

NEIGHBORHOOD INSTITUTIONS' COLLABORATION IS MORE SUSTAINED, AND ENRICHED,' PROFESSOR DR. PARVEEN MUNSHI

[Report] Yesterday, 12th March, 2024 a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the University of the Sufism and Modern Sciences, Bhitshah, and the M.H. Panhwar Institute of Sindh Studies, Jamshoro, the Culture, Tourism, Antiquities and Archives Department, Government of Sindh. The event took place at the premises of the Institute, Jamshoro. The signed MoU strives to realize that both organizations shall collaborate in academic, research, preservation and generation Sindh related source material. However, it also elaborates that both organizations will also avail educational facilities, resources and train their staff, faculty members, students in all activities related teaching, research and documentation and digitization. Additionally, one of the important aspects of the collaboration was to engage the M.H. Panhwar Institute of Sindh Studies to scan books and manuscripts related to Sufi traditions and practices. Professor Munshi told this scribe that scanned books would be part of the university's e-library. She added that at the one level these scanned books, particularly manuscripts would be preserved, and additionally this source material could be a just a click away from the scholars who are interested in Sufi traditions and perspectives.

Mr. Ghulam Sarwar, representative of the Institute spoke in detail about the history of the institute. However, Mr. Niranjan discussed in detail about the material and spiritual culture of Sindh, and told that how IT and digitization could helpful in preservation and enhance these cultures. Mr. Murtaza Siyal, Director Sindhology told the attendees about the collaboration of the Sindhology, University of Sindh of Sindh and the M.H. Panhwar Institute's collaboration. He told that until now a considerable number of rare books have been scanned. Likewise, Ms. Gulbadan Jawaid Mirza, Secretary Sindhi Adabi Board, Jamshoro also appraised the audience that almost all books published by the board are handed over to the Institute for the scanning, and a sound number of books has been scanned. Professor Dr. Abdul Majeed Chandio said that such collaborations are a call of time to share resources and learning. Dr. Zaffar Junejo also spoke on the occasion shared perspective of the collaboration, and also elaborated that the present MoU between the University and the Institute would be beneficial for the scholars and students.

Professor Dr. Parveen Munshi, the vice-chancellor in her conclusion remarks said that local collaboration in comparison to regional or international collaboration is much more beneficial. She added that it consumes less-resources, saves time, and it is manageable in term of travel and academic engagement. Therefore, the first priority should be to learn from neighboring institutes, universities and even experience of Non-Government Organizations. Apart from speakers, the event was attended by Professor Muhammad Hashim Solangi, Ms. Rozina Junejo, Mr. Urdo Uteradhi, Mr. Liquat Rizvi and Hasnain Panhwar. The event was ended with the thanks note of Mr. Ghulam Sarwar, the M.H. Panhwar Institute of Sindh Studies, Jamshoro.







