

## Academy hosts interactive session with doyen of Urdu Gulzar Zutshi

Jammu, January 29, 2014

Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture & Languages today hosted an interactive session with prominent poet, author and intellectual Pandit Anand Mohan Gulzar Zutshi Dehelvi under the title of Áik Mulaqaat Gulzar Zutshi Dehelvi Ke Saath. The function was held in the K L Saigal Hall of the Academy here and was attended by a large number of writers, poets and lovers of Urdu language which the 89 year old poet has been nurturing for the last eight decades.



The celebrated poet has the distinction of tirelessly working for Urdu language that brought him in close association, among others, with the first President and first Prime Minister of India, Dr Rajinder Prasad and Jawaharlal Nehru. He has also participated in mushairs alongside with stalwarts like Josh Maliabadi, Jigar Moradabadi, Faiz Ahmad Faiz, Hasrat Mohani and others of their stature. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was among his admirers.

During the interaction, Gulzar Zutshi Dehelvi gave eye witness accounts of his struggle for the promotion and development of Urdu in the post-Partition India. He also recounted his association with Kashmir and the grand mushairas held there as early as 1950s. He spoke in detail about Urdu language and the need to popularize it. Known as the staunch advocate of Urdu language, he said Urdu is the best symbol of national integration and communal harmony. He also spoke about his association with great poets of his time and also answered questions from the audience.

Secretary Academy, Khalid Bashir Ahmad presented a Kashmiri shawl to the eminent poet as a token of love and respect from the institution.

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