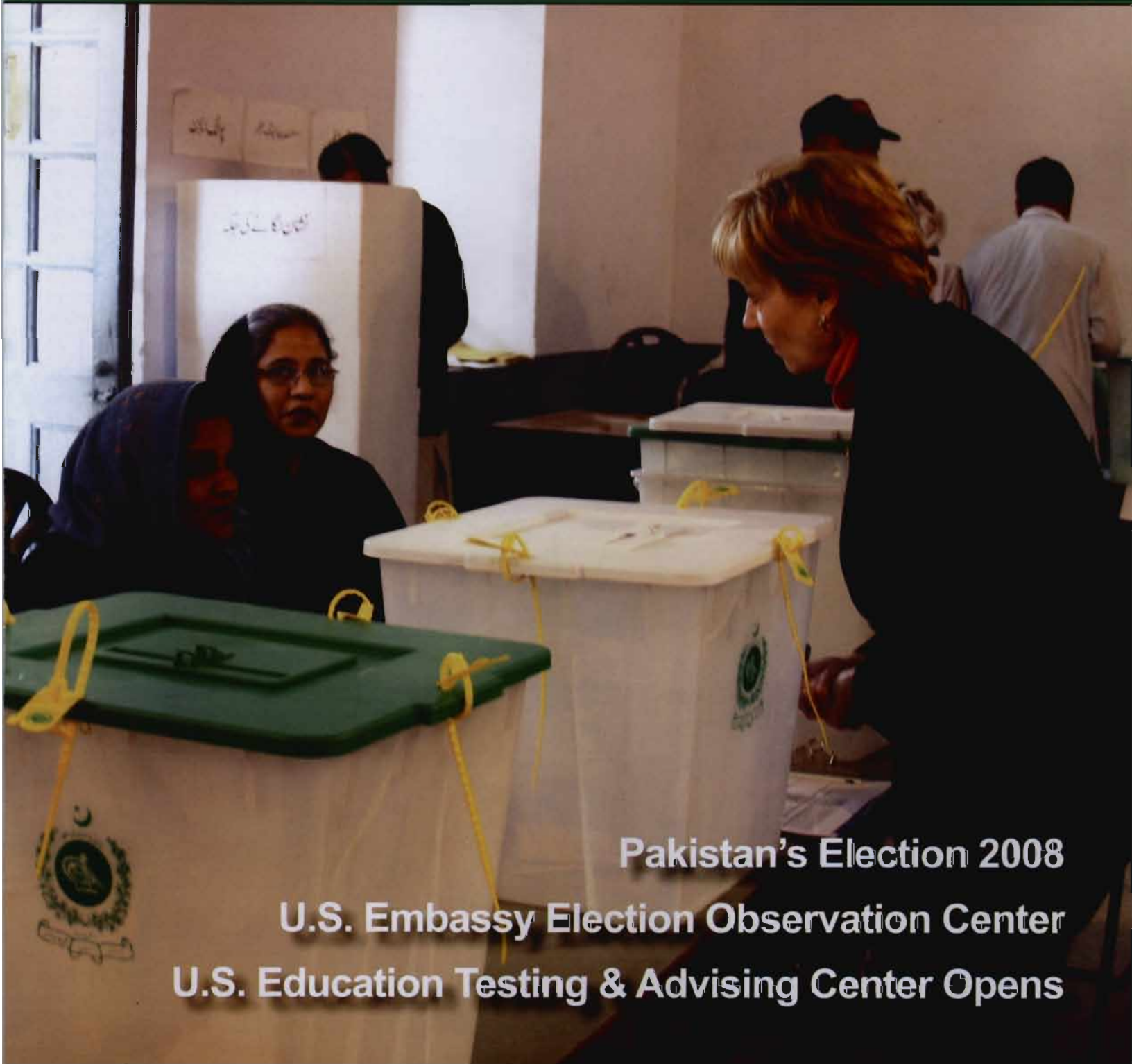




Khabr-o-Nazar

March 2008

Published by the U.S. Embassy, Islamabad



Pakistan's Election 2008

U.S. Embassy Election Observation Center

U.S. Education Testing & Advising Center Opens

Spotlight on U.S. Elections



Members of the U.S. Consulate Peshawar reached out to the local university community to talk about the U.S. Elections. Assistant Public Affairs Officer Roya Miller spoke to a group from Frontier Women's College and to International Relations, Journalism, and Political Science students at the University of Peshawar on the U.S. Elections (top). Management Officer JoEllen Gorg gave a talk on "Election Values" at the College of Home Economics at the University of Peshawar. More than 60 female undergraduate and graduate students and faculty members attended this overview of the history of American Elections, the Electoral College, primaries, American political parties and election campaigns (center). Public Affairs Officer Steve Lebens hosted a lively forum for college students -- so popular, the students requested a continuation next month (bottom)



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Cover

U.S. Ambassador Anne W. Patterson listens carefully to a female polling official during her visit to a polling station in Lahore on February 18, 2008

Letters to the Editor

Amazing Effort

I read your magazine thoroughly and found it quite an amazing effort by the team "Khabr-o-Nazar." I want to express my gratitude to your leadership and your entire team. I would, however, like to see a permanent section specifically dedicated to the significant features of the U.S. legal system. Also, a book section could be a good part of this nice magazine.

Advocate Muzammil Yaseen Ehtesham
Karachi

Great Job

Your magazine highlights the U.S. aid and assistance to Pakistan in a very comprehensive and good manner. I suggest that a column on immigration rules and regulations and different other categories of visas should be started. This column will help the intending visitors to the United States. I strongly feel that your magazine is doing a great job for promoting cross cultural relations between the two nations.

Mehboob A. Khan
Sialkot

Mesmerized

I went through one of the issues of your magazine at my friend's house which mesmerized me. "Khabr-o-Nazar" truly deserves to be called "Pakistan's window to the U.S." The quality and standard of magazine is highly impressive. This magazine is contributing in strengthening the relationship between Pakistan and the U.S.

Abdul Qayoom Shah
Khairpur Mirs

Missing Information

I am a regular reader of "Khabr-o-Nazar." In my opinion your magazine is very good but gradually informative articles have gone out of the scene for the last over six months. I used to read many articles which were useful for teaches and students alike but now this information is missing. Please try to include articles of public awareness in your magazine. Articles on U.S. geography and commerce should also be published.

Akhtar Nawaz
Sargodha



Elections
2008

Pakistan Elections 2008





Elections
2008

U.S. Embassy Election Observation Center



Senator John Kerry scans a map of Pakistan at the Election Observation Center.



U.S. Embassy Political Officer Terry Steers-González explaining features of the Election Observation Center to the U.S. Senators and Congresswoman.

To coordinate the work of election observation teams in the field, the U.S. Embassy established an Election Observation Center before, during, and after Election Day in Pakistan.

Embassy personnel staffed the center, which was located in the Embassy and equipped with televisions, fax, radio, computers, and other technology to track emerging election results.

The Election Observation Center opened February 17 and remained in operation until February 19, working uninterrupted for 60 hours.

“The February 18th elections are a critical step in Pakistan’s progress toward democratization. The U.S. Government has contributed significantly to the electoral process in Pakistan, through programs to provide training, equipment, and technical support,” U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Peter W. Bodde remarked.

At the Election Observation Center, an array of activities went on around the clock. Some staff members monitored the Urdu-language television news channels to keep the team informed of the latest election news. Others stayed in touch with traveling observation teams, answered calls from national and international news media, and reported election developments to the Department of State in Washington, D.C.

Elections
2008



U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Peter Bodde and U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee speak to members of the press inside the U.S. Embassy Election Observation Center. Political Officer Terry Steers-Gonzalez looks on.



U.S. Embassy staff monitor election results and reporting from observers in the field.



U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Peter Bodde and U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee speak to members of the press inside the U.S. Embassy Election Observation Center.

Representatives of the Australian High Commission and the British High Commission also followed the election from the U.S. Embassy's observation center.

Watching the elections unfold "was the capstone of all the programs of the last two years" that had supported preparation for the elections, U.S. Embassy Political Officer Terry Steers-Gonzalez told "Khabr-o-Nazar." He added that the success of support from the United States and others in the international community was reflected in "the extent to which the political parties accepted the results and found them credible," as well as in international observers' evaluations of the elections.

Senators Joseph Biden, John Kerry, and Charles Hagel and Representative Sheila Jackson Lee visited the Embassy's Election Observation Center late on February 18 for a briefing on the coordinated U.S.-U.K. observer teams. They later met civil society, media, and political party representatives at a reception hosted by U.S. Ambassador Anne W. Patterson.

Commenting on her election observation experience, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee said that she and her fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives want to see a democratic, stable, and strong Pakistan that continues to play an important role for peace and progress in the region and in the world.



Observation Center staffer Brooke Moppert shows an example of an election observation report to U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee. Economic Officer Alex Whittington, Political Officer Terry Steers-Gonzalez and Deputy Chief of Mission Peter Bodde look on.



Senators John Kerry, Joseph Biden, and Chuck Hagel with Observation Center staffer Elizabeth Marker and Political Counselor E.C. Putnam.

U.S. Congress Embassy Officials Observe



U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee at a polling station in Islamabad.



U.S. Ambassador Anne W. Patterson observes voting activities at a polling station in Lahore.



U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee speaking to the media along with Secretary, Election Commission Kanwar Dilshad. U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Peter Bodde is also seen on the left.



U.S. Senators Joseph Biden, Chuck Hagel and John Kerry listen to polling station officials in Lahore.

Four members of the U.S. Congress, along with U.S. Embassy teams, other diplomats, and international election experts, traveled throughout Pakistan to observe the February 18 National Assembly and Provincial Assembly elections.

Senators Joseph Biden (D-DE), John Kerry (D-MA), and Charles Hagel (R-NE), along with Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), visited polling places to learn about the voting process and gather impressions about how the elections were unfolding.

Rep. Jackson Lee visited polling sites in the Islamabad area. The three senators traveled to polling stations in Lahore.

Speaking after the election, Senator Kerry commented that the election met “the basic threshold of credibility and legitimacy in the eyes of the Pakistani people” as well as in the assessment of most observers. Senator Biden, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, also termed the election “credible,” and Senator Hagel commended the democratic process in Pakistan. He added that democracy is a process of self-correction, and each election produces new hope, new possibilities, new trust, and new confidence.

U.S. Members, serve Pakistan's Polls

The U.S. Department of State hailed the elections as "an important step on the path toward an elected, civilian democracy that reflects the choices of the Pakistani people."

On Election Day, the U.S. Mission in Pakistan fielded 21 observation teams of Mission personnel who visited 28 National Assembly constituencies across Pakistan from Quetta to Peshawar and from Karachi to Islamabad. U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Anne W. Patterson observed two polling stations in the Lahore area.

International observers from the U.S.-based organization Democracy International (DI) arrived in Pakistan on February 10 and fielded 38 short-term observers on Election Day to visit 15 districts in Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Multan, and Islamabad. DI conducted its observations under a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Former U.S. Congressman Jim Moody led the DI delegation, which included representatives of the political, academic, and foreign policy fields, as well as experts in election processes and Pakistan politics.

Fielding election observers is a widespread practice around the world. Experience has shown that credible and impartial observers can strengthen an electoral process by ensuring that voters, election officials, and political parties follow established voting and vote-counting procedures. The observers do not directly prevent irregularities in elections, but record and report such instances as factors that will affect whether an election should be considered free, fair, and credible.

The U.S. election observation effort reflected U.S. support for the electoral process in Pakistan. U.S. assistance to the election preparations also included funding for computerization of voter lists, purchase of translucent ballot boxes, and training for election officials.

The U.S. Embassy also coordinated its election observation activities with the British High Commission, the Canadian High Commission, and the Embassy of Japan, each of which sponsored observation teams.



A Pakistani election official explaining polling procedures to Ambassador Patterson.



U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee observes registration procedures at a polling station Islamabad.



An election official responds to the inquiries of an election observer while Senator John Kerry attentively looks on.

“Politics and Media Are Intertwined”

U.S. Diplomat Speaks on U.S. Presidential Elections

U.S. Embassy Press Attaché Elizabeth Colton emphasized that “every citizen plays a vital role by exercising the right to vote in a democratic society,” while addressing students and media in Islamabad on February 7.

“Voters prefer candidates who bring policies to foster economy, provide better healthcare and education to their families,” Ms. Colton noted. “For most Americans, issues of foreign policy remain secondary when they go out to vote.”

In a presentation titled “U.S. Presidential Elections: Path to the White House,” Dr. Colton highlighted the vital role of media in today’s world saying “politics and media are intertwined” and that “politics no longer exists independently of the media.”

Dr. Colton’s lecture at the Lincoln Reading Lounge, National Library, was complemented by a documentary on the history of U.S. elections, resource materials for the audience, and a poster exhibit on 2008 Presidential candidates and their campaigns.



Embassy Press Attaché, Dr. Elizabeth Colton, delivering a lecture on the “U.S. Presidential Elections” at the Pakistan National Library Lincoln Reading Lounge in Islamabad.



Consul General Joins WWF to Mark World Wetlands Day



U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske and Sindh Secretary for Forests and Wildlife Mahboob Alam Ansari releasing Green turtles into the ocean.

U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske addressing a gathering of the World Wildlife Fund's Wetlands Center at Sandspit in Karachi on February 2, emphasized that "it is important that people renew the pledge to conserve these unique and threatened ecosystems".

"Awareness about the critical issue of conservation of ecosystems is vital for survival of humankind," the U.S. diplomat stressed as she congratulated all the young participants of the art and speech competitions.

She noted that The Convention on Wetlands, drafted in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

"WWF makes effective use of U.S. technology with items ranging from ultra light inflatable boats for use on high-altitude wetlands to sophisticated Geographic Information Systems designed to process satellite imagery," American diplomat Anske noted.

The program was organized to underscore the importance of the wetlands to the world's ecological health. The day marks the anniversary of The Convention on Wetlands, signed February 2, 1971.

U.S. Consul General Anske distributed certificates among the winners and participants of art and speech competitions.

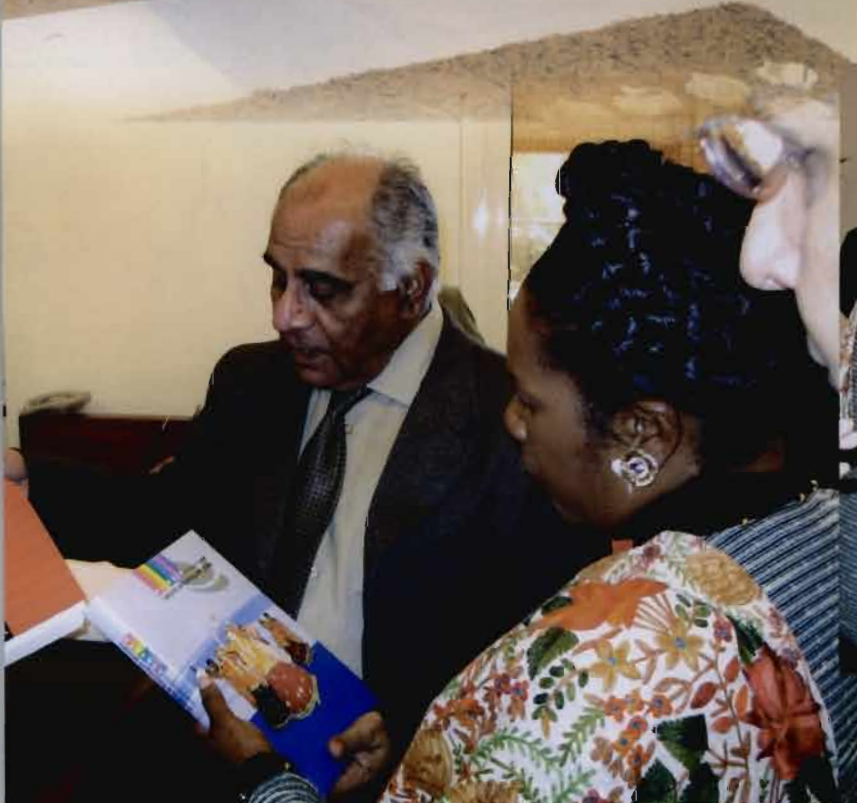


U.S. Consul General Kay L. Anske with participants at Sandspit beach in Karachi where they attended a World Wildlife Fund's event to mark the World Wetlands Day 2008. Photo also shows Mir Hussain Ali, Sindh Secretary for Environment and Alternative Energy; Rahat Najm, In-charge Wetland Center; Mehboob Alam, Sindh Secretary for Forests and Wildlife; and Dr. Ghulam Akbar, Director, Indus for All Program, World Wildlife Fund.

Sheila Jackson Lee Visits National Art Gallery in Islamabad



U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee tours the National Art Gallery in Islamabad. A gallery docent introduces the Congresswoman to the works of respected Pakistani artists.



U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee and National Art Gallery Director Naeem Tahir view a sculpture exhibit.



U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee, Consul General Kay Anske with the customs officials at Port Qasim in Karachi.

Congresswoman visits Karachi

United States Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX) emphasized that the establishment of the International Container Security at Port Qasim “has sped up the flow of goods from Pakistan and the Central Asian region into the United States while increasing the security of the United States.”

“This facility is a preventive tool in the global War on Terror that will make our borders safer and will also increase the economic efficiency of Pakistani exports,” U.S. Representative Lee, who is Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection, said during her visit to the International Container Security project (IC3), at the Port Qasim in Karachi on February 19.

“As a joint effort with the Government of Pakistan, this facility will test the feasibility of using integrated scanning technology to inspect every container bound for the U.S.,” the Congresswoman said.

The Secure Freight Initiative, a joint effort of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Energy and the Department of State, is a comprehensive model for global supply chain security – it enhances security while keeping legitimate trade flowing. It leverages information, host country government and trade partnerships, plus the latest technology to validate the security of goods in maritime shipping containers and reduce the risk of terrorism.

During visit to Karachi Ms. Jackson Lee also met with a group of students from the Youth Exchange Scholarship (YES)/International Education and Academic Research Network (iEARN) at the Consul General’s residence. Alumni of the programs shared their experiences in the U.S. and Ms. Jackson Lee offered advice on U.S. society and culture to this year’s outbound group.



U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee and U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske and U.S. Embassy officer Hormazd Kanga with a group of YES program alumni. The students spent an academic year attending high school the U.S. and while living with American families.



U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (center), Consul General Kay Anske (left), U.S. Embassy Cultural Affairs Officer Constance Colding Jones with Mrs. Zakia Sarwar, Founder President, Society for Pakistan English Language Teachers and Dr. Abdul Wahab, President, Muhammad Ali Jinnah University.



U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee, Consul General Kay Anske with members of the American Business Council in Karachi.

Ambassador Lauds Tribal Women's Role in Development Efforts



The U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, Anne W. Patterson, urged women “to make their voices heard” to effect a positive change in society during a meeting with Dr. Begum Jan, Chairperson Tribal Women’s Welfare Association, in Peshawar on February 1, 2008.

“The United States applauds efforts by tribal leaders such as Dr. Begum Jan, to educate women about the importance of the democratic process and to encourage families to send their daughters to schools,” stated the U.S. Envoy.

Ambassador Patterson outlined that “the United States has committed \$750 million in assistance” to complement the Pakistan government’s development plan that aims to improve socio-economic conditions in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).

“Through her example, Dr. Jan inspires countless other women who face great personal risk for simply going to work each day,” Ambassador Patterson remarked. Under Dr. Jan’s leadership, TWWA has developed programs that help women participate in community affairs.

During her visit to Peshawar, Ambassador Patterson also called on NWFP Governor Owais Ahmed Ghani, and former Interior Minister Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao.

Dr. Begum Jan, Chairperson of the Tribal Women Welfare Association (TWWA) presenting a book on Pathan tribal dress made by the women of South Waziristan to visiting U.S. Ambassador Anne W. Patterson. U.S. Consulate Peshawar Acting Principal Officer Michael Via was also present on the occasion.



Ambassador Anne W. Patterson meeting with Dr. Begum Jan, Chairperson of the Tribal Women's Welfare Association in Peshawar.

Quilting: An American Art Form

U.S. Diplomat Speaks on the Tradition of Quilting

U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs Kay Webb Mayfield describes the traditional patterns and techniques used by American quilt-makers to students and faculty members of Central Institute of Arts and Crafts in Karachi.



U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs Kay Webb Mayfield, U.S. Consulate General Karachi Public Affairs Officer Karen Waltz-Davis and with students and faculty members of the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts in Karachi.



U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs Kay Webb Mayfield presents a book on American Quilts to Ms. Nahid Raza, Principal of the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts.

U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs Kay Webb Mayfield stated that quilt-making is “not only an art form, but a reflection of U.S. history” during her address at the Central Institute for Arts and Crafts in Karachi on February 8.

“Quilting as an art form that combines practicality and self-expression is common in cultures around the world,” she said. “Although the art did not originate in North America, patchwork quilting has been a widespread art form for centuries in the United States.”

In a presentation titled “Quilting: An American Art Form,” Ms. Mayfield pointed out variations of quilt design and technique in different countries, including Ralli quilts in Pakistan. She noted that quilt-making is enjoying renewed popularity in the U.S., with 54,000 people attending the most recent International Quilt Festival in Houston, Texas.

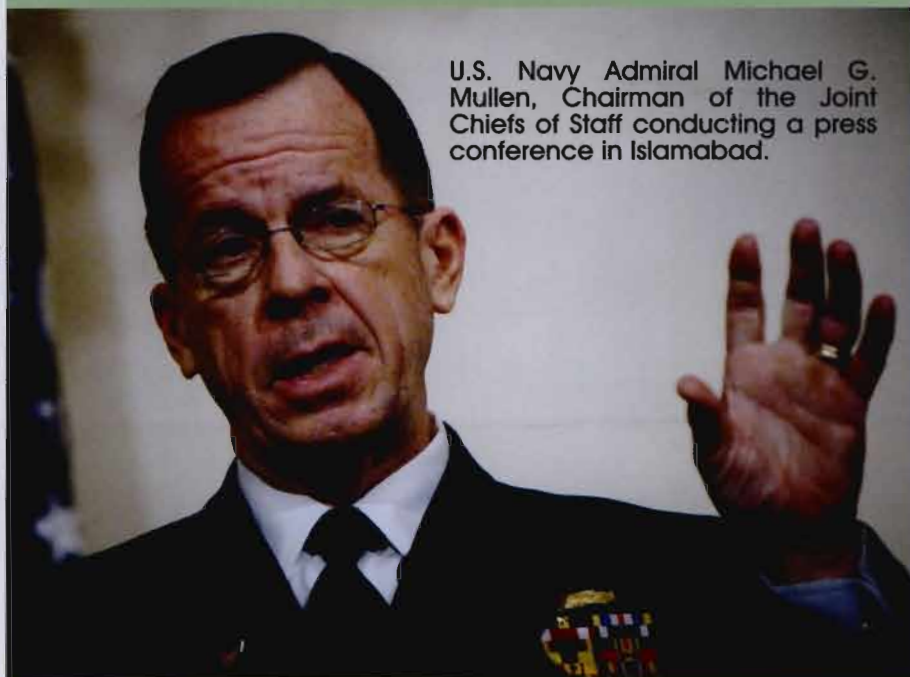
“Materials that quilters chose mirrored the economic conditions of the day. Silks and velvets, considered luxury materials, began to show up in the late 1880s reflecting relatively prosperous times,” stated Ms. Mayfield. “During the Great Depression of the 1930s, quilters favored inexpensive cotton salvaged from dressmaking to make the most of scarce resources.”

Using pictures, the U.S. diplomat explained that quilt designs may reflect political events in American history, such as ‘Whig Rose,’ commemorating support for an early American political party. Some designs reflect the westward migration as the American frontier was being settled in the 19th century – for example, ‘Rocky Road to Kansas.’

Ms. Mayfield concluded by explaining that today’s quilters experiment with new designs, materials, and techniques that take their quilts from the realm of useful household objects to individual works of art.



U.S. Navy Admiral Michael G. Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff conducting a press conference in Islamabad.



We will always respect the sovereignty of Pakistan: Admiral Mullen



Local and International press covered the Admiral's visit to Pakistan.

The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, addressed a press conference in Islamabad on February 9, 2008. Following are excerpts from his opening statement made during the press conference:

ADMIRAL MIKE MULLEN: Thank you. It's a great honor to be here and I'm delighted to be with you this afternoon. First of all, I wanted to express my condolences for the loss which occurred a couple days ago here, the tragic loss in the helicopter crash. And to the Pakistani people, to the armed forces, and to the families, it's a reminder of the dangerous business that armed forces around the world are in. And my thoughts are really with those families today in this tragic loss.

I really appreciate the invitation to visit Pakistan and also General Kayani's hospitality. This is my first visit since I took over as chairman in October. And I also would like to thank the wonderful people of Pakistan for their friendship. The last time I was here was not quite a year ago when I was the head of the United States Navy. Had a very busy day today, lots of valuable meetings and interchanges. And I appreciate the time and the candor that was experienced in those meetings.

It was also clear to me that the Pakistani armed forces are making very real sacrifices in this war. And we understand and appreciate those sacrifices. It's even more clear to me now that the border regions are very, very tough; and we went over that in some detail today. I want to commend the men and women of the Pakistani armed forces for their service. Pakistan has been a steadfast and historic ally and we enjoy a strong military-to-military relationship. We're in a new era and there are new threats. Both our nations have been the victims of terrorism. And I think cooperation and partnerships and relationships remain key.

We will always respect the sovereignty of Pakistan and will assist when asked in whatever ways we can. I'm here really to get a better understanding of the challenges. Personally, I just do a whole lot better visiting personally than being a long way away in Washington, D.C., working hard to build on those relationships and partnerships, and to explore new ways we can all work together to improve the fight against terrorists. And our partnership is an example of what nations can accomplish when working together for shared goals.

Admiral Mullen Visits Pakistan



Admiral Michael G. Mullen reviews Pakistani troops at an honors ceremony welcoming Mullen to Islamabad on February 9, 2008. (Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley)



U.S. Navy Admiral Mullen greeting President Pervez Musharraf in Rawalpindi.



Admiral Michael G. Mullen meeting with Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff, General Pervez Kiyani in Rawalpindi.



Pakistan Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Tariq Majid presenting a souvenir to the U.S. Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Michael Mullen at Joint Staff Headquarters.



2009 J. William Fulbright Fellowship Program Announced



Study
for a
Master's
or Ph.D.
in the
United
States

About the Programs

Fulbright/USAID Master's Scholarship Program

This program will fund up to two years of graduate study in the United States for a Master's degree program. The program is funded by The United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Priority will be given to education, agriculture, health, economics, teaching of English, journalism, and fields related to economic development. Eligible candidates will have either a four-year Bachelor's degree or a Bachelor's and Master's combination totaling 16 years of formal education from an accredited university. Recent graduates are strongly encouraged to apply.

A few Ph.D. scholarships are also available for students requiring a Master's degree first. If your ultimate objective is a Ph.D. but you are only eligible to apply for the Master's, be sure to state this clearly in the application.

Fulbright Ph.D. Scholarship Programs

USEFP administers two Ph.D. programs that fund up to four years of graduate study in the United States towards a Ph.D. degree. This may be coursework and/or research towards a Ph.D. or an entire program. Eligible applicants will have a Master's, M. Phil. or comparable degree (a minimum of 18 years of formal education) from an accredited university. Applicants with more than two years of research and work experience in their field are strongly encouraged to apply.

1. Fulbright/HEC/USAID Ph.D. Program:

The majority of funding for this program is provided by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of the Government of Pakistan in addition to funding by USAID. Priority will be given to the pure and applied sciences, agriculture, health, economics, finance and fields essential for Pakistan's socio-economic development. Successful applicants will be required to post a bond with the HEC.

2. Fulbright Regular Ph.D. Program:

The majority of funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Department of State. Priority fields for this program are arts, humanities, and social sciences. Applicants pursuing Ph.D. work on topics about the U.S. are especially encouraged to apply.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible you must be a Pakistani citizen with a strong academic history and one or two degrees from accredited universities (totaling at least 16 years of formal education). All disciplines - sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, journalism, business, law - are welcome to apply, with the exception of clinical medicine. It is highly desirable that candidates have work experience in teaching, research, or the public sector in Pakistan.

In addition to academic work, persons selected for Fulbright programs are expected to share information about Pakistani life and culture with their U.S. colleagues and with community groups in the U.S. On returning to Pakistan, Fulbright grantees are expected to share their U.S. experiences with colleagues and community groups in Pakistan. Successful candidates should be poised to assume a leadership position in their field and must be committed to returning and serving Pakistan.

Women, minorities and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

When will the program begin?

Programs of study begin in the fall of 2009.

What do the grants fund?

The grants fund tuition, required textbooks, airfare, a living stipend, and health insurance. USEFP will assist with the visa application process.

Which program should I apply for?

Generally, applicants with 16 years of formal education should apply for the Master's; those with 18 years of education should apply for the Ph.D. Grants are awarded in the program USEFP considers most appropriate.

Additional requirements?

GRE and TOEFL examinations required for all applicants. Applications will not be accepted without GRE and TOEFL scores or proof of registration. Applicants must possess a high level of fluency in spoken and written English. The minimum IBT TOEFL score required is 90. On the GRE, a minimum score of 300 is required on each section of the examination, with a higher score on the section most applicable to your field of study. Scores must be received by USEFP by July 1, 2008.

Please Note: All successful candidates are required to sign a contract with USEFP that immediately after their program in the U.S., they will return to Pakistan and serve the country for the number of years equivalent to the length of their scholarship program. This contract is redeemable on a year-for-year basis after returning to work in Pakistan, so that as long as a person fulfills the service requirement, he or she will pay nothing. Otherwise, a grantee will be legally liable for the cost of his or her scholarship program in the U.S. on a year-for-year basis.

Who is ineligible?

Persons with a dual U.S./Pakistan nationality or who have a spouse, parent, fiancé or child over 18 years of age who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Employees of the Fulbright organization or the U.S. Department of State and their spouses, fiancés, siblings, dependents, children and parents. Employees of USAID or the HEC and their spouses, fiancés, siblings, dependents, children and parents are ineligible for programs funded by their agencies.

Apply online or download
an application form at
www.usefpakistan.org

All material original application with references and attested copies of supporting documentation along with one additional copy of the complete application must be received by USEFP at the address given below by 4:30 p.m. on May 1, 2008. Preference is given to persons who return complete applications early.

Address: The United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan, P.O. Box 1128, Islamabad 44000
Email: fulbrightapps@usefpakistan.org
Phone: 051-11-11-USEFP (051-11-11-87337)
Fax: 051-2677095





U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske inaugurates the United States Education Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP) Advising and Testing Center in Karachi. Photo also shows USEFP Executive Director Dr. Grace Clark at left.

Inaugurating the Karachi Testing and Advising Center, U.S. Consul General Kay L. Anske noted that the opening “fulfills a long-standing desire of students and scholars from Sindh.”

“The opening of the U.S. Education Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP) office in Karachi means that students no longer have to travel to Islamabad for information on higher education in the U.S.,” remarked the senior U.S. diplomat while addressing academics and Fulbright Alumni at the inauguration.

Briefing guests at the inauguration ceremony, USEFP Director Dr. Grace Clark stated that the testing center “would also be available for conducting GRE, TOEFL, SAT, and GMAT examinations.” The testing center is operated by USEFP.

“I encourage students to use this new facility to pursue quality education in the U.S. and contribute to their country’s future on return,” remarked Consul General Anske. She added that opening this office “testifies to the long lasting cooperation between Pakistan and the U.S.” in the fields of higher education, science, and technology.

U.S. Testing and Advising Center Opens in Karachi

Consul General Urges Students to Use New Facility



U.S. Consul General Karachi Kay L. Anske addressing academics and Fulbright Alumni in Karachi.

USAID Reviews Maternal & Newborn Health Program in Pakistan

Launches Music Video for Public Education

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) along with its partners, renowned experts in maternal and child health and other Pakistani health officials conducted an annual review of the progress on the Pakistan Initiative for Mothers and Newborns (PAIMAN) project in Islamabad on February 6, 2008.

"I'm pleased to see that the national and international experts who are reviewing the project can assess the achievements to date, share important developments in maternal and newborn health initiatives," said Anne Aarnes, the Mission Director of USAID in Pakistan.

The participants of the meeting also made recommendations for expanding the project's successful interventions to more communities. Funded by USAID and implemented by John Snow Incorporated (JSI) in partnership with the Government of Pakistan, the \$49.9 million 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 in 10 districts of Pakistan.

On the occasion, USAID also launched a new music video to educate audiences on maternal and newborn health.

"Music and television can be extraordinarily effective in communicating important health and social messages to young couples," said Anne Aarnes. "I hope this music video will find its way into the hearts of young husbands and wives all over Pakistan, with its strong message about family responsibility for ensuring maternal health."

Featuring popular vocalist, Shafqat Amanat Ali Khan, the video is one of the joint efforts between USAID and the Government of Pakistan to generate awareness regarding the role of the husband and his family in matters relating to mother and newborn health. The video will be aired on major television channels throughout Pakistan.



Photo shows Theo Lippeveld, Vice President, John Snow Inc.; Anne Aarnes, USAID/Pakistan; Maj. Gen. Shahida Malik, Director General Health Services, Pakistan, during the program-review session in Islamabad



Popular vocalist Shafqat Amanat Ali Khan performs for the audience.