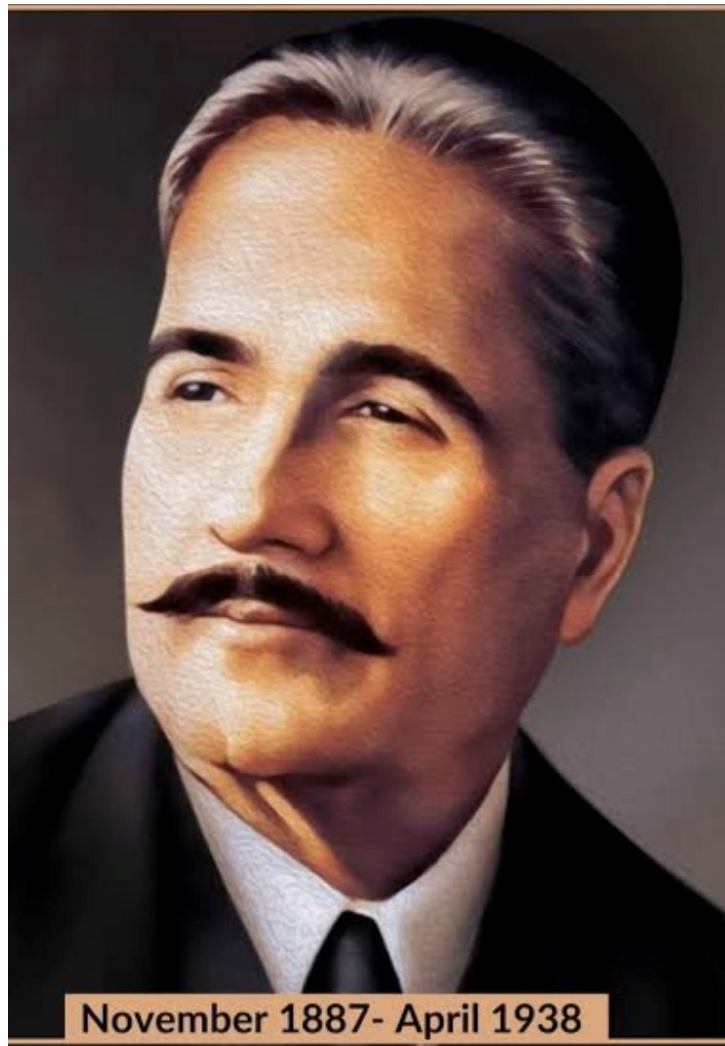


AJK remembers Kashmir-origin Poet Philosopher Iqbal on his 148th Birth Anniversary with fabulous zest:



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MIRPUR (AJK): November 9; Azad Jammu & Kashmir Sunday celebrated 148th birth anniversary of the author of the idea of emergence of Pakistan – poet philosopher Allama Dr. Muhammad Iqbal with the renewal of the pledge on behalf of the people of entire Jammu & Kashmir state to work shoulder to shoulder Pakistani brethren to make the country a true forward-looking Muslim state and invincible fort of Islam in line with thoughts of the great poet philosopher and to continue struggle for the achievement of their legitimate right to self determination.

The world-fame poet of the east was born on November 9th in 1877 in a middle-class family in centuries-old Kashmiri Mohalla, an ancient central densely-populated locality of Sialkot city.

Despite the Weekly holiday -Sunday, the day was already declared as gazetted holiday as respect, across Azad Jammu Kashmir to celebrate the birth anniversary of the poet of the east with due traditional zeal fervour.

The day dawned with special prayers in the mosques for the solidarity, integrity and prosperity of Pakistan and for the freedom of all the Muslim homelands including occupied Jammu & Kashmir and Palestine respectively from unlawful Indian and Israeli forced occupation.

Various cultural, political, social and literary organizations hosted special meetings and seminars in various parts of the liberated territory to highlight the services rendered by the great visionary of 20th century.

Several of people from various parts of AJK including Mirpur visited the 'Mazaar e-Iqbal' in Lahore a short while ago Sunday morning and laid a wreath to pay homage to Poet of the East. They also offered Fateha and prayed for prosperity and solidarity of the country.

In lake district of Mirpur, the birth anniversary of the poet philosopher was celebrated with zeal and fervor.

Addressing the ceremonies, speakers said that the best way to pay rich tribute to the poet philosopher is to follow and act upon the message he delivered through his poetry of high intellect and pen to our young and coming generations to raise to the sky high for emerging Pakistan as the sovereign, progressive, prosperous and developed nation.

Major simple but impressive ceremony was hosted jointly under the auspices of Kashmir Press Club Mirpur-AJK and Jammu Kashmir Free Media Association with the coordination of Jammu & Kashmir Union of Journalists at national Media center at Sajid Plaza complex in the city to pay rich tributes to the vision of Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal in addition to highlighting his life and

services giving idea for emergence of an ideological Muslim state in the subcontinent of the world – Pakistan.

Kashmir Press Club President Syed Abid Hussain Shah chaired the ceremony addressed by the chair, senior journalist Syed Abid Hussain Shah, Secretary General Raja Sohrab Ahmed Khan, JKUJ Central President Hafiz Maqsood, senior Kashmiri Journalist Arshad Butt, Convenor JKFMA Altaf Hameed Nizami and other senior Kashmiri journalists addressed the ceremony also attended the intellect class representing various segments of the civil society who paid rich tributes to the poet philosopher who had given high vision of the emergence of separate homeland of the Muslims of the Sub-continent – the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The day was marked with special ceremonies hosted here Sunday in various educational institutions in the district, attended, among others, by the students, parents, and the academic and administrative staff members of the institutions.

The students presented tableaux depicting Iqbal's message to the young generation of Pakistan through his high caliber poetry with advise to the youth to emerge as the quality future architects of the live nation. The AJK state print and electronic media also brought out special supplements on this occasion. Several organizations, delegations and citizens paid rich tributes and offered fateha for the departed soul of Dr Allama Muhammad Iqbal in the ceremonies.

