



TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL - PAKISTAN



Fourth “Youth in Governance” Workshop at University of Sindh, Jamshoro on 26th & 27th August, 2008

The fourth Youth in Governance Workshop was held on August 26th & 27th, 2008. The venue was the Auditorium of Arts & Design Institute at the University of Sindh, Jamshoro. Jamshoro is a small city in the province of Sindh, Pakistan. It is on the bank of Indus River, approximately 15 kilometers from the city of Hyderabad. Although a small city, however, it is the biggest educational center in Sindh. The University of Sindh, Mehran University of Engineering & Technology and the Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences are all located in Jamshoro.

The participants of the workshop were the students from the universities and institutes of Sindh and Balochistan. The gender equality was kept in mind and eight students (4 males and 4 females) along with a coordinator from 19 Institutions attended the workshop. A total of 180 youngsters participated in the workshop.

Other guests from the Educational Institutions, media and organizations also participated in the workshop.

The two day workshop had three sessions each on the first and second day.

DAY 1:

SESSION I

Inaugural Session

The Inaugural session started with the recitation of Quran-e-Pak and recitation of Naat. An introduction of Transparency International Pakistan and the Youth in Governance program was given by Mr. Saad Rashid, Executive Director TI-Pakistan. He informed the goals and objectives of Transparency International Pakistan, Its role in curbing corruption by strategies and with the help of civil society, government, media and to educate youth.

The presence of corruption distorts the decision making process. This directly leads to an absence of equal protection under the law, which becomes secondary to the private interest of individuals and groups and undermines the very foundations of transparent governance, a prerequisite for democratic health and respect of human rights. He emphasized on the role of youth in this regard as the youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow and the society have great hope in the youth of Pakistan. He admired the participation of youth in the workshop and expressed his hope that if the youth will join hands to fight corruption they can bring a revolution in the country.

This was followed by the inaugural speech of the chief guest of the session, Mr. Mazharul Haq Siddiqui S.I., Vice Chancellor of the host university. The intellectual chief guest addressed the participants and said that transparency and accountability could ensure

good governance, which could not be achieved without evolving proper checks and balances. This eventually leads to the establishment of fair merit and a judicious system in the society. He stressed that quality leadership could not be achieved without producing quality mindsets, which can only be possible through providing quality education. He also encouraged participants from all the institutions to join this coalition force formed by Transparency International Pakistan. He expressed his gratitude to TI-Pakistan for choosing University of Sindh to be the collaborating partner and host this auspicious program in their university. At the end of the session Ms. Umaira Samreen, Asst. Program Coordinator TI-Pakistan delivered vote of thanks to all the participant students, Coordinators and Guests. A plaque was also presented to the chief guest of the session Mr. Mazharul Haq Siddiqui.

Session II

Theme: Pakistan's Leadership Challenges: Analysis & Recommendations

Second session on the theme of "Pakistan's Leadership Challenges: Analysis & Recommendations" started at 01:30 p.m after a delicious lunch. The speaker of the session was Prof. Dr. Rafia Ahmed Sheikh, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh, Jamshoro. The session was chaired by Dr. Asadullah Kazi, Vice Chancellor, Isra University, Hyderabad. Dr. Rafia in her lecture emphasized the crucial role played by the leaders in the destiny of their people and the world at large. She briefly overviewed the qualities of leadership that Mr. Mohammad Ali Jinnah possessed. She quoted Jinnah as honest, loyal, liberal, democratic, visionary, ambitious, steadfast and courageous personality, who was a symbol of hope and salvation for his people and under his leadership we got independence from British Raj. She said that the main challenge of Pakistan's leadership is all that the leaders who came in to power after Mr. Jinnah were never came close to Jinnah's overall abilities. Where Mr. Jinnah did not compromise, our subsequent leaders did. Though the military rulers had almost absolute power, they never had the Quaid's vision or his sterling character.

She suggested that it is important that our leaders take onus of leading the country as a serious and heavy responsibility and not as an arena for acquiring power and prestige at the cost of the prosperity and well-being of the people.

This was followed by an interactive question and answer session. Students actively participated in the session to ask more about the requirements of good leaders and role of youngsters in this regard.

The chair of the session Dr. Kazi briefly commented on the theme of the session. He said that we needed young blood, like the participants, who have the potential to assume leadership roles that can influence social and economic policy reforms and development outcomes in our country.

At the end of the session plaques were given to the honorable speaker and chair of the session.

Session III

Theme: Strengthening Civil Society

The speaker of the session was Ms. Tazeen Javed, Manager Development Communication in Agha Khan Foundation NGO Resource Center. The chair of the

session was Prof. Dr. Mansoor Kundi, Dean of languages, University of Balochistan, Quetta. Ms. Tazeen described the role and importance of civil society in the development process. She said that civil society organizations encourage citizens to overcome their traditional passivity and, at the same time invite local governments to begin to demonstrate its commitment to respond to citizen's demand. She also emphasized the role of youth in the process of strengthening civil society and to make an effective part of it. An animated discussion took place after the brainstorming speech by Ms. Tazeen. Participants enthusiastically asked questions about their role in the development process of civil society and the country.

The chair of the session Prof. Dr. Mansoor Kundi gave his comments on the session and stressed the need for strengthening of civil society by the participation of the audience in civic activities. The session ended with a presentation of a plaque by Prof. Dr. Munsoor Kundi to the speaker of the session, Ms. Tazeen Javed.

DAY 2

Session I

Theme: Democracy & Good Governance

First session of day two of the workshop was started with the recitation of Holy Quran. The speaker of the session was Prof. Dr. Munsoor Kundi, Dean of Languages, University of Balochistan, Quetta. The session was chaired by Dr. Syed Anwar Ali Shah, Dean, Faculty of Commerce & Business Administration, University of Sindh, Jamshoro.

He highlighted democracy as a popular form of government that provides good governance. Democracy provides internal and external image with less crisis of political development. Governance is the process whereby public institutions conduct public affairs, manage public resources and guarantee the realization of human rights. Good governance accomplishes this in a manner essentially free of abuse and corruption, and with due regard for the rule of law. The true test of "good" governance is the degree to which it delivers on the promise of human rights: civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.

At the discussion session the participants pointed out the involvement of military and comparatively very little time period for exercising democracy in the country.

The satisfactory discussion session between speaker and the participants were followed by the views of the chair of the session. Dr. Anwar Shah stressed on the need for democracy and good governance as the country is passing through a great social, economic and political transformation. At the end of the session plaques were presented to the esteemed speaker and chair of the session.

Session II

Theme: Ethics & Social Welfare

The speaker of the session was Prof. Dr. Pervez Ahmed Pathan, Professor and Controller Examination at University of Sindh. The session was presided by Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmed Panhwar, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Sindh. He informed the

participants about the actual meaning of ethics as it encompasses right conduct and good life. It is significantly broader than the common conception of analyzing right and wrong. Ethics are often summed up in what is considered the “golden rule”—do unto others as you would have them do unto you. He described social welfare, honesty, integrity, carefulness, legality and others as the ethical codes for societies.

He termed social welfare as the well being of the society as a whole. It is about how people, communities and institutions in a society take action i.e. apply code of conduct to provide certain minimum standards and opportunities towards improving the quality of life. He therefore said that social indicators in the development of Pakistan do not indicate an encouraging picture. He also shared tables and charts of National perception surveys, social indicators and pro-poor budgetary expenditure for the understanding of participants. An interactive question and answer session took place after his brainstorming presentation. The chair of the session Dr. Iqbal Panhwar gave his comments on the presentation.

Session III

Concluding Session/Presentations by students

Third and the last session of two day workshop of “Youth in Governance” was based on the presentations by participants/students. The chair of the session was Prof. Dr. Rafia Ahmed Sheikh, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh. A speaker from each institution was given three minutes to present his views on matters relating to the topics discussed. The session showed that students grasped the subject well and very actively participated through out the workshop. The speeches of the students were very much appreciated by the guests and speakers. Certificates were given to all the coordinators of the universities for the participating students. Though all the students presented their address expressively, the jury adjudged Mr. Abdullah Jamal from University of Karachi as first and Mr. Rameez Hassan from Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences, Jamshoro for the second position. They were presented a token prize. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Saad Rashid, Executive Director, Transparency International – Pakistan.