

In memory of Professor Ahmad Hasan Dani

His Services, Contribution & Achievements

Gul Rahim Khan

It is my honour to enlist and highlight the services and contributions of Late Professor Ahmad Hasan Dani, who recently died on January 26, 2009 at the age of 88 years. He led a very active life and got great fame. His personality is well known in the field of archaeology, art and architecture, history, epigraphy and numismatics. He was a world reputed scholar and there is no need to write about his personality or his work. His services are so longer and contributions are too much that he himself didn't remember and record these figures. It was in the last year (2008) of his life that his wife requested Prof. M. Farooq Swati (Chairman), Department of Archaeology, University of Peshawar to provide her the list of published work of Prof. Ahmad Hasan Dani. The said task was given to me, which was accomplished and provided. It was appreciated and properly acknowledged by Mrs. Dani. Many people have written a lot about him, his contributions and achievements. Similarly his biography and services were greatly highlighted in the many reputed daily newspapers and magazines after his death. In view of his extensive contributions it was not possible to mention here all these things in detailed discussion which need to be published in a book form. Here the author has attempted to compile a complete profile of Late Prof. Ahmad Hasan Dani along with a detailed bibliography of his published work in the form of listed categories described below.

Service Experience

1946-50	Assistant Superintendent of Archaeology, Government of India and Government of Pakistan
1950	Superintendent-in-Charge of Archaeology East Pakistan Circle, Government of Pakistan
1950-62	Associate Professor of History, University of Dhaka
1950-62	Curator, Dhaka Museum, Dacca
1962-71	Professor of Archaeology, University of Peshawar
1971-75	Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
1971-80	Professor of History, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
1972-97	Honorary Director, Centre for the Study of Civilizations of Central Asia, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
1977-85	Director Quaid-i-Azam Memorial Museum, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
1980	Professor Emeritus, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
1992-96	Advisor on Archaeology, Ministry of Culture, Government of Pakistan
1994-98	Chairman, National Fund for Cultural Heritage, Islamabad
1997-2009	Honorary Director, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad

Appointment as Fellow and Visiting Professor

1958-59	Research Fellow, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
1969	Asian Fellow, Australian National University, Canberra
1969	Honorary Fellowship, Royal Asiatic Society of Bangladesh
1974	Visiting Scholar, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA
1977	Visiting Professor, Wisconsin University, Madison, USA
1981	Honorary Fellowship, German Archaeological Institute, Germany
1986	Honorary Fellowship, IsMEO, Rome
1991	Honorary Fellowship, Royal Asiatic Society, UK

Honorary Membership

- 1991 Honorary Citizen, Bukhara
 1991 Honorary Member of "Paivand Society", Tajikistan
 1991 Honorary Life Member, Friends, Rawalpindi
 1993 Honorary life Patron, al-Shifa Trust, Rawalpindi

Honorary Secretary and President

- 1950 General Secretary, Asiatic Society of Pakistan, Dhaka
 1955 President, National Committee for Museums in Pakistan
 1961 President, All Pakistan History Conference, Islamabad
 1968 Vice-President of UNESCO Conference on Kushan Civilization, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
 1970 Chairman, Research Society, University of Peshawar
 1972 Vice-President, UNESCO Conference on Social and Economic Development of Central Asia, Ashkhabad, Tajikistan
 1973 Secretary General, Pakistan History and Culture
 1973 Vice-President, International Association of the Study of Cultures of Central Asia
 1976 Secretary General, Quaid-i-Azam International Congress
 1979 Secretary, International Symposium on Indus Civilization
 1979 Member of the Bureau of International Commission for Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind, UNESCO
 1979 Secretary, Islamic Educational Conference, Islamabad
 1979 President, Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan
 1980 Co-Director Pak-German Team for Ethnological Research in Northern Areas of Pakistan
 1981 First Vice-President, International Association for the Study of the Civilizations in Central Asia, Paris
 1983 Chairman of International Conference on Karakorum Culture, Gilgit Islamabad
 1985 Acting President, UNESCO Conference on Architectural Evolution in the Mediaeval Period of Central Asia, Almaty, Kazakhstan
 1988 President, Pakistan Society of Archaeology and Museums
 1992 President, Pak-Central Asia Friendship Association
 1993-2009 Vice-President, International Scientific Committee, Central Asia

Membership of the Institutions

- 1964-72 Member of the Board of Governors of the Research Society of Pakistan, University of the Punjab
 1966-95 Member of the Board of Governors of Lahore Museum
 1968-70 Member of the Advisory Board of West Pakistan Archives
 1969 Member of UNESCO Expert Committee on the Study of Buddhist Art
 1969 Member of the Central Archive Commission
 1973-80 Chairman, Central Archive and Library Committee
 1970-90 Member, Board of Governors, Peshawar Museum
 1970-90 Member, Board of Governors, Dir Museum
 1974-92 Member, Board of Governors, "Save Mohenjodaro Project"
 1975-78 Member of the Executive Body of the International Council for Mithraic Studies
 1976-90 Member of International Council of Buddhist Studies
 1985-89 Member, Board of Governors of Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO
 1987- Member of the Bureau and International Committee on Integral Study of Silk Roads and Coordinator of its Land Routes

- 1989-93 Member of the Executive Committee and Board of Governors, Quaid-i-Azam Academy, Islamabad

Awards & Medals

- 1944 MEDAL, Banaras Hindu University
 1944 J.K FELLOW, Banaras Hindu University
 1969 SITARA-I-IMTIAZ, Government of Pakistan
 1986 GOLD MEDAL AWARD, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh
 1990 PALMES ACADEMIQUES, French Government
 1992 EZAZ-I-KAMAL, Government of Pakistan
 1993 Honorary Doctorate, Tajikistan University, Dushanbe
 1994 KNIGHT COMMANDER, Government of Italy
 1996 ORDER OF THE MERIT, Government of Germany
 1997 ARISTOTLE SILVER MEDAL, UNESCO
 1998 ORDER NATIONAL DE "LA LEGION D'HONNEUR", with the grade of Chevalier, the highest French civil award, President de la Republique de France
 2000 Hilal-e-Imtiaz, Government of Pakistan
 2004 'Distinguished National Professor' Higher Education Commission, Government of Pakistan

Books & Monographs

- 1956 *Dhaka – A Record of its Changing Fortunes*, 1962 (revised), Dhaka.
 1957 *Bibliography of the Muslim Inscriptions of Bengal – A Historical Study of the Arabic Inscriptions of the Sultans of Bengal down to AD. 1538. Journal of the Asiatic Society of Pakistan*, Vol. II, Dacca
 1960 *Pre-History & Proto-History of Eastern India-including a detailed Account of the Neolithic Cultures of South East Asia*, Calcutta.
 1961 *Muslim Architecture in Bengal – A Thorough Treatment of the History of the Architectural Development of Muslim Bengal*, Dhaka.
 1962 *Buddhist Sculpture in East Pakistan – A short monograph on the Buddhist art in the background of the development of Buddhist Philosophy*, Karachi.
 1963 *Pushkalavati – A short monograph on the rise and fall of this old City in Peshawar Valley*, Peshawar.
 1963 *Indian Paleography – A masterly treatment of the various writing systems in India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Wouth East Asia, in the background of history from the earliest time to 8th century AD*, 1986 (Indian edition), Oxford.
 1964 *Shahbaz Garhi – A short monograph on the city and the famous inscriptions of Ashoka*, Peshawar.
 1964 *Duniya Ki Tahziben (Islam se Peshtar)*, A brief survey of the Old World Civilizations.
 1967 *A Short History of Pakistan – Book 1. A brief authentic account of the history of Pakistan from the earliest time to the coming of the Muslims.* (ed. I.H. Qureshi), 1984 & 1992 (2nd & 3rd ed), Karachi
 1968 *Peshawar, the Historic City of the Frontier*, first detailed History of the City in the Context of Ancient Gandhara, 1994 (2nd edition), Peshawar
 1968 *Archaeological Foundation of History and Other Lectures*, Extension lectures derived in Dhaka Museum, Dacca
 1968 *Gandhara Art of Pakistan*, A Critical Account of the Current Views, Peshawar.
 1970 *Survey of Museum and Archeology in West Pakistan*.
 1973 *Alberuni's Indica, a record of the Cultural History of South-Asia about AD. 1030*, Islamabad.
 1976 *Quaid-i-Azam Mausoleum*, Karachi.
 1978 *The Image of Buddha* (co-authored with other scholars), UNESCO.
 1979 *Kharoshthi Primer*, Lahore Museum, Lahore
 1970-71 *Excavation in the Gomal Valley, Ancient Pakistan*, Vol. V, (11 chapters), Peshawar
 1981 *Islamic Architecture: Thatta*, Islamabad.
 1981 *Quaid-i-Azam and Pakistan*, Islamabad.
 1982 *Karakorum Highway Unravels the Romance of the Past*, Islamabad.

- 1983 *Human Records on Karakorum Highway*, Islamabad.
 1983 *Chilas, The City of Nangaparvat (Dyamir)*, Islamabad.
 1983 *Guide to Karakorum Highway*, Islamabad.
 1986 *The Historic City of Taxila* (by UNESCO), Lahore.
 1988 *Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Pakistan*, UNESCO.
 1989 *Islamic Architecture: The Wooden Style of Northern Pakistan*, Islamabad.
 1989 *Sacred Rock of Hunza*, Islamabad.
 1989 *History of Northern Areas of Pakistan*, Islamabad.
 1990 *Introduction to the History of the Greeks in Pakistan and Afghanistan*, Lahore.
 1990 *Perspectives of Pakistan*, by National Institute of Pakistan Studies, Islamabad.
 1990 *L'art Buthique* (co-author), UNESCO Publications, Paris.
 1991 *Bactrian & Indus Greeks: Romantic Story from Coins*, Islamabad.
 1991 *Rediscovery of the Civilizations of Central Asia*, Islamabad.
 1992 *Gandhara Art in Pakistan*, Islamabad.
 1993 *New Light on Central Asia*, Lahore.
 1996 *Central Asia Today*, Lahore.
 1996 *Timur's Legacy*, Pakistan Academy of Letters, Islamabad.
 1997 *Romance of Khyber Pass*, (Revised.), Lahore.
 2000 *A Short Guide to Taxila*, Islamabad.

Articles

- 1950 Hariyupiya in the Rigveda, *Varendra Research Society's Monograph*, No. 8, Rajshahi, pp. 17-24.
 1950 A Mughal Mosque at Egarasindur, *Varendra Research Society's Monograph*, No. 8, Rajshahi pp. 34-35.
 1951 Early Muslim Contact with Bengal, *Proceedings of the Pakistan History of Conference*, First Session. Karachi
 1951 Scheme for the Development of Dacca Museum, *The Museums Journal*, vol. II, Nos. 1-2, Peshawar, pp. 41-46.
 1952 The House of Raja Ganesha of Bengal – A Chapter in the Muslim History of Bengal, *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, Calcutta.
 1952 Terracotta Art of Bengal, *The Museums Journal*, Vol. III, Special Number, Peshawar, pp. 15-22.
 1952 A Specimen of Calligraphy in the Dacca Museum, *The Museums Journal*, Vol. IV, No. 1, Peshawar, pp. 28-31.
 1952 Ideals of Bengali Islamic architecture, *The Museum Journal*, Vol. IV, No. 1, Peshawar, pp. 37-46.
 1952 Baldha Museum Dacca, *The Museums Journal*, Vol. IV, No. 1, Peshawar, pp. 53-62.
 1952 Report on the Working of Dacca Museum, *The Museums Journal*, Vol. IV, No. 2, Peshawar, pp. 62-74.
 1952 Ram Mala Museum, Comilla, *The Museum Journal*, Vol. IV, No. 2, Peshawar, pp. 75-80.
 1952 Annual Report of the Baldha Museum and Garden for the year 1952, *The Museums Journal*, Vol. IV, No. 2, Peshawar, pp. 76-80.
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 1953 Ornamentation in Bengali Muslim Monuments, *The Museums Journal*, Vol. V, Lahore.
 1953 Harappa Culture and Recent Discoveries, *The Museums Journal*, Vol. V, Nos. 1-2, Peshawar, pp. 34-38.
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 1956 Contribution to the New Edition of *Encyclopedia of Islam*, 1955-60 on "Bangala", "Dacca", "Chatagaon", "Gaur".

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- 1956 Shamsuddin Ilyas Shah, Shah-i-Bangala, *Sir Jadunath Sarkar Commemoration Volume*, Hoshiarpur.
- 1956 Alberuni's Knowledge of Sanskrit, *Journal of Pakistan Historical Society*, Karachi.
- 1957 Learn Through Museum, *The Museum Journal*, Vol. X, No. 1, Peshawar, pp. 26-30.
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- 1964 Ramagupta Problem – A New Solution, *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, Vol. XXVI, Part-1, Varanasi, pp. 11-14.
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- 1966 A New Grave Complex in West Pakistan, *Asian Perspectives*, Vol. IX, Bangkok.
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- 1966 Our Heritage in Muslim Architecture, *Proceedings and Papers of the Second National Seminar on Muslim Architecture*, Rawalpindi.
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- 1966 Prehistoric Pakistan, *Studies in Prehistory* (R. Bruce Foote Memorial Volume), ed. Sen & Gosh, Calcutta, pp. 72-76.

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- 1968-69 Excavation at Andandheri, *Ancient Pakistan*, Vol. IV, Peshawar, pp. 33-64.
- 1968-69 Excavation at Chatpat, *Ancient Pakistan*, Vol. IV, Peshawar, pp. 65-102.
- 1968-69 Buddhist Rock Carving in Dir, *Ancient Pakistan*, Vol. IV, Peshawar, pp. 251-57.
- 1969 Kushana Civilization in Pakistan, *The Journal of the Asiatic Society of Pakistan*, Vol. XIV, No. 1, Dacca, pp. 1-20.
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- 1973 The Enigma of the Indus Writing, *The Currier*, UNESCO.
- 1974 Islam and Regional Cultures in Pakistan, *Scrutiny*, Journal of the Development of Pakistan Studies, Vol. 1, No. 2, July-December.
- 1974 Role of Nomadic Tribes in Pakistan, *A Record of Papers on UNESCO International Seminar on the Role of Nomadic Peoples in the Civilizations of Central Asia*, Ulan Bator
- 1974 Inter-relation of Iran and Pakistan: A New Archaeological Perspective, *Proceedings of the 34th Annual Symposium on Archaeological Research in Iran*, Tehran.
- 1975 Origins of Bronze Age Culture in Indus Basin (A Geographical Perspective), *Expedition*, Philadelphia.
- 1975 Amir Khusrau's Influence on Contemporary Culture, *Amir Khusrau Critical Studies*, Karachi.
- 1976 Pakistan's Oldest Civilization, *Hemisphere*, Canberra.
- 1976-77 Pakistan's Historical Heritage, *Panorama*, Vol. XXVIII, No. 17, Karachi, pp. 34-36.
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- 1978 Maithraism and Maitreya, *Etudes Mithriaques*, Vol. IV, Leiden.
- 1978 The Pathan Society: A Case Study of a Traditional Society, its disintegration and the Process of Modernization, *Journal of Central Asia*, Vol. I, No.1, Islamabad, pp. 47-68.
- 1978 Alberuni and the City of Lahore, *Journal of Central Asia*, Vol. I, No. 2, Islamabad, pp. 81-86.
- 1978 Architectural Heritage and Humanism in Islam, *Scrutiny*, Journal of the Development of Pakistan Studies, Vol. IV, No. 3.
- 1978 A Kushana Kharoshthi Inscription from North Waziristan dated in the Year 39, *Studies in South Asian Culture: Paranavittana Commemoration Volume*, ed. V.L. de Leeuw, Leiden.
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- 1978 Gandhara Grave Culture and the Aryan Problem, *Journal of Central Asia*, Vol. I, No. 1, Islamabad pp. 42-56.
- 1979 Iqbal's Views on Nation and Millet, *Journal of Pakistan Studies*, Vol. I, No. 1.
- 1979 Buddhists in Sind as given in the Chachnamah, *Journal of Central Asia*, Vol. II, No. 1, July, Islamabad, pp. 25-38.
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- 1980 North West Frontier Burial Rites in their wider Archaeological Setting, *Asian and Pacific Archaeology*, No. 9. *The Diffusion of Material Culture*, ed. H.E. Loofs-Wissow, Manoa.
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- 1981 Two Kushana Inscriptions from Cambellpur District, *Journal of Central Asia*, Vol. IV, No. 2, Islamabad, pp. 37-50.
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- 1984 In Memorium – Professor Dr. Johanna Engelberta Van Lohuizen De Leeuw (1919-83), *Journal of Central Asia*, Vol. VII, No. 2, Islamabad, pp. 181-84.
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- 1965-66 W.A. Fairwervis – Archaeological Surveys in the Zhob and Loralai Districts, *Ancient Pakistan*, Vol. II, Peshawar, p. 228.
- 1965-66 J.M. Casal – Fouilles de Mundigak, *Ancient Pakistan*, Vol. II, Peshawar, pp. 229-30.
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Editorship

Year	Editor	Publication
1951-52 & 1957-58	Member of the Editorial Board	<i>The Museums Journal</i> , The Organ of the Museum Association of Pakistan, Peshawar.
1952-53	Editor	<i>The Museums Journal</i> , The Organ of the Museums Association of Pakistan, Peshawar.
1955-62	Managing Editor	<i>Journal of the Asiatic Society of Pakistan</i> , Dhaka.
1964-72	Editor	<i>Ancient Pakistan: Bulletin of the Department of Archaeology</i> , University of Peshawar, Vols. I - V (5 volumes), Peshawar.
1964-76	Member of the board of editors	<i>Asian Perspectives</i> (Bulletin of the Far Eastern Pre-History Association), Hawaii.
1968-71	Chief Editor	<i>University News Letter of the Peshawar University</i> , Peshawar.
1969-78	Member of the Advisory Board of Editors	<i>World Archaeology</i> (Journal), London.
1970-79	Contributing Editor	<i>Numismatic Literature</i> , The American Numismatic Society, New York
1975	Editor	<i>Proceedings of the First Congress of Pakistan History and Culture</i> , Vol. I, Islamabad.

1974	Editor	<i>Proceedings of the First Congress of Pakistan History and Culture</i> , Vol. II, Islamabad.
1976	Editor	Qiran-us-Saidain of Amir Khusrau, published by Pak-Iran Centre of Persian Studies, Islamabad.
1976-95	Member of the Editorial Board of Editors	<i>Central Asian History</i> , Oxford
1978 to 2008	Editor-in-Chief	<i>Journal of Central Asia</i> , Vols. Vol. I – XXX (30 volumes), Islamabad.
1982	Editor	<i>History of the Civilizations of Central Asia, Vol. I, The Dawn of Civilization: Earliest times to 700 BC.</i> (with V.M. Masson), Delhi.
1979 & 1986 (2 nd ed)	Editor	<i>World Scholars on Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah</i> , Islamabad
1983-93	Co-Editor	Scientific & Cultural History of Mankind, Vol. I, UNESCO.
1990-95	Editor	Scientific & Cultural History of Mankind, Vol. II, UNESCO.
1981	Editor	Founding Fathers of Pakistan, Islamabad.
1981	Editor	Quid-i-Azam and Pakistan, Islamabad.
1981	Editor	<i>Indus Civilization: New Perspectives</i> (Papers submitted at the International Seminar held in Karachi in 1978-79), Islamabad
1987	Editor	Shah Rais Khan's History of Gilgit, Islamabad.
1991	Editor	Rediscovery of the Civilization of Central Asia (with A.A. Askarov & S.P. Gubin)
1996	Editor	History of Humanity, Volume III, from the 3 rd millennium to the 7 th century BC. (with J.P. Mohen), New York.

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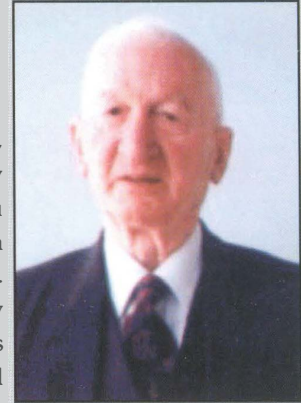
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Professor Ahmad Hasan Dani (Basna 1920 Islamabad 2009)

A legendary Archaeologist, Linguist, Historian



Professor Ahmad Hasan Dani a well-known archaeologist, linguist, historian, intellectual, researcher and scholar- was born on June 20, 1920 at Basna, India. After receiving his early education at Nagpur (India), Dani got his Master of Arts degree, in 1944, from Banaras Hindu University with distinction and became the first Muslim graduate to get Gold Medal. Although he qualified for teaching at the same University but being a Muslim he was not allowed. After staying for six months at Banaras Hindu University, he joined the Archaeological Survey of India in 1945 as a trainee under the supervision of Sir Mortimer Wheeler. Later on he got his Ph D from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, UK. Dani married Ms. Safiya Sultana in 1949 and had three sons (Anis, Navaid and Junaid) and a daughter (Fauzia Iqbal).

Dr. A.H. Dani was a versatile archaeologist who exhibited his potentials and talent in various disciplines of Central and South Asian Archaeology including prehistory, Bronze Age, history, literature, art, architecture, paleography, rock art etc and received great fame in the scholarly world. Being a linguist, he had command on about 35 different local and international languages. After the partition of India, Dani came to East Pakistan and worked as Assistant Superintendent in the Department of Archaeology. From 1950 to 1962, he worked as Associate Professor of History at the University of Dhaka and as curator at Dhaka Museum. Dani joined the University of Peshawar in 1962 as a Professor on the request of Chaudhry Muhammad Ali, then the Vice Chancellor. After establishing the Department of Archaeology at the University of Peshawar, he carried out stupendous archaeological research in the then North-West Frontier Province (now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa). While conducting explorations in the heart of ancient Gandhara, Dani in 1963 discovered the famous prehistoric site of Sanghao Cave in District Mardan, which brought fame to the University of Peshawar all over the world. While investigating Shaikhan Dheri at Charsadda in 1963-64, he unearthed the glorious past of ancient Pushkalavati and the Gandhara Art of Pakistan. Subsequently, Dani initiated work on ancient cemeteries at Timergarha, Thana, Balambat etc and unfolded the Gandhara Grave Culture of Pakistan that filled the lacuna between the Indus Civilisation and the emergence of the early historic period of South Asia. Keeping the archaeological and historical significance of Dir district in view, he carried out excavations at Andan Dheri, Chatpat and Damkot, and established Dir Museum at Chakdara. In quest of the Indus Civilisation, Dani conducted explorations and excavations on the Gomal Plain where he discovered the first planned urban centre of South Asia known as Rehman Dheri, and excavated Hathala and Gumla. The archaeological evidences, recovered by Dani from the Gomal Plain strengthened the concept of indigenous development of the Indus Civilisation. Dani joined Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad (former University of Islamabad) in 1971 as Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences where he worked on various positions until his retirement in 1980, after which he became Emeritus Professor. From 1997 till his death in 2009, he remained Honorary Director of the Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations. Dani dedicated his whole life to promote the Archaeology of Pakistan and was honoured with several national and international awards including Sitara-e-Imtiaz, Aizaz-e-Kamal, Hilal-e-Imtiaz and Distinguished National Professor from the Government of Pakistan, and Palmes Academiques, Government of France; Knight Commander, Government of Italy; Order of the Merit, Government of Germany and Aristotle Silver Medal, UNESCO in recognition of his contributions and achievements. In his long career, Dani remained associated with a number of foreign Universities such as Research Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London; Asian Fellow at the Australian National University, Canberra; visiting scholar at University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia; Visiting Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison etc.

Dani authored dozens of books on the history, art and architecture, archaeology and cultures of Pakistan, which not only aroused interest of the scholarly world and general masses alike but also presented a good image of the country. He added to his name numerous research articles in journals of national and international fame. His pioneer work in diverse fields, undoubtedly, laid the foundations of archaeological research in Pakistan and it will keep him alive for ever.

Owing to old age, Dani faced several medical problems like heart, kidney and diabetes that deteriorated his health day by day. He was admitted in PIMS, Islamabad on 22nd January 2009 where he died on 26th January 2009 at the age of 88 years. May his soul rest in peace and tranquillity for ever (Aamin).

The Editors