

Lahore. Pakistan July 26

ART  
by SAJID ABBAS

# Lahore in p a i n t

The other day this scribe was passing through a prominent quarter of old Lahore, the Qilla Gujjar Singh, when some aged construction, shop fronts, jharokas and a spot in that place reminded him of a painting in water-colour done by the well known painter of the cultural and traditional life of this wonderful city.

It is a pity that the cultural heritage of the city seems under a sort of assault by those who harbour strange opinions, theories and misconceptions about the way we go about and distort facts about how to live a life that we may like to call our culture and what it actually is. Nevertheless, it is the work of Dr. Ajaz Anwar which is of such a high standard and admirable quality, always displaying patience and skilful execution with selection of colours and tints employed, apt and appropriate to bring us back to our roots. Some of his works and paintings, help to highlight the splendour of the site that he paints and later on the onlooker sees. The chance to see an otherwise



familiar site in an attractive and winning light and through the eyes of the artist, gives an unexplainable thrill.

Undoubtedly, artists are free to choose their subjects to express their ideas and most of our artists do so. They are indubitably impressed by our land, environment and surroundings and go to great lengths to paint this beautiful country. Nonetheless, Dr. Ajaz Anwar seems to have fashioned some of his exhibits in an unconventional way. Though, starting as an apparent reflex he seems to be taking more than routine care to select and create something singularly attractive and aesthetically graceful. Dr. Ajaz Anwar's work remains imaginative and ingenious enough to ascertain that whatever he creates goes to state that both realistic and imaginative treatment play a special role in the world of art and occupies a place of import.

Dr. Ajaz Anwar's work whenever on display reveals the working of the mind of the artist and his expression of the relationship between him and his surroundings. His style, perhaps, discloses the language in which he would like to express his idea of the relationship between Man and Nature. ■