

1

Registered # 764



## Annual Report 2016-17

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### **UMEED ADMINISTRATION AND PROJECTS**







Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) has a non-political, non- profit ethos, registered under Societies Act 1860 with registration # 764 on 18 April 2001 at Quetta and it is entitled to work nationwide. UPP is multi faith and is a humanitarian organization committed to work for the development and promotion of human rights. It has a partner organization in the UK – the Umeed Partnership (UK) which is also registered in the UK as a charity under the UK Charity Commission. In the year 2000 UPP initially started working in Baluchistan tribal areas and then its activities spread rapidly among the desert communities of the District of Bahawalpur/Yazman, Southern Punjab, rural areas of district Kasur and Mian Channu/Khanewal and slum areas of Lahore.

The Umeed Partnership exists to provide opportunities through education and vocational and human rights trainings to vulnerable and disadvantaged girls/women, transgender and street children across Pakistan. The organization has expanded and evolved into a women's support body to provide help to those who are victims of abduction, rape, forced conversion, forced marriages, widowhood, disease, domestic violence and transgender community.

Mostly, Umeed's work is focused on building up and empowering women, street children and transgender through education, skills training and programs of awareness about their own rights. UPP wants to see economic freedom where girls/women, children and transgender are able to take decisions to have control over their own lives. UPP's activities in all districts are mostly comprises of running adult literacy training centers for illiterate girls/women, educating street children especially girls in Umeed schools, training girls/women, children and transgender in their human rights, providing legal aid to girls/women survivors of abduction, rape,



forced conversion and forced marriage, formation of peace committees among women of all faiths, promoting unbiased curriculum in the schools and conducting physical, psychological and digital security trainings especially for women human rights defenders for their organizations and institutions. Umeed also promotes the right of religious minorities and gender equality at all levels.

UPP is committed to the socio-economic rights and promotion of human rights amongst the masses of the country. It applies its resources to breaking the unjust structures prevailing in Pakistani society. It works at grass-roots level as well as lobby with policy makers and cooperate with all those who believe in human liberation and who have committed themselves to this worthy cause.

The vision of UPP is to achieve an educated & skilled generation of young people and improved equality between men and women, also to liberate vulnerable people from oppression.



To reach out to those who lack basic human needs with the aim of restoring dignity and respect irrespective of cast, creed or gender.

To promote and facilitate Human Rights and domestic processes within oppressed communities.

- To promote and facilitate integral development education at all levels.
- To provide opportunities to youth to identify talent and leadership qualities.

#### Human Rights:

- <u>Human Rights and democratic</u> <u>education</u>
- Empowerment of women and elimination of gender disparities
- <u>Capacity enhancement of women's'</u> groups and civil society organization
- <u>Research and documentation</u>

Umeed's Focal Sectors

#### <u>Development:</u>

- Promotion of entrepreneurship and development of small business skills
- Formal and non-formal education
- <u>Socio-econor</u>
  - Assisting women in distres
    through free legal aid

# **Message from the Umeed Pakistan Chairperson- Shamin Gulzar**

4

On 16 December 2014, in a terrorist attack on the Army Public School Peshawar 149 people were killed including 132 school children and such attacks were also carried out in other educational institutions. The government of Pakistan in an official notification summoned all the educational institutions to take security measures to protect each institution by building 8 feet high boundary walls along with barbed wire on the top, fix security cameras and walk through gates, employ security guards with weapons and metal detectors,hire snipers for monitoring the buildings. Students' morning assemblies were dismissed. Student cards and tags were introduced. The entering points were secured. As a result panic, fearful and frightening atmosphere prevailed in each institution. To coup up with the situation the students, staff and administration of each institution needed physical, psychological and digital security training.



In 2016 Umeed Partnership Pakistan with the help of MM Partners Netherlands a donor agency sent me to Justice and Peace Hague, Netherlands for physical, psychological and digital security training. At my return after the training I along with my trained team started providing security training to the students, staff and administration of various educational institutions especially in Punjab. So far under the umbrella of UPP myself and my team have provided training to hundreds of educational institutions giving them tools and techniques to face the unpredictable situations if occurs. UPP also runs two middle schools for the most disadvantage children of desert community of district Bahawalpur where free and quality education is being provided.

This year I had the chance to attend the international conference held at Kathmandu, Nepal organised by South Asia Women's Fund (SAWF) in which I came to know how much work is being done to prmote the rights of women in South Asia. Along with women issues in general SAWF also deals with rights of women in Stigmatised Labour: Sex work, domestic work and other informal labour sector, safe mobility: young feminists voices and leadership, sexuality and free choices. There is an urgent need to work on these issues in Pakistan and in particularly in Southern Punjab. Umeed is comitted to work for the promotion of women's rights and I am so grateful to the donor agencies who strengthen the struggle of Umeed to take the cause of women forward.

I am so grateful to Umeed donors, benefactors and friends and above all to the Umeed Partnership (UK) partners whose financial support continues to help many girls/women in Pakistan enjoy their human rights which would otherwise have been compromised.

# Message from the Umeed Coordinator Pakistan - Yousuf Gill



Pakistan, my beloved country in the recent past directly has not experienced war devastation but very much pruned by the terrorist activities. Pakistan has lost 67,399 people in terrorist attacks during past 15 years. Besides this, Pakistan's 'war on terror' has cost \$118 billion so far. Sectarian killing and violence in Pakistan had been another big issue. According to the official record, 5,303 people were killed in 3,045 sectarian incidents leaving 9,974 people injured.

In these devastating situations the masses have been terrorized, remained in constant fear and had become economically, socially and morally weak. Political system and Institutions of the country have been destabilized. Certainly in this type of atmosphere the work of NGOs, their projects and their communities were affected.

However in this deteriorating situation there was a much more need than ever for the NGOs to be more effective service providers and stand with the suffering masses to assist them in this time of fear and agony. Thanks to my country's worthy armed forces who soon controlled the situation.

In the past due to terrorist attacks and sectarian violence in Pakistani society Umeed 's work and activities have really suffered. But now to some extend the peace is prevailing in the country and Umeed is working for the conflict prevention and resolution and brings peace and strengthens dialogues of life in Pakistani society. Umeed mainly work for the empoerement of the most disadvantaged women and children of the country through the following different avenues:

- 1. Human Rights Trainings for women and street children in order to establish Just Society.
- 2. Vocational training and adult literacy for economic freedom for women and street children
- 3. Running Schools, educating girls' & boys of desert communities of Southern Punjab.
- 4. Providing justice and rehabilitation of women in distress through Umeed Legal Aid Forum.
- 5. Throug Peace Building an atmosphere of coexistence, peaceful pluralism, respect for diversity and human rights between minority and majority communities is created.
- 6. Talent Development programs for youth through sports and street theatre.

For the last 17 years Umeed has trained hundreds of illitrate women and street children in different skills and educated them through Umeed adult literacy centres who are now self employed earning reasonable sum every month for their sustenance. Umeed provides trainings on professional basis helping the trainees to get self employed. Umeed through its schools has educated hundereds of children of dalit communities of Cholistan desert district Bahawalpur who are now continueing their further studies in different higher institutions. Umeed continuesly conducts programs of awareness about women human rights and implement various project to provide justice and empower women in distress. Through peace building programs the dialogues of life are promoted in the soceity. Umeed works on youth talent development through sports and and street theatre activities during the year.

My special thanks are due for all those who in different ways supported the Umeed activities during the year. Thanks to UK Umeed Partners for their dedication in their work empowering girls and women. 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 also to local and foreign benefactors and supporters for supporting the Umeed Project with full dedication and commitment. 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.

# SKILLS TRAINING FOR WOMEN

6



Skills development is key in stimulating a sustainable development process and can make a contribution to facilitating the transition from the informal to the formal economy. Umeed partnership works in a number of regions i.e. Bahawalpur/Yazman, Lahore slums, Rural areas of Mian Channu, Kasure and Loralai Quetta in communities with low economic and social status and where women are mostly illiterate and confined to their home steads. The women of the most disadvantaged and suppressed communities of Pakistan are doubly affected. Mostly they work as seasonal crop weavers and even though they work much harder then man but they are paid lower wages. For the last 17 years Umeed is empowering women/girls by providing skills traing so that they may be liberated from the clutches of the male oppressors and in particular form the cultural bariers in Pakistan. Umeed is fully convinced that women in Pakistan cannot be liberated or have their rights unless and untill they receive financial freedom. This financial freedom they could only gain if they become skilled workers.

Umeed provides skills training to women in embroidery and sewing/tailoring at a professional level. Once finished they sell their products in local markets. In the Umeed skills training centres girls/women are also taught English, Urdu, and Aritmetics and they are helped to revise the moral values like how to keep themselves and their homes clean, how to look after their children and some medical tips are also imparted to them. So far, Umeed has trained hundreds of women who are now earning good money for their families.

### Certificate Awarding Ceremony for women trainees of sewing/tailoring

Certificate Awarding Ceremony for the successful women trainees of sewing/tailoring for the session 2016 was held at community hall Dullu Kallan, Lahore on 17-March-2017.



### " It is possible to fly without motors, but not without knowledge and skill" – Wilbur Wright

7





In Pakistan the street children (mostly boys) do have families thus they are not living and sleeping on the streets. But they are on the streets daily to support their families by any means available – prostitution, begging, and hazardous work.

Umeed provide training for disadvantaged children in a safe envoirnment free of exploitation to generate regular income for the children and their families. We measure this by the number of children who complete the course and tracking income . We train boys in skills, giving them self-esteem and self-confidence, measured by observing and interviewing trainees. These aims are attainable; we have been successful in similar projects.

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 dutybearers. 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.



The following activities were carried with the support of "Amplyfy Change"

Orientation and Project Briefing Meeting with the Management Board and Project Staff.

- Training for staff on facilitation and PRA tools.
- 3 community appraisals in 3 communities.
- 3 training sessions with committee members on planning monitoring /fact finding and evaluation in 3 communities.
- 3 training sessions conducted on women's human rights in 3 communities:
- 3 lobby seminar, one in each community, inviting local politicians, police personnel, medical staff and local leaders:

- 3 Exposure visits to police station by women of 3 communities:
- Monthly Community Meetings and reports 3 meeting per month.

Training of Project staff and Committee Members on facilitation & PRA Tools. Umeed Chairperson Shamin Gulzar gave her services as a resource person.



Training session on Women Human Rights held at village 53/DB Yazman on May 16, 2017 sponsored by Amplify Change. Director (UPP) Yousuf Gill and Miss Alishba Marqas were trheir as a resource person Organised by UPP



Lobby Seminar held at village 52/DB Bahawalpur on May 18, 2017 sponsored by Amplify Change. Advocate Saleem Gill was invited as a resource person.







Umeed works for the promotion of education in the areas of Cholistan, tribal areas of Balochistan and slum areas of Lahore district. In these areas most of the parents are not convinced of the value of education. Umeed Partnership provides education at all levels irrespective of cast, creed or gender. The rate of education among the communities served by Umeed is lowest in the world. In urban areas people live on the margins of the cities forming miserable slums and in rural areas they live outside of the main villages and towns where there is no access to any type of development. They have no schooling, no health care, no sanitation facilities, no roads and no facilities for socialization.



Pakistan stands at No 144 among the world nations in the field of literacy. Its actual literacy percentage is not more than 44 per cent against the government claims of 62 per cent. In Southern Punjab the literacy rate is 12 per cent only

A few years ago Umeed was requested by two communities in the Cholistan desert where there was 100% illiteracy rate to help their children in education. Umeed opened two middle schools – one for the community called Garibabad colony (poor's dwelling place) in village 18/BC, Bahawalpur in 2007 and

Garibabad colony of village 52/DB Yazman in 2009. These schools are known as Emma Marchant Umeed Schools.

TheseSchools are the only institutions in the area which are opening up the windows of hope and opportunity for those who have the potential but lack the resources to realize that potential. These institutions are more than just schools; rather they are like a window to enable these communities to see beyond the narrow confines of their daily lives. The aim of the Emma Marchant Umeed Schools is to provide quality education to the children of the poorer communities to give them the opportunity to move from the margins of their communities to mainstream society and so allow them to contribute to the development of their nation. These schools are providing free education, books, stationary, uniforms etc. The people living in these areas are very poor and disadvantaged having no resource to pay for the education of their children since they are seasonal crop labourers.



### A. International Literacy Day celebrated

On September 8, 2016 Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) Celebrated International Literacy Day at Umeed Middle School Chack 18/BC and with the community of chack 23/DNB, district Bahawalpur.



### World Polio Day Program at Bahawalpur

Umeed Partnership Pakistan with collaboration of Rotary Club of Lahore Liberty organised World Polio Day Program on October 24, 2017 at Umeed Middle School 18/BC Bahawalpur. Rtn. Yousuf Jalal Gill president of RC of Lahore Liberty 2017-18 and Rtn. Aneel Zafar graced the Occasion.



## Adult Literacy Program

The Adult Literacy Program for the illiterate women of Pakistan contributes to the social and economic development of the community, by ensuring that more adult women become able to read and write and have necessary knowledge and credentials to succeed at home, in the community and in the work force.

The Pakistan Bible Society through Australian Bible Society funded Umeed to run 50 Centres (each 20 to 25 women/girls) under the Adult Literacy Program for illiterate women of Pakistan. More than 2000 illiterate women/girls were educated and 50 teachers and 5 supervisors benefited from the project. The project continued for another year.

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) completed fifth batch (August 2016 – January 2017) of Adult Education. In this batch Umeed was running thirty centres of Adult Education. Detail of these thirty centres is given below:

<u>Circle</u>	Region	<u>Supervisors</u>	Total Centres	Successful Students
1	Lahore Slums	Aslam Zahid	10	200
2	Kasur	Boota Masih	10	188
3	Mian Channun	Rukhsana Younis	10	210
Total			30	<mark>598</mark>

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) completed six batch (February-July 2017) of Adult Education. In this batch Umeed was running forty centres of Adult Education. Detail of these fortyu centres is given below:

<u>Circle</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Supervisors</u>	Total Centres	Successful Students
1,2	Kasur	Aslam & Boota	20	364
3,4	Bahawalpur	Kaberia & Saleem	20	403
Total			<mark>40</mark>	<mark>767</mark>



### A. Training for Teachers and Supervisors of Adult Literacy Program was held at Yazman district Bahawalpur

A-day Training for Teachers and Supervisors of 6th sesson of Adult Literacy Program was held at Yazman district Bahawalpur on 20-Feb-2017. Umeed Director Yousuf Gill and Aneel Zafar Accountant were the resource persons.



### B. Training for Teachers and Supervisors of Adult Literacy Program was held at Nizampura village; district Kasur

A-day Training for Teachers and Supervisors of 6th sesson of Adult Literacy Program was held at Nizampura village; district Kasur on 14-Feb-2017. Umeed Director Yousuf Gill and Aneel Zafar Accountant were the resource persons.



### **B. Adult Literacy Centers at Kasur region**

On the strong demand of community of Kasur region Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) opened adult education centers for the illiterate women of this region. After the teachers training Umeed distributed stationary, books and blackboards among the trained teachers to

start and run the adult literacy cwentres effectively. Pakistan Bible Society (P.B.S) is a partnerswith Umeed to rund these centres.



### **Certificate awarding ceremony of Adult Literacy Program**

Certificate awarding ceremony for the successful students of 5th session of Adult Literacy Program in Pakistanwas held at community hall Nizam pura village district Kasur on 23-Feb-2017. The Pakistan Bible Society, Umeed Partnership Pakistan administration and other distinguish guests participated in the ceremony.



### Certificate awarding ceremony of Adult Literacy Program

On 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Umeed Partnership Pakistan organised certificate awarding ceremony of session (February-July) for the successful students of Adult Literacy Program for illiterate women in Pakistan at Yazman, Chack 18/Bc and Chack 23/DNB.





Mr. Yousaf Jalal Gill (Executive Director-UPP) gave detail introduction of Umeed Partnership Pakistan by saying that UPP has completed the session of six months in three different regions i.e. Mian Channu, Head Raj Ka, Bahawalpur and Lahore. From all three areas UPP has distributed 1,009 certificates among women students who completed their adult Literacy training session. Ms. Ann a representative of Australian Bible Society from Austrelia and Mr. Lamuel Anthony Executive Director of The Pakistan Bible Society Lahore were the guests of honor for certificate awarding ceremonies held at Mian Channu, Head Raj Kan and Bahawalpur. Yousuf Gill at each program gave comprehensive introduction of the program "Adult Literacy Program for illiterate Women in Pakistan". He elaborated the work of The Bible Society of Pakistan that is doing their best to literate the Nation through invigorating the illiterate women in Pakistan.

# **Security Trainings**

### A. Providing ways and means of physical and psychological mechanism for women survivors of forced religious conversion.

Security Training for Human Rights Defenders (HRD) was organised at community hall of village 52/DB Yazman district Bahawalpur on 19-March-2017. Theme of the training was: Providing ways and means of physical and psychological mechanism for women survivors of forced religious conversion. Umeed Chairperson Shamin Gulzar was the main trainer.



### B. Risk Managment, Security and Protection of Women Human Rights Defenders

Three day training on Risk Managment, Security and Protection of Women Human Rights Defenders was held at the training hall of Democratic Commission of Human Development (DCHD) on 16, 17 and 18-May-2017. About 15 personnel from different NGOs and

organizations paricipated in the training. Shamin Gulzar, Yousuf Gill and Aneel Zafar were the main facilitators for the training.





### C. Enhancing additional layers of safety for human rights defenders

Security training for HRD's was held at the auditorium of St.Joseph high school Kasur on 25-March-2017 and the theme of the training was "Enhancing additional layers of safety for human rights defenders" Umeed Chairperson Shamin Gulzar was the main trainer



### D. Risk Managment, Security and Protection of Human Rights Defenders (HRD)

One day training was conducted by the UPP team on "Risk Managment, Security and Protection of Human Rights Defenders (HRD)". for staff of Center for legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLASS) Lahore and personel from other organizations on June 8, 2017 at

15

CLASS office Lahore. Yousuf Gill Executive Director (UPP) and Umeed Chairperson Shamin Gulzar were the trainers.



### Child Marriages in Pakistan

In Pakistan child marriage is deeply rooted in traditional practices which arise from gender disparity such as the patriarchal system, feudalism, traditional and religious practices & customs and religious traditions which might include violence. They are used to facilitate financial transactions or to compensate for a crime perpetrated by a male family member. Also to strengthen family ties, to reduce the risk of pre-marital affairs and to settle debts and feuds. Child marriage in Pakistan is rooted in a number of practices such as poverty, illiteracy and family honour. Sometimes the girl-child is regarded as *'another's property'* and a *'burden'* on parents. It is considered a disgrace to the family if an adult maiden remains in her family home after achieving adulthood. To avoid the dowry, financial burden or other traditional commitment the parents sometimes demand a price for the young girl or marry her off to a much older man. Exchange marriage (Watta Satta) and marriage to the Holy Quran, Vani (to resolve feuds) is also common in Pakistan. In Pakistan one in four girls is married before the age of 18.

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) works among women and children in the most suppressed communities in the tribal areas of Balochistan and rural/slum areas of Punjab. Through awareness programs, skills training, adult education and by running schools, Umeed prepares parents and their daughters to avoid child marriage since the long term effects of an early marriage can be devastating for the girl.



### A. Peace Building

Umeed works for the empowerment of women of all faiths in Punjab and Balochistan. Umeed works among women through skills trainings, adult education, running schools, women human rights trainings, interactive public debates through stage performance, forming women human rights committees and women peace committees. Through these activities Umeed initiates peace building process and dialogue of life among these women of all faiths.

Through different projects Umeed forms various peace committees with minority women who hold combined sessions with the local councilors, politicians, personnel from concerned police station, medical staff, village head, Imam Musjad (head of the Mosque) and women leaders from majority community. The purpose of lobbying with these personnel is to explain to them that the minority communities in Pakistan are suppressed, downtrodden, having low self esteem, with lot of fears, reservations, living in awful conditions without basic human facilities and rights and they remain aloof from the majority community. These personnel from majority community recognize the injustices done to the minority communities and promise to defuse such situation if comes up in the future. These combined peace committee meetings promote atmosphere of coexistence, peaceful pluralism, respect for diversity and human rights between minority and majority communities.

Umeed believes that women are the best carriers of peace and dialogue of life. If minority and majority women have good understanding among them then they could change the whole atmosphere of their homes.



## **Vists and Trainings**

### C. Yousuf Jalal Gill gave a presentation on the laity in the Church

### **Theological Training Session**

Yousuf Jalal Gill gave a presentation on the laity in the Church at three day seminar organised under Summer Theological Training Session by Maktaba-e-Anaveem Pakistan (MAP) from 25-28 June 2017 at Theological Institute for Laity (TIL) Sadhuke , Gujranwala.





### Regional Convergence in Kathmandu, Nepal

Ms. Shamin Gulzar attended the Regional Convergence from 14th to 16th July 2017 in Kathmandu, Nepal organised by South Asia Women's Fund (SAWF).



### The Hague Training Course for Human Rights Defenders on Security (THTC).

Ms. Shamin Gulzar attended "The Hague Training Course for Human Rights Defenders on Security (THTC)." The THTC was organised by Justice and Peace Netherlands from the 29th of November to the 10th of December 2016. Shamin also attended the Tulip Award ceremony of Nighat Dad from Pakistan .held during the training course.



18

## **Ceremonies and Functions**

### A. International women's day

BE BOLD FOR CHANGE" Umeed has celebrated International women's day with the poor women village Nizam pura, district Kasur on 8-March-2017. Umeed Chairperson Shamin Gulzar and Director (UPP) high lighted the rights of women and ask women to stand against all type of voilence against women and (UPP) is always there to help you. Guests from Pakistan Bible society Mr. Nasir said to give education to girls along with boys and adult women can get education in adult education centers because education is the only tool with which we can bring change in our community. All the guests highly appreciated the work of (UPP).



### **B. World Polio Day Program at Lahore**

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) in partnership with Rotary Club of Lahore Liberty organised World Polio Day Program on October 24, 2017 at Dalu Kalan slum areas of Lahore. Rtn. Yousuf Jalal Gill president of RC of Lahore Liberty 2017-18, Rtn.Shamin Gulzar and Rtn. Aneel Zafar graced the Occasion.









### 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 us 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) Talent Development (Youth)

### Help Umeed in providing:

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

### Visit or write to us:

### **Yousuf Jalal Gill**

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