

Demand of rented Charpoy, blankets soar at temporary residential points

MULTAN: As the winter season start approaching, a large number of vendors have set up their stalls of rented traditional beds (charpoy), blankets and pillows at temporary residential points of the city to offer residences to passengers and drivers on cheaper rates.

The transporters and passengers were the main customers of these temporary residential points where they used to spend night by getting these rented items on cheaper rates. The transporters from Balochistan, Karachi, Lahore and other cities prefer to stay at these points instead of hotels and other rented rooms with high cost.

A stall owner near general bus stand Bahawalpur bypass, Sufyan Khan told this news agency that he had been running the business from last many years and earning handsome amount in every winter season. He said that he offered one charpoy at Rs 150 per night, charge Rs 100 for a blanket and Rs 50 for a pillow per night from each person. He said that transporters were main customers as they get accommodation on cheaper rates.

Khan added that he was also running a small hotel from where he offered meal to his customers on cheap rates. Safdar Hussain, another stall owner near Vehari Chowk bypass said that about 50 to 70 people stayed at his point on daily basis during the winter season. He said that he charged Rs 300 per person for each night because they were also customers of his small hotel from where they used to purchase meal for dinner and breakfast.

A transporter Afzal Ali said that he used to drive loaded long vehicle about 10 to 12 hours daily and prefer these points for rest. He said that pick pocketing and swindlers were the only problem at these places as most of the people had been deprived of cash, valuables and documents by these criminals in the past. He said that these points were outside the city areas where the loaded vehicles can be parked easily, while, cheap rates of accommodation was also a major element of preferring these points. He, however, complained about poor arrangements, the dusty pillows and blankets and a security threat due to improper checking, absence of security arrangements and verification of the accommodated people. The staff owners had never done inquiry about the customers before allowing them to stay. The police department must provide special focus on the issue in order to prevent any untoward incident.



LAHORE: Families spend time with animals and enjoying at Zoo during weekend holiday.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) names' calligraphy contest today

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: In connection with Ashra-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen celebrations, a calligraphy competition of names of Holy Prophet peace be upon him (PBUH) would be held today (Monday). Also, Alhamra and the Government College University would jointly hold Mehfil-e-Naat on Tuesday, Oct 4. Punjab Information and Culture Department is celebrating the Ashra-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen with religious reverence and special programs in this regard would continue till Rabiul-Awwal 12. According to official sources here on Sunday, Alhamra Arts Council was organising ceremonies in connection with the Ashra-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen celebrations and to promote glorious teachings of the last, Hazrat Muhammad peace be upon him. A Mehfil-e-Milad-e-Mustafa would be held on Oct 5, in which famous scholar Pir Dr Tariq Sharif would shed light on the sacred life of Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). A Husn-e-Qirat competition would be held on Oct 7. Mehfil-e-Naat-e-Rasool would be held on Oct 8 and 9.

16 criminals held with drugs

MULTAN: Police claimed on Sunday to have arrested 16 criminals besides recovering drugs from their possession during a crackdown launched across the district. According to police sources, police have arrested three proclaimed offenders wanted to police in different cases of crimes. The police have also apprehended two court absconders during the

Rs4.84m given to 69 applicants on Ombudsman's orders

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: On the orders of provincial Ombudsman Maj (ret'd) Azam Suleman Khan, the Punjab Benevolent Fund Board (PBFB) has released Rs 4.84 million dues to 69 applicants.

In a statement issued here on Sunday, a spokesman for the Office of the Ombudsman Punjab said that 44 students from 16 districts had also been given educational scholarships of around two

-44 students also given educational scholarships to continue their studies

million rupees to continue their studies. He said that the Punjab Benevolent Fund Board paid around Rs 1.4 million as marriage grant to 14 other complainants, who had approached the Ombudsman's regional offices in their districts for the

release of their long-awaited amounts. Meanwhile, regional offices also mediated to ensure the start of monthly grant as well as clearing pending dues of Rs 937,500 to five applicants from Faisalabad, Jhang, Multan and

Rawalpindi districts. The spokesman said that Rs347,000 had been paid to three different complainants of Faisalabad, Bhakkar and Mianwali on the orders of the Ombudsman Punjab under the head of funeral grant, while Muhammad Azhar Gulshan of Bahawalpur and Rafiq Ahmad of Multan had been given Rs 229,865 as farewell grant by the Punjab Benevolent Fund Board, the spokesperson added.

Pak Tea House: A hive of activity for literary personalities, intellectuals

DR SAEED AHMAD ALI

Monty Python (a British comedy troupe) referring to the history of the eccentric teapots said that it was really fascinated that how tea rooms provided an opportunity to create and discuss literature and how the tea rooms changed from country to country. "Tea is just an excuse. I am drinking this sunset, this evening and--you," she writes in her article, reflecting her feelings on the co-relationship of a tea-room and creativity of literature. Around the globe, the custom of tea and Qehwa houses is incredibly hoary. Located in downtown and cultural areas or every market, these tea houses entertain common people of different races, castes, colors, and creeds.

During British rule, a tea house from 1939 to 1940 was established in Lahore, located at the bank of Mall Road. In the start of its establishment, the tea house was named "India Tea House," where people from various schools of thought were gradually accustomed to coming for discussions. Nobody could believe that this tea house someday would become an axis of literary personalities, poets, and writers. For ages, Lahore had been incorporating an impressive and majestic significance for being the center of cultural, literary, and academic activities. Filled with life, music, fun, art, dance, food, and heritage, it really cast a magical spell on a traveler that produces the person always remember the memories and impression of the loving city. And whosoever visits or comes to Lahore; becomes a part of this conurbation. An impressive belt of legendary personalities came and permanently settled here due to the magical effect of city and its heritage. Owing to these activities, the name "Pak Tea House" is at the top of the list, which has its own history of being a dominant spot for the grooming of art, literature, and culture.

In 1939, "Bazm-e-Daastan Goyian" an organization for the preferment of literature was founded but just after six months, the name was modified to "Halqa-e-Arbab-e-Zouq" which is still prevailing. By the same year, the literary activities of Halqa-e-Arbab-e-Zouq were carried out in Young Men Christian Association (YMCA) hall.

Likewise, many other organisations like Anjuman-e-Ittehaad-e-Punjab, Bzm-e-Adab Punjab, and Anjuman-e-Matalib-e-Mufida Punjab started working in collaboration with one another, reveals a document of YMCA. Then in 1943, another organization emerged with the name of "Halqa-e-Arbab-e-Ilm." The companions of this organisation included Agha Shorish Kashmiri, Malik Aslam Hayyat and Syed Nazir Zaidi, noted Poet and Critic professor Dr. Saadat Saeed told APP. Later on, in cooperation with Molana Hamid Ali Khan, an Anjuman named as "Urdu-Subha" was estab-

lished, which was frequently attended by Professor Pitras Bukhari, Khawaja Dr. Muhan Singh Dewana, Dr. Shanti Roop Bhatnagar, and Dil Muhammad, Dr Saadat Saeed informed.

It was a peak time for Lahore's education and literature. The dawn of educational institutes emerged within the subcontinent while legendary and literary personalities from Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and many other cities of Punjab, moved towards the learning seat of the region, i.e. Lahore, he remarked. Sometimes teachers and students also visit here, Saeed added.

The major literary figures who migrated to Lahore included: Tajwar Najeeb Abadi, Muhammad Hussain Azad, Mufti Abdullah Tonki, Mahmood Terani, Mir Manzar Hussain Nazim Lakhnawi, Mirza Arshad Gorkani Dehlwi, Muhammad Shafi Qasuri, Muhammad Hassan Jalandhri, Sheikh Abdul Qadir, Professor Pitras Bukhari, Allama Muhammad Iqbal, Daaket Abdullah, A-Hameed and Sufi Tabbasum, Mansoor Afaq, a noted Urdu poet, playwright, columnist and director at Taraqi-e- Adab told APP. At the time of the creation of Pakistan in 1947, the literary creativity and progress of the Indian Tea House were adversely affected, noted revolutionary Punjabi poet Baba Najmi, told APP. People like Munir Niazi, Mukhtar Siddique, Nasir Kazmi, and Yousuf Zafar were part of the literary sessions, he added.

Likewise, after partition of subcontinent, the word India was removed, and "Pak" was written over there. In this way, the 'India Tea House' was transformed into "Pak Tea House," he said. With its reopening after the partition, the writers and poets started coming back and this tea spot again became a center of education and literature, he said while replying to a query. Pak Tea House had embedded a pivotal mark by leaving a historical literary revolution and a memorable impression on fiction, novel, poetry, and myth writing, Najmi remarked. A-Hameed, a renowned Urdu fiction writer from Lahore, and an author of over 200 books has mentioned this tea house in his famous book "Lahore Ke Yadain".

This is not just a tea cafe but had been signified as a literature hub and cultural center, he writes. My meetings with Nasir Kazmi, Ashfaq Ahmed, Shuhrah Bukhari, Anjum Romani, Munir Niazi, Qayyum Nazar, and Sajjad Rizvi were materialized here, he writes. A-Hameed had written a famous novel on Pak Tea House titled "Dhoop or Shagoofay"; which starts and ends on Pak Tea House. This novel displays a glimpse of the noted writers who were often used to work here. In the novel, he narrated the glory of the tea house.

The writer is associated with APP.

Determination of Dr Ashiq Hussain to achieve higher education for students

MUDASSAR QADEER

Director of Public Instruction Punjab, Dr Ashiq Hussain is the owner of Qalandranana personality, any questioner can come to his office anytime during office hours with his problem, he does not face any kind of hindrance there and Dr. He listens to his problem and solves it, and according to the wish of the questioner, he is also provided with the required anchor.

I have met him some time ago and I found him friendly and kind. Some time ago I filed a news regarding appointment of permanent principals in government colleges of Punjab which was later filed by another friend.

In the news, the number I mentioned was less while in the other news the number of appointment of permanent principals was higher. made me meet him and I introduced myself to Dr. Ashiq Hussain and told him the purpose of my visit He said, sir, now this number will increase because in a few days more principals will retire after completing their tenure, while the higher education department is aware of this and a board has also been formed for the appointment of permanent principals, which will be done soon. In this regard, after completing the interview, he will appoint the qualified candidates.

After this meeting, I started meeting with him regularly. have quali-

ties which I consider necessary for public awareness It was through these talks that I came to know that Higher Education in Punjab is planning to start a third shift in colleges for students who are not financially able and who are not allowed to study in government colleges due to lack of seats. Those who are deprived should be admitted so that they can continue their education while the Department of Higher Education, Punjab Skills Development Authority and National Vocational and Technical Training Commission are going to contract with training institutes for such students across the province. Those students who are not able to pay fees in private colleges will be admitted to selected colleges across Punjab and will be given a stipend of Rs. Among them, computer courses, pharmacy B category courses, food courses and e-commerce courses are worth mentioning.

Being initiated into the light so that someone Students should not be unable to continue their studies due to non-payment of fees. Recently, Punjab University has established the first organization for Women in Sciences Pakistan, which will act as a technical institution to not only bring together all such women but also a platform for technical meetings and collaboration. In a special ceremony organized in this regard, Vice Chancellor Punjab University Prof. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, Dean Faculty of Life Sci-

ences Prof. Dr. Javed Iqbal Qazi inaugurated the organizational office in the Center of Excellence in Solid State Physics.

The President Punjab University Head of MMG Department Prof. Dr. Anjum Naseem Sabri, Vice President Prof. Dr. Shazia Bashir from GC University, Secretary Prof. Dr. Saira Riaz from Punjab University, Joint Secretary Prof. Dr. Shamaila Shahzadi from UET and Lahore College for Women University, Treasurer Professor Dr. Zahra Kayani attended. In his speech, Dr. Javed Iqbal Qazi said that Pakistani women are playing a very important and effective role in the development and transfer of knowledge in various fields of science, therefore it is the need of the hour to bring together all the Pakistani women of science on one platform.

The number of government universities in Pakistan is 141 and the number of private universities is 96. In the recent budget, a budget of 104 billion rupees has been kept for universities across the country, in which 4 billion 41 billion rupees have been allocated for development and 60 billion rupees for other purposes. Pakistan is currently lagging far behind in the race of higher and quality educational institutions. To reduce this gap, government educational institutions need to provide more resources.

The writer is a free lance contributor

12 dead, 1,049 injured in 100 five road traffic crashes in Punjab

LAHORE: The Punjab Emergency Service Department responded to 100 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. In these RTCs 12 people died, whereas 1049 were injured. Out of this 580 people were seriously injured who were shifted to different hospitals. Whereas, 469 minor injured victims were treated at the incident site by Rescue Medical Teams thus reducing the burden of Hospitals.

The majority (72%) involved Motorbikes, therefore effective enforcement of traffic laws and lane discipline are essential to reduce this increasing number of Road Traffic Crashes. Further, the analysis showed that 524 drivers, 35 underage drivers, 124 pedestrians, and 449 passengers were among the victims of these road traffic crashes. The statistics show that 229 RTCs were reported in Lahore which affected 248 persons placing the Provincial Capital at top of the list followed by 90 in Faisalabad with 96 victims and at third Multan 70 with 81 victims. —APP



LAHORE: A man is carrying empty ghee containers on his cycle.