

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL PASSING-OUT CEREMONY OF THE PAKISTAN FOREST INSTITUTE, PESHAWAR (5TH OCTOBER 1981)

The Thirty-third annual passing-out ceremony of the Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar, was held on 5th October 1981. Vice Admiral Muhammad Fazil Janjua, HI(M), Minister for Food, Agriculture and Co-operatives, Government of Pakistan, presided over the function, and gave away the degrees, medals and prizes.

The proceedings started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. Following it, Dr. M.N. Malik, Director General, Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar, presented the welcome address in urdu whose english version is being reproduced herewith.

Honourable Minister,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am grateful to you, sir, for kindly accepting our invitation to preside over today's function, the 33rd Passing-out of trainees of 1979-81 courses, who have successfully completed their 2-year training at the Pakistan Forest Institute for B.Sc. and M.Sc. Forestry degrees. Your presence at this function over the years bears witness to your keen interest in forestry.

The harnessing of Pakistan's resources requires a major break-through in agriculture, which is the largest and the most important sector of our economy. In this effort, forestry development has to play a vital role on account of its unrealised potential, and the growing shortage of commercial energy.

Pakistan has not been endowed with large resources in forestry. The area under forest is only 4%, against 20% area of forests in undivided India. Generally, 25% of total land area of a country is considered to be adequate for most countries. This deficiency is being accentuated by the increasing population pressure, and rising costs of fuel wood and timber. Today we import about 0.70 million cubic metre of timber and timber products at a cost of Rs. 665.0 million. Unless we mount an effective programme of forestry development, the economic burden would be unmanageable.

Notwithstanding the seriousness of this challenge, forestry had not been accorded its rightful priority in the budgetary framework. In terms of land allocation, only marginal lands, with considerable ecological and biotic constraints, are allocated for the tree growth and forage production. It is gratifying that the situation is now improving. While the public sector resources are being made

available on a larger scale; the task is stupendous, and cannot be accomplished by the public sector alone. For any meaningful improvement, there should be a growing emphasis on farm forestry. Farmers have indeed been raising trees on their farms for their own needs and presently, most of fuelwood and half of the timber requirements are met from this resource. But to meet the future needs, the pace would have to be accelerated. It is in recognition of this fact that all over the world, increasing attention is given to agro-forestry, farm-forestry, or social forestry. The Forest Institute has rightly emphasised research concerning tree growth on farmlands.

Natural coniferous forests in the northern part of the country constitute the most important national timber resource. These forests also form watersheds of major rivers and have a direct influence on irrigation water supplies for agriculture in the plains. A number of government development programmes are underway in these areas to rehabilitate the depleted forest areas as well as to improve their watershed values. Recently, a programme of intensive management of coniferous forests has also been started in NWFP. In order to provide research support and train staff to man these projects, the Federal Government has approved during 1980-81 a number of research projects in Sericulture, Wildlife Management, Watershed Management, and Timber Harvesting and Utilization. In addition to research for evolving suitable management techniques, specialized courses will be started at the Institute to train personnel of Provincial Forest Departments. A 2-year course leading to M.Sc. in Forest Engineering and Forest Products Engineering will commence in October, 1981.

We are grateful to the Federal Government for approving many development projects of the Institute. This of course needs to be backed up by effective provisions to attract talented people to research and education. Only thus can this Institute develop into a Centre of excellence, which undoubtedly is its rightful entitlement.

The passing-out students, today, have undergone intensive 2-years classroom instructions and field training. The task before them is challenging but rewarding for meeting the challenge and for being able to serve the country well in a critical sector of its economy, can be equally satisfying. I wish them success in their endeavours.

In the end, I once again thank you, Sir, and the distinguished guests for being with us at this function.

Thank you.

Raja Bahadur Ali Khan, Director, Forest Education Division, read-out the Annual Report of Pakistan Forest College formally designated as Forest Education Division.

The Honourable Minister, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to welcome you, Sir, and other distinguished guests who have graced this occasion with their presence. Today, 33rd Passing Out ceremony is being held. This Institute has trained 980 forest officers so far, and, except a few, the forest departments in the country are being manned exclusively by the foresters trained in this Institute. A large number of them are rendering advisory services in the friendly developing countries. Quite a few have risen to many exalted administrative positions in Pakistan. The Institute is genuinely proud of them. You would be happy to know, Sir, that the Pakistan Forest Institute is not only catering for the requirements of Pakistan alone but also trainees from many countries of the world have been receiving education in forestry and allied disciplines in this Institute. We have already trained 40 foresters of friendly countries of Bangladesh, Sudan, Ethiopia and Iraq. Even now we have 16 students from Bangladesh, Nepal and Sudan. A large number of foreign students are expected to join the 1981-83 course starting in a few days time. This shows the importance, the Institute had gained and also the standard of education imparted here is fully appreciated by the developing countries.

The Forest Education Division though has a small staff of full-time foresters, research workers of the Institute also take a heavy load of teaching. This is a very satisfactory arrangement as the students in addition to learning practical forestry, also get exposed to the latest developments in forestry research in the country as well as the rest of the world. The co-operation extended by the forest departments in providing due facilities to students when they are on tour is really excellent, and it further shows the well-known brother-hood amongst the professional foresters. I thank them all. My thanks are also due to the Pakistan Rural Academy, Peshawar, for lectures on sociology and public administration. As usual the Military College of Engineering has conducted 3-week field engineering course for which we are very grateful. The University of Peshawar has always extended full co-operation for smooth conduct of examinations and timely announcement of results. I am extremely thankful to the Vice-Chancellor for his support and help.

Today, 15 M.Sc. and 13 B.Sc. students will be awarded degrees. The result is cent per cent. The passing-out foreign students include 11 from Bangladesh in M.Sc. Forestry and one from Sudan in B.Sc. Forestry. The remaining students are the nominees of N.W.F.P., Azad Kashmir and Baluchistan Governments. In the junior batch, we have got 20 M.Sc. and 11 B.Sc. students. In the next course we expect 52 trainees in both the classes.

I wish the passing-out students the best in their future careers. My only advice to them is, work hard, be honest, and God fearing in all their dealings.

I would now request the honourable chief guest to kindly distribute

degrees and prizes to the students.

The Chief Guest distributed the degrees, medals and prizes to the following successful candidates:

M.Sc. Forestry 1979-81

Order of Merit	Name of Student	Total marks out of 3000	Division	Province
1.	M.D. Ashraful Haq	2125	I	Bangladesh
2.	Mohd. Saber-ul-Haque	2073	I	"
3.	Manzoor Ahmad	2049	I	"
4.	Mohd. Shahed-zu-Zaman	1970	I	"
5.	Mohd. Abdul Latif	1967	I	"
6.	Ishtiaq-ud-Din Ahmad	1966	I	"
7.	Mohammad Salim	1921	II	Baluchistan
8.	Neaz Ahmad Siddiqui	1850	II	Bangladesh
9.	Sheikh Mizan-ur-Rehman	1843	II	"
10.	Jamil Ahmad Chaudhry	1836	II	"
11.	Khizer Hayat	1828	II	Azad Kashmir
12.	MD. Serajud Daula	1792	II	Bangladesh
13.	Faizud Din	1736	II	"
14.	Mohammad Atiqul Azam	1746	II	"
15.	Mohammad Aslam	1658	II	Azad Kashmir

B.Sc. Forestry 1979-81

1.	Abdul Hafeez Ali Mohammad	1968	I	Sudan
2.	Shabbir Hussain	1966	I	N.W.F.P.
3.	Sheikh Suleman	1835	I	N.W.F.P.
4.	Javed Arshad	1813	I	N.W.F.P.
5.	Abdul Basir	1787	I	N.W.F.P.
6.	Abdul Karim	1642	II	Azad Kashmir
7.	Habib-ur-Rehman	1585	II	N.W.F.P.
8.	Inamullah Khan	1566	II	N.W.F.P.
9.	Mohammad Younis	1527	II	Azad Kashmir
10.	Zafar Ali	1485	II	N.W.F.P.
11.	Kh. Mumtaz Ahmad	1466	II	Azad Kashmir
12.	Ali Akbar Khan	1470	II	Azad Kashmir
13.	Mohammad Arif Khan	1502	II	Azad Kashmir

Academic Prizes

M.Sc. Forestry

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|----|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | Gold Medal for standing first in the Calss | Mohammad Ashraf-ul-Haque | Bangladesh |
| 2. | Silver Medal for standing first in forestry subjects. | ” | ” |
| 3. | Bronz Medal for standing first in subsidiary subjects. | ” | ” |
| 4. | Silver Medal for standing first in Working Plan. | Saberul Haque | ” |
| 5. | Silver Medal for standing first in Watershed Management and Soil Conservation. | ” | ” |
| 6. | Gold Medal for the best Practical Forester. | Mohammad Saleem | Baluchistan |

B.Sc. Forestry

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|----|--|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | Gold Medal for standing first in the Class. | Abdul Hafeez Ali
Mohammad. | Sudan |
| 2. | Silver Medal for standing first in forestry subjects. | ” | Sudan |
| 3. | Silver Medal for standing first in Silviculture. | ” | Sudan |
| 4. | Bronz Medal for standing first in subsidiary subjects. | ” | Sudan |
| 5. | Gold Medal for the best Practical Forester. | Sher Hussain | N.W.F.P. |
| 6. | Silver Medal for standing first in Watershed Management and Soil Conservation. | Sher Hussain | N.W.F.P. |

Sports Prizes

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|----|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Volleyball | B.Sc. Class | Javed Arshad. |
| 2. | Football | B.Sc. Class | Mumtaz Ahmad, Azad Kashmir. |
| 3. | Basket Ball | M.Sc. Class | Ishtiaquddin Ahmad. |
| 4. | Marathon Race | M.Sc. Class | Mohammad Rafiq—Winner |

After the distribution of degrees and prizes, the Chief Guest delivered his address:

Mr. Director General, The outgoing Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamo-Alaikum—

I am happy to be with you once again on the eve of Annual Passing Out Ceremony of the Pakistan Forest Institute, Peshawar. It is because I feel that the nation badly needs the experienced personnel in the fields of Forest Management, Watershed Management and allied subjects. For the training of these personnel, I have great regard for this Institute.

The forests play an important role in the economic progress of the country. For the balanced economy, the forests must cover 20% of its landed area; but in our country, leaving the farm forests, the forest area is about 5%. Due to the limited resource of trees, the prices of wood and wood products are rising day by day and we have to spend Rs. 800 million every year on its import to meet our demand. The wood based industries are also running at half of their full capacity due to which the product cost could not face the international market. 50% population of Pakistan is still using wood as fuel. Due to the shortage and high prices of mineral fuel, the forests have gained much importance. The recently concluded conference on energy in Kenya has given us a realization that firewood production is as much important as agricultural crops.

Another important duty of our professional foresters is to manage the watersheds, because our northern hilly areas provide water for irrigated fields and rainfed areas. Alongwith the less number of trees the unwarranted cutting in the past has caused great damage to these areas. Consequently the eroded soil from these hills is silting up the Mangla and Tarbela dams at the rate of 42000 and 10,000 sq.ft. per year, respectively, and it is feared that these dams will be silted up very soon. Nearly same situation occurs in our grazing lands which, due to subjection to the unscientific management, are now unable to support about 70 million cattle. The shortage of forests and their unmanaged cutting has also impaired our habitation environment in the plains. A number of villages face dust storms daily.

Keeping in view the above-mentioned picture, forestry has been given its due place in the new agricultural policy of the country. Under this policy:

- (i) The present forests will be duely protected.
- (ii) Felling and logging of trees will be done on scientific lines so that maximum wood is utilised.
- (iii) Every effort will be made to increase the area under forest by planting up fast growing species with the cooperation of public. These

trees will be planted not only on government lands but facilities will be provided to the owners to grow plants on their lands. Govt. is realizing the importance of farm forestry which provides about 20% timber and 90% fuelwood of our requirement. If need arises, Govt. will procure experts and funds from other countries to develop farm-forestry.

- (iv) Extensive plantation will be done on watersheds.
- (v) Rangelands will be developed.
- (vi) To achieve the above goals, the Govt. has placed four times more funds in the current five year plan as compared to that of last plan.

I am happy to learn that Pakistan Forest Institute, which is the only institute for forestry research and education in the country, is doing extensive service, like agriculture, to provide seed and cuttings for tree propagation. It is trying hard to popularise the fast growing like Poplars and Eucalyptus species among the farmers. I am told that juniper forests of Baluchistan are reducing day by day. The Pakistan Forest Institute has taken effective steps for the reafforestation of these forests and for the control of disease therein. This Institute has made an extensive survey of the medicinal plants being used in our country since ages. Now they should take suitable steps to increase their production so that the country may be able to manufacture vegetable drugs at suitable level.

The Director, Forest Education Division, has mentioned in his annual report that uptill now about 1000 forestry graduates have passed out from this Institute which comprise students not only of Pakistan but of other friendly countries too. The Food and Agriculture Ministry is trying to strengthen the Research and Education facilities of the Institute so that the increasing demand of wood is adequately met with. In this regard you will be happy to hear that with the help of Federal Republic of Germany we are going to start this year a course of M.Sc. Forestry Products and Forest Engineering. The successful officers will be engaged in the felling, logging and extraction of wood with developed techniques which will reduce the waste of wood to its minimum. Similarly according to the provisions of agreements made with the UNDP, a course in M.Sc. Watershed will soon be started high training will be provided to promote Sericulture, Pulp and Paper Laboratory will be established which will relieve us from dependence upon foreign countries. For Range Management we are in dire need of trained staff. According to the agreement signed with the World Bank, I hope the M.Sc. Range Management will also start next year. The Pakistan Forest Institute should take steps to develop its research and training ability in Wildlife Management and Land Scaping.

Last year an epidemic caused by a defoliator was reported in Murree and Azad Kashmir kail forests. It is commendable that Pakistan Forest Institute research staff (in collaboration with the British Govt.) identified the insect and took effective steps for its control. It is completely controlled in Murree forests

and I hope will soon be controlled in Azad Kashmir forests.

Gentlemen—Forestry service is a healthy career. It provides ample ground to uplift the undeveloped regions. I admit the professional capabilities of foresters. I found the forest officers, whom I have met, technically sound, highly disciplined and dedicated to their profession. I am sure, all the foresters will keep up these traditions. This Institute has played a great role in increasing the cooperation of friendly countries by imparting training to their nominees. I hope the students of Bangla Desh and Sudan will return to their countries with good memories of Pakistan and its people.

I may remind you that this Institute had been selected as a focal point for Watershed Management and Mountain Ecosystem under South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme. I pray for this Institute to achieve more and more progress so that it may become the Centre of Excellence and its research workers and outgoing students may rightly serve the country.

Today I congratulate the outgoing students. I believe that the Institutes' 2-years training has given you enough assurance to shoulder the future responsibilities of the forest department and to maintain the (noble) traditions of this profession. Keep in mind that protection of forest, the judicious use of this resource and extensive work is *sin-qua-nar* for the betterment of our society.

Pakistan Paindabad.

The function was concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Said Ahmad Qureshi, Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of Pakistan.

Honourable Minister,

It is my pleasant duty to thank you, Sir, for having presided over today's function. Your presence here clearly shows the importance you attach to forestry and to the enforcement of a National Forest Policy in Pakistan. I assure you, Sir, that Pakistan Forest Institute, despite the limitations of manpower resources, would continue to strive hard to support your endeavours by training foresters in the efficient application of research findings and in the methodology of a rapid and economic expansion of forestry. We are grateful to UNDP, and the Federal Republic of Germany, which are helping us in this enterprise.

Sir, these bright young officers who leave this Institute today, on successful conclusion of their studies would, we hope, be able to take major initiatives and impart a touch of quality to the process of development in this vital sector of the economy. We wish them success in meeting the challenges that is writ large on the horizon.

Sir, before I conclude, I must express my gratitude to the audience, for gracing this function. We look forward to their continued cooperation.

Pakistan Paindabad.

Annual Sports Day

The function started with recitation from the holy Quran. After that Mr. G.M. Sheikh, Reader-in-Forestry incharge sports presented his address.

It is my great pleasure to welcome a very prominent research worker of the country as Chief guest to preside over 33rd Annual Sports function, which marks the end of two weeks sports activity at the college.

As usual, sports remained compulsory feature alongwith the classroom lectures, Needless to emphasize the importance of sports for trainees as well as field foresters, sports keep them fit and develop sense of brotherhood and discipline which has been hitherto remained main quality of a forester.

This year, the employees and their wards also rejoined in sports activity. The major events were the exhibition cricket and football matches played between D.G's Eleven and D.F.E's eleven. The Officers, staff and students participated in these matches.

All the indoor and out-door games were started two weeks back whereas athletic heats were started yesterday. Except cricket, all the other outdoor games were played throughout the year. Cricket which had remained neglected since past three year however, made its excellent appearance during last few days.

In the end, I am highly thankful to D.F.E, and Sports Convenor and Director General, Pakistan Forest Institute, for their needed guidance and co-operation. Mr. Abdul Aleem, Sports Secretary staff club deserve appreciation for successfully conducting the sports of employees. Thanks are also due to staff and students who have successfully organized the games as you can watch from the delight of this function. I once again thank all the guests, ladies and gentlemen for taking the trouble to grace the occasion.

Now I will request the chief guest to distribute the prizes.

The Chief Guest distributed prizes to the Winners and Runners-up of the various events.

<i>Event</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<i>Runner</i>
1. Badminton:		
Single	Mumtaz Hussain	Mizanur Rehman
Doubles	1. Mumtaz Hussain	1. Jamil
	2. Javed Arshad	2. Azam
2. Lawn Tennis:		
Single	Neaz	Shaheduzzaman
Doubles	1. Shahid	1. Jamil
	2. Mizanur Rehman	2. Azam

<i>Event</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<i>Runner</i>
3. Table Tennis: Singles	Shafqat	Inamullah
Doubles	1. Sabirul Haq 2. Shafqat	1. Inamullah 2. Mumtaz
4. Chess	Jameel	Saleem
5. Carrom: Single	Javed	Mumtaz Hussain
Doubles	1. Javed 2. Mumtaz	1. Mizanur Rehman 2. Ashraf
6. Draught:	Mustafa	Mahmood
7. 100 Metre races	Mumtaz Hussain	Mustafa
8. 200 Metre races	Mumtaz	Rafique
9. 900 Metre races	Rafique	Mumtaz Hussain
10. High Jump	Mumtaz Hussain	Shahed
11. Long Jump	Naseer	Mumtaz
12. Three legged race	1. Mumtaz Hussain 2. Nisar	1. Younus 2. Rauf
13. Obstacle race	Rafique	Rauf
14. Javellian throw	Rauf	Chaudhry
15. Shot put	Noor Khan	Shafquat
16. Discuss throw	Mumtaz	Nisar
17. Relay race (4 x 100)	1. Rafique 2. Shafquat 3. Nasir 4. Shahid	1. Ali Akbar 2. Abdul Rauf 3. Nisar 4. Mustafa
18. Best athlete	Mumtaz	
19. Man of the Match (Cricket)	Nadeem Ahmad	
20. Musical Chair	Mr. Ayaz	

(FOR EMPLOYEES)

1. Badminton:	Single	Nisar	Naeem Ahmad
	Doubles	1. Nisar 2. Naeem	1. Ayaz 2. Shezad
2. Table Tennis:	Single	Ayaz	Moazzum Ali Rizvi
	Doubles	1. Ayaz Sheikh 2. Shezad Malik	1. Shahid 2. Tauqir
3. Draught		Noor Mohammad	Nasir
4. 100 Metres race		Jehangir	Raja Zarif
5. Relay race		1. Javed Iqbal 2. Shahid Hussain 3. Wasim 4. Sajid	1. Jehangir Khan 2. Aleem 3. Shazad 4. Naeem
6. Carrom:	Single	Akram	Sajid Pervaiz
	Doubles	1. Khalid 2. Anwar	1. Yaqoob 2. Nasir
7. Chess		Azeem Ahmad	Shezad Malik
8. Children race:			
	Boys I (0-6 years)	Rs. 10/- Shahid S/o Sarfaraz	Rs. 5/- Moin S/o Kamaluddin
	II (6-10 years)	Rs. 10/- Asghar S/o Wazir Mohd.	Rs. 5/- Mohd Haroon S/o Mohd. Noor.
	Girls I (0-6 years)	Rs. 10/- Nazia D/o Zaman	Rs. 5/- Zubia D/o Tanveer Ahmed.
	II (6-10 years)	Rs. 10/- Chand Bibi D/o Jehandad	Rs. 5/- Sadaf D/o Mehdi Raza.

After distributing the prizes, the Chief Guest Mr. Mahmood Iqbal Sheikh delivered his address.

Ladies and gentlemen and my dear students:

I am sorry to inform you that the Director General had to leave Peshawar suddenly due to some unavoidable circumstances and I am deputising for him.

I welcome you all to the annual sports function of the Pakistan Forest Institute. It is quite heartening to see that kids of all ages have out-numbered the adults in this gathering, obviously the researchers are not lagging behind the rest of the nation at least on this score.

As you have seen, some of the participants have won their events while the others have not. This is going to be the pattern throughout year lives. All of you are not going to make it to the top. But compete you must, fairly of course. These sports and games teach you one strong-lesson: You have to take all defeats in stride with a smiling face. I request you to remain a sportsman all through your lives, keeping in view that taking part is more important than winning. Keep yourself in excellent physical and mental shape. This is a very competitive world and struggle for existence and survival is ahead.

Well; I too am a looser today. Last year, I could participate in the "Musical Chairs" and came out as a winner. Today by virtue of being the chief guest, I could not enter the arena with the rest of my colleagues; who knows I might have repeated my performance.

With these words, I congratulate the winners of various events and thank you all once again for coming.

"Khuda Hafiz"