

Positive Post



A Media Publication by the students of Mass Communication and Media Studies

February in History

February 25, 1948:

Urdu was declared the national language of Pakistan.

February 21, 1956:

Constituent Assembly decides the country shall be a Federal Republic known as Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

February 24, 1960:

Presidential Cabinet decides to name the new Capital as Islamabad.

February 16, 1971:

Korakoram Highway, linking China and Pakistan, opened.

What's inside:

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- 👉 'Cholistan Jeep rally magnifying Pakistan's soft image'
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- 👉 Four Pakistanis recognised in Forbes '30 Under 30' list
- 👉 Three Pakistanis shortlisted for world's biggest photography contest

Karachi to Hollywood: Pakistani visual effects artist wins third Oscar

The recognition from the industry for Pakistani visual effects artist, 38-year-old Mir Zafar Ali, has been nothing short of a dream come true. His latest Academy Award, for Frozen, was the first in the animation category for the Walt Disney Animation Studios.

Ali's first Oscar came for The Golden Compass in 2008. Ali's forte is to mainly recreate natural phenomena such as water, fire, destruction and snow as well as visually recreate fantasy. His second Academy Award came last year for the Life of Pi, a movie based on Yann Martel's acclaimed novel.

Ali grew up in Karachi watching a wide range of films and was particularly interested in science-fiction and fantasy movies. Jurassic Park was his first main inspiration. "It completely blew me away!" he said.

He studied at the BeaconHouse School Systems and always wanted to go to art school. "But back in the day, going to art school wasn't thought of as a good career move hell, it's still not thought of as a good career move," he admitted. As a result, it took him a while to figure out what he wanted to do.

In A' Levels, the visual effects artist studied what many students do out of a lack of a better choice science. After that he enrolled in university to study computer science. "But in my last year, I realised I wasn't fit for regular software engineering."

Ali veered off into AutoCAD and 3d studio max classes, which "pretty much sealed the deal." He didn't bother looking for a regular software engineering job after graduating and instead took a short course in sculpture at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture and started looking for jobs in 3d animation. "I was lucky enough to land at Sharp Image one of the best visual fx and post production houses in Pakistan."

In the two years that Ali worked in Karachi, he took up countless commercials, from Safeguard to pesticides in farm lands. "I hated spring because



most of the commercials we had were for these damn pesticides!"

It was in July 1999 that he took the courage to start again and enrolled in a BFA programme at Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). This one step went a long, long way from Karachi to Hollywood. "My family was very supportive of my decision and that was a huge thing considering that most of my relatives thought this was just a hobby and a waste of time."

In the last quarter at SCAD, one of his professors, Garman Harigstad, who he says he owes much of his success to, told him about an entry-level visual fx artist position at Digital Domain.

Ali compiled a demo reel of his best work on projects at SCAD and sent it over. Two weeks after, he was on his way to Los Angeles to work on The Day After Tomorrow.

Since he brought a tsunami to New York in The Day After Tomorrow, Ali has given X-men's Banshee his sonic scream and made monsters rise from the sea in Percy Jackson.

Now when he comes to Karachi he is not known as the crazy kid who wanted to study art but as the crazier man who created fantasy worlds that people back home love to lose themselves in.

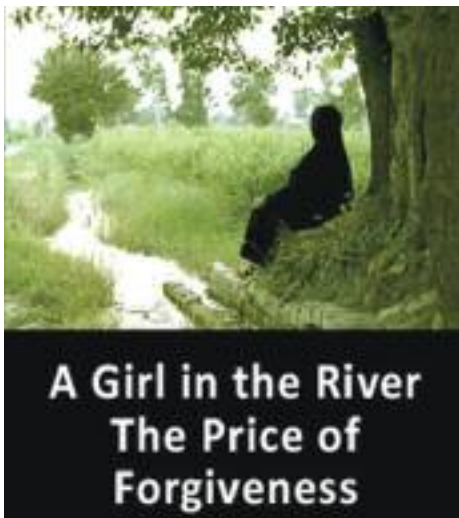
*By Abdullah Sheikh BS433808
Courtesy: Express Tribune*

Pakistan's Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy: The Oscar double winner

Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy, 37, has made history as the only Pakistani to win two Oscars.

She made headlines in Pakistan when her name was called at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, for best short subject documentary film of the year.

She walked up to the stage to accept the award, waved her Oscar triumphantly and said: "I have another one!"



The film, *A Girl in the River - The Price of Forgiveness*, highlights the issue of honour killings in Pakistan. It traces the story of an 18-year-old woman, Saba, who was shot by her relatives to redeem their family honour, and dumped into a river. She miraculously survived to tell her story.

The subject of honour killings is not discussed much in Pakistan - mainly because most of the crimes go unreported and the

victims remain unknown.

This is why Ms Obaid Chinoy chose it as the subject for her latest film.

In her acceptance speech, she said that after seeing the film, Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has vowed to change the law on honour killings.

"That is the power of film," she said.

*By Abdullah Sheikh BS433808
Courtesy: bbc.news*

'Cholistan Jeep rally magnifying Pakistan's soft image'

Managing Director, Tourism Development Corporation Punjab (TDCP), Ahmar Malik said on Tuesday that the mega car sport event was magnifying the soft image of the country and the TDCP was making efforts to ensure participation of foreign car racers in future events of the annual Cholistan desert race.

Talking to APP, Ahmar said that number of female racers' participation was rising gradually in the Cholistan Desert Jeep

Rally and the spectators who opt for desert tourism on the eve of race near historical Derawar fort was also witnessing continuous surge every year.

To a question about participation of foreign car racers, the MD TDCP cited some difficulties like arrivals of two sports vehicles along with every foreign racer besides spares and their own expert mechanics. Moreover, issues related to customs and expenses on transportation of vehicles would also have to be addressed.

Ahmar Malik, however, added that TDCP was working on tackling these hurdles and spectators would soon witness foreign racers raising Cholistan dust in future races.

He said that the 11th Cholistan Jeep rally concluded successfully, however, TDCP officials have also taken into account the

difficulties spectators faced so that such problems do not recur. He said that he has instructed officials to start making arrangements for the 12th jeep rally three to four months before the scheduled date.

He said that 12th annual jeep rally would be held in 2017 and a proposal was under discussion to introduce a 500 kilometer long race track that would pass through three districts of Bahawalpur division.

*By Nida Latif BS485390
Courtesy: www.dailytimes.com.pk*



Don't need it? Leave it here: Peshawar gets its own version of Deewar-i-Meherbani

Most of the walls in the posh neighbourhood of Hayatabad are drab structures of white and concrete; others have no paint at all. A bright yellow wall, breaking the monotony, stands out with the curious addition of clothes, hanging in various colours and sizes.

This is Peshawar's wall of kindness, a charity wall installed on the main road. Any passerby, who wishes to donate used clothes for the homeless and poor, is welcome to drop them off here.



'If you don't need it, leave it'
Asad Ali Lodhi led a two-day drive with his organisation Serve Mankind requesting locals not to trash their used clothes, especially warm garments that can be used in the winter.

"If you don't need it, leave it and if you need it, take it," they told people. The phrase comes from the original wall in Tehran Deewar-i-Meherbani which inspired Lodhi to kick start

Serve Mankind and set up the wall.

People in terror-torn Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) might be adversely affected by day-to-day violence, but are always willing to help each other out, Lodhi believes. The general public, in fact, has responded with overwhelming generosity, bringing clothes for men, women and children, undergarments, shawls, jackets and coats. There are also some shoes, bags and purses and wallets.

"Some people have even

donated new clothes," Lodhi says.

Lodhi says over 500 homeless and poor people have found clothes through the wall. This is particularly helpful to people during the chilling cold of Peshawar and at a time when nights can get icy. 50-year-old Aslam Khan is one such beneficiary; standing in front of the striped wall, he sports a blue jacket he picked up earlier this week.

By *Abdullah Sheikh BS433808*
Courtesy: *Dawn*

Pakistan-born scientist played part in discovery of gravitational waves



Pakistani-born astrophysicist Dr Nergis Mavalvala was among the team of eagle-eyed scientists who, for the first time, observed ripples in the fabric of spacetime called gravitational waves.

The detection announced only on Thursday confirms a major prediction of Albert Einstein's 1915 general theory of relativity and opens an unprecedented new window onto the cosmos.

Professor Mavalvala worked with researchers at the US-based underground detectors Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) Laboratory to build sophisticated sensors to detect gravitational ripples created from the collision of two black

holes some 1.3 billion years ago and had been hurtling through space to reach Earth on September 14, 2015.

Dr Mavalvala, 47, was born to a Parsi family in Karachi where she did her primary schooling.

She attended the Convent of Jesus and Mary before going to the US as a teenager where she graduated with a BA in physics and astronomy from the Wellesley College in 1990.

During her graduation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) she started working on gravitational waves which would lead her to one of the biggest discoveries of the century.

By *Nida Latif BS485390*
Courtesy: *Express Tribune*

FAST students win top positions in design contest

Teams from FAST-NUCES, Lahore have won the first and second prize at an international competition. Nearly 200 people from across the world participated in the contest. The winners were announced on February 6. The two projects, EcoSens-Wireless Sensor and Actuator Network, won the top position at the Global DIY Project De-

sign competition.

The second slot was secured by another team from FAST called Ball Bot. The teams are part of a research group called Consensys at FAST.

The DIY project competition is an international contest involving technical ideas presented by students and engineers from around the world.

The competition invites projects related to robotics, wearable technology, software, hardware and alternative energy devices.

Courtesy: *Express Tribune*



Pakistani scientist develops device to diagnose cancer rapidly

Pakistani electrical engineer at the University of Texas at Arlington has developed a new cancer cell detection method that will be able to improve early diagnosis of cancer.

Samir Iqbal, an associate professor in the Electrical Engineering Department, detailed his team's results in a recent Nature's Scientific Reports paper called "Effects of Nanotexture on Electrical Profiling of Single Tumor Cell and Detection of Cancer from Blood in Microfluidic Channels."

The tool works by tracking cellular behavior in real time using

nanotextured walls that mimic layers of body tissue.

Iqbal has worked on the project with Young-tae Kim, a UTA associate professor in the Bioengineering Department; Muhymin Islam, a STEM doctoral candidate; and engineering students Mohammad Motasim Bellah, Adeel Sajid and Mohammad Raziul Hasan.

Iqbal said his team observed the many layers of tissue in the human body and decided to develop something that would mimic that layering.

"The answer was in creating a nanotextured wall that fools

blood samples into thinking its actual tissue," Iqbal said. "We used inherent properties of the cell walls to create a diagnostic tool. The cancer cells behave differently as they come into contact with the nanotextured walls. They dance," he added.

Identifying those "dancing cells" will help doctors pinpoint cancer cells and start treatment earlier than allowed with current technology.

"Discovering the cancer earlier, before it metastasizes, is essential to surviving cancer," Iqbal said. "Our device has the potential to do that."



Iqbal did his bachelors from NED University of Engineering and Technology in Karachi in 1996 after which he did his PhD from Purdue University in Indiana.

*By Abdullah Sheikh BS433808
Courtesy: Express Tribune*

KGS, Lyceum win big at Harvard Model United Nations 2016

The Karachi Grammar School (KGS) won the best international delegation award at the Harvard Model United Nations (MUN) 2016 held in Boston, United States.

Other schools from Pakistan, including Karachi's Lyceum, Aitchison College and Roots Millennium from Islamabad, also participated at the event.



Over 3,000 delegates representing over 199 countries participated to debate issues of international importance.

A 14-member KGS team participated at the MUN in Boston for the first time, the team's head told The Express Tribune. The winning team also won all debate competitions in Karachi before heading for Boston. The team clinched the best delegation award at Zabmun-VIII, MUNIK and BAYMUN.

Lyceum's eight-member team secured the 'best small delegation award'.

The sixty-third session of Harvard Model United Nations was held from January 28 to Sunday January 31 at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. More than 3,000 delegates and 300 faculty advisors from around the United States and every continent of the world convened to confront and debate issues of international importance.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

146 APS students depart for Dubai to watch PSL matches



As many as 146 students of Army Public School (APS) have departed for Dubai along with star player and Twenty20 captain Shahid Afridi to watch Pakistan Super League (PSL) matches.

According to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) statement, the students left for Dubai from Bacha Khan Airport on a chartered plane of Shaheen Airlines and will return country on February 8.

The young cricket lovers would support Shahid Afridi during PSL.

Afridi also distributed cricket

accessories and Peshawar Zalmi's kits among the students and took selfies with them.

Peshawar Zalmi owner Javed Afridi in his tweet on social media networking website Twitter stated that the promise made has been successfully fulfilled as 146 students have been taken to Dubai for PSL.

I am thrilled that we have been successful in delivering a promise

We hope to bring back smiles. Help us, a warm welcome to APS kids in Dubai.

*By Abdullah Sheikh BS433808
Courtesy: dunyanews.tv*

Women in power: Ammara Khattak becomes first woman DC of Abbottabad

Ammara Aamir Khattak who has taken over as the deputy commissioner (DC) of the garrisoned city of Abbottabad is the first woman to step into this role.



Previously, Khattak served as the Hazara additional commissioner.

Local women, especially from civil society organisations, have high hopes for the 37-year-old DC who was strong and brave enough to take the appointment in a trouble-prone district, once ruled by Major James Abbott.

“The provincial government should be appreciated for its openness and faith in women,” Faiza Bibi, a social activist, said.

Saeeda Yasmin, a government schoolteacher also expressed the same views. “Women workers will certainly feel more at ease approaching a woman for their day-to-day problems,” she said. “Let us hope the problems relating to women are now dealt in a more effective and efficient manner.”

Yasmin also said Khattak’s appointment as DC will inspire other women in Hazara to succeed and pursue their dreams.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Pakistan's Fiza Farhan appointed member of UN's first-ever panel on women empowerment

A Pakistani woman has been named as a member of the United Nations body dedicated to the economic empowerment of women.



Fiza Farhan was elected as a member of the first ever High-Level Panel of the UN Secretary-General on Women’s Economic Empowerment, according to a communiqué released.

Fiza is CEO of Buksh Foundation and director of Buksh Energy. She was also part of the ‘30 under 30’ list by Forbes magazine for Social Entrepreneurs in 2015.

As a member of the panel, Fiza will join leaders of World Bank Group, International Monetary Fund, UN Women as well as sev-

eral other eminent gender and equality actors. She will also establish connection with economics experts, academics, trade union leaders, businesses and government representatives from across the world.

Speaking of her appointment Fiza said, “It is indeed an honour for me to represent Pakistan and the women of Pakistan on this prestigious High-Level Panel.”

Courtesy: Express Tribune

PSL’s success is Pakistan’s success: Sethi

Chairman Pakistan Super League Najam Sethi has termed the success of HBL Pakistan Super League (SPL) a major success for Pakistan as it promoted a soft image of the country.

He said that we faced multiple challenges as we set out to organize the League and with the support of all stakeholders, we have managed to overcome all the challenges and deliver a successful tournament. With the entire nation supporting PSL, the League proved to be a unifying factor for the country.

Najam Sethi said that PSL has given Pakistanis a national product that they can proudly own and the response that we have received from the fans has been phenomenal.

The League has been instrumental in strengthening the process of national integra-



tion of the country. I would like to thank Pakistani fans all over the world. It is because of their support that we have succeeded,” he added.

Speaking about the commercial aspect of PSL, Najam Sethi pointed out that the League’s commercial value has grown due to the tremendous response that it received from the fans. “PSL’s TV ratings are comparable to Pakistan’s World Cup matches which is a huge achievement,” Najam Sethi stated.

Termining the involvement of international cricketers a huge advantage for local players, he highlighted that this has already started having an impact on Pakistan cricket.

“Our players went through a fast-track learning experience and in these 15-20 days, they have shared dressing rooms and made friendships with some of the top international cricketers. All the foreign cricketers have provided us with an extremely positive feedback about their experience in PSL,” he added.

Najam Sethi expressed his satisfaction on the transparency of the League. “HBL PSL’s anti-corruption efforts were benchmarked against international best practices. We were



not only able to devise an effective anti-corruption policy but, with the cooperation of all five franchises, we were able to successfully implement the policy in a transparent manner,” he added.

He thanked all five franchise owners and their managements for successfully partnering with PSL. He also thanked the sponsors for their support in making the tournament a huge success.

He also thanked Prime Minister of Pakistan, Chairman PCB, Board of Governors, PSL Governing Council and all members of the PSL team for their continued support.

*By Amir Saeed Ansari BS50 5621
Courtesy: The Nation*

Four Pakistanis recognised in Forbes '30 Under 30' list

Four Pakistanis made it to Forbes '30 Under 30' Asia list for 2016 on Thursday, in which the business magazine recognised 600 young game-changers across 20 different fields.

This year's Social Entrepreneurship and Media & Marketing category feature four Pakistanis who they believe are changing the world.

Khalida Brohi, 25, Founder of Sughar

Brohi started a non-profit organisation to empower women in rural Pakistan at the



age of 16, after witnessing an honour killing. Brohi's social enterprise provides six months of training to women in 23 Pakistani villages, where they gain business knowledge, learn ways to monetise traditional embroidery skills, and get access to loans and markets.

Fiza Farhan, 27, Founder & CEO of Buksh Foundation

Farhan was elected as a member of the first ever High-Level Panel of the UN Secretary-General on Women's Economic Empowerment this month. Farhan, who is CEO of Buksh Foundation and director of



Buksh Energy, was also part of the '30 under 30' list by Forbes magazine for Social Entrepreneurs in 2015.

Muniba Mazari appointed UN's first woman Goodwill Ambassador to Pakistan

Umar Anwar Jahangir, 24, Founder & Secretary of Bahria Medics

Jahangir is running several non-for-profit healthcare programmes in Karachi. One of its flagship initiatives is a programme to create the country's first blood bank integrated to mobile networks.



Muniba Mazari, 28, Anchor, PTV

Mazari was appointed as Pakistan's first female Goodwill Ambassador to advance



gender equality and empowerment of women by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

*By Nida Latif BS485390
Courtesy: The Express Tribune*

Pakistan receives ASSET 'Best Deal of the Year Award 2015'

Pakistan on Monday received the 'best second placement' and 'Best Privatisation Award 2015' in Asset's 'Best Deal Awards' category.

The Asset is Asia's leading issuer and investor-focused financial monthly publica-



tion which recognises Asia's top financial institutions for excellence in the industry.

Pakistan received the award in recognition of the country's transactional work on the divestment of the government's shareholding in Habib Bank Limited in 2014-15, according to Radio Pakistan.

Pakistani woman wins global humanitarian award

Pakistan was given the 'Best Deal of the Year 2015' Award at The Asset Triple A Regional Awards ceremony held in Hong Kong.

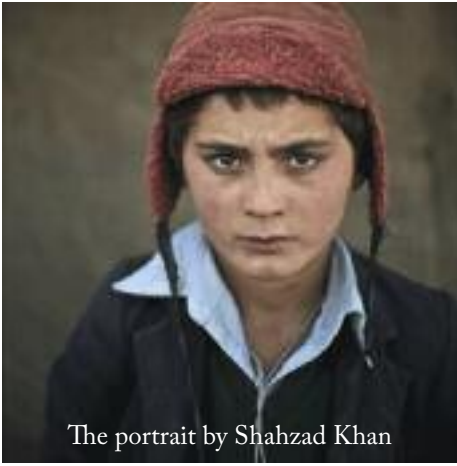
Minister of State for Privatisation Mohammad Zubair was accompanied by Pakistan's Consul General in Hong Kong, Ghufuran Memon, while receiving the prestigious award on behalf of the country.

LUMS wins first prize in US State Department competition

Hong Kong's top executives and policy makers from the finance and banking sectors were also in attendance of the award ceremony. A number of awards of various categories were given away to financial institutions, banks, investment houses and countries.

*By Amir Saeed Ansari BS50 5621
Courtesy: The Nation*

Three Pakistanis shortlisted for world's biggest photography contest



The portrait by Shahzad Khan

Three Pakistani photographers have been shortlisted for the 2016 edition of the Sony World Photography Awards.

Kumail Rizvi, Shahzad Khan and Zohaib Tariq have been recognised in the awards' youth competition for photographers aged 19 and under. Rizvi was shortlisted in the 'youth environment' category for an aerial image called "human made environment" showing a car park in Malaysia from the sky. While Shahzad Khan was shortlisted in the 'youth portraits' category for "Awal Gul", a stunning close-up photograph of a child taken in a slum on the outskirts of Islamabad.

Zohaib Tariq was nominated in the youth culture category for his image titled "Pakistan", showing local farmers at work. Based in Islamabad Tariq is a keen sportsman and currently studying at HITEC University Taxila.

14 times Huma Choudhary beautifully captured people's lives



Pakistan by Zohaib Tariq

This year saw a record-breaking number of participants – 230,103 entries that have come in from 186 countries. A statement released by the awards committee also mentioned that there was an astounding

137% increase in the entries that came in from Pakistan.

Human made Environment by Kumail Rizvi

The list of winners will be announced on April 21 at a gala ceremony in London. The winning photographers stand to win a share of a \$30,000 prize, and their photos will be showcased at the World Photography Awards exhibition (April–May), and featured in the 2016 edition of the Awards book.

By *Aamir Saeed Ansari BS50 5621*
 Courtesy: *The Express Tribune*



Human made Environment by Kumail Rizvi

7th Karachi Literature Festival (KLF): Diversity in literature

The Karachi Literature Festival (KLF) has now become the most important part of Karachi's cultural life. The festival reflected our country's diversity in literature. The attendance of authors, writers as well as visitors in large number reflected the depth of our historical, literary, and cultural roots, and the great desire and energy to pursue knowledge, understanding, and creativity. Our rich, ancient and diverse cultures and literatures find their way to homes and minds through books and discussions at KLF.

Bringing together and celebrating various authors' writings in diverse languages, genres, and traditions KLF featured debates, discussions, lectures, mushaira, a book fair, book launches, readings, signings, comedy, satire,



theatre, cinema, music, dance, story telling, art, and singing. This year more than 250 foreign and local authors visited KLF including Italy, France, the UK, the US, India and distant parts of Pakistan to enrich and inspire audience of Karachi.

The absence of Urdu novelist, short story writer and columnist Intizar Husain who passed away just three days before the opening of the festival on February 2 was felt by the organisers and visitors alike. The writer was also a nominee for this year's peace prize. Everyone observed a minute's silence for Intizar sahib before the formal start of the event at the request of the founder of the event Ameena Saiyid.

This time KLF has introduced a corner for children to have art activities like drawing and painting so that the kids became engaged in a creative work another corner offered fifty percent discount on local and foreign books for children.

Books lovers and literature enthusiasts attended different sessions of their interests on



various thought-provoking subjects at the Karachi Literature Festival. This year's keynote speakers were and internationally acclaimed nuclear physicist, Dr Pervez Hoodhboy, and award-winning poetess Fahmida Riaz. Both the speakers pleaded for tolerance and love among the masses.

The three-day event featured around 100 sessions and 28 book launches in which 262 authors and individuals belonging to showbiz took part. Paintings, sculptures and photographs were discussed in detail by art practitioners, critics and art aficionados. Beyond the festive enjoyment lies the simple fact that this festival was about books, art and culture. Hence avid readers, writers, academics

By *Nida Latif BS485390*
 Courtesy: *Business Recorder*



Greenchians interested in contributions or joining us as sub-editor ! shoot an email to the editor, including your name, roll number and your work at eesha@greenwich.edu.pk



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Patron:
Ms. Seema Mughal, Vice Chancellor
Editor:
Eesha Ghani (Lecturer)
Sub Editor:
Abdullah Sheikh BS43 3808
Graphics & Layout:
Shazia Anwar