

1. Javid Manzil

Javed Manzil on Macleod Road (now Allama Iqbal Road) is the last residence of Philosopher, Thinker, and Poet of the East Allama Muhammad Iqbal. It is also known as Allama Iqbal Museum. It served as the residence of Allama Iqbal for three years from 1935 to 21st April 1938. That is the place when he breathed his last.

Javed Manzil was constructed by Allama Iqbal on an area of about seven kanals of land, at the expense of Rs. 42025. Keeping in view the significance of this house, it was converted into historical house museum on May 10, 1961 for the preservation of Iqbal's belongings and the display of his famous works and manuscripts. On Thursday, December 1, 1977, the Chief Justice of Pakistan, Sheikh Anwar-ul-Haq inaugurated this museum. The personal items of Allama Iqbal are the property of his family which are kept for public display.

Javed Manzil is a late period colonial building in European style, with an impressive garden at the front, devoid of any significant decorative features and architectural elements. Most prominent is portico visible from the present front on the main road.

The main objective of the Museum is to project the life and works of Allama Iqbal, to preserve the personal belongings of Allama Iqbal, original drafts of his works, letters either written by him or written to him, educational degrees and Medals, photographs and certificates. This Museum also provides facilities of guides for its visitors. There is also a small library for research. There are nine galleries in the Museum. The major source of attraction in this Museum, are Iqbal's hand written drafts of his works, certificates and degrees. There are about six hundred objects in the Museum and all these are donated by Dr. Javed Iqbal, son of Allama Muhammad Iqbal. The museum was renovated and was inaugurated in December 1984 by the President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq.

Since the piece of land was bought in the name of his younger son, none else but Javed Iqbal was regarded as its owner. Accordingly, Allama Iqbal got a document of rental agreement, written on a stamp paper on May 21, 1935. He rented three front rooms of the building for Rs 50 per month with son Javed Iqbal as the land lord and the father as the tenant. This document is on display in the museum.

Allama Muhammad Iqbal continued to live in the same house for another years and breathed his last in one of three rooms, in his use, on 21 April 1938. Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah along with his sister Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah had visited Allama Muhammad Iqbal at the Javed Manzil in 1936. Hindus leader Pandit

Jawahar Lal Nehru was also a great admirer of Allama Iqbal and had visited the Javed Manzil to meet him, in January 1938.

The museum remains open every day from 9am to 4pm, with a free entry. It was listed as a Tentative UNESCO site, and was protected under the Punjab Antiquities Act of 1975.

Bibliography:

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