

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



AURAT FOUNDATION

# Annual Report 2020



**Aurat Foundation**

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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

<b>APISF/AF</b>	Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation /Aurat Foundation
<b>BBC</b>	BISP Beneficiary Committee
<b>BISP</b>	Benazir Income Support Programme
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
<b>CNIC</b>	Computerized National Identity Card
<b>CPGs</b>	Community Peace Groups
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>ECP</b>	Election Commission of Pakistan
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-Based Violence
<b>KP</b>	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
<b>LG</b>	Local Government
<b>MPA</b>	Member Provincial Assembly
<b>MoU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>NCSW</b>	National Commission on the Status of Women
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>PCSW</b>	Provincial commission on the Status of Women
<b>RTI</b>	Right to Information
<b>SBBHRCW</b>	Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Human Rights Centre for Women (Crisis Centre)
<b>SOPs</b>	Standard Operating Procedures
<b>SM</b>	Social Mobilization
<b>SWWED</b>	Social Welfare and Women's Empowerment Department
<b>VAW</b>	Violence Against Women
<b>WDD</b>	Women Development Department
<b>WGW</b>	Working Group for Women
<b>WLG</b>	Women Leader Group
<b>WLP</b>	Women's Learning Partnership
<b>WWN</b>	Women Water Network
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

## Introduction

COVID-19 is not just a global public health emergency but is also leading the world to a major global, economic downturn, with potentially strong adverse impacts on the livelihoods of vulnerable groups. In a developing country like Pakistan with already very low indicators of socioeconomic development, an epidemic is likely to further compound pre-existing gender inequalities. The following thematic areas are analyzed through the gender lens:

Education system in Pakistan with low learning levels and high dropout rates is likely to be severely impacted. Within the system, it is the vulnerable students, including girls who face the most disproportionately negative impacts. Given mobility constraints, when schools are closed, girls are generally given more household responsibilities as compared to boys. Prolonged closure could exacerbate the inequalities in educational attainment as this will result in higher rates of female absenteeism and lower rates of school completion.

Evidence suggests that in case of outbreak of disease, there is an additional burden of domestic work and disease prevention that falls on women. Women are therefore more likely to be exposed to the virus and continue with their domestic responsibilities even if they fall ill. The responsibility of women in prevention and care of disease extends outside the household as well. In Pakistan, a large majority of nurses and health workers are female. These women are at the forefront of identifying and treating patients with COVID-19, and hence at a greater risk of exposure to the infection.

Evidence suggests that epidemics and stresses involved in coping with the epidemics may increase the risk of domestic abuse and other forms of gender-based violence. Studies have also found that unemployment tends to increase the risk of depression, aggression and episodes of violent behavior in men. Given the current climate of decreased economic activities, financial uncertainties and a situation of lockdown being faced in Pakistan, heightened tensions could translate into women facing more vulnerabilities.

Labour conditions were very poor when the country was hit by COVID-19 and the lockdown has resulted in severe economic impact on workforce both in formal and informal sector. The informal sector is where the major problem lies and this has got more exposed during Covid-19 pandemic as the Prime Minister himself has repeatedly said that there is no data for the workers who are on contractual and daily wagers as employers do not keep their details. They just use them as disposal labour. Informal sector means no rights and poor working conditions. This means long working hours, low wages, poor health and safety arrangements, no proof of employment and no registration with any government's labour welfare agency.

The situation of civil society organizations and labour support groups is also not different as their right to association and assertion has been curtailed during the last few years due to restrictive state policies. In such a situation, it is quite important that there is a support to civil society to recollect and bring broader civil society actors including trade unions together and raise voice for voiceless labour.

## Board of Governors

<p><b>Dr. Masuma Hasan</b> <i>President</i></p> <p>Development Practitioner; former Cabinet Secretary &amp; Ambassador; Researcher</p>		<p><b>Dr. Aliya H. Khan</b> <i>Treasurer</i></p> <p>Educationist; Economist, Development Expert</p>	
<p><b>Anis Haroon</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women; Women's Rights Activist</p>		<p><b>Tasneem Siddiqui</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Chairman Saiban; former Director, KatchiAbadis, KDA; Development Practitioner</p>	
<p><b>Samina Rahman</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Educationist; Women's Rights Activist</p>		<p><b>Anjum Riyazul Haque</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Development Professional, former UNESCO head in Pakistan</p>	
<p><b>M. Ziauddin</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Senior Journalists Former, Resident Editor of DAWN Islamabad and Lahore</p>		<p><b>Justice (Retd.) Nasira Javed Iqbal</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Eminent jurist International law expert</p>	



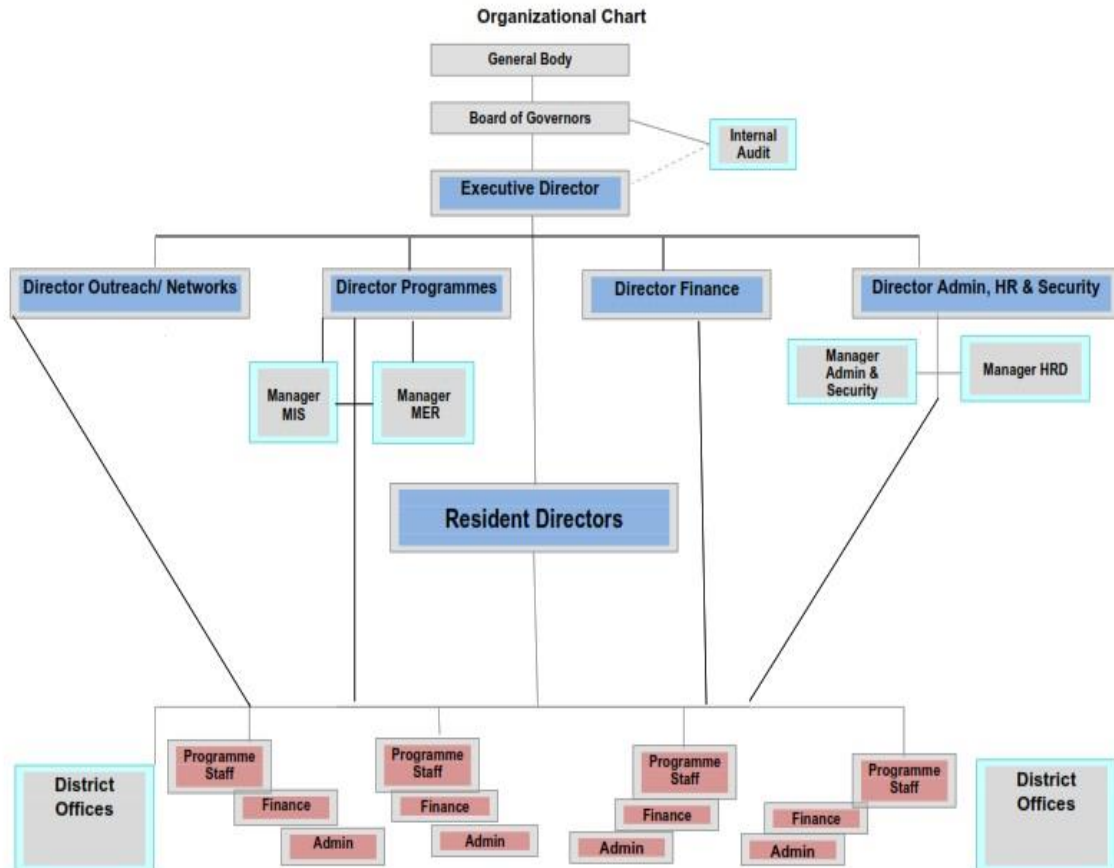
## Executive Council of Aurat Foundation

July 2019-June 2020

Name	Function	Gender	Affiliation
Naeem Ahmed Mirza	Executive Director	Male	22 years
Mumtaz Mughal	Director Programmes	Female	16 years
Asim Malik	Director Outreach and Network	Male	22 years
Shabina Ayaz	Resident Director, Peshawar	Female	23 years
Mahnaz Rahman	Resident Director, Karachi	Female	10 years
Alauddin Khalji	Resident Director, Quetta	Male	2 years
Saima Munir	Manager Programmes, KP	Female	21 years
Malka Khan	Manager Programmes, Sindh	Female	16 years

# Organogram

## Institutional Structure Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation



# Audit Report



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation (the Foundation)** which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at **June 30, 2020**, and the Statement of income and expenditure, statement of other comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statement, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation as at **June 30, 2020**, and of its financial performance for the year then ended, in accordance with Approved accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (the Code) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statement

The Board of Governors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the approved accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan and for such internal control as the Board of Governors determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statement, the Board of Governors are responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



**A. SHAHBAZ & CO.**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and contents of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The financial statements of the Society for the year ended June 30, 2019 were audited by another firm of Chartered Accountants, who through their report dated December 30, 2019, expressed unqualified opinion.

*A. SHAHBAZ & Co.*

A. Shahbaz & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

Engagement Partner: Aamir Shahbaz  
Dated: December 10, 2020  
Lahore



**Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at June 30, 2020**

<b>Funds and liabilities</b>	<i>Note</i>	<b>June 30, 2020</b>	<b>June 30, 2019</b>
		<b>----- Rupees -----</b>	
<b><u>Funds</u></b>			
General fund		13,043,731	12,908,402
Endowment fund - restricted		1,035,924	1,035,924
		<b>14,079,655</b>	<b>13,944,326</b>
<b><u>Non-current liabilities</u></b>			
Donated funds - restricted	5	-	-
Deferred capital grants - restricted	6	17,212,202	19,329,266
		<b>17,212,202</b>	<b>19,329,266</b>
<b><u>Current liabilities</u></b>			
Trade and other payables	7	398,928,817	182,665,145
Donated funds - restricted	5	23,432,515	5,746,643
		<b>422,361,332</b>	<b>188,411,788</b>
<b>Contingencies and commitments</b>			
	8		
		<b>453,653,189</b>	<b>221,685,380</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
<b><u>Non-current assets</u></b>			
Property and equipment	9	13,928,676	17,943,293
Intangible assets	10	937,016	1,004,455
		<b>14,865,692</b>	<b>18,947,748</b>
<b><u>Current assets</u></b>			
Prepayments, advances and other receivables	11	421,502,964	185,103,948
Cash and bank balances	12	17,284,533	17,633,684
		<b>438,787,497</b>	<b>202,737,632</b>
		<b>453,653,189</b>	<b>221,685,380</b>

The annexed notes 1 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

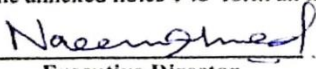
  
**Executive Director**

  
**Director**

**Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation**  
**Statement of Income and Expenditure**  
**For the year ended June 30, 2020**

	Note	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019
----- Rupees -----			
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Grants-restricted		466,888,972	574,792,959
Donations		-	532,864
Other income	13	4,470,380	8,682,667
Amortization of capital grants	6	2,117,064	3,127,114
		<u>473,476,416</u>	<u>587,135,604</u>
<b><u>Program Expenditure</u></b>			
Salaries and benefits		389,578,386	310,964,277
Meetings, seminars, workshops and advertisement		35,009,053	41,584,548
Utilities		1,868,597	1,782,518
Communication and mailing expenses		923,791	2,843,604
Vehicle running, repair and maintenance expenses		2,767,074	4,032,415
Office rent		23,837,103	20,294,438
Repair and maintenance expenses		641,838	1,237,348
Printing, stationery and supplies		3,336,887	154,291,267
Traveling and conveyance		4,844,327	13,708,942
Newspapers and periodicals		25,913	54,992
Legal and professional fee		2,068,900	18,861,634
Bank charges		660,256	3,334,732
Security charges		1,326,847	1,802,244
Audit fee		-	-
<b>Total program expenses</b>		<b>466,888,972</b>	<b>574,792,959</b>
<b><u>Administrative, management and general expenditure</u></b>			
Salaries and benefits		1,699,247	3,141,052
Meetings, seminars, workshops and advertisement		216,284	848,663
Utilities		23,479	74,271
Communication and mailing expenses		26,107	149,663
Vehicle running, repair and maintenance expenses		67,370	257,388
Office rent		451,434	845,602
Repair and maintenance expenses		20,161	107,595
Printing, stationery and supplies		689,721	1,558,498
Traveling and conveyance		289,120	571,205
Newspapers and periodicals		1,647	4,138
Legal and professional fee		12,850	10,874
Bank charges		54,095	53,658
Security charges		2,151	135,653
Audit fee		760,000	1,029,015
Foreign currency exchange loss		-	-
<b>Total administrative and general expenses</b>		<b>4,313,666</b>	<b>8,787,275</b>
Depreciation	9.1	1,803,665	2,656,549
Amortization	10.1	334,784	502,152
<b>Net surplus</b>		<b><u>135,329</u></b>	<b><u>396,669</u></b>

The annexed notes 1 to form an integral part of these financial statements.

  
**Executive Director**

  
**Director**

**Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation**  
**Statement of Other Comprehensive Income**  
*For the year ended June 30, 2020*

	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019
	----- Rupees -----	
Net surplus for the year	135,329	396,669
<u>Other comprehensive income</u>		
<i>Items that will never be classified to profit and loss</i>	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<u>135,329</u>	<u>396,669</u>

The annexed notes 1 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

  
Executive Director

  
Director

**Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation**  
**Statement of Changes in Funds**  
*For the year ended June 30, 2020*

	General fund	Endowment fund - restricted	Total
	----- Rupees -----		
<b>Balance as at July 01, 2018</b>	12,511,733	1,035,924	13,547,657
<i>Total comprehensive income for the year</i>			
Net surplus for the year	396,669	-	396,669
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
	396,669	-	396,669
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2019</b>	12,908,402	1,035,924	13,944,326
<b>Balance as at July 01, 2019</b>	12,908,402	1,035,924	13,944,326
<i>Total comprehensive income for the year</i>			
Net surplus for the year	135,329	-	135,329
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
	135,329	-	135,329
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2020</b>	<u>13,043,731</u>	<u>1,035,924</u>	<u>14,079,655</u>

The annexed notes 1 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

  
**Executive Director**

  
**Director**



## List of Operational Projects

July 2019-June 2020

National		
1	WPP-JAZBA Democracy and Empowered Women (Jamhooriat aur Ba-Ikhtiar Aurat)	SAP-PK/Global Affairs Canada
2	National Socio-Economic Registry - Poverty Score Card - Cluster 1	BISP
3	National Socio-Economic Registry - Poverty Score Card - Cluster 5	BISP
4	Women's Learning Partnership TOT Programme	Women's Learning Partnership
5	SUBAI – Strengthening provincial Assemblies	EU/PALLDIUM
6	Creating Spaces - To Take Action on Violence against Women and Girls	OXFAM/Global Affairs Canada
Regional Projects		
Punjab		
1	Need Assessment and Implementation of Technical Capacity Building and Upgradation of Identified Dar ul Amans (DUAs)/Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Crisis Cells (SBBCs)	UN Women
Sindh		
1	Women Safety Audit in Public Places	UN Women
2	Empowerment of women home-based workers and excluded groups in Pakistan	UN Women-HNP
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)		
1	Joint for social actions for rights and equal opportunities for marginalized in Peshawar	NCA



Chapter One

# **Law and Policy Reform**

# 1. Law and Policy Reform

## 1.1 Government asked to implement CEDAW and other international conventions to end violence against women in Pakistan

Government of Pakistan has taken some progressive initiatives for the gender equality and women's empowerment in Pakistan. Ministry of Human Rights initiated the formulation of second phase of Action Plan comprising protection of Civil and Political Rights; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Environmental Rights, Labour Rights, Rights of Disabled Persons, Transgender, Women, Children and Senior Citizens; and Prevention of Torture in Pakistan is in progress for further submission to the present government in order to continue with a renewed commitment and better understanding.

The Pakistani delegation, led by the Ministry of Human Rights, Government of Pakistan also presented Fifth Periodic Pakistan Report of CEDAW on 12th February 2020. The Report covers measures adopted by Pakistan to give effect to provisions of the CEDAW Convention and progress made from March 2013 to March 2017.

During this annual reporting year July 2019-June 2020; following key important policy initiatives and legislations were introduced for the protection of socio-economic rights of women's and marginalized groups of society in Pakistan.

The Zainab Alert, Response and Recovery Act, 2020 passed on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and assented to by the President of Pakistan on March 24<sup>th</sup> 2020. Zainab Alert Response and Recovery Bill will raise the required alerts and initiate the responses required for recovery of missing, abducted, abused or kidnapped children in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). The magnitude of violence against children are on an alarming stage. The current laws and procedures required to be strengthened to effectively monitor, trace or recover missing and abducted children. In view of that, there is an urgent and pressing need to: (i) enact special laws to provide a speedy system of alerts, responses, recoveries, investigations, trials and rehabilitation to prevent and curb criminal activities against the children in ICT; and (ii) to 'ensure harmonization and cohesion in the workings of the new agencies and institutions established for the protection of children and already existing mechanisms within this field.

The Enforcement of Women's Property Rights Act, 2020 passed on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and assented to by the President of Pakistan on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. It shall extend to the whole of the Islamabad Capital Territory. The Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan gives due respect to the women in society and guarantees their right of ownership. However, the rights of ownership of women in inheritance are violated usually by their family members by means of coercion, fraud, fabrication, forgery and cheating etc. It is therefore, necessary to provide for an effective and speedy redressal mechanism to protect and secure the rights of ownership of women in the property.

The Legal Aid and Justice Authority Act, 2020 will provide legal, financial and added assistance for access to justice to the poor and vulnerable segments of the society in criminal cases. This is a constitutional right of every citizen to consult and engage a lawyer to defend themselves Article 37(d) of the Constitution guarantees that, the State shall ensure inexpensive and expeditious-q justice to its citizens. The Act shall establish a legal and institutional framework to promote access to justice by providing affordable, accessible sustainable' credible and accountable legal aid, financial or other services to the poor and vulnerable section of the society in criminal matters. This will also help to promote legal awareness, education

and public awareness of the legal aid system. The Act gives priority to disadvantaged women and children' especially in matter of sexual offenses. Apart from the provision of legal aid, the Act will also facilitate the extension of financial facilities such as provision of bail, fine and penalty arounds to the poor.

In Sindh, The Sindh Reproductive Healthcare Rights Bill, 2019 having been passed by the Provincial Assembly of Sindh on 13th November, 2019 and assented to by the Governor of Sindh on 29th November, 2019 to facilitate reproductive health care and promote reproductive health care rights in the Province of Sindh.

In Balochistan; The Balochistan Mental Health Act, 2019 passed by the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan on 12th October, 2019 and assented to by the Governor Balochistan, on 24th October, 2019 to consolidate, alter and amend the law relating to the treatment and care of mentally disordered persons in Balochistan, to make better provisions for their care, treatment, management of properties and affairs and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and to encourage community care of such mentally disordered persons and further to provide for the promotion of mental health and prevention of mental disorder.

The Khyber Pakhtunkwha Enforcement of Women's Property Rights Act 2019 passed on 14 October 2019 and assented to by the Governor of KP on 17 October 2019 to provide for the protection of the rights of ownership and possession of properties owned by women, ensuring that such rights are not violated by means of harassment, coercion, force or fraud and for the matters connected herewith or incidental.

In Khyber Pakhtunkwha, The Khyber Pakhtunkwha Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace (Amendment) Act,2020 passed on 14 January 2020 and assented to by the Governor of KP on 20 January 2020. According to Act, The Government shall appoint the Ombudsperson. The Act bounded the employer to ensure implementation of this Act, including but not limited to incorporate the Code of Conduct for protection against harassment at the workplace as a part of their management policy to ensure a work environment free of harassment for women.

In Punjab, unfortunately, they could not introduce any pro women legislation during the reporting period.

## Chapter Two

# Capacity Building and Consultative Processes

## 2. Capacity Building and Consultative Processes

### 2.1 National Training of Trainers on Community Leadership and Local Government System

Aurat Foundation organized a “Training of Trainers” on Community Leadership and Local Government System from 17-20 March, 2020 at Four Points Hotel, Lahore under **Democracy and Empowered Women or Jamhuriat aur Baikhtiar Aurat** “JAZBA Project. It was a national event that was attended by engaged districts’ staff of JAZBA and CSO members from already engaged targeted districts of Pakistan.

The objective of the TOT was to equip the district staff and CSO members with the proper knowledge of leadership and local government system and clarity to downstream the trainings in their respective districts. The training was started with the welcome note by Team Leader Mr. Irfan Mufti, SAP-PK. He gave a brief introduction of JAZBA project to participants, he answered the questions raised by the participants during his presentation.

Ms. Shamaila Tanvir, Programme Manager said that initially, TOT was planned for four days in order to deliver contents of training in first two days while other two days were the replication of the training contents by the participants. Keeping in view the current situation of COV 19 prevailing in Pakistan make it difficult to complete the four days because most of the participants were from Sindh, Punjab and KP Provinces.

The main themes were covered in the training were; Gender Concepts, Power Walk, Power and its Dynamic, Gender Based Violence, Understanding Leadership, History and Importance of Local Government System in Pakistan, Citizen’s participation in Politics, Analysis of Existing Local Governments in Provinces, Pre- and Post-Election Role and Skills for Ideal Representation. Training techniques were participatory, group works with fun, brainstorming with their experience and ideas that enabled participants to innovate ideas and perspectives. The medium of training was Urdu and manual and hands outs distributed among participants were also developed in Urdu for their more clarity on the topics.



The training team was comprised of capacity building experts Ms. Saima Munir, Ms. Shabina Ayaz, Nabeela Shaheen and Ms. Shamaila Tanvir from Aurat Foundation, Mr. Shakeel Abbas from SAP-PK and Mr. Salman Abid, Executive Director IDEAS.

The training was ended with vote of thanks and hope that all human kind will be successfully survived from this COV 19 virus and field activities will be resumed in the mid of April 2020. At the end, certificates were also distributed among the participation as an appreciation token for their active and energetic participation.

In the end of training, Senior Politician, Women and human rights activist Ms. Mahnaz Rafi, gave their concluding remarks and distributed the certificates among trainees.

## 2.2 Capacity building workshops for officials and staff of shelter homes

Aurat Foundation organized 2- Days Capacity Building Workshops for Shelters Staff on “Understanding Gender Based Violence and Standard Operating Procedures” in their respective districts i.e. Lahore, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Quetta, Sukkur, Abbottabad and Peshawar. Overall, 199 (141 women and 51 men) officials of shelters staff trained on “Understanding Gender Based Violence and Standard Operating Procedures of Shelters”.

Under this main title of 2-Day Capacity Building of Shelter Staff on “Understanding Gender Based Violence and Standard Operating Procedures of Shelters, following topics were covered: Overview of Violence Against Women and Girls, Gender-based violence – defining GBV and discussion on after-effects and consequences of GBV, Prevention and response strategies, survivor assistance; guiding principles: Health – Psychosocial – Security - Legal justice,

Orientation on SOPs/ Minimum Care Standards, Principles, Guidelines and Procedures for the Dar-ul-Aman staff; (Admission, Duration of stay, Discharge, Working days and hours, Compliance with internal rules/ SOPs of the Dar-ul-Aman), Guidelines to dealing with the residents based on a human right, survivor-centric and do no harm approach; Residents’ right, Categories of violations and redressal mechanisms, Protection guidelines and Services to the residents (in line with the Essential Services Package): Medical care; Psychological support; Legal aid; Security; Vocational training; & other services or facilities. TORs of Advisory Committees, TORs of Complaints Management Committees

Survivors’ rehabilitation and follow up mechanisms, strengthening of referral and networking mechanisms, Orientation of Pro Women Laws applicable in Punjab, Discussion on strategies for building positive image of shelters. (Agenda of training is attached IV)

Pre and post-test assessment of participant were also done. Certificates were also awarded to all trainees. Key notables were invited for awarding the certificates in the end of workshop. (Pics of trainings are annexed V)

Sr. #	Date	Training Venue	# of Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
1	30-31 Jan 2020	Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Human Rights Centre for Women, Rawalpindi	25	5	30
2	10-11 Feb 2020	Dar-ul-Aman, Sukkur	26	10	36
3	10-11 Feb 2020	Dar-ul-Aman, Abbottabad	9	6	15
4	11-12 Feb 2020	Boys Scouts Headquarter, Quetta	25	5	30
5	11-12 Feb 2020	Madina Restaurant, Faisalabad	26	10	36
6	17-18 Feb 2020	Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Human Rights Centre for Women, Peshawar	12	5	17
7	17-18 Feb 2020	Flatties Hotel, Lahore	25	10	35
Total			<b>148</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>199</b>





### **2.3 Women leaders trained on Effective Local Accountability**

Aurat Foundation arranged a training workshop on “Effective Local Accountability” at Margalla Hotel, Islamabad on Oct. 24, 2019 under project of Creating Spaces to take actions on violence against women and girls. Women leaders, members of women protection forum members, lawyers and youth attended the training session. More than 30 participants participated in this training.

The objective of this activity is to create awareness in advancing women rights, women leadership and the elimination of violence against women and girls by building the capacity of these women by changing their attitudes, norms and behaviors, and to strengthen standards, legislation, and regulations.

The formal meeting started with the welcome note by Ms. Shamaila Tanvir, Project Manager, followed by introduction of the participants. She has given brief introduction on the elimination of violence against women and girls. She has taken an overview analysis of participants & apos; understanding before training.

Training Expert, Mr. Bilal Naqeeb briefly explained the concepts of governance, good governance and community governance. He told the model for good community governance. He further conducted a group activity to describe governance of community through SWOT model. Then further he explained the term accountability and every nuke and corner of it. Social accountability was of major concern. Then for social accountability understanding, he conducted a role play through group engagement.



In the end, he concluded with summarizing whole training by an over view of its training. Then the feedback of understanding to their topic is taken from all the participants. Training session was ended with note of thanks by Ms. Isma Sana, Project Manager, Creating Space Project, Oxfam.

### **2.4 Enhanced Women Groups Leadership Skills on KP Local Government and Women Friendly Laws**

AF Peshawar office organised a series of trainings sessions of “Community Peace Groups” (CPGs) to enhanced the leadership skills of local communities for peace building in their respective communities. Through leadership training and peer to peer learning sessions, 176 women were imparted with knowledge of leadership and the challenges of women leaders as well as women-friendly laws and Local Government Act 2013 and various other topics while 143 women were informed about referral pathways. The women participants were made confident of highlighting their barriers to participating in politics, women's unique style of leadership as well as the ways of dealing with discrimination while going forward. Further, these leaders committed to participate in local body elections. Moreover, the women leaders will strive at their community levels to get equal access to education, healthcare, and economic/employment opportunities.

CPGs facilitated women to women learning sessions that were conducted in the targeted six UCs of Peshawar. The sessions aimed to promote social cohesion and deal with gender-based issues in their respective communities. MPA Rabia Basri from PTI visited women group of Shadbagh colony and had a detailed discussion on the issues faced by the minority women. She further motivated and encouraged the group to become strong political and community leaders by participating in politics to solve the myriad of problems thus increasing their quality of life.



## 2.5 Women Leaders trained on Community Leadership and Local Government System in Karachi and Quetta

Aurat Foundation Quetta office organised a 2-Days Capacity Building Workshop on “Community Leadership and Local Government System in AF office. More than 20 community women leaders participated. They were political activists, ex councillors and office bearers of mainstream political parties. The program is also focused on youth leaders to participate in local initiatives and providing follow-up training for program graduates.

Ms. Yasmin Mughal, Programme Office AF JAZAB programme said that women leader will work together beyond party lines to advocate for legislation that takes gender into consideration; and effective implementation of pro-women laws & policies that affects the lives of women and girls. The group of trainees should be developed its own manifesto.

Mr. Allauddin, Resident Director AF Quetta said, since the community women leaders are now trained and well aware of the functioning of the LG system, therefore it is now their duty to apply their skills and have oversight of the budget-making process and play their role in identification of development schemes and decision making at their levels. The under-representation of women at any level of governance and decision-making results in a democratic deficit. It has been proven time and again that diverse groups make better decisions. This is particularly true when it comes to a task as challenging as representing the interests of citizens at the local level. Often influencing policies in housing, security, transport, and the economy, local government makes important decisions that affect the lives of women and men.



Women leaders said that Women’s equal participation and representation in local decision-making processes is critical for prioritizing women’s practical needs and issues in local

governments' agendas and for localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Gender-balanced local councils may be an important step in helping to attain gender balance at the national levels.

The women leaders attending the training sessions expressed satisfaction over the quality of training imparted to them to know the system and its working, leading to their enlightenment in political arena.

In Karachi, Aurat Foundation also organised a 2-Days Capacity Building Workshop on "Community Leadership and Local Government System in Karachi. Around 20 women leaders participated in training programme.

Speaking on closing ceremony of 2-Days training, Senior Programme Manager, Ms. Malka Khan said that through their active involvement in community work and women's movements, local women politicians are fully aware of issues faced by women in their communities and are uniquely positioned to address them. The role of women in decision making has been addressed by various international agreements and conventions, CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action (1995), to name a few.

She said that after completion of successful training, women leaders are now able to play active role in the local government system at district, tehsil and village levels for development, implementation and monitoring of the development schemes keeping in view Sindh Local Government Act-2013 and their respective Rules of Business. The programme is also aimed at raising awareness among women councilors about their rights, economic independence and various women empowerment related legislations.



Chapter Three

# **Social Mobilisation and Citizen Engagement**

### 3. Social Mobilisation and Citizens Engagement

Social mobilization is seen at AF as a means to motivate socio-economic sustainable change by to bring awareness among people and ultimately for ordinary citizens to demand and claim their rights. This is through engagement at all levels and the decentralization of policy and decision-making.

Aurat Foundation is implementing National Socio-Economic Registry (NSER) project in 34 districts of Pakistan. The programme was initiated in 2010-2011 under Social Safety Net Program (SSNP) like BISP, for effective targeting and identification of beneficiaries below the poverty line with the support of World Bank. The Current NSER is a static registry i.e. it is unable to cater to changing socio-economic conditions of the population surveyed 5 years ago. Hence the NSER registry is being updated through the Household Survey through Android Tablets for Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) and Paper and Pen Interviewing (PAPI) in Security and other local conditions prohibited areas.

The objectives of NSER Projects are:

- To create public awareness about BISP and Data collection exercise to ensure Maximum participation of Households-HHs across the country.
- Collect a good quality socioeconomic data of every Households across Pakistan in accordance with standard procedures and guidelines.

#### 3.1 Updated Status of social mobilization, household listing, enumeration in Cluster 1 & Cluster 5

AF done social mobilization, household listing, and enumeration in Cluster 1:

Updated till 30th June 2020 - CLUSTER 1		Total HH Listing	Total HH Enumeration	Target Achieved	
District	Target Household			Listing	Enumeration
GUJRANWALA	747,214	308,070	250,183	41.2%	33.5%
GUJRAT	442,399	193,645	156,217	43.8%	35.3%
HAFIZABAD	175,180	140,666	133,905	80.3%	76.4%
MANDI BAHAUDDIN	252,120	217,602	199,683	86.3%	79.2%
<b>GUJRANWALA Division</b>	<b>1,616,913</b>	<b>859,983</b>	<b>739,988</b>	<b>53.2%</b>	<b>45.8%</b>
RAWALPINDI	888,765	127,651	110,552	14.4%	12.4%
ATTOCK	306,649	174,188	185,537	56.8%	60.5%
JHELUM	204,792	143,014	156,418	69.8%	76.4%
<b>RAWALPINDI Division</b>	<b>1,400,206</b>	<b>444,853</b>	<b>452,507</b>	<b>31.8%</b>	<b>32.3%</b>
ISLAMABAD	335,408	118,836	92,922	35.4%	27.7%
<b>ISLAMABAD Division</b>	<b>335,408</b>	<b>118,836</b>	<b>92,922</b>	<b>35.4%</b>	<b>27.7%</b>
<b>Overall Total - C1</b>	<b>3,352,527</b>	<b>1,423,672</b>	<b>1,285,417</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>38.3%</b>

## AF done social mobilization, household listing, enumeration in Cluster 5

Updated till 30th June 2020 - CLUSTER 5		Total HH Listing	Total HH Enumeration	Target Achieved	
District	Target Household			Listing	Enumeration
BAHAWALNAGAR	481,276	277,438	255,067	57.6%	53.0%
RAHIM YAR KHAN	701,520	515,223	421,221	73.4%	60.0%
<b>BAHAWALPUR Total</b>	<b>1,182,796</b>	<b>792,661</b>	<b>676,288</b>	<b>67.0%</b>	<b>57.2%</b>
KAMBAR SHAHDADKOT	223,154	218,287	195,674	97.8%	87.7%
KASHMOR	185,143	115,181	95,709	62.2%	51.7%
LARKANA	261,331	172,843	154,023	66.1%	58.9%
SHIKARPUR	207,555	189,329	170,141	91.2%	82.0%
<b>LARKANA Total</b>	<b>877,183</b>	<b>695,640</b>	<b>615,547</b>	<b>79.3%</b>	<b>70.2%</b>
MIRPUR KHAS	286,547	206,314	176,827	72.0%	61.7%
THARPARKAR	301,625	79,198	71,276	26.3%	23.6%
UMER KOT	212,356	200,707	187,630	94.5%	88.4%
<b>MIRPUR KHAS Total</b>	<b>800,528</b>	<b>486,219</b>	<b>435,733</b>	<b>60.7%</b>	<b>54.4%</b>
NAUSHAHRO FEROZE	275,693	236,678	200,769	85.8%	72.8%
SANGHAR	374,609	160,959	123,019	43.0%	32.8%
SHAHEED BENZIRABAD	297,133	245,673	179,710	82.7%	60.5%
<b>SHAHEED BENZIRABAD Total</b>	<b>947,435</b>	<b>643,310</b>	<b>503,498</b>	<b>67.9%</b>	<b>53.1%</b>
GHOTKI	296,830	135,012	113,287	45.5%	38.2%
KHAIRPUR	413,044	264,417	200,317	64.0%	48.5%
<b>SUKKUR Total</b>	<b>709,874</b>	<b>399,429</b>	<b>313,604</b>	<b>56.3%</b>	<b>44.2%</b>
<b>Overall Total - C5</b>	<b>4,517,816</b>	<b>3,017,259</b>	<b>2,544,670</b>	<b>66.8%</b>	<b>56.3%</b>

### 3.2 Community Partner Groups are mobilized for social integration and national solidarity

With a strong network of 84 Community Partners Groups (CPG) members in targeted UCs in Peshawar, AF has contributed to promoting peacebuilding, social and cultural integration in Peshawar. The faith diversity among CPG is 48% with 50% of women representation and 33% of youth members well exceeding the set target. A strong peace and culture groups have played key roles in safeguarding basic rights. CPGs intervened in 12 such cases in the communities. The cases included mostly domestic violence, illicit use of drugs, misuse of loudspeakers (hate speech) robbery, women mobility, etc.

The community workers from the different religious, ethnic, and regional background are now mobilized and work in their communities to promote social integration and harmonious interactions between diverse communities in society and providing equal opportunities for everyone's visibility as a peace promoter has been increased and are involved in resolving community issues where needed through early warning system which was set up in 2018.

### 3.3 Community workers are mobilized and trained to promote social and cultural cohesion

AF Peshawar team mobilized 1320 community workers through various social integration activities which included 06 community gatherings (Bethaks), 4 joint cultural celebrations of diverse communities, 12 coordination meetings, 6 community interventions. Community workers from targeted UCs of Peshawar were mobilized and trained on their roles and responsibilities as CPGs and they played their contribution towards promoting social and cultural cohesion. Community Peace Groups (CPGs) in the six UCs remained active in promoting unity in diversity by sharing positive cultural values and to play a substantial role in promoting social cohesion in their respective communities by engaging the community in various activities.

The workers described that their visibility as a peace promoter had been increased and they have remained active by engaging the community in various awareness sessions and seminars on sensitive topics such as Conflict resolution or mediation, harassment, and other social issues. CPGs were revitalized and strengthened by holding coordination meetings by AF on human rights issues.

### 3.4 Alliance Strengthening Workshop

A consultative meeting on “Alliance Strengthening” was held at Hospitality Inn Hotel, Lahore on December 31, 2019 where more than 40 representatives of different alliances participated.

The objectives of the workshop as following:

- Generating knowledge on national networks and alliances through knowledge management
- Identifying possible linkages and engagement between alliances / groups
- Contributing to the ‘Creating Spaces’ project through regional and cross-country studies on networks and alliances.

Mr. Waqar Haider Awan (Consultant at ASK) shared the salient features of scoping study on strengthening of alliance building. His presentation was based on a joint research initiative between Aurat Foundation and OXFAM, conducted by ASK. It consisted of a brief outline of the conclusions and recommendations on short term, medium term and long-term levels. A SWOT analysis conducted by Mr. Anjum Rafiq, Programme Officer Aurat Foundation. The main purpose of the analysis is to find a way to collaborate and cooperate together in the alliances and issues that we take on.





## Chapter Four

# **Advocacy, Awareness-Raising and Lobbying**

## 4. Advocacy, Awareness-Raising and Lobbying

Aurat Foundation is essentially an advocacy organisation that has established a wide network around the whole country, lobbying and creating awareness around gender related issues, including pro-women laws and women's political participation. As an organisation, we have also raised our voices against societal injustices, protesting against the lack of State involvement to protect persecuted groups and marginalised people. Below we showcase what we have worked towards, celebrations and protests on causes and issues we hold close to our hearts and minds.

### 4.1 Focus group discussion on women's safety issues at public transport and places

A focus group discussion on women's safety issues at public transport and places with relevant stakeholders and decision makers was organized on 26 July 2019 at Quetta. The session was chaired by Ms. Zeenat Shahwani Honourable Member of Provincial Assembly Balochistan.

FGD helped to understanding issues in greater depth and coming to sound conclusions. AF team moderated the discussions and also acted as rapporteurs. All discussions were video recorded and later transcribed. The recording was carried out with the consent of the participants and are used for the purpose of this research only.

The objectives of the focus group discussions were:

- To get first-hand information in a broader context from stakeholders, particularly women, on the issues they face in public places in the targeted five districts; and
- To explore issues that women and girls face in the different districts, and to find possible solutions from the perspectives of both rights holders and duty bearers.



### 4.2 AF and MUMKIN Alliance advocacy efforts for the Implementation of The Protection of Women against Violence Act 2016

Aurat Foundation organized meeting of MUMKIN Alliance members with Ms. Kaneez Fatima Chadhar, Chairperson of women Protection Authority Punjab on Aug. 2, 2019 on the Implementation status of "The Protection of Women against Violence Act, 2016.

Ms. Nabeela Shaheen, Senior Programme Officer Aurat Foundation and focal person of Mumkin Alliance gave a brief introduction of Mumkin Alliance. She also shared the objectives of meeting.



Ms. Kaneez Fatima Chadhar shared that the Punjab government would set up four 'Violence Against Women Centres' in Lahore, Faisalabad, Bahawalpur and Rawalpindi and there will be

a toll-free number soon on which women could call and seek help. She assured the members that her organisation would provide her all possible assistance in this matter.

### 4.3 Launching Ceremonies of Women Water Networks & Women's Colloquium

Aurat Foundation organized the launching ceremonies of Women Water Network (WWN) and Women's Colloquium with Hissar Foundation between August to November, 2019 at Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Quetta and Peshawar at Aurat Foundation offices.

The composition of members of WWN was:

- Women Rights Activists
- Academia
- Young Students
- Individual Researchers and Experts
- Media (print and electronic)
- Representatives of NGOs/INGOs/CBOs/CSOs
- Representative of Women Headed Organizations
- Officials of relevant departments; Public health engineer, WASA, Agriculture, Environment, Forestry, trade union, young business entrepreneur, agrarian women workers, Labour, Irrigation, Food, PWA, Education, Livestock and others
- Representative of Political Parties
- Member of Provincial Assemblies

The objective of WWN were to engage organizations and woman individually who are active in the areas of water and sanitation, sustainable development, women's participation and empowerment. The members may be rural women, academia, women water professionals, and businesswomen to service organizations and special interest groups. Women as active leaders, partners, experts and agents of change in water are highly appreciated to join.



In each region, Aurat Foundation teams gave the briefing on formation and set up Women Water Network. The presentations were given on importance and consumption of water under title "Every Drop Count". They shared that over 2 billion people live in countries experiencing high water stress. Worldwide, over 80% of all wastewater returns to the environment without being treated (WWAP, 2017). The increase in demand for irrigation for agriculture has led to severe groundwater stress in some areas, especially in two of Asia's major food baskets, India and China. Gender inequalities in access to water are large and persistent in many countries.

She also highlighted that water planners choose amongst competing uses. Women don't have a formal voice in the sector therefore domestic use is given least priority. Often irrigation schemes are conducted with landowners therefore women are left out of the equation. Participants discussed inherent and historical role of women in preservice, usage and

distribution of water resources with a view to maintain and strengthen it. They also proposed interventions at research, policy advocacy and grassroots' mobilisation for ensuring women's role in water crisis solutions. Many examples are shared that how small behavioral change lead to big evolution.

The participants appreciated the work and had given their valuable input in this regard. They devoted that Little Drops of Water Make a Mighty Ocean. In Islamabad launching ceremony,

Ms. Simi Kamal, Water Specialist and founder of Hisaar Foundation explained the global trends of water and the role of women in this area. She highlighted many names who are contributing their life for this cause. Further, she explained the role of Pakistani women around water table and why women are important to pursue in water sector. Discussion was held for the conservation of water and participants shared their achievement and thoughts.

Ms. Farzana Saleem, Coordinator, National Women Water Network added valuing water and protecting our ecosystem. She explained water governance and its infrastructure.

In the end of event, an executive committee comprised of four members was formed to access new areas of knowledge and a forum to work with other members. Ms. Samina Shoaib, President Women Water Network (WWN- Islamabad), Ms. Zartasha, General Secretary, Ms. Farhana Satti and Ms. Doultana Kausar. Ms. Farkhanda Aurugzaib and Farzana Saleem will provide technical support while Ms. Mumtaz from AF will provide secretarial support to WWN Islamabad. More than 44 participants attended the event. They were from academia, public offices, civil society, law, media, individual experts, and representatives of women alliances. Likewise, in each region, women water networks formed and launched.



#### **4.4 Sharing progress for Women's Empowerment and launching ceremony of Punjab Women's Parliamentary Caucus**

Aurat Foundation organized an exercise sharing meeting of women parliamentarians on December 13, 2019 at Avari Hotel, Lahore. Overall, more than 73 persons from different walk of life. 30 women MPs participated. The session was chaired by Ms. Ashifa Riaz Fatayana, Minister for Women Development, Government of Punjab.

The objectives of the meeting were:

- Reflect on WPCs achievements to date, challenges and strategies to strengthen WPCs
- Build a shared vision and identify broader objectives to ensure continuity and an effective transition to the newly elected members
- Agree on short term, strategic actions to ensure institutionalization of the WPC post elections
- Explore key gender issues and propose solutions to advance gender equality in parliamentary business and sustainable development.

On this eve, MPs acknowledged the role of women parliamentarians. They shared that a number of women friendly laws passed in all four provincial assemblies and national assembly due to their positive and active participation. They shared that seven landmark legislations on women's rights. These included the Amendment to Women in Distress and Detention Fund Act that provided for mandatory financial and legal assistance to women in prisons; the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act; the Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act; the Establishment of Benazir Income Support Programme Act, which proved to be a useful income support initiative; the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act for Acid Crimes; the Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act and the National Commission on the Status of Women Act. In addition to legislation, they also highlighted a wide range of women's issues on the floors of the Houses.



Justice (r) Nasira Iqbal said that this is a very optimistic future scenario. It is hoped this collective thinking among women parliamentarians would go a long way in shaping the caucuses. The challenge is to keep up the cross-party spirit and build on the spaces the former caucus created.

On the launching of Punjab Women Parliamentary Cacus, Ms. Ashifa Riaz Fatayana, Minister for Women Development, Government of Punjab said that the collective learning and actions would be proven as a beneficial tool to intervene the desired initiatives at the general public to

break stereotypes about women's status in the society to achieve targets set forth in the "Sustainable Development Goals and Portfolio alignment to contribute towards.

In the end of event, Justice (r) Nasira Iqbal along with Minister for Women Development Department were presented the shields to women MPs to appreciate and acknowledge their efforts for women empowerment



#### **4.5 Launching Ceremony of Democracy and Empowered Women or *Jamhuriat aur Baikhtiar Aurat* "JAZBA Project"**

South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK) and Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation (AF) envisage a five-year program enhancing inclusive democratic processes and participation for the advancement of women's rights and at-risk populations, such as minorities & trans-gender communities in approximately 40 districts of Pakistan spread all across four provinces and GB.

The launching ceremony of "Democracy and Empowered Women or *Jamhuriat aur Baikhtiar Aurat* "JAZBA Project" was organized on March 14, 2020 at Flattie's Hotel, Lahore. More than 150 persons from different walks of life attended the ceremony.

Muhammad Tahseen, Executive Director of SAP PK said that the project will be influenced on demand and supply side of governance, institutionalizing democratic rights & interests of women and the marginalized into structures & processes of the democratic governance. On the demand side it will support voters & constituents to articulate democratic demands based on evidence, inclusion and broad mobilization of diverse groups including women, marginalized and men, especially the youth; and support systemic improvements on the supply side i.e. national and sub-national governance structures and representatives to respond effectively and efficiently to the demands of constituents and be accountable.

Minister for Human Rights, Minorities Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Ijaz Alam Augustine said women's participation had always played a great role in politics since the creation of Pakistan. He said women made up 49 per cent of the population and hopefully one day they would be able to elect their own government. However, during the PTI's tenure, many important initiatives had been taken to curb acid attacks, child labour, violence against women, and the Zainab Alert Bill had also been passed by the National Assembly.

MPA Uzma Kardar said that no doubt the PTI government ensured representation of women on every forum that could be easily analysed through the prime minister's programme, *Dukhtar-i-Pakistan Vision 2020-21*. MPAs Samibia Tahir, Shawana Bashir, Aisha Chaudhry and Ayesha Iqbal claimed that under the leadership of Chief Minister Usman Buzdar, the Punjab government had taken historic steps for the elimination of gender discrimination, protection of women's rights and socio-economic empowerment of women.

Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programmes Aurat Foundation said that previously, the number of women representatives in the local government bodies was around 33pc, but later amendments

were made to minimize it to 15pc. The General Elections 2018 had “12.5 million women are less than men” on the electoral rolls; Although, special efforts made by Election Commission of Pakistan and NADRA. Yet, the special efforts are needed to reduce the gap of 12.5 million. Without women’s fair representation in political and public life, how can possible to achieve gender equality. She urged the government representatives to ensure 33% representation of women in political spare (General and Local Governments Systems of all provinces), ensure 33% representation of women in public sphere of all decision-making structures in all provinces of Pakistan.

Mr I.A. Rehman said the performance of women parliamentarian in national and provincial assemblies was better than men. Women should be given more representation in the decision-making bodies and they would prove to be better performers. Representatives of various schools of thought also expressed their views and applauded the effort of non-government organizations to protect women’s rights. Women, religious minorities, transgender persons, special people, and social activists participated in the event.



#### **4.6 Launched the awareness raising campaign on issues of working women throughout COVID 19**

AF and SAP-Pk launched Electronic and social media campaign is aired on 9-TV Channles (national and regional) and Rikshwa Campaign.

During this public health emergency, women are most adversely affected. Many women, including domestic workers and those working for small and medium businesses may also be laid off due to the inability of employers to continue paying wages during lockdown.

Similarly, Home-based Workers (HBWs) whom are currently 12 million HBWs who earn around Rs. 3000-4000/months, they are and will face multidimensional issues such as low-income security, absence of social protection and highest economic vulnerability in times of crisis. In times of public health crises, as women are less fluid in terms of cash flows and

savings, the ability to pay back loans may be affected. This could result in higher interest rates, penalties in repayment and reduced access to loans from formal in future.

Evidence suggests that epidemics and stresses involved in coping with the epidemics may increase the risk of domestic abuse and other forms of gender-based violence. Studies have also found that unemployment tends to increase the risk of depression, aggression and episodes of violent behavior in men. Hence, the country may experience a rise in cases of domestic abuse as a result of the COVID-19. It is reported that the economic repercussions of the Ebola outbreak, led to increased risk of sexual exploitation of women.



#### **4.7 Consultation with stakeholders on reform of The Punjab Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 2015**

Aurat Foundation in collaboration with Oxfam with the financial support of Global Affairs Canada, organized a consultation in Lahore on 19th November 2019 at Four Points by Sheraton in which a large number of women parliamentarians, government officials and civil society



networks and alliances participated. In this consultation, all the participants shared and proposed draft amendment(s) in Punjab Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 2015, including, increasing the age of a girl to 18 instead of 16.

#### **4.8 Duty bearers and other stakeholders are engaged to promote social and cultural cohesion**

AF efforts resulted in the engagement of key stakeholders to promote social and cultural cohesion in Peshawar. AF successfully submitted the Charter of demand to the government with priority being the job quota for neglected communities in the government of KP. Also, AF engaged religious leaders who sermon 24 speeches on tolerance and acceptance in Gurdwaras, mosques, masjids and churches. Prominently, AF held a meeting with Bishop, who briefed AF on the issues of the communities and challenges to cope with them.



AF throughout the project has strived to link its CPGs members with maximum stakeholders and departments to ensure sustainability and has successfully engaged **59** duty bearers throughout the project who are vocal against social discrimination and violation of equal rights. to promote social and cultural cohesion. **12** such initiatives were taken in this regard which includes coordination meetings with different relevant line departments, media interventions and consultation workshops to engage key stakeholders. AF conducted a meeting with the National Commission for Human Rights and Directorate of Culture KP. NCHR provided a reference letter on the submission of the charter of demands (Annex 2) developed by AF to concerned authorities, i.e., Secretary establishment department KP, Secretary Haj, Auqaf, and Religious Minority Affairs and The Deputy director National Commission for Human rights and showed their support to AF current year activities. Mr. Rizwan, coordinator NCHR, encourage the CPG members to highlight their issues to NCHR. Further, advised that the NCHR platform is open for all types of the request made by the communities. Similarly, the directorate agreed to provide all kinds of technical assistance for the partners for culturally relevant activities.

In a meeting with secretary Auqaf, Mr. Fraukh Sair ensured the proper implementation of job quota along with other issues of the neglected communities' e.g. scholarships, widow funds, renovation of worship places, etc. will be addressed. Similarly, AF also conducted coordination meetings with the forest department to link the CPGs with the department to access benefits thus connecting the CPG members with the KP Forest department's Billion Tree Afforestation Project (BTAP) to support them in tree plantation. The CPGs were contacted by the department after meeting and were made a member of the green club which resulted in their involvement in various environment-friendly activities. Free plants were also distributed among the members through the department.

A prominent intervention of AF was the consultative workshop of key stakeholders in Swat where over 28 actors participated including elected politicians, faith leaders, CSO representatives, social activists, government representatives, and youth leaders. To promote a positive narrative of cultural diversity the stakeholders were also taken to places of cultural significance. The success of the event was the formation of a peace group of key stakeholders who remained in coordination throughout and took initiatives on community-level issues.

The project has ensured the involvement of religious leaders from the majority and minority communities who remained active in promoting harmony and peace in society. Different meetings were conducted with the influential leaders like Khateeb of Masjid Mahbbat Khan, Grantis from the Sikh community, Pandith and Bishop. As a result, the leaders included topics of interfaith harmony in their speeches and sermons. A total number of **24** speeches were delivered by the religious leaders during the reporting year.

#### **4.9 Awareness raising on culture as a social connector through festivals**

As a lesson learned from the last year, festivals contribute immensely to feelings of social cohesion. Many such celebrations focus on cultural or ethnic celebrations and seek to inform community members of their traditions. In this regard, a joint cultural and socio-religious festival "Vaisakhi" was celebrated which promoted social interaction and the sense of confidence and security among the communities. **218** people from different cultural groups participated (**126** were men & **96** were women). This celebration created stronger bonds within and across different social groups and foster better trust among different identities. The Sikh community highly appreciated the event.

*“Baba Gurpal Singh, an influential social activist, added that by seeing the majority community attending and enjoying these celebrations gives the marginalized communities the sense of acceptance and security in the society.”*

*“Maqsood Ahmad Salfi, a representative of Pakistan Council of World Religion- Faith Friends. He said such events helped promote diversity and multiculturalism, an important feature of the country”.*



#### **4.10 Community-led joint festivals**

Peshawar is a city with diverse groups of people, but many challenges such as intolerance, prejudice, and misunderstanding social fragmentation and violent extremism have remained a vile concern, therefore, an intercultural approach such a Bethaks/ Community gathering were adopted where 142 people participated and visited different cultural heritage and religious sites i.e, Gorkhatri, Sethi House, Peshawar Museum, Rehman Baba Shrine Peshawar fort(Qilla Balaisar) and Masjid Mahabat Khan.

Each spot has its own historical, cultural and religious significance. These gatherings allowed collaboration, open dialogue, active participation understanding and respect for all communities. Similarly promoting social interactions, learning about the differences and similarities that existed among communities and are vital for social cohesion. It also allowed a diverse group of people to share cultural value, and integration, and unity in diversity. Similarly, Sultana Naz who belong to Muslim community shares her experience as direct interaction with the diverse group makes me very happy and it's very unique experience, it broadens my horizons of thinking about a religion different from mine and I have learned no matter how different we might be religiously but we share common principles of humanity which are above all, she further adds the kind of warmth from Christian community is so heart-warming and unforgettable.



In a progress review meeting, to get an insight Mr. Asif who belongs to the Hindu Community elaborated on the benefits received from this project and described that the project has made easier ways to develop linkages and provided access of community members with relevant government and non-government department working for the common cause. The whole group ate food from the langar thus breaking the stereotype and setting an example of equality that regardless of any religious background they can all sit and eat together.

AF involved diverse members of the society in mutually beneficial interactions by arranging interfaith religious and cultural food festivals where Sikh, Hindu, Muslim, Christian and Bahai community participated. This event clarified and revamped the myths and stereotypes surrounding the interfaith social fabric, such as skewed belief in non-acceptance of each other's eating



and other practices assuming that it may impact their religious obligations as **143** people from different religious background gathered ate and celebrated together. This gathering promoted community engagement along cultural and ethnoreligious lines, lessening segregation establishing relationships and communication between groups. With a variety of scrumptious food stalls and appetizing presentations, this was a welcoming move to let all faith group

members experience a unique food festival centered on the idea of creating one ultimate platform for people to interact. The Festival was seen as a valuable way to create acceptance and tolerance between communities. Speakers addressed the event saying Such efforts bring us together in a bond of love, irrespective of color, creed, race, and religion. We believe that festivals, like this, are gifts that need to be celebrated.

CPGs are now proactive and taking leading roles in the community, to promote communal harmony. CPG members celebrated religious festivals at their community level and made sure the involvement of a maximum number of Muslims in the celebrations. The total number of **316** people were a part of these celebrations. These celebrations brought together people from the most diverse faiths, religious and non-religious traditions for friendly conversation and sharing of cultural practices. CPGs led community celebrations were very successful in bringing together people from different dominations and to conclude that each one seeks peace, contentment and solidarity with other faiths The chart below presents the summary of community participation.

Chapter Five

# **Support for Civil Society Organizations**

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## 5. Support for Civil Society Organizations

### 5.1 COVID-19 context of Pakistan and potential response from

#### WPP-JAZBA

The sudden emergence of a pandemic Covid-19 has further exposed the vulnerabilities of poor and vulnerable section of society in Pakistan. Even before pandemic, poor were specially suffering due to slowing down of the economy, rising inflation and loss of jobs for manual and physical labour making specially women headed families at high risk and suffering from multidimensional inequality of opportunities.

It appears that in the absence of any vaccine in the world, the virus will continue to damage world's most populous countries and nations, it will melt down their economies, put their current level of development decades back and might introduce demographic imbalance in coming days. Social and political unrest, deteriorating law and order situation and health catastrophes as predicted by a UN report might also occur as spillover effect of the epidemic. In current circumstances the JAZBA will adopt two-pronged approach, which is as under:

- 1) provide humanitarian relief to bail out most affected stake holders in JAZBA projects' focus and campaign/general districts with an emphasis on women
- 2) keep implementing project activities by introducing most secure, cost effective and innovative methods
  - a) Engage with government and support agencies to build a joint response to bail out most affected segments of population, those are: women, persons with disabilities, transgender, daily wagers and minorities etc.
  - b) Introduce initiatives that directly contribute in the well-being of targeted population
  - c) Start work with new tools and methods without compromising much on results

AF and SAP-Pakistan in order to fathom the gravity of impact of COVID-19 and consequent emerging needs of women in thirty-eight districts of the country, decided to conduct a rapid assessment. It kept its focus around following probes, exploring new set of information to mark interventions necessary for women's well-being, these were:

- 1- Knowledge (of women) about COVID -19 relief programs
- 2- Registration of marginalized women with government relief programs
- 3- Benefits of relief programs to marginalized women
- 4- Sectoral distribution of marginalized women benefitting from government run programs
- 5- Priority needs of women workers
- 6- Incidence of violence against women
- 7- Availability of health services to women in public hospitals
- 8- Preferences for pregnant women in the context of COVID-19
- 9- Community satisfaction level with the delivery of relief and assistance

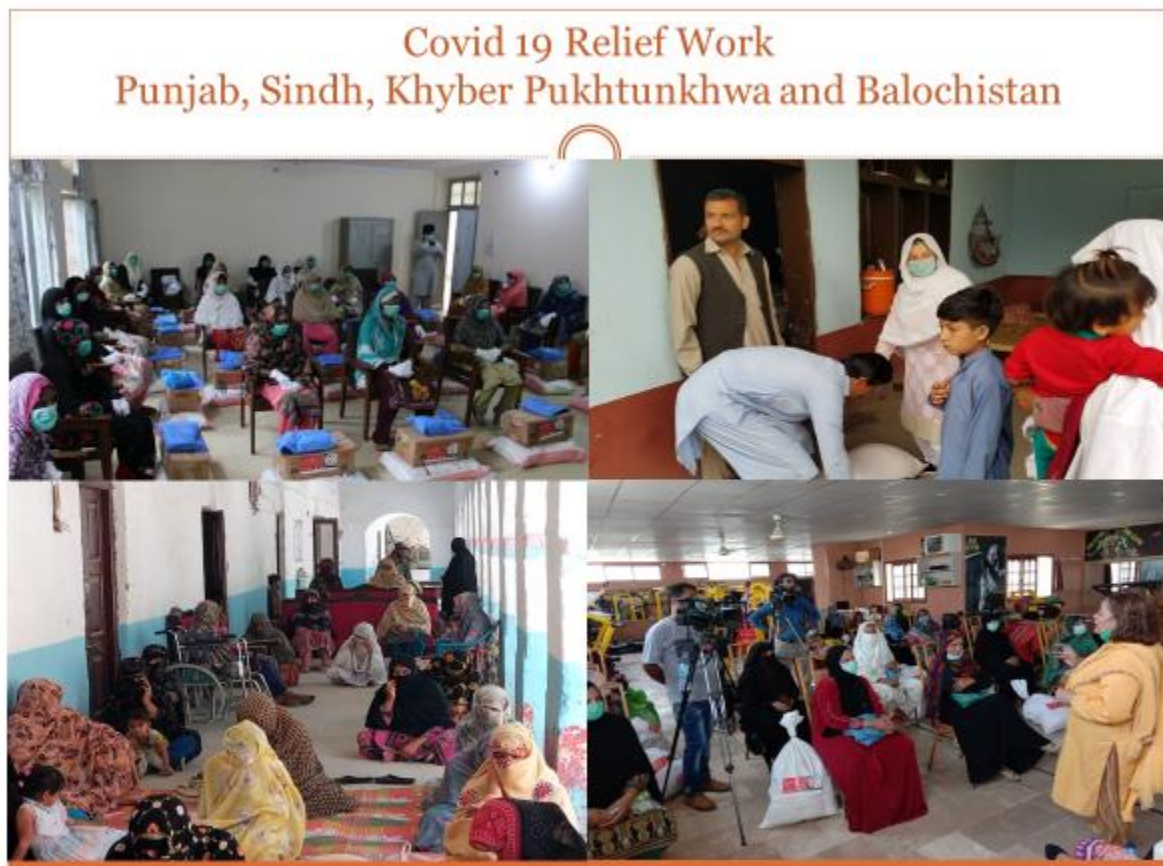
The supplies will include following items:

- a) Staple food items (Wheat 20 KG, Cooking oil 5 KG, Sugar 3 KG, all local Lentils 1 KG each, Tea 1 KG, Potatoes 3 KG, Onion 3KG, Rice 3 KG, Ginger ¼ KG, Garlic ¼ KG, Salt 1 KG, Chilies ¼ KG, Chicken 2 KG)
- b) Personal Protection Gear (5- Masks, 1- Sanitizer, 2- Soaps)



**Beneficiaries;** 30 families from each district are selected for humanitarian assistance. Overall, 360 families will be benefited from humanitarian assistance initiatives. ( $5 \times 30 \times 12 = 1800$ ) On average 5 persons from one family and aggregate of 4000 persons will benefit from the project initiatives.

## 5.2 Aurat Foundation Peshawar team played philanthropy role throughout Covid 19



Aurat Foundation Peshawar office team played their philanthropy role on voluntary basis to protect the most affected vulnerable populations in order address the most pressing needs. These include social service organizations focused on supporting low-income households,



small businesses, immigrants, refugees, older adults, people with disabilities, and other communities vulnerable to the physical health, mental health and economic impacts of the pandemic.

AF Peshawar office arranged funds from different sources (friends and family) and distributed food item packages among 350 women. Approximately 100 persons (80 women and 20 men) were supported with

cash grant from 3000 to 26000 rupees. Small business was also established for two deserving persons to earn their livelihood. distributed the food items and cash.

### 5.3 Aurat Foundation Quetta team played philanthropy role throughout Covid 19

Besides this, Aurat Foundation Quetta and Citizen Action Committee Sibbi also took initiative for collection of food item for deserving women.

Aurat Foundation distributed Food Items (Rashan) among 50 families of Home-Based workers (HBW) in District Sibi with the financial support of Hashoo Foundation and SOCIO Pakistan on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020.



Aurat Foundation distributed Food Items (Rashan) among 100 needy families at District Quetta with the financial support of Mr. Sahar Gul Khan and other notables on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020. AF identified the 50 families in Quetta and also facilitated the whole process of distribution.

### 5.4 Exposure visits for enhancing social harmony

AF arranged an exposure visit with a group of 24 individuals from different religious backgrounds to Nankana Sahib, the birthplace of Baba Guru Nanak, one of the holiest sites for the Sikh community, to be a part of the celebration of Baba Guru Nanak's 550th birthday.

This visit aimed to expand and deepen the perspective of diversity by being in a space of a vibrant Sikh community. It created room for the group to directly interact with hundreds of thousands of Sikhs who came from all parts of the world thus bringing the tradition to life for



them. The members however, commented that the relaxed atmosphere of the Gurdwara was very different from what they have come to expect in a place of worship and puts them at ease and most say that they enjoy the experience. The members were apprehensive of what they felt were spiritual presences in the Gurdwara.



## 5.5 Self-determination right of Kashmiris

Aurat Foundation, Islamabad, Peshawar, Quetta, Lahore and Karachi offices organized the self-determination events with collaboration of civil society organizations to express solidarity with their Kashmiri brethren. The participants of the events sought the role of world community for resolving the burning issue of Kashmir without further wastage of time. They condemned India over subjugation of Jammu and Kashmir people, Indian forces' atrocities in the Held Valley and massacre of innocent Kashmiris. They urged the human rights organisation, the United Nations and the world to play their role for protecting Kashmiris from Indian atrocities and force India to give the people of Kashmir right to self-determination though plebiscite under the UN resolutions.

The protesters raised placards and banners with slogans Kashmir Banega Pakistan and chanted slogans against Indian atrocities in Kashmir. They said that the Indian government had paid no regard to the resolutions of UN Security Council regarding Kashmir. They said Indian Occupational forces have broken all records of atrocities, extra judicial killing and human rights violations in IHK with no regards for humanity. They expressed solidarity with Kashmiris for their right to self-determination and vowed to stand shoulder to shoulder with Kashmiris in their freedom movement.

AF officials also participated in different solidarity events organized by civil society organizations. In Islamabad, Bardasht organization organized a "Civil Society Conference on Human Rights Violation in Kashmir on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019. President, Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Sardar *Masood Khan*, Ex-Senator Ms. Nilofar Baikhtiar, Senator Pakistan Peoples Party Farhat Ullah Babar, Human Rights Activists, Ms. Tahira Abdullah, Executive Director Aurat Foundation Naeem Mirza, Ms. Farzana Bari, Ms. Farkhanda Aurangzeb and other spoke on the event.

President Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Masood Khan said that the worst [human rights](#) violations in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJ&K) and the silence of the United Nations (UN) over it indicates that the world body had been side-lined in the dispute over Kashmir. Sardar Masood Khan said that there was misconception in the world that Kashmir was a bilateral dispute between Pakistan and India, while the fact remained that the issue was between India and the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir were an important party to conflict because they were to decide their future according to the UN resolutions.

The speakers warned the Indian government not to commit blunder of attacking Pakistan, all tribesmen will fight shoulder to shoulder with their army till the complete freedom of Occupied Kashmir from the evil clutches of Indian forces. The participants raised slogans in support of Pakistan Army and vowed to stand shoulder to shoulder with their armed forces in defending their motherland from any foreign aggression.



Human rights activities said that young Kashmiris are incarcerated, torture of detainees is common, sexual violence is rampant and communication blackout persists for the past 11 months as journalists continue to be arrested and their content strictly monitored and censored under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967. “Genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity is taking place in IOJ&K. These are a violation of the Geneva Convention, the UN Charter, covenants of the 1960s, numerous treaties, economic and cultural rights, ICC statues and UNSC resolutions”, they said while adding that US-based Genocide Watch had declared that IOJ&K had entered the 8th stage of the 10 stages of genocide that had been defined by them. The last four stages defined by Dr Gregory H Stanton’s (founder of Genocide Watch) are: Stage 7: Preparation for the “Final Solution”; Stage 8: Persecution of victims identified and separated out; Stage 9: Extermination; and finally Stage 10: Denial of everything.

They condemned massive human rights violations in the Indian Held Kashmir. They asked international community to take notice of the Indian brutalities and allow Kashmiri people to decide their future by themselves in accordance with the United Nations resolutions.

## **5.6 Celebration of National Voter Day 2019**

Aurat Foundation Lahore, Quetta and Islamabad staff actively participated in organization of celebration of National Voters Day at all over the Pakistan. Mr. Allauddin Khilji, Resident Director AF Quetta office presented an overview on AF and CSOs role in supporting women's

participation as political leaders and voters during "National Voters Day" ceremony organized by Provincial Election Commission Balochistan, on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Aurat Foundation field team played their role for registration of CNICs. More than 3000 women were facilitated for registration of CNIC throughout the reporting period. AF regional team also actively participated in development of ECP strategic plan 2019-2023.



### 5.7 Expressed solidarity with the families of the innocent children and teachers of Army Public School

Aurat Foundation expressed solidarity with the families of the innocent children and teachers of Army Public School on 16 Dec 2019 in front of Press Club, Islamabad. A large number of civil society representatives and human rights activists gathered with their candles to remember those who lost their lives when the school was attacked by Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan on that fateful day. They were holding placards and chanted slogans demanding justice for the victims and implementation of National Action Plan.



Eminent human rights activist Tahira Abdullah said that “That was one of the darkest days of the country. We are still in the state of grief,” She demanded greater transparency of the judicial process, updates on state actions regarding the recovery, rehabilitation and compensation of the surviving students and teachers. Former Senator Farhat Ullah Babur criticized government’s inaction to bring Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan’s spokesperson Ehsan Ullah Ehsan to justice. Unless that is done, the world would not accept our seriousness to address terrorism. Farzana Bari urged for continuous effort to eliminate Taliban mind set from the country. Artist and activist Nageen Hayat called upon the government to answer the unanswered questions in the minds of nation regarding APS incident. “Unfortunately, the radicalisation and extremism is increasing in all sections of the society. Artist and poetess Alia Mirza also demanded transparency and sharing of information with the general public. She looked disappointed with

the steps taken by the government to address extremism and extremist elements in the country after the incident.

Mr. Naeem Ahmed Mirza condemned the non-implementation of the post-APS National Action Plan (NAP) and demand it be done in letter and spirit. He called for eradicating hate speech, controlling militant groups, enrolling 23 million out-of-school children especially girls and police and judicial reforms. The participants were holding placards inscribed with “In the memory of martyrs of APS Peshawar,” “A pledge to make this world safe for our children,” and “Written in these pages are the tales of heroes that died in the pursuit of knowledge” etc. A collective statement was released by civil society representatives at a candle light vigil.

## **5.8 Reflecting on the Past, Leading for the Future: WLP at 20, Beijing at 25**



Women’s Learning Partnership’s 2019 Transnational Partners was convened on 4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at the Bolger Center Washington DC. The partners of WLP participated in the meeting. The partners shared activities so far and plans for Beijing +25.

In meeting, discussion was held around i.e. analysis of the global context 25 years after the 1995 conference in Beijing: analysis of challenges and priorities for WLP partners 25 years after the 1995 conference in Beijing: Discussion on the partnership’s vision for women and climate justice, advocacy strategies surrounding climate justice at the individual, community, and national level, and specific initiatives for mobilization to address climate justice (curriculum, capacity-building, trainings, social media ) was also held . In preparation for Beijing +25, Women’s Learning Partnership was bringing together thought-leaders on climate justice and women’s rights to discuss the role of women and youth in confronting the climate crisis.

A session on Gender, Families and Climate Justice and Lifeline was also organized. WLP brought together lively and thought-provoking discussion and poetry reading about the nexus between the fight for climate justice and addressing political, social, and economic inequalities.

Mary Robinson, Former President of Ireland and Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights was keynote speaker. Addressing on this occasion, she said that the UN Sustainable Development Goals lends themselves to a feminist solution, it talks about leaving no one

behind, about prioritizing those left behind the most. Women are at the heart of these solutions; we are all linked. She said that women have suffered the greatest from natural disasters, loss of arable land, and forced migration, and have been on the forefront of working towards sustainable solutions. Join us for a lively and thought-provoking discussion and poetry reading about the nexus between the fight for climate justice and addressing political, social, and economic inequalities.

## 5.9 Celebrations of 16 Days Activism 2019

### Implementation of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Law in Balochistan

Mr. Allauddin, Resident Director Aurat Foundation along with his team presented “A board on Code of Conduct of Anti-Harassment Act at Workplace” to Ms. Mahjabeen Sheeran Advisor to Chief Minister Balochistan for Women's Development during launching ceremony of 16 Days of activism against Gender Based Violence in Quetta on 16 November 2019. This law was recently passed from Balochistan Assembly.



Aurat Foundation in collaboration with ERAW-G Alliance, organized a press conference at Quetta Press Club on "16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence". Mr. Allauddin Khilji, Mr. Watan Yar Khilji (Chairman ERAW/G Alliance), Ms. Huma Fouladi, Mr. Muhammad Khalil (UN-Women), Ms. Naseema Salam (BRSP), Ms. Shania, Mr. Ishfaq Mengal, Mr. Saeed Akbar (DANESH) briefed the participants about the campaign.

Mr. Allauddin Khilji, Resident Director Aurat Foundation, Balochistan, members of ERAW-G Alliance and other civil society organizations were addressed in press conference. Mr. Allauddin Khilji from Aurat Foundation presented the VAW Report 2019. In this report, 118 incidents of VAW were reported in Balochistan during in 11 months of 2019, while 70 women and 11 men were killed, of which 43 women and 9 men were killed in the name of honor, Domestic violence and household issues forced 17 women to commit suicide, 13 women were faced domestic torture; 28 cases of murder; 4 women were abducted; 3 women were thrown acid and 1 incident of threat against women was reported. The present report has categorized incidents of violence on depending upon the nature of violence. These have been categorized as murder, domestic violence, hurt and body injury, kidnapping, suicide, beating, burning, rape, Gang rape, 'honor' killing, and any other kind of violence.

Mr. Allauddin Khilji, Resident Director expressed his concern the several women are sacrificed on honor killing, Karo kari, there is no one to listen these thousand women's crying, who could escape them from the traditional cruel customs in Balochistan as well as Pakistan, women are being treated with violence every day. In the last four years more than thousand women were killed on the name honor. He stressed upon the Government, civil society organizations and tribal notables to rescue the effected women. Mr. Khilji said that the trend of killing women in the cases of siah kari and leaving the men alive is practiced in the interior of Balochistan for



the last few years. This clearly raises suspicions about the role of jirga in the settlement of cases of siah kari. Jirga decisions point to the fact that, the tradition of honor killing has become a trade under the protection of tribal jirgas. In the incidents of siah Kari men are let alive in the incident of siah kari. Later they are presented before the jirga, which charged them a heavy amount of compensation. This decision clearly reflects the commercialization of the norm of honor killing. In this situation responsibility lies with the tribal elders, intellectuals, parliamentarians (especially women parliamentarians), civil society and media to look into the matter before it becomes another societal dilemma against the already suppressed women of Balochistan.

Ms. Huma Fouladi said that every year, 16 days of activism against gender-based violence are celebrated. Started from 25 November and continuing till December 10, the theme of this year 2019 is "Orange the World; Generation Equality stands against the Rape".

The movement all over the world raise their voices against the violence and oppression of women in these 16 days. Mr. Khilji said that Aurat Foundation, EVAW/G and UN-Women have setup various programs / activities for 16 days of activism to combat violence against women. The campaign will begin on November 25 with a ceremony at Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP), ending on December 10, 2019, the International day for Human Rights. He further said that the campaign includes meetings with Parliamentarians, holding awareness sessions, Seminars, walk, panel Discussions at boys and girls' schools in different districts of Balochistan. Aurat Foundation and other Civil Society Organizations demand from Government that;

- Like other provinces, Provincial Government Balochistan should take affirmative steps for the establishment of Provincial Commission on the Status of Women.
- Provincial coalition government to put their efforts for passage of "The Child Marriage Prohibition Bill" from Provincial Assembly Balochistan.
- To ensure the formation of "Inquiry Committees" under Anti-Harassment Act 2016 at all government and non-government institutions and also aware citizens at local level on that.
- Formation of rules and regulations regarding implementation of Domestic Violence Act.
- Formation of policies at provincial level for socio-economic protection of Women Home Based Workers, formulation of development schemes for improvement of economic status

of Women Home-Based Workers and establishment of 'Product Finishing Units' for finishing of products made by them.

- Provincial and District level Disaster Management Authorities to play effective part in focusing on women and children in time of calamity. Easy friendly access should be provided to disabled women in all government and private departments.
- Mental Health Care unit should be established in all civil hospitals at provincial and district level. Mobile centers for Fistula treatment should be established at all Basic Health Units across the province.
- Psychiatrist should be appointed in the institutions of Special Children established under Social Welfare Department.
- Emergency exits should be established in all hospitals including Bolan Medical Complex. Women Friendly Spaces like day care center, toilets, rest/common rooms and information desks should be established at Chamber of Commerce, Courts, Media Houses and all public and private offices/institutions.
- HR policies of Media Houses should be revised in accordance with the gender sensitive needs through provision of maternity, annual and casual leave.
- Gender Sensitive HR policies should be prepared by Chamber of Commerce, Courts, Media Houses and all public and private offices/institutions.
- Political parties should give equal tickets to women on contesting through general seats.
- Legislation and implementation of "Acid Survivor Rehabilitation Bill" for Balochistan. Dar-ul-Aman for women survivors and women police stations should be established at Divisional capitals. Special measures should be adopted in the courts to ensure speedy trial of case related to violation of basic human rights of women.

Aurat Foundation, Lahore organized 16 days of Activism 2019. In this regard, a number of civil society activities were participated.



At this occasion, Ms. Nabeela Shaheen Advocate, Member Management Committee of AF and Focal Person of Mumkin Alliance shared that in January 2018, there were 2,846 women raped while 3,387 were raped in 2019. Prosecution of these rape cases was even worse. As per the data from 2014 to 18, around 2,281 cases were decided and 152 rapists were convicted in 2014. There were 2,618 cases in 2015 and 144 were convicted; in 2016, 2746 were decided and 155

were convicted; in 2017 there were 2,998 cases were decided and 186 were convicted. In 2018, there were 2,937 cases decided and 189 convicted.

She said that we need to identify male gender champions to seek equitable relationships in the public and private spheres was one of the cornerstones for eliminating violence.

Executive Director IDEAS, Mr. Salman Abid said that men need to not just respect the rights of women but also support and protect these rights with their words and actions. He has termed rape the most heinous form of violence, saying it must be ensured that no one in the country can feel that he can get away with this crime.

Ms. Nabeela Malik, GBV Advisor UN Women said that globally one in three women was impacted by violence at some stage of her lives. We must encourage rape survivors to speak out and the society must not blame the survivors. she added that we are calling on the people from all walks of life to learn more and take a stand against the pervasive rape culture.

Ms. Bushra Khaliq, Executive Director WISE said that During the 16 Days period, Government together with civil society and the private sector will host a series of community and sector dialogues and activities to foster a collaborative effort in dealing with GBV. Violence is not always physical. This year, we also need to focus on profiles of influential women who are working in their communities to raise awareness of the different forms of gender violence related to access to resources and opportunities.

### **5.10 Deeds not Words: A Joint Oral Statement from CSOs of Pakistan for CEDAW Committee**

Aurat Foundation in collaboration with Legal Aid Society has prepared Pakistan Alternative Civil Society's Alternative Report on CEDAW 2020. The report covers the period from 2013-2017.

This 2020 Alternative Report (Pakistan) covers women's critical concerns in relation to their rights as enshrined in the Pakistan Constitution. Besides responding to the CEDAW Committee's 2013 and 2019 Concluding Observations (COs), this Report draws attention to key issues emerging since the submission of Pakistan's Fifth Periodic Report (October 2018). That Report cites outdated statistics, e.g., Articles 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 (2012-2017 data).

This Alternative Report recognizes the resilience, courage and initiatives of women and girls in private and public spheres, legislators, minorities, persons with disability (PWDs) and transgender individuals (TGIs), taking action to reclaim their rights. We hope that federal and provincial governments will acknowledge harsh realities facing half the population and undertake concrete actions in compliance with the State's commitments under CEDAW. (Report is available on AF website: [www.af.org.pk/publications](http://www.af.org.pk/publications))

120-civil society organizations and 4-national alliances endorsed the report. The report researched and written by Ms. Tahira Abdullah, Ms. Naheed Aziz, Ms. Maliha Zia and Mr. Naeem Ahmed Mirza.



The report submitted and presented by Ms. Mumtaz Mughal on 75<sup>th</sup> CEDAW session held on February 10-13, 2020 at UN Headquarter Geneva.



Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programmes Aurat Foundation read the Oral Statemen on behalf of over 200 NGOs and 4-Nationsl Alliances about situation of "Women's Political and Public Participation in Pakistan" at CEDAW 75 session, 10 Feb 2020 at UN Headquarters, Geneva.

### **5.11 MoU signed with Women Development Department, Punjab for implementation of Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Women Development Department, Punjab and Aurat Foundation, concerning implementation of Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan on 28th January 2020 at International Islamic University, Islamabad.

The MoU was signed by Ms. Ashifa Riaz Fatyana, Minster for Women Development Department, Government of Punjab and Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programmes Aurat Foundation. Special Assistant to Prime Minister Firdous Ashiq Awan, officials of Ministry of



Defence, Vice Chancellor of International Islamic University, women leaders, students and civil society activists were present on the occasion.

The objectives of were:

1. Collaborate, to develop and implement a road map/strategy for implementation of Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan in Punjab
2. Aurat Foundation will provide human resource “as capacity building experts” to conduct the training programme in educational institutions and community.
3. Ensure co-operation, consultation and effective coordination with each other for taking joint ventures in respect of raising awareness in the Punjab concerning women’s rights follow by Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan.
4. Strengthened the youth capacities in education institutions and communities on women rights.

For the implementation of the programme;

- AF identified 20 trainers from Rawalpindi and Lahore for training of trainers.
- Out of 20, Sixteen (16) trainers were trained through one day orientation session on manual of Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at conference hall of International Islamic University, Islamabad.
- AF trainers conducted 2-sessions on 13-14 February 2020 at Fatima Jinnah University, Rawalpindi
- A "Videography Competition" was announced by Women Development Department, Punjab in collaboration with Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan Foundation, AF and Rafi Peer Theater on 23 April 2020.
- Videography Competition published in 17 national and regional newspapers

## **5.12 Celebration of International Women’s Day 2020**

In various cities across Pakistan, the 'Aurat March' was held to mark International Women’s Day 2020. The marches were attended by women, children, men, transgender people and others. Aurat Foundation staff was remained active to celebrate the International Women’s Day. This year the march was once again held in various cities nationwide; Lahore, Multan, Faisalabad, Quetta, Islamabad, Karachi, Hyderabad, and Sukkur. Beside of Aurat March, the mega events are celebrated International Women’s Day at all over the country.

In Islamabad, the marchers gathered outside the National Press Club The march was attended by over 2,000 people who protested against multiple issues faced by women, transgenders, men, children and society as a whole and raised slogans urging the government to take action for their causes. The participants delivered hard-hitting speeches and held placards and banners displaying thought-provoking slogans to raise the pressing issues of gender-based violence including sexual harassment and assault in the workplace, deep-rooted misogyny and the patriarchal mindset prevalent in the society. A manifesto released by "Aurat March" (women's march) organizers demands economic and environmental justice, reproductive rights and better access to public spaces for women. Additionally, the manifesto seeks an end to enforced disappearances and militarization, as well as protection of religious minorities in the country.

However, after the Jamia Hufsa students ended their march, the male participants took down the tent and started throwing stones, injuring at least one member of the Aurat March. In order to avoid clashes, authorities had erected a tent between the two marches. Police and organizers struggled to control the situation and closed the F-6 road for traffic but the people were stopped

from marching till D-Chowk. Some policemen were also seen running away and escaping themselves.

In Lahore, marchers gathered at the Lahore Press Club. Carrying placards, they played the drums, clapped and chanted slogans. As the attendees gathered, they chanted slogans calling for the independence of women. The march went through Egerton road till Aiwan-e-Iqbal, protected by two layers of security personnel, many of whom included policewomen. Meanwhile, a resolution was submitted in the Punjab Assembly by PML-N MPA Kanwal Liaquat, demanding an end to gender discrimination. The resolution condemned underage marriages and demanded that women be granted legal, social and economic protection.

In Karachi, advocates of women's rights held the Aurat March at the Frere Hall garden. Pakistan People's Party-Shaheed Bhutto leader Ghinwa Bhutto also arrived at the venue to participate in the march. Spokesperson for the Sindh government Barrister Murtaza Wahab also participated in the Aurat March with his family. Activists gathered outside Karachi Press Club to demand financial autonomy for women.



A march was also held by members of the Home-Based Women Workers Federation (HBWWF) from Arts Council to Karachi Press Club. Participants of the march, led by HBWWF general secretary Zahra Akbar Khan, demanded financial autonomy for women as well as protection against workplace harassment and discrimination.

In Sukkur, participants of Aurat March gathered at Lab-e-Mehran garden and walked to the press club. The marchers demanded equal rights for women, access to education, an end to

forced conversions and a fund for the families of missing persons. The participants also condemned practices like karo kari. They also highlighted the human rights abuse in occupied Kashmir. At the press club, participants released white pigeons and recited poetry by Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai. A rally was also held in Sukkur on Saturday night during which participants carried torches.

In Multan, participants of the Aurat March gathered outside the city's press club. The marchers, who were commemorating the International Women's Day, demanded gender equality, minimum wages for the working class and bodily rights, as they raised slogans against sexual harassment and gender-based violence.

Chapter Six

## **Research and Publications**

## 6 Research and Publications

As the organization's full name suggests -Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation - we are committed to publication and wide dissemination of material in order to create awareness among women and men regarding the rights of women and girls. In addition to raising awareness, the aim of publishing and dissemination of advocacy flyers and posters is to help create awareness around fundamental human rights and create a demand from ordinary citizens to fight for change. Every year and under every project AF publishes vast amounts of literature ranging from basic information for grassroots level communities, analysis of relevant laws, women's political participation to socio-economic issues that relate to women. Amongst our research we include data on reported cases of violence against women.

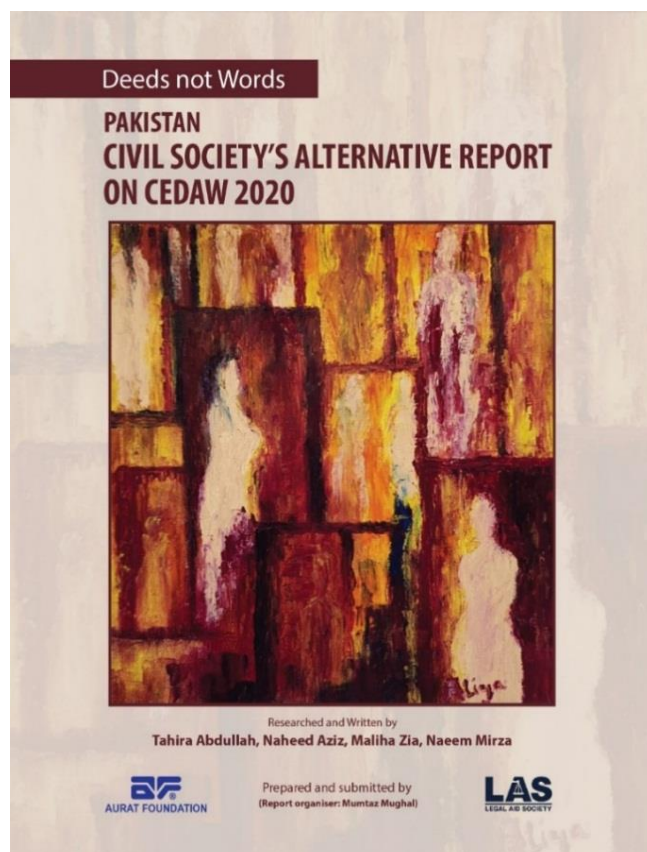
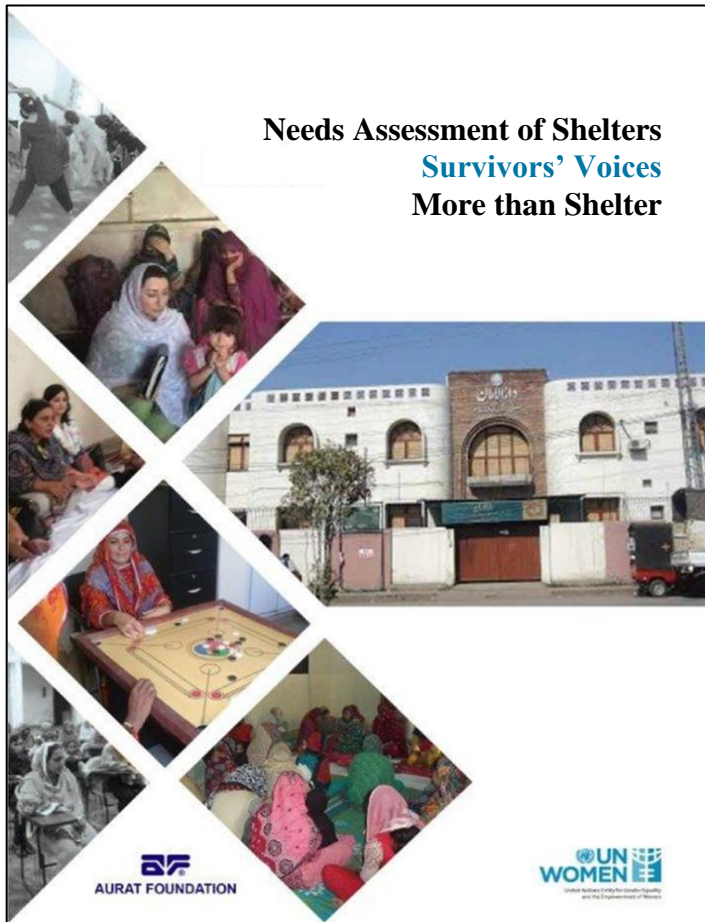
### 6.1 Produced a report of needs assessment of shelters “Survivor’s Voices More than Shelter”

A comprehensive needs assessment was conducted during the year of 2019, in seven Dar-ul-Aman (DUA) shelters in all four provinces, and one Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Human Rights Centre for Women (SBBHRCW) crisis centre in Quetta, Balochistan. It used a mixed method approach, deploying a number of qualitative and quantitative research techniques to achieve the objectives. These included desk review, physical verification of facilities using a checklist, in-depth interviews and focus group discussions with shelter residents, a training needs assessment of shelter staff, and key informant interviews with stakeholders. Stakeholder consultations were also conducted at provincial level. The study reveals that all shelters (DUAs) and crisis centres (SBBHRCWs) are operating without legal cover. Instead of being mandated by explicit main legislation (an Act) or through subordinate legislation (Rules of Business), DUAs operate under standard operating procedures (SOPs) and guidelines developed internally by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and supported only by executive order. This is the case across all provinces, and the political will to address this is lacking.

SBBHRCWs are also devolved, but their adoption and ownership in all provinces remains challenging in terms of ownership and the promulgation of rules of business. There is a need to revise SOPs in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan, while in KP SOPs are not notified and a shelter are guided by draft SOPs. There are no minimum caring standards for shelters to monitor service quality in Sindh, KP and Balochistan.

The physical checklists at the seven DUAs found that all assessed shelters were situated in government buildings except in Quetta. None had a helpline or management information system. The external environment of these shelters (security system, exit routes, ventilation, and other amenities) was not found to be very satisfactory, and it is a grave concern that important security measures (particularly jammers, security gates, door viewers, physical security check equipment) were deficient at various shelters.

Shelter generally lacked facilities to accommodate persons with disabilities or children's needs. The inadequate infrastructure of the shelter's points to the nature of social attitudes towards women and girls and the lack of gender-sensitivity among administrators and policymakers.







6.3 AF & Civil Society in Media

ہماری محنت سے دفاتر توڑے تو ہم تیرے ہیں ☆☆☆☆☆ یہ جہاں جڑے یہ کالوں قلم تیرے ہیں ☆☆☆☆☆

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قیمت 6 روپے

جلد 7 ہفت روزہ نمبر 19 مئی 14-144 ہ 19-2019 3 ہر 2020 3 ہر 2076 ہ شمارہ 38

عورتوں کی فائوڈیشن پنجاب، عیسیٰ مسیح اور ایف پی پی کے اشتراک سے تربیتی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد

دو روزہ تربیتی پروگرام میں ڈی ڈی ڈی ایف پی اور ایف پی پی کے اشتراک سے تربیتی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد دارالامان میں رہائش پذیر خواتین کے حقوق کے لئے عیسیٰ مسیح اور ایف پی پی کے اشتراک سے تربیتی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد کیا گیا۔

لٹیل آباد عورت فائوڈیشن تربیتی ورکشاپ کے شرکاء اور ایف پی پی کے اشتراک سے تربیتی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد کیا گیا۔

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DAILY MASHRIQ PESHAWAR

روزنامہ مشرق

سید تاج میر شاہ

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مشرق

مستقل شہادت سے 52 سال

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پشاور لرسا آپریشنسٹیک سے شائع ہونے والا پہلا اشتاعت قومی اخبار

جلد 52 سال 3 محرم الحرام 1444 ہ 19-2019 3 ہر 2020 3 ہر 2076 ہ شمارہ 276

شہاد باغ کراچی میں کانو نی مین صاحب کی بی بی کی گمشدگی کے بارے میں...

ہمیشہ ستر ہوئے سے خواہن گلشن تربیت سے عزم، بھلی ل کے باعث خواہن ہم تمہارا شکر کا شکر ہیں

عورت فائوڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام آگاہی پروگرام میں سنی خواہن نے صاحب بائی، سہیلی آگاہی اور گلشن تربیت کا مطالعہ کر لیا۔

پتلا (درکار) زرکار پاپی کنو نی مین صاحب نے آگاہی پروگرام کا انعقاد کیا جس میں سنی صاحب نے اپنی زندگی، تعلیم اور خاندان کے بارے میں بتایا۔

کانو نی مین صاحب نے اپنے مطالعے سے اپنی زندگی میں بہتری لائی اور وہ اپنی سنی خواہن کو گلشن تربیت کے بارے میں بتانے میں مددگار بنی۔

آگاہی پروگرام کے شرکاء اور ایف پی پی کے اشتراک سے تربیتی ورکشاپ کا انعقاد کیا گیا۔

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پاکستان کے مختلف علاقوں میں مذہبی ہم آہنگی کے لیے مختلف سرگرمیوں کی نگرانی کی جا رہی ہے۔ اس کے ذریعے مذہبی ہم آہنگی پیدا کی جا سکتی ہے۔



اس سلسلے کے لیے مختلف سرگرمیوں کی نگرانی کی جا رہی ہے۔ اس کے ذریعے مذہبی ہم آہنگی پیدا کی جا سکتی ہے۔



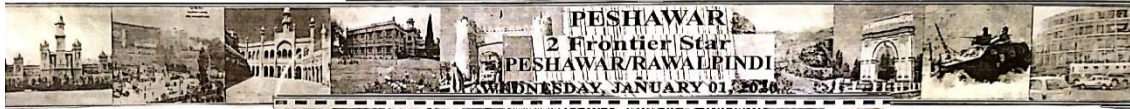
**متنوع ثقافتی سرگرمیوں کے ذریعے مذہبی ہم آہنگی پیدا کی جا سکتی ہے**

**ملک مسیحا بین المذاہب ہم آہنگی کی صورت میں بہتری آ رہی ہے، عورت و بزرگیشن کے ذریعے ہم مذاکرے میں مشترک ہو کر قلب بہ حقیقت**

پاکستان کے مختلف علاقوں میں مذہبی ہم آہنگی کے لیے مختلف سرگرمیوں کی نگرانی کی جا رہی ہے۔ اس کے ذریعے مذہبی ہم آہنگی پیدا کی جا سکتی ہے۔



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PESHAWAR  
2 Frontier Star  
PESHAWAR/RAWALPINDI  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 01, 2020



PESHAWAR: Provincial Ombudsperson Ms. Rakhshanda Naaz addressing during Culture Heritage Conference organized by Aurat Foundation. APP

## Pandemic affecting women's earnings

NGO also claims 'unprecedented increase in incidents of violence'

OUR CORRESPONDENT  
QUETTA

The Aurat Foundation, a non-governmental organisation working for women's rights in Pakistan, has said that the coronavirus has severely affected women in the country, both in labour and domestic businesses.

"Incidents of violence rose unprecedentedly," said Yasmeen Mughal, the project officer of 'Jazba' programme, while addressing the closing ceremony of a two-day training workshop on women's participation in the political process and local government system in Quetta jointly organised by the Aurat Foundation and the South Asia Partnership.

Mughal said that the coronavirus has severely affected women involved in economic activities in Pakistan and significant

steps were needed to rehabilitate them at the government and non-governmental levels, otherwise millions of middle-class families in the country would be at an economic disadvantage.

"They will be forced to live below the poverty line and the monster of poverty in the country will further increase," she said, adding that the Aurat's Foundation and the South Asia Partnership have all available resources for the welfare and development of women in Pakistan.

"The two organisations will take joint steps for effective participation of women in the economic and political process at the district level under the Jazba project, while special attention will be paid to legislation for women's individual and constitutional rights," she added.

On the occasion, Allauddin Khilji, the regional director of Aurat Foundation, Quetta, said that a society free from violence can guarantee sustainable development.

Wednesday

January 1, 2020

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Pashto singer Sitara Younas singing a song at Culture Heritage Conference organised by Aurat Foundation. APP

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شہباز احمد چوہدری

ABC CERTIFIED

لاہور اور راولپنڈی کی اسلام آباد سے ایک وقت شائع ہونے والا سب سے بڑا روزنامہ

## وہاں چیئر مین واسا کی ووکسٹن ورک کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شرکت

حکومت پنجاب اور واسا لاہور نے پانی بچاؤ کے متعلق متعدد اقدامات کیے شیخ امتیاز

لاہور (سٹی رپورٹر) وائس چیئر مین واسا شیخ امتیاز محمود کا پیپریٹو ٹیڈ میں حکومت قراچین کے زیر اہتمام ووکسٹن ورک کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شرکت ہوئی۔ شیخ امتیاز نے وزیر اہتمام ووکسٹن ورک کی افتتاحی تقریب میں خطاب کیا اور پانی بچاؤ کے متعلق متعدد اقدامات کیے ہیں اور حکومت کو اس کا سہارا دینا چاہتا ہوں۔

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دو سالہ لاہور نے پانی بچاؤ کے متعلق متعدد اقدامات کیے ہیں، شیخ امتیاز محمود

خواتین کے ذریعے پانی بچانے کے اقدامات پہ با آسانی عمل درآمد کیا جا سکتا: تقریب سے خطاب  
لاہور (پشیم رپورٹر) داس جینرین داس سٹیج امتیاز محمود کا سٹیجریو ٹیویڈسٹی میں عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام دوپکن وافرینٹ ورک کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شرکت عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی زیر اہتمام دوپکن وافرینٹ ورک کی افتتاحی تقریب میں خواجہ خاتون کا پانی کے بچاؤ میں کردار پر روشنی ڈالی گئی، داس جینرین داس سٹیج امتیاز محمود نے کہا کہ خواتین کے ذریعے پانی بچانے کے اقدامات پہ با آسانی عمل درآمد کیا جا سکتا اور عورت فاؤنڈیشن کو اس عظیم کام پر شراکت دہی میں پیش کرتے ہیں۔ داس جینرین داس سٹیج امتیاز محمود نے مزید کہا کہ حکومت پنجاب اور دو سالہ لاہور نے پانی بچاؤ کے متعلق متعدد اقدامات کیے ہیں اور مزید عملی لی جائیں گے۔



عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی تقریب میں آمد کے موقع پر داس جینرین داس سٹیج امتیاز محمود کو بھول، شیلڈ پیش کی جا رہی ہے



پانی سے متعلق درپیش مسائل پر دوپکن وافرینٹ ورک تشکیل دیے گئے  
انہی کے لئے ہیں مشرق و مغرب (قرآن مجید)  
روزنامہ مشرق کوئٹہ  
158 روپے | 48 صفحات | 2019ء | 25 نومبر 2019ء | 10 ستمبر 2019ء | 10 ستمبر 2019ء

پانی سے متعلق درپیش مسائل پر دوپکن وافرینٹ ورک تشکیل دیے گئے  
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158 روپے | 48 صفحات | 2019ء | 25 نومبر 2019ء | 10 ستمبر 2019ء | 10 ستمبر 2019ء



بیانہ ذریعہ نرینہ کے عوام کو آفاقی شہر بنانے کی راہیں دکھانے کے لیے... (The clipping contains several lines of Urdu text, partially obscured by a vertical bar on the left side.)

# The Balochistan Times

Date: 7-11-2019

## Women Water Network set up for addressing water issues

*By Our Reporter*

QUETTA: An unofficial level Women Water Network has been set up in Balochistan to address water issues. The network includes members of various legislative assembly and people from different walks of life, including various social organizations.

On Wednesday, the inaugural function of the network, organized by the leading NGO Women Foundation Quetta, was held in which Balochistan resident Alauddin Khilji, resident director of the Woman Foundation, Quetta, in opening ceremony said that establishing effective strategies to ensure the proper utilization of available water resources, so that timely preparation can be made to tackle the implications of changing climate in Balochistan, Pakistan.

He said that the role in the consultation and decision-making process of women in shaping water policy in Balochistan is critical. "Water resources are shrinking around the world and the need to ensure careful use of globally available water resources is emphasized," he said.

He added that this would be the first women network of its kind established in Balochistan to raise awareness among the women of Balochistan.

Deputy Director of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr. Zee Waqar said that women in Balochistan face more difficulties in accessing water compare to other provinces. "The majority of women in Balochistan have the primary responsibility of bringing and using water to their homes, but in rural areas, water is safe according to hygiene principles," he added.

It was decided by the members of the network decided to hold monthly meeting in connection with network consultation process, agreeing to expand the network's TORs and its scope across Balochistan.



BUSTED

**ANF arrests suspects, seizes opium**  
Karachi: The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) has arrested two drug peddlers and recovered opium from their possession. An official said that they intercepted a vehicle last Friday at a check post and recovered 1.8 kilograms of opium while arresting two suspects, Sadiq Bhattani and Chohan Mustafa. ANF



BUSTED

**Fire breaks out at house**  
Karachi: A fire broke out at a house in Daudpindi, Main, late on Tuesday night. Firefighters reached the site with a fire tender and doused the blaze. However, all goods and items inside the house were gutted in the fire, said fire department officials, further confirming that no casualty was reported. RAJ (0300000000)

# KARACHI

## 'Covid-19 cases up 40% in five days'

City's hospitals nearly full, may run out of space soon, doctors say

**OUR CORRESPONDENT LAHORE**  
Urging people not to take the pandemic lightly, prominent doctors of the city demanded that the government impose a stricter lockdown.

He claimed that all the dedicated critical care wards in hospitals across the city were nearly out of capacity, disclosing that the Indus Hospital, Aga Khan University Hospital and Dow Town Hospital were full while Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre and the Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplant were at 80 per cent saturation.

Coming days, they said there may not be enough beds to admit coronavirus patients in hospital soon. "The severity is much worse than we think," stated Dr Saad Khalid Niaz of the Dow University of Health Sciences.

Claiming that the doctors at the press conference were representing 90 per cent of those in Pakistan, he said the country did not have enough health professionals to fight the disease.

As the doctors pointed out that the members of the medical community had been infected in Sindh, Dr Niaz further appealed for public support, saying that they were distressed by the situation and it would not be possible for them to act on the frontline without support.

Hakim-ul-Islamic Medical Association's Dr Amir Hafiz Siddiqui, meanwhile, said that the medical community demanded a strict and complete lockdown to control the spread of the virus. Acknowledging that this could cause difficulties for the poor, he nonetheless said that people could be saved from hunger through philanthropy.

Repeating messages that the government should be allowed to reopen mosques for congregational prayers during Ramadan, the doctors appealed to religious scholars to reconsider the recent decision made on this topic.

"Let's be careful; we do not have space in our hospitals," he stated, stressing the gravity of the situation. Demanding that all shops and business activities be closed immediately, he said that the Sindh government's lockdown was a better measure for containing the virus.

**INTERNET WOLFS**  
**80%**  
of university students surveyed in Sindh faced connectivity problems during online classes. [GAD/NEWS/20](#)

**SSGC arrests factory owner for gas theft**  
Karachi: The Sindh Southern Gas Company's (SSGC) Courier Gas Theft Operations taskforce carried out a joint operation in Lagapatthal on Wednesday and arrested a meat factory owner for gas theft. The factory owner, Zareeb Ahmad, had been stealing gas from SSGC's main distribution line at a rate of 500 cubic feet per hour. During the raid, the SSGC team also confiscated pipes and other tools being used for stealing gas and later registered a case against Ahmad. Taskforce chief Brigadier (Retd) Mubshir Ahmad said that those involved in gas theft would not be spared and stricter action would be taken against them. (0300000000)

**Store closed as employee catches Covid-19**  
Karachi: A branch of Metro Cash and Carry, located at University Road, was closed on Wednesday after a staff member after an employee tested positive for coronavirus. According to the store management, the employee had returned to work after a long vacation and was tested after he showed symptoms of the virus. All the staff members of the store have also been tested for Covid-19, they claimed. Meanwhile, the management also stated that it was disinfecting the whole building and was following the guidelines suggested by the government to prevent the spread of coronavirus. (0300000000)

**Chinese citizen goes missing**  
Karachi: A Chinese citizen went missing from Defence Housing Authority (DHA) on Tuesday night. According to the DHA police, the man had set out to meet his friend and went missing on the way to his friend's house from his residence in DHA phase VII extension. On being informed, the police tracked down his car which was found abandoned near Rattan Park, opposite Shaheen-e-Saudi. Police have taken the car, as well as the missing's mobile phone and SIM card, into custody. They have also got hold of CCTV footage for further investigation. (0300000000)

## Local transmission surge worries CM

Provincial capital worst hit by such cases, with 1,300 locally transmitted cases

**OUR CORRESPONDENT LAHORE**  
Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah sounded alarm on the emergence of over 300 locally transmitted coronavirus cases in Sindh on Wednesday - the highest in a day so far.

This was the highest number of locally transmitted cases ever witnessed by the province, he expressed worry, adding that Karachi had warned out by the province, for local transmission cases where the tally had peaked at 1,300.

The CM also stated that three more Covid-19 deaths were reported in Sindh on Wednesday, taking the death toll to 69 in the province.

Exposing dismay about the emergence of new cases in Sukkur, he said that while the pilgrims were isolated in Labour Colony in Sukkur, their defiance and refusal to follow government instruction had resulted in local transmission in the district.

## Court upholds verdict in cop murder case

But plea rejected

**OUR CORRESPONDENT LAHORE**  
The Sindh High Court has upheld the verdict of a sessions court in a case of murdering a police officer.

The latter bench also rejected the bail plea of former Fisheries Cooperative Society chairman Sultan Qamar Siddiqui and co-accused Rizq, booked in entrapment and assault beyond illegal cases.

## Traders set to resume business in Ramadan

Lossing patience as 28x1 continues to delay framing of MoS, some opened shops on Wednesday

**SADHJ BHUSAN KARACHI**  
The Sindh Trades Union, All City Trades Union, Economic Dealers Association and other traders' bodies have announced that they will resume business from the onset of Ramadan.



ON GUARD: A policeman stands guard outside a shuttered shop in Larkana, making sure that none of the shoppers attempts to resume business in violation of lockdown instructions issued by the Sindh government. (0300000000)

Addressing a press conference, traders expressed dismay over not being allowed to resume business despite giving the Sindh government assurance that they would abide by all standard operating procedures (SOPs) devised by it.

The move was met with resistance as the trader's shopkeepers staged a protest. Some affiliated with the Sindh government, on condition of anonymity, have claimed that it is likely that traders will not be permitted to open businesses, given the worrisome state of the pandemic.

The court, however, remarked that the trader's plea should be invoked and relevant laws made, adding that the government should take a set of standard operating procedures even when opening online and limited that the provincial government might approach the Centre on the matter of certain elements providing traders to open businesses in violation of lockdown instructions.

## SHC extends stay on school tuition fee concession

**OUR CORRESPONDENT LAHORE**  
The Sindh High Court (SHC) extended on Wednesday its stay order on the concession of school tuition fee, earlier notified by the Sindh government.

The court observed that the schools were being forced to offer the concession, "Let's ensure that all the income is being claimed by the school owners, but the court should be satisfied in the next hearing order which law the concession is being offered," instructed Justice Abdul Razvi.

The court, however, remarked that the trader's plea should be invoked and relevant laws made, adding that the government should take a set of standard operating procedures even when opening online and limited that the provincial government might approach the Centre on the matter of certain elements providing traders to open businesses in violation of lockdown instructions.

**Women Development Department, Government of the Punjab Organizing in collaboration with Dukhtar-e-Pakistan Foundation Videography Competition**  
For the awareness of the role of women in nation building  
-Categories-  
Immature participants will send short video clip of 5 minutes  
Professional participants will send Documentary of 5 to 15 minutes  
**Topics**  
Peace & Conflict  
Ethics of Disagreement  
Together we are for Pakistan  
Community Resilience for Peace Building  
Stress and Anger Management  
Role of Mother for Promoting Peace  
Women is Agent of Peace in society  
**Terms & Conditions**  
This competition is only for women domiciled from Punjab  
Video can be in Urdu, English or Bilingual  
Video submission deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020  
Video can only be sent through registered post or courier  
Video should be sent in both USB and CD  
"Videography Competition" should be written on the envelope  
Name of category should be written on the envelope  
Name, CNIC number, Cell number and e-mail address of the participant should be mentioned  
It should be addressed to: Videography Cell, Women Development Department, Government of the Punjab, 37 Main Gulberg Lahore  
Video must be original and non-plagiarized  
Cash Prizes for top 3 videos, Certificates for top 10 videos and Best Video will be played on National Media  
Women Development Department Government of the Punjab Directorate of Women Development Punjab  
Date: 23/04/2020  
Dated: 23/04/2020  
Donate generously in Chief Minister Punjab's Fund for Corona Control. Account No: 601820420000913  
The Bank of Punjab Branch Code: 609-0006 to fight coronavirus. (0300000000)



ویمن ڈیولپمنٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ، حکومت پنجاب اور دختران پاکستان وژن کا مشترکہ اقدام  
قوم کی تعمیر میں عورت کا کردار اُجاگر کرنے کیلئے



## مُقَابَلہ وڈیو گرافی

غیر پیشہ ورانہ کیٹیگری (Amateur Category) : وڈیو کا دورانیہ 1 سے 5 منٹ

پیشہ ورانہ کیٹیگری (Professional Category) : وڈیو کا دورانیہ 5 سے 15 منٹ

### موضوعات:

- ① اختلاف رائے کی اخلاقیات
- ② سماجی چلک برائے تعمیر امن
- ③ ہم پاکستان کیلئے ساتھ ہیں
- ④ امن و جنگ
- ⑤ تناؤ اور غصے میں خود کو سنبھالنا
- ⑥ امن کے فروغ کیلئے ماں کا کردار
- ⑦ معاشرے میں امن و آشتی کیلئے خواتین کا کردار

### شرائط و ضوابط:

- یہ مقابلہ صرف صوبہ پنجاب میں سکونت رکھنے والی خواتین کیلئے ہے۔
- وڈیو کی زبان اردو، انگریزی یا دونوں (Bilingual) ہو سکتی ہے۔
- وڈیو کی کرائے کی آخری تاریخ یکم جولائی 2020ء ہے۔
- وڈیو صرف جنسز ڈاٹ کام یا گورنرز سے بھیجی جا سکتی ہے۔
- وڈیو کی USB اور CD دونوں بھیجیں۔
- لفافے پر "مقابلہ وڈیو گرافی" تحریر ہونا لازمی ہے۔
- لفافے پر کیٹیگری (Category) کا نام تحریر کرنا لازمی ہے۔
- لفافے میں بھیجنے والے کا نام، CNIC نمبر، موبائل نمبر اور email ایڈریس ہونا لازمی ہے۔
- لفافے کو نام "وڈیو گرافی سیل" ویمن ڈیولپمنٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ حکومت پنجاب، 37، مین گلبرگ، لاہور پر ارسال کریں۔
- وڈیو کا اصل (Non-plagerized) ہونا لازمی ہے۔

پہلی 3 بہترین وڈیوز کو  
نقدی انعام دیا جائے گا

10 بہترین وڈیوز کو  
اسناد دی جائیں گی

**RAFIPEER**  
THEATRE WORKSHOP

عورت فاؤنڈیشن

پیشہ ورانہ معاون:

ٹیکنیکل معاون:



ویمن ڈیولپمنٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ  
حکومت پنجاب

بہترین منتخب وڈیوز ملکی ٹی وی چینلز پر نشر کی جائیں گی



# 118 incidents of violence reported in 11 months

Programs to be initiated to spread awareness, combat violence against women

MOHAMMAD ZAFAR QUETTA

Director of the Aurat Foundation Alauddin Khilji on Sunday said that at least 118 incidents of violence were reported in Balochistan during the 11 months of 2019, while 43 women and 9 men were killed in the name of honour. Domestic violence and household issues forced 17 women to commit suicide, 3 women were reportedly attacked with acid while a wife kidnapped in the province.

Members of women's rights non-governmental organisations were addressing a press conference in Quetta Press Club.

Director Aurat Foundation said that every year, 16 days of activism against gender violence are celebrated. Starting from November 25 and continuing till December 10, the theme of the year 2019 is "Orange the World: Generation Equality stands against the Rape".

These movements all over

the world raise their voice against the violence and oppression of women in these 16 days.

"These 16 days of activism are celebrated all over the world as a symbol of women's struggle against violence and oppression," he added.

Khilji said the Aurat Foundation, EVAW / G Alliance, the Department of Women Development Balochistan and UN-Women have set up various programs for 16 days to combat violence against women. The campaign will begin on November 25 with a ceremony at the Balochistan Rural Support Program (BRSP), ending on December 10, 2019, the International Day for Human Rights.

"The campaign includes meetings with parliamentarians, holding seminars, walk, and panel discussions and organising programs against gender violence in boys and girls schools in different districts," he briefed.

He further said that a mega program will also be organised at the end of the campaign.

"This year, it will be our endeavor to bring more students, universities, girls' schools and colleges to these

programs so that the new generation is more aware of women's rights," he said.

Alauddin Khilji said that like the other provinces of Pakistan, the provincial commission on the status of women in Balochistan should be formed as soon as possible.

"We also demand the provincial government that the bill regarding the prevention of early marriage should immediately be approved by the Balochistan Assembly.

"We want to make sure that awareness is made at the grassroots level," speakers stressed.

NGO representatives also urged the government to provide policy formulation at the provincial level for the social and economic protection of home-based workers. They said that development schemes are necessary to improve the economic condition of women. Also, to finalise product finishing units should be set up at the provincial level. In order to restore the atmosphere of peace and brotherhood in Balochistan, a policy should be formulated with the support of the people at the government level, they added.



مہین داہلوی

## وادی بولان کشمیر آزادی مارچ سے گونج اٹھی

پہلے سے لڑا جاتا تھا لیکن اب وہ نئے نئے لہروں پر مہم تاج

وادی بولان کا لوگوں کا ہر چہرہ ہر آنکھ میں ایک جگہ ہے۔ ہر آنکھ میں ایک جگہ ہے۔ ہر آنکھ میں ایک جگہ ہے۔ ہر آنکھ میں ایک جگہ ہے۔

آج کشمیر میں لوگ مسلسل کر رہے ہیں۔ ان کی ہمت سے ہر وہاں کو گھر بن کر لے کر آئے ہیں۔

وادی بولان میں لوگوں کی ہمت اور شہادتت کا یہ حال ہے کہ وہ اپنے جان و مال کی قربانیوں کو بے پروا سمجھتے ہیں۔ ان کی ہمت سے ہر وہاں کو گھر بن کر لے کر آئے ہیں۔ ان کی ہمت سے ہر وہاں کو گھر بن کر لے کر آئے ہیں۔ ان کی ہمت سے ہر وہاں کو گھر بن کر لے کر آئے ہیں۔

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## 96 FM کشمیریوں کے خلاف مظالم پر پھر نوراواز





ایمانی کی عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے ذریعہ ان کے مسائل سے نمٹنے والی خواتین میں رہائی بخانی کٹر پیسہ سے کئی ایسے ہیپ سٹارڈی

## عورت فاؤنڈیشن کا ٹرانس جینڈرز، خصوصی عورتوں میں راشن تقسیم کیا

پروگرام آفیسر شوق شاہد اور ایم بی اے ذیبا انصاری نے راشن تقسیم کیا

راولپنڈی (نامہ خصوصی) عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی عورتوں کے لیے راشن تقسیم کیا گیا۔ ایک دہا کر دیا گیا، جس نے دیکھتے ہی دیکھتے پوری دنیا کو اپنی لپیٹ میں لے لیا، اور ساری دنیا میں ان کا نام لگنے لگا۔ عورتوں کی ترقی کے لیے سرگرم ہے عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے پروگرام جنہ کی پروگرام آفیسر شوق شاہد نے مقامی ہوگی میں شوق شاہد کی خواہش، انہیں راشن تقسیم کیا، ایم بی اے ذیبا انصاری نے مہمان خصوصی کی حیثیت سے شرکت کی عورت فاؤنڈیشن ساڈھ ایڈیٹو پروگرام پاکستان کی معاونت سے پاکستان کے مختلف اضلاع بشمول راولپنڈی میں جنہ پروگرام کے تحت عورتوں کا سیاست میں کردار پر کام کر رہی ہے 2019 کے آخر سے چلتے ہیں اقدامات کا آغاز کر رہا ہے۔



دیبا انصاری عورت فاؤنڈیشن اور ساڈھ ایڈیٹو پارٹنرشپ کے ذریعہ ان کے مسائل سے نمٹنے والی خواتین میں رہائی بخانی کٹر پیسہ سے کئی ایسے ہیپ سٹارڈی

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## محنت کش عورتیں کا ملک کی تعمیر و ترقی میں نمایاں کردار ہے

محنت کش عورتیں کیلئے راشن کا انتظام کرنا قابل تحسین اقدام ہے، ذیبا انصاری

راولپنڈی (نامہ خصوصی) عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے ذریعہ ان کے مسائل سے نمٹنے والی خواتین میں رہائی بخانی کٹر پیسہ سے کئی ایسے ہیپ سٹارڈی

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