



LAS
LEGAL AID SOCIETY

RESHAPING SOLUTIONS FOR
ACCESSING JUSTICE IN PAKISTAN

NEWSLETTER

July - September 2024
28th Edition

LAS' GROWTH AND EXPANSION TIMELINE spanning over 11 years

2011



Legal Aid Society (LAS) was officially registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act on November 19, with Justice (R) Nasir Aslam Zahid serving as its chairperson.

2014



LAS signed its inaugural project agreement with Development Alternatives International (DAI) and the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO). During this year, the Legal Advisory Call Centre was also established.

2015



LAS expanded its reach by establishing district offices in Dadu, Shaheed Benazirabad, Sukkur, Larkana, Hyderabad, and Khairpur.

2016



LAS secured its first grant from the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Democracy and Labour for an Alternative Dispute Resolution initiative aimed at alleviating court congestion in eight judicial districts of Sindh.

2017



LAS established a district office in Sanghar. LAS also launched a sustainable juvenile literacy program within a young offenders' detention facility in Sindh to enhance basic literacy and legal awareness among youth in the juvenile justice system.

2018



LAS formed a public-private partnership with the Law Department of the Government of Sindh to expand the Legal Advisory Call Centre (LACC), which was subsequently renamed the Sindh Legal Advisory Call Centre (SLACC).

2019



LAS broadened its scope to bolster the state's response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). The Sindh Government adopted a Sexual Violence Response Framework – a five-year roadmap for government reform and policy action on SGBV.

2020



LAS initiated work on issues concerning the rights of religious minorities and women's legal rights to property.

2022



LAS inaugurated its Islamabad office and expanded operations into Gilgit-Baltistan. Additionally, it launched MICADR, which is a dispute resolution center recognized by the High Court.

2023



LAS further expanded its geographical scope to include other provinces of Pakistan such as Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. A mediation center was established at the Islamabad High Court, along with an Anti-Rape Crisis Cell at PIMS Islamabad.

2024



LAS launched the Naz Assist AI Chatbot and established another Anti-Rape Crisis Cell at JPMC Karachi.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS at LAS

LAS takes pride in being a part of this beautiful nation and contributing to its growth and prosperity. LAS celebrated this Independence Day with all its teams, and the Board of Directors, who took out time from their busy work schedules to come together, keep everyone engaged, and remember the reason for LAS' existence: to ensure equality and justice for everyone.



LAS celebrated the 77th Independence Day of Pakistan at its Head Office by starting a planting drive, a small effort for a greener and climate-resilient Pakistan, as it prepares for the future by sowing seeds of justice into our motherland. The day served as

a powerful reminder of the struggles and determination that paved the way for sovereignty. Everyone pledged to affirm their commitment to enhancing access to justice and contribute to filling Pakistan's future with peace, equality, and success.

You can catch the highlights of the day by clicking (in case of a softcopy) or scanning this QR code.



Recognizing the **BRAVE WORKING FEMALE LAWYERS**

LAS is proud to announce that its dedicated female lawyers have received their well-deserved 'Brave Working Ladies Appreciation Award'.

13 female lawyers from the LAS' Litigation team and SLACC were awarded with the honor. The award ceremony was held at Lawyers Club Clifton, Karachi, on August 18, 2024, to appreciate their efforts, dedication, and unwavering commitment to excellence in the legal field.

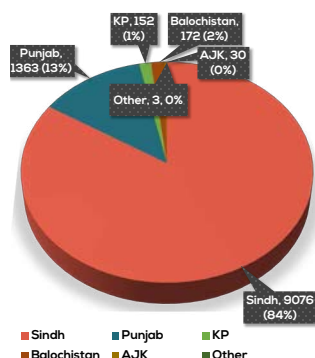
These women are LAS' legal champions who strive every day just to ensure that justice is provided to those in need. LAS is profoundly thankful for their tireless efforts and their positive impact on our community.



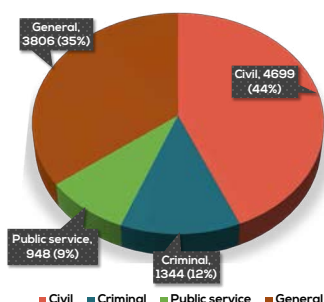
SLACC CONTINUES TO EMPOWER CITIZENS by providing legal aid and assistance through its toll free number 0800-70806 - established in partnership with the Government of Sindh

The Sindh Legal Advisory Call Center (SLACC) is a flagship project of the Legal Aid Society (LAS) and the Government of Sindh (GoS). This is Pakistan's first and one-of-a-kind toll-free helpline, which through its Interactive Voice Recording (IVR) system has amassed an impressive record of 475,784 calls received to date from more than 600 cities across Pakistan. These queries are appropriately addressed by High Court enrolled Agent Lawyers, and callers are provided with conclusive guidance on each query.

Provincial Breakdown of SLACC Callers



Legal query categories



Law Department
Government of Sindh

24/7 Helpline 0800 70806

SLACC

Sindh Legal Advisory Call Center

During the reporting quarter, SLACC registered **10,797 queries**. This quarter's statistics reveal that 73% of queries originated from male callers, while 27% came from female callers, with an additional 6 calls from gender non-conforming individuals.

Launch of PAKISTAN'S FIRST MULTILINGUAL LEGAL AID CHATBOT

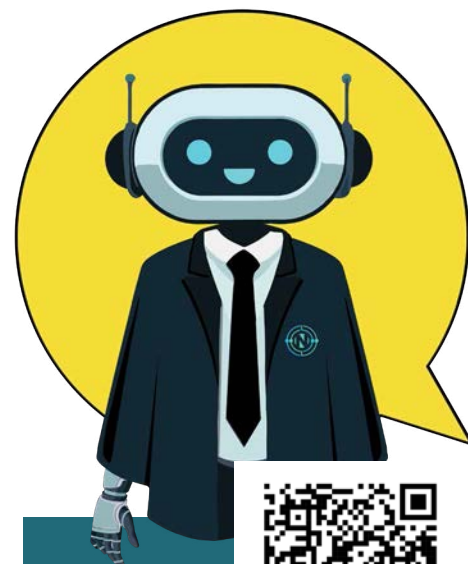
SLACC launched Pakistan's first multilingual legal aid chatbot 'NAZ Assist' which went live on the LAS' website on September 30, 2024. The bot has been built using SLACC's in-house database built on 475,000+ legal aid and assistance queries since 2014, and provides free legal advice in multiple languages, including Pashto, Urdu, English, and Sindhi, making legal assistance more accessible than ever. This significant addition also makes SLACC more inclusive as people who are deaf or mute can now get legal advice at a click of a button. NAZ Assist is also the only

chatbot in Pakistan that offers free verification of legal advice with a human advocate. Users can even drop their numbers to get a free call back.

Within a very short period, NAZ Assist has already garnered praise from notable figures in the legal fraternity. This momentous occasion pays tribute to **Justice Nasir Aslam Zahid** (Founder & Chairperson, LAS), after whom the bot is named, and serves as a precursor to a larger event planned in the coming months, where the bot will be officially showcased to Government officials, LAS' esteemed donors, media, and other stakeholders.

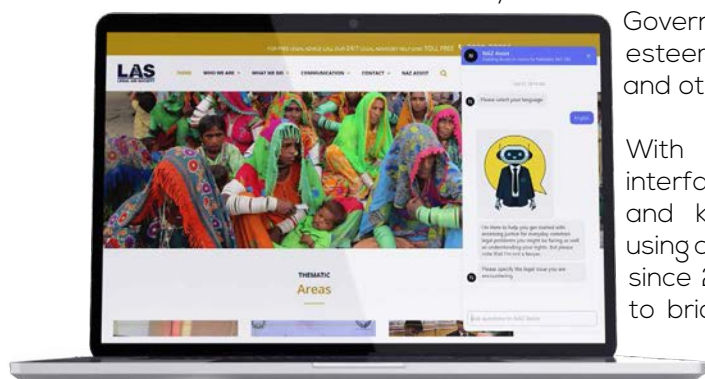
With its user-friendly interface, 24/7 availability, and knowledge base built using calls received by SLACC since 2014, NAZ Assist aims to bridge the justice gap in Pakistan.

NAZ ASSIST



Join us in this groundbreaking initiative that empowers citizens to access legal support effortlessly! You can test the bot from our website:

<https://las.org.pk/naz-assist/>



PUBLIC AWARENESS and Marketing efforts

After achieving positive results, SLACC continued its marketing efforts during the reporting quarter as part of its comprehensive Mar-Comms (Marketing-Communications) campaign. As SLACC's media campaign was successfully administered throughout the reporting quarter, an increased number of calls were received at SLACC's helpline 0800-70806.



MY Karachi: Oasis of Harmony Exhibition



In collaboration with MICADR, the SLACC set up a stall at the "MY Karachi: Oasis of Harmony" exhibition managed by KCCI (Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry). The expo was held at the Expo Centre in Karachi on August 2-4, 2024. This platform provided an excellent opportunity for SLACC to showcase its commitment to enhance access to justice amongst corporate audiences.

The SLACC team distributed its brochures that highlighted its role in fostering a harmonious and efficient business environment through ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution) and demonstrated how its initiatives can swiftly resolve conflicts, enhance business relationships, and drive economic growth in the region.



Collaboration with Social Media Influencers

As a part of its comprehensive social media strategy, SLACC is looking to collaborate with various social media influencers, who will highlight SLACC's mission of providing free legal advice to people across Pakistan, with a particular focus on how it assists marginalized communities in accessing justice.

SLACC was recently given coverage by the popular YouTube channel "Chaltay Phirtey", which has over 286,000 subscribers on YouTube and 753,000 subscribers on Facebook. Their video was shared widely on YouTube, Facebook, TikTok, and Snack platforms. The engaging content resulted in an increased number of calls as more people felt encouraged to seek legal support by calling SLACC.

Coverage at Dharti TV



SLACC was proudly represented by its call-center lawyers, as Dharti TV hosted SLACC at the 'Morning with Dharti' show on four occasions. In addition, SLACC was also featured in multiple Dharti TV's shows including 'Legal Opinion', 'Together We Can', and 'Business Talk with Abdul Haque'.

Furthermore, the SLACC TVCs (Television commercials) were aired during prime time and were collaboratively run on various social media channels, reaching out to millions of audiences digitally, which ultimately helped to spread the word.



Newspaper advertisements

SLACC launched a print advertising campaign in the widely read 'Daily Sobh' newspaper. Two ads were published on consecutive Sundays, reaching a broad audience as the newspaper boasts a circulation of over 9,000 homes across Sindh, effectively communicating the message to a large and diverse readership.

This effort aimed at increasing public awareness of SLACC's services and highlighting LAS's commitment to providing accessible legal assistance to the community.

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

Collaboration with NOWPDP



LAS earlier signed an MoU with NOWPDP (Network of Organizations Working for People With Disabilities Pakistan). This partnership has established a robust referral mechanism for complaints from PWDs (People

With Disabilities), ensuring their issues are addressed efficiently and effectively. Moreover, both parties are now conducting joint awareness sessions in overlapping districts.

By leveraging the strengths and

synergies of both organizations, this collaboration aims to promote inclusivity and empower PWDs, enhancing their access to justice and legal support.

SENSITIVITY TRAINING for Differently-Abled People by NOWPDP



The team from NOWPDP conducted a sensitization training for SLACC lawyers, focusing on issues faced by differently-abled individuals. The training covered models of disability, debunking myths, the use of relevant laws, and featured interactive activities using sign language.



This session provided invaluable insights to SLACC lawyers, who are also visiting NOWPDP camps to assist differently-abled individuals with legal issues. This initiative is part of the ongoing efforts to make SLACC more inclusive for everyone.

Participation of SLACC Lawyers at NOWPDP CAMPS

The SLACC team participated in a camp organized by NOWPDP for differently-abled individuals. **Advocate Noreen Qazi** (SLACC on-call advisor) on the occasion provided free legal advice to attendees with the assistance of a sign language expert, helping those facing legal challenges. Moving forward, the SLACC team is planning to set up a dedicated legal desk at these camps every month.





VISITS at the SLACC

Visit by Deputy Speaker Sindh Assembly



SLACC had the privilege of hosting **Mr. Anthony Naveed** (Deputy Speaker, Sindh Assembly) at its office. During his visit, he was given a comprehensive briefing on the LAS' & SLACC's ongoing activities and programs. Mr. Naveed expressed his keen interest in further understanding LAS' Mediation systems and offered valuable suggestions for enhancing the work being done. As a token of appreciation, SLACC presented him with a traditional Sindhi Ajrak for his practical approach and his commitment to supporting marginalized communities.



Visit by the Directorate of Legal Education

SLACC had the pleasure of hosting **Mr. Usama Malik** (Director, Pakistan's Directorate of Legal Education), at the LAS' Karachi office and the SLACC call center.

Mr. Malik was impressed by SLACC's performance and accomplishments, as he was briefed on the SLACC's NAZ Assist initiative and urged for its swift promotion whereafter more people would be able to utilize this facility effectively across the nation.

Visit by the Law Department of Balochistan



A delegation from Balochistan, including representatives from the Law Department and the Additional Advocate General of Balochistan, recently visited SLACC's office. The SLACC team demonstrated the delegation with its processes, showcased successful case outcomes, and highlighted its focus on providing equitable access to justice. This interaction not only created a deeper understanding of SLACC's mission but also opened doors for future partnerships aimed at enhancing legal support in Balochistan.



Visit by SFERP

SLACC was honored to host the dedicated team from the **Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project** (SFERP) at its call center. During the visit, the SLACC team shared valuable project insights and best practices with the SFERP team, which oversees **Rescue 1122** operations across Sindh. Both organizations explored future collaboration opportunities to enhance access to justice for the people of Sindh.

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS SECURITY AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE in Pakistan

A step toward inclusive justice

LAS' mission reflects its dedication to provide equal and easy access to justice for all, particularly for religious minorities who have long been sidelined. Through litigation, legal reform, and policy advocacy, LAS is working to create a more inclusive and just society, where every individual, regardless of their religion or gender, is treated with dignity and fairness under the law.



ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DISTRICT PEACE NETWORKS across Sindh to strengthen district-level response in ensuring peace and inter-faith harmony

LAS goes beyond just reviving District Peace Committees (DPCs) in Sindh; it is now building the foundation for long-lasting peace and justice. By establishing District Peace Networks (DPNs) in 8 strategic districts, we've created inclusive spaces where communities can resolve conflicts, mediate disputes, and seek redress for grievances, particularly for Religious Minority Communities (RMCs).

Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, which advocates for peace, justice, and strong institutions, LAS' mission is to ensure marginalized religious communities have equitable access to justice. LAS' DPNs (District Peace Networks) are designed to make justice accessible at the grassroots level, empowering communities that have historically been excluded from formal legal structures.

What sets LAS' DPNs apart is their diversity and inclusivity: 20 Christians, 51 Muslims, 28 Hindus, and 1 Sikh come together to foster interfaith harmony and peace. With 76 men and 24 women involved, these networks include LAS-trained community paralegals, accredited mediators, and representatives from district governments and interfaith peace committees. Together, we are not just solving disputes; we are creating a more just society where everyone can have their voices heard.



STRENGTHENING JUSTICE FOR RMCs by filing litigation cases of public interest

LAS is deeply committed to improving access to justice for Religiously Marginalized Communities (RMCs) in Pakistan. The approach centers on strategic litigation and policy advocacy to address the deep-rooted, systemic issues these communities face. The initiatives we have undertaken are pivotal in resolving disputes, promoting inclusivity, and rebuilding trust in Pakistan's justice system.





Some of the recent efforts in this regard involve filing several public interest litigation cases and advancing key legislative reforms that target the protection and empowerment of religious minorities. These actions are designed not only to resolve specific community-level disputes but also to pave the way for broader legal and institutional changes. Some of the key cases and advocacy measures that LAS is

currently pursuing include:

- ▶ Christian Divorce Act Reform,
- ▶ Hyderabad Land Issue
- ▶ Discriminatory Curricula
- ▶ Special Police Unit (Jillani Judgment)
- ▶ Sindh Hindu Inheritance Bill, 2024
- ▶ Sindh Hindu Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- ▶ Criminal Laws Amendment Act,



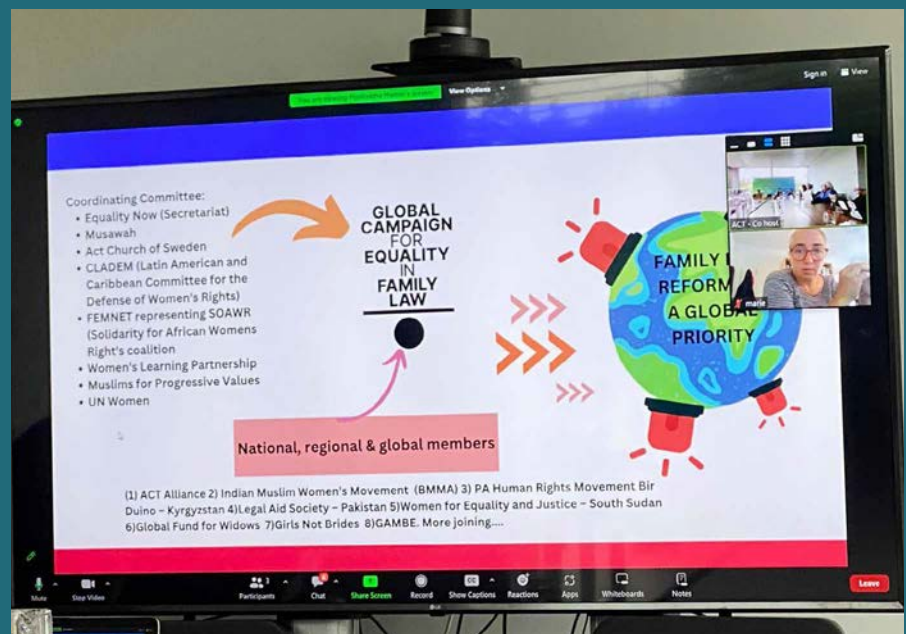
2024

- ▶ Christian Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- ▶ NADRA (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- ▶ Vigilance Committees under Bonded Labor Act
- ▶ Issues of Sanitary Workers
- ▶ Sentence Remission for Minority Prisoners
- ▶ Quota for RMCs in Education and Employment
- ▶ Forced Conversions

Participation at the EQUALITY NOW CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

At LAS, work is driven by data and evidence-based interventions that drive all its interventions, advocacy, and collaborations for gender-just legal reforms.

Advocate Maliha Zia Lari (Associate Director, LAS) presented LAS' research and interventions at the intersection of religious freedom and family law with global standards and discussions, at the Equality Now Conference in Geneva, titled 'Freedom of Religion or Belief and Family Law' on September 25, 2024. Participation at this event strengthened LAS's visibility in international legal advocacy.



speak to a qualified & high-court registered lawyer - TOLL FREE number:

0800 - 70806



PROTECTING AND PROMOTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM in Pakistan

LAS safeguards the rights of Religiously Marginalized Communities (RMCs) through

1. The provision of increased knowledge and autonomy to reduce the vulnerability of RMCs to forced conversion.
2. Economic empowerment of religious minorities, including women and girls, to reduce their vulnerability through digital and financial literacy training.

CREATING AWARENESS through a cross-provincial SMS Campaign

Aiming to raise awareness about issues like discrimination, child marriage, and violations of fundamental rights, LAS administered a comprehensive SMS campaign in Sindh and South Punjab.

messages during the reporting quarter, and produced positive outcomes, as SLACC received additional calls, through which the RMCs received legal advice and support from our dedicated high-court registered on-call lawyers.

The SMS campaign sent out **812,500**



Showing solidarity and standing together in SUPPORT FOR PRIYA KUMARI

LAS' team participated in the Minority Rights March on August 11, 2024, as a commitment towards its cause of fulfilling minority rights.

Additionally, the team also joined a protest organized to demand the release of Priya Kumari, one of the victims of FCM. During the march, the placards designed and displayed by LAS during the March got media's attention, thus, helping us reach out to a wider span of audience on the targeted issues.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS

Meeting with DISTRICT JUDICIARY OF HYDERABAD

The LAS team has built linkages with the President of the High Court Association, the General Secretary of the High Court Bar Association, the Chairman of the Legal Education Committee, and the Sindh Bar Council of Hyderabad, Sindh.

During the reporting quarter, LAS' team kept these stakeholders engaged with profound discussions on the challenges faced by RMCs with specific focus on improving access to justice through the provision of fundamental rights, raising awareness, training on personal laws, along with their digital and financial literacies, implementation of which will ultimately result in building resilient and empowered communities.



CREATING A CADRE OF TRAINED PARALEGALS in Sindh and Punjab

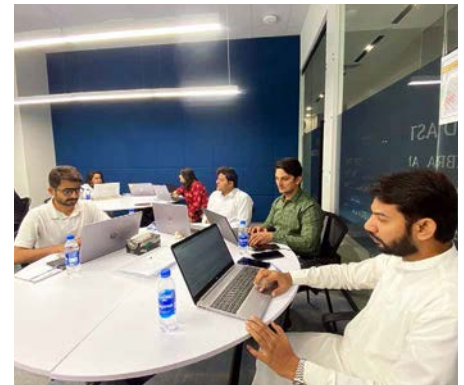
PARALEGAL TRAININGS on Fundamental & Personal Laws, and Digital & Financial Literacy

LAS is successfully implementing its community-based interventions including raising awareness, instilling referral mechanisms, and providing legal aid in civil, family, small commercial, and public service matters through community paralegals who link communities with LAS.

For the capacity building of its community paralegals, LAS organized a three-day paralegal training in Hyderabad, Multan, and Dadu during the reporting quarter. The sessions covered topics such as financial literacy, budgeting, and

loan mechanisms, along with digital literacy, while highlighting the use and benefits of different social media platforms.

With engaging group activities, mock sessions, and assessments, the 56 trained paralegals (29 male & 27 female) from Hyderabad, Sanghar, and Multan are now equipped to deliver awareness sessions with the RMCs. This activity shall ultimately benefit the RMCs by improving access to justice and their living standards, through increased knowledge.



3-Day JUSTICE SECTOR ACTORS' WORKSHOP

LAS held a three-day workshop for lawyers to enhance their capacities to effectively and expediently proceed with RMC cases in Sindh. The workshop focused on existing federal and provincial laws, judicial precedents, and litigation strategies, including a case referral mechanism for effective legal representation. Designed with a rigorous jurisprudential approach, the training aimed to deepen lawyers' understanding of the legal challenges faced by RMCs in the judicial system.

Over the three days, the training focused on post-recovery strategies for victims of child marriages, emphasizing the Zainab Alert Response and Recovery Act,



2020, and the Sindh Child Protection Authority Act, 2011.

The participants engaged with a hands-on approach, including drafting legal documents and communicating with key statutory

bodies like the NCHR and NCRC. The final day of the training culminated in mock trials, where lawyers worked in groups to analyze cases and present them, simulating courtroom conditions for valuable feedback and skill development.

STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE in Pakistan

NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON ADDRESSING VIOLENCE against women and girls in Islamabad



LAS held the National Dialogue on Addressing Violence Against Women and Girls on September 5, 2024, at the Serena Hotel in Islamabad. This dialogue aimed to increase understanding of victim sensitivity, the role of effective inter-departmental coordination, and the effective implementation of laws related to violence against women and girls in Pakistan.

The day witnessed active

participation and key addresses from **Mr. Raja Naeem Akbar** (Federal Secretary for Law and Justice), and **Senator Ayesha Raza Farooq** (Chairperson, Special Committee on Anti-Rape), INL and UN Women Representatives, who praised LAS and the government's ongoing efforts for improving gender justice and for closing the gaps in women's access to justice. Through a series of presentations, the dialogue identified knowledge

and skill gaps among medical professionals and law enforcement agencies, leading to ineffective service delivery and called for better training for all service providers. In his keynote address, **Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani** (Senior Puisne Judge, Islamabad High Court) stressed the importance of taking a holistic approach in sexual and gender-based violence cases during the trial stages to improve conviction rates.



Speak to a qualified & high-court registered lawyer - TOLL FREE number:

0800 - 70806



CAPACITY BUILDING ENDEAVORS

MULTI-SECTORAL TRAINING of Investigation Officers, Medicolegal Officers, and Prosecutors on S&GBV



LAS in collaboration with UNFPA Pakistan organized two key multi-sectoral trainings on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) for criminal justice system actors in Lahore and Peshawar.

The first training held in Lahore aimed to enhance the capacity of key stakeholders, including police officers, medico-legal officers, and prosecutors, in effectively implementing laws related to sexual violence. During this activity renowned legal experts such as **Mr. Syed Farhad Ali Shah** (Prosecutor General Punjab), and High Court Advocates **Fahad Malik**,

Hammad Saeed, and **Shabbir Hussain**, alongside medico-legal experts including the likes of **Dr. Farhat Sultana** and **Dr. Humayoun Temoor Baig** covered vital topics including gender sensitivity, rape myths, legal frameworks, medico-legal procedures, and gaps in investigation and trial processes.

The second training took place in Peshawar bringing together the criminal justice actors from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Facilitators such as **Atiq-ur-Rehman** (Director Administration KP Prosecution), **Sharafat Ali** (Advocate High Court), and **Amna Baig** (SSP) led sessions

on gender basics, legal amendments in SGBV cases, and the role of Anti-Rape Crisis Cells. They also covered the drafting of police reports (challans) and effective litigation techniques.

On this occasion **Ms. Robin Haider Bukhari** (Director General, Directorate of Prosecution KP) also delivered a keynote address, highlighting the vital role of health, police, and prosecution departments in reporting and investigating SGBV cases, and the importance of improving service provision to protect the well-being of survivors.

CITIZEN POLICE LIAISON: Community Awareness Sessions

LAS conducted a series of 9 impactful awareness sessions in Karachi, engaging 262 individuals from diverse communities, including women, men, and transgender persons. These sessions were designed to educate participants on Gender-Based Violence (GBV), help them identify signs of abuse, and provide information on referral pathways and police services available to support victims.

As part of a Citizen Police Liaison initiative, attendees also had the valuable opportunity to interact directly with a police officer, discussing the challenges they face when reporting GBV cases. This initiative was a significant step toward easing the reporting process and ensuring better access to justice for GBV survivors across all communities.



TRAINING ON SOPS AND GUIDELINES for Rape Detection Kits

LAS conducted a training for Medico-legal officers (MLOs) and medical staff on the SOPs and guidelines for rape detection kits in selected Anti-Rape Crisis Cells. In total, 51 medical officers were trained across Karachi and Sukkur. The training, led by **Dr. Summaiya Tariq** (Police Surgeon, JPMC Karachi), focused on enhancing the participants' understanding of proper procedures and the importance of accurate evidence collection in cases of violence against women. The sessions also introduced the attendees to a "think-trial" approach, emphasizing the critical role of meticulous evidence handling in securing justice.

The stage was given to discuss the role of first medical responders in greater detail, who assess the effects of physical, sexual, and psychological violence on the well-being of survivors. This included understanding basic health needs,



medical interventions, evidence collection, and the use of referral pathways. The LIVES approach (Listen, Inquire, Validate, Enhance Security & Support) was also introduced.

Furthermore, special emphasis was placed on the amendments made to the anti-rape laws in Pakistan, particularly the Anti-

Rape (Trial and Investigation) Act of 2021. An introduction to various medicolegal proformas was also provided, covering documentation for female and male sexual violence survivors, accused individuals, and related reports. The response from the MLOs and medical staff was overwhelmingly positive, underscoring the value of these sessions.

ORIENTATION of Technical Working Groups



LAS conducted an orientation session for the newly notified members of the Technical Working Groups under the Multi-Sectoral Coordination Committee (MSCC), which marks a vital step in Sindh's ongoing efforts to combat Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). The MSCC, established in November 2021, plays a key role in aligning the Government of Sindh's initiatives by fostering collaboration across departments to ensure a unified and effective response to GBV.

During the orientation, members were introduced to the following MSCC's thematic areas, which guide Sindh's strategy on SGBV:

- 1. Medico-Legal Reforms:** Strengthening forensic and medical responses to GBV cases.
- 2. Data Collection and Mainstreaming:** Ensuring accurate and centralized data on sexual and gender-based violence.
- 3. Operationalization of SSOIUs:** Strengthening and

Establishment of Specialized Sexual Offences Investigation Units to enhance investigation.

- 4. Establishment of One Stop Protection Centers:** Establishing, enhancement, and strengthening of One Stop Protection Centers under the Sindh Police Department and Anti-Rape Crisis Cells under the Health Department for comprehensive survivor care.
- 5. Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Crises:** Prioritizing response to SGBV during emergencies.

The orientation focused on equipping the working groups with the tools to address GBV challenges, streamline interventions, and set priorities for the coming year. Through these specialized committees, the MSCC accelerates the implementation of the Sexual Violence Response Framework, allowing for expert input that directly impacts the lives of survivors.

CONSULTATION SESSION with Women Lawyers and Prosecutors with SPECIAL FOCUS ON S&GBV LAWS:

During the reporting quarter, LAS engaged over 250 lawyers and prosecutors under the flagship project “Tahaffuz” led by UN Women to enhance coordination among legal professionals and foster interdepartmental collaboration on cases. The consultations primarily focused on the Anti-Rape (Investigation and Trial) Act 2021, sexual harassment laws, and other GBV-related legislation.



TEACHING MEN to become better allies

Transforming unequal power dynamics between men and women involves challenging notions of masculinity and traditional perceptions of manhood. This involves actively questioning the existing power structures in their actions or their words at the personal, interpersonal, and societal levels and taking responsibility for change.

As a part of LAS's ongoing partnership with UN Women and SHRC (Sindh Human Rights Commission), LAS collaborated with universities in Karachi on the global HeForShe campaign. The HeForShe campaign is aimed at creating an inclusive environment for women and girls, with an emphasis on men playing an integral role in becoming allies with and standing up for violence against women and girls. This campaign aims to transform gender roles in society in a way that contributes to several positive outcomes, such as the achievement of gender-balanced leadership, equal pay for women, and women's economic empowerment.

Three awareness sessions were conducted at Hamdard University and Karachi University in September. While a total of 82 HeForShe advocates were recruited as a part of this campaign and will carry the legacy of this campaign forward through activism within their circles and communities.



INSPIRING THE FUTURE of Legal Practice



LAS led a session at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) for the Law and Politics Society's fellowship program, "LPS Agents of Empowerment" in September 2024. On this occasion **Ms. Arooj Shams** (Research Associate, LAS),

provided an overview of the LAS' portfolio and legal interventions, emphasizing the organization's commitment to promoting access to justice, gender equality, and legal empowerment.

The students from LUMS were



eager to learn about LAS' impactful initiatives and potential opportunities in public interest law. Such engagements cultivate meaningful connections with the next generation of legal professionals.

Speak to a qualified & high-court registered lawyer - TOLL FREE number:

0800 - 70806



FOSTERING LEGAL EMPOWERMENT AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE against SGBV in Sindh



LAS aims to provide essential multi-sectoral services to end Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), targeting economically vulnerable populations in Larkana, Dadu, and Matiari. To enhance the demand for these services at the community level, we are deploying volunteers 'Guardians of Justice' (VAWG/GBV Paralegals) to raise awareness about domestic and sexual violence and their available redressal mechanisms. These Paralegals will integrate into the existing Community Networks for Child Protection (CNCPC) and will promote the establishment of MFBN (Markaz Falah-e-Behbood e Niswan) centers, which will provide multi-sectoral services.



MAPPING & MEETINGS WITH COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS to establish MFBN centers

Matari



A coordination meeting took place in Matari on September 10, 2024, between LAS and significant community stakeholders, including the likes of **Muhammad Fahad** (Additional Deputy Commissioner), **Rehmatullah Turk** (VISWA Director and CNCP Member), **Abdul Salam Memon** (Medical Superintendent), and **Zeeshan Bashir Chandio** (Advocate and Salis Member), who were engaged in fruitful discussions who aimed at identifying suitable locations for the Markaz Falah-e-Behbood e Niswan (MFBN) centers.

The stakeholders expressed a strong willingness to collaborate with government officials and were keen on meeting LAS field officers to better contribute to the success of this intervention. On the other side, government officials have also affirmed their full support and collaboration.

A community mapping exercise was also conducted on September 12, 2024, across various villages in the district of Matari, including Memon Ji Wasi, Muhammad Hashim Mallah, Sekhat, Khyber, and Sher Khan Malookani (Taluka Hala) to identify new communities, assess the local challenges, and engage with new stakeholders.



Matari

A coordination meeting was held in the villages of Bero Khan Gadehi (UC Kandi Chukhi) and Burira (UC Gozo, Tehsil K.N. Shah) on September 12, 2024. The meeting focused on discussing potential locations for establishing the MFBN centers and for gaining community support.

LAS team in Dadu met IRC and TRDP officials, with fruitful discussions about site options and possible alternative locations. The Dadu team also met **Sayed Imdad Ali Shah** (District Health Officer) on September 24, 2024, who expressed his willingness to support and facilitate all interventions. He showcased his commitment & support to LAS through his invaluable recommendations and assistance.

In Addition, Mr. Imdad also nominated two district coordinators from the Lady Health Worker (LHW) Program, to assist LAS in these interventions, and assured his continued support in the times to come.

PARALEGAL INTERVIEWS

As part of the ongoing efforts to foster community resilience, paralegal mapping followed by interviews was conducted in the districts of Matari and Dadu during the last week of September. The primary goal of these interviews was to identify, assess, and recruit suitable individuals who will become community paralegals and will help to bridge the gap between the legal system and vulnerable populations. 20 paralegals each are selected from Dadu and Matari districts.

The selected paralegals will further undergo specialized training to ensure that they are well-equipped to assist in delivering justice to marginalized groups, particularly women affected by domestic and sexual violence.





STRENGTHENING COMPLAINT HANDLING in Shaheed Benazirabad

LAS conducted an awareness session on women's legal and matrimonial property rights at the Women Development Department's Complaint Center in Shaheed Benazirabad, to raise awareness on legal property rights and the necessary documentation required.

The session equipped participants to manage WRLMP-related complaints effectively using LAS's referral systems (SLACC & field advocates). On the occasion, **Ms. Zaib-un-Nisa** (In charge, Women Complaint Cell) praised the strong collaboration between LAS and local stakeholders.

Bridging the Gap between Law, Policy, and Practice on WOMEN'S RIGHT TO PROPERTY

LAS remains dedicated to empowering women by raising awareness of their legal and matrimonial property rights. Using a sustainable, community-driven, and woman-focused approach, LAS addresses the legal needs of marginalized and underserved groups.



LEGAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS Clinics

During the reporting quarter, LAS conducted 100 community awareness sessions on women's property rights across Karachi, Larkana, and Shaheed Benazirabad, engaging **1,152 participants**.

These sessions fostered community empowerment and grassroots advocacy for women's property rights. Through enhancing legal education, LAS aspires to create lasting change and advance the cause of gender equity and justice for all.

RADIO SHOWS on Social Security Schemes



LAS launched a special radio series that aimed at empowering women and the community by breaking down essential legal rights and responsibilities. The radio shows

included discussions on navigating the legal system to safeguard rights, helping to close the knowledge gaps, and encouraging informed decision-making.

CONFERENCE SYNOPSIS: ROUND-TABLE CONFERENCE ON WOMEN'S MATRIMONIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

LAS organized a significant round-table conference in Islamabad on September 11, 2024, focusing on advancing women's matrimonial property rights in Pakistan. The event was chaired by **Dr. Nafisa Shah** (Member of the National Assembly) and brought together a diverse audience of female parliamentarians, including the likes of **Saadia Abbasi, Shaista Pervaiz, Shehla Raza, and Sharmila Faruqi**, as well as key legal and civil society figures. The discussions centered on two draft laws aimed at securing women's matrimonial property rights and mobilizing collective support for their submission.



The panel comprised upon prominent personalities including **Ms. Riffat Inam Butt** (Secretary LJCP), who discussed the legislative process, and **Ms. Khawar Mumtaz** (Former Chair, NCSW) who underscored the importance of international human rights standards in aligning with Islamic principles to secure women's rights.

The key outcomes from this conference were:

- **Cross-Party Consensus:** Female parliamentarians from PPP, PML-N, and MQM agreed to jointly submit a law on women's matrimonial property rights.
- **Parliamentary Women's Caucus:** The caucus will take the

lead for the law's finalization, ensuring cross-party cooperation.

- **Provincial Engagement:** The Minister for Women Development in Sindh is spearheading a cross-party initiative, with a round-table conference planned in Sindh this October.



Continuing Advocacy for WOMEN'S MATRIMONIAL PROPERTY RIGHTS WITH WDD

As part of LAS' ongoing advocacy for women's right to matrimonial property, LAS has been working closely with the Women Development Department (WDD) to ensure stronger legal protections for vulnerable women. Following the Round Table Conference (RTC) in Islamabad, where key parliamentarians and legal experts from across Pakistan discussed laws on women's matrimonial property.

On August 2, 2024, the LAS team met **Ms. Shaheena Sher Ali** (Honorable Minister, WDD Sindh) to continue discussions on important reforms. Ms. Shaheena expressed her commitment to support this cause and confirmed her support in LAS' key upcoming interventions, as she pledged her department's support to push forward the proposed legal reforms. This collaboration with the WDD is a vital part of our efforts to mobilize support and ensure that women's rights are safeguarded under Pakistan's legal framework.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can change your Nikkahnama at any time of your marriage

Secure your future now with legally binding marriage terms and inheritance rights.



Get more information by calling
0800-70806

LAS helps to enhance economic stability for women and drives sustainable growth by unlocking their full economic potential, via ensuring women's legal & matrimonial property rights.

Your FREE legal advice is just a call away . . .

IMPROVING THE UNDERSTANDING OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS under Muslim Family Laws

Women in Pakistan face various obstacles when it comes to accessing equitable rights in marriages and implementation of conditions decided in the Nikahnama (marriage contract). Due to a severe lack of awareness and knowledge about the Nikahnama and the importance of the clauses, women are too often left vulnerable to inequalities within the Nikah. In response to the pressing need for change,

LAS has taken significant steps to bridge this knowledge gap, some of which are mentioned as follows:

TRAINING of Paralegals



LAS successfully conducted a second iteration of training for 53 paralegals from Karachi, Shaheed Benazirabad & Larkana, who were equipped with a greater understanding of Muslim Family Law and can ensure married & soon-to-be-married women have access to their rights in the Nikahnama.



These paralegals will serve as a bridge between LAS and communities across Sindh through their Community Awareness Sessions and will ensure that married & soon to be married women obtain a greater understanding of their rights & privileges in a marriage.



AWARENESS SESSION IN COLLABORATION WITH AAGAH

LAS in collaboration with Aagah held an impactful awareness session at Salma Ghar, Kiran Foundation, Lyari on September 12, 2024. The session focused on educating women about the Nikahnama, its legal requirements, and the essential conditions or prerequisites of a valid Nikah under Muslim Family Laws.

During the session, we engaged in an in-depth discussion on the various clauses of the Nikahnama, aiming to shed light on critical aspects such as Talaq-e-Tafweez, financial rights, and other matrimonial rights often overlooked. Attendees, including both soon-to-be-married and married women, actively participated in this session and shared their personal experiences.

LAS extends its heartfelt gratitude to Aagah PK for organizing this session and to Kiran Foundation for facilitating the venue and support. Such collaborations prove to be crucial in empowering women with knowledge about their legal rights in marriage, ensuring they are equipped to make informed decisions about their futures.

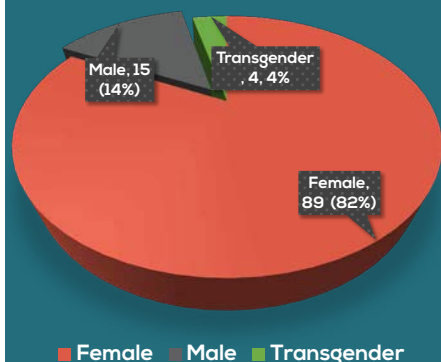


LEGAL AWARENESS CLINICS on ADR

LAS has made remarkable progress in promoting ADR legal awareness and empowering communities across Sindh. During the last two years, **20,338 community members** were legally enlightened through its awareness clinics on Court-Annexed Mediation, Federal and Provincial Ombudsmen, as they equipped individuals with essential ADR knowledge, empowering them to resolve disputes and navigate the legal system with confidence.

These clinics did more than just raise awareness; they equipped individuals with essential ADR knowledge, empowering them to resolve disputes and navigate the legal system with confidence. Through tireless efforts, LAS has been able to instill legal understanding, strengthen the justice system, and contribute towards a more equitable society.

Participants of Legal Awareness Clinics: Breakdown by Gender



RESTORING FAITH IN JUSTICE: by institutionalizing ADR in Pakistan

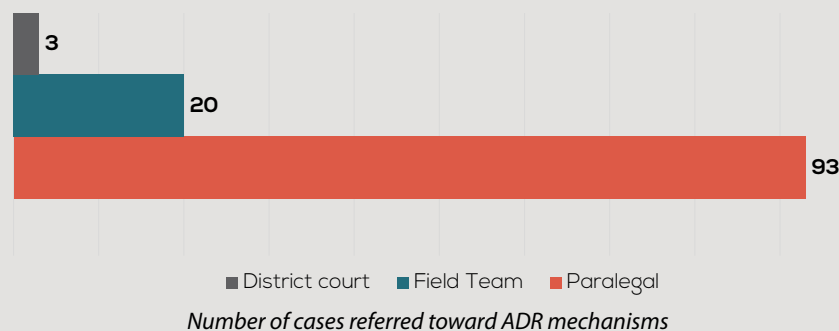
LAS strongly emphasizes facilitating access to justice institutions for vulnerable and marginalized segments of society by diverting cases towards Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms.



DIVERSION OF CASES toward ADR Mechanisms

During the reporting quarter, LAS successfully directed **116 cases** in eight designated districts toward ADR methods. Among these, females reported the highest number at 100 cases (82.2%), while males accounted for 16 cases (17.8%). Most of these cases were classified as Provincial and Federal Ombudsman cases, totaling 112 instances, followed by 2 cases in private mediation, and in court-annexed mediation, which were referred to ADR mechanisms for resolution through the following avenues.

The cases covered court-annexed and private mediations and public service matters, corrections in legal identification documents, illegal billing, and social safety net concerns. These cases involved various agencies, such as the Eshaas Program (Govt of Pakistan), Pakistan Baitul Maal, NADRA, K-Electric, HESCO, and SSGC.



The diverse and comprehensive efforts of LAS, coupled with the commitment of field officers, advocates, paralegals, and various women and development departments, have played a pivotal role in achieving these results, thus ensuring that justice is more accessible for all segments of society.

IMPROVING THE DEMAND SIDE of ADR in Pakistan

PAKISTAN ATTENDS THE SINGAPORE CONVENTION WEEK 2024



LAS and Musaliha International Center for Arbitration & Dispute Resolution (MICADR) arranged a visit of a high-level delegation comprising of distinguished members from the judiciary and legal fraternity from Pakistan to participate in the Singapore Convention Week 2024. The delegation comprised of **Muhammad Shafi Siddiqui** (Chief Justice Sindh High Court), Justice **Arbab Muhammad Tahir** (Islamabad High Court), **Raja Naeem Akbar** (Federal Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice), **Justice Arif Hussain Khilji** (former

Judge, Supreme Court of Pakistan and Chief Legal Advisor, LAS), **Hayat Ali Shah** (Director General, Federal Judicial Academy), and **Muhammad Shahzar Ilahi** (Program Delivery Specialist, LAS).

The delegation held strategic discussions with the Ministry of Law in Singapore on the roadmap for signing the Singapore Convention and learned best practices in international mediation ecosystem development.

Later at the UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International

Trade Law Academy Industry) capacity-building Workshop, the delegation interacted with key players in the international dispute resolution landscape. Pakistan was given an opportunity to present its perspective on the Singapore Convention and at the UNCITRAL, alongside **H.E Ayaz Baetov** (Minister of Justice, Kyrgyzstan), **Ms. Amaka Gold Elom** (Deputy Director, Ministry of Justice Nigeria), and **Mr. Tim Schnabel** (former US State Department Attorney, which was a moment of pride for the entire nation.

Paralegals Certificate Distribution Ceremony

LAS has successfully established Community ADR Networks (CANs) in eight project districts to promote alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms within the community. Over these years, LAS has been able to make remarkable strides in promoting ADR amongst the general public. Moreover, LAS has streamlined the grievance filing process before ADR forums, making it more accessible and efficient for justice seekers. All these achievements were made possible through the tireless efforts of the hardworking paralegals.

As a testament to the success and commitment of the ADR program, LAS appreciated and acknowledged the efforts of paralegals through the **ADR Paralegal Awards**. The awards celebrated the remarkable achievements of (24 males, 24 female, and 2 transgenders) paralegals, acknowledging their exceptional contributions to advancing access to justice within their communities.

The occasion was graced with critical stakeholders including the likes of **Mr. Usama Malik** (Director, Directorate



of Legal Education), Senior Advisor of the Federal Ombudsman of Karachi, Deputy Commissioner of Sukkur, Provincial Ombudsman, along with representatives from the Pakistan Bar Council. The

stakeholders appreciated LAS' efforts in establishing sustainable community networks and making the communities self-reliant in creating awareness of ADR Mechanisms.

UNRELENTING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE SUPPLY SYSTEM of ADR in ICT & Sindh

ADR CHANGE MAKERS' EXPOSURE VISIT with Pakistan's Judicial Leadership

LAS, through its ADR Change Makers interventions, connects the Future Change Makers with critical stakeholders in the justice sector to enhance their learning through training and exposure visits. For the same purpose, LAS organized an exposure visit for the top performing ADR Change Makers and faculty members (also termed as the 'ADR Champions'), to Islamabad for 4 days in August 2024.

These ADR Champions hailed from esteemed institutions including the University of Karachi, Hamdard University, University of Sindh, A.B.D Law College, and Government Law College in Khairpur. During this visit, the ADR Champions visited the Supreme Court of Pakistan, the Federal Judicial Academy, Islamabad High Court's court-annexed Mediation Center, and the Islamabad Bar Council to understand the legislative frameworks, current initiatives, and emerging trends in the field of ADR for reducing case pendency in Pakistan.

The Honorable Justice Mansoor Ali Shah (Senior Justice, Supreme Court of Pakistan), during his address, Justice Mansoor on the day appreciated LAS for its contributions towards building a robust mediation eco-system and encouraged the ADR Champions to continue mastering ADR mechanisms. He added that the ADR must be the preferred dispute resolution system to resolve the disputes before even filing them in court. The Honorable Justice also held a Q&A session with the ADR Champions. ADR Champions also visited the Supreme Court Museum



where they were briefed about the judicial history of Pakistan.

During their visit to the Federal Judicial Academy, the ADR Champions went on to learn the pre and in-service training curricula for judges with reference to ADR. **Mr. Hayat Ali Shah** (Director General, Federal Judicial Academy), shed light on the importance of ADR and

its benefit to the state and society. **Justice Mushir Alam** (former Judge, Supreme Court of Pakistan) in his concluding remarks said that the initiatives undertaken by LAS have not only brought the ADR on the agenda of authoritative actors but also benefited the marginalized and vulnerable segments of the society, especially in Sindh.



MEDIATION ADVOCACY AND SKILLS TRAINING



Promoting the art of mediation advocacy, LAS & MICADR, in collaboration with FJA (Federal Judicial Academy), organized a certificate distribution ceremony for participants of the Mediation Advocacy and Skills Training Program on July 11, 2024. The event was graced by the presence of **Mr. Gul Hassan Aurangzeb** (Justice, Islamabad High Court), and **Mr. Hayat Ali**

Shah (Director General, FJA), who distributed certificates to the participants.

According to the ADR Practice Direction Rules 2023, these participants will be recognized by the Islamabad Bar Council as mediation advocates, enabling them to represent clients effectively in mediation practices. This initiative is expected to enhance the overall

efficiency of dispute resolution and reduce court pendency in civil, family, and commercial cases.

Speaking at the ceremony, **Justice Mian Gul Hassan** urged participants to embrace their roles as mediators and mediation advocates, emphasizing that their efforts are vital for expediting the resolution of civil, family, and commercial disputes through ADR.

SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP/TRAINING of Judges from Sindh Judiciary



In collaboration with the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) and the High Court of Sindh, LAS conducted a training session at the Sindh Judicial Academy on August 12-13, 2024. This session focused on case referrals, and it was attended by members of the district judiciary from across Sindh.

The session was led by **Mr. Abbas Ali** (Senior Program Manager, LAS) and **Ms. Sarah Rasheed** (Senior

Manager, MICADR) who addressed members of the district judiciary from across Sindh, offering valuable insights into the ADR landscape in Pakistan. The training also focused on strategies to promote mediation within local communities and on mobilizing these communities to refer mediation cases. The training session also reinforced the judiciary's role in promoting ADR, particularly mediation, as a means to reduce the case backlog.

STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS

JUSTICE YOUSUF ALI SAYEED's (Sindh High Court) Visit

Justice Yousuf Ali Sayeed, a distinguished sitting judge of the High Court of Sindh, visited LAS & MICADR offices to observe the work undertaken in improving access to justice by institutionalizing ADR through mediation and Arbitration, and evaluated the mediation and arbitration facilities at MICADR. He was accompanied by MICADR's board members and esteemed former justices, including the likes of **Justice Arif Hussain Khilji** (Chief Legal Advisor), **Justice Athar Saeed**, and **Justice Zafar Sherwani**.



During the visit, the Board of Governors and senior management engaged in meaningful discussion regarding the essential contributions made by LAS and MICADR, as they

explored strategies for collaborative efforts to advance the cause of ADR and improve access to justice in Pakistan. Emphasizing the need for innovative approaches, they

discussed how increased awareness and implementation of ADR can alleviate the burden on the judicial system and provide more efficient pathways for resolving disputes.

Collaborating with LJCP

In a significant development, LAS signed an MoU with the LJCP (Law & Justice Commission of Pakistan) to develop a robust mediation ecosystem under its future intervention. This partnership will focus on key capacity-building initiatives, including the training of 1,000 judges in court-annexed mediation processes, accrediting 200 judges as mediators, and developing 2,000 lawyers as mediation advocates. Additionally, 5 model court-annexed mediation centers will be established across various provinces, setting a benchmark for mediation practices nationwide.

This initiative, as a part of Pakistan's Judicial Reforms agenda to enhance the judiciary's efficiency, shall aim to institutionalize ADR mechanisms, reduce the backlog of 2.4 million cases, and provide expeditious justice to the people of Pakistan



BUILDING BRIDGES with the Community-Based Mediation Systems

Mr. Riaz Hussain (Chairman, Aga Khan Conciliation and Arbitration Board) (AK-CAB for Pakistan) visited LAS to explore the options for collaboration and networking on establishing state-recognized mediation ecosystems. LAS and AK-CAB agreed to make an integrated effort for robust policy advocacy to pass the Gilgit Baltistan Mediation Bill 2023 from the Gilgit Baltistan Assembly. Both parties agreed to collaborate rather than compete in resolving the disputes by establishing referral pathways in their areas of operations.



JUSTICE SUCCESS STORIES

Forging a path to reconciliation in a family dispute: The power of Mediation

Arifa and Azam had been married for 15 years and were blessed with three children, with their eldest being 13 and their youngest 8. However, the strain in their relationship led Arifa to file for Khula and maintenance, as she left her marital home to live with her sister for three months.

During the legal proceedings, Arifa's advocate informed her about Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and the Legal Aid Society. Arifa feeling the weight of her decision, was open to exploring this potential solution and agreed to meet with a mediator. The assigned LAS mediator helped Arifa understand the benefits of mediation, who later gave her consent to speak with her husband about the possibility of resolving their issues outside the courtroom.

Akhtar too, was approached by LAS' mediator. Recognizing the potential of a solution via ADR, Akhtar agreed to participate as well. During



The couple **Arifa and Azam** in dispute after a successful and peaceful mediation with LAS Mediators

the mediation process, both parties were able to communicate their grievances, and it was evident that the major source of their conflict was their lack of communication. The couple soon reached a mutual settlement, where Akhtar agreed to maintain the family, and Arifa committed to showing respect and addressing issues directly. The couple acknowledged that their inability to express their problems was indeed the root cause of their conflicts.

By the end of the mediation sessions, they recognized each other's value in their lives and decided to reconcile, hence saving their marriage. Following this, both parties expressed gratitude to LAS and the mediator for their guidance, and for providing such a useful platform to resolve their disputes peacefully.

JUSTICE SUCCESS STORIES

Advocating for Women's Matrimonial Property Rights in areas where people are unaware of women's rights

Advocate Rizwana Achakzai, earlier trained on Women's Right to Matrimonial Property (WRMP) in a workshop held by the Legal Aid Society in collaboration with Musawah in May 2024, was invited as a guest of honor at a 5-day UN Women paralegal training in Quetta under the Gender Parity Project. During the training, she chose to focus on Women's Right to Matrimonial Property (WRMP), a concept largely unfamiliar in Balochistan.

Engaging with 30 trainers, none of whom were aware of WRLP, Advocate Achakzai raised important questions about the absence of comprehensive legislation on this issue in Pakistan. Drawing from her training, she introduced the concept and sparked meaningful discussions on the importance of WRMP.

Her efforts successfully laid the groundwork for future advocacy and legal reforms in Balochistan, initiating an important dialogue on women's rights.



JUSTICE SUCCESS STORIES

From suffering to peace: A Legal Journey to Justice

In 2021, **Aneesa** embarked on a legal journey to secure maintenance for her minor daughter, reclaim her dowry articles, and obtain a Khula (divorce by a woman). The Family Court earlier granted her Khula and awarded maintenance for her daughter but denied her request for the recovery of dowry articles.

Determined to fight for her rights, Aneesa appealed the

decision with the legal assistance of **Advocate Muhammad Rashid Mahar** (Field Advocate, LAS) in the appellate court. To have the decision reversed over the earlier judgment, and to have her dowry articles recovered was truly a challenging ask.

However, fighting the case with a strong legal strategy, and getting the non-bailable warrants issued, Advocate Rashid was able to secure a court order for

one-year imprisonment for the debtor. Aneesa's perseverance and firm legal support resulted in a significant win for women's legal rights enforcement. As a result of this battle, her husband paid 30,000 PKR in maintenance for their daughter, committed to an additional 20,000 PKR, returned her dowry articles, and even purchased new ones to replace those that were misplaced by his family.



Speak to a qualified & high-court
registered lawyer - TOLL FREE number:

0800 - 70806



communications@las.org.pk



+92 21 - 35634112-5



Block C, 1st floor, Finance &
Trade Center, Shahrah-e-
Faisal, Karachi



www.las.org.pk



[/LegalAidSocietyPakistan](https://www.facebook.com/LegalAidSocietyPakistan)



[legalaidsociety_Pakistan](https://www.instagram.com/legalaidsociety_Pakistan)



[las_Pakistan](https://twitter.com/las_Pakistan)



[youtube.com/LegalAid](https://www.youtube.com/LegalAid)