

## Shab-e-Firaq

Literary society's first event for the year was the annual urdu play titled ' Shab-e-Firaq. The objective was to celebrate and honor our folk tales and culture and what better way to do it than with the ever popular and loved folk tales of Heer Ranjha and Umar Marvi; tales about love and sacrifice presented through an enthralling theatrical performance.

The event was scheduled earlier for 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014, but however due to the horrific peshawar tragedy on 16<sup>th</sup> December the event postponed to 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 as a sign of respect and solidarity. Pulling off a postponed event is no easy feat but the literary society managed to do it greatly. The event was received by a full house and it kicked off with Heer Ranjha as the first play. It was dramatic and romantic to its best from Heer and Ranjha proclaiming their love for each other up to their deaths in the name of love due the evil Chacha Ji who received a lot of applause for his wonderful performance.

It was followed by Umar Marvi , another tragic tale of love and loss. Khet and Marvi were two lovers destined for each other since birth but they were separated by a jealous and scheming man known as Phog. The audience witnessed the clever scheming of Phog, the agony of Marvi and the slap on Umer's face that resonated throughout the auditorium. The audience was engrossed throughout the whole event; cheering the slap on Umar's face and laughing when he finds out Marvi is his sister.

Our esteemed guest at the event was Shahzad Malik, an actor of popular drama serials and manager of Sindh bank Nazimabad branch. He seemed to be utterly delighted to watch the re-enactment of the plays with such enthusiasm and perfection. During his address to IBA Students, Mr. Shahzad said that with all the frustration and stress that has engulfed the youth of today, it is significant for the elders to encourage and train the youth to take part in extracurricular activities that will broaden their horizons and give them exposure to the diversity of life. His words were intended to inspire the audience and encourage participation of youth in literature.

Refreshments were served to the audience at the end of the event and the event ended on a great note with them appreciating the performances and efforts put into the event.