

To learn more about PYCA's work and contribute to its citizen-led e-magazine follow these links:



Website: [www.pyca.org.pk](http://www.pyca.org.pk)

Facebook: [pakistanyouthchangeadvocates](https://www.facebook.com/pakistanyouthchangeadvocates)

Twitter: [@PYCAPk](https://twitter.com/PYCAPk)

Youtube: [PYCA PK](https://www.youtube.com/PYCA PK)



Website: [www.bolojawan.com](http://www.bolojawan.com)

Facebook: [bolojawan](https://www.facebook.com/bolojawan)

Twitter: [@BoloJawan](https://twitter.com/BoloJawan)

Youtube: [Bolo Jawan](https://www.youtube.com/BoloJawan)

# ANNUAL REPORT 2017



PAKISTAN YOUTH  
**CHANGE**  
ADVOCATES

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Copyright: Pakistan Youth Change Advocates  
Drafted by: Areebah Shahid and Hisham Khan  
Edited by: Afshar Iqbal  
Designed & Printed by: Whizz Consulting and Trading

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Foreword</b>	01
<b>About Us</b>	03
<b>Geographical Outreach (Map)</b>	04
<b>Programs</b>	05
Education	06
Civic Participation	13
Youth Volunteerism & ICT4Governance	14
Bolo Jawan	15
Peace Building	16
International Peace-building Conference: Together for Peace	17
Azm-e-Naujawan Curriculum Development	17
Film Making	18
<b>Aamir Gamaryani - My Sacrifices Aren't Enough</b>	20



## FOREWORD

It is a matter of great pride for me to see what Pakistan Youth Change Advocates (PYCA) has achieved within a short period of just four years.

The year 2017 commenced with interesting prospects for PYCA to diversify its programs. With the support of Malala Fund, Pakistan Youth Change Advocates initiated a three-year advocacy intervention, titled, "Empowerment of the Girl Child through Sustained Education." This initiative is aimed at creating demand at the community level for girls' secondary education in six (06) districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). At the same time through this intervention, PYCA is also engaging Pakistan's political leadership to ensure that the government provides necessary infrastructure and legal environment to facilitate girls' access to quality education.

Our Civic Participation program added another feather to its cap by initiating, "Youth Volunteerism and ICT4Governance," in 2017. This year-long intervention will capacitate university youth on the use of innovative, accessible and inclusive Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs)/mobile technologies' enabled solutions to promote the values of democratic governance. Five of the best innovative solutions proposed by the capacitated young people will also receive seed funding from PYCA.

In the same realm, [www.BoloJawan.com](http://www.BoloJawan.com), launched in 2016, has been successfully sustained by Team PYCA. The youth-led citizen website successfully published content throughout 2017 highlighting issues such as violent extremism, democratic governance, gender discrimination, minority rights and international relations. The website has attracted a loyal audience and its content has been shared on social media by several national personalities including human rights activist, Ziauddin Yousafzai; television actress and activist, Nadia Jamil; actor, Fahad Mustafa; singers, Ali Hamza and Natasha Humera Ejaz; political leader, Afrasiab Khattak and filmmaker, Nabeel Qureshi. The year closed on a high note for Bolo Jawan as Malala Yousafzai appeared for an exclusive interview on the site's web-series, Candidly Yours.

In 2018, PYCA is very excited to take BoloJawan.com to the next level with the introduction of the website's own online radio service. PYCA will also work closely with 4 universities to position their campus radios to become effective and viable tools in the age of internet and encourage young people to take-up radio journalism for positive social change.

It is also worth mentioning here that over 33,000 Pakistanis were reached in 2017 through PYCA's various capacity building, awareness raising and digital media interventions.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the whole team of Pakistan Youth Change Advocates for the success that it has achieved in 2017 and for the magnitude of its outreach. Special thanks is due to Ammar Zafarullah, PYCA's outgoing Executive Director. He played a key role in the organization's success through its early years and PYCA will forever remain indebted to his contributions. I would also like to welcome, Areebah Shahid as PYCA's new Executive Director. In the past she has served the organization as Head of Programs and we are very confident about her abilities to lead the organization to further success.

Our partners and donors deserve gratitude for their assistance that went a long way in allowing the organization to take its message of peace and development to young people across the country successfully.

In the end, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for all the young volunteers from every province and region of the country whose passion and enthusiasm has contributed to our programs and success.

We at PYCA, hope that 2018 will prove to be a year of immense positive change for Pakistan and its dynamic young people!



### Aakif Nazeer

Chairperson  
Board of Trustees

## About Us

### Who Are We?

Pakistan Youth Change Advocates is a not-for-profit civil society organization working to promote peace and development through youth participation.

Pakistan Youth Change Advocates was established with the long-term vision for a Pakistan "...where the value of education, good governance and ultimately human life and well-being reigns supreme."

### Our Mission

To inform and inspire the youth to improve their quality of life by promoting the principles of peace, good governance and respect for human rights.

### Our Goals

- To help the general masses to appreciate, respect and come closer to the rich cultural heritage of Pakistan including literature, arts and craft.
- To educate the masses on the importance of violence-free education, democracy and human rights.
- To advocate for reforms that ensure good governance and strengthen democracy and democratic institutions in Pakistan.

## Intervention Strategies



Research



Advocacy



Capacity Building



Popular Mobilization



Resource Mobilization

## Our Theory of Change

### Partnerships

With youth focused entities (universities, colleges, youth networks etc.)

### Capacity Building

To raise awareness, inspire behavior change and impart skills.

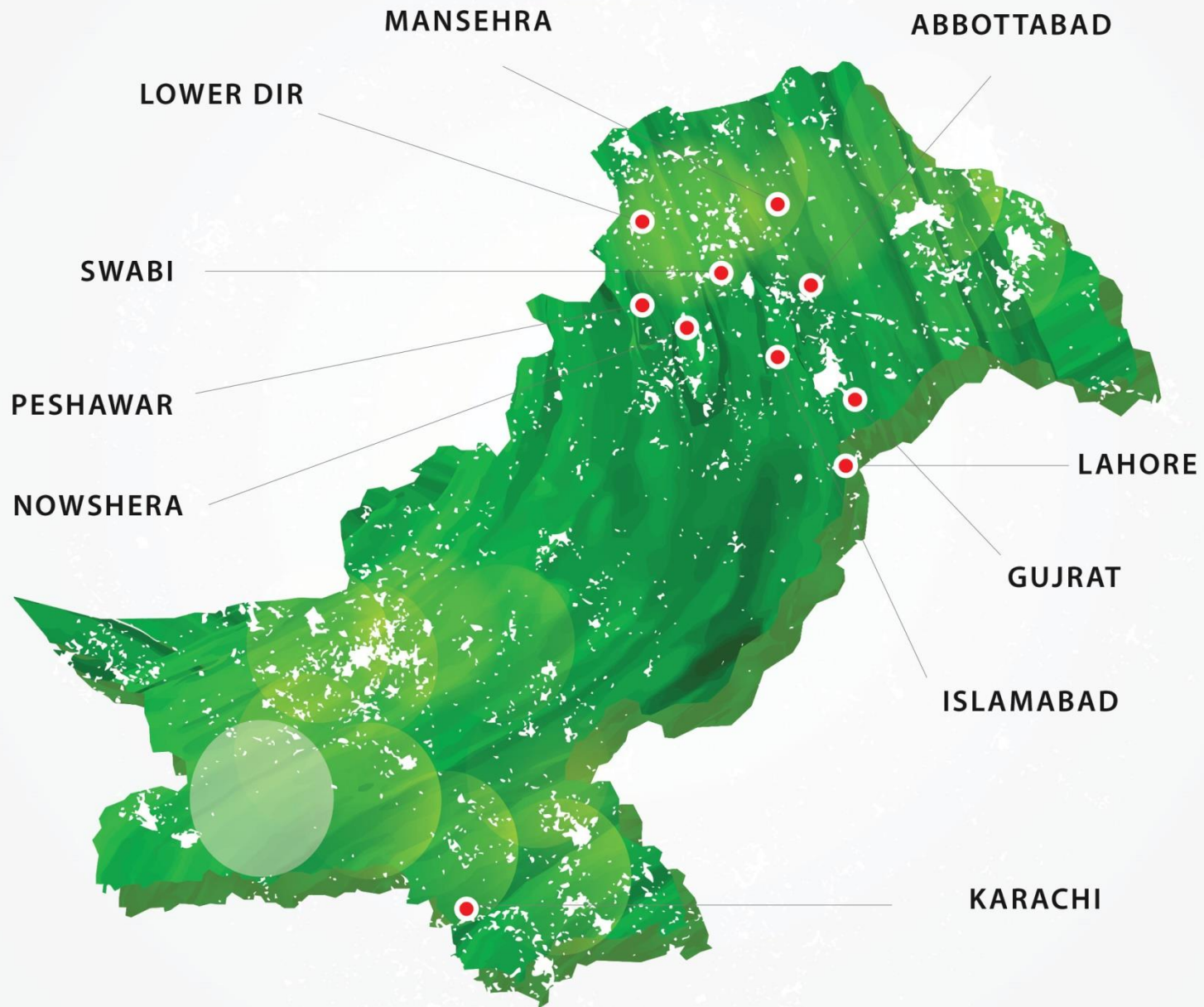
### Empower Youth

Through seed grants and/or alternate platforms to exercise newly acquired skills.

### Results at Scale

Through young change agents directly reaching out to a wider audience.

# Geographical Outreach (Map), 2017



# PROGRAMS



# EDUCATION



## Empowerment of the Girl Child through Sustained Education

There are 50.8 million children in Pakistan between the ages of 5 and 16 years. According to National Education Management Information System (NEMIS), out of these 50.8 million children, 22.6 million children are out of school. 13 million – or 53% of these out-of-school children are girls.

Here it is important to point out that while there has been improvement in terms of girls' enrollment in primary schools, their consequent enrollment and retention at the secondary level has been dismal. According to UNESCO's, "Education for All 2015 National Review," the proportion of females marginally declines as education level increases.

As per Alif Ailaan (2015), the net enrollment rate for girls is 53% at the primary level, 21% at middle and only 14% at high school level. This situation becomes all the more precarious once we move to smaller provinces.



## The Case of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

There are 6.8 million children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa of which 2.8 million (or 36%) are out of school. Furthermore, 52% of all girls between the ages of 5 and 16 years in the province are out of school. The net enrollment rate for girls at primary level stands at only 51%, dropping to 17% at middle school and becoming an astonishing 8% at high school.

## How PYCA Will Contribute towards Improving the State of Girls' Education

Taking stock of Pakistan's alarming education indicators, especially the state of girls' education, in 2017, PYCA joined hands with Malala Fund to launch a 3-years' advocacy program in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

The primary aim of this initiative is to create demand for girls' education at the community level and at the same time engage in policy advocacy to ensure public sector's commitment to providing the necessary infrastructure and legal environment to meet this newly created demand.

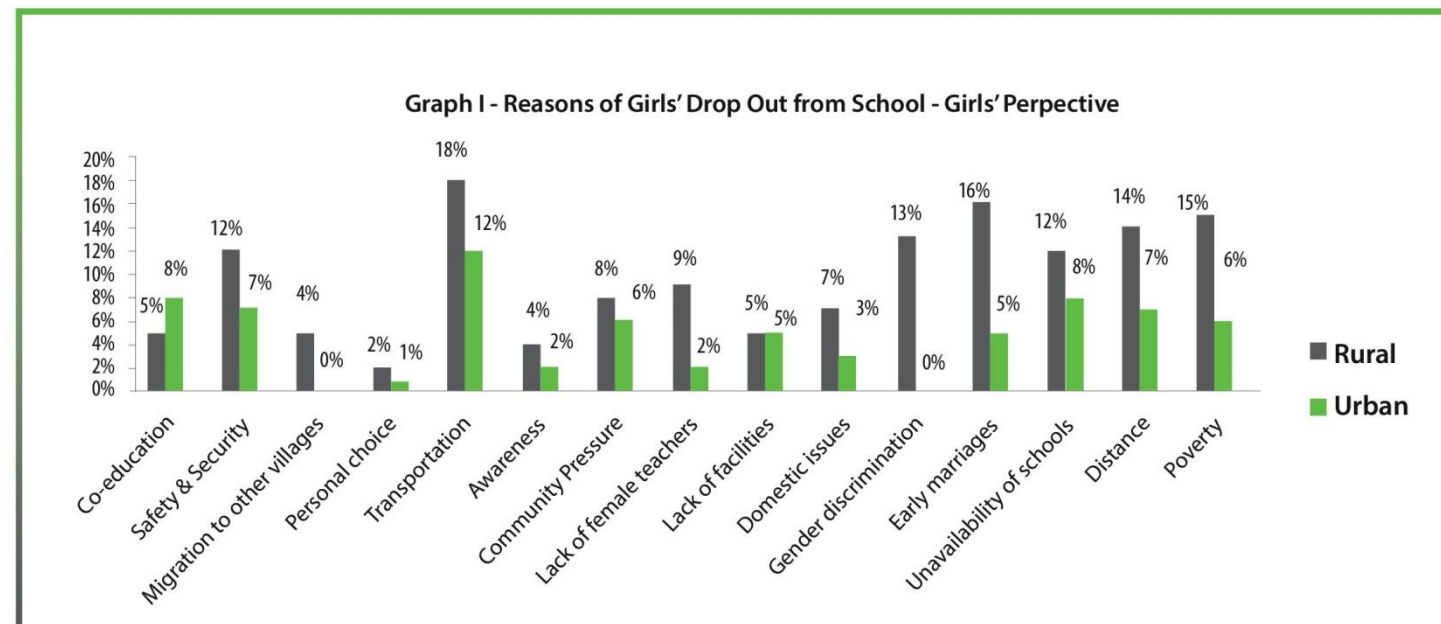


## Baseline Study

A province-wide comprehensive baseline study was undertaken during 2017. The study that extensively covered 11 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa i.e. Peshawar, Mardan, Nowshera, Buner, Lower Dir, Upper Dir, Chitral, Abbottabad, Mansehra/Tor Ghar (taken as one cluster), D.I Khan, Swat-Kohistan and Indus-Kohistan is divided into two distinct parts. Part I analyzes the overall situation in KP province vis-à-vis girls' education while Part II takes a closer look at the Indus-Kohistan and Swat-Kohistan regions as a case study.

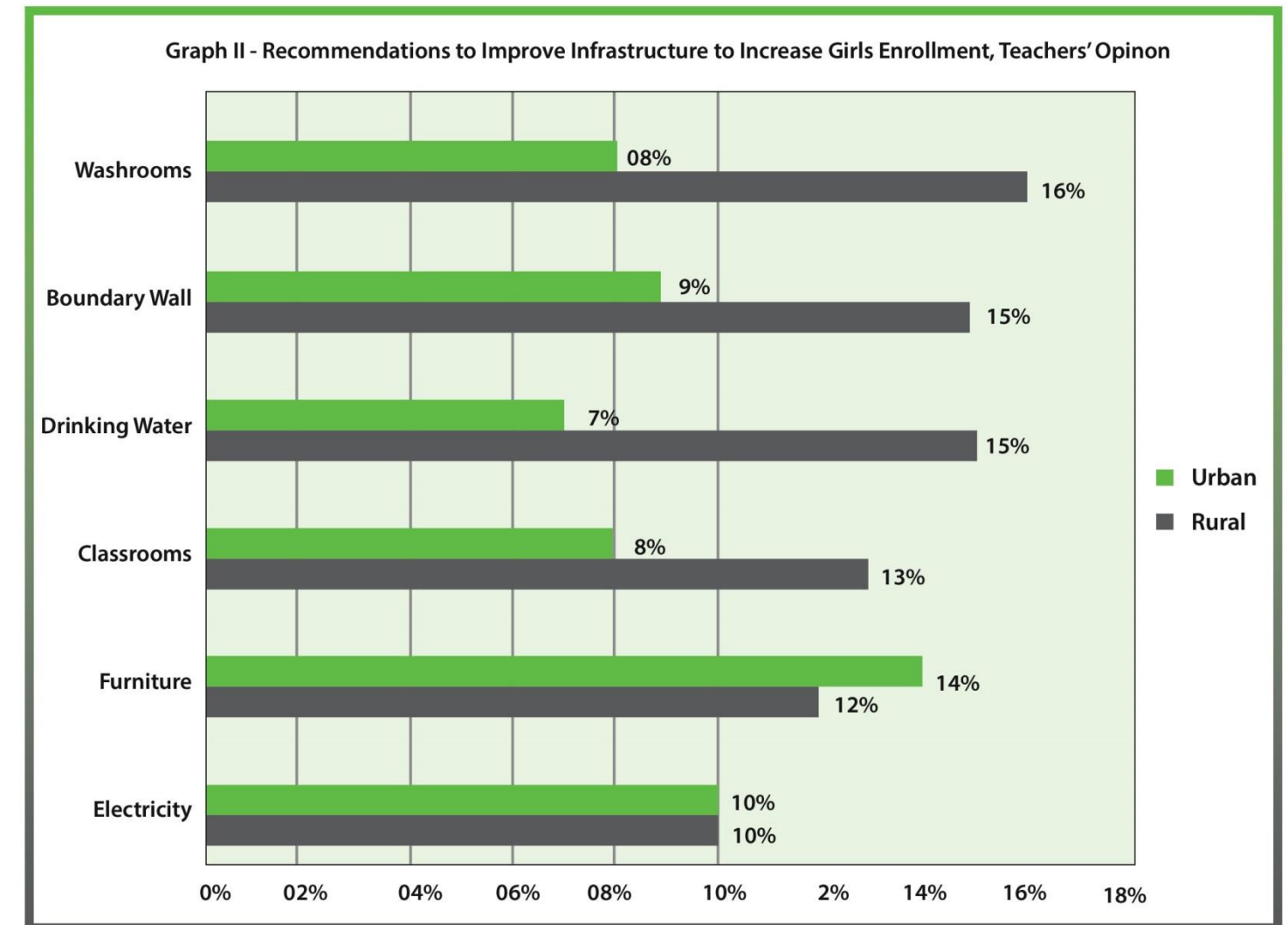
Salient findings (based on both primary and secondary data sources) revealed lack of awareness among parents and communities regarding the importance of education (especially for girls); cultural norms that frown upon educating girls; early marriages and lack of mobility for girls as being the leading causes preventing the realization of the girl-child's right to education in KP province.

The following graph extracted from the baseline report provides an overview of the leading causes identified by respondents that contribute to the drop-out rate of girls.



At the administrative level, the report documented an acute lack of secondary schools, poor infrastructure (e.g. non-availability of boundary walls, sanitation facilities, classrooms in schools), inadequate transport facilities and non-availability of teachers to be the major factors adversely impacting girls' access to education beyond the primary level.

The table below highlights the recommendations put forth by the respondents regarding the improvement in the infrastructure of schools to encourage parents/caregivers to send their housebound girl-children to school:



The Baseline Report can be accessed from the following link:  
<http://www.pyca.org.pk/researches/>

## Identification of Education Champions

PYCA identified 6 local education champions from the districts of Peshawar, Nowshera, Mansehra, Swabi, Lower Dir and Abbottabad. From running welfare schools to supporting the government's biannual enrollment drives, these education champions have a long history of volunteer work to promote the cause of education in their areas.



Additionally, 5 new education champions were also identified from among the university youth in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. PYCA conducted orientation sessions in 4 institutes, i.e. University of Peshawar, Institute of Management Sciences, Hazara University and Helping Hands Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences to invite young people to join the cause. Applications received from interested young people were reviewed and shortlisted. Candidates were interviewed to ascertain their commitment and enthusiasm for volunteer work. Going forward, the cohorts of senior and young education champions will together lead the community campaigns in the target districts.

## Capacity Building of Education Champions

During the first year of the project, the identified local champions went through an extensive capacity building process to refine their advocacy and leadership skills.

In this realm, PYCA organized and conducted capacity building workshops for the education champions on such themes as leadership, community campaigning and digital advocacy for girls' education.



During one of the sessions, Dr. Ismail Shah, (then) Chairman Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) delivered a guest lecture on, "The Scope and Impact of Digital Advocacy in Pakistan."

These trainings served to enhance the leadership skills of the identified education champions and bring them abreast with digital communication tools for an effective and far-reaching campaign.

## Advocacy with the Political Leadership of Pakistan

PYCA is engaging in targeted advocacy with political parties to ensure their commitment to girls' secondary education during the 2018 elections (and afterwards). Accordingly, during the last leg of 2017, PYCA met with senior politicians to share key facts and figures regarding girls' education at the national and provincial level. Moreover, leading causes that prevent girls' access to education and recommendations to improve the overall situation were also brought to their notice.



Table 1 summarizes the names and credentials of the political leaders with whom these meetings were held.

Political Leader	Political Leader	Political Leader
Hussain Babaq	Awami National Party (ANP)	Former Provincial Minister for Education (2008-2013, KP Province)
Raja Pervez Ashraf	Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP)	Former Prime Minister of Pakistan
Nafisa Shah	Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP)	Member of National Assembly (MNA) since 2008 Part of PPP's current manifesto committee
Sahibzada Tariq Ullah	Jamaat-e-Islami (JI)	Member of National Assembly Head of Manifesto Committee
Maulana Naseeb Gul	Jamiat-e-Ulma Islam (JUI-F) Fazal-ur-Rahman group	Senator
Asad Umar	Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)	Member of National Assembly since 2013 Senior Vice President of PTI
Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao	Qaumi Watan Party (QWP)	Former Chief Minister of KP (2 terms) Former Federal Minister for Interior Member of National Assembly
Sardar Mehtab Abbasi	Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Group (PML-N)	Former Governor of KP (2014-2016) Former Chief Minister KP (1997-1999)



Aspects of girls' education that came under discussion during these meetings focused on the:

- Difference between net enrollment of boys and girls in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province;
- Number of teachers available and student-to-teacher ratio;
- Available number of institutions for boys and girls at the primary and secondary levels;
- State of school infrastructure;
- An overview of the allocated budget vs. spending situation of the last three years (elementary and secondary education) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The following (general) recommendations were given to each political leader to improve the state of girls' education:

- Girls' education at the primary, secondary and higher level needs to be prioritized by political parties in their manifestos.
- Effective implementation of Article 25 – A (i.e. Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act) across all provinces of Pakistan needs to be ensured.
- Effective spending of development education budget (especially for elementary and secondary education) needs to be planned.
- Education projects should not be politicized and those initiated by the previous government should be continued.
- Community mobilization campaigns should be made more effective to encourage greater enrollment.
- Public/private partnerships should be explored and encouraged to increase net enrollment and reduce net drop-out rates at all levels.
- Rapid infrastructural development needs to be undertaken to cater for the overwhelming population of out-of-school children.
- Teacher training at all levels needs to be taken-up to achieve improved literacy outcomes.

Pakistan Youth Change Advocates will continue its efforts to engage Pakistan's political leadership to ensure that girls' education remains a priority for both the party leaders and the communities.

## Plan for 2018

In 2018, PYCA alongside the education champions from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will launch a two year province-wide campaign to inspire a 25% increase in the net enrollment rate of girls at the secondary level in the target districts.

The three-pronged campaign will engage local communities, mainstream media as well as political leadership of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to achieve its objectives.



## CIVIC PARTICIPATION



## Youth Volunteerism and ICT4Governance

Over the last few years, international governance actors have been urging countries to utilize innovative solutions for better governance. More specifically, governments around the world are being encouraged to develop solutions to ensure greater transparency and accountability as well as enhance citizens' participation. Use of traditional and contemporary Information and Communication Technologies is increasingly being considered as an important step to achieve good governance. However, these new-age tools are very much underutilized in Pakistan.

One of the key issues behind this under achievement is an over-reliance on traditional models of empowering citizens and inability to utilize contemporary models and tools to leapfrog certain stages of developing an enabling environment for democratic governance. This is one of the reasons that Pakistan's international governance rankings, especially in the areas of giving voice to citizens and accountability as well as overall government effectiveness have been alarmingly low.

To bridge this gap, PYCA initiated a year-long intervention in 2017 aimed at capacitating and empowering youth networks and local governments on the use of innovative, accessible and inclusive ICT and mobile technologies enabled solutions to promote the values of democratic governance, i.e. efficient public services, transparency & accountability.



## Research on ICTs and Youth Volunteerism

During 2017 PYCA conducted a first-of-its-kind research (in Pakistan) on the role of combining innovative ICTs/mobile technologies and youth volunteerism to ensure enhanced citizens' participation, efficient public services, transparency & accountability. The research is currently being finalized and will be launched in the presence of government representatives, academicians, youth and media in 2018.

## Plan for 2018

During 2018 PYCA will capacitate 100 university students in Islamabad and Peshawar districts on ICTs/mobile technologies enabled innovative solutions to promote democratic governance.

Five of the best solutions proposed by the capacitated youth will be provided technical as well as financial support in order for them to be piloted and up-scaled.



## Bolo Jawan

In 2016, PYCA launched Pakistan's first youth-led citizen journalism website, www.BoloJawan.com with the aim to enhance diversity and plurality in Pakistani media. The website serves as a platform for young people across the country to voice their opinions on subjects that they believe deserve greater attention. The website also has vibrant sports and entertainment sections.

All through 2017, Bolo Jawan remained a reliable alternate media source to access news and analysis on current affairs and social issues impacting Pakistan.

HOME SOCIO-POLITICAL LIFE STYLE ENVIRONMENT AND TECH SPORTS VIDEO

### This Is How Women's Participation In The NA-154 By-Election Looked Like

By Admin

SHARE Facebook Twitter G+ Pinterest



Source: Samaa.tv

An analysis was recently published by Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) to bring forth different trends of women's participation in the NA-154 by-election held on February 12, 2018 in Lodhran. The analysis was generated on a sample size of 50

Through social media marketing and word-of-mouth advertisement, Bolo Jawan is exponentially increasing its outreach. At the end of 2017, BoloJawan.com was attracting over 15,000 page views each month.

The website has attracted a loyal fan base and its content has been shared on social media by such national personalities as human rights activist, Ziauddin Yousafzai; television actress and activist, Nadia Jamil; actor, Fahad Mustafa; singers, Ali Hamza and Natasha Humera Ejaz; Pashtun political leader, Afrasiab Khattak; cricket franchise, Multan Sultans; filmmaker, Nabeel Qureshi; veteran guitarist, Omran Shafique and pop bands, Call, Badnaam, Jasim Haider & The Pindi Boys, Kashmir and Darvesh.

During 2017, Bolo Jawan successfully launched two web-series, The Pakistani Venture (that highlights innovative start-ups in Pakistan) and Candidly Yours (a celebrity talk show). Nobel Laureate, Malala Yousafzai appeared on Episode 4 of Candidly Yours, at the end of 2017.



Also Watch: An Exclusive Interview With Haroon Rashid - Part 01

So, when team Bolo Jawan got an opportunity to have Malala as a guest on Candidly Yours, we decided to make the most of the opportunity and get to know the Nobel Laureate more personally.

Also Watch: "My Perspective About Peshawar Has Completely Changed" - Faizal Qureshi - Part 1

In the fourth episode of our web series, Candidly Yours, Malala gets exactly that - candid! She talks about her favourite cuisines, the Pakistani films that have left an impression on her, she shares her excitement over Pakistan Super League (PSL) and her hopes for a prosperous Pakistan.

Also Watch: Why the West Doesn't Understand the Muslim Narrative? Haroon Haghfoor's Motivational Talk - Part 2

Click the link below to watch Candidly Yours, Episode 4 featuring Malala Yousafzai.

## PEACE-BUILDING PROGRAM



## International Peace-building Conference: Together for Peace

In 2017 PYCA was part of the organizing committee of the International Peace-building Conference, "Together for Peace" which was held from August 3 to 7, in Islamabad, Pakistan. The conference was organized by the Pakistan-US Alumni Network (PUAN).

The Conference brought together approximately 200 professionals, peace-makers, educators, researchers, policy makers and young alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs from Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Turkey, Indonesia and Afghanistan.

The conference featured discussions on peace-building best practices and solutions as well as panel sessions with prominent activists, artists, musicians and community leaders from across the South Asian region.



## Azm-e-Naujawan Curriculum Development

Pakistan Youth Change Advocates became a member of the civil society consortium formed under DAI's Azm-e-Naujawan initiative in 2017. The primary objective of this consortium was to collectively develop a comprehensive peace curriculum that would be imparted to selected young people from Karachi.

As part of the consortium PYCA developed modules and imparted trainings on "Alternate Dispute Resolution" and "Advocacy and Lobbying" to 40 young participants in Karachi.

The modules developed by PYCA can be accessed from, <http://www.pyca.org.pk/training-manuals/>.



## FILMMAKING PROGRAM



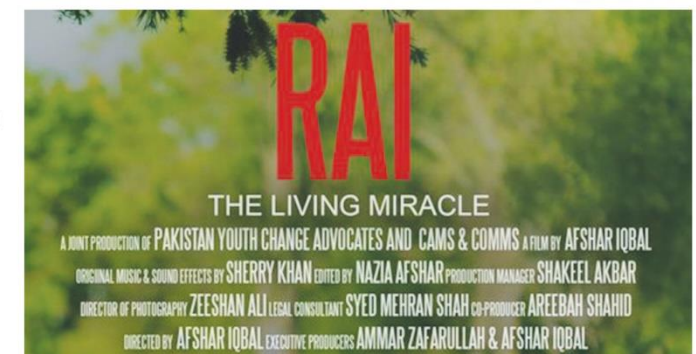
## Rai - The Living Miracle

Pakistan Youth Change Advocates has an in-house filmmaking department led by its Communications' team. After developing project documentaries, podcasts and visual activity reports during the last three years, the organization has utilized its own resources to now venture into producing short films.

The organization concluded the shoot of its first short documentary film titled, "Rai – The Living Miracle," in 2017. The documentary follows the life of Advocate Rai Azhar Hussain who is the recipient of Tamgha-e-Shujaat (Medal of Bravery) by the government of Pakistan. His valor in the face of Islamabad Civil Courts Attack in March 2014, his struggle for life, his resilience and his pledge to work for those who continue to be affected by acts of terrorism forms the basis of this docu-film.

Through this venture PYCA hopes to bring international attention towards the resilient side of Pakistan that continues to thrive despite being hard-hit by terrorism in the last fifteen years. The documentary is also aimed at highlighting the struggles of those who (although) have survived horrific terrorist attacks but continue to battle trauma.

PYCA is in talks with various stakeholders for an international premier and theatrical run for Rai – The Living Miracle.



## Aamir Gamaryani: A Development Veteran & Education Champion

“A young boy on a sea shore was picking-up and throwing starfish back into the ocean. The boy, despite using all his strength could only pick one fish at a time. An old gentleman walking by the shore noticed the young boy and out of curiosity asked, 'What are you doing, son?' The boy responded, 'Saving the helpless starfish.' To this the gentleman said, 'But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference.' The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, 'It made a difference to that one!'”

Aamir Gamaryani, has narrated this short story by Loren Eiseley at numerous workshops, seminars and orientation sessions. Aamir believes every small effort made by an individual counts and creates a ripple effect that makes many unknown lives better. He shares, “We are not looking for rewards or recognitions, we must join hands in promoting the cause of education and we must see the nation prosper together.”

Aamir is currently leading a school named, Sabawoon Education Academy (SEA) in the peri-urban area of Peshawar, Pashtun Garhi. After working in the development sector for almost two decades, Aamir has now dedicated his life for the cause of promoting education for children.

His school currently has a net enrollment of over 160 students. His passion and commitment to educate children can be gauged from the fact that 25 percent of his students belong to impoverished families and are receiving education on full scholarship.

Sharing his observations regarding girls' education in Pakistan, Aamir says, “The issue of girls' education and their enrollment in post-primary levels is a national issue. However, it needs special attention in smaller provinces like Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.”

Not one to lose hope, Aamir Gamaryani remains hopeful about the future of girls' education in his province, “I am very optimistic about the positive changes taking place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. I feel people are now beginning to understand the significance of girls' education in KP and other parts of Pakistan. However, there is still an immense need to expand these efforts so eventually we rise as a developed and progressive nation.”

Speaking about his collaboration with PYCA, Aamir shares, “I am very pleased on joining hands with PYCA to advocate for girls' education in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. I am in high spirits on working for the noble cause of promoting education alongside PYCA's girl-child secondary education program in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and I look forward to my dream of education for all in Pakistan coming true.”



## PYCA Team and Stakeholders





We're Here to Tell Your Story!

[www.bolojawan.com](http://www.bolojawan.com)