Chancellor’s Message

“Spring Splash 2014”, an annual event of Preston University, was held in March 2014. The referenced event in which a variety of inter-university competitions were organized began in Islamabad on March 24, and continued through March 29, 2014. Spring Splash 2014 provided the students of public and private universities situated in the northern regions of the country an excellent opportunity to demonstrate their talent in the competitions held during the week-long festivity.

The gamut of competitions held during the festivity covered Qirat, Bilingual Debate, Dramatics and Singing. Sports events held on the occasion comprised of T-20 Cricket, Badminton, Table Tennis and Football. Leading public and private universities of Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Kohat, Lahore and some other cities of Punjab participated.

Preston University has always attached due significance to co-curricular and extracurricular activities. It has done so with the sincere intent of strengthening the confidence and rounding off the personalities of its own students and also that of the students of the other universities of the country so that they could resolutely face the challenges of today’s highly competitive world. Activities like the ones held under the banner of Spring Splash 2014 also help in making constructive utilization of the energies and talents of the youth of this country. The exuberance with which the institutions participated in all the competitions made Spring Splash 2014 a tremendous success. Preston University takes this opportunity to express its utmost gratitude to the management and students of the participating universities for their significant contribution in this regard. Preston University hopes that with continued support from its counterparts it would be able to organize these important extra-curricular activities regularly for the benefit of the youth of Pakistan.
An inter-university ‘Qirat Competition’ was held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston University on March 24, 2014. The event was organized as part of ‘Spring Splash 2014’. The universities that took part in this competition were: Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Agri Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, Punjab University, Lahore, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, WISH University, Islamabad and Preston University, Islamabad, Kohat and Peshawar.

In Qirat Competition, first position was won by Hafiz Muhammad Fayyab of Punjab University, Lahore. Second prize in the competition was awarded to Ms. Madiha Ansari of Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi. Hafiz Hanzala of Agri Agriculture University, Rawalpindi got third position in the competition.

Malik Ibrar Ahmed (MNA), Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan presided over the event as Chief Guest. In his address to the students present on the occasion, Malik Abrar Ahmed at the outset thanked the management of Preston University for providing him the opportunity to chair the event as Chief Guest. He immensely appreciated the talent of the students who participated in the Qirat Competition. Recitation of the Holy Quran by the students who stood first, second and third in the competition were particularly lauded by him. Malik Abrar Ahmed, Member National Assembly of Pakistan profoundly congratulated the winners of the competition on their success. Later, he awarded shields and certificates of commendation among the winners.

In his welcome address, the Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit at the outset expressed his gratitude to the Chief Guest, Malik Abrar Ahmed for accepting the invitation of the university and grace the occasion by his distinguished presence as Chief Guest. He also congratulated the students and their respective universities for winning first, second and third positions in the Qirat Competition. Dr. Basit expressed the hope that they would continue to work hard and do still better in the future.
An inter-university ‘Bilingual Debate Competition’ was held on March 24, 2014. This was the second event to be held under the banner of ‘Spring Splash 2014’. Eminent among the universities which participated in the Bilingual Debate Competition were: Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad; Federal Urdu University, Islamabad; Islamia College University, Peshawar; WISH University, Islamabad; Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi; Riphia University, Rawalpindi; Punjab University, Lahore; GC University, Lahore; Institute of Space Technology; and Preston University, Islamabad and Kohat.

In English Debate, Bakhtawar Rasheed of Preston University, Islamabad grabbed the first position. Second position in this competition was won by Abdullah Mohsin of G. C. University, Lahore. The third position in the competition was awarded to Ishfaq Ahmed of Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad. In Urdu Debate, Hassan Virk of G. C. University, Lahore got first position. Second position was awarded to Syed Usman from Punjab University, Lahore. Anayatullah of Federal Urdu University, Lahore stood third in the Urdu Debate Competition.

Rana Muhammad Afzal Khan, MNA and Parliamentary Secretary for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs and Privatization who was the Chief Guest on the occasion distributed prizes among the first, second and third position holders of English and Urdu Debate competitions. The Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit was conspicuous by his presence at the Bilingual Debate Competition. The excellent debating skills of the students who participated in the English and Urdu Debate competitions were highly appreciated by the Chief Guest, Rana Muhammad Afzal Khan. The Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit also praised the performance of the students who won first, second and third positions in these competitions. He said, it was truly encouraging to note that the youth of Pakistan is so talented. They needed opportunities to unleash their talent and Preston University, as always, has been providing them the opportunity to participate in such extra-curricular activities through the inter-university competitions that it organizes every year.
Preston University organized an inter-university ‘Drama Competition’. The referenced competition was held at the university as part of ‘Spring Splash 2014’. Theme of the Drama Competition was “Yeh Media Le Dubega Hanay”. The universities which took part in the Drama Competition were: Sarhad University, Peshawar, Punjab University, Lahore, Islamia College University, Peshawar, Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi and Preston University Islamabad, Kohat and Peshawar campuses. The students of the participating universities enthralled the exuberant audience comprising of students, staff and faculty of Preston University and other guests by their outstanding acting prowess.

The remarkable performance of the participating teams made it extremely difficult for the judges of the competition to determine the first, second and third positions. In the Drama Competition performance of the team of Punjab University, Lahore was adjudged the best by the judges and was awarded first position. Second best performance was that of the team of Preston University, Islamabad which was awarded second position in the competition. The team of Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi stood third in this competition.

In her brief comments on occasion, Chief Guest Ms. Jia Ali, eminent model and actress said that the acting talent of the students of the participating universities was simply outstanding. She said that the youth of Pakistan is extremely talented and with a little support and guidance they could do very well, in all spheres, and bring unprecedented laurels to their country.

The Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit who was conspicuous by his presence at the event said that the acting capabilities of the students who participated in the inter-university Drama Competition were undoubtedly excellent. He fully agreed with Chief Guest Ms. Jia Ali and the judges that the Pakistani youth are extremely talented. He said that the government of Pakistan should provide every possible avenue to the youth of this country to unleash their talent in all spheres of national life and make Pakistan stand out luminously in the comity of respected and successful world nations.
One of the most enthusiastically participated events held under “Spring Splash 2014” was the inter-university ‘Singing Competition’. The referenced competition was divided into two categories, male and female. The universities which took part in the female category of the competition were: Punjab University, Lahore, Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad and Preston University Islamabad. In the male category, the participating universities were: Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad, Punjab University, Lahore, Behria University, Islamabad, Rohtak University, Islamabad, Federal Urdu University, Islamabad and Preston University, Islamabad.

The students of the participating universities enthralled the jubilant audience comprising of students, staff and faculty of Preston University and other guests by their outstanding singing talent. The brilliant performances of the participating students left the Chief Guest of the occasion, eminent singer Saira Naseem and the judges of the competition completely spellbound. In fact, it became very difficult for the judges to make a decision about the first, second and third positions. In the female category of the competition, Jamsheer of Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad outclassed her counterparts from other universities with her brilliant performance to win the first prize. The second prize was grabbed by Mehrun Nisa of Punjab University, Lahore. Third prize in the competition was awarded to Nosheen Qayyum of Preston University, Islamabad. In male category, Shariq Ahmed of Behria University, Islamabad over-shadowed his counterparts from other participating universities by his outstanding performance. He was adjudged the best singer by the judges and awarded first prize. Second prize in the male category of the competition was grabbed by Haseeb-ul-Hassan of Punjab University, Lahore. M. Zahid Abbas of Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi won the third prize.

In her brief remarks on the occasion, Chief Guest Ms. Saira Naseem, singer of national eminence, and the judges profoundly eulogized the singing prowess of the students of the participating universities. In his brief remarks on the occasion, the Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit said that the performance of the participating students was excellent. He fully endorsed the views of the Chief Guest and the judges that with a little more grooming they could do extremely well in this field and earn laurels for their respective institutions and for the country. Later, prizes were distributed among the winners of both categories of the inter-university Singing Competition.
Preston University organized an inter-university ‘Sports Gala’. The championships held in the sports gala were: male and female T-20 Cricket, male and female Badminton and Table Tennis and male Football. This grand event was held under the banner of ‘Spring Splash 2014’, a week-long festivity that is organized by the university once every year. Male and female students from public and private universities of Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Peshawar, Kohat, Lahore and other cities of Punjab enthusiastically participated in all the events organized during the festivity.

In the finals of female T-20 Cricket Championship the team of Preston University, Islamabad beat the team of Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi to win first position. Fatima Jinnah Women University remained runners up in the female T-20 Cricket Tournament. In the male T-20 Cricket Championship, Behria University, Islamabad and Preston University, Islamabad beat the teams of all the participating universities, through and through, to reach the finals of the championship. The team of Behria University, Islamabad outclassed the team of Preston University, Islamabad in the competition and grabbed first position. Preston was declared runners up in the championship.

In the finals of inter-university Football Championship, performance of the team of Federal Urdu University, Islamabad was outstanding. It gave a tough time to the team of Preston University, Islamabad in the game and stood first. Preston remained runners up in the Football Championship.

The winners and runners up of T-20 Cricket and Football championships were awarded first and second prizes at an impressive prize distribution ceremony held at the National Cricket Ground, Islamabad on March 29, 2014. Mr. Asif Shahjahan, Director General Sports, Culture and Tourism, Capital Development Authority (CDA) Islamabad who was the Chief Guest on the occasion distributed prizes among the winning teams of both T-20 Cricket and Football championships. Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University was also present at the ceremony. In their brief remarks, Chief Guest, Mr. Asif Shahjahan and Chancellor Preston University Dr. Abdul Basit profoundly eulogized the outstanding performance of the winning teams of T-20 Cricket and Football championships.
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In the male Badminton Championship, Behria University, Islamabad beat Preston University, Islamabad and grabbed the first position. Government Postgraduate College, Rawalpindi outclass Preston University, Islamabad in the female Badminton Competition to win the first position. In the inter-university male Table Tennis Championship, Behria University beat Preston University, Kohat, after a tough fight, to become champions of the tournament. Preston University Kohat was declared runners up in this tournament. In the female Table Tennis Championship, Government Post Graduate College, Rawalpindi was awarded first position after it beat Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, out and out, in the competition.

The winning teams of male and female Badminton and Table Tennis championships were awarded prizes at a simple but impressive ceremony held at the National Cricket Ground, Islamabad. Chief Guest at the award distribution ceremony Mr. Asif Shah jahan, Director General Sports, Culture and Tourism (CDA) and Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University distributed prizes among the winners of different sports competitions. While addressing the students of the participating universities they said all the participating teams had performed well in the respective tournaments in which they participated. However, the teams which were declared the best and second best had performed outstandingly for which they were awarded first and second positions. They heartily congratulated the winning teams on their remarkable achievement.
A get-together of Preston Alumni followed by an impressive musical evening marked the end of the week-long festivity ‘Spring Splash 2014.’ The magnificent event was held at Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai Auditorium, Islamabad on March 29, 2014. The event provided the Alumni of the university an opportunity to assemble at a place where they once had the honor to pursue their higher studies, and meet with their distinguished tutors who played a pivotal role in imparting education to them and preparing them for a bright career.

The Alumni who were conspicuous by their presence at the get-together expressed their sincere gratitude to the Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit and the faculty and senior management of the university for providing them a platform where they could congregate and meet their former class fellows and teachers. On the occasion, they also gratefully and intrepidly acknowledged that because of the assiduous efforts of the faculty and management of this university they were able to achieve the successes they have in their businesses and careers. They profoundly commended the phenomenal role that Preston University has played and continues to play in nation-building by educating the future leaders of this country.

In his keynote address on the occasion, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University ardently stated that the university has always been proud of its Alumni. He acknowledged that the laurels earned by the Alumni of the university in their practical lives and careers reflect positively on the image of the institution, which is why it holds its Alumni in high esteem. Unquestionably, in their successes lie the success of this university, he said. On the occasion, he urged the Alumni to strengthen the Preston Alumni Association and contribute towards the development of the institution of which they have been and continue to be a valuable part. The Alumni get-together was followed by a lively musical concert. Singers who performed on the occasion enthralled the audience in attendance by their scintillating performances and won huge round of applause from them.