

EVENTS, INQUIRIES, NEWS, NOTICES, REPORTS

A NUMBER of Urdu writers and patrons left us during the past eighteen months, among them: (2012) Shahzad Ahmad, Hajira Masroor, Mahmud Gilani, Mazhar Imam, Razia Butt, Wahab Ashrafi, Safia Siddiqi; (2013) Muhammad Ali Siddiqi, Rafiq Naqsh, Rashid Nisar, Shabnam Shakil.

I

The following is an inventory of scholars and the papers which they presented at conferences, seminars, and symposia:

41st Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison, 11–14 October 2012)

DAVID BOYK (University of California, Berkeley): “Urban History in Urdu: Patna and its People in an Early Twentieth-Century Tazkira.”

DANIEL MAJCHROWICZ (Harvard University): “Safar Vasilah-yi Zafar: History, Knowledge and Power in the 19th Century Urdu Travelogue.”

MAHEEN ZAMAN (Columbia University): “Biography as History: Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi’s Tarikh-i Dawat-o Azimat.”

International Seminar on Premchand in Translation, Jamia Millia Islamia (New Delhi, 28–30 November 2012)

SHUBY ABIDI (Jamia Millia Islamia): “The Polyphony of Multiple Translations of Premchand’s ‘Kafan.’”

MANJIT BARUAH (Indira Gandhi National Open University, Delhi): “Translating Premchand in Assamese: Between Translator and Author.”

SHARAD CHANDRA (Delhi): “Premchand in French, and the French for Premchand.”

ALAIN DESOULIERE (INALCO/CERLOM, Paris): “Premchand and Manto Translated in French: A Short Comparative Study.”

BARAN FAROOQI (Jamia Millia Islamia): “Translating Premchand: Three Problems.”

T.R. GAUTAM (GLA University): "What Do Translators Accomplish When They Translate a Single Text Again and Again? A Study of Twelve English Translations of Premchand's 'Kafan.'"

ANURADHA GHOSH (Jamia Millia Islamia): "Tracing the Rhythms of the Alternative in the Cinematic Transcreations of Select Writings of Premchand."

NIKHIL GOVIND (Manipal University): "Some Costs of Making Translation a Primary Foundation for Analysis."

SONYA SURBHI GUPTA (Jamia Millia Islamia): "Beyond Orientalism: Premchand in Spanish Translation."

NISHAT HAIDER (Lucknow University): "In Quest of Comparative Poetics."

FAIZULLAH KHAN (Jamia Millia Islamia): "French Translations of Munshi Premchand's Short Stories: A Critical Enquiry."

NILUFAR KHODJAEVA (Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies): "Premchand in Uzbek Translations."

H. LAKSHMI (English and Foreign Language University, Hyderabad): "The Journey from Kafan to Oka Oori Katha: Is the Literary Text a Pre-Text or Pretext for the Film Text."

JATIN K. NAIK (Uktal University): "Premchand in Oriya Translation."

ASHA NAIR (VTM NSS College, Kerala): "Bina Khoye, Bina Chhotey Premchand: Malayalam Mein."

AREEBA NASIR (Delhi University): "Women Characters in *Godan*."

CHRISTINA OESTERHELD (Heidelberg University, Germany): "Premchand in German: Evaluation of the Choice of Text and the Quality of Translation."

RAJENDRA PARIHAR (Delhi University): "Premchand: Lover of Angrezi, Hater of Angreziat, Translator (?) or Both."

RESHMI RAMDHONY (Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius): "Premchand in French: *Deliverance*, *Asbram de l'amor*, *Le Don d'une Vache*."

FATIMA RIZVI (Lucknow University): "Films and Fiction: Four Versions of 'Shatranj ke Khilari.'"

SNEHAL SHINGAVI (University of Texas, Austin): "Premchand and the Politics of English: On Translation and Cultural Nationalism."

MADHU SINGH (Lucknow University): "Translation as New Aesthetic."

SEMIM ZAHAN (Delhi University): "Premchand in Assamese Translation."

NISHAT ZAIDI (JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA): "Premchand's *Karbala* as a Cross-Cultural Translation."

**Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting
(San Diego, 21–24 March 2013)**

MEHR FAROOQI (University of Virginia): "Issues of Obscurity in the 'New' Urdu Literature."

AGNIESZKA KUCZKIEWICZ-FRAS (Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland): "Between Obscurity and the Sublime: Hidden Sexuality in Rusva's *Umrao Jan Ada*."

RUTH VANITA (University of Montana): "From Delightful to Obscene: The Case of Non-Mystical Lucknow Poetry."

II

Award

On 23 April 2013 (*The Japan Times*), the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2013 Spring Imperial Decorations. Among the forty recipients is Professor Dr. Moinuddin Aqeel, Former Professor, Department of Urdu, University of Karachi, who will receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon in recognition of his significant contributions to the friendship and mutual understanding between Pakistan and Japan.

Professor Aqeel has made significant efforts for promoting Urdu Language education in Japan. From 1993 to 2000 he was a visiting professor at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and Daito Bunka University, and afterwards was engaged as a research fellow at Osaka University and Kyoto University in Japan. He has not only published Urdu language textbooks in Japan, but has also written several research papers and articles on studies on Islam, Pakistan and Urdu language and literature in Japan, which can also be read in his recently published book "Mashriq-e-Tābān" (Shining East).

He has also been a professor at the University of Karachi until 2006 and a dean of the Faculty of Languages and Literature at the International Islamic University, Islamabad from 2008 to 2010. Also, as a founding member of the Pakistan-Japan Cultural Association, Sindh, he has been engaged in promoting cultural and academic exchanges between Pakistan and Japan.

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NOTE: If you have read a paper or published an item or know of a piece of information of interest to Urdu-wallahs, please do not hesitate to send it to us for inclusion in the next issue of the *AUS*. —*Editor*