



MUSLIM Institute
Mission of Unity, Stability &
Leadership In Muslims

International Conference
Sultan Bahoo & Mevlana Rumi

Third Session

Organized by

MUSLIM Institute and University of the Punjab, Lahore



Chair of the Session
Prof. Dr. Fakhar Ul Haq
Noori

Dean – Faculty Oriental Learning,
Punjab University

MUSLIM Institute and University of the Punjab organized an international conference titled “Sultan Bahoo & Mevlana Rumi” on Thursday May 11, 2017 at University of the Punjab Lahore. Scholars, researchers and keynote personalities from Tajikistan, Iran, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan and from different universities of Pakistan participated and shared their views in the conference. A large no of people from different walks of life also participated in the third session of the conference. At the end of third session, conference shields were presented to all speakers.

Speakers expressing their views observed as under:

It is really unfortunate that our youth is becoming oblivious to the message of Sufis (mystic saints). Even the “*kalam*” (Sufi poetry) has been the voice of



Chief Guest Remarks
Prof. Dr. Syed Muhammad Akram

Chairman, Department of Iqbal Studies, Punjab University

people a few decades ago. It was the era when this “*kalam*” used to be engraved in the form of beautiful calligraphy over the walls of a mosque. The people of the subcontinent used to have very strong affiliation with “*Abyat*” of Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo as well as “*Masnavi*” of Mevlana Rumi. They used to seek guidance from these “*Abyat*” and “*Masnavi*” whenever they got into some trouble. Mothers have been teaching their children the sanctity of this “*kalam*”. Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo says,

Sour water-wells are never sweetened Bahoo, even if tons of sugar poured in - Hoo.

Inner beauty is the most significant part of a human being. Not to acquaint oneself with the teachings of Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo and Mevlana Rumi is synonymous to deny the importance of our socio-cultural and literary heritage. The notion propagated by both the saints is that of Wahdatul Maqsood. They escorted humanity towards a bigger purpose (objective) of life.



Closing Remarks
Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Ali

Chairman, MUSLIM Institute

People having interest in wisdom and Sufism are well aware of prolific writings of Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo and Mevlana Rumi, especially poetry full of ‘*Arifana*’ (gnostic) language, literature which directly appeals to the soul. These are such towering personalities who not only achieved a higher status in spirituality but also motivated people to seek for the true love of God. Despite the passage of many centuries, these personalities are alive today in the hearts of people. According to Sufis, *ishq* (divine love) is the only mean to achieve recognition of Almighty Allah. *Ishq* is the sole asset of Sufism. In fact, *ishq* was consigned to Adam (A.S) by Almighty Allah. It was only due to *ishq* that Adam (A.S) was granted a privileged status among all other creation. On the contrary, *iblees* (satan) was dethroned from his status despite his knowledge based superiority



Guest Speech - 1

Dr. Khaydar Kurbanov

Professor of Urdu Department,
National University of Tajikistan

over other creation just because he could not notice the sapling of *ishq* enshrined in Adam (A.S) by Almighty Allah.

Mevlana Rumi narrates regarding *ishq*,

Then what is love? The sea of not-being: there the foot of the intellect is shattered.

Servitude and sovereignty are known: love is concealed by these two veils. Would that being had a tongue; that it might remove the veils from existent beings!

Hadhrat Sultan Bhoo (R.A) throws light over the notion of *ishq*,

Ishq is the name to conquer you completely

Unless you completely surrender yourself along with your all types of whims and wishes, you cannot satisfy your loved one. The journey of *ishq* is full of hindrances. Only the blessed ones sustain in this journey. It is commonly believed that the fire of *ishq*, when it blazes up, burns everything except the beloved one.

Mevlana Rumi (R.A) says,

Love is that flame which, when it blazes up, consumes everything else but the beloved.

Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo (R.A) says,

Every end is my start,

No one knows about my secret,

There is no match of a fly and an Eagle,

I am the message of his (divine) love,

I have forgotten myself



Guest Speech - 2

**Prof. Dr. Najeeb Haider
Mulghani**

Registrar, Ghazi University, D G
Khan



Guest Speech - 3
Dr. Faleeha Zahra Kazmi
 Head of Persian Department,
 Lahore College for Women
 University



Guest Speech - 4
Dr. Nazar Abid
 Chairperson Urdu Department,
 University of Hazara, Mansehra

A Sufi's journey is full of spiritual experiences based on *Mushahida* (experimentation). His journey from material to spiritual world goes through various steps. While coming back to routine affairs, he feels deep insight along with an enlightened heart. Next step for a Sufi is the dissemination of that spiritual insight among his followers. He inculcates the earned message of peace and love for Almighty Allah in his followers. Sufism is the other name of *Ehsaan* (spiritual aspect). If a Sufi is also a poet, his message gets more impressive. In this respect, they have the opportunity to express their spiritual experiences. Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo and Mevlana Rumi are among such saints who have the opportunity to express their spiritual journey through their poetry. Buried in Konia (Turkistan), a great Sufi saint, Mevlana Jalal-ud-din Rumi and the pride of the subcontinent, a man of great conviction and thought, Sultan-ul-Faqr Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo (R.A) though have a gap of centuries along with a regional stretch consisting thousands of miles but there intellectual similarities are a source of an immense amazement. One wonders while looking into those similarities. Both saints share similarities regarding oneness, Prophethood, recognition of inner self, *faqr*, *Irfaan* (knowledge, awareness and wisdom), love for humanity, peace, brotherhood and unity of thought and action among humanity. With respect to language, Mevlana Rumi shares an immense contribution in Persian language and Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo, despite having Punjabi language as mother tongue, tremendously contributed in the development of Persian language. Work of both saints addresses the complexities of Persian language in a highly professional manner. A deep insight of above mentioned topics which are similar between both the saints exposes their deep concern regarding the firm belief of people in the oneness of God.



Guest Speech - 5
Dr. Muhammad Safeer
Head of Persian Department,
National University of Modern
Languages, Islamabad

Mevlana said those people are great even whose temporary life is like that of an ideal one. These lovers of God do not lie under graves but deep into hearts of hundreds of thousands people.

According to, Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo, *faqeer* (supreme form of mysticism) is only integrated to those, whose grave becomes a living symbol.

But “faqeer” (saint) is only him, Bahoo, whose graves are alive today- Hoo.



If we look back into 13th century, Jerusalem was inflicted upon with tyrant crusades. Constantinople has been captured. Byzantine Empire was at the brink of division. Some troops were engaged in the materialization of their expansionist designs under the rule of Chengiz khan. Christians were fighting against Christians and Muslims were fighting against Muslims. In this turmoil, Mevlana Rumi was the only hope of people. Mevlana was known as the ambassador of peace, love, faith and harmony. On the other hand, the era of a renowned Sufi of 17th century Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo was the reign of political stability and economic prosperity. Despite a gap of centuries, the universality and dynamism of *ishq* is common between the two saints. It is *ishq* which narrows down differences between the lover and the loved one. At the end, it is only *ishq* which sustains.

Mevlana Rumi says

Hail, our sweet-thoughted love —thou that art the physician of all our ills,

The ego as well as the state of consciousness of an individual is the sole impediment in the journey of ishq. In this respect, Mevlana Rumi pictures a very beautiful imagination.

The remedy of our pride and vainglory, our Plato and our Galen!

While highlighting the same aspect of ishq, Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo narrates,

The level where ardent love reaches faith is unaware as such Hoo

O my master! keep my ardent love secure 'Bahoo' I am excusing my faith as much Hoo

Moreover he says

Single glance of an ardent lover would take millions across Hoo

With millions of glances by scholars, no one reached the shores any way Hoo

Another similarity between the two saints endorses the fact that the pain inflicted on the lover in the quest of the love of God is the real beauty of his life. The more will be the pain, the more will be the likelihood of achieving the destination. Hadhrat Sultan Bahoo (R.A) narrates,

My body-soul are torn into pieces like tailor's tatters – Hoo

Mevlana Rumi (R.A) says,

I want a bosom torn by severance, that I may unfold (to such a one) the pain of love-desire.

Our struggle for materialistic world can only bring a temporary change but if an individual is devoid of the notion of *Ishq*, he is living an aimless life. A large segment of our youth is living a directionless life of ignorance and decay. We need to rebuild our relationship with the philosophy of these saints. It will help a great deal in bringing change in every walk of life.