



2nd Anita Ghulam Ali World Teachers' Day Award 2009 for Early Childhood Education



Anita Ghulam Ali World Teachers' Day Award is an initiative of a group of independent educators and citizens of Pakistan who want to honor outstanding teachers, acknowledging them as living legends and icons in education.

Professor Anita Ghulam ali is a living legend par excellence in our country as a teacher and a solid citizen. In 2008 its focus was Science teachers of secondary schools across the country and in 2009 Early Childhood Education (ECE) The award's purpose is to reposition and upgrade the status of teachers in our society recognizing their capabilities and dedicated work. ITA's celebration of World Teachers Day (WTD) on October 5 2008 was an occasion to launch the Anita Ghulam Ali (AGA) Award. In 2009 the AGA WTD Award's theme is Early Childhood Education (ECE) open to all ECE practitioners working across Pakistan's classrooms. Such is the sector wide appeal of Professor Anita Ghulam Ali as a true living legend amongst educators; from ECE to tertiary education.

Anita Ghulam Ali is perceived as Pakistan's most inspiring teacher, committed to the ideas of progress, excellence, and scrupulous honesty, deeply rooted in her soil and context. Her living legacy is 100,000 plus students who are working across the country and the globe who pay homage to her on a daily basis for touching and changing their lives in profound ways. Such is the power of a good teacher who sees her profession as an engagement with life and generations, for whom teaching is synonymous with social and national transformation. The Award is thus timely and well presented. Professor Anita Ghulam Ali, is currently the Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation. An award bearing her name carries messages of courage, quality education and impeccable integrity for the 1.5 million teachers of Pakistan.

- Professor Anita Ghulam Ali is committed to quality education for social change in a mission mode
- A microbiologist, an active promoter of Early Years Learning, a celebrated teacher and an activist for teachers' rights – and rights based quality education as life long learning
- A Legendary educational leader and innovator
- Anita Ghulam Ali, since the '90s, has served twice as the Minister for Education, Sindh and has been the Managing Director of the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF) since its inception in 1992.
- She is known for her intellectual rigor, integrity & unparalleled respect for national diversity

AGA Award: A Civil Society Initiative (by Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi-ITA)

- ITA is working across Pakistan in over 500 schools. It has actively been celebrating World Teachers' Day October 5 as an occasion to research on specific themes, hold social dialogues & produce recommendations for policy makers on teachers' issues and status.
- The AGA Teachers Award is transparent and merit based. It is open to like- minded partners to join the effort, expand the number of awards and institutionalize Public Recognition of Teachers as a national enterprise.
- In 2010 an Endowment of Rs. 1.25 crores will be set up to institutionalize the award. Supporters are welcome to join the endeavour and become members of the Steering Committee.

Eligibility for AGA WTD Award 2009 for Early Childhood Education : All Teachers/Educators of Early Learning, ECE Years: in Government and Private Schools – Formal & Non-Formal Learning Spaces

WHY Early Childhood Education (ECE) IS A FOCUS AREA?

- “The early years are recognized as a vital stage in children’s physical, linguistic, intellectual and emotional development. ECE refers not only to what is happening within the child, but also to the care that child requires in order to thrive.”
- It is widely acknowledged that the effects of what happens during the pre-natal period & during the earliest months and years of a child’s life can last a life time. This is because the kind of early care a child receives from parents, pre-school teachers and caregivers determines how a child learns and relates to school and life in general. It is during early care that a child develops all the key elements of emotional intelligence, confidence, curiosity, purposefulness, self control, connectedness, the capacity to communicate and co-cooperativeness.
- Emotional intelligence is now considered crucial for educational success. Students who have higher level of emotional intelligence are more likely to remain and continue with education
- The early years are also critical for the acquisition of the concepts, skills and attitudes that lay the foundation for lifelong learning. These include the acquisition of language, perception-motor skills required for learning to read and write & basic numeracy concepts and skills.
- Intervening in the earliest years helps to reduce the social & economic disparities, race and gender inequalities that divide our society.
- By the time children reach age two, their brains contain as many synapses and use up as much energy as the brain of the average adult. The complexity of this development is described by scientist as a magical “dance” which lies at the very heart of every human being and his/her learning process, beginning at birth, and even before. This new understanding of brain development has critical implications for society, and particularly, for educators and the way children are taught. Ref: - National Curriculum for Early Childhood Education 2007: www.moe.gov.pk - The National Education Policy 2009 gives a special place to ECE as a core EFA target

The National Education Policy 2009 has formally accorded an integral position to ECE in primary schools, a core target for the EFA National Plan of Action 2001-1015 for Pakistan. Pakistan’s Ministry of Education has finalized superb quality ECE National Curriculum 2007 through partnerships. The AGA WTD Award 2009 is in recognition of the position accorded to Early Years’ learning at the national level by Professor Anita Ghulam Ali and its promotion across Pakistan through high quality practitioners of ECE.

The AGA WTD Award 2009 for ECE Comprises of :

- 1st (1) Specially crafted and designed Citation Medal/Sheild & Rs.100,000
- 2nd (2) Specially crafted and designed Citation Medal/Sheild & Rs.50,000
- 3rd (4) Specially crafted and designed Citation Medal/Sheild & Rs.25,000
- 4th (3) Specially crafted and designed Citation Medal/Sheild & Rs.15,000

The Winners Are

Core Criteria of Anita Ghulam Ali WTD -ECE Award 2009

Attributes/Criteria IMPORTANT! Concrete Evidence Required – of these expressions with the Form Attached

Professional Excellence & Intellectual Enterprise Classroom Environment : Seating Arrangements, Learning Corners, Material Display); Timetable; Lesson Plans; Assessment Portfolios, Learning Aid Samples; Pictures; to be used extensively

Activism for School ImprovementSpecial Efforts to improve institution : For example: introducing new learning aids, implementing innovative methodologies, improving facilities for cleanliness, water, toilets and light etc. Samples/Pictures

Sacrifice for Quality EducationExample of selfless struggle for quality education which may/may not have been recognized that has changed the lives of students and institutions (Write up/Pictures)

Active Citizenship & Holistic Humanism ; Within class conflict resolution methodology (Describe); Working with Parents (Describe interaction with parents eg mentoring, physical, medical or emotional help, involving in school activities, consulting on dealing with child etc. Provide pictures if possible)

Supporters of the Award

Idara-e-Taleem-Aagahi (ITA) Public Trust, Aga Khan Foundation, Surf Excel UNILIEVER Pakistan, Teachers' Resource Centre, Female Education Trust and \

Eminent Panelists Endorsing the ECE AGA WTD 2009 are:

Ms. Mahnaz Mehmud	TRC (Teachers' Resource Center)
Ms. Amima Sayeed	TRC (Teachers' Resource Center)
Ms. Saima Khalid	Early Years Learning Association (EYLA-PTAN)
Ms. Tayyaba Zarif	Sindh Education Foundation (SEF)
Mr. Rafaqat Ali Akbar	IER (Institute for Education and Research) Univ. Of Punjab
Dr. Sherin Zafarullah	Umeed Publications
Ms. Ayesha Jabbar	Alif Laila Book Bus Society (ALBBS)
Ms. Ghazala Abidi	ALLBS
Ms. Razia Mughal	Institute for Professional Learning (IPL)
Ms. Huma Sikandar	ITA

The award will be presented to the winners on April 06 2010 by:

- Professor Anita Ghulam Ali,
 - Ehsan Malik Chairman Unilever Pakistan and
 - Mehnaz Mahmud Teachers' Resource Resource Centre
- at the Aga Khan University – Institute for Education Development (AKU_IED)

From October 2009 – December 2009 177 entries were received, out of which 10 have been finalized. 40 % of Public Sector schools, 40 % Private Sector schools and 20% community schools. They were rigorously screened and shared with the panelists across the provinces.

The winners are			
Name	Position	School & Address City	Province
Ms. Misbah Rani	1 st	Sanjan Nagar Public Education Trust Higher Secondary School, Lahore	Punjab
Ms. Asma Tabbasum	2 nd	Government New Islamia Primary School Garhi Shahu, Lahore	Punjab
Ms. Almas Begum		The Citizens Foundation Primary School Sheedi Goth Peace Campus, Karachi	Sindh
Ms. Hamida Bibi	3 rd	The Citizens Foundation Primary School Altaf Agha Campus 1 Goth Dhane Bukhsh, Karachi	Sindh
Ms. Ambreen Iqbal		Government Girls High School Nasirabad, Zhob	Balochistan
Ms. Saeeda		The Langlands school and college Nursery/KG Section Balach, Chitral	NWFP
Ms. Rubina Bashir		City District Government Primary School M#2, Lahore	Punjab
Mr. Meraj Ali Khan	4 th	Agha Khan School Khuzh, Chitral	NWFP
Ms. Shehnaz Rashid		CSSP Dodo Kambeer Salar Bin Qasim	Sindh
Ms. Farhat Jabeen		Govt Girls Primary School Harwani Murree	Punjab