

SEMINAR

**Ecstatic Non-Violence in North-West
Frontier of British India, 1930's – 1950's**



Saturday, January 26 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm
Concord Hall, 1407 Chapala Street, Santa Barbara
Presenter: Safoora Arbab

In this seminar an original analysis will reveal how Abdul Ghaffar Khan encouraged and led a nonviolent resistance movement, Khudai Khidmatgar (Servants of God) among the Pashtun people. Although Ghaffar Khan was referred to as a “frontier Gandhi,” study of Pashtun literature, especially poetry, shows that the values of this nonviolent movement reflected the local, indigenous codes of conduct in Pashtun tradition and metaphors of Islam. Illustrations of this local source of nonviolent embodiment will be drawn from the Pashto autobiography of Ghani Khan, from the voices of women published in the *Pukhtun* journal and from the iconic modern poetry of Ghani Khan. This perspective on the Khudai Khidmatgar movement is the subject of Safoora Arbab's dissertation prepared at UCLA for the Department of Comparative Literature.

Suggested Donation: \$2.00 per person
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