

EVENTS IN 2023

Urdu Mushaira (6th of June 2023)

Department of Urdu organized a Mushaira under the auspices of Jammu University which was presided over by Pritpal Singh Betab, a famous poet of Jammu and Kashmir. Partpal Singh Bitab, Ahmed Shanas, Ashok Paras and Amin Banhali were present in this Mushaira. Professor Mohd Reyaz Ahmad, Head, Department of Urdu, University of Jammu, delivered the welcome speech and welcomed all the guests, poets and participants of the gathering. Renowned poets of Jammu and Kashmir won praise and appreciation from the participants by presenting quality poetry in the Mushaira. In presidential address, Pritpal Singh Bitab said that the tradition of mushairas has played a key role in the development of Urdu and promoting harmony in the society. Even though there is a decline in the tradition of mushairas at this time, Urdu institutions, associations and writers and poets need to play an active role to promote it. Shaam Taleb (Jammu), Ashok Paras (Doda), Ahmed Shanas (Rajouri), Amin Banhali (Jammu), Fauzia Mughal (Jammu), Engineer Aslam Shehzad (Kishtwar), Irfan Arif (Poonch), Naseem Akhtar (Jammu), Deep Sharma (Jammu), Gitika Kohli (Jammu), Asif Attaullah (Doda), Sheikh Altaf (Reasi), Vakil Hayat (Poonch), Ahmed Arsalan (Kishtwar), Jafar Tabish (Kishtwar), Mumtaz Ahmed Mumtaz (Rajouri), Imtiaz Ahmed Kaush (Rajouri), Ishtiaq Ahmed Aajiz (Kishtwar), Rajkumar Chandan (Jammu), Nasir Sohail Siddiqui (Bhaderwah) and others entertained the participants by presenting poetry. Dr. Akhtar Hussain performed the administrative duties on this occasion. During this time, Ahmed Hayat, Dr. Abdul Rasheed Minhas, Dr. Farhat Shamim, Dr. Chaman Lal, Dr. Abdul Qayyum, Dr. Raza Mahmood, Dr. Javaid Ahmad Shah, Dr. Ajaz Ahamad and a large number of students and scholars were present.

Two Day National Conference (16th - & 17th October 2023)

J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages in collaboration with Department of Urdu, University of Jammu organized Two Day National Urdu Conference on the topic "Socio-Cultural Challenges to Urdu Language & Literature" at Prof. Gian Chand Jain Seminar Hall, Deptt. Of Urdu, University of Jammu. Prof. Anwar Pasha, JNU preside over the inaugural function. Prof. Quddus Javed, Former Head, Deptt. Of Urdu, Kashmir University delivered keynote address. Bharat Singh Manhas Secretary, J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and Dr. Mohd Reyaz Ahmed also present in the presidium.

Prof. Quddus Javed in his keynote address in detail threw light on the Socio Cultural Challenges to Urdu Language & Literature.

In his presidential address Prof. Anwar Pasha congratulated J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages & the department of Urdu for organizing the national urdu conference on the vital topic.

Eminent journalist Anil Sehgal described Urdu is a sweet language. He said that to relate the Urdu with a particular religion is not true. Urdu language has a rich culture and civilization and has united India from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari.

Earlier in his welcome address Bharat Singh Manhas J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages welcomed the guests and audiences While Dr. Mohd Reyaz, HOD Urdu, University of Jammu threw light on Aims & Objectives of two day national Urdu conference.

An exhibition of books was organized J&K Academy of Art, culture and languages & department of Urdu by Qasmi Kutub Khana Talab Khatikan Jammu in the department of Urdu, University of Jammu. Zoofashan, a collection of urdu poetry of renowned poet of J&K Jb. Khurshid Bismil was also released on the occasion.

Two technical sessions were held in which various research papers writers within and outside the UT presented their papers. The Academic sessions were presided over by Prof. Anwar Pasha, Khalid Hussain & Anil Sehgal. The research papers readers which are included Dr. Nusrat Jabeen, Central University of Kashmir, Dr. Altaf Anjum, Directorate of Distance education Kashmir University, and Brij Nath Betab.

The papers which were presented on the occasion were according to the theme of the conference and threw light on the Socio-cultural challenges to Urdu language & Literature

Dr. Shahnawaz, Cultural Officer, J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages thanked the dignitaries, writers, civil society members & paper readers who presented their papers on the occasion.

Dr Farhat Shamim & Dr. Abdul Rashid Manhas Assistant Professors of the department of Urdu ably conducted the proceeding of the two day national Urdu conference.

After the completion of these two academic sessions an Urdu Mushaira & Music programme was also conducted in a jam-packed hall in which prominent poets of Urdu recite their poetry & Artists of J&K Academy of Art culture and languages presented music items.

Besides large number of students, scholars, college teachers, faculty members and civil society included Prof.Shohab Inayat Malik, Dr.Chaman Lal, Dr.Farhat Shamim, Dr.Abdul Qayoom, Dr.Javaid Ahmed Shah, Dr.Aijaz Ahmed, Dr.Parshotam Paul Singh, Scholars, College teachers and civil society members included Seema Anil Sehgal, Dr.Liaqat Jafri, Shafaq Sopuri, Prof.Asadullah Wani, Abdul Ghani Jagal, Dr.Daljeet Verma, Mohd Jahangir, Dr.Irfan Arif, Dr.Muqem Ansari, Lutu fur Rehman, Dr.Mohd Azam, Dr.Ashiq Choudhary, Dr.Mohd Saleem,Dr.Javed Iqbal, Umar,Farhat, Dr.Amjad Ali Babar, Dr.Abdul Haq Naimi, Dr.Mohd Shafiq, Dr.Mehmood Ahmed, Mehmood Chouhan,Dr.Iftkhar also attended the conference.

Urdu Day Celebration (9th & 10th November 2023)

A two-day celebration of Urdu was organized on the occasion of Urdu Day at Prof. Gian Chand Jain Seminar Hall, Jammu University under the auspices of the Department of Urdu, Jammu University. The inaugural session was presided over by the well-known writer Prof. Mohammad Zaman Aazurdha. On this occasion, well-known poet Ayaz Rasool Nazki, Professor Mohd Kazim of Delhi University, Professor Shohab Inayat Malik of Institute of Music & fine Arts Jammu University and Head of Urdu Department of Jammu University Professor Mohd Reyaz Ahmad were also present in the Presidium. Professor Mohd Reyaz Ahmad while delivering the welcome speech of the inaugural session welcomed the guests and congratulated the participants on Urdu Day. He also informed about the aims and objectives of the two-day celebration of Urdu and its activities. He said that this two-day celebration consists of Urdu essays, mushaira, discussion, bait bazi and ghazal in which scholars and students will actively participate. Prof. Mohammad Zaman Azarda said in his presidential address that it is a welcome thing to organize a two-day celebration of Urdu by the Urdu department to highlight the services of Urdu writers. He further said that Allama Iqbal was a universal poet and his services are unforgettable for the promotion of Urdu language and literature. He said that Abul Kalam Azad was a writer, politician and the country's first education minister. He has done excellent services for promoting education in the country. Dr. Ayaz Rasool Nazki congratulated the Department of Urdu, Jammu University for organizing a two-day celebration of Urdu He said that such events benefit the young generation. He further said that Urdu is a common language that is the bearer of civilization and culture. He also expressed his views on the importance of Allama Iqbal's poetry in the present era. Professor Muhammad Kazim expressed his opinion and said that Urdu has made its identity at the global level and this language actively participated in the war of independence. He said that Urdu people need to work unitedly to raise their voices for the development of Urdu and its rights. During the ceremony, Department of Urdu Jammu University honored the poet and teacher Pyare Hatash who is proficient in various languages including Urdu, Hindi and Kashmiri. On this occasion, President of Jammu University Professor Mohd Reyaz Ahmad presented a shawl and a bouquet and appreciated his services for the development of Urdu literature. Prof. Shohab Inayat Malik, Principal Institute of Music and Fine Arts, Jammu University, while presenting the vote of thanks, thanked the guest personalities, students and scholars for making the inaugural session of Jashan e Urdu a success. He

highlighted the importance of Urdu Day and appreciated the efforts made by the department to connect the new generation with Urdu language and literature. He also said that Urdu students benefit a lot from such events. Meanwhile, Dr. Farhat Shamim performed the duties of organizing the inaugural session. After the opening ceremony, various activities including essay contest, discussion contest, story contest, and mushaira contest was done

Book Release Function (20th of November 2023)

The department of Urdu, University of Jammu and Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society (Regd.) today jointly organized a book release function in the Prof.Gian Chand Jain Seminar Hall of department of Urdu,University of Jammu. The English poetry collection titled "MOUNTAIN MUSINGS" written by Surat Singh (JKAS) was released by Prof.Sucheta Pathania, Dean Faculty of Arts,University of Jammu. Prof.Shohab Inayat Malik, President Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society Jammu, Prof.Mohd Reyaz Ahmad, HOD Urdu, Univ. of Jamm, Dr.Sadaf Shah, Associate Professor, Deptt. Of English , JU & author of the book Surat Singh also graced the presidium. At the outset Prof.Shohab Inayat Malik introduce the author to the audience. He said that Surat Singh, though is a senior bureaucrat but still he has great love to language & literature. He started his poetic journey of writing during school days when he wrote some Urdu ghazals & English poetry also and got name & fame in both the languages.

Prof.Mohd Reyaz Ahmad presented the welcome address, he thanked Surat Singh for providing opportunity to Urdu department & RJML Society for organizing the book release function. He requested the author to publish his Urdu poetry also.

Dr.Sadaf Shah presented a detailed review paper on the book "MOUNTAIN MUSINGS". She inform that poems which have been included in the book depict the nature, love, complexities of life & mutual brotherhood.

While speaking on the occasion Surat Singh inform that the journey of writings started at early age and he wrote a poem titled "The Nation". He also inform that he has written 1000 poems in Urdu & equally in English.Has He laurel both the languages. He further inform that he is planning to publish his Urdu poetic collection very soon.

Prof. Sucheta Pathania in his presidential address congratulated Surat Singh for bringing the collection of poems. She said that after studying these poems she was impressed & inspired very much. Though she is not writing poetry but this collection of Surat Singh has definitely inspire me to write poems in English. He must encourage budding poets & artists said Sucheta Pathania.

The proceedings of the programme was conducted by Prof.Shohab Inayat Malik While vote of thanks was presented by Dr.Chaman Lal. A large no. of students, scholars, faculty members, respectable citizens attended the book release function.

International Seminar. (20th & 21st December 2023)

The department of Urdu, University of Jammu today organized two day international seminar on the topic “*Jagan Nath Azad and his comtemporary Poets*” at Prof.Gian Chand Jain Seminar Hall of the department. The thought provoking keynote address was delivered by a well known fiction writer Jnb Ayaz Rasool Nazki, Prof.Manzar Hussain (Ranchi University Jharkhand) presided over the function. Prof.Neelu Rohmetra Dean Research Studies, University of Jammu was the Chief Guest while Allymamod Asuf grace the occasion as Guest of honour.Prof.Mohd Reyaz Ahmad HOD Urdu,University of Jammu was also in presidium.

Ayaz Rasool Nazki in his keynote address in detail threw light on the role of Jagan Nath Azad in the development of Urdu Language & Literature.

In his presidential address Prof.Manzar Hussain congratulated the department of Urdu for organizing the international seminar on the vital topic. He said that Jagan Nath Azad has served in the Department of Urdu ,University of Jammu for decades & remain as HOD from 1977 to 1983. Azad was born on 5 December 1920 in the small town of Isa Khel in Mianwali District, Punjab(Now in Pakistan). The District became part of Pakistan after the partition of India in 1947. He inherited his love of Urdu literature from his father, Tilok Chand Mehroom ó was the close companion of syed Hashim Raza, Syed Moeenuddin Jafri_UL_Chishti, Shabeer Hassan Khan (known as Josh Malihabadi) himself a poet of renown ó who introduced him to Urdu poetry via Diwan-e-Ghalib and took him to mushairas in which he participated. The first such event resulted in the young Azad meeting Hafeez Jalandhari for the first time and being presented with a copy of Hindustan Hamara, which he read, cherished and re-read over the years.

In his address Prof.Neelu Rohmetra said that Jagan Nath Azad joined the Government of India's Ministry of Labour as Editor of Employment News in 1948. A few months later he applied for, and secured one of the three posts of Assistant Editor (Urdu) with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting's Publications Division. He was promoted to Information Officer (Urdu) in 1955. Subsequently, he served as IO (U) in the Ministry of Food & Agriculture; the Ministry of Tourism Shipping & Transport, and the Ministry of Works & Housing with a brief return to the Ministry of I & B (1964ó65) and as the first Public Relations Officer in the Ministry of Home Affairs for the newly created Border Security Force. On promotion to Deputy Principal Information Officer, he joined the Government of India's Press Information Bureau and served in both the New Delhi & Srinagar offices. He remained in Srinagar on promotion to Director of Public Relations in 1973 and retired from the PIB & the Government Service in 1977.

In his address Dr.Allymohamad Adil said that After retirement from the Government Service in 1977, Azad accepted University of Jammu's offer of Headship of the Department of

Urdu and the post of Professor at the University of Jammu. This posting provided him the atmosphere and the opportunity to spread his literary & academic wings. It is here that he produced the translation of Allama Iqbal's Javed Nama and undertook the massive task of writing Allama's biography (Roodad-e-Iqbal) in five volumes. Roodad-e-Iqbal, Volume I was compiled and published by Amin Banjara, a well-known writer, critic, research scholar and a close associate of Azad in 2005 and released by Begum Vimla Azad. Roodad-e-Iqbal, Volume II (646 pages), completed shortly before his death, is also compiled by Amin Banjara in book form and ready for publication. Amin Banjara is also working on Azad's Interviews and his letters. Unfortunately, research material & manuscripts of volumes III ó V of Roodad-e-Iqbal were destroyed in the flood of 1988. Azad found it impossible to reconstruct the lost manuscripts. The University honoured him with the award of Deanship of the Faculty of Oriental Learning in 1980 and Emeritus Fellowship in 1984. It also facilitated his literary work with the provision of accommodation and staff till his demise. The DLit degrees awarded by the Universities of Jammu & Kashmir to him and the 10+ books & numerous research articles written about him are testimony to Azad's impact on the literary circles of both India and Pakistan.

Earlier in his welcome address Prof. Mohd Reyaz Ahmed, HOD Urdu threw light on aims & Objectives of the international seminar and also welcomed the guests and audiences.

Dr. Farhat Shamim, Asstt. Professor of the Urdu department, University of Jammu, conducted the proceedings of the program while vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Abdul Rashid Manhas, Assistant Professor of the department of Urdu, University of Jammu.

An exhibition of books was organized by Qasmi Kutub Khana Talab Khatikan Jammu in the department of Urdu, University of Jammu.

The two-day international seminar concluded with a valedictory lecture and academic sessions. On the second day of the seminar, academic meetings were held in the presence of a galaxy of writers, poets, intellectuals, university and college teachers, students, scholars and civil society members, in which the speakers expressed their views on Jagan Nath Azad and his contemporary poets. The services for the promotion of Urdu language and literature were discussed. Apart from Bangladesh, Mauritius, Nepal, various states of India as well as delegates and writers from Jammu and Kashmir UT congratulated the department of Urdu Jammu University for organizing an international seminar on an important topic. . On this occasion, Prof. Ghulam Rabbani Bangladesh, Prof. Mushtaq Ahmed Ganai Kashmir, Prof. Muhammad Kazim Delhi, Khalid Hussain, Prof. Manzar Hussain Ranchi, Dr. Abdul Mubeen Nepal, Dr. Shahab Azmi, Dr. Asif Ali Adil Mauritius. During this time, the essayists who presented articles on various topics included Dr. Abdul Mubeen Nepal, Dr. Asif Ali Adil Mauritius, Prof. Manzar Hussain, Prof. Shahab Zafar Azmi, HOD of the Department of Urdu Patna University, Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed Delhi, Dr. Shafi Ayub. JNU, Dr. TaShana Mauritius, Dr. Asadullah Wani, Dr. Rashid Aziz, Prof. Shafaq Sopoori, Dr. Qudsia Anjum, Jamia Millia Islamia, Dr. Shahnaz Qadri, TR Raina, Dr. Ashiq Raza, Dr. Mohiuddin Zor .

Dr. Abdul Rasheed Minhas and Prof. Mohd Reyaz Ahmad conducted the organizing duties of the first and second meetings respectively and the vote of thanks was given by Prof. Mohd Reyaz Ahmad.

Later, Urdu Musharia was also organized in which famous poets presented to the audience by presenting its share creations. On this occasion, the famous poets, Ahmad Shias, Saqib Harooni and Nasir Aziz jointly prsesider over the function. Meanwhile, Director Directorate of Distance and Online Learning Professor Pankaj Shirvastava was special guest. The poets who presented their Poetry were Sema Anil Single, Mubarak Lone, Gitaka Kholi, Garov Kumar, Sukiq Ahmed, Shaykh Altaf, Anil Singh Chark, Naseem Chaudhry, Tariq Raza, Ashok Paras, Irfan Arif Muhammad Nazir , Ahmad Imtiyaz , Nasir Aziz, Nasir Sohail Siddiqui, Engineer Aslam Shahzad, Pervez Malik, Liaqat Jafri, Dr. Rashid Aziz, , Shafaq Soopori, Saqib Haoorni Nepal, Amin Banahali , Pritpaul Singh Beetab , Ayaz Rasool Nazki etc. On this occasion, Jagan Nath's daughters Poonam Azad and Mukta lal were present . Also Sema Anal Seghal , Anil Sagal, Dr. Chaman Lal,Dr . Abdul Rashid Manhas, Dr. Farhat Shamim, Dr. Abdul Qayyum, Dr. Parshotam Paul Singh , DrAjaz Ahmed, Dr. Javaid Ahmad Shah, Khalid Hussein, Aslam Qureshi, Ghulam Server Chuhan, Salam Din, Javed Rahi , students scholars, college teachers, faculty members and civil society members were in large numbers. Head department of Urdu , Prof Mohd Reyaz Ahma thanked the students, civil society members, to make this international seminar successful.