

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

Urdu, Hindi, Arabic & Persian

Civilizational Consilience
Across Linguistic, Literary,
Cultural And Intellectual
Exchanges



13-14 November 2025

Maulana Azad National Urdu University,
Hyderabad (Telangana), India

Language is not just a tool of expression and communication. As an embodiment of culture, language comprises the existential universe of a people. It shapes our experiences of the world and has led to the resurgence of the view that language plays a significant role in the creation and circulation of concepts. The resurgence rekindled the importance of the study of language and made it a significant area of inquiry for all disciplines of intellectual investigation. One can look at the history of the world through the lens of language and understand the dynamics of the clash and conflation of cultures, of migrations and assimilations. The history of languages tells us more about evolution, dispersal and decline of civilizations than any other tool of history or archeology.

The strength of Arabic, Persian and Urdu lie in their civilizational consilience intellectually manifested through the emergence of studies surrounding 'Arabicate' (Ricci, 2011), 'Persianate' (Hodgson, 1974) and 'Urdusphere' (Green 2011). They share centuries-old historical bonds that developed across interconnected Islamic as well non-Islamic cultural contexts, stretching from the Arabian Peninsula through Iran to the Indian subcontinent. These ties are reflected in linguistic, literary, and intellectual exchanges that have produced a rich and shared legacy.

These three languages have enriched each other through vocabulary, poetic forms, rhetoric, Sufi philosophy, literary criticism, and a vibrant tradition of multilingual authorship. Yet, each has retained its distinctive identity and cultural depth.

This conference is an attempt to reflect on some aspects – social, cultural, literary, cultural, translation, intertextuality, social and political – of this phenomenon at multiple levels, ranging from pronunciation patterns to words that represent the very soul of a community.

This international academic conference seeks to explore these multifaceted relations, deepen comparative understanding, and expand scholarly engagement in the fields of Eastern languages and literatures.

Objectives of the Conference

- 01 Highlighting existing connections among Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Hindi speakers in academic, religious, and commercial fields.
- 02 Analyzing mutual influences at the linguistic, literary, and cultural levels.
- 03 Exploring scholarly and intellectual exchanges across the three languages.
- 04 Examining the representation of Urdu writers in Arabic and Persian.
- 05 Exploring how the translation of seminal texts of these languages impacted word literature.
- 06 Reviewing the history of translation between these languages.
- 07 Analyzing structural and thematic similarities and differences.
- 08 Foregrounding the shared civilizational role of these languages in shaping cultural identity.

Themes

01 Historical Relations

- ♦ Ancient trade routes (Silk Route, Spice Route)
- ♦ Civilizational impact and cross-cultural influences

02 Role of Arabic in Scientific Renaissance

- ♦ Arabian contributions to the advancement of science and philosophy.
- ♦ Contributions of Persian and Indian scholars in Arabic

03 Spiritual Interactions

- ♦ Linguistic and cultural impact of Sufism
- ♦ Scholarly movements across Baghdad, Nishapur, Delhi, Hyderabad

04 Translation and Multilingual Authorship

- ♦ Translation and Intertextuality: Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Hindi and other languages within and outside
- ♦ Writers composing in two or more languages

05 Trade and Cultural Integration

- ♦ Role of trade and travel in spreading language, religion, and customs
- ♦ Influence of exotic goods on vocabulary and expressions

06 Arabic and Persian Influences on Urdu

- ♦ Lexical, literary, and technical borrowings
- ♦ Reflection of Persian in Urdu poetry
- ♦ Indo-Iranian cultural influence in Urdu literature

07 Linguistic Relationships

- ♦ Grammatical and lexical overlaps
- ♦ Phonological and syntactic influence
- ♦ Role of Arabic in shaping Persian and Urdu, particularly in religious and scientific discourses

08 Literary Connections

- ♦ Impact of Arabic poetry on Persian and Urdu literature
- ♦ Sufi literature as a bridge across languages
- ♦ Comparative literature in multilingual contexts

09 Cultural Relations

- ♦ Religious and civilizational interaction
- ♦ Role of translation in cultural exchange
- ♦ Manuscripts and shared literary heritage

10 Special Studies

- ♦ Influential figures (e.g., Amir Khusrow, Abdul Rahman Jami, Hafiz, Allama Iqbal)
- ♦ Traditional educational systems (madrasas, khanqahs) that transmitted language and culture

Target Audience

- ▶ Academicians and scholars in Urdu, Hindi, Arabic and Persian
- ▶ Postgraduate students
- ▶ Research and translation centers
- ▶ Cultural and heritage institutions
- ▶ Scholars of comparative literature and linguistics

Expected Outcomes

- ▶ Publication of conference proceedings in a peer-reviewed academic volume
- ▶ Recommendations for enhanced academic collaboration among institutions and researchers
- ▶ Opportunities for introduction, collaboration and interaction between experts

Languages of the Conference

URDU

HINDI

ARABIC

PERSIAN

ENGLISH

Important Dates

▶ Abstract Submission : 20/09/2025

▶ Confirmation : 30/09/2025

▶ Full Paper Submission : 30/10/2025

■ Note: Invited guests will be provided with travel expenses within India and local hospitality.

Contact Details

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