

Academy Organises Mushaira's, Music Programmes in Gojri

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As part of its drive to revive cultural activities in the countryside, the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages organized a series of Gojri language programmes in the border districts of Poonch and Rajouri in the past one week. Beginning from Poonch on March, 26 the activities comprised mushaira's, music programmes and short story sessions, which were held at different locations of the twin districts.

The places at which programmes were held during the past one week included Gojjar Hostels, Poonch and Rajouri, Dak Bungalow Surankote, Poonch, and Government High School, Lamberi, Rajouri. The inaugural programmes – Gojri mushaira and short story session, held at Gujjar Hostel, Poonch saw participation of several poets and short story writers. The poetic sitting, presided over by noted Gojri poet, Sikandar Hayat Tariq, was attended by about twenty poets. The short story session was presided over by Khadam Hussain Qamar and had prominent writers like Sikandar Hayat Tariq, KD Maini, Fazal Mushtaq, and K.H. Qamar as participants. The mushaira had, among others, Babu Noor Mohammed Noor, Master Abdul Gani, Jamalud Din, and Lal Hussain Gowhar as participants.

Likewise, a poetic symposia was also organized at Surankote in which several poets like Nazir Qureshi, Riaz Sabir, and Ayaz Ahmad participated. The event was presided over by Nazir Qureshi. The poetic sitting was followed by a short story session in which paper readers like Sheikh Azad Ahmad Azad and Shakeel Ahmad read papers on various shades of Gojri. These poetic sittings and short story sessions were followed by music programmes in which several Gojri artistes participated.

The musical parties, which took part in these music programmes, were led by singers Pradeep Khanna, Mohammed Rafeeq, Noora Mirasi, Master Kartar Chand, Bashir Ahmad Jagal and Ayaz Saif. Addressing the audience, Academy's senior editor, Gojri language, Mohammed Mansha Khaki said that the Academy was committed to holding literary and cultural events in every nook and corner of the state. He assured the public that more and more such events were in the offing. A large number of intellectuals, writers and poets from different parts of Rajouri and Poonch districts participated in these events.
