

■ About BARGAD

BARGAD has a long and unique standing among civil society organizations in Pakistan that has been working exclusively on youth development since 1997. Its mission is to promote peace, justice and cooperation among youth of Pakistan. It focuses on literate youth, highlighting girls, as a primary target of its work. This includes college and university going youth.

BARGAD works on four programme areas:

- (i) Youth and Peace Cooperation,
- (ii) Youth Leadership and Cooperation,
- (iii) Youth Advocacy,
- (iv) Youth Research and Publications.

The working approach of BARGAD is to combine rights-based training with personal development of youth and it supports youth with mobilization, advocacy and capacity building work.

BARGAD has been successful so far in attracting more than 1200 youth volunteers throughout Pakistan who have regularly contributed to its projects. The hallmark of its work is that BARGAD projects are implemented by the youth themselves, including work planning responsibilities.

BARGAD has provided platform to youth and has always been in a facilitating position. Youth have learnt how to manage events, plan campaigns and projects, coordinate activities, conduct social research, develop thematic posters, stage theatre plays and execute other activities in presentable manner.

In retrospect, BARGAD can take pride to the fact that it was a rare youth operator in the civil society, amply bringing youth issues to the forefront focus and a valuable agenda for both public and social sectors of country.



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Youth for Women Leadership on Campuses

August 2011-July2012

To promote Peace, Justice &
Cooperation among Youth in Pakistan

A Project by:
BARGAD – Organization for Youth Development



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■ Project Background

The increasing enrolment of girls in higher education is a great sign of expected future change in the Pakistani society.

By the end of 2010, girls were 47 percent of all enrollments of 64 public universities and degree awarding institutions. In general education category they were leading with ratios of 51 percent against 49 percent for boys. The statistics of degree colleges (classes XI-XIV) indicate a radical change in demography of Pakistani campuses with 60.8 percent girls studying at this level as against 39.20 percent boys.

However, despite this entire stride in enrollments girls are discriminated and face violence.

There are fewer girls and women in leading positions inside and outside campuses. Still worse, the community according to a BARGAD survey by and far did not actually realize how important it was to include girls and women in social development.

To boost morale of the female campus population, there is a need to support effective implementation of Policy Guidelines against Sexual Harassment in Institutions of Higher Learning (2011) by the HEC and the national legislation like the Protection against harassment of women at workplace (2010) and the female quota in public institutions (2002).

The opportunities for women leadership on campus positions have to be enhanced through capacity building, advocacy and networking and publications and media outreach actions at both campus and policy levels.

A critical mass of girls in higher education awaits our support!

■ Project Description

To address the compelling situation, BARGAD – Organization for Youth Development is implementing a project of "Youth for Women Leadership in Campuses" under Gender Equity Program of Aurat Foundation, by the support of American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in public sector universities of Pakistan.

■ Project Goal

To create leadership spaces for growing number of girls into higher education and to transform the female mass for instituting pro-peace, women-friendly and student-centered campuses in Pakistan.

■ Project Objectives

- Gender discrimination with a focus upon the "Protection of Women against Harassment at Workplace Act 2010" on campuses, develop curricula and produce analysis promoting women leadership on Pakistani campuses.
- Develop linkages and advocate demands among the education communities, public interest groups, media and policy makers for ensuring women leadership role and quota on campuses.
- Establish a trained Youth Leaders Network to advocate and defenders of woman rights at national level by empowering female youth to develop their confidence and leadership skills for social and economic independence.

■ Key Activities

BARGAD will undertake the following activities during the project period:

Preparatory Phase :

- Project planning workshop
- Baseline survey
- Development of a Brochure

Capacity Building :

- Development of Curricula
- Training of trainers
- Workshops in 10 universities for students

Advocacy and Networking :

- Meetings with universities stakeholders, youth organizations, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Senate Sub-committee on Youth Affairs
- National Youth Leaders Network
- National Youth Conference

Publication & Media Outreach :

- Printing of Books/ Training material, & Policy Paper

■ About the Sponsors

Aurat Publication and Information Services Foundation (AF)

Established in 1986, AF is a civil society organization committed to work for women's empowerment and citizen's participation in governance for creating a socially just, democratic and humane society in Pakistan. It works primarily with the collaboration of civil society organizations, networks and groups and has outreach extending to all the districts of Pakistan and Azad Jammu Kashmir.