

Wednesday, 9 March, 2011



MESSAGE: Human rights activists put dove cutouts in barbed wires in front of President's House in Islamabad to highlight the plight of womenfolk in the country on the International Women's Day Tuesday. — Dateline photo by Sohail Shahzad

## String of events mark Women's Day

ISLAMABAD — A number of events were organized Tuesday to mark the 100th International Women's Day with a firm commitment to continue the struggle for the rights of women.

The biggest event of the day was a rally in the morning held by the Inساني Haqooq Ittehad (IHI), an alliance of 15 NGOs working for women and human rights.

The rally began from Kulsum Plaza Intersection and ended at the Parade Square in front of the parliament. It was largely attended by local women as well as those from different parts of the country, human rights activists and people from different walks of life.

In the evening, a candle-light vigil was arranged. It started from Super Market and terminated at the National Press Club where women activists delivered speeches in favour of their rights.

Another event was a focussed group discussion organized by the Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD-Pakistan). The theme was reproductive health rights of women in the under-developed districts in Sindh and Punjab.

Also, a short documentary on women's struggle, produced by Marvi and Sirmad Manzoor, was screened at the South Asian Free Media Association (Safma) Media Centre. The South Asia Women in Media were the organizers.

At the Nomad Art Gallery, a seminar on violence against women was held. It was attended by representatives of the national and international organizations and local women activists.

In Rawalpindi, a photographic exhibition titled 'Beautiful China' was organized at the Rawalpindi Arts Council. It also highlighted the struggle of Chinese women in the economic development of their country. — *Munir Ahmed* (Details and related stories on Page 4)



FOR THEIR RIGHTS: The biggest event of the day was this rally in Islamabad. — Dateline photo by Sohail Shahzad