

Area Study Centre
(Russia, China & Central Asia)
University of Peshawar

Pashto Language (Certificate Course)
Duration: One Semester

Course Code: ASC-402

Credit Hours: 03

Total hours per Semester: 48

Introduction and Objectives of the Course

Pashto belongs to southeastern group of the Iranian branch of Indo-European languages. Pashto is one of the two (with Dari) official languages of Afghanistan. It is the language of the largest ethnic group of Afghanistan and as per the census data of 2017, Pashto is the second largest regional language of Pakistan. The Pashto speaking areas in Afghanistan are located in east, south, southwest and some parts of the northern and eastern provinces of the country. General in Pakistan, Pashto is spoken as one of the major languages of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Baluchistan. A geographical area where majority of Pashto speakers are living roughly constitutes the southern parts of Afghanistan and the northeastern part of Pakistan.

There are many dialects in Pashto but the three main dialects are: Western, central and eastern dialects. Dialect spoken in Kandahar and Baluchistan is called western dialect. Dialect of the Pashto speakers of Kabul, Logar, Ghazni and Parawan provinces is called central dialect. The dialect of the People of northeast areas of Afghanistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is called eastern dialect. In Afghanistan, the central dialect is considered as standard and literary dialect while in Pakhtunkhwa, northeastern dialect is considered as standard one.

Certificate course of Pashto language is being offered basically in standard dialects of Pashto, however, other dialects of Pashto will also be taught according to the requirements and interests of the students. This course is offered for the beginners with no fundamental and prior knowledge in Pashto, as well as for those with a certificate for language course. Teaching method will comprise formal lecture from the language instructor, use of digital devices, classroom as well as field activities with more focus on the developing the speaking skills. Furthermore, considering the needs of the advanced learners, diploma course in Pashto language is also being offered.

Aims of Area Study Centre (Russia, China & Central Asia) to offer certificate course in Pashto language is to expand Pashto language, literature and culture for the purpose of bridging the gap

between different cultures and societies. Area Study Centre, University of Peshawar also wants to provide an opportunity to all those who want to learn Pashto language, Literature and Pashtun culture, to develop their ability to know a foreign language and express themselves in it, as well as to deepen their interest in a language, literature and culture.

Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this certificate, the participants will be able to

1. Understand, speak, read and write basic Pashto language.
2. Develop their basic communication skills.
3. Understand the language structure and basic vocabulary required.
4. Know about the vowels and consonant phonemes of Pashto language.
5. Understand and express themselves in daily life conversation.
6. Know about the graphemes of Pashto script.
7. Know some basic features of various dialects of Pashto.
8. Know about the norms and values of Pashtun culture.
9. Know about the fundamental knowledge of Pashto grammar and Pashto literature.

Course Contents

Phonemes, Alphabets, Reading and Writing Exercises, Working Knowledge of Daily Use, Conversation, Written Comprehension, Applied Grammar, Composition and Dictation, Oral Expression, Oral Comprehension, Reading Comprehension, Use of personal and Possessive Pronouns, Use of Prepositions and Postpositions, Nouns, Adjectives, Verbs, Simple Sentences, Basic Information of Syntax, Word Order in Sentences, Basics of Pashtun Culture.

Recommended Books/Manuals

1. *Da Lwəst Lumṛay Kitāb*: Directorate of Translation and Compilation: Education Ministry Afghanistan: 1973. A Set of Ten Text Books.
2. Tegey, Habibullah and Barbara Robson, *A Reference Grammar of Pashto*, Washington, Centre for Applied Linguistics, 1996
3. David, Anne Boyle, *Descriptive Grammar of Pashto and its Dialects*, Gottingen, Germany, 2014
4. Penzl, Herbert, *A Grammar of Pashto— a Descriptive Study of the Dialect of Kandahar, Afghanistan*, American Council of Learned Societies, Washington, D.C., 1955
5. Tegey, Habibullah and Barbara Robson, *Intermediate Pashto Textbook*, Washington, Centre for Applied Linguistics, 1993
6. Tegey, Habibullah and Barbara Robson, *Beginning Pashto Textbook*, Washington, Centre for Applied Linguistics, 1993
7. *Practical Pashto*, University of Montana, 2011
8. Tegey, Habibullah and Barbara Robson, *Pashto Conversation Manual*, Washington, Centre for Applied Linguistics, 1993

9. *Da Puxto Qāeda Awal Jumāt la Pāra*, NWFP Textbook Board, 1980
10. Olson, Randall (ed), *Speaking Afghan Pashto*, Peshawar, InterLit Foundation, 1996
11. George, Morgenstierne, *An Etymological Vocabulary of Pashto*, 1927.

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