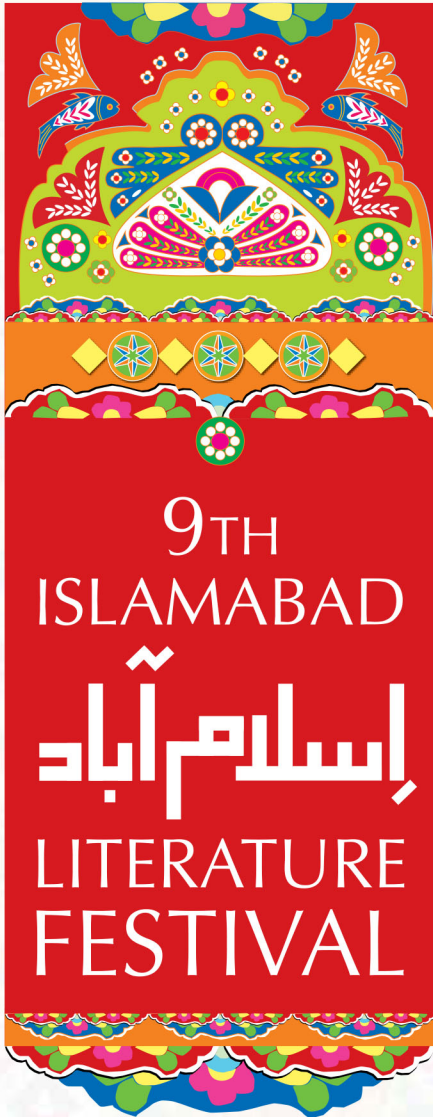




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#IsbLF

## People, Planet and Possibilities

Bringing together international and Pakistani writers to promote reading and showcase writing at its best

**3, 4, and 5 November 2023**

Gandhara Citizen Club, Fatima Jinnah Park (F-9), Gate No. 5, Islamabad

### FEATURING

Talks/Interviews  
Panel Discussions  
Book Launches  
Performing Arts  
Documentaries  
Film Screening  
Readings  
Mushaira

### FULL-DAY FRINGE EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

Author Signings  
Art Exhibitions  
Book Fair  
Food Court and much more...



**THE FESTIVAL IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL**





## About the 9TH Islamabad Literature Festival

The eagerly-awaited event of the Islamabad Literature Festival (ILF) is here! And will be held from Friday 3 to Sunday 5 November 2023 at the Gandhara Citizen Club, Fatima Jinnah Park (F-9), Islamabad.

After having been obliged by the Pandemic to being a Virtual event for a couple of years, which had been received with considerable success. ILF is back now, bigger and better, a live, person-to-person event.

The theme of this year's ILF is ***People, Planet, and Possibilities***. It will focus on the contemporary English and Urdu literature, current economic and geo-political challenges facing the people of Pakistan and the world, the impact of climate change that has resulted in catastrophic floods in Pakistan and many other countries, and the spread of violence and disorder in many countries. The ILF Panels will explore the Possibilities going forward in the course of their deliberations and in the book launches.

This year there will be 52 Sessions, with over 150 distinguished speakers. As always, ILF 2023, like the ones before, aims to encourage inspiring discussions by providing an environment of openness, pluralism, and intellectual discourse.

There will be 15 book launches in both Urdu and English. All Sessions will be broadcast live around the world on OUP's social media channels. There will also be theatre and music performances. Visitors and the online audience will also have the chance to enjoy the finest of both Urdu and English poetry, performed by the poets themselves.

Some of the sessions this year will focus on education, environment, AI, economy and business, current political issues and D&I, as we bring together a diverse group of writers, thinkers, and literary enthusiasts from Pakistan and around the world to share their stories, ideas, and perspectives. This Festival is a testament to the power of the written word and the vital role it plays in shaping our communities. The organizers of the 9th ILF are excited to welcome visitors and look forward to three exciting days of enlightening experience and memorable moments.

As before, ILF looks forward to the promise of Tomorrow. It seeks to explore new writings, new trends, and new technologies, and provide a platform for emerging authors and writers.



## AUTHORS/MODERATORS/SPEAKERS

Aamir Ghauri	Hamid Ali Khan	Sadia Akhtar
Abbas Nasir	Hamid Khan	Safinah Danish Elahi
Abbas Tabish	Hamid Mir	Saima Anwer
Afrasiab Khattak	Harris Khalique	Saira Aquil
Agha Imran Hamid	Haya Fatima Sehgal	Sajjad Azhar
Agha Sajjad Hussain	Hoori Noorani	Salma Malik
Ahmad Ataullah	Huma Baqai	Samar Minallah Khan
Ahmed Atta	Humera Ishfaq	Sameena Nazir
Aisha Ghaus Pasha	Iftikhar Arif	Samia Liaquat Ali Khan
Aisha Sarwari	Ikram Sehgal	Sanober Nazir
Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry	Inaam Nadeem	Saqib Ahmad
Akhtar Raza Saleemi	Jalil Aali	Sarmad Khoosat
Akhtar Usman	Jibran Jamshad	Sarwat Mohiuddin
Amardeep Singh	Khaled Anam	Saud Mukhtar
Amir Jafri	Khalid Banuri	Sehyr Mirza
Ammar Aziz	Khalid Mahmood	Shahid Mahmud
Andrew Coombe	Khawar Mumtaz	Shahzad Sharjeel
Anwar Masood	Khayyam Mushir	Shakeel Jazib
Arif Azad	Kishwar Naheed	Sharif Awan
Aroosa Kanwal	Maham Ali	Sherry Rehman
Arshad Mahmood Nashad	Maleeha Lodhi	Sohail Mahmood
Arshad Saeed Husain	Mariam Chughtai	Sultan Nasir
Arshad Waheed	Mavra Bari	Syed Irfan Ashraf
Asad Sayeed	Mehboob Zafar	Tabassum Malihabadi
Asghar Nadeem Syed	Mian Imran Masood	Taha Kehar
Asim Butt	Mina Malik	Tahmina Aziz Ayub
Asma Shirazi	Moeed Yusuf	Tariq Alexander Qaiser
Athar Abbas	Moneeza Hashmi	Tariq Banuri
Beo Zafar	Muhammad Athar Masood	Tariq Naeem
Bibi Ameena	Muhammad Azfar Ahsan	Tariq Rahman
Carmen Gonzalez	Muhammad Izhar ul Haq	Tauseeq Haider
Chaudhary Faisal Mushtaq	Muneeza Shamsie	Umber Khairi
Ehsan Akbar	Mushahid Hussain Syed	Usman Mukhtar
Faisal Bari	Musharraf Ali Farooqi	Vaqar Ahmed
Farnood Alam	Nadeem Hussain	Victoria Schofield
Farrukh Jamal	Nadeem ul Haque	Waqas Masood
Farrukh Yar	Najeeba Arif	Waqas Naeem
Farzana Bari	Nasir Abbas Nayyar	Wayne Press
Fasi Zaka	Nasira Zuberi	Yaqoob Bangash
Fateh Muhammad Malik	Omar Shahid Hamid	Yasmeen Hameed
Fauzia M. Sana	Pritam Das Rath	Zahid Hussain
Fauzia Minallah	Raja Changez Sultan	Zahshanné Malik
Ghazal Ansari	Raza Rabbani	Zaman Sagar
Ghulam Ali Mallah	Risham Amjad	Zubair Ahmad
Hafeez Khan	S. Akbar Zaidi	Zubair Torwali
Hameed Shahid	Saba Gul Khattak	



## Inauguration 9TH Islamabad Literature Festival

Friday, 3 November 2023 4.00 p.m.

Gandhara Citizen Club, Gate No. 5, Fatima Jinnah (F-9) Park, Islamabad

4.00 p.m. Arrival of Guests

4.30 p.m. Welcome Speech by the Festival Organizer:

**Arshad Saeed Husain**

Managing Director, OUP Pakistan

4.50 p.m. Speech by Sponsor:

**Khalid Mahmood**

Managing Director, Getz Pharma Pvt. Ltd.



5.05 p.m. Remarks by the Guest of Honour:

**H.E. Jane Marriott CMG OBE**

British High Commissioner to Pakistan

5.20 p.m. Keynote Speeches by:

**Iftikhar Arif**

Dramatist, short story writer, and poet

5.30 p.m. **Victoria Schofield**

Historian and commentator on international affairs



5.50 p.m. **Lao Tou Qatal Nama Mera – A Tribute to Faiz Ahmad Faiz**

Performance by **Zahshanné Malik**

7.00 – 8.00 p.m. Panel Discussions

### Art Exhibition: *The Day After*

Organised by **Beaconhouse National University (BNU)**

Supported by **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)**

Curator: **Quddus Mirza**

Co-curator: **Ammar Faiz**



*\*The Festival reserves the right to change the programme at any time.  
Every effort will be made to ensure a programme of equivalent standard.*

Timings	Intizar Husain Auditorium
6.15 p.m. – 7.15 p.m.	<b>اقبال: ایک عہد ساز شاعر</b> Fateh Muhammad Malik, Najeeba Arif, Nasir Abbas Nayyar <b>Moderator:</b> Nasira Zuberi Recitation by Ahmad Atta
	<b>Perveen Shakir Hall</b>
6.15 p.m. – 7.15 p.m.	<b>Pakistan's Mangroves: A Forest in Peril</b> Tariq Alexander Qaiser in conversation with Umber Khairi
	<b>Amjad Islam Amjad Hall</b>
6.15 p.m. – 7.15 p.m.	<b>Jinnah's Vision: Safeguarding Religious Freedom</b> Yaqoob Bangash, Farzana Bari, Pritam Das Rathi, Maham Ali Moderator: Syed Irfan Ashraf

**Art Exhibition: *The Lost Lullaby of Mother Earth***  
Exclusive Art Exhibition by **Fauzia Minallah**



Saturday, 4 November 2023

Timings	Intizar Husain Auditorium		Perveen Shakir Hall	Amjad Islam Amjad Hall
11.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon	<p>کچھ شعر فقط ان کو سنانے کے لیے ہیں! بیت بازی</p> <p><b>Verses in Play: Celebrating Tradition through Urdu Poetry</b> Jury: Mehboob Zafar and Nasira Zuberi Moderator: Ghazal Ansari</p>		<p><b>Pakistan's Wars: An Alternate History</b> by Tariq Rahman Tariq Rahman and Moeed Yusuf Moderator: Yaqoob Bangash</p>	<p>11.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. <b>Other Days</b> by Arshad Waheed Arshad Waheed in conversation with Waqas Masood</p>
				<p>11.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon <b>Destined to Fail: Democracy and State Building Experiment in Post-Taliban Afghanistan</b> by Saira Aquil Zahid Hussain and Saira Aquil Moderator: Salma Malik</p>
12.15 p.m. – 1.15 p.m.	<p><b>The Dark Side of Journalism The Culture and Political Economy of Global Media in Pakistan and Afghanistan</b> by Syed Irfan Ashraf Afrasiab Khattak, Hamid Mir, Saba Gul Khattak, and Syed Irfan Ashraf Moderator: Fasi Zaka</p>		<p>محمل و جرس : جرس فریادی دارو کہ بر بندید محمل ہا از جوش ملیح آبادی</p> <p>Iftikhar Arif, Najeeba Arif, Tabassum Malihabadi, Farrukh Jamal, Abbas Tabish, and Hoori Noorani Moderator: Mehboob Zafar</p>	<p><b>Pakistani Prose and Verse: Exploring Contemporary English Literature</b> Muneeza Shamsie, Taha Kehar, Aroosa Kanwal, and Omar Shahid Hamid Moderator: Aisha Sarwari</p>
1.30 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	<p>قیدی از عمر شاہد انگریزی سے ترجمہ: انعام ندیم</p> <p>Omar Shahid Hamid and Inaam Nadeem in conversation</p>		<p><b>Ink and Empowerment: Women in Publishing</b> Sadia Akhtar and Muneeza Shamsie Moderator: Mina Malik</p>	<p><b>Grieving for Pigeons: Twelve Stories of Lahore</b> by Zubair Ahmad Zubair Ahmad in conversation with Sarwat Mohiuddin</p>
2.15 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.	<p><b>Democracy, Bureaucracy and Judiciary: Going Beyond the Colonial Entanglement</b> Hamid Khan, Raza Rabbani, Fauzia M. Sana, Zahid Hussain Moderator: Khayyam Mushir</p>		<p><b>AI in Education: Empowering Minds, Shaping the Future of Learning</b> Shahid Mahmud, Wayne Press, Jibran Jamshad, Faisal Bari Moderator: Saquib Ahmad</p>	<p>2.15 p.m. - 2.45 p.m. <b>Lahore's Lost Legacy: Unveiling the Life and Contributions of Sir Ganga Ram</b> Tahmina Aziz Ayub in conversation with Yaqoob Bangash</p>
				<p>2.45 p.m. - 3.15 p.m. <b>The Other In The Mirror: Stories from India and Pakistan</b> edited by Sehyr Mirza Sehyr Mirza in conversation with Sharif Awan</p>
3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	<p><b>Development Pathways: India, Pakistan and Bangladesh at 75</b> by Ishrat Husain Sohail Mahmood, Ikram Sehgal, Aisha Ghaus Pasha, and Khalid Banuri Moderator: Vaqar Ahmed</p>		<p>اردو فکشن کا ارتقا</p> <p>Hafeez Khan, Hameed Shahid, Asim Butt, and Asghar Nadeem Syed Moderator: Humera Ishfaq</p>	<p><b>Fair Assessments: Ensuring Equity and Excellence in Education</b> Saima Anwer, Andrew Coombe, Ghulam Ali Mallah, and Tariq Banuri Moderator: Chaudhary Faisal Mushtaq</p>
4.45 p.m. – 5.45 p.m.	<p>ہنس کر جیو</p> <p>Beo Zafar in conversation with Khaled Anam</p>		<p><b>Investing in Human Capital: Tackling Underdevelopment in Pakistan</b> Asad Sayeed, S. Akbar Zaidi, and Samia Liaquat Ali Khan Moderator: Khalid Mahmood</p> <p>Sponsored by Getz pharma</p>	<p><b>Literature and Journalism: A Disconnect</b> Aamir Ghauri, Asma Shirazi, Harris Khalique, and Ammar Aziz Moderator: Farnood Alam</p>
6.00 p.m.	<p>کملی</p> <p><b>Feature Film Screening</b>  An introduction by Sarmad Khoosat</p>		<p>مشاعرہ</p> <p>Sadarat: Iftikhar Arif Nizamat: Mehboob Zafar Ahmad Atta, Shakeel Jazib, Akhtar Raza Saleemi, Ghazal Ansari, Farrukh Yar, Ahmad Ataullah, Nasira Zuberi, Akhtar Usman, Harris Khalique, Tariq Naeem, Abbas Tabish, Yasmeen Hameed, Muhammad Izharul Haq, Jalil Aali, Ehsan Akbar, Kishwar Naheed</p>	<p>6.00 - 6.30 p.m. <b>Dandelion Blooms: The Evolution of Islamabad</b> by Saud Mukhtar Saud Mukhtar in conversation with Khayyam Mushir Moderator: Khayyam Mushir</p>
				<p>6.30 - 7.30 p.m. <b>Legacy of Oneness</b> A Presentation by Amardeep Singh Moderator: Tahmina Aziz Ayub</p>



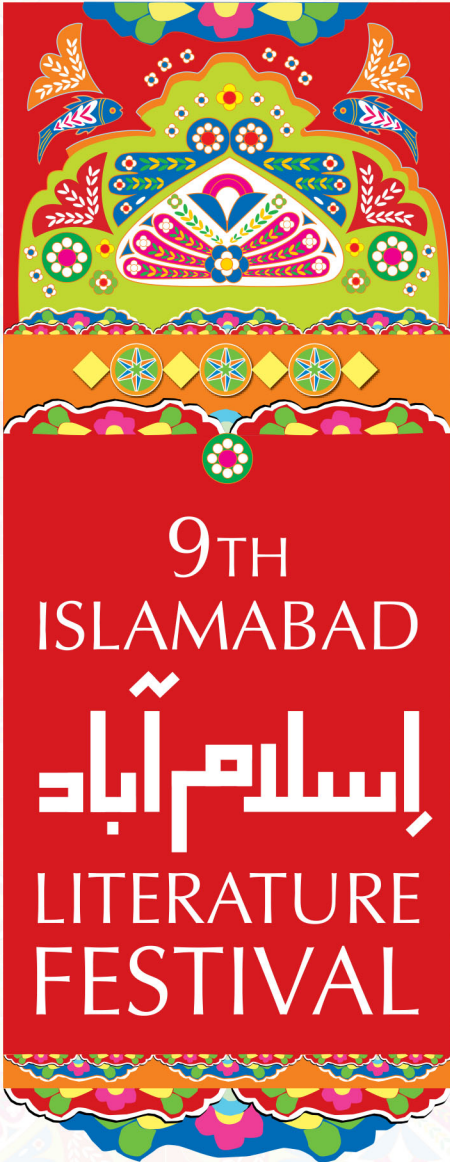
Sunday, 5 November 2023

Time	Intizar Husain Auditorium	Perveen Shakir Hall	Amjad Islam Amjad Hall
11.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon	<b>A Presentation on Aag Ka Darya</b> by Amir Jafri and Agha Sajjad Hussain Moderator: Arif Azad	11.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. <i>Resilient Pakistan: Sociocultural Impact</i> by Haya Fatima Sehgal Mushahid Hussain Syed and Haya Fatima Sehgal Moderator: Raheela Baqai	11.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. راول راج: راولپنڈی اسلام آباد تاریخ تہذیب اساطیر از سجاد اظہر Sajjad Azhar in conversation with Farrukh Yar
		11.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon <i>Securing Pakistan's Interest: Navigating Foreign Affairs and Security Policy</i> Huma Baqai and Ikram Sehgal in conversation	11.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon جہاں آباد کی گلیاں از اصغر ندیم سید Asghar Nadeem Syed in conversation with Nasir Abbas Nayyar
12.15 p.m. – 1.15 p.m.	<b>Capital Talk: In conversation with</b> Hamid Mir Moderator: Tauseeq Haider	<b>Harmony across Borders: The Quest for Peace and Security among Neighbours</b> Ikram Sehgal, Zahid Hussain, and Victoria Schofield Moderator: Khalid Banuri 	12.15 p.m. – 12.45 p.m. <i>The Idle Stance of the Tippler Pigeon</i> by Safinah Danish Elahi Safinah Danish Elahi in conversation with Taha Kehar
			12.45 p.m. – 1.15 p.m. ۱۹۸۰ء کی دہائی کا آشوب Asghar Nadeem Syed and Kishwar Naheed in conversation
1.30 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	<b>Conversations With My Father: Forty Years on a Daughter Responds</b> by Moneeza Hashmi Moneeza Hashmi in conversation with Aisha Sarwari	سیاہ ہیرے از شمینہ ندیر Sameena Nazir in conversation with Sanobar Nazir	دختر رومی از انعام ندیم Inaam Nadeem in conversation with Shahzad Sharjeel
2.15 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.	<b>Saadat Hasan Manto's Aao Drama Karain:</b> A Play written by Manto and presented by Swaang Theatre Group آؤ ڈرامہ کریں	<b>Curriculum, Textbook, High Stakes Assessments: Way Forward</b> Chaudhary Faisal Mushtaq, Arshad Saeed Husain, Mariam Chughtai, and Mian Imran Masood Moderator: Faisal Bari	ہماری ٹٹی ہوئی زبانیں Zubair Torwali, Zubair Ahmad, Tariq Rahman, Zaman Sagar Moderator: Samar Minallah Khan
3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	<b>Pakistan's Foreign Policy and Economic Challenges</b> Maleeha Lodhi and Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry Moderator: Salma Malik	عشق نامہ شاہ حسین: تصوف، ملامت، سنگیت، کلام از فرخ یار Sharif Awan, Farrukh Yar, Kishwar Naheed, Arshad Mahmood Nashaad Moderator: Sultan Nasir	<b>A Columnist's Voice: A Conversation about a Life Lived with Passion – Irfan Husain</b> Victoria Schofield, Agha Imran Hamid, and Khawar Mumtaz Moderator: UMBER Khairi Video messages: Abbas Nasir and Carmen Gonzalez
4.45 p.m. – 5.45 p.m.	<b>Human Rights: Is there a meaning left?</b> Harris Khalique, Farzana Bari, Athar Abbas, and Adil Shahzeb Moderator: Asma Shirazi	ترجمہ نگاری کی اہمیت Musharraf Ali Farooqi, Inaam Nadeem, Yasmeen Hameed, and Sarwat Mohiuddin Moderator: Bibi Ameena	4.45 p.m. – 5.15 p.m. <b>Music in COVID Times: Album Launch</b> Sharif Awan and Muhammad Athar Masood Moderator: Ammar Aziz Sponsored by 
			5.15 p.m. – 5.45 p.m. اے آسمان نیچے اتر از اظہار الحق Arshad Mahmood Nashaad and Muhammad Izhar ul Haq Moderator: Harris Khalique
6.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.	<b>Film: The Power of Storytelling</b> Sarmad Khoosat, Samar Minallah Khan, Amardeep Singh, Usman Mukhtar Moderator: Khaled Anam	<b>Business and Economy: Shaping the Way Forward</b> Aisha Ghaus Pasha, Muhammad Azfar Ahsan, Nadeem ul Haque, and Nadeem Hussain Moderator: Vaqar Ahmed	<b>Voices from the Foothills: Pakistani English Verse</b> Chair: Raja Changez Sultan Risham Amjad, Waqas Naeem, Mavra Bari Moderator: Ammar Aziz
7.15 p.m.	<b>Closing Ceremony</b> Keynote Speeches by: Anwar Masood and Senator Sherry Rehman Vote of Thanks by: Mohammad Mikail Somro, Manager Corporate Communications, Getz Pharma Pvt. Ltd Abeera Dilawar, PR Director, Capital Development Authority (CDA) Arshad Saeed Husain, Managing Director, Oxford University Press Pakistan	8.15 p.m. <b>Ghazal Night</b> by Ustad Hamid Ali Khan	Sponsored by 





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