

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



AURAT FOUNDATION

# Annual Report 2021



**Aurat Foundation**

**Report:** Annual Report 2021  
**Layout and design:** Shahzad Ashraf  
**Reporting period:** July 2020 to June 2021  
**Published by:** Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation



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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

<b>APISF/AF</b>	Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation /Aurat Foundation
<b>BAP</b>	Balochistan Awami Party
<b>CdM</b>	Club de Madrid
<b>CNICs</b>	Computerized National Identity Cards
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>CSW</b>	Commission on the Status of Women
<b>CVE</b>	Counter Violence Terrorism
<b>FF</b>	Feminist Friday
<b>GDA</b>	Grand Democratic Alliance
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>ICT</b>	Islamabad Capital Territory
<b>IWD</b>	International Women Day
<b>JAC</b>	Joint Action Committee
<b>KP</b>	Khyber Pukhtunkhwa
<b>LGs</b>	Local Governments
<b>MQM</b>	Muttahida Qaumi Movement
<b>MPs</b>	Member Parliamentarians
<b>NSER</b>	National Socio-Economic Registry
<b>NGOs</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>PCMs</b>	Peace Committee Meetings
<b>PWDs</b>	Person's with Disabilities
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SCSW</b>	Sindh Commission on the Status of Women
<b>SOPs</b>	Slandered Operating Procedures
<b>SWD</b>	Social Welfare Department
<b>VNR</b>	Volunteer National Review
<b>WLP</b>	Women's Learning Partnership
<b>VNR</b>	Volunteer National Review
<b>WDD</b>	Women Development Department

## Introduction

A recent survey by the Duke Global Innovation Centre placed Pakistan amongst the bottom three countries in the world in vaccine procurement. Pakistan is now struggling to secure supplies in an exceptionally tight global market. Appreciatively, Pakistan has begun ramping up procurement and inoculation with a further 20 million doses expected in July and the daily vaccination rate has touched 500,000 recently.




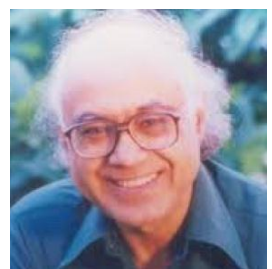




The coronavirus pandemic has ravaged women socially and economically more than men as evidence suggests. Data suggests that there is an increased burden of unpaid care work on women and girls, increased gender-based violence and social protection risks, increased vulnerability of frontline female healthcare providers, challenges in accessing necessary information, and reduced access to quality reproductive health, as well as precarious employment. In Aurat Foundation most recent report, AF found a total of 2,297 cases of Violence against Women and Girls (VAW&G) based on data collected from 25 districts between January – December 2020.

From a gender perspective, the absence of a functioning local government system has severe implications for the already low number of women representatives in political decision-making bodies. Local bodies reserve from 20 to 30 percent of seats for local women representatives who could otherwise play an active role in disseminating relief and development in their communities. Now the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has announced Local Government elections in October 2021 while the Punjab Government revived the previous local representatives instead of holding new Local Government Elections.

The situation of civil society organizations and labour support groups is remained in crises. The trust deficit between the Government and the civil society groups is remained same as previous year. There are additional concerns on terrorism financing raised by international regulatory bodies like Financial Action Task Force (FATF) which have resulted in Pakistan's government putting in place a rigorous framework to regulate the sector. This has somewhat restricted the work of many charity organizations, CSOs and NGOs. These are early days and the policies are still unclear for both members of the civil society as well as Government officials whose job is to implement rules uniformly.

Pakistani Human rights crusader and former journalist Ibn Abdur Rehman, who won the Ramon Magsaysay award for his work on fostering India-Pakistan relations, passed away in Lahore, April 12, 2021. He spent his life defending human rights, opposing military dictators, fighting for the rule of law and democracy. He was also a strong voice for the country's minorities, enforced disappearances, the death penalty, bonded labour, or his unwavering support for the rights of women, children, religious and ethnic minorities. He worked as an editor for various newspapers before joining the commission which he led as director beginning in 1990. I.A. Rehman also served as members of AF Board of Governors. He regularly contributed articles for several Pakistani newspapers. The death of I A Rehman, a scholar, a journalist and leader of HR movement in Pakistan and South Asia is the end of an era. He was a mild giant who led generations of Pakistanis in struggle for democratic freedoms.

## 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>	
<p><b>Roshan Khursheed Bharucha</b> <i>Member</i></p> <p>Women Rights Activist</p>			



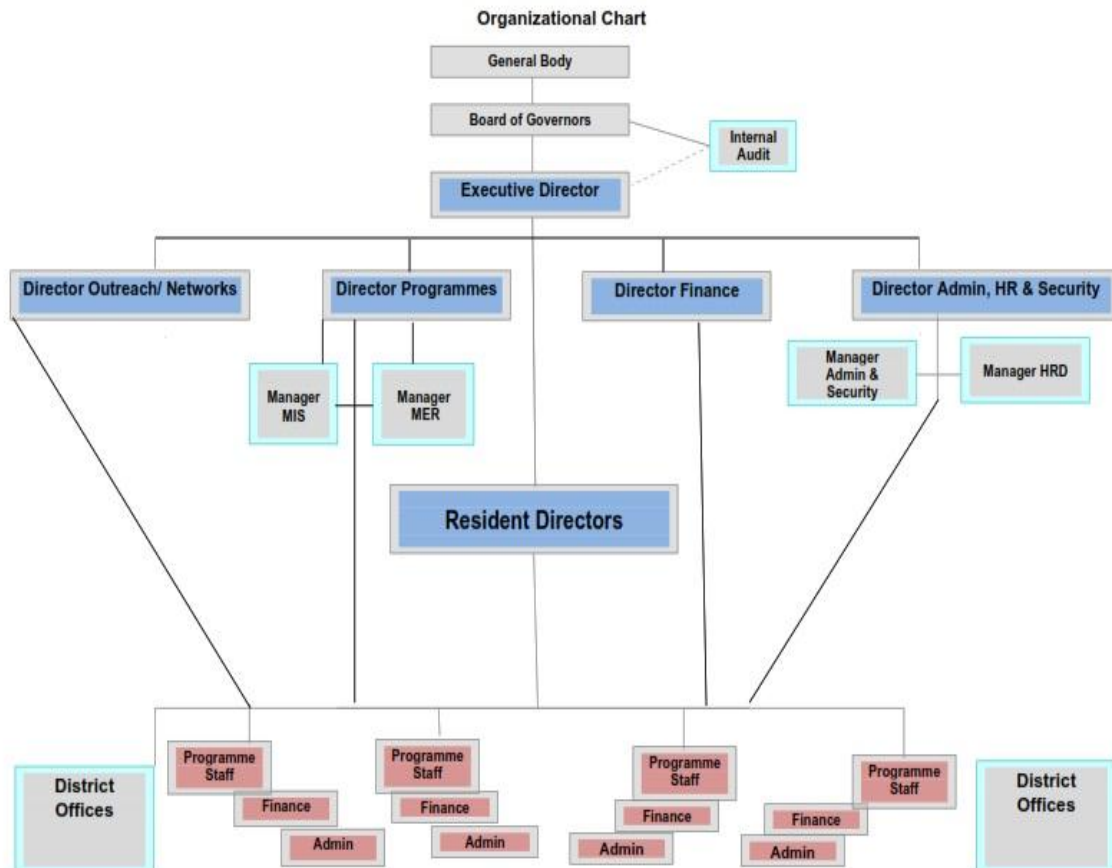
## Executive Council of Aurat Foundation

July 2019-June 2020

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Naeem Ahmed Mirza	Executive Director	Male	23 years
Mumtaz Mughal	Director Programmes	Female	17 years
Asim Malik	Director Outreach and Network	Male	23 years
Shabina Ayaz	Resident Director, Peshawar	Female	24 years
Mahnaz Rahman	Resident Director, Karachi	Female	11 years
Alauddin Khalji	Resident Director, Quetta	Male	3 years
Saima Munir	Manager Programmes, KP	Female	22 years
Malka Khan	Manager Programmes, Sindh	Female	17 years

# Organogram

## Institutional Structure Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation



## List of Operational Projects

July 2020-June 2021

Sr. #	Project	Donor
<b>National</b>		
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
<b>Regional Projects</b>		
<b>Sindh</b>		
1	Strengthening the Role of Women in Peacebuilding	DAI
2	Legislative Watch Programme	SPO-Oxfam
<b>Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)</b>		
1	Feminist Friday	SPO-Oxfam



Chapter One

# **Law and Policy Reform**

# 1. Law and Policy Reform

## 1.1 Eight Laws Passed for the Protection of Women and Marginalized Groups of Society in Pakistan

During this annual reporting year July 2020–June 2021, the following key legislations were introduced for the protection and support of women and marginalized groups of society in Pakistan.

The Islamabad Capital Territory Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2020; The Act was passed by the National Assembly on 16 September 2020 and assented to by the President of Pakistan on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020. The Act extends to the whole of the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). The Act is designed to promote, protect and effectively ensure the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the communities in line with the Islamic Injunctions and provisions of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to advance efforts for recognition of their respect and dignity in the society; whereas it is expedient to put in place legal and institutional framework to protect the rights of persons with disabilities in general and women, children and the elderly in particular, as called for by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), as well as other human rights treaties and conventions to which Pakistan is a state party. The law proposes legal and institutional framework for an inclusive society where Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) have full participation in all forms of social life, particularly in health, education and employment. The Act covers both the private and public sector and includes areas such as education, employment and others.

The Sindh COVID-19 Emergency Relief Act, 2020, last amended and passed by the Provincial Assembly of Sindh on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 and assented to by the Governor of Sindh on 05<sup>th</sup> August, 2020. The Act is to provide relief to the people of Sindh in an emergency situation arising due to widespread pandemic of Corona Virus (Covid-19) disease, which has badly hit, hurt or affected the population of the Province, directly or indirectly by the measures adopted or taken by Government to stop the spread of the disease for the general welfare of the public and to mitigate challenges emanating from the ban/lockdown imposed by the Government of Sindh throughout the Province. The Act requires educational institutions to not charge more than 80% of the total monthly fees, provides for payments to workers who are laid off, requires landlords to defer or suspend 50% of the rent of premises, and provides exemptions from certain taxes, fees, levies and charges. While it may help many women, this law is underinclusive and does not cover especially women in the informal economy and in agricultural areas.

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Reproductive Healthcare Rights Act 2020 passed by Khyber Pukhtunkhwa Assembly on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020, assented to by the Governor of Khyber Pukhtunkhwa on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020. The Act aims to provide reproductive healthcare and promote reproductive health rights in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in accordance with the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and International Commitments made by the Government of Pakistan. The law includes provisions for family planning requiring the Population Welfare Department of the Government, *inter alia*, to ensure that parents have a right to freely and responsibly decide the number, spacing and timing of their children especially for marginalized women and to provide maternal and prenatal healthcare.

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Rehabilitation of Minorities (Victims of Terrorism) Endowment Fund Act 2020 passed by Khyber Pukhtunkhwa Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020, assented to

by the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020. The Act provides for the establishment of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Endowment Fund for the welfare and wellbeing of the minority's victims of terrorism and their family members in order to enable them to lead a prosperous life in the society and to provide them financial support and compensation for any matters connected therewith and ancillary thereto. Non-Muslims are often subject to attacks in Pakistan and this law provides support to such individuals. If implemented, it will greatly benefit non-Muslims generally, but also specifically minority women who are often especially subject to terrorism.

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Domestic Violence against Women (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2021 passed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 assented to by the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021. to curb the menace of Domestic Violence against Women in the Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. This follows Article 25 of the Constitution while guaranteeing general equality, enabling the state to make special provisions for the protection of women from sexual abuse, psychological abuse, economic abuse and stalking and for the matters connected herewith and ancillary there to. With the passage of this expansive law, all provinces in the country now have laws outlawing domestic violence. The law sets up a District Protection Committee to support women victims of violence and handle complaints and a mechanism to petition the court.

The Balochistan Mental Act 2019 passed by the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan on 12th October, 2019 and assented to by the Governor Balochistan, on 24th October, 2019. The Act is consolidated, alter and amend the law relating to the mentally disordered persons in Balochistan, with respect to their care, treatment and management of their property and other related matters. The Act also facilitate the attendance and examination of the alleged mentally disordered person under the provisions of clause (d) and clause (e) shall, if the alleged mentally disordered person be a woman who, according to customs of the country, ought not to be compelled to appear in public, be regulated by the law and practice for the examination of such persons in other civil cases. If the alleged mentally disordered person resides at a distance of more than fifty miles from the place where the Court is held to which the application is made, the said Court may issue a Commission to any sub-ordinate court to make the inquiry, and such subordinate court shall thereupon conduct the inquiry in the manner hereinbefore provided.

The Balochistan Right to Information Act 2021 passed on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021, to ensure transparency and access to information in Balochistan. The Act follows Article 19A of the Constitution which provides every citizen a right to access to information in all matters of public importance subject to regulation and reasonable restrictions imposed by the laws. It underscores that it is essential that citizens shall have the right to information to participate meaningfully in a democratic process and further to improve their involvement and contribution in public affairs. The law makes an important step towards greater transparency and allows individuals to request information which is of public importance, designating a public information officer to provide assistance. Individuals must receive information as soon as possible but not to exceed 15 days. The law also establishes an Information Commission and makes it an offense to destroy information which should be on record.

The Punjab Enforcement of Women's Property Rights Act 2021 passed by the Punjab Assembly on 04 May 2021 and assented to by the Governor of the Punjab on 11 May 2021. The Act is to protect and secure the rights of ownership of women in the property. It is expedient to provide for protection of 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.





## Chapter Two

# Capacity Building and Consultative Processes

## 2. Capacity Building and Consultative Processes

Aurat Foundation through building the skills of member parliamentarians, political parties and civil society organizations make their key contribution to development and democratization processes by promoting political participation, monitoring the performance of government and other stakeholders in the provision of services and by holding them accountable for their work and advocating for human rights, for the needs and priorities of their constituency (especially of marginalized groups) and advocating against government deficiencies. Aurat Foundation is providing technical assistance to women party workers and male, female key leaders and legislators to advocate for women’s empowerment and in general and within political parties and in parliament.

### 2.1 Specialized Training Courses for Legislators and Party Workers

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted on 25 September 2015 by Heads of States and Governments at a special UN summit. The foundation of the 2030 agenda lies in 3 Principles: Universality, Integration and Leaving No one Behind. The Agenda is a commitment through 17 goals and 169 targets to eradicate poverty and achieve inclusive and participatory sustainable development by 2030 world-wide. Pakistan’s parliamentarians have already expressed a commitment to the SDGs and assured to submit Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

Pakistan is one of the few countries who formed the “Parliamentary SDGs Secretariat” based at the National Assembly and “Parliamentary Committees on SDGs”. Although the setting up secretariat, standing committee and national task force on SDGs are crucial steps but to build their capacity and enabling more MPs to consider state issues and developing policies is yet a significant need.



Aurat Foundation took an advantage to work exclusively with subcommittee and task forces of SDG 5 at national and provincial level. AF organized and commenced the session with MPs of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan and Gilgat Baltistan Assemblies with an overview of the SDGs framework in light of current situation of SDG 5 indicators and upcoming Voluntary National Review (VNR). The session culminated in a Parliamentary Action Plan on SDG-5 and garnering cross-party political support for gender equality in the provinces. The Parliamentary Action Plan was developed in a participatory manner by engaging MPAs, political activists, members of the civil society organizations and key government officials.

Total of 103 MPs including Pakistan Tahreek e Insaf (PTI), Pakistan People Party Parliamentarians (PMLN), MQM, PNP, BAP, GDA and Jamait Islami (JI) and PML (Q) participated in these trainings. They discussed how little provincial participation there was in the SDGs agenda and creation of the VNR and how in 2019, there was no parliamentary

feedback or review of the report. The latest VNR can improve on that by following up on and reviewing the Framework of Agenda 2030, taking stock of and addressing progress and shortcomings and ensuring a meaningful, inclusive, participatory, transparent and thorough process characterized by extensive consultation of all concerned parties. One other criticism of the last Volunteer National Review (VNR) included that the government overwhelmingly praised its efforts without acknowledging shortcomings.



The parliamentarians discussed the option of creating a provincial SDGs framework in addition to the national one and to set their own targets accordingly. This is one-way provinces could, on their own, take ownership of and raise awareness on this framework. At the same time, a good way to start may be to collect data considering that there is no data available for half of the indicators and even more are scattered limiting Pakistan's ability to report accurately. The women parliamentarians committed to representing the interests of their communities and constituents. They focused on women's economic empowerment including for home-based workers and to promote holistic assistance, daycares to support working women etc. On the point of gender responsive budgeting, parliamentarians acknowledged the need to discuss budgeting for pro-women laws. There is also a need for more research on why the government is failing to implement the SDGs and to what extent so that there is a general need to create a monitoring committee on transparency.

## 2.2 Women Demand Allocation of 33% Seats in Journalist Bodies

Aurat Foundation in joint partnership with Women Learning Partnership (WLP) organized a three days training of trainers to women journalists included reporters, union leaders of newspapers from Punjab and KPK province. This was the 8th jointly held ToT by Aurat Foundation and WLP, held at Grace Guest House, Islamabad from 10-13 March 2021. The three-day leadership training was attended by women journalists who are active in union and club politics. The group comprised of 15 women's working in different news channel and

newspapers as a reporter from Punjab, Lahore, Multan, Faisalabad and Peshawar, Islamabad and Rawalpindi districts.

Ms. Saima Munir conducted the session on democratic culture of Pakistan and women political participation while Ms. Myra Imran talked about holding balance information about equity and equality and its link to advocate women to speak about their right to participate in any political activity and on Sexual Harassment at workplace. Ms. Fauzia conducted the session on importance of communication and ways of communication. The participants received training on qualities of a true leader, networking and alliance making, harassment against women, gender equity and equality and importance of speaking out.



Ms. Rabia Hadi, Liaison person AF WLP organized the training workshop. General Secretary Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists Nasir Zaidi and Executive Director Aurat Foundation Naeem Mirza also interacted with the participants and briefed them about the role women in journalist unions and history of feminism.

At the end of training workshop, Women journalists from different parts of the country on Saturday called for allocation of 33 per cent seats for women journalists in Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) and other decision-making and representative bodies as well as Pakistan Press Council and committees made under the upcoming Journalist Protection Law.

These demands made part of the Islamabad Declaration issued after National Training of Trainers (ToT) on women leadership organized by Aurat Foundation (AF) under Women Learning Partnership (WLP). Women journalists from different part of the participated in the NToT. Women journalists also announced Women Journalists Association (WJA) on the occasion.

Women media persons also demanded the government to perform gender audit of media organizations to assess the number of women journalists who have lost their jobs during current media crisis and availability of basic facilities for them at workplace. They said that majority of women journalists had lost their jobs during the prevailing media crisis but the damage done to women journalists because of prevailing media crisis has been ignored.

They also suggested necessary amendment in law to make sure the presence of at least 33 per cent women in any media organizations. The suggested that no license or declaration shall be issued to any newspaper or channel unless they have a minimum 33 per cent women employed as their staff member. They also demanded special desk to deal with online harassment cases of women journalists in the Federal Investigation Agency Cyber Crime Cell. They demanded that if any political party office-bearer or official was found involved in online harassment of women journalists, they should be condemned by the party. Besides that, they suggested that

social media cells of all political parties be registered with the Election Commission of Pakistan and a code of conduct devised should be devised for such cells.

They also called for establishment of sexual harassment complaint committees in every media house, union offices and press clubs under the Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace 2010 Act.

They also demanded provision of transport facilities for women journalists, strict implementation of the law on paid three-month maternity leave for women employees and equality in pay structure, beat distribution and exposure opportunities. They urged for insurance on the par of male journalists, 10 per cent quota for in working women hostels, welfare schemes and free healthcare for senior female journalists and provision of easy house and car loans for women journalists.



### **2.3 Trainings on CVE Laws, Community Resilience and Advocacy**

Aurat Foundation organized the Two-Day training workshop on Counter Violence Terrorism (CVE) Laws, Community Resilience and Advocacy from 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 to 04<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 at Mehran Hotel, Karachi. The selected women groups were trained on advocacy skills and on identified VE factors and drivers, specific to their areas and CVE laws.

The activity aimed to build the capacity of 100 identified women to understand the negative impact of violent extremism and develop their mediation and dialogue skills. A total of 100 women participants; 10 women trainees (batch wise) from each district participated in the CVE trainings after being identified and selected. AF thematic experts implemented a two-day training for each of the five targeted districts. A total of 20 women were identified based on their leadership potential from each district making a total of 100 participants. The trainings took place in batches of 10 participants to comply with the Slandered Operating Procedures (SOPs).

After receiving the training, women were able to understand the concepts of community resilience and realized that preventive efforts are crucial to counter and control the growing intolerance and VE from our society. They gained knowledge on federal level policies of CVE as well as on the resilience and CVE related laws of Sindh, which was measured from the training pre/post assessments. The women beneficiaries developed peace messages, prepared their strategies and determined their role as peace leaders. It facilitated women in promoting peace messages and resolving violence issues on their own initiative.

#### Trainings on CVE Laws, Community Resilience and Advocacy



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 26th July 2021- CLUSTER 1		Total HH Listing	Total HH Enumeration	Target Achieved	
District	Target Household			Listing	Enumeration
GUJRANWALA	747,214	446,335	370,772	59.73%	49.62%
GUJRAT	442,399	223,922	183,855	50.62%	41.56%
HAFIZABAD	175,180	186,425	170,166	106.42%	97.14%
MANDI BAHAUDDIN	252,120	228,211	211,504	90.52%	83.89%
<b>GUJRANWALA Division</b>	<b>1,616,913</b>	<b>1,084,893</b>	<b>936,297</b>	<b>67.10%</b>	<b>57.91%</b>
RAWALPINDI	85,540	127,683	111,010	149.27%	129.78%
ATTOCK	306,649	188,549	199,802	61.49%	65.16%
JHELMUM	204,792	153,328	165,112	74.87%	80.62%
<b>RAWALPINDI Division</b>	<b>596,981</b>	<b>469,560</b>	<b>475,924</b>	<b>78.66%</b>	<b>79.72%</b>
ISLAMABAD	336,182	344,504	271,229	102.48%	80.68%
<b>ISLAMABAD Division</b>	<b>336,182</b>	<b>344,504</b>	<b>271,229</b>	<b>35.40%</b>	<b>27.70%</b>
<b>Overall Total - C1</b>	<b>2,550,076</b>	<b>1,898,957</b>	<b>1,683,450</b>	<b>74.47%</b>	<b>66.02%</b>



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

Updated till 26th July 2021- CLUSTER 5		Target Household	Total HH Listing	Total Enumeration	Total Target Achieved	
Division	District				Listing %age	Enumeration %age
BAHAWALPUR	BAHAWALNAGAR	481,276	376,456	355,027	78%	74%
BAHAWALPUR	RAHIM YAR KHAN	701,520	955,588	887,632	136%	127%
<b>BAHAWALPUR Total</b>		<b>1,182,796</b>	<b>1,332,044</b>	<b>1,242,659</b>	<b>113%</b>	<b>105%</b>
LARKANA	KAMBAR SHAHDADKOT	223,154	218,432	202,024	98%	91%
LARKANA	KASHMOR	185,143	137,550	123,154	74%	67%
LARKANA	LARKANA	261,331	243,951	223,530	93%	86%
LARKANA	SHIKARPUR	207,555	206,476	206,817	99%	100%
<b>LARKANA Total</b>		<b>877,183</b>	<b>806,409</b>	<b>755,525</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>86%</b>
MIRPUR KHAS	MIRPUR KHAS	286,547	256,811	248,311	90%	87%
MIRPUR KHAS	THARPARKAR	301,625	150,754	131,236	50%	44%
MIRPUR KHAS	UMER KOT	212,356	215,294	224,684	101%	106%
<b>MIRPUR KHAS Total</b>		<b>800,528</b>	<b>622,859</b>	<b>604,231</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>75%</b>
SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD	NAUSHAHRO FEROZE	275,693	276,847	239,598	100%	87%
SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD	SANGHAR	374,609	249,162	203,509	67%	54%
SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD	SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD	297,133	295,290	233,670	99%	79%
<b>SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD Total</b>		<b>947,435</b>	<b>821,299</b>	<b>676,777</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>71%</b>
SUKKUR	GHOTKI	296,830	186,463	170,256	63%	57%
SUKKUR	KHAIRPUR	413,044	407,290	340,598	99%	82%
<b>SUKKUR Total</b>		<b>709,874</b>	<b>593,753</b>	<b>510,854</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>		<b>4,517,816</b>	<b>4,176,364</b>	<b>3,790,046</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>84%</b>

### 3.2 Computerized National Identity Cards Campaign

The awareness raising on social, development and political issues of local communities, specifically with women and other excluded groups, was initiated with inception phase of JAZBA Programme. By using interactive methods and engaging them in different activities, women have been sensitized on the importance of their political participation, their rights and responsibilities.

So, in the first round after awareness raising initiatives, JAZBA forums facilitated community women in registering for their CNICs which provide them identity as a citizen of Pakistan and allow them to claim their basic rights given in the Constitution. Such initiatives form the basis to exercise democratic processes for the protection of basic human rights. During the reporting period, total of 11149 eligible women enlisted for CNIC registration while 2623 women received their first citizen identity.

### 3.3 Social Mobilization and Formation of Peace Committee Meetings

Aurat Foundation organized the community mobilization meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to gather trained women leaders on a common forum to identify, discuss and resolve the VE issues in their area, develop a set of peace messages that they can advocate for in their communities and record success stories / case studies for sharing. Field mobilization for formation of peace committee and finalization of members took place after the completion of trainings. The 40 Peace Committee Meetings (PCMs) kicked off in the month of March 2021.

Each peace committee consisted of 8 members per district who were most vocal, enthusiastic and keen to carry the work forward; total PCMs. About 15 PCMs were, held during the first milestone deliverable(s), covering three per district. The agenda and schedule of PCMs was shared with the members and approved before their commencement. The women participants showed a lot of enthusiasm to become the peace committee member and were keen to work as peace leaders in their district.

The role of PCM members were identification of VE issues and promoting peace messages. During the PCMs, the members were oriented on identification of VE cases in the community and reaching resolutions. Overall, the peace committee members came across several sectarian and ethnic related VE issues in their area and tried to resolve them peacefully with the help of dialogue. The members also increasingly came across verbal disagreements and conflicts between women belonging to different school of thoughts/maslak as well as due to religious bent towards particular political parties. According to the peace committee members neighboring women often fought with each other and claimed superiority over the other in terms of their ethnic race. Extremist behavior as a result of sectarian differences has reportedly deprived relationships of acceptance and respect.



Of the 100 trained, 40 women were selected to become peace committee members. Therefore, 8 peace committee members from each district were, identified and who then participated in their respective district PCM, along with their Social Mobilizers (SMs) and District Coordinators (DCs).



Peace committee members shared the challenges they faced, whereby at times, the family members resented and retorted to violent threat as they deemed it as their personal matter. The peace committee member took the help of other influential/community women from the same ethnic community and / or sect and helped them understand the vision behind CVE, in a peaceful manner. In other communal issues and clashes, the committee members sensitized the community about the role of every individual to build a peaceful society and not to indulge in the blame game.



## 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. Leaving No One behind: The Role of Parliamentarians for Inclusive Development in Pakistan

An online session on “The role of parliamentarians for inclusive development in Pakistan” was organized under Shared Society Project of Club de Madrid in collaboration with Aurat Foundation and Parliamentary Commission for Human Rights, Pakistan to find ways and means for supporting inclusive implementation of Agenda 2030 in Pakistan. The online session was held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The Speakers of the event included Mr. Yves Leterme, Member of Club de Madrid, Prime Minister of Belgium (2008, 2009-11), Mr. Arnau Ramirez Carner, Member of Spanish Parliament, Mr. Riaz Khan Fatyana, MNA & Convener National Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs, MNAs Ms. Shandana Gulzar Khan, Dr. Nausheen Hamid, Ghazala Saifi, Nafisa Khattak, Shazia Sobia, MPA Talat Naqvi, Ayesha Nawaz, Ayesha Bano, Nusrat Abbasi, Sabrina Javed, Mr. Naem Ahmed Mirza, Executive Director Aurat Foundation and Mr. Ali Imran, Senior Expert Club de Madrid.

The speakers said elected officials representing the voice of the people should ensure everyone member of the society is included in the development of national plans and policies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030. The session shed light on the inclusion of marginalized and socially excluded groups in the planning, development and monitoring of national development plans aligned with Agenda 2030 in Pakistan. They underscore the importance of strong partnerships between state institutions, including parliaments, and civil society organizations representing vulnerable groups to achieve the 2030 Agenda objective of leaving no one behind.

The speakers of an online session lauded the role of parliamentarians and NGOs are playing to ensure inclusive and participatory development for everyone, everywhere. A wide-ranging participant including 30 Members of the National and Provincial Assemblies' Parliamentary Taskforces on SDGs, as well as other eminent representatives, to exchange of ideas and good practices with the Former Prime Minister of Belgium and Club de Madrid Member, Yves Leterme, and Mr. Arnau Ramirez, Spanish Member of the Parliament.



## **4.2: Integrating Vulnerable Communities Inputs to Inclusive Development Roadmap in Pakistan**

The second online session under Shared Society Project of Club de Madrid in collaboration with Aurat Foundation was organized on “Integrating Vulnerable Communities Inputs to Inclusive Development Roadmap in Pakistan” on 26 February 2021. The session brought together Kjell Minge Bondevik, former Prime Minister of Norway and Member of Club de Madrid with the leaders from religious and ethnic minorities to strengthen strategies and foster consensus between state and minorities around the need to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in an inclusive and participatory manner.

Ex. Prime Minister Bondevik highlighted the need of interfaith harmony and establishment of forums for dialogue between state and ethnic and religious minorities. He also highlighted that the key legal, political and cultural steps are to be taken to create an inclusive environment for development. Norway has been successful to reduce inter-group tensions and to integrate the migrated and indigenous local Sami communities in Agenda 2030 dialogue process. He appreciated the contribution made by the Pakistan origin immigrants to Norway and vows his support for the integration of religious and ethnic minorities and interfaith harmony.

Mr. Naeem Mirza, Executive Director Aurat Foundation highlighted that the women from religious and ethnic communities are at the risks of multiple vulnerabilities and recommended that there should be exchange of information and knowledge between global north and south. He also said that women's empowerment can be better ensured with their political participation, at all levels.

Mr. Ramesh Singh Arora MPA highlighted that the religious and cultural tourism is key and it can support further integration of Sikh community development in Pakistan. He said that the Sikh brethren from all over world acknowledges the warm hospitality and secure environment provided to them in Pakistan. Ms. Mary James Gill, former MPA highlighted the need of socio-economic development of the marginalized groups within Christian communities. She also stressed for the inclusive curriculum and effective participation of minorities in the mainstream political discourse. Mr. Qadir Ali Nail, MPA Balochistan underlined that there is significant decrease in the number of terrorist attacks against Hazara Community in the recent past. He stressed the need for inter-sectarian dialogue to ensure peace and development in Balochistan province. Ms. Tanzila Qambrani MPA said that the Sheedi tribes in Sindh and Balochistan needs to be socio-economically developed. She also stressed the need of inclusion of minority groups in implementation and monitoring of Agenda 2030 in Pakistan.

Mr. Ali Imran, Senior Expert Club de Madrid said that the inclusion is anchored in two principles; first the Article 36 of the constitutions which binds that the state shall safeguard the legitimate rights and interest of the minorities and secondly Agenda 2030 principle of "Leaving no one behind". He said that in Pakistan's complex political culture and diverse society, it is particularly important to adopt an inclusive approach to include religious and ethnic minorities inputs to planning, implementation and monitoring of Agenda 2030. Since Pakistan is going to present its VNR report to High Level Political Forum in 2021, the panelist and participants stressed to include religious and ethnic minorities inputs. Mr. Rafael Moreno from Club de Madrid summarized the discussion and vowed to continue Club de Madrid support to Pakistan under Shared Societies Programme. The session was attended by large group of civil society including academia, social & political activists, lawyers, women leaders, media, students and others.



### 4.3: Civil Society Perspectives on Inclusive Development in Pakistan

The third online session under Shared Society Project of Club de Madrid in collaboration with Aurat Foundation was organized on “Civil Society Perspectives on Inclusive Development in Pakistan” on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The virtual session was aimed to share the best international and national practices and to highlight the strategies for inclusive development and ways to foster consensus between the state and CSOs on the need to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in an inclusive and participatory manner. Aside from the speakers, around 80 representatives of various civil society organizations, vulnerable groups, youth, academia, and minority rights activists from across Pakistan attended the session.

Ms. Kim Campbell, the former Prime Minister of Canada and Club de Madrid member, highlighted that inclusion should be at the heart of decision-making. She said that including women and other marginalized groups is not only important to be nice but necessary to be effective to achieving the SDGs and all social and economic goals. She further noted that CSOs and the media should help define the narrative of society and write our history to validate people with whom we share our country and who play an important role in it, building relationships and alliances to create understanding.

Ms. Wendy Gilmore, High Commissioner of Canada to Pakistan, discussed how Pakistan had a long way to go to achieve gender equality and include all civil society groups in decision-making which is essential to economic growth and development but that there was much hope, and the Canadian government had many programs to support civil society in Pakistan and empower women and that inclusiveness is at the heart of their work.

Mr. Ali Imran, Senior Expert WLA highlighted that the civil society has a key role in advocacy of vulnerable communities, public-private partnerships, promotion of citizen-centric inclusive development and community empowerment. He said that sustainable development is not possible without inclusion of the most marginalized communities, especially those belonging to religious and ethnic minorities.



Dr. Aliya Hashmi Khan, Labour Economist and member of the Prime Minister Economic Advisory Council, stated that it is critical to recognize and extend social protection and other coverage to informal economy workers. Additionally, she declared that interventions using digital technology in particular can address exclusions and marginalization. Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programmes, Aurat Foundation highlighted the importance of Goal 5 and the need to mainstream the principles of equality and non-discrimination throughout all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Moreover, she emphasized the dire need to sit together to identify more participatory approaches to engage with stakeholders on an ongoing basis, including best practices for the use of online meeting technology to provide inputs and to ensure a more inclusive process.

Ms. Aima Mehmood, Executive Director Working Women Organization stressed the need to have unions and worker's organization participate in the social and economic inclusion of the laborer in sustainable groups. She declared that without a deep commitment to inclusive development, the SDGs run the risk of not directing the substantive transformation needed to achieve strong sustainable development.

Ms. Jannat Ali, Transgender Activist discussed how transgender people are denied both equity and equality. The law for transgender rights must be implemented and trans people should be included in this as well as in elections, planning, decision making and given economic opportunities and a platform through which they can end the communication gap.

Ms. Abia Akram, Chief Executive Officer, National Forum of Women with Disability emphasized the need to work with local governments and line ministries to include issues faced by women with disabilities in all policies and legislation to ensure required reasonable accommodations and reduce systemic barriers. Leading Journalist, Ms. Urooj Raza Sayyami, shared her experience speaking to GBV violence survivor, the trans woman, and noted that there are so many issues not highlighted in the local media and it is necessary that these issues not only be discussed in social media but also in mainstream electronic media.



#### 4.4 Awareness Sessions on Women-Friendly Spaces



Aurat Foundation initiated awareness sessions for local communities with special focus on women's participation in politics. A total of 53 awareness raising sessions on safe and friendly spaces were conducted in order to strengthen the voice of powerless and marginalized women, as well as members of excluded groups.

In total, 1071 women, 20 men and 2 transgenders, 29 PWDs and 65 representative of minority group participated. They discussed the importance of women's role in decision-making, participation of women in the political process and formal structures, gender-based violence, the significance of a CNIC and the power of the vote. A large number of women do not possess CNICs and are not registered as voters.

During these sessions special focus was given on encouraging local communities to nominate and elect representatives for the upcoming Local Government Elections on the basis of merit. This session increased motivation level of women to participate in political activities and community development work. These sessions also increased interest of women to contest local government election on general seats and enhanced knowledge of women on constitutional rights and pro women laws.



#### 4.5 Sensitization Sessions on Gender Based Violence with Young Men/Boys of Educational Institutions

Youth of any nation is always considered the asset of a country and it plays a primary role in the development of that country. Nonetheless, situation is not that optimistic in Pakistan, a country where more than fifty percent population is comprised on people who are between 16 to 30 years of age. Even with this huge majority of the total population, the country is still trailing far behind as compared to other super nations of the world. Hence, a crucial role of youth is overseen to be effecting positive transformative change by challenging political and social norms, and addressing stereotypes that perpetuate VAW/G, whether through powerful social protests or social media campaigns.

JAZBA is an opportunity to identify likeminded, gender sensitized boys and men to create spaces for women empowerment and promote alternate behaviors that lead to a violence free environment for girls and women. It is also an opportunity to more engage with each other and also providing a space to selected change agent to perform their role in better way.

In order to mobilize the youth segment of society to bring positive impact in their women's life, 19 sessions conducted with youth on the key themes of Gender base Violence. The GBV session focused on motivating and mobilizing the youth for playing an effective role in ending violence against women and girls (VAW&G). The aim of this activity was to establish an active group of young men and boys who can address and report violence data at district level. Mobile App was introduced and a detailed session was conducted as orientation. To combat gender-injustices the involvement of young men/boys cannot be neglected so an active group of young boys not only trained on GBV but also oriented on JAZBA Mobile App to monitor and report the violence cases. While recognizing the youth potential in transforming a vibrant society providing safe space for women, Total of 596 young men and boys were trained on GBV.



Give pledges to share the message of this session to their friends

During these GBV session, the participants pledged to cease committing acts of VAW&G and to further sensitize others to end GBV. They committed to share the message of this session to their friends, parents and relatives so they can understand and become part of this campaign of stopping all kinds of violence against women and girls. They showed their willingness to play active role in reducing violence in their homes and will use social media and small media like SMSs and Facebook.

#### **4.6 Interface Dialogues with Legislators on the Findings of VAW/G in the Times of Covid-19 Pandemic 2020**

AF organized ten (10) interface dialogues with the legislators and representatives of political parties to share research evidence and key findings. The main objective of these dialogues was to influence and advocate the legislation process to combat violence against women, minorities and other excluded groups. These dialogues also demanded a proper implementation of existing law to protect women. Ms. Semabia, MPA-PTI, shared that trend is changing with time, no. of parliamentarian women is increasing. She highlighted that more legislations are introduced by women. The main problem is implementation, laws are made but not implemented.

Ms. Shamaila conducted brief introduction session was held in which participants shared their achievements or struggles. Ms. Shafaq Shahid introduced the JAZBA project and its agenda. Then she presented the figures of different type of violence reported in Rawalpindi/Islamabad. Ms. Shamaila shared the recommendations that how can we minimize the violence ratio in Pakistan. Ms. Lubna Rehana, ex MPA, shared that it is very difficult for women to be a decision maker even in parliament. Men do not provide space to women.

Ms. Razia Sultana, President Women Alliance said that main cause is that women are not aware of their laws. We should aware women and make them aware of new laws and all the laws that are women friendly.

AF organized ten (10) interface dialogues with the legislators and representatives of political parties to share research evidence and key findings. In the end, Ms. Shafaq thanked the participants and the participants committed that they will work for VAW and they will highlight these figures even in parliament that this pandemic caused increased in violence also.



#### **4.7 Launch of AF's Research Study on "Violence Against Women & Girls in the Times of Covid-19 Pandemic 2020" and Commemoration of National Women's Day**

Aurat Foundation collected empirical qualitative and quantitative data documenting the rise in COVID-19 cases and presented it on the occasion of 12<sup>th</sup> February, National Women's Day at Margala Hotel, Islamabad. Over 300 people were in attendance at the event including government officials, members of the community and civil society, members of media, academia, members of the United Nations, the High Commission of Canada in Pakistan and others.

Speakers included Ms. Shandana Gulzar Khan, Member, National Assembly of Pakistan and the Chairperson, Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians, Mr. Christopher Khung, Head of Cooperation, High Commission of Canada, Dr. Aliya Hashmi Khan, Member Prime Minister Economic Advisory Council and Board Member of AF, Mr. Naeem Ahmad Mirza, Executive Director, AF, and Mr. Irfan Mufti, Team Leader JAZBA Project, SAP-PK. The event was followed by a theatrical performance by Alina Chudary to mark National Women's Day. The event commenced with introductory comments by Ms. Nosheen Khurram, National Programme Manager followed by Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programme, delivering a speech on the significance of National Women's Day.



Ms. Shandana Gulzar Khan, Member, National Assembly of Pakistan and Chairperson, Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians said that women should help be support for other women. There is dire need to end violence in our society so that everyone can breathe freely. There are opportunities to link such programmes with parliamentary platform of SGDs. She said that the current proposed research will provide a factual situation of existing obstacles and constraints. Secondly the reviewing of different cases which

are settled out of courts mostly will provide us gap analysis that where civil society and different support mechanism need to work more and in-depth.

Mr. Christopher Khung, Head of Cooperation, High Commission of Canada in Pakistan joined the event and stated that research report has pointed out some important trends of out of court settlements cases that needs to be focused to work. He shared that women survivors/victims of violence range from two-year-old girls to middle-aged married women, women survivors/victims come from all socio-economic backgrounds – from the very poor to the middle class, violence occurs any and everywhere at education institutions, in offices, and at homes, child sexual abuse and exploitation is a common problem in society and often ends in out-ofcourt settlements as women cave under pressure from family members, neighbors, relatives, community members, police officers and others who push women to drop their court cases and release the accused.

Ms. Rakshanda Perveen said that 2297 cases of VAW were reported in 25 districts sampled from January to December 2020. Despite the problem of underreporting during COVID and the limited sample size, the number of cases is shockingly high compared to previous studies. Doing a month-to-month analysis of the cases reveals that at the peak of the pandemic in July, cases of VAW&G were at their highest. The document/report will be primarily based on the information retrieved from different levels specially from local newspaper in each project district or provincial level local newspaper to reach out the local information and this data will be verified from police to understand the nature of the reported cases as well.

Ms. Mughal stated that February 12 is a very important day in the history of Pakistan. She mentioned the founders of Aurat Foundation, Ms. Shehla Zia (late) and Ms. Nigar Ahmed who were at the forefront of fighting for women’s rights on February 12, 1983. She also mentioned that many people in Pakistan are unaware, but it was the women of this nation who fought for the restoration of democracy. To this day women remain at the forefront for the fight for democracy in Pakistan.

Mr. Naeem Mirza, Executive Director, AF concluded the event with vote of thanks and said that the women’s struggle in Pakistan commenced in the 1980s for the struggle against discriminatory laws that were introduced during a military dictatorship. He also stated that although many people are unaware of this fact, the struggle le for democracy in Pakistan commenced hand-in-hand with the women’s struggle. Mr Mirza congratulated all the women for their hard work



and dedication and also offered heartfelt congratulations to the women's movement that spans the last 100 years. He also brought attention to the suppression of women in the name of religion citing the *Qisas* and *Diyat* Ordinances and stated that AF stands for the abolition of all parallel justice systems and repeal of all discriminatory laws.

Mr. Irfan Muft said the study made a number of recommendations and raised awareness on the prevalence of the problems, pushing policymakers and the media to commit to ending VAW&G. The study also recommended to ensure inclusion in all policies and budgets and actually allocating matching monetary resources to address the issue through gender and multidisciplinary experts and rehabilitation of the survivors of violence and adopting an intersectional approach in all areas of work relating to ending VAW&G.



#### **4.8 Advocacy Meetings on Countering Violent Extremism**

AF hold a number of advocacy meetings with key stakeholders. The strategy ensured that the key stakeholders are all on board in terms of their availability and prior commitments, especially the CVE trained MPA/ officials and heads of selected government departments. It entailed follow-ups with both male and female policy makers/ provincial MPAs, especially around the time of budget sessions in assembly. As well as, ensuring the meetings are not planned closer to the weekend as majority of those out stationed in their respective constituencies take time to reach Karachi. As per strategy, both male and female potential beneficiaries were, approached well before time through formal letters/ invite via WhatsApp, at the same time the IP had strong linkages with all parliamentarians across parties as well as key government departments.

All parliamentarians across board applauded this kind of initiative in Karachi towards peacebuilding. They encouraged the PCMs by offering them full support as well as raising VE issues at the floor of Assembly. The MPAs stressed the need for holding CVE awareness sessions in schools and colleges. Some suggested to include the image of national flag in the IEC material for it to signify a local initiative rather than a foreign one (as per community response). Revival of Muslihat Anjuman was also pointed out and increased representation of women as peace leaders. All parties including PTI, MQM and PPP exchanged contact of PCMs for networking and info. Sharing. The PCMs were also promised to be taken to a visit to the Sindh Assembly, post budget sessions.

The government departments, including the Home Department, WDD and SWD offered to provide information and serve as resource persons in future trainings and community sessions regarding CVE. The LG department offered the services of its Town Officers as focal persons regarding solving of any VE issues at the community level and maintaining peace in the area, as part of its mandate. The Law department suggested sensitization of other laws, with elements of extremism, through PCMs. The Minorities department stressed the need for wider dissemination and continued intervention towards peacebuilding. The Information department exchanged contact of PCMs for record and sharing.



#### 4.9 Lunch of Report on Women’s Safety Audit at Public Places

In support of the Government of Pakistan's gender policies, Aurat Foundation lunched “Women Safety Audit in Karachi, Dadu, Khairpur, Quetta and Rawalpindi”, with the assistance and guidance of UN Women Pakistan. The project worked closely with Women Development Departments (WDDs) of Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh as key partners, as well as other stakeholders including CSOs, Provincial CSWs, Provincial SWDs, transport departments, transport police, Law and Parliamentary affairs departments, parliamentarians/ law makers and other office bearers. AF with collaboration of Women Development Departments (WDDs) of Balochistan and UN Women launched the report on June 2021 at Quetta. Speaking on the occasion, Sabira Islam, Provincial Ombudsman for Harassment Cell for Women, Alauddin Khilji, Resident Director, Aurat Foundation, Ayesha Wadood, Provincial Coordinator, UN Women, Dr. Rashida, Gender Specialist, Qari Abdul Rashid, Officers of departments and representatives of NGOs were also present. A comprehensive policy has been put in place to run special cornering and punk public transport for prayers and breastfeeding in five public places,” she expressed these views in a joint report by UN Women and the Aurat Foundation on the report of harassment of women in public places.

Dr. Ruababa Buledi, Parliamentary Secretary for Health said that all members of the society have a collective responsibility to protect women and abide by the law. She said that the department providing opportunities on the basis of equality for the betterment of the society and the province will move forward on the path of development. The establishment of a

women's police station is a positive step towards the protection of women. She also said that Govt. of Balochistan is taking practical steps to prevent harassment in the workplace which will enable women to be protected. A special desk has been set up in the health department to prevent harassment where women employees can express their problems and grievances without any fear or concern. Rubaba Buledi said that breast feeding corners have also been set up in treasury care hospitals. She said that the provincial government was taking steps to provide facilities to women, children and disadvantaged sections of the society. Keeping in view their needs, they are taking coordinated strategies to address issues such as harassment. In this regard, a grievance cell has been set up to address harassment of women and other issues.

Addressing the ceremony, Sabra Islam said that in Islam and the traditions of our province, the dignity of women is considered the most precious. Because our society is religious, traditional and tribal, public places are unsafe for women. Tragedy is a concern for our society. She said that a cell is active in the office of the provincial ombudsman for harassment of women in the workplace and other issues while a harassment cell has been set up in all provincial departments and districts where women can lodge complaints. She said that the police and the administration have an important role to play in the protection of women. Besides, people belonging to all schools of thought in the society also have their own religious views for the protection of women. The event was addressed by Resident Director Women Foundation Alauddin Khilji, Provincial Coordinator UN Women Ayesha Wadood, Dr. Rashida, Qari Abdul Rashid and others.



پارلیمانی سیکرٹری برائے صحت ڈاکٹر ربابہ خان بلیدی، صوبائی مہتمبہ صابرہ اسلام، عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے صوبائی سربراہ عطا الدین علی و دیگر عوامی مقامات پر خواتین کے تحفظ کے اعداد و شمار کے رپورٹ کی تقریب رونمائی سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں۔ (فوٹو ڈی جی پی آر)



Chapter Five

# Support for Civil Society Organizations

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## 5. Support for Civil Society Organizations

### 5.1 Consultation with Media about Reporting of GBV Incidents

Joint Action Committee, Karachi and Aurat Foundation hold consultation with media about reporting of GBV incidents. The speakers of consultation were Ms. Afia Salam (Freelance Journalist), Nuzhat Shireen (Chairperson SCSW), Muneezeh Inam (Journalist DAWN) and Zubaida Mustafa (Sr free-lance journalist). The speakers emphasized that news is mostly seen by men and made by men which shows mindset of the person who is preparing it. They focused on rating of channel. They are not sensitized, no one follow the code of conduct in media for reporting and also not recognized the contributions of women towards the society. They said that media officials should be sensitized on GBV issues so that they could report the cases more sensitively. They also highlighted that woman are in media but they are not at decision making positions. We should also focus on that aspect.

They strongly recommended that there is need to increase women's representation in leadership and decision-making position in media. Women & child trafficking must be highlighted because poor families don't report of their daughter abduction and due to this a large number of girls and women are trafficking across the border every month. Media ethics training should be conducted frequently as many journalists said that they are nor trained. We should respect the values of victim. We all have to be careful for that while reporting. There are some codes of conducts for journalist in which it is very clear that the name of victim should be hide.



### 5.2 Networking session of JAC for Human Rights with Members of Sindh Assembly

Aurat Foundation organized networking session of Joint Action Committee (JAC) for human rights with members of Sindh Assembly on 8th March 2021, at Marriott Hotel, Karachi. The objectives of consultation with Joint Action Committee Members & Parliamentarians to discuss on progressive laws that have been enacted but in Sindh there is lack of implementation. What role can be played by parliamentarians and civil society for the implementations of progressive laws & how they can collaborate with each other?

The meeting was attended by Mr. Karamat Ali Executive Director PILER, Ms. Mehnaz Rehman, Resident Director Aurat Foundation, Ms. Nuzhat Shireen Chairperson Sindh Commission on the Status of Women, Ms. Farhat Perveen, Director National Organization for Working Communities, Ms. Malka Khan Provincial Coordinator AF, Nusrat Sehar Abbasi (MPA) Grand Democratic Alliance, Ms. Ghazala Siyal, MPA Pakistan People's Party and others.

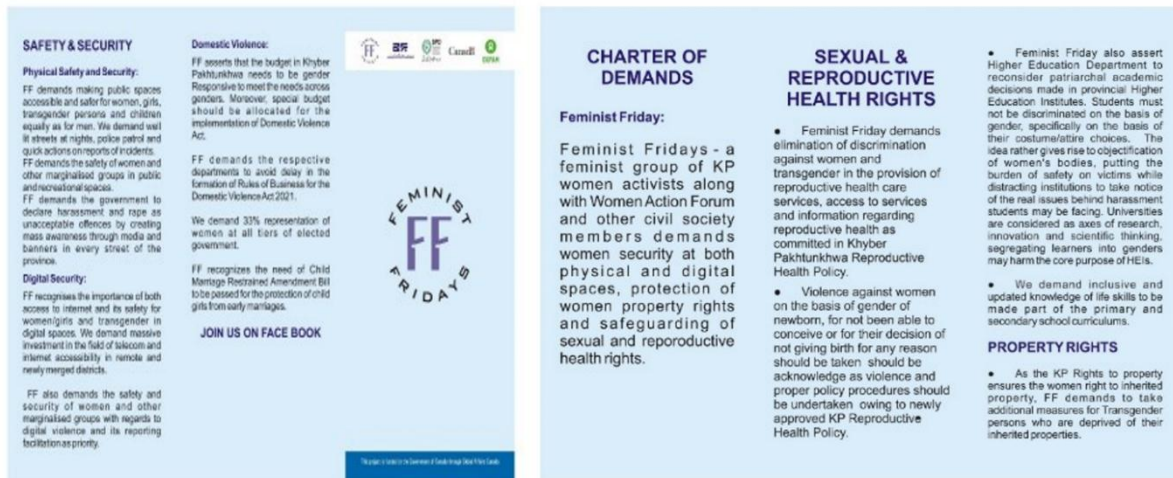


The participants recommended that there is no gender sensitivity in male judges. We can provide legal opinion and suggestion can be given for laws. The 18<sup>th</sup> amendment gives us the authority to prepare new laws. There is need to follow up for speedy formulation of rules of business of pro women laws. Budget allocation is needed to increase community awareness. Now shelter home, safe house, child protection is under Women Development Department. We have already created a group with police department in which SSP Sindh, DSP, IG Police are added and they respond us and provide information on every case we ask for.

### **5.3 Feminist Friday Celebrated International Women's Day**

Feminist Friday (FF) is implementing Women Voice and Leader Program in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. FF secretariat is housed in Aurat Foundation Peshawar. Feminist Friday, a network of 60 women from different walk of life. Initially it was started as study circle of only nine women four years back but later with increased interest its member ship goes to 60. FF organized international day of Women as joint and coordinated manner. Each organization was given a stall to display their work with IEC and goods prepared by community women. Ms. Amna Durrani delivered a lecture on newly enacted "Domestic Violence act against women" in details. It was told that the act was long awaited and it took more than 18 years to pass. She said that it is welcoming step of the government to women. She highlighted every article and its implications and lacuna that needs to be amended. The speakers of the event were Ms. Saima Munir, Aurat Foundation, Nadia Khan, The enlightened Lab, Tahira Kalim, Saiban Development Organization, Naseem Begum, Ujala Development Organization – Jalwa Khan, Karwan e Hawwa, Sana Khan, Blue Vains and Women Business and Agriculture organization, Shazia Hina, Noor Education trust –Working Women Alliance – Pegham, Sakina Khan, Special Life Foundation, Gul Lalai, Provincial Ombudsperson against

workplace, Amna Durrani, Provincial Commission on the Status of Women Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Feminist Fridays Charter of Demand was distributed among the participants.



#### 5.4 Feminist Friday Exposure Visit of Swat Shelter Home

Feminist Friday organised exposure visit to Shelter home Swat on 18 March 2021 with the support of Social Welfare Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It was need for long to visit shelter homes to know the living conditions and issues of shelter homes. FF had meeting Social Welfare Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and planned to celebrate International Women’s Day in Shelter Home Swat.

Event was presided by Ms. Seyeda Nudrat, Senior Gender Specialist SWD KP, president Shelter Committee Swat Ms. Farzan Javed was also present. Ms. Nusrat, Incharge Swat Shelter Home informed the group that there are 76 women and 15 children and 10 10 infants. These children are living here with their mothers. Shelter home is facing shortage of staff even warden and house Incharge post is still vacant. Shelter home building is also needing to be changed, she said that new building is in construction process but due to some legal issue construction work has been stopped. Later on, Inmates presented poetry, songs, games and speeches to highlight their issues. Ms. Nudrat, assured the inmate and staff that department will soon work for change of building. She thanked FF that due to this activity she got chance to know the shelter home condition. Toys and hygiene kits were also distributed among inmates and children. Due to the sensitivity of the inmate of shelter home, faces of residents have been deliberately hide in pictures

#### 5.5 Women’s Leadership Assembly on International Women’s Day

On the occasion of 8<sup>th</sup> March International Women’s Day, Aurat Foundation organized Women Leadership Assemblies in twelve (12) districts of Pakistan for pursuing proper implementation of Local Government Elections and appropriate representation of women and youth. A total number of 1064 persons including 795 women, 223 men and 10 transgender persons participated. A “Women Leadership Assembly” was also held at the Rawalpindi Press Club which was followed by a women’s rally. This celebration brought together women leaders from PMLN, PTI and PPP, human rights activists, artists, and around 100 other women under the network “Women Alliance Pakistan.” Also present at the event was Mr. Christopher Khung, Head of Cooperation, High Commission of Canada.



There was also a video screening of a feminist song and a community activist, Ms. Tahira Mushtaq, presented a “Charter of Demands” for local government reforms. Some of the reforms requested were the inclusion of women, transgender, and youth in all parts of the local government including having access to votes, local governments having the same quota for women representatives as exists in the federal government, the creation of women caucuses and improvements to women councilor programs.

Speakers included political parties' representatives, Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb, Member of the National Assembly (PML-N), Ms. Abida Munir (PTI) and Ms. Sumera Khan, City President (PPPP) who discussed strategies to mainstream women in leadership positions in political parties and legislatures. Also at the event were Ms. Rubina Akbar, ex-councilor (PTI), Ms. Samina Shoaib, ex-councilor (PML-N), and Ms. Azra Younas, ex-councilor (PPPP), stressing the need and significance of women leadership in local governments. Ms. Aliya Mirza, poet, artist and activist, and Ms. Huma, shared resistance poetry. Ms. Tahira Abdullah, human rights activist, presented a list of demands. Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programmes of Aurat Foundation, and Mr. Naeem Ahmed Mirza, Executive Director, Aurat Foundation, also spoke at the event, giving an overview of the 2021 International Women's Day theme – "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 World" and Ms. Razia Sultana, President of the Women Alliance Pakistan gave concluding remarks. The event was followed by a rally.

Mr. Christopher Khung, Head of Cooperation, High Commission of Canada, emphasized the need to include men in the struggle for women's rights and underscored that Pakistan cannot develop if its women are not empowered, stressing the full support of the Canadian government for the women of Pakistan's struggle for their political rights.

Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb, Member of the National Assembly (PML-N), Ms. Abida Munir (PTI), Ms. Sumera Khan, City President (PPPP), and all stressed the need to give women the rights promised to them by Islam and especially, to educate men and boys about the need to respect women.

Ms. Tahira Abdullah, human rights activist, highlighted the need to recognize that women are human beings and should not be forced to return to homes where they are being abused and that there is a need for feminist trainings of counsellors in local reconciliation and arbitration committees.

Mr. Naeem Ahmed Mirza underscored how much progress women have made so quickly (in just the last 20 years) and how much more women can do when they are empowered and leaders. Ms. Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programmes, Aurat Foundation noted the bravery of women throughout history from 1908 who have made International Women's Day a possibility. She thanked all the women who came out and showed the world that they can do so much more and asked every woman to commit to educating girls, voting in elections immediately, not to arrange the marriage of any girl before the age of 18, to work to end violence against women and to vow to read their *nikah* prior to marriage.

Ms. Samina Shoaib, ex-councilor (PML-N), highlighted that even though more women had the right to vote now, women do not get the platform and are unable to raise their rights. Ms. Rubina Akbar, ex-councilor (PTI), stressed that women counselors can play a strong role at the grassroots level to help and support women dealing with violence and other problems. Ms. Azra Younas, ex-councilor (PPPP), claimed that today's women are not that weak but still there is a need to go further and empower more women pursuing a whole range of occupations. The below mentioned Charter of demand presented and endorsed by the representatives of political parties, media and civil society:

### **Women's Political Participation**

1. All political parties in general elections should award 33% of tickets on general seats to women.
2. All decision-making committees in political parties should ensure 33% representation of women.
3. At least 33% women representation should be ensured at the local government level.

4. Direct election should be ensured on all seats of local government.
5. Seats should be reserved for women peasant workers, religious minorities, transgender, people with disabilities and youth.
6. Affirmative action should be ensured for women's active participation in local government and governance processes to ensure women's participation in decision-making.
7. Training programs should be mandatory for women councilors on local government rules and policies.
8. Special vote registration campaigns should be run to register the vote of women, non-Muslims, persons with disabilities and transgender.
9. Government should ensure special arrangements for women, non-Muslims, persons with disabilities and transgender steps to ensure their access to polling stations.

#### **Women's Civil Rights Demands**

10. Domestic violence should be treated as seriously as any other crime.
11. Local rehabilitation and arbitration councils and counsellors should account for violence against women and domestic violence and not always automatically seek to settle family disputes without divorce/separation.
12. Attacks on a woman's character in the name of culture should be stopped.
13. Women should be able to move safely in public places and to facilitate this, the government should amend the law.
14. Women should be recognized as humans and not only by their relations to men as mothers/wives/sisters/daughters.

#### **Women's Economic Rights Demands**

15. All women should be given one (01) acre of land.
16. The government should recognize informal and care work.

### **5.6 International Women's Day 2021: Agenda 2030 is an Opportunity to Empower Women for Post-COVID Development**

Club de Madrid and Aurat Foundation published a joint statement on International Women's Day 2021. It is signed by Member Club de Madrid Ms. Kim Campell and Mr. Naeem Ahmed Mirza, Executive Director of the Aurat Foundation.

Both Leaders stressed that COVID-19 has been shaking societies around the world for over a year, disrupting lives and livelihoods in all countries. All of us are feeling the health, economic and social burden of the disruption – but some of us are feeling it more than others. OXFAM has dubbed COVID-19 *the inequality virus*, because of how it has exposed and amplified inequalities of wealth, gender and race. For the first time in recorded history, inequality is bound to increase in almost every country at once – unless we do something about it, and we do it now.

Pakistan's response to COVID-19 has received international acclaim. Using the infrastructure already in place to fight polio, Pakistani health authorities have succeeded in keeping COVID-19 infection and mortality rates relatively low. With a number of COVID-19 cases lower than most developed countries' – Pakistan's cumulative tally as of March 2021 is at 263 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, compared to Canada's 2305 and the UK's 6169 -- Pakistan deserves all the praise bestowed upon it by WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus last September. But in Pakistan as in the rest of the world, COVID-19 has dug a gaping hole between those segments of the population who could effectively protect themselves from the virus and its economic repercussions, and those who could not.

The poorest and most marginalized communities are suffering disproportionately from the public health and economic crises. In Pakistan, that includes religious and ethnic minorities, informal economy workers, agricultural workers – and it includes women, who often find themselves at the intersection of several factors of exclusion. Pakistan is ranked at the bottom of gender equality in the world, and COVID-19 may well be erasing the hard-earned gains in gender development achieved in recent years.

In line with its commitment to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and more specifically to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, Pakistan now acknowledges the crucial importance of gender equality not only as a fundamental human right, but as a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Pakistan was the first country in the world to translate the SDGs into a national development agenda in 2016, and under the leadership of parliamentarians like MP Shandana Gulzar Khan, the Pakistani Parliament's SDGs Taskforce has been a positive force for progress towards gender-sensitive development policies in the country. But the challenge ahead remains huge, and COVID-19 has made it even bigger.

UN Women reports that COVID-19 has confronted women around the world with growing unemployment, unpaid care duties and tragic rates of gender-based violence. Lack of access to social protection programmes has also meant a disproportionate fall back into poverty for millions of women, particularly single mothers and widows. Pakistan is no exception. A recent study by Aurat Foundation launched on 12 February 2021, revealed a shockingly high number of cases of violence against women reported in 2020, as COVID-19 trapped women inside crowded homes, interrupted education and ushered early marriage for thousands of girls. The Government's support programmes for victims of domestic violence, while laudable, have not been accessible to many women, including those from isolated areas and vulnerable communities.

So where do we go from here? Despite the setbacks occasioned by COVID-19, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development remains the global community's guiding framework to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development – and the high level of political ownership, parliamentary accountability and civic participation for the implementation of Agenda 2030 in Pakistan must continue. But to bridge the gaps of inequality evidenced by COVID-19, it must continue with a renewed focus on inclusive engagement.

Pakistan's plans to present a Voluntary National Review of its progress in the course of 2021 offers an opportunity to do just that: to take stock of the mechanisms for inclusion that have been used so far, and reflect on innovative tools to further strengthen inclusion. And in that process, the inclusion of women should be front and centre.

Women's issues should be heard and included at all steps of the implementation of Agenda 2030 in Pakistan. As the country braces for post-COVID recovery and a renewed impulse towards the SDGs, women's rights must top the social agenda in Pakistan, and Pakistani women – including women from poor and marginalized communities, religious and ethnic minorities and rural areas – must be given voice and agency in that process. On this International Women's Day, we call on leaders from all parties and communities to seize the opportunity of the long-awaited, and hopefully soon coming, post-COVID recovery to build back a more inclusive and gender-equal Pakistan.



## **5.7 Paving the Ways - Providing the Resources to the Skill**

In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, Pakistan's economy has suffered badly. Social distancing, lockdown, and the closure of businesses have had enormous economic consequences for small wage earners. In this regard, The UAE Embassy, in accordance with the UAE's humanitarian and developmental framework, launched the women empowerment initiative under the title "Paving the way" in cooperation with the Aurat Foundation and the UN

Women 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at Serena Hotel, Islamabad. The Chief Guest of events was H.E. Hammad Obaid Alzaabi, Ambassador of UAE to Pakistan, Ms. Sharmeela Rasool, Country Representativity UN Women and Dr. Alyia Hashmi Khan, Treasurer of Aurat Foundation Board of Governors and Members of Prime Minister Economic Advisory Council.

Ms. Amina Javeed, Representative of Embassy of UAE gave the welcome remarks and shared the programme introduction of paving the ways. The purpose behind inviting them today is to provide hands-on information to skilled home-based women about the on-going latest trends and how by using these trends they can generate more profit for their business.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Ambassador for Pakistan, Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi, has maintained that his country is working in partnership with other countries and the United Nations to promote the rights of women and girls across the world. Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi highlighted the role of women in the development of family and society and reminded that the UAE is fully committed to the promotion of women's rights and considers the empowerment of women fundamental to the development of a modern and progressive society. Women make up 34pc of the Emirates Mars Mission team that successfully launched "Hope Probe" to discover the red planet, which interred the Mars orbit last week. Sarah Al Amiri, the 33-year-old scientist, led the UAE's Hope orbiter mission to Mars. The ambassador thanked the Aurat Foundation and UN Women for supporting the women empowerment cause in Pakistan.

Ms. Sharmeela Rasool, Country Representativity UN Women said that with COVID-19, the multidimensional gender inequalities and gender gaps have exacerbated. Women are immensely affected, as they are more exposed to health risks, loss of income, take on a larger share of unpaid care work and face a heightened threat of gender-based violence during social confinement measures. She focused on to take joint efforts for achieving the gender equality.

Dr. Alyia Hashmi Khan said that Better and more meaningful financial inclusion may prove to be the key to unlocking the potential for micro and small enterprises to grow, reducing the exposure of poor and rural communities to income shocks, dynamizing growth, and promoting more sustainable and equitable development. Digital channels and innovative product designs have the potential to offer new and better value propositions for women.

On this occasion, Ms. Aliaa Sarwat Mustafa Al Serafi, Wife of Egypt Ambassador and Ms. Marim Alfridi shared the best practices of women' economic empowerment while Ms. Vaneesa Ahmed, model, actress and designer, Ms. Abida Malik, President Behbud Botique, Cafe Behbud and Behbud Crafts, Amber Qazi the CEO of Funky Bakes and Ms. Fiza Siddiqui, Ayra Clothes, Robina Akhtar, tailoring expert, and Robina Shafiq CEO of online and frozen food shared their success stories as entrepreneurs. Ms. Mumtaz Mughal Director Programmes of Aurat Foundation thanked the UAE Embassy, UN Women, sparkers, community women

leaders to join hands and make the event successful. The event concluded by distribution of sewing machines and other supplies to home-based workers with basic skills.

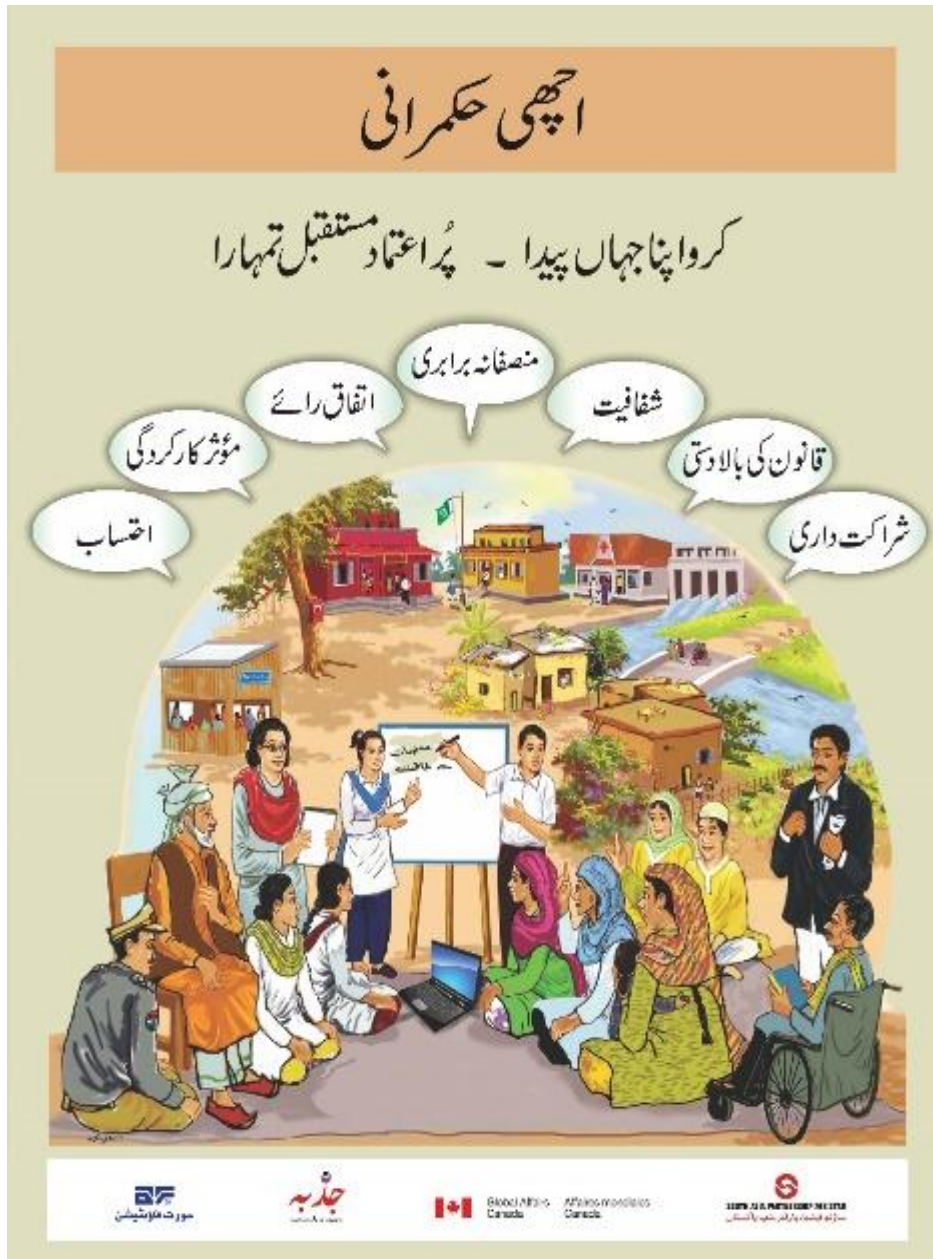


Chapter Six

## **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 publish 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.



# عورتوں کی شرکت بنا جمہوریت ہے نام کی جو توجہ نہ دے ہمیں پارٹی وہ کس کام کی



اپنا ووٹ اُن سیاسی جماعتوں اور امیدواروں کو دیں  
جو عورتوں کے ان حقوق کو گنتی بنائیں۔

- ★ مساوی حیثیت اور حقوق
- ★ روزگار کے مواقع
- ★ صحت کی سہولیات کی عام فراہمی
- ★ آمدورفت کی سہولت
- ★ امتیازی قوانین کا خاتمہ
- ★ عورتوں کی موثر نمائندگی
- ★ تعلیم کی عام فراہمی
- ★ زمین کے مالکانہ حقوق
- ★ میڈیا میں مثبت عکاسی
- ★ گھریلو تشدد کا خاتمہ



## خیبر پختونخوا گھریلو تشدد تدارک اور بچاؤ ایکٹ 2021

معاشرے کی بھلائی

مقصد سے وابستگی

حقوق کی آگاہی

## عورتوں کی سیاسی عمل میں شمولیت کیسے؟



عورت کاؤنسلیشن  
عورت کاؤنسلیشن  
Global Affairs Canada  
Affaires mondiales Canada  
SOUTH ASIA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM  
سولہ ایشیا پارٹنرشپ پروگرام

ترقیاتی منصوبوں میں حصہ لینا،  
ان کی جانچ پڑتال اور نگرانی کرنا



قانون سازی کے عمل میں حصہ لینا،  
اس نفاذ کے لئے انتظامیہ کی مدد کرنا اور  
دوسروں کو اس کے بارے میں آگاہ کرنا



منتخب کونسلوں اور اسمبلیوں کی کمیٹیوں کی کارروائی میں حصہ لینا اور پھر پورا کردار ادا کرنا



اپنے علاقے بالخصوص عورتوں کے مسائل اُچا کر کرنا اور انتظامیہ سے انہیں حل کرانے کی کوشش کرنا



انتخابی عمل میں ایجوکیشن، سپورٹ اور امیدوار حصہ لینا



منتخب کونسلوں اور اسمبلیوں کے اجلاس میں شامل ہونا، ایجنڈا پڑھنا،  
مفاد عامہ سے متعلق مسائل اُٹھانا اور سوانا کرنا



Aurat Foundation

### پرتشدد انتہا پسندی کے انسداد کیلئے صوبہ سندھ کے قوانین

ہمارا ایک ہی نعرہ  
پاکستان بننے  
اس کا گوارہ!

شہداء اور شہداء

پرمس کو کلک کرنا تک پہنچانے میں واقعے کے گواہ بہت اہم کردار ادا کرتے ہیں۔ ان کے ذہن سے واقعات  
محفوظ رہتے رہیں۔ اگر یہ گواہ اپنی غیر ملکی شہادت میں پرمس کی مدد سے گواہ بن کر جان کی ہلاکت  
اور حادثہ اٹھاتے ہیں۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ شہداء کو جان بچانے کے لیے ان کو شہادت کے وقت کاپی ہارڈ  
اور ایف ڈی کے ذریعے ہی برآمد کیے گئے ہیں۔ ان کو اپنی شہادت سے روکنا ہے۔ ان ماہرین کو ان کے تحفظ کو یقینی  
بنانے کیلئے سندھ کی نئی صورت 2013 میں شہداء کے تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔

قانون کی نمایاں خصوصیات:

- یہ قانون شہداء کو شہادت دینے کی نئی صورت پیش کرتا ہے۔ جہاں پرمس کو شہادتوں کی مدد  
دینا پڑتی ہے جسے سندھ کا قانون ہے۔ اس قانون کا اطلاق پرمس پر شہادت دینے والوں پر شہادت  
کے ذریعے کی پیشکش، ان کی اور رائے ہو گا ہے۔ لیکن جرائم سے مراد ایسے جرائم ہیں جن کو جرائم  
پاکستان اور شہداء کے قتل پر فرم ہوتے ہیں اور اس میں شہداء کی غیر جانبداری اور ان کے جان بچانے  
محفوظ رہنے سے مراد ہے۔
- قانون میں ایسے گواہ شہداء کو دینے کی نئی صورت پیش کرتا ہے۔ جہاں پرمس کو شہادتوں کی مدد  
دینا پڑتی ہے جسے سندھ کا قانون ہے۔ اس قانون کا اطلاق پرمس پر شہادت دینے والوں پر شہادت  
کے ذریعے کی پیشکش، ان کی اور رائے ہو گا ہے۔ لیکن جرائم سے مراد ایسے جرائم ہیں جن کو جرائم  
پاکستان اور شہداء کے قتل پر فرم ہوتے ہیں اور اس میں شہداء کی غیر جانبداری اور ان کے جان بچانے  
محفوظ رہنے سے مراد ہے۔
- قانون میں ایسے گواہ شہداء کو دینے کی نئی صورت پیش کرتا ہے۔ جہاں پرمس کو شہادتوں کی مدد  
دینا پڑتی ہے جسے سندھ کا قانون ہے۔ اس قانون کا اطلاق پرمس پر شہادت دینے والوں پر شہادت  
کے ذریعے کی پیشکش، ان کی اور رائے ہو گا ہے۔ لیکن جرائم سے مراد ایسے جرائم ہیں جن کو جرائم  
پاکستان اور شہداء کے قتل پر فرم ہوتے ہیں اور اس میں شہداء کی غیر جانبداری اور ان کے جان بچانے  
محفوظ رہنے سے مراد ہے۔

پرمس کو شہادت دینے کی نئی صورت پیش کرتا ہے۔ جہاں پرمس کو شہادتوں کی مدد  
دینا پڑتی ہے جسے سندھ کا قانون ہے۔ اس قانون کا اطلاق پرمس پر شہادت دینے والوں پر شہادت  
کے ذریعے کی پیشکش، ان کی اور رائے ہو گا ہے۔ لیکن جرائم سے مراد ایسے جرائم ہیں جن کو جرائم  
پاکستان اور شہداء کے قتل پر فرم ہوتے ہیں اور اس میں شہداء کی غیر جانبداری اور ان کے جان بچانے  
محفوظ رہنے سے مراد ہے۔

قانون کی نمایاں خصوصیات:  
- یہ قانون شہداء کو شہادت دینے کی نئی صورت پیش کرتا ہے۔ جہاں پرمس کو شہادتوں کی مدد  
دینا پڑتی ہے جسے سندھ کا قانون ہے۔ اس قانون کا اطلاق پرمس پر شہادت دینے والوں پر شہادت  
کے ذریعے کی پیشکش، ان کی اور رائے ہو گا ہے۔ لیکن جرائم سے مراد ایسے جرائم ہیں جن کو جرائم  
پاکستان اور شہداء کے قتل پر فرم ہوتے ہیں اور اس میں شہداء کی غیر جانبداری اور ان کے جان بچانے  
محفوظ رہنے سے مراد ہے۔

شہداء اور شہداء

تحفظ کے وقت کاپی ہارڈ اور ایف ڈی کے ذریعے ہی برآمد کیے گئے ہیں۔ ان کو اپنی شہادت سے  
روکنا ہے۔ ان ماہرین کو ان کے تحفظ کو یقینی بنانے کیلئے سندھ کی نئی صورت 2013 میں شہداء کے  
تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔

قانون کی نمایاں خصوصیات:

- اس قانون کا مقصد شہداء کو شہادت دینے کی نئی صورت پیش کرتا ہے۔ جہاں پرمس کو شہادتوں کی مدد  
دینا پڑتی ہے جسے سندھ کا قانون ہے۔ اس قانون کا اطلاق پرمس پر شہادت دینے والوں پر شہادت  
کے ذریعے کی پیشکش، ان کی اور رائے ہو گا ہے۔ لیکن جرائم سے مراد ایسے جرائم ہیں جن کو جرائم  
پاکستان اور شہداء کے قتل پر فرم ہوتے ہیں اور اس میں شہداء کی غیر جانبداری اور ان کے جان بچانے  
محفوظ رہنے سے مراد ہے۔

شہداء اور شہداء

صوبہ سندھ کی امداد کے تحفظ کا قانون 2013 میں شہداء کے تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔  
صوبہ سندھ کی امداد کے تحفظ کا قانون 2013 میں شہداء کے تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔  
صوبہ سندھ کی امداد کے تحفظ کا قانون 2013 میں شہداء کے تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔

شہداء اور شہداء

صوبہ سندھ کی امداد کے تحفظ کا قانون 2013 میں شہداء کے تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔  
صوبہ سندھ کی امداد کے تحفظ کا قانون 2013 میں شہداء کے تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔  
صوبہ سندھ کی امداد کے تحفظ کا قانون 2013 میں شہداء کے تحفظ کا قانون منظور کیا۔

قانون کی نمایاں خصوصیات:

- اس قانون کا مقصد شہداء کو شہادت دینے کی نئی صورت پیش کرتا ہے۔ جہاں پرمس کو شہادتوں کی مدد  
دینا پڑتی ہے جسے سندھ کا قانون ہے۔ اس قانون کا اطلاق پرمس پر شہادت دینے والوں پر شہادت  
کے ذریعے کی پیشکش، ان کی اور رائے ہو گا ہے۔ لیکن جرائم سے مراد ایسے جرائم ہیں جن کو جرائم  
پاکستان اور شہداء کے قتل پر فرم ہوتے ہیں اور اس میں شہداء کی غیر جانبداری اور ان کے جان بچانے  
محفوظ رہنے سے مراد ہے۔


## امن

زندگی کی راحت ہے  
احترام انسانیت ہے  
ترقی کی ضمانت ہے  
امن بہت ضروری ہے!

ہمارے آج کیلئے  
ہمارے کل کیلئے  
ہمارے بچوں کے مستقبل کیلئے



امن سب کی ضرورت ہے!

امن تو قائم کرنا ہوگا  
سب کو آگے بڑھانا ہوگا  
سب کو مل کر چلنا ہوگا



## پیغام

آئیں ہم روشنی کی بات کریں  
امن کی آئینہ کی بات کریں  
ہر وہم میں جلائیں چاہت کی  
علم کی، آگہی کی بات کریں  
بیدار انسانیت سے کرتے رہیں  
نقروں کی لٹی کی بات کریں  
ہر تعصب سے بالا ہو کر ہم  
ہر کسی کی خوشی کی بات کریں  
فکر فرما کا بھی خیال رہے  
حال کی ہستی کی بات کریں  
اپنے بچوں کو بھی سکھائیں ہم  
امن کی آئینہ کی بات کریں






## عہد

آئیے ہم سب عہد کریں  
دیس کا اونچا نام کریں گے  
امن کو ہر سو عام کریں گے  
ہر شہری کے حق کی خاطر  
عدل کا شیوہ عام کریں گے  
پاک وطن کو پاک کریں گے

تعصب سے جہالت سے  
لسانیت و فرقہ واریت سے  
تشدد سے عداوت سے  
جبر کی ہر روایت سے




آئیے ہم سب عہد کریں

## خواتین کی سیاسی عمل میں شمولیت کے بغیر جمہوریت کا تصور نامکمل

### ہم مطالبہ کرتے ہیں:

- 1۔ قومی سطح پر ذیلی قومی سطحوں میں شمولیت کی کوئی کمی نہ ہو جائے۔
- 2۔ سیاسی ماحول کو باندھنا ہے کہ وہاں جماعت کے درجے کے کھلے اور صلے میں شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔
- 3۔ سیاسی ماحول کو باندھنا ہے کہ جماعت کے درجے کے کھلے اور صلے میں شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے اور ہر گروہ کو لائسنس ملے اور ہر واسطوں اور فیصلوں کی ہر شہ کی بنیاد ہو۔
- 4۔ حکومت کی ہر سطح پر ذیلی قومی سطحوں کے تمام سطحوں پر ذیلی قومی سطحوں کے تمام سطحوں پر شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔
- 5۔ مقامی سطحوں میں شمولیت کو باندھنا ہے کہ وہاں ہر ذیلی قومی سطحوں اور ذیلی قومی سطحوں کی شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔
- 6۔ سیاسی ماحول کو باندھنا ہے کہ وہاں ہر ذیلی قومی سطحوں اور ذیلی قومی سطحوں کی شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔
- 7۔ مقامی سطحوں میں شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔
- 8۔ خواتین کی سیاسی عمل میں شمولیت کے لئے تمام سطحوں پر شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔
- 9۔ خواتین کی سیاسی عمل میں شمولیت کے لئے تمام سطحوں پر شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔
- 10۔ خواتین کی سیاسی عمل میں شمولیت کے لئے تمام سطحوں پر شمولیت کی 33 فیصد لائسنس دی جائے۔







## Violence against Women & Girls in the Times of Covid-19 Pandemic

**ANNUAL REPORT ON VAWG**  
January - December 2020

A Rapid Analysis of the Quantitative Data from all 25 districts from all four Provinces and Gilgit-Baltistan, 14 case studies & interviews of 6 key officials from women machineries and office of the ombudspersons, sexual harassment at workplace.



**LEGISLATIVE WATCH**


Founded by Shaheen Zia

Editor-in-Chief: Nigam Akhbar

### JAZBA initiative launched to strengthen democratic processes and women's empowerment

**AF Report**  
"Democracy and Empowered Women in Pakistan and Balkhistan: JAZBA Initiative" was launched in South Asia Democracy Forum on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020. It was inaugurated by the Hon. Mr. Ishaq Chaudhry, Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of Punjab. The initiative includes digital literacy, self-employment, and other programs. It is a partnership between the Government of Punjab and the US.



Ms. Farah Zahir presenting JAZBA report.



Ms. Ishaq Chaudhry speaking at the event.

**Ministry of Women and Child Development**  
The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of Punjab, has launched the JAZBA initiative to strengthen democratic processes and women's empowerment. The initiative includes digital literacy, self-employment, and other programs. It is a partnership between the Government of Punjab and the US.

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Ministry of Women and Child Development

Ministry of Women and Child Development

Ministry of Women and Child Development

### Civil Society's Alternative Report on CEDAW 2020

**AF Report**  
The 2020 Alternative Report on CEDAW 2020 was submitted to the CEDAW Committee. It highlights the progress made by the Government of Punjab in implementing CEDAW provisions. The report also identifies areas for improvement and provides recommendations for the Government of Punjab.

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AF Report

AF Report

AF Report

## Annex 4: News Coverage

# Press Releases

(Islamabad)

Pakistan  
**OBSERVER**  
Thursday, March 09, 2021

### International Women Day observed with enthusiasm in capital

## Aurat Foundation hosts Women Leadership Assembly

**STAFF REPORTER**

On the occasion of 8th March International Women's Day, Aurat Foundation hosted a Women Leadership Assembly at the Rawalpindi Press Club followed by a women's rally.

This celebration brought together women leaders from PML-N, PTI and PPP, human rights activists, artists, and around 100 other women under the network "Women Alliance Pakistan." Also present at the event was Mr. Christopher Khung, Head of Cooperation, High Commission of Canada.

The event was followed by a rally. There was also a video screening of a feminist song and a community activist, Ms. Tahira Mushtaq, presented a "Charter of Demands" for local government reforms.

Christopher Khung, Head of Cooperation, High Commission of Canada, emphasized the need to include men in the struggle for women's rights and underscored that Pakistan cannot develop if its women are not empowered, stressing the full support of the Canadian government for the women of Pakistan's struggle for their political rights.

Ms. Tahira Aurenzaib, Member of the National Assembly (PML-N), Ms. Abida Munir (PTI), Ms. Sumera Khan, City President (PPPP), and all stressed the need to give women the rights promised to them by Islam and especially, to educate men and boys about the need to respect women.

Mumtaz Mughal, Director Programmes, Aurat Foundation noted the bravery of women throughout history from 1908 who have made International Women's Day a possibility.

The department of International Relations of National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad organized a seminar to commemorate the international Women's Day, illustrating the pivotal role of women and their continued struggle for nation building in Pakistan. In this connection, several distinguished speakers spoke on the august occasion.

Prof. Dr. Safer Awan, Pro Rector Academics NUML said, "Women's movement is divided across the ideological spectrum. But the good thing is that all women come together on international women's day." He also said biases against the women are more deep rooted in language and culture. The gate keepers of honor and culture exploit women's bodies for their narrow ideological politics. However, the positive thing is that social consciousness about women's rights is increasing in the right direction.



A rally of women at D-Chowk to mark International Women's Day.—PO photo by Sh Arif

THE EXPRESS  
**TRIBUNE**  
Thursday, March 09, 2021

## Patriarchal structures shaken to their core

### Twin cities come out to mark International Women's Day; participants demand healthcare rights for all amid pandemic



**ISLAMABAD**

An 'Aurat Azadi March' was observed after residents gathered outside the Islamabad Press Club on Monday and marched towards D-Chowk to commemorate International Women's Day in the federal capital. In view of last year's attack by a group of men pelting stones and attacking them with sticks, this year the participants were escorted by police officials to ensure their safety.

The organisers brought together women belonging to different socio-economic, religious and ethnic backgrounds on a common platform to protest against patriarchal structures that limit women's rights. The foremost demand of the march this year was based on healthcare rights in light of the global theme of 'Achieving an equal future in a Covid-19 world'.

In this regard, Aurat Foundation hosted a Women Leadership Assembly at the Rawalpindi Press Club (RPC) followed by a women's rally in Rawalpindi on Monday.

The celebration brought together women leaders from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and Pakistan Peoples Party, along with human rights activists, artists and around 100 other women under the network 'Women Alliance Pakistan'.

Renowned human rights activist Tahira Abdullah presented a list of demands, which included the inclusion of women, transgender and youth in all parts of the local government, including access to votes, local governments having the same quota for women representatives as the federal government, the creation of women caucuses and improvements to women councillor programs.

She further highlighted the need to recognise that women are human beings and should not be forced to return to homes where they are being abused and that there is a need for feminist training of counsellors in local reconciliation and arbitration committees.

High Commission of Canada Head of Cooperation Christopher Khung emphasised the need to include men in the struggle for women's rights and underscored that Pakistan cannot develop if its women are not empowered, stressing the full support of the Canadian government for the women of Pakistan's struggle for their political rights.

Meanwhile National Commission on Rights of Child (NCRC) Chairperson Afshan Tehseen applauded the extraordinary role of women and girls in the country's progress on the occasion of International Women's Day being observed in the federal capital on Monday. Celebrated globally on March 8, it aims to highlight the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women, including girls.

She mentioned that this year's theme is 'Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a Covid-19 world', which celebrates the tremendous efforts of women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. "The theme highlights how women can be made equal partners in the decision-making process especially with regard to policymaking," she added.



**RALLYING CRY:** Holding banners and placards, participants at the Aurat Azadi March shout slogans in the federal capital. PHOTOS: ONLINE



خواتین کے عالمی دن کا سہ ماہی سہ ماہی سے منصفہ و قریب سے ایجنڈا سے ماہرہ واپس خطاب کر رہی ہیں

خواتین کو اپنے حق کیلئے آواز بلند کرنا ہوگی، طاہرہ اورنگزیب

قومی ادارے میں عملی شمولیت کے اقدامات وقت کی ضرورت ہیں، عابدہ میسر

راولپنڈی (پ ر) - خواتین کے حقوق اور سماج سے ان کے متعلقہ امور کے لیے آواز بلند کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ اس موقع پر عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے ذریعہ منعقد کیے جانے والے '8 مارچ بین الاقوامی عورتوں کے روز' پر منعقد ہونے والے اجتماع میں میزبانوں نے کہا کہ عورتوں کو اپنی زندگی میں بہتر نتائج حاصل کرنے کے لیے اپنے حقوق کا علم کرنا اور ان کی کئی مثالیں فراہم کرنا ضروری ہے۔



راولپنڈی میں قومی عورتوں کے روز کے سہ ماہی سہ ماہی سے منصفہ و قریب سے ایجنڈا سے ماہرہ واپس خطاب کر رہی ہیں

عورتوں کا عالمی دن، راولپنڈی پریس کلب میں عورت قیادت اسمبلی کا انعقاد

پاکستان کی ترقی کے لئے پاکستانی خواتین کا خود مختار ہونا نہایت ضروری ہے۔ کرسٹوفر کنگ کا خطاب



راولپنڈی عورتوں کے روز کے سہ ماہی سہ ماہی سے منصفہ و قریب سے ایجنڈا سے ماہرہ واپس خطاب کر رہی ہیں

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Tuesday March 9, 2021

باقائیداد خواتین معاشرے کی بنیاد، تشدد کھٹا دیا، مقررین

مقامی حکومتوں میں خواتین کی زیادہ شمولیت کی جائے، طاہرہ اورنگزیب اور دیگر کا خطاب

راولپنڈی (خبرنگار خصوصی) - عالمی یوم خواتین کے موقع پر عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے ذریعہ منعقد کیے جانے والے اجتماع میں میزبانوں نے کہا کہ عورتوں کو اپنی زندگی میں بہتر نتائج حاصل کرنے کے لیے اپنے حقوق کا علم کرنا اور ان کی کئی مثالیں فراہم کرنا ضروری ہے۔

خواتین کی قومی ادارے میں عملی شمولیت کے اقدامات وقت کی ضرورت ہیں، مقررین

خواتین کو اپنے حق کیلئے آواز بلند کرنا ہوگی، طاہرہ اورنگزیب

قومی ادارے میں عملی شمولیت کے اقدامات وقت کی ضرورت ہیں، عابدہ میسر



راولپنڈی عورتوں کے روز کے سہ ماہی سہ ماہی سے منصفہ و قریب سے ایجنڈا سے ماہرہ واپس خطاب کر رہی ہیں

خواتین کی قومی ادارے میں عملی شمولیت کے اقدامات وقت کی ضرورت ہیں، مقررین

خواتین کی شمولیت کے بغیر جمہوریت کا تصور ناممکن ہے، خواتین پر ہونے والے تشدد کے خلاف سب متحد ہو جائیں

مقامی حکومتوں کے انکوائس جلد مستحضر کرانے چاہئیں خواتین کا کوئی بڑھو کر انکوائس مواقع فراہم کیے جائیں، مقررین کا مطالبہ

راولپنڈی (جنگل کی آواز) - خواتین کے حقوق اور سماج سے ان کے متعلقہ امور کے لیے آواز بلند کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ اس موقع پر عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے ذریعہ منعقد کیے جانے والے '8 مارچ بین الاقوامی عورتوں کے روز' پر منعقد ہونے والے اجتماع میں میزبانوں نے کہا کہ عورتوں کو اپنی زندگی میں بہتر نتائج حاصل کرنے کے لیے اپنے حقوق کا علم کرنا اور ان کی کئی مثالیں فراہم کرنا ضروری ہے۔

راولپنڈی عورتوں کے روز کے سہ ماہی سہ ماہی سے منصفہ و قریب سے ایجنڈا سے ماہرہ واپس خطاب کر رہی ہیں

# 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.



# خواتین کو بااختیار بنانے کیلئے موثر قانون سازی کی جارہی ہے، ربا بلیدی

تفصیلاً قومی سروسوں پر کام جاری رہا۔ برآمدی کے برائے صحت ربا بلیدی نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت خواتین کے حقوق اور ان کے حقوق کو اختیار بنانے، سیاسی عمل میں شامل کرنے اور ان کے حقوق کیلئے موثر آواز اٹھانی جارہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ خواتین کے حقوق کے حوالے سے محام میں شعور و آگاہی پیدا کرنا ہے جو ضروری ہے معاشرے میں اجتماعی سوچ کو پروان چڑھا کر خواتین پر ہونے والے تشدد اور استعماری سلوک کا خاتمہ کیا جا سکے۔ ان اجلاس میں ربا بلیدی نے کہا کہ حکومت نے ان اجلاس میں خواتین کے حقوق اور ان کے حقوق کیلئے موثر آواز اٹھانی جارہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ خواتین کے حقوق کے حوالے سے معاشرے میں شعور و آگاہی پیدا کرنا ہے جو ضروری ہے معاشرے میں اجتماعی سوچ کو پروان چڑھا کر خواتین پر ہونے والے تشدد اور استعماری سلوک کا خاتمہ کیا جا سکے۔ ان اجلاس میں ربا بلیدی نے کہا کہ حکومت نے ان اجلاس میں خواتین کے حقوق اور ان کے حقوق کیلئے موثر آواز اٹھانی جارہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ خواتین کے حقوق کے حوالے سے معاشرے میں شعور و آگاہی پیدا کرنا ہے جو ضروری ہے معاشرے میں اجتماعی سوچ کو پروان چڑھا کر خواتین پر ہونے والے تشدد اور استعماری سلوک کا خاتمہ کیا جا سکے۔ ان اجلاس میں ربا بلیدی نے کہا کہ حکومت نے ان اجلاس میں خواتین کے حقوق اور ان کے حقوق کیلئے موثر آواز اٹھانی جارہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ خواتین کے حقوق کے حوالے سے معاشرے میں شعور و آگاہی پیدا کرنا ہے جو ضروری ہے معاشرے میں اجتماعی سوچ کو پروان چڑھا کر خواتین پر ہونے والے تشدد اور استعماری سلوک کا خاتمہ کیا جا سکے۔



# عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام 2 روزہ تربیتی ورکشاپ اختتام پذیر

پندرہ روزہ ورکشاپ کے تحت جزیبہ، پانچشعبہ کے زیر اہتمام تربیتی ورکشاپ اختتام پذیر ہوئی۔ اس موقع پر عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی قیادت میں ایک ایسی کمیٹی تشکیل دی گئی جس نے ورکشاپ کے مختلف اجلاس اور سیمینارز کی نگرانی کی۔ ورکشاپ کے اختتام پر شرکاء کو ایک ایسی کمیٹی تشکیل دی گئی جس نے ورکشاپ کے مختلف اجلاس اور سیمینارز کی نگرانی کی۔ ورکشاپ کے اختتام پر شرکاء کو ایک ایسی کمیٹی تشکیل دی گئی جس نے ورکشاپ کے مختلف اجلاس اور سیمینارز کی نگرانی کی۔



# تشدد سے پاک معاشرہ ہی پائیدار ترقی کی ضمانت ہے عورت فاؤنڈیشن

کوئٹہ اور ایسی میں بیہوشوں کیلئے سائنس دانوں کی مدد سے ایک ایسی کمیٹی تشکیل دی گئی جس نے تشدد سے پاک معاشرہ کی نگرانی کی۔ تشدد سے پاک معاشرہ ہی پائیدار ترقی کی ضمانت ہے عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام ایک ایسی کمیٹی تشکیل دی گئی جس نے تشدد سے پاک معاشرہ کی نگرانی کی۔ تشدد سے پاک معاشرہ ہی پائیدار ترقی کی ضمانت ہے عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام ایک ایسی کمیٹی تشکیل دی گئی جس نے تشدد سے پاک معاشرہ کی نگرانی کی۔

## Yasmin Mughal says Women associated with business activities badly affected due to coronavirus

### Independent Report

QUETTA: Two-day training workshop was held about the participation of women in the political process and the local government system here in the provincial metropolis.

The workshop was organized by the Aurat Publication and Information Service Foundation (APISF) in collaboration with the South Asia Partnership (SAP).

Addressing the closing ceremony of the workshop, the Project Officer of "Jazba" programme, Ms. Yasmin Mughal pointed out that the women associated with the business activities have been affected badly due to the situation of coronavirus in the country.

She on the occasion underlined the need to take necessary steps for restoration of the economic activities at the government and non-govern-

ment level.

Otherwise, thousands of the middle class families would be forced to lead life below the poverty line in the country, she feared.

Ms. Mughal said that the Aurat Foundation and SAP are mobilizing all the available resources for welfare and development of the women. Both the organizations would take joint steps for effective participation of women in the economic and political activities at the district level, she pledged.

Moreover, special attention would also be given on legislation for protection of due rights of the women, she maintained.

Speaking on the occasion, the Regional Director of Aurat Foundation, Allauddin Khilji said that the violence-free society guarantees the sustainable development.

July 4, 2020



## خواتین پر تشدد میں غیر معمولی اضافہ ہوا، عورت فاؤنڈیشن

کوئٹہ لاک ڈاؤن سے خواتین کی معاشی سرگرمیوں کو شدید نقصان پہنچا، یا کمین مغل

واقتعات میں غیر معمولی اضافہ ہوا ہے عورت فاؤنڈیشن اور سہ ماہی ڈیپارٹمنٹ کے اشتراک سے کوئٹہ میں سیاسی عمل میں خواتین کی شرکت اور بلدیاتی نظام سے متعلق منعقد ہونے والی دو روزہ ترقیاتی ورکشاپ کی اختتامی تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے "جہڑ پ" پروگرام کی پروڈیوسر یا کمین مغل نے بتایا کہ کوئٹہ لاک ڈاؤن کے باعث پاکستان میں معاشی سرگرمیوں سے وابستہ خواتین شدید متاثر ہوئی ہیں۔

کوئٹہ (پ ر) پاکستان میں حقوق نسواں کے لیے سرگرم طور پر کامی تنظیم عورت فاؤنڈیشن نے کہا ہے کہ کوئٹہ لاک ڈاؤن کے باعث ملک میں جہاں ایک طرف مزدور پیشہ اور گھریلو کاروبار سے منسلک خواتین معاشی طور پر شدید متاثر ہوئی ہیں تو دوسری طرف اس وبا کے دوران میں معاشرے میں خواتین پر تشدد کے

## Balochistan enacting legislation for rights & protection of women

Published on – March 12, 2021 – 2:17 am

By Our Reporter



**QUETTA:** Provincial Parliamentary Secretary for Health Rubaba Khan Baledi has said that the provincial government of Balochistan is enacting effective legislation for the rights and protection of women. “Women MPs are raising their voices for the empowerment of women in the province, their involvement in the political process and their rights,” she said.

She said that it was very important to create awareness among the people regarding the rights of women. She expressed this while addressing a function organized by the Women’s Foundation under the theme “Women Leadership Assembly”.

Member Provincial Assembly Qadir Ali Nayel, Representative of Election Commission Tahir Hussain, Board Member Aurat Foundation Ms. Roshan Khurshad Baroacha, Resident Director Aurat Foundation Alauddin Khilji, Member Jazba District Forum Ashfaq Mengal, Project Director Aurat Foundation Yasmeen and others were presented on the occasion.

Addressing the function, Parliamentary Secretary for Health Rubaba Khan Buledi said that effective legislation is being enacted in Balochistan to empower women, bring them forward in the political arena and end discrimination.

“Through this, various draft laws are being worked on for the economic advancement of the women of the province, prevention of domestic violence and provision of their rights,” She said.

She said that the provincial government has enacted effective legislation against harassment in the workplace to end violence against women, which would provide protection and protection to women.

Addressing the function, Member Provincial Assembly Qadir Nayel said that participation of women in the democratic process strengthens democracy. “Laws need to be implemented for the rights and protection of women. He said that the mindset of women is changing. This is a positive step,” he said.

Addressing the function, Member Aurat Foundation Roshan Khurshad Brocha said that there are laws for women’s rights and it is necessary to implement them. “There is a big difference between today’s woman and the woman of earlier times. Today, women are working alongside men in all fields,” she added. Yasmeen Mughal, Tahir Hussain, Ashfaq Mengal, Reha Na Khilji and others also addressed the function.

## Women rights are being protected: Rubaba Buledi

Published on – June 10, 2021 - 12:31 am

By Our Reporter



**QUETTA:** Provincial Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Dr. Rubaba Buledi has said that the provincial government should protect women, prevent harassment, approve and implement laws related to women, set up special women's disks in provincial departments and police stations in Quetta.

"A comprehensive policy has been put in place to run special cornering and punk public transport for prayers and breastfeeding in five public places," she expressed these views in a joint report by UN Women and the Aurat Foundation on the report of harassment of women in public places.

Speaking on the occasion, Sabira Islam, Provincial Ombudsman for Harassment Cell for Women, Alauddin Khilji, Resident Director, Aurat Foundation, Ayesha Wadood, Provincial Coordinator, UN Women, Dr. Rashida, Gender Specialist, Qari Abdul Rashid, Officers of departments and representatives of NGOs were also present.

The Parliamentary Secretary for Health said that all members of the society have a collective responsibility to protect women and abide by the law.

"Department Providing opportunities on the basis of equality for the betterment of the society and the province will move forward on the path of development. The establishment of a women's police station is a positive step towards the protection of women," Dr. Rubaba Buledi said.

"Govt is taking practical steps to prevent harassment in the workplace which will enable women to be protected. A special disk has been set up in the health department to prevent harassment where women employees can express their problems and grievances without any fear or concern," she said.

Rubaba Buledi said that breast feeding corners have also been set up in treasury care hospitals.

She said that the provincial government was taking steps to provide facilities to women, children and disadvantaged sections of the society. Keeping in view their needs, they are taking coordinated strategies to address issues such as harassment. In this regard, a grievance cell has been set up to address harassment of women and other issues.

Addressing the ceremony, Sabra Islam said that in Islam and the traditions of our province, the dignity of women is considered the most precious. Because our society is religious, traditional and tribal, public places are unsafe for women. Tragedy is a concern for our society.

She said that a cell is active in the office of the provincial ombudsman for harassment of women in the workplace and other issues while a harassment cell has been set up in all provincial departments and districts where women can lodge complaints.

She said that the police and the administration have an important role to play in the protection of women. Besides, people belonging to all schools of thought in the society also have their own religious views for the protection of women.

The event was addressed by Resident Director Women Foundation Alauddin Khilji, Provincial Coordinator UN Women Ayesha Wadood, Dr. Rashida, Qari Abdul Rashid and others.

July 4, 2020

نو شہرہ

## نو شہرہ عورت فاؤنڈیشن کا خواتین کے حوالے سے سیمینار

### خواتین ووٹ سے اچھے لیڈر کا انتخاب کر سکتی ہیں: اختیار دہلی و دیگر کا خطاب

نو شہرہ (نمائندہ 92) عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے تحت طے والا پروگرام "جذبہ" کے حوالے سے ایکشن کمپین آف نو شہرہ میں خواتین کے حقوق اور خواتین کا سیاسی عمل میں شرکت اور ان کیلئے محفوظ ماحول بنانے کے حوالے سے ایک روزہ سیمینار کا انعقاد ہوا جس کے مہمان خصوصی ایم بی اے اختیار دہلی خان تھے۔ اس موقع پر ایکشن کمپن نو شہرہ عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے پروگرام منیجر صندیلہ خٹک، سابق ناظم جاوید خان اور دیگر نے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ عورت معاشرے کا 51 فیصد حصہ ہیں خواتین ایکشن میں ووٹ کے استعمال سے ایک اچھے لیڈر کا انتخاب کر سکتی ہیں انہوں نے کہا کہ خواتین کو آنے والے بلند پائی سسٹم میں با اختیار اور مضبوط بنانے کیلئے قانون سازی کے حوالے سے یقین دہانی کروانی اور سیاسی حق کے استعمال میں خواتین کو درپیش مسائل سے آگہیا عمل کی۔ اختیار دہلی خان نے کہا کہ سیاست میں عورتوں کی مختلف تشدد کا خاتمہ کرنے کیلئے ضروری ہے کہ ان کی شرکت بڑھائی جائے اور ان کیلئے محفوظ ماحول پیدا کیا جائے۔ اس کے لئے ایکشن کمپن اور سیاسی جماعتوں کو ہم کردار ادا کرنا ہوگا، انہوں نے کہا کہ خواتین کے حقوق کیلئے آہلی میں آواز اٹھائیں گے۔

March 10, 2021

نو شہرہ

## نو شہرہ، سیاسی تعلیم و ترغیب کے نام سے دوروزہ ورکشاپ کا انعقاد

### پراجیکٹ کا مقصد خواتین کو معاشی اور سیاسی اعتبار سے مستحکم بنانا ہے، سندیلہ خٹک

نو شہرہ (پروڈیوسر) عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی جانب سے نئی ہوٹل میں "سیاسی تعلیم و ترغیب" کے نام سے دوروزہ ورکشاپ کا انعقاد کیا گیا جس میں سول سوسائٹی کے خواتین نے شرکت کی اس موقع پر پراجیکٹ آفیسر سندیلہ خٹک نے کہا کہ پراجیکٹ کا مقصد خواتین کو معاشی اور سیاسی امور اور دیگر شعبوں میں روزگار کے مواقع فراہم کرنے پر زور دیا گیا۔ سیاسی تعلیم و جمہوریت اور سیاسی تعلیم کو سمجھنا اور انتخابی عمل اور انتخابی امور میں عورتوں کی مسلسل شراکت کی اہمیت کو سمجھنا خواتین و دفرز کے لئے سیاسی تعلیم و آگاہی کے سیشن تیار کرنا انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ آواز نواں نیشن

March 10, 2021

نو شہرہ

## عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام چھی میں ایک روزہ سیمینار

### سندیلہ خٹک 'ادب قدسہ اور نیر سرحدی کا خطاب' طلبہ و عوام کی شرکت

نو شہرہ (ڈسٹرکٹ رپورٹر) نو شہرہ میں عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی جانب سے تحصیل چھی کے گورنمنٹ ڈگری کالج میں خواتین پر تشدد کے حوالے سے ایک روزہ سیمینار کا انعقاد کیا گیا جس میں پروجیکٹ آفیسر سندیلہ خٹک، پروجیکٹ آفیسر سرحدی اور کالج کے طلباء اور عوام نے کثیر تعداد میں شرکت کی۔ شراکہ سے پروجیکٹ آفیسر سندیلہ خٹک نے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ خواتین کے خلاف تشدد کے خاتمے کے عالمی دن پر پاکستان خواتین کو با اختیار بنانے اور ان کے خلاف تشدد کے خاتمے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتا ہے۔ خواتین اور بچیوں کے حقوق کے تحفظ اور فروغ خاص طور پر خواتین کے خلاف تشدد، گھریلو بدسلوکی، ہراساں کرنے اور سماجی دہاندگی کے حقوق کی فراہمی و اقدامات کے ذریعے ملک میں خوں چھین رکت ہوئی ہے۔ انسانی حقوق کے لئے پاکستان کے پانچوں پبلوں میں پلان میں خواتین کا تحفظ اس کے کلیدی پہلووں میں شامل ہے۔ سندیلہ خٹک نے مزید کہا کہ موجودہ حکومت عورتوں کے تحفظ اور حقوق کی فراہمی کے حوالے سے کام کر رہی ہے لیکن خواتین کے حوالے سے قانون سازی کے باوجود خواتین پر تشدد کے واقعات میں اضافہ ہو رہا ہے اور بدقسمتی سے ان پر ہونے والے ظلم کا ذمہ دار بھی انہیں ہی ٹھہرایا جاتا ہے۔ لہذا جب تک مظلوم عورت کو مجرم بنا کر جیل کرنے والی سوچ کا خاتمہ نہیں کریں گے،

March 10, 2021

نو شہرہ

## نو شہرہ عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی جانب سے سیمینار کا انعقاد

### پروجیکٹ آفیسر سندیلہ خٹک، پروجیکٹ آفیسر سرحدی اور کالج کے طلباء اور عوام نے کثیر تعداد میں شرکت کی

نو شہرہ (ڈسٹرکٹ رپورٹر) نو شہرہ میں عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی جانب سے تحصیل چھی کے گورنمنٹ ڈگری کالج میں خواتین پر تشدد کے حوالے سے ایک روزہ سیمینار کا انعقاد کیا گیا جس میں پروجیکٹ آفیسر سندیلہ خٹک نے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ خواتین کے خلاف تشدد کے خاتمے کے عالمی دن پر پاکستان خواتین کو با اختیار بنانے اور ان کے خلاف تشدد کے خاتمے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتا ہے۔ خواتین اور بچیوں کے حقوق کے تحفظ اور فروغ خاص طور پر خواتین کے خلاف تشدد، گھریلو بدسلوکی، ہراساں کرنے اور سماجی دہاندگی کے حقوق کی فراہمی و اقدامات کے ذریعے ملک میں خوں چھین رکت ہوئی ہے۔ انسانی حقوق کے لئے پاکستان کے پانچوں پبلوں میں پلان میں خواتین کا تحفظ اس کے کلیدی پہلووں میں شامل ہے۔ سندیلہ خٹک نے مزید کہا کہ موجودہ حکومت عورتوں کے تحفظ اور حقوق کی فراہمی کے حوالے سے کام کر رہی ہے لیکن خواتین کے حوالے سے قانون سازی کے باوجود خواتین پر تشدد کے واقعات میں اضافہ ہو رہا ہے اور بدقسمتی سے ان پر ہونے والے ظلم کا ذمہ دار بھی انہیں ہی ٹھہرایا جاتا ہے۔ لہذا جب تک مظلوم عورت کو مجرم بنا کر جیل کرنے والی سوچ کا خاتمہ نہیں کریں گے،



March 30, 2021



## اسیملین بر عورتن کی برابری ۽ مکانی نظام بر مشرف دور واری نمائندگی ڈین جو مطالبو

قومی ۽ صوبائی اسیملین بر عورتن کی مردن برابر نمائندگی ڈنی وجی، مخصوص سیٹ ڈین پتو معیار آھی: مہناز رحمان  
 مشرف دور عورت کی مکانی نظام بر بہتر نمائندگی ڈنی، نئين نظام بر 2005 ولرو قانون نظر بر رکيو وجی  
 عورتون ۽ کڈڙا گھت وسيلن سبب اسیملین نائین نہ نا بہجن، لیکشن کمیشن قیس ۽ بین معاملن بر رعایت ڈنی: ملک خاز  
 پھنجی پیرن تی بیٹل عورتون آج بر مردن وانگر کارونہوار سنابلین لیون، کجھ ضلعن بر عورتن ۽ کڈڙن جا ووت گھت آہر  
 عورتون یا کڈڙا ووت رجسٹریشن یا سجاڻپ کارڈ جي مسئلي تي نادرا سان رابطو کن: ڊاڪٽر یکتراي سي پرویز احمد

پاران "عورت قیادت اسیملی" جي عنوان هیٺ ڪوئابل سیمینار کی، خطاب ڪندي عورتن جي حقن لاءِ جاگرونتڙ سماجی (اڳواڻ مہناز رحمان چيو تہ صوبائی ۽ قومی اسیملی جي	الیکشن بر عورتن کی مردن برابر نمائندگی ڈنی وجی، عورتن سان پتو معیار رکندی مخصوص سیشن تی آندو وجی تی جنهن سان کین هڪ طرف فتنڙا ٿسو صفحو 6 بقایا 01	ڪراچی (سٹاف رپورٽ) اسیملین بر عورتن کی برابری ۽ مکانی نظام بر مشرف دور جهڙی نمائندگی ڈین جو مطالبو ڪیو ویو آھی، ڪراچی جي هڪ مقامی ہوٽل بر سماجی تنظیم
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جمعہ المبارک 12، مارچ 2021



سکر، جہ پ عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام خواتین کے عالمی دن کی مناسبت سے سیمینار سے سکر کا خطاب کر رہے ہیں

**سکھر - چند یہ عورت فائونڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام آٹھ مارچ کی مناسبت سے جمہوریت اور باختیار عورت کے عنوان سے سکھر کے مقامی ہوٹل میں سمینار منعقد کیا گیا**



فصل اربعہ (سکھر) - چند یہ عورت فائونڈیشن کے زیر اہتمام آٹھ مارچ کی مناسبت سے جمہوریت اور باختیار عورت کے عنوان سے سکھر کے مقامی ہوٹل میں سمینار منعقد کیا گیا۔ جس کے مہمان خصوصی۔ سابق وزیر جناب ارمان بخش صاحب تھے۔ ان کے ساتھ ساتھ سماجی یونیٹرز میں علامہ رحمتی، کھٹرو، ال ای ای اے کی چیئر پرسن سحر شہزاد، ایڈیٹر ڈیوڈ سعید، بی بی سی کھڑنہ، فرائڈ آف ڈسٹرکٹ کونسل کھڑنہ، ایڈیٹر صاحب، اور ڈاکٹر بی بی کورنگی اور منسٹریز جناب بی بی من صاحب، سمینار کا مقصد پاکستان کی خواتین اور بچوں کو مسائل کا حل اور فائونڈیشن سمیت خواتین کے حقوق کا اگلا گامزن تھا۔ سمینار میں خواتین سمیت شہر کے سوزین کی کثیر تعداد نے شرکت کی۔ سمینار سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے پروگرام کی آرگنائزنگ اور فائونڈیشن ڈسٹرکٹ پراجیکٹ آفیسر ایڈووکیٹ ڈالیا انھوں نے مہمان خصوصی سمیت تمام شہر کا تہہ دل سے شکر ادا کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ آج کے روز جمعہ شہر سے عورت کے کردار کو خاصی اہمیت حاصل ہے۔ دنیا بھر کے ترقی یافتہ ممالک میں خواتین مردوں کے شانہ بشانہ ریزرف کام کرتی ہیں، بلکہ ان ممالک کی ترقی میں خواتین کا کردار اہم ہوتا ہے، لیکن پاکستان میں خواتین کے حقوق کے لحاظ سے نظر انداز کی جا رہی ہے۔ آج کے سمینار کا مقصد یہی ہے کہ پاکستان کی خواتین کو ان کے اپنے حقوق کے بارے میں ریزرف آگاہی فراہم کر کے ملکا میں پاکستان کی ترقی میں ان کا کردار ادا کرنے کے لئے سوانح فراہم کرنا۔

سمینار کے ہیڈ فائونڈیشن سے مطالبہ کیا کہ سمینار میں جلد از جلد تبدیلی آگئی کر لیں، جائیں، مقامی حکومتیں تمام نشستوں پر برادری سے لگتی کر لیں، بلکہ خواتین کی نشستوں کے مخصوص کورس میں اضافہ کیا جائے، تعلیمی کورس پر دو درجوں، انجمن خدیجہ سراؤں اور نوجوانوں کی کم از کم ایک مخصوص نشست کو کھلی جایا جائے، بلکہ نوجوانوں کی باغیوں کا ماب ہونے والی خواتین پگھڑی سیاسی اہمیت کو بہتر بنانے کے لئے مختلف تربیت پروگرامز لائے جائیں۔ سمینار میں مہمان خصوصی ارمان بخش صاحب نے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ خواتین معاشرے کا اہم حصہ ہیں، جو بہتر معاشرے کے لئے اپنا کردار ادا کر رہی ہیں، پاکستان میں بھی اب خواتین کے حقوق کے بارے میں ریزرف آگاہی کم پروگرام کی جارہی ہے، بلکہ خواتین مسائل کے حل کے لئے چند یہ عورت فائونڈیشن سمیت دیگر چلنے والے پروگرامز کو مدنظر رکھنی ہیں جو حکومت اور غیر سرکاری تنظیمیں یا ماحول ان کی معاونت کے لئے ہر وقت مہیا رہتے ہیں، ان کا کچھ تھا کہ سمینار میں خواتین کی کثیر تعداد کی شرکت کو دیکھ کر اس چیز کا احساس ہو رہا ہے، کہ اب پاکستان کی خواتین بھی اپنے حقوق کے بارے میں آگاہ ہو رہی ہیں، انہوں نے کہا کہ چند یہ عورت فائونڈیشن ایک ایسا چلنے والے نام ہے، جہاں سے تھوڑی سیٹ دیگر مسائل سے دوچار خواتین ریزرف آگاہی کے مسائل کو حل کر دیتی ہیں۔

March 30, 2021



کراچی: جمہوریت پمیلیٹین اور انٹرنیشنل فائونڈیشن کی سیکرٹری مہرمان خانہ پریس کانفرنس کر رہی ہیں

**پنجاب میں کورونا لاک ڈاؤن کے دوران 3 لاکھ خواتین روزگار ہونے کی**

متبادل روزگار کا بندوبست بھی نہیں کیا گیا، معاشی قتل کا مذمہ دار کون؟ حکومت ملازمت سے محروم عورتوں کا ڈیٹا مرتب کرے، بشری خالق ملازمتوں سے محروم کرنا سنگدلی، سلمیٰ اعوان، معیشت بہتری کی جانب گامزن، خواتین کیلئے مواقع بڑھ رہے ہیں، سیسی بخاری، نوائے وقت سے گفتگو



سلمیٰ اعوان، بشری خالق، ڈاکٹر سیسی بخاری، مستاز مغل

لاہور (ریفر: تاہید اکرام) 15 ماہ میں مختلف کروڑوں لاک ڈاؤن کے دوران پنجاب کی دو سے تین لاکھ خواتین روزگاری کے سفر پر بیٹھیں 50



# International Women's Day

## Women in leadershipWorld.'

Achieving an equal future in a  
COVID-19

### AGENDA 2030: An Opportunity to Empower Women for Post-COVID Development

Club de Madrid & Aurat Foundation - Joint Statement on International Women's Day 2021



**Kim Campbell**  
Prime Minister of Canada (1993)  
and Club de Madrid Member

8 March 2021, COVID-19 has been shaking societies around the world for over a year, disrupting lives and livelihoods in all countries. All of us are feeling the health, economic and social burden of the disruption – but some of us are feeling it more than others. OXFAM has dubbed COVID-19 the inequality virus, because of how it has exposed and amplified inequalities of wealth, gender and race. For the first time in recorded history, inequality is bound to increase in almost every country at once – unless we do something about it, and we do it now. Pakistan's response to COVID-19 has received international acclaim. Using the infrastructure already in place to fight polio, Pakistan health authorities have succeeded in keeping COVID-19 infection



and mortality rates relatively low. With a number of COVID-19 cases lower than most developed countries' – Pakistan's cumulative tally as of March 2021 is at 263 cases per 100,000 inhabitants, compared to Canada's 2305 and the UK's 6169 -- Pakistan deserves all the praise bestowed upon it by WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus last September. But in Pakistan as in the rest of the world, COVID-19 has dug a gaping hole between those segments of the population who could effectively protect themselves from the virus and its economic repercussions, and those who could not. The poorest and most marginalized communities are suffering disproportionately from the public health and economic crises. In Pakistan, that includes religious and ethnic minorities, informal economy workers, agricultural workers – and it includes women, who often find themselves

at the intersection of several factors of exclusion. Pakistan is ranked at the bottom of gender equality in the world, and COVID-19 may well be erasing the hard-earned gains in gender development achieved in recent years. In line with its commitment to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and more specifically to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, Pakistan now acknowledges the crucial importance of gender equality not only as a fundamental human right, but as a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Pakistan was the first country in the world to translate the SDGs into a national development agenda in 2016, and under the leadership of MP Shandana Gulzar Khan, the Pakistani Parliament's SDG Taskforce has been a positive force for progress towards gender-sensitive development policies in the country. But the challenge ahead remains huge, and COVID-19 has made it even bigger. UN Women reports that COVID-19 has confronted women around the world with



**Naeem Ahmed Mirza**  
Aurat Foundation  
Executive Director

growing unemployment, unpaid care duties and tragic rates of gender-based violence. Lack of access to social protection programmes has also meant a disproportionate fall back into poverty for millions of women, particularly single mothers and widows. Pakistan is no exception. A recent study by Aurat Foundation launched on 12 February 2021, revealed a shockingly high number of cases of violence against women reported in 2020, as COVID-19 trapped women inside crowded homes, interrupted education and ushered early marriage for thousands of girls. The Government's support programmes for victims of domestic violence, while laudable, have not been accessible to many women, including those from isolated areas and vulnerable communities. So where do we go from here? Despite the setbacks occasioned by



COVID-19, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development remains the global community's guiding framework to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development – and the high level of political ownership, parliamentary accountability and civic participation for the implementation of Agenda 2030 in Pakistan must continue. But to bridge the gaps of inequality evidenced by COVID-19, it must continue with a renewed focus on inclusive engagement. Pakistan's plans to present a Voluntary National Review of its progress in the course of 2021 offers an opportunity to do just that: to take stock of the mechanisms for inclusion that have been used so far, and reflect on innovative tools to further strengthen inclusion. And in that process, the inclusion of women should be front and centre. Women's issues should be heard and included at all steps of the implementation of Agenda 2030 in

towards the SDGs, women's rights must top the social agenda in Pakistan, and Pakistani women – including women from poor and marginalized communities, religious and ethnic minorities and rural areas – must be given voice and agency in that process.

On this International Women's Day, we call on leaders from all parties and communities to seize the opportunity of the long-awaited, and hopefully soon coming, post-COVID recovery to build back a more inclusive and gender-equal Pakistan.

**Celebrating**  
**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN DAY**

With Compliments  
from  
**S.M. Muneer Saleem-uz-Zaman**  
Patron-in-Chief President

**Zaki Ahmed Sharif Nighat Awan**  
Senior Vice President

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of

Korangi Association of Trade & Industry First Floor, Awan-e-Sanat,  
Plot No. ST-4/2, Sector 23/Korangi Industrial Area, Karachi  
Tel: 35061211-3, Fax: 35061215, 35113800  
E-mail: kati@kati.pk, Website: www.kati.pk

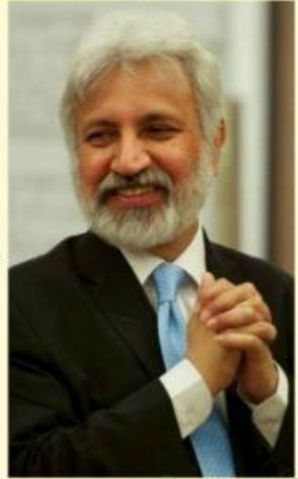
# ایجنڈا 2030ء میں خواتین کی شمولیت اولین ترجیح ہونی چاہیے

گزشتہ ایک سال سے کرونا نے دنیا بھر کے معاشروں کو ہلا کر رکھ دیا ہے اور تمام ممالک میں زندگی اور روزگار کو متاثر کیا ہے، نعیم مرزا



کے اہداف پر عملدرآمد کے حوالے سے رضنا کاران طوبی قومی جائزہ لینے کا اعادہ کیا ہے۔ کہ شمولیت ترقی کے حوالے سے کیا اقدامات کیے گئے ہیں اور ان اقدامات کو جدید انداز میں مزید کیسے بہتر کیا جاسکتا ہے اور اس عمل میں عورتوں کی شمولیت اولین اور مرکز کی ہونی چاہیے۔ ضرورت اس امر کی ہے کہ پاکستان میں ایجنڈا 2030 پر عمل درآد کرے ہر مرحلہ پر خواتین کے مسائل کو سنا جائے اور ان کی آواز کو شامل کیا جائے۔ کووڈ-19 کے بعد پائیدار ترقی کے اہداف کے حصول کے تناظر میں پاکستانی خواتین، بشمول غریب، دیہی اور محروم طبقات سے تعلق رکھنے والی خواتین کو ایسا تیز رفتاری، نسلی تفریق کے ان کو آوازوں اور حقوق پاکستان کے سماجی ایجنڈا میں لازمی طور پر فرہم دست رکھا جائے۔ خواتین عالمی دن کے موقع پر ہم دنیا بھر کے عالمی جنمادوں سے مطالبہ کرتے ہیں کہ آئیے ہم مل کر کووڈ-19 کی بحالی کے بعد ایک جامع اور پر شمولیت صنفی مساوات ایجنڈا کی تعمیر کی جانب بڑھیں۔

ناسک فورس برائے پائیدار ترقی نے ملک میں صنفی حساس پالیسیوں کو بنانے میں ایک مثبت قوت کا کردار ادا کیا ہے۔ لیکن مشکلات بہت بڑھی ہیں اور کرونا نے ان مشکلات کو مزید بڑھا دیا ہے۔ اقوام متحدہ کے خواتین کے ادارہ "بوائین وومن" نے دنیا بھر میں صنفی بنیاد پر تشدد، غیر ادا شدہ مزدوریوں اور بڑھتی ہوئی بے روزگاری کے خواتین پر اثرات کے حوالے سے خبردار کیا ہے۔ معاشرتی تحفظ کے پروگرامز تک عدم رسائی لے لاکھوں خواتین کو مخصوص بیوہ اور ایک ماؤں کو غربت کی دلدل میں مزید دھکیل دیا ہے۔ پاکستان بھی اس سے مستثنیٰ نہیں۔ عورت فاؤنڈیشن کی 12 فروری 2021ء میں جاری کردہ ایک تحقیقی رپورٹ کے مطابق خواتین کے خلاف تشدد میں تشویشناک حد تک اضافہ ہوا ہے کیونکہ اس کو رونا کے عرصہ میں خواتین کو بھرے ہوئے گھروں میں، تعلیم کے قتل کی وجہ سے زیادہ ذہنی، جذباتی اور جسمانی تشدد کا سامنا کرنا پڑا۔ خواتین کو گھریلو تشدد سے تحفظ کے حوالے سے قوانین کا پاس کرنا اور ہیلتھ کا قیام اگرچہ قابل تحسین ہے لیکن بہت سی خواتین کی خصوصاً اور دراز اور کمزور طبقات اور گروہوں سے تعلق رکھنے والی خواتین کی ان پروگرامز تک رسائی نہ تھی۔ جو کہ خواتین کیلئے ایک سوال کھڑا کرتا ہے کہ خواتین کہاں جائیں؟ کرونا کے پھیلا کر وہ نقصانات کے باوجود ایجنڈا 2030 اقوام عالم کو پائیدار ترقی اور غربت کے خاتمے کے حوالے سے رہنمائی کا فریم ورک مہیا کرتا ہے۔ اور پاکستان میں ایجنڈا 2030 کے حوالے سے پارلیمانی اقتساب، عوامی شمولیت اور سیاسی حکمرانی جاری رہنی چاہیے لیکن کرونا کے پھیلا کر وہ عدم مساوات پر قابو پانے کیلئے جامع شمولیت ترقی کا دو بارہ اعادہ کیا جانا چاہیے۔ پاکستان نے 2021ء میں پائیدار ترقی



پاکستان کے ادارے کو صحت کے ادارے کو رونا سے متاثرہ افراد کی تعداد اور اموات کو نسبتاً کم رکھنے میں کامیاب ہوئے ہیں۔ بہت سے ترقی یافتہ ممالک کے مقابلہ میں پاکستان نے اپنے کرونا کیسز کم رکھے ہیں۔ پاکستان میں کل ایک لاکھ میں سے محض 263 لوگ متاثر ہوئے جبکہ اس کے مقابلے میں برطانیہ میں 6169 اور کینیڈا میں 2305 لوگ متاثر ہوئے۔ پاکستان اس خراج تحسین کا مستحق ہے جو کہ تمبر میں عالمی ادارہ صحت کے ڈائریکٹر جنرل سزجدہوس نم غیر ہوس نے کیا۔ پاکستان اور پوری دنیا میں کرونا نے مختلف طبقہ ہائے آبادی کے درمیان ایک ایسا تفریق لگایا ہے کہ ہاگھو دیا ہے جس کے نتیجے میں کچھ لوگ اس وائرس اور اس کے معاشی اثرات کے خلاف موثر تحفظ ہی کر سکتے ہیں۔

پاکستان کے فریب پیمانہ ترین گروہ بالخصوص مذہبی اور نسلی اقلیتیں، غیر رسمی شعبے کے کارکن اور زرعی کارکنوں خاص طور خواتین کا رکن صحت اور معاشی بحران سے زیادہ متاثر اور استحصال کا شکار ہوئی ہیں۔ پاکستان دنیا کے صنفی مساوات کی درجہ بندی میں نیچے والے ممالک میں شمار ہوتا ہے اور کرونا کا حالیہ سالوں میں صنفی ترقی کی کامیابیوں کو مزید کم یا مناسکتا ہے۔ اقوام متحدہ کے پائیدار ترقی کے ایجنڈے کی مطابق اور خاص طور پر مقصد نمبر 5 صنفی مساوات کے حوالے سے پاکستان صنفی برابری کو نہ صرف بنیادی انسانی حقوق کیلئے اہمیت کا حامل ہونے کا اعادہ کرتا ہے بلکہ پائیدار، خوشحال اور پرسن دنیا کی ضروری "بنیاد" قرار دیتا ہے۔ پاکستان دینا کے اولین ممالک میں سے تھا جس نے 2016ء میں عالمی پائیدار ترقی کے اہداف کو قومی ایجنڈا قرار دیا تھا اور پارلیمانی رہنمائی مثلاً مہر قومی اسمبلی شامانہ گلزار خان کی قیادت میں پارلیمانی

گزشتہ ایک سال سے کرونا نے دنیا بھر کے معاشروں کو ہلا کر رکھ دیا ہے اور تمام ممالک میں زندگی اور روزگار کو متاثر کیا ہے۔ ہم سب اس فائل انداز کی صحت، معاشی اور معاشرتی بوجھ کو محسوس کر رہے ہیں۔ لیکن ہم میں سے کچھ لوگ اس کو دوسروں سے اور زیادہ محسوس کرتے ہیں۔ آسٹریلیا نے کرونا کو "غیر مساوی وائرس" کا نام دیا ہے کیونکہ اس نے دولت، صنف اور نسل کی بنیاد پر عدم مساوات کو مزید واضح کر دیا ہے۔ ریکارڈ تاریخ کے مطابق پہلی مرتبہ عدم مساوات بیک وقت ہر ملک میں بڑھتی ہوئی نظر آ رہی ہے۔ جس کیلئے ہمیں فوری اقدامات کرنا ہوں گے۔ عورتوں کے عالمی دن کے موقع پر عالمی لیڈرشپ الائنس کی میزبانی ایجنڈا 2030 کی وزیر اعظم کم کیسبل اور عورت فاؤنڈیشن کے سربراہ نعیم احمد مرزا کا کہنا ہے کہ پاکستان کے کرونا کے خلاف اقدامات کو دنیا بھر میں سراہا گیا۔ پولیو کے خلاف استعمال ہونے والے صحت کے بنیادی نظام کے



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