Join Hands to Pay Tributes to Late Justice Javed Iqbal

Preston University, Society of Civilizations Pakistan (SCP) and Bazam-e-Urooj-e-Adab (BUAP) jointly organized a Condolence Reference in memory of late Justice Javed Iqbal, illustrious son of renowned poet-philosopher Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal and former Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court. The referenced event was held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston in October 2015. The Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting and National Heritage, Senator Pervez Rasheed graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The speakers who spoke and shed light on the life of Justice (R) Javed Iqbal were Mr. Muhammad Ashraf Ansari, Mr. Firdaus Alam, Mr. Naeem Akram Qureshi, Mrs. Aftab Iqbal and Prof. Dr. Zulfiquar Ali Qureshi, Head of the Department of International Relations, Preston University and President of SCP.

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Prestonians Excel in UNIDO Global Clean Tech Competition

United Nations International Development Organization (UNIDO) organized ‘Global Clean Tech Competition’, a Pan Pakistan Business Competition, to encourage innovations organically developed in Pakistan. The competition started in the beginning of 2015, whereas the first stage concluded in mid of June where the participants were required to submit their reports along with the registration detail of the idea. Nominations were received across Pakistan. Several universities and professionals participated in the referenced competition along with some established entrepreneurs. Two teams from Preston University managed to reach the second round of the competition. The second stage of the competition comprised of a series of extensive workshops, where the participants were assigned mentors and weekly workshops were organized through international mentors. In mid September, a Mock Judging Round was conducted and detailed reports were submitted. Based on this, teams qualified for the semi-final round. Both the teams of Preston University successfully reached the semi-finals and were included in the roster of top 28 teams from across Pakistan.

On October 12, 2015 a pitching session was held where both teams of Preston pitched their idea to the foreign and local judges. The closing ceremony of the event which was attended by more than 150 high ranking government officials, foreign dignitaries, international donor agencies, allied departments of MoP, representatives from Industries, Ministry of Commerce, Climate Change Division, Chambers of Commerce and industry and private sector stakeholders and GEF cell was held on October 14, 2015. On the occasion first, second and third positions were announced. All the teams were awarded with the semi-finalist shields. Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Jatoi, Federal Minister for Industries and Production was the Chief Guest at the closing ceremony. He also inaugurated the UNIDO Cleantech awards distribution ceremony that was held at Hotel Serena, Islamabad. The Minister distributed prizes to winners of the competition along with the semi-finalist shields.
Preston Islamabad Campus Hosts Seminar on Eminent Poet-Philosopher ALLAMA IQBAL

Preston University Islamabad Campus hosted a seminar on eminent poet-philosopher Allama Iqbal in November 2015. It was organized to mark the 138th Birth Anniversary of the Poet of the East Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal. The referenced seminar was jointly organized by the Society of World Civilizations Pakistan and Pakistan Thinkers Forum, Peshawar in collaboration with Preston University. The topic of the seminar was “IQBAL – Pakistan Aur Pakistaniyat Ke Ma’mar”. Faculty, staff, students and other distinguished guests were conspicuous by their presence at the event. Professor Fateh Mohammad Malik, an eminent scholar of Iqbal, was the keynote speaker on the occasion.

In his address, Prof. Fateh Mohammad Malik said Iqbal had envisioned a Muslim country that would incorporate social justice and Islamic values in its Constitution. He said the Pakistani movement launched by the founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah was based on Iqbal’s Vision of a Muslim State in South Asia as presented by him at the Allahabad Session of Muslim League in 1930. He lamented that the State of Pakistan has deviated from the vision of Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam. The process of deviation, he said, began with the assassination of the first Prime Minister of Pakistan, Liaquat Ali Khan, in 1951.

Condolence Reference held at Preston in Memory of Muhammad Afzal Khan Lala

A Condolence Reference in memory of eminent Pashtun nationalist icon and politician late Muhammad Afzal Khan Lala was held at Preston University, Islamabad in November 2015. The referenced event was organized in collaboration with the Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan (AHAP) Islamabad. Eminent among the speakers who shed light on the life of the renowned Pashtun politician from Swat were: Nazim of Swat Agha Muhammad Shah, Dr. Ghazanfar Mehdi, Dr. Allah Wadhayo Baloch, Brig. (R) Muhammad Saleem, Dr. Riaz Ahmed, Col. (R) Ghaffar Khan, Nauman Qazi, Asif Ali Khan, Farmanullah, Shams Balori, Hassan Khan, and Allah Yar Khan Niazi.

Speaking on the occasion, the speakers who shed light on the life and achievements of late Afzal Khan Lala at the outset consoled his sad demise and expressed their heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family. They said, in his death Pakistan has lost a true nationalist and a politician of outstanding integrity and principles. They said that leaders like Afzal Khan Lala are born in centuries. The vacuum that his death has created will take a long, long time to fill. 

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GEDMD-Preston University Organizes 77th Workshop on Role of Youth in Protecting and Raising Self-Esteem of Senior Citizens

University. Eighty participants from public and private sector organizations based in the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad took active part in the Workshop. Dr. Firoza Ahmed, Professor/Dean Social Sciences and DG (HR), GEDMD of Preston University chaired and conducted the Workshop. Dr. Shazia Khalid, Head of the Department of Psychology, Preston University, Ms. Afreen Athar, Facilitator M. Phil Psychology Program, and Ms. Hina Malik, Faculty Coordinator, Psychology were instrumental in coordinating the arrangements of the event.

In her brief address on the occasion, Dr. Firoza Ahmed said that the Workshop on “Women Managers: Role of Youth in Protecting and Raising Self-Esteem of Senior Citizens” organized for women managers, teachers and researchers was very significant from the point of view of women administrators and managers who face these issues at their respective workplace on day-to-day basis. Dr. Ahmed emphasized that nurturing senior citizens and team camaraderie were two vital elements that play a crucial role in the success of any initiative launched for the welfare of senior citizens in public or private organizations. In fact, these two important elements possess all the potential to strengthen organizations, she maintained. Dr. Firoza Ahmed further said it is a known fact that organizations which have attached due importance to elements such as caring, team spirit and love have always successfully attained their organizational goals and vice-versa. In view of the foregoing fact building up of elements like caring, team spirit and love for each other, particularly the elderly in the organization and in the local communities is vital, she emphasized.

National Seminar on “Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches in Research at M. Phil and PhD Level” held at Preston Peshawar

The Peshawar Campus of Preston University, Kohat organized a national seminar on “Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches in Research at M. Phil and PhD Level”. The seminar that was held in December 2015 was formally inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor of Preston University, Kohat Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan. Eminent among the speakers who spoke on the occasion were Prof. Dr. Maher Bano, Preston University, Dr. Roomana Zeb, Lecturer Department of Psychology, University of Agriculture Peshawar, Dr. Qadir Baloch, Associate Professor, NUML University Peshawar, Prof. Dr. Alay Ahmed, Dean Department of Psychology, Preston University Peshawar and Mr. Saad Farooq from University of Agriculture Peshawar.

In his welcome address on the occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan extended a warm welcome to the honorable speakers and delegates to the seminar and thanked for their participation. While addressing the participants Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan stressed the need to bolster the research departments of the universities so that quality research papers could be produced. This, he emphasized, was essential to meet the challenges of today’s highly competitive world effectively. In her address Prof. Dr. Maher Bano explained the theme of the seminar. She also briefly explained the topics which the distinguished speakers were to speak on.

Dr. Roomana Zeb, Lecturer Department of Psychology, University of Peshawar spoke about ‘Research Design’. She explained the purpose of Research Design, its types and importance in research. Dr. Qadir Baloch, Associate Professor NUML Peshawar, spoke on ‘How to Write a Research Proposal’. He said, Research Proposal is a blueprint of the study which simply outlines the steps that a researcher will undertake during the conduct of the study. Prof. Dr. Alay Ahmed, Dean Department of Psychology, Preston Peshawar Campus talked about the dynamics of ‘Interviewing Techniques’. He elaborately explained the definition and types of interviewing techniques. In his brief presentation on the occasion Mr. Saad Farooq from the University of Agriculture, Peshawar talked about ‘Citations and References Generation through Mendeley and End Note Software’.
Seminar on "Tourism & Hospitality Business Research" held at Preston Karachi

Preston University, Karachi organized a seminar on ‘Tourism and Hospitality Research’. The referenced seminar was held at the main campus auditorium of the University in October 2015. Dr. Jenny Cave and Prof. Stuart Locke from the University of Waikato delivered a lecture on the subject.

Primary objective of organizing the seminar was to emphasize on the importance of research in academia and to foster research practice in Higher Education to achieve academic excellence. The seminar also highlighted the role of tourism industry in economic development, and the need to revitalize the dormant tourism industry of Pakistan.

The presentations made on the topic by Dr. Jenny Cave and Prof. Stuart Locke was enlightening and thought provoking. The faculty, students and staff of Preston University visited the seminar. Dr. Tahil Rajput, Vice Chancellor, Preston University, Karachi, expressed his gratitude to the distinguished Guest Speakers for sharing their valuable time and talk on an important topic such as ‘Tourism and Hospitality Business Research’. Earlier, Mr. Afzal Leehi, Director General Preston University Karachi warmly welcomed the worthy Guest Speakers and the participants of the seminar.

The Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASAR) of Preston University organized its 64th meeting on November 24, 2015. The meeting was presided by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan, Vice Chancellor Preston University, Kohat and Chairman BASAR. Members of BASAR participated in the meeting. Recitation from the Holy Quran marked the opening of the meeting. Chairman BASAR, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan at the outset extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Board to the 64th BASAR meeting. Thereafter, he expressed his gratitude to the participating members for their valuable presence at the meeting. Subsequently he declared the 64th meeting of BASAR open.

The proceedings of the 64th meeting of the Board of Advanced Studies (BASAR) started with the permission of the Chair. Secretary BASAR, Prof. Dr. Allah Wadhaiy Baloch, on being invited by the Chair, formally presented the agenda of the 64th meeting. Thereafter, he requested the Chair to approve the minutes of the 63rd BASAR meeting held on September 15 and October 6, 2015, with a few amendments. Minutes of the 63rd meeting of BASAR were unanimously approved with amendments proposed by the members.

Several important academic issues were brought to the notice of Chairman BASAR. All these issues were discussed in detail at the meeting. Synopsis of some MS/PhD Scholars were also presented to the Board for approval. The Board approved the Synopsis of some MS/PhD Scholars. Contrary to this, Synopsis of a few scholars was deferred with instructions for resubmission in the next Board meeting with necessary changes recommended by the Chair and members of the Board.

The 64th meeting of Preston Board of Advanced Studies and Research concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair. In conclusion, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan, Chairman BASAR expressed his gratitude to all the members for their distinguished presence in the meeting and also for their valued input in various issues raised and discussed on the occasion.

Quotable Quotes

“All our science, measured against reality, is primitive and childlike—and yet it is the most precious thing we have.”

Albert Einstein

“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.”

Albert Einstein

“An empty stomach is not a good political adviser.”

Albert Einstein

Preston University

October - December 2015

Newsletter 4
Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum and Preston University Jointly Commemorate

138th Birth Anniversary of Allama Iqbal

The Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum and Preston University jointly celebrated the 138th Birth Anniversary of poet of the East and philosopher of international eminence, Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal. To mark the occasion a seminar was organized in November 2015 at Preston University, Islamabad. The event was attended by members of Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum and some guests in large numbers. Dr. Taqi Abedi, a Canada-based eminent scholar on Iqbal, was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

In his welcome address, Dr. Muhammad Sohaib Suddle, President Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest, Dr. Taqi Abedi, a Canada-based eminent scholar on Iqbal. He also welcomed the distinguished speaker, Professor Dr. Shahid Iqbal Kamran, Chairman Iqbalist Department, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) Islamabad and the distinguished members of Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum. While highlighting the historic significance of Iqbal Day, he thanked the guests for gracing the occasion by their distinguished presence and taking time out of their heavy personal commitments to pay homage to the eminent Poet-Philosopher of the East Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal. He especially thanked Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University / Vice President Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum and his team for providing full support in commemorating Iqbal Day.

In his keynote address, Dr. Taqi Abedi emphasized that thoughts of Dr. Allama Iqbal were relevant and helpful in understanding aspects of litterature's political, social and ethical philosophy. He said the present generation needed to follow Allama's teachings in their true spirit to become good Muslims as well as proud and successful citizens of Pakistan. He thanked the President and the Executive Committee of Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum for inviting him to the function. Professor Dr. Shahid Iqbal Kamran, Chairman Iqbalist department AIUO spoke at length about the "Significance of Iqbal's thoughts in the Contemporary World".

The event concluded with a vote of thanks to the speakers and the guests in attendance by eminent scientist and distinguished member of Shehr-e-Iqbal Forum, Dr. N. M. Butt.

Preston University Karachi Organizes Workshop titled

"Am I...? What I Think I am"

Preston University, Karachi organized a unique and specially designed International Certificate Workshop titled "Am I...? What I Think I am?" The referenced Workshop which was organized for Psychologists, Therapists, Counselors, Social Workers, Coaches, NLP Practitioners, Master Practitioners and Trainers and persons interested in experiencing Spiritual Hypnosis, Gestalt and Third Generation NLP Approach, was held at the main campus of Preston University, Karachi in October 2015.

The exclusivity of this Workshop was that it provided an excellent opportunity to the participants to learn to focus on experience in terms of an individual's emotions, perceptions, behaviors, body sensations, ideas and memories. It also gave them the opportunity to discover a deep sense of the self through an experimental process that promotes awareness at the deepest identity.

The Vice Chancellor of Preston University, Karachi Prof. Dr. Tahir Rajput expressed his deep sense of gratitude particularly to Dr. Muhammad Imran Yousof, Founder of Transformation International and certified Master Trainer of NLP and Hypnotherapy, for organizing the workshop at Preston. He also expressed his gratitude to Ms. Ana Laura Brito Gestalt Therapist, NLP Trainer from Buenos Aires, Argentina and her team for providing an opportunity to the participants of the Workshop to benefit from their enlightening and thought provoking discourse on the subject. Subsequently, he presented a shield of the University to Ms. Ana Laura Brito as a token of appreciation and also distributed certificates among the participants.

Prof. Dr. Maqsooda Hussain Writes and Dedicates a Poem to the Martyrs of December 16/14 APS Tragedy

Dr. Maqsooda Hussain, Assistant Professor of Education, Preston University, Islamabad writes a heartrending Urdu poem to pay tribute to the Martyrs of the December 16/14 Army Public School (APS) tragedy. She has, in effect, dedicated her poem titled "Asli Woh Mohabbat December" to the innocent children who were ruthlessly killed on December 16, 2014 by a group of merciless terrorists. Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University, faculty staff of the University profoundly appreciate Dr. Maqsooda's moving poetry.
Shedding light on the tragedy, the speakers said with a heavy heart that a year has passed since December 16, 2014 - the fateful day when a group of vicious terrorists attacked and ruthlessly killed 141 innocent souls including 132 absolutely innocent children of the Army Public School Peshawar. They said that those men, women and children who were shamelessly massacred on this fateful day didn’t know from Adams what fate had in store for them on this tragic day.

They stated that the tragic happening at APS Peshawar on December 16, 2014 has no parallel in recent history. This tragedy has left not only the next to kin of those who lost their valuable lives in the catastrophe but the entire Pakistani nation and the whole world in a state of shock and awe. Even today, after a lapse of one year, when we are reminded of the martyrs of APS Peshawar our hearts profusely bleed and our eyes shed tears of sorrow. It compels us to conclude that the perpetrators of this heinous crime couldn’t have been human beings. They were a group of vicious and senseless people who took the lives of totally harmless souls for no rhyme or reason. Those who had gathered at the respective campuses of the University, to pay homage to the martyrs of the December 16/14 APS catastrophe, also pledged to fight the terrorists with greater conviction and uproot the menace of terrorism from the soil of this country for all times to come.

The Chinese Language class commenced at Preston University, Karachi on October 29, 2015. The maiden Chinese Language class was conducted by Prof. Li Yang, Chinese Director of Confucius Institute-University of Karachi.

Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University, inaugurated the first session of the Chinese Language class. Senior Management of Preston University, Karachi was also present at the inaugural ceremony. In his brief address on the occasion, Chancellor Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit highlighted the significance of Chinese Language in the global market.

The Chinese Language classes commenced at Preston University, Karachi under a MoU signed between Preston University, Karachi and the Confucius Institute-University of Karachi on September 23, 2015. The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the two institutions was to launch a Chinese Language Credit Course at Preston University, Karachi. The primary objective of the program is to impart Chinese Language education to Pakistani students in order to equip them with linguistic skills and enhance socio-cultural understanding of China which is an economic giant of the world.

In his address on the occasion, Chief Guest Senator Pervaiz Rasheed, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting and National Heritage highlighted the invaluable services rendered by Justice Javed Iqbal towards strengthening the Justice System of Pakistan. He said he had personal association with Justice Iqbal who, besides being an expert in his own (legal) profession, was a wonderful human being. Senator Pervaiz Rasheed categorically stated that late Justice Javed Iqbal, in spite of being the son of an illustrious person like Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, eminent poet-philosopher of the East, was a self-made and very practical man. He never used the name of his father to gain mileage in his personal life and professional career.

In his Presidential address Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University mentioned about the enlightening and thought provoking research lectures delivered by Justice Javed Iqbal in the field of Law, Justice and Social Justice, National Movement, and on the father of the nation Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the Architect of Pakistan Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal. The speakers who shed light on the life and achievements of Justice (R) Javed Iqbal paid glowing tributes to him and appreciated his mammoth contribution towards strengthening the legal profession in the country. His endeavors to strengthen the political system of the country were also immensely lauded by them.

Earlier, in his welcome address Prof. Dr. Z.A Qureshi expressed the gratitude of Preston University to Senator Pervaiz Rasheed for sparing some of his precious time to preside over the Reference as Chief Guest and also thanked the distinguished speakers for their enlightening presentations.
who was moving in the right direction. He said, Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan had announced in 1949 that the state of Pakistan would enshrine the Islamic concept of social and economic justice in its Constitution. He had declined the U.S. temptation to ally Pakistan with Washington against the Communist Block. Prof. Fateh Mohammad Malik pointed out that it now stands proved that there was a foreign hand as well as internal elements in the assassination of Prime Minister Liaqat Ali Khan, who did not want an egalitarian socio-political system in Pakistan.

Addressing the seminar, Senator Muhammad Akram Zaki said Iqbal’s philosophy guides the Muslims, especially the Pakistanis, towards achieving a social order free from all kinds of exploitation. He said Iqbal’s philosophy focused on improving the lot of the poor and down trodden people of this country by introducing a system of social justice based on Islamic ideals. Prof. Dr. Adnan Sarwar, Dean Social Sciences, University of Peshawar, speaking on the occasion said Iqbal’s poetry and philosophy was based on Islamic teachings. He wanted the Muslims to achieve worldly progress without losing sight of Islamic values. Munawwar Hashmi of Federal Urdu University, Islamabad, in his address, touched upon various aspects of Iqbal’s poetry and philosophy. He said Iqbal is a poet without any parallel, in Urdu and Persian literature, as he gave new meanings to certain terminologies. Malik Liaqat Ali Tabassem, Chairman, Pakistan Thinkers Forum, Peshawar said the youth of Pakistan need to study the message of Allama Mohammad Iqbal to steer the country out of its current predicaments. Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Ansari, a journalist, and Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Qureshi, HoD, International Relations, Preston University also spoke on the occasion and paid glowing tributes to the Poet of the East.

The nation is standing at the crossroads of history. One great leader, and an excellent orator, through his beliefs and deeds, spoke for the rights of all, regardless of race or religion. He was one of the most influential figures in Pakistan. He was a true leader, and his words continue to inspire people today. The legacy of his work lives on, serving as a reminder of the importance of unity and social justice.

Shedding light on the life of late Muhammad Afzal Khan Lala, reverently known by the name Khan Lala they said that the highly respected nationalist icon spent a lifetime pleading and leading for Pashtun national unification. Khan Lala, they said, was known to many Pakistanis for his determinedly courageous stand against the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan. Despite losing several family members and personal associates in jihadists’ attacks and receiving bullet injuries himself, Khan Lala firmly stood up and gave a heroic resistance against the TTP. He did this when others, including the state and its organs, were still yielding on the issue.

Afzal Khan Lala, they said, reached out to the powerful and humble alike to join the reunification effort. In this regard he arranged a series of jirgas inviting Pashtuns from both sides of the Durand Line, the last one being in 2012. In conclusion, they said, with a sense of profound pride, that Khan Lala’s kindliness, self-reliance, self-respect, incomparable personal integrity and unshakeable fortitude under conflagration, along with his firm commitment to the Pashtun Quami Waqat, made him the epitome of Pashtun nationalism.

"Women Managers: Role of Youth in Protecting and Raising Self-Esteem of Senior Citizens"

Prof. Dr. Nilofar Sheikh, Senior Joint Secretary Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan profoundly congratulated Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University for his outstanding achievement in vital areas like education, utilizing the experience of senior citizens, training of senior citizens, including promotion of gender mainstreaming. Dr. Nilofar eulogized the Workshop Series conducted by Dr. Firoza Ahmed, under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University. The fact that these workshops have covered more than 10,000 women, students and teachers, to carry forward the message of enlightenment and personal enrichment of senior citizens across the country, is indeed worthy of immense appreciation, she said.

In his message, read out on the occasion, Chancellor Preston University Dr. Abdul Basit extended a warm welcome to all the participants. He also expressed gratitude to them for sparing their valuable time and take part in the Workshop. Dr. Basit said that the primary objective of this Workshop is to put an effort in developing a team spirit in the society for facilitating senior citizens so as to enable them to live with self-esteem. He further said, we are trying to reduce the communication gap between the senior citizens and the youth of today. He stated that the way we deal with the senior citizens can be continuously improved by working on our own capabilities. We should all be very proud of where we are today and excited about where we are headed as compared to the western culture. Dr. Abdul Basit particularly congratulated Prof. Dr. Firoza Ahmed, Professor /Dean Social Sciences and DG (HR), Gender Empowerment and Management Division of Preston University and all others who have been instrumental in successful organization of the 77th Workshop on “Women Managers: Role of Youth in Protecting and Raising Self-Esteem of Senior Citizens.” He expressed the hope that the participants will find the Workshop to be very productive and would apply what they learn on the subject in letter and spirit.
A function was arranged at Preston University on Oct 7, 2015 to honor the ten students of PINSAT. Preston University who had participated in the International Workshop on Nanotechnology as well as the Nano Conference organized by NCNST, Beijing, China from 2-11 Sept, 2015. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Mr. Zhang Haihua, Secretary Science and Technology at the Embassy of the Peoples Republic of China in Pakistan, while the Guest of Honor was Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University.

Dr. N.M. Butt, Chairman PINSAT gave a brief history of the formation of PINSAT and its various activities. He mainly focused on the follow up activities as a consequence of the MoU that was signed between PINSAT and NCNST in 2012. Three graduates of PINSAT were already at NCNST for their PhD studies while three more would be joining them in March 2016. The participation of the ten students in the International Workshop and Nano Conference was also under the terms of the MoU. Moreover, an International Conference on Nanotechnology is being planned in Islamabad in collaboration with NCNST in Dec, 2016. The speech of Chairman PINSAT was followed by a brief presentation by Dr. K. Yaldaam on the future prospects of PINSAT graduates. According to him almost all the students of the two batches who have graduated so far have opted to pursue higher studies and almost 90% of them have been accepted by reputed National and International Universities. Three of the students who participated in the International Workshop and Conference on Nanotechnology namely Ms. Shahzad Shahezad, Ms. Momina Aamir and Mr. Junaid Iqbal presented their views regarding the Workshop, the Conference and cultural activities that they pursued during the trip.

Mr. Zhang Haihua, Secretary Science and Technology at the Chinese Embassy congratulated the students on their successful visit to China. He described the various scholarships being offered by the Chinese government to foreign students and how the students from Pakistan could benefit from these. According to him Pakistan is among the countries that has the highest number of students availing these scholarships.

Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University, shared his impressions about the developments that he had seen in China during his numerous visits to that country. According to him China is now Pakistan’s biggest economic partner and will be investing heavily in Pakistan in the foreseeable future. Anticipating this future scenario, Preston University has introduced Chinese language course in three of its campuses in Karachi. The Chancellor singled out the PINSAT-NCNST MoU for special praise, as it was being implemented most effectively in its true spirit. The function came to an end with presentation of vote of thanks by Dr. Fayyaz Chaudhry.