Academy holds short story recital at Kargil

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In order to promote the art of short story writing in local regional languages, Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, Kargil unit today organized a multilingual composite Mehfil-e-Afsana (Short Story Recital Programme) at Academy Hall, Baroo, Kargil. 10 afsana nigars from different parts of the district participated in the get-together and fascinated the audience with their short story renderings based on varied themes in Balti, Purgi, Shina and Urdu languages.

The Mehfil-e-Afsana was presided over by noted local poet and writer, Haji Muhammad Baqir. The afsana nigars who recited their short stories included Akhone Muhammad Ali Subeor, Kacho Gulzar Hussain Khan, Tsewang Namgyal Yarkeum, Ajaz Hussain Munshi, Muhammad Jawad Jalib, Muhammad Issa Sabiri, Mukhtar Hussain Zahid, Mohammad Abbass Zameer, Kacho Hassan Khan and Akhone Ali Khan.

In his presidential remarks Haji Muhammad Baqir said that in comparison to poetry and research the genre of afsana Nigari in Kargil is still in the infancy adding that it was encouraging to note that the number of writers trying their hands on story writing was going up year after year. Terming the holding of the event as positive and result oriented he praised the efforts of the Academy for providing the much needed, suitable and favorable platform to the budding writers.

Referring to Kesar Saga and Api Tso Story genres Baqir said that story telling has remained an intrinsic component of the age old glorious past of Purig, the ancient Kargil, when stories short as well as long were recited especially during the cold winter nights.

Earlier welcoming the afsana nigars, guests and the audience Academy's Cultural officer, Kargil, Muhammad Ali Tak, said that this literary sitting was aimed at encouraging the art of short story writing in local vernacular languages.

He added that Academy was committed to preservation and promotion of culture, languages and art forms of Kargil and assured the gathering that many such literary events were in the offing.