



Khabr-o-Nazar

(NEWS & VIEWS)

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U.S. Congressional Delegations Visit Pakistan





Pakistan President Pervaz Musharraf with the delegation of Land Forces Symposium jointly sponsored by Pakistan Army and U.S. Army Central (ARCENT) at the National Defense University in Islamabad on April 12, 2007 (ISPR Photo)



U.S. Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Michael Mullen at a media roundtable during his visit to Islamabad on April 16, 2007 (KN Photo)



Ms. Mary Falon, wife of U.S. CENTCOM Commander Admiral William Fallon with American Embassy official Tanya Bodde and the Chief Executive, CRS, Ms. Mehnaz Aziz, during their visit to a local school in Islamabad on March 31, 2007 (Online Photo)



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Front Cover

Congresswoman Nita Lowey in traditional jacket and other members of U.S. Congressional delegation wearing ethnic caps along with the officials of Frontier Corps in Peshawar on April 7, 2007 (Photo KN)

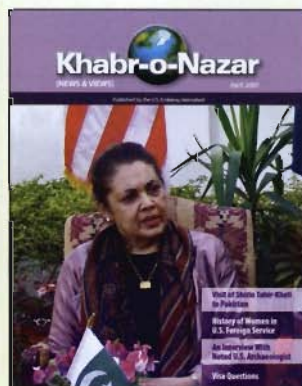


letters to the editor

Great source of information

I am a regular reader of monthly "Khabr-o-Nazar" for the last four years. It is really a great source of information and knowledge about the various U.S. government policies and the strong U.S. partnership with the government of Pakistan in various projects such as education, health and environment. It is also a great tool to counter misinformation and misconceptions that may arise in the minds of the people of Pakistan about the government and the people of the U.S. I congratulate you and all your staff for this serious effort in the shape of "Khabr-o-Nazar."

Iftikhar Mubarik (Lahore)



Motivated

I regularly read "Khabr-o-Nazar" at the college library. It has motivated me to write to you.

Amna Ehsan (Okara)

Thankful

I am thankful to you for sending me very informative magazine "Khabr-o-Nazar." It is providing us great information on Pakistan and the U.S. relations especially in the education sector. I liked the interview of USAID Pakistan Mission Director Jonathan Addleton. I hope the magazine will continue to share good information.

Sher Muhammad Baloch (Kotri)



Adieu

With a sad heart we bid adieu to Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker. His hard work would long be remembered here in Pakistan.

Danish Ahmed (Islamabad)



First time

For the first time I got the opportunity to go through your monthly magazine "Khabr-o-Nazar," which is not only attractive but informative too. It has compelled me to write to you about my feelings. I deeply appreciate the magazine and your efforts in this regard.

Muhammad Khalid (Mirpukhas)

Fantastic

My brother from Islamabad recently sent me a copy of Khabr-o-Nazar which I received only yesterday. This magazine, truly speaking, is fantastic. I remember back in fifties, we used to get informative movies and magazines from U.S. Embassy, then in Karachi. I am a proud U.S. citizen and would like to get a copy of the magazine regularly here in New Jersey.

Sardar Iqbal Khan (New Jersey, U.S.A.)

Avid reader

I am writing to inform you that I am a freelance columnist for English newspapers of national repute and an avid reader of "Khabr-o-Nazar." I have been reading the magazine for the last two years while working on a project of National Monument in Islamabad. I have found "Khabr-o-Nazar" to be a blend of information, education, entertainment and persuasion. U.S. Embassy by producing such a quality magazine is bridging the gap of societal values between both the countries.

Muhammad Mahtab Bashir (Islamabad)

U.S.

Congressional

Delegations

visit

Pakistan



Two U.S. Congressional delegations jointly called on President General Pervez Musharraf in Rawalpindi on April 3, 2007 (PID Photo)



U.S. Senator John McCain called on President General Pervez Musharraf in Rawalpindi on April 3, 2007



A U.S. Congressional delegation headed by Rep. Nita Lowey called on President General Pervez Musharraf in Rawalpindi on April 7, 2007. (PID Photo)



U.S. Congresswoman **Re-opens** Government Girls' Middle School in Dadar

U.S. Congresswoman Nita Lowey on April 7 reopened the Government Girls' Middle School Dadar in NWFP, which was destroyed by the October 8, 2005 earthquake and was rebuilt by USAID.

"This school exemplifies the partnership between the United States and the people of Pakistan and their shared commitment to 'build back better' in the earthquake-affected areas," Representative Lowey remarked at the dedication ceremony.

Led by Rep. Lowey, seven members of the U.S. House of Representatives attended the dedication, along with John Gastright, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Central and Asian Affairs; Gen. Nadeem, ERRA Deputy Chairman; and other district officials.

"It's truly a privilege to be able to help people like all of you who have done so much to help yourselves; I salute your determination," noted Rep. Lowey. The plaque unveiled on the occasion read: "The original building was destroyed during the massive earthquake of October 8, 2005. Reconstruction was carried out with the help of the American people in friendship and the belief that the girls educated here will contribute to the stability and prosperity of their families, communities and nation."

USAID's four-year, \$200 million reconstruction program is rebuilding destroyed schools and clinics, rehabilitating livelihoods, and improving education and health care delivery in earthquake-affected areas of districts Bagh and Mansehra and in Azad-Jammu.

Rep. Lowey commended General Nadeem for his "inspired leadership of ERRA" and said that by all accounts ERRA and its partners "are achieving one of the most successful recoveries from a disaster ever seen."

During the first year of the reconstruction program, USAID plans to begin rebuilding 50 schools and 15 healthcare facilities, including the Tehsil Headquarters Hospital in Bagh.

All buildings will be constructed to meet internationally recognized earthquake-resistant building standards and will provide access for the handicapped.





Congresswoman Lowey speaks passionately about the value of educating girls at the reopening ceremony

Excerpts From Representative Nita Lowey's Remarks at the

Dedication Of Girls'

Middle School Dadar

Headmistress Shabana, we are delighted to present this sports equipment to you and your students. Everything your students need for playing badminton, volleyball, table tennis and rings. There is much more inside the school.

On behalf of the entire delegation, I want to thank you for the opportunity to be with you in Dadar today to dedicate your beautiful new school.

After the earthquake struck this region in October 2005, people across the world joined hands to help meet the need for immediate relief from the earthquake. I am proud that the United States and the U.S. Congress were among those who responded. And I am proud that we have continued to help with the longer term need for reconstruction in this area that was so devastated by the earthquake.

It is a joy, now, to be able to visit you in Dadar to see some of the results. Working together, we have helped build this new school that can now help to rebuild the lives that were interrupted by that devastating earthquake.

You teachers, parents and students have been heroic in your efforts to carry on with schooling through the nearly year and a half since your school building was destroyed.

During my years in the U.S. Congress, nothing has been more important to me than promoting girls' education – and yes, there's still plenty of work to do on that front in the United States.

Investment in girls' education yields some of the highest returns of all development investments. Educated women have healthier babies. Educated mothers are more likely to seek medical care, to ensure their children are immunized, and to be better informed about nutrition and sanitation. Education increases women's ability to contribute financially to their



(KN Photo)

families. That yields benefits for their communities and for society as a whole.

Mothers' education also affects their children's success in school. A mother with a few years of formal education is much more likely to send her children to school and to be able to help them with their studies. For all these reasons, there is nothing that I am more pleased to support, as an American citizen and as a member of the United States Congress, than the building of schools here in the Northwest Frontier Province for teachers who are eager to teach and for

young women who are eager to learn.

I understand that last September, one of the students here asked someone from USAID when we would build a high school. I think that any young woman who cares enough to ask that question deserves a solid answer. And I believe she deserves the opportunity to study through high school. So let me answer her. If the community and the district officials are ready, and if the land can be found, I will do everything in my power to ensure that the Dadar Girls High School is built.

I want to salute everyone who has worked so hard since the earthquake to make the reconstruction of the Middle School a success. Together, we will succeed not only in rebuilding but in "building back better."

And now, on behalf of the entire delegation, it's my pleasure to present a plaque that expresses why we are all so pleased to support our Pakistani friends in this effort and to be here today.

It reads: "The original building was destroyed during the massive earthquake of October 8, 2005. Reconstruction was carried out with the help of the American people in friendship and the belief that the girls educated here will contribute to the stability and prosperity of their families, communities and nation."



(KN Photo)

U.S. Congress Provides Communications Equipment to Frontier Corps

Congresswoman Nita Lowey and six other members of the United States Congress visiting Peshawar presented new communications equipment to the Frontier Corps, NWFP on April 7. This equipment is part of \$15 million worth of new equipment the United States has purchased for the Frontier Corps, NWFP and Balochistan, since 2005.

Declaring that development and diplomatic programs are "America's first line of defense," U.S. Congresswoman Nita Lowey expressed the hope that U.S. assistance provided to the Frontier Corps will "continue aiding the Government of Pakistan's positive development work in the country's tribal areas."

"This is assistance that produces tangible results – safer communities and a more stable frontier region" Congresswomen Nita Lowey observed. "It is wonderful to see funding that we provide in Congress come to fruition in such useful ways in Pakistan," noted Congresswoman Lowey.

The Inspector General of the Frontier Corps, Alam Khattak, commended Lowey and the Congressional delegation for their dedication to Pakistan's future. "We are honored to have the members of Congress responsible for American assistance to the Frontier Corps here today," he said.

The Narcotics Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy has been working with the Frontier Corps since 9/11, providing critical security and law enforcement equipment and funding the construction of 105 border outposts on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Justice provides

Congressional
delegation
commended for
its dedication
to Pakistan's
future stability



(KN Photo)



(KN Photo)

Additional Support to Frontier Constabulary

\$1 Million MoU Signed

U.S.
Congressional
Delegation
Witnesses
Signing
Ceremony

Pakistan and the United States on April 7 signed a U.S. \$1 million Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Peshawar for the rehabilitation of frontier posts in several Frontier Regions. The agreement is part of a joint plan to bolster Pakistan's border security forces' capabilities and to enhance the Frontier Constabulary by raising an additional 50 platoons to protect the 286-km frontier region border.

"Pakistan and the United States have a long-term relationship, and supporting the Frontier Constabulary is part of that relationship," said visiting Chairwoman of U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations.

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-NY), who was heading a U.S. Congressional delegation visiting Pakistan, attended the signing ceremony. "I am glad to be here to witness the continuation of America's relationship with Pakistan's security forces," she said.

The signing of the MoU followed a U.S. Embassy commitment last year to provide \$2.7 million worth of security and communications equipment and infrastructure support.

"The United States is proud to be associated with the Frontier Constabulary, an organization with a proud and courageous history," noted U.S. Charge de affaires Peter



(KN Photo)

W. Bodde, who participated in the ceremony along with Frontier Constabulary Commandant Malik Navid Khan.

Charge d'affaires Bodde stated that the U.S. was pleased to be able to provide additional funding this year to the Constabulary to assist in their efforts to secure the critical area between the settled regions and the FATA. "This funding will improve up to 23 facilities for anywhere from 20-40 personnel in each frontier post," he said.

Bodde said the U.S. would continue to provide technical and training assistance to the Constabulary into the future. In addition to State Department assistance, the U.S. Department of Justice also supports many Constabulary programs.

Frontier Constabulary-specific IED/Post Blast investigation training has been conducted and will continue. The U.S. Embassy will also be training and equipping a Constabulary Rapid Response force for civil disturbance management and tactical response in the coming months.



U.S.
Congressional
Delegation
Visits

USAID Gems and Jewelry Project

A six-person U.S. Congressional delegation led by Congresswoman Nita Lowey (Democrat, New York) met with representatives of the USAID gems and jewelry project in Lahore on April 8. Under its economic growth program, USAID is providing \$22 million for improving business development in Pakistan.

"It is a pleasure to be here today and witness first-hand the important work Pakistani gems and jewelry industry is doing with assistance from the USAID and invaluable support from the Government of Pakistan. We appreciate the fact that the industry is taking a collaborative approach to addressing constraints to growth," remarked Congresswoman Lowey.

Through the Pakistan Initiative for Strategic Development and Competitiveness (PISDAC), USAID aims to increase competitiveness of Pakistan's small and medium sized enterprises. Sectors currently covered under the project are Gems and Jewelry, Dairy, Marble and Granite, Horticulture, Surgical Instruments and Medical Devices, and Furniture. Started in May 2004, PISDAC has worked with several Pakistani industries and helped form Strategic Working Groups (SWOGs) which develop strategies aimed at upgrading production, improving marketing, and meeting consumer demands.

The delegation also observed the traditional processes for crafting intricate jewelry and attended a briefing on the strategy development activities intended to enhance the gems and jewelry sector's competitiveness.

The U.S. Congressional delegation also called on the Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi, met with politicians and civil society, and toured the historic Badshahi Mosque.



U.S.
Congressional
Delegation
Witnesses
**Wagah
Border
Ceremony**



(KN Photo)

During a day-long visit to Lahore on April 8, a six-member Congressional delegation led by Congresswoman Nita Lowey (Democrat, New York) took time to witness the flag-lowering ceremony at Joint Check Post Wagah Border that daily draws huge crowds on both sides of the Pakistan-India border at dusk.

Upon arrival at Wagah, the U.S. delegation was received by Lt. Colonel Tariq Janjua, Wing Commander, 10 Wing, Sutlej Rangers. The delegation was then taken to Zero Point - a white line on the tar road marking the actual border - and briefed on the history of the border-crossing. Following the briefing, the delegation was escorted to the stands.

As is customary for visiting dignitaries, Congresswoman Lowey signaled permission to the Parade Commander to begin the ceremony. What followed was a 25-minute parade by the Pakistani and Indian border forces, marked by highly choreographed marching steps. To the sound of bugles, the two flags were lowered, and soldiers from both sides shook hands before closing the border gates for the night.

The delegation felt it was a "moving ceremony" and one the members "would remember for a long time to come."

Ameri

By Manzoor Kakar
International Visitor Alumnus

-An



The United States of America is a mix of different cultures, people and traditions having its own dynamic position in the world, which depicts unity, tranquility and equality among different nations of this global village. In fact, according to my observation and presumption it's serving the humanity to its utmost.

My visit to the United States was with reference to the special invitation from U. S Department of State under the International Visitors Leadership Program and the subject of my program was: "Substance Abuse Education, Treatment and Prevention." The initiative and measures taken by the U.S government, especially Department of State, are laudable when it comes to the extermination and elimination of this menace from our societies.

I was greatly impressed by the amiability of the American people - their assistance for people belonging to different countries providing them with facilities like aid, infrastructure, and education besides helping the downtrodden people in calamities in different parts of the world.

This program took me to Washington D.C, Baltimore, New York, New Jersey, Denver Colorado, and Des Moines Iowa.

In Washington D.C., we met with the National Drug Control Program Coordinator and discussed issues relating to the welfare of drug addicts. We also paid a visit to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Rockville Maryland, where we got the privilege of meeting Mr. Richard A. Moore who is the head

Ca Amenable Nation

of Center for Substance and Abuse Prevention. At the U.S Department of Justice we discussed with officials issues relating to the prevalence of drug abuse, especially in the Asian countries and the help U.S is providing in combatting this menace in the region.

In Baltimore, we visited John Hopkins University and were amused by its beautiful port. Residents of Baltimore are very affable and the city is quiet peaceful and commendable.

In Colorado, we met with the head of Denver City Community Development Department and discussed issues relating to the welfare of common citizens and getting rid of the menace of drugs. This city was quiet beautiful and clean. We went to Denver City Central Prison and met with people involved in drug trafficking. I was greatly impressed by the corrective measures taken by the prison management for the welfare and promotion of individuals who had been involved in this ugly business.

The prison management employs all its energy towards the welfare of jail inmates, providing them medical facility and trying to make them exemplary citizens of the State. Denver city citizens were indeed hospitable by nature. An esteemed citizen of Denver invited us for a dinner at his house.

Des Moines Iowa was quiet peaceful city. The majority of population used to live in rural areas as it comprised of agricultural lands. We visited the Des Moines Iowa's Governor House and we were quiet impressed by the steps that have been



taken for the welfare and promotion of their local residents. This city comprised a lot of ancient and historical monuments and the Governor's House was also a part of it. We also visited their assembly met its various members. During a visit to the local civil hospital, we were briefed about the rehabilitation plan of the drug addicts.

In New York we visited the office of Brian Johansson who is president of "The Bowery Mission," an organization which has completely devoted itself for the prosperity of humanity and I was deeply impressed with their service and message of goodwill.

We also visited the Empire State Building, Time Square, ancient churches of New York, and Ground Zero. We also got an opportunity to witness a court trial in which the case was about an individual allegedly involved in drug trafficking. During the whole proceedings, the attitude of the judge was worth aspiring. The way he was making the accused confess his crime and make him say that he will not repeat the mistake again

and will become a responsible citizen in future was just a fine example of a citizen-friendly state.

Our visit to New Jersey was organized by the township police department. We met town police officers and found them quite capable and competent. They took us to a local school with the aim to spread awareness against the menace of drugs among the new generation and prepare them to tackle the upcoming challenges ahead.

During my three-week stay in the U.S., I got an opportunity to observe the American society, politics, culture, hospitality, and policy making organizations. The people of America are receptive, hard working and amenable. They possess all the qualities that are required to lead the world.

Manzoor Kakar went on the Department of State's International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) on the topic of "Substance Abuse Education, Treatment and Prevention" in December 2005.





**U.S.
Deputy
Assistant
Secretary of State**

John Gastright meets with Interior Minister Sherpao

The U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs, John Gastright, expressed America's deep appreciation for "Pakistan's leading role in the War on Terror" during his visit to Islamabad on April 10.

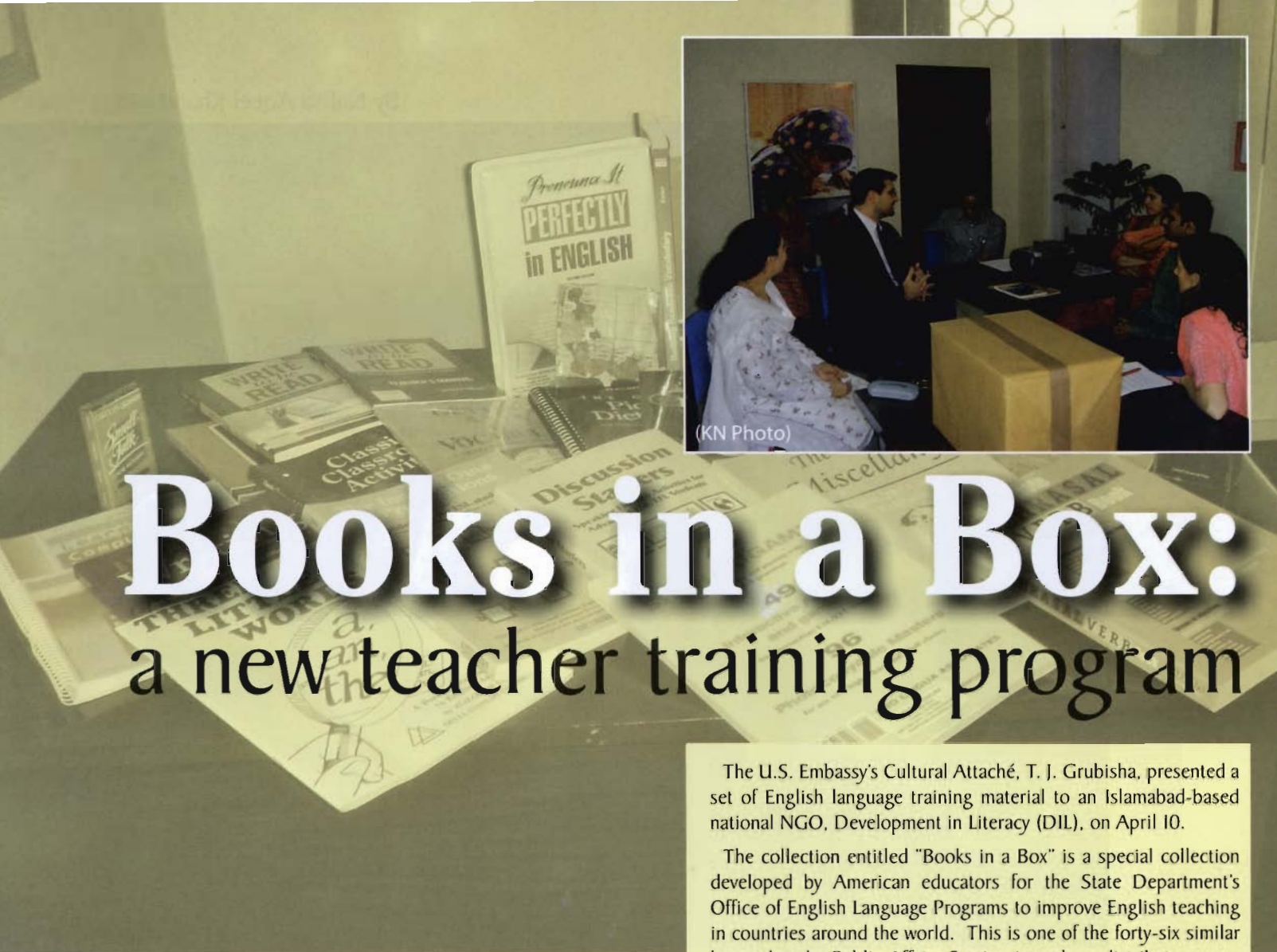
Deputy Assistant Secretary Gastright made these remarks when he met with the Federal Minister for Interior, Aftab Ahmad Kahn Sherpao at his residence. U.S. Charge d'affaires, Peter W. Bodde, was also present on the occasion.

The American diplomat said that ties between the United States and Pakistan will be further strengthened.

"Due to the prudent policies of President General Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Shoukat Aziz, Pakistan is on the road of progress," Interior Minister Sherpao said on the occasion.

The Federal Minister informed Mr. Gastright that Pakistan attached great importance to its relations with the U.S. adding that both the countries are cooperating with each other in diverse fields and relations between the two countries will take further boost.





(KN Photo)

Books in a Box: a new teacher training program

The U.S. Embassy's Cultural Attaché, T. J. Grubisha, presented a set of English language training material to an Islamabad-based national NGO, Development in Literacy (DIL), on April 10.

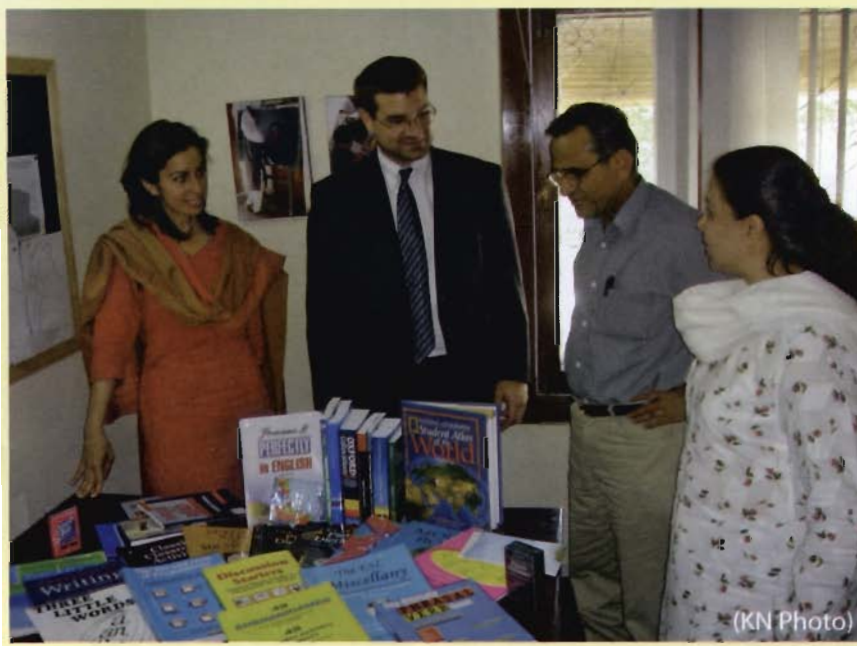
The collection entitled "Books in a Box" is a special collection developed by American educators for the State Department's Office of English Language Programs to improve English teaching in countries around the world. This is one of the forty-six similar boxes that the Public Affairs Section intends to distribute among various educational institutions in Pakistan.

"Books in a Box" is a suite of carefully integrated educational materials intended for English language teachers and trainers in university and upper level secondary schools. Materials encompass topics in language teaching methodology and activities for listening, speaking, reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. The collection included CD-ROMS, audio cassettes, dictionaries, maps, and a guide for trainers. The materials were chosen for maximum utility with teachers of students from beginning to advanced levels.

DIL is working for the betterment of education with a network of around 150 schools having approximately 13,000 children across Pakistan.

The American diplomat briefed the participants on a variety of initiatives and other English teaching programs supported by the U.S. Mission in Pakistan which includes Radio based English Language Teaching (ELT) lessons for school children of grades I-10, PAS-sponsored Sesame English TV series, ELT workshops conducted by Regional English Language Officers (ELOs) and English Language Fellows (ELFs) etc.

In his concluding remarks, A. H. Nayar, Director of DIL, expressed his NGO's appreciation to the U.S. Embassy for the useful training material.



(KN Photo)



365 Days with Hoffmann

Nafisa Aqeel Khandwala is a former participant of the Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program

The Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program provides scholarships to Pakistani high school students for one academic session in United States. YES program scholarships, funded by the U.S. Department of State-Bureau of Cultural Affairs, give secondary school students in many countries a new opportunity to study at American high schools and live with American host families for one academic year.

For me, a Pakistani exchange student, coming into a new world was a big challenge. Leaving my family and my caring parents was a big step I took and am proud of. But, this time would not have been as easy for me if I didn't have the Hoffmann family to take care, love and host me.

When I left Pakistan I knew that I would be staying with the Hoffmann family for a week or so, but when I reached Pasco, WA

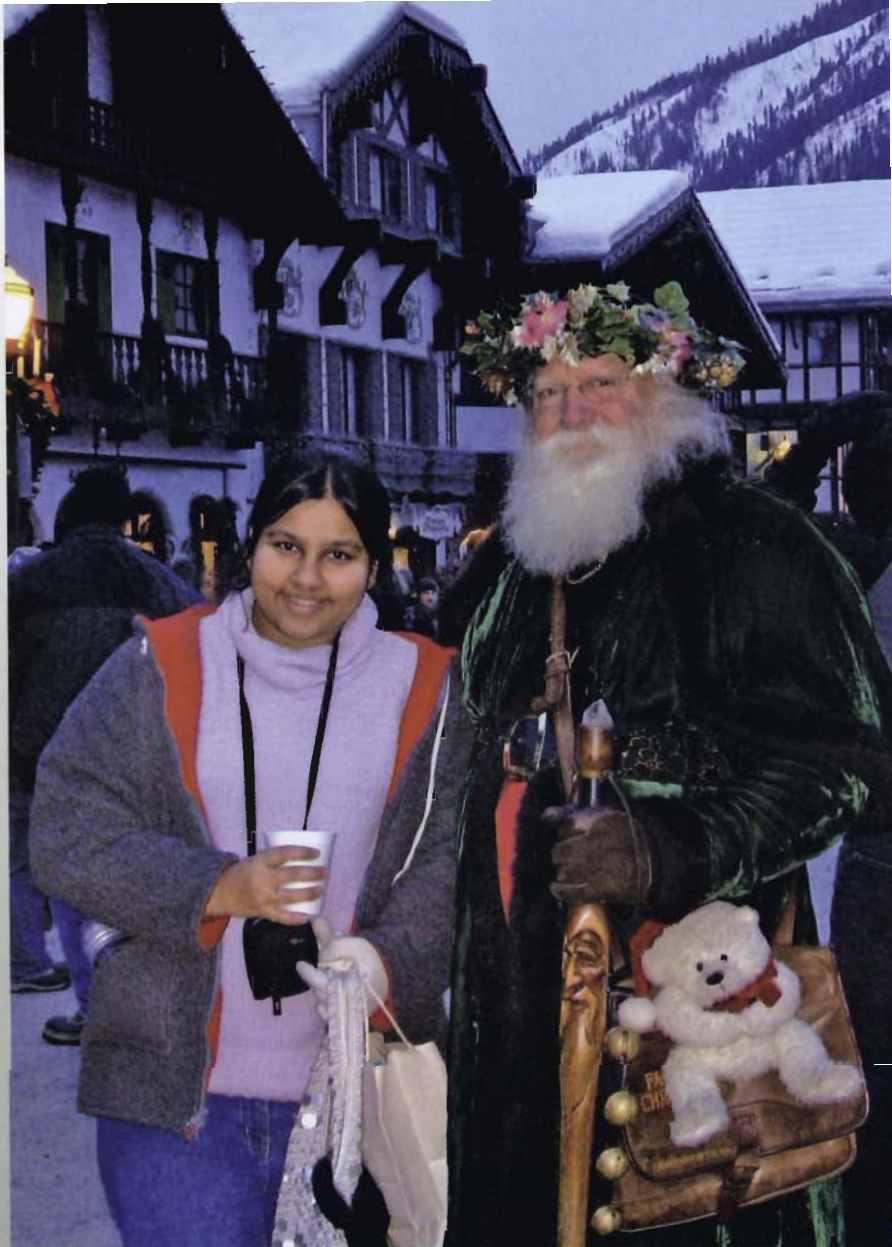


they told me how they had got things done so that I could stay with them for a whole year.

The first few weeks I was formal around them but after a while all formality had vanished. The Hoffmann family comprised seven people; my host parents (Sharon and Bob) my host sisters (Ruth, Rachel and Kristina) and my host brothers (Kurt and Derek). Though all three of my sisters are living in Idaho I still got lots of chances to meet them and have fun with them. And the youngest kid Kurt reminds me of my brother more than anything, he teases me and annoys me just like any real brother would do and I am really glad that he does that.

Coming here, the biggest fear was what would happen on our religious days and events? I would like to share one of the many things my host family did to make me feel at home. On Eid-ul-Adha I went to school, I was very sad that I was all alone having no family or friends around, but my teachers all wished me happy Eid so my day went great, but the biggest surprise was waiting for me at the Hoffmann residence. At dinner time mom was setting up these pretty dishes and stuff and I was thinking probably we are having someone over for dinner. But we sat down for dinner and no one came. I thought maybe mom did it for me, but that was not it. When the food came, I found out that she had prepared a Pakistani meal for me, which was biryani (a rice dish) and kheer (a rice dessert). She knew I couldn't have stayed home and cooked because I had some tests that day, so she did all that for me. I was so stoked about it and just couldn't hold it.

Their affection for me didn't just end there. For a long time I was waiting for my 16th birthday, never in



my wildest dreams had I thought that I would celebrate my 16th birthday in the USA, but I guess it was destined to be so. For my birthday my host family called over a family who has five daughters. So they came over and we had a Mexican dinner and a lovely cake made by my host mom. It was the best birthday that I have ever had and will never forget it.

These have been all the good times in which they made me feel a part of their family, but everything just isn't perfect all the time. After I came here my grandmother was diagnosed with cancer, and she was at the very crucial stage, it was hard for me being away from her when she was so sick, but my host family always supported me. Alas! one day I received the dreaded call that my grandma had passed away, I was totally thrown off my guard though I was prepared but it still after a month doesn't sink in. At that time my support was the family, though no one could console me like my own parents could have but talking for a long time to my host mom made it easier to gulp that ever growing lump down. Hence, they made it easier for me.

While I am almost at the end of writing about why my host family write, but I think I will never be able to accommodate everything that they have done for me, it is simply impossible. But deep down in my heart I know that now I don't have one family but two which will always make me cherish my time spent in the United States.

Family in U.S.



Earth Day with Poster



(KN Photo)

Principal Officer Bryan Hunt and Public Affairs Officer Kathleen Eagen with the participants of Earth Day poster competition at the U.S. Consulate

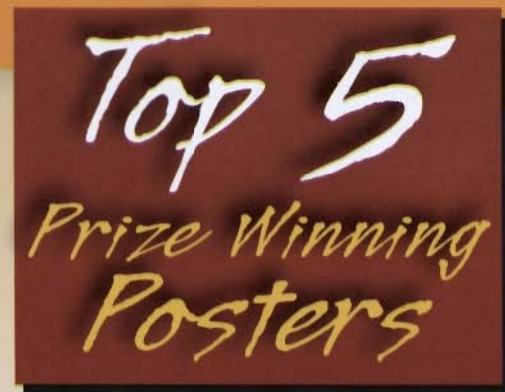
Principal Officer of the U.S. Consulate Lahore, Bryan Hunt remarked that he was "amazed by the students' talent" while giving away prizes to the top five participants at a poster competition held in Lahore in connection with the Earth Day on April 20, 2007.

"The U.S. Consulate regularly organizes programs underlining the importance of environment, but it is always exciting when such programs involve the youth and children. The overwhelming response we had from students demonstrates their interest in this important subject, besides highlighting their skills in art," Mr. Hunt said.

The following participants received the top five prizes respectively: Ali Shafique, St. Anthony's College; Rida Ali, Pepperdine School; Iqra Jehangir, Pepperdine School; Arifa Latif, Qila Lakshman Singh CARE School; M.K Sherpao and M. Salman Ibraheem of Aitchison College shared the 5th prize. The prize-winners were awarded with shields; all



First prize – By Ali Shafiq



Second prize – By Rida Ali

Competition for Students

participants received books and certificates of appreciation signed by the Consulate's Principal Officer and Public Affairs Officer.

Mr. Hunt announced that selected posters would be displayed at an exhibition in the near future, while the winning posters would be printed in an upcoming edition of the Embassy monthly "Khabr-o-Nazar." The artwork was judged by Mr. Shah Nawaz Zaidi, Principal College of Art and Design, Punjab University; Ms Feryal Gohar, renowned television artist; and Ms Kathleen Eagen, Public Affairs Officer of U.S. Consulate.

The Consulate had invited entries from schools participating in the Access English Microscholarship Program in Lahore and Multan, and recipients of the American Discovery Centers in Lahore. More than 60 children, ages 12-15, sent in posters done in water colors, oil paint, pastels and crayons.



(KN Photo)

Principal Officer Bryan Hunt with top five prize winners



Third prize – By Jehangir Kawish



Fourth prize – By Arifa Latif



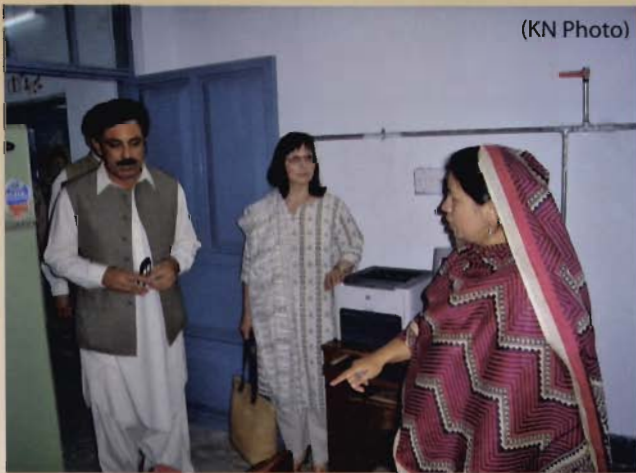
Fifth prize – By M.K. Sherpao and M. Suleman Ibrahim

U.S. Funds Renovation of

Family Health Clinic

for Afghan Refugees, Local Population

(KN Photo)



(KN Photo)

The renovated Meelam Family Health Clinic was inaugurated in Haripur on April 6 to serve Afghan refugees as well as Pakistani host community members. The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) funded the renovation which was carried out by the NGO Save the Children.

Located between the city of Haripur and the nearby Panian and Padhana refugee camps, the previously abandoned government health unit building was donated by the District Nazim of Haripur, Yousaf Ayub Khan.

"The United States commends the co-existence and cooperation between refugee villages and the local host community," U.S. Embassy's Refugee Coordinator Linda R. Hoover said in her remarks on the occasion. "We recognize the needs of refugees, but we also recognize the burden borne by the host communities where refugees

are located, and we seek to assist both populations wherever possible."

Save the Children, with U.S. Government funds, has been providing round-the-clock emergency obstetric services in the nearby camps for the past four years. In order to reach out to the local host community and help even more clients, they relocated the family health clinic to Meelam with the assistance of the local government.

"The State Department has worked with and funded Save the Children's projects for many years and we are very proud to partner with them," Linda Hoover said. She also thanked the district Nazim Yousaf Ayub Khan, Executive District Health Officer Dr. Muhammad Qasim Khan, and the district of Haripur "for their generosity and cooperation that made this clinic possible."

U.S. diplomat Hoover said: "Projects like this one are those that build stronger relationships between our countries and our people."



(KN Photo)

امریکہ کی جانب سے
افغان پناہ گزین اور
مقامی آبادی کیلئے

طبی مرکز کی تزیین و آرائش



میزبان آبادیوں کی جانب سے اس بوجھ کو برداشت کرنے کو بھی سمجھتے ہیں جہاں یہ پناہ گزین مقیم ہیں اور ہم دونوں آبادیوں کی ہر ممکن مدد کی کوشش کریں گے۔

غیر سرکاری ادارہ سیوودی چلڈرن حکومت امریکہ کے مالی اعانت سے گزشتہ چار برسوں سے قریبی کیمپوں میں زچہ و بچہ کی دن رات ہنگامی طبی امداد فراہم کر رہا ہے۔ مقامی میزبان آبادی کو بھی زیادہ سے زیادہ سہولت بہم پہنچانے کیلئے انہوں نے میلم میں فیملی ہیلتھ یونٹ کو ضلعی حکومت کے تعاون سے نئے مقام پر منتقل کر دیا ہے۔

لنڈا اہور نے مزید کہا کہ محکمہ خارجہ گزشتہ کئی سالوں سے سیوودی چلڈرن کے منصوبوں کیلئے

مالی امداد فراہم کر رہا ہے اور ان کے ساتھ اشتراک کار پر اسے فخر ہے۔ انہوں نے ضلعی ناظم یوسف ایوب خان، ایگزیکٹو ڈسٹرکٹ ہیلتھ آفیسر ڈاکٹر محمد قاسم خان اور ضلعی ہری پور کے لوگوں کا اس کلینک کے قیام کو ممکن بنانے میں تعاون پر شکر یہ ادا کیا۔

امریکی سفارتکار لنڈا اہور نے کہا کہ اس قسم کے منصوبے دونوں ملکوں اور ان کے عوام کے درمیان تعلقات کو مضبوط بناتے ہیں۔

امریکی سفارتخانہ کی کوآرڈینیٹر برائے پناہ گزین لنڈا آر ہوور اور ضلع ہری پور کے ناظم یوسف ایوب خان اور دیگر زعماء میلم میں نوٹز مین شدہ طبی مرکز کی افتتاحی تقریب میں شریک ہیں

ہری پور میں نوٹز مین و آرائش شدہ میلم فیملی ہیلتھ کلینک کا جمعہ 16 اپریل 2007ء کو افتتاح کیا گیا۔ اس طبی مرکز سے افغان پناہ گزین اور مقامی پاکستانی آبادی کے لوگ بھی استفادہ کر سکیں گے۔ امریکی محکمہ خارجہ کے شعبہ آبادی، پناہ گزین و ترک وطن (PRM) نے اس تزیین و آرائش کیلئے مالی معاونت کی اور ایک غیر سرکاری تنظیم "سیوودی چلڈرن" نے اس منصوبہ کو پایہ تکمیل تک پہنچایا۔

ہری پور شہر اور نزدیکی پانیاں اور پدھانہ کے پناہ گزین کیمپوں کے درمیان واقع یہ طبی مرکز قبل ازیں ایک سرکاری ہیلتھ یونٹ کی عمارت تھی جسے حکومت نے خالی کر دیا تھا اور ہری پور کے ضلعی ناظم یوسف ایوب خان نے اس منصوبہ کیلئے اس عمارت کو فراہم کیا۔

امریکی سفارتخانہ کی کوآرڈینیٹر برائے پناہ گزین لنڈا آر ہوور نے اس موقع پر اظہار خیال کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ امریکہ پناہ گزینوں کے گاؤں اور مقامی میزبان آبادی کے درمیان بقائے باہمی اور تعاون کو قدر کی نگاہ سے دیکھتا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ہم پناہ گزینوں کی ضروریات کو سمجھتے ہیں لیکن مقامی