

## May in History

- May 18, 1950:*  
The Peshawar University comes into being.
- May 11, 1951:*  
University of Karachi is established.
- May 14, 1956:*  
PM Ch. Muhammad Ali presents the first five-year plan.
- May 1, 1972:*  
Labour Day is celebrated for the first time in Pakistan.
- May 21, 1997:*  
Saeed Anwar slams world record score of 194 runs against India.
- May 28, 1998:*  
Pakistan conducts nuclear tests in Chagai hills in Balochistan.
- May 22, 2004:*  
Pakistan readmitted to Commonwealth.

*23 May-15 July 2009:*  
Pakistan Army launched Operation Rah-e-Rast and cleared Swat Valley of all Taliban elements. It is regarded as one of the most successful counter-insurgency operation in modern age

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## Moment of Pride: Usman T. Malik Wins the Bram Stoker Award for Short Fiction



Pakistani English writer and DWL co-founder Usman T. Malik has won the 2014 **Bram Stoker Award for Superior Achievement in Short Fiction** for his story **The Vaporization Enthalpy of a Peculiar Pakistani Family**.

The Bram Stoker Awards, which honour the previous year's best writing in 11 categories, were announced on Saturday at the World Horror Convention in Atlanta, Georgia (US). The awards are presented annually by the Horror Writers Association, an organisation of horror and dark fantasy writers and publishers.

Malik's story won alongside Rena Mason's Ruminations in the short fiction category.

Malik is a graduate of the Clarion West Writers Workshop. He has been featured in the Best Science Fiction and Fantasy of the Year, Year's Best Weird Fiction, Year's Best Dark Fantasy &

Horror, Tor.com and Nightmare magazine. His novella, *The Pauper Prince and The Eucalyptus Jinn*, was published by Tor.com in April.

Malik has also been nominated for the prestigious Nebula Award this year and he previously won the DRAWA Inspiration Award for Best New Writer in 2013.

In December 2014, Malik also conducted a speculative fiction writing workshop in Lahore, Pakistan. The workshop was organised by DWL with support from Liberty Books. Read more about the workshop proceedings here [link].

The complete list of winners of Bram Stoker Awards 2014 is available here [link]. Previous winners of the award include writers Stephen King, JK Rowling and Joyce Carol Oates, according to the association's website.

*Courtesy: Desi Writers' Lounge*

## After the wall, this fridge shows kindness in Peshawar

The city's scorching heat becomes almost intolerable for labourers who work without any semblance of shade. With temperature rising up to 44 degrees Celsius on most days, the daily wagers are living proof that not all rays emitting from the sun are harmless.

However, students of various universities have tried to ease their misery by installing a refrigerator on Peshawar's bustling thoroughfare, University Road.

Inspired by Karachi's Alamgir 'Fixit' campaign, students decided to fill the fridge with cold beverages and fresh fruits for the daily wage earners. These labourers not only work during the harsh summers, but can barely afford a cool drink to beat the heat.

Set on the premises of a CNG station opposite the Islamia College, Peshawar building, a refrigerator filled with fruits and fresh juices provides welcome relief to

these workers. Hasher Mehsood who heads the team, says, "We have installed it on humanitarian grounds to provide relief to the needy in this hot weather." He adds it is aimed at facilitating labourers who work without fans or air conditioners.

Mehsood tells the fridge has been purchased through donations and his team plans on installing more of them at busy thoroughfares where labourers wait for customers.

"The fridge cost Rs35,000 for which three people have donated," he says. He adds the team regularly visits better off people in the city to collect charity to ensure the fridge remains stocked each day.

As if to counter nature's lack of benevolence, even the owner of the CNG station, where the fridge is installed, promises to provide a power line for it. "He also agrees to ensure the station's security guards keep an eye on



the fridge," Mehsood adds.

The student requests that the public and affluent families donate to the cause.

After installing the Wall of Kindness and Happiness Box, students from various varsities across the city took to installing a well-stocked fridge for labourers.

Khan Mohammad, 35, clad in cement-stained overalls, says he mostly waits for his bus near the CNG station each day. "Sometimes, I wish I could purchase a soft drink as the heat gets unbearable," he adds.

The worker says he has to be mindful of the Rs400-500 he makes each day and has to be careful about where and how he

spends his money. "The amount I make is so little that I cannot afford to spend money on drinks," Khan says, adding now he can quench his thirst thanks to this initiative.

Mohammad Rafiq, a social activist based in Peshawar, believes such projects portrayed the goodness of society and peoples' willingness and potential to help those who are less fortunate.

He says apart from providing relief to the public, the government should make sure labour laws are implemented in the province. "No one should be allowed to violate the rights of labourers in the city," he concludes.

*Courtesy: The Express Tribune*



## Pakistan's youngest social entrepreneur is nine years old

Nine-year-old Zymal Umar is the founder of an inspiring social project called Zee Bags — an endeavor that not only aims to help the underprivileged but also the environment.

In an attempt to clear the streets of her beautiful city Sargodha of plastic bags, Zymal decided to start making reusable bags using old newspapers.

Zymal recalled a shopping trip with her parents three years ago that first planted the idea in her

head. Distracted by the sight of plastic bags on the streets, she was taken over by feelings of disappointment and thoughts about the harmful repercussions of plastic pollution.

Then all of a sudden, serendipitously, her attention was caught by a shopkeeper handing out newspaper bags to his customers. Deeply inspired by the idea, Zymal decided to take action and make a desired change.

Since then, Zymal has managed to sell hundreds of bags, use her profits to buy essential items for underprivileged children belonging to SOS village, and make contributions to other charitable foundations.

Zymal says she finds fulfillment and enjoyment in the work she does. She puts in a lot of effort into each of her pieces, decorating the bags with different stones and flowers. She says her parents have been her greatest support, turning her ideas turn into reality.

Studying at the Beacon House School System Sargodha, the nine-year-old successfully manages to find a balance between her goals to alleviate poverty, save the environment and achieve academic success. She says in the future, along with pursuing higher education, she hopes to inspire others and take her project to a global level.

Being Pakistan's youngest social

entrepreneur, Zymal has been awarded the TIE, the youngest entrepreneurship award and received a gold medal from the Federal Secretary of Education in Pakistan. Her efforts have also been recognised in Saudi Arabia, where she was invited to receive the Prince Abdul Aziz Award for Children Pioneer/Entrepreneur.

The young entrepreneur says she plans to launch a website and a mobile application in the near future to expand her reach to a wider customer base. You can find more information and help Zymal by contacting her on her Facebook page, Zee Bags.

By: Abdullah Sheikh, BS43 3808

*Courtesy: The Express Tribune*

## Pakistan's first Formula electric car enters US competition

National University of Science and Technology (NUST) made news as it was named among 150 best young universities in the world. The varsity certainly deserves its place in the list with its students having built Pakistan's first electric powered formula racing car.

selected as the only team from Asia to take part in the FSAE Electric competition in the electrical category to be held in Lincoln, NE, USA this year from June 15 to June 18.

NUST among 150 best young universities in the world

International and is set to compete with universities from all over the world.

The team is certainly geared up to put up a good show at the international event after spending 16 months planning, researching and manufacturing the car.

"Bank Alfalah is on board with us now as part of their rising talent campaign and is sponsoring us to raise the green flag for the very first time in USA," Thebo said.

NUST students build car to race against international competitors

Another team from the same university called NUST Formula Student Team has also been selected for an international design competition in Germany.

The competition named Formula Student Germany is part of Formula SAE series and will be held from 9-14 August 2016.

"We are NUST FS Team, and we have been developing a combustion type race vehicle, every year for the past four years, and have been participating at FS

UK earlier, and FS Germany later, as the only team from Pakistan," Muhammad Umer, team manager, said.

"Last year at Formula Student UK, we stood at 49th rank among 106 teams from 28 different countries of the world, surpassing two teams from India," he added.

Formula Student is an engineering design competition organized by Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). The competition aims to inspire and develop enterprising and innovative young engineers. It challenges universities across the globe to conceive, design, build and test a small scale formula style race vehicle every year. Each student team builds a prototype based on a series of rules, both ensuring on-track safety and promoting clever problem solving.

The event takes place at a number of different locations around the globe every year, including, UK, Germany, Lincoln, Michigan, Australia and Japan. The competition is backed by many leading automotive and engineering firms around the world.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*



In a smashing ceremony at Pearl Continental hotel, Karachi on Thursday, a team of undergraduate engineering students from Pakistan Navy Engineering College, a constituent college of NUST, unveiled a formula electric racing car which is entirely designed and manufactured in-house.

Not only that, they have been

"It's an amazing feeling and a great honour for all of us to be a part of the team and represent Pakistan at such a big stage," Danial Thebo, who is part of the communications and management team.

He added that the car was made in consideration with the rigorous standards laid out by SAE

## Hyderabad woman wins Commonwealth award for excellence in education

Mona Prakash Mahtani, a resident of Hyderabad, received the Commonwealth Youth Award for Excellence, 2016, in the field of education.

The award was given at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London by Youth Affairs director Katherine Ellis. The award is given to young people under the age of 30 years who have significantly contributed to social uplift.

Mahtani is the only Pakistani to receive this award in 2016. Some

17 young people from 53 Commonwealth countries were selected for the award. Mahtani was earlier conferred United Nations Development Programme's N-Peace award.

Mona founded Dewan Farm School in her village, a primary school targeting poor and minority families. Since its establishment, Dewan has expanded its annual attendance from three to 75 pupils.

By: Abdullah Sheikh, BS43 3808  
*Courtesy: The Express Tribune*



## How Sister Zeph's one-room school in Gujranwala became a global sensation

Shehzad Hameed's documentary on the school just bagged the best documentary award at New York Festivals

It seems like Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy isn't the only documentary filmmaker making waves worldwide.

Shehzad Hameed's *Flight of the Falcons* is about an extraordinary teacher, Riffat Arif, also known as Sister Zeph, who runs a school in Aroop, Gujranwala. The documentary chronicles her life and that of her three students as they struggle to fight against child marriage, corporal punishment and societal pressures to achieve a mutual dream: empowering young girls and women of the nation through education.

And it's getting the recognition it deserves; the film bagged the Gold Medal in the Best Documentary: Community Portraits category at the New York Festi-

vals 2016 held last week. category

Talking to Images, Hameed shares what it was like: "With over 400 jury members representing more than 75 countries, it is one of the finest competitions to be nominated in and I'm the only Pakistani whose work was shortlisted for this year's race, especially in the documentary category."

"Very rarely do we find feel-good documentaries from Pakistan doing well at the global level and I feel extremely proud. One of my beliefs is to try to hire as many Pakistanis for my projects and give them exposure to the kind of work people experience at the international level."

The filmmaker also updated us on how his documentary has impacted Sister Zeph's cause. "Since the doc went on-air, the schools' cause received global limelight. The highlight of



which came in 2015 when the Malala Fund decided to further the cause by writing about Sister Zeph and the documentary."

"The appeal to raise funds for the school went global. As a result, various people offered help. One American, Melee Kenworthy from Idaho joined the school and recently paid a visit to Gujranwala. Here, she brought gifts and school supplies for the girls, while offering

them self-defence classes."

He adds, "At the moment, the school has gone on from a one-room run down place to a proper building with separate rooms for many activities such as stitching, beautician courses to regular school classes. You can routinely find Sister Zeph updating the school's Facebook page with exciting new updates."

*Courtesy: Dawn.com*

## PSX closes stronger after volatile trading week

The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) ended the session higher after a volatile week. The index opened the week lower after the cut in interest rates by the State Bank of Pakistan. Investors remained cautious throughout in absence of any strong trigger.

Other Asian stock markets were mostly higher Friday as investors maintained a cautiously optimistic outlook while they waited for US economic data and remarks by the Fed chief. Crude oil failed to sustain above the \$50 mark in Asian trade.

The benchmark index rallied up 235.55 points to 36,776.52 intra-day and was seen down only 9.56 points before it settled at 36,694.26, following a 153.29 points gain. The KMI 30 index

shot up 363.33 points to reach 64,537.04 and dropped 28.39 points to 64,145.32. The index closed at 64,367.79 with 194.08 points positive. The KSE All Share index landed at 24,856.43, up by 31.96 points. The session had 185 advancers and 158 decliners. The market volumes continued to dry up further.

Total volumes of 199.986 million were recorded as the power generation and distribution sector remained in lead again. The sector had a cumulative volume of 28.30 million with K-Electric Limited (KEL-2.52%) being the volume leader. Arshad Energy Limited (AEL) hit another upper lock at Rs 11.20 after 9.80% appreciation. Japan Power Generation Limited (JPGL) rose 3.36% and Pakgen Power Lim-

ited (PKGP) by 2.04%.

The technology and communications sector was next as TRG Pak Ltd (TRG +2.15%) remained both volume and percentage price leader. Other scripts in the sector were weak as Systems Ltd (SYS+0.89%) and Avanceon Limited (AVN +0.19%) were slightly up.

Sugar and allied industries witnessed handsome gainers as companies declared results for the half year that ended on March 31, 2016. Ansari Sugar Mills Limited (ANSM +10.42) banged the upper lock after announcement of earnings per share of Rs 4.50 for the quarter. Chashma Sugar Mills Limited (CHAS -5.00%) sunk to bottom lock with earnings per share of Rs 2.18. Jauharabad Sugar Mills

Limited (JSML), earnings per share of Rs 15.63, closed at day's high of 4.98%.

Byco Petroleum Pakistan Limited (BYCO) slid 0.13% as the board approved draft scheme of Byco Oil Pakistan Limited (BOPL) and Byco Terminals Pakistan Limited are to be merged with and into the company.

The oil and gas exploration took a breather and inched up. Pakistan Oilfields Limited (POL +5.00%) managed to close at the upper circuit breaker price of Rs 352.76. Oil and Gas Development Company (OGDC) and Mari Petroleum Limited (MARI) swelled 0.19% and 0.51% respectively.

*Courtesy: The Express Tribune*



## Pakistani activist wins Nelson Mandela award 2016

Pakistani activist Tabassum Adnan won the prestigious Nelson Mandela Graça Machel Pakistani activist Tabassum Adnan won the prestigious Nelson Mandela Graça Machel Innovation Award 2016.

The winners of the 2016 Innovation Awards were publicly announced at Ceremony held on 28 April, as part of International Civil Society Week (ICSW), which was hosted by CIVICUS, in collaboration with the Confederación Colombiana de ONG from 25

to 28 April, 2016, in Bogotá, Colombia.

In 2015, Tabassum Adnan, founder of NGO Khwendo Jirga, or Sister's Council, a women-only jirga was awarded the Secretary of State's International Women of Courage Award in recognition of her services of women's rights.

A victim of child marriage, Adnan was married when she was 13-years-old. After suffering 20 years of physical and mental abuse, Adnan divorced her husband, which made her lose her children,

home, and money. Swat's Tabassum Adnan dedicates Secretary of State award to all women. Later she started the NGO, Khwendo Jirga, a first of its kind women-only jirga, where women meet weekly to discuss issues such as honour killings, acid attacks, and swara, or giving women as compensation for crimes.

The jirga brought awareness to women's security, their right to vote and offers free legal help to victims of violence.

By: Abdullah Sheikh, BS43 3808  
*Courtesy: The Express Tribune*

## Upcoming budget to help attain sustained, inclusive growth: Dar

Finance Minister emphasizes completion of FBR's budget related exercise at the earliest.

budget related exercise at the earliest.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar has expressed the confidence that measures suggested for the upcoming budget would help attain sustained and inclusive growth.

Chairman FBR giving an update on the state of revenue collection said it exhibited a positive trend and target of revenue collection for the current year would be met.

He was chairing a meeting at Federal Board of Revenue in Islamabad on Saturday to discuss finalization of budgetary proposals.

The meeting also held discussion on matters relating to withholding tax and the future course of action to be adopted in this respect.

The Finance Minister emphasized completion of FBR's

Meanwhile, a delegation of Exchange Companies Association of Pakistan held a meeting



with Finance Minister Ishaq Dar in Islamabad.

Minister's support for resolution of their problems.

The meeting noted that the external account of the country is stable and foreign exchange reserves have reached an all-time high level of 21.6 billion dollars.

Ishaq Dar assured that their proposals for next budget would be considered in the ongoing budget exercise and their genuine problems would also be addressed.

The delegation sought Finance

By: Abdul Haseeb Dhedhi, BS44 3976  
*Courtesy: The Express Tribune*

## Pakistani student wins International Maths competition

A Pakistani student, Abu Hifs has won gold medal by securing first position in international Mathematics competition held under University of South Wales Australia.

Kotmomin area of Sargodha was the student of Seventh class in Bhabra Higher Secondary Government School Tehsil Kot Momin and he out excelled the students of 16 countries who participated in the competition.

Abu Hifs, resident of

*Courtesy: International The News*



## Full SCO membership to do Pakistan a world of good

Greater access to resources and energy import projects to be available; country's position in region and world to be strengthened; will have a positive impact on military and technical cooperation between Russia and Pakistan and huge communication projects with China

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) a Eurasian political, economic and military organization – is all set to welcome Pakistan and India as its full-fledged members next month when Uzbekistan chairs the forthcoming SCO Summit in Tashkent between June 23 and 24 or less than a month from now.

The SCO history and membership: At present, the full members of SCO are China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, with Afghanistan, Belarus, Mongolia, Iran, Pakistan and India enjoying the observer status.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization was founded in 2001 in Shanghai by the leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. These countries, except for Uzbekistan, had been members of the Shanghai Five, founded on April 26, 1996; after the inclusion of Uzbekistan in 2001, the members renamed the organization.

On April 24, 1997, the same countries had signed the "Treaty on Reduction of Military Forces in Border Regions" in a meeting in Moscow, and July 10, 2015, the SCO had decided to admit Pakistan as full member, and now it is expected to formally join this forum next month or June 2016.

It is imperative to note that the six full ECO members account for 60 per cent of the land mass of Eurasia and are home to a quarter of the world's population. With observer states included, its affiliates account for about half of the world's population.

Pakistan and SCO: During a joint summit with China in 2006, the then president Gen Pervez Musharraf had argued in favour of Pakistan's qualification to join the organization as a full member.

Russia had publicly endorsed Pakistan's bid to get full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization as the then prime minister Vladimir Putin had made this announcement in response to Prime Minister

Yousaf Raza Gilani's address at the SCO meeting at the Constantine Palace outside St Petersburg (Russia) on November 6, 2011.

China had said that it would convey Pakistan's desire to all SCO member states. In turn, Gen Musharraf was formally invited to the sixth summit of the SCO to take place in Shanghai.

On November 7, 2011, Russia, for the first time, publicly endorsed Pakistan's bid to get full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

At the SCO Summit in 2014, China had also expressed support for Pakistan's application for full membership. Pakistan had applied for membership in 2006 and the same was approved in July 2015.

The process of granting Pakistan full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization finally got under way in Ufa (Russia) during incumbent Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit of July 2015.

SCO's official purposes: The SCO's official purposes are cooperation on political, economic, and military matters – though the latter two dominate. In the words of Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, the SCO has become a paradigm of global and regional cooperation with great vitality and significant influence, and serves as a model of efficient cooperation by paying equal attention simultaneously to economic development and security cooperation.

Possible benefits for Pakistan: The permanent SCO membership for Pakistan will ensure greater access to resources and energy import projects within the grouping's framework.

A Western media house had opined: "Pakistan would not have to wait for long, just the start of the membership process will give it a trump card in dialogue with traditional donors, particularly the US, who always tries to use its economic support as a pressure tactic."

Another media outlet had asserted: "Pakistan's membership of the SCO will significantly strengthen the country's position in the region and the world over and will have a positive impact on several major issues pertaining to military and technical cooperation between Russia and Pakistan and on huge communi-



cation projects with China. With plans under way to connect the Silk Road Economic Belt with the Eurasian Economic Union, the role of Pakistan in regional economy and infrastructure projects will definitely increase because the Kashgar-Gwadar project between Islamabad and Beijing is part of the Silk Road belt."

Chinese leaders are optimistic that the membership of Pakistan and India will help build bridges, but the fact that the two estranged nations are nearly always at loggerheads over security issues – a major piece of what the SCO tackles – makes it seem a fantasy. The Indian and Pakistani troops, for example, participating together in a joint SCO military exercise, would be quite a landmark event.

According to many political pundits, joining ECO as a full member will provide Pakistan an opportunity to play its cards strongly with conventional development partners like the United States and multilateral donors including the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Asian Development Bank. There is a common perception that the US uses these multilateral forums for political gains globally.

The ISPR publication had maintained: "The full permanent membership of the SCO is a promising development for Pakistan. It has dramatically improved the political atmosphere of Islamabad's relations with its regional neighbours and partners. For understanding the true Shanghai spirit one needs to familiarize with the SCO's primary objective and operational apparatus.

The declared objectives of the SCO are to strengthen mutual trust, friendship and good-neighbourly relations among the member states; encouraging effective cooperation among them in politics, trade and economy, science and technology, culture, education, energy, transportation, ecology and other areas; joint efforts to maintain and ensure peace, security and stability in the region, to create a new democratic, just and rational political and economic international order.

By: Basit Jawaid, BS48 5394  
*Courtesy: The News*

## Polio virus: Samples test negative for local transmission across country

Efforts to eradicate poliovirus from the country accelerated soon after International Health Regulations (IHR) proposed restriction on movement of Pakistan nationals and made it mandatory for every citizen to carry polio certificates.

Soon after, officials concerned held repeated meetings to prepare strategies to tackle the situation. Authorities planned scheduled as well as unscheduled polio drives and set 2016 as the year of exterminating poliovirus from the country.

The diligence seems to have paid off as officials dealing with polio eradication informed samples collected from different sites across the country were sent to National Institute of Health (NIH) and laboratory results confirmed that reservoirs were free of poliovirus.

“We have taken control of the local poliovirus since 39 samples have tested negative,” a senior health official dealing with polio eradication campaigns told.

The official, requesting anonymity, added, “I am sure

we are a few steps away from eradicating the local virus altogether.”

He said officials concerned had fixed May 2016 as their target to eradicate the virus which has almost been achieved. However, he reaffirmed there was still a long way to go to declare Pakistan a polio-free country.

He also stated that officials in the country were putting their best efforts to curb local transmission of the virus. He also demanded international community stop flow of the deadly disease from neighbouring countries since a number of cases confirmed the crippling virus had been transmitted to Pakistan from Afghanistan.

“The development has been substantial since progress clearly indicates that free circulation of the virus was at the lowest level, the programme was on its track and soon the job will be finished,” National Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) coordinator for polio eradication programme Dr Rana Safdar said.

“The samples obtained from 39

sites from across the country in April were found to be negative,” he said, adding, new technology, Bag-Mediated Filtration System (BMFS), was being adopted which was under trial and could not be utilised yet.

A World Health Organization (WHO) official said poliovirus has not been detected for some months in the country and negative reports in environment samples prove it will be eradicated soon.

“We have almost achieved our goal since all 39 samples were proved to be poliovirus free and reservoirs did not transmit it anymore,” focal person on polio eradication Akbar Khan said.

“We only push them and make strategies for them but the credit goes to foot soldiers who face challenges on sites,” Akbar Khan said, adding, a great deal of work had yet to be accomplished.

How rosy is the picture? On the other hand, Unicef officials said the results were tested negative using conventional



methods, but were tested positive when assessed through advanced technology processing.

When contacted, Unicef team leader for polio eradication in K-P Dr Johar confirmed the reports.

“Yes, it is true samples tested negative while being processed through conventional methods but when BMFS was used, they tested positive,” he told. He stated BMFS tested positive for the virus in Shaheen Muslim Town in Peshawar and added all other samples from K-P obtained from what they called reservoirs tested negative even on BMFS method.

A total 11 cases of poliovirus have been confirmed in the country in 2016 with maximum cases, six, reported from K-P, four from Sindh and one from Balochistan.

*Courtesy: The Express Tribune*

## FDE plans to renovate 200 more schools under PM's reforms

The Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) has completed the PC-1, worth over Rs3 billion, for renovating 200 schools under the Prime Minister's Education Reforms Programme.

“After completing the PC-1, we have moved it to the Ministry of Capital Administration and Development Division. When it is approved from there, the PC-1 will be forwarded to the Planning Commission,” said coordinator of the prime minister's reform programme, Dr Tariq Masood.

Under this PC-1, 200 schools

will be renovated, and the sewerage system repaired, Dr Masood, who is also the director of Model Colleges, said.

The coordinator said that children in prep and nursery classes will also be given free meals of milk and biscuits.

After these 200 schools are renovated, FDE will be preparing to renovate the remaining 200, said FDE Director Planning Taj Bhatti.

While the renovation of the first 22 schools was done by the Capital Development Authority, Mr Bhatti said that the Pub-

lic Works Department will be carrying out the renovation of the next 200 schools.

A source said that special funds are likely to be earmarked in the budget for the fiscal year 2016-17 for the prime minister's education reforms.

FDE runs 422 educational institutions of which 22 were renovated in the first phase of the reform programme.

In one of these renovated schools, the Islamabad Model School for Girls in Sohan, there are still not enough rooms to

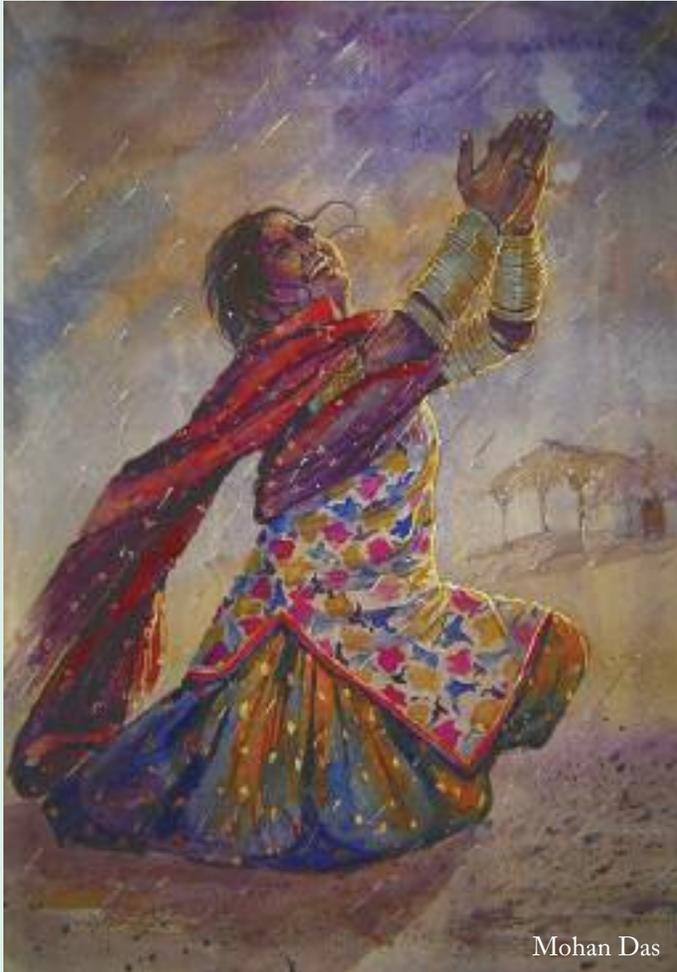
hold classes in and three classes are being taught in the open air. In many of the renovated schools, problems with the sewerage system also persist.

“New tiles were installed in our washrooms, but these are useless until the decades old sewerage system is replaced,” said a teacher of Islamabad Model School for Girls in G-6/2.

The FDE has, however, now decided to repair the sewerage systems in government run schools during the renovation work, said programme coordinator Tariq Masood.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

# Art Exhibition



Mohan Das



SCBPL organised an exclusive art exhibition 'Awaken Our Legacy' featuring diverse disciplines of Pakistani art namely ceramics, drawing, miniature, painting, photography and sculpture. SCBPL is committed to community based programmes and to support and showcasing the works of Pakistan's talent. SCBPL recognises that Pakistan's rich cultural heritage deserves to be celebrated. The inspiration to organise this event was Bank's global initiative: Seeing is Believing, through which the Bank has been working to eliminate avoidable blindness since 2003. The aim of this

event was to provide our clients not only a memorable experience but also to bring people together for a noble cause. A portion of the sales proceeds will be donated towards the Bank's local community investment partner in the Seeing is Believing initiative: Layton Rehmatullah Benevolent Trust.

The Bank will contribute an equal amount raised during the exhibition thus doubling the impact of everyone's generosity. Commenting on the event, Shazad Dada, Chief Executive officer SCBPL, said, "To preserve, promote and encourage

Pakistan's art and culture, Standard Chartered brings you a one of a kind art exhibition. Standing by our promise, Here for good, we at Standard Chartered recognise the significance of Pakistan's rich and diverse cultural traditions, and utilise them to celebrate with our clients, our partners and the community as a whole." The exhibition features the works of several award-winning artists like *Noorjehan Bilgrami, Ameen J and Mohan Das.* -PR

By: Javaria Zahid, AS46 5113  
*Courtesy: Business Recorder*

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