

# Master Action Plan

Ayaz Muhammad Khan

In order to pursue the action plan naming “**Cultural identity and its preservation.**” Ayaz Muhammad Khan (PELI alumnae 2008) chalked out the whole plan to carry out his activities.

There was a dire need of acquainting the whole idea to the students and faculty. That is why I decided to arrange a seminar to coordinate different activities. In the mean time I arranged a focus group meeting of the students who intended to work with me. We did a lot of brainstorming and came out with the idea of establishing a **Cultural Preservation Society University of Education, Lahore.** The group decided that the inauguration of this society should be announced on the day of seminar.

The seminar was arranged in the auditorium of University of Education Township Lahore. Through posters it was disseminated throughout the campus to attract as many audiences as possible. Ayaz Muhammad Khan (PELI alumnae 2008) delivered a lecture on the subject. Audience of 175 students and faculty members attended the seminar. At the end of that successful seminar, the membership was offered to students and faculty members. More than 157 students and faculty members filled the forms and vowed to work as activist in the field of cultural preservation in Pakistan. Director Division of Education University of Education Dr Basharat Ali presided over the seminar. Dr Ibrahim Khalid Ex-Chairman Elementary Education IER and now faculty member of University of Education, Lahore was guest of Honor. At the end of seminar Action plan was discussed briefly.





**The second Phase** of the action plan was to take students to such places of historical as well as ideological importance which can inculcate in them a passion and love for cultural preservation. A tour was managed to Nazaria Pakistan Foundation and Lahore History Museum to achieve the above said objectives on 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2009. The students departed in the supervision of Ayaz Muhammad Khan on University Bus at 9.30 a.m. Prof Dr Muzaffar Mirza, director Nazaria Pakistan foundation welcomed the tour at his office. After a brief introduction the students were taken to the hall and different historical movies related to Pakistan Movement were shown to them. Prof Dr Sarfraz Mirza (another pioneer member of the trust) gave a lecture on Two nation theory. Students asked different question on the relevant issue and were answered by the speaker. At the end, Mr Ayaz Muhammad Khan briefed the director of Nazaria Pakistan Foundation about the efforts done by the Vice Chancellor to promote Ideology of Pakistan among the students of the University of Education, Lahore.



**Members of the cultural preservation society on their visit to Nazarya Pakistan foundation**



**Ayaz Muhammad Khan ( Peli 2008) giving away prizes to students for reciting poetry of Iqbal in melodious voice**

**The third phase** was to visit Lahore History museum. The members of the cultural preservation society visited the museum on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2009. The director of the museum showed the different parts of museum. Ayaz Muhammad khan told students about the importance of preservation of the culture and also guided students for their competition that was to be held in the mid of May.

At the end of phase three, it was decided that the society would hold a **week long cultural extravaganza** in which members would stage a drama based on folk story of **HEER RANJHA** as well as a weeklong exhibition on three areas:

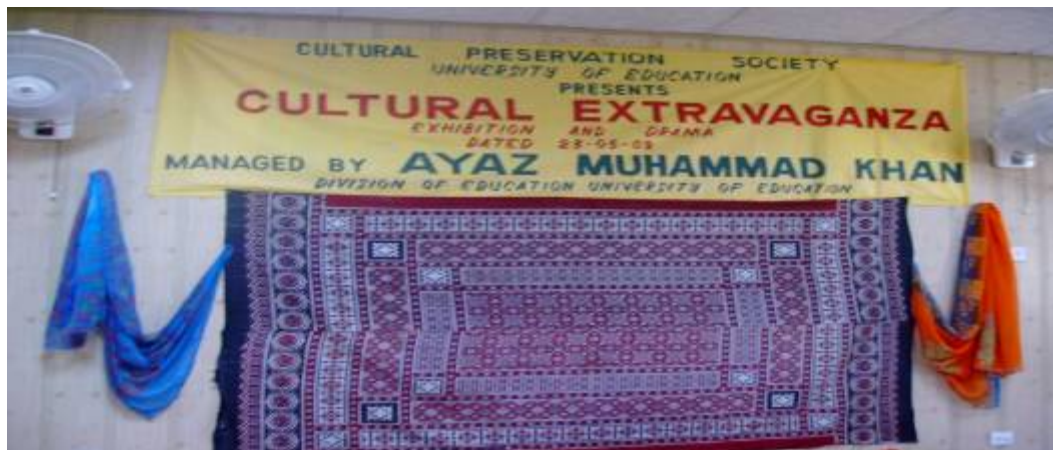
- i. **Paintings**
- ii. **sketching and**
- iii. **Photography**

### **Fourth and Final Phase**

To make this phase successful and to foster the sustainability to this phenomena of cultural preservation this was really the most important phase. The members of cultural preservation society decided to stage the play the folk tale of Heer Ranjha on the stage .The focus was to acquaint the audience with the rural culture of Punjab where these folk tales are a part of their leisure time. Folk stories help exploring a people's psyche. Since they all have come down to us with every generation, including its own biases and undertones, any folk story at any given moment of time can be taken as an opaque image of a collective consciousness and Heer Ranjha was one of them.

The second part of this extravaganza was to hold an exhibition. More than 21 paintings, 19 sketches and five photographs of the places of historical importance were presented in this exhibition. People from different walks of life kept visiting the exhibition throughout the week. Internationally awarded Pakistani artist Muhammad Ali Barakat (specialized in Quranic Calligraphy) visited the exhibition and appreciated the performance of the students. He also extended his full support in this program. Miss Beena Raza, a leading personality from ITA also visited the campus to watch this exhibition

This was no doubt first event in the history of this university that the issue of cultural preservation was brought to light in such a way. I intend to go a long way ahead and being a member of PELI, 2008 vow that I would exert all my faculties to carry on these activities a long way ahead. Following are some of glimpses of stage dramas well as exhibition.



Visitors and faculty members watching paintings



**Different paintings and sketches in the exhibitions**



**Group photos of artist of drama HEER RANJHA with Miss Beena (ITA) and Ayaz Muhammad Khan**



**Internationally awarded Pakistani artist Muhammad Ali Barakat (specialized in Quranic Calligraphy) with the winners of the competition**