

Press Release

The Govt. Degree College Tral in collaboration with Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi organized a two day national seminar titled '**Revisiting the Moral Teachings of Sufis and Rishi's of Kashmir**' from 5th to 6th of November 2024. The seminar aimed to delve into the profound wisdom and timeless teachings of Kashmir's renowned Sufi saints and Rishis, highlighting their enduring influence on the region's Socio-cultural and ethical fabric. For the seminar a total number of 27 abstracts were received from across the country and majority of them



were from the Kashmir division. The universities represented by the paper presenters are Kashmir University, IUST Awantipora J&K, Viram University Ujain MP, University of Jammu, Jamia Millia Islamia New Delhi, and B.R. Ambedkar University Bihar. The seminar was inaugurated by the worthy Principal of the College Prof. (Dr) Mushtaq Ahmad Malik. All the guests in the dais were felicitated with seminar kits, mementos, bouquets and souvenirs as a token of love, respect and appreciation. The event was covered by both electronic and print media of the state. The inaugural function was started at 10:30 AM of 5th November, 2024, in the gracious presence of Prof. (Dr) Showket Hussain Dar, HOD Islamic Studies IUST Awantipora, Dr. Jehangir Iqbal, HOD Persian University of Kashmir and Prof. (Dr.) Bashar Bashir a renowned academician, writer and former chairman, Centre of Sheikhu Alam Studies University of Kashmir. On the occasion, the welcome address was given by the Principal Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Malik of host college followed by the keynote address of Dr. Showket Hussain Dar of IUST who spoke about the relevance of the seminar and its need. Dr. Jahangir Iqbal Head Departmet of Persian University of Kashmir, who was also the guest of honor, talked in depth the historical perspective of Sufism in Kashmir. In the Presidential Address, Professor Bashar Bashir emphasized the significance of revisiting the teachings of Sufi saints and Rishis in the current socio-political and cultural climate. He highlighted the role of these spiritual masters in promoting peace, harmony and social justice. In the inaugural session two books, namely *Himaal and Nagrai* and *Beboojnama*, and the seminar abstract volume were released. The books have been translated from Persian to Urdu by Dr. Shabir Ahmad Bhat, Organizing Secretary and HOD Persian Department. Himaal and Nagrai is a famous folktale of Kashmir originally written in Persian while Beboojnama is a Dogra period history of Jammu and Kashmir. The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Shabeer Ahmad Bhat, HOD Persian of the host college while as proceedings of the session was conducted by Dr. Aashaq Hussain Zargar, faculty

Department of English GDC Tral. Technical Session 1st of the first day which was chaired by the renowned academician of the valley Prof. Basher Bashir, former Chairman Centre for Sheikul Alam Studies University of Kashmir. The first presentation entitled '*Economic Morality in Kashmiri Mysticism: Insights from Baba Dawood e Khaki and Sheikh Yaqoob e Sarfi*' was delivered by Dr. Mohd Iqbal Malik, Asstt. Professor, Islamic Studies of GDC Pampore. After his deliberation six paper presenters viz Dr. Javid Ahmad Pal, Dr. Syed Abbas Shah, Dr. Mudasir Nazar, Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Wani, Dr. Shahida Shabnam and Syed Arif Hussain presented their research papers. At the end of the first technical session there was a long interactive session where the questions of the participants were answered as well as debated both by the paper presenters and resource persons. Technical Session 2nd and 3rd of the day two paralleled together, one in the college Mini Auditorium and other in the Conference Hall of the college. The second technical session was chaired by Dr. Nisar Ahmad Trali, Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Malik, Principal GDC Tral and Dr. Syed Afzal Head, Department of Persian Women College MA Road Srinagar Nine paper presenters presented their research papers. At the end, Dr. Nisar Ahmad Trali a renowned author on Kashmir Sufism, spoke on the Sufi history of the region and the role of Sufi teachings in making a just society based on egalitarian principles. There was a question answer session wherein various issues and concepts regarding papers presented were discussed and debated. In the 3rd parallel technical session seven papers were read by the scholars and the session was chaired by Professor G.N Khaki, HOD Islamic Studies, IUST Awantipora J&K and Dr. Shabir Hussain Mirza HoD Department of English. During the session some of the key themes discussed were the concept of love and divine unity, role of mysticism and meditation in spiritual growth and the union of body and mind in promoting spirituality. The session also featured panel discussion on certain papers, allowing for in-depth analysis and exchange of ideas. The technical sessions were followed by the valedictory function which was attended by one and all. In the valediction session, the chairpersons, seminars organizers were felicitated by the mementos and bouquets while as both paper presenters and participants were given certificates of participation and presentation. In this session the outcomes of the seminar were specifically discussed by the resource persons and feedback was also recorded by the participants. The technical sessions were moderated by Dr. Hilal Ahmad Wani Assistant Professor English GDC Tral, Prof. Tahir Hussain Naikoo Assistant Professor History Govt Degree College Tral, Dr. Samiullah Rather HoD Kashmiri GDC Tral. The successful event culminated with a vote of thanks given by the organizing Secretary, Dr. Shabir Ahmad Bhat HoD Persian GDC Tral, wherein he thanked Head of the Institution, resource person, participants, various heads and members of committees of the college, teaching and non-teaching members of the institution, and ICSSR New Delhi for their sponsorship without which this could not have been possible.

Principal
Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Malik