



News Release



Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Embassy

School Girls from Dadar Visit U.S. Embassy

Islamabad, May 10, 2007 – Over one hundred students and six teachers from the Government Girls' Middle School in Dadar, a village in district Mansehra, that was devastated by the 2005 earthquake, had a fun day in Islamabad -- courtesy of the US Embassy.

"We are very happy to welcome all of you here," Mr. Peter Bodde, U.S. Charge d'Affaires said while greeting the girls at the U.S. Embassy. He said that when Congresswoman Nita Lowey recently visited the school, she was most impressed by the student's interest in their education.

"We appreciate your commitment to education and wish you the best in your studies," the senior American diplomat remarked.

On arrival at the U.S. Embassy the girls were given badges as 'Junior Ambassadors' and served lunch.

"You have impressed many people over the past year and now I hope you will have good memories of this trip to Islamabad," Mr. Jonathan Addleton, USAID Pakistan's departing Director, said while talking to the students and their teachers

Speaking in Urdu, Mr. Addleton said: "One year ago, I made my first visit to Dadar and the signs of the earthquake were still very visible. At that time, I made a promise on behalf of USAID that we would rebuild both the high school for the girls and the middle school for the boys. I am glad that those projects are now complete."

"I am glad to return the hospitality that the girls and teachers had shown to groups of Americans who had visited Dadar over the past year to see their school, which was rebuilt by the US Agency for International Development (USAID)," Jonathan Addleton said.

During their USAID-sponsored trip to Islamabad, the group also visited the Rawal Lake prior to their arrival at the Embassy.

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ISLAMABAD

Diplomatic Enclave, Ramna 5
Phone: 2082000
E-mail: infois@state.gov

KARACHI

Collector's Lane, 8 Abdullah Hanif Road
Phone: 5204200
E-mail: irckh@state.gov

LAHORE

50, Empress Road
Phone: 6034600
E-mail: irelahore@state.gov

PESHAWAR

11, Hospital Road, Peshawar Cantt.
Phone: 5268800