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Aisam Visits his Alma Mater

Aisamul Haq Qureshi Pakistan's ace tennis star and former student of GC University Lahore, visited his alma mater, where the university's Sports Board hosted a reception in the honour of US Open double's finalist. Prof. Khalid Aftab, the Vice Chancellor presided the ceremony which was attended by a large number of Old Ravians, GCU faculty members and the parents and friends of Aisam-ul-Haq.

Addressing the reception, Aisam-ul-Haq said that he owed his success to his alma mater and teachers who during his college life always encouraged him to play professional tournaments at the national and international level. He said, "I think that was the support which elevated my confidence and backed me in the pursuance of my goals". Recalling his college days, Aisam proudly said that he is a recipient of Roll of Honour and a Gold Medal in Tennis from GC University Lahore. He said, "While playing for GC, I also won the Inter-Collegiate Tennis Championship in the year 1997-1998".

He said he is proud to be "Ravain" and "Pakistani". He thanked the GCU Vice Chancellor, Old Ravians Union and Sports Board for giving such a warm reception in his honour.

Prof Aftab while speaking at the ceremony said, Aisam is now also acknowledged as an Ambassador of Peace Pakistan — something that we wish every Ravain to be. The Vice Chancellor also said that the university is compiling its 146-year sports history in which Aisam ul Haq's name will prominently appear.

Vice Chancellor advises students to focus on education

Prof. Khalid Aftab the Vice Chancellor advised the newly admitted students to focus completely on their education for prosperity of country.

Addressing the orientation ceremony for the newly-admitted FA/FSc students, the Vice Chancellor said GCU provides freedom of expression, all kinds of curricular and co-curricular activities and congenial learning environment to the students so that they could equip themselves with all the norms of academic institution like GCU. Prof. Khalid Aftab called the GCU motto "Courage to Know" the motto of enlightenment which means 'sharing knowledge', not imposing knowledge. He said, "Every person has his own faith, ideas and knowledge. It is not necessary that you should agree with them. However, you should respect their knowledge and ideas."

GCU would continue its financial support for deserving students

The GCU will not leave its deserving students in the lurch and despite all the financial constraints would make all possible efforts to provide financial aid to them, said the Vice Chancellor, while addressing members of the Higher Education Commission at the GCU Fazal-e-Hussain Reading Room. The HEC team led by its Adviser Dr. Riaz Hussain Qureshi visited the university to discuss scholarships/financial aid for the university's students.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Aftab said in the wake of ongoing financial crunch when the Higher Education is being pushed downward on the priority list, the public sector universities are in dire need to generate money from their own resources for survival. He said that the options which are available to the universities include fee raise, industry funding and finding the donors for building Endowment Funds.

Addressing the ceremony, HEC Adviser Dr. Riaz Hussain Qureshi said that the opportunity of acquiring higher education is available only to the 5 percent of 20 million youth of the country. He said that unfortunately Pakistan is spending only 0.23 percent of its GDP on higher education. However, he said that despite all the constraints, HEC is arranging scholarships for the bright and talented students of the country with the help of international donor agencies. He believed that supporting a youth in education means changing the life of whole family.

A large number of scholarship awardees attended the ceremony and briefed the participants about their success stories.

GCU Students grab top slots in Intermediate Results: Aun tops over all by securing 1041 Marks

The GC University Lahore outshined all her sister institutions in the Intermediate Examinations 2010. The University bagged overall 10 positions with her student Muhammad Ali Aun, who won the overall top position among 141,467 boys and girls. Ali Aun scored 1041 marks out of total 1100. The overall second position also went to the GCU student Samran Asim with 1031 marks. Top three position holders of all the groups were given cash awards with gold medals. Those who stood first in their groups were given Rs 20,000 and gold medal. Those who secured second and third positions got Rs 15,000 with a silver medal and Rs 10,000 with bronze medal respectively. Muhammad Ali Aun as overall topper was also given Rs 20,000, a gold medal and a Pentium 4 Computer.
He also said that it was due to the students' unflinching commitment to their studies as well as the invaluable pedagogical input of the highly-qualified GCU faculty that the university has been declared the best institution every year since 1992.

Prof. Walter Russell Mead said Pakistan have a regional approach while America has a global agenda. He said that it is a common perception in Pakistan that US is a "superpower" and can dictate any country of the world to do anything. Pakistanis believe that if the US asks India to withdraw forces from Kashmir, the later would do it. However, Prof. Walter Russell Mead said, reality is altogether different and even Pakistan refused to agree with the United States on several occasions.

The US expert said that the US foreign policy is less centralized and carries methods to identify the national interests while on the other hand, Pakistan's policies are more closely held with central authorities of the state.

In reply to questions by GCU students, Prof. Mead said that economically strong, democratic and enlightened Pakistan is in the interest of the United States for which the both countries are working. He said that this year, the largest number of Fulbright scholars is from Pakistan. He said "It is yet another step to bring the people of both countries closer." In reply to another question regarding US foreign policy towards India, he said that the regional importance of India cannot be denied. The lecture was appreciated by the students and faculty members of GC University Lahore.

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Development (USAID) had invested over $600 million to reform and revitalize Pakistan’s education system since 2002. She said that assistance to Pakistan for education went back to 1950s when US provided resources for the establishment of Peshawar University and Institute of Business Administration, Karachi and sent faculty to teach there. She said that US has been providing assistance of billions of rupees for establishing and developing academic institutions and research centres in Pakistan. Addressing the GCU Welfare Society members, Ms. Conroy said that she is impressed by the human resource in Pakistan and combined with the incredible physical advantages that Pakistan possesses, rich land, strategic location, ports — there is no reason why Pakistan cannot be an economic and cultural giant. She assured the students that assistance to Pakistan for education would be increased. She also said that that US would invite 100 Pakistani students to spend a semester on the US campuses under the Youth Exchange and Study Programme. US for one-year technical degree through the Near East and South Asia Undergraduate Programme, 110 students would be invited to the American High Schools and they will live with the American host families as part of the Youth Exchange and Study Programme. US diplomat also revealed that the there are plans to bring up 30 US scholars on the Fulbright Specialist Program on short term trips to Pakistan to serve as expert consultants on curriculum, faculty development and other related programmes.

**GCU signs agreement with Descon**

The Department of Chemistry, GC University Lahore recently signed an agreement with Descon Chemicals Limited to provide expertise and technology for industrial production of chemicals being currently used in Pakistan. The agreement was signed by Prof. Ikram ul Haq, Dean Faculty of Science and Technology on behalf of GC University Lahore and Mr. Taimur Dawood, Chief Executive of Descon Chemicals Limited. The technology and expertise transfer agreement between Descon and GCU is the first technology transfer agreement of its kind signed between a local university and industry in Pakistan. According to the subject of agreement a team comprising of Prof. Mohammad Saeed Iqbal, Dr. Ahmad Adnan and Dr. Fahim A. Qureshi from GCU will provide technical assistance to Descon for manufacturing and improving quality of industrial chemicals based on indigenous technology developed by GC University Lahore.

Prof. Khalid Aftab, the Vice Chancellor expressed his confidence in the indigenous research and trouble shooting capabilities of faculty at GC University Lahore where new processes and working solutions are being developed for the local industry.

The Vice Chancellor congratulated the researchers on the completion of their highest degrees.

However, he advised the students that PhD should not be their final goal, rather it should be the beginning of a new goal for them.

**GCU raises Rs 7.0 Million for deserving students and sets up Teachers’ Training Fund**

The GCU Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU EFT) Lahore has set up Teachers Training Fund with seed money of Rs 2.0 million donated by the trust president, Mr Iqbal Z. Ahmed. Besides, the trust also raised an amount of Rs 7.0 million for deserving students. The amount was raised at a fundraising ceremony chaired by Prof. Khalid Aftab Vice Chancellor GCU, while Barrister Ch. Aitzaz Ahsan was the chief guest on this occasion. David Walters, former governor, Oklahoma USA also attended the GCU EFT fundraiser and donated Rs 1.3 million for initiating scholarships for deserving students. Ch Aitzaz Ahsan announced a donation of Rs 0.1 million for the GCU proposed campaign for flood victims. Justice Khawaja Sharif, Justice Saqib Nisar, Mian Misbaur Rehman Gymkhana Club Chairman, Naveed Saeed PTCL Senior Vice President, Asher Nazir, Altaf Khan and Mian Anwar were among the noted Old Ravians who sent donations for deserving students at the GCU fundraiser.

**GCU awards PhD degrees to its Scholars**

GC University Lahore awarded PhD in the fields of Political Science, Urdu, Botany and Physics.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Ijaz Ahmed Khan</td>
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<td>Rehana Kausar</td>
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Addressing a large gathering of donors, Prof. Khalid Aftab said that around 2,100 GCU students apply for financial aid every year and due to limited financial resources it becomes difficult for the university to accommodate all the students. He said Endowment Fund Trust was established to bridge the gap. He said that last year GCU gave scholarships of Rs 11 million to deserving students from its annual budget and would continue with the practice. He said that GCU as a public sector university always tries to avoid increase in its fee structure. The Vice Chancellor also told the donors that GCU within eight years of its inception has been ranked the best university of Lahore in terms of research output besides securing 5th position among all the private and public sector universities of Pakistan.

Iqbal Z. Ahmed President GCU EFT said that Trust is also planning to hold fundraisers in Karachi, UAE and UK. He also announced initiating a lifetime golden scholarship with a donation of Rs 1 million from Zohra and Iqbal Z Ahmed Foundation. The scholarship would be given to a student on merit every year.

Barrister Atizaz Ahsan, the Chief Guest said secular lessons have always been the key element of education at the Government College Lahore. He said that GCU teachers have always encouraged questioning, difference of opinion and argument, besides teaching tolerance to students; tolerance towards the beliefs, faith, race, religion and ideas of other people. Later, Prof. Khalid Aftab, Ch Atizaz Ahsan and GCU EFT President Iqbal Z Ahmed gave way shields to the donors of the GCU endowment fund.

Warid helps GCU deserving students
The Warid Telecom Wednesday joined hands with the GC University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU EFT) to support bright and deserving students of the university in completing their education and donated Rs. 8,00,000/- to the fund. Warid Telecom Sales and Distribution Head Amer Aman Khan handed over the cheque to Dean of Arts and Social Sciences at a graceful ceremony.

GCU EFT initiates Sikandar M Khan Scholarship
The GC University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust announced Sikandar M. Khan Silver Scholarship, which would be given to a deserving student on merit every year. Noted businessman and Old Ravians Union member Skindar M Khan donated Rs 500,000 to the trust for the scholarship. EFT Executive Committee Secretary informed that it is a perpetual scholarship and would meet the academic fee of a deserving student every year, he said it is the 23rd scholarship initiated by an Old Ravian in addition to "A golden scholarship initiated with the donation of Rs one million and covers the university fee as well as hostel expenses of a student while a silver scholarship covers the university fee only."

The Vice Chancellor expressed pleasure on the donations, saying that nothing can match the happiness which comes after helping the deserving human beings. He appreciated the efforts of the Old Ravians Union members actively taking part in supporting and strengthening the endowment fund of the University.

GCU holds Mehfil-e-Qirat by Iranian Group
The Department of Islamic Studies and Persian jointly organised a Mehfil-e-Qirat in collaboration with the Iranian Consulate, Lahore. A noted Iranian group, Twashiq, recited the verses of Holy Quran at the Mehfil-e-Qirat, which was attended by a large number of students and teachers.

HEC & British Council nominates Aqueel Imtiaz Wahga as Master Trainer
Aqueel Imtiaz Wahga, Assistant Professor of Economics, GC University, Lahore is nominated as Master Trainer by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan and the British council, Pakistan under International Strategic Partnerships in Research and Education (INSPIRE) Programme. He will conduct three training workshops on Building Sustainable Research Networks at GC University, Lahore from September to December 2010. The purpose of the workshops is Capacity Building of early stage researchers to enhance the indigenous research culture in Pakistan.

Two-Week workshop at GCU
Entrepreneurships should be encouraged to end unemployment in the country. Research, interaction, financial modeling, negotiations skills and decision making are the key five factors for the success of a new business. It was stated by experts at a two-week workshop on 'Entrepreneurship Development and Business Creation Exercise in Pakistan' at the GC University Lahore.

The training workshop, conducted by reputed trainers including Syed Almas Hydar; Synthetic Fibers MD, Imtiaz Khalid, Petrotec International Chief Executive and Director Rafiq Jaffer, Institute of Social Sciences, was organized by the department of Economics to create awareness among future entrepreneurs about the key elements of entrepreneurial behavior. The experts said Pakistan is the market of 170 million people which in itself an opportunity for the new businessmen and industrialists.

Addressing the concluding ceremony, Asif Saeed, Chairperson, Department of Economics GCU said that the dearth of the entrepreneurial and managerial skill is one of the most common problems being confronted by all under developed countries like Pakistan. He said Entrepreneurship should be encouraged to help alleviate the problem of unemployment, overcome stagnation through innovation and to increase the competitiveness and growth of business and industries in an economy.

Pakistan's noted entrepreneurs including Nagina Group Director Shaukat Ellahi Shaikh, Emtecs Managing Director Tariq Rehman, K.M Ashraf and Sons (Pvt) Limited CEO Musharraf Iqbal Khawaja and Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Industry former president Rana Shahzad Hafeez also shared their experiences with the participants.

Prof. Khalid Pervaiz, Dean of Arts & Social Sciences / Language and Oriental Learning gave away the certificates to the participants of the course. He said this activity will pave the way for the would-be entrepreneurs to develop and grow new businesses.

ASSMS puts Pakistani Mathematics on World Map
Abdus Salam School of Mathematics Sciences (ASSMS) puts the Pakistani Mathematics on the World map, as the European
Mathematical Society (EMS) has acknowledged the school as the Emerging Regional Centre of Excellence (ERCE) for its contributions to research at the international level. The recognition implies that young scholars from the developing countries will receive support from the European Union (EU), UNESCO and other international organizations to enroll at GCU ASSMS for advanced studies in diverse areas of Mathematical Sciences. The European Mathematical Society will also get the School European funding for its further improvement and reinforcement. The Mathematical Society has expressed its desire to send their senior mathematicians to the GCU ASSMS for disseminating their knowledge to its faculty and students. The decision to acknowledge GCU ASSMS as the Emerging Regional Centre of Excellence came at a joint meeting of EMS Committee for Developing Countries (CDC) and UNESCO in Budapest. Only three institutions from all over the World are acknowledged by EMS as Emerging Regional Centres of Excellence. The other two are in India and Vietnam. Dr. Sohail Naqui, the Executive Director, HEC, Pakistan said, “The school has indeed put Mathematics on the map of Pakistan and the Pakistani Mathematics on the map of the world.” He added that he felt great pride at this prestigious achievement. However, Prof. Michel Waldschmidt, the Vice Chancellor of EMS-CDC and Institute de Mathematiques, Paris predicted that Mathematical Sciences have a bright future in Pakistan. He said that the EMS would also provide funds to GCU ASSMS for research, since teaching without any research is not at all desirable, even at graduate level.

Hameed Ullah Jan Afridi, Federal Minister for Environment, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The federal minister laid stress on raising awareness among the people about environment related issues. He said "environmental degradation is not a natural calamity, it is something which is directly related to us, caused by us and can only be preserved by us.” Prof Khalid Aftab said education in 21st century had become highly innovative and the biggest challenge was to make the interdisciplinary research more and more productive. He motivated the researchers by saying that the scientists at Kew Gardens had saved the smallest water lily from extinction, as the tiny plant had vanished from its own known hot spring’s location in Africa.

The day went on with opening ceremony of Secretariat, and a day long Seminar. Prof. Khalid Aftab, Vice Chancellor, Hameed Ullah Jan Afridi, Federal Minister for Environment, and Prof. A. U. Khan were present at the inaugural session of the seminar. The seminar was organized to highlight the importance of designating the remnants of natural plant communities, entitled; ‘Conserving and Restoring the Undesignated Remnants of Natural Plant Communities’ that included remnants of Harappa Forest, Butea Forest and Birch Forest. The sessions comprised of Poster Presentations by the faculty members and the Researchers of SDSC, and technical session on “Candidate Species of Site of Special Botanic Interest (SSBI).”, which were presented as case studies.

The new initiative of Secretariat is the awareness programme through botanic gardens that is “Education for sustainable development: school education programme”.

**Inauguration of Pakistan Botanic Garden Network Secretariat**

GC University Lahore has established Pakistan Botanic Gardens Network Secretariat (PBGN) in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment for developing links with national and international botanic gardens. Botanic gardens play a vital role in conservation and sustainable use of plant resources. Prof. Amin Ul Haq Khan, Director SDSC is also Director of Pakistan Botanic Gardens Network Secretariat, who laid the foundation of this network in year 2006 in Lahore Declaration. The building of PBGN is constructed in Botanic Garden of GC University Lahore. It includes lecture room, herbarium, laboratory, and seminar room. A beautiful greenhouse is established besides the secretariat building. The secretariat is helping in establishing botanic gardens of different colleges and universities all over the country.

**A Seminar on “Creating Demonstration Sites For Conservation of Dry-Land Ecosystems”**

Botanic Garden Conservation International (BGCI) UK is a non-governmental organization, working world wide for the conservation of plants by involving various Botanic Gardens as partners. In Pakistan the initiatives for the conservation of native...
forests have been taken by Pakistan Botanic Gardens Network Secretariat (PBGN) and Sustainable Development Study Centre (SDSC) GCU Lahore. In order to support these efforts BGCI is sponsoring the project “Conservation of Dry Land Ecosystems in Punjab”. The project aims to restore the population of native forest species in Harappa, (Salvadora oleoides, Tamarix aphylla, Capparis decidua and Prosopis cineraria) Soan valley (Olea cuspidata and Acacia modesta) and Shakargarh (Butea monosperma). These species are already threatened and need immediate measures for conservation. The project also aims to involve the local communities for enhancing the popularity of these species. On the launching ceremony of the project, a seminar on "Creating Demonstration Sites (In Situ) for Conservation of Dry-Land Ecosystems" was organized by the Pakistan Botanic Garden Network Secretariat (PBGN), GCU Lahore. The experts from the Forest Department Government of Punjab and Sustainable Development Study Centre discussed the issues regarding the implementation of the project. The chief guest on this occasion Mr. Babar Hassan Bharwana, Secretary Forestry, Fisheries and Wild Life, Government of the Punjab, who appreciated the concern of PBGN for the decline of indigenous vegetation and promised to extend all support and cooperation of the Forestry Department. Prof. Amin Ul Haq Khan, Director PBGN explained on this occasion that the seminar aims to develop relationship between academia and government organizations and we consider foresters as our natural partners for the conservation of these plant communities. The seminar was attended by conservators and foresters of Punjab and representatives from WWF Pakistan.

Memorandum of
Understanding between
Punjab Emergency Service (Rescue 1122) and
Department of Clinical Psychology
Department of Clinical Psychology, GCUL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Punjab Emergency Service (Rescue 1122), in a special ceremony. The Vice Chancellor, GCU and Director General, from Punjab Emergency Service (Rescue 1122) signed the agreement.

Rescue 1122 has engaged the expertise of GCU clinical psychologists to work on post-traumatic stress among rescue workers and to develop modern psychological test system for selection of right people in the life saving emergency services.

The GCU and Rescue 1122 have also pledged to work for the development of safer communities in Pakistan through research projects and joint practical initiatives including conferences, workshops, awareness, training programmes and seminars. Both the parties have also pledged to share resources, knowledge and expertise for carrying out the above mentioned joint projects. They would also conduct behaviour studies of communities to prevent road traffic accidents and injuries. However, the Vice Chancellor said that the University professors and researchers should also work with the Punjab Emergency Service officials to manage post-traumatic stress among public after emergency or disaster.

Prof. Zahid Mahmood, Director, Department of Clinical Psychology briefed the members about the psychological tests developed for the Pakistan Air Force and further said that now a days the department is working with the PAF for controlling stress management in pilots. He hoped that the new psychological test system which their Department will develop for Rescue 1122 would help in selection of right people in the life saving emergency services and would also reduce the drop-out percentage of rescue workers. Director, Academic Planning and External Links said that under the agreement, the Rescue 1122 would also provide internship and research opportunities for students of GCU. She also said that the Rescue 1122 accidents, fire incidents and crime cases data would also be available to GCU students for research. The GCU and Rescue 1122 also planned to hold a seminar in the University on the issue of “street justice.”

Seminar on Enterprising Research through UIP
The Department of Academic Planning and External Links GCU organized the first ever seminar on ‘Enterprising Research through the University-Industry Portal (UIP)’ in collaboration with the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) and Institute of Research Promotion (IRP) to motivate researchers and universities to develop demand-driven researches and sell them to the local industry to generate revenue. The training sessions for researchers regarding the use online UIP developed by LCCI and IRP as a direct communication link between the researchers and industrialists were carried out. The researchers were briefed about the methods of marketing their research through UIP.

Addressing the seminar, Prof. Khalid Aftab laid a stress in developing the research culture in Pakistani universities. He said that the bulk of the researches were undertaken as part of the requirements for the completion of master’s and doctoral degrees.

Prof. Aftab said, "Opportunities and incentives can play important role in motivating researchers and developing the culture of research,"

Dr. Farid A. Malik, the former Chairman Pakistan Science foundation while addressing the seminar said, “Pakistan has a huge potential. Its research centres and universities have enough knowledge and researches, what we all need is to transform this knowledge into technology through academia-industry partnership.”

Discussing the window of opportunities for universities provided by LCCI, Mr. Faisal Iqbal Sheikh, Vice President LCCI said that Chamber is committed to making an effective contribution to the nation’s economic development through the promotion of trade, industry and research. He said that they have developed UIP to facilitate the researchers and universities to market their research and now its time for them to make a maximum utilization out of it. He said that LCCI would take more steps to bring the industry and academia to each other.

The CEO of IRP said that their institute is bridging the gap among the universities, research institutes, public and corporate sector by developing the culture of creating and sharing knowledge. The CEO Life Technology brought the attention of researchers towards Biotechnology, Global
Warming and Green Technologies, saying that the earth temperature was going to rise by one degree celsius in the 25 years and would reduce the productivity of the land of warm countries like Pakistan.

**Painting Exhibitions at Minhas Art Gallery**

Addressing the reference, Dr. Saleem Akhtar said that that inequality, cruelty, injustice and corruption heightened the disappointment and sorrows of Farkhanda Lodhi and writing was the only means of ventilation.

The late writer's husband, a noted writer, Prof. Sabir Lodhi said Farkhanda believed that women refine society and a country cannot make progress where a woman is supposed to walk a step behind man. Prof. Sabir Lodhi told the audience that Farkhanda wrote 'Parvati' in reaction to the Indo-Pak war of 1965, as she was deeply depressed by the situation of the two countries and her emotions came out in the form 'Parvati'.

Saisha Khan shared with the audience the very last moments that she spent with her mother.

The Chief Librarian, GCU said she was instrumental in the introduction and refinement of the service structure for the librarians, serving in the public sector of Pakistan. Farkhanda Lodhi was student of MA English at the Government College for 1972-74 and first female librarian of the GC from 1993-98. He also highlighted the managerial qualities of Farkhanda Lodhi, saying that as the Chief Librarian at the Government College Lahore, Lodhi rearranged the library's 150 years old record and preserved the centuries-old books for the generations to come. He said that she automated all the record of the library with the help of few students and colleagues in just two years as the services of IT specialists were not available to the library at that time.

Prof. Nabeela Kiyani paying tribute to the works of Farkhanda Lodhi said the birth of a novelist reflects the cultural level of the society "It shows that the people in that society are not selfish and they feel of the sufferings of other people".

Prof. Saadat Saeed said that the death of Farkhanda Lodhi came as a big blow to the feminism movement in Pakistan as the renowned Urdu and Punjabi writer was the prominent voice of women in the country. He said that Farkhanda Lodhi was equally popular with Punjabi circles in India also.

Tariq Zaidi, Adviser, Majlis-e-Iqbal stated that Farkhanda Lodhi was equally popular with Punjabi circles in India also.

**GCU literati pay tribute to Farkhanda Lodhi**

Majlis-e-Iqbal paid a glowing tribute to Farkhanda Lodhi former Chief Librarian Government College Lahore and a noted Punjabi and Urdu fiction writer and a recipient of President's Pride of Performance, at a national reference held in N.M. Rashid Auditorium Postgraduate Library. Prof. Saleem Akhtar chaired the reference which was attended by a large number of scholars and students from all over the country. The family members of late Farkhanda Lodhi including her husband Prof. Sabir Lodhi and daughter Saisha Khan also spoke on the occasion.

In his message, Prof. Khalid Aftab said that Farkhanda Lodhi knew the art of surprising her readers. "She makes them share the same pain and feelings that was felt by her characters," Prof. Khalid Aftab also paid tribute to the services rendered by her to Government College Library. The Vice Chancellor said that Farkhanda's contributions to Urdu and Punjabi literature have been acknowledged by contemporary literary critics at large.

The Chief Librarian, GCU said she was instrumental in the introduction and refinement of the service structure for the librarians, serving in the public sector of Pakistan. Farkhanda Lodhi was student of MA English at the Government College for 1972-74 and first female librarian of the GC from 1993-98. He also highlighted the managerial qualities of Farkhanda Lodhi, saying that as the Chief Librarian at the Government College Lahore, Lodhi rearranged the library's 150 years old record and preserved the centuries-old books for the generations to come. He said that she automated all the record of the library with the help of few students and colleagues in just two years as the services of IT specialists were not available to the library at that time.

Prof. Nabeela Kiyani paying tribute to the works of Farkhanda Lodhi said the birth of a novelist reflects the cultural level of the society "It shows that the people in that society are not selfish and they feel of the sufferings of other people".

Prof. Saadat Saeed said that the death of Farkhanda Lodhi came as a big blow to the feminism movement in Pakistan as the renowned Urdu and Punjabi writer was the prominent voice of women in the country. He said that Farkhanda Lodhi was equally popular with Punjabi circles in India also.

Tariq Zaidi, Adviser, Majlis-e-Iqbal, stated that Farkhanda Lodhi was equally popular with Punjabi circles in India also.

**News from Department of History**

- Dr. Tahir Kamran, Chairperson of History Department, GC University Lahore left in May 2010, for Cambridge University England on Iqbal Chair and Dr. Farhat Mahmud took over as chairperson of History Department.
- Mr. Irfan Waheed Usmani, lecturer History Department, GC University got scholarship from National University of Singapore to finish his PhD, he left for his studies in August, 2010.
- Two students of PhD programme of the department of history, GC University got six months foreign scholarships from HEC Pakistan; Ms. Mavra Farooq left for England and Mr. Khalid Naseem for France.

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