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Civil society's role stressed for women rights

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Aurat Foundation organised a panel discussion at a local hotel under its USAID Gender Equity Programme (GEP) to highlight the importance of strategic alliances and civil society organisations for protection of women rights.

A Sufi music evening was also a

part of the event in which Humera Channa and Indian Punjabi singer Hans Raj Hans enthralled the audience.

The event was a part of the activities organised by the Aurat Foundation to commemorate the National Women's Day. Besides the panel discussion, the day-long activities by the foundation under the banner of Aurat Yakjehti Mela fea-

tured the launch of women legislative agenda.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Azra from the Bahauddin Zakariya University talked about the increasing trend of domestic violence in south Punjab and stressed legislative measures to curtail it.

Dr Raana Malik from Punjab University shared findings of a research on customary practices prev-

alent in the society that violated women's rights.

Mukhtar Mai, Kishwer Sultan, Mohammad Waseem and Shaista Khalid shared their experiences of psycho-social and economic rehabilitation with the survivors of gender-based violence.

Humera Channa sang popular ghazals and songs while Hans Raj Hans sang Sufi Kalam.