

A New Hope For The Mother Tongue Pushto

There is no doubt that Pushtuns belong to a hard working nation. The mother tongue of this Nation is Pushto or Pukhto. In order to live in harmony with other nations Pushtuns have made a lot of sacrifices and the biggest of all is the sacrifice of their language. Just look at the start of a Pushtun Child at School. He or She has to learn Urdu, Dari, English and Arabic as compulsory subjects. And the irony is that in this whole process the Mother Tongue Pushto has been ignored for a long time. Contrary to this the Urdu or Dari Speakers do not try to learn Pushto in Schools. This raises the questions why Pushtun Children have to learn so many languages? What are the effects on the nation as a whole? And what languages will make them a modern and developed nation?

There may be so many answers to the above questions but the message will be that:

1. Pushtuns must study Pushto language as a compulsory subject in schools to make them a nation with values

2. They need to learn another language to compete with the entire world in the fields of education, science and technology.

And that other language of the modern world is English.

The recent announcement by the government of Khyber Pukhtunkhwa which states that Pushto will be a compulsory subject till the High School level is an historical move and needs to be appreciated. To achieve this we now need:

1. Staff

2. Space and

3. Equipment

And we need these soon!

Pasoon Vision.....November 2010