



Annual Report 2024-2025



UMEED PARTNERSHIP PAKISTAN (UPP)

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UMEED ADMINISTRATION AND PROJECTS



Education



Democracy



Skills Training



Peace Building



Human Rights



Introduction

Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) is a non-political, non-profit organization registered under the Societies Act of 1860 with Registration No. 764, dated April 18, 2001, in Quetta. It is also registered with the Baluchistan Charities Registration and Regulation Authority, Government of Baluchistan, under Registration No. BCRA-114349, dated January 12, 2021. UPP received certification from the Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP) on April 29, 2021, under Certification No. PCP-2021/828.

UPP is a multi-faith, humanitarian organization committed to the development and promotion of human rights. It began its operations in the year 2000 in the tribal areas of Baluchistan, and its work has since expanded to include the desert communities of Bahawalpur and Bahawalnagar districts in Southern Punjab, the rural areas of Kasur and Mian Channu/Khanewal, and the slums of Lahore.

Umeed Partnership exists to provide opportunities in education, vocational training, and human rights awareness to vulnerable and disadvantaged girls, women, transgender individuals, and street children in Punjab and Baluchistan. Over time, the organization has evolved into a comprehensive women's support body, extending its services to victims of abduction, rape, forced conversion, forced marriages, widowhood, disease, domestic violence, torture, human trafficking, forced labor, and marginalized transgender communities.

UPP primarily focuses on empowering women, street children, religious minorities, and transgender individuals through education, skills training, legal aid, direct assistance, and rights awareness programs. UPP envisions a society where women, girls, children, and transgender individuals achieve economic freedom and have the autonomy to make decisions about their own lives.

Across all districts, UPP operates adult literacy centers for illiterate women and girls, provides education to street children—especially girls—through its Umeed Schools, and offers human rights training to women, children, and transgender individuals. The organization also delivers legal aid and direct support to survivors of gender-based violence and exploitation, and facilitates the formation of interfaith peace committees among women. Furthermore, UPP conducts physical, psychological, and digital security training—particularly for women human rights defenders, survivors of violence, and staff of relevant organizations and institutions.

UPP actively promotes the rights of religious minorities and gender equality at all levels. It is deeply committed to the socio-economic upliftment and protection of human rights in Pakistan. Through its work, UPP seeks to dismantle unjust structures and empower communities. It operates at the grassroots level while also engaging with policymakers and partnering with all who are dedicated to human dignity and liberation..

VISION:

Umeed Partnership Pakistan envisions a just and inclusive society where women, girls, children, transgender individuals, and marginalized communities are empowered, economically

MISSION:

To advance human rights and gender equality by delivering inclusive education, vocational training, legal aid, business development, democracy and awareness programs that uplift disadvantaged women, street children, transgender individuals, and religious minorities across Pakistan. UPP works at the grassroots level to foster empowerment, justice, and dignity for all.

GOAL:

To dismantle oppressive social structures and create sustainable opportunities for the socio-economic and human rights development of marginalized populations, enabling them to lead secure, self-reliant, and dignified lives.

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
- Interfaith harmony and peace building

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 DIRECTOR

SHAMIM GULZAR

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,



It is with immense pride and gratitude that I present to you the Annual Report of Umeed Partnership Pakistan for the year 2024-2025. This year has been one of impact, resilience, and growth — made possible by the unwavering support of our donors, the dedication of our team, and the strength of the communities we serve.

Our commitment to education remained at the heart of our mission. We continued to provide access to both formal and non-formal education, reaching children, youth and women who are often left behind in conventional systems. Through these efforts, we reaffirmed that education is not only a right but a powerful catalyst for lasting change.

This year also marked significant progress in our economic empowerment initiatives, particularly for displaced women in Punjab and Baluchistan. By offering comprehensive skills training to some of the most disadvantaged women and girls, we helped open doors to new opportunities, restoring dignity and hope. Our programs in self-care, well-being, and mental health also provided essential support to help women heal, grow, and lead.

One of our proudest achievements has been the support we extended beyond training — distributing business packages to successful trainees to help them launch or scale their small businesses. We also trained a group of outstanding women (teachers, trainers) as facilitators, equipping them to replicate our business digitization and cyber security trainings among the project trainees. This multiplier effect ensures sustainability and amplifies our collective impact.

We celebrated the culmination of many of these programs through graduation ceremonies — moments filled with pride, joy, and renewed commitment. Our final evaluations and reporting reflected both our progress and the lessons learned, guiding us for the road ahead.

None of this would have been possible without the generous contributions of our donors, whose belief in our mission and vision continues to fuel our work. On behalf of the entire Umeed team and the communities we serve, thank you for standing with us.

As we look to the future, we carry forward the stories, successes, and aspirations of thousands of women, girls, and families who continue to inspire us every day

FORMAL AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

A. Formal Education

Umeed Middle Schools

B. Non-formal education

- a. Skills training for women and girls
- b. Skills training for street children
- c. Adult Literacy Program (ALP) for illiterate women

A. FORMAL EDUCATION

UMEED MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Umeed Partnership in Pakistan is committed to providing inclusive education to marginalized communities, regardless of caste, creed, or gender. The communities Umeed serves face some of the lowest literacy rates globally and live in extremely challenging conditions. In urban areas, they reside on the fringes of cities in impoverished slums, while in rural regions, they are often outside main villages and towns, with little or no access to essential services such as healthcare, sanitation, roads, or social facilities. These communities lack basic infrastructure, including schools and health services, which perpetuates cycles of poverty and illiteracy.

In response to these dire circumstances, Umeed has initiated educational programs to uplift these underserved populations. Notably, Umeed established two middle schools for the Dalit and other disadvantaged communities in the Cholistan Desert, district Bahawalpur, Southern Punjab. The Cholistan desert communities had a 100% illiteracy rate, highlighting the urgent need for intervention.

In 2007, Umeed started a middle school in village 18/BC Bahawalpur, followed by another in 2009 in village 52/DB Yazman. Both schools currently serve approximately 300 students, including girls and boys, providing them with quality education despite their impoverished backgrounds. These schools are entirely funded by Umeed, as the students and their families are unable to afford any fees. Umeed's efforts aim to break the cycle of ignorance and poverty by ensuring access to education for the most marginalized communities in Pakistan.



B. NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

ADULT LITERACY PROJECT (ALP)

1. CERTIFICATE AWARDING CEREMONY BAHAWALPUR REGION

Umeed has signed a contract with the Pakistan Bible Society (through the Australian Bible Society) in 2014 to run an Adult Literacy Program for illiterate women and girls of Punjab and Baluchistan provinces providing them with basic literacy and numeracy skills. Each session consists of 9 months and each centre caters 20-25 illiterate women and girls run daily for 2 to 3 hours except on Sundays. During every session Umeed runs 60 – 80 centres in Punjab and Baluchistan. At the end of each session the successful trainees are awarded with certificates during graduation ceremonies.

UPP, in collaboration with the Pakistan Bible Society Lahore, ran 70 Adult Literacy Centres under its 14th session for illiterate women in South and Central Punjab and Baluchistan from February to October 2024. A total of 1,240 women graduated from the program and are now able to read, write, and count as responsible citizens of Pakistan. We thank our donors for their generosity and thoughtfulness.



INAUGURATION OF ADULT LITERACY CENTRES

1. KASUR DISTRICT

UPP, in collaboration with the Pakistan Bible Society Lahore, inaugurated 60 Adult Literacy Centres under its 15th session for illiterate women in South and Central Punjab and Baluchistan (February to October 2025). Training sessions for teachers and supervisors were organized in Kasur to prepare them to run the centres for nine months, each accommodating 20 to 25 women students. We thank our donors for their generosity and thoughtfulness.



The purpose of adult education is to help them to learn, not to teach them all you know and thus stop them from learning.

— Carl Rogers —

2. QUETTA DISTRICT

UPP, in collaboration with the Pakistan Bible Society Lahore, inaugurated 60 Adult Literacy Centres under its 15th session for illiterate women in South and Central Punjab and Baluchistan (February to October 2025). Training sessions for teachers and supervisors were organized in Quetta to prepare them to run the centres for nine months, each accommodating 20 to 25 women students. We thank our donors for their generosity and thoughtfulness.



Education is no longer thought of as a preparation for adult life, but as a continuing process of growth and development from birth until death.

Stephen Mitchell

3. BAHAWALPUR DISTRICT

UPP, in collaboration with the Pakistan Bible Society Lahore, inaugurated 60 Adult Literacy Centres under its 15th session for illiterate women in South and Central Punjab and Baluchistan (February to October 2025). Training sessions for teachers and supervisors were organized in Bahawalpur to prepare them to run the centres for nine months, each accommodating 20 to 25 women students. We thank our donors for their generosity and thoughtfulness.



It is what we think we
know already that often
prevents us from
learning.

CLAUDE BERNARD

VISITS OF ADULT LITERACY CENTERS

1. KASUR DISTRICT

In May 2025, the administration of Umeed Partnership Pakistan and the Pakistan Bible Society Lahore visited adult education centres for illiterate women and girls in the district of Kasur to assess their progress and standards. The administration was very pleased to observe the quality education being provided to these women and girls.



LEARNING
IS A TREASURE THAT WILL
FOLLOW ITS OWNER
EVERYWHERE.

2. QUETTA DISTRICT

In May 2025, adult education centers for illiterate women and girls in the district of Quetta were visited by the UPP regional supervisor to assess their progress and standards. The supervisor was very pleased to observe the quality education being provided to these women and girls.



Education is not
preparation for
life; education is
life itself. ~John Dewey

3. BAHAWALPUR DISTRICT

In March, adult education centers for illiterate women and girls in the district of Bahawalpur were visited by the UPP regional supervisor to assess their progress and standards. The supervisor was very pleased to see the quality education being provided to these women and girls.



UN WOMEN PROJECT

- A. Business Packages Distributions
- B. Ration packages Distributions
- C. 2-Day training of trainers (TOT)
- D. 3- Day Replication sessions
- E. Graduation Ceremonies
- F. Final Project evaluation session
- G. Final products of women entrepreneurs.

A. BUSINESS PACKAGES DISTRIBUTIONS

After completing a 7-month training program, successful women trainees received business packages (tools and materials) and began their own small businesses. A total of 465 women received business packages in the following three trades:

1. **Sewing/Tailoring** – 161 trainees
2. **Embroidery** – 150 trainees
3. **Cultural Shoe and Decorative Piece Making** – 154 trainees

The business packages were distributed in two phases:

Phase 1:

On July 31 and August 1, 2024, 100 women trainees from the sewing centers received their business packages at the Community Hall in Nawa Killi, Quetta. The distribution ceremony was graced by Ms. Saba Abassi and Ms. Fizza Sohail Khan from UN Women Islamabad, along with project staff and UPP administration.

Phase 2:

On September 24, 27, and 28, 2024, 365 women trainees from the sewing, embroidery, and cultural shoe/decorative piece-making trades received their packages at the community halls of Nawa Killi and Hazara Town, Quetta. Ms. Saba Abassi from UN Women Islamabad participated in the distribution ceremony held on September 24.

Following the distribution, all 465 successful trainees have launched their businesses from home. Some have also formed partnerships with fellow trainees to establish joint ventures. As they develop their businesses in line with official requirements, many are registering with the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) and the Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CC&I) Quetta. They are also reaching out to various institutions for financial support to grow and sustain their enterprises.





A good tool improves the way you work. A great tool improves the way you think.

— Jeff Duntemann —

Congratulations

B. RATION; FOOD PACKAGES DISTRIBUTION

A total of 465 women trainees received humanitarian support in the form of ration food packages, enabling them to run their businesses with peace of mind and focus on generating income for their families. These women had already received business packages and successfully established their own enterprises.

The distribution ceremonies for the ration food packages were organized by UPP from October 20 to 21, 2024, at community halls in Quetta. The support was provided to 465 project beneficiaries from 18 centers offering training in sewing, embroidery, and cultural shoe and decorative piece making.



“
It's not how much we give
but how much love we put
into giving
”

- Mother Teresa

C. 2-DAY TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT)

A two-day Training of Trainers (TOT) was held on September 25 and 26, 2024, at Jan Luxury Hotel, Quetta, for 30 teachers/trainers. They were trained as facilitators to provide instruction to 705 project women trainees on business growth through online marketing, digital literacy, and cyber security.

The sessions were also attended by five project staff members, one administrative staff member, and Ms. Saba Abassi from UN Women Islamabad.

The lead speaker for the TOT was Ms. Sakina Abdullah Khan, a master trainer, entrepreneur, and consultant from Quetta.



It's all to do with the
training: you can do a
lot if you're properly
trained.

Queen Elizabeth II

D. 3- DAY REPLICATION SESSIONS

Three-Day Replication Sessions Held for 705 Women Trainees on Digital Marketing and Cybersecurity. From October 1 to 10, 2024, three-day replication sessions were conducted for 705 project women trainees to help elevate their businesses through online marketing, digital training, and cybersecurity. These sessions were organized at various centers by 30 teachers/trainers who had previously been trained as facilitators during the TOT program.

Through these replication sessions, the trainees gained valuable knowledge on how to grow their businesses using digital tools while understanding the importance of securing their online presence. The sessions explored the intersection of digital marketing practices and cybersecurity, emphasizing the critical need to protect digital assets in today's business environment.

Discussions included real-world examples of security breaches that impacted marketing campaigns, underscoring the importance of incorporating digital security into business strategies. To enhance understanding, interactive activities were conducted during all sessions. Participants worked in small groups to analyze case studies involving digital marketing efforts that faced security challenges. These exercises not only fostered engagement but also encouraged participants to brainstorm effective strategies to mitigate risks in their own businesses.

Participant feedback indicated that 85% found the sessions informative and valuable, with many expressing interests in further exploring cybersecurity tools and best practices. The sessions concluded with a commitment to share additional learning resources and establish a follow-up mechanism for continued discussion—reinforcing the idea that digital security is an essential component of business success in the digital age.





E. GRADUATION CEREMONIES

Graduation Ceremonies Celebrate 705 Successful Women Trainees in Quetta. Graduation ceremonies were organized in Quetta to celebrate 705 successful women trainees who completed their skills training and secured their future as trained entrepreneurs. For many of these women—most of whom were illiterate before joining the skill training centers—this was the first time in their lives they received a certificate as qualified entrepreneurs.

It is a great honor for all involved to have contributed to this transformational journey—shifting the lives of 705 women from illiteracy to literacy, from unskilled to skilled workers, from poverty to prosperity, and from vulnerability to success.

Joy and pride were clearly visible on the faces of the certificate recipients. The graduation ceremonies were held in groups based on each trade on May 26, September 25–27, and October 19, 2024, at various venues across Quetta. These ceremonies boosted the morale, dignity, and self-respect of the participants, recognizing them as qualified, trained entrepreneurs, skilled workers, and proud business owners.



Congratulations

F. FINAL PROJECT EVALUATION SESSION

Final Project Evaluation Session Held in Quetta. The final project evaluation session was held on October 22, 2024, at Jan Luxury Hotel, Quetta. It was attended by 30 teachers/trainers, four project staff members, and one administrative staff member.

This session brought together the entire project team, including the teachers and trainers who played a critical role in implementing the project. Their feedback was highly valuable, insightful, and inspiring.

The purpose of the final evaluation was to assess the overall performance of the project—reviewing its outcomes, identifying challenges, and discussing the way forward. The exercise focused on gathering lessons learned throughout the project lifecycle, including successes, weaknesses, missed opportunities, potential risks, and failures. It explored what went well, what did not, why certain issues arose, and what could have been done differently at each stage of the project.

The session was led by the Project Coordinator, who facilitated a comprehensive discussion to reflect on the project's impact and sustainability.



Performance is more than just a result, is a fundamental aspect of a executing the **Strategy**.

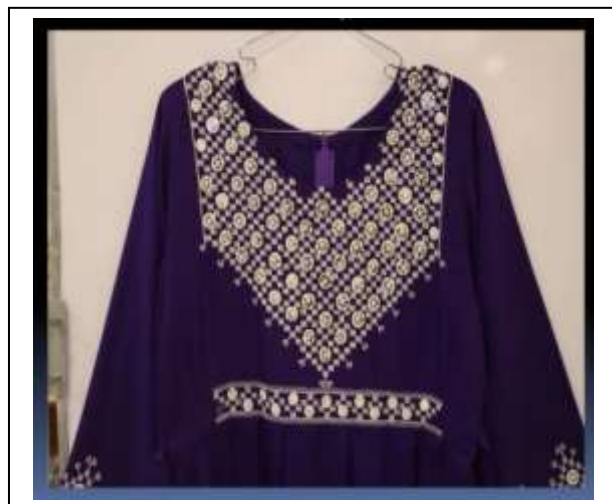
G. FINISH PRODUCTS OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

Under the project titled "**Socioeconomic Empowerment of Displaced Women in Quetta, Baluchistan,**" sponsored by UN Women, six centers each for sewing/tailoring, embroidery, decorative piece and cultural shoe-making, computer training, and adult literacy were established and operated for seven months.

A total of 705 displaced Afghan and Hazara women participated in the program, becoming skilled workers, entrepreneurs, and small business owners. They were provided with tools and materials to help them launch their own small businesses, enabling them to rise above poverty and vulnerability.

As small business owners, their finished products are now being marketed—standing as powerful symbols of resilience, empowerment, financial independence, and self-sufficiency.

Below are a few examples of items produced by these inspiring entrepreneurs.



Perfection has to do
with the end product,
but excellence has to
do with the process.

Jerry Moran



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)
 Peace building and interfaith harmony (tolerant society)

Help Umeed in providing:

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

Visit or write to us:

Yousaf Jalal Gill

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Shamim Gulzar

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