

M.H. PANHWAR, A GREAT HISTORIAN

Honourable Chief Guest, distinguished scholars, ladies and gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here this evening. I would like you to join me in welcoming Mr. M.H. Panhwar a distinguished scholar and one of the notable figures of our country, who is our main speaker this evening.

Although to most of us Mr. Panhwar needs no introduction yet there may be some amongst us who meet him today for the first time. Presently he is Managing Director of the Research and Development Engineers a post he has held since 1978. Prior to this he was Managing director Mechanised Agriculture Services and later Managing Partner Planning and Development consultants. His extensive professional experience has included Agriculture Engineering in Sindh for the agricultural Development Corporation in the Kotri Barrage, and he established more than 13 workshops of the Agricultural department, almost one in each district of Sindh and Balouchistan. Mr. Panhwar has extensive knowledge regarding the operation of all kinds of agricultural machinery and also put 3000 tube wells in Sindh and 1000 open wells in Balouchistan. He also developed Bullock-drawn implements and carried out tests of a large variety of wheel type tractors, harvesters and threshers etc.

During his career, Mr. Panhwar has published 35 technical publications. He has also conducted Research and Development Engineering activities and produced papers on 34 subjects in this field. To name the titles and areas of Mr. Panhwars enormous contributions, technical research and development projects, would take the rest of the evening however, suffice it to say his writings will serve as a beacon of knowledge and invaluable information for generations of Pakistani Agriculturalists and engineers to come.

This impressive array of works is by no means the sum of Mr. Panhwars publications. He has authored no less than 27 publications on History, archaeology and anthropology. The diversity of his writings will be illustrated by some of the following titles which include, "Ground Water in Hyderabad and Khairpur Division". "Sketches of drawings, paintings and portraits on Sindh by British officials in the mid nineteenth century." "The influence of ancient sciences including those of Sindh, on al-Razi," "Sindh, its food resources, since antiquity", "Pre-Neolithic Socio-anthropological study; animals, birds, fishes and wild horticultural products," "Maps of Sindh, Greek and Roman Classical writers who wrote about Sindh," "Man in Sindh – Stone age to Neolithic," "Sindh, the archaeological Museum of the world", of medicine from greek, Indian, Mesopotamian, Egyptian and Chinese upto 9th Century A.D.", "Abduallah Haroon and his times", "the Mesolithic and Neolithic beginning in Sindh and the role of the Kohistan springs" and "Developments in History and Archaeology of Sindh since Independence, " to name only a few.

The talk Mr. Panhwar is going to give us tonight is about "Pastoralism and Socio-economic relations in Sindh and Cutch" and so, in order not to take up more of your time, as you, must be anxiously awaiting our guests arrival, I would like you to join me in welcoming the learned scholar and our distinguished guest MR. M.H. Panhwar.

As did Mr. Panhwar get interested in history of Sindh while he was in his tender years so did our Mr. Ishrat Hussain got interested in ARCHAEOLOGY through a syllabus designed by the British for primary classes.

On the lines that are still traceable over Mr. Hussain's mind, he proposes to write a book on archeology for the children of Pakistan. Mr. Hussain will use the same names for identification of evolving homo-sapien as he remembers from that small book he read. For tree-Phoru' etc. and along it invention of so many designs and greatest inventions being 'wheel' and 'Artificial fire.'

Editor.

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