

PAKISTAN STUDY CENTRE



ONE DAY REFERENCE SEMINAR ON DR.HAMIDAKHUHRO REMEMBERED

SEMINAR REPORT



March 21, 2017

UNIVERSITY OF SINDH, JAMSHORO
SINDH, PAKISTAN

SEMINAR REPORT

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WELCOME ADDRESS

Professor Dr. Farzana Baloch
Director, Pakistan Study Centre
University of Sindh, Jamshoro

RESOURCE PERSONS:

Professor Asif Ali G. Kazi
Institute of Mathematics & Computer Science
University of Sindh, Jamshoro
Professor Dr. Rafia Ahmed Sheikh
Former Pro-Vice-Chancellor
University of Sindh, Jamshoro
Professor Dr. M. Yakoob Mughul
Former Director, Pakistan Study Centre
University of Sindh Jamshoro
Dr. Gul Muhammad Umrani
Professor Lal Bakhsh Jiskani
Pakistan Study Centre
University of Sindh, Jamshoro
Mr. Mansoor Qadir Junejo

PRESIDED OVER BY

Professor Dr. Fateh Muhammad Burfat
Honourable Vice Chancellor
University of Sindh Jamshoro

VENUE

Pir Hussamuddin Sahah Rashdi Auditorium
Institute of Sindhology, University of Sindh

PARTICIPANTS

Faculty Members, M.Phil/Ph.D Scholars
and Students

PAKISTAN STUDY CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF SINDH, JAMSHORO

Welcome Address by:

Professor Dr. Farzana Baloch, Director Pakistan Study Centre
University of Sindh, Jamshoro

Professor Dr. Farzana Baloch, Director, Pakistan Study Centre, University of Sindh, Jamshoro paid great homage to academia and historian Dr. Hamida Khuhro. Being a founder director, the Centre arranged a reference seminar on *Dr. Hamida Khuhro Life Achievements and Struggle*, meanwhile accompanied members, who worked prior to him, spoke their feelings and experience what they have got from her books and experience.

She unmasked and eulogized her meritorious services, in the fields of education, history, literature, research and politics. She further added that Dr. Hamida Khuhro was a Founder Director of Pakistan Study Centre, Jamshoro and



Pioneer Editor of Biannual Research Journal Grassroots. Dr. Farzana informed the august house that the Pakistan Study Centre published special issue of Grassroots which dedicated to Dr. Hamida Khuhro and in this issue, an obituary of Shaikh Aziz which published in Daily Dawn on 13th February 2017 and as well as Professor Lal Bakhsh Jiskani's obituary have been published.

MansoorQadirJunejo

He said that, Dr.HamidaKhuhro was truly a carpenter for the literature, her books are the witness of her skills, on her times she was paralleled literary figure who equally contributed in literature and politics, her association was always great feeling for me, I learned a lot from her. She was loved to Sindh culture and always promoted it, she was the lady of manners and love.



Dr.HamidaKhuhro: The struggle and achievements

Prof. LalBakhshJiskani

The sudden passing away of Prof. Dr. HamidaKhuhro left everyone shocked and speechless indeed. She was founding Director Pakistan Study Centre and Chairperson, Department of History, University of Sindh. She was a brilliant visionary and an historian of high repute, an erudite teacher, research scholar, educationist and author of many books. Her sudden departure has deeply saddened everyone in Sindh and in the country. In the death of Dr. HamidaKhuhro,



Sindh had lost a finer daughter of Sindh and a jewel in the crown. It is indeed a huge loss to academia, scholarship, the people of Sindh and the country.

She will live in our hearts and her deep commitment, integrity, honesty and her passionate love for history, culture, education, books and for the children of Sindh and country will live a glorious example. In fact, she has left a vacuum as an

intellectual of caliber and historian of repute, her legacy will live forever and our youth must emulate her loftier ideals. In fact her historiography was based on most scientific, rational and secular methodology as she was trained at world class Universities such as Cambridge, Oxford and London in United Kingdom. It was rather privilege and honor to teach there with her deep commitment, though she belonged to a landed aristocracy based in Larkana Sindh and political family being daughter of Khan Bahadur Muhammad AyubKuhro the then Chief Minister of Sindh and Defence Minister of Pakistan but she had never given thought to join politics. She joined University of Sindh in 1973 on the insisting of Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah a renowned scholar educationalist and Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh. After joining as a Chairperson, department of history she felt an urgent need so put all her efforts for establishing a research oriented institution Pakistan Study Centre a first kind of such study centre established in 1973 in the country three years before the other four such Centres were established at other universities of Pakistan followed by an Act the resolution passed in National Assembly in 1976. She accepted the challenge, and under the able guidance of Dr.N.A.Baloch the Vice Chancellor, the Centre flourished within six years of a short span of time. During her stay she established a resource Centre or library for research scholars and collected selected volumes on history, culture, geography, economics, freedom movement, All India Muslim League, Pakistan movement, gazetteers on Sindh and India and archaeological books on Indus Civilization. As William Faulkner, famous American writer said "Perhaps they were right in putting love into books. Perhaps it could not live anywhere else". She received and had written letters to scholars at home and abroad for getting cooperation and support for promoting scholarly activities and she succeeded in having mutual agreements with various institutions with Pakistan Study Centre. During Soviet Union times, Professor Yu.V.Gankovsky, Director,

Oriental Studies, Moscow had made contact with Dr. Khuhro and exchanged scholarly views and a mutual agreement was made between two institutions like some other world institutions. The two scholars from Oriental Studies had visited and stayed with us for few days. I was selected for nine months under a cultural program but unfortunately the Soviet Union was disintegrated in 1979. Prof. Gankovsky was author of several books and on history of Pakistan in ethnological perspective. He had contributed paper in Sindh Through Centuries under the title: Sindh at the end of colonial rule. The article was based on ethnological studies of Sindh and the formation of a nationality like other nationalities existing in the country.

The first issue of Grassroots, the biannual research journal of the Centre was published in 1977. The name of journal was given by herself and approved by Vice Chancellor, it was highly appreciated at home and abroad. The journal was sent abroad on reciprocal basis regularly. Today it's catering the needs of young and seasoned scholars simultaneously. She was author of five small books on history of four Provinces of Pakistan and GilgatBaltistan for children to give them a kind of consciousness about the history of their own land or provinces respectively. Her classic book the Making of Modern Sind first published in 1978 as Ph.D, thesis and its new edition published in 1999 is a remarkable contribution about the modern historiography which shades new light on the social and cultural changes taking place during 19th century in Sindh-an unparalleled work on the modern history of Sindh. The work was literally completed under the guidance of Dr.H.T.Lamrick. Her other book Muhammad AyubKhuhro: A life of Courage in Politics, a biographical book on her father which enlightens us on politics of Muslim League in Sindh province and role of Muhammad AyubKhuhro in All India Muslim League, separation of Sindh from Bombay Presidency and in imposition of One-Unit scheme

which he had supported in 1955. Her article appeared in the first issue of *Grassroots*, a nineteenth Century guerrilla war, while shedding light on the first Hur movement 1896 is splendid work on Hur movement. It is a missing link between the first and second Hur Movement later taking place in 1930 led by SoorehBadshah which she had filled a yawning gap of history in Sindh. A history of resistance in Sindh on the pattern of *The Terrorist* by H.TLambrick. Her another article appeared in *Grassroots* was Shah Abdul Latif of Bhit his life and achievements. It was also considered an excellent scholarly article as one of the sources on the life and poetry of the great poet of Sindh. Later the article was frequently referred by the scholar in their papers. Her another book, *Karachi: Mega city of our times*, with co-authorship of Anwar Mooraj. Her another book a compilations of articles contributed in Sindh through centuries with scholarly an excellent foreword. The book carried her article *The Political Organizations of Sindhi Muslims for brining Political change during Colonial Rule in Sindh*. Her another brilliant foreword contributed in the book, *A visit to the Court of Sind* by Dr.James Burns. Dr.HamidaKhuhro remained twice minister for Education in Sindh, during her stay she increased enrollment of students in Sindh and distributed 100000 copies of English to Sindhi and English to Urdu dictionaries free of charge to the students of province with the collaboration of Oxford University Press which had improved the quality of education in Sindh and made remarkable history. She started working on Pakistan Study Centre on a meager budget of Rs.6000 as I remember and has reached its zenith today. I feel pride in it that I had stayed with her and worked in all odds and difficulties during her stay as faculty founding member and she taught me good things in life as my mentor and she showed me the path of scholarship, hard work, honesty and dedication. She was placid, sagacious, epitome of deep commitment, dedication, honesty and integrity and a rare human being having motherly and sisterly affection

for youngsters as I found her. I had privilege to work with her as assistant editor, “Grassroots” for 6 years and in the later years as editor and remained associated with the research journal for 20 years. During her six years stay she published seven volumes of Grassroots which included her articles with scholarly editorials and had made remarkable legacy. She loved scholarship, books, children and believed in human bonds. During her stay she had supported hundreds of poor and needy students of the university to support them financially from her own pocket. The Centre is producing masters in Pakistan studies, M.Phil and Ph.Ds and hundreds of youngsters having qualified in the subject are teaching not only in Sindh but other provinces also and earning their honest living while serving as teachers in colleges and universities throughout the country today. Taking her huge and invaluable contribution and precious services rendered in the field of education, scholarship and building the institutions. It is worth to be mentioning here that Pakistan Study Centre at University of Sindh may be upgraded as an institution and be given its name Dr. Hamida Khuhro Institution of Pakistan Studies.

Professor Dr. Muhammad Yaqoob Mughal

The Former Director, Pakistan Study Centre, University of Sindh, Jamshoro Professor Dr. Muhammad Yakub Mughal expressed his associated feeling with her during job days, he said my attachment with her are great memorial feelings of my life, as I observed she was very kind and gorgeous lady, and was true to her profession, she was very punctual, and hard worker, she was keen of reading and writing, she used to write on history of Sindh and many of books she translated in Sindhi language. It shows her love and attachment with literature.



Former Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Sindh Professor Dr. Rafia Ahmed Sheikh

Dr. Hamida Khuhro has always remained very special to me. We, in Sindh, are proud to have had her as an educationist, academician, historian, politician and a prolific writer.

Though she looked tough, yet she was as soft-hearted as could be. She always smiled when she caught my eyes. She exuberated warmth and familiarity and would put one at rest when in her company. She was indeed a gifted lady she knew the history of Sindh and that of Pakistan on her fingertips. It was a treat to



hear her discuss historical and political issues. On a few occasions, I happened to be in her midst when friendly discussions were held in the office of the Director of the Institute of Sindhology. I would simply be awe-struck by her vast knowledge and intelligence. However, she never threw her weight and was highly practical and down to earth. On a personal level, we shared a few things:

- a) She had the same name as that of my mother's,
- b) She passed away on the same date as that of my father's,
- c) We both were loss.

We also had certain family affiliations. Dr. Hamida Khuhro would visit my late grandfather's house at Cantt Saddar Hyderabad, who was Secretary of Noor Mohammad High School and a friend of her father. It was at this place that my father had first met her and would always call her "a scholarly lady".

Dr.HamidaKhuhro's father had studied for two years at the Sindh Madressah in Karachi, a school established in 1885 by my great grandfather Khan BahadurHassanally Beg Effendi.



My late uncle ZafarHasan Shah (married to my Khala) had his sister married to SaeedKazi brother of HaleemKazi. HaleemKazi was HamidaKhuhro's husband. My Khala tells us that whenever they visited their house, ApaHamida met them with grace, affection and respect.

Dr.HamidaKhuhro was a good-luck charm for me. I remember when I had applied for admission to the University College London for my PhD programme, I sought Dr.HamidaKhuhro's permission to write her name as one of my referees. She had happily agreed. On my further request she sent a "Letter of Reference" direct to the University College London as was required.

My Supervisor at the University College London, Mr. John McIlwaine, on receiving the letter of Reference from her, considered my application seriously. He knew Dr. HamidaKhuhro very well. He wrote to me recently that before he joined University College London in 1965, he had worked for three years at the India Office Library in London. There he had first met Dr. HamidaKhuhro and said that she was a regular

reader at the India Office Library as she was working on her PhD thesis at the SOAS (School of Oriental & African Studies), London.

Another scholar, Martin Moir, then a Senior Archivist at the India Office Library in London, communicated with me a few days ago that he first met Dr. Hamida Khuhro in the 1960s when she was studying at several UK universities including Cambridge, Oxford & London. Infact, she was awarded her PhD degree by the London University



in 1965. Her PhD thesis was on the “Making of Modern Sindh, a study of British Policy and its effect on social change in the region in the 19th century”, which was published later in 1999 under a slightly modified caption.

Mr. Moir had further added that his own role in those days was that of an archivist responsible for advising post-graduate students using the India Office Records and it was there that her met Hamida (as he affectionately called her).

MrMoir’s Sindhi speaking wife from Pakistan, MrsZawahirMoir got to know Dr.HamidaKhuhro while she herself was studying for her thesis on the First Agha Khan.

In the words of MrMoir as he wrote to me that “we were both very impressed by Hamida’s strong personality and academic gifts. In the course of my subsequent researches on archives in Pakistan (in most of which Zawahir joined) especially in the years 1975, 1986 and 2001, we were very happy to meet up with Hamida in Sindh, especially on one occasion when she invited us to stay in her house in Karachi, where we also met her husband”.



While reminiscing, Martin wrote “we will always remember Hamida for her historical acumen, her wide ranging political and educational activities and her readiness to extend warm hospitality to her friends”.

DrHamidaKhuhro is indeed an icon for all Sindhi women. We women are not only about home-making and family care-taking, but we are also thinking individuals who have a contribution to make to our community, to our nation and to our ideals. Therefore, it behooves young women to be inspired by this learned lady and walk in her footsteps to read and to write. There are no easy ways to become like

HamidaKhuhro. Anything worthy requires hard work and inspiration and commitment.

If we want to honour Dr. HamidaKhuhro then we be like her. If we want to keep her memory alive, we should read what she wrote. Only then we would be able to realize what she should mean to the women in Sindh.

I would further add that we should read what she read. She had always remained an avid reader.

She wrote in her book “Muhammad AyubKhuhro: A Life of Courage in Politics” (a biography of her father) and I quote her: “Over the several years that I have spent researching and writing this book, I have read and referred to innumerable books and documents..... I would append below a comparatively brief bibliography which includes printed books, pamphlets, newspapers and collections of private papers both from here and abroad and some of the people I have interviewed”.

Dr. Gul Muhammad Umrani

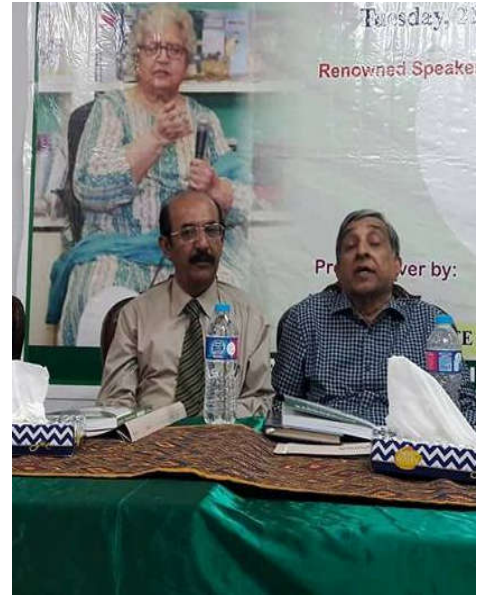
He shed lights on DrKhuhro’s political career, saying that it was in 1987 that she joined Sindh national alliance, she was made the provincial minister for education and literacy in 1990 and in 1993 she joined the Pakistan Muslim league, and again she was appointed education minister in 2004, which shows her ability and continuously efforts in the field of politics, she was true to



her profession whatever she got, she never compromised with illegal statements and illegal steps, she was the name of courageous and hard work.

Professor DrAsif Ali G. Kazi

Professor Asif Ali G. Kazisaid that DrKhuhro loved Sindh and always worked silently for the welfare and prosperity of people. She made great efforts to improve the quality of education and promote literacy and literature in the province. He expressed his expressing that, we first time met while appearing in interview at Sindh university of Jamshoro, I was the candidate for lecturer and she for professor, in her first meeting she never looks me as an strange, her talks, way of loving and caring won my hearts, she was truly good and moral character lady I found.



Presidential Address of Professor Dr. Fateh Muhammad Burfat, Honourable Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh, Jamshoro



Speaking to the audience honorable vice chancellor University of Sindh JamshoroDr.Fateh Muhammad Burfat paid great homage to her; he termed

Dr.Khuhro death a great loss to the country, because she was like national assess , he said her services are matchless and her works be remembered for hundreds of years , he says her contribution to education field, history, literature and politics are mountainous efforts which are prove of her ability and skills, he says I observed Dr.Hamida who also server education minster of Sindh and I remembered she made hectic efforts towards ensuring quality education to students of province , he express his thought about her character saying that, being a kind lady, she loved the rich and poor equally, there was no discrimination system in her mind.

Addressing to the students specially, he said she was an icon, gigantic writer, ideal nature lady, the young generation must get fruit from her services, he advised students to read her books to learn great thoughts and ideas about subjects, she is the role model for all of us .

VOTE OF THANKS

Mr.Mashook Ali Khowaja

At the end, Mr.Mashooq Ali Khowaja presented his vote of thanks. He said that on behalf of Pakistan Study Centre, he was thankful to the Guest Speakers for coming from Hyderabad and Karachi at our invitation. He thanked the learned Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Fateh Muhammad Burfat for given precious time during the reference seminar. Dr. Burfat presided over the reference and delivered a thoughtful speech. He appreciated the efforts of Pakistan Study Centre team especially for the valuable assistance provided in the arrangements by the honourable Vice Chancellor.



Great persons, he added, were rare who would change the destiny of nations by providing sense of direction and setting examples to follow the set path. Such are the people we have remembered and eulogized today. He added paying homage is not the ultimate objective. It's the following of the message of great woman will make a difference, he prayed to Allah that she (Dr.HamidaKhuhro) may bless the departed souls and give us the wisdom of the follow in her footsteps.

Prof.Dr.FarzanaBaloch

Director