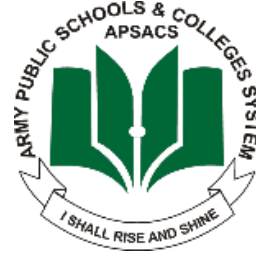


The Montessorian

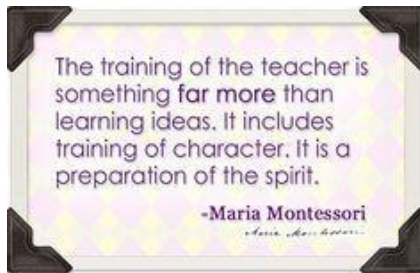
Remembering the Army Public School Victims of December 16th 2014



A prayer for the victims



"Averting war is the work of politicians; establishing peace is the work of education" **Maria Montessori**



*"The greatest gifts
we can give our
children are the roots
of Responsibility and
the wings of
Independence."*

*"Education is a natural process
carried out by the child and
is not acquired by listening
to words but by experiences
in the environment"*

Condolence messages from **Pakistan Montessori Association:-**

Dr. Ismail Saad: *PMA Chief Patron*

We share the pain at the recent tragic incident in Peshawar which has re-strengthened our resolve to continue our work and struggle to serve the young children our future asset and treasure of innocence.

Habiba Thobani: *PMA Advisor and former President*

My heart goes out to the parents of the children, who were like a garden of fragrant un-open buds and blooms on that sunny morning, when a horde of mad, enraged bulls came and trampled them.

Zohra Gaya: *PMA President*

Undoubtedly, the Peshawar incident has shaken us. Now, let us Montessorians, work together for a peaceful world.

Farida Akbar: *MTTC Director of Training and former PMA General Secretary*

Nothing more can describe my feelings better than what Montessori had envisioned and propagated.

"This social environment of the child must serve to protect him not in his weakness but in his inherent grandeur, for he possesses enormous potential energies that promise to benefit.

Maria Montessori - Education and Peace

County Cambridge School, Hyderabad *by Banoo Kisat*



Banoo Kisat giving a talk on classroom management



Parveen Islam discussing cultural activities

The Pakistan Montessori Association was invited to visit County Cambridge School's pre-primary section, in Hyderabad. For representation, Parveen Islam, Banoo Kisat and Farah Sarfraz agreed to go.

The school was impressive and it has 3,000 students up to matric. They have 60 pre-primary teachers. The owner, Mr. Rana Irfan, life member of PMA, is very enthusiastic to upgrade the staff and their knowledge. He has attended many of PMA workshops in Karachi and has a vision to do the best for the pre-school age group.

The topic for discussion was introducing culture and classroom management. Parveen Islam gave a talk on culture and answered the participants' questions and queries. Banoo Kisat had an interactive talk on classroom management and teacher role in the class.

The owners were requested to send teachers for training at the Montessori Teachers Training Centre to do the AMI course and continue the good work using the Montessori philosophy.



Senior section of County Cambridge School

Photos by Farah Sarfraz

Sensorial Extensions – A Refresher *by Maheen Pasha*



Presenting the Leaf Cabinet



Explaining the Botany Cards

Ms Nilufer Ahmed conducted a very interesting and inspiring workshop on Sensorial Extensions in our February meeting. Every area that reflects the work of man and his understanding can be included in extensions. All cultural subjects are included Natural, Botany, Zoology, Geography, Biology as well as man-made- Art, Music, Literature, Dance & History and Science experiments.

These exercises are presented after the child has first worked with the Exercises of Practical Life which develop his coordination, concentration & attention, and the Sensorial material which refine the senses.

The rule is to give the whole first then the parts.



Feeling the Sand Paper Globe



Working with the geography moulds

Photos by Maheen Pasha

The Pakistani National Anthem – A Translation

As the Pakistani National Anthem is in Farsi (Persian), many of us don't know what we sing. Here is a translation and let us sing it with meaning with the children on August 14th, Independence Day.

The **Pakistan National Anthem** was composed by **Ahmad G. Chagla** in 1949 which was played for the first time at Governor House in Karachi on 1st March during the visit of Shah of Iran. The lyrics **Pak Sarzamin Shad Bad** was written by **Hafeez Jullundhri** in 1952. Pakistan National Anthem was publicly broadcast for the first time on 13th August 1954. Official approval of Pakistan Qaumi

Tarana Pak

Sarzamin

Bad was

announced

16 1954.

Shad

قومی ترانہ

on Aug

پاک سرزمین شاد باد کشور حسین شاد باد

تونشان عزم عالیشان ارض پاکستان !

مرکز یقین شاد باد

پاک سرزمین کا نظام قوت اخوت عوام

قوم، ملک، سلطنت پائندہ تابندہ باد !

شاد باد منزل مراد

پرچم ستاره و ہلال رہبر ترقی و کمال

ترجمان ماضی شان حال جان استقبال !

سایہ خدائے زلال

Blessed be the sacred land

Happy be the bounteous realm

Thou symbol of high resolve

O Land of Pakistan!

Blessed be thou centre of faith

The order of this sacred land

Is the might of the brotherhood of the people

May the nation, the country, and the state

Shine in glory everlasting!

Blessed be the goal of our ambition

The flag of the crescent and star

Leads the way to progress and perfection

Interpreter of our past, glory of our present

Inspiration of our future!

Shelter of God, the Glorious and Mighty

During 1947, when the nation of Pakistan was established, the country was in search of a new Pakistani national anthem to replace 'God Save the King'. A family friend of **Behli**, Mr. Chagla had just put together and composed the anthem with inspirational words and an accompanying melody. While visiting **Behli's** house, he hummed and tried out the tune for **Behli**. At once, **Behli played it on the piano**, and hence earned the distinction of being the first individual, a Zarathushti, to play the tune of the newly created Muslim nation of Pakistan. The family piano on which **Behli played the Anthem** (a gift by Behli's late father Sohrab to his wife Tehmina) is indeed a valuable piece of history!

Behram (Behli) Sohrab Rustomji, a great friend of Pakistan Montessori Association.



Montessori Memories with the Rustomjis

Dr. Maria Montessori born in Italy on 31st August 1870, discovered that if children are allowed to work freely in an environment prepared according to their needs, they reveal unexpected qualities of concentration, order, self-confidence, discipline and many such beautiful characteristics.

A Montessori Song by Gool Behram Rustomji music composed by *Behram Sohrab Rustomji*

Chorus

**Montessori children we,
Happily at work you see,
Ever busy as a bee,
Always free as free can be**

Sweeping, dusting, polishing
Pouring, washing or dressing,
No one teaches yet we learn,
Learning is a lot of fun.
(Chorus)

Working quietly with rods,
Feeling fabrics, building blocks,
Carrying objects, heavy and light
Always is our great delight
(Chorus)

Oh! What lovely scents we smell,
Strike the low, then high pitched bell
Sweet and saltish things we like,
Bitter tastes we do dislike
(Chorus)

Circle, square or triangle,
Every shape we do handle,
Rough or smooth or hot or cold
We're allowed to touch and hold
(Chorus)

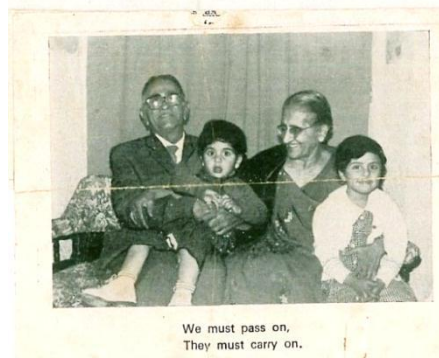
Knowing names of towns and toy,
Talking, listening, we enjoy,
Painting yellow, red and blue,
Grading shades of every hue
(Chorus)

Counting rods, one, two and three,
Decimal sums are so easy,
Skip counting is also done,
Solving problems one by one
(Chorus)

Boats do float, but stones they sink,
What's the reason? Let us think,
Growing flowers, building towers
Happily we pass the hours. (Chorus)



Behram Rustomji composer of
A Montessori Song



The Rustomjis with grandchildren



Gool Rustomji writer of
A Montessori Song

Exercises and Games related to Nature-conducted by Shireen Gaya

To observe Earth Day, PMA held a workshop on Exercises and Games related to Nature. The workshop was conducted by PMA Joint Secretary, Shireen Gaya. It proved to be a great success with the combined effort of the following schools:



Vegetables that come from different parts of a plant



Reading three letter phonetic words



Spices with matching pictures

Little Steps Montessori
Montessori Children's House of Karachi
Montessori Children's Villa
Montessori Enhancement Centre
Rahi Montessori

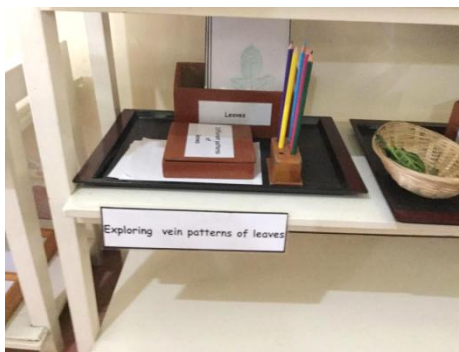
Rali's Montessori
Samrahi Montessori
The Montessori Environment
Zubeda's Montessori Palace
(Al Ashar Montessori)

The presentation included:

Parts of a tree in the form of a puzzle and what lives in the parts of a tree and other activities.
Leaf vein structures and classification of fruit with the number of seeds.
Seeds and the resulting plants, feeling soil and stereognostic bag of dry fruit.
Classified Reading Cards: Adjectives related to objects (nouns) found in nature.
Classified cards of birds with their corresponding beaks and feet.
Matching pictures with their blank impressions (shadows.)
Reading three letter phonetic words with the five different vowels.
Vegetables that come from different parts of a plant.
Fruit and their matching leaves.
Smelling jars with herbs.
Tactile box with rough and smooth textures from the garden.
Trees and their matching leaves.
Honey from the bee to the table.
Spices with matching pictures.



Smelling jars with herbs



Leaf vein structures



Classified cards of birds with their corresponding feet

Obituary

Pervin Cowasjee



January 1935 –January 2015

Pervin Cowasjee, founder of Casa dei Bambini and Kotwal's Casa, was born in Karachi on the 22nd January 1935 and passed away on the 14th January 2015. After completing her education and teachers training, she did the AML diploma course. Pervin was a remarkable woman, an educationalist, a Montessorian, widely travelled and with an experience and vision that made her an outstanding person. Pervin was perceptive, intuitive and involved with everything and everyone around her. We, at both the Casa s, loved to chat with Pervin and enjoyed her company and looked forward to her guidance and discussions. Pervin was always ready to share her knowledge with us on any topic. Pervin was a mentor, personal friend and will be dearly missed and fondly remembered. May Pervin rest in eternal peace.

Sanober Kazi

Casa dei Bambini & Kotwal's Casa.

Pervin Cowasjee was a highly educated member of Pakistan Montessori Association managing committee. Her speciality was Maths. Her understanding of the Montessori method was of a deeper level, which she could impart to the students. She was an interesting lecturer with a good sense of humour.

She always hosted the external examiner along with the committee with a lavish and memorable meal. As she started to live abroad for longer periods her interaction with PMA became less. We missed her presence in our meetings.

May she rest in peace.

Habiba Thobani.

My association with Pervin Cowasjee goes back many years. She had a dynamic personality, very outspoken at times of her opinion of people, but had a magnanimous heart ever ready to help anyone in need. She was a lot of fun with a great sense of humour. There was never a dull moment when she was around. She will be missed by all those who knew her.

May God grant her eternal peace.

Zohra Gaya

I came to know about the sad demise of Mrs. Pervin Cowasjee very late and became nostalgic for the yester years. She was down to earth, to the point, courageous very friendly and helpful. Her interest was in maths and she used to correct the mathematics files of the students of the then Montessori training courses. I pray for the family for their fortitude to bear this great loss. May her soul rest in peace eternally.

Nilufer Ahmed

When I came to Pakistan from Kenya I knew nobody. I was a nonentity. I applied for a teaching job in Pervin's school. She interviewed me and immediately gave me the job without asking for any references or work experience. In the early years of settling in a new country I went through many trials and tribulations. Pervin stood by me and treated me like a sister. For all this I salute her.

Naseem Fazaldin

Pervin was a dynamic personality, an inspiration to all of us. I was fortunate to have learnt a lot from her guidance. She was a compassionate person, showing deep concern and having a good rapport with all fellow workers. We will all miss her dearly and cherish her memory.

May Ahura Mazda grant eternal peace to her departed soul.

**Shireen Mobed
Kotwal's Casa**

Cont...

It was a December afternoon when I first met Pervin Cowasjee for my math exam at PMA. I did not know her at all then. Over the years I came across her occasionally. She remembered me and always asked when I was going to work for her school, Casa de Bambini and I kept saying soon. During my visits to Casa de Bambini, I had the opportunity to know her better, whenever she was there, her humour and frankness was appealing and I always looked forward to spend some time with her. We shared a joke which she deliberately mentioned each time we met. I shall cherish those moments I spent with her. Her departure from our lives is a loss, and her work as a Montessorian will always be remembered. Miss you Pervin.

Masooma Hayat

Pervin Cowasjee had been part of the Pakistani Montessori family since I first came to Karachi in 1976. She was one of the few Montessorians I used to converse in Gujarati with, she with her 'Parsee' Gujarati and I with my Kathiawari Gujarati'. How I miss her "chorne" (leave it) "chaalne" (come on) and so on. Bless you Pervin.

Masooma Alibhai

Admissions open – Pak Montessori Home, 7/2-B, MAHS, Karachi. Phone: 0307 2912868

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Editorial Board: Habiba Thobani, Zohra Gaya, Farida Fazal, Kishwar Allawala, Banoo Kisat and Masooma Alibhai

Thanks to: Habiba Thobani Kishwar Allawala, Banoo Kisat, Farah Sarfraz Sanobar Kazi, Maheen Pasha, Asiya Sagarwalla

Published by Pakistan Montessori Association for free distribution to its members.
Mail your contributions to pakistanmontessoriassociation@ymail.com
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