



Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP)

(Developing communities through education and training)

Registered Charity # 764



Annual Report 2013-14

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP)

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UMEED ADMINISTRATION AND PROJECTS



Education



Legal Aid



Democracy



Human Rights



Sports Club



Street Theatre



Skills Training



INTRODUCTION

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) has a non-political, non-profit ethos, registered under Societies Act 1860 and is entitled to work nationwide. Umeed is also registered as a charity in the UK. Umeed is a humanitarian organization committed to work for Development and Human Rights promotion. The Organization has its Head office in Lahore along with three regional offices in Loralai Balochistan, Bahawalpur and Lahore. The Umeed Project is managed by an executive board.

The Umeed Partnership exists to provide opportunities through education and training to vulnerable and disadvantaged girls & women, and boys & young men, in diverse parts of Pakistan. The organization is multi-faith and is operational in the tribal communities of Baluchistan, in slum districts of Lahore and in the marginalized low-caste dalit communities of Cholistan Desert in southern Punjab. The organization has been evolved into a women's support body to support victims of widowhood, disease and domestic violence.



Basic education is offered together with embroidery and tailoring for girls and women, carpentry and woodturning skills training for street boys and adult education for women in the districts of Loralai, Bahawalpur and Lahore. Also to empower women and street children human rights training are provided. Seminars and workshops are conducted during the year in different regions. For children, two mixed faith Middle Schools have been opened in marginalized 'dalit' communities near Bahawalpur and Yazman in the Cholistan Desert.

Umeed is committed to work for the socio-economic rights and promotion of human rights and democracy amongst the masses irrespective of caste, creed or gender. Umeed works to break the unjust structures prevailing in Pakistani society. It works at grass-roots level with all those who believe in human liberation and who have committed themselves for this worthy cause.

Vision:

The vision of Umeed Partnership is to see educated, skilful and talented youth, improved equality between men and women, liberated men and women from 'different forms of slavery & oppression', capacities built, Human Rights promoted among the oppressed masses.

Mission:

- To reach out to those who lack basic human needs with the aim of restoring dignity and respect irrespective of caste, creed or gender.
- To promote basic Human Rights and democratic processes within oppressed communities.
- To provide opportunities to youth to improve their talents, abilities and leadership qualities.

Goal: To promote and facilitate formal and informal education at all levels.

Umeed's Focal Sectors include:

Human Rights:

- Human Rights and democratic education
- Empowerment of women and elimination of gender disparities
- Capacity enhancement of women's' groups and civil society organizations
- Research and documentation

Development:

- Promotion of entrepreneurship and development of small business skills
- Formal and non-formal education
- Socio-economic empowerment of the poor
- Assisting women in distress through free legal aid

MESSAGE FROM THE UMEED CHAIRPERSON PAKISTAN – SHAMIN GULZAR

It is evident that in the human history the patriarchal system brought great harm to the role of women in the family and society. But when patriarchy is absorbed into the structure of tribalism, feudalism and capitalism then the role of women diminishes altogether.

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) had been conceived and Started its initial activities in 2000 in the province of Balochistan. Umeed mainly works for the empowerment of women through skills training and education. The organization has been evolved into a women's support body to support victims of widowhood, disease and domestic violence. Umeed helps women to strengthen their voices and play a substantial role in their families and society through education, skills training and programs of awareness raising.



The society of Balochistan in which Umeed works is rigidly patriarchal and intermingled with tribalism, feudalism and capitalism. This system provides the basis to its socio-economic, religious and cultural values in which women have no role to play except to bare and rare children and entertain men. In this province women trade (selling & buying) goes on as with legal social and cultural practices like a commodity. Once the price is paid woman become the sole property of the buyer.

In the society of Balochistan educating a woman is against their moral codes, therefore as a result the rate of women's education is only 2 to 3 percent. The influx of Afghan immigrants contributed to keep this percentage low since they want to keep women's old role in their tribal system and keep religious sanctity by hiding women in their homes. Therefore in this society women are least visible and remain voiceless.

Umeed also works in the province of Punjab where women are at their best and worst. In urban areas women gets the opportunities of education and employments. To certain extend they enjoy socialization among the dominant role of men. In this province majority of womanhood belong to the silent and unmentioned peasantry in the rural areas, in the working class in the industrial centres and in the agricultural sector. Most of these women bear a double burden of housework and outside work. They are first to rise and last to sleep.

In this province buying and selling (bridal cost) of women is replaced with dowry. A decade ago whatever parents gave in the dowry was acceptable to the groom's party but now a day a list of things and sometimes a reasonable cash in the dowry is demanded from the bride's family. Many parents go into debt in order to marry off their daughters. Many parents remain under financial burden and pressure due to the demand of dowry from grooms and most of the time they are unable to make arrangements for dowry thus as a result many girls remain without marriages. Over the question of dowry many cases of bride-burning comes up in this province. The practice of dowry degrades women's position in society.

The marriages of teenage girls have become popular in Pakistan. In spite of government minimum age of marriage for girls of 16 years but the parents marry them off at the age of 12 to 13 years because they think that as long as their daughters are with them they are financially burdensome.

In this scenario Umeed works for women in distress. During the years Umeed has trained hundreds of girls/women in different skills who own their small business looking after themselves shedding off financial burden from their parents. Many girls make their own dowry relieving the tension of their parents and many women look after their children and families themselves reducing the financial burden from their husbands.

Year after year I had been meeting Umeed girls/women caught in unpleasant situations. I had been providing them with counselling, words of comfort, hope and some practical guidelines for them to find a way out in their critical moments. Umeed has brought a lot of success, hope and happiness in their lives. Many of them now are successful entrepreneurs and standing on their own feet for which I am so grateful to the Umeed donors, benefactors, friends and above all the Umeed UK partners due to whose sacrifices and financial help many girls/women in Pakistan enjoy their human rights which were otherwise compromised.

MESSAGE FROM THE UMEED COORDINATOR PAKISTAN

YOUSUF JALAL GILL



Umeed Partnership Pakistan works among the most disadvantaged communities of Cholistan Desert Bahawalpur, the tribal areas of Balochistan, rural areas of Mian Channue and Lahore slums. Due to poverty, unemployment, poor health, illiteracy and social and economic inequities and various other social evils these communities remain in constant despair and have growing sense of deprivation. Basic human needs are beyond the reach of many of these people. They have no voice, no power to protect themselves, their dignity and respect are shattered in many ways and at different levels. They are just tools in the hands of the land lords, feudal, politicians and shrewd local *punchayat* (committee of local leaders). Many crimes and social evils take place in these communities.

In this time of despair and deprivation Umeed is helping these communities by providing education to boys and girls, adult literacy for women, skills training to girls/women and street children, free legal aid to women in distress, programs of awareness, mobilization, advocacy and human rights training for women. Umeed cannot fight all the problems immediately but gradually it is helping people to come up in life.

Year 2013-14 has been difficult year for the common masses in Pakistan. In this country every year pain and agony of the people are being increased due to high level of corruption, increase in the price hike of the daily commodities, Increasing rate in unemployment, poverty, illiteracy, lawlessness, crime especially against women, terrorism, religious fundamentalism, killing, looting, theft, kidnapping for ransom so on and so forth.

The attacks on minorities in Pakistan is continuously on the increase. A suicide attack on All Saints Church in Peshawar on September 22, 2013, killed 85 Christian worshippers and left more than 100 injured. During this year the wave of religious and sectarian terrorism in Pakistan remained on the high. In order to take revenge or grab properties many blasphemy cases had been registered against minorities. Many minority members have been killed, their houses and properties were burned. In whole of Pakistan hundreds of minority women (especially minor) were abducted, raped, forced them to convert to Islam and many were killed. In this situation of despair, hopelessness and fear thousands of minority families migrated to other countries where they have taken asylum status.

There had been cases of acid throwing on women who came to shop in Quetta market which discouraged women not to come on the streets of Balochistan. During the year women were the worst hit since many cases came up of rape, abduction, forced conversion, acid burning, domestic torture, honor killing, stoning to death by making false cases of adultery, marring with the Quran, settling tribal disputes by giving minor girls to the other party.

In spite of all these happenings in Pakistan the life of the common masses goes on. This is the real difficult time for them when they need support. Government of Pakistan is failed to meet the needs of these masses therefore they are looking towards NGOs or Organizations who could help them in this difficult time. With the help of many donors, benefactors, friends and well wishers Umeed is trying to come to the aid of these common masses.

My special thanks are due for all those who in spite of the negative image of Pakistan supported the Umeed Project in different ways during the year. Thanks to all the members of Umeed Partnership UK for their dedication in their work of empowering girls and women in Pakistan. Very special thanks to MM Partners of Netherlands who are providing continuous financial support to promote the cause of the most disadvantaged communities of Pakistan. Thanks to Just Trust and the Gilchrist Trust UK who provided financial support to re-develop the Emma Marchant Umeed Middle Schools at Bahawalpur and Yazman.

I offer my special thanks to the local and foreign benefactors and supporters and great fund raisers (John Perkins, Stuart Elliot and Clive Southerton) for supporting the Umeed Project with full dedication and commitment. I admire, cherish and thank God for giving me a friend Dr. John Perkins who is a visionary, having unconditional love for the poor, dedicated, committed for the cause of the suffering women of Pakistan, a man with soft heart and above all a wonderful human being. A prayer always comes from the bottom of my heart and all the Umeed beneficiaries that God may bless and protect him every moment in his life. I cannot forget to thank my dedicated UPP team and colleagues, teachers, supervisors, trainers and legal advisors without whose support Umeed Project cannot go forward.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF UMEED UK

DR. JOHN PERKINS



The mission of The Umeed Partnership is unchanged. That is, it provides education and vocational training at grass roots level, leading to employment opportunities, **for disadvantaged girls and women (and increasingly boys and young men) of all faiths and cultures in Pakistan.** Operating at grass-roots level, UPP has no bureaucratic administrative infrastructure which means that funds raised in the UK are applied directly to the Project, running the education & training centres and the two Umeed Middle Schools.

Demand for participation by both girls & women and boys & young men has continued to increase and expansion is constrained only by funding limitations.

UPP activities continue to be concentrated in four diverse areas of Pakistan, *viz* Quetta City in Baluchistan; the tribal area centred on Loralai City; the Yohannabad slum communities of Lahore; and low-caste Hindu communities in southern Punjab, centred in Yazman and in Bahawalpur District on the margins of the Cholistan Desert.

The Umeed Partnership really does make a difference to people's lives, and I get quite a thrill out of being part of it. Time and time again I have come across young women of all faiths who have received training in the Umeed embroidery Centres over the past ten years, and who are now making a living for themselves and their families. Some have become trainers themselves, and so this is an example of the Project becoming self-sustaining. Hopefully the Umeed woodwork Centres will be restarted and develop in a similar way, and the young men currently in training will, in two or three years time, be trainers themselves, and also earning to support their families. Without these training facilities, the young people would face empty lives, and therefore be more likely to be attracted to fundamentalism.

The Umeed Schools also have provided a lifeline for uneducated communities in southern Punjab; they are a credit to the dogged determination of the UPP Co-ordinator and Supervisors to improve opportunities in these impoverished communities.

So, the Umeed Partnership is demonstrably improving the quality of life for women, children, families and communities. In addition to skills training and education, Umeed is evolving into a support network for vulnerable women who may be victims of domestic violence, illness and bereavement. Due to its multi-faith ethos, Umeed also encourages dialogue, and hence reconciliation, between the major faith communities. In our world of fragile international relationships, Umeed is surely a cause to celebrate and to support.

My thanks are due to all who have supported the Umeed Partnership Project over the past year and in particular the Committee members. I should like to thank especially Clive Southerton and Ged Sanders for their work as Vice-Chair and Treasurer respectively. Individual donors, who must remain anonymous, have exceeded expectations in their generosity this year. Of course, we are always pleased to receive donations – the Umeed Project would fail without them – but we also need support in other forms (fund-raising skills, financial management, presentation skills, legal expertise, graphic design, and so on). So, if you have any spare time or spare money, please consider continuing to support the Project in whatever way you can.

As in previous years I made a privately-funded visit to the Umeed Project in February. I was the guest of Yousuf Jalal Gill and his family, and apart from the three day visit to Umeed activities in the Cholistan Desert region, I had excellent accommodation in Yousuf's home in Johor Town, Lahore. The hospitality has been second to none. Yousuf and Shamin are excellent, thoughtful hosts, as are the families I stayed with in Bahawalpur.

All costs of this visit (flights, train fares, fuel in Pakistan for UP car, Pakistan entry visa) have been met from a private source. No charges have been made against Umeed Partnership funds raised in the UK.

Skills Training for Women



Economic independence is important for the overall empowerment of vulnerable women. Therefore UPP empower women socially and economically through vocational training. The vocational training sessions are used simultaneously for the social empowerment of the women. During the first hour of the training, the women are motivated to enter into the public domain, learn about women's rights and learn how to present themselves outside the family. An important element of the training is marketing: the women learn how to write a small business plan and how to approach the market.

The women are supported during and after the training to market their product and approach important contacts, to ensure a sustainable result of the training. While mentoring the women, the trainers will monitor to what extent the women put their skills into practice and earn income with

their products. UPP has successfully implemented training courses in embroidery and tailoring/sewing in the past, and Umeed always rely on previously trained women as trainers when training courses begin every year. Through embroidery and tailoring skills and market access these women are made aware of their rights and have the knowledge, skills and mind-set to become economically active. As a result, women improve their social standing and dignity in their families, communities and society.

During the year 2013-14 Umeed ran 6 embroidery centres in Bahawalpur/Yazman, 2 embroidery centres in Loralai and in Lahore slums 2 embroidery and 2 tailoring/sewing centres, training 186 girls/women in the skill. Umeed awarded all the trained women with the certificates and most of them are already earning reasonable some for their sustenance.



***Umeed make
women realise
their potential
to fight poverty***

Skills Training for Street Children



Umeed trains young, vulnerable street children in a useful skill which provide them with a means of earning money for themselves and their families. Umeed saves these children from a lifetime of drudgery and support the families and the communities in which they live – the so-called *Umeed Premium!* Our goal is to protect children's economic rights who are living on the street and doing hazardous work to thrive, protected from violence and abuse, and have support to graduate into adulthood with a good education, 'life skills', employable skills and a sense of self-worth. Umeed has responded to a demand for training provision for street children. Woodworking and carpentry training, tailoring and embroidery centres have been established for street children.

Following a period of training, the young men are able to produce different types of furniture and modern fashionable clothes. Demand for simple, staple products such as these is high. Umeed believes that long-term, sustainable change in individual children's lives and wider structural change can promote and protect the Rights of Children and it can be achieved by meeting the immediate needs of children and linking them to mainstream services that can contribute towards their access and long-term retention in formal and non-formal education, healthcare and employable skills.

Protecting children from abuse, (e.g. economic and sexual exploitation, violence, neglect, doing and being drawn to hazardous work and stigma and discrimination) and addressing root causes by mobilizing all duty-bearers.



Supporting families of children to have increased stable, secure income and enabling them to better care for their children. Supporting an integrated approach through effective collaboration to meet children's priority needs (protection, education, health and well-being, employable skills, family reunification and reintegration within communities). Engaging with all duty-bearers such as families, employers, communities and government, including law enforcing agencies to take responsibility for children's overall well-being, improving policies and practices at the national, regional, district and community levels. Ensuring children's rights to participate in decision-making processes that affect their lives.

LIVE - LEARN - LEAD

Women Human Rights Trainings

Umeed Partnership Pakistan promotes women human rights through capacity building programs. Umeed empowers personnel from civil society groups by providing them with trainings. These trained personnel of different organisations become focal partners of UPP who work together with Umeed to promote women human rights in the society as well as in their own organisations.

Umeed promote this worthy cause through lobby and Consultation with personnel from major political parties,, Judiciary and police department. First of all these personnel become aware of the importance of promoting women human rights at their department level and then secondly they take the issue to the higher level to their respective parliaments for legislations.

Being aware of the important role of print and electronic media in the society Umeed time to time conducts seminars for the Journalists to get their support to highlight the issue of women human rights on their TV, Radio channels and News Papers and Magazines.

In orde to mitigating religious and cultural biases against women Umeed organizes consultations for religious and youth leaders. The consultations provide a platform to discuss religious and cultural perspectives towards the role of women in the society. It is therefore essential to involve the religious and youth leadership who would be better channels to promote and speak about the importance of women human rights in their own environment.

UPP organizes Interactive public debates and Interactive theatres for the general public to promote women human rights, Through interactive theatre performed by Umeed women a great message is being communicated to the public about the exploitation of women human rights in the Pakistani society. After the theatre performances at each place public debate takes place. Participants generally are very enthusiastic about the discussion on the issue of women human rights.

Umeed forms various women human rights committees to go to the grass roots level women human rights problems. It is a women network which promotes women human rights among the general public.

Training of Trainers Sessions

Three Training of Trainers Sessions for Capacity Building of 52 Masters Trainers of 21 NGOs were held at Lahore, Bahawalpur and Loralai to make them our focal partners to promote women Human rights in their own organizations as well as join hands with Umeed Partnership for this worthy cause.

Session One

One day Training of Trainers Session was organised on “**Promoting Women’s Human Rights by empowering Civil Society Organizations**” on Friday March 14, 2014 at Oriental Hotel Bahawalpur. It was a training seminar for NGOs personnel preparing them to become focal partners of Umeed to promote women’s human rights in their own respective organizations. From 6 NGOs of district Bahawalpur 21 members including organising team members participated in the training session. The training session was held in Bahawalpur since in the southern Punjab women are the worst hit.

Yousuf Gill Director UPP explained the purpose and goal of training of 6 NGOs representatives of Bahawalpur district. He said that it is a training session for the trainers on the issue of promoting women’s human rights in the Southern Punjab where at various levels women human rights are exploited, manipulated and suppressed. He said it is important that we trained personnel to join hands together to combat violation of women human rights in the area.

The main speaker of the session was Ms. Zaib ul Nisa, Physiologist, Consultant and women rights activist of Bahawalpur who explained the UNO Charter of Human Rights especially with reference to women human rights. She shared her personal experiences while dealing with women problems and cases.

Zaib ul Nisa said that she visits women victims in the jails, Shelter homes, Police stations, go along with women victims to the courts and visit places where women are slaves i.e. brick kilns, Land lords homes, land lords fields,

factories, broken families or families with problems, sanitation departments where women work as sweepers so on and so forth. However she says in most of the above places women are made victims or slaves only because they are women. She said it is important to make women strong by making them conscience that they have their rights.



In the last session Yousuf Gill briefed and discussed women current issues in the society with the participants and got their views. All participants shared their experiences and ideas with each other. At the end Mr. Naveed Daniel the finance and admin officer UPP offer his vote of thanks.

Session Two

On 5th April 2014 at Waseela Development Organization conference hall Loralai, UPP conducted one day Training of Trainers session on **“Promoting women human rights by empowering civil society organizations”**. The session was attended by 22 participants from 7 NGOs and organizations of Loralai District.

Mr. Naveed Daniel from Umeed Lahore Head Office and Yunis Masih Umeed regional supervisor Loralai while explaining the purpose and goal of the training said that this is a training session for the trainers on the issue of promoting women’s human rights in Balochistan where women human rights exploitation is in a verse condition. Due to cultural and religious barriers women in this part of the world are considered solely men’s property, a sex tool to be kept hidden inside the four walls and they have no function in the society except to entertain men and bare and rare children. They said it is important that we train personnel to join hands together with Umeed partnership to promote women human rights at all levels.

The first speaker of the session Mr. Musa Khayl director of ODHE Loralai appreciated UPP for working so brilliantly in Balochistan to empower women and promote their rights for the last 14 years. He said that women human rights have a great importance in Islam but due to cultural barriers and poor legislation women human rights are not granted. He promised that his organisation will work especially with reference to women human rights in Balochistan. He extended his full support to UPP in its endeavor in promoting women human right in Balochistan.



The second speaker Mr. Manan the chair of waseela development organization also appreciated the work of UPP in Balochistan and gave some examples of the leading women who played a vital rule in Pakistan in promoting women human rights. He offered his full support to UPP and promised to keep on th agenda of his organisation of promoting women’s human rights in the area.

The third speaker Mr. Gul khan Social Worker and government employ in the Social Welfare Department Loralai said that there is a great need of having proper representative of women in all the government departments and in private sector but we hardly see women working alongside men. It is may be due to lack of education among women. He said that women human right should be seen in a more practical way. Unless we educate our daughters there will be no representation in politics, various departments of the country and in all walks of life. He said that I myself have seen the work of UPP they are very much ground to earth assisting women in their struggle to come up in life. He said I say to UPP to keep it up we are with you.

Mr. Anayt Ullah Jalal Zai Director College of Youth Activities and Development Loralai was the chief guest of the session. At the outset of his talk he thanked UPP for giving him a chance to share a few words about human rights of women in Balochistan. We as a nation are one he said but when we talk about human rights we are divided because each individual got his/her own rights. In Balochistan no one enjoys full human rights but women are the worst hit. Many organisations having this very famous slogan to work for women rights but the situation remains the same. Umeed is exceptional who is working in a more practical way changing the lives of women through skills training and

education. I believe that we should give complete rights to our women so that our society may develop quickly as happened in the first world. countries,

Session Three

On 3rd May 2014 one day Training of Trainers Session was held at the centre of Caritas Pakistan Lahore organized by Umeed Partnership Pakistan which was attended by 19 participants from 8 NGOs and women organizations including speakers and organizers under the title of **“Promoting Women Human Rights by Empowering Civil Society Organizations.”**

The program started at 9 am and Mr. Naveed Daniel the Umeed Finance/Admin Officer briefed the agenda of the day and invited Yousuf Gill the Director of UPP who welcomed all the participants and invited them to introduce themselves and their organizations. Then the Director explained the need of conducting this session.



The main speaker of the session Mr. Yousaf Benjamin from NCJP explained the women human rights according to the UNO charter of Human Rights and also according to the Constitution of Pakistan. He gave the history of human rights. This session was very informative and gave a lot of insights to all the participants.

Advocate Nadeem Anthony was called upon to deliver his input. He explained the judicial system in Pakistan in detail. He informed the participants about the system of the courts and highlighted that only the first information report “FIR” is the legal document through which we get justice. Therefore he stressed very much about how to write and get it written the FIR. He also mentioned that the one who writes the FIR should read out to you.

The Director of UPP Yousaf Gill thanked everyone who came to participate, the organizing committee, and also those who provided the place for the program. He also invited all the participants about the future plan, what and how to get the basic rights of women in Pakistan.

All the participants were awarded with the certificate from the side of UPP to assure that they attended one day training workshop. Then all of them evaluated the program in writing and had a group photo.

Consultation

Umeed organised one day consultation at Panda restaurant Bahawalpur on 12th October Saturday 2013 with 30 personnel from major political parties,, Judiciary and police department of Bahawalpur District. The purpose of the consultation was to update and get these individuals involved in the process of promoting women’s human rights in their district. There were 15 individuals from political parties, 8 from Judiciary and 7 from Police department. There were 3 members of organising team.

Yousuf Gill Director UPP welcomed the participants & briefed the purpose of the consultation. He gave the detailed introduction to the theme of the consultation with reference to the women human rights exploitation in Southern Punjab. He said in this region the crime rate and the violence against women are higher than in any other region of the whole Punjab. There were two main speakers from two political parties The input given by the speakers were very inspiring..

Mr. Mosa Saeed (Pakistan Peoples Party Ganva group) said the term women's rights refer to freedoms and liberties in all sphere of life. These liberties include freedom to survive, education, health, freedom of movement, freedom to marry, freedom to choose life partner, equal opportunities & facilities of jobs etc. But in southern Punjab women are subjected to inhuman customs and laws such as Karo Kari, Hudood ordinance, Qasas and marriage to the Quran. Women are like slaves just to obey their fathers, brothers and husbands. They do not have the right to decide about themselves. Women are highly vulnerable to violation of their rights. to life. Islamic fundamentalists and the religious leaders are responsible for the stark and horrific conditions faced by women in this region. Religious parties never

uttering a single word against the horrible conditions faced by women. They have never agitated against the gang rapes and other crimes committed against women.

Mr. Inayat Kareem (Pakistan Tahreek Insaf) said that while discussing the situation of women human rights in Southern Punjab we see that women are facing many problems. They have to fight with hunger, violence, trafficking, sexual abuse, lack of educational & health facilities, gender discrimination & many more. These vulnerable women are not aware of their rights, hence unable to raise voice for their basic rights. Some of the problems are as under:

1. Violence against women

VAW is taken as a private matter between individuals, and not as a pervasive human rights problem requiring State intervention. Extreme poverty, illiteracy and financial constraints are the basic reasons of increase in violence against women. VAW exists in variety of forms, from domestic abuse to child marriages and rape. Beating a woman even a pregnant woman is a normal behavior in this region. There is a link between rise in violence against women and the destabilization of economic patterns in this society. Domestic violence is not just an issue of gender equality, it is a matter of public health. Emotional abuse, such as verbal humiliation, threats of physical aggression or abandonment, economic blackmail etc are worse than physical assault.

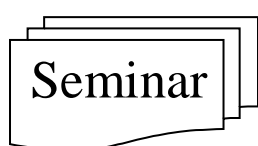
2. Gender Discrimination

Women in Southern Punjab mainly due to the social and cultural conditions are more disadvantaged. They live in more unpleasant social conditions. They are discouraged in attaining higher education just for the sake of avoiding the time when women can lead man. Even though women get educated or go through technical courses but they are not granted permission to work. They are not allowed to participate in economic activities and hence their professional qualification goes in the bin. Their marriages are fixed by their parents without their consent or choice. If a man and a woman caught in some illegal affairs the woman will be accused and not the man. A man can marry many women but a woman cannot marry more than one man. A man has the right to divorce but woman has no right to divorce her husband.

3. Honor Killings

Honor crimes are acts of violence, usually murder, committed by male against female who brought dishonor to the family. Honor in a real sense means possession of women as a form of property. Women have no liberty to move around or mix with other men. In the name of honor (ghairat) females are killed. Men always keep a strict eye on women in the name of "honor". Honor crimes are an archaic practice in Pakistan and especially in Southern Punjab. Pakistan holds the world record in honor crimes. Through honor crime women are targeted due to her refusal to enter into an arranged marriage, being the victim of a sexual assault, seeking a divorce or (allegedly) committing adultery. The perception that a woman has behaved in a way that dishonors her family is sufficient to trigger an attack on her life.

Yousaf Gill thanked everyone who came to participate in the consultation. He also invited all the participants about the future plan, what and how to get the basic rights of women in Pakistan.



In order to involve print and electronic media in the campaign of promoting women human rights Umeed conducted one day seminar on 16th November Saturday 2013 at Oriental Hotel Bahawalpur. There were 28 participants including the organizing team. In this seminar the journalists were sensitized and motivated to work as catalysts for promoting democratic and women's human rights values especially in the Southern Punjab.

The first speaker of the seminar Mr. Tariq Mahmood, chief editor of Daily Sada-e-Bahawalpur said that Media is the strongest means of communication. It is a reflection of the society. It is a tool to influence the masses and present their voices. Media is a voice of people which is educating others about the social, cultural, economic and political issues. Media moulds the perception of people and addresses sociopolitical and development issues. Media has a genuine interest in nurturing civil society and in promoting a tolerant, pluralistic, and democratic culture. Numerous journalists, newspapers, and media activists regularly cover social evils, matters of injustice, human rights abuses, and issues of exploitation. They play a role in enhancing democratic reform and organize resistance against the ruling elites.

Regarding the promotion and protection of women human rights the speaker said that it is sad to say that in Southern Punjab the media has not played a substantial role in promoting women human rights. It may be due to the fact that Pakistan's print and electronic media are mostly restricted to the major cities and to prominent people. Mostly media contents are related to politicians, political candidates, Ministers, leading federal and provincial officials, alleged and actual violators. It is also due to the strong feudal system, strict cultural and religious customs, poverty, illiteracy, ineffective rule of law, lack of political will and above all failing state authorities in the region.

The second speaker Mr. Abdul Jabar from Geo TV said that from 2002 media has grown up steadily due to opening up the airwaves for private ownership. Though in Pakistan media expresses the rich pluralism and liberalism of Pakistan's society but at the same time media is misinterpreting news and creating political hatred among Pakistani society. The media in Pakistan is not playing its proper role, as even though poverty, lack of education, health, and other basic facilities prevails in the society. The media sometimes does not portray the true story even though they see great exploitation of women in the country.

Though every day many cases take place against women but once in a while a TV Channel produces a program on the issue of child marriages. Another TV Channel aired a program with a verbal testimony of a girl married at 12, now widowed, and her troubled life. Another program produces a program on the issue of domestic violence. The program includes verbal testimony from a woman victim of violence speaking about how her husband, a drug addict, beats her up. In TV Channels most often women are shown in inferior roles, for example, "male is the doctor and female is the nurse."

Yousaf Gill Director UPP thanked all the journalists and requested them to promote women's human rights through T.V. talk shows and also present women human rights issues. He also requested the journalist involved in the print media to highlight the issues of women human rights by writing articles and reports in both Urdu and English news papers and magazines.



Umeed arranged a workshop for 33 Religious and Youth Leaders including organizing team members at community Hall Yazman on 07th December Saturday 2013 under the theme of "Mitigating religious and cultural biases against women". There were 11 Muslim, Christian and Hindu religious leaders, 19 different youth representatives from all three religions and 3 members of organizing team.

The first speaker Maulana Abdul Haq of Jamiat Ullmah-e- Islam said in his talk that Islam liberated women from unacceptable conditions that prevailed in the tribal society of pre-Islamic Arabia. Interpretations and the application of women's rights under Islam are profoundly affected by social and economic factors, social practices, customary laws, poverty, war and illiteracy. This is very much evident in the Southern Punjab where women are kept illiterate, poor, victim of social and cultural practices, customary laws and at the mercy and domination of men. There are various religious and cultural biases against women prevails in this region. The most famous biases are that a woman is only there to bare and rear children, look after the daily chores of the house and entertain men, she is source of temptation, if she is exposed to public she could bring dishonor to her family, she is just like a shoe in the feet, she should be kept in veils and inside of the four walls, she is a property of men. Due to these biases a huge range of crimes are committed against women in this region. In order to do away with these biases and restore the lost dignity, respect and the human rights of women like Umeed Partnership many organisation and NGOs should come up and conscientise men so that they may liberate women in this region.

Second speaker Mr. Akram Youth coordinator of district Bahawalpur said that equality of men and women are part of the ethics, spirituality, and humanity of Islam. At the same time, Islam affirms "natural differences" between men and women. As a result of these distinctions, the rights and obligations of men and women, and their roles in the Muslim community are not identical. These differences in rights and obligations are motivated by the Islamic conception of the role of women in the family and the Muslim community. This conception entered into Islam from the existing tribal society from where it was conceived. But as Islam grew especially in the modern world Islam begin to realise the need of having equality between man and woman. The basic problem in Southern Punjab is not gender roles but the structure of the society in which it had been formed. Feudal system, rigid cultural and social practices, backwardness, poverty, illiteracy, weak law implementation, economic setback and above all Southern Punjab being a hub for religious nurseries from where all the Pakistani Talibans are being produced. In this type of environment the promotion of women human rights struggle become very bleak. However women human rights issue is very important and we should continue raising our voices together.

After two input there was an open forum for discussion. During the discussion many women shared their views especially regarding religious leaders who does not believe in giving human rights to women. After the hot discussion Yousuf Gill Director UPP thanked all the participants especially the speakers who gave very meaningful input. He requested all the religious and youth leaders to continue promoting women's human rights in their communities by mitigating religious and cultural biases against women.

Interactive Public Debates and Interactive Theatre



UPP organizes forums for participants. The forums are open sessions in which the participants are encouraged to engage in a critical discussion of current issues and challenges related to women's rights and violence against women in particular. The forums start with interactive theatre performances of stories of women victims, to introduce a topic and create attention. They serve as case studies for deeper understanding and reflection. Recommendations and findings during the forums are documented accurately and shared among the other organizations.

Umeed organized two Interactive Public debates with more than 200 people mainly women, the first on Friday 1st January 2014 at Khaliq Nagar Lahore and the second on Saturday 11 January 2014 at Dalu Killan Lahore. Two groups of women from Khaliq Nagar and Dalu Killan prepared a play on the issue of "Causes of Cultural & Sectarian Violence:

Discriminatory laws, intolerance, feudalism, racism, superiority phenomena" and presented it for the public for discussion. At both the places the message of the play was so powerful that a lot of people took part in the debate. It was a new experience especially

for the women. Umeed organized two Interactive Public debates with more than 200 people mainly women, the first on Friday 21st February 2014 at Christian Colony Yazman and the second on Saturday 22 February 2014 at Islami Colony Bahawalpur. Two groups of women from Christian Colony Yazman and Islami Colony Bahawalpur prepared a play on the issue of "Terrorism, Religious Extremism & women: Poverty, Unemployment, Intolerance, illiteracy" and presented it for the public for discussion. At both the places the message of the play was so powerful that a lot of people took part in the debate. Both the places communities were involved.

Umeed organized two Interactive Public debates with more than 200 people mainly women, the first on Friday 21st March 2014 at Village 36/4L Mian Channue and the second on Saturday 22 March 2014 at Village 35/4L Stunzabad Mian Channue. Two groups of women from Village 36/4L and Village 35/4L Stunzabad prepared a play on the issue of "Access to Justice, Resources and jobs: Judiciary, legislation, police, local Panchayat systems" and presented it for the public for discussion. At both the places the message of the play was so powerful that a lot of people took part in the debate. Due to these debates and plays many women got interested to join Umeed.



Empower a Woman

Transform a Community

Create Lasting Change

Women Human Rights Committees



UPP forms regional networks of women representatives. For this network more outspoken and confident women are selected from target communities, who serve as role models for less confident women. UPP organizes start-up meetings for women at the beginning, from which representative and motivated women are selected for each network. The women are instructed on the function and role of the network. Further, they capacitate themselves with communication and leadership skills and knowledge on lobby and advocacy strategies. For this they receive in-depth training on relevant provincial, national and international legislation and relevant government institutes that can be approached. The knowledge skills acquired are evaluated in interactive evaluation sessions. These networks are the voice of women and promote the empowerment of women among their constituencies. In addition, they engage in continuous advocacy at the local government levels to promote the protection of women's rights.

These networks are instrumental to achieve set goals influencing formal and non-formal structures. UPP coordinate the advocacy efforts of these networks, and support the different advocacy networks to engage with local authorities, political parties and parliamentarians through dialogue and consultations to improve the legislation for women

Umeed formed Women human Rights Committees on 15th February 2014 at Christian Colony Yazman Bahawalpur on 4th April 2014 at Loralai Balochistan on 12th April 2014 at Yuhannabad Lahore and on 26th April 2014 at Village 35/4L Mian Channue,

These committees work for their rights in their own environment. Each committee consists of ten women with a leader who meet every month to report back to Umeed Partnership about their human rights situation in their areas. These committees work closely with Umeed to promote women human rights (social, economic, political, domestic, religious, personal etc) in their regions.

Celebrating International Women's Day

The international day of women was celebrated on 8th March at Dallu Kalan Lahore with more than 100 Umeed women beneficiaries. After the input talks by the speakers on how to promote women's rights a rally was taken out by women participants into the streets carrying banners and charts with different slogans demanding for their rights.

In the same week the international day of women was celebrated at Yazman with more than 200 Umeed women beneficiaries. After two hours seminar a rally was taken out by women participants into the streets carrying banners and charts with different slogans demanding for their rights. It was a great enjoyable event for women of rural areas of Yazman.





Umeed works for the promotion of education in Southern Punjab in the district of Bahawalpur by establishing schools for the children of poor masses. In this region most of the communities are not convinced of the value of education due to degrading system of state education and unavailability of desirable results. The only hope in this region is the promotion of education by the private sector and the NGOs who are trying to promote quality education among the masses and bring fourth substantial results. Umeed Partnership Pakistan is contributing its share by establishing schools for the children of the most disadvantaged communities of the district.

In 2007 Emma Marchant Umeed Middle School was started at village 18/BC Bahawalpur in a single derelict room used as a fodder by a land lord. This single room stood on its own under the blue sky facing threats from all sides. However at the desperate and continues requests from the most disadvantaged, neglected and underdeveloped desert Muslims and Hindus (dalits) communities of Village 18/BC Bahawalpur the Umeed School was started to provide and promote quality education among their children. Seeing the interest and heeding to the parents request with the help of Umeed Partnership UK another class room was erected but still the school remained without the basic facilities and human needs. Umeed Partnership was desperately looking for funds to develop and upgrade this school. Thanks to The Rotary Foundation, Bangor Rotary Club and Bangor District who came to an aid and provided the Matching Grant to develop and upgrade this school.



In 2009 another Emma Marchant Umeed Middle School was started at village 52/DB Yazman again in single room and a shed property of a land lord. The School had no latrines, no potable water and no security wall or fence. The School is managed by the local Committee made up of 7 members representing both faith groups (Hindu & Muslim), plus representatives of the Umeed Partnership. With the help of Rotary clubs of Bangor and Prestytan UK two more class rooms were built and a latrine was constructed. Recently with the help of Just Trust UK two toilets along with water turbine and overhead tank were put up. Text books, stationary, uniforms, furniture for students/staff and computers and printer are made available.

Emma Marchant Umeed Middle Schools - EMUMS) are the only institutions in the area which are opening up windows of hope and opportunity for those who have the potential but lack the resources to realise that potential. These institutions are more than just schools; rather they are like a window enabling these communities to see beyond the narrow confines of their restricted lives. We give below some of the problems this region is facing in the field of education and Umeed took a challenge to provide quality education to the children of poor masses.



The situation of education in Southern Punjab is very bleak. Even though there are some schools established by the state but mostly with a few teachers or no teachers. These schools suffer due to lack of books, maintenance and regular flow of funds. According to the government official records so many schools are being run in the region but the rate of illiteracy remains the same.

Since most of the educational institutions run by the state do not bring required results thus the common masses are losing interest to educate their children. In rural areas of this region if some students manage to get certificates of matriculation or higher degree

they do not get employment. Their parents think that education has made their children useless since they do not get any employment as well as they are unable to adopt their parent's profession i.e. farming, labor work, pasturing animals etc.

Most of the parents in rural Southern Punjab think that investing money to educate their children for so many years is an utter waste. Parents need immediate support (financial and in the form of work) from their children. But if they send their children to school they have to struggle on their own to look after their family with extra burden to spend on education. Even if they send their children mostly boys to schools that would be only for a few years enough for their children how to count money, read and write letters.

The masses in Southern Punjab think that the economic and social change will not occur by educating their children instead they think that if they get some wealth or money through some source to put up their houses bigger, to have bigger agricultural plot of land or to put up their own small business their lives will be much better economically and socially.

The common masses in this region mostly prefer religious education over formal education thus they send their boys to mosques for Islamic education and for girls they arrange a religious leader mostly women at home to teach them Koran. This is the reason that Southern Punjab becomes nursery for Taliban and religious fundamentalism.



Both Umeed Middle schools are free. Students do not pay fee. Text books, stationery, study aids, uniforms or any other required material and tools are provided free of charge. Financially there is no burden on the families of the students. The whole curriculum is adapted according to students' learning needs. With regard to the standard parents are satisfied. With regular parent meetings it is made clear to them that the future of your generation depends on education.

Emma Marchant Lives forever in Southern Punjab Pakistan

It was June 2000 when I (Yousuf Gill UPP Coordinator) was introduced to Emma Marchant by her father Dr. John Perkins (the then Bangor University Registrar) in a restaurant at Bangor Town UK. She was our host in her own restaurant called Herbs. Emma was industrious and, in addition to bringing up her two children was working in her restaurant, working at Bangor University as an administrator in Student Services and in the Department of Psychology. Emma understood the value of education and she was awarded a Higher National Diploma and a Bachelor's degree in Business Studies.

Emma was soft spoken but elegant like a princess. She became a symbolic figure for me since she as a woman was involved in different trades i.e. education, business and as a mother looking after her children. I was inspired by her act. During that year we formed together with her father Umeed Partnership UK and I returned to Balochistan and was posted in Loralai as the parish priest. Just after three months of my return from UK her father Dr. John Perkins came to visit Umeed Project in Pakistan which was functioning very well helping three to four hundred women and children in adult education.

The Umeed Project gradually spread from Balochistan tribal areas to Cholistan desert of Bahawalpur district, slums areas of Lahore and rural areas of Mian Channue helping hundreds of women and street children in education and skills training, free legal aid to women in distress, programs of awareness, mobilization, advocacy and human rights training for women. Emma's father Dr. John Perkins kept on visiting the Umeed Project in Pakistan regularly almost every year and on the other hand her mother Lis Perkins as part of the Umeed UK committee member kept on raising funds in different ways. Sadly Emma suffered a lengthy debilitating illness in her early twenties and died at the early age of 33 in January 2010. It was a big blow for the parents and great shock for me since I had been taking Emma as a symbol for women's struggle in Pakistan.

In 2013 when Executive Board of Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) met for its annual meeting it was discussed how to honour Emma and appreciate her parents for the unconditional dedication and total commitment to the Umeed

Project in Pakistan. It was decided to dedicate the Umeed Education Project in Pakistan in the memory of Emma Marchant and name Umeed Middle Schools after her once we receive permission from her parents and her husband.

With the permission of Emma's parents and her husband it was decided to hold a dedication ceremony on 28th January 2014 during Dr. John Perkins visit to the Umeed Project in Pakistan. The first dedication ceremony was held at Umeed Middle School 52/DB Yazman on January 28 in the morning and on the same day the second ceremony was held at Umeed Middle School 18/BC Bahawalpur. Both the ceremonies were graced by Dr. John Perkins along with all the students, staff and the personnel serving the Umeed project in different capacities. During these ceremonies Dr. John Perkins unveiled the stones with inscription of dedication, inaugurated Emma Marchant computer halls and distributed Emma Marchant Awards 2014 among all those who had been or are serving the Umeed project to appreciate their services. Dr. John Perkins also attended beautiful programs organised by students and staff of both the schools in memory of Emma Marchant. Emma Marchant though not with us physically but her name lives forever in Southern Punjab.



ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM FOR WOMEN



In the beginning of 2014 Umeed Partnership Pakistan drew a contract with the Pakistan Bible Society for the period of three years to run Adult Education Centres for women providing basic literacy and numeracy skills. There are 70 adult literacy centres functioning at Lahore 20, Mian Chanu 20, Bahawalpur 10 and Yazman 20 catering 1760 women/girls students taught by 70 female teachers and supervised by 7 supervisors. During 3 year period there will be 6 batches, each batch will be of 6 months. The first batch with 70 centres will be completed at the end of August 2014 and the certificate awarding ceremonies will be held in the first week of September 2014. The second batch of adult literacy centres will begin on 1st September 2014.

Before starting Adult Literacy Centres teachers and supervisors training sessions were conducted at Lahore, Mian Channue Bahawalpur and Yazman. Adult Literacy text books, stationary and studyaid produced by Pakistan Bible Society were made available in each centre. While in Pakistan Dr. John Perkins chair of Umeed Partnership UK inaugurated some of the Umeed adult literacy centres in Lahore, Mian Chanu, Bahwalpur and Yazman.

The project functions to address the following problems;:

1. Educating illiterate Christian women/girls at grass roots level in the remotest areas of Pakistan through the establishment of literacy centres.



2. Providing literacy skill to illiterate women/girls enabling them to read and write to achieve social standing and dignity within their families and society.
3. Providing opportunities to Christian women/girls through literacy centres to have faith filled experience by learning and interaction with other colleagues.
4. Providing opportunities to illiterate Christian women/girls to read Holy Scripture themselves and be closer to the Lord so that they may bring forth faith filled christian families in the future.
5. Promoting literacy among Christian illiterate women/girls to make them able to face the challenges being posed every day in their lives by the Islamic environment and society.



RAISE THE VIOCE – DON'T LET THE VIOCES DIE

Visits & Meetings

1. On 1st November 2013 the administration of UPP (Yousuf Gill, Shamin Gulzar, Naveed Daniel and Azim Gill) met with the administration of The International School of Choueifat Lahore to discuss the possibility to open up a school in the slum areas of Lahore. The administration of the school agreed to finalize and start the school in the beginning of 2015. If this project get realized it would be third Emma Marchant Umeed Middle School in Pakistan. For this initiative a slum called Rasoolpura Near Johar Town Lahore was selected. To know the situation of education among the children of this slum a House Hold Survey was carried out by

Umeed Team. In this survey 250 households were covered. The survey was tabulated and the outcome of the survey was handed over to the administration of The International School of Choueifat Lahore.

2. On 26th November 2013 the administration of UPP visited Akhuwat Head Office in Lahore to see the possibility of getting some local funding. Akhuwat is a nonprofit organization deals in small loan projects. Akhuwat is solely funded by Lend with Care UK based donor organisation.
3. On 19th February 2014 Umeed office staff visited the Head office of Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO) the Organization who strengthens and supports community, as well as public institutions for achieving and protecting basic human rights. SPO works in 77 districts across four provinces in Pakistan. The purpose of the visit was to get some local funding.

4. Umeed is a partner of Awaz-e-Haq Ittehad (Voice for Rights Coalition) a coalition of 12 organizations and NGOs works on serious national Human Rights issues under the umbrella of MM Partners Netherlands. Two members of MM Partners from Netherlands while Visiting each of AHI partner organisations in Pakistan (from November 18, to December 03, 2013) conducted two days (22-23 Nov-2013) Consultation Meeting with all the partners in Lahore. Umeed was part of this two days consultation. The main themes of the consultation were: Campaign for Unbiased Education . Follow up on the Consultancy, organizational assessments, Training (new) monitoring method 'Most Significant Change'.



5. Umeed staff participated in one day training workshop held on "United Nation Charter for Human Rights" on February 18, 2014 at Ambassador Hotel Lahore organised by National Commission for Justice and Peace. The teainer for this workshop was Ms. Noumana Suleman, program coordinator NCJP.
6. Umeed staff also participated in one day training workshop held on "Security and Protection of Human Rights Defenders" on April 30, 2014 at Ambassador Hotel Lahore organised by National Commission for Justice and Peace. The teainer for this workshop was Ms. Noumana Suleman, program coordinator NCJP. The main objectives of the training workshop were:
 - Equip participants with an increased understanding of the skills and strategies necessary for their security and protection.
 - To understand and use tools for analysing security and protection.
 - To share skills and experiences on security and protection.
 - To produce personal security plans and have a strategy for developing (or enhancing already existing) organisational security plans.
7. Umeed staff participated in the celebrartion of Silver Jubilee Program of Church based organisation called Maktaba-e-Anaveem Pakistan (MAP) promoting contextual theologies among the Christian community of the country. The celebration was held on February 28, 2014 at Bait-ul-Momineen Sadhuke, distric Gujranwala. Yousuf Jalal Gill the Umeed executive director participated in the program as one of the speakers.

Visitors and Guests



On 2nd December 2013 MM Partners from Netherlands visited the UPP head office in Lahore. MM Partners is a donor agency providing funds to about 12 organisations including Umeed partnership Pakistan in the sector of development and human rights. This was their official visit to the recipient organisations mainly working in Punjab. The purpose of the visit was to meet and speak to the administrative staff personally of the each organisation and to know their needs and requirements to become an effective and better performing organisation. The guests were pleased to see that the Umeed office is well equipped and systematically organised. However the Umeed administration put forward the need of having proper staff training and having knowledge about the security concerns.

On the same day in the evening MM Partners from Netherland also visited the Umeed skill training centre in slum areas of Lahore. They were very impressed with the Umeed project and showed a special interest in women's education and vocational training programmes offered by Umeed. Umeed runs embroidery and sewing/tailoring training centres for women, carpentry workshops for street children and Adult Literacy Centres for women. Umeed also conducts Human Rights Training Sessions for women and street children at different slum areas of Lahore. Due to shortage of time the guests visited only one sewing/tailoring centre with about 25 women students. These women students were very pleased to see the foreign guests. The guests were welcomed with garlands and flower bouque. The guests really enjoyed the evening in the centre by meeting so many women struggling to come up in life.



Dr. John Perkins chairperson Umeed UK visited the Umeed project in Pakistan in the beginning of 2014. During his visit Dr. John Perkins graced two ceremonies of naming and dedicating Umeed Middle Schools in the memory of his beloved daughter Emma Marchant. During the ceremony at EMUMS 18/BC he enjoyed a play on Emma's life history performed by the students. At this occasion he provided help for both the schools for their electrification, sound system, reading material, uniforms etc. Both the schools are grateful to him for this financial help. He also inspected the development taken place at both the schools. During the ceremonies he distributed Emma Marchant Award 2014 among those who have served or are serving Umeed Partnership Pakistan.

Dr. John Perkins also inaugurated some of the embroidery, sewing/tailoring and Adult Literacy centres in Lahore slums, Mian Channue rural areas, out skirts of Bahawalpur and Cholistan desert Yazman.

On January 27, 2014 Mrs. Corien van de velde The Director and Founder of Bunyad Consultancy Lahore along with Dr. John Perkins visited the Adult Literacy Centres in the rural areas of Mian Channue. She was thrilled to see and meet so many women getting literacy classes in the Umeed Centres. She very much appreciated the work of Umeed and promised to extend her every support to these rural women and to become part of the struggle for assisting these women in the future. She really enjoyed being with them.



Come and join Umeed:

**Become partners of Hope
Hope for a better and just world;
Hope for men and women's equality;
Hope to strengthen the hopeless and
those in despair.**

Join to support our program of

Human Rights Training for women and street children (Just Society)
Economic freedom for **women and street children (vocational)**
Girls' & boys education (schools)
Rehabilitation of women in distress (legal aid)
Youth Talent Development (Street Theatre, Sports Club)

Help Umeed in providing:

Administrative and skills-based support
Tools and materials (in-kind)
Financial support
Support as volunteers

Visit or write to us:

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