



# Pakistan National Council of the Arts

Ministry of Information, Broadcasting & National Heritage Government of Pakistan.

SHAKIR ALI MUSEUM

&

ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION OF PUNJAB

COMMEMORATIVE SHOW 2015

## MASSACRE OF INNOCENTS

## Foreword



**T**his exhibition of art pieces from Pakistan's finest artists is a manifestation of the collective support and love this community feels towards citizens, and will bridge the distance between artists and people at large. Using contemporary media tools, including paintings, the artists hope to demonstrate that the art not only inspires and enriches our mind, but also broadens our thinking horizons that enhances and reinforces our resolve to defend our God-given freedom of thought, and the way we live and work.

After a spate of terror related disasters that have buffeted us for over a decade, this exhibition proves to be a humble attempt at showcasing the "Soft Image" of Pakistan. In a country whose landscape has been blighted by ugly colours of blood and gore, it is indeed a pleasant sight for sore eyes to behold a thing of beauty in a painting, done with masterful strokes and exquisite colours from the Artists of Pakistan.

Artists are more sensitive and look deeper into life, and these feelings they capture in their artistic pursuits. The paintings in this exhibition show in vivid colours not only the anguish, pain and suffering of those affected, but also hope, prayer and bright sunshine after a dark night of terror, and martyrdom.

The task of Artists is to bring back togetherness through their work, to enrich each other and to enrich the opposites, create unity build bridges, not walls.

**Muhammad Neam**

Director General

Pakistan National Council of the Arts

12th May 2015

## Art and Artist



**A**rt from time immemorial has had social significance. Artist was obliged to serve society. It is only in recent times that the artist in the West became disenchanted with the existing world; feels alienated and lost. He recoiled from pervading materialism that only endorsed things having a practical value. As a critic reminds us that the attitude of art for art's sake was essentially the artist's forced response to a social reality he could no longer affirm. Socially alienated artists set about to individually explore new methods, techniques and forms of individual expression for personal satisfaction. The artist's bewilderment with the modern world is not merely revealed and expressed in painting but is also evident in poetry, the theatre and the cinema.

By the beginning of the twentieth century the countries colonized by the Industrial world were venturing into a different direction. The emerging national consciousness encouraged the artist to establish their indigenous identities. Previously the artist had laboured to emulate the technique and forms of European art. Later when the colonies struggled for liberation, nations for democracy and people social and economic justice, the role of the artist acquired an important social significance. Contrary to the artist's of colonised countries, the artists of industrial Europe who ushered the Modern art movement were distancing themselves from the materialist culture and values of their society. They held its art, culture and values accountable for the two Great Wars and their tragic and terrible consequence that visited Europe.

It is ironic that later the demand for "Art for Art's sake" raised to spurn materialist values was usurped by the market forces to legitimize art which bleaches the canvas of all traces of life and image of man.

In the post-colonial world artists are greatly charmed by the imperial 'soft culture'. Throughout the world - east and west - artists are today in the process of unchaining themselves; spitting out the market propagated multi-fangled notions of art; what is art, what it should be, and what actually it should be not. This has lead to endless harangue. In any event art defines and redefines itself, by pursuit by the artist, determined by profound ideas and human needs as perceived and experienced by the artist. tragic

**The Massacre of Innocents** exhibition is a step to beckon some of our creative mind away from their private undertakings. This endeavor should broaden the base and scope of Pakistani painting. The nation has been struck by the massacre of school children at Peshawar. Given the opportunity innumerable artists from different parts of the county have spoken with their brush against the "bloody deed" and expressed their individual feelings in their characteristic style and manner. The Artists' Association of Punjab hopes that the exhibition will contribute in enhancing our humanity and collective awareness to battle the dark forces of terror that invade our homeland; brutally targeting our people, our children and all that is sacred and dear to us. The Association hopes that our artists will enlarge upon the Peshawar tragedy to include the wanton and brutal killing of children in other parts of the planet as well.

**Mian Ijaz ul Hassan**

Chairperson

Artists' Association of Punjab

21st April, 2015

## To Peshawar with Love

**T**he English letter P is both for painting and pain. This link may be coincidental, but it also suggests how the act of painting includes a segment of pain. The engagement with making images, if on the one hand encompasses a continuous striving, at the same instance it demands recognizing the pain of others and to express it in one's creative outputs.

Artists have been delineating sorrow, grief, sufferings and miseries of many through this process of shaping forms on canvases. From the first painter who rendered blood in his work to contemporary artists who are depicting violence in their images, artists are concerned about the distresses in their surroundings and with the agonies of their times.

In our present age the presence of pain is a persistent and prolonged matter both inside and outside of us. Artists from Pakistan – like other sensitive individuals have responded to calamities in our country, especially the massacre at the Army Public School. Today, the choice to work on this subject is – not merely a formal or pictorial endeavour, but it is a conscious decision to take part in the war against terror, bigotry, and all those who inflict narrow views and impose archaic vision through force.

The exhibition is a testimony and document of how artists of Pakistan voiced their anger and showed their courage by defying the darkness and cruelty. The works not only recall that unfortunate day in our history, but these also remind that like painting and pain, Peshawar and Pakistan also share their first letter P. Perhaps all these words – and other words in our hands and on our lips require us to speak and communicate through these images our position, power and pride.

**Quddus Mirza 2015**

## ***Come O Children of Indus***

*Come O children of Indus  
Heed not the amplified din,  
They've erred,  
Stolen your yesterdays,  
Your tomorrows threaten  
With fear  
With guilt,  
To shackle you with controls  
To snatch the gift of life  
God did bequeath.  
Your blood's their elixir  
Your joys their ire  
Your celebrations their profanity.  
Heed not their clarion calls  
For unto them evil is given.  
So build the splendid city  
Take us to the Golden age.*

Sardar Aseff Ahmed Ali

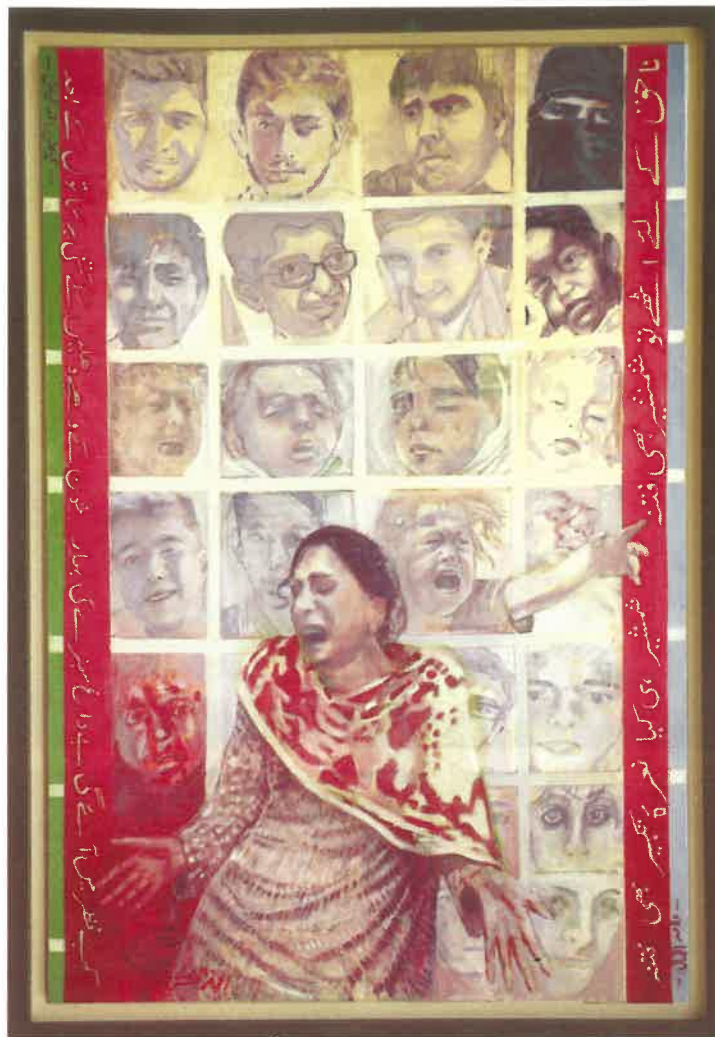
## ***Massacre of Innocents***

The “**Massacre of Innocents**” epitomizes the ability & power of Art that embraces and says which was felt and left unsaid.

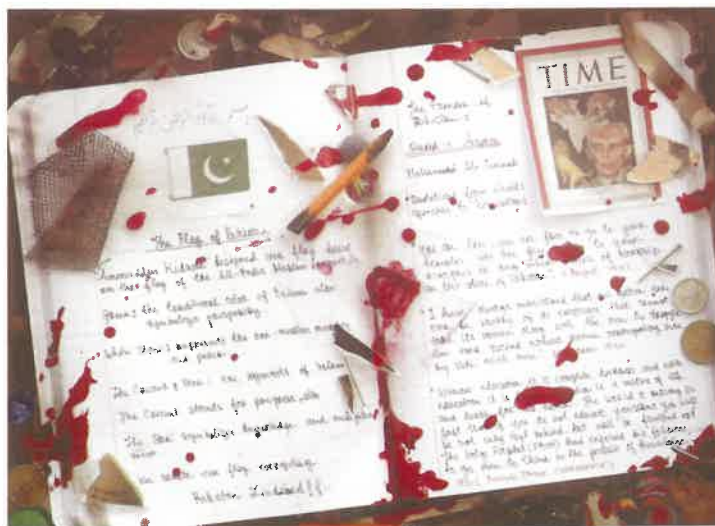
The paintings trace the way in which artists of our country have absorbed the pain of masses and then have effectively displayed the information into artistic vocabulary, which initiates a dialogue.

The sharp invocation of terror and violence depicted in the paintings support the struggle of the nation and charts a path, to hope & fight back confusion.

**Curator/ Amna I. Pataudi**



Mian Ijaz ul Hassan



Tehseen Ali Khan



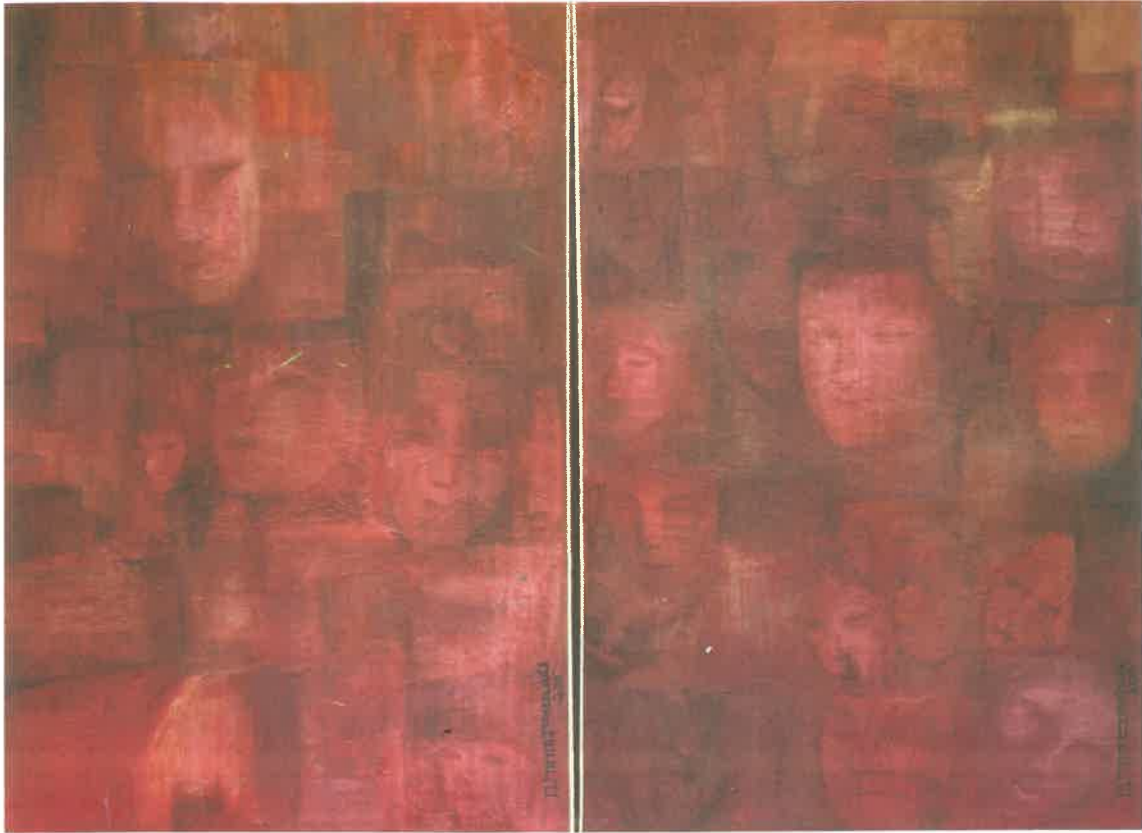
Mian Ijaz ul Hassan



Dr. Rahat Naveed Masood



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Amna I. Pataudi



Kamal Hayat



Qudsia Nisar





Shahnawaz Zaidi



Mehboob Ali



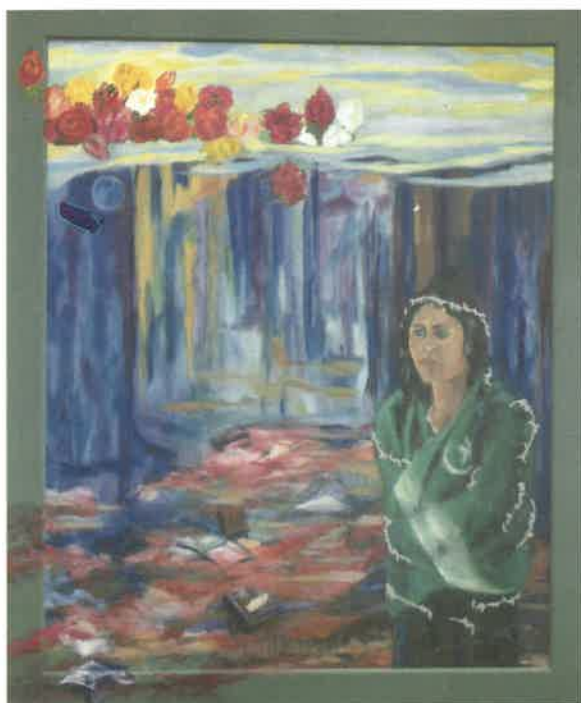
Zulfiqar Ali Zulfi



Ghulam Mustafa



Zareen Ashraf



Shahid Khan Jafri



Wajahat Ali



Shehla Farooq



Aamra Zubair



Uzma Rabbani



Rizwana Shaeen



Rizwan Sandhu



Ayesha Sajid



Shumaila Islam



Mehreen Hussain



Asma Majeed



**Massacre of Innocents (Mural Painting) Conceived and supervised by Dr. Musarrat Hasan**

**Names of Artists:**

1. Aasma Majeed, Assistant Professor.
2. Amber Muneer, PhD Scholar.
3. Aqsa Rehan, Assistant Professor.

4. Dr. Rifaat Dar Head of Department
5. Dr. Sadia Murtaza, Research Scholar.
6. Dr. Samina Naseem, Associate Professor.
7. Farah Khan, Assistant Professor.

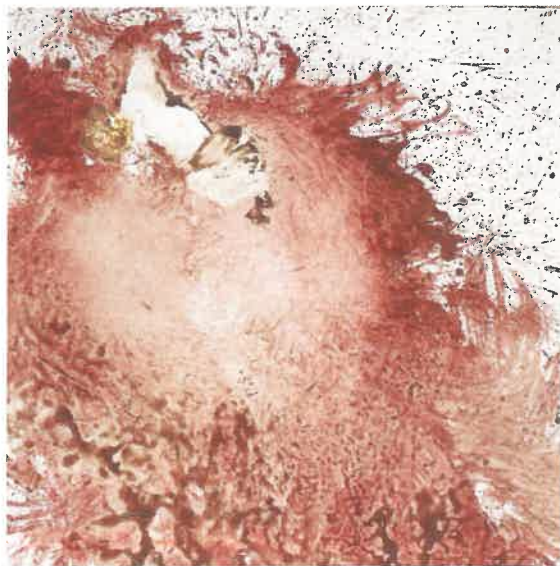


8. Ghazala Anjum Shirazi, Assistant Professor.  
 9. Maryam Baber, Lecturer.  
 10. Nighat Mahboob Associate Professor.  
 11. Rabia Yaseen, Assistant Professor.

12. Rehana Salman, Lecturer.  
 13. Prof. Zammurad Safdar



Unaiza Ismail



Kanwal Tariq



Saima Ashfaq



Aliza Ali



Ali Azmat



Shazia Rathore



Salman Khan



Mubina Zuberi



Habib Alam



Nadeem Shahzad



Zahid Khan



Talat



Zara David



Dr. Shahida Manzoor



Mughees Riaz



Komail Ijaz ud Din



Umer Jamil



Dr. Riffat Dar & Jameel Hussain



Hajra



Nasir Nirwan



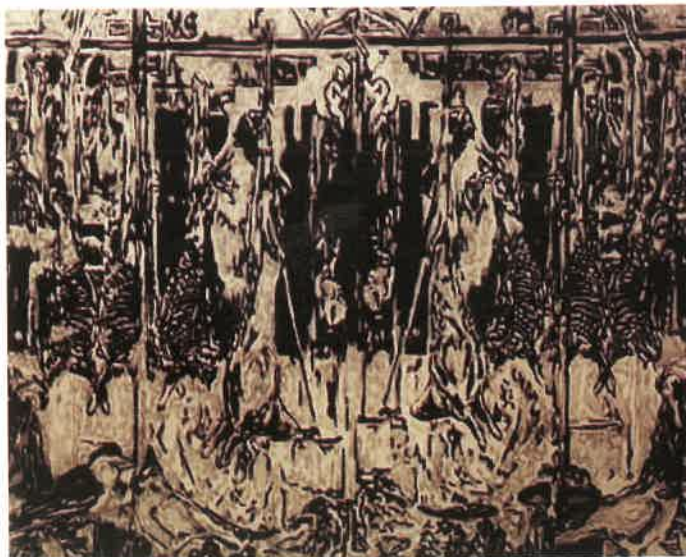
Sana Kazi



Abbas Ali



Dr. Arjumand Faisel



Fareeda



Saher Afzal



Zainab Barlas



Andleeb Rana



Ahmed Waleed Amjad



Hina Shafiq



Sara Riaz Khan



Irfan Ullah Babar



Prof. Zammurad Safdar



Nayyar Ali Dada



#### Whispering Props (Installation):

##### Artist Name:

1. Aisha Saddiqa Assistant Professor, PhD. Scholar, Graphic Designer
2. Rabia Yaseen, Assistant Professor, PhD Scholar, Visual Artists, Gold Medalist in M.A
3. Maryam Baber Lecturer, PhD Scholar, Visual Arts Practitioner, Double Gold Medalist in M.A
4. Sidra Liaqat, Lecturer, Visual Art Practitioner,

## Participants

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mian Ijaz-ul-Hassan    | 45. Aliza Ali             |
| 2. Shahnawaz Zaidi        | 46. Sadia Sikandar Butt   |
| 3. Rahat Naveed Masud     | 47. Mehboob Ali           |
| 4. Dr Mussarrat Hasan     | 48. Zainab Barlas         |
| 5. Mansoor Rahi           | 49. Habib Alam            |
| 6. Hajra Mansoor          | 50. Komal Aijazuddin      |
| 7. Sardar Aseff Ahmed Ali | 51. Ali Azmat             |
| 8. Murtaza Jaffery        | 52. Sumera Jawad          |
| 9. Musarrat Mirza         | 53. Mughees Riaz          |
| 10. Maliha Azmi Agha      | 54. Jehanzeb Malik        |
| 11. Masood Kohari         | 55. Zahid Khan            |
| 12. Nayyer Ali Dada       | 56. Sana Kazi             |
| 13. Dabir Ahmad           | 57. Qudsia Nisar          |
| 14. Quddus Mirza          | 58. Mubina Zuberi         |
| 15. Dr.Shahida Manzoor    | 59. Arjumand Faisal       |
| 16. Amna I Pataudi        | 60. Abbas Ali             |
| 17. Shehla Farooq         | 61. Jameel Hussain        |
| 18. Zaulifqar Ali Zulfi   | 62. Ayesh                 |
| 19. Ghulam Mustafa        | 63. Maryum                |
| 20. Kaleem Khan           | 64. Rabia                 |
| 21. Ameen Gul             | 65. Sidra                 |
| 22. Nasreen Aurangzeb     | 66. Nasir Nirwan          |
| 23. Wajahat Ali           | 67. Sehar Afzal           |
| 24. Talat Dabir           | 68. Asma Majeed,          |
| 25. Zara David            | 69. Amber Muneer,         |
| 26. Mehreen Hussain       | 70. Aqsa Rehan            |
| 27. Ayesha Sajid          | 71. Dr. Riffat Dar        |
| 28. Sehrish Khan          | 72. Dr. Sadia Murtaza,    |
| 29. Hina Shafique         | 73. Nighat Mehboob        |
| 30. Andleeb Rana          | 74. Rabia Yaseen          |
| 31. Salman Khan           | 75. Rehana Salman         |
| 32. Sara Riaz Khan        | 76. Aqsa Rehan            |
| 33. Wardha Umer           | 77. Dr. Sadia Murtaza,    |
| 34. Nadeem Shehzad        | 78. Dr. Samina Naseem     |
| 35. Erum Ashfaq           | 79. Farah Khan            |
| 36. Tehseen Ali Khan      | 80. Ghazala Anjum Sherazi |
| 37. Unaiza Ismail         | 81. Maryam Baber,         |
| 38. Kanwal Tariq          | 82. Nighat Mehboob        |
| 39. Umer Jamil            | 83. Rabia Yaseen          |
| 40. Rizwana Shaheen       | 84. Prof. Zammurad Safdar |
| 41. Erfan Ullah Baber     | 85. Ahmad Waleed Amjad    |
| 42. Saima Ashfaq          |                           |
| 43. Sadia Rathore         |                           |
| 44. Samreen Fatima        |                           |

**Acknowledgments:**

National Collage of Arts, Lahore.

Lahore College for Women University.

**Designed by:** Qazi Ikram ul Haq

**Compiled & Arranged by:** Saima Naz Mudasser, Shakir Ali Museum, Lahore.

**Coordinator:** Shahab Choudhry, Shakir Ali Museum, Lahore.

**Printed by:** Department of Press & Publications, University of the Punjab, Lahore-Pakistan



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