

School of Arts & Social Sciences

اسکول آف آرٹس و سوشل سائنسز



Department of Islamic Studies

Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad

is Organizing

Two-Day National Seminar

On

“Historiography and Muslim Historians: An Indian Perspective”

3rd - 4th October, 2024 (Offline Mode)

In Collaboration with

Islamic Fiqh Academy India, New Delhi

Concept Note:

History serves as a conduit, passing down the experiences of past generations across various facets of human life to future ones, thus ensuring the continuous progression of civilization. Early on, Muslims began documenting biographies to capture different aspects of Prophets' lives, which led to the development of biographical art among them. Similarly, records of military campaigns, known as Ghazwat and Sarayah, were meticulously kept, marking the inception of art history. Additionally, Muslims established critical methodologies to validate the hadith tradition, known as Asma al-Rijal, which helped in the creation of extensive historical and biographical works about the Prophet and Islamic history in the following centuries.

Historiography in the Umayyad period we saw contributions from historians such as Wahab bin Munabbih and Abu Mukhnnaf, who wrote various historical and biographical texts. Prominent figures like Urwa ibn Zubayr and Muhammad bin Shahab Zuhri also contributed works on military expeditions known as Maghazi. However, the Abbasid era marked a significant advancement in historiography, with historians like Ibn Ishaq and Muhammad ibn Umar al-Waqidi writing comprehensive books on the Prophet's life and Islamic history. The period also saw influential historians such as Ibn Sa'd, Ibn Kathir, Al-Balazari, Ahmad ibn Abi Ya'qub, Ibn Sa'd, Ibn al-Nadim, Muhammad ibn Jarir al-Tabari, 'Abd al-Karim Al-Shahristani, Ibn Khaldun and Imam Suyuti expanding the scope and quality of historical writing.

After this, the knowledge of history in various positions continued to determine its development and it included Arabic as well as Iranian elements, led to a new historiography, which flourished in India. Therefore, when Muslims came to India, Arab-Indian relations were established, many historians were born who tried to imprison the conditions and events related to the sultans, empire affairs, Indian society, culture and economic conditions of their era, few famous names were Qazi Muhammad Ismail bin Ali, Hasan Nizami Nishapuri, Minhaj-ud-Din Usman bin Siraj-ud-Din, Amir Khusro, Zia-ud-Din Barni, Shams Siraj Afif, Abdul Malik Isami and Yahya bin Ahmed Sirhindi etc.

During the 15th century, regional governments began to established their own empire, leading to the development of local historiography in Gujarat, Malwa, Jaunpur, Deccan and Bengal. Notable historians from this period include Gulbadan Begum, Abul Fazl, Mullah Abdul Qadir Badayuni and Muhammad Qasim Farishta who documented the Mughal era extensively. As history progressed from the Mughal period to modern times, many historians continued to explore and document the history of India and the Islamic world from various perspectives, including Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Maulvi Zakauallah, Syed Amir Ali, Shibli Nomani, Syed Sulaiman Nadvi, Haroon Khan Sherwani, Akbar Shah Najibabadi, Muhammad Habib, Muhammad Mujeeb, Shah Moinuddin Ahmad Nadvi, Sheikh Ikram, Sabahuddin Abdul Rehman, Abul Hasan Ali Hasani Nadvi,

Khaliq Ahmad Nizami and Mushirul Hasan etc.

Muslim historiography is distinguished by its meticulous approach to documenting and organizing various aspects of history. Historians from the Islamic tradition have devoted significant effort to collecting and presenting accurate accounts of events, scientific and artistic developments, and historical periods. Their work extends beyond merely chronicling the rise and fall of empires; they have also recorded social customs, marriage practices, economic conditions, and the intricate relationships within inter-religious communities.

In addition to detailing the achievements of Muslim rulers and the functioning of administrative and judicial systems, these historians have explored the interactions between Muslims and other nations, as well as the impact of the Ganga-Jamuni civilization. They have made considerable efforts to capture and preserve the cultural and social influences of their times in authentic written records.

Furthermore, Muslim historians have not only offered insights into their contemporary eras but have also paved the way for new research perspectives, enriching the study of history for modern scholars and enthusiasts.

Aims and Objectives:

- **To Explore:** Examine the evolution of historiography and the contributions of Muslim historians in India.
- **To Highlight:** Significant historical works and their impact on the study of Indian and Islamic histories.
- **To Understand:** The integration of Islamic and Indian Historiographical traditions.
- **To Encourage Further Research:** Encourage contemporary scholars to build upon the rich legacy of Muslim historiography in India.

In this context, the Department of Islamic Studies at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, is organizing a two-day seminar titled “Historiography and Muslim Historians: An Indian Perspective”, in collaboration with the Islamic Fiqh Academy India. The seminar aims to highlight the contributions and writings of Indian Muslim historians and their impact on the understanding of India's history and global history. Participants are invited to submit detailed papers on topics related to this theme.

Sub - Topics:

1. The origins of historiography in India.
2. Methods and resources for collecting historical data.

3. The role of history in nation-building.
4. Analyzing history's connection to human civilization.
5. Objectives and purposes of historiography.
6. Some important books written on history in India.
7. Muslim historians in India prior to Delhi Sultanate.
8. Muslim Historians of India during Delhi Sultanate and Mughal Period.
9. Indian Muslim historians during the British era.
10. Post-Independence Muslim historians.
11. Persian historical texts by Indian Muslim historians.
12. English historical texts by Indian historians.
13. Analytical study of Indian Muslim historians.
14. Biographies of Indian Muslim historians: An overview.
15. Historical books by Indian Muslim historians included in curricula.
16. Historical texts taught in contemporary Indian universities by Muslim Historians.
17. Historical books used in religious institutions in India by Muslim Historians.
18. Books on Indian Islamic relics and sites: An overview.
19. Translations of historical works by Indian Muslim historians.
20. Books on translations and individuals by Muslim historians.

Instructions for Paper Submission:

- The Abstract of the Research Paper must be associated with a Cover Page, including the Title of the Paper, Name of the Author, his/her Affiliation with the Institution, Complete Postal and email Address with WhatsApp Number.
- References are mandatory.
- Paper length: 5000 to 6000 words.
- For English Language: Use "Times New Roman", font size 12, line spacing 1.2, references in font size 10.
- For Urdu Language: Use "Jamil Noori Nastaleeq", font size 15, references in font size 12, line spacing 1.2.
- We would be receiving abstracts and papers only at seminardois24@gmail.com
- Papers can be in English or Urdu.
- Note: No certificate will be issued without research paper Submission in hard and soft copy format.

Important Dates:

- Last Dates of Abstract Submission : 31st August 2024
- Acceptance of Abstract : 3rd September 2024
- Last Date for Full Paper Submission : 25th September 2024

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