

NEWSLETTER

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES

January- December 2022



STRIVING TOGETHER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Prof Dr. Syed Asad Hussain

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

We will soon start another year of growth and inspiration, and I feel very enthusiastic for the incredible research and achievements that lie ahead. The role of our University in shaping the future of Humanities has become more important than ever, and I am grateful that we have an amazing community of researchers and mentors that is dedicated to achieving sustainable development and making a positive impact on the world. The department of Humanities has consistently pushed boundaries, explored new frontiers, and challenged conventional wisdom. We must remember that our work is not just about academic pursuits; it is about creating a brighter future for generations to come.

Each study conducted, each paper published, holds immense potential to shape policies, transform industries, and ignite change. May our collective efforts bring forth remarkable achievements that exceed all expectations.



Dr Musferah Mehfooz

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

The Department of Humanities is dedicated to academic excellence in teaching and scholarly endeavors, as well as to supporting the academic community and the general public. Together, we strive to foster critical thinking, sharpening creative expression, and intellectual inquisitiveness. The major goal of our students and faculty is to produce new knowledge and develop new understandings that will enable us to make sense of the world and explore ways for betterment of communication. Our programs of BS Psychology, BS English Language and Literature, MS English Linguistics and Literature, and MS Clinical Psychology, strive to equip the students for excellence in the present day world of ever-evolving local and global communities.



ACCOLADES



The former Head of the Humanities Department, Dr. Shameem Fatima was promoted to Tenured Associate Professor of Psychology in April 2022. She now serves as the Chairperson, Department of Humanities at COMSATS University Islamabad and looks after the graduate and undergraduate academic programs of Humanities and Social Sciences across all CUI campuses. Dr Fatima has obtained many awards including the Punjab University Talent Award, 5th and 7th HEC Outstanding Research Awards, the CUI Lahore Best Researcher Award in 2017, COMSATS Research Productivity Awards in 2016 and 2017.

Dr. Musferah Mehfooz has been promoted to the position of Tenured Associate Professor and entrusted with the leadership of the Humanities Department. Her expertise encompasses Islamic pluralistic values, global peace, Sufi teachings, and the analysis of interfaith conflicts. Dr. Mehfooz is distinguished as an Advanced Associate HE Fellow through her affiliation with the British Council. Her recent monograph, "Science & Technology in The Muslim World (Reminisce, Present & Future Outlook) 2021," stands as a groundbreaking contribution to the intersection of Islamic principles and the realm of science. Dr. Mehfooz has also been selected to participate in the prestigious Pandemic Program Summer 2023 at Columbia University in New York.



Dr Sara Khan (Lecturer) was awarded her PhD in Linguistics from UMT in fall 2022. She successfully defended her thesis entitled "Socio-Cognitive Investigation of Migrant Coiyer Discourse through Photographic Representation of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan".



Dr Saima Akhtar Chattha completed her PhD in English (Linguistics) in 2021 and got promoted as Assistant Professor English, Department of Humanities in 2022. She is also an HEC approved PhD supervisor and possesses teaching experience of 18 years. Her area of specialization lies in speech disorders CDA and pragmatics.



Dr. Farzana Ashraf was promoted to the position of Tenured Associate Professor on June 22nd, 2023 in the 35th Selection Board of CUI. She joined COMSATS in June 2016 and her performance during this period has been declared outstanding by the Departmental Tenure Review Committee (DTRC).



ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: TRAJECTORIES AND DISCOURSES IN ENGLISH STUDIES

The Department of Humanities hosted its One Day International Conference: Trajectories and Discourses in English Studies on 26th May 2022. The Conference took place on the Lahore campus and online. The online event, displayed on our official YouTube channel [Trajectories and Discourses in English Studies], has keynote addresses by Dr Collie Fulford (University at Buffalo, USA) and Dr Mbaye Lo (Duke University, USA). It also showcases amazing presentations from academics in India, Nigeria, Malaysia, Prague, and Australia.

The on-campus event had three sessions. One session, titled "Texts, Meanings, and Beyond," was concerned with broad areas of literary studies, while the other one titled "Language, Pedagogies, and Discourses" dealt with research in linguistics & pedagogy. The inaugural keynote speakers were Dr Tariq Rahman (Dean of the School of Social Sciences at the Beaconhouse National University, Lahore) & Dr Shahid Siddiqui (Dean Faculty of Social Sciences at Lahore School of Economics). Two more keynote addresses were given by Dr Maria Isabel Maldonado Garcia (University of the Punjab) and Dr Muhammad Islam (University of the Punjab). Sessions were chaired by Dr Garcia, Dr Amna Umar (IES University of the Punjab) and Dr Mariam Zia (Lahore School of Economics).

Scholars from many universities of Lahore participated enthusiastically in the poster presentations as well. There were also stalls offering free books and books on discounted prices to all presenters and participants.



INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

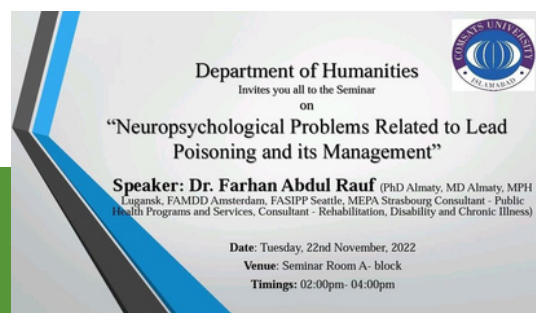
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Dr. Saima Akhtar organized a seminar, titled "Introduction to Research Methodology" on Thursday, June 2, 2022. The guest speaker was Dr Umer Azeem, from Government Graduate College Township, who is a renowned name in the research sector. The speaker discussed important steps of research process, gave useful tips to the students, shared modern research trends, communicated with the students, conducted some research-based activities and answered student's queries. The guest speaker appreciated the students' attitude towards research and the efforts of department, and of Dr. Saima, for making the seminar a success. At the end of the seminar, Dr Umer was given a souvenir by the Department of Humanities.



NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

Dr. Shameem Fatima (Head and Chairperson Department of Humanities) organized a seminar on "Neuropsychological problems related to lead poisoning and its management". Guest speaker Dr. Farhan Abdul Rauf (PhD Almaty, MD Almaty, MPH Lugansk, FAMDD Amsterdam, FASIPP Seattle, MEPA Strasbourg Consultant - Public Health Programs and Services, Consultant -Rehabilitation, Disability and Chronic Illness) gave an awareness talk that helped the attendees understand and cope up with the problems such as poor academic performance, poor physical performance, poor physical, emotional and mental health issues such as musculo-skeletal disorders (MSDs), psychological and social problems, drug abuse, aggression, violence etc. and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The main goal of this seminar was to impart richer understanding of lead poisoning and create awareness of its adverse effects on health and environment. The lecture helped the attendees develop competencies such as Responsible Decision Making; Patient Education and Safety; Health Education and Promotion; Self-Management; Social Awareness; Inter-Professional Education related to neuropsychological effects of lead poisoning. Dr. Musferah Mehfooz (Associate Professor), Dr. Muneeba Shakeel (Assistant Professor) and Ms. Memoona Idris graced the event with their presence. Students from departments of Management Sciences, Humanities, Chemical Engineering and Physics attended the seminar.



GOOGLE FOR NOVICE ACADEMIC RESEARCHERS

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Samar Kamal Fazli Assistant Professor Department of Humanities organized a training workshop “Google for Novice Academic Researchers” for the students of MS English. The training was organized on Monday 5th of December in N- Block. Dr. Rao Muhammad Adeel Nawab (Assistant Professor Computer Science) delivered the training. The workshop was focused on the solution of a research problem using a combination of Google and Google Scholar through efficient query formulation and Inverted Triangle Approach.



DESIGNING INTERVIEW QUESTION AND DOING IPA AND THEMATIC ANALYSIS FOR QUALITATIVE DATA

Dr. Aasia Nusrat (Assistant Professor in English) conducted a workshop on “Designing Interview Questions and Doing IPA and Thematic analysis for Qualitative data” on 29th November, 2022. The guest speaker, Dr. Rabia Farooqi, Associate Professor at UCP Lahore, created awareness among students of MS English about certain procedure of designing questions while taking interview as an instrument in research. Furthermore, she elaborated the mechanism of doing qualitative data analysis mainly through thematic and IPA, the differences between these two analysis types and how it can affect the results interpreted in research. She also conducted different activities related to these two types of qualitative data analysis.



Ms. Amna Naveed attended, a five-day (9th-12th December) Electronic Media Training Course on “FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION: Election Reporting- Promoting Ethics in covering Elections” arranged in collaboration with National Endowment for Democracy, (NED) Washington D.C, USA. The purpose of the workshop was to train participants about the basics of election reporting, dos and don'ts of reporting while covering elections etc.

MORALITY OF THE SOCIETY, REFORMATION-AND DEVELOPMENT' IN THE LIGHT OF THE TEACHINGS OF THE HOLY PROPHET (S.A.W)

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The Seerah of the Holy Prophet S.A.W. has always been a prodigious source of wisdom to address the psychological, social, moral, and spiritual problems of the people since centuries. Most of the societies today have been both fragmented into multiple denominations based on national, ethnic, economic and racial biases, as well as morally decayed despite its all material and technological advancement. The reflections from the life of the Prophet Muhammad S.A.W. can help us unearth the treasure of workable solutions for moral reformation and collective well-being of humanity. For this purpose, Ms Iffat Khalid and Ms Shamana Mudassar organized a thought-provoking Seerah Seminar titled, "Morality of the society, Reformation-and Development' in the Light of the Teachings of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.)," on 22nd November 2022.

Professor Dr. Muhammad Tahir Mustafa (Director Seerat Chair, UMT Lahore,) and Dr. Musferah Mehfooz (Associate Professor, Humanities) highlighted various aspects of the Holy Prophet S.A.W's life pointing to the pathways of human dignity, exaltation, and nobility. Both speakers spoke eloquently and enlightened the audience with a unique insight to resolve the prevalent social immorality.



BOOK TALKS

The department of Humanities strives to familiarize our students with the current national and international literary landscape. For this purpose, a series of "Book Talks" was planned by Dr Javaria Farooqui for the undergraduate and graduate students of English linguistics and literature. The department collaborated with CUI Lahore library and got amazing logistic support from the head of library, Dr Tariq Najmi.

The first talk of the series was scheduled on 16th September 2022. Rehman Answer, the author of *The Fundamentals of Sufism* was invited for a discussion on his book. Students and faculty enthusiastically participated in the event and the number of attendees surpassed the organizers' expectations.

The second event was the soft launch of popular English fiction author Sara Naveed's new novel, *The Cold Heart*, on 13th October 2022. Ms Naveed's delightful talk was highly appreciated not only by the students of English, but also students from other disciplines. Her book was also available for purchase at a discounted price.

For the final session, two authors were invited: Dr Osama Siddique, author of *Snuffing out the Moon*, and Farrukh Husain, author of *Afghanistan in the Age of Empires*. Both authors donated signed copies of their books to CUI Lahore library.

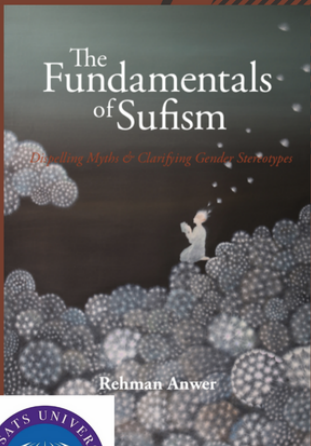

CONVERSATION WITH
REHMAN ANWER

FRIDAY
16-09-2022
02:30 pm

Pharmacy Library, COMSATS
University Islamabad, Lahore
Campus

Participant Registration (free):
<https://forms.gle/WjQ5FE4U91NbUSdh6>

The "Book Talks" is a collaborative
project of the CUI Lahore Library and
English@Humanities

Broken leg
Publications

CONVERSATION WITH
SARA NAVEED
and the launch of her latest book
The Cold Heart

THURSDAY
13 OCTOBER

TIME
2:30 PM

Seminar Room, A-Block, COMSATS
University Islamabad, Lahore Campus



She is the author of four books; *Undying Affinity*, *Our Story Ends Here*, *All Of My Heart*, *The World Between Us*, and *The Cold Heart*.

THE "BOOK TALKS" IS A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT OF THE CUI
LAHORE LIBRARY AND ENGLISH @ HUMANITIES



Semester Finale of
Book Talks



**The Reader's Mind; the
Writer's Pen: Why Reading
& Writing Books Still
Matters**



Dr. Osama Siddique
Award winning author of
Snuffing Out the Moon

**Myths Perpetuated about
Afghans in History and
Literature**



Farrukh Husain
Author of *Afghanistan in
the Age of Empires*

24 NOVEMBER 2022
2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Seminar Room- A Block,
COMSATS University Islamabad, Lahore
Campus

The "Book Talks" is a collaborative project of the
CUI Lahore Library and English @ Humanities

➤➤➤ Ms. Sadaf Fatima, Dr. Sara Khan, and Ms. Maryam Jahangir participated in a two day workshop June 1st-2nd, 2022 on "Contemporary Qualitative Research Methods" organized by National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Lahore Campus. The topics discussed in the workshop included Language Documentation, Corpus Linguistics, Research in ELT, Translation Studies, Critical Discourse Analysis, Ethnography; Using Qualitative Data Analysis Softwares (En-Vivo and Zotero). They also received certificates of participation.



➤➤➤ Ms Shazia Aziz presented a paper titled 'COVID-19 in Pakistani Mainstream Media: A Corpus-Assisted Diachronic Study of Editorials from Popular Newspapers' at the International Conference titled 'Strengthening Teaching and Research Capacity: Collaborative Partnership in Social Sciences' organized by Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan in collaboration with the South Asian Institute, University of Texas at Austin, USA, on 16-18 August 2022.

➤➤➤ Ms. Sadaf Fatima presented her research paper entitled "Need and Impact of English for Occupational Purposes (EOP) on University Employees" in online mode in the "Englishers 2nd International Transdisciplinary Conference on Language, Culture and Revival". The conference was organized at University of Baltistan, Skardu in collaboration with Englishers LLL International from 18th-20th August, 2022 in hybrid mode i.e. both physical and online.



➤➤➤ Dr Sara Khan presented her views on "The Future of Meaning" in an International Conference arranged by the Department of English Language and Literature (University of Lahore) on 12th December 2022. Her Topic of presentation was "The idea of an 'Amalgamated Mind' as New Trends in Mind, Meaning and Semiotics: A Cognitive-Functional Perspective". She talked about the interdisciplinary trends in language and meaning construction. The talk ended with hopes of introducing integrated frameworks for meaning-making in discourse, semiotics and linguistics.



➤➤➤ Dr Musferah Mehfooz attended a two days workshop of Pakistan Community Resilience Network organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) on 15-16 December 2022 at Ramada Hotel, Gulberg-II Lahore. Pakistan Community Resilience Network is a group of researchers and thought leaders specializing in peace, conflict, and community resilience in Pakistan.



Dr. Musferah Mehfooz and Ms. Huma Ejaz presented their paper titled "Revising pedagogical Framework of Madrassa Education System in Pakistan: Challenges and Resolution" in the two - day international conference on "Nation Building in Pakistan: Prospects and Challenges" organized by International Islamic University (IIU) was commenced on Wednesday, December 21, 2022



➤➤➤ Ms. Umara Shaheen (Assistant Professor of English) presented a research paper titled "Victimizing Gendered Power Relations: A Linguistic Investigation of Harassment Complaints" at the International Conference of the Linguistic Association of Pakistan (ICLAP) 2022, organized by the Institute of Languages and Linguistics at University of the Punjab. The study examined lexico-grammatical choices employed in harassment complaints to unveil gender victimizing practices endemic in Pakistani society.



Dr Javaria Farooqui was invited as a panelist to the two-day Pakistan Workshop, organized at International Islamic University, Islamabad as part of the UK's Arts and Humanities Research Council's 'Muslim Women Popular Genre' project. She talked about the nuanced usage of 'history' in genre fiction and systemic marginalisation of women's popular fiction in Pakistan.

➤➤➤ Dr. Javaria Farooqui gave a talk, "After the Happily-Ever-After: A Short Talk on the Discipline of Popular Romance Studies and Thesis-ing," in the International Training Workshop for Present and Prospective PhD Supervisors at Punjab University.





PUBLICATIONS OF HUMANITIES FACULTY

Shameem Fatima (2022), "Determinants of quality of life in Pakistani substance user men vary among married and unmarried men", Journal of Substance use, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14659891.2022.2084783>, Impact Factor: 1.000

Shameem Fatima; Schar Waheed; Sana Daud; Sadia Aslam (2022), "Gratitude, Self-Regulation, and Academic motivation during COVID-19 in University Students: Differential Associations for Earning and Non-Earning Students", Webology, pp: 8461-8481, Vol: 19, Issue: 2

Komal Meher, Memoona Shahid & **Shameem Fatima** (2022), "Death Anxiety and Well-being in Doctors during COVID-19: The explanatory and Boosting Roles of Sleep Quality and Work Locality", OMEGA-Journal of Death and Dying, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/00302228221078074>, Impact Factor: 2.854

Shameem Fatima, Noreen Fatima, Amina Muazzam (2022), "Assessing familial and social factors of life satisfaction in Pakistani transgender and non-binary individuals: implications for counseling", Journal of LGBT Issues in Counseling , pp: 67-85, Vol: 16, Issue: 1, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15538605.2021.1972896>

Musferah Mehfooz, Rafi Ameer ud Din, Sameen Zafar Does childhood experience of interparental abuse shape women's attitude toward intimate partner violence in their adult life?

Musferah Mehfooz Safeguarding Places of Worship during Prophetic Era: Assessment of Early Islamic Covenants and Their Impacts on Early Muslim Politics

Farhat Nisar & **Musferah Mehfooz** The Struggle For Balance Between Work And Home: An Overview Of Islamic Teachings

Musferah Mehfooz, Asma Imran, Sarah Azhar An overview of the underlying legal and psychological issues of surrogacy in Islam

Sara Khan, Muhammad Asif Ikram Anjum (2022), "News worthiness in the Reporting of Donald Trump's Presidential Victory: Linguistic Analysis of News Values in Pakistani News Channels", *Journal of English Language, Literature and Education*, pp: 81-107, Vol: 4, Issue: 1

Shazia Aziz, Muhammad Asif Ikram Anjum (2022), "About Instructors' Readiness to Teach Online", *CAMBRIDGE University Press*, pp: 345-360

M Asif Ikram Anjum, Dr. Zafar Iqbal Bhatti (2022), "EFFICIENCY OF COMPUTER ASSISTED READING MATERIALS FOR IMPROVING PAKISTANI DYSLEXIC STUDENTS' READING SKILLS", *Jahan-e-Tahqeeq*, pp: 367-375, Vol: 5, Issue: 1

Muneeba Shakil, Uzma Ali, Amena Zehra Ali and Bushra Khan (2022), "Reliability and Validity Assessment of Cognitive Distortions Scale Urdu (CDS-U) on Pakistani Psychiatric Population", *Journal of Pakistan Medical Association*, pp: 78-82, Vol: 72, Issue: 1, ISSN: 00309982, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.47391/JPMA.1989> , Impact Factor: 0.781

M Shakil, F Ashraf, S Tariq, A Asmat, A Muazzam, N Hassan (2022), "The prevalence and comorbidity of death anxiety and psychological distress in Pakistani population during covid-19 pandemic.", *Palarch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt/Egyptology* , pp: 620-632, Vol: 19 , Issue: (1), ISSN: 1567214X

I. Ullah, I. Ali, S., Ashraf, F., Hakim, Y., Ali, I., Rahat Ullah, A., Chattu, V. K., Pakpour, A. H. (2022), "Prevalence of depression and anxiety among the general population in Pakistan during COVID-19 lockdown: An online-survey.", *Current Psychology*, Impact Factor: 4.19

Hamna Zahid, Rafia Rafique (2022), "Development of Romantic Jealousy Scale for Married Men and Women", *Pakistan Journal of Psychological Research*, pp: 619-616, Vol: 37, Issue: 4, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33824/PJPR.2022.37.4.37>

Musferah Mehfooz, Lutfullah Saqib Ribā And Divine Laws - Does SharīʿAh (Islamic Law) Has The Same Approach? An Analytical Legal Study



Muhammad Ammad Ul Haque, **Shazia Aziz**, Muhammad Aqib (2022), "Language as Motive: A Rhetorical Analysis of Surah Ash-Shams (The Sun)", Pakistan Journal of Educational Research , pp: 655-671, Vol: 5, Issue: 3, ISSN: 2663-0443, DOI: <http://pjer.org/index.php/pjer/article/view/612>

Shazia Aziz, Akifa Imtiaz, & Rabea Saeed (2022), "Framing COVID-19 in Pakistani Mainstream Media: An Analysis of Newspaper Editorials", Cogent Arts and Humanities, pp: 1-19, Vol: 9, Issue: 1, ISSN: 2331-1983, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311983.2022.2043510>, Impact Factor: 0.486

Akifa Imtiaz; **Shazia Aziz**; & Muhammad Faisal Aziz (2022), "Integration through Transformation: Training Madrassa Teachers for Teaching English", Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities, pp: 49-70, Vol: 30, Issue: 1, ISSN: 1994-7046

Sami Ullah, Tariq Mehmood, **Tooba Ahmad** (2022), "Green Intellectual Capital and Green HRM Enabling Organizations Go Green: Mediating Role of Green Innovation", International Journal of Innovation Science

Sami Ullah, **Tooba Ahmad**, Tariq Mehmood, Abdul Sami (2022), "Innovation Performance and Economic Performance of Firms in National Science & Technology Park, Islamabad, Pakistan", Foresight

Iram Khalid, **Tooba Ahmad**, Sami Ullah (2022), "Environmental impact assessment of CPEC: A way forward for sustainable development", International Journal of Development Issues, pp: 159-171, Vol: 21, Issue: 1

Amna Naveed, Dr. Muhammad Shaban Rafi (2022), "Provoking Patriotic Sentiments through War Songs: An Intertextual Analysis of Pakistani [Indo-Pak] War songs", International Journal Of Literature, Linguistics and Translation Studies, pp: 54-72, Vol: 2, Issue: 2, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37605/ijllts.v2i2.5>

RANDOM GLIMPSES- LIFE AT HUMANITIES



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Humanities Department**



Shazia Aziz



Amna Naveed



Dr Javaria Farooqui



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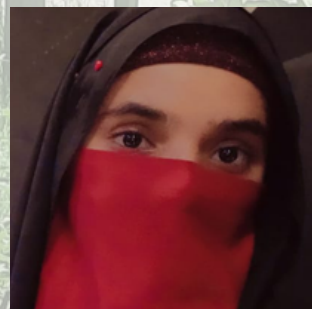
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