

ایک خط تمہارے نام

CALL FOR ENTRIES

2020 has been an extraordinary year of highs and lows, breakdowns and breakthroughs and a collective, sometimes sombre, journey of introspection and reflection. As we continue to be socially distanced from family, friends and other loved ones, we yearn for the time we could meet and interact freely. In the absence of this human connection and physical engagement, we encourage you to put your thoughts to paper.

Write a letter, **Aik Khat Tumharay Naam**. Write the old-fashioned way, using the physicality of paper and pen and the inherently tactile nature of handwriting to reclaim some of the emotional losses of the year and present a visual, nostalgic and creative record of your thoughts and feelings to your loved ones.

Aik Khat Tumharay Naam offers a unique platform for all those who love writing, are nostalgic about the loss of “proper” letter writing as an art form. Those who like to express themselves through words. Preferences will be given to letters by women but we also hope to hear from our male allies.

Our jury members will carefully review and select the best letters to be showcased at the WOW Pakistan Festival 2021.

ایک کھاتہ تمہارا نام

Eligibility Criteria

- Aik Khat Tumharay Naam is open to people aged 18 and above.
- This programme is open to people residing in Pakistan or Pakistani nationals residing in other countries.
- The letter should be an original piece and not an extract from someone else's work.
- The letter should be handwritten. Scanned/photo versions must be submitted via email at **olo@olomopolo.com** and **info@ecdipakistan.org** or sent via **WhatsApp: 0302 4773357**. However, the hardcopy of the letter is to be mailed to one of the two addresses given below:

Olomopolo Media

43-A, Block D,
New Muslim Town
Lahore
54000

ECDI

120/2,
Main Khayaban-e-Bahria
Phase 5,
DHA Karachi
75500

- The submission should not have been published previously on any social media platform or in print.

ایک خط تمہارے

Themes for the Letter

We are accepting entries that reflect narratives, perspectives, experiences and emotional states around the COVID-19 pandemic. The work does not need to be directly related to COVID-19 but should consider some of the issues around it. Suggestions for themes include:

- Global contagion and social distancing.
- The world after COVID-19.
- Being in lockdown and its impact on mental health such as depression and isolation (some of the topics that can be addressed include; facing violence and oppression in a range of contexts from domestic to military, economical or racial).
- Working from home and the challenges of balancing work and home life, home-schooling etc.
- Economic difficulties and fear of redundancy.
- Challenges faced by communities, both at national and international level.
- Diet and nutrition.
- Strengthening the family bond, including spending time with the elderly and other family members at home.
- Self-isolation and creativity – how lockdowns have forced us into thinking of new ways to keep ourselves and our loved ones entertained.
- Charity and how this time has brought us all together as a community/nation to help the vulnerable.
- Tribute to the real heroes at the frontline of the crisis – thinking about our medical, service industry and security personnel who risk their lives to keep us safe.

NOTE: You may combine one or more of the topics given above. The approach to your letter can be serious or humorous; as in your own style.

ایک خط تمہارے نام

Submission Details

- Last date for submission is Friday 8th January 2021.
- Entries to be sent to: olo@olomopolo.com, info@ecdipakistan.org
- Entry should be between 300 - 1000 words.
- The letter can be submitted in English, Urdu or any of Pakistan's regional languages. Can be a mix of any of these. Let us celebrate being multilingual where we include a mix of languages in the letter.
- The letter can be addressed to anyone or anything.
- If your letter is shortlisted, our team will get in touch with you via email or phone. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. (Please keep track of your junk emails).
- Please include name, age, phone number, email address and postal address in your entry.

Selection Criteria

- The decision with regards to selection and inclusion rests with the British Council and WOW Pakistan curators only and their decision will be considered final.
- The British Council will retain the right to use the letter/piece submitted but the overall copyright remains with the writer.

ایک خط تمہارے نام

Rules

- One entry per person.
- Your written piece should be in the format of a letter only.
- Letters should be written only on the themes given.
- Written piece should be your original work. If not, it will be disqualified.
- No entry will be selected after the deadline.
- Entries with racist, sexist and politically slurred language will be eliminated from consideration.
- Please note that the British Council and the WOW Curators retain the right to edit the letter.

For queries please contact:

olo@olomopolo.com
info@ecdipakistan.org
0302 4773357