

REPORT

Subject: Report on the Celebration of International Mother Language Day at Government Primary School Kalam.

Date: March 03, 2026

Submitted by: Abdul Majeed PRO, Gawri Community Development Program (GCDP) Kalam.

1.0 Introduction

On February 21st, 2026, the Gawri Community Development Program (GCDP) Kalam successfully organized and hosted a vibrant celebration of International Mother Language Day at Government Primary School (GPS) Kalam. The event was designed to honor linguistic diversity and, more importantly, to actively promote, preserve, and revitalize the indigenous Gawri language among the younger generation of the Kalam Valley. This report provides a comprehensive overview of the event's proceedings, key highlights, and outcomes.

2.0 Event Details

- **Event:** International Mother Language Day Celebration
- **Date:** February 21, 2026
- **Time:** 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- **Venue:** Government Primary School Kalam, Swat
- **Organizer:** Gawri Community Development Program (GCDP) Kalam
- **Target Audience:** Students, teachers, and community members-
- **Chief Guest:** Head Master GPS Kalam

3.0 Objectives

The primary objectives of the celebration were:

- To raise awareness about the significance of International Mother Language Day.
- To provide a platform for students to express themselves in their mother tongue, Gawri.

- To foster a sense of pride and cultural identity among the youth regarding their ancestral language.
- To encourage the use of the Gawri language in educational and formal settings, counteracting the trend of language shift.
- To involve the local community in the efforts to preserve their intangible cultural heritage.

4.0 Proceedings of the Event

The event commenced with a warm welcome note from the Headmaster of GPS Kalam, who acknowledged the critical role of mother tongues in foundational education. He thanked GCDP Kalam for their relentless efforts in language preservation.

Following the welcome, a representative from GCDP Kalam delivered a keynote address. The speech highlighted the global context of International Mother Language Day, commemorating the language martyrs of 1952 in Bangladesh, and connected it to the local context of the Gawri language. The speaker emphasized that the Gawri language is not merely a tool for communication but a repository of the community's history, traditions, and indigenous knowledge. The audience was reminded of the urgent need to document and speak the language to prevent its decline.

4.1 Student Presentations: Speeches and Poems in Gawri

The core of the celebration was the student segment, which showcased the linguistic talent and confidence of the young learners. Students from various grade levels participated enthusiastically, presenting material they had prepared in their mother tongue, Gawri.

-Speeches: Several students delivered speeches on topics ranging from the importance of education and the beauty of their valley to the value of their cultural traditions. A particularly moving speech by a 5th-grade student focused on why it is important for him to speak Gawri with his grandparents and younger siblings.



- **Poetry Recitation:** The event was graced with the recitation of traditional Gawri poems as well as original compositions by the students. The rhythmic flow of the language and the earnest delivery by the children captivated the audience, drawing applause and words of encouragement from the elders present.

The presentations were a powerful demonstration of the students' connection to their linguistic roots and their capability to use the Gawri language for creative and formal expression.



5.0 Key Outcomes and Impact

The Mother Language Day celebration at GPS Kalam yielded several positive outcomes:

- **Enhanced Student Confidence:** The participating students displayed immense pride and confidence in using their mother tongue in a public forum.
- **Community Engagement:** The event successfully brought together students, teachers, and community members, reinforcing a collective responsibility for language preservation.
- **Visibility of GCDP's Mission:** The program served as a platform to highlight the ongoing work of GCDP Kalam in documenting the Gawri language and promoting its use.
- **Awareness Raised:** It effectively raised awareness among the younger generation about the value of their linguistic heritage, encouraging them to continue speaking Gawri.
- **Positive Reinforcement:** The appreciation shown by teachers and community leaders for the students' performances served as strong positive reinforcement for the continued use of the mother tongue.

6.0 Challenges and Recommendations

While the event was a resounding success, it also highlighted the ongoing challenges faced in preserving the Gawri language. The most significant challenge is the increasing influence of dominant languages like Pashto and Urdu, which can lead to language shift.

Based on the event's success and observations, the following recommendations are made:

- 1. Integration into Curriculum:** It is recommended that the school administration, in collaboration with GCDP, explore ways to informally integrate the Gawri language into school activities, such as weekly "Gawri Language Day" or storytelling sessions.
- 2. Development of Learning Materials:** GCDP should continue its efforts to develop simple reading and learning materials in Gawri for use at the primary level.
- 3. Annual Celebration:** This celebration should be institutionalized as an annual event at GPS Kalam to consistently reinforce the language's value.
- 4. Expansion to Other Schools:** The successful model of this event can be replicated in other primary and middle schools within the Gawri-speaking valley.

7.0 Conclusion

The International Mother Language Day celebration organized by the Gawri Community Development Program at Government Primary School Kalam was a meaningful and inspiring event. It successfully achieved its objective of promoting the Gawri language and culture. The enthusiasm of the students in presenting speeches and poems in their mother tongue was a testament to the vitality of the language when nurtured. The GCDP Kalam remains committed to its mission of preserving and promoting the Gawri language for generations to come.

8.0 Acknowledgments

GCDP Kalam extends its heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Government Primary School Kalam for their cooperation and support. We also thank the honorable Chief Guest and all community members for their presence. Most importantly, we thank and congratulate the students whose powerful performances were the heart and soul of this celebration.