

THINKFEST

11 - 12 January 2025

Alhamra, Mall Road, Lahore

Free Entry, No Pass Required

DAY 1: JANUARY 11, 2025



An Academic Literary Festival

	HALL 2	HALL 3	ADABI BAITHAK	GALLERY	ART GALLERY	
11:00 am to 12:30 pm	Still the Reluctant Fundamentalist? Mira Nair, Filmmaker; Mohsin Hamid, Writer, with Bilal Tanweer, LUMS					
12:45 pm to 01:45 pm	Politics in Polarised Times Malik Ahmad Khan, Speaker, Punjab Assembly; Barrister Ali Zafar, PTI; with Mehmal Sarfraz, Journalist	Age of Intolerance: Global Populism and Decline of Democracy in the 21st Century Munib Qadir, Lawyer & Author, Mehrub Awan, Gender Interactive Alliance <i>Book Launch</i>	Remembering Lahore's Bapsi Shaista Sonnu Sirajuddin, Academic; Asma Niaz, Academic; Perin Cooper Boga, Kinnaird, with Mina Malik, Writer & Poet	Sustainability and Climate Change: Impact and Solutions & Sustainable Tourism and Heritage <i>In collaboration with Beaconhouse National University</i>	DOMESTIC PROVOCATIONS Creativity as a Provocateur and Vice Versa (2nd Edition) CURATORS Iram Zia Raja Dean of Design, NCA Shabnam Syed Khan Former Professor of Design, NCA Rohma Khan Associate Professor, BNU-SVAD Faseeh Saleem PhD, Artistic Design Research Exhibition Designers Ahmed Faizan Naveed Ali Arshad Humza Zafar Malik	
02:00 pm to 03:00 pm	The People's Mandate? An Insider's View of Elections in South Asia S.Y. Qureshi, Former Chief Election Commissioner, India; Ila Sharma, Former Chief Election Commissioner, Nepal; Bilal Gilani, Gallup Pakistan, with Ahmed Bilal Mehboob, PILDAT	Why Communism Failed Jasper Becker, Journalist, with Raza Rumi, Naya Daur Media <i>Book Launch</i>	Will the South Asian Moment Ever Arrive? Stefan Dercon, Oxford; Mushtaq Khan, SOAS; Ishrat Husain, Former Federal Minister; Nadeem ul Haq, Former IMF Rep. in Sri Lanka, with Maleeha Sattar, ITU	Girl Child or Little Woman? Marriage, Work and Play Mehrunissa Sajjad, Lawyer; Mehrub Awan, Gender Interactive Alliance; Maham Ali, Right to Play, with Afiya Zia, Feminist Scholar		
03:15 pm to 04:15 pm	Why does He Tax Us so Much? Rashid Langrial, Chairman, FBR, with Miftah Ismail, Former Finance Minister	Indian Democracy: Tyranny of the Majority? S.Y. Qureshi, Former Chief Election Commissioner, India; Laurent Gayer, CNRS Paris, with Munizae Jahangir, Aaj News	Being Hindu, Being Indian: Lala Lajpat Rai, Lion of Punjab Vanya Bhargav, National Law School of India University, with Ghazi Taimoor, Founder, Lahore Ka Ravi <i>Book Launch</i>	Do We Need to Decolonise Conservation? Linda Poppe, Survival International, with Rafay Alam, Environmentalist <i>Book Launch - In Collaboration with the EU Delegation</i>		
04:30 pm to 05:30 pm	The World According to Trump Hina Rabbani Khar, Former Foreign Minister; Moeed Yusuf, Former NSA and VC BNU; Leila Hatoum, Veteran War Journalist, Lebanon, with Ejaz Haider, Journalist	Gambling for Development: Will Pakistan Ever Win? Stefan Dercon, Oxford; Imdad Bosal, Federal Finance Secretary, with Miftah Ismail, Former Finance Minister	Is Sir Syed Relevant Today? Do we need an Aligarh 2.0? Shafey Kidwai, Aligarh; Amjad Saqib, Akhuwat Foundation; Baela Raza Jamil, ITA; Ehtasham Anwar, Former Sec. Education Punjab, with Aliya Iqbal Naqvi, IBA Karachi <i>Book Launch</i>	Karachi: Gunpoint Capitalism Laurent Gayer, CNRS Paris, with Khurram Hussain, Journalist <i>Book Launch - In Collaboration with the Embassy of France</i>		
05:45 pm to 06:45 pm	What Remains for the Judiciary? The Hon. Mr Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Senior Puisne Judge, Supreme Court of Pakistan, with Feisal Naqvi, Lawyer	Neither Settler Nor Native: The Making and Unmaking of Permanent Minorities Mahmood Mamdani, Columbia University, with S. Akbar Zaidi, IBA Karachi <i>Book Launch</i>	Culture and Identity: Why is there a Conflict in Pakistan? (5:45pm to 6:30pm) Mohammad Ahmed Shah, Arts Council of Pakistan, Karachi; Kamran Lashari, WCLA; with Sughra Sadaf, Wijdan Lahore (6:30pm onwards) 'Kashmir Kahani' with Adeel Afzal <i>Documentary Launch</i>	Is 'Greater Israel' Becoming a Reality? Leila Hatoum, Veteran War Journalist, Lebanon, with Ejaz Haider, Journalist		
06:30 pm onwards	<p>لوہری کی تقریبات - پنجابی سردیوں کا تہوار</p> <p>LOHRI CELEBRATIONS - PUNJABI WINTER FESTIVAL</p> <p>(Venue: Alhamra Gardens)</p>					



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HALL 2

HALL 3

ADABI BAITHAK

GALLERY

ART GALLERY

11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Can Muslims be Enlightened?
Ayesha Jalal, Historian, Tufts University, USA
with Raza Rumi, Naya Daur Media

12:45 pm to 01:45 pm

Media in Polarised Times
Umar Cheema, The News;
Ayesha Bakhsh, Samaa TV
Habib Akram, Suno News,
with Mehmal Sarfraz, Journalist

The Collapse of the Awami League Government and Bangladesh's Future
Mushtaq Khan, SOAS,
with S. Akbar Zaidi, IBA Karachi

Is the Two State Solution the Real Problem in the Middle East?
Mahmood Mamdani, Columbia University,
with Ejaz Haider, Journalist

World Builders: Technology and the New Geopolitics
Bruno Macaes, Former Portuguese Minister;
with Khurram Hussain, Journalist

Book Launch - In collaboration with the EU Delegation

02:00 pm to 03:00 pm

کیا ڈرامہ ہے
Marina Khan, Actor/Director;
Nadia Khan, Actor/Host;
Haissam Hussain, Director;
Mustafa Afridi, Writer,
with Mukarram Kaleem, Anchor/Journalist

Advancing Media Literacy and Rights online-offline
By the High Commission of Canada in Pakistan

Chequered Past, Uncertain Future: A History of Pakistan
Tahir Kamran, BNU;
Dora Gunsberger, Embassy of Hungary;
Marcus Daechsel, Royal Holloway, London;
Tariq Rahman, BNU,
with Rajaa Sahgal, Oxford

Book Launch

تصحیح دریا
Correcting Punjab's Revisionist History
Jugnu Mohsin,
Journalist & Former MPA Punjab,
with Mushtaq Soofi, Poet & Writer

03:15 pm to 04:15 pm

Why is Pakistan Always in a Political Crisis?
Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Former Prime Minister,
with Mohammad Malick, ARY News

Green Industry Leaders
Iqra A. Inam, Sapphire Textile;
Hassan Ali Khan, Hyundai Central;
Sheikh Waqar Ahmad, Nestle Pakistan;
Hammad Naqi, WWF Pakistan;
Moeed Yusuf, Former NSA and VC BNU,
with Imrana Tiwana, BNU

In Collaboration with Beaconhouse National University

AI, Fake News and the Fight for Digital Rights
Bruno Macaes, Former Portuguese Minister;
Nighat Dad, Digital Rights Foundation,
with Sadaf Khan, Media Matters

In Collaboration with Digital Rights Foundation

How can the Market serve all Stakeholders Better?
Amjad Waheed, CEO, NBP Funds;
Maha Shahzad, CEO, BusCaro;
Nasim Beg, CEO, Arif Habib Consultancy,
with Rukhsana Narejo,
Chief Treasury, Raqami Islamic Digital Bank

04:30 pm to 05:30 pm

Salam Cinema: South Asian Voices for a Global Audience
Mira Nair, Filmmaker;
Saim Sadiq, Filmmaker;
Ahad Raza Mir, Actor,
with Fifi Haroon, Journalist

Cricket: The Art of Captaincy
David Gower, Former Captain, England Men;
Sana Mir, Former Captain, Pak. Women;
Aamir Sohail, Former Captain, Pak. Men,
with Najam Sethi

Book Launch

Building the Green Workforce: Skills for a Sustainable World/Pakistan
Linda Poppe, Survival International;
Uzma Yousaf, Cambridge International,
Khadija Amer, Punjab Group;
Ahmed Haleem Khan,
with Abrar Chaudhary, Oxford

05:45 pm to 06:45 pm

26th Amendment: Text and Context
Salman Akram Raja, Lawyer;
Maryam S. Khan, Constitutional Scholar;
Saroop Ejaz, Senior Counsel Asia, HRW;
Asad Rahim Khan, Lawyer,
with Noorzadeh Raja, Human Rights Lawyer

دین اور دنیا
The Promise of the Tablighi Jamaat
Arsalan Khan, University of Tennessee, USA,
with Mary Hunter, CSCR, Islamabad

Book Launch

Book Launch

DOMESTIC PROVOCATIONS

Creativity as a Provocateur and Vice Versa

(2nd Edition)

CURATORS

Iram Zia Raja
Dean of Design, NCA

Shabnam Syed Khan
Former Professor of Design, NCA

Rohma Khan
Associate Professor, BNU-SVAD

Faseeh Saleem
PhD, Artistic Design Research

Exhibition Designers

Ahmed Faizan Naveed

Ali Arshad

Humza Zafar Malik

