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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESEARCH
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Dear Researchers,

The National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research (NIHCR) is a Centre of Excellence at the Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad. The Institute is publishing two research journals. One is an HEC recognized English journal, the *Pakistan Journal of History and Culture (PJHC)*. The other one is *Mujallah-i Tarikh wa Saqafat-i Pakistan* published in Urdu.

The Pakistan Journal of History and Culture is amongst the most widely read research journals in Pakistan. It is being regularly published biannually since 1980 with some special issues on Quaid-i-Azam, Fatima Jinnah and the All-India Muslim League. Articles appearing in the journal are abstracted and indexed in the *Periodica Islamica* (Malaysia), *Historical Abstracts* (Singapore) and *America: History and Life* (USA). The Institute has devised a clear policy for the publication of different articles in its journals. As it is evident from the name of the Institute, articles submitted should contain elements relating to the history and culture of Pakistan. In addition, the journal has been publishing articles related to South Asia, Central Asia and other Muslim societies.

The present number arranges an array of articles for our valuable readers discussing multifarious topics. The first in line digs deep into history probing the roots of the idea of being 'God's bride' as well as tracing the use of bridal metaphor in the poetic composition of Indian Sufis from the time of their arrival in the Subcontinent to the fifteenth century. The second one makes a thorough effort to clear the concept of good and evil in the light of the study of a renowned scholar Amin Ahsan Islahi. Another article brings forth the factors behind the failure of Separatist Movement in East Punjab. The fourth article in row argues the leftist's approach to politics during the freedom struggle with particular focus on the provinces representing Muslims in majority. The second last of all, while comparing three different foreign welfare models, tries to figure out which Social Welfare System could be compatible with or suitable to Pakistan's socio-economic and geo-political ground realities. In no way the least, the last article takes a swipe at the shenanigans which impede the smooth functioning of

democracy in Pakistan, and also it offers the remedies and ways to avoid and avert them.

As per running layout of the journal, the first page of the article should contain the title, name of the author and an abstract of the article. For the sake of uniformity, we have included a "Note to Contributors" on the back of the cover page. From now onwards, the *PJHC* will be following the format outlined in Sixteenth Edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

According to the revised editorial policy of the *PJHC*, articles containing less than five thousand (5000) words as well as those of having corporate authors shall not be entertained.

The process of evaluation and blind peer reviewing is comprehensive. We have an internal review committee consisting of the Editor and Assistant Editors. The committee recommends an article for evaluation after preliminary assessment. The article then goes through a cycle of evaluation, editing, review and proof reading.

An acknowledgement letter is forwarded to the author, which should not be deemed as an acceptance letter. It is just to inform the author that the article is being sent for blind peer review. Then the article is sent to two appropriate scholars. Articles are evaluated on the recommendation of nationally and internationally known referees belonging to various disciplines. It is the policy of the Institute that the internal committee recommends at least two reviewers one local and one foreign for the evaluation of every article. If they recommend changes and suggestions, the article is sent back to the author for revision. After positive recommendation from the reviewers, an article is accepted for publication in the *Pakistan Journal of History and Culture*.

S.M. Awan
(Editor)

Note to Contributors

- Articles, research notes, review articles, comments, rejoinders and book reviews are welcome from all parts of the world. They should be sent/emailed to the Editor, *Pakistan Journal of History and Culture*, Post Box 1230, Islamabad.
- Articles submitted should be the original and unpublished work of the author. Submission of an article will be taken to imply that it is not on offer to any other publisher.
- Articles are selected on the recommendation of nationally and internationally known referees belonging to various fields.
- Manuscripts, typewritten in double spacing with wide margins, must follow the format outlined in *The Chicago Manual of Style*.
- The first page of the article should contain the title of the article, the name of the author, and a footnote giving the current affiliation of the author, and acknowledgments, if any.
- Notes should be numbered consecutively. Each appendix and table should have separate set of notes.
- Authors will receive one copy of the Journal free and 25 off-prints of the article contributed.
- References should be given as footnotes and should include: (for books) authors' name followed by the title of the book [in italic], place of publication, publisher, year of publication, page number, (for journals) authors' name, followed by the title of the article [in quotation marks], title of journal [in italic], volume and issue number and then page number.
- The Editor reserves the right to edit/change the transliteration of historical names, titles and non-English terminology to bring them into conformity with the Institute's own style.
- Articles written in Urdu may be submitted to the Institute's biannual Journal *Majallah-i-Tarikh wa Saqafat-i Pakistan*.
- The major objective of the *Pakistan Journal of History and Culture* is to provide a forum for scholars engaged in study of the history and culture of Pakistan and of the Islamic societies in South and Central Asia, the Middle East and other parts of the world in that order of priority. Besides promoting research in these fields, the Journal also seeks to provide a forum for expression of views on current history. It hopes to create a dialogue among specialists and leaders in public affairs in a wide range of areas and disciplines.
- The opinions expressed in articles and accuracy of facts rests solely with the contributors and should not be construed as representing the views of the Editor. Contents may not be produced without permission.

Articles appearing in this Journal are abstracted and indexed in *PERIODICA ISLAMICA* (Malaysia), *HISTORICAL ABSTRACTS* (Singapore) and *AMERICA: HISTORY AND LIFE* (U.S.A.).

Objectives of the NIHCR

- ✓ to assess and examine the needs and requirements of research in the history and culture of the Muslims of South Asia, Muslim Freedom Movement and the Islamic State of Pakistan;
- ✓ to identify areas or aspects in these fields and conduct research thereon;
- ✓ to coordinate research programmes of various universities and other research bodies in and outside Pakistan and cooperate with the activities and scholarly pursuits of all official and non-official institution engaged in this field;
- ✓ to seek, acquire and preserve source material (private papers, newspapers, rare books, documents and pamphlets, etc.) relevant to the above fields;
- ✓ to arrange interviews with important persons who can recall significant incidents relating to the fields mentioned above and to preserve a record of such conversations for current and further use by historians and scholars;
- ✓ to publish biannual Journals of high academic quality;
- ✓ to sponsor and commission scholarly works by persona not on the staff of the Institute;
- ✓ to reprint (with necessary editorial annotations) major and minor classics relating to the fields mentioned above which are now completely unavailable or are very scarce;
- ✓ to make provision for research and advisory services and with these objectives enter into agreements with other institutions or with public bodies under prescribed conditions;
- ✓ to devise and adopt ways and means to further the objectives of the Institute as a body responsible for research in the history and culture of Pakistan;
- ✓ to cooperate with international research organizations, and
- ✓ study Pakistan in wider context of its neighbouring countries.