



# Khabr-o-Nazar

(NEWS & VIEWS)

December 2007

Published by the U.S Embassy, Islamabad



- Media Must be Free to Report
- Lifting of Curbs on Media Urged
- Journalism Training Workshops



**The U.S. Consulate Peshawar Principal Officer, Lynne Tracy, speaking at Hazara University in Mansehra on November 1. She felicitated the students, faculty and administration on their efforts to rebuild their institution and emphasized that the U.S. Government remains committed to the rebuilding process with its \$200 million earthquake reconstruction projects in Pakistan.**



**The U.S. Consulate Peshawar's Political officer, Jamie Byrd, meets with girls from Balikot, District Mansehra, who have benefited from USAID's reconstruction assistance efforts. Their families are taking part in a livelihood rebuilding effort which helps local residents restart livestock and plant and harvest crops, much of which were lost in the 2005 earthquake that devastated the area.**

**The U.S. Consulate Peshawar Principal Officer, Lynne Tracy (fourth from left), meets with community members in Balikot, District Mansehra, to hear how reconstruction efforts have helped them restart their livestock operations.**





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### English cover

U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, Anne W. Patterson, addresses a National Media Conference in Islamabad on November 30, 2007. The conference was organized by South Asian Free Media Association.

### Urdu cover

U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske speaking to media during her visit to the Karachi Press Club on November 21, 2007. Also seen in the picture (on the Consul General's right) is President of the Karachi Union of Journalists, Shamim-ur-Rehman, and (behind) the President of the Karachi Press Club, Sabihuddin Ghausi.

## Letters to the

# Editor

### Upgraded

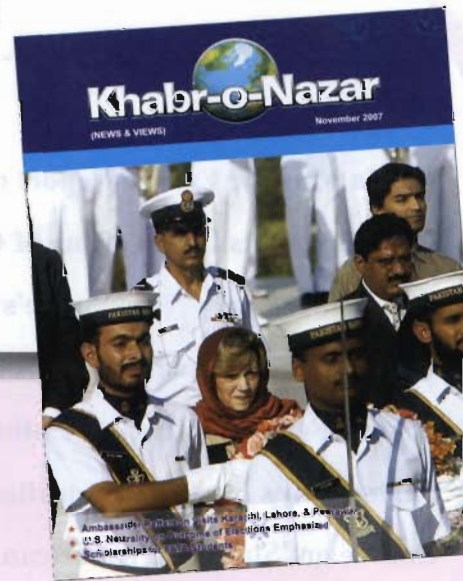
### Very Impressive

I am taking this opportunity to thank you for sending me a copy of "Khabr-o-Nazar," which rightly deserves to be called as "Pakistan's window to America." In addition to the quality of the print material, the layout of the magazine is also very impressive. The magazine is definitely contributing towards positive reflection of Pakistani society and culture. I hope and pray that you will continue with the publication of the magazine with same vigor and dedication.

Brigadier Javed Iqbal Cheema  
Director General  
Ministry of Interior  
Islamabad

Today I saw the latest issue of "Khabr-o-Nazar." I appreciate that you have really upgraded the standard of this magazine its printing, paper as well as the contents. From 1993 to 1996 when I was a member of the National Assembly of Pakistan, I used to be a semi-regular visitor of your American Center.

Muzaffar Hashmi  
Karachi



### Aesthetically Designed

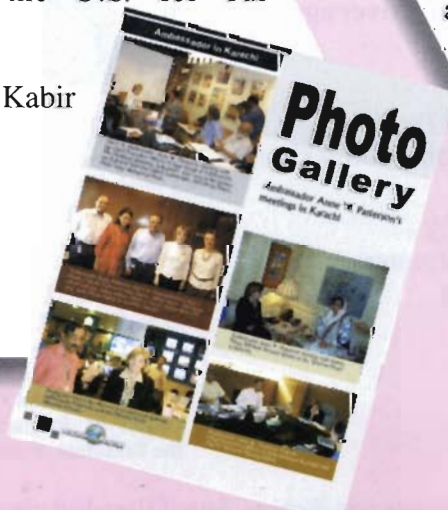
I have received your beautiful and informative magazine "Khabr-o-Nazar." The magazine is not only aesthetically designed and printed but is also a source of strengthening the relations between Pakistan and the United States. I hope that efforts like this will bridge the gap between both the countries and we will be able to know more about the contribution of the U.S. for our community.

Mian Nauman Kabir  
Lahore

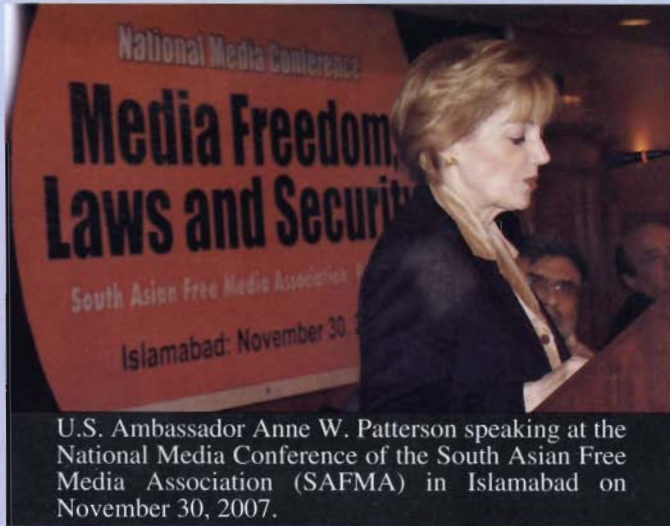
### Fabulous

I did not know there was such a wonderful magazine like "Khabr-o-Nazar" until I saw one at the U.S. Education Foundation Pakistan office, where I had gone in connection with a teachers' training program. This is really a great magazine which brings us the latest in the field of education and other vital areas of interest between the two countries. I think the magazine is doing a good job by keeping us informed about the U.S. government's initiatives in promoting cross cultural programs. Thank you so much for such a fabulous magazine.

Akhtar Hussain  
Swat



# “Media Must Be Free To Report on Events”



U.S. Ambassador Anne W. Patterson speaking at the National Media Conference of the South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA) in Islamabad on November 30, 2007.

*Following are excerpts from the remarks made by the U.S. Ambassador, Anne W. Patterson, at the National Conference of South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA), Pakistan on November 30, 2007:*

The right of the people to speak out through a free press is a hallmark of a democratic society. Journalism is challenging in all societies. America's freedom of the press is enshrined in our constitution, in our First Amendment that there shall be no law abrogating or limiting or preventing freedom of the press. Accordingly, we do not have any state control of the media, although the role of the media is constantly debated in my society.

At the same time, journalists have a responsibility to exercise this freedom with the highest standards of professionalism and integrity. The relationship between a government and the media must be based on the recognition of each other's responsibilities and obligations and an adherence on both sides to their respective roles. The government must grant the media unfettered access to public information.

In my country, the press has emerged as America's self-appointed monitor of official life, recorder of public events, and unofficial arbiter of public behavior. The constitution's protections and the tradition of liberty enjoyed in the United States have allowed public expression to flourish.

In 2006, President Bush noted during his visit to Pakistan that Pakistan still has a distance to travel on the road to democracy but praised the lively and generally free press. He also noted that Pakistanis were free to criticize their government, and that there were a number of political parties and movements that regularly challenged the government. These institutions of civil society are fundamental to a thriving democracy.

While the media was restricted in Pakistan, it operated freely in the United States and other countries. International broadcast, print, and internet news media highlighted Pakistan's political situation, arrests, and media crackdown. I saw the crackdown on the Karachi journalists on three different international channels within ten minutes.

One of President Musharraf's greatest achievements was the flowering of a free and vibrant media. This is a permanent change in Pakistan and cannot be reversed, whatever steps might be taken by the government. The United States has urged President Musharraf since November 3 to lift the state of emergency, restore the media, release those detained, and return to constitutional rule. As



Journalists and civil society representatives join the audience at the SAFMA conference.



U.S. Ambassador Anne W. Patterson speaks with Imtiaz Alam of 'The News,' writer Munnu Bhai of 'Jang' and Nusrat Javed of Aaj TV.

## PRESS FREEDOM

we noted, we have been particularly concerned about the punitive economic measures taken against local media.

Pakistan's media outlets are full of vibrant and talented journalists. Pakistani news organizations increasingly provide a constructive channel for debate and dissent. These media organizations are also businesses and contribute to the economic growth of the country.

It is heartening to note that Pakistan is resuming its strides towards democracy. We welcome the changes made by President Musharraf this past week the relinquishing of his military post and assumption of his position as civilian president. And we welcome President Musharraf's assurance last night that he intends to lift the Emergency on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

The United States supports press freedom worldwide. The United States values freedom of the press as a key component of democratic governance. Democratic societies, including our own, have many faults, but eventually they are accountable. There is almost nothing in our country that is not revealed in the press sooner or later. This is a critical element in accountable democratic governance.

In the United States and in many other countries including Pakistan, the press fosters active debate, provides investigative reporting, and serves as a forum to express different points of view, particularly on behalf of those who are marginalized in society. The United States commends journalists around the world for the important role they play and for their commitment to the free exchange of ideas. The United States in particular salutes those in the press who courageously do their work at great risk.

The press is often a target of retaliation by those who feel threatened by freedom of expression and transparency in democratic processes. Journalists are often the first to uncover corruption, to report from the front lines of conflict zones, and to highlight missteps by governments. This work places many journalists in danger, and it is the duty of governments and citizens worldwide to speak out for their protection and for their vital role in open societies.

We have called upon the government of Pakistan to quickly lift the remaining curbs on media and permit broadcasters to resume their programming. The media must be free to report on events and share their opinions with the public.

In conclusion, I want to say that I am a great admirer of the Pakistani news media. I read many English newspapers every day, receive translations of Urdu papers, watch TV and listen to the radio. I enjoy all the media in Pakistan and applaud all for the independent media. Thank you all very much for inviting me here to express my high regard for Pakistan's lively, free, and professional media.



Ambassador Patterson greets Sohail Waraich of Jang Group/Geo TV.



Ambassador Patterson joins panelists at the SAFMA conference.

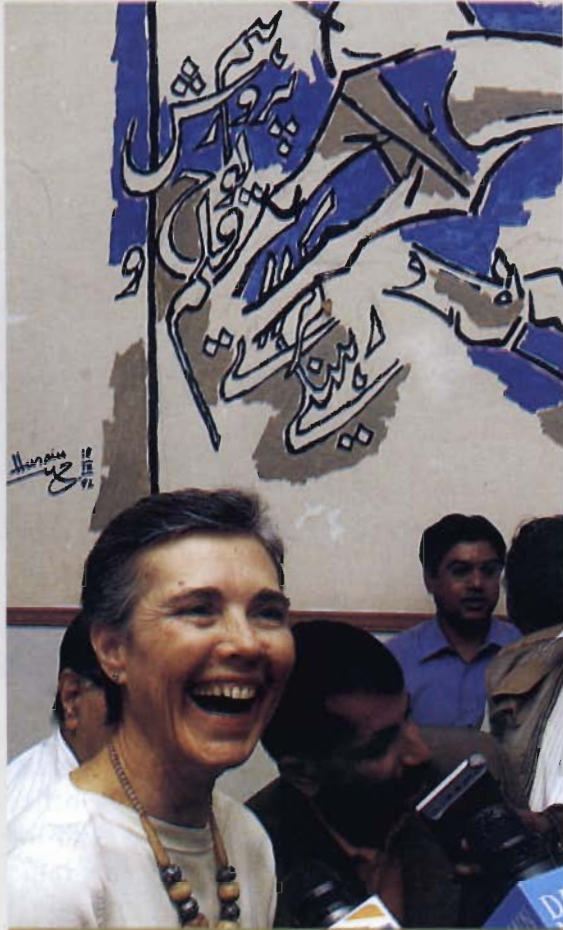


Ambassador Patterson joins Qazi Asad Abid, Editor-in-Chief of Sindhi daily 'Ibrat,' and U.S. Embassy Press Attaché Elizabeth O. Colton.



Ambassador Patterson and U.S. Embassy Press Attaché Elizabeth O. Colton greet noted human rights lawyer Asthma Jehangir at the SAFMA conference.

# U.S. Diplomats Urge Lifting Of Curbs On Media



U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske shares a light moment with journalists during her visit to the Karachi Press Club on November 21, 2007. The mural behind her quotes a line from Faiz: "we will continue to foster the pen and the paper."



U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske, speaking to the Chief Executive Officer of ARY TV Salman Iqbal during her visit to the network's office in Karachi on November 21. Public Affairs Officer Karen Waltz-Davis is also seen in the picture.

## GEO TV Network:

The U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, Anne W. Patterson, visited the office of Geo Television Network in Karachi on November 19 and expressed the U.S. Government's "grave concern" over the orders of the Government of Pakistan to suppress the news media, including Geo TV.

"Such extreme and unreasonable measures are clearly not in Pakistan's best interest, and contradict the progress Pakistan has made toward becoming a fully democratic society," Ambassador Patterson said during her meeting with the senior editorial staff and management of the network. "Not only is it an issue of freedom of speech and the independence of media, such measures are also economically punitive for the effected news organizations."

The top American diplomat urged the Government of Pakistan to quickly lift the curbs on media and immediately permit broadcasters to resume their programming.

The Ambassador said that one of President Musharraf's greatest achievements was the flowering of a free and vibrant media. "There is no way to put this



U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, Anne W. Patterson, meeting with the management and editorial board of the GEO Television Network during her visit to the Geo office in Karachi on November 19. Photo shows (from right): CEO Mir Ibrahim Rehman, Editorial Director Ghazi Salahuddin and network's President Imran Aslam.

## PRESS FREEDOM

genie back in the bottle by cutting off the media now,” Ambassador Patterson remarked.

### **ARY Television Network:**

The U.S. Consul General in Karachi, Kay L. Anske, on November 21 visited the offices of the ARY Television Network and Karachi Press Club. At the ARY Television Network she met with the management and senior editorial staff and expressed the U.S. Government's concern over the suppression of the news media and the arrest of scores of journalists in the country.

“We don't think that these kinds of emergency measures are compatible with the kind of environment that is needed to conduct free and fair elections,” she said.

### **Karachi Press Club:**

During her meeting with the Governing Body and other members of Karachi Press Club Consul General Anske noted that “the media must be free to report on events, criticize the government and share their opinions with the public.”

The President of the Karachi Press Club, Sabihuddin Ghausi, and the President of Karachi Union of Journalist, Shamim-ur-Rehman, briefed the American diplomat about the arrest of scores of journalists from a demonstration rally outside the club.



U.S. Embassy Press Attaché, Elizabeth O. Colton meeting with the management and editorial staff of “Power99 FM” during her visit to the radio station in Islamabad on November 30



U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske, was presented with an illustration depicting the state of the freedom of media by noted cartoonist 'Fieca' during her visit to the 'Mast FM-103' radio station in Karachi on November 20.

### **Power99 FM Radio:**

Meanwhile, The U.S. Embassy's Press Attaché, Elizabeth O. Colton, on November 29 visited the office of Power99 FM Radio in Islamabad and met with the management and senior editorial staff of the radio station.

She urged the Government of Pakistan to “quickly lift the curbs on media and immediately permit broadcasters to resume their programming.”

### **Mast FM-103 Radio:**

The U.S. Consul General, Kay L. Anske on November 30 visited the 'Mast FM-103' radio station in Karachi and expressed the U.S. Government's “fullest support for the freedom of media” and noted with concern the “continued closure” of some of the private radio and television channels, including Mast FM-103, in the country since the imposition of emergency on November

The Consul General assured the staff of 'Mast FM-103' that the Embassy and the U.S. Government would continue urging the Government of Pakistan to “quickly lift the curbs on media and immediately permit broadcasters to resume their programming.”

“We don't think that these kind of emergency measures are compatible with the kind of environment that is needed to conduct free and fair elections,” Consul General Anske remarked.



The U.S. Deputy Secretary of State , John D. Negroponte, addressing a press conference at the U.S. Embassy on November 18.



## Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte Press Statement in Islamabad 18 November 2007

Good Morning. I would like to make a brief statement before taking a few questions and departing for Washington.

During this brief trip to Islamabad, I had meetings with President Musharraf and other senior Pakistani government officials including National Security Advisor Aziz, Vice Chief of Army Staff General Kayani, former Foreign Minister Kasuri, and Inter-Services Intelligence Director General Taj. I also spoke by phone with Pakistan People's Party leader Benazir Bhutto.

In my meeting with President Musharraf, he reiterated his vision for a moderate, prosperous, and democratic Pakistan. Under his leadership, Pakistan has made great progress toward that vision. Over the past few years, the Pakistani people have witnessed expanded and freer media, unprecedented economic growth and development, and the moderation of gender-based laws and school curricula. President Musharraf has been and continues to be a strong voice against extremism. We value our partnership with the Government of Pakistan under the leadership of President Musharraf.

We welcome President Musharraf's announcement that elections will take place in January, a commitment he repeated to me yesterday in categorical terms. He also repeated his commitment to retire from his army post before commencing his second presidential term, and we urge him to do so as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, the recent police actions against protestors, suppression of the media, and the arrests of political and human rights leaders run directly counter to the reforms that have been undertaken in recent years. Their continuation undermines the progress Pakistan has made.

I urged the Government to stop such actions, lift the state of emergency, and release all political detainees. Emergency rule is not compatible with free, fair, and credible elections, which require the active participation of political parties, civil society, and the media. The people of Pakistan deserve an opportunity to choose their leaders free from the restrictions that exist under a state of emergency.

Looking to the future, the United States that the best way for any country to counter violent extremism is to develop and nurture a moderate political center. We believe this is true for Pakistan as well, and in my talks I encouraged reconciliation between political moderates as the most constructive way forward. A democratic Pakistan that continues the fight against terror is vital to the interests of both the United States and Pakistan. In the current circumstances, engagement and dialogue not brinkmanship and confrontation should be the order of the day for all parties.

The United States supports the Pakistani people in their efforts to develop a prosperous and democratic nation.

# International EDUCATION WEEK Celebrated

The U.S. Consulate in Peshawar marked the 8th annual International Education Week with an array of activities at the Lincoln Corner, University of Peshawar. "Many people in Pakistan have come to know the United States by studying in our country. In these Education Week programs, we extend a welcome to prospective international students," said Consulate Public Affairs Officer Steve Lebens.

Celebrations began November 19 with a seminar on graduate study opportunities in the United States.



Students at the University of Engineering and Technology in Peshawar peruse informational materials about studying in the U.S.

representatives of the U.S. Education Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP) spoke about the graduate admissions process, Fulbright scholarships, finding a university and preparing for standardized tests.

The USEFP representatives also held counseling sessions for students interested in studying in the U.S. The seminar continued the next day with sessions at the Peshawar University of Engineering and Technology. "Student visa applicants should be honest, be prepared, be organized and be confident when applying. The United States hosts a large number of students from Pakistan," Vice Consul Justin Kolbeck said while giving a presentation about applying for a student visa to the United States.

International Education Week concluded with a showing of the Academy Award winning film "An Inconvenient Truth," featuring Nobel Laureate and



U.S. Consulate Peshawar Public Affairs Officer Steve Lebens and U.S. Embassy Islamabad Cultural Affairs Officer Constance Jones present a collection of books on comparative religion to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Peshawar, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Javed Khan, to mark International Education Week.

former U.S. Vice President Al Gore. Participants at all the events included students from Peshawar University, Institute of Management Sciences, City University, and the University of Engineering and Technology.

## U.S. Student Visas Reach Record Numbers in 2007

In 2007, the Department of State issued a record number of student and exchange visitor visas -- more than 600,000 -- greater than 10 percent more than last year. The numbers are proof of the success of the U.S. government's effort to reverse the drop in student and other visa applications after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs Maura Harty told *USINFO*.

Speaking at the end of International Education Week, a joint initiative of the U.S. departments of State and Education, Harty said that "the best advertisement for America is America." She said having foreign students in the United States is a matter of national security because academic visitors are the United States' potential friends, allies and business partners.

More than 200 alumni of U.S. exchange programs have become heads of foreign states or influential leaders in their own countries, according to State Department data. They include the presidents of Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines and former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan.



Acting Public Affairs Officer of the U.S. Consulate Lahore, Antone Greubel, giving a live interview at the FM-103 radio station in connection with the International Education Week. This year marks the eighth annual International Education Week. During the interview, the U.S. diplomat focused on the critical role of education in efforts to secure a bright future based on international partnership and understanding.



Participants of the Health Mela visiting the stall of Ministry of Health (Primary Health Care and Family Planning) for collection of material

# USAID Festival to Improve Mother, Newborn Health

The USAID Pakistan's Health Office Director, Mary Skarie, underlined the need for forging “government and community partnership” to achieve “long-lasting improvements” in mother and newborn health.

“Mother and newborn health is not solely the government's responsibility. Reducing maternal and newborn deaths is quite complex as equipment and training by themselves are not enough,” said Health Director Mary Skarie while speaking at a mela held in Jhelum on November 7 to promote the role of Lady Health Workers (LHWs) in improving mother and newborn health.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Pakistan Initiative for Mothers and Newborn (PAIMAN) and the National Program for Family Planning and Primary Health Care organized the mela (festival) which featured a new music video that educates viewers on mother and newborn health issues.

“In this battle against mother and newborn deaths, USAID provides assistance by funding the PAIMAN,” said USAID's Skarie. “This initiative has been working with the community of Jhelum and with communities throughout Pakistan to improve maternal and newborn health.”

The Federal Secretary of Health, Khushnud Akhtar Lashari; the Director General Health, Govt. of the Punjab, Choudhary Farrukh Altaf; District Nazim, Jehlum; and national and provincial coordinators for National Program for Family Planning and Primary Health Care were also present on the occasion.

The event was part of PAIMAN's larger communications strategy to spread maternal and newborn health messages and to increase the support of policy makers, local officials and communities for the LHWs.

USAID's PAIMAN project builds the capacity of existing health systems and fosters a community-based approach to ensure a continuum of care for mothers and newborns.

Support for this project is part of the \$1.5 billion in aid that the U.S. Government is providing to Pakistan over five years to improve economic growth, education, health and governance and to assist with earthquake reconstruction.



Dr. Nabeela Ali, Chief of Party PAIMAN, briefing the Federal Health Secretary, Khushnood Akhtar Lashari, about the stalls put up for the mela. Also seen in the picture (from left to right in the first row) are: Dr. Zaeem-ul-Haq, Deputy Team Leader, JHU; and Dr. Syed Pervez Abbas, DCO, Jhelum.

# Partnerships Improve

By Shamaila Farooq



Group members at the National Science Foundation

I recently participated in International Visitors Leadership Program specific for science and technology administration from August 27 to September 27, 2007. The program was designed to allow the participants to examine the U.S. education system and establish ties with American institutions. During the program, I experienced some unique and glorious aspects of U.S. culture and its education system. The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) which is a sponsored program of United States Department of State is one of the major programs that brings people from different parts of world together.

An interesting aspect of the US education system is its decentralized nature which allows the states to devise their own education policy addressing their own needs. It is supported by several state and private associations which work together to achieve common goals such as the 'No Child Left Behind' Act of 2001. The Department of Education works as a principal advisor to the president and coordinates most federal assistance programs for education, but it does not

interfere with the autonomy of education institutions and the academic freedom of scholars and researchers. We visited some major associations, like the National Science Foundation, National Academy of Sciences and American Association of the Advancement of Science to learn about this particular area.

University-industry partnership is indispensable for the rapid advancement in technology; and the U.S. possesses a unique amalgamation of universities and industry to achieve this goal. We visited the Research Triangle Park (RTP) in Raleigh /Durham, North Carolina which is the largest research park in the U.S. It is specifically linked with three universities (North Carolina State University Raleigh, University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill and Duke University) and with the high-tech industry. RTP hosts 251 companies, making it accessible for students and faculty to interact in a research-based environment and share their findings with the high-tech companies like IBM, Cisco Systems, Glaxo Smith and Red Hat etc to name few. Close ties between universities and industry has

# Education

*Shamaila Farooq, an IVLP alumna, is the Director of Media and Public Relations at the NWFP University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar.*

transformed this area as an international center for high-tech business, research and academia. Pakistani universities can also build up ties with industries in the US that are global in nature. For example, during our visit to IBM, we felt energized to see the interest of IBM officials in establishing the IBM Center for Advanced Studies in Pakistan.

Another aspect that added real beauty to the program was the opportunity to speak with local families and experience U.S. culture. The State Department organized a local home hospitality visit for us that



The group dines together

showed the deep roots of U.S. family system to its international visitors. After visiting them we realized that as global citizens we share many common cultural values. Love, respect and compassion are universal values which are present even in the West. I can say that this particular experience helped me overcome my narrow perception of American traditions. This does not mean that American social system is free from flaws, neither is ours. I mean to say is that there are always strengths and weaknesses in every system, which can be improved through understanding each other's culture through such interactions.

Forging and nurturing academic relationships is equally important in the present times. In a meeting with the Office of the Science and Technology Program of State Department particularly appreciated the efforts of Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman, Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) in giving central focus to higher



At the Stanford University

education sector in Pakistan. They informed that under the S&T program both Pakistan and USA have started joint initiatives in research exchange programs and human resource development programs. I can still recall the words of Mr. Ken Ferguson, Senior Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of the Science and Technology Cooperation, US State Department during meeting when I said "Mr. Ken, your (US) Science and Technology program is an excellent idea in building ties with Pakistan", he suddenly interrupted me and said, "Madam, this is your program, not the only the U.S.'s". This reflects the US commitment to help Pakistan in the science and technology field. We also visited Stanford University and after meeting with the Senior Assistant to the President, Mr Jeffrey.H. Wachtel, we could see his desire to forge an academic relationship with Pakistan.

I had a wonderful time and made great friends not only in US but also in Pakistan. The program has become an unforgettable memory for all of us. After the visit I realize that nothing is better than bringing people together, and I appreciate the US Department of State and US Consulate in Peshawar for arranging such exchange programs with continuity, which is the only way to dispel misconceptions and help us to lead towards peace, harmony and mutual respect.

# 'Survey Of American History' Course



U.S. Consulate Lahore's Acting Public Affairs Officer, Antone Greubel, addresses participants of the week-long Survey of American History held in Lahore.

The U.S. Consulate Lahore's Acting Public Affairs Officer Antone Greubel underscored the "importance of studying history" while presenting certificates to participants of a five-day "Survey of American History Course" held at the Consulate from November 5-9, 2007.

"Pakistan is a strong and valued partner in a number of vital areas, including the war on terror," said the U.S. diplomat while addressing around 80 students from several educational institutions of Lahore. "The U.S. is committed to a stable and democratic future for Pakistan."

The course took participants chronologically from the origins of the United States as a colony of the British Empire through the evolution of its democratic institutions, the Civil War, and its growth as a major power in the post-Second World War period. The series of lectures concluded with talks on 'U.S. Diplomatic History' and 'America's Role in the World Today.'

"It is through studying history of the United States that students can gain an insight into its relations with other parts of the world, including South Asia," emphasized Acting Public Affairs Officer Antone Greubel as he concluded the series with a talk on 'U.S. diplomatic history.'

American officers of the U.S. Consulate delivered lectures on many aspects of U.S. history throughout the week. The course, held nearly every year since 1988, is designed to provide Pakistani students with a thorough overview of the history of the United States.



U.S. Consulate Lahore Acting Public Affairs Officer, Antone Greubel, presents a certificate to a participant at the conclusion of the week-long Survey of American History held in Lahore.

# On behalf of the people of the United States Pakistan Gets 19 Ambulances for Maternal Healthcare

On behalf of the people of the United States of America, Pakistan Initiative for Mothers and Newborns (PAIMAN), a USAID funded project working in support of improved maternal and newborn health, has donated 19 purposely-built ambulances worth 45 million rupees for maternal health care in Pakistan.

An agreement to this effect was signed in Islamabad on October 30 which was witnessed by the Federal Secretary for Health, Khushnood Akhtar Lashari, and USAID's Director Health, Mary Sakrie.

Thanking the U.S. government for extending this support, Secretary Lashari said that about 10 per cent mothers in Pakistan die on their way to a health facility due to lack of proper transport facility. These



The U.S. Consul General in Karachi, Kay L. Anske, handing over the ambulance documents to the Senior Minister for Health, Govt. of Sindh, Syed Sardar Ahmad. Also seen in the picture is Dr. Nabeela Ali, Chief of Party, PAIMAN

work with the Government "to provide health care services in the province that will ensure the well-being of women, infants and children."

Consul General Kay Anske also handed over two ambulances to the Balochistan Health Department for the Lasbella district at a ceremony in Hub on November 2. The ambulances are specially designed and equipped to assist pregnant women and newborns.

Meanwhile, the USAID Pakistan Mission Director, Anne Aarnes, presented eight ambulances to the Punjab Health Department in Lahore on December 3 for the districts of Dera Ghazi Khan, Khanewal, Jehlum, and Rawalpindi which will deliver emergency patients to district and tehsil hospitals.

"When a health emergency arises, every minute counts," said Ms. Aarnes. "We want to be sure that trained staff can respond quickly to help a mother and baby who are in crisis and transport them right away to a hospital for further care."



USAID Pakistan Mission Director Anne Aarnes presents documents of eight ambulances to the Punjab Health Department on December 3.

Ambulances, fully equipped with medical supplies and Communication system, would provide the much needed transport facility to the expecting mothers, right from their houses to the hospital, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, USAID's Mary Sakrie said that the U.S. government would continue to support Pakistan in its efforts for strengthening healthcare delivery system.

Most of the ambulances have already been transferred to the various District Headquarters Hospitals in the country. Districts Dera Ghazi Khan, Buner, Upper Dir, Sukkur, Lasbella, and Jafferabad have received two ambulances each while Jhelum, Khanewal, Dadu, Gujjar Khan, Mandra, Kalimitti and Murree have got one ambulance each.

On November 1, the U.S. Consul General in Karachi, Kay L. Anske, presented three ambulances to the Sindh Health Department to deliver emergency patients to district and tehsil hospitals.

She expressed the U.S. government's commitment to



Consul General Kay Anske and Sindh's Senior Minister for Health, Syed Sardar Ahmad, giving keys of ambulances to Khwaja Shafiq Ahmad, DCO, Sukkur. Also seen in the picture (from left to right in the first row) are: Dr. Nabeela Ali, Chief of Party, PAIMAN, Mary Sakrie of USAID and Capt. Dr. Abdul Majeed, Special Secretary (Provincial Health), Govt. of Sindh.

# English Access Micro-scholarship Program

## 55 Students Complete Course



U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske presents a completion certificate to one of the 55 students who completed English studies under the U.S. State Department English Access Micro-Scholarship program.

The U.S. Consul General in Karachi, Kay L. Anske, awarded completion certificates to 55 successful students under the United States funded English ACCESS Micro-scholarship program in Karachi on September 12. The U.S \$60,000 project was executed in partnership with the Sindh Education Foundation (SEF).

Commenting on the occasion, Ms. Anske told the students that “you now have in English a tool to access information from the world with which to reach your goals and realize your dreams.”

Earlier, the Managing Director of SEF, Professor Anita Ghulam Ali, welcomed the Consul General and congratulated students on their successful completion of this two-year program. Ms. Ghulam Ali reminded each student to “become a catalyst in furthering English teaching and to encourage siblings and friends to arm themselves with this important tool.”

On the occasion Public Affairs Officer Karen Waltz-Davis encouraged the students to see this endeavor as “not an end but only a beginning and use it to the full to reach out to the world.” One student, overcome with emotion, commented “I could never have learned quality English as I am too poor to afford it.” The students expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the people of the United States and the SEF in providing them this “once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

The English Access Micro-scholarship program is sponsored by the U.S State Department and is intended to enable 14-18 year olds from underprivileged communities to study English at local schools. Since its inception, U.S. embassies have selected English Teaching schools in 44 different countries to enroll over 10,000 students. In addition to English courses, the program provides an American-style classroom experience using U.S. materials and emphasizing active learning.



U.S. Consul General Kay Anske speaking to the group of students which completed their English studies under the Access Microscholarship program.





USAID/Pakistan's Mission Director, Anne Aarnes, is shown pieces of jewelry being hallmarked at the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research by its representative, Dr. Shehzad Alam.

A consortium of leading Pakistani universities and technical institutions under a USAID initiative signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the leading bodies of Pakistan's gems and jewelry industry in Lahore on November 23 to establish the Lahore Centre of Excellence for Creativity and Design.

“We realize that industry inputs and linkages are vital for academic institutions to develop their training, design, mechanics and marketing components,” said USAID Pakistan Mission Director Anne Aarnes. “We also realize that academic preparation is an integral part of creating the skilled entrepreneurs who will help strengthen the gem and jewelry value chain.”

The consortium comprising Beaconhouse National University, National College of Arts, Pakistan School of Fashion Design, the Punjab University College of Art and Design will work together with the Pakistan Gems and Jewelry Development Company, and the Pakistan

## USAID Supports Academic Consortium Center of Excellence for Gems, Jewelry



USAID/Pakistan's Mission Director, Anne Aarnes, poses outside the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIIR) with members of a USAID-sponsored consortium of academic and technical institutions

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to Upgrade course offerings, and share laboratory and technical facilities. Upgrade course offerings, and share laboratory and technical facilities.

“The proposed center will bring both academicians and entrepreneurs together - forming the foundation for a more productive and competitive industry,” USAID's Anne Aarnes said.

This signing is the product of the Gems and Jewelry Strategic Working Group (SWOG), a USAID-supported body that creates strategies to upgrade production, improve marketing, and understand and meet consumer demand. USAID's \$11.3 million Pakistan Initiative for Strategy Development (PISDAC) project provides support to the Gems and Jewelry SWOG and other industry-specific SWOGs in order to promote sustainable development through economic growth.

# USAID-Funded Extrusion Center At Faisalabad's Agriculture University Inaugurated

The U.S. Consulate Lahore's Principal Officer, Bryan Hunt, and the Punjab Governor, Lt. General (Ret.) Khalid Maqbool, inaugurated the Extrusion Center at the National Institute of Food Science and Technology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, on November 7.

"Agriculture accounts for the largest sector of Pakistan's economy and employs more than 42 percent of the country's labor force. The ability to create value-added food products has the potential to impact the lives of millions of Pakistanis," said Mr. Hunt. "The University of Agriculture, Faisalabad's new Extrusion Center will help move Pakistan's agriculture sector toward that end."

The center is the product of collaboration between



U.S. Consulate Lahore Principal Officer Bryan Hunt, Punjab Governor Lt. General (Retd.) Khalid Maqbool; Vice Chancellor Agriculture University Faisalabad (UAF), Prof. Dr. Bashir Ahmad, and Director General National Institute of Food Science and Technology (NIFST), UAF, Prof. Dr. Faqir Muhammad Anjum preside over the inauguration of an Extrusion Center at NIFS



U.S. Consulate Lahore Principal Officer, Bryan Hunt, receives a shield from the Punjab Governor, Lt. General (Retd.) Khalid Maqbool at the conclusion of the inauguration ceremony of the Extrusion Center at the National Institute of Food Science and Technology (NIFST), University of Agriculture Faisalabad.

the University of Agriculture, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, Pakistan's Ministry of Science and Technology, and Pakistan's Higher Education Commission.

The Extrusion Center will train and equip Pakistani scientists, students, and food and feed industry personnel in the field of extrusion technology. The center will also foster linkages with the private food industry, develop advanced-level degree curricula and research projects in extrusion technology, and create new food and feed products using local materials.

The \$389,000 Extrusion Center was established as part of the USAID-funded \$6.9 million Pakistan-U.S. Science and Technology Cooperation Program. The program provides grants to support collaborations between Pakistani and U.S. scientists, engineers, and healthcare specialists working on Pakistani agriculture, water, health, economic competitiveness, and environmental sciences.

# 10th American Studies Conference

The Dr. Rais Ahmad Khan Memorial 10th American Studies Conference opened at the Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad on October 26 with U.S. Professor John L. Caughey as keynote speaker. Dr. Caughey is director of American Studies at the University of Maryland, USA. He holds a doctorate in cultural anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania.

The Embassy of the United States of America in Islamabad co-sponsored the conference, which was organized by the Area Study Centre for Africa, North & South America at Quaid-i-Azam University. The Embassy also sponsored a series of lectures and consultations featuring Dr. Caughey at universities in Pakistan.

“American Studies is a unique, interdisciplinary approach to analyzing and understanding the cultural and intellectual influences that help to define the American experience,” said Kay Webb Mayfield, U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs. Her speech was followed by Dr. Ata-ur-Rehman, Chairman of the Higher Education Commission, and Dr. Qasim Jan, Vice Chancellor of the Quaid-i-Azam University, in the inaugural session.

The goal of the three-day international conference, coordinated by Area Study Centre Director Dr. Rukhsana Qamber, was to encourage further development of a network of American Studies scholars throughout Pakistan and elsewhere in South Asia. Participants from several other countries in the region joined Pakistani scholars to present their research during the event.

The participants in the conference discussed a range of topics, including themes as diverse as critical readings of American literature, the role of the United States in international relations, and the experiences of immigrant populations in the Western Hemisphere.

“We hope the presentation and publication of these scholarly works will make a lasting contribution to the field of American Studies and will inspire other researchers to continue building the body of literature

in this field,” Kay Webb Mayfield said.

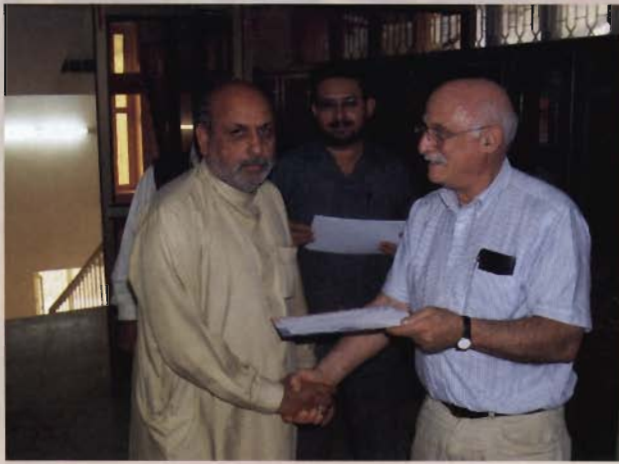
The Public Affairs Section also sponsored a series of presentations and consultations featuring Dr. Caughey at various universities during his week-long two-city (Islamabad, Lahore) Pakistan visit following this conference. He also reached out to the audience in Karachi and Peshawar over a digital video conference.



The U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs, Kay Webb Mayfield, presenting the key note address at the opening of the 10th American Studies Conference at Quaid-e-Azam University in Islamabad.

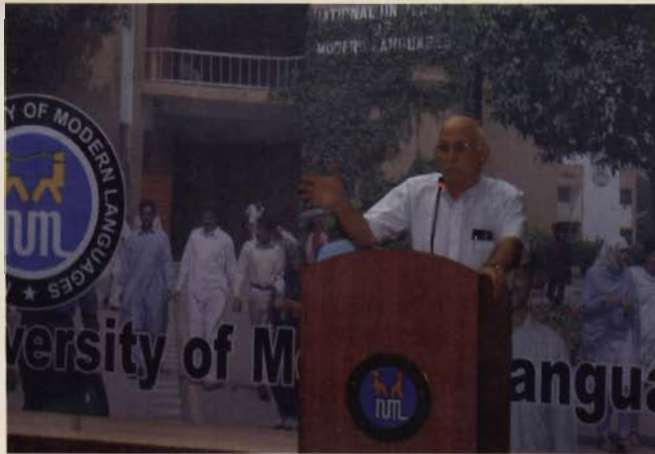


U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs Kay Webb Mayfield, Cultural Affairs Officer Constance Colding Jones exchange greetings with Vice Chancellor Qasim Jan, Chairman of the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman, key note speaker Prof. John Caughey of University of Maryland and Dr. Rukhsana Qamber, Director of the Area Studies Center. Prof. Caughey was previously a Fulbright scholar in Pakistan and taught American Studies and Anthropology at Quaid-e-Azam University.



Arnold Isaacs giving away certificate to one of the participants in Khanewal.

Arnold Isaacs addresses students and faculty of the departments of Mass Communications and International Relations at the National University of Modern Languages in Islamabad.



A journalist making a point during the workshop in Islamabad

# Journalism Training Workshops on Elections Coverage

Noted U.S. speaker and international author and trainer Arnold “Skip” Isaacs conducted a series of journalism training workshops and lectures on 'covering elections' in different cities of Pakistan from October 28 to November 9. These workshops and lectures were arranged and sponsored by the U.S. Embassy.

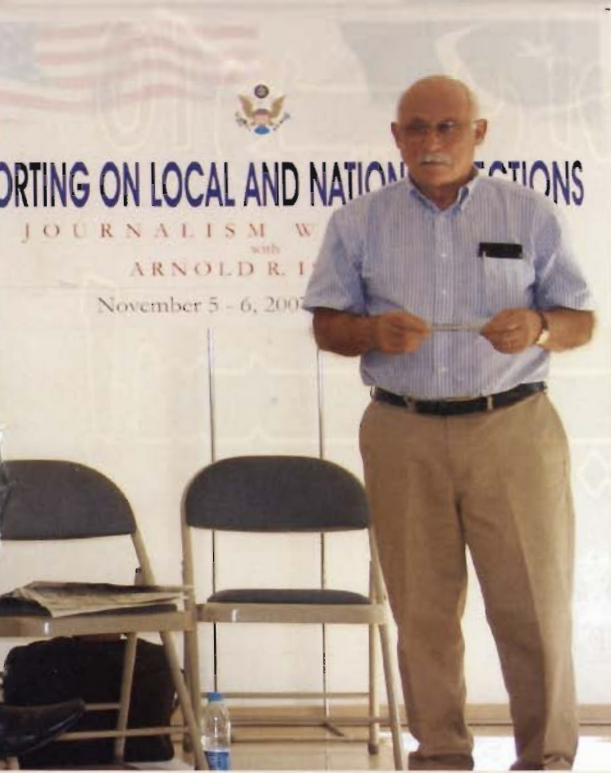
“The role of a free press in a democratic society is always essential, but never more so than in covering elections. Journalists play a key role in informing the people of the choices available to them and encouraging them to participate,” Kay Webb Mayfield, U.S. Embassy's Counselor for Public Affairs said.

Arnold Skip Isaacs is an acclaimed professor of journalism and mass communication and has held teaching assignments at various universities in the U.S., Ukraine, and China, besides conducting journalism trainings in more than a dozen countries with both professional journalists and journalism students. He has also held various positions at the 'Washington Post,' 'New House News Service,' 'Third Age News Service,' and 'Baltimore Sun.' He is also author, co-author and contributor to various books.

During his visits, Arnold Skip Isaacs spoke to the university students of journalism, mass communications and international relations on the role of the media in a democracy and in the election process in various cities. “Journalists have a responsibility not to take at face value the claims of parties or candidates, but to investigate and verify the truth of what they say,” Arnold R. Isaacs told the participating journalists in Peshawar, Khanewal, Bhawalpur, Sialkot, Islamabad and Karachi.



Skip Isaacs paid a visit to the Islamabad office of The Daily Times where he discussed journalistic issues with Resident Editor Rana Qaisar and the newspaper's reporters.



ترہیقی ورکشاپ میں شامل ایک صحافی کسی نکتہ کی وضاحت طلب کر رہے ہیں



سیالکوٹ میں تربیتی نشست کا ایک منظر



سنیئر مدیران اخبارات آرنلڈ آنزک کے ہمراہ اسلام آباد میں مچو گفتگو ہیں

# انتخابی کوریج کے موضوع پر صحافیوں کی تربیتی نشستوں

## کا انعقاد

ممتاز امریکی مقرر اور بین الاقوامی شہرت کے حامل مصنف اور استاد آرنلڈ اسکپ آنزک نے 28 اکتوبر سے 9 نومبر تک پاکستان کے مختلف شہروں میں ایکشن کی رپورٹنگ کے موضوع پر تربیتی ورکشاپس منعقد کیں اور لیکچرز دیئے۔ ان ورکشاپوں اور لیکچرز کیلئے امریکی سفارتخانہ نے مالی اعانت کی۔

امریکی سفارتخانہ کی قونصلر برائے امور عامہ کے ویب میفلڈ نے کہا ہے کہ ایک جمہوری معاشرہ میں آزاد صحافت کا کردار ہمیشہ اہمیت کا حامل ہوتا ہے، لیکن انتخابات کی رپورٹنگ سے کبھی زیادہ اہم نہیں ہو سکتا۔ صحافی لوگوں کو ان کے دستیاب امیدواروں کے بارے میں آگاہ کرتے ہیں اور انہیں انتخابی عمل میں شرکت کی ترغیب دیتے ہیں۔

آرنلڈ آنزک ٹاؤسن یونیورسٹی اور جان ہاکینسن یونیورسٹی امریکہ میں اور یوکرائن اور چین کی متعدد جامعات میں سیاسیات اور ابلاغ عامہ کے شعبوں میں درس و تدریس کے فرائض سرانجام دے چکے ہیں۔ اس کے علاوہ، وہ ایک درجن سے زیادہ ملکوں بشمول سابق سویت یونین، بلقان کی ریاستوں اور جنوب مشرقی ایشیا میں پیشہ ور صحافیوں اور صحافت کے طالب علموں کیلئے صحافت کی تربیتی نشستیں منعقد کر چکے ہیں۔ وہ واشنگٹن پوسٹ، نیو ہاؤس نیوز سروس، تھرڈ اینج نیوز سروس اور ہائٹی مورسن میں مختلف عہدوں پر خدمات سرانجام دے چکے ہیں۔ وہ کئی کتابوں کے مصنف اور شریک مصنف ہیں۔

اپنے دورہ کے دوران، آرنلڈ آنزک نے یونیورسٹیوں میں ابلاغ عامہ اور بین الاقوامی تعلقات کے طالب علموں سے انتخابی عمل کے بارے میں گفتگو کی۔ آرنلڈ آنزک نے پشاور، خانیوال، بہاولپور، سیالکوٹ، اسلام آباد اور کراچی میں صحافیوں سے کہا کہ صحافیوں کی یہ ذمہ داری ہے کہ وہ سیاسی جماعتوں یا امیدواروں کے دعووں پر نہ جائیں بلکہ جو کچھ وہ کہہ رہے ہیں اس کی تحقیق کریں اور سچائی تک رسائی حاصل کریں۔



کراچی میں ایسوسی ایشن آف ٹیلی ویژن جرنلسٹ پاکستان کے ممبران آرنلڈ آنزک کے ہمراہ