



December 18, 2025

IUST Organises International Seminar on World Arabic Language Day

Awantipora, December 18: The Department of Arabic, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Awantipora, organised a one-day International Seminar to mark World Arabic Language Day, in line with the UNESCO theme “Innovative Pathways for Arabic Policies and Practices for a More Inclusive Linguistic Future.”

Prof. Abdul Haq Bilabid, University of Qatar, delivered the keynote address, while Prof. A. H. Moon, Dean Academic Affairs, was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session. The seminar, coordinated by Dr. Irfani Rahim and Dr. Inayat Rasool, witnessed active participation from faculty members, university officials, scholars, students, and staff.

In his address titled “The Arabic Language and Education for Sustainability,” Prof. Abdul Haq Bilabid emphasised aligning Arabic language education with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Elaborating on SDG 4 (Quality Education), he highlighted Arabic’s contribution to inclusive, multilingual, and value-based education through its rich literary, scientific, and philosophical heritage. He also linked Arabic education to poverty reduction by emphasising access to global academic, cultural, and employment opportunities through proficiency in the language. Prof. Bilabid further discussed SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), stressing the role of Arabic in fostering international academic collaborations, translation initiatives, and intercultural dialogue.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. A. H. Moon emphasised the integration of technology, digital tools, and innovative pedagogical practices for the promotion and preservation of Arabic in the modern era. Abdul Wahid Sheikh, Head, Department of Arabic, outlined the objectives of celebrating World Arabic Language Day and underscored the global significance of Arabic as a language of knowledge, culture, and civilisation.

Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, highlighted the rich legacy of Arabic and offered valuable suggestions for its preservation and wider dissemination in contemporary academic spaces. Dr. Abdul Majeed Andrabi, Former Head, Department of Arabic, presented special remarks on the sustained efforts required for the promotion and expansion of the Arabic language.

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