



International Conference on *Youth & Promotion of Human Development*

Investing in Future

August 10-12, 2003



Best Western Hotel, Islamabad-Pakistan

Organized By

AGEHI Resource Center-SACHET

@2003 ARC

Inaugural Session:



"International Conference on Youth & Promotion of Human Development

Investing in Future"

Sunday August 10, 2003

- Chief Guest: Mrs. Nilofer Bakhtiar
Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on Social Welfare and Women Development
- Key Note address by Ms Najma Sadeque
ShirkatGah-Karachi
- Welcome and Introductory Remarks: Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen
Executive Vice President-SACHET
- Remarks by Dr A. Q. Khan (NI & Bar, HI)
President SACHET
- Theatre Presentation
Hunerkada Academy of Performing Arts- Islamabad

The Inaugural Session of the "International Conference on Youth & Promotion of Human Development, Investing in Future" started at 9:35 am on Sunday with recitation of The Holy Quran (Versus from Surah AI-Rehman) by Muhammad Awais (a student of SACHET Computer Training Center-SCDP Gagri). The MCs for this Session were Ms Amrat Haq and Mr. Ammar Haris (SACHET Volunteers). MCs welcomed all participants & invited Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen for her inaugural remarks.

Dr Rakhshinda Perveen, Founder Executive Director-SACHET, while welcoming the Chief Guest Mrs. Nilofer Bakhtiar, Dr. A Q Khan (NI & Bar, HI), the international guests from Bangladesh; Malaysia, India & UK and the local participants, introduced the structure and working dynamics of SACHET, an Islamabad based NGO working for the welfare of the disadvantaged communities under the leadership & guidance of Dr. A Q Khan (NI & Bar, HI). She briefed the audience on why and how she conceptualized the idea of providing a platform to Pakistani youth to exchange knowledge & experience and develop a strategy towards their better future through SACHET and its technical wing AGEHI Resource Center. She said that adolescents & youth are more than 43% of the total Pakistani population yet they are facing numerous challenges particularly in education, health and employment sectors. She stressed the need to formulate a comprehensive national plan of action for youth development & offered the Government her organizational resources '& expertise for this noble cause. She briefed the audience on what has been planned for next three days in this event of unique nature.

Mrs. Nilofar Bakhtiar, the Chief Guest, in her address praised the efforts of SACHET & AGEHI Resource Center in taking such an important initiative of addressing the problems of youth and providing them a constructive, knowledge-sharing platform.. She said that such initiatives are valuable for the process of youth development, this means devoting some resources for youth, the best investment for future of any nation. She said that there should be emphasis on youth education through advocacy, sensitization and awareness campaigns about the problems that exist in Pakistani society. She said that youth needs are to be addressed by both public & private sector while maintaining our culture and values. She said that the effects of globalization on youth should be taken seriously and need to be tackled through awareness/advocacy workshops. "Youth must be sensitized enough to take their responsibilities as committed, devoted, sincere and hard working citizens of Pakistan to contribute their share in nation building" she said. "They should be supportive in creating conducive environment for the betterment of overall community and they should be the agents of change and first one to take initiative and responsibly towards better future" elaborated the distinguished guest. Mrs. Bakhtiar offered her Ministry's fullest possible support to SACHET in its endeavors for adolescents & youth development in Pakistan.

Dr A. Q. Khan (NI & Bar, HI) President SACHET presented Mrs. Bakhtiar the Conference souvenir at the end of her address. He while briefly commenting on the event said that he was proud of the fact that his SACHET team under the leadership of Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen was among the change agents of this society. He said that we might be small in number but our sincere and hardworking efforts were working as drops to shape an ocean of change that might take a little longer to show results but surely it will. He thanked the guests & participants.

Key Note address by Ms *Najma Sadeque*

Ms Najma Sadeque, a known journalist, civil society activist and writer from Karachi, highlighted the effects of globalization on local economics of Pakistan and how a common citizen of Pakistan was being affected by the loans from IMP and World Bank. Her address included the following points:

- Pakistani public needs to be educated and sensitized about the economic and administrative system in which they live as rightful citizens
- Economic rights should be seen in connection with fundamental human rights
- There should be transparency and accountability of the resources available for a common man and at the disposal of the public sector
- Freedom to have and access to information should be available to citizens of the state.

Ms Najma Sadeque was presented the Conference souvenir and her address was followed by an interactive question and answer session.

The question and answer session in which youth & other participants enthusiastically participated raised the concerns about the dynamics of IMF & World Bank driven economics and its repercussions for common man. More over it was emphasized that Government should play more positive facilitating role towards provision of platform for exercising the youth focused initiatives.

Comments

The Inaugural Session, the first event to mark the beginning of the three days International Conference had a turn out of 395 participants. The participants poured in from all walks of life. The youth was an active segment of the audience of the inaugural session. It was interesting to note that the female gender was more among the participants as compared to the males. People appreciated the presentation regarding SACHET's profile and activities. During Ms Najma Sadeque's paper regarding globalization audience lost interest after first five minutes and was of the view that it would have been better if she had concentrated on the recommendations to overcome these lacunas of globalization. Audience was appreciative of the Chief Guest speech as it included the common problems of our youth.

The Inaugural Session ended with a theater presentation by Hunerkada Academy of Performing Arts-Islamabad "Tamasha".

Inaugural session had a good interactive participation by the audience also and it was pleasing to note that the youth and the elder generation were ready to come over the communication gaps and sit together and work and suggest some remedies to overcome the problems that hinder the process of development of Pakistani youth. It was suggested that theatrical presentations should be used on electronic media also for education and social issue raising purposes.

Panel Discussion Session Gender-I



Sunday 10th August 2003

Starting Time 3:30 p.m.

Chair: Dr. Humala Khalid (UNESCO)

Facilitator: Ms. Fareeha Ummar Malik (Agha Khan Rural Support Program)

Panelists:

- Ms Naheed Mehboob Elahi (Women Rights Activists & Advocate)
- Dr. Noman Sattar (Professor QAU-Islamabad)
- Mr. Zubair Faisal Abbasi (Regional Director APNA Sehat NGO)
- Dr. Talat Naqvi (Regional Training Institute MoPW)
- Dr. Farah Mufty (Regional Training Institute MoPW)

The session started at 3:30 p.m. with the introduction of MC herself and of the facilitator. The facilitator then introduced the chair.

The facilitator, Ms. Fareeha Ummar started the discussion by defining the term "Gender" as different roles and responsibilities assigned to men and women and their impact on their personal lives. This was then followed by the rules of the session told by Ms. Fareeha.

Presentation by Dr. Farha Mufty

The discussion started with the presentation of Dr. Farha Mufty on the issue of "Effects of Gender on Nutritional Status of Women". She stressed the impact of gender on women nutrition status. She related the lack of general and nutritional education to the malnutrition of women. She stressed the negative role of media in creating false eating habits among young girls. Other reasons leading to women malnutrition as explained by Dr. Farha included early marriages, early and frequent pregnancies and menstruation.

Recommendations

- Nutritional education should be imparted to girls
- School food programs should be started in which nutrients supplements should be provided to the students
- Awareness among women on their rights of breast feeding should be increased. There should be staple food fortification

Presentation by Ms. Naheeda Mehboob Ellahi

The next panelist after Dr. Farha was Ms. Naheeda Mehboob Ellahi, Advocate Supreme Court. She discussed the issue of gender equality and related laws. She stressed that our existing laws specially the ones related to women rights are discriminatory which results in disparities in our society. She gave a number of examples of different existing laws in this regard.

Recommendations

- Changes in women related laws should be made
- Women should be made part of Govt. and other fields

Presentation by Dr. Noman Sattar

Dr. Noman commented on the issue of Human Development. He said that half of our population is comprised of females but still they face discrimination at all levels, whether they are wives, daughters, or sisters. He said the one thing common in youth and women is that the potential of both is not realized and that there are lacks of facilities, especially lack of educational facilities for both of them.

Recommendations

- There should be more awareness, more opportunities and more empowerment of both youth and women.
- Seminars, media, legal aid, rights based education and training at homes and schools are very important to improve gender inequality.

Presentation by Dr. Tallat Naqvi

Dr. Tallat related gender discrimination and prevailing socio-cultural factors with low Health status of females. She said that due to the gender discrimination, women are more vulnerable to diseases like HIV/AIDS and also our prevalent soico-cultural factors affect the health of the females.

Recommendations

- There should be equal rights for male and female
- Not only females but also males should be sensitized.
- Access of education to girls is very important.
- Schools curriculum should be changed
- Awareness among youth regarding reproductive health should be created..

Presentation by Mr. Zubair Faisal Abbassi

Mr. Zubair commented on the topic of Health and Gender: He said that women and children are among high risk groups due to the lack of access and availability to resources. He remarked that lack of awareness is also one of the reasons leading low health status of females.

Recommendations

- Women should have access to resources and knowledge.
- Sensitization is very important
- Meaningful participation should be ensured
- Scientific training Programs should be launched

Comments & Recommendations in Question - Answer Session

- Law implementation and change in social setup is very important
- Role of females in decision making is very important
- Laws disparities should be eliminated
- Gender should not only be related with women but also with men.
- Culturally sensitive education should be provided.
- School teachers should be sensitized
- Awareness among girls regarding their body should be created.
- Education should be provided to mothers
- Quranic translation and explanation should be taught to youth/students in schools, madrassahs and homes
- Community based initiatives regarding all gender related issues should be made
- Males should be involve in women development
- Awareness and sensitization of laws is very important.
- Awareness among mothers should be created
- Issues like son preference etc. should be addressed

Recommendations by Dr. Humala Khalid

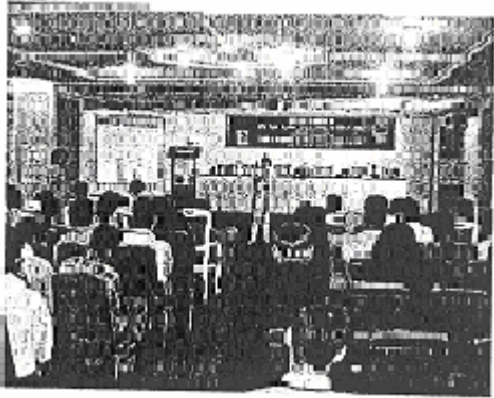
- Children should be taught Quranic translation to understand issues like marriage, reproductive health etc.
- Parents should support children regarding youth issues
- While addressing gender related issues in rural community simple language and words should be used.

General Comments/Observation

Both male and female participants were approximately equal in number. There were more students among the participants and the male students were more as compared to the females. Both male and female fully participated in the question answer session.

The chair Dr. Humala Khalid gave some very important recommendations in the end. The session was wrapped up by the facilitator Ms. Fareeha Ummar Malik. She thanked the chief guest, the panelists and the audience and commented on the discussions and recommendations by the panelists. In the end the souvenir was presented to the chief guest by one of the beneficiaries of Dr. A. Q. Khan Scholarship Project of SACHET.

Special Session on F AD- *Fight Against Dowry*, a project of ARC-SACHET



August 11th 2003

Started at

9:30 am to 11:00 am

- Chief Guest Ms. Asia Azeem (Member National Assembly)
- Chair Ms. Shabnum Shakeel (Women Rights Activist & Eminent Urdu Poetess)
- Presentation on F AD Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen
(EVP SACHET & Project Director FAD)
- Facilitated By Saliha Raheed Ramay (Focal Person FAD)

F AD- *Fight Against Dowry* is a five year advocacy Project of AGEHI Resource Center SACHET. Keeping in view the *Dowry-Jahez* as a Gender issue SACHET is working on this issue successfully from last 2 years through communication, lobbying and networking. The special session on F AD- *Fight Against Dowry* was placed on second day of International Youth Conference in order to bring forward the dowry issue from back stage on priority with the help of conference participants especially youth which were from different walks and professions of life and to present a view of SACHET's blaze a trail work on the specific issue, Dowry.

FAD Presentation by Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen

Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen, Executive Vice President SACHET and Project Director FAD - *Fight Against Dowry*, gave a detailed picture of FAD in presentation form during the session in which she presented the introduction, aim and objectives of Project, activities and achievements, and the stumbling blocks and barriers faced by the FAD team while running the Project.

She told that the focus *of the* project is on youth. Young people as a responsible change agents are the real and direct beneficiaries of the project but indirectly it is for all as Dowry is such an issue for which we all including parents, policy makers, media, professionals, and researchers have to work together for its exclusion by joining hands. While putting in the picture of FAD project she said that following are the foremost objectives of FAD project.

- To break the culture of silence
- To create awareness and bring people together by providing a platform so that all can work together in a form of network for the eradication of is gender based social evil
- Revival of the issue within development professionals are the foremost objectives of FAD project

She said that FAD TV series, FAD Network, and recently a two days national level workshop with Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan on proposed dowry law by SACHET, are integral achievements of FAD project SACHET.

While talking about dowry outcomes she said that dowry itself is violence, not a catalyst for violence and karo Kari and honor killing are the late manifestations of Dowry.

Moreover,

Dowry resulted in

- Late marriages
- Unmatched marriages
- Child marriages
- Domestic violence
- Psychological violence

At the end of the presentation she invited the participants to join FAD Network for negotiating, idea shirring and effective functioning of the network.

Comments by Ms. Shabnum Shakeel (Chairperson of the session)

After the FAD presentation, Shabnum Shakeel, famous poetess, came up to the stage to share her ideas. She congratulated SACHET to raise such a hidden and sensitive issue, which is the root cause of many social evils. She said that we have passed our time and play a role of our part regarding this issue now it's the turn of youth to take stand and become strong change agents.

Remarks by the Chief Guest of the session Ms Asia Azeem, MNA

Following Shabnum Shakeel, Asia Azeem (MNA) chief guest of the session, came up to stage and said that we all should join hands together with SACHET to help it in its worth mentioning efforts on Dowry issue. She said every person no matter he or she deserves respect. She assured that being a parliamentarian she would make an effort to involve parliament and parliamentarians to work on eradication of Dowry. Question Answer Session

At the end the question answer session was held. Participants came up with lot of questions, which showed their keen interest in the session, dowry and SACHET's work for this issue. Most of the people wanted to know the governmental actions and steps, what the government has done and what is going on at higher authority level on this issue were the most burning questions from all participants. Foreign delegates from Bangladesh and India were eager to know about the present situation of Pakistan regarding Dowry issue and also wanted to know about the law on Dowry in Pakistan and Government future plan of action about Dowry. During the discussion in question answer session, Geeta Sharma, an Indian presenter, talked about the Indian law on Dowry that is really strict but despite such a stern law dowry evil still existed there.

Overall it was a successful thought provoking session. Participants of the session were from all age groups, young to old, both male' and female' of approximately equal ratio but students were more in number that shows the youth concern with the issue. Recommendations came up from the Session

- Our focus should be on youth while taking any step for the eradication of dowry because it is the issue, which directly subjected and linked with the youth.
- Individual efforts should put on first priority. Such campaigns should be planned and implemented in which individual to individual involvement would be assured as for the complete eradication of Dowry, individual inner analysis is the main strength for any change.

- Awareness committees and networks should be developed on Dowry issue in educational Institutions so that our coming generation could get to know that what dowry actually is and how they can work for it in future context.
- Media, Electronic and Print, should raise this issue as media is the most important source of affecting the people's life. .
- Awareness campaigns, for media concerned professionals as for producers and editors to sensitize them, should be conducted so that they get the understanding of the problem and how to imply the efforts related dowry issue practically,
- Political commitment is strongly needed on this issue. Therefore, parliamentarians should make efforts on their individual level and they should play their role for the approval of proposed dowry law, which is the combine effort of SACHET and law and Justice Commission of Pakistan.
- Parallel Committees should be developed from Government to make check on implementation of dowry law and their must be strict punishment on law violation.
- There should be connectivity and communication between nationwide and overseas NGO's to make efforts to put Dowry issue on donor agencies agenda and to bring it on national and international level.
- Groom's mother and family relations are playing a vital role in this context. So to change the attitude of such people, awareness is the first thing, which can be done by making the Mohalla awareness committees.
- If youth can take stand on all important and sensitive issues of life they could take stand on same issue i.e. Dowry, at the time of their marriage. Education, awareness and sensitization are needed for them on the specific issue.



Panel Discussion Session-Peace

11th August 2003

Started at 4:40 pm

Chief Guest: Dr. Inayatullah (*President Council of Social Sciences*)

Facilitator: Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen (*EVP-SACHEI*)

Panelists: Prof. Ghulam Rasul Chaudhry (*Academician*)
 Mr. Jamal Shah (*TV artist, writer, academician, painter*)
 Mr. Syed Muhammad Anwar (*Vice President Islamabad Bar*)
 Ms. Aischa Aimon (*a youth representative*)

Peace Panel Discussion was the third session of the day 2 of the International Conference. The session started at 4:40 p.m. with the permission of the chief guest. Dr. Rakhshinda introduced of the Chief Guest and the Panelists followed by the recitation of poem on Peace by Ms. Aicha Aiman.

Ms. Farzana Naushab discussed the concept of peace as absence of war. Also the danger of war cannot create peace. She remarked that peace and development is necessary for one another. She explained the concept of human security as developed by UNDP in 1994, which include food security, employment security, political security etc. and absence of these securities lead to war. She also pointed out the impact of 11th Sep. incidence that lead to poverty and deprivation. She recommended that:

- Security is very important for peace
- There should be peace if we want development

Syed Muhammad Anwar Advocate: The discussion of Ms. Farzana was followed by the presentation of Mr. Syed Anwar Advocate. He discussed peace from regional point of view. He agreed to the point made by Ms. Farzana that absence of war lead to peace. He gave following recommendations in this regard:

- Change of syllabus in schools is very important as education plays an important role in bringing peace
- Dialogues between countries is important to end war
- History taught in schools must not be biased

Mr. Jamal Shah: Mr. Jamal Shah talked about the relationship of art and peace. He commented that human beings have the inner desire to be master in all fields like dance, poetry, acting, painting etc as he tries to be a part of whole. This is natural. He said that by making palaces, pyramids etc. man tries to conceal his security. But unfortunately this lead to selfishness among humans and they have forgotten the rights of others. All this lead to war at domestic and International level

In order to bring peace he recommended:

- . To have peace, clarity and willingness of dialogue is very important
- . People should avoid being selfish, if they want peace

Other comments & recommendations

- Strong education system results in strong nations
- First there should be peace internally (in our provinces) than externally
- We have to discuss the issue of peace not only sub continental level but also on international level
- Change of syllabus is extremely important
- We should not consider ourselves as peacemakers and others as war creators:
- We should emphasize on forgiveness rather on victory.
- Jihad-e-Bilnafs (Jihad for self) is very important.
- West has given the concept of civil war.

The session ended with the note of thanks by the facilitator. The chief guest was presented a shield by.



Research paper presentation Session II

August 12th 2003

- Started at: 9:00 am
- Chair by: Dr. Arjumand faisal (Arjumand Associates)
- Discussants: Ms. Fareeha Ummar
Dr. Humala Khalid
Dr. Ejaz Khawja
- Facilitated By: Ms. Huma Arif

Research papers:

1. "ICTs & Youth: Challenges for transformation into a knowledge based society and a smart generation", Ms. Seema Abdullah (Kuala Lumpur Malaysia)
2. "Youth Empowerment through participation", presented by Ali Salman
3. "Human Resource Development Needs in Pakistan, Special reference Balochistan, Issues and Challenges", presented by Dr. Shafique ur Rehman
4. "One World South Asia" and "Gender Bias in Education: When will we break the jinx", by Ms. Geeta Sharma

ICTs & Youth: Challenges for transformation into a knowledge based society and a smart generation

Ms. Seema Abdullah

Comment:

Research paper was based on significant exhortation of ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) in the national, economic and social development agendas. It was an excellent portrayal on conditions of developing countries particularly regarding IT. The research study was carried out in Malaysia.

Recommendations:

- Information Technology should be implemented in much planned manner, Funds can never be used properly without planning; it always needed a proper plan of action that must be formulated after the analysis of requirement and situation of the locale.
- Plan of action regarding IT should be developed by Government, for facing global ICTs challenges in respect to own country needs as realization of facts, situation. and needs is the basic step for the sustainable improvement all development,
- Informal education should be considered compulsory with formal education.

Youth Empowerment through Participation

By Mr. Ali Salman (Jawan Pakistan-a Lahore based think tank on youth)

Comment

Key Concepts of Research Paper

- ✓ Youth Empowerment
- ✓ Youth Participation
- ✓ Youth Development

Research paper was a clear explanation of how these three key concepts are interlinked, one depends on other and a working set of recommendations has also been presented.

In Paper, it has been argued that youth empowerment is possible through YOUt11 participation in economic, social and political development of the country. It was a theory-based (theoretical concepts were defined) paper in which mechanisms; the policy and institutional context; to get the maximum level of youth participation in context of youth and country's empowerment and development were also described.

Recommendations:

- The recommendations given by paper should be directly relevant to the youth data for the plan of action so it would become a proper bench work.
- For youth participation in terms of their roles as responsible citizens, parents should share responsibilities with their youngsters from early stages of adolescents in order to make them responsible, confident and to rise up t11eir potential.
- The civil society institutions especially NGO's should come forward to play their role for capacity building of youth and to provide them platforms whereu1 youth volunteer t11eir time and energies according to their attitudes.

Human Resource Development Needs in Pakistan, Special reference to Balochistan, Issues and Challenges.

By Dr. Shafiqtte ur Rehman (Chairman Deptt: of Management Sciences, Balochistan University of Management & Information Technology)

Comments

It was a research paper about the importance and significance of trained human resource specifically with reference to sustainable development and progress.

It was an explanation of issues and challenges faced by the Government of Balochistan, which includes:

- Basic education for workforce. Need of training
- Need of research based planning
- The human resource development role of Government

The research paper also contained of Pakistan human resource development indicators.

Recommendations:

- Government of Pakistan should take fu to context the basic education of workforce.

- Government should emphasize its concentration on training of human resource especially in connection with the specific knowledge of relevant job.
- There must be training schools' in every governmental and non-governmental organization and trainings must be based on need assessment.
- Government should establish and support the research centers to get the maximum research based development
- Media should promote intensive knowledge based activities.

"One World South Asia" an Introduction

&"Gender Bias in Education: When will we break the jinx"

By Ms Geeta Sharma (One World Asia-New Delhi India)

Comment

There was two phases of the presentation. First one was the introduction, of oneworld.net, in presentation form, which is the largest news portal for civil society, providing news and information on number of topics related human rights and sustainable development from a network of 1,500 civil society organizations to a monthly worldwide audience of 3 million. It is a net-based organization and its activities can be broadly divided into content aggregation and dissemination and capacity building. It is a real most easy connectivity and communication through net.

Second phase was on research paper "Gender Bias in Education: When will we break the jinx". Gender biasness in education is the issue that is almost facing by all South Asian countries. In research paper the focus was on girl's education and the situation of India regarding specific issue was described in the paper. It was a thought provoking argument about the contrast in women's status and career of girls. Recommendations were also presented on the specific issue.

Recommendations:

- Internet services should be used for awareness and dissemination of information and knowledge among youth.
- Net connectivity and communication between NGO's should be promoted.
- Education is the key to development; we must emphasis on equity-based education for both males and females.
- Strategies and planning are required so that male and female can get education on equal basis.
- Career counseling for girls and boys is the most important issue, which is needed to initiate from school level.
- More or less, problems and basic reasons for problems are same in all developing countries so communication; to spell out and to sort out the solutions of the problems collectively; is needed.

Recommendations came up from Question Answer Session

- How to change the attitudes of laggards? (How to bring change in culturally fixed dimensions?)
It is needed to increase the motivational level, to gain the confidence and then to speak out on the specific issue. Incentives are another significant way to motivate the laggards. These people should be taken side by side on every step.

(Answered by Ms Geeta Sharma)

- Laws are important **but** the most important and basic step for any development and socio cultural change is awareness. There must efficient and effective awareness Campaigns to follow up the modernization and development.
- All south Asian countries should interact to speak out on same problems and the easiest way is the Internet communication.

General Comments

- Level of participation was high
- Most of the participants were young
- All the research papers were on the issues, which we are currently facing
- At the end in question answer session, a student said that it was really a knowledgeable session
- Mostly the questions were asked from female side and specifically from students.



Panel Discussion Session. "Gender II"

August 13th 2003

- Chair: Dr Habib Khan
(Director General, AEP AM)
- Facilitator: Ms Salilia Ramay (*SACHET*)
- Panelists: Dr. Arif Mehmood (*GEP Pakistan*)
Mr Quldeel Shujaat (*Pak US Solidarity Center-Islamabad*)
Mr Mominah Mehmood (*a youth representative*)
Mr. Sajjad Anwer (*Daily fang Lahore*)
- MC: Mr Hassan Raza (*SACHET Volunteer*)

Hassan Raza an A- Level student and volunteer of SACHET opened the session by welcoming the Chair, panelists and participants in the session. Later he introduced the facilitator for the Gender panel discussion. After the introduction of the facilitator he handed over the floor to the facilitator for further proceedings.

The facilitator after welcoming the chair and panelists gave the introduction of the chair Dr Habib Khan. Dr Habib Khan is a PhD from Harvard. The chair Dr Habib Khan, is an expert on education and currently the Director General of the academy of Educational Planning and Management, Ministry of Education.

The panelists for the session were Dr. Arif Mehmood, Ms. Mominah mahmood, Mr. Qindeel Shujat, and Mr. sajjad anwer.

Presentation of Dr. Arif Mehmood

Dr. Arif Mehmood mainly highlighted the problems related with gender politics and lack of opportunities to females in politics on National and International level. The recommendations he suggested to the audience for remedial measures are:

- There is need to raise awareness regarding cultural, political and structural issues among a common citizen
- There should be a platform, which should provide capacity building activities for the elected persons.
- Decision making process should involve a common also
- Equal political representation should be provided at National and International level to female politicians

Presentation of Mr. Qindeel Shujat

Mr. Qindeel presented his paper on gender and effects of socialization on both genders. He highlighted the fact that the child is given and taught different role assignment while he is being taught to adjust in society according to the popular norms. It is the time of socialization and different stages of development of child that the surroundings should not be discriminatory or objective of one of the genders. The recommendations put forward by him were:

Terms of female construction through socialization should be checked and readdressed

Everyone should have right to freedom to choose roles, develop talents devoid of to which gender it belongs

Availability of equal opportunities to excel for both genders

Presentation of Mr. Sajjad Anwer:

Mr. Sajjad Anwer spoke about gender differences in media especially with reference to print media and Urdu journalism, lack of opportunities to females in print media, discriminatory attitude of the colleagues insensitive language in Urdu print media, harassment in newspaper offices with females were some areas identified by him. The recommendations were:

- The job environment should be made a comfortable zone to work in for female genders
- There is need to develop parameters within work environments to check exploitation and harassment of female staff
- The journalism field needs capacity building regarding the reporting of sensitive issues.

- Journalism needs to develop strategy where it should omit use of insensitive language regarding reporting of rape cases and sensitive gender issues.
- Urdu journalism needs to readdress its priorities and strategies.
- Females should be given equal wages in journalism also.
- Female should have equal opportunities in the field of journalism also.

Presentation of Ms Momina Mehmood:

Ms Momina Mehmood highlighted the effects of communication gap between adults and both genders under the umbrella of youth. She emphasized on the participation of youth in the process of policy making and decision making in programs, which affect their future and development. She believed that when only the one part of the society (elders) sit down and try to find remedies for the problems for the other (youth) they never get implemented as they do not have the needs and perspectives of the affected.

Some solutions put forward by her were:

- Youth should be provided a platform where they can bring forth the new ideas *for* development.
- They should be made an active participant of decision and policy making
- We need to take the community with us in decision making process also.

Question and Answer session:

Question and answer session mostly endorsed the recommendations put forward by the panelists and also did some knowledge sharing regarding experiences of discrimination and practices of harassment that go on in different workplaces. The question and answer session also helped to provide a platform to elder generation and youth to put across their reservations and complaints at both ends which according to the chair was a healthy activity as it helps bridging the gap.

Remarks and suggestions by the Chair:

He praised the initiative by SACHET which provided the youth an opportunity to work as active participants in identifying the problems and finding solutions for them. He also highlighted certain stereotypes with female gender and degrading attitude on the part of males. He encouraged males to switch roles with their sisters and took a pledge from the youth sitting in the participants that they will not view their fellow females as sex symbols and females but will accept them as human beings first and that whatever gender they fall into.

He emphasized on the importance of quality of education and its being a duty of male population to create a comfortable zone of environment for females.

- We need to readdress the curriculum of our institutions
- Fundamentalism should be seriously checked at all levels
- There should be quality training of teachers
- Capacity building activities for youth should be promoted

In the end of the session the Chair was presented the souvenir of the conference followed by a group photograph and vote of thanks by Mr. Hassan Raza.

Comments and Observation:

The session had an active participation from both the youth and the older generation. The question answer session was overshadowed by the dialogue between the youth problems with the elder generation and their expectations and shortcomings with YOUt11. It was interesting to note that the session had male participants more in number as compared to female participants. The male participants participated actively in question and answer session and there was a sense of responsibility among the youth to change the present gender construction situation in the society.



Panel Discussion Session-Media

12th August 2003

Started at : 11:30 a.m.

MCA: Ms. Sadia Faruk (*SACHET Volunteer*)

Facilitator: Dr. Ehtasham Anwar (*a CSP Officer*)

Panelists: Mr. Munir ul Alam Khandkar (*PIO Mol Bangladesh*)

Ms. Nilofar Sultana (writer, poetess, social activist)

Mr. Shahzeb Atif (a DfofFM 100 Radio)

Ms. Seemi Raheel (TV Artist, social activist)

Ms. Nargis Zaidi (The News International)

Ms. Nabahat Sheiren (Broadcaster)

Mr. Kaleem Ahsan (The News International)

Ms. Samamr Minhalla11 (Media Professional, social activist) Mr. Zahir Shah (The Statesman Peshawar)

Media Panel Discussion Session started with the introduction of the facilitator by MC. Facilitator Dr. Ehtasham Anwar introduced the panelists. This was followed by the first presentation by Mr. Shahzeb Atif, the first of the panelists.

Presentation & Recommendations by Mr. Shahzeb Atif

The topic on which Mr. Shahzeb Atif expressed his views was the relationship between media and youth. He *first* discussed the Pakistani Media and how our youth views the media. He said that there is a lack of vision. There is no vision of our media; to counter international media inflow. Our youth has thus adopted international media due to lack

of entertainment by our own media. Also our media is under the influence bureaucracy and politics. He recommended that:

- The influence of bureaucracy and politics should be remove from media
- Youth should participate in media. It is very important
- We should accept innovative ideas
- A vision beyond 2015 is required

Presentation & Recommendations by Ms. Seemi Rahil

Representing *17-ze Himmatt Society*, Ms. Seemi tried to attract the attention of the policy makers through her discussion. She emphasized the importance of youth participation in media. Following are the recommendations given by her:

- Women and youth should participate in media
- Our syllabus has been copied from west so it should be changed as it cannot cater for our psychological needs
- Youth has to change the perspective of media

Presentation & Recommendations by Ms. Sammar Minhallah

Thee discussion by Ms. Sammar started at 12:00 p.m. She commented on the issue of wrong portrayal of our culture by foreign media. She gave some recommendations in.

- It is important to do research on our culture and religion ourselves as research by other countries leads to wrong
- image of our religion and culture as in case of Pardha by Pakistani women.
- Religious scholars should be sensitized

Comments by Ms. Nilofar Sultana

Ms. Nilofar stressed that in her view youth participation in all walks of life has increased. And on the other hand concentration of audience has drastically decreased. She also recited a poem in English.

Comments by Ms. Nabahat Sherien

She commented on tile issue of Portrayal of Women in Media. She remarked that women have got a lot of awareness through media and also media has played an important role in sensitizing women. She said although T. V is teaching our children but at the same time it has also created a gap.

Presentation & Recommendations by Mr. Kaleem Ahsan

He stressed that people should not come in journalism as last resort but a specific level of qualification is necessary. It is not necessary that people who speak good English can also write good English.

He recommended that:

- Govt. and print media should collaborate

Presentation & Recommendations by Mr. Zahir Shah

Mr. Zahir Shah pointed out the role of media in projecting negative image of women. he remarked that women are normally portrayed in advertisements as sex symbol and also in dramas they get low level roles. He gave following recommendations in this regard:

- Negative presentation of women in print media and low level representation of Women in dramas should be stopped
- Women should not be portrayed as sex symbols
- There must be some laws to check negative portrayal of women
- There should be an effective implementation of media policy

Comments & Recommendations during Question Answer Session

Suggestions/comments By Ms. Geeta Shenna

- In order to come fu the field of media, one should not only be a writer etc. but a communicator
- Men should also be sensitized on such issues

By Dr. Salma Maqbool

This session should be included in Khawateen Times and women should be told that how they can handle small disabilities themselves.

Others

- Imam training programs should be started in Pakistan
- Theatres and films can be used for youth promotion
- Bangladesh and Pakistani media should work together
- Bangladesh being the populist Islamic country should form Islamic media.
- A lot of wrong practices have become the part of our culture due to wrong Islamic Misinterpretation. Mostly they are molded according to what suits men.

General Comments and Observation

Approximately 75 people from different walks of life attended the session. The number of male participants exceeded the females. There was a high level participation from the audience. 111e panelists received a large number of questions after the discussion. Most of the questions were from Ms. Sammar Minhallah and Ms. Seema Raheel. This shows the interest of audience in issue of wrong portrayal of our culture and beliefs by foreign media and also the role of policy makers in this regard.



Concluding Session

August 13th 2003

- Chief Guest: Mr. Rais Munir Ahmed

(Federal Minister for Minorities, Culture, Sports, Tourism & Youth Affairs)

- Comments by Young People:

Mullarnmad A wais, Samina Bibi *From Gagri*)

- Presentation on Youth Advocacy Network: Ms Aamna Khalid

(Project Officer Education SACHET).

. Presentation on FAD-Fight AgamstDowry Network: Mr. Mohsin Kamal

(SACHET Volunteer)

- Wrap Up by Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen

(Executive Vice President SACHET)

- Vote of Thanks Dr A. Q. Khan (Ni & Bar, Hi)

(President SACHET).

The Concluding session started at 15:30 pm by recitation of Sura AI-Kausar of Al Quran by Zahida Bibi from SCDP Shadara. The MCs for the concluding session were Ms Mahvish Yaseen and Mr. Amrnar Haris.

Presentation On Youth Advocacy Network (YAN)

YAN was one of the expected outcomes of the conference, initiated by ARC on 11th August 2003, during the meeting of youth delegates. The idea was initiated by Dr. Rakhshu1da Perveen so as to provide a platform of activities to youth. Ms Aamna Khalid. Project Officer SACHET Education Program presented the YAN before the Conference participants. Some of the recommendations put forward by this Network are :

- Youth Advocacy Network (YAN) should be included in capacity building exercises by the Ministry of Minorities, Culture, Sports, Tourism & You~ Affairs
- .Youth from urban as well as rural areas of Pakistan should be involved U1 the process of YOUtl1 development initiated by Govt. or civil society.
- We should be provided with opportunities to excel

Comments by Young people:

Saima Bibi, from Gagri (SACHET Community Development Program) thanked SACHET for giving her the opportunity of speaking from the forum of International Conference on Youth & Promotion of Human Development "Investing in Future". She said she is proud to share with the young people and the participants that she is a member of the youth advocacy network also through which young people will be able to sit together and not only share information and knowledge but will try to solve each others problems. She appreciated the efforts of sachet for Providing youth such an opportunity to exercise their energies in the right direction.

Muhammad Awais Representing rural youth:

Muhammad Awais from Gagri (Community development program- SACHET) was representing rural youth. He in his view highlighted the misconception about the needs of the rural YOUTH and the initiatives that are taken by government to cater their needs without consulting them. He was of the view that rural youth is neglected in various areas of the opportunities. He provided certain remedies to overcome the problem

- Rural youth should be given equal opportunities to compete for better resources
- The fee structure for rural areas should be reviewed
- The problem of transport should be checked in rural areas

Presentation On FAD-Fight Against Dowry Network

FAD-Fight Against Dowry Network idea was initiated by Dr Rakhshinda Perveen and was launched on 3rd April 2003. It was developed to cater to the growing interest of the youth and other stakeholders to become active participants of this social movement and to provide a platform to Youth to become AGENTS of CHANGE in future for this social movement.

Few expectations from this network include

- Project will be transformed into Social Movement
- Youth will be the agents of change in future
- Youth will take responsibility to free society from this social evil

Wrap Up By Dr Rakhshinda Perveen (Executive Vice president SACHET)

Dr Rakhshinda Perveen expressed great pleasure while briefing the audience about the accomplishments of the conference. She gladly told the participants that the performance of the conference during the three days was up to the expected level as the expected outcomes were achieved successfully. She expresses her satisfaction on the fact that the youth participated in the day conference very interactively and enthusiastically in all the sessions. She later presented the comparison between the expected and actual outcomes of the conference. She also presented the recommendations for the Minister for Minorities, Culture, Sports, Tourism & Youth Affairs Mr. Rais Munir Ahined to take forward at the platform of government and provide some results to all the efforts of youth.

Recommendations:

- Youth needs should be identified & incorporated in the state youth policy

- Definite youth policy catering to the needs/demands of different youth groups
- Alternate recreation opportunities for youth to avoid drugs/violence
- Ensuring youth involvement in youth policy formulation
- There should be a separate Ministry of Youth Affairs
- Youth issues need to be analyzed in Gender context

Address by the Chief Guest:

Minister for Minorities, Culture, Sports, Tourism & Youth Affairs Mr. Rais Mm1ir Ahmed applauded the efforts and initiative of AGEHI Resource Center. He said that The International Conference on "Youth and Promotion of Human development" Investing in Future is a big achievement on part of AGEHI Resource Center. It was primarily Government's job to address youth problems and provide them platform for exercising their initiatives towards promotion of human development. It's good to see that that when we neglected the most important area, committed and devoted people like SACHET drew our attention towards the high investment areas i.e. youth. We realizing our shortcomings are pleased to take guidance from AGEHI Resource Center, and advise them to keep the sincere and committed initiatives alive and help us develop a more fruitful society for our youth.

Vote of Thanks Dr A.Q. Khan (NI & Bar, HI) President SACHET expressed his gratitude to all those present. He said that the conference provided a forum where youth, youth activists, YOUtl1 leaders, professionals, scholars, civic entrepreneurs, policy makers and researchers to share their k110wledge, experience and insights. He appreciated the efforts put in by his team and termed the three-day Conference a healthy and result oriented exercise for the youth and other stakeholders.

The chief guest was presented the souvenir of the conference and than excused himself from the concluding ceremony As he had to make his presence at some official meeru1g also.

Prize Distribution

Dr A. Q. Khan distributed the prizes among the position holder of poster competition of. the conference. After tl1e distribution of prizes the SACHET team presented Dr. A. Q. Khan with conference souvenir.

The concluding session ended with a theater performance „Aaj ka Naujawan or us ke masael" by "Peer Educators Group" of P AVHNA based on different social problems in our social system and its effects on our youth.

Comments and Observations:

Concluding session had approximately 300 participants from all walks of life. Youth had a visible representation in the concluding session also. The Minister for Minorities,

Culture, Sports, Tourism & Youth Affairs Mr Rais Munir Ahmed commented on the conference in a positive way and encouraged the initiative of SACHET in involving youth in the process of human development. Youth at the end of the conference appeared satisfied in the three-day activities and tl1e knowledge they had a chance to hear and interact with. It was interesting to note that the male participants were more in concluding session as compared to the inaugural session.

Theatre Performance Sessions



- *"Tamasha" By Hunerkada-Islamabad*
- *"AajKa Naujawan or Us keMasael" byPAVHNA Peer Educators Group*
- *"Chat" by Creative Anger & Context Theatre*

Theater has fascinated all societies of every historical period and in every region of the globe. Whatever the arena, genre, or audience, the energy that surrounds performance demonstrates the power of theater and its influence. The manipulation of image, sound, objects, and space makes theatrical design particularly captivating for the audience. In an increasingly globalize world one has to develop an innovative approach to provide valuable space for meaningful education that motivates not only behavioral change but triggers new artistic innovation aiming towards a better society.

The International. Conference on Youth & Promotion of Human Development *"Investing in Future"*, included three different theatre performances all carrying meaningful messages of social reformation and change for betterment. These performances aimed to bring forth issues concerning social development of youth. The topics that were highlighted in these performances included

- Civic responsibilities
- Communication with peers, boys with girls, and parents *I* high authority.
- Gender Concerns
- Democracy and Human Rights
- State of Pakistan's social system
- The stereotypes in our society
- Media & its effect on today's youth

These performances were staged under the names:

- "Tamasha" by Hunerkada
- "Aaj ka naujawan or us ke masael" by PA VHNA Peer Educators Group
- "Chat" by Creative Anger & Context Theater

"TAMASHA"

TAMASHA was a playful comment on attitudes towards life in our society. The play basically attempted to see the world from a disillusioned youth's point of view, trapped in a vicious cycle, created by their not so concerned elders. The play is also about their

Serious concerns, dreams & commitments to changing things for better & creating a more live able, transparent, just & peaceful world for everyone.

ANALYSIS OF PLAY:

The play was a non-narrative in nature and tends to be more objective and obstinate about one set of thinking that may exist in society. It gave a very depressing feeling with a tinge of satire, which made it ironical unlike an expectation of a light humorous play. The characters were there which the audience could not identify with because the play never gave them any identity either. Even the language of the play was not very sensitive about using fixed relating identities. The first scene where the play was supposed to show the gender concerns and put the mind of the audience to the thinking so it triggers the change reinforced what already exists in society.

The female gender was constantly being termed as things and men as some superior beings. The culture of looking or perceiving women as objects justifies all forms of discrimination against them. They are then not only considered dehumanized - their intelligence, abilities and feelings are ignored and they are valued solely for their bodies. This type of objectification leaves women vulnerable to acts of sexual violence. Seeing her less than human makes it easier to insult, degrade, harass and abuse her. Then the play shifted towards the civic responsibilities and the system in which our youth lives in and the entire negative forces that are present to stop them from doing fully good. Again building the play on only government bashing that everybody loves to do in their drawing rooms was the theme of all the actions that went into the coming scenes. These type of theatrical performances can be used for identifying leaders, ideals and values from within the youth instead of giving them the cover of "not so concerned elders". With increasing globalization all societies are in constant flux and our society being no exception. The factor of social change is inevitable but what we can give to our youth is a critical eye and sense of responsibility to hold on to the basics and moral values of our culture and society instead of finding scapegoat in others actions and going into a helpless phase. Giving the intensity of emotional involvement afforded by theatrical presentations they should be used more effectively to sensitize, aware and educate the audience.

TYPE OF PARTICIPATION:

It was surprising to observe that the females were more in number as compared to audience commenced on one of males. Youth had a sizeable representation in comparison to the elders. The audience attitude towards the performance was more of a casual nature. The reason that was identified from within the audience was that the whole atmosphere of the play itself was non serious. Moreover we all are aware of the stereotypes that already exist in our society and stop us from stepping towards development. A female from the audience commenced on one of the dialogues "kia yeah (Male) hamaray baray main nahein soochein gay to ham khatam ho jai gay", that how very insensitive of the writer to make such comment. She was of the view that they are reinforcing the concept of "male gaze" and women being as objects of gratification for men. It was interesting to know that the male youth among the audience was actually enjoying the jokes that were an outcome of humor based on female gender where as females in the audience felt irritated and angry on insensitive language and portraying the changing attitudes rather than building their plays on same theme. Moreover she commented that the whole impact of the play was drained down in the end when they termed it as joke "judge sahib ap to serious ho gai ham to mazak kar rahay thay.

"PEER EDUCATOR GROUP" FROM PAVHNA

The theatrical presentation by Peer educator group PAVHNA was non-narrative in nature. It used different themes from the social fabric of our society to question. They included

- The gender construction through role assignments. Gender discrimination. Child marriages
- Economic empowerment
- Dowry as a form of violence against both men and women
- Domestic Violence
- Violent culture in educational institutions. Unemployment. Eve teasing

CRITICAL ANALYSIS:

Patriarchy is not merely a concept but a complete system, which has its roots in our social values and institutions. Patriarchal structures stand on the pillars of different institutions and media is one of them. These theatrical presentations, which aimed to educate the audience, did to some extent but there was a feeling that they also reinforced the same cycle of patriarchy in which females are not perturbed by the superiority of men. With men as creators of most of the discourse the theater presentation reinforced the doctrine of stereotypes about the female gender, and projects men in control of situations and Women in inferior roles. The men in the play assume superior roles and remedy the situation to the satisfaction of male viewers. The females are presented submissive and docile and this gives in to whatever comes from the male role play. This promotes social unconsciousness about the issues that are being presented for change. The objectification of female role plays and adding spice to dialogues to show her misery actually serves as a point of gratification for male viewer. It is projected that men can get away with anything and it's the women who is to protect herself for her own sake.

TYPE OF PARTICIPATION:

The male audience participated in the play very enthusiastically but not in a very positive way. The serious issues when being presented for remedial measures before them it was more of a source of fun and joke for them then really realizing what is being highlighted there. For example in the issue where the question of eve teasing was being addressed the male youth was participating in the comments they would give in any such situations and some were really very insensitive about the use of the language and commented on certain dialogues, " theek hai na ghar se kion nikale the ". More over like it's good that she is married at an early age instead the company of friends spoils her. Female audience was pretty angry at the male audience and frustrated as they believed that the play should have been talking of change or presenting role models who are acting that change. Like brother taking a stand of not marrying his sister at such an early stage, helping her in household chores. When a youth is faced by the problem of unemployment he does get disoriented and fight for his right and there is still left some good in society who helps in out.

A journalist commended that it's high time that theater in education should be used to instigate change and teach how to instead of giving a very depressing and bleak picture of no escape. The writing styles should take a U turn and try to readdress the themes with an innovative approach.

CHAT – Gup-ShUp:

Chat was initiated by writer, Mr. Jack thorn and Claire P Mont in the UK in an attempt to examine communication between individuals from two countries Pakistan and the UK, amidst the chaos of our so-called world leaders-blanket media coverage our domestic lives etc. the internet chat room seemed to be the perfect medium for escaping our immediate realities while also capturing the confusion of the world around us.

Context Theater and creative anger began collaboration just 10 days ago, devising work to define the life of Jamila - her domestic life. Creative anger was very keen to insert key issues *into* piece -dowry, peace, poverty and youth. Rather than treating these issues in a didactic manner. The characters were teased out through central character. She made dimensions available for addressing different issues. Her story was initiated through our group work, which generated much discussion and argument. The final piece has been shaped around her story.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS:

With change in the social conditions more effective means of communication have been developed. Media emerged, as the platform for exercising dominant ideology in society and therefore its effects could not be ignored. Theatrical presentations in media emerged as entertainment medium and soon turned it into "education" form and started having string effects on its audience to address the issues of social development and social problems. ,

Moral actions are usually undertaken from sense of duty ultimately dictated by reason. Moral actions are not performed out of inclination, for expediency, or solely in obedience to law or custom. This was more of what ended CHAT with positive note. When Jarnila is given a sense of responsibility she while exercising decision making is not afraid of law or fear but commitment to her cause and respect for her mother's initiative to bring positive change in her life by taking stand against the traditional discrimination faced by women.

CHAT started with a Pakistani girl caught in a society where she is not taken as human but female and is denied certain liberty of mobility and decision making. She finds escape in a Pakistani chat room where she is pouring her heart out just because she knows she does not have to face this person. There is communication gap between the daughter, mother and father. All characters are presented in a typical stereotypical way to make the audience involved without usage of any non sensitive language. The play takes a U turn with a positive change in the role plays where the mother of the girl takes charge of the situation not in a negative way neither the audience develop a negative feeling about her role. The youth in the audience appreciated her stand. The father's role also shows a positive change in the attitude and realizes the need of education for her girl also and takes a step forward to protect her daughter.

The play ends on a positive note where Jamila as a youth is shown in a positive and responsible role where her studies are more important.

Youth was actively involved in the writing of role plays and went through extensive argument to try to show the problem in a serious but effective way. It was pleasing to know that not only the language of the play was gender sensitive but the interaction towards change was non abusive and productive.

TYPE OF PARTICIPATION:

The audience in the play was fully involved and participating in the question and answer session the elders were specially concerned about really getting to know the reasons of Jamila reactionary attitude and finding escape at chat room to get herself relieved of the problems around her. Youth was happy with the ending as it was left in their hands to make decision and Jamila being their representative displayed a positive attitude towards her responsibilities.

Audience was happy to see a performance, which ended on a positive and responsible note.

*Abstracts 0 the Research Papers Abstracts Presented at
International Conference on Youth & Promotion of Human Development*

"Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health: An Exploration of Trends in Pakistan". By Ms Azeema Faizunissa Population Council of Pakistan

The study was conducted to find out adolescents' perceptions regarding sexual and reproductive health. It was essential to know adolescents' level and their sources of information before initiating any program for them. The study also aimed to assess the level of physical and social abuse in the society. Since the study was carried out in 4 provincial cities of Pakistan, it also aimed to compare regional trends. The main issues covered through direct interviews with adolescents' were, information on sex education, appropriate age of receiving this information, who should be providing it, information of contraception and incidence of sexual/physical abuse.

Parents and gatekeepers were also interviewed to assess their perception regarding adolescents' behavior, their problems and suggestions to help raise these adolescents' to become responsible adults. The main issues covered while surveying gatekeepers were their perceptions regarding adolescents' goal, what advice should adolescents' receive, role of parents in providing information and what do adults consider as threats for adolescents' physical psychological and social well being.

The study has created quite a few ripples and has been able to highlight the importance of bringing adolescents' program into focus. This study has been presented in PAVHNA international dissemination workshop, International conference on ARH in Mumbai and South Hampton University Conference -UK. The study findings can provide important base for the policy makers who are in the process of finalizing the first youth policy in Pakistan, which signifies the reproductive and sexual health issues of this specific age group.

"Youth: Empowerment through Participation"

By Mr. Ali Salman, from Jawan Pakistan, a Lahore based think tank on youth

Youth participation in development can take different meanings and forms. It can be Positive or negative and direct or indirect and is affected by the socio-economic status of youth and their educational background. This paper takes into account various possible modes of youth participation and relates it to different spheres of national development: namely, economic, social and political. It argues that youth can be empowered by providing them ways and means of participation in national development. It advocates an all-inclusive approach, rather than isolated, fragmented and piecemeal reform packages. It emphasizes on maximizing efficiency of existing systems rather than dismantling them for short-term political clout.

The conceptual part is followed by a blue print for youth participation in national development. This blueprint contains a vision and mission statement for youth participation; the do's and don'ts of participative mechanism; the policy and institutional context; the mechanics needed to set up such a mechanism at national, provincial, district and tehsil levels and confidence building measures by the government to encourage youth participation. It concludes with specific suggestions and a gradual road map to ensure youth participation in national development.

Gender bias in Educational: When will we break the jinx?

By Geeta Sharma, Editor, Learning Channel.org One World South Asia

An advertisement in news weekly some time ago, got the better of a friend's temper. The add about bank loans for anything from houses to snazzy cars to vacations in exotic locales, specially offered money to prospective clients for marriages (read dowry) of their daughters and for computers for their sons.

"This only goes to show urbane, civilized and informed societies like ours are still perpetuating age-old gender stereotypes," was her vehement reaction, as we talked. Shouldn't parents educate their daughters and provide them with computers too? Don't girls too aspire to have careers, she asked?

World figures in literacy relate a sorry tale. Of the 130 million 6-11 year-old children not in school - a majority - 60 percent are girls. The figures only go to show how in most regions of the world, especially the developing societies, gender bias impinges on girls' education.

We have seen how and why women, especially in the developing countries get far less education than men. Also, women in general enjoy far less employment opportunities than men the world over.

Any claims and efforts then, to remove poverty and achieve sustainable development can show results only if they address the issue of gender inequality. Of course, there have been several encouraging gains in recent decades, in basic rights and opportunities, in life expectancy and enrolment ratios for women. ,

Nonetheless, the stark reality has not changed. There still are large gender disparities in basic human rights, resources, and economic opportunity, and in political rights- the world over.

Reports for instance, indicate that in South Asia, women have only half as many years of schooling as men. In much of Sub-Saharan Africa women obtain land rights, chiefly through their husbands as long as the marriage endures and women account for only ten percent of seats in Parliaments worldwide.

So until nations are able to address this issue of gender inequality and resolve it, the vicious cycle of poverty will persist. This is because poverty leads to and aggravates gender discrimination. Women and girls who are at the bottom of the social, economic and political ladder in these societies.

Also, by the same logic, gender discrimination hinders development. So while denial of rights - be it in education, employment, and healthcare - is detrimental to women, this denial, ultimately also harms the society, the nations at large too, by hampering development.

It is a widely acknowledged fact an educated woman has the skills, the self-confidence and the information she needs to become a better parent, worker, and citizen.

The issue of gender equality then, needs to be at the core of development policies- both in national and international arenas .Just because gender inequality is inextricably linked to societal norms, religion or cultural traditions, policy makers and development planners cannot be deterred by these factors in working towards a development that is sustainable in the true sense.

Education is the key: Education is widely recognized as the gateway to economic security and opportunity- particularly for girls and women. There is the more happening mode

World figures in literacy relate a sorry tale. Of the 130 million 6-11 year-old children not in school - a majority - 60 percent are girls. The figures only go to show how in most regions of the world, specially the developing societies, gender bias impinges on girls' education.

The foremost factor limiting female education is poverty. Economics plays a key role when it comes to coping with direct costs such as tuition fees, cost of textbooks, uniforms, transportation and other expenses. Wherever, especially in families with many children, these costs exceed the income of the family, girls are the first to be denied schooling.

Girls' lack of access to education isn't always related to scarcity of places in schools. It also emerges from expectations, attitudes and biases in communities and families. Economic costs, social traditions, and religious and cultural beliefs limit girls' educational opportunities. Whatever, the underlying reason(s), having large number of girls outside the formal schooling system brings developmental challenges to both current and future generations. Individuals, families, communities and nations are affected. Inability to read, write and calculate complicates a girl's efforts to engage in both market-focused production and household activities as effectively and efficiently possible. This affects her family's welfare and diminishes her potential contribution to the development of the household, local and national economy.

Despite reported progress, there is still a persistent gap between women and men's access to education. Combating the high rate of illiteracy among women and girls remains an urgent global need. According to the UNESCO Institute of Statistics, it is now estimated that two-thirds of the world's 875 million illiterate adults are women. In Southern Asia, nearly three in five women are illiterate and it is estimated that half of all women in Africa and in the Arab region are still illiterate.

However, gender disparities and literacy rates are less marked among young adults. There is now, little or no gender difference in the literacy rates of 15-24 year olds in several regions of the world including Europe, North America, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Eastern Asia and Oceania.

Over the past 20 years, significant progress has been made with regard to higher education. It is of particular interest that in countries where tertiary education has expanded significantly, women's school enrolment has increased more than men's.

Thanks to the fight for women's rights, increasing participation of women in the job market and to the right to vote, women have emerged from the strictly private sphere to which they were formerly restricted. Women have broken the implicit social contract that for more than hundreds of years confined them to home, child rearing, household tasks and fieldwork, while men worked outside the home.

In Asia, more and more young women have been joining the official workforce in recent years and are experiencing some of the benefits - financial independence, higher status and lower

fertility rate through delaying the age of marriage. Children also benefit because women usually devote more of their income to the family's welfare compared to men.

However, in the context of the developing world, lack of education has forced many women into the risky "informal" economy as street traders, domestic servants, home workers and seasonal laborers. This in turn reflects a continuing belief that there is little benefit in educating a girl when she could be working in the market place or fields. Boys are affected by this thinking, too, though not to the same extent.

Although economically productive to society, once again, women's work, if they get the opportunity at all, is rarely recognized in official statistics and the women often get no protection from union or employment legislation

Just as women's domestic work is undervalued, so are their skills in the world of employment. Most are concentrated in the poorly-paid, low-skilled "women's" sectors of the economy like Free Trade Zones set up in many developing countries to attract foreign companies. Exhausting 18-hour days in unsafe and unhealthy conditions are the norm, along with sexual harassment and lack of job security.

Gender Stereotyping:

This stereotyping continues to prevail technical and professional fields. Even where women have open access to all professions, they overwhelmingly opt for traditionally female occupations.

The gap separating men and women in the job market remains wide in many countries, whether in the North or the South. With marginal variables between most countries, women have a lower employment rate, are unemployed longer, are paid less and have less secure jobs. Young women, particularly pay the price of job market flexibility. They suffer double discrimination. First for being young, in the difficult phase of transition between training and working life, in an age group that has, on an average, twice the jobless rate or older workers and are at the mercy of employers who exploit them under the pretext of enabling them to acquire professional experience. Secondly they are discriminated against for being women and are more likely to be offered low paying or low status jobs.

Discrimination is still very much in evidence and education and training policies specially targeting young women are needed to restore a balance. Although young women are increasingly choosing typically 'male' professions, they remain over-represented in traditionally female jobs, such as secretaries, nurses, and under. Represented in jobs with responsibility and the professions.

In the new and upcoming sectors too, there is an imbalance in the representation of men and women. An instance is ICTs where, despite their rapid growth, where women generally occupy positions towards the bottom of hierarchy. And even in female dominated sectors like health, women work as nurses, but a large majority of hospital directors and department heads are men.

It is time we broke this jinx of gender bias in education, employment and employment opportunities and gave the women their due.

Human Resource Development Needs in Pakistan with special reference to Balochistan: Issues and Challenges.

By Prof Dr Shafiqur Rehman (Balochistan University of Information Technology & Management Sciences)

INTRODUCTION:

No Society has prospered without significant and sustained investment in its Human Resource Development. Today, as the world becomes increasingly interconnected, Human Resource Development is considered critical for the achievement of economic progress, political stability and peace. However, in Pakistan, the educational institutions, training Centers ill prepares the Human Resource for challenges that lie ahead. Thus, it is heartening to witness a firm commitment on the part of the Government to improve Human Resource generally. Uncertainty results not only from doubt about the availability of funds for investment in so vital a purpose as development of human resources for the country but also about the willingness of the play actors, consisting of professionals and administrators, to effect change, even when fortified with the knowledge that this improvement will bring about better conditions for the Pakistani Society.

The Government of Pakistan is increasingly concerned about the lack of progress with human resource development outcomes and the long-term impact of this stagnation on economic growth. Despite some progress made under social action program in recent years, Pakistan's Human Development indicators are still at unacceptably low levels. The slow pace of Human Resource Development has adversely affected the country's medium to long-term growth prospects, as low levels of education and poor health constrain the growth of labor productivity in both agriculture and manufacturing. Without an educated population, social and political development also is retarded.

Pakistan's Human Development indicators, fall significantly below those of countries with comparable levels of per-capita income. Only 40% of the population is literate, compared with 49% in South Asia and 53% in low-income countries. The gross primary school enrollment of 70% compares unfavorably with South Asia regional average of 100% and the average of 104% for low-income countries. Within Pakistan Balochistan Postures a worst situation as 26.6% of literacy rate as compare to the other provinces Sindh 45.29, Punjab 46.56% and NWFP 35.41%.The Province of Balochistan, which is unique in its geo-political significance. It forms 44% of Pakistan's land and has a 770 KM long coast line, it consist of arid basins and various hill ranges, sharply marked off from the indult plain by the kirther and Suleiman ramparts. It exhibits a great variety of physical features, consisting of rocky desert with extremes of climate and very low rainfall.

Economically, its vast rangelands, large numbers of livestock, rich minerals, gas deposits and good quality deciduous fruit, are of significant value although there is little relatively industrialization, but the government has planned to establish an industrial Zone in Balochistan to lure investment, create Job opportunities and to open new vistas of economic development in the surrounding human settlements of the region. The Government is determined to build the entire infrastructure need for operating and developing the industrial Zone. Title Government is committed and launched other mega projects like Miraine Dam, Mekran costal Highway, Kachche Cannel Project, which would be supplemented The benefits accruing from the Gawader port. Saindak copper and Gold is to resume production with the chine's assistance.

In the fast changing World, Balochistan has acquired a special significance; Gawadar Sea port remains the Key Project of all the development being taken up in Balochistan. Mirane Dam, construction is another major endeavor being made to develop water resources in the Province. Makran Highway

occupies a strategic position in the economic development of the province. With the passage of time it would create new job opportunities, boost economic activities and improve the lot of the common man. With a population of less than 50,000, the small sleepy town Gawadar on Mekran Coast is now set on way to become a hub of shipping commercial and industrial activities in next one or two decades. The mega projects are designed to bring an economic and social revolution in Balochistan. Gawadar is now destined to be the most important upcoming coastal town located on the interjection of the three most strategically and economically important regions of the world that are oil rich Middle East, South Asia where one-fifth population lives and central Asian Republics endowed with mineral wealth and an educated and highly skilled and disciplined workforce. Balochistan would get its share in terms of economic benefits, which would come from trade and exploration activities in region. The Human Resources Development requires immediate attention in Balochistan. Development of technical skills and expertise in different fields of science will ensure benefits for local people from the economic activities in their province. The government should establish technical institutions. These institutions would import necessary training, enabling the local youth to seek jobs when execution of projects starts.

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Globalization

One major trend with implications for Human Resource Development is globalization. It is fostered not only by technological change and the continually falling costs of communication and transport but also by the decisions of governments to embrace market oriented development strategies and to open the country increasing to the World economy. The world is thus fast becoming one interdependent global market place.

Competitiveness of both nations and enterprises will be on an international basis. As world-wide competition has increased, the pace of economic change has accelerated and the process of development has become less predictable. Competitiveness will be decided on a country's or an enterprise's capacity to add value to global economic products services and processes (Robert Reich 1991). A key contributor in this regard is the knowledge and skills of the work force. In fact the education and skills of the work force will be the key competitive weapon for the 21st Century. Globalization impacts on Human Resource Development in various ways. Thus compared to the past, enterprises will need to update much more regularly the skills mix of their employees to respond to the opportunities or threats created by globalization and rapid technological change. Indeed intense global competition is reinforcing the market place. Enterprises are increasingly having to compete differentiating themselves from their competitors by the quality of the human systems and process behind their products and services. (Jaune C. Meister 1994). The attitudes, knowledge and skills of the workforce of the enterprise and its contractors and suppliers will determine the quality of the human systems and processes behind its products and services. Competition will be less and less in terms of how the features and benefits of one's product / services compare with those of another as more products are perceived to be at parity by customers.

Determinants of Youth Development in Pakistan

By Ms Azeema Faizunnisa and Atif Ikram (Population Council of Pakistan)

No doubt, Pakistan's youth, consisting one-fifth (25 million) of its population, is one of the most valuable resources for the national growth and prosperity. An educated, skilled, and healthy youth, in other words developed youth, would most certainly put our nation in the course of social and economic

enrichment. Hence, it is absolutely imperative *to* determine where does our youth stand in terms of these development characteristics and indicators. National plans and policies concerning *youth* can *only* be made afterwards.

A study on Pakistan's youth "Transition to Adulthood: Education work and marriage" was undertaken in all the four provinces of Pakistan by Population Council in 2001-02, with the sample size of 8,074 youth and 6,812 households in 252 communities. The study used three comprehensive questionnaires containing various modules covering education, work, marriage, fertility, and living conditions of youth, their households and their communities, the survey also covered gender attitudes, norms, mobility, and safe places. The sample for this study was chosen by applying a two-step stratified sampling technique.

The present paper has used the data from the above-mentioned study and has worked-out "Youth Development Index" (YDI). The YDI is a simple summary measurement as other development indexes, of four dimensions of the youth development concept: educational attainment employment recreation and health seeking behavior. The index will be analyzed with other independent variables to ascertain the links of various agents and determinants affecting the development of youth in Pakistan. Then a regression model will be used to finally ascertain the factors, which are most significant in a young person's life. The selected explanatory variables include demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the youth such as residence, age, sex, socio-economic class, parental education, etc.

2 Young people belonging to the age group of 15-24 years.

On the basis of the analysis, the authors seek to come up with specific policy recommendations for improving the education, work opportunities and health seeking behavior of young people in Pakistan.

ICT and Youth: Challenges for Transformation into a Knowledge Based Society and a Smart Generation

By Ms Seema Abdullah (Kaulalam Pur Malaysia)

Abstract

Recent years have seen a significant exhortation of ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) in the national, economic and social development agendas. Efforts are being made by all countries including Pakistan, for ICT adoption, implementation and penetration in all aspects of life. The notion here is that ICT is a vehicle for country's socio-economic development and a means for its transformation into a knowledge based society; hence on the one hand, governments have endeavored to come out with explicit ICT policies while on the other hand commercialization of ICT tools and training has become a common phenomenon even in the context of developing countries like Pakistan.

This paper argues that besides having access to ICT, Data and Information, there are at least two more intriguing elements for consideration in this debate (i) the level of knowledge possessed by the individuals on the meaningful, smart and intelligent use of ICT and (ii) the desire and initiative that an individual holds to attain this knowledge if it is not already available.

The significance of this problem to Youth forum is that in order for Youth to gear up to the journey of knowledge based society, they must act as well-informed, smart and cautious individuals. If not, the chances are that they would be caught in the bandwagon of ICT; hence the net gains from ICT investments would be minimal.

Keywords: *ICT, Knowledge, Knowledge Based Society, Data, Information ABSTRACT*

Investing in Adolescents: An Informed effort for Information, Education and Communication

By Mr. Imran Arain & Nayab Aziz Burni (Marie Stopes Society) Pakistan

In Pakistan adolescents are almost 25% of the total population. Despite the fact that they have special reproductive and sexual health problems and needs, they may be exposed to intravenous drugs and other risky behaviors. Considering their plight, Marie Stopes Society (MSS), who has established 40 reproductive health clinics across Pakistan, has added Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) services for adolescents. Program implementation indicated the need for appropriate Information, Education and,

Communication (IEC) material and campaign for adolescents and stakeholders as well, such as parents of adolescents, school teachers, religious and community leaders.

To address this need a cross sectional survey was conducted among adolescents and stakeholders in District Dera Ghazi Khan, one of the districts in Southern Punjab, Pakistan. The survey aimed at assessing knowledge, attitude and practices of the target population. The specific objective of this KAP was to identify and document myths and misconception in regards to adolescent sexual and reproductive health and utilize these findings for IEC material development. Survey was complemented by Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and In-depth interviews (IDIs).

Results revealed that both adolescents and stakeholders lacked appropriate knowledge and had misconceptions regarding virginity and masturbation. Among girls hygiene practices during menstruation were found unhealthy whereas, among boys bestiality and homosexuality related myths and practices were found. Almost all study groups were found totally unaware of the importance of psychological changes and its relevant consequences during adolescent-hood. Focus Group Discussions and In-depth interviews proved that religious leaders can be used to disseminate health messages and support IEC campaigns.

Research proved that IEC material should always be developed following knowledge, attitude and practices of the target population and, by making community/stakeholders a part of the overall development and implementation process. This leads to an ideal, well accepted IEC package and

campaign. Community participation is a key for successfully running IEC and Behavior Change Communication (BCC) campaigns.

Women's Empowerment and Education

By: Dr S. K. Kamrani (University of Jamshoro-Sindh)

The Empowerment is seen as a means/strategy for achieving the goal of Equality of men and women (Gender Equality). Islam also supports empowerment of women by giving them the right of decision-making and right of holding property. On the other hand, the difference between a girl and boy in our society is that a girl only knows about her responsibilities but not rights; whereas, a boy has knowledge of his rights and also selective 'male' responsibilities.

In rural areas, women themselves create resistance against their own empowerment. An older woman resists more strongly than a younger woman, because she thinks that she has lost her time. As she ages, she becomes more fixed in her patriarchal worldview. The needs of the community are paramount for her. Empowerment of a woman has both an individual and a collective dimension.

The various studies over women empowerment have dispelled many traditional approaches to literacy as a stand-alone activity. It is in this sense that literacy is seen in terms of an education entitlement for poverty reduction, which is the main reason for social despair and so income generation should be linked to literacy.

We must see education as a dynamic process of learning, in which women gain access to meaningful information, engage in critical reflection, and act as a collective to transform the material and social conditions of their existence in some way.

This endeavor of exploring 'literacy' for women's empowerment has entered in its most challenging phase in which alternative governance mechanisms need to be explored 'targeting' women in a lead role. The thrust for such an approach would be to give a strategic role to women for identifying their issues and creating skills for critical planning, access and control over resources. It is essential to create a friendly relationship with communities for mutual trust building. An intervention could be sustained when one would develop confidence with the community/women and motivate them.

UNDERSTANDING YOUTH

By Ms Anoshey Nazir, Rozan Islamabad

Youth is now being targeted as a key group in many development interventions primarily because they represent a large bulk of the population in Pakistan estimated at 30 ~nillionindividuals1. It is also a prime time to bring about attitudinal change; a change geared towards acceptance of ourselves and our reproductive sexual identity leading to adoption of healthier choices with reduced disease, violence and population growth.

Adolescence can be a difficult time for many young people. Youngsters often need emotional support, guidance, and someone to turn to during their teen years. Generally in our culture, the need for teenage counseling especially in the area of emotional health has not been recognized and little or no substantial effort has been made to address the concerns of the youth in general. Impaired emotional health is often a precursor or a consequence of many health-risky behaviors such as: alcohol and substance abuse; unwanted or unprotected sex; physical, sexual, or emotional abuse (as a victim or as a perpetrator); excessive risk-taking and many others.

Understanding this crucial and undeniable link between emotional and reproductive health the Youth Help Line was set up in 2000.

The Youth Help Line (YHL) was set up as a joint collaboration between the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs, Rozan and the Family Planning Association of Pakistan. The project aims to provide an opportunity to the Youth to seek information; counseling and safe referral regarding issues associated with adolescence. The Rozan component: YHL Islamabad is managed and run independently and the toll free number constituting of four phone lines was initiated on April '01. The Islamabad center operates from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. and provides counseling seven days a week. The toll free number is accessible from all cities with area codes starting from 05 or 09 (Over 200 districts of N.W.F.P and Punjab)

I Youth and Healthy Lifestyles- an EC/UNFPA reproductive Health initiative- December 2003

YHL has accumulated data for 6020 calls, over a period of 24 months, which is stored in its specially designed database. The bulk of these calls come from the middle-income group, however, the service has received calls from adolescents from katchi abadis (slum areas) using public phone services, such as shops and phone booths, as well as calls from teenagers from the higher socio-economic class.

40 % of our callers have been female and 60% males.

Common caller concerns shared were;

- Adolescent issues includes boy - girl issues, conflicts with parents, peer pressure, violence and self - concept issues, career counseling and academics)
- Specific reproductive health issues {masturbation, homosexuality, menstruation related concerns, information regarding STI's, puberty related bodily changes)
- Psychological issues (depression, anxiety, suicide etc.)

This paper seeks to present an analysis of the caller data available at the help line with reference to gender, concerns presented, call duration, area and age group and to study the relationship between these variables. This data serves as a culturally tinted window into the emotional health of our youth and highlights their attitudes and perceptions about this understudied and therefore, poorly understood period of life.

Programme

3rd International Conference "Youth & Promotion of Human Development"
Aug 10-12, 03

Saturday 9th August 2003 (Day 0)
6:00 pm to 7:00

Arrivals Reception

Sunday 10th August 2003 (Day 1)
8:30 am
9:00 am to 11:00 am

Registration

Inaugural Session

- Welcome & Introductory Remarks by
Dr Rakhshinda Perveen,
Founder Executive Director SACHET
- *Remarks by the Chief Guest:*
Mrs Nilofar Bakhtiar
Advisor to the Prime Minister
- Key note address by Ms Najma Sadeque
- Theatre Performance by Hunerkada-Islamabad

11:00 am to 11:30 am

Refreshments

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Poverty-Panel Discussion Chair:

Ms. Najma Sadeque

Panelists

- Ms Aisha Khalid
- Prof Ghulam Rasul Chaudhry
- Mr. Inam Ellahi
- Mr. Kashif Mehmood
- Ms Ambreen Waheed

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Poster Exhibition

Chief Guest: Mr. Gayan Chand Singh, MNA

Lunch

2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Gender-Panel Discussion

Chair: Dr Hurnala Khalid

Consultant UNESCO-Pakistan

Panelists

- Dr. Farah Mufty
- Ms Naheeda Mehboob Elahi
- Dr Noman Sattar
- Dr Talat Jabeen
- Mr. Zubair Faisal Abbasi

4:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Refreshments

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Special Session with
Dr Shahid Masood, *from ARY Digital*
Participation by invitation only

Monday, August 11, 03 (Day 2)

9:00 am to 10:30 am

Special Session on **FAD**
(Fight Against Dowry- Jahez Ke Khilaf Jang)
A project cum social movement
Chief Guest: Ms Asia Azeem, MNA
Chair: Ms. Shabnam Shakeel
✓ Presentation on FAD (Fight Against Dowry)
by Dr Rakhshinda Perveen

10: 30 am to 11:00 am

Refreshments

11:00 am 12:30 pm

Research Papers Presentation Session-I

Chair: Dr Talat Jabeen
✓ Women's Empowerment & Education
(*JamshoroSindh*, Pakistan by
Dr S. K Kamrani
✓ Investing in adolescents, an informed effort
for information, education & communication
(Karachi/Sindh Pakistan by Mr. Imran Arain
& N ayab Burney)
✓ Determinants of Youth Development in
Pakistan (Islamabad/Pakistan by Ms Azeema
Faizunissa & Atif Ikram Butt)
✓ Understand Youth- A Case Study of Youth
Help Line (Islamabad/Pakistan By Ms
Anoshey Nazir)
✓ Gender & IT (Information Technology)
(Islamabad/Pakistan by Ms Shazia Haris)

12:30 pm

Crafts/Videos Exhibition

Chief Guest: Mr Meezanur Rehman MoJumdar *Joint
Secretary, Ministry of Information Bangladesh*

1:00 pm

Lunch

4:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Peace-Panel Discussion Session

Chair: Dr Inayatullah
Council of Social Sciences

Panelists

- Ms Farzana Naushab
- Mr. Jamal Shah
- Syed Muhammad Anwar
- Ms Aischa Aimon

Tuesday, August 12, 03 (Day 3)

9:00 am to 10:30 am

Research Papers Presentation Session-II

Chair: Dr. Arjumand Faisal

- ✓ Human Resource Development Needs in Pakistan, special reference to Balochistan, Issues & Challenges (Quetta/Balochistan Pakistan by Dr Shafiq ur Rehman)
- ✓ ICTs & Youth: Challenges for transformation into a knowledge based society and a smart generation (Malaysia by Ms Seema Abdullah)
- ✓ Youth: Empowerment, through participation (Lahore/Punjab, Pakistan by Mr. Ali Salman)
- ✓ Gender Bias in education: when will we break the jinx? (India by Ms Geeta Sharma)

10:30 am to 11:00 am

IT Exhibition

Chief Guest: Dr Junaid Zaidi

Rector COMSATS Institute of Information Technology

Refreshments

11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Two parallel sessions

Media-Panel Discussion Session

Chair: Ms Nigar Nazr

Panelists:

- Mr. Kaleem Ahsan
- Ms Nabahat Shireen
- Ms Narjis Zaidi
- Mr. Zahir Shah
- Ms Seemi Raheel

Gender-Panel Discussion Session

Chair Dr. Habib Khan Director General,
Academy of Educational Planning & Management,
Ministry of Education

Panelists:

- Dr. Arif Mehmood
- Ms Mominah Mehmood
- Mr. Qindeel Shujaat

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Lunch

2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Concluding Session

- Comments/Views by young people
- Wrap up by Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen

- Remarks By Dr A. Q Khan (NI & Bar, HI)
President SACHET
- Prize Distribution & Address By Chief Guest:
Mr Rais Munir Ahmed,
Minister for Minorities, Culture, Sports,
Tourism & Youth Affairs
- Theatre Performance By PAVHNA Peer
Educators Group

Refreshments

7:00 pm to 10:30 pm

Cultural Evening

- Music Performance
- Theatre Performance
- Dinner

List of Winners of "IPoster Competition" Held in connection with International Conference on Youth & Promotion of Human Development (10-12 August 2003)

S#	Names	Position	Age	Theme	Institute
1.	Ms Kinza Ijaz	1 st	14 years	Youth & Peace	International Grammar School, F-11/4
2.	Ms Cynia Ijaz	1 st	13	Youth & Poverty	International Grammar School, F-11/4
3.	Mr. Moin Akhtar	3 rd	9	Youth & Poverty	Village Shahdrah Kallan, Bhara Kahu Islamabad
4.	Ms Sana Khalid	1 st	16	Youth & Gender	Beaconhouse Senior Branch - H-8, Islamabad
5.	Ms Mehjabeen Arif	2 nd		Youth & Peace	# 110-D, Street # 1, G-7/3, Islamabad
6.	Syeda Farwa Zahra	3 rd	17	Youth & Peace	249 C-B, Garden Town, Multan Cantt