

PAKISTAN AIR FORCE PUBLIC SCHOOL JOURNAL

60th Anniversary Edition



Newsletter

August to October, 2013

THE VISIONARIES OF PAF PUBLIC SCHOOL SARGODHA



Liaquat Ali Khan,
the first Prime Minister
of Pakistan, approved
the project.



Sikandar Mirza, Defence
Secretary (1947-54),
supported and
recommended the idea.



AVM R L Atcherley,
C-in-C (Feb, 1949 - May,
1951), envisioned the
establishment of
Pakistan Air Force
Public School.





MESSAGES

First Pakistani Member of Founding Team of AST

Dear Sargodhians,

I feel indeed proud to congratulate you all on the auspicious occasion of 60th Anniversary of our beloved School and old Sargodhians Re-union gathering celebration 2013. It is an honour and pleasure to re-visit one's old institution. There was a time when you were here with the hope and aspiration of a young man. A long time has passed since then and you have been right in the middle or beyond of the vicissitudes of life. The Re-union must be a refreshing and rejuvenating experience for you. The lush green lawns, the echoing corridors and even the breeze rustling through the leaves of the trees will conjure up sweet reminiscences of past.

One generation of students goes and another comes, but the School is always there to illuminate the minds of the students. It was this institution which taught you how to live decently and widened your mental horizon. You must always remain indebted to this great institution and the institution is also proud of you. The old Boys are always a source of guidance, inspiration, motivation and encouragement for the young Sargodhians. The good traditions set by old Sargodhians will be rich heritage for the coming generations. I, being first ever Pakistani employed by the British Team of AST that founded this elite institution, consider myself a proud old Sargodhian. May our institution keep progressing in the days to come. I wish you all good luck. I pray for your happiness and long life.

Good bye.

MR ABDUL RASHID



School Head Boy

The October of 2013 marks 60 years of excellence and achievement. We at the School feel honour to follow the footsteps of old Sargodhians who pioneered not only the institution but also its glorious traditions. We the new Sargodhians assure you all that we'll not only carry on your valued traditions to greater heights but also endeavor to bring more laurels to our beloved Alma Mater in the days to come. May Allah always shower his blessings upon all Sargodhians!

Aamin!

HAMMAD AKHTAR
(3045-Sabre)



FOREWORD

It is my proud privilege, more so being a Sargodhian, to write foreword of this special edition of the School Journal at the auspicious occasion of School's 60th Anniversary. The main event of these celebrations is the re-union of old Sargodhians from all over the globe. The reunions are always a great nostalgia cure providing opportunity to reminisce, meet teenage buddies, interact with the new generation of Sargodhians and share views on matters of mutual interest.

Therefore, on behalf of your Alma Mater, I heartily welcome all old Sargodhians, to their "once-a-home" where they grew, under the able tutelage of out standing mentors. While you physically walk through the streets and lanes of your School, this newsletter is an attempt to illuminate your memory lanes as well. This humble effort nevertheless shall not suffice to meet your appetite of reminiscence, hence a visit to our "History Room" is highly recommended.

Here I would also like to profoundly acknowledge the "very personal interest" and support of a valued alumnus, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Tahir Rafique Butt, NI(M), TBt (895-Rafiqui) in conceptualizing the 60th Anniversary re-union. The entire process also received hearty support of yet another Sargodhian VCAS Air Marshal Syed Athar Hussain Bukhari (1060-Iqbal), amicably coordinated by Secretary BoG Gp Capt (R) Sohail Sultan (W568 - Alam).

I also offer my commendations to the Editors of this newsletter and all those who contributed in making it a worthwhile document.

May Allah bless our beloved country and guide us here at the School to groom newer generations of Sargodhians as patriotic Pakistanis committed to serve Pakistan in accordance with the aspirations of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Cheers.

November, 2013

AVM (R) Sajid Habib
1023 Alam
Principal,
PAF Public School, Sargodha

DEAR READERS,

I feel pleased to see the Sargodhian Newsletter 60th Anniversary Edition in your hands. The present issue is much different both in character and shape. Along with routine School event reports, it includes glimpses of all six decades of the institution under the title, "The School Through Decades". That is not the only thing to recall reminiscences. Some of the very Old Boys (Somewhere between 1 and 350) must have found the title page familiar. Yes, your guess is absolutely right. It's title of PAF Public School Journal of 1957 reproduced, as its editor, Mr M J Power, wished it become a permanent one for future School publications. The monogram printed on it carrying an albatross instead of the usual eagle was designed by Fazle-Karim Khan (56-T) as the first insignia of the School. Head Boy Report is also revival of a past tradition that is likely to become permanent in future issues.

This little booklet became manageable and finally presentable due to the help of all concerned. Starting with, I owe thanks to our Principal, Air Vice Marshal Sajid Habib, whose kind patronage gave us courage to experiment. I am indebted to our Vice Principal, Gp Cpt Matloob Bokhari, for his guidance and trust in us. I am also thankful to Sqn Ldr Abdul Latif, HoH, for his candid advice in improving the manuscript; to SqnLdr Sabahat Batool for contributing to history section; to Flt Lt Javed for sharing the load as Urdu editor; to Umair Ansar (3069-Sf) for efficient reporting and last but not the least, to our very capable typist, Mr Mansoor, for typing, layout and printing.

I would also avail myself the opportunity to convey the heartiest felicitations to all Sargodhians on the 60th Anniversary of their Alma Mater.

Happy reading!

Editor
Sqn Ldr Rehana Alam

PRINCIPAL'S INTERVIEW

Interviewers: Umair Ansar (3069-Sf)
Muhammad Rehan (3149-A)

What were your feelings on being appointed the Principal of your Alma Mater?

Well, it was quite an overwhelming feeling of honour, gratitude and responsibility. It's like paying back with a challenge and that's where responsibility actually lies.



What is your vision of our School pertaining to its primary role as institution for PAF?

If you are primarily focusing on the objective and the vision with which this School was established, i.e to feed boys to Risalpur after grooming them, so primary role would be to send them to Risalpur as patriotic Pakistani with passion for Air Force.

Which attributes do distinguish a Sargodhian from others?

The Sargodhian spirit- it is, in fact, the essence of everything. A Sargodhian is a leader. He is honest, confident, very patriotic and primarily self assured. If someone doesn't make it here means remains unable to join Risalpur, the Sargodhian spirit will help him excel in which ever career he opts for being self-assured.

How far do you find the Sargodhians of the present different from your own times?

Well, there is always a change in every generation. It is because of the circumstances that prevail. Human beings are not static. They are even affected by no change in system. In my era, the seniors were a bit more respectful, confident, self-assured and creative.

Being a Sargodhian you can't avoid comparing past and present of the School. Do you think at places the standards have gone rather downhill? If yes, what can rectify the situation?

If I look at academics, they are still good. We are getting positions in the board due to a very meaningful system of academics. However, from my point of view co-curricular and extra-curricular activities have even a greater role to play in wholesome grooming of a student. In sports and extra-curricular activities, I find a downward trend. If you look back in history, in 1965 we were West Pakistan Juniors Champions in swimming, football and athletics. We need to excel in sports and you all have to work for that.

How far do you find rods and lines strategy effective in training adolescents?

The real concept of a public school system according to its originators, the British, is to groom and discipline boys of tender age say from 12 to 18 into good humans where a senior had right to exercise a lot of authority. The purpose of our School is to send boys to the Academy so

discipline is important. I believe the seniors must have a little more authority since it is directly linked to responsibility. Of course, no manhandling and punishments, just a little bit of it. Mainly, seniors must correct others by setting a personal example.

Was there anything in your school days which you would have liked to change if you were the Principal then?

Probably, the city should have been some other, a better city so that people could go out and entertain themselves. I still, after 40 years, find the same buffaloes and cows roaming in Katcheri Bazar.

Do you find something intriguing enough in the present that you wish you had in your times?

To be honest, the means of awareness you have are quite intriguing. We only had a radio and only 2nd or 1st year could operate it. You people have access to much faster sources of communication and information. I wish we also had such fast means of communication.

Were you more a sportsman or a scholar and how far are both important in life?

I was average in academics. I was more interested in sports. I ran 100m, 200m sprint, I was gymnastics captain, I had athletics colour, I was best actor and an extempore speaker. I was more involved in sports and extracurricular activities.

Would you like to share your most cherished experience of your stay at the School as Sargodhian?

When we were in Matric in 1973, the School changed to Academy. That year Pakistan had the most devastating floods I have ever seen. We travelled all over Pakistan in those floods from here to Kohat and then to Karachi in trains, mostly sitting on the joints between bogies. I cannot imagine my boys of ninth and tenth travelling like that. I believe we could do that because of the confidence we were given by the School. We were made to handle things independently like when I was a student of class ninth and tenth, I used to book buses for every one on holidays.

You yourself are a Sargodhian. How to resist different temptations like keeping a mobile or going out of School?

We didn't have mobiles, but boys jumped walls more often and it is human tendency to break rules. We went on bunks and people kept hotels open for us at midnight.

Would you please like to share about your favourite teacher, genre of literature, movie, actor and singer etc?

I liked Mr Naseer (Mathematics Teacher) the most for his amazing way of grabbing students' attention. I also liked Mr Mahboob and Mr Rehman Quraishi. In fact, the list is long. I am an old timer therefore; I appreciate old movies especially Hollywood classics. Waheed Murad and Marlyn Minroe are my favourite actors for their acting skills and among singers I like Rafi the most if I really have to name one.

At the end, any advice for the young Sargodhians?

Your parents, your Air Force, your country are spending a lot on you, so payback to them just by being a very patriotic Pakistani.

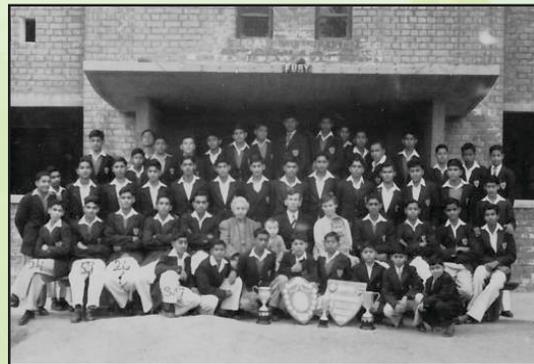
THE SCHOOL THROUGH DECADES

1950s



History In Brief

- * The first batch of British teachers reached Sargodha in December 1952.
- * The first staff comprised Mr. Sprawson as Principal, eight British teachers, Col Swetenham as Bursar, Dr White as Medical Officer and Miss Watt as nursing sister.
- * The first teaching block consisting six classrooms was established in the present School Sick Quarters (MI Room).
- * The first batch of 98 boys arrived in February, 1953. They were divided in two groups named as Fury house (51 boys) and Tempest house (47 boys).
- * First house master of Fury House was Mr. Hamilton and that of Tempest was Mr. Stott.
- * The first three Pakistani teachers namely Mr. Taqvi, Mr. Qureshi and Mr. Karzi were appointed in 1953.
- * The first Sports teacher was Mr. Forsyth.
- * The first school head boy was Mahsud (87) of Fury house.
- * The Marble Plaque was unveiled by Mian Amin-ud-din, Governor of Punjab, on the occasion of First Speech Day held on 16 December, 1953 .
- * Athletics cup, the first trophy, was gifted by Air Service Ltd.
- * The Weekly News Sheet was started by Mr Stott in November, 1954.
- * Top Form (then V) sat for the Overseas Cambridge School Certificate in December, 1954 and eight boys out of ten passed
- * Chigwell Shield was gifted to the School by several persons connected with Chigwell School, England in 1955.
- * Mr Khursheed Moti Lal joined the School in 1955.
- * Tempest and Fury were shifted to newly constructed buildings in September, 1955.
- * Two new houses Sabre (under Mr Cameron) and Attacker (under Mr Lawrence) were created in 1955.
- * The School started using Government College building in 1955.
- * Mr Catchpole was selected as the second Principal in 1958.
- * The School Junior Swimming and Athletics teams won West Pakistan Swimming Athletics championships in 1960. Some of the boys were selected for the Eaglets Cricket Tour to UK the same year.
- * The School became No 6 wing of Shaheen Air Training Corps with the Principal as Officer Commanding in 1960.



*Fury House with their House Master,
Mr Powers, 1957*

1950s Continue

FURY HOUSE NOTICE BOARD IN 2000 AD



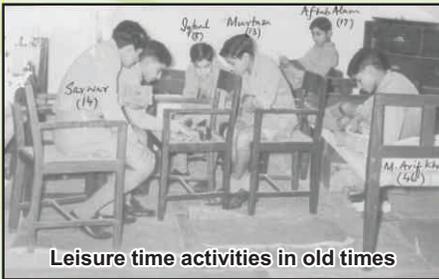
1. It is important to inform the Housemaster before leaving for home on Sundays. Time allowed is as follows ---
Boys from W. Pakistan may stay from 9 a.m. till 3 p.m.,
Boys from E. Pakistan may stay from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.
2. Five 'Weekly Illustrated Magazines of Mercury and Pluto' have been removed from the library. They should be returned to the Librarian immediately.
3. Members of the Fury Inter-Planetary Touring Society are requested to put up to a good show during their stay on Mars.
4. Members of S.A.T.C. willing to fly to the Moon should give in their names and numbers to the Housemaster before the 5th May.
5. Members of S.A.T.C. are warned not to leave their space suits in the changing room.
6. Fasters are advised not to inject more than 5cc of liquid food during early morning meals.
7. Boys are supposed to fly their aircraft in groups while going to Friday prayers at the mosque. Flying individually must cease.
8. Some silly junior boys are not to be found in their beds after the Lights Out bell. The nuisance of invisibility by taking tablets must cease.
9. Some students of Venus have reported 5 Fury boys for their mis-behaviour during sports periods. Boys reported will be flown to Venus on Sat. for atomic detention.

Rauf (38) V

(Extracted from PAF Journal issue of 1956)



Odeon Block



Leisure time activities in old times



Winners of the West Pakistan Junior Swimming Championship 1960.

غزلِ غالب بزبان پنجابی

مظہر عباس (۲)
صدر تقریریں (۱۳۳)

دلِ ناداں تینوں ہو یا کی اے
آخر اس درد دی دوا کی اے
اساں مشتاق تے اوہ نے اواز
یا الہی اے ماجرا کی اے
میں دی منہ وچ زبان رکھناں آں
کاش پچھو کہ مدعا کی اے
جان تیرے تے صدقے کرناں آں
میں نہیں جاندا دعا کی اے
سانوں اونہاں توں اے وفا دی آس
جیہڑے نہیں جاندا وفا کی اے
میں ایہہ منیا کہ ککھ نہیں غالب
مفت ہتھ آوے تے بُرا کی اے

(۱۹۵۷ء)

THE SCHOOL THROUGH DECADES

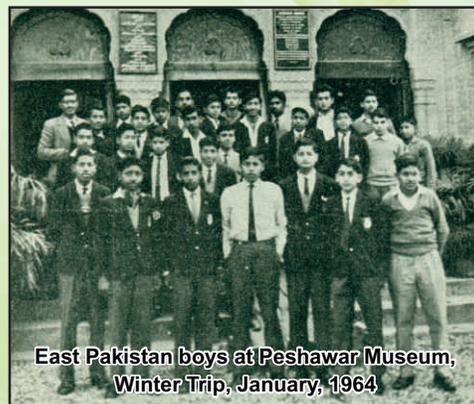
1960s

History In Brief

- * Fury remained the champion house for five times in initial nine years.
- * West Pakistan Junior Athletics Championship at Lahore was won in 1962.
- * C.T.I. Basketball Tournament at Sialkot was won in 1962.
- * Mr. Nasir Chaudhry topped the course for the Certificate of Education in Nottingham University, UK in 1962.
- * Mr Rehman Quraishi topped Thampton University, UK.
- * The School was closed from 6 to 23 September, 1965 due to war. East Pakistan boys were evacuated to PAF Lower Topa.
- * A considerable number of Sargodhians fought as pilots and three namely Flt Lt Tariq Habib (118-T), Flt Lt Arshad Sami (136-F) and Flt Lt Saif ul Azam (147-A) were awarded the coveted Sitara-i- Jurat.
- * The School re-opened on 26 October, 1965.
- * The School won all Pakistan Nasir Basketball Tournament for schools held at Rabwah, Jhang both in 1966 & 1967.
- * The School was upgraded to PAF College in 1967 and four houses Tempest, Fury, Attacker and Sabre were renamed as Younus, Iqbal, Munir and Rafiqui respectively.
- * A feature programme on the College was relayed by the Radio Pakistan Rawalpindi in 1967.
- * College mosque was inaugurated on 12 April, 1968 with Friday Prayers.
- * Two new houses Alam and Alauddin were established on 1 September, 1968.
- * Tutorials were introduced for the first time in 1968.
- * A Mathematics Lab was established 1968.
- * A teachers training course was held in collaboration with the British Council in 1968.
- * The Collector's club was established in November, 1968 and within few months it held an exhibition.
- * The College Museum was renamed as Information Room.
- * College geography, History and Literary societies were established in 1969.
- * The College won 12th National Junior Athletics Championship held at Lahore in April, 1970.



The Commander-in-Chief, Air Marshal Nur Khan, with Principal, Mr Catchpole and House Captains in 1966



East Pakistan boys at Peshawar Museum, Winter Trip, January, 1964

1960s Continue

THOUGHTS ON ONE'S FIRST SOLO

Now why is the Instructor getting out?
It seems to me there isn't any doubt
He means me to go sole. Shall I say
That I'm not feeling very well today?

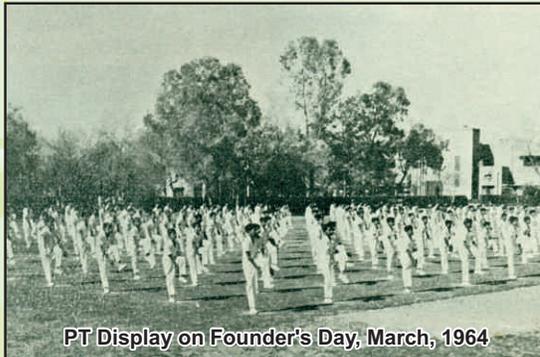
I'm quite O.K. when he is setting there:
But all alone I wonder how I'll fare;
I'll probably get in a spin or dive
With little chance of coming out alive.

But I must do it for my honour's sake
Though every single limb is all a quake.
So let's get going. Take up slack! All out!
Now why has everyone begun to shout?

Allah be praised! the flag's no longer green
But red. Some plane they must have seen.
O blessed pilot, keen on circling round
While I remain in safety on the ground.

A few more minutes and the danger's past:
The sun has set: the light is fading fast.
The plane has still not landed. It seems clear
That I no longer need have cause for fear.

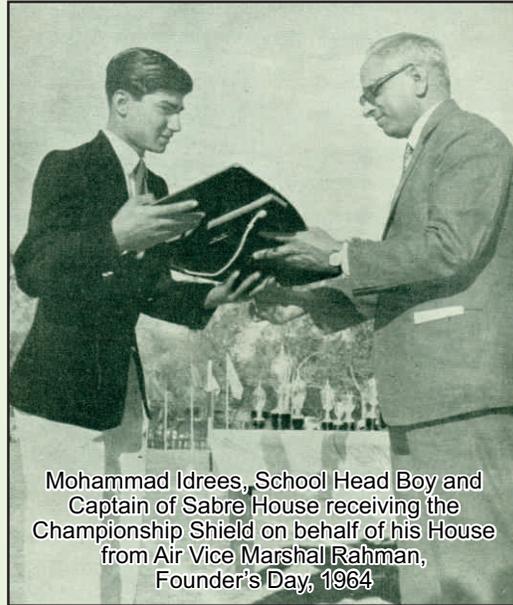
Now what is it I hear the Instructor say?
"Bad luck, my boy, you can't go up today."
O welcome words, expressed with deepest sorrow:
But I am saved at least until tomorrow.



PT Display on Founder's Day, March, 1964



Boys receiving Gliding Wings from
Air Commodore Dogar on Founder's Day,
December, 1966



Mohammad Idrees, School Head Boy and
Captain of Sabre House receiving the
Championship Shield on behalf of his House
from Air Vice Marshal Rahman,
Founder's Day, 1964

JUST MY LUCK!

Now if my memory serves me right
It happened on a Sunday night
That I and number six three two
Were bored with having naught to do.

So we decided that we'd go
And see the near-by cinema show;
Of course we hadn't any right
To go there on a Sunday night.

But rules are made for boys to break,
And risks are there for boys to take:
No prisoner will ever fail
To try to get out of a jail.

So off we set, a happy pair,
And we were nearly half way there,
When suddenly we saw from far
A quite familiar yellow car.

It did not stop : it passed us by,
But from within an all-seeing eye
Had spotted us, and we were lost,
As we found later to our cost.

Six hours 'Detention' we both got,
Which really is a awful lot,
And next School Orders told the fate
Of six three two and six three eight.

*(These anonymous poems are taken from
the Sargodhian issue of 1964-65)*

THE SCHOOL THROUGH DECADES

1970s



History In Brief

- * Abdul Razzaq (795-R) and Munir Shaukat (448-I) won overall first & second positions in the Board in 1972.
- * The new entries started to be inducted in 1st & 3rd Yr classes instead of 8th from 1973 with change over from Public School to a Service Training Institution run on Military Academy lines.
- * Houses became squadrons and Housemasters Officers In charge Squadrons.
- * Flag hoisting and lowering at dawn and dusk and singing National Anthem at Morning Assembly became part of School routine.
- * The College adopted a new monogram designed by a teacher, Mr Qayyum Hajazi.
- * Urdu section became permanent part of School Magazine from 1974.
- * In 1974, the change over phase completed with the last pre-cadet 22nd Entry had taken their Matric Board Exam.
- * The college became overall champion in the first and second Quadrangular Sports meet among units of PAF in 1977 & 78.
- * Mr Syed Fasihuddin, a seasoned Geography teacher, died on 21 February, 1977.
- * In 1978, the Institution celebrated its Silver Jubilee.
- * The College won PAF Inter Base Hockey Championship in July, 1978.
- * In 1979, five out of top six positions in B Sc exam in Punjab University were grabbed by 68th GD Course.



Air Chief Marshal Zulfiqar Ali Khan, CAS, PAF, on his inspection visit to the College



Air Commodore Azeem Daudpota giving away the "Strongman's Trophy" to PAF College-Winners of 2nd Quadrangular Sports 1978.



A Rehman Quraishi, Principal, presenting the College Crest to Dr. S M Naqvi, on his retirement from service in December, 1974.



The Chief Guest, Air Vice Marshal Saeedullah Khan, inspecting the Guard of Honour presented by a contingent of cadets on Founder's Day, 1972-73

Mr. Fasihuddin

(As I knew Him)



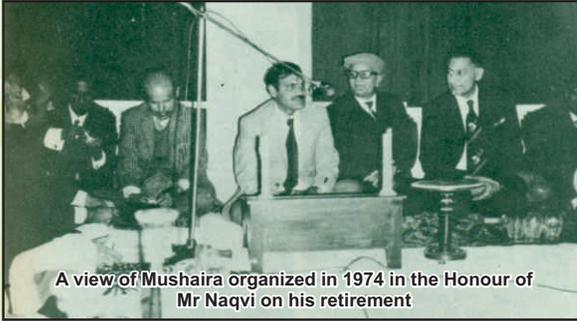
**Hearing any news could still be easy.
But that of your death, made us dizzy ;
Left Mr. Fasih, so quiet, so lone !
While everybody in his work was busy.**

It was 4.45 p.m. on 21st of February, 1977, when death sneaked into Mr. Fasih's room in the PAF Hospital, Sargodha. It was at this moment when the Munirites lost their beloved Housemaster, sons their father, cricketers their great admirer, Geography its lover and the country a great patriot and a perfect gentleman.....

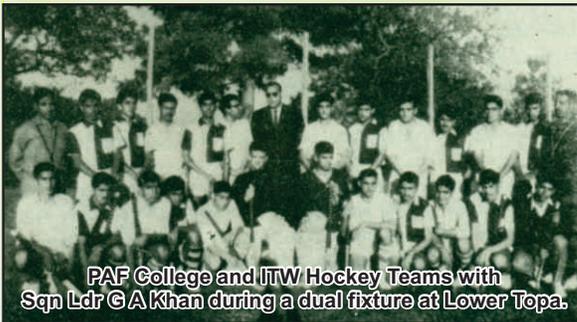
.....Throughout my seven years association with Mr. Fasih, I always found him most living and fatherly. He would treat me so kindly that I never felt that I was away from my parents. Whenever I was in a vacant or pensive mood, I would go in his company and find solace. I found an answer in him to most of my problems. His sweet talk and hearty nature had made him a highly amiable man. He was loved and respected by anybody who happened to talk to him once. I recall that at the time of his death there was not a person who was not grieved; there was not an eye which did not shed tears; there was none who did not pray for him:

**Each soul sobbed from its heart's core,
May God for you open the Heaven's door;
An excellent cricketer, a devoted Pakistani,
Legend will remain though Mr. Fasih no more.**

(Excerpts from Flt Cdt Zafar Amin (M) 66 GD (P)'s tribute to late Mr Fasihuddin, first published in the Shahbaz issue of 1977).



A view of Mushaira organized in 1974 in the Honour of Mr Naqvi on his retirement



PAF College and ITW Hockey Teams with Sqn Ldr G A Khan during a dual fixture at Lower Topa.

فضائیہ کا ہر ایک افسر

فلائٹ کیپٹن یاد عباس

ہماری ملت کا ترجمان ہے ہماری ہمت کا اک نشان ہے
ہماری عزت کا پاساں ہے ہمارا دل ہے ہماری جاں ہے

فضائیہ کا ہر ایک افسر

قوی ارادے ہیں جس کا محور ہر اک بلندی ہے جس سے کم تر
نگہ درخشاں جبین منور وہ شیر دل حصولوں کا پیکر

فضائیہ کا ہر ایک افسر

محافظ سرحد وطن ہے اسی سے تابانی چمن ہے
جوان ہمت، جوان لگن ہے بلند پرواز میں لگن ہے

فضائیہ کا ہر ایک افسر

کمال فن اس پہ آشکارہ جری دلاور، قوی سہارا
شباب بجلی، نظر شرارہ ہمارا سورج، ہمارا تارا

فضائیہ کا ہر ایک افسر

تمام تر وسعتیں مسخر تمام تر عظمتیں نچااور
تمام رعنائیوں کا مصدر ہمارا کیڈٹ ہمارا یادور

فضائیہ کا ہر ایک افسر

فضائیہ کا ہر ایک افسر "شہباز" ۱۹۷۷ء