

# IQBAL YEAR PROJECTS



## PERSPECTIVES ON IQBAL A WORLD SURVEY OF IQBAL STUDIES

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### International Iqbal Conference 2003

During the Iqbal Year, the Iqbal Academy organized, supported, hosted and collaborated in a number of conferences and seminars, both with in the country and abroad, culminating in the International Iqbal Conference 2003— *Perspectives on Iqbal– A World Survey of Iqbal Studies*. Earlier the proposed International Conference was to be convened on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2002. However, owing to the General Elections in October and formation of new Government thereafter, the Conference was postponed to April 2003. The four-day discussion was held in Lahore on April 21-24, 2003. The inauguration was made by the President of Pakistan and the event synchronized with the grand occasion of the Iqbal Day 21<sup>st</sup> April.

The Conference focused on the ways in which Iqbal was received in the various linguistic/cultural zones of the world using the following broad parameters:

- Status of Iqbal Studies in various areas, linguistic-cultural zones of Pakistan and other countries. That would mean a survey of the translations, academic and philosophic studies of Iqbal's ideas, exegeses, comparative studies with past and contemporary literary/philosophic figures etc. accompanied by a bibliography of works on Iqbal Studies in the respective area of study.
- Major Iqbal Scholars of the area with brief information on their life and works.

- Present trends in Iqbal Studies in your area of focus, existing gaps in the corpus of Iqbal Studies and suggestions for further studies and areas of research.

Although the focus of the Conference was on a *World Survey of Iqbal Studies* its wider objective was to contribute to an in depth understanding of Iqbal's thought and to the ways it informs issues of a universal and contemporary import. It brought together a select group of International Iqbal Scholars (List attached) with the Pakistani Iqbal Scholars and all those interested in Iqbal and Iqbal Studies in an effort to explore the full implications of Iqbal's reception and projection abroad. Expanded and revised versions of the papers are being prepared for publication.

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ANNEX I– INT CONF 03-INTRO



**INTERNATIONAL IQBAL CONFERENCE**  
**PERSPECTIVES ON IQBAL**  
**A WORLD SURVEY OF IQBAL STUDIES**

The 2003 International Iqbal Conference will take place on April 21-24, 2003, at the Aiwan i Iqbal Auditorium in Lahore under the auspices of the Iqbal Academy Pakistan. The topic of the Conference shall be “*Perspectives on Iqbal– A World Survey of Iqbal Studies*”.

The focus of the Conference shall be the ways that Iqbal has been received in the various linguistic/cultural zones of the world. Apart from simple and annotated translations of Iqbal’s works, there is a vast secondary literature that has spawned during the last six decades and ranges from exegeses and interpretations to comparative studies. On another plane, Iqbal has influenced thinkers and poets of various areas in different ways.

To consider such questions the Iqbal Academy Pakistan has planned an International Iqbal Conference intended to facilitate exchange of views and information among Iqbal Scholars, thinkers and men of letters from all over the world. The idea is to bring together a select group of International Iqbal Scholars (list attached) with the Pakistani Iqbal Scholars and all those interested in Iqbal and Iqbal Studies in an effort to explore the full implications of Iqbal’s reception and projection abroad. The diversity of views among the small groups shall contribute to the plenary discussions that



follow each session, led by one of our participants who guides our common exploration.

The three-day discussion will be held in Lahore on April 21-24, 2003 (detailed program available separately). The inauguration shall be made by the President of Pakistan and the event synchronizes with the grand occasion of the Iqbal Day 21<sup>st</sup> April.

The topic of the Conference is “*Perspectives on Iqbal– A World Survey of Iqbal Studies*”. We also intend to look into the question of Iqbal in Pakistani languages in order to inform ourselves and the international audience present on the issue. Our endeavour shall consist of the following broad parameters:

- Status of Iqbal Studies in various areas, linguistic-cultural zones of Pakistan and other countries. That would mean a survey of the translations, academic and philosophic studies of Iqbal’s ideas, exegeses, comparative studies with past and contemporary literary/philosophic figures etc. accompanied by a bibliography of works on Iqbal Studies in the respective area of study.
- Major Iqbal Scholars of the area with brief information on their life and works.
- Present trends in Iqbal Studies in your area of focus, existing gaps in the corpus of Iqbal Studies and suggestions for further studies and areas of research.

Although the focus of the Conference is on a *World Survey of Iqbal Studies* our wider objective is to contribute to an in depth understanding of Iqbal’s thought and to the ways it informs issues of a universal and contemporary import.

Papers by the presenters shall be of 15 minutes length. The abstracts of the papers of the International Iqbal Scholars shall be circulated among the discussion groups in advance of the Conference. Expanded and revised versions of the participant’s papers shall be published later in edited book form. Consideration should also be given to distribution of materials through electronic media. The language of the Conference shall be English.

After the inauguration in the morning, the sessions will begin on Monday afternoon, April 21, 2003, and conclude after dinner on the evening of Wednesday, April 24th, 2003.

The shared study at this Conference makes a substantive contribution to achieving our goal of seeking out those aspects of our quest that help to map the future plan of Iqbal Studies in a global perspective.

*Together towards Iqbal*

**IQBAL ACADEMY PAKISTAN**