International Conference
Sultan Bahoo & Mevlana Rumi
Mystical Musical Evening
Organized by
MUSLIM Institute and University of the Punjab, Lahore

In the honor of dignitaries who came from abroad and all the provinces of Pakistan to participate in the conference, a side event of conference titled Mystical Musical Evening was organized at Alhamra cultural complex, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore. Imran Shaukat Ali, Raja Hamid Ali and Punjab musical society’s musical group presented the Sufi poetry on the occasion. Mr. Abdul Basit, president Lahore chamber of commerce was chief guest whereas member Punjab Assembly Rana Tajamal Hussain and Dr. Mohaddeseh Al Sadat Rezai from Department of Persian, Khayyam University, Mashhad, Iran also shared their views. Research Associate of MUSLIM Institute Mr. Ahmad AlQadri moderated the proceedings of the session. Among distinguished guests were Prof. Dr. Zaffar Mueen Nasar (Vice Chancellor, University of the Punjab), Prof. Humayoun Ihsan, (Dean, Pakistan College of Law), renowned social activist Sohail Zia Butt and others.
Services rendered by Mevlana Rumi are of great value even today. Contemporary religious scholars are getting full advantage of the works of Mevlana Rumi and Shams Tabreez. Nobody will question the act if we dedicate the whole of 13th century to Mevlana Rumi. The context manifested in their works is full of simplicity and comprehensiveness that it is equally understandable to a scholar and a lay man. It really suits well to current situation. We are fortunate enough to host such Sufis who dedicated their whole lives for the cause of Almighty Allah. Among them, the name of Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo is of great value and respect. He inspired hundreds of thousands people into the fold of Islam through his kalam (Sufi poetry). In 17th century Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo’s inspirational kalam helped a large number of lay men in understanding the true teachings of Islam in a very easy manner. His kalam is famous even today. The manner in which he started his kalam with Punjabi Alphabet ‘Alif-Allah’ to ‘Yai-Yaar’ and propagated precious Islamic teachings, is matchless.

Sufis disseminated the message of love and peace for humanity in the subcontinent. These philosophies enable an individual of recognizing its actual status. Sufis propagated harmony among people through their pious character and virtuous practice. The founder of Sikh religion, Baba Guru Nanak enjoyed cordial relationship with Mian Meer Sahib (a great Sufi saint of that time), but, with the passage of time, sectarian and ethnic violence grew and Sikhs and Muslims turned into enemies. We need to follow Sufi teachings in letter and spirit if we really wish to eradicate the menace of extremism and terrorism from our communities. The greater responsibility fell with our youngsters to propagate this message with full vigor, zeal and zest. It will help a great deal in the eradication of darkness from our communities.