

NEWSLETTER

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2026

Enlightenment Through Knowledge

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Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar, established in 2005, is the first women's university of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. As the pioneering women's higher education institution in the province, the university is committed to empowering and equipping its students with knowledge, skills, and opportunities that many female learners are often deprived of in co-educational settings.

Education is the cornerstone of progress, development, and empowerment, without which no nation can truly flourish. SBBWUP strongly upholds this belief and strives to provide quality education in a supportive and conducive learning environment. The university aims to nurture students' academic, moral, and professional potential, enabling them to become confident and capable contributors to society. In the years ahead, SBBWUP is poised to achieve far more than initially envisioned, continuing its journey of excellence and growth.

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

Empowering Minds, Shaping Futures



PROFESSOR DR. ANILA ANWAR
VICE CHANCELLOR
SBBWUP

It gives me immense pleasure to present this edition of the Women's University Newsletter, highlighting the achievements and initiatives undertaken between July and September 2026. This edition reflects the dedication, creativity, and collective efforts of our students, faculty, and staff in upholding the University's tradition of academic excellence.

This issue showcases our progress in education, research, professional development, and community engagement through various seminars, sessions, events, and notable achievements. Each initiative reflects our commitment to empowering women through quality education and enabling them to make meaningful contributions to society and its sustainable development.

I extend my sincere appreciation to our academic community for its continued dedication and to the Editorial Team for its efforts in bringing this newsletter to fruition. Let us continue working together with purpose and determination to foster learning, encourage innovation, and create greater opportunities for future generations.

Together, let us advance our vision of excellence, empowerment, and lasting impact.

SESSION/WORKSHOP

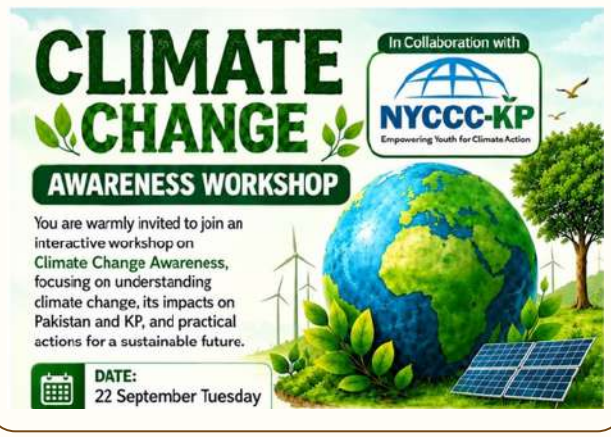
SESSION ON ISLAM, STATE AND WOMEN

On 8 September 2026, the Department of English, SBBWUP, hosted an academic session titled "Islam, State and Women: A Comparative Study of Zia's Islamisation, the Iranian Revolution and Talibanisation in Afghanistan," featuring Advocate Hamza Bin Anees as the guest speaker. The session examined the political and religious contexts of these historical developments, focusing on their implications for women's rights and social status in Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan. Dr. Sadia Nazeer, Head of the Department, lecturers Ms. Salvia Islam and Ms. Amna Zahid, and students attended the session. The discussion encouraged students to critically examine the relationship between state policies, religious interpretations, and women's position in society across different political and cultural contexts.



CLIMATE CHANGE AWARENESS WORKSHOP

On 22 September 2026, the Department of Environmental Sciences and Sustainability, SBBWUP, in collaboration with the Native Youth Club for Climate Change (NYCCC), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chapter, conducted a workshop on climate change. Dr. Sumaira Shah, Lecturer, Department of Microbiology, SBBWUP, served as the guest speaker. The workshop aimed to raise students' awareness of climate change and its environmental impacts, with particular emphasis on Pakistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It also highlighted possible mitigation measures and practical solutions to address this global challenge.



SEMINAR/ACHIEVEMENT

SEMINAR ON UNDERSTANDING FEMINISM

A seminar titled “Understanding Feminism: Resistance, Resilience, and the Reclamation of Women’s Voices” was organized at Abaseen Foundation Degree College, featuring Ms. Salvia Islam and Ms. Zainab Awan as key speakers. The speakers discussed the evolution of feminist thought, the history of women's resistance, and the importance of resilience in challenging patriarchal structures. They also highlighted the role of literature and discourse in reclaiming women's voices and challenging dominant narratives. The seminar concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, during which students actively participated and shared their perspectives. The session provided an informative platform for critical discussion on feminism, gender equality, and women's representation in society.



MS.BIBI ZAINAB AWAN SERVES AS SPEAKER AT DIGITAL MEDIA BOOTCAMP

Bibi Zainab Awan, Lecturer, Department of English, SBBWUP, participated as a speaker at the four-day Digital Media Bootcamp organized by The Natives in collaboration with the Directorate of Youth Affairs, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. She delivered a session on blogging, covering its fundamentals, content creation, and effective strategies for developing and publishing engaging digital content. The session provided participants with valuable insights into digital media and blogging, equipping young learners with practical knowledge and skills to enhance their content creation abilities.



ACHIEVEMENTS

DR. RAHILA BIBI SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Dr. Rahila Bibi, Assistant Professor at SBBWUP, has successfully completed her postdoctoral fellowship at the International Islamic University, Islamabad, under the Islamic Research Institute. Her research, titled "Superstitious Beliefs Among Women in the Nineteenth and Twenty-First Centuries: A Comparative Study," examines the novels of Rashid-un-Nisa and Tahira Iqbal, exploring the representation of superstition across different historical periods. The study highlights the influence of social, cultural, and educational factors on women's beliefs and examines the persistence of superstitious practices in society. This achievement marks a valuable contribution to literary research and reflects the University's commitment to promoting scholarly inquiry and academic excellence.



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS RECEIVE PRIZE AT SEERAH CONFERENCE

Two talented students of the Department of English, Taqwa and Umama, participated in a quiz competition held during the Seerah Conference at SBBWUP. Their participation reflected their enthusiasm for learning and their interest in Islamic history and the life and teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Both students received prizes in recognition of their participation and achievement. The Department of English appreciates their efforts and congratulates them on this accomplishment, wishing them continued success in their academic and extracurricular pursuits.



ACHIEVEMENTS

DR. SYEDA ANEELA MUDASSAR EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITIONFOR EXCELLENCE IN ART AND DESIGN

Dr. Syeda Aneela Mudassar, Assistant Professor, Department of Art & Design, SBBWUP, received recognition for her contributions to art, design, research, and education. She was appointed Convenor of the Creative Visual Art Association, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and a member of the Board of Studies at Hazara University. She also received the Iconic Women National CEO Award 2025 in the Education and Training Leaders category and the AKL Award – Umeed-e-Nau Bahar for participating in the landmark 100-foot painting event at the Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA), Islamabad. Her artistic contributions included exhibiting two needle-felt artworks from the SAM Collection at PNCA and presenting a broken-mirror mosaic interpretation of the Mahabat Khan Mosque wall panel at Herf-e-Tamana: 5th Dosti Peshawar Literature Festival. She also presented her research on bio-hybrid materials for batik at the 1st International Conference on Art, Design and Cultural Heritage in Khanaspur, Galiyat, and completed certified skill-development workshops in mirror mosaic and string art







PAPER PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEXTILE ARTS AND SUSTAINABILITY

In 2026, Dr. Syeda Aneela Mudassar published four research articles on textile arts, sustainable materials, traditional crafts, and women's empowerment. Her publications include "Performance Analysis of Natural–Synthetic Wax Blends in Batik Silk Dyeing" and "Bio-Hybrid Material Innovation for Batik: Thermal Characterization and Phase Behavior of Soya–Paraffin Wax and Beeswax–Paraffin Wax Mixtures" in the Kashmir Journal of Academic Research and Development. She also published "Revival of Wheat Straw Art Marquetry in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa" in the Academia International Journal for Social Sciences and "Textile-Based Social Enterprises: Empowering Women Artisans in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Through Tourism" in the Journal of Current Sign Review. Her research highlights the potential of sustainable textile practices, the preservation of indigenous crafts, and the promotion of women's economic empowerment through creative enterprise.



RESEARCH PUBLICATION IN BMC BIOTECHNOLOGY

Dr. Habiba Begum of the Department of Microbiology, SBBWUP, published a research article titled "Sustainable Valorization of Sugarcane Molasses into Polyhydroxybutyrate by Pseudomonas plecoglossicida MK-6 and Optimization Using Response Surface Methodology" in BMC Biotechnology, a journal with an impact factor of 4.8. The study explores the sustainable use of sugarcane molasses for producing polyhydroxybutyrate, a biodegradable biopolymer, using Pseudomonas plecoglossicida MK-6, alongside process optimization through response surface methodology. This research highlights the potential of agricultural by-products as valuable resources for sustainable biopolymer production. The university congratulates Dr. Habiba Begum on this research achievement and wishes her continued success in her academic and scientific endeavours.