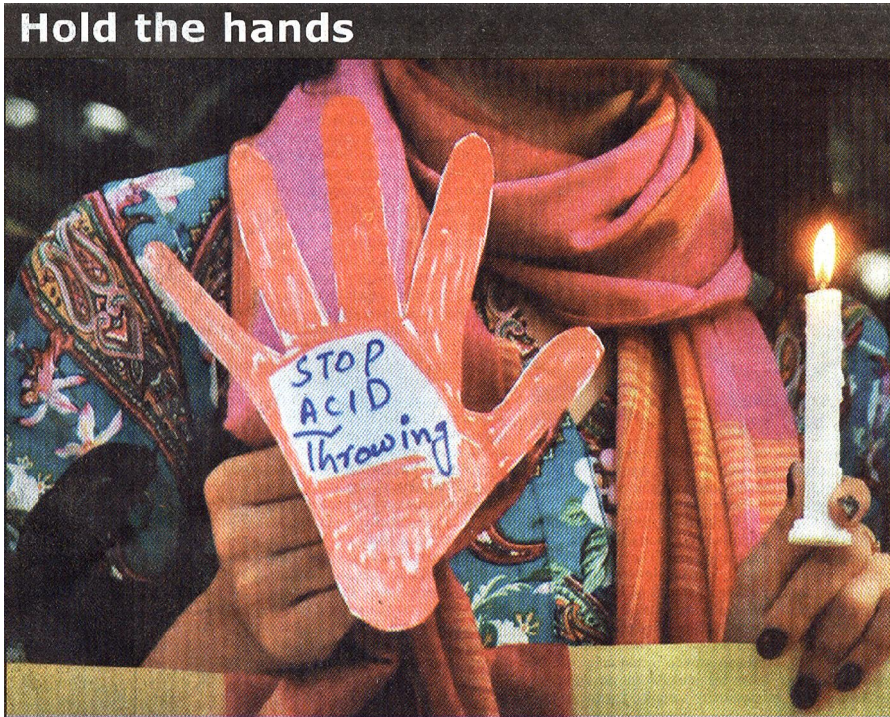


Saturday, March 31, 2012

Hold the hands



Rights activists carry candles during a vigil in memory of acid-burn victim Fakhra Younas. ONLINE

Civil society networks demand justice for Fakhra

Staff Report

ISLAMABAD: The civil society networks, human rights activists and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) of the twin cities expressed their deepest grief and horror over acid-victim Fakhra's suicide.

Civil society organisations held a candlelight vigil to pay tribute to Fakhra Younas at sector F-6 Markaz.

Insani Haqooq Itihad (IHI), End Violence Against Women (EVAW), Women Action Forum (WAF) and others expressed their outrage against the failure of the state and the law and order system to protect her or provide her with justice.

They said that in view of her reported dying declaration, which constitutes new evidence, they demand that her acid-crime court case be reopened.

Participants of the vigil said that they knew the recent legislation on acid crimes cannot be effectively implemented unless parliament enacts the follow-up Acid and Burn Crime Bill in 2012. They demanded that the government table and pilot it quickly as a Treasury Bill. (T-02)