

5 years

Celebrating 5 Years of AKU Author's Day:
Bold Voices, Powerful Stories, Lasting Impact



Celebrating AKU Author's Day 2025

The Office of the University Librarian is excited to announce a series of events celebrating AKU Author's Day 2025. We invite everyone to join our global celebration, which will be held virtually across all campuses, but in-person at the Aga Khan Centre in London UK

Monday, November 3, 2025

Research Futures: How the First Decades of the Digital Revolution Have Changed Academic Publishing

Dr Kamran Abbasi, Editor-in-Chief British Medical Journal (BMJ), will talk about how professional and academic journals like the BMJ have had to evolve in the 21st century to continue to serve as forums for new research. The session will be moderated by Dr Shehla Zaidi, Visiting Professor of Health Policy and Systems Research at the Aga Khan University and currently working at University College London.

11am UK | 2pm Nairobi | 4pm Karachi
Venue: Aga Khan Centre, 10 Handyside Street, London N1C 4DN
Live telecast:
Karachi – Lecture Hall 3 Medical College
Kenya – UC Auditorium
Tanzania – Mandela Hall
Uganda – Auditorium

Don't miss out on the chance to participate in our local Author's Day activities on each campus, where you can meet AKU writers, authors, and fellow book lovers. Each campus has a full schedule of speakers and events that are sure to inspire. See the detailed schedule below for what's happening on your campus!

Karachi, Pakistan

Monday, November 3, 2025 | 10:00am inauguration

Two Day - Book Fair | Inauguration by Dr Farhat Abbas, CEO AKUH

Book Fair will be open both days 10:00am - 5:00pm | Venue: Hospital courtyard

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 | 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Meet Zafar Masud the Author of Seat 1C: A Survivor's Tale of Hope, Resilience, and Renewal

Moderator: Ukasha Mujeeb | MBBS Class of 2029
Organized in collaboration with AKU Publications & Literary Society & Office of the University Librarian
Venue: Multipurpose Hall A, 11th floor, University Centre

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 | 11:15am - 12:30pm

Students of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences discuss..

**Spotlights on Books:
White Nights By Fyodor Dostoevsky & Animal Farm by George Orwell**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall A, 11th floor, University Centre

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 | 11:00am - 12:00pm

AKU-PDCN Gilgit Library

Inauguration of the AKU-PDCN Library Reading Swap
Dr Moladad Shafa will inaugurate the Reading Swap, a new facility allowing library users to “take a book and leave a book” at no cost.
Venue: Gilgit campus, PDCN

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 | 3:00pm - 4:30pm

A Panel Discussion with IED Authors 2024-2025

The session will highlight new books developed as open educational resources, focusing on innovative approaches to teaching, learning, and community engagement. Authors will share insights on their work, followed by an interactive discussion.
Moderator: Prof Farid Panjwani, Dean Institute for Educational Development

Thursday, November 6, 2025 | 11:30am - 1:00pm

Students of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences

An engaging conversation with Aziz Ali Dad on ‘Beyond the Mountains’

Venue: Multipurpose Hall A, 11th floor, University Centre

Thursday, November 6, 2025 | 4:00pm - 5:30pm

Book Talk & Discussion

Poverty to Prosperity: A Blueprint for Change: How Public-Entrepreneurship Partnerships Can End Extreme Poverty.

By Dr Asad Ali, Professor & Chair, Community Health Sciences
Moderator: Prof Stephen Lyon, Dean Faculty of Arts & Sciences
Venue: AKU Auditorium, Stadium Road

Friday, November 7, 2025 | 10:00am - 11:15am

Students of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences discuss..

Women in Poetry: A Panel Discussion by Emerging Writers at FAS

Venue: Multipurpose Hall A, 11th floor, University Centre

Saturday, November 8, 2025 | 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Organized by The Pakistan Academy of Neurological Surgery in collaboration with the Aga Khan University
A Special Lecture on Neuroscience of Consciousness by Prof Dr Syed Ather Enam, Book launch of ‘The Essentials of Neuroscience’ | Co edited by Dr Ather Enam and Shahier Paracha

Venue: AKU Auditorium

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 | 11:30am - 1:00pm

Students of the Faculty of Arts & Science

In Conversation with Prof Jeff Tan & Prof Stephen Lyon | Water and Sanitation Extension Programme (WASEP)

Venue: Multipurpose Hall A, 11th floor, University Centre

Wednesday, November 12 | 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Book Talk on ‘Vascular and Endovascular Surgery’ by Dr Zia Ur Rehman

Venue: Multipurpose Hall A – 11th Floor, University Centre

London, UK

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 | 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Seminar on ‘Traversing Spaces of Exception: Exploring New Methodologies in Research Practice and Publication’ by Malek Rasamny, researcher, writer, and filmmaker. He is the co-founder of the multimedia research project the Native and the Refugee.

Venue: Aga Khan Centre (ACR)

Nairobi, Kenya

Monday, November 3, 2025

Book Fair | 9:00am - 5:00pm

Venue: Outside the UC auditorium.

Book Swap/ Little Free Library meet up | 9:00am - 10:00am

Venue: Library

Keynote Speech | 11:00am - 11:30am

Francis Okemo Okello
Non-Executive Chairman of TPS Eastern Africa Plc & Author of ‘Concert of Life’
Moderator: Caroline Oyola | Panelists: Prof Eunice Ndirangu, Prof Nancy Booker, Francis Okomo Okello, Dr Wangari Siika, Dr Charles Muteshi
Venue: UC Auditorium

Award of Authors (plaques) | 12:30pm - 12:55pm

Venue: UC Auditorium

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Publisher Presentations | 10:00am - 1:00pm

Venue: online

Friday November, 7, 2025

AKU Library Book Club | 4:30pm

Venue: Room 612

Saturday, November 8, 2025

AKU Children's Library Fun Day | 9:00am - 11:30am

Join us for a fun-filled morning of storytelling, book-themed games, and creative activities to promote a love of reading! Open to children of AKU staff, faculty, and students (recommended ages 4–12). Snacks and prizes for super readers!
Venue: AKU Library UC 2nd Floor & 3rd Floor

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Monday, November 3, 2025

Book Fair | 9:00am - 5:00pm

Venue: Salama House Students Lounge

Book Swap | 9:00am - 9:30am

Venue: Library

Main Author's Day event | 9:20am - 11:30am

Opening remarks: Prof Eunice Pallangyo, Associate Vice Provost, TZ
Keynote Speaker: Dr Garvin Kweka, Medical Specialist, Muhimbili University of Health Allied Sciences
Moderator: Dr Jackie Kiwelu | Panelists: Dr Kahabi Isangula, Dr Fredrick Mtenzi, Dr Mariam Noorani, and Dr Adelodun Bashir
Venue: Mandela Hall

Pre-author's day activities highlight | 11:10am - 11:25am

Short Videos

Awards to authors | 11:30am - 12:15pm

The Writing Journey: Challenges & Successes | 12:15pm - 12:30pm

Dr Kahabi Isangula, Assistant Prof School of Nursing and Midwifery

Closing Remarks

Prof Jane Rarieya, Dean Institute for Educational Development

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Presentations by Publishers | 9:00am - 12:00pm

Venue: Online

Kampala, Uganda

Monday, November 3, 2025

Library Fair | 9:00am - 5:00pm

Venue: Outside the library

Book Swap/ Little Free Library meet up | 9:00am - 10:00am

Venue: Library

Main Author's Day event | 10:00am - 11:40am

Keynote address: Dr Martin Ongol, Executive Secretary – Uganda National Council of Science and Technology
Presentations by Authors: Dr John Baptist Asiimwe, Dr Mary Namuguzi, and Ms Sandra Chandini
Recognition of Authors:

1. Author with the highest number of publications in the last five years,
2. Authors whose publication have the most citations in the last five years
3. Early career researcher with most publication in the last five years
4. Authors who have mentored many other Authors and first-time student Authors.

Venue: UC Auditorium

Tree planting together with Students' Environment Club | 11:50am - 12:10pm

Venue - UC Nakawa Campus

Tuesday, November 4

Presentations by Publishers | 9:00am - 12:00pm

Venue: Online