



NEWSLETTER

VICE CHANCELLOR MEETS NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT & CHANCELLOR OF AJK

Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, Women University of AJK, Bagh, met with the newly elected President of Azad Jammu & Kashmir and Chancellor of public sector universities, Dr. Najeeb Naqi, and congratulated him on his election.

The Vice Chancellor expressed hope for the continued progress of universities in the State, particularly WUAJK. The President/Chancellor appreciated the University's efforts in promoting female education and empowerment and assured his support for the advancement of higher education. The Vice Chancellor was accompanied by Dr. Muhammad Mushtaq, Registrar, and Sahibzada Muhammad Zahid, Treasurer.

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Women University of AJK Bagh Earns Global Recognition in THE Impact Rankings 2026

Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Bagh has achieved a notable position in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2026, reflecting its growing contribution to quality education, research, gender equality, and sustainable development.

The University ranked among the Top 401–600 universities worldwide, 5th in Pakistan (shared position), and 1st in Azad Jammu & Kashmir (shared position). WUAJK also achieved strong global positions in several UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Top 90 for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), 101–200 for SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and 201–300 for SDG 13 (Climate Action).

The achievement reflects the collective efforts of the University's faculty, researchers, students, staff, and alumni in advancing academic excellence, research, innovation, and sustainable development.



WUAJK Leadership Participates in HEC–NAHE Strategic Planning and Leadership Workshop

The leadership of the Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, participated in a three-day leadership workshop titled Strategic Planning and Leadership Excellence, organized by the National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE), Higher Education Commission (HEC).



The workshop commenced on August 18, 2026, and concluded on August 20, 2026, at the National Institute of Banking and Finance (NIBAF), Islamabad. The three-day program brought together Vice Chancellors, Pro-Vice Chancellors, Deans, and senior leadership from public-sector universities of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), along with representatives from women universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and the Rawalpindi region.



The workshop provided a valuable platform for university leaders to engage in discussions on strategic planning, institutional leadership, governance, organizational development, and emerging challenges in higher education. The participation of WUAJK's leadership reflected the University's commitment to strengthening institutional capacity, adopting effective leadership practices, and aligning its strategic priorities with evolving national higher education standards.



Vice Chancellor Participates in Shari'ah Academy Council Meeting

Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, participated in a meeting of the Shari'ah Academy Council, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI), held at the Dr. Hussain Hamid Hassan Seminar Room, Shari'ah Academy, Faisal Masjid Campus, Islamabad.

Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal is a member of the Shari'ah Academy Council. The meeting brought together distinguished members of the Council and was chaired by the President/Acting Rector of the International Islamic University Islamabad.



Higher Education Leaders Convene at Air University

A monthly meeting of Vice Chancellors and Rectors of federal universities and higher education institutions in Islamabad and Rawalpindi was held at Air University, Islamabad, bringing together senior academic leaders to discuss key priorities and emerging challenges in higher education.



Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, participated in the meeting alongside other university leaders. Chairman HEC Pakistan, Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, attended as Chief Guest along with senior HEC officials. The discussions focused on quality education, research and innovation, Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies, entrepreneurship, quality assurance, institutional governance, and university-industry collaboration.



Women University of AJK Bagh and NUMS Explore Academic Linkages

Discussions on strengthening academic collaboration and exploring opportunities in allied health education took place during a meeting between Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, and Lt Gen Wasim Alamgir, HI(M) (Retd.), Vice Chance-



llor, National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS). The meeting focused particularly on accreditation and recognition pathways for Allied Health Professionals, including Psychologists, as well as potential areas for strengthening institutional linkages between the two universities.

VC Honoured for Women Leadership in Psychology

Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, received a Special Award for Women Leadership in Psychology during the 6th International Conference of the Pakistan Psychological Association (PPA).



The recognition acknowledges her contribution and leadership in the field of psychology and highlights the role of women leaders in advancing psychological education, research, and professional development in Pakistan.

The honour is also a source of pride for WUAJK and reflects the University's growing engagement with national academic and professional forums.



WUAJK Vice Chancellor Meets Director General Health to Discuss Proposed Pharmacy Program

Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, held a meeting with Dr. Zaeem Zia, Director General Health, Government of Pakistan, during her visit to Islamabad to discuss matters related to the proposed launch of a new Pharmacy Program at the University.

At the outset of the meeting, Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal presented a bouquet to Dr. Zaeem Zia and conveyed her best wishes on his appointment as Director General Health. She expressed her hopes for his successful tenure and continued contributions to the health sector.

During the meeting, the Vice Chancellor apprised Dr. Zaeem Zia of the University's preparations for introducing the new Pharmacy Program and discussed matters pertaining to the required No Objection Certificate (NOC) and the proposed visit of the relevant Accreditation Council.



She highlighted the University's commitment to fulfilling all prescribed academic, professional, technical, and regulatory requirements for the establishment of the program.

The two sides also discussed the necessary arrangements and procedural requirements for the visit of the Accreditation Council. Dr. Munir Badshah, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy, accompanied the Vice Chancellor and contributed to the discussion on the academic and technical requirements associated with the proposed program.

Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal appreciated the cooperation and guidance extended by Dr. Zaeem Zia and expressed her confidence in continued institutional support and coordination with the relevant authorities for the successful establishment of the program in accordance with prescribed standards.



HEC Grants NOC for Launch of PhD in Education at WUAJK

The Higher Education Commission (HEC), Government of Pakistan, has issued a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the launch of the PhD in Education programme at Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, effective from Fall 2026.



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HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
Government of Pakistan, Islamabad
Quality Assurance Division

Deputy Director (QAD) DD/2026/QAD-NOC/HEC/UAIK/PhD-Education/651
Dated: July 09, 2026

Subject: No Objection Certificate to Launch Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Education at Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Bagh.

Reference your application for NOC received vide email dated 09-05-2026 on the subject matter.

2. I am pleased to inform that HEC has no objection to offer Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Education, a Level 8 qualification at Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Bagh with the following relevant faculty members and **w.e.f Fall-2026**.

S.N.	Name of Faculty & Designation	PhD Degree Title
1.	Dr. Muhammad Mushtaq, Associate Professor	PhD (Education)
2.	Dr. Sadia Khan, Assistant Professor	PhD (PhD Education)
3.	Dr. Erum Shahzadi, Assistant Professor	PhD (Education)

3. The NOC is issued on the basis of information / documents provided by the University. The University shall be responsible for ensuring the faculty members' relevance to the subject degree program and maintaining **supervisor-student ratio** as per **clause 7.1.1 of HEC Graduate Education Policy (GEP) 2023**. Furthermore, the University is advised to strictly comply with HEC policies prescribed for MS/MPhil/Ph.D. equivalent programs, including minimum standards for department, program duration, credit hours and semester guidelines and supervision of graduate research by the university-approved supervisor as notified by HEC. This letter supersedes previous HEC letter No.DD/2026/QAD-NOC/HEC/UAIK/PhD-Education/606 dated June 26, 2026.

4. Moreover, in case of a change in faculty, the University shall inform the Quality Assurance Division (QAD) immediately to update the status of NOC in the database. The Higher Education Commission (HEC) reserves the right to withdraw the NOC; if the University is unable to adhere to the minimum HEC criteria/guidelines. Details regarding HEC GEP 2023 can be read via link at <https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/policies/Pages/GEP.aspx>

5. Issued with the approval of the Director General, QA, HEC.

The Registrar
Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir
Bagh

Copy for information to:

- PS to Vice Chancellor, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Bagh
- PS to Director General, QA, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad
- Office Copy


(Rehan Jamil)

The approval marks an important milestone in the University's academic development and reflects its continued efforts to expand opportunities for advanced education and research. The introduction of the PhD programme will provide scholars with an opportunity to pursue advanced research in the field of Education and contribute to the development of knowledge and educational practices. The launch of the programme further strengthens WUAJK's postgraduate academic portfolio and supports its visi-

-on of promoting research, innovation, and academic excellence. It also represents a significant step towards enhancing the University's role in developing highly qualified researchers and educators.

The University looks forward to building a strong research environment through the new programme and contributing to the advancement of education through quality doctoral research and scholarly engagement.



WUAJK Participates in National Stakeholder Meeting on Tobacco and New Nicotine Products Control

A stakeholder meeting on “Strengthening Tobacco and New Nicotine Products Control in Pakistan” was held at the Health Services Academy (HSA), Islamabad, bringing together relevant stakeholders to discuss strategies for strengthening tobacco control and addressing emerging challenges associated with new nicotine products in Pakistan.



Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, represented the University at the meeting and contributed valuable insights and recommendations to the discussions.

She particularly highlighted the importance of awareness, education, and institutional initiatives in addressing tobacco and nicotine use among communities, particularly young people.

Dr. Munir Badshah, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy, WUAJK, also participated in the meeting and shared his professional perspectives on tobacco control and the emerging use of new nicotine products.

The participation of WUAJK's leadership and faculty in this national stakeholder forum reflects the University's commitment to contributing to public health initiatives, evidence-based awareness, and professional engagement.



WUAJK Celebrates Independence Day with National Spirit and Patriotism

Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, celebrated Independence Day with national spirit and patriotic fervour. The ceremony was attended by Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor WUAJK, along with university officials, faculty members, and staff.

The celebrations commenced with a flag-hoisting ceremony, symbolizing the University's commitment to the ideals of freedom, unity, and national progress. The participants paid tribute to the sacrifices of the nation's forefathers and reflected on the historic struggle that led to the creation of Pakistan.



A cake-cutting ceremony was also held as part of the celebrations. Speaking on the occasion, participants highlighted the importance of Independence Day and emphasized the responsibility of every citizen to contribute towards the development, stability, and prosperity of the country.



The ceremony concluded with special prayers for the peace, progress, and prosperity of Pakistan. The event provided an opportunity for the University community to reaffirm its commitment to national values and to remember the sacrifices made for the independence of Pakistan.

The ceremony also served as a reminder of the collective responsibility of the younger generation to uphold the values of freedom, unity, and national service. The University community expressed its resolve to play its role in building a peaceful, progressive, and prosperous Pakistan.



Finance and Planning Committee Reviews University's Financial and Development Matters

The 16th meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee of Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Bagh, was held on September 15, 2026, at the Mural Hall, Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor, WUAJK, and attended by representatives of HEC, the Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, and senior officials of the University.

The Committee reviewed key financial, budgetary, and development matters of the University and considered proposals related to its financial and institutional development.



The Committee approved the budgetary matters placed before it and provided valuable recommendations and guidance for strengthening financial management, planning, and the University's ongoing development initiatives. Senior representatives from HEC, the Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, and the University participated in the meeting.

WUAJK Students Participate in All Pakistan Bilingual Debate

Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Bagh, participated in the Second All Pakistan Bilingual Debate held at Cadet College Muzaffarabad. Kanwal Kazmi represented the University in the Urdu Debate, while Tashfeen participated in the English. Dr. Erum Shahzadi, Director Student Affairs, also attended the event and was honoured with a souvenir from the Chief Guest in recognition of her participation and presence.



Seminars, Trainings and Conferences

WUAJK Faculty Member Presents Research at AAS Forum Hosted by LUMS

Dr. Arshad Mehmood, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, presented his research paper titled “Socio-Cultural Lens Embedding in Legitimate Violence Constructs and Counter-Narrative in Pakistani Languages” at the Association of Asian Scholars (AAS) forum hosted by the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Lahore.



The AAS forum brought together scholars and researchers from across South Asian countries, providing an important platform for academic exchange, interdisciplinary dialogue, and scholarly engagement on issues of regional and cultural significance.

Dr. Arshad Mehmood's participation and research presentation represent WUAJK's

growing engagement with national and regional academic forums and reflect the University's commitment to promoting research, critical scholarship, and academic excellence among its faculty.

The University's participation in such scholarly platforms also contributes to strengthening its academic visibility and fostering meaningful intellectual connections with researchers and institutions beyond the University.



ASA Cabinet Meets Vice Chancellor to Discuss Academic and Institutional Development

The Academic Staff Association (ASA), Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, led by its President Dr. Anees Kumar Abbasi, held a meeting with Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor WUAJK, to discuss matters concerning academic development, institutional progress, and the working environment for faculty members.

At the outset of the meeting, the ASA Cabinet congratulated Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal on completing one year of service as Vice Chancellor of the University and appreciated her efforts towards the development and uplift of the institution.

The Association acknowledged the initiatives undertaken during her tenure

and expressed its support for continued efforts aimed at strengthening the University. The meeting also provided an opportunity for a constructive discussion on various academic and institutional matters.

Vice Chancellor appreciated the constructive engagement of the ASA Cabinet and assured the Association of the University's administration's continued support and cooperation for faculty members. She emphasized the importance of collective efforts, coordination, and a positive working environment in achieving the University's academic and institutional objectives

WUAJK Departments Organize Mehfil-e-Milad to Commemorate the Birth of the Holy Prophet

In the holy and blessed month of Rabi-ul-Awwal, Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Bagh, organized a Mehfil-e-Milad to commemorate the birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and reflect upon his noble Seerah and teachings. The programme commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by heartfelt Naat recitations and student-led activities.



The participation of students and faculty added a spirit of devotion and reverence to the gathering, while faculty members and focal persons contributed to the smooth conduct of the event.



WUAJK Mathematics Alumni Selected for Huawei Artificial Intelligence Internship

A Proud Achievement for the Department of Mathematics: Two alumni of the BS Mathematics program at Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJK), Ms. Khansa Riaz and Ms. Aden Arshad, have been selected as Artificial Intelligence Interns for the prestigious Huawei Certified Cloud Developer Associate – Artificial Intelligence (HCCDA-AI) program.



The program is being offered by Huawei in collaboration with NAVTTC, Prime Minister's Youth Programme, and CyberVision International, with training conducted at Corvit Systems, Rawalpindi, affiliated with UET Taxila. The selection is particularly noteworthy as Ms. Khansa Riaz and

Ms. Aden Arshad are the only two students with a Mathematics background selected for the program alongside students from Computer Science and Information Technology disciplines.

From Editor

We extend our sincere gratitude to the faculty, students, and staff whose contributions made this newsletter possible.

We invite you to share your suggestions, comments, and ideas to help us improve future editions. If you would like to contribute content, provide feedback, or subscribe, please write to us.



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