INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
INTERNALIZING FAIZ IN TWENTYFIRST CENTURY: DIMENSIONS & TRANSLATIONS

(CENTENARY CELEBERATION)
January 20-22, 2011
ORGANIZED BY
CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE STUDY OF INDIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURE
ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY ALIGARH
In collaboration with
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR PROMOTION OF URDU
Government of India

Introduction

The International Seminar is intended for scholars with a strong interest in diverse forms of Faiz’s poetry and its impact on the contemporary society. The aims of these three days intensive interaction are to build bridges between the ways in which scholars from different social science disciplines are conceptualising, internalizing, and operationalising the various aspects of his poetry.
Paper submissions are invited for one of the following panels:

- **Panel 1: Translating Faiz: Illusion & Reality**

  The papers should focus at the problems that the translators of Faiz’s poetry face with the examples from translated works, published or un-published. It is claimed that Faiz’s poetry is neither just words, nor just metre. It is music of words, and is a way of perceiving and interpreting the world, and of conveying it to the listener a heightened awareness through an intense concentration of metaphors and words in which the natural flow of speech sounds is moulded in some kind of formal pattern. The papers shall explore whether such patterns can be retained in their translation in English or any other language.

- **Panel 2: Faiz’s Geo Political Aesthetics:**

  The papers focuses how the “geopolitical aesthetic” of Faiz’s poetry illuminates the literature and culture of South Asia and how it attempts to grasp the globalizing dynamics of the era and how his socialist humanism has made it a vehicle of universal experience.

- **Panel 3: Poetry of Protest**

  The papers should focus on how Faiz’s poetry strives to undermine established values and ideals, particularly those associated with the bodies of colonial and post colonial authorities and how it provides insight into the realization of the "protestor’s inner voice” and how it inspires readers to political action. Also the focus here is on how it handles by taboo subjects, uses unconventional language, criticizes popular beliefs, by shunning formal poetic conventions.

- **Panel 4: The Stylistic Dimensions of Faiz’s poetry**

  The papers should highlight the stylistic dimensions of Faiz’s poetry and its impact on contemporary literary traditions. It could compare his style with other contemporary revolutionary poets of South Asia or elsewhere.

- **Panel 5: Prose Writings of Faiz**

  Faiz had been the South Asia’s most visible writer as a poet, prose writer and journalist, in the years following the 1947 Partition of British India into India and Pakistan. He assumed the editorship of the Pakistan Times in 1947, where, V. G. Kiernan writes, he “made use of prose to denounce obstruction at home and to champion progressive causes abroad; he made his writings one whose opinions were known and quoted far and wide” (Kiernan 1971, 24). By the very act of opposing, the poet of protest entered into a dialogue, overt or covert, with his oppressor, and thus the language (the style, the form, even the imagery) of his prose writing is dictated by his political thoughts. The papers would explore the stylistic innovations of his journalistic and scholarly prose writings.
General Guidelines for Abstracts

Abstracts of at least 400 and a maximum of 600 words must be sent as attachments in either Word or PDF format to fatihi_ar@hotmail.com.

Please include author(s) names, institutional affiliation, contact (phone and mobile numbers) and name of presenter, and an indication of the panel to which the paper is submitted. As the papers are meant for publication, only a limited number of papers will be selected for presentation in each session. To help us assess the suitability of each proposal, abstracts should include

- a clear outline of the main argumentation and theoretical questions addressed by the paper
- a statement of the methods used in support of the arguments and key references.
- The papers could be presented in Urdu Hindi and English.
- Due to paucity of funds we may not be able to meet out the travel expenses, however, local hospitality will be extended by the organizers.

Submission deadline: November 1st 2010

Intimation Acceptance: December 2010