



PRESTON

Views

Newsletter of Preston University-Pakistan

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Preston University and Azerbaijan Embassy Jointly Organize Seminar on "Black January Tragedy"

Preston University and the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan jointly organized a seminar titled 'Black January: From Martyrdom to Independence of Azerbaijan'. The seminar was held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston on January 19, 2017. Mr. Abdul Sattar, former foreign minister of Pakistan presided over the event as Chief Guest. The Ambassador of Azerbaijan in Pakistan H.E. Ali Alizada was the keynote speaker on the occasion.



In his address at the seminar former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Abdul Sattar said the Black January Tragedy is a catastrophe that has

no parallel in recent history. It is, in fact, the darkest period of history, he emphasized. He said, between the night of January 19 and 20, 1990 the Soviet forces attacked Azerbaijan's capital Baku and killed 134 innocent people. In this brutal massacre 740 people were seriously injured. Hundreds of Azeri citizens went missing after the tragedy. He said that the Azeris are a courageous nation who bravely fought the external aggressor and ultimately got independence from the Soviet Union on October 18, 1991.

On the occasion, H.E. Ali Alizada, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Pakistan said, the tragedy of January 20, 1990 is an extremely sad happening in the history of Azerbaijan. On this tragic day, he said, the ruthless Soviet army crossed all bounds of graciousness and killed hundreds of innocent Azeri citizens. The carnage committed by the Soviet forces on the people of Azerbaijan was extremely inhuman, he maintained. He informed the distinguished gathering that Azerbaijan got its independence one and half year after the Black January Tragedy and his country is now marching towards sustained progress. Ambassador Ali Alizada said that his country is an important member of the Muslim Ummah and it takes genuine pride in this fact.

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Prestonian wins GOLD MEDAL in inter-university Boxing Championship

Prestonian Razzaq Hamdani, a BSCS student at Preston University, Islamabad grabbed 1st position at an inter-university boxing championship organized by Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Lahore from January 1 - 4, 2017 and was awarded a gold medal for his sparkling performance.

Razzaq Hamdani of Preston University beat his counterpart Muhammad Asif of LUMS, Lahore out-and-out in the finals, in the 55kg light weight category, to win gold medal in the championship. Earlier, Razzak Hamdani played his first and second round match against Habib Arshad of Shifa College of Medicine, Islamabad and beat him to reach the semi-finals. In the semi-finals Prestonian Razzaq Hamdani contested with Syed Arshad Hussain of Professional Academy of Commerce (PAC) Lahore performed outstandingly and beat him too successfully. Fifteen institutions from Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Lahore, Multan and Bahawalpur took part in the championship organized by LUMS.

Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University profoundly lauded the remarkable achievement of Prestonian Razzaq Hamdani and congratulated him on performing outstandingly and winning a gold medal in the inter-university boxing championship organized by LUMS, Lahore. He wished Razzaq all the best and greater successes in the field of boxing in the years ahead.

VC Preston University Karachi Visits China

**Trip undertaken with an Educators' Delegation
Sponsored by Confucius Institute, China.**

The Confucius Institute organized an Educators' delegation trip to China. The delegation consisting of Vice Chancellors, Deans and Registrars of Public and Private Universities of Sindh visited the Sichuan Normal University, Chengdu, China from January 4 -11, 2017. A unique aspect of this tour was that for the first time the Vice Chancellor of Private University (Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tahir Rajput of Preston University, Karachi) was included in the Educators' delegation to China.

During its week-long visit the delegation had a meeting with Prof. Dr. Ding Ren Zhong President of Sichuan Normal University at the Confucius Head Quarters, China. On their arrival, Prof. Ding Ren Zhong President of Sichuan Normal University extended a warm welcome to the Educators' delegation from Pakistan. During the course of the meeting bilateral discussion was held on educational communication between China and Pakistan.



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tahir Rajput, Vice Chancellor Preston University, Karachi expressed his profound gratitude to Prof. Dr. Ding Ren Zhong, President Sichuan Normal University, China for inviting the Educators' delegation from Pakistan to his University. During the course of his meeting with Dr. Ding Ren Zhong, President Sichuan Normal University, China Dr. Tahir Rajput informed him that Preston University, Karachi is the oldest University in the private sector in Pakistan. He also informed him that the University has started three Chinese language courses at its main campus from September 2015. In view of the significance of Chinese language, Dr. Rajput requested that more Chinese teachers may be assigned to teach Chinese language and more scholarships may be offered to the students of Preston University, Karachi.

Normal University moderated the session and informed that Sichuan Normal University, China has awarded one scholarship to a student of Preston University, Karachi. Prof. Yang Yingyu Dean of Institutional Education also organized an interactive session with the Pakistani students, studying at Sichuan Normal University. The Pakistani delegation was very happy to know that about 95 Pakistani students mostly from Karachi, Hyderabad and Petaro were pursuing a 4-year Chinese language course in Sichuan Normal University. During his tour to China, Dr. Tahir Rajput, Vice Chancellor Preston University, Karachi also participated in the 'Sino-Pak Educational Symposium' held at Sichuan Normal University on January 9, 2017.

Preston University Conspicuous by its Presence at NEBAC Conference/ Exhibition held in Islamabad



The National Business Education Accreditation Council (NEBAC)-Higher Education Commission (HEC) organized the 4th Deans and Directors Conference from February 7-8, 2017. The theme of the two-day Conference which was held at Hotel Serena Islamabad was "Business Education and its Context: Points of Convergence and Divergence". Preston University was one of the Gold Sponsors of this mega event.

Academics and scholars of eminence representing reputed public and private universities from home and abroad participated and presented papers on the subject in this high profile Conference. Preston University was represented at the Conference by Prof. Dr. Allah Wadhayoo Baloch, Registrar, Prof. Dr. Daud Awan, Dean Department of Computer Science, Prof. Dr. Tahir Saeed, HoD Management Sciences, Dr. Qaiser Rafique, Assistant Prof. Management Sciences and Dr. Haji Rehman, Assistant Prof. Management Sciences.



Apart from its participation in the Conference Preston University also set up its Information Booth at the venue of the event. The Booth of Preston University that stood out conspicuously among the stalls set up at the venue by other public and private universities attracted a large number of visitors. The visitors who visited the Information Booth of Preston University actively interacted with the program staff and evinced keen interest in the academic programs being offered by Preston University, at undergraduate and graduate level, at its campuses located in some major cities across the country.

Preston Remembers

Humyra Khatoon Saiyid



Organizes Condolence Reference in memory of the eminent social activist in collaboration with Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan. Speakers pay glowing tribute to Humyra Khatoon Saiyid (late) and highlight her achievements in life.

Preston University, Islamabad organized a Condolence Reference in memory of eminent social worker and first female English Broadcaster of Pakistan, Begum Humyra Khatoon Saiyid who left for her heavenly abode on February 8, 2017. The Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan (AHAP) collaborated in the organization of the event that was held on February 15, 2017.



Scholar and writer of eminence Prof. Dr. Dushka Saiyid, daughter of late Humyra Khatoon Saiyid presided over the Reference. Eminent among the speakers who addressed the Reference and shed light on the life and achievements of Humyra Khatoon Saiyid were Prof. Dr. Dushka Saiyid, Senator Afrasiab Khattak, Ms. Nazli Hussain Saiyid, Dr. Tahira Abdullah, Ms. Qaisra Alvi, Barrister Rubab Mehdi Rizvi, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University, Brigadier (R) Tariq, Dr. Ghazanfar Mehdi and Dr. Riaz Ahmed. ▶▶ Continued on page 7

BASAR Preston University Convenes its 68th Meeting



The Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASAR) - Preston University held its 68th meeting on February 28, 2016. The referenced meeting of the Board was held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston University, Kohat. It was chaired by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan, Vice Chancellor Preston University, Kohat and Chairman BASAR. Members of BASAR attended the 68th meeting of the Board. Recitation from the Holy Quran marked the beginning of the proceedings of the meeting. The Chairman BASAR, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan warmly greeted all the members to the 68th BASAR meeting. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to all the members for their worthy presence on the occasion. Subsequently, the 68th meeting of BASAR was declared open by the Chair.

With the permission of the Chair, Prof. Dr. Allah Wadhayo Baloch, Secretary BASAR presented the agenda of the 68th meeting of BASAR. Thereafter, Secretary to the Board requested the Chair to accord approval to the minutes of the 67th meeting of the Board held from January 25-26, 2017 with some amendments. The House unanimously approved the Minutes of the 67th Board meeting of BASAR with proposed amendments.

In the 68th meeting of the Board of Advanced Studies and Research various

important academic issues were tabled before the House for discussion. The House discussed all the issues raised during the course of the meeting in detail. At the 68th meeting synopsis of some MS/MPhil and PhD Scholars specializing in Education, Psychology, International Relations, Economics, Management Sciences, Computer Science and Mathematics were also presented to the Board for approval. The Board approved the Synopsis of a large number of MS/MPhil and PhD scholars. However, approval of Synopsis of some of the scholars were deferred with advice to resubmit in the next Board meeting after incorporating the changes suggested by the Chairman and the Board members.

The 68th meeting of the Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASAR) Preston University concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair. Chairman BASAR, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan in his concluding remarks immensely appreciated the contribution made by all the participating members towards the proceedings of the 68th meeting of the Board. He also expressed his gratitude to all of them for participating in the meeting. It was unanimously decided that 69th meeting of BASAR will be held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston University, Kohat on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 10.00 AM.

Quotable Quotes

“I have heard of your paintings too, well enough; God has given you one face, and you make yourselves another.”

William Shakespeare

“There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so.”

William Shakespeare

“I feel within me a peace above all earthly dignities, a still and quiet conscience.”

William Shakespeare



Preston University & Society of Global Civilizations Jointly Organize

Mushaira 2017



Mushaira 2017 was held at Preston University, Islamabad on March 25, 2017. The impressive event that was held at the auditorium of the Islamabad Campus of Preston was jointly organized by Preston University and the Society of Global Civilizations (SGC) Islamabad.

Poet and literary figure of international eminence Mr. Iftikhar Arif presided over the event as Chief Guest. Besides Mr. Iftikhar Arif, eminent poets Farkhanda Shamim, Abida Taqi, Yasmeen Hameed, Mehboob Zafar, Tariq Nadeem, Hassan Abbas Raza, Dr. Touseef Tabassum, Syed Nusrat Zaidi, Anjum Khaleeq, Wafa Chushti, Nasir Aqeel and Kashif Rehman Kashif participated in 'Mushaira 2017'. They kept the audience captivated with their collection of beautiful poetry.

Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University / Patron Society of Global Civilizations (SGC) was also conspicuous by his presence at 'Mushaira 2017'. He expressed his profound gratitude to the Chief Guest of the occasion distinguished Mr. Iftikhar Arif for sparing his precious time and preside over the event. He also immensely thanked all the participating poets for making the evening so beautiful through their captivating collection of poetry. Mr. Muhammad Aslam Rao, General Secretary of SGC was also present on the occasion.



Preston University Karachi Commemorates "National Green Day"



National Green Day was observed under the Prime Minister of Pakistan's 'Green Pakistan Program' on February 9, 2017. The Day was celebrated across the four provinces of Pakistan and the Federal Capital with immeasurable enthusiasm.

Primary feature of the National Green Day was to plant hundreds of thousands of "indigenous and local" tree species in all the four provinces including Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and the Federal Capital by involving government departments, elected local leadership as well as students and civil society organizations. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif inaugurated the event along with 20 special children in Islamabad.

Over 100 events were arranged throughout Pakistan and all Chief Minister's of four provinces and Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir inaugurated the events in their respective provinces. Record local trees were planted in one day through government departments, NGOs and students.



Under the directives of the Higher Education Commission (HEC), National Green Day was celebrated at the main campus of Preston University, and across all its other campuses situated in the city, with immense zeal. A number of events befitting the occasion were organized in which the students, faculty and staff of the University enthusiastically participated. Tree plantation campaign was obviously central to all the activities undertaken to mark the occasion.

Prestonians Shine at UNIDO 'Global Clean Tech Competition'

Reach semi finals of the mega competition after giving a tough fight to their competitors. Investors evince keen interest in the idea 'Solar Power; bringing natural sunlight inside offices and homes through lenses and mirrors' presented by them in the competition.

Preston University, Islamabad participated in 'Global Tech Competition' organized by United Nations International Development Organization (UNIDO). The mega inter-university competition kicked off in the capital in the middle of June 2016 in which the participants were invited to submit their reports along with the registration details of the Idea. The Global Clean Tech Competition is a Pan Pakistan Business Competition, organized by UNIDO to encourage innovations originally developed in Pakistan.

Nominations were received from public and private universities situated across Pakistan. More than 125 teams including professionals registered in the referenced mega annual event organized by the eminent international development agency-UNIDO. Two teams from Preston University managed to reach the second round of the competition. Preston University also participated in the event by registering one team comprising of Muhammad Hamza Khan, Nayab Afsar, Mukarram Ali and Usman Khalid. The team of Preston University qualified for the next round based on practicality of their idea and sound market research. The second stage of the competition commenced with a series of extensive workshops in which every qualifying team was assigned a mentor. The workshops were held on weekly basis wherein the participants interacted with their respective international mentors, through video conferencing, and accordingly proceeded with implementation of the tasks assigned to them through exercises and assignments. In the middle of October 2016, a Mock judging round was held. Based on this round, teams qualified for the semi-final round. The Team of Preston University qualified for the Semi final round along with 35 other teams.

On January 9, 2017, a pitching session was held at UNIDO office at Hotel Serena, Islamabad where the Preston University team pitched their idea to the foreign and local judges. On January 12, 2017 an 'Investor Connect Session' was organized by UNIDO wherein more than 30 investors participated. Finally, five semi finalists succeeded in obtaining investment for their startups. A grand closing ceremony of the event was held on January 12, 2017 in which names of the winning teams and runners up were formally announced. The idea of the team of Preston University "Solar Power; bringing natural sunlight inside offices and homes through lenses and mirrors" was immensely appreciated. Mr. Zahid Hamid, Federal Minister for Climate Change was the Chief Guest at the award distribution ceremony.

Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University immensely appreciated the outstanding performance of all the members of the Preston University team and also their team leader Mr. Humayun Shuja for reaching the semi finals of Global Clean Tech Competition organized by UNIDO-Pakistan.



Islamabad Campus Organizes

In-House Project Expo Fall 2016 and Merit Certificate Distribution Ceremony

The Islamabad Campus of Preston University organized an "In-House Project Expo Fall 2016

and Merit Certificate Distribution Ceremony". The referenced event was organized by the Department of Computer Science, in January 2017, under the supervision of Ms. Munazza Mah Jabeen, Assistant Professor of Computer Science. Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University presided over the Merit Certificate Distribution Ceremony. Dr. Feroza Ahmed, Dean Social Sciences, Director General Human Resource Development, and Director Division of Gender Empowerment and Management graced the occasion with her distinguished presence as Chief Guest. Mr. Haroon Rashid, Singer, Musician, Composer and Founder Head of Unicorn Black participated in the event as Guest of Honor.

The main purpose of the "In-House Project Expo Fall 2016" was to present Final Year Projects of Students of BSCS and MCS Programs, for demonstration and evaluation by a panel of evaluators belonging to different sectors of the IT industry. The evaluators team comprised of Mr. Mansoor Mahmood, Chief Executive Binary Logix, Mr. Zeeshan Nadeem, Regional Manager Fraud Risk Management Unit, Silkbank Ltd., Mr. Adeel Ahmed Malik, Database Administrator, NADRA, Islamabad, Dr. Tauseef-Ur-Rehman, Assistant Professor of Technology, Preston University, Islamabad and Dr. Arsalan Khawaja, Assistant Professor of Management Sciences, Preston University, Islamabad. Over 150 graduating students participated in this important activity.

The Certificate Distribution Ceremony commenced with recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by the National Anthem. Dr. Daud Awan, Dean Computer Science & Advisor Quality Assurance, Preston University in his welcome address on the occasion highlighted the main objective of both the activities. —▶ Continued on page 7





Prestonian Mehroz Seemab Grabs **BRONZE MEDAL** in HEC All Pakistan Inter-University Boxing Championship

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) organized an All Pakistan Inter-University Boxing Championship. The referenced mega event was held at Benazir Bhutto University, Karachi from February 24-26, 2017. Twenty four eminent public and private universities from across the country took part in the championship. Preston University was represented at the grand event

by Mehroz Seemab a BSCS student at the Islamabad Campus of the University. Mehroz Seemab performed well in the championship and was awarded Bronze Medal. The Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit congratulated Mehroz on his success. He expressed the hope that he would perform even better in the future and earn greater laurels for himself and the University.

Islamabad Campus Organizes Training Session on **CV Writing and Personal Branding**

The Islamabad Campus of Preston organized a one-day Workshop on 'CV Writing and Personal Branding'. The referenced Workshop



was held at the auditorium of the Islamabad Campus on February 23, 2017. The Placements Office of the university was instrumental in organizing the Workshop in which a large number of students participated. Mr. Talha Salam, a Certified Professional Resume Writer (Professional Association of Resume Writers & Career Coaches (PARW/CC) from Brunei Darussalam conducted the training session on 'CV Writing & Personal Branding'. The topics covered during this session were:

- Basics of CV writing
- Contents of a good CV
- Strategies for improving current CV
- Common issues regarding CV
- Other Career Documents
- Personal Branding - approaches and advantages

The students who participated in the training session, in large numbers, evinced keen interest in the presentation made by the speaker on the topic enunciated above. They raised pertinent queries vis-à-vis the areas discussed during the session and thanked the speaker for his thought-provoking discourse.

Talha Salam is an alumnus of IBA, Karachi and NUST having more than 13 years of corporate and academia experience. He is also a Certified Professional Resume Writer (CPRW) from Professional Association of Resume Writers & Career Coaches (PARW/CC). He has extensive experience of recruitment, CV writing and providing training in these areas. Currently Mr. Talha Salam is pursuing his PhD in Brunei Darussalam and conducts trainings for students and professionals occasionally.



Sajjad Ahmad Afridi Successfully Defends PhD Thesis

Sajjad Ahmad Afridi successfully defended his PhD (Management Sciences) thesis on March 7, 2017 at Preston University, Kohat, Islamabad Campus. The thesis was completed under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Tahir Saeed, HoD Management Sciences, Preston University, Kohat, Islamabad Campus and evaluated by experts from USA and Spain.



Career Counseling Session

A Career Counseling Session was held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston University in January 2017. The Placement Office of the University was responsible for organizing the referenced event. The session was supervised by Mr. Humayun Shuja, Director Entrepreneurship Development and Ms. Bakhtawar



Mehmood, Alumni & Corporate Relations Officer, Preston University. Students of final year pursuing their studies in different academic programs took part in the session with immense enthusiasm. Mr. Noshad Khalid Minhas, Regional Head of Silk Bank and Mr. Adnan Latif, Assistant Manager HR of Kohinoor Textile Mills. Ltd., were invited to speak on the subject of the Workshop as Guest Speakers. In their presentations on the occasion the speakers, to begin with, defined what Career Counseling was all about. Later, they highlighted the importance of Career Counseling in the context of particularly those students who are at the verge of launching their careers. Career Counseling, they maintained, is a process that helps in acquainting and understanding oneself and the world of work in order to make career, educational, and life decisions. They emphasized that career development is more than just deciding on a major and what kind of job you want to get after you graduate.

He expressed his profound gratitude to the people and the government of Pakistan for their unflinching support to the people and the government of Azerbaijan, and informed the distinguished gathering that Pakistan was the first country to recognize the independence of Azerbaijan in 1991. H.E. Ali Alizada also expressed his sincere gratitude to Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University for organizing a seminar on the Black January Tragedy of Azerbaijan.



Earlier, in his welcome address Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University extended a warm welcome to H.E. Ali Alizada, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan and Chief Guest, Mr. Abdul Sattar for their distinguished presence at the seminar. Dr. Abdul Basit said the tragedy of January 20 must be condemned in the strongest terms by every enlightened nation.

Eminent among the other speakers who spoke on the occasion were Prof. Dr. Z.A. Qureshi, HoD, IR, Preston University, Islamabad, Mehmood-ul-Hassan, Expert on Central Asia, Dr. Muhammad Khan, former HoD, IR, NDU Islamabad, Dr. Adnan Sarwar, Registrar Women University, Mardan, and Mr. Asif Noor, Director, Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies, Islamabad. While expressing their views on the topic of the seminar the speakers termed the Black January Tragedy of Azerbaijan of January 20 as a tragedy that has no parallel in human history.

At the conclusion of the seminar, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University, presented mementos, as a token of appreciation, to the Chief Guest, Mr. Abdul Sattar, former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, H.E. Ali Alizada, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, and other distinguished Guest Speakers who spoke at the seminar.



Intellectuals, social activists and family friends who spoke and shed light on the life and achievements of Begum Humyra Khatoon Saiyid said she was a social activist of eminence who always raised her voice for women empowerment and actively participated in movements launched across the country to highlight this vital issue.

Prof. Dr. Dushka Saiyid, in her brief address on the occasion said, with a sense of pride, that her mother was a model creation of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan's reformist movement that was involved in propagating modern sciences and arts among the Muslims of South Asia. Dr. Dushka Saiyid said that her mother's personality was truly a fusion of modernity and traditional Muslim culture. She said, Humyra Khatoon Saiyid was a genuine patriot who always stood fully committed to the ideals of the father of the nation, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah and the objectives of Pakistan movement. In his brief remarks on the occasion, Senator Afrasiab Khattak said late Humyra Khatoon Saiyid was a dedicated social worker, intellectual and an extremely loving and caring human being. She was very fond of literature and poetry. Her personality was a blend of modernity and traditionalism. He said, late Humyra Khatoon Saiyid was a true patriot and her love and respect for her country has always been intense.

Addressing the distinguished guests present at the Reference, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University said Humyra Khatoon Saiyid was indeed a remarkable human being. The highly disciplined and selfless life she led, throughout her over nine decades of existence in this mortal world, should serve as a role model for our women, particularly the younger generation. Dr. Basit said it was truly an honor for Preston University to have been able to host the Reference in memory of a great personality of the stature of late Begum Humyra Khatoon Saiyid. He thanked the speakers who spared their valuable time and express their views on the occasion. At the end, prayers were offered for the departed soul of late Begum Humyra Khatoon Saiyid.



Mr. Haroon Rashid, Guest of Honor in his enlightening discourse described how the idea of 'Unicorn Black' was generated and about making of 'Burqa Avengers' the first-ever Pakistani animated TV series. He also spoke about the difficulties faced during the making of this TV series, the constraints experienced by him, and how he prevailed over them to make 'Burqa Avengers' a mega success not only in Pakistan but world over. He emphasized on the importance of Multimedia Technology, in Pakistan and abroad, with particular reference to students who have either completed or are about to complete their degrees and are preparing to begin their career.

Dr. Feroza Ahmed, Dean Social Sciences and Director General HR, Preston University highly appreciated the efforts of the students and the organizers who were instrumental in organizing the event.

Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University awarded certificates of commendation to the graduating students. He had announced these awards earlier at "In-House Project Expo Spring 2016". Over 150 Students participated in the Ceremony. Later, in his brief remarks Chancellor Dr. Abdul Basit, eulogized the efforts of the Computer Science Department and the teachers who assisted the students in producing quality projects. He also called upon the graduates to develop specialized skills to cope with the ever-challenging and ever-growing needs of the IT Industry. Dr. Basit wished the graduates a successful career and a bright future.



Preston University Hosts Talk on “Pakistan-Poland Bilateral Relations”

Preston University hosted a talk on ‘Pakistan-Poland Relations’. The referenced event which was organized by the Society of Global Civilizations (SGC), Islamabad was held at the Islamabad Campus of the University in February 2017.

The distinguished Guest Speaker on the occasion was H.E. Piotr Opalinski, Ambassador of Poland to Pakistan. Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University and Patron SGC, Islamabad was also conspicuous by his distinguished presence at the event.



In his comprehensive discourse on the occasion the Polish Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Piotr Opalinski unfolded the history of Pakistan-Poland relations over the decades. He said Polish ties with Pakistan date back to 1940 when a number of Polish families migrated to Karachi. Between August 24, 1942 and December 31, 1944 over thirty thousand Polish refugees were housed in refugee camps and were settled in Karachi. In 1939, the then Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin had annexed Eastern Poland, forcing Polish intellectuals, scientists, technicians, and others to emigrate and seek refuge in neutral countries. More than 30,000 Polish citizens sought refuge in Karachi, which was then governed by the British Empire. Some remained in Karachi, becoming citizens of the newly established State of Pakistan in 1947. Ambassador Opalinski further informed that some Polish academics joined the faculty of Karachi University, teaching courses ranging from physical sciences to social sciences. After the independence of Pakistan, Władysław Turowicz, along with thirty Polish officers and technicians, contributed to and assisted in the establishment of the Pakistan Air Force.



Talking about Polish-Pakistan defence ties the Polish Ambassador said that the defence ties between the two countries have been very strong and historic. He said in 1948, Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan sanctioned a three-year agreement with exiled members and officers of the Polish Air Force to build the Pakistan Air Force (PAF). Among them was General Władysław Turowicz, who became Deputy Chief of Air Staff in the PAF. The Polish officers and General Turowicz set up technical institutes, notably the Air Force Institute of Aviation Technology in Karachi.

Giving a rundown on Poland-Pakistan economic cooperation Polish Ambassador H.E. Piotr Opalinski said Poland helped a number of Pakistani companies to open offices in Poland in order to cater to the regional European market. Poland is considered to have large shale gas deposits and prominent Polish geological surveying and exploration companies have business and investment relations with Pakistan. He said, his country's goal vis-à-vis economic cooperation with Pakistan is to foster contacts between business communities in order to increase the trade exchange volume.

Earlier, in his welcome address Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University and Patron Society of Global Civilizations (SGC) expressed his gratitude to the Ambassador of Poland, H.E. Piotr Opalinski for accepting the invitation of the Society to participate in the program as Guest Speaker. He also briefly spoke about Poland-Pakistan bilateral relations.

Preston Mission Statement

“Preston is committed to providing university education of the highest quality for preparing students for professional careers, and promoting research and development. Its two-fold mission is to give students the opportunity for personal growth and development, skill enhancement and professional career advancement, and to create, sustain and promote research and development for expanding the horizons of knowledge.”

PRESTON UNIVERSITY CHARTER

Preston University, Kohat-NWFP is chartered by the Government of NWFP vide NWFP Ordinance No. LII of 2002. Preston University, Karachi is chartered by the Government of Sindh vide act V of 2004. Both, Preston University at Kohat and Karachi are fully recognized by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) the highest regulatory body of the Government of Pakistan in the field of Higher Education.

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