

July 2018

A Silver Jubilee Publication of the Gulmit Educational & Social Welfare Society

VOIN

Celebrating 25 years of the journey of light



Dedicated to the resilient people of Gulmit and all the unsung heroes who might not be mentioned but without their efforts Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) would have never been where it stands today.

The best way to manage change, whether positive or negative, is to anticipate and manage it ... I have come to the conclusion that there is no greater form of preparation for change than education. I also think that there is no better investment that the individual, parents, and the nation can make than an investment in education of the highest possible quality. His Highness the Aga Khan, Osh, Kyrgyzstan October 2002

VOIN

Celebrating 25 years of the journey of light

***A Silver Jubilee Publication of the
Gulmit Educational & Social Welfare Society***

Chief Patron:

Col (r) Sher Khan, President GESWS

Editor-in-Chief

Afzal Khan

Editor

Gohar Abbas

Editorial Support:

Rahim Khan

Noor Pamiri

Content Coordination

Tariq Rahim Baig

Advisory Board:

Nazir Ahmad Bulbul

Sajjad Ahmad

Meherban Karim Abdul

Abdul Waheed

Karim Baig

Didar Ali

This magazine is a silver jubilee publication of the Gulmit Educational & Social Welfare Society registered under Social Welfare Agencies (Registration & Control) Ordinance 1961.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission of the publisher.

Printed & Published by the Gulmit Educational & Social Welfare Society

Village & Post Office Gulmit, Tehsil Gojal, District Hunza

Phone: +92-5813-9400293

Email: gesws2016@gmail.com

Webswite: www.gesws.org.pk

Contents

Message of the President	5
Message of Vice-President	6
Message of Chairman	7
Message of Principal.....	8
From the Editor’s Desk.....	9
The Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society	10
Rai Ghulamuddin: An Inspirational Community Leader	15
Shahgul Aziz: A Life Spent Well	16
Amir Ullah Baig: An Academic, A Leader	17
A brief Introduction of Our Dedicated Volunteers	18
The Dawn of Education in Hunza.....	26
The Birth of a Dream Al-Amyn Model School	29
Our Academic Philosophy	36
List of Principals.....	40
Our Alumni Our Pride: 25 Professions in 25 Years	42
25 Years in Pictures	47
Present Board of Governors.....	52
Previous Board of Governors	53
Table Students Yearly Growth	55
Community Approach to Educational Excellence.....	56
In the Mountains Echo the Music of Bulbulik.....	57
Chinese Language-passport to the Future!	60
Impact of Climate Change and How to Cope With It.....	61
CPEC: Opportunities and Challenges for Gilgit-Baltistan	63
Early Childhood Development Education	64
Impact of Climate Change	65
“Not a Doctor No Problem; the Alternative Options for Pre-Medical Students”.....	66
Now You Can Study at Global Top Universities for free!	67
The Perks of Travel and Tourism	68
My School, My Pride.....	69
Messages by Little Artists.....	70

Message of the President



On the auspicious occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS), I extend my heartiest congratulations to the members of the society and the people of Gulmit for their continuous struggle and dedication during all these years.

I will take this opportunity to pay tribute to the dedication, patience and hard work of the founders of GESWS, many of whom are not alive in this world today. We owe all the success of these 25 years to their visionary leadership.

I would like to thank all the members who were part of the society at various stages. The Silver Jubilee celebrations are fruits of their hard work and dedication.

Moreover, I want to thank the masses of Gulmit, the men, women and the youth who contributed in their own respective ways. Without their cooperation, nothing would have been possible. I want to say big thank you to the people of Gulmit.

GESWS has achieved its major targets during these twenty five years. It changed the educational landscape of Gojal, an achievement that will always make the people of Gulmit proud. Today, Al Amyn Model School has established itself as the finest educational institute in Gilgit-Baltistan.

In order to improve the educational standards Gojal Tehseel, GESWS successfully held the first ever educational conference in collaboration with the government and Aga Khan Rural Support Program (AKRSP)

GESWS has also rendered its services in the fields of culture and social welfare. The society played crucial role in human development by providing basic trainings in various fields.

The society successfully established Bulbulik heritage center for preservation and promotion of Wakhi language, its music and folklore which are at verge of extinction. GESWS has also been working on land banking, an investment that will provide a firm foundation for our future projects.

Despite all the milestones achieved during the past 25 years, we still have to move ahead as the journey of progress never ends. Today, we face different kind of challenges and we need to realign our efforts according to the needs of a changing world.

Over the years, GESWS has established linkages with the National and International organizations and I look for more collaboration in the future. We are striving to work with government institutions and NGOs in raising the standard of living particularly in areas like sanitation, provision of clean drinking water and environmental issues.

As president of GESWS, I hope to further strengthen our relationship with government institutions and NGOs. Moreover, I would like to see the same passion and cooperation from the people of Gulmit which they have shown in the past.

I would specially urge our youth to come forward and play their role in leadership positions as they are in a better position to understand the challenges of an ever changing world.

Once again, I want to thank the people of Gulmit for their unconditional support and cooperation and I wish to see more in the future.

Col.(r) Sher Khan

Message of Vice-President



It gives me immense pleasure to be part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS). As the society turns 25, I look forward with hope and confidence that it will cater to the needs of the community in a better way. The journey of the past twenty five years is a testimony to it and heralds a glorious future.

I believe that GESWS's silver anniversary is a fantastic opportunity not only to measure what we've achieved together, but also to look ahead. It's a moment to pause and ponder. As we are celebrating 25 successful years of voluntary service and community participation, we should also take this opportunity to reflect on the past and prepare for the future.

When the society was started 25 years ago, we faced different kinds of challenges then we are facing today. The issues were entirely different and so were our goals. Today, as the society celebrates its Silver Jubilee, we are looking forward for setting new targets and I am optimistic that twenty five years from today, we would be celebrating completion of new goals and this journey of progress will always continue.

Looking back into the past, I see a great story of success and I am thankful to the founders of the society and the people of Gulmit for giving us this great story of success, community participation, dedication and voluntary service.

To cope with challenges and problems of the complex world, to withstand the shock of change and to strengthen humanistic dimension education plays crucial role. Thus the first project preferred was to build a school. Al-Amyn was not just a project but a cause to reach new heights and set precedents for other educational institutions of the area. I am proud that the society has laid the foundation of community incitation and partnership to preserve this unique legacy of our faith.

Besides strengthening academics we must inculcate cultural identity and values in the students. Teaching Wakhi language at school and Bulbulik Heritage Music School add a unique hue to this cause.

Looking back, I am extremely proud of what we have achieved together, however, we have much to earn for this mountain community as it deserves. I wish more and more success to GESWS in the future.

Warmest regards

Afzal Khan

Message of Chairman



I extend my warmest felicitation to the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) and Al Aryn Model School Gulmit on the joyful occasion of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations. Indeed it's a great honor to serve as the Chairman of the Board of Governors at this blessed moment.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I would like to express my gratitude to the people of Gulmit and the teachers of Al Aryn Model School for the cooperation and hard work. I would specially thank the teachers of Al Aryn for their unconditional support and sheer dedication during all these years. They are the real heroes of this moment.

The 25 years journey of the school gives us a sense of pride in our past and confidence for the future. This is the result of the hard work and dedication of all the people who have served as members of the Board of Governors and teachers at Al Aryn Model School since it's inception.

Today's world is entirely different from what it was twenty five years back and it will continue to change and look entirely different in the coming twenty five years. So does the challenges and the needs and Al Aryn Model School aims to equip its students with the skills and knowledge required to deal with the challenges in a fast changing world.

We will continue to equip the school with human and capital resources according to the needs of the time.

When the school was started twenty five years back, it's aim was to provide quality education to the students with special focus on English language and holistic development. But today, the educational demands have changed and so has Al Aryn. In fact, it's the school's adaptability to change that makes it stand apart from other educational institutions of Gilgit-Baltistan.

Today's educational system demands a student to be creative, innovative and think critically. And that's what the Board of Governors of Al Aryn Model School wants for it's students. To achieve these objectives, the Board of Governors strives to keep it's teachers updated by providing training for them on regular basis in collaborations with various NGOs.

Moreover, we are also equipping the school with modern technology and update our existence material resources.

I would like to take this moment as an opportunity to assure the parents that we will continue to provide the best education to their children. We are focusing on the capacity building of teachers and as Chairman of the Board of Governors, I see more work on the capacity building of the teachers in the future. I would like to assure the teachers of Al Aryn Model School that the Board of Governors will do everything possible within its limited resources to facilitate them.

Taking benefit from this opportunity, I would specially urge the young generation and the alumni to come forward and play their role in further strengthening their alma mater.

I wish more success stories to Al Aryn

Karim Baig

Message of Principal



I extend my heartiest congratulations and sincere wishes to the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society for celebrating twenty five productive and glorious years of community participation and voluntary service.

The process of learning is a legacy of our faith and teaching is a noble profession. Being the head teacher of Al Aryn Model School I feel proud to see our students contributing with moral reasoning around the globe. Thank you all for giving the school the fame and pride!

Envisioning school as a “Learning Organization,” we believe in “Head Teacher as a Head Learner and teachers as learners.” I also feel that I am not the only leader in the building. Thus shared leadership, shared vision, two-way communication and a democratic and conducive learning environment for “all” seems key components in achieving our goals. So far, the Teacher Circles and Students Representatives Council and other clubs have served this purpose meaningfully.

Today’s students are the responsible citizens of tomorrow’s changing world. Therefore, their holistic development is our key concern. We also need to reinforce the foundation of identity that withstands the shock of change. For that, cultural heritages and values need to be appreciated and internalized through different curricular and co-curricular activities. Teaching local language, enhancing tangible heritages and doing small scale research on local history and folklore are some of the areas being firmly emphasized at Al Aryn.

We strongly believe that, students bring with them rich experiences, skills and knowledge which needs teachers’ facilitation for further construction upon them. Thus, we apply child-centered based, experienced-based, activity-based, interactive-based, and resource-based approaches that students could test the real syripiness of education and become self-motivated life-long learners.

Success in the 21st century requires knowing “how to learn.” Therefore, teachers and students need to develop strong critical thinking, problem solving and interpersonal communication skills. For this, access to information, sharing knowledge and interconnectedness are to be ensured through enhancements of technology infrastructure.

In this connection, Al-Aryn is constantly striving to leverage technology to meet the emerging educational needs of its teachers and students.

Moreover, any institution that believes in progress and change needs to secure linkages and communication with other institutions around them. Therefore, the school has done great efforts in maintaining effective network with professional development centers and schools in and around the area. Affiliation with the Aga Khan University - Examination Board seems solution to many of our academic issues.

I wish you many more success to come and Silver turn Gold!

Nazir Ahmed Bulbul

From the Editor's Desk

Voin is the Wakhi word for light and this magazine, as mentioned on the cover is a humble attempt to recall and reflect on the 25 years of the journey of light. The journey from a darkness of what the Aga Khan described as "haunting poverty" towards a shimmering dawn of a knowledge society.

The journey began with the first visit of His Highness the Aga Khan to Hunza in 1960. But what can be truly described as the transforming era for the people of Gulmit and the surrounding villages was the establishment of Al Aryn Model School, the first community-based English medium school.

It is not that schools did not exist in the area back then. In fact, there were two schools, the government-run school for boys and the Diamond Jubilee School for girls but both the schools were following a policy of mass education. Their curriculum and teaching standard did little to enable the students to compete in a fast-evolving world. So the people of Gulmit decided to establish a community-based school on modern lines which can focus on the holistic development of students and offer education in English medium.

The question about sustainability of the newly established school might have haunted the people back then. They had no resources and their ambitions were higher than the mountains that surround the valley. Not only the school survived but it also flourished and expanded with time and today it has a state of the art building and over 300 students. The school has established itself as one of the finest centers of excellence for education in Gilgit-Baltistan. All this was made possible by the visionary and dedicated leadership of Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS).

This magazine is a humble tribute to all the people who contributed their time, resources and skills for GESWS and Al Aryn Model School.

It's a tribute to the unsung heroes who worked days in days out to turn a dream into reality. It's a humble tribute to the leadership of

GESWS- both past and the present- who put the school above everything else..... Above their own careers, above their health, their families and above themselves.

No amount of gratitude would ever parallel their selfless service. The revered men who dared to dream beyond time and think beyond their own welfare and the welfare of their families.

It's a tribute to the people of Gulmit, the unnamed unsung heroes who supported their leadership and stood shoulder to shoulder with them.

It's a tribute to the elders of Gulmit, to the deceased who never lived long enough to witness the completion of their dream. The coming generations will remain indebted to their efforts.

It's a tribute to all the mothers who cut on their food and clothing to give a better education to their children. The women who selflessly spent their hard earned savings for construction of the school building.

It's a tribute to the fathers who worked from dawn to dusk in sand and dust and saved every single penny they earned to educate their children. The men left their crops unattended to labor for construction of the school building, brick by brick wall by wall.

It's a tribute to the most underpaid teachers, the men and women who opted for a job with a meager salary over illustrious careers. The teachers for whom teaching at Al Aryn was not a mere profession but a passion and a sacred task. The task of transforming the society and they successfully did it. The alumni of the school is a living testimony of their dedication.

To sum it up, Voin is a humble effort to say a big thank you to all the people who gave us this beautiful story to write about. A story that should always make the people of Gulmit proud of. The story that sets the example for other communities of Gilgit-Baltistan to follow suit.

Gohar Abbas



The Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society

By Meherban Karim

Established in 1991 with the aim of providing better living standards to the people of Gulmit through education, the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) is a community-based organization owned and managed by the local community through 100% household membership of the 500 household of the village.

GESWS was formally registered in 1992 under the Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies (registration and control ordinance 1961).

The society, acting on its motive of social change through quality education established Al Aryn Model School. The aim was to provide better quality education to the students of Gulmit and the surrounding areas so they can compete in a fast changing world.

GESWS has played a crucial role in establishing Al Aryn Model School both in terms of infrastructure building and community mobilization. It was GESWS that had the sole responsibility of reaching out to donor agencies,

government institutions and NGOs in establishing and strengthening the school.

The society played a crucial role in establishment of Hunza Educational Resource Project (HERP), the first ever educational resource center that catered to the needs of all the English medium schools of Hunza.

GESWS did not only caters to the socio-economic uplift of the people of Gulmit but it has also ventured into projects that are crucial for





raising the living standard of the people of Gojal.

The society has established a girl’s hostel in Gulmit to provide safe and secure residential facility to female students from far flung areas of Gojal.

Keeping in view the educational demands of the people of Gojal, GESWS established the first ever community based intermediate college in Gulmit that was catering to the higher secondary educational requirements of Gojal. Keeping in view the sustainability, the society decided to handover the college to the government.

The society oversees educational, cultural and development projects being carried out in Gulmit village for the socio-economic uplift of the community. The society has also established Bulbulik heritage center, the first Wakhi music school in Gulmit with the aim of preserving and promoting the extinguishing Wakhi folklore and music.

Moreover, GESWS has introduced a new term known as land banking. The phenomenon refers to collective investment in acquiring land



that can be utilized for development purposes in the future. The society is also working on establishing a common graveyard for the community.

Organisational Structure

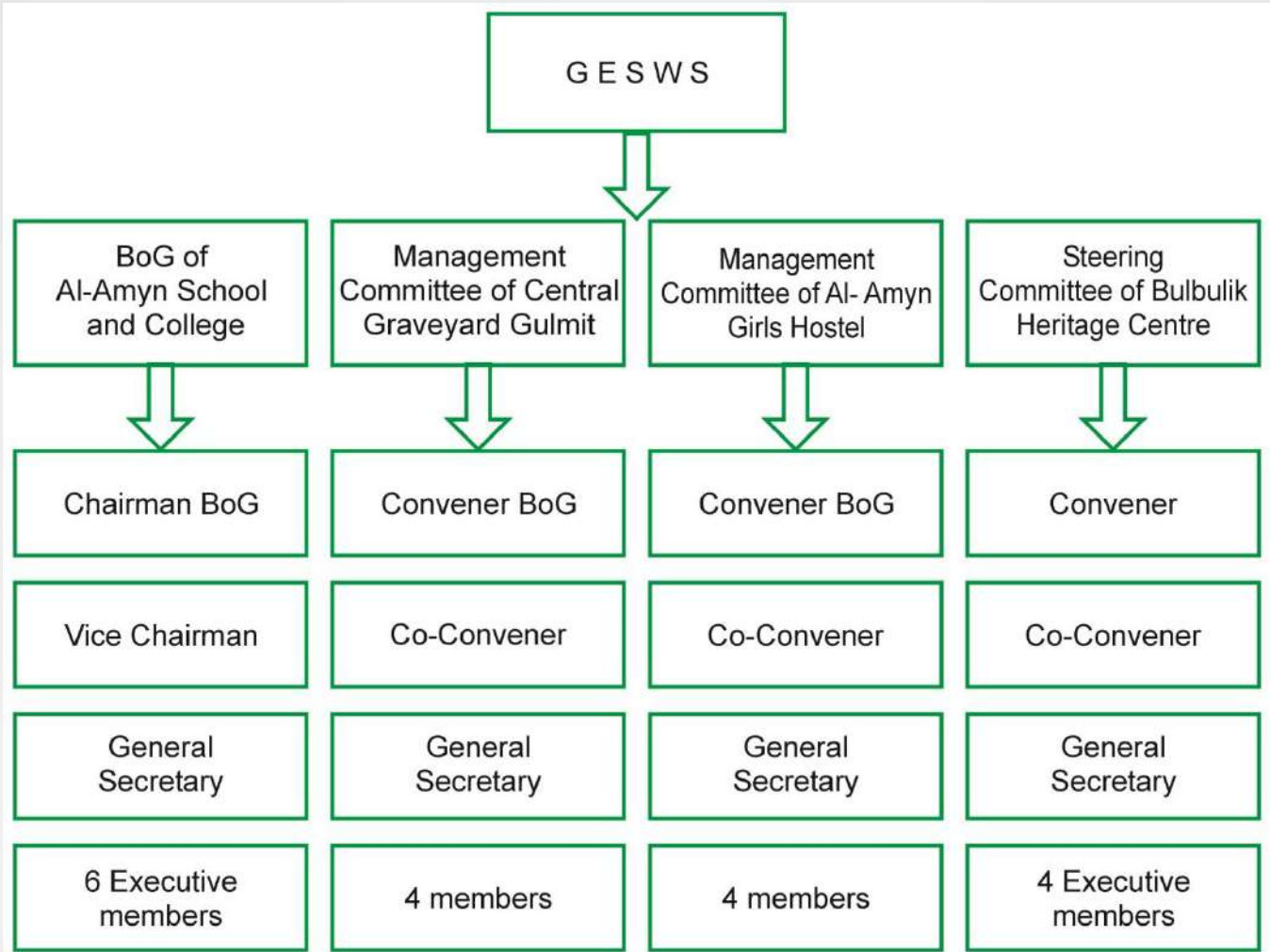
The supreme body of GESWS is the general body comprising of 500 registered members of the organization who represents one member from each household in the village. The membership is open and new members are included on voluntary basis. The general body elects 11 members Executive Committee (EC) for one year term and a President for three year term through election and consensus. The organization has established systems and has worked with national and international donors including British High Commission Islamabad, Aga Khan Foundation,



SGAFP-NRSP, Government of Gilgit Baltistan, Government of Pakistan and other local and national philanthropists.

The committee is responsible for appointing Board of Governors (BoG) of Al Aryn Model School which is selected for a term of one year. But the committee can change or replace any member during this time. Moreover, the committee also has the authority to extend the tenure of all or some of the BoGs appointed to look after the administrative affairs of Al Aryn Model School.

The committee is also responsible for selection of members for the graveyard committee and the land banking committee. Recently, the committee formed a steering committee to look after the affairs of Bulbulik.



Achievements

Al Aryn Model School



Al Aryn Model School was established as the first project of GESWS. The school is a living example of sustainability. Over the years, the school has catered to the educational needs of the whole area.

Started as primary school in a rented building in 1991, the school has evolved over the years as a center of excellence imparting quality education from Early Childhood Education to Higher Secondary level.

The school has a state of the art building, well equipped computer and science laboratories, specialist teachers and a hostel for students coming from other villages of the area.

Land Banking and Management,

A committee was established within the cabinet of the society with the title of Land Banking Management to purchase and re-adjust the donated lands of GESWS.

The basic aim of the committee was to acquire land for expansion of the school and exchange the donated land with the landowners in the vicinity of the school.

Moreover, the committee also acquired land through philanthropists and other individuals willing to the sell their land so that it can be utilised in the future.

Al Aryn Girls' Hostel

The Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) established a hostel for female students in 2013. With expansion of the school, Al Aryn attracted students from all villages of Gojal. But accommodation was one of the major problems for female students of the far flung areas of Gojal.

Moreover, parents have also been demanding for a hostel facility as there was no other hostel available in the village.

So the GESWS established the Al Aryn Girls' hostel to facilitate female students of far flung areas of Gojal in getting quality education.

The hostel meets its operational costs through its own income.



Central graveyard

When a massive landslide blocked Hunza river in January 2010 forming what is known today as the Attaabad lake, most of the lower parts of Gulmit village were submerged in water.

With scarcity of land, there was a need for the village to have a central graveyard unlike the past practice of converting agriculture land for family graveyards.

The Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) acquired land through philanthropists and community contributions for the central graveyard.

The Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society

Executive Body



Col.Rtd. Muhammad Sher Khan
President



Afzal Khan
Vice President



Meherban Karim
Gen. Secretary



Muhammad Ali
Finance Secretary



Muhammad Azeem
PRO



Dr. Sher Aziz
Member



Ashiq Ali
Member



Lal Ali Ahmed Jan
Member



Muhammad Hussain
Member



Majeed Ullah Baig
Member



Amina Ayaz
Member



Malika Aamir
Joint Secretary

Rai Ghulamuddin: An Inspirational Community Leader

By Noor Muhammad



Rai Ghulamuddin was one of the most towering personalities of Hunza Valley, known for his contributions in the field of educational development, cultural preservation and promotion, and unwavering social leadership. He played an instrumental role in the process leading to the establishment of the Al Ameen Model School.

After being appointed as Chairman of the Education Committee in 1991, Rai Ghulamuddin launched a concerted effort to materialize the collective dream of establishing an English-medium school in the area. On 11th July 1991, he shared the initial plan with the community in a public gathering, seeking their support and guidance.

Aided by a dedicated team of volunteers and community leaders, he went from post to pillar, sacrificing his time and resources, for attainment of the shared vision.

His able leadership and tireless efforts yielded the desired results, and the school was founded at sound footings, soon establishing itself as an institution par excellence, with a regional reach and national fame.

Rai Ghulamuddin was also the founding Chairman of the Wakhi Tajik Cultural Association, an organization credited with revival and popularization of the Wakhi culture and heritage at the national level.

Rai Ghulamuddin was instrumental in establishment of the Hunza Educational Resource Programme (HERP), an initiative of the “Associations of Educational and Social Welfare Societies of Hunza”, which he led as the founding President.

Rai, a title bestowed on Mr. Gulamuddin by the Imam of the time in recognition of his unmatched services, was a visionary community leader, who generously offered his material resources, as well as his time and knowledge, for the social upliftment of the area.

His services for the community are highly regarded by the people of Hunza, who remember him as a dedicated, visionary, hardworking and honest leader.

He passed away in Karachi on 3rd November 2011. He was laid to rest in Gulmit, his native village, on the 5th of November in the presence of thousands of mourners.

Shahgul Aziz: A Life Spent Well

By Didar Ali



Shahgul Aziz was a fatherly figure for the whole community of Gulmit. His unmatched wisdom, unflinching decision making skills and his vast practical experience of community service earned him leadership roles not only in the village but also in the region.

He spent a full life. Earned fame for his outclass skills in polo during his youth and played diversified roles in the society after his retirement ranging from establishment of Al Ameen Model School Gulmit to dispute resolution not only within the village but also in Gojal.

He led the Hunza polo team later joining the Gilgit-Baltistan police team where he led the polo team in mega tournaments of the region including the Shandoor Polo festival.

He remained vice president of Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) for two decades. From the inception of idea to establishment of the school and its progress, he played a key role in all the crucial decision making and community mobilization.

He was also instrumental in the land banking project of the GESWS.

Besides his role in GESWS, he also remained active in Imamti and Jamati institutions. His role for the construction of Aga Khan Primary Health facility in Gulmit and Gulmit Jamat Khana was decisive.

He also served as Convener of Aga Khan Reconciliation and Arbitration Panel for Gulmit. Under his leadership, the panel resolved some of the oldest disputes between villages and tribes.

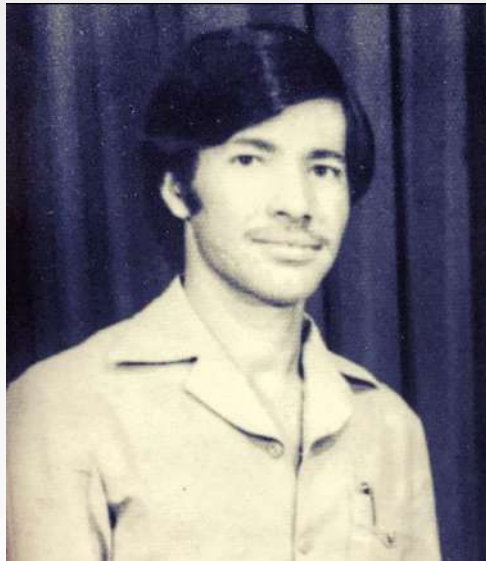
He would always be remembered for his keen sense of judgment, deep understanding and knowledge of the society and his exceptional and unmatched service to his community in all walks of life.

After spending what people call a full life, he breathed his last in Gulmit on April 04, 2017 at the age of 81 leaving his imprints to be remembered forever.

Few people leave their mark in the world and achieve success in so many different fields like Shahgul Aziz did. His achievements in the sports of polo, his contribution for education and social welfare of Gulmit, his role in resolving decades long conflicts in Hunza and his part in maintaining a smooth working relationship between the people of Gojal and the institutions of the government will always be remembered.

Amir Ullah Baig: An Academic, A Leader

By Uzma Amir



A thorough gentleman, a respected and recognized educationist, a selfless social worker and a dedicated and devoted religious leader - Amir Ullah was born in 1957 at Gulmit in Hunza.

Like other youth of his time, Amir had to face great hardships and tremendous difficulties in quest of knowledge and education. He received his primary, middle and secondary education from Gulmit, Karimabad and Gilgit respectively. For higher education, Amir had to travel to Karachi in 1975. Upon his return, he joined the profession of teaching. He also did his B.Ed while in government service.

He was a dedicated teacher who cared for his students just like his children. To his fellow teachers he was a friend to rely on and lean to. To his students, he was a beacon of hope, a symbol of kindness and a role model.

He was equally loved both by the students and the teachers.

Besides his professional life, he was a selfless social worker who dedicated his life for the community. He held key positions both in Jamati and Imamti institutions.

Significant among his role is his consecutive terms as secretary and president of the Ismaili Local Council for Gulmit for three years each.

It was under his chair that the council decided to establish the first community owned English medium school in the region. He will always be remembered as one of the founding fathers of Al Ameen Model School Gulmit which is nicknamed as the Al-Azhar of Gojal.

He was instrumental in community mobilisation for Al Ameen Model School and Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society. Moreover, he also served as vice chairman of the Board of Governors of Al Ameen Model School Gulmit.

His unmatched leadership and selfless service came to an end in 1997 when light dimmed on the shining light on a fateful day in Aga Khan University Hospital Karachi. He passed away at the age of 40 years but his services for the community would be remembered for centuries to come.

A brief Introduction of Our Dedicated Volunteers

Abdul Waheed



Group Captain Shah Khan has rendered enormous contributions for GESWS. He was the Patron in Chief of the society. The society would always turn to him for his advice on a wide range of issues. He also donated his land for GESWS. His services will always be admired and remembered by the people of Gulmit.



Huzur Mukhi Muhammad Rehber is among the pioneers of GESWS. He was appointed as the first Chairman BoG, a position where he served for more than a decade. He streamlined the school leadership and management as well as the administration by leading a team of committed and motivated volunteers. He played a vital role in advocacy and community mobilization and played a vital role when Al Amyn was passing through its initial stages. He was the first man who faced blows of the first challenges as he undertook the tiresome task of laying out the guiding principles for management, policy formulation and establishing the school during the initial days and served till Al Amyn was made stable enough to survive and progress. We owe the stability, strength and sustainability of Al Amyn Model School to his visionary leadership.



Alija Jabbar Khan is one of the founding members of GESWS. He has a longstanding affiliation with the society where he served as Finance Secretary and Secretary BoG Al-Amyn, Chairman BoG Al-Amyn and President GESWS. He took the painstaking task of managing finances of both GESWS and AL Amyn Model School right from the day one. Moreover, he lead the financial matters of the construction of Al Amyn building. During his tenure he introduced both external and internal audit system of the financial matters of both GESWS and Al Amyn. During his tenure as President, GESWS, he established Al Amyn Girls Hostel. His services serve as a guiding light for the members and the future generations.



Mr. Rehmat Ullah Baig is one of the founding members of GESWS and has rendered decades of selfless service for the society. He has served

the institution as secretary BoG, Secretary GESWS, Chairman BoG and finally as president GESWS. His exceptional commitment towards his responsibilities is on record. During his tenure as president, GESWS initiated HR policy, established community based inter college and introduced land banking and management system. His sheer dedication, commitment and tireless efforts for the community will always be remembered in golden words.



Mr. Majeed Khan served as General Secretary GESWS for 15 years. He is one the founding members who played a crucial role in materializing the idea of the establishment of an English medium school. Beside advocacy and community mobilization, he played a central role in maintaining records of GESWS. He played a pivotal role in translating the vision of GESWSW into reality.



Al-Waiz Nazer Shah is one of the founding members of the society. Besides playing vital role in land banking and management for the projects of GESWS his intellectual inputs in community mobilization for incorporating the projects remained outstanding.



Mr. Mutabiat Shah has remained as supporting member and advisor to the president for more than a decade and has played key decisive role in drafting of the policies and proposals. He always remained helpful to the GESWS during his services with AKRSP; however, he also served the institution as president for one year before his selection as members Gilgit Baltistan legislative Assembly.



Alija Ibadat Shah is one of the funding members of the society. He served as the Finance secretary of GESWS for 15 years. His guidance and influence helped in community mobilization and implementation of various projects.



Mr. Muhammd Ajaib Khan in one of the founding member of the GESWS and he served the institution for more than two decades as Vice

President. He served as member BoD at HERP for many years. He played key role in construction of Al-Amyn Girls hostel remained exceptional.



Huzoor Mukhi Amir Hayat is one of the founding member of GESWS and has served as BoG of Al-Amyn as member, PRO and Vice Chairman for 13 years. He played his due role in community mobilization during the construction and also remained a motivated and punctual member with innovative ideas.



Mrs. Safida Begum is one the founding members and the first female to serve as member, Joint Secretary and Vice Chairperson of Al Amyn BoG. She introduced teachers' assessment mechanism that helped the board to evaluate the performance of teachers. She served as focal person for Whole School Improvement Program-WSIP of PDCN at Al-Amyn for one academic year. She played vital role in mobilizing parents for female enrolment.



Huzoor Mukhi Ali Pana is also one of the founding members of GESWS and has members of the BoG of Al-Amyn for thirteen years. He played his due role as member and remained helpful in community mobilization during the inception of the school.



Mr. Wafa Baig has remained one of the founding members of GESWS and has served the BoG of Al-Amyn School for 13 years. He played key role in affiliation of Al Amyn Model School with government of Pakistan.



Alija Bai Nazar is also one of the founding members of the GESWS. He played due role in funds generation and acquiring of land for the school. He played active role in construction of the school building and rendered selfless services for GESWS.



Mr. Hikmat Nazar has been remained a restless volunteer throughout his life. He played key role in community mobilization and advocacy. He also served as member of the construction committee where he also physically labored for the construction.



Mr. Dad Ali has served as convener of the construction committee offal Amyn Model School. He also played key role in construction of Aga Khan Health Unit Gulmit. He was also instrumental in providing logistic support for the construction of the project. He also managed the labor and material during the construction.



Mr. Badel Bai has served as Co-Convener of the Construction Committee of Al-Amyn School. Moreover, he was also responsible for looking after the construction material. Besides, he was also responsible for disseminating messages to the community during construction of the school building.



Mr. Ayaz Uddin has worked with the founding member as joint secretary for 13 years. He also donated land for GESWS besides giving his land at a nominal rate. He played key role in community mobilization for various projects.



Lamberdar Sultan Ayub is one of the founding members of GESWS. He has served as Public Relation Officer for more than two decades. He played key role in Land Banking and construction of Al Amyn Girls Hostel.



Mr. Sher Ghazi has served as the BoG of Al-Amyn as a member, Joint Secretary and General Secretary for 13 years and later as Chairman for one year. He has also served the school as Principal. He has given his valued time and knowledge for the school management and administration.



Mr. Sahib Jan served as Vice Chairman of Al Amyn BoG for six years. He played key role during the Attaabad crisis and rendered great services for Al Amyn and GESWS.



Hazoor Mukhi Arab Khan has served the institution for two decades and he proposed the name "Al Amyn" which was accepted by the community. He played key role in advocacy and community mobilization.



Mr. Muhammad Abdullah has served both the BoG of Al-Amyn and GESWS as member for two decades. He remained one of the founding members of GESWS. His punctuality remained outstanding and he also played key role in mobilization of parents for fee collection. He has also served in the construction committee.



Mr. Gohar Ullah Baig has served GESWS and BOG as a member for 11 years with pure dedication. His selfless contribution helped GESWS and BoG to reach various organizational objectives.



Lambardar Nasir Uddin served as member GESWS for 11 years and played key role in community mobilization. His punctuality has remained outstanding.



Mr Farman Ali has served as Chairman Board of Governors Al Amyn Model School Gulmit in the year 2009-10. Prior to this position he has served the Board as a member, Joint Secretary and General Secretary (2005 to 2009). During his tenure his focus remain on improving the quality of education in the school and work for the welfare of the teachers.



Mrs. Shazia Waheed has served as the first female chairperson of Al Amyn BoG. During her tenure, she led the team during the worst crisis of Attaabad disaster. Moreover, it was during her tenure that higher secondary classes were started in Al Amyn Model School.



Mr. Nadir Shah has served the GESWS and Al Amyn BoG as a member for 13 years. He contributed tremendously for strengthening of the institution.



Mrs. Noor Bibi is among few women in Gulmit who have been devoting their time for GESWS. She has served as active member for 13 years advocating and promoting female participation.



Mr. Iqbal Shah has served the institution as head mason during construction of the school building. He was also responsible to look after both skilled and unskilled labors.



Mr. Noor Aman has served the institutions for more than a decade as member. His services in community mobilization and motivation for admission at Al-Amyn during the initial days is outstanding.



Huzur Mukhi Bibi Nigar has served the BoG of Al-Amyn as member for several years besides serving as Vice-Chairperson for two years. She played her due role in community mobilization and especially motivated mothers for admission of their daughters at Al-Amyn.



Mr. Aman Gul has worked with the founding members and served GESWS for 15 years. He helped in community mobilization and motivation.



Mr. Saeed Jan has served as General Secretary of GESWS for four years during Attaabad disaster. It was during his tenure that Al Amyn Girls Hostel was established.



Mr. Abdul Waheed has served GESWS as member, Finance Secretary and General Secretary for more than a decade. He worked as honorary project manager of Al-Amyn Girls hostel and also played role in reviewing draft polices for HR and Finance. He also played roe in establishment of the Central Graveyard and Project Bulbulik.



Mr. Muhammad Akram has served the institution with the founding members and has remained member BoG for thirteen years. He remained very helpful in community mobilization especially during opening of the school.



Mr. Mir Baz Khan has served the GESWS as Joint Secretary for two years and General Secretary for four years. He contributed in community mobilization and strengthening of the existing projects.



Mrs. Yasmin Amir Ali has served GESWS as member for 11 years and contributed in community mobilization. She worked for women development and encouraged women in participating in developmental activities.



Mr. Sikander Mirza served the society as member for 11 consecutive years. He played key role in community mobilization and collection of funds for purchase of land for the school. He remained a committed and motivated activist.



Mr. Ali Yar Khan has served the institution as member and later on as Finance Secretary for four years. He contributed his best in construction of Al-Amyr Girls Hostel during his tenure. He also served the institutions for procurements in many of the projects.



Mr. Muhammad Afzal served the institution for seven years and played his due role in community mobilization and event management. Beside his voluntary services he remained a regular donor for various projects of GESWS.



Mr. Amin Baig has played key role as supporting member with the president GESWS for more than two decades. He helped in drafting of proposals and policies of GESWS.



Mr. Niyyat Karim has remained a supporting member to GESWS and provided resources to the management of GESWS for various projects.



Mr. Jan Muhammad has provided key support to the management of GESWS by offering his personal resources for utilization during various projects.



Mr. Ibrahim Khan Khalil has provided vital support to the management of GESWS and remained instrumental in registration of the school with Government of Pakistan.



Col. R. Sher Khan is serving as president of GESWS. He accepted the challenging position when there was a lot of work to be done. He is a committed and enthusiastic change maker. He is leading a team of committed and motivated colleagues. During the construction of his Al-Amyr Girls Hostel he donated 52 poplar trees and helped in furnishing the hostel.



Mr. Afzal Khan is serving as Vice-president of GESWS. He has taken a number of daring initiatives including Educational Reforms in Al Amyr Model School and organizing the first ever Tehseel Educational Conference. Moreover, he ventured into new areas like cultural preservation by establishing Bulbulik Heritage Centre. Furthermore, he played decisive role in establishment of Central graveyard and Land Banking Management. He is leading the Silver Jubilee celebrations of GESWS.



Mr. Mehrban Karim is serving as Secretary GESWS after serving as joint secretary. Besides leading the steering committee of Bulbulik Heritage Centre Gulmit, he has played key role in the silver jubilee possible.



Mr. Karim Baig is serving as Chairman BoG of Al Amyr Model School and member GESWS for the past four years. During his tenure, the BoG initiated the new Educational Reform Package at Al-Amyr Model School, established ECD center and made the decision of affiliation with AKUEB.



Mr. Sajjad Ahmed is serving as Vice Chairman BoG of Al Amyr Model School. He has also served the society General Secretary of GESWS for more than seven years.



Mr. Muhammad Hussain is the longest serving member of GESWS. He played key role in legal documentation of GESWS properties.



Mr. Karim Ullah Baig has served as BoG member for more than a decade as PRO. He played decisive role in stabilizing the financial matters in the aftermath of the Attaabad disaster.



Mr. Ashiq Ali has served the institution in many capacities. Currently, he is serving as convener of the committee of Al-Amyn Girls Hsotel Gulmit and member of the steering committee of Bulbulik.



Lamberdar Muhammad Azeem is serving as Public Relations Officer of GESWS and convener Central Graveyard. Besides, he is also serving as member of the steering committee of Bulbulik.



Ms Nayla Hamed is serving Al-Amyn Model School as ECED teacher since 1991. She is the only teacher who is affiliated with this school on a minimum honorarium.

Editor's Note:

The projects of GESWS are a collective effort where every member equally contributes in terms of time and effort. Due to time and space constraints we were not able to mention all the individuals here.

Timeline of GESWS





GULMIT TOURIST INN


 : GULMIT TOURIST INN

 : WWW.GULMITTOURISTINN.COM

 : 03460030254/03460030255



The Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS)

List of Executive Body May 31, 1991-April 8, 2006

S#	Name	Designation	Years	
1	Rai Ghulam Uddin	President	1991	2006
2	Shah Gul Aziz	Vice-President	1991	2006
3	Majeed Khan	General Secretary	1991	2006
4	Ayaz Uddin	Joint Secretary	1991	2006
5	Ibadat Shah	Finance Secretary	1991	2006
6	Amir Ullah Ghazi	PRO	1991	1992
7	Nazar Shah	Member	1991	2006
8	Akram Shah	Member	1991	2006
9	Hikmat Nazar	Member	1991	2006
10	Aman Gul	Member	1991	2006
11	Noor Aman	Member	1991	2006
12	Nadir Shah	Member	1995	2006
13	Nasir uddin	Member	1995	2006
14	Sikandar Mirza	Member	1995	2006
15	Gohar Ullah	Member	1995	2006
16	Yasmin Amir Ali	Member	1995	2006

17	Noor Bibi	Member	1995	2006
18	Muhammad Hussain	Member	1995	2006

List of Executive Body April 8,2006 to 26 July, 2009

S#	Name	Designation	2006	2009
1	Rahmat ullah Baig	President	2006	2009
2	Shah Gul Aziz	Senior Vice president	2006	2009
3	Muhammad Ajaib	Vice-President	2006	2009
4	Sajjad Ahmed	General Secretary	2006	2009
5	Sharif Uddin	Joint Secretary	2006	2009
6	Abdul Waheed	Finance secretary	2006	2009
7	Rozdar Ullah	Joint Finance Secretary	2006	2008
8	Sultan Ayub	PRO	2006	2009
9	Huzur Mukhi Muhammad Rahber	Member	2006	2009
10	Alija Ibadat Shah	Member	2006	2009
11	Muhammad Afzal	Member	2006	2009
12	Aman Ali Shah	Member	2006	2009
13	Muhammad Hussain	Member	2006	2009
14	Aziz Jan	Member	2006	2009
15	Ali Yar Khan	Member	2006	2009
16	Iqbal Karim	Member	2006	2009
17	Shaukat Aziz	Member	2006	2009
18	Hajat Begum	Member	2006	2009
19	Sultana Gulbast	Member	2006	2009
20	Mir Baz Khan	General Secretary	2008	2009
21	Abdul Hameed	Joint Finance Secretary	2008	2009
22	Nahida Sher Karim	Member	2008	2009
23	Sher Aziz	Member	2008	2009
24	Muhammad Azeem	Member	2008	2009
25	Ahmed Khan	Member	2008	2009
26	Dad Ali	Member	2008	2009
27	Muhammad Ali	Member	2008	2009
28	Aziz Karim	Member	2008	2009
29	Bibi Jehan	Member	2008	2009
30	Rashida Zafar	Member	2008	2009

List of Executive Body 26 July, 2009 to Sep 23, 2010

S#	Name	Designation	2009	2010
1	Mutabiat Shah	President	2009	2010
3	Muhammad Ajaib	Vice President	2009	2010
4	Mirbaz Khan	General Secretary	2009	2010
5	Muhammad Azeem	Joint Secretary	2009	2010
6	Alyar Khan	Finance Secretary	2009	2010
8	Sultan Ayub	PRO	2009	2010

9	Arab Khan	Member	2009	2010
10	Dad Ali Shah	Member	2009	2010
11	Dur Bibi	Member	2009	2010
12	Salma Iqbal	Member	2009	2010

List of Executive Body Sep 23,2010 - Oct 8,2014

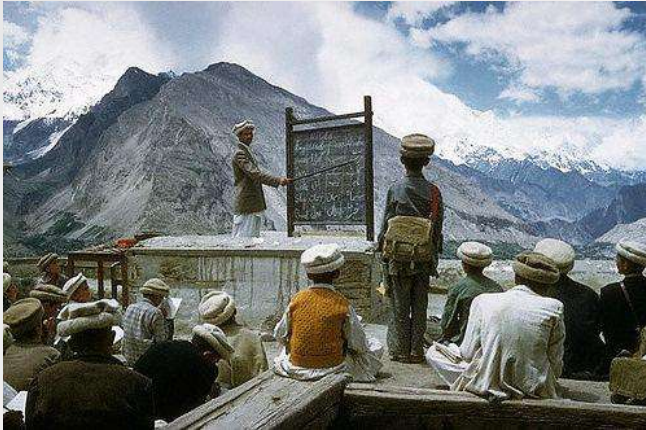
S#	Name	Designation	2010	2014
1	Jabbar Khan	President	2010	2014
3	Muhammad Ajaib	Vice-President	2010	2014
4	Saeed Jan	General Secretary	2010	2014
5	Mirbaz Khan	Joint Secretary	2010	2014
6	Alyar Khan	Finance Secretary	2010	2014
8	Sultan Ayub	PRO	2010	2014
9	Meher un Nisa	Member	2010	2014
10	Dur Bibi	Member	2010	2014
11	Sahiba Jan	Member	2010	2014
12	Mohd Afzal	Member	2010	2014
13	Aziz Karim	Member	2010	2014
14	Ali Ahmed	Member	2010	2014
15	Amina Ayaz	Member	2010	2014
16	Lal Sultana	Member	2010	2014
17	Adil Shah	Member	2010	2014



Village Passu Gojal Hunza Gilgit-Baltistan
Passu
Call 0355 5694995

The Dawn of Education in Hunza

By Afiyat Nazar



In this article, the term education denotes literacy, which involves reading, writing and numeracy. Hence, it takes into account the initiation of formal schooling as a starting point of education, which starts with admission of few key figures from Gojal into the only British government primary school of Hunza.

Although, as per orally stated history, the primary school, today's Government High School Karimabad, established in 1912 could have served as a starting point of education for the ordinary people of Gojal Valley as well. However, it was not possible for three apparent reasons: 1) it was not the policy of British government to educate the masses, 2) the Mirs were against education of the common people, and 3) the school was not easily accessible.

Therefore, the establishment of Aga Khan Diamond Jubilee Schools in 1946, which were also known as DJ Schools, was an attempt that uninterruptedly provided education to boys. Prior to these schools, there were very few people who could be termed as "Educated" in the entire Gojal Valley, including Gulmit, Ghulkin, Hussaini and Shishkat. Almost all the people were illiterate, as narrated by Lorimer in his book published in 1989. The few literate persons were Khalifas, respected for their mastery of religious rituals and Persian or Arabic scripture. Most prominent

among them was Firaghat son of Dawlat Shah. Others were Arbab Raza Baig of Ghulkin, Yousuf Shah, Diwan Shah and Ali Yar from Gulmit. Dowlat Shah was Maram or treasurer of Mir Ghazan Khan till 1880, when the former was murdered. During the day time Dowlat would work for Mir and at night he would clandestinely get lessons from the official Quran Khawan or reader: Rustom Ali, who belonged to the neighboring state of Nagar. After the murder of Ghazan Khan, Dowlat Shah was sent back to his village where he taught his son Firaghat Shah.

In December 1921, Aga Abdul Samad, the cousin of Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah, the Aga Khan III - the Imam or Spiritual leader of the Shia Ismaili Muslims - visited China, via Hunza. On his return in 1922, he stayed in Gulmit for three days, where he gave some religious and spiritual advice to the people of the area. The exact message is not known. However, according to oral traditions, he had advised the people to educate their children, besides giving them other guidance in terms of religious practices and rituals.

In continuation of his concern for his followers, in 1923 the Aga Khan III sent his representative, Pir Sabz Ali, to different parts of the present-day Gilgit-Baltistan and Central Asia. He also visited Gulmit, the winter capital of the





now defunct Hunza state. He had brought with him some beginners books—Baghdadi Qaeda—of Arabic and Persian with guidance from the Imam.

Co-education is said to have started in Gulmit, while at Ghulkin, education for only boys started as a result of Pir’s visit. At both places the teachers were Firaghat and Arbab Raza Baig, respectively.

To meet the expenses for this teaching exercise, Mir Nazim Khan was requested by the community to propose a budget and sent for

approval by the Imaam of the time who was residing in Bombay. The Khalifas continued the teaching of those Qaeda (primers) for boys and girls without any monetary rewards. The classes could not last for more than a year. One of the obvious reasons for the closure seems to be the apathy of the Mir, who in fact was against education.

As it is evident from the writing of Baig (1967), “.... following the political policies of his forefathers, he was willing to keep the elites and people away from Knowledge”(p.).

Jum Bakht, son of Qasim Bai, was probably the first person from Gojal Valley who was given opportunity to get admission in the first British established school in 1925 in Karimabad, as per available record of the school.

Later, very few boys from Gojal also got admission in the school. The details of admission are as under:

S.No.	Name	Father’s Name	Date of Birth	Date of Admission
1.	Jum Bakht	Qasim Bai	Nil	March 1,1925
2.	Samarqand Ali	Fatahullah Beg	Nil	January 1, 1929
3.	Sadan Shah	Gulbast Khan	1920	January 1, 1930
4.	Sultan Shah	Khalifa Satk	Nil	January 1, 1930
5.	Firazuddin	Sultan Mehmood	Nil	February 2, 1934
6.	Adina Beg	Noor Muhammad	Nil	March 1, 1935
7.	Sultan Khan	Shahbaz Khan	1929	May 1, 1937

Two of the mentioned students namely Samarqand and Firazuddin later became teachers in the DJ Schools established in 1946 at Baltit and Passu, respectively. Among the Khalifas, like some of the predecessors, Firaghat managed to go and learn from Yarkand and Badkhsan. In addition, he also traveled to Bombay to take Mal-e-Imam or belonging of the Imam, a religious obligation and dues to be submitted to the treasures of the Imam, on behalf of his followers. He had many students in Gulmit and other places, even a European also became his student. The late

Firaghat was Lorimar’s teacher of Wakhi for three months, together with Qudratullah Beg, when Lorimar was living in Alibad in 1934-5” (Felmy, 1996, p.36.).

He had started teaching the Baghdadi Qaeda brought by Missionary Sabz Ali to boys and girls under one roof in 1923. Some of the students who attended the school were Sultan Baig son of Muhammad Sana, Moula Dad son of Bari, Bibi Zee daughter of Tilo Khon, Gul Baigum daughter of Abdul Aziz.

The endeavors for education continued, and, once again, in 1940, Aga Khan III addressed his followers of Hunza and other areas through All India Radio, advising them to educate their children. This message was addressed to the wider Ismaili population, which indicates that the Aga Khan III was not only concerned about his followers in Hunza but also in the other areas as well. As a result of the message, Khalifas once again started teaching limited number of boys for a brief period. However, resistance for mass education continued side by side till the demise of late Ghazan Khan, the second last Mir of Hunza, in 1945.

The Diamond Jubilee (DJ) Schools were setup on the direction of Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah (Aga Khan III) in the month of August 1946 at the completion of his 60th year of Imamatus. Funds collected through sale of material offerings made by the murids during the Diamond Jubilee celebrations were provided for the development and upliftment of his followers worldwide. He gave an initial grant of rupees sixteen thousand and conditioned the subsequent provision of funds on the basis of the proper utilization of it. On 26th January 1946 in a Farman or guidance to Mir of Hunza, the Imam said:

“I am sure that you will heed this advice of mine and immediately start at least two schools in such areas in your state as may be intimated to you by Quadratullah Baig with whom I have had long and earnest discussion in the matter. In these



schools education should be imparted in English, Persian and Urdu. Religious education should also accompany secular Education. I hope this scheme of mine will be acceptable to you and that you will work it well. It is in your best interest your subjects should be educated.”

It is interesting to note that instead of two schools, 17 schools were established in Hunza alone. Out of them, 6 schools were opened in Gojal valley, at Gulmit, Passu, Khyber, Gircha, Khairabad (Raminj) and Rashit. One year later, a school was also established in Shimshal.

The guidance of Aga Khan III in 1940 had not segregated womenfolk from education; his message and advocacy for women education was very clear. He emphasized women education in the following words: “Personally, if I had two children and one was a boy and the other was a girl and if I could afford to educate only one, I would have no hesitation in giving the higher education to the girl”.

Yet, keeping the womenfolk away from education appears to be a result of local social and cultural resistance. It was in 1968 that Mr. Fida Ali alias Qiblan started female education in Gulmit, on the request of some of the elders of Gulmit. However, in private capacity female education continued with few ladies as early as in in the 1940s. Bibi Nikta daughter of Firaghat was the first lady who could read Quran.

The Writer is an Educationist and Ex-Acting Principal Al-Amyn Model School



The Birth of a Dream Al-Amyr Model School

By Noor Muhammad

On 21st September 1991, the Al-Amyr Model School came into being, named after Prince Amyr Muhammad Aga Khan, the younger brother of Prince Karim Aga Khan. The name of the school was chosen to commemorate and honor Prince Amyr's first visit to the region. The school was started in a rented traditional house.

Initially, 76 students got admission in Nursery class. A teaching team, including two foreigners and two locals, was put in place to start education at the school.

Today, around 350 students are enrolled in the school while hundreds of others are playing a leading role in various fields. The school has not only catered to the educational needs of Gulmit but it also serves as an elite institute of excellence for the bright minds of Upper Hunza.

History



The Aga Khan's emphasis on education offered a new worldview to the hitherto unlettered men and women of Hunza, who had been living off subsistence farming, or hunting, during the long and harsh winters.

The first Diamond Jubilee School in Gulmit was established in 1946. In the beginning, the people considered education to be futile, because they did not have educated role models in the society. The few lettered men in the society were from influential families, who exercised power even without being educated. Especially ignored was education for women and girls, who were expected to marry, sometimes even before reaching puberty.

In the 70s, the government of Pakistan established the first school for boys in Gulmit. From thereon, the DJ school was exclusively used for girls' education.

In 1985, the Aga Khan Academy for Girls was established in Karimabad, Hunza. Opening



the Academy marked the beginning of a gradual shifting from mass education to quality education. Talented girls from the DJ Schools were moved to the AKA-Hunza through a competitive process, and trained there by highly skilled teachers, raising the educational standards in a significant manner.

Educational institutions were also being established in Gilgit and other areas, influencing the communities' perceptions, and pushing them to aim for higher standards and greater quality of education.

There was, however, no prominent school in the area offering quality education to boys. The need for establishment of such a regional school was direly being felt.



On January 14, 1986, during a meeting chaired by President, Mr. Haqiqat Ali Band Ali, and Mr. Amir Ullah Baig, Honorary Secretary, the idea of establishing an English medium school catering to the students in the jurisdiction of the Ismaili Local Council for Gulmit, was discussed for the first time, as shown by office records. No decision, however, could be reached. Later, it was decided that committees will be established at village level for establishment of schools in each village of the jurisdiction.

In 1990, Mr. Amir Ullah Baig, who had by then been elevated to the post of President, carried the idea forward and discussed it in different meetings.

In April 1991, the residents of Gulmit reached a consensus for establishment of the village's first community-based English medium school. An Education Committee, headed by Mr. Ghulamuddin, was formed to coordinate the efforts for establishment of the school, and to visit different schools in Gilgit and other areas for inspiration and ideas.

Within a few months, the initial idea was developed into a concrete proposal, and on 11th July 1991, the Education Committee's Convener, Mr. Ghulamuddin announced, during the Imam Day gathering, that an English medium school will be established in Gulmit to educate children from the entire region. During his speech, Mr. Ghulamuddin sought the community's help for realization of this common dream, and the visionary and motivated community responded with enthusiasm and conviction.



On 21st September 1991, the Al-Amyn Model School came into being, named after Prince Amin Muhammad Aga Khan, the younger brother of Prince Karim Aga Khan. The name of the school was chosen to commemorate and honor Prince Amyn's first visit to the region. The school was started in a rented traditional house.

Initially, 76 students got admission in Nursery class. A teaching team, including two foreigners and two locals, was put in place to start education at the school.

On 14th October 1991, the Education Committee formed under the auspices of the Ismaili Local Council for Gulmit, was



transformed into an independent institution, named the Gulmit Education and Social Welfare Society, later registered with the Government of Pakistan. A Board of Governors was also established to look after the affairs of the Al-Amyn Model School, Gulmit.

The school's establishment was the first step. The communities were prepared for a long educational journey.

Initially, the Society had four priorities: 1) Expanding the society's membership base to other villages, 2) Land acquisition for construction of school, 3) Apply for AKES,P's Self-Help Programme for Building Construction, and 4) Attracting foreign teachers through the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO).

The emphasis on getting services of foreign teachers reflects the community's desire to provide the best possible education to the kids. The efforts paid off, and in 1992 Ms. Sophie Rees, from the United Kingdom, joined Al-Amyn as a professional development teacher.

In 1992, land was purchased for





establishment of the school's building, with the community providing 1,000 rupees, per household. After land acquisition, the next step was constructing the building. It was a huge task. The community could not do it on its own, owing to lack of capital and modern engineering skills. Therefore, the assistance and support of the Aga Khan Education Service for Pakistan was sought. Proposals were submitted multiple times to the AKES,P authorities for establishment of the school.

In May 1995, the Aga Khan Education Services Pakistan accepted the society's proposal for establishing the school building, with the technical support of the Aga Khan Housing Board Pakistan.

Block I of the school's building, comprising four classrooms and two toilets, was completed in 1996, with the community providing free labor, and funds provided by AKES,P.

Later, after approval of a proposal by the British High Commission, work on construction



of the school's Block II commenced. During this entire period, the community worked tirelessly, every day, for several months, providing free labor, under the leadership of Mr. Dad Ali, Convener of Construction committee formed by the GESWS.

In 1998 and 1999, Block III of the school, comprising an administration block, was constructed with the help of individual donors, namely Professor Hermann Krutzman, Mrs. Noor Jehan Macklai, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Paterson, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Rasmuson and others, in addition to the reserve funds.

In 1998, the school's operations were shifted to the newly established building, which was still lacking some key facilities.



From 2001 to 2002, the last block of the school building was also constructed, using the school's reserve funds. This block included a science laboratory, library, computer lab and three classrooms.

Thus, after a long and determined struggle, the residents of Gulmit and surrounding villages could construct a complete school building, having the facilities needed for imparting quality education to the children.

In 2001, 10th grade classes were started at the school, and it got registered with the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE), Islamabad. Later, after the establishment of the Karakoram International University Education Board, the school's affiliation was

changed, in accordance with the wishes of the government education department.

Cognizant of the importance of mother language for sustainable and holistic development, Al-Amyn Model School in May 2008 started teaching of Wakhi as a separate subject. It was the first ever initiative of its kind to teach Wakhi as a subject at any school in the region. Grade 6 to 8 were chosen for piloting the Wakhi language education.

The school has been offering education to students from Gulmit and surrounding villages, as well as from remote villages located in the upper reaches of Gojal valley. Students coming from father villages had no option but to stay at their relatives' house. The need for establishment of a hostel for the students and teachers was direly being felt.

The construction of Al-Amyn Girls Hostel was started in January 2012, and completed in 2013 at a cost of 9.1 million rupees, provided by the USAID, under the Ambassador's Small Grants Programme.

The school lays great emphasis on the holistic development of the students. Towards this end, the school has established various clubs, and student bodies, to help them in development of various skills, as well as for inculcation of a broader, futuristic, worldviews.

In 2016, Al-Amyn Model School, based on its exceptional performance, successfully became eligible for affiliation with the Aga Khan



University Examination Board (AKUEB), one of the finest educational boards of the country.

Professional Development Partners

Government Education Department:

The Education Department of Gilgit has greatly assisted Al-Amyn Model School by registering the organization, and also by providing financial resources through NGO grant scheme.

The Hunza Educational Resource Project (HERP):

HERP was a programme started in the early 90s by an association of all the Educational and Social Welfare Societies of Hunza. As a regional umbrella organization, the primary aim of HERP was to help the schools and societies in teacher training, curriculum development and preparation of examination papers, in a centralized manner. HERP also provided mobile library services to the schools. It also organized inter-school activities, enabling students from different areas to collaborate with each other and develop linkages, while learning





from each other.

Aga Khan Education Service, Pakistan (AKES,P): In addition to providing financial support for Block I of the school's building, AKES,P also sponsored two female teacher's B.Ed education at Notre Dam Institute, Karachi. It also supported other teachers in various short courses. AKES,P also started ECD section at Al-Amyn Model School, under its RCC project.

Aga Khan University – Institute for Educational Development (AKUIED): As the top educational development institute of the country, AKU-IED has provided training opportunities to two teachers, while also sponsoring M.Ed degree for the current Principal, Nazir Ahmad Bulbul.

Professional Development Center – North (PDCN): As a unit of AKU-IED, PDCN has trained Al-Amyn's teachers in different areas by arranging short courses from time to time.



PDCN also introduced the yearlong Whole-School Improvement Programme (WSIP) at Al-Amyn, under which various facilities and opportunities were provided to the teachers and students. The PDCN support also included provision of technical input and software, as well as training, for library management. It also helped the school in establishment and management of the IT lab.

SERENA HOTELS: Assisted the school by arranging plantation drives, providing scholarships to two students, and by donating fixtures and journals for the school library.



World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF): Assisted Al-Amyn by establishing an environment room at the school, and providing various equipment for raising awareness about the importance of environmental education.

FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance: Assisted the school by providing fire safety equipment, and by also training the students and teachers in safety drills.

Central Asia Institute (CAI): Assisted Al-Amyn School financially and technically, by providing fixtures, constructing the hostel's boundary wall, and financing a science teacher, in addition to providing scholarships to deserving students.

Rupani Foundation: Supports Al-Amyn's playgroup students, by providing two teachers, and other resources.



Iqra Fund: Provides financial assistance and scholarship, and textbooks, to deserving students of Al-Amyn Model School.

NOMUS – For Education & Health: NOMUS provides an annual grant to Al-Amyn.

R.G Dossa Associates: The audit firm assisted the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society and the Al-Amyn Model School by auditing all the financial records covering 10

years for a very nominal professionally fee.

Prominent Visitors

- David Frasier (Aiglemont)
- Christina Roca– US Under Secretary of State
- Nancy Paul – US Ambassador to Pakistan
- Mirza Jahani (AKF-UK)
- Simon Nicolson – VSO Director
- Sabrina Sher Jan
- British Deputy High Commissioner
- Italian Ambassador
- German Ambassador
- World Habitat team (representing 36 countries)
- Syrian officials
- Austrian High Commissioner

VSOs

- Sophie Rees
- Carol Paterson
- Richard Harris

CAPITAL LODGE GILGIT

“Quality Service at affordable Price”

An hygienic place where experience and culture brings hospitality to a new height. The lodge is equipped with all modern facilities (Free Wi-Fi, free parking, free tourist information, Surveillance cameras, LED TVs in rooms, hot & cold running water and stand by generator)

Contact # + 92 (5811) 455901
 Cell # 03445245730, 03435881116
 03418859893, 03465343832
 E.mail capitalodge.glt@gmail.com

Imparting Gulmit Educational & Social Welfare Society & its members a very happy Silver Jubilee year 2017.

Our Academic Philosophy

By Rahim Khan



The very reason that Al Ameen Model School was found at the first place was the academic philosophy. Two schools, one run by the government and another by the Aga Khan Education Service (AKES) were functioning in Gulmit village when Al Ameen was established. Both these schools were following a policy of mass education. Their curriculum failed to meet demands of the time while the decision making process was slow.

Al Ameen, on the other hand was established to introduce a new curriculum and coeducation according to the needs of the time and to focus on holistic development of students with special focus on English language. Moreover, the decision making power rested with



the Board of Governors chosen by the people.

So, the village had the power to change curriculum and the academic philosophy according to the demands of a fast changing world.

Initially, the focus was on primary education and English language. For the first time in the history of the area, all subjects were introduced in English language except for the national language of Urdu.

The textbooks of Oxford University Press were introduced in the school with focus on



science and English. For this reason, the services of Overseas Volunteer Organisations was sought who provided native English language professional teachers for the school. These teachers from the United Kingdom did not only taught the students but also trained the teachers about modern pedagogies of language and science. This helped in producing a new batch of students fluent in English and Science. It merits a mention here that in the other two schools, introduction to English alphabets was taught only after primary education.

The students were given opportunity to express themselves in social gathering and cultural and religious events and they impressed

everyone with their confidence, clarity and fluency of English language.

The difference between the kids going to Al Aryn Model School was visible and soon students of the newly established school became a talk of the town and impressed everyone.

Moreover, the teachers would be evaluated on regular basis by the Board of Governors, the examination system was different while parents were regularly given feedback about the performance of their children. Nobody had imagined education like that before.

These initiatives impressed the parents and the school saw a spike in enrollment over the years. The increase in number of students meant an increase in income and the teachers were paid better.

The students were charged a nominal fee as the school was run on a no-profit no-loss policy. It is interesting to note that the biannual fee hike depended on the price and production of potato! As potato was the only cash crop in the region and the only source of income for a majority of the parents.

To encourage parents, the school



introduced a policy of special discount in tuition fee for siblings of students.

Years passed by and the first batch completed its primary education. During this time a number of community based English medium schools had sprung up in various villages of Gojal.

As the first batch reached the last year of primary education, parents voiced their concern to the management of Al Aryn. They were worried about the future of their children after primary years as there was no secondary school imparting education in English medium.

What's the purpose of giving our children a quality primary education when they have to go back to the other two schools, complained the concerned parents. So, keeping in view the demand of parents, Al Aryn decided to upgrade to middle school.

As a coincidence, the other English medium schools of Gojal decided not to upgrade to secondary because of lack of resources. This



provided Al Amyn the edge to attract students from the surrounding villages.

As Al Amyn was dealing with its increasing enrollment in middle classes, the AKES established Aga Khan Higher Secondary School (AKHSS) for boys in Gilgit. The school was the first of its kind in providing modern education at secondary and higher secondary level to the students of Gilgit-Baltistan. Admission to the newly established school was a lengthy and tough process and there was a cut-throat competition among the prospective students.

Al Amyn secured a new feather to its cap as the school provided the highest enrollment of students in Aga Khan Higher Secondary School. This gave a new boost to Al Amyn and the school was considered a gateway for admission in the Aga Khan Higher Secondary School Gilgit and Hunza.

One of the biggest concerns in Gojal was



the result of matriculation that was conducted by the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Islamabad (FBISE). Hardly would a student pass the examinations any student passing the matric examination with a bare minimum would be a news in Gojal.

Confident of its performance, Al Amyn decided to change the norm. The school was upgraded to secondary level and affiliated with FBISE. Parents were assured that students will perform well in the board exams and science stream was introduced at matric level. Some well-wishers cautioned the management of being too ambitious as there was no precedent of passing the board exams in Gojal in arts subjects while Al Amyn was all set to go to the board exams in science subjects.

But Al Amyn did it and more than seventy percent of its students passed with shining colors in the first ever board exams. The school built its reputation in board exams in the subsequent years.

The school had been fully established by now and the management decided to focus on other areas.

With the introduction of new approaches to education, the school established the first ever Early Childhood Development (ECD) center with assistance from AKES. Recently, the school



started playgroup which focuses on education of both parents and children with assistance of Rupani Foundation.

The school has introduced Project Based Learning (PBL) from class six to eight in

collaboration with Aga Khan University Examination Board (AKUEB).

In order to meet the changing demands, the school has introduced IT integrated education where students are encouraged to go beyond their textbooks and access internet and online libraries around the globe.

From the day one, the school has stressed on promoting local culture and had included the local cultural attire in its uniform. Later, the school introduced teaching of Wakhi language. To take it one step further, the school has established its musical band.

The school is engaging students in the decision making process and promoting democratic values through student representative councils whose elections are regularly held each year.

To enable the students to meet the demands of 21st century, the school is specifically focusing on four areas as, creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, communication and collaboration. To implement these, the school has established a number of clubs with each one focusing on specific themes.

Rudaki Literary Club of the school aims to encourage and enhance creativity of the students by focusing on literary activities.

The Bu Ali Sina (Avicenna) Science Club thrives to enhance innovative skills of the students



through various science project works.

Guljee Art and Craft Society focuses on enriching the performing and fine art skills of the students.

Sadberg Environmental Education Club aims to promote environmental education among the students. The students of this club regularly hold cleaning drives in the village and its vicinity and arrange celebrations for environment and earth days. The club has collaborated with WWF and Serena Hotels.

As the area is prone to natural disasters, the school focuses on preparedness for natural disasters. Al Amyn in collaboration with FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance regularly provides trainings and mock drills for the students in order to create awareness about natural hazards.

In order to make the students responsible citizens and to promote civic responsibilities the school has its own Boys Scouts and Girls Guide Associations.

The students also manage two newspapers in Urdu and English languages with full editorial independence. This project helps to boost the communication skills of the students and many have contributed to regional news blogs as citizen journalists.

Besides these, the school encourages students to participate in various sports events regardless of their gender.

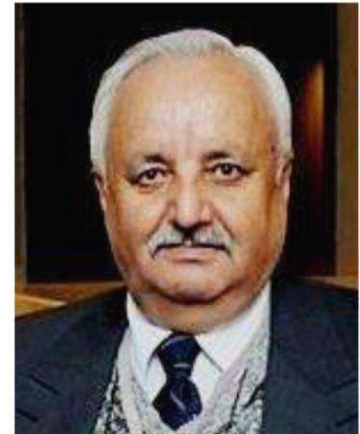
List of Principals



Muhammad Yar Baig
21/09/1991 — 31/01/1992



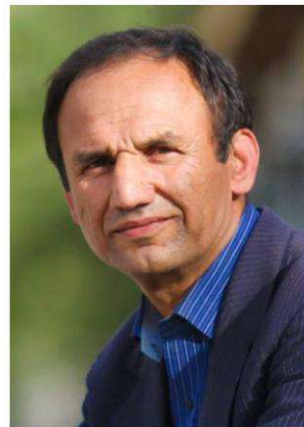
Sadruddin Hirani
22/03/1992 — 08/10/1992



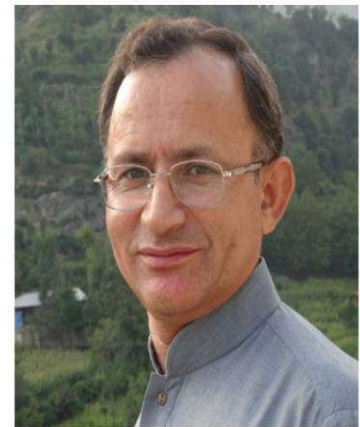
Nasir Karim
08/10/1992 — 22/04/1993



Sher Ghazi
22/04/1993 — 05/09/1994



Nazir Ahmed Bulbul
05/09/1994 — 17/07/2001
11/09/2003 — 31/10/2005
08/09/2007 — Present



Rahim Khan
18/07/2001 — 11/09/2003
01/11/2005 — 08/09/2007

We are grateful to the following donors for their generosity

- Dr. Zeba Rasmoson Islamabad Pakistan
- Ms. Carol Paterson Scotland/UK
- Mrs. Elizabeth Smith UK
- Mrs. Zarina Bundeali USA
- Mr. Soukat Macklai Karachi
- Wazir Jamal-ud-Din Shakoor Karachi
- Mr. Jamal Qasim Karachi
- Hermann & Students Germany
- Muhammad Ayub Gulmit

We have not forgotten services of the following volunteer teachers

Year	Name	Date of Joining	Date of Leaving	Designation	Nationality
1991	Sendra Mitchell	21/09/1991	01/11/1991	Teacher	Scotland
1991	Dieter Berg	21/09/1991	01/11/1991	Teacher	Germany
1991	Simon	21/09/1991	01/11/1991	Teacher	Scotland
1992	Helma	01/06/1992	01/07/1992	Teacher	Holland
1992	Sophie Rees	01/10/1992	27/06/1994	VSO Teacher	England
1995	Kathryn Judith	02/09/1995	04/04/1996	Teacher	England
1996	Eric Hildrew	28/03/1996	22/05/1996	Teacher	England
1996	Daniel Wilson	28/03/1996	22/05/1996	Teacher	England
1996	Carol Paterson	09/04/1996	01/09/1998	VSO Teacher	Scotland
1998	Alison	21/04/1998	01/05/1998	Teacher	England
2000	Richard Harris	01/07/2000	15/09/2001	VSO Teacher	England
2000	Fomiko Suzuki San	22/06/1905	24/06/1905	Music Teacher	Canada
2009	Sandra Reekie	Jun-09	Jul-09	Volunteer	England



HUNZA MARCOPOLO INN

Phone # + 92-5813-400227

Cell # + 92 3465431267

Email: info@marcopoloingulmit, rajahussainkn@gmail.com

Web: www.marcopoloingulmit.com

Our Alumni Our Pride: 25 Professions in 25 Years

1. Engineering

1	Aziz Ali	Noor Ali
2	Tahira Wajid	Dad Karim
3	Muhammad Ali	Muhammad Aman
4	Irfan Aziz	Ghulam Aziz
5	Sanida Nazar	Sahib Nazar
6	Saleem Ullah Baig	Wafa Baig
7	Akber Ali Khan	Amir Ali Khan
8	Ikram Ullah Baig	Wafa Baig
9	Neelofar Saleem	Saleem Uddin

2. Medicine

1	Khadija Ali	Ali Pana
2	Samida Karim	Abdul Karim
3	Salima Karim	Karim Ullah Baig
4	Farman Karim	Laiman Shah

3. Government Service

1	Aisar Ali	Shakoor Ali
2	Sami Ullah Baig	Saeed Ullah Baig
3	Gohar Shah	Sifat Shah
4	Salman Hussain	Qurban
5	Fazal Abbas	Muhammad Rehbar
6	Sultan Ahmed Jan	Ghulam Sultan
7	Humaira Afzal	Muhammad Afzal
8	Hajat Karim	Doulat Baig
9	Azam Khan	Sultan Mehmood
10	Kamran Abuzar	Abuzar Ali
11	Faiz Ullah	Ali Jan
12	Ubaid Ullah	Qudrat Ullah
13	Samina Naz	Ghulam Baig

4. Teacher

1	Qasim Shah	Madad Shah
2	Niyat Shah	Izzat Shah
3	Aiyima Shah	Nadir Shah
4	Humera Afzal	Muhammad Afzal
5	Uzma Baig	Amir Ullah Baig

	6	Saira Abbas	Imtiaz Ali
5. Lecturer			
	1	Nasir Karim	Ibadat Shah
	2	Nisar Karim	Abdul Karim
	3	Abida Nasir	Nasir Karim
	4	Sami Ullah Baig	Amir Ullah
6. Research Associate			
	1	Saeed Waqar Ali	Ali Pana
	2	Shabina Jabeen	Rehmat Ullah Baig
	3	Saeeda Karim	Karim Khan
	4	Zakir Ullah Baig	Adina Baig
7. Educational Management			
	1	Rozina Ahmed	Amir Ahmed
	2	Qasim Shah	Hyder Ali
	3	Mehr Jabeen	Niat Faqir
	4	Sumera Karim	Karim Ullah Baig
8. Language Interpreter			
	1	Shah Zahir Shah	Madad Shah
	2	Asad Ullah Baig	Ashraf Khan
	3	Ehsam Ali	Ali Yar Khan
	4	Sobia Tayib	Tayib Jan
	5	Ilyas Jan	Afsar Jan
	6	Nausheer Khan	Javeed
9. IT			
	1	Ishrat Fatima	Tawakal Muhammad
	2	Fatima Aziz	Aziz Baig
	3	Uzma Didar	Didar Shah
10. Advocacy & Research			
	1	Habiba Salman	Hilmat Nazar
	2	Mehnaz Parveen	Rehmat Ullah Baig
	3	Zahir Shah	Nadir Shah
	4	Muhammad Anjum	Sabz Ali
	5	Majida Fehmy	Amir Ullah
11. Development Sector			
	1	Tariq Rahim Baig	Abdul Rahim Baig
	2	Masood Ali Khan	Ibrahim Khan
	3	Abid Ali Shah	Didar Shah

	4	Asim Saeed	Saeed Jan
	5	Alvina Rauf	Rauf Ali
	6	Salman Karim	Sajid Khan
	7	Humera Ashraf	Ashraf Khan
	8	Seema Ghazi	Sher Ghazi
	9	Ahmed Ali Shah	Wilayat Shah
	10	Sajida Feroz	Feroz Shah

12. Finance

	1	Sher Khan	Arab Khan
	2	Muhammad Karim	Muhammad Rafi
	3	Karim-ud-Din	Muhammad Shafi
	4	Saeed Qurban	Muhammad Qurban

13. Banking

	1	Mujeeb-ud-Din	Qalandar Shah
	2	Abuzar Ali Razi	Abdullah
	3	Kiramat Karim	Sifat Shah
	4	Salman Aziz	Bedail Bai
	5	Sajjad Ullah	Zamat Shah
	6	Amin Khan	Safdar Khan
	7	Qurban Hussain	Ali Akber
	8	Abdus Salam	Aman Gul

14. Nursing

	1	Sabrina Jabeen	Rehmat Ullah Baig
	2	Imtiaz Ali	Muhammad Akram
	3	Tajida Karim	Ghulam Karim
	4	Noor Ali	Ibadat Shah
	5	Kamran Baig	Abdul Rahim Baig
	6	Sultana Nageen	Arab Shah
	7	Sania Nawaz	Nawaz Ali
	8	Muhammad Atta	Muhammad Din
	9	Sabiha Jabeen	Rehmat Ullah Baig
	10	Fareeha Aziz	Aziz Ali
	11	Fatima Shah	Maqbool Shah

15. Entrepreneur

	1	Kamran Ahmed	Khawaja Ahmed
	2	Jamil-ud-Din	Muhammad Arif
	3	Nazir Ahmed	Sifat Muhammad

	4	Zeeshan Jabbar	Jabbar Khan
	5	Aslam Shah	Zeenat Shah
	6	Iqbal Qasim	Bai Qasim
	7	Zaheer Bari	Khawaja Ahmed
	8	Zulfiqar Ahmed	Zeenat Shah
	9	Shazad Karim	Shah Gul Khan
	10	Momin Hayat	Shamsher Khan
	11	Sher Ullah Baig	Goher Ullah Baig
	12	Ali Karim	Ali Baig
16. Law			
	1	Peer Ali	Ali Rehmat
	2	Zaheera Jan	Sahib Jan
17. Music			
	1	Naveed Roi	Abdul Hameed
	2	Rozi Shah	Ali Dad
	3	Shahid Hassan	Mirza Hassan
	4	Naveed Hassan	Mirza Hassan
	5	Asad Mathour	Ashraf Khan
18. Arts			
	1	Tausif Ayub	Ayub Khan
	2	Karim Ahmad	Safdar Khan
	3	Ijaz Din Ali	Haqiqat Ali
	4	Abid-u-Rehman	Aziz-u-Rehman
	5	Huma Ali	Qurban Ali Shah
	6	Tanveer Ahmed	Nazir Ahmed Bulbul
19. Media & Film			
	1	Gohar Abbas	Gohar Shah
	2	Nisar Ahmed	Ghulam Ahmed
	3	Nazir Abbas	Barkat Ali Shah
	4	Faheem Avzal	Muhammad Afzal
	5	Mehmood Mathour	Ashraf Khan
	6	Ghazala Rehmat	Ali Rehmat
	7	Taseer Beyg	Muhammad Yar Baig
	8	Zareen Akber	Akber Shah
20. Sports			
	1	Misbah Ali	Ali Pana
	2	Wasim Sajjad	Sajjad Ali

	3	Wasim Naeem	Muhammad Naeem
	4	Ubaid Posh	Noor Ali
	5	Atti-ur-Rehman	Aziz-u-Rehman
	6	Ibrar Rozdar	Daboor Shah
	7	Nayla Qurban	Qurban Ali Shah
21. Technicians			
	1	Saleem Jaffar	Marifat Shah
	2	Sadru Din	Muhammad Majeed
	3	Bilal Qasim	Bai Qasim
	4	Ghulam Dastagir	Taighun Shah
	5	Shahid Mirza	Sikandar Mirza
	6	Farman Ullah Baig	Sher Ullah Baig
	7	Wajid Safdar	Safdar Khan
	8	Ehsan Tashi	Roz Ali
	9	Mudasir Aziz	Aziz Shah
22. Culinary Arts			
	1	Hanif Khan	Shamsher Khan
	2	Khalil Ahmed	Saeed Ahmed
	3	Ghayas Uddin	Jalal Uddin
23. Travel and Tourism			
	1	Karim Tajik	Qasim Baig
	2	Saeed-ur-Rehman	Saeed Ghulam
	3	Zahir Shah	Sikhawat Shah
	4	Aqib Jaffar	Muhammad Jaffar
24. Industries and Service Sector			
	1	Tawakal Ali	Sher Ali Khan
	2	Naushaba Ali	Ali Dad
	3	Samreen Nadir	Nadir Shah
	4	Razia Sultana	Sifat Shah
	5	Saqib Jaffar	Muhammad Jaffar
25. Military			
	1	Shafqat Karim	Dad Karim
	2	Muhammad Moid	Muhammad Barkat

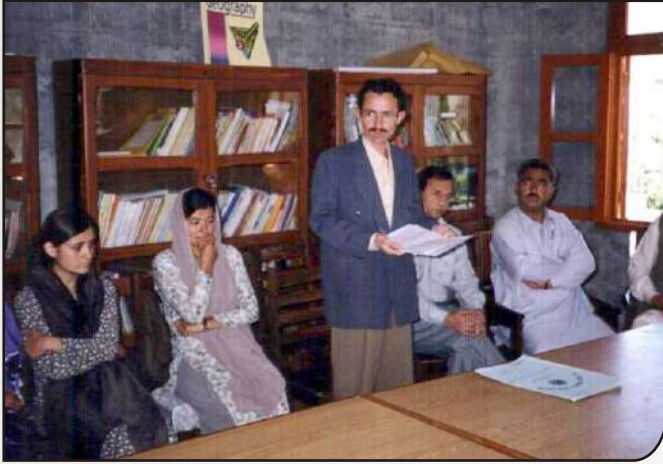


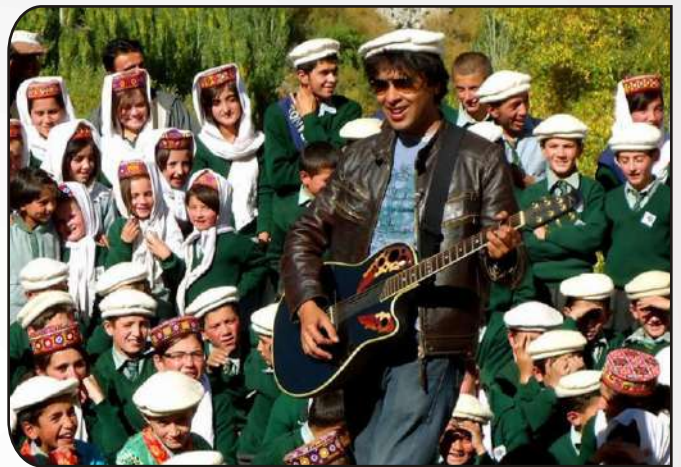
25 Years in Pictures











Present Board of Governors



Karim Baig
Chairman



Sajjad Ahmed
Vice Chairman



Dur Begum
Gen. Secretary



Samina Didar
Joint Secretary



Amin Khan
Finance Secretary



Sifat Shah
Joint Finance Secretary



Karim Ullah Baig
PRO



Arman Ali
Member



Bibi Nigar
Member



Sartaj Ghulam Shah
Member

Previous Board of Governors

S.#.	Name of Members	Father/Hasband Name	Designation	From	To
1	H.M Muhammad Rehber	Mr. Abdul Bari	Chairman	1991	2004
2	H.Amir Ullah Baig	Mr. Yaksumal Khan	V.Chairman	1991	2004
3	Mr. Jabbar Khan	Mr. Sikanadar Khan	Hon. Sec/ Fin	1991	2004
4	H.M Amir Hayat	Mr. Qamat Ullah Baig	PRO	1991	2004
5	Mr. Rehmat Ullah Baig	Mr. Zafar Ullah Baig	Member	1991	2004
6	H.Mwafa Baig	Mr. Taj Muhammad	Member	1991	2004
7	H.M Ali Pana	Mr. Panshambi	Member	1991	2004
8	H.M Abdullah	Mr. Chamoon Khan	Member	1991	2004
9	Mr. Muhammad Ajaib	Mr.Qurban Ali	Member	1991	2004
10	H.M Arab Khan		Member	1991	2004
11	Mr. Muhammad Akram	Mr. Mubarak Shah	Member	1991	2004
12	Mrs. Safida Begum	Mr. Sultan Ayoub	Member	1991	2004
13	Mr. Aman Gul	Mr. Sambul Khan	Member	1991	2004
1	Mr. Rehmat Ullah Baig	Mr.Zafar Ullah Baig	Chairman	2004	2006
2	Mrs. Safida Begum	Mr. Sultan Ayoub	V. Chairperson	2004	2006
3	Mr. Sher Ghazi	Mr.Adina Baig	Hon. Secretary	2004	2006
4	Mr. Jabbar Khan	Mr. Sikandar Khan	Finance Secretary	2004	2006
5	Mr. Amir Hayat	Mr.Qamat Ullah	PRO	2004	2006
6	Mr. Muhammad Ajaib	Mr. Qurban Ali	Conv. Cluster	2004	2006
7	Mrs. Sosan Begum	Mr. Sher Aziz	Member	2004	2006
8	Mr. Tayib Jan	Mr. Sikandar Khan	Member	2004	2006
9	Mr. Arab Khan		Member	2004	2006
10	Mr. Abdullah	Mr. Chamon Khan	Member	2004	2006
11	Mr. Ghulam Baig	Mr Ali Pana	Member	2004	2006
12	Mr. Muhammad Hussain	Mr. Ali er	Member	2004	2006
13	Mrs. Malika Shah Goon	Mr. Bai Shah Goon	Member	2004	2006
14	Mr. Sikandar Ahmad	Mr. Aman Shah	Member	2004	2006
15	Mrs. Noor Jahan	Mr. Ghulam Qadir	Member	2004	2006
1	Mr. Jabbar Khan	Mr. Sikandar Khan	Chairman	2006	2008
2	H.M Amir Hayat	Mr. Qamat Ullah Biag	Vice .Chairman	2006	2008
3	Mr. Sher Ghazi	Mr.Adina Baig	G. Secretary	2006	2008
4	Mr. Farman Ali	Mr. Muhammad Ali	Joint. Secretary	2006	2008
5	Mr. Tabarak Ullah	Mr.Atta Baig	Fin. Secretary	2006	2008
6	Mr. Ali Anwar	Mr. Ali Rehmat	Joint. Fin. Secretary	2006	2008
7	H.M Arab Khan		Member	2006	2008
8	H.M Abdullah	Mr. Chamon Khan	Member	2006	2008
9	H.M Bibi Nigar	Mr. Ali Pana	Member	2006	2008
10	Mr. Muhammad Essa	MR.Muhammad Nawa	Member	2006	2008
11	Mrs. Sultana Wafa	Mr. Wafa Baig	Member	2006	2008
12	Mrs.Malika Shah Goon	Mr. Bai Shah Goon	Member	2006	2008

13	Mrs. Pari Zohra	Mr. Ghulam Nabi	Member	2006	2008
14	Mr. Bakht Ulla Baig	Mr. Khair Ullah	Member	2006	2008
15	Mrs. Shakila Rehmat	Mr. Rehmat Karim	Member	2006	2008
1	Mr. Sher Ghazi	Mr. Adina Baig	Chairman	2008	2009
2	H.M Amir Hayat	Mr.Qamat Ullah Baig	Vice. Chairman	2008	2009
3	Mr. Farman Ali	Mr.Muhammad wafi	Gen. Secretary	2008	2009
4	Mr. Ali Anwar	Mr. Ali Rehmat	Fin. Secretary	2008	2009
5	Miss. Mohsina Tahir	Mr. Tahir Shah	J. Secretary	2008	2009
6	Mr. HamidUr Rehman	Mr. Adina Muhammad	J. Fin. Secretary	2008	2009
7	Mr. Iman Ali Shah	Mr. Yaqeen Ali Shah	Member	2008	2009
8	Mr. Jawaid Iqbal	Mr.Abdullah Jan	Member	2008	2009
9	Mrs. Sultana Wafa	Mr. Wafa Baig	Member	2008	2009
10	Mrs. Bibi Nigar	Mr. Ali Pana	Member	2008	2009
11	Mrs. Razia Jaffer	Mr. Muhammad Jaffer	Member	2008	2009
12	Mr. Arman Ali Shah	Mr.Qasim Bai	Member	2008	2009
13	Mrs. Shehnaz Hussain	Mr. Raja Hussain Khan	Member	2008	2009
14	Mrs. Shakila Rehmat	Mr. Rehmat Karim	Member	2008	2009
15	Mr. Aman Ali	Mr. Abdullah	Member	2008	2009
1	Mr. Farman Ali	Mr. Muhammad Wafi	Chairman	2009	2010
2	Mrs. Bibi Nigar	Mr. Ali Pana	Vice. Chairperson	2009	2010
3	Mr. Sahib Jan	Mr. Naib Alam Khan	Gen . Secretary	2009	2010
4	Mr. Muhammad Ali	Mr. Sher Ali	Fin. Secretary	2009	2010
5	Mrs. Razia Jaffer	Mr. Muhammad Jaffer	Member	2009	2010
6	Mr. iman Ali Shah	Mr. Yaqeen Ali Shah	Member	2009	2010
7	Mr. Jawaid Iqbal	Mr. Abdulla Jan	Member	2009	2010
8	Mrs. Sultana Wafa	Mr. Wafa Baig	Member	2009	2010
9	Mrs Shakila Rehamat	Mr. Rehmat Karim	Member	2009	2010
10	Mr. Arman Ali Shah	Mr. Qasim Bai	Member	2009	2010
11	Mr. Aziz Karim	Mr. Jaboon Khan	Member	2009	2010
1	Mrs. Shazia Waheed	Mr. Abdul Waheed	Chairperson	2010	2014
2	Mr. Sahib Jan	Mr. Naib Alam Khan	Vice. Chairman	2010	2014
3	Mr. Amir Baz Khan	Mr. Muhammad Ayoub Khan	Gen. Secretary	2010	2014
4	Mr. Karim Baig	Mr. Muhammad Baig	Joint Secretary	2010	2014
5	Mr. Muhammad Ali	Mr. Sher Ali	Fin. Secretary	2010	2014
6	Mr. Karim Ulla Baig	Mr. Adina Baig	PRO	2010	2014
7	Mr. Shoukat Aziz	Mr. Ghulam Aziz	Member	2010	2014
8	Mr. Ghulap Shah	Mr. Jahan Shah	Member	2010	2014
9	Mrs. Bibi Rabia	Mr. Sharif Ullah	Member	2010	2014
10	Mr. Safdar Khan	Mr. Yaqoob Shah	Member	2010	2014
11	Mrs. Naik Parveen	Mr. Fazl uddin	Member	2010	2014
12	Mr. Niyat Shah	Mr. Izzat Shah	Member	2010	2014

Community Approach to Educational Excellence

By Mutabiat Shah

In today's scenario where access to education is easier and quality of education is improving, it may sound a bit illogical to have a village-owned and village-managed school, but four decades back it did sound absolutely necessary and quite appropriate to take such an initiative - "necessity is mother of all inventions". Inspired by the example of the erstwhile Al-Azhar Model School Gilgit founded by progressive leaders of the Ismaili community in 1982, the visionary leadership of Gulmit felt the need to establish a similar school in the village that would provide quality education to the youth in the catchment area. It was then and still now an impossible proposition to have public school system in each village or even at district level; likewise AKES could not build AKHSS model in the villages or even at tehsil level. The quality education providing institutions for obvious reasons are concentrated in the cities and emerging towns of Gilgit-Baltistan; it is equally impossible for all the common villagers to send their children to cities and the far off places owing to financial and social considerations. It is therefore quite logical to have schools in village modeled around the Al-Amyn Model School Gulmit.

Established in early 1990s the Al-Amyn Model School continues to provide fairly better quality English-medium education to the youth in Gojal tehsil of Hunza district for the last 25 years. The Al-Amyn school students are performing exceptionally well in the institutions where they get enrolled for higher education and subsequently in the job market nationally and internationally. Most of the Al-Amyn school students feed into the govt public school and AKHSS systems at different level of their studies. Hence availability of good students help improve performances of both the govt and the AK educational institutions

with many other benefits accruing to them. Majority of the poor families get directly benefitted from the Al-Amyn School as they get their children educated right in the village at cheaper financial costs and with minimum social problems, especially the female students.

The very edifice of Al-Amyn Model School is based on the social cohesiveness of the Gulmit population as each household is represented in the Gulmit Educational & Social Welfare Society (GESWS) as active members. The Society members have contributed tremendously in establishment of the School and construction of its buildings, in terms of free cost of work, financial contributions and providing voluntary leadership roles.

Alhamdulillah, the GESWS and its premier project Al-Amyn Model School are celebrating their Silver Jubilee achievements recorded over the last 25 years of their existence. The performances thus far are actually beyond expectations of the local people. A lot has been achieved but a long way to go ahead as bigger challenges will have to be faced in terms of providing quality education to the ever increasing number of youth and getting them ready for the future challenges of job market. It is believed that the stronger the GESWS gets with time, the stronger the Al-Amyn educational system will become, to meet the ever increase demands for even better educational facilities in the area at large. A good sign down the road ahead is that a great number of currently employed educated people of the village will return back after retirement with relevant experience and skills to better manage educational systems in the village. Let's hope for a better future.

The writer is Ex-President & founding member of GESWS

In the Mountains Echo the Music of Bulbulik

By Didar Ali



Bulbulik Heritage Center is the first ever Wakhi music school established in 2014 by the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) aimed at preserving and promoting the Wakhi Pamiri music and folklore that was at the very verge of extinction.

Wakhi language, an Indo-European language in the Eastern Iranian branch of the language family is enlisted as “endangered” language in the UNESCO red book of languages. The total native Wakhi speakers number around 37000 around the globe with 11000 in Pakistan.

With no script of its own, Wakhi is mostly a spoken language and music plays a crucial role in the preservation of Wakhi language.

Rapid modernization and urbanization was one of the major cause of decline in the number of Wakhi speakers. The downfall of Wakhi language

also affected the Wakhi music and the situation got so grim that some traditional musical instruments died while others were at the verge of extinction. There was only one woman left in the entire Gojal valley who played the traditional musical instrument called Qufooz. Same was true for Ghazek, the traditional Wakhi violin that had the last musician left who was in his 70s.

Keeping in view the grim situation, the Gulmit Educational and Social Welfare Society (GESWS) established Bulbulik, the first ever Wakhi school of music with financial assistance from USAID.

Bulbulik comes from the sound of nightingale, a phenomenon widely used in Persian poetry and Wakhi folklore. The term also refers to a lyric murmured by Wakhi Shepherds.

Bulbulik revived the local music that was at the very verge of extinction and as many as 70



young boys and girls mastered the art of playing various local musical instrumentals that were about to die.

Rehmatullah Baig, who is in his 70s was the only individual left in Gojal who played Ghazek before Bulbulik was established. But now, he has dozens of students and he is happy that the art which he feared would die with him has not only survived but is also thriving. “I have found a new life and I can't say how happy I am,” he said while talking about his fears of the music dying with him.

Late Ghulam Baig, another legendary musician was among the last players of the local musical instrument Sitar. But he trained the young generation at Bulbulik and now his proud students remind the local audience of the Sitar legend that he was.

Bulbulik added another feather to its cap by breaking the stereotypes. It trained both boys and girls and for the first time in the history of the area, both men and women were performing



musical instruments together.

The mesmerizing music, enchanting and elegant traditional attire of the students of Bulbulik made headlines in the national and international media. They started appearing on television channels one after another and became an indispensable part of every cultural event both at national and local level. The media galore attracted more tourists and the students started getting paid for their performance. A development that financially benefited both the students of Bulbulik and the people associated with the media industry.



Today, the school has its place on the top in the list of “places to go” for tourists and enthralled audience of domestic and foreign tourists lost to the ecstatic performance of the students of Bulbulik is part of the daily life at the school.

“Time freezes, when they perform,” wrote a visitor.

The school attracted prominent Pakistani singers including Ali Azmat which helped boost the morale of both the school management and the students.

Bulbulik did not only trained students about musical instruments but it also taught them how to sing. Fazal-ur-Rehman, a legendary Wakhi singer trained the youth about singing and playing Rubab. He says Bulbulik filled his lifetime dream

of transferring his talent to others. “Bulbulik has changed the perception of music, its no more about cries of a broken heart as it used to be in the old days,” he said. He is right and this perception has a particular impact on the youth as the attraction of Bulbulik provides the young generation the perfect excuse from indulging in unsocial activities.

But for Bulbulik the journey does not ends here. The school published the first ever book of Wakhi poetry along with English translation, a step that can prove to be the first drop of rain for the verbal language. The school has now set its



eyes on introduction of International Phonetics Association (IPA) Wakhi script. A step that would give a new life to the dying language in today's technology era. The school also aims to expand it's operation to other areas of Hunza and introduce local music in schools.

Silk Route Lodge Gulmit

Enjoy a million dollar view of Tapodun (Passu Cathedral) & stay in a place, where guest comfort is the only priority.

Wishing GESWAS & its members a happy Silver Jubilee year 2017.

For more details please contact.
 Contact # + 925813400100-101
 Email. silkroutelodge@gmail.com

Chinese Language-passport to the future!

By Majida Fehmi

“Seek knowledge even if you have to go as far as china” was told to us centuries before we came so near yet were unable to pass one final barrier – Language! Yes! This was the medium that held us back on the other side of the mountains. Gradually people moved on and English language influenced our system. When I gained my consciousness, America seemed much familiar to me as I already knew their language, about their people and values but when it came to China- there was a giant gap!

And then arrives CPEC, with a BANG! Chinese all over our place, job breaks for locals, marketing local produces to them. New trends came along the road and tourism boomed! At that point we grasp that had we learned the set of sounds that the Chinese know, we would have made our dealings way better.

As soon as interaction with Chinese people shows its rich colors, people start to see a number of possibilities. People rush to universities to learn Chinese. A sudden rise is noticed in the number of students. And the interesting fact is that up to 80% of the Chinese students are from Gilgit. They outnumber the rest and are getting a hang on Chinese language. Students from Gilgit can speak better Chinese as the sounds and tunes used in Chinese are mostly common in the languages used in Gilgit Baltistan. This is another gain along with scholarships and admissions offered in Chinese universities. A new gateway opened!

Right now the CPEC project is worth \$62 billion and it's the biggest investment any country has made in Pakistan. Day by day treaties and contracts are being signed. More and more investment will be done as China is planning to work on energy increasing capacity, railways,

food storage, solar power, logistics space research and other economic strategies in Pakistan. Chinese companies are investing in Pakistan as labor is cheap here along with plenty of natural resources. The main reason is it offers a route to the Arabian Sea from where it can sail their goods all over the world in less expenses. Which in return will make Pakistan an economic hub, stronger infrastructure and introduction of reliable energy supply.

CPEC will be a strategic game changer in the region, to handle that amount of change we need to fit in that situation, in order to get success. Learning Chinese language would be as obligatory as English is today. In that case we must hurry as the secret of success is to be ready when the opportunity comes.

To have another language is to have another soul. Who could have experienced it better than us? As we have to learn minimum three or four languages to keep up with the world and here comes another one which not only offers us economic benefits but also an opportunity to explore the art, science, culture and wisdom of a nation that dates back to 5000 years.



The Writer is Student at National Defence University, Islamabad

Manages #Yeswecan campaign

Impact of Climate Change and How to Cope With It

By Muhammad Anjum



Climate change has been a very hot topic and unfinished debate for decades. There are many theories and perceptions about climate change.

Some 16 years ago, when I was student at Al Aryn Model School Gulmit, Sir Mehboob used to teach us Social Studies. I clearly remember, this was the very first time I got introduced to the word Climate. Since then it has been an interesting topic for me. When I look back, I see “Change” everywhere, and Climate Change is one of them.

Climate Change is a variable process; it is natural phenomena, due to solar radiation and constantly changing earth’s orbit and axis tilt. This process takes thousands of years to change climatic condition globally. But for the last five decades, human interaction has played major role that is why climate has experienced a drastic shift. It is continually changing as compared to the natural process. Solar energy is the primary source of energy for planet earth, the solar radiations that reach the earth’s surface are reflected back to the sky, to maintain earth’s temperature. Nowadays this balance is disturbed by human intervention, due to advancement in technology, industrial revolution and massive deforestation, the content of Carbon dioxide (CO₂), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and ChloroFloroCarbon (CFCs) has increased in the atmosphere. These gaseous contents have made a blanket of air around the atmosphere, which traps the emitted

energy with in the atmosphere. As a result Greenhouse effect is produced. This greenhouse effect is the cause of rise in average global temperature, which leads to Global Warming.

Climate change is already impacting the earth’s ecosystem and communities living around. It is a serious threat to the lives of every species that exist on the earth’s surface and in the water. Climate change is a cyclic process, where one factor is triggered by another. Some important effects on environment are polar ice sheets and melting glaciers. This rapid melting raises the sea level, which may cause tsunami, tornado and hurricanes. While rapid glacial melting may cause flash flood, Glacial Lakes Outburst Flood (GLOF), debris flow and Avalanche in higher altitudes. In some areas water table decreases because of more evaporation, this results in drought and increased intensity of heat waves. Other impacts are wildfire, change in precipitation pattern, slope failure etc.

Once the concentration of carbon is increased in the atmosphere, it starts depleting the Ozone layer. Ozone is a blanket of O₃ layer around the atmosphere, which reflects the Ultra





Violet (UV) rays back to the sky. These rays when directly hit human skin can cause skin cancer and other diseases.

Impact of Climate Change has been observed in Gojal as well. Gojal is a tehsil of District Hunza that comprises of many small villages and has a population of about 25,000 individuals. Gojal is home of glaciers. More than hundred glaciers are found in Tehsil Gojal. Batura glacier is one of the longest glaciers found outside the polar region. It's 57km long and has 20 small glaciers as tributaries. According to ICIMOD 52 hazardous glacial lakes are in Gojal Valley. During the last two decades, GLOF has occurred in various places of Tehsil Gojal and destroyed orchards, homes, roads, bridges and forests. Economic damage and loss of precious lives has also happened in the past due to avalanche and flood. Early flowering, flash floods and rise in river level are good indicators of rapid Climate Change in the region. Besides that current metrological data, change in drainage pattern and geological structure, technology such as Satellite images, GIS and Remote Sensing also proves rapid temporal change, which is an evidence of Climate Changes.

The question is how to cope with it?

We cannot deny the fact of change in climatic behavior nor can we migrate to another place to get rid of these issues created by climate change. It is time to join hands with leaders, active community members, government and NGOs to develop strategies for safe survival. For

this purpose we need technological study to understand the topography of the region. Based on the results, we need village level planning for land use such as housing, cropping and infrastructure designing. We need to study the places where probability of occurrence of natural disaster is high. We should avoid passing channels and roads through these places. We need to develop and implement hazard and risk mitigation plans at local level. One important step to control the effect of climate change is plantation; increase in vegetation will decrease the effect rate globally and vegetation in flooding areas, erosion areas, and slope areas will minimize the effect locally.

Early warning system must be installed in most vulnerable places. Local community resource and support must be utilized in development sector. Public should understand geographical locations such as safe havens and disaster exposed areas.

There should be knowledge and information centers to update the locals from time to time. These centers should emphasize on safe exit plans, emergency response, public awareness, capacity building and building network with other organizations working on climate change. Concept of watershed management should be introduced in each valley. And finally detailed map at village level must be displayed in each village showing hazard prone areas, safe areas, health units, emergency shelters, road networks and all other important information.



The writer is GIS Officer at Focus Humanitarian Assistance Pakistan

CPEC: Opportunities and Challenges for Gilgit-Baltistan

By Sheryar Khan



Peaceful rise of China is about becoming a hegemon through use of its economy. China-Pakistan Economic corridor is a project of China's economic expansion project of Belt and Road initiative (B&RI). The B&R initiative will touch China through maritime silk routes and land silk routes with the rest of the world. It is basically expansion of China's economy, China will make its way easy through exporting its products to the world market and importing energy resources from the Middle East and other parts.

CPEC which started with an investment of \$46 billion has now exceeded up to \$50 billion. This project will connect the underdeveloped Chinese part Xinjiang to north of Pakistan and then to rest of the world. CPEC aims to work on construction of roads especially the expansion and maintenance of KKH (Khunjerab to Thakot) and connecting different cities of Pakistan through different motorways. CPEC also aims to work on economic infrastructure, construction of Gawadar port, energy production, cultural exchange programs and making diplomatic ties stronger. CPEC will make China's aim of economic expansion easier as it will provide easy access to the warm water. It will cost them lesser as compared to trade through the South-China Sea in

the Pacific Ocean.

The geo-strategic location of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) makes it important for both CPEC parties Pakistan and China. Due to its geo-strategic location GB will face challenges along with the benefits. Talking about the benefits/opportunities we can start from the point of connectivity. KKH which has been included in CPEC will connect GB to rest of Pakistan and China in most convenient ways. This will provide access to the fruits or agricultural crops to world markets. Access of local and foreign tourist will also be increased which will benefit GB's economy. Fiber optics is another thing from which people of GB will benefit. This project aims to provide better internet facility from China to Pakistan. This will connect GB to the world through modern internet technology, hence residents of GB will get opportunity of doing online jobs like freelancing etc. The creation of economic zone in Maqpondas and upgradation of Sost Dry Port will create more job opportunities to the locals. Construction of Diamer Basha Dam (4500MW) and 80MW project of Phandar Hydro power project will help overcome the energy crises in GB.



National Defense University



Early Childhood Development Education

By Aaliya Khan

Before I decided to go into Early Childhood Development and Education, I was still unsure about my life and let alone choosing a career. I changed my major from one to another until I came to know about Early Childhood Development after taking courses as electives. I was so interested in the courses that I wanted to know everything about Early Childhood Development and from that point I decided what I wanted to do in the future. It was five years ago, and here I am today doing my Masters in Early Childhood Development Education from University of Central Florida (USA), with big dreams and aim to make a difference in a child's life; one child at a time.

Early childhood is a key period for brain development. Research says that during the early years of life, the brain is characterized by its plasticity, which means that experiences and external stimulation influence its formation and development. This can have positive and negative consequences: positive experiences such as good nutrition support normal brain development and have beneficial consequences for a child's life, while negative experiences (such as prenatal alcohol exposure, violence and nutritional deficiencies) can cause abnormal neural and behavioral development, hindering the child's potential.

As we all know that children who are taught at an early age usually benefit in the following ways: improved social skills, less or no need for special education instruction during subsequent school years, better grades, and enhanced attention spans. Likewise, some researchers have concluded that young children enrolled in pre-school programs usually graduate from high school, attend college, have fewer behavioral problems, and do not become involved with crime in their adolescent and young adult

years. When we start educating our children from very young age their whole perception about education, moral values, and life itself changes. They tend to take this world more positively and have more self-esteem when it comes to make decisions in their lives.

Early childhood education is highly diverse field that serves children from birth through age 8. During these years, children participate in many different kinds of care and education settings. Regardless of where early childhood professionals work or what their specific job titles are, however, they are early childhood professionals. This means that they make decisions based on a specialized body of knowledge, continue to learn throughout their careers, and are committed to providing the best care and education possible for every child.

The opportunity to make a difference in this exciting field has never been greater. It is so important to educate a child during his/her early stages of life because when a child begins school unprepared, they tend to fall further and further behind and are at risk of not doing well in school. They sure gain significant benefits from quality daycare and all children who enter school eventually succeed.



The writer is a graduate of University of Central Florida

Impact of Climate Change

By Sidra Ghazi

If we skim and scan the pages of time we may find out that there has been a drastic change in earth's climate.

Climate change not only refers to the increase in temperature but it also refers to change in seasonal patterns, precipitations, or wind patterns, among other effects, that occur over several decades or longer.

As we know that there are different gases in the atmosphere which help in trapping energy and causing it to warm our earth for normal existence of life. But when the concentration of carbon dioxide exceeds it does not let the heat radiated by the earth go back to space hence increasing the earth's temperature causing Global Warming. This temperature melts all the glaciers, floods the low lying areas of earth, changes the biological activity of oceans and the patterns of cropping.

Now where does this carbon dioxide come from? We are overloading our atmosphere with carbon dioxide by the fossil fuels we burn for energy - coal, natural gas and oil plus the loss of forests due to deforestation.

To put the impact of global climate change into perspective many scientists have prognosticated that if the sea level rises, due to melting of ice caps, many cities near the sea will be vanished. A warmer climate will also encourage the spread of different diseases like malaria caused by the female mosquitoes.

Pakistan is vulnerable to climate change. We would be dreadfully suffering from droughts, large floods, and biodiversity loss.

The rivers in Pakistan are mainly fed by the Karakorum, Himalayan and the Hindu Kush glaciers. These glaciers are melting at a high rate. It will cause natural calamities such as droughts,

floods and cyclones throughout the country.

The consequences of climate change are far more devastating for the northern areas as well as for the coastal areas of Pakistan. There will be more wind storms and tropical cyclones. The rise in sea level has led to water shortages, declining property values, loss of biodiversity, loss of invaluable archeological sites and a decline in tourism. As Pakistan is one of the agricultural country and climate change has also threatened the agricultural sector hence it will economically weaken us.

Climate change is not just a matter of governments and other institutions to deal with, but it is an equal responsibility of each one of us. Major work needs to be done to cope up with this issue.

Technologies exist today to make vehicles that run cleaner and burn less gas, modernize power plants should be encouraged, energy should be produced from renewable resources and public transportation should be preferred. All we need is the less emission of green house gases into the atmosphere, slow the pace of global warming and less use of energy generated from non renewable resources.

Our earth (the melting planet) needs our attention right now, for our next generation a safer and a healthier world should be passed on. All we need is to be united against this issue, making our world a better place to live in.



“Not a Doctor No Problem; the Alternative Options for Pre-Medical Students”

By Samida Karim

It's always great to become a doctor and it's an exceptional feeling for yourself, family and parents but always believe in Allah and continue your hard work because whatever is written in your destiny you will be bound to get. It is said that “Man proposes, God disposes”.

To become a doctor, nobody maturely thinks it's not a rat race rather a very laborious work, vis a vis return, with very high competition.

So, it could be blessing in disguise for other opportunities to be explored in life and never think there is NO FUTURE, if you are not admitted in a medical college due to tough competition and limited seats. This is an absolutely wrong concept in our society that Fsc pre medical students have only one career option for better future.

Most of the students opt pre medical for adding prefix of “Dr.” with their name. First it's a mentality based on inferiority complex. You should have a dream in your life to serve your family and your nation/community. You can get both these objectives in many other fields too.

There are always a lot of career options for students who have firm belief in their abilities. Never run before current trend or scope of any field. Always listen the voice of your inner self and act accordingly. You can do wonders in the field of your interest and natural talent.

Coming back towards the topic, you can go for many other BS and B.Sc. degrees which have great scope within the country and abroad. But I would emphasize on professional degree in

that specialty. There are a number of alternative options for F.Sc-pre medical students including Biochemistry, BSCN Nursing, Pharm-D, Physiotherapy, Biological Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Bio Informatics, BBA Agri Business, Clinical Psychology, Molecular Biology, Genetic Engineering, Speech and Language pathology, Medical Imaging Technology, Medical Lab Technology, Nutrition and Dietitics , Forestry and Food Technology

I have given the list of some high scope courses related with medical field. Other non medical specialties like arts, commerce, managements, and accountancy and humanities related options are also open for you, but I will also give you an advice to consult a team of professional career counselors to seek guidance about alternative options.

At the end I will just advice you “Give your best by doing hard work, leave it to Allah Almighty and accept the will of Allah happily”. It's better to be best in your field than to be an average doctor.



The writer is an Optometrist at Quaid-e-Azam International Hospital



Now You Can study at Global Top Universities for Free!

An introduction to edX, coursera and other learning websites

By Israr Karim

Studying abroad is a dream of every student. Students struggle during their college and university life and after that they look for different scholarships to go abroad in order get quality education. But what about those who can't avail such opportunities? There is a solution. Online Learning. Let me share my experience with you. Last year I was attending a session on 'Importance of Internet' conducted by ITREB at Karimabad Islamabad Jamat Khana. I was informed about many educational websites like edX, Coursera, Udacity, Khan Academy, Google for Education etc. I was stunned and excited. Before that I only knew about Facebook and Twitter. Since then my life has changed. I made account on these learning websites and benefited a lot from it.

Now a days along with my university education I use these websites during my spare time. They provide top quality education to everyone around the world. Those who have internet access can easily take free and certified courses. These websites provide courses from excellent universities on various subjects like Science, Mathematics, Arts and Humanities, World History, personal development and many more.

Khan Academy improved my Mathematic and Scientific skills. It is a massive learning tool. Short and precise videos explain the concepts well and it's fun to use it. Coursera and edX gave me the opportunity to enhance my critical thinking in various fields like Science, English and Logical Reasoning. It connected me to the top institutions like MIT and Rice University. On edX I took a free course from MIT on "Biochemistry: The Secret of Life". It was an immense learning experience. On Udacity I took personal development courses, I learned about healthy life styles like yoga and meditation from Deepak

Chopra (MD). Google for Education is a massive virtual education school where I learned so many new stuff. You tube is a virtual hub where I improved my English skills.

Distance learning is playing a key role in education. Interacting with world's best instructors and universities is an amazing experience. The Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCS) are available all the time. The courses are unique and require attention and hard work. Online quizzes and interactive exercises help students feel like one on one tutoring. Peer grading helps students know their performances.

The good thing about online learning is that I can easily interact with my peers, other fellow students all over the world. It's like one world global classroom. I can get instant feedbacks, badges and energy points which keeps me motivated. As we're living in the 21st century, Internet is becoming a beacon of change. The world is becoming more global and it is Important to embrace the change. My message to the youth is that do not be hopeless, look for opportunities and make online learning a part of your life, As Brian Herbert Says " The capacity to learn is a gift, the ability to learn is a skill but the willingness to learn is a choice". I wish you all the best.



The writer is student at KIU Gilgit Baltistan

The Perks of Travel and Tourism

By Nisar Karim Roie

When it comes to tourism we always accentuate the economic development but tourism goes far beyond that it connects boundaries, languages, cultures and faiths. In early times due to the lack of knowledge and transportation most human races were just confined to a small part of land with limited resources and limited knowledge but gradually they started to travel. They started exploring new lands, met with their own kinds and knew that there is a vast land out there still to be explored. While traveling, they learnt new skills and knowledge from the host community and this is how human race gradually developed. Traveling in the modern world gives wisdom by taking you closer to the host community and natural beauty of that destination and at last one comes to know that world is beautiful, which is like a single unit that needs to be respected.

Travel for the sake of wisdom and spread the message of love to the global community. Be a responsible traveller and do care for the natural ecosystem. Try to remove those fallacies that are developed among different races and communities, if people would not travel to other places they will not understand each other. Misconceptions will always remain there, which will give rise to racism.

Apart from these aspects of tourism let's probe into the economic benefits of tourism especially in the rural mountain areas of Pakistan. Recent societal changes and lingering struggles of rural mountain communities (e.g. Changes to agricultural industry and other small scale industries) have negatively affected rural economies. As a potential solution for struggling rural economies, tourism opportunities must be considered based upon the natural resources, outdoor adventure sports and unique cultural resources of that areas. The rural mountain communities of Gilgit-Baltistan may welcome the

economic boost of tourism. Tourism offers many advantages to the host communities and increased tourism can inject much needed tourist money into struggling communities that can turn into a sustainable means of economic development. Tourism also provides a boost to travel businesses and also to those businesses which are not directly related to tourism, e.g. Petrol pumps, shops and grocery stores and apart from that it can be regarded as a mechanism of generating employment.

Gilgit-Baltistan is a land blessed with unique beauty and is known as land of the mountains. Its unique beauty attracts many tourists from all over the world because of its lofty mountains, massive glaciers, unique landscapes and rich cultures. The region is considered as heaven for adventure lovers especially high altitude trekkers and climbers. Unfortunately the region is not promoted globally and the local government should emphasize on tourism development in the region that could bring economic prosperity in the region.

Let's build passion for travelling and indeed only travelling can create harmony, peace and love between communities. Travel can enhance love towards nature and responsibility for the conservation of nature. Let's strive to make a better world.



My School, My Pride

By Majida Fehmi

*I was a lonely kid, wandering around
When I got in Al-Amyr – of which the time was fond!
I looked around and I saw some faces,
I swear I remember the wisdom on the braces!
They gave me life and skill to hire,
They were the ones to take me higher!
And then sometimes, followed the period of pain,
But they taught me that my mistakes were not insane
I got through that and every thick and thin,
And now I understand what struggle means!
And here it comes to wave away almost-
My tears are in pain to say goodbye to the place we loved the most!
But the Glory of Al-Amyr is yet to come,
It will shine brighter even then the sun!
And flourish up to the sky for the generations to come!
Thank you Al-Amyr for being my pride!*



PASSU TOURIST LODGE (PTL)



“Passu Tourist Lodge” also known as PTL is a lodge situated in Passu, Gojal, Hunza. There are 20 rooms with two restaurants.

Passu, Gojal, Hunza
Hunza, Northern Areas, Pakistan
Call # 0355 5449927

Messages by Little Artists



Dear School

You are the best school
I love you because you
teach me alot of things
You teach me discipline and
me confidence-Thank you
for all of this- I'll be
Yod-You work best, you are
best and you'll be best
Thank you once again

We Love You

Name: Muhammad AL AMYIN

from Kamal Ahmed
I wish our beloved
School a Very Very
Happy Silver Jubilee :)

Silver Jubilee My School

We love you Al Amyn.

Silver Jubilee of Isom Ranzia
Al-Amyn.

I love you Al Amyn

Live long Al Amyn.

MORAL

ALWAYS GOODY WITH GOODY
BUT DON'T BAD WITH BAD
BECAUSE WE CAN'T WISH MUD
WITH MUD BE PURE LIKE A
COMMON SENSE
BUT NOT IN COMMON IS
PEOPLE

Muzahid

Happy silver
Jubilee to
Al Amyn Model
SCHOOL

HAPPY SILVER
JUBILEE AL AMYIN
LIVE LONG
AL AMYIN
WE LOVE
YOU AL AMYIN
Thank You AL AMYIN

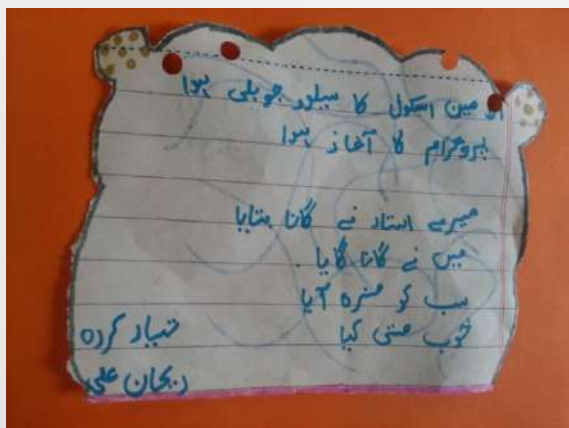
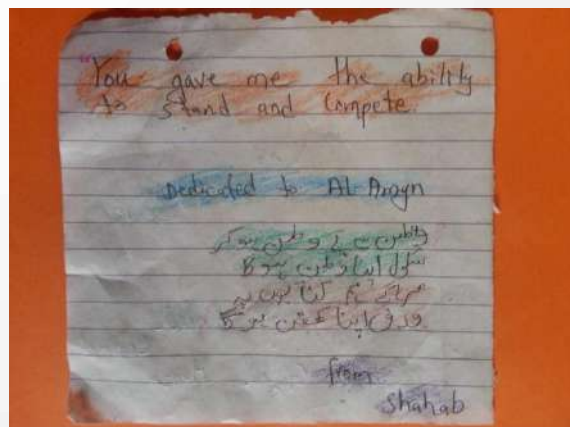
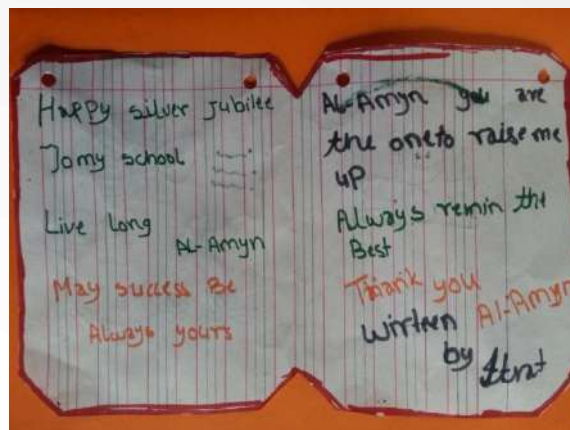
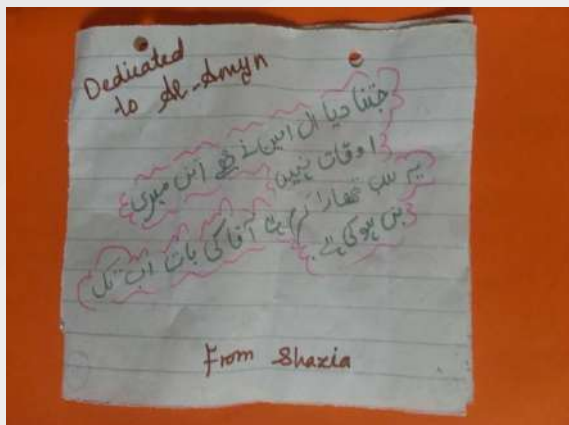
M SHAG

Thank you Al Amyn
to help me to understand
my responsibilities

Thank you and
love you,
Nozish

Education is a
private matter between
the person and the world
of knowledge and
experience and has little
to do with school.

From
Wajahat Ghazi



ریسکیو

1122

فوری مدد کے لیے فوری کال کریں



الامین ماڈل سکول گلگت گوجال کی کامیابی کے 25 سال مکمل ہونے پر مبارکباد

ریسکیو 1122 گلگت بلتستان آپکی خدمت کیلئے ہر دم تیار۔

ریسکیو 1122 پاکستان کی پہلی تربیت یافتہ ایمرجنسی سروس ہے جس میں ریسکیو کا عملہ زندگی بچانے، مختلف حالات میں ریسکیو کرنے اور آگ بجھانے کی بین الاقوامی معیار پر پیشہ وارانہ تربیت دی گئی ہے۔ ریسکیو کا ادارہ نہ صرف پاکستان بلکہ بیرون ملک ترقی یافتہ ممالک میں بھی ایک مثال ہے۔ ریسکیو 1122 ایمرجنسی سروس اس وقت گلگت بلتستان کے چار اضلاع گلگت، سکردو، دیامر اور گچھے میں موجود ہے اور بہت جلد ہنزہ اور نگر میں اس سروس کا آغاز ہوگا۔ ریسکیو 1122 کا عملہ آپکی خدمت کے لیے 24 گھنٹے سرگرم عمل ہے۔ کسی بھی ناگہانی حادثے، ایمرجنسی یا آفت کی صورت میں فوری 1122 فوری ڈائل کریں۔ یاد رکھیں 1122 کو موبائل یا لینڈ لائن سے ڈائل کرنے کے لیے کسی کوڈ کی ضرورت نہیں ہوتی۔

اغراض و مقاصد

- 1۔ کسی بھی حادثے، دھماکے، بلڈنگ گرنے یا آگ لگنے کی صورت میں فوری امداد۔
- 2۔ میڈیکل ایمرجنسی یعنی اچانک بے ہوشی، فالج، دل کا دورہ، شدید چوٹ، بلڈ پریشر یا شوگر کے بہت زیادہ بڑھ جانے یا انتہائی کم ہونے کی وجہ سے بے ہوشی کی صورت میں فوری امداد۔
- 3۔ کسی بھی قدرتی آفت یعنی سیلاب، زلزلہ، طوفان وغیرہ کی صورت میں فوری امداد۔
- 4۔ عوامی آگاہی مہم کے ذریعے عوام میں سیفٹی کلچر کا شعور اجاگر کرنا۔
- 5۔ مختلف شعبہ جات زندگی اور عوامی سطح پر ابتدائی طبی امداد، فائر فائٹنگ اور ڈیزاسٹر مینجمنٹ کی تربیت فراہم کر کے کمیونٹی رضا کار تیار کرنا۔

یاد رکھیے

- ریسکیو 1122 کی ایمرجنسی سروس صرف اور صرف ایمرجنسی سروس ہے۔
- 1۔ اس سے لاش کی منتقلی نہیں کی جاسکتی، اس مقصد کے لیے ہسپتال یا پرائیویٹ ایمرجنسی سروس استعمال کریں۔
 - 2۔ معمولی نوعیت یا بخار کے مریضوں کو ہسپتال نہیں لایا جاسکتا۔
 - 3۔ گھر میں موجود طویل بیماریوں کے مریضوں کو چیک اپ، ٹیسٹ یا کسی دوسرے مقصد کے لیے ہسپتال نہیں لایا جاسکتا۔
 - 4۔ مریض کو ہسپتال سے گھریا کسی دوسرے ہسپتال منتقل نہیں کیا جاسکتا۔ اس مقصد کے لیے ہسپتال یا پرائیویٹ ایمرجنسی سروس استعمال کریں۔
 - 5۔ ریسکیو 1122 کی ایمرجنسی اپنی مقرر کردہ حدود سے باہر سروس مہیا نہیں کر سکتی۔
 - 6۔ ریسکیو 1122 کی ایمرجنسی مریض کو صرف مقرر کردہ سرکاری ہسپتال منتقل کرنے کا مجاز ہے۔ پرائیویٹ کلینک یا ہسپتال مریض کو منتقل نہیں کیا جاسکتا۔

7۔ ریسکیو 1122 کی ایمرجنسی اور آگ بجھانے والی گاڈیوں کا کام صرف اور صرف جانی و مالی نقصان کو روکنا ہے، اس ضمن میں کسی بھی قسم کے نقصان کا تخمینہ یا ازالہ ریسکیو 1122 کا کام نہیں۔

8۔ ریسکیو 1122 کی کشتیوں کو ایمرجنسی کے علاوہ کسی اور مقصد کے لیے استعمال نہیں کیا جائیگا۔



Central Asia Institute Gilgit (CAIG)



CAIG is a grass root level NGO working in the most remote areas of GB and Chitral. Our main focus is education especially for girls, except education, CAIG works on women empowerments and basic health facilities in the marginalized communities. CAIG is working in the areas since 1999 and continuously expanded from one area to other, one district to another. Till 2017 CAIG speared its services in 6 district of GB and in one district Chitral of KPK.

