



WORLD SINDHI CONGRESS

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Information Secretary Ali Memon

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WSC PAID RICH TRIBUTES TO SAEEN G. M. SYED TO MARK THE GREAT LEADER'S 105TH BIRTHDAY

London (UK): World Sindhi Congress celebrated Saeen G.M. Sayed's 105th birthday in England, Scotland and USA on Saturday 17th January 2009.

In England the ceremony was held in London. It was attended by many people from all over England. After the recitation of Sindh national anthem, the participants cut the 105th Birthday Cake, led by the office bearers of WSC. A sumptuous lunch was also served. Then followed the speeches session.

Dr Lakhu Luhana, the General Secretary of World Sindhi Congress reminded the audience of the importance of celebrating Saeen G.M. Sayed's birthday and indeed the days of our heroes and heroines. He said we celebrate Saeen's birthday to reiterate our belief in ourselves, to remind us and the rest of the world of our nationhood. He said Sayed gave his whole life and liberty fighting the case of Sindh. He even died under police custody in hospital. Sayed wanted to fight the case of Sindh in a law court, but the Pakistan establishment did not allow it. They had been filing cases against Sayed, but no hearing was allowed to take place. Sayed was not only a political leader, but a writer and a philosopher, who wrote extensively on the issues pertaining Sindh and Sindhi society.

Paying rich tributes to Saeen G.M. Sayed, Dr Hidayat Bhutto, UK and Europe Organiser of WSC said that Sayed was the life long Chairman of WSC. He said Saeen was amongst the first ones to speak publicly against religious fundamentalism in his book "Jeean Ditho Ahe Moon" (As I've seen it), which was banned in Pakistan. Sayed celebrated the life and achievements of Sindhi heroes. He was again the first one to declare Raja Dahir as the first martyr of Sindh, who gave his life fighting against Mohammed Bin Quasim. He said Sayed gave us the lesson of nationhood. Pakistani constitution does accept the Sindh, Pakhtunkhwa, Balouchistan and Punjab as the constituent nations. Therefore, we should demand that the above should be recognised as such constitutionally.

Dr Rubina Shaikh of WSC said G.M. Sayed gave us 2 key messages: nationalism and nationhood. She said we are at a critical juncture of our history. Freedom of Sindhi

nation is the only way of survival. We should communicate Sayed's message and the case of Sindh to the world community through international lobbying.

Sadiq Bhambhro, a researcher at a local university, said Saeen' message is great inspiration for all of us in these critical times.

Suraiya Makhdoom, Senior Vice-Chair of WSC, who moderated the session, said Sayed was one of those rare Sindhi heroes who never compromised on the interests of Sindh. He fought for the separation of Sindh from Bombay Presidency and achieved the same in 1936. Late on, he fought tooth and nail against the One Unit and other atrocities. Sayed spent most of his life in Post Pakistan era in imprisonment and house arrest. But what ever little free time he had out of detention, he devoted it to the various causes of Sindh. He was instrumental in establishing the University of Sindh and Sindhi Adabi Board. Sayed has written many books on various aspects of Sindh. She said we should vow on this day to read at least Sayed's one book a year.

In Scotland, the ceremony was held in Hawick and was led by Ali Memon, the Information Secretary of World Sindhi Congress. It was attended by many enthusiastic lovers of Sayed's message in Scotland. Food was served and there was a cake cutting ceremony. In their speeches and live discussion, the participants paid rich tributes to Sayed and spoke on various aspects of his life and works.

About the World Sindhi Congress (WSC) - WSC is a human rights advocacy organization based in the UK and USA. It aims to create a better understanding among the international community about the persecuted status of Sindhis in Pakistan and about Sindhi people's struggles for their human rights, including the right to self-determination. In addition, WSC strives to create an association of Sindhis around the world. WSC is a registered company in England and Wales, UK and California, USA, organized to carry out non-profit activities only.