

CHAIR
SESSIONS

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad



Head of Department
Media and Communication Studies
GC University Lahore

PhD in Communication Studies / Media Literacy
University Of The Punjab

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Rooh Ul Amin

Dr. Rooh Ul Amin, Professor of English, Rawalpindi Women University earned a Ph.D. in English with a concentration in Applied Linguistics from the University of Memphis, TN, USA. He has expertise in qualitative research particularly ethnographic, grounded theory, phenomenology, teachers' and learners' habitus, language and gender, and im/politeness..



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Syrrina Ahsan Ali Haque Internationally Acclaimed Award-Winning Author

Published with Routledge and Bloomsbury

Assistant Professor at Kinnaird College for Women and former Head of DELL, University of Lahore. A Postdoctoral Fellow from the University at Buffalo, USA, she has taught at leading institutions worldwide. Author of Sand in the Castle, Cultural Confessions in Khaled Hosseini's Works, and Dialogue on Partition, her works are taught across Pakistan, India, and the USA. She has received the Honorable Mention Book Award (NeMLA), a Summer Fellowship (USA), and the Best Paper Award (Japan).



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Nasir Jamal Khattak PhD (Amherst) Vice Chancellor, AJK University, Muzaffarabad

A distinguished scholar with over 33 years of teaching and research experience, Professor Khattak earned his PhD and Postdoctoral Fellowship from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He has published more than 55 research papers in leading national and international journals and represented Pakistan in numerous global conferences. Former Vice Chancellor of KUST and the University of Swabi, he has

also served as Dean, University of Peshawar, and as Deputy Chairman of the Fulbright Board. His contributions to academia and leadership across Pakistan's top institutions mark him as one of the most accomplished educationists in the country.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

ARTIST TALK

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Tahir Ali Sadiq

Tahir Ali Sadiq (b. 1989) is a Lahore-based visual artist with a Master's in Visual Arts (2023) and BFA in Miniature Painting (2012) from National College of Arts Lahore. Recipient of the Governor Punjab Award (2021) and Haji Sharif Prize, his works are part of notable collections including those of Michael Houlgate, Salima Hashmi, and Imran Qureshi. He has contributed to the MAK TAB initiative and the Lahore Biennale Foundation (2018). Sadiq's practice reimagines Western art through South Asian miniature techniques, exploring historical, social, and personal narratives. Inspired by Ottoman-Timurid-Persian manuscript traditions, he employs an unfinished aesthetic that reflects historical gaps and invites continual artistic evolution.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Zahid Iqbal

Dr. Zahid Iqbal serves as Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of English at The University of Lahore, where he teaches Postcolonial Theory and contemporary Anglophone literatures. His research has been featured in several national and international journals, including *New Horizons*, *Alhikmat: A Journal of Philosophy*, *Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific*, and *SAGE Open*. Known for his insightful engagement with postcolonial discourse and modern literary studies, Dr. Iqbal continues to contribute to academic research and leadership in English literature and critical theory.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Asif

Professor of English & Director of General Education at Akhuwat College University, Kasur, and Principal Consultant at Transparent Language (USA).

He is a distinguished scholar devoted to transforming English language teaching through innovation and technology. A former Fulbright FLTA at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, he has served as a Research Scholar at Michigan State University, Trainer with LearnLight (Netherlands), and Deputy Examiner for the International Baccalaureate (Cardiff, UK). His research focuses on learning technologies, the metaverse, web-based language learning platforms, and English language education. He has published extensively in these areas, reflecting his broad academic engagement and lasting contributions to the field.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Faisal Nazir

Dr Faisal Nazir is an Assistant Professor of English at the Department of English, University of Karachi where he teaches Literary Theory and Criticism, Postcolonial Literature, World Literature, and Literary Pedagogy. He is the author of Orientalism Post 9/11: Pakistani Anglophone Fiction in an Age of Terror (2020), a critically acclaimed book in academic circles that critiques postcolonial theory and literature for adopting orientalist frames in representing religious identities. He has contributed chapters to Routledge Companion to Pakistani Anglophone Writing (2019), Narratives of Trauma in South Asian Literature (2023) and Literature and the War on Terror (2023). His publications include critical work published in local and international journals, as well as poetry published in local and national anthologies.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Taimur Kayani

Prof. Dr. Taimur Kayani is a distinguished academic specializing in English literature, drama, and film studies. He holds a PhD in English Literature from Universiti Putra Malaysia and serves as a Professor, Head of the English Department, and Dean of Open and Distance Learning at GIFT University, Pakistan. Dr. Kayani is also the founding Director of the GIFT Language Centre. An accomplished playwright, director, and researcher, he integrates theatre and film into language teaching and has showcased his work at international festivals. His research focuses on translation, adaptation, scriptwriting, and film production. He actively engages with the public through social media, promoting theatre as a transformative tool.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Ghulam Murtaza

Chairperson, Department of English Literature, GC University, Faisalabad. A distinguished scholar and poet, he introduced *Proemistry*, a postmodern fusion of poetry and prose. Author of *Straggling through Fire*, *Dreambox*, *Istifsaar*, and *In Search of a Dream*, his works explore creativity, culture, and expression across languages. His research spans Native American Literature, CDA, and Pakistani Literature in English. He is also a composer and singer. He has recently released *Muhabbat Aisa darya hay* by Amjad Islam Amjad.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Wasim Hasan

Assistant Professor and Chairperson, Department of English, National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Lahore. Serving at NUML since 2006, he has also held key administrative positions, including Coordinator of the Faculty Development Program and Controller of Examinations. A Postdoctoral Fellow at the International Islamic University, Islamabad, and Research Fellow at INTI International University, Malaysia,

Dr. Hasan holds a PhD in Linguistics from UMT. His research spans indigenous language documentation, CDA, Phonetics and Phonology, Sociolinguistics, and ELT, with several national and international publications to his credit.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Amjad Saleem

Dr. Amjad Saleem is the Chairman of the Department of English and Modern Languages at Pak-Austria Fachhochschule: Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology (PAF-IAST). He holds MA and PhD degrees in Applied Linguistics from Cardiff University, UK, along with a diploma in teaching. With over 21 years of academic experience, including his tenure at the University of Peshawar, his expertise spans second/foreign language teaching, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, and discourse analysis. He supervises MPhil and PhD research in language learning and stylistics and also works as a freelance translator and certified IELTS instructor.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Liaquat Ali Channa

Professor of English at GC University, Hyderabad, and Honorary Research Affiliate at Harvard University's Mittal South Asia Institute. A Fulbright Alumnus with a PhD in Language and Literacy Education from the University of Georgia, USA, he was the Syed Babar Ali Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard in 2022. His research focuses on language, education, and identity, with publications in top *international journals including World Englishes and Linguistics and Education*. He also co-edits the *International Journal of Refugee, Minority, and Gender Studies*.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Fatima Syeda

Professor and Chairperson, Department of English, Forman Christian College University, Lahore. Serving at FCCU since 2005, she holds a PhD in English Language and Literature from the University of the Punjab, with research on Men as Victims of Violence in Partition Fiction. Her academic interests include Masculinity Studies, South Asian Literature, and Digital Literary studies. She has organized major international conferences and literary festivals and is an active researcher and speaker with numerous publications and keynote addresses to her credit.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Tahir Saleem

Dr. Tahir Saleem, Professor and Head of the Department of English at the University of Central Punjab, Lahore, earned his PhD in Linguistics and Literature from Air University, Islamabad. A leading scholar in applied linguistics, morphosyntax, multilingualism, and technology-enhanced language pedagogy, he has published 29 research articles in Web of Science-indexed journals. Recognized as the only linguist in Pakistan's Arts and

Humanities with an H-Index of 8, his work spans Urdu compounding, Pashto morphosyntax, and AI integration in ESL classrooms, appearing in journals such as PLOS ONE and International Journal of Multilingualism. As a doctoral supervisor and academic leader, he shapes research that bridges theory and practice while addressing Pakistan's multilingual realities.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Zafar Iqbal Bhatti

Professor & Head, School of English, and Founding Director of the Corpus Research Center (CRC) at Minhaj University Lahore. A leading scholar in Applied Linguistics and Corpus Studies, he earned his PhD from UMT and has served as Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the International Research Institute (IRI), International Islamic University Islamabad, and Research Fellow (2025) at INTI International University, Malaysia. As the pioneer behind Pakistan's first dedicated Corpus Research Center—established in collaboration with Shanghai International Studies University—Dr. Bhatti has authored over 120 research papers in international and HEC-recognized journals. Editor-in-Chief of JACOR and recipient of the Research Excellence Awards (2023 & 2024), he continues to advance corpus-based linguistic research and foster international academic collaboration.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Amara Khan

Associate Professor of English at Lahore College for Women University and an alumna of Government College University, Lahore. A scholar of gender and cultural resistance, she works at the intersections of literature, pedagogy, and public humanities. Her research explores ecological approaches to language and identity, with a focus on South Asian adaptations, theatre, and media. A recipient of the Roll of Honour in Dramatics from GCU, she has also delivered invited talks at the University of Leeds, UK. Her work bridges academic inquiry with cultural agency, education, and social justice.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Saleem Khan

Dr. Saleem Akhtar Khan, a distinguished scholar with a PhD in English specializing in postcolonial literature, currently serves as the Head of the Department of English at the University of Southern Punjab, Multan. Throughout his academic career, he has taught at several prestigious universities and contributed significantly to literary scholarship. His co-translated work, published by the Pakistan Academy of Letters, stands as a testament to his engagement with literary translation. His research interests span postmodern critical theories, postcolonial studies, existentialism, modern and Victorian fiction, literature in translation, representations of trauma and terror, and comparative literature.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Muhammad Javed

Dr. Muhammad Javed is the Chairman of the Department of Language Education at The Islamia University of Bahawalpur. He holds a PhD in TESOL from Universiti Sains Malaysia, where he received the Best Thesis Award 2016. With over 50 research publications and six books to his credit, he also serves on several journal advisory boards. A Master Trainer for institutions like the British Council and Punjab Education Foundation, he has presented his research internationally.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Asadullah Lashari

He earned his PhD in Education from the University of Nottingham, where he received the *Vice Chancellor's International Research Excellence Award*. With extensive teaching experience in the UK and Pakistan, his research focuses on Critical Discourse Studies, educational leadership, and policy studies. His work has appeared in leading journals including *Asia Pacific Journal of Education* and *Educational Management Administration & Leadership (EMAL)*. He has presented internationally and contributed to major research projects on feminist leadership and sociological theory in education.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Ghulam Ali

Director, Centre for Languages and Translation Studies, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad. A distinguished scholar and leading figure in Translation Studies in Pakistan, he has over fifteen years of academic and research experience. Renowned for his expertise in Machine-Assisted Translation, Corpus Studies, and NLP, he developed *LEKHARI*, an AI-based Urdu linguistic system funded by the Pakistan Academy of Sciences. Author of the *Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*, he has also led major national projects with Google India, UNDP, and the Punjab Law Department.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Maimoona Abdulaziz

Serving as the Head of Department of English at the NUML Faisalabad Campus. A distinguished scholar in Applied Linguistics, Dr. Abdulaziz holds a Ph.D. from GCU Faisalabad. Her extensive research spans key linguistic sub-fields, including Corpus Linguistics, Phonetics and Phonology, English Language Teaching, and Eco-Critical Discourse Analysis. Her work, which has been presented at international conferences and published in worldwide impact factor journals, demonstrates a deep commitment to advancing the application of linguistic theory, making her expertise highly relevant to the intersection of Digital Humanities and English Studies.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Hassan Syed

He holds a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Language Education Policy from the University of Pennsylvania (USA), a PhD in Education from the University of York (UK), and an MA in English Language Education from the University of Sussex (UK). His research explores the intersections of language, education, and social justice, with a particular focus on multilingualism, language policy, and teacher education in postcolonial contexts. Dr. Syed's work critically engages with how language ideologies, colonial legacies, and neoliberal policies influence educational practices and teacher identities, especially within marginalized and multilingual communities of the Global South.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Mazhar Hayat

Prof. Dr. Mazhar Hayat – Chairperson, Department of English Linguistics and Literature, Riphah International University, Faisalabad. A distinguished scholar with 37 years of teaching and over 25 years of research experience, he formerly served as Chair of the English Department at GC University, Faisalabad. He has supervised seven PhD dissertations, presented at over 50 national and international conferences, and is an active member of several academic associations, including the South Asian Literary Association. His research explores the poetics and politics of translation and promotes global literary dialogue.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali Khan

Dr. Arshad Ali Khan, Professor of English and Linguistics at the University of Management and Technology (UMT), Lahore, is an expert in contact linguistics, syntax, and second language acquisition. He completed his postdoctoral fellowship at The Ohio State University in 2024, focusing on Pashto as a heritage language. With over 60 international publications, Dr. Khan has advanced the study of Pashto-English code-switching, bilingual identity, and multilingual education in South Asia. A PhD-approved supervisor and former Chair of the Department of Linguistics and Communications, he continues to promote innovation in language pedagogy through his work on *Translanguaging: From Concept to Classroom – Rethinking Bilingualism, Pedagogy, and Ideology*.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Bushra Siddiqui

Dr Bushra Siddiqui holds a PhD in English Literature specializing in feminist discourse analysis. With several publications that explore the intersections of post-colonialism, psychoanalysis and feminism, Dr Siddiqui is focused on contemporary literary studies. Currently serving as the Chairperson of the Department of English and Literary Studies, she is committed to fostering innovative ideas and staying attuned to the latest trends in Literature.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Asim Karim

Dr. Asim Karim is an experienced academic with extensive experience serving in both public and private sector universities in Pakistan. He holds the prestigious distinction of being the first PhD graduate from Government College University Lahore.

Throughout his career, Dr. Karim has demonstrated exceptional commitment to academic excellence through extensive supervision of PhD and

MS research scholars and has contributed significantly to his field through publications. Currently he is serving as Dean Social Sciences and Humanities at University of Wah, Wah Cantt, Pakistan

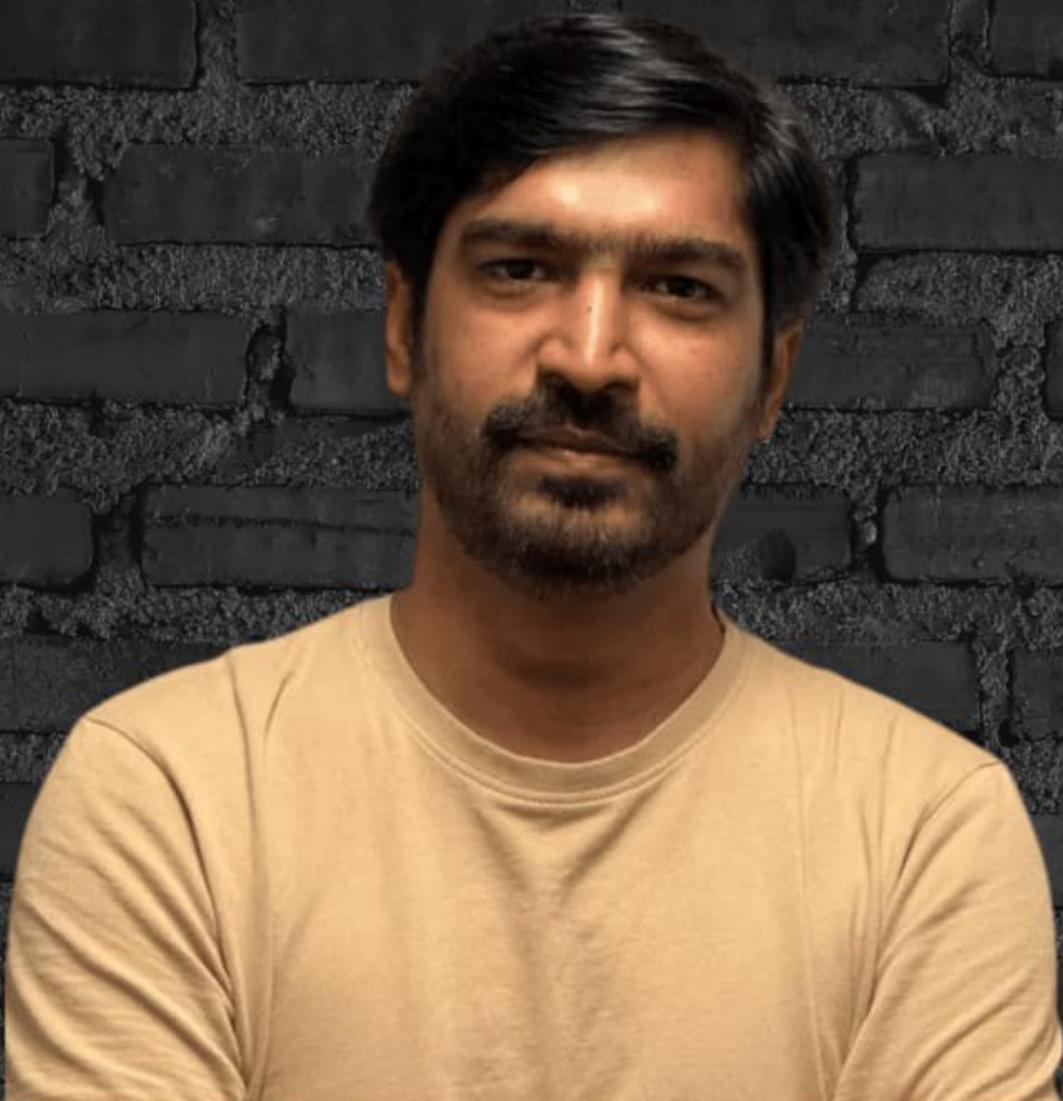


Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Waqar Ali Shah

Dr. Waqar Ali Shah is an Assistant Professor at Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, Pakistan, and holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. His research explores discursive normativities, decoloniality, and Southern perspectives in language education and applied linguistics. Dr. Shah's work has appeared in leading journals such as TESOL Quarterly, Critical Discourse Studies, and Linguistics and Education. He has been a Visiting Fellow at institutions including the Georg Eckert Institute (Germany) and Penn State University (USA), working under scholars like Suresh Canagarajah and Teun A. van Dijk. He is currently co-editing two Routledge volumes on racial inequality and decolonizing English language textbooks.

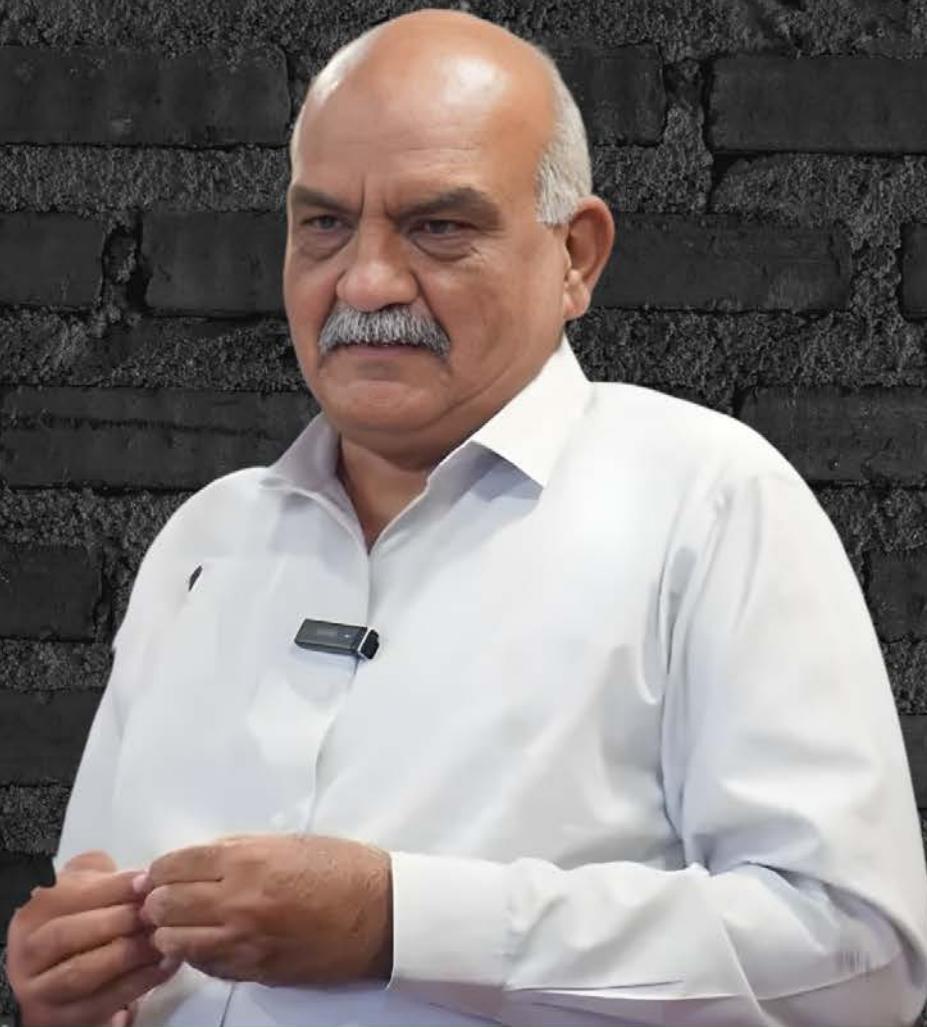


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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Muhammad Asif

Dr. Muhammad Asif is an Associate Professor of English Literature at Government College University, Faisalabad. His research focuses on Postcolonial Studies, Postcolonial Shakespeare, and Modern Literary Theories, with an emphasis on decolonial and indigenous perspectives. A certified Master Trainer (HEC, British Council, US Consulate), he has contributed to Curriculum Development and conducted workshops on research methodology, academic writing, test preparation (GRE, TOEFL, IELTS), and competitive exam coaching (CSS/PMS).



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Humaira Irfan

Dr. Humaira Irfan is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Education, Lahore. She earned her MS in Applied Linguistics and PhD in Sociolinguistics from the University of Glasgow, UK, under an HEC foreign scholarship, and completed postdoctoral research at the University of Malaya, Malaysia. With over 80 research publications and a poetry collection titled *A Soul's Meditation*, she has received multiple international awards and fellowships, including from the Universities of Exeter (UK) and Arcada (Finland). A keynote speaker and trainer for PHEC and PJA, Dr. Irfan has extensive collaborations with universities across Asia, Europe, and the USA. She is also the founding president of the University of Education Toastmasters, chartered with Toastmasters International, USA.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Ayesha Siddiqa

Dr. Ayesha Siddiqa is an Assistant Professor at Quaid-i-Azam University. A Fulbright and Commonwealth Scholar, she holds an MS in African American Studies from Boston University and a PhD in English Studies from Durham University, specializing in African American and Pakistani women's writing. A Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (UK), she has extensive teaching experience, including two years at Durham University. Her research lies at the intersections of African American, Postcolonial, and Gender Studies, focusing on women's writing, and has been published in leading international journals. She has received numerous distinctions, including Gold and Silver Medals and the Best South Asian Student Award, and has collaborated with organizations such as the British Council, USAID, USEFP, UNDP, AUSAID, and HASP on development initiatives.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Muntazar Mehdi

An accomplished academic and HEC-approved PhD supervisor, Dr. Mehdi has over 23 years of teaching and research experience and more than 50 publications to his credit. He has served as a resource person for HEC training sessions nationwide (2017–2020) and delivered keynote addresses at several international conferences. With affiliations including IKSAD Turkey and the Linguistic Association of Pakistan, he has organized numerous national and international professional development workshops, contributing significantly to English studies and academic training in Pakistan.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Zareena Qasim

Associate Professor & Chairperson, Department of English, University of Sargodha
With over two decades of teaching, research, and academic leadership, Dr. Qasim specializes in Gender and Migration Studies, Postcolonial Literature, and Feminist Criticism. Her research explores identity, displacement, and resistance, with recent focus on ecofeminism and neocolonial pedagogy. A dedicated educator, she has supervised numerous MPhil and PhD dissertations and taught courses in Literary Theory, Women's Writing, and Postcolonial Studies. She also serves as a peer reviewer and advisory board member for reputed literary and cultural journals.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Mamona Yasmin Khan

Former Registrar & Chairperson, Department of English, The Women University Multan. With 29 years of teaching and administrative experience, Dr. Khan is a distinguished scholar in English Linguistics and Language Education. She has authored over 100 research publications and serves as a Research Fellow at INTI International University, Malaysia. She is the Chief Editor of IJLC (HEC-approved journal) and a reviewer for leading Elsevier and SAGE journals. Her research focuses on Applied Linguistics, Stylistics, Lexicography, and Discourse Studies. Dr. Khan has also led numerous conferences, seminars, and research projects promoting linguistic innovation and academic excellence.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Tehseen Zahra

Dr. Tehseen Zahra is a researcher and Associate Professor at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Bahria University, Islamabad. Her research interests are corpus linguistics, discourse studies and pragmatics. She was the Editor of Corprum: Journal of Corpus Linguistics, the first corpus based journal of Pakistan. She is Co-PI of a research project named PakGenText, funded by the Higher Education Commission, Pakistan. As a researcher, she published her research papers and book chapters in national and international journals.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Rashid Mehmood

Dr. Rashid Mahmood Muhammad is a Professor of English at Riphah International University, Faisalabad. He earned his PhD in English from Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan (2012), focusing on Pakistani English. With over 20 years of academic experience in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the UK, he is a noted scholar in corpus linguistics, World Englishes, and language teaching. He has published over 60 research papers with 479 citations and an h-index of 12. His forthcoming book with Cambridge University Press, *Pakistani English in the 21st Century*, and his leadership in international projects like the Saudi English Corpus and ICE Pakistan highlight his major contributions to linguistic research.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Behzad Anwar

Associate Professor of English at the University of Gujrat, Pakistan, with over 16 years of teaching and research experience. He earned his PhD in English from Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, and has served as an academic visitor at the University of Birmingham, UK. His research interests include World Englishes, Sociolinguistics, and Corpus Linguistics. He has compiled a 12-million-word corpus of Pakistani English newspapers and has presented his work at numerous national and international conferences. Dr. Anwar's scholarship reflects his deep engagement with the evolving nature of English in multilingual contexts, particularly the distinct linguistic identity of Pakistani English.



Registration Deadline: 24 October, 2025

SEMIOTICS & PHILOSOPHY WORKSHOP

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr Shazia Anwer Cheema

PhD Semiotics and Philosophy of Communication
Charles University Prague

MA Cognitive Semiotics Aarhus University Denmark
MA ELT Kinnaird College Lahore

Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts, UMT Lahore



FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Zaheer Hassan Wattoo

Dr. Zaheer Hassan Wattoo is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Punjabi at GC University Lahore, specializing in Punjabi folk literature, oral traditions, philosophical thought, and cultural history. His research explores the socio-political landscapes reflected in Punjabi texts, with numerous publications in national and international journals. He has authored several books and actively contributes to academic conferences, seminars, and cultural forums. Dr. Wattoo has supervised PhD and MPhil scholars and remains dedicated to promoting Punjabi language, literature, and identity. As a researcher, teacher, and mentor, he strives to foster critical inquiry and enrich contemporary Punjabi scholarship.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Shabnam Ishaq

Shabnam Ishaq is an Assistant Professor of Punjabi at Government College University, Lahore. Her academic work centers on the rich cultural and literary heritage of Punjab, with a particular emphasis on Punjabi symbols and myths.

She holds a PhD in Punjabi, with her research focused on the mythological dimensions of Punjabi classical poetry. Currently, she is engaged in postdoctoral research at the University of the Punjab, furthering her exploration and celebration of the enduring essence of Punjabi literature.



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FEATURED SPEAKER

PEC | GCUL
26-28 NOVEMBER

PAKISTAN
ENGLISH
CONFERENCE



Dr. Sameer Ahmed

Sameer Ahmed has taught English Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Glasgow (UK) and GC University, Lahore (Pakistan). He is also a playwright with a range of adaptations, original plays and commissioned performances. His research interests include Britain's Second Empire, 18th century notions of self and other, the intersections between colonialism and the English language, political configurations of race/ ethnicity and identity, and postcolonial studies with reference to Britain and Pakistan. He has worked as a journalist and op-ed writer focusing on culture, race, history, literature, film and television.



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