of the department enthusiastically participated in games. Such activities are an excellent way to make them learn and grow outside the monotonous routine of classes and lectures. On the last day, the students from various ethnic backgrounds organized stalls to display their culture through exhibitions, cultural dresses, music, and dances.



DEPARTMENT'S PHD STUDENTS GOT SELECTED FOR BRITISH ACADEMY WRITING WORKSHOP ORGANISED BY ROYAL HOLLOWAY AND GCU, LAHORE (19-21 FEBRUARY 2024)

It is a proud moment for the Department as four of its PhD students were selected to participate in the British Academy Writing Workshop, organized by Royal Holloway and GCU, Lahore, where they presented their research work.



DR. MARKUS DAECHSEL'S ENGAGING LECTURE AND WORKSHOP (26TH FEB 2024)

Department of History and Pakistan Studies arranged a special lecture. A large number of the audience attended the seminar. Prof. Dr. Mahboob Hussain, welcomes Dr. Markus Daechsel, an Associate Professor at the Department of History, School of Humanities, Royal Holloway University of London. Dr Markus is the author of two books on Pakistan, the politics of self-expression, Islamabad, and the politics of international development. He told about his exploration of magical practices in South Asia, spanning various historical periods.



Dr. Markus Daechsel also provided invaluable guidance to the students, empowering them to choose their research topics. The hands-on archive workshop, a key highlight of the event, was particularly beneficial for students eager to enhance their research skills. Dr. Markus's expert advice on navigating archives and extracting pertinent information was not only appreciated but also instilled confidence in the students.

Practical exercises, such as deciphering historical manuscripts and accessing archival materials, empowered students to apply learned techniques directly to their research projects. The seminar ended with a question-and-answer session.

DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED A CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL LANGUAGE DAY (27TH FEB 2024)



Regarding the National Language Day, a conference was organized in the history department, chaired by Professor Dr. Mahboob Hussain. The participants expressed their views on the importance of the Urdu language.

PROF. DR. SIKANDAR HAYAT'S LECTURE ON THE PAKISTAN RESOLUTION (22ND MARCH 2024)



The department organized a special talk concerning Pakistan Day on 23rd March 2024. Prof Dr Sikandar Hayat was the distinguished guest speaker. He addressed challenges or criticisms faced by the Pakistan Resolution, such as concerns about the feasibility of creating separate Muslim-majority states and the implications for minority rights. Then he sorrowfully explained that we do not prefer Regional writers and prefer foreign authors instead. He also clarified the misconceptions of leftists on the topic of the resolution of Pakistan. He talked about the dynamic and underrated role of Quaid e Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah regarding the independence movement. He reflected on the enduring legacy of the Pakistan Resolution in contemporary Pakistan and its continued relevance in shaping national identity and politics. The session concluded with a remarkable question-and-answer session, where the audience responded very well. Prof Dr Mahboob Hussain, chairman of the department, thanked the scholar.

PLANTING IN THE DEPARTMENT'S GARDEN (22ND MARCH 2024)



Eminent historians Prof. Sikander Hayat and Prof. Qamar Abbas planted saplings in the history department's green garden as part of the tree plantation campaign. They were accompanied by Chairman Prof. Mehboob Hussain and other faculty members.



QIRAAT AND NAAT COMPETITION (20TH MARCH 2024)

The Department organized a Naat and Qiraat Competition during the holy month of Ramzan, fostering a spirit of devotion and reverence among the participants. The event showcased remarkable talent, with students reciting beautiful Naats and Quranic verses. At the conclusion of the competition, Professor Dr.



Mahboob Hussain presented gifts to the winners, acknowledging their outstanding performances and dedication.

PROF DR KIRAN SIDDIQUI JOINED THE DEPARTMENT AS THE PROFESSOR (5TH MAY 2024)

The Department organized a faculty get-together at the PU Executive Club to welcome new colleague as the Prof. Kiran Siddiqui. The event provided an opportunity for faculty members to meet and interact with Dr. Siddiqui in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere. Her addition to the team was celebrated, and the evening was filled with engaging conversations, warm welcomes, and a shared commitment to academic excellence.



SHAPING THE FUTURE: DR. FAISAL BARI'S ANALYSIS OF EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND ITS IMPACT

(10TH MAY 2024)

The Department recently hosted Dr. Faisal Bari for an insightful discussion on the Current State of Education. During the session, Dr. Bari analysed the various policy decisions that have



contributed to the present condition of the educational system. The event highlighted the importance of informed policy-making in shaping the future of education.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL BAIT BAZI AND POEM COMPETITION

(18TH MAY 2024)

Jafar Ali Jafar, a student of the Department of History, won the second position in the inter-departmental Bait Bazi and Poem competition.



HISTORY DEPARTMENT'S PHD SCHOLAR MR. ABDUL SATTAR PRESENTED HIS WORK AT YALE MACMILLAN CENTER, NEPAL (29TH MAY 2024)



Mr. Abdul Sattar, a PhD scholar from the History Department, presented his research at the Yale MacMillan Centre in Nepal. His participation underscored the department's dedication to academic excellence and global engagement, contributing valuable insights to the international scholarly community.

RETIREMENT CEREMONY OF SALAMAT ULLAH (3RD JUNE 2024)

Department organized a farewell ceremony on the occasion of the retirement of Salamat Ullah who had served as the Naib Qasid.



DR. RIZWAN ZAMIR'S DISCUSSION ON 'GUARDING RELIGION IN MODERNITY' (7TH JUNE 2024)



The Department invited Dr. Rizwan Zamir, an Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Davidson College, USA, to present his ongoing project, "Guarding Religion in Modernity." His expertise and thought-provoking discussion enriched the audience's understanding of the intersection between religion and modernity, sparking meaningful dialogue and reflection.

PHD PUBLIC DEFENCE

- ★ Ms. Ma Zheng titled "Socio-Cultural History of Balochistan (1840-1940): A Case Study of Makran Division" (16th Jan 2024)
- ★ Ms. Chaman under the topic titled "Politics of Language in Pakistan: The Case for Urdu as an Official Language". (16th Jan 2024)
- ★ Mr. Zhang Naiwen titled "Mutual Influence between Gandhara Art and Buddhist Art in Northwest China from the fourth to sixth Centuries (1st March 2024)
- ★ Ms. Zhang Xuepei titled "National Identity and Cinema: Comparison of Chinese and Pakistani Films" (18th March 2024)
- ★ Mohammad Imran titled "The Evolving Expression of Self-Awareness in Pakistani Paintings" (3rd May 2024)
- ★ Mr. Yu Jinshan titled "Educational Policies in China and Pakistan: A Comparative Analysis, 1971-1999 (16th May 2024)
- ★ Mr. Yang Ming titled "Pak-China Cooperation in Cultural Heritage of Pakistan: A Case Study of Lahore Fort" (3rd June 2024)

REMEMBERING OUR PIONEERS

Prof. I. H. Qureshi is one of the leading historians of Pakistan and has been hailed as the creator of a "master-narrative for the history of Pakistan." He was born at Patiali, a small town in U.P. in 1902. He first got education in Muslim University Aligarh but later did M.A. History and M.A. Persian from St. Stephens College, Delhi. Because of his outstanding performance, he was appointed lecturer in St. Stephens College. He did his PhD from University of Cambridge writing his dissertation on the administration of the Sultans of Delhi. In Cambridge, he got associated with Chaudhry Rehmat Ali's Pakistan National Movement. After his return to India in 1940, he joined the Delhi University as Lecturer, later promoted to be Reader and then Professor. As Pakistan Movement was in full swing in those days, he fully supported the cause of All-India Muslim League and wrote many pamphlets as part of Pakistan Literature Series, including "The Development of Islamic Culture in India" and "The Future Development of Islamic Polity" in support of the demand for Pakistan. He developed close relations with Muslim League leadership and he was given Muslim ticket for contesting the 1946 elections for a Muslim seat from Bengal for the Central Legislative Assembly. As he won the elections, he was an eyewitness to the cataclysmic events resulting in the partition of India and creation of Pakistan. During the riots in Delhi, his house was surrounded and his library was burnt which had rare collection of history books and manuscripts. He with his family had to take refuge in Pakistan Embassy in Delhi and from there, he migrated to Pakistan.



Ishtiaq Hussain Qureshi,
Chairman of the Department
(1948-1949)

After coming to Pakistan, in November 1948, he got selected as Professor of History in University of the Punjab and he also became Head of the Department. However, he could continue with his academic work only for a few months as in February 1949, he was called by the Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan and was appointed as Cabinet Minister. Till 1954, he held different ministerial portfolios. He also played a leading role in the negotiations which led to the passing of Objectives Resolution. In 1954 when the Constituent Assembly was dissolved, he joined Columbia University as Professor of South Asian History. His five years' tenure in Columbia was academically the most fruitful period of his life in which he wrote some of his most important works.

In 1960, he returned to Pakistan as head of the newly established Islamic Research Institute but in 1961, he was appointed as Vice Chancellor of Karachi University which he served till 1971. During this period, he worked for the preservation of the historical material related to Quaid-i-Azam and Pakistan Movement and for the establishment of Freedom Movement Archives. In 1979, he was appointed Chairman of the newly created National Language Authority. On 22nd January 1981, he died in Islamabad due to cardiac arrest. For a long period of time, he remained associated with Pakistan Historical Society and Pakistan Historical Records and Archives Commission. For his services, he was awarded Sitar-i-Pakistan and Nishan-i-Imtiaz by the Government of Pakistan. His important works of history include:

- *The Administration of the Sultanate of Delhi* (Lahore: Sh. Muhammad Ashraf, 1942)
- *Pakistani Way of Life* (Karachi: Royal Book Company, 1956)
- *The Muslim Community of the Indo Pakistan Subcontinent* (Karachi: Karachi University, 1962)
- *The Struggle of Pakistan* (Karachi: Karachi University, 1965)
- *The Administration of the Mughal Empire* (Karachi: Karachi University, 1966)
- *Education in Pakistan: An Inquiry into Objectives and Achievements* (Karachi: Maaref, 1975)
- *Ulema in Politics* (Karachi: Ma'aref, 1976)
- *Akbar: The Architect of the Mughul Empire* (Karachi: Ma'aref, 1978)