

*Commemoration of 106th
Birth Anniversary of
Saeen G. M. Syed*



"Man's material and spiritual development is not possible without creating a spirit of universal peace and tolerance. For this, the land of Sindh has an exemplary message: a truly generous respect for mankind. Our venerable ancestors and great saints regarded it as real worship and, for centuries, our people have been a living, proof of the truth and success of this message."

– Saeen G M Syed

Saturday, January 16th, 2010

Place: La Sani Restaurant & Banquet Hall
9621 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77036
Phone: (713) 270-4040
Date: Saturday, January 16th, 2010
Time: 6:00 PM (Sharp) - 12:00 AM
Program Chair: Syed Zia Shah - G. M. Syed Memorial Committee
Invited Speakers: Dr. David Cook, Fayaz Shaikh, Natasha Raheja, Abdul Haq Chang, and Ahmar Mastikhan.

Speeches, Cake Cutting, Music & Dinner

This event is free and is open to all ages.

Organizing Committee:

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About the G. M. Syed Memorial Committee is a Houston, TX-based educational group organized to promote G. M. Syed's message of non-violence, democracy, secularism and the right to self-determination for Sindhis and other oppressed nations within the international community. For more information, visit <http://www.gmsyed.org>.

Co-sponsor: World Sindhi Congress
<http://WorldSindhiCongress.Org>

Speaker and Music Session Information On the 106th Birth Anniversary of Saen G. M. Syed, Houston, TX, January 16th, 2010.

Abdul Haque Chang is a Fulbright scholar and a PhD Student at the Department of Anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin. He has done masters in anthropology and did research work on 'Shah Jo Raag' (the music of Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai) a Sindhi Sufi poet of the 18th century. Mr. Chang is recipient of FAME (Feroze Ahmed Memorial Fund) scholarship from Sindhi Association of North America in 2000. He has written several papers on the historiography of Sindh. His area of work is colonial and post-colonial history of Sindh, issue of water crisis in Indus Basin, politics in contemporary Sindh and Sufism. He has also taught at the center of Excellence in Arts and Design, Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, Jamshoro, Sindh. Topic of his speech is "G M Syed's Concept of Sindh and Sindhiyat."



Dr David Cook is an Associate Professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the Rice University, Houston, TX. Dr. Cook's interests include the study of early Islam, Muslim apocalyptic literature and movements for radical social change, dreams, historical astronomy, Judeo-Arabic literature and West African Islam. Dr Cook will be speaking on "The Pakistani/Indian Muslim Heritage: from Sufism to Radical Islam."

Natasha Raheja is currently an MA student in the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Her thesis research attempts to problematize differences in the Sindhi community that are constructed on religious difference. At present she is focusing on identity building in the Sindhi Hindu community in India.



Fayaz Shaikh is a PhD candidate at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta. Fayaz is an active contributor to Sindhi forums on the issues of Sindhi literature, culture, and heritage. His presentation will explore how the Sindhi heritage with its universal and humanitarian ethos can play its role in multiculturalism and how the Sindhi Diaspora can retain its culture and yet be the part of the "global campaign."

Ahmar Mustikhan is a veteran Baluch journalist who had worked for Dawn, The News, Khaleej Times and The Gazette -- affiliated with the Washington Post. He is founder of the pro-independence American Friends of Baluchistan and is now a citizen journalist for NowPublic and Newsvine.



Syed Zia Shah is the founder and chairman of the G M Syed Memorial Committee. Dr Shah is a grandson of Saen G M Syed and has been active in promoting the message of peace and freedom of Saen G M Syed through various platforms.

Sindhi Soul Music Session

After dinner at 9:00 pm to 12:00 am

A renowned artist from Sindh will accompany local Houston artists and perform Sindhi Kalam.

