

Society for International Education

Newsletter

July - September 2011

Message from Pishin ...



"My journey with iEARN started in 2008. It was the third year since The Asian Educational and Welfare Society had launched The Asian Grammar School (TAGS) in Pishin. There was no effective use of technology, no appropriate teaching methodologies at TAGS, and no links with the world those days. ToT (Training of Trainers) 2010 was the first opportunity iEARN offered me. It was an international training for trainers that gave me a new vision. During the past three years my school students and I have worked successfully on: Skype, Elluminate, Word, Power Point, Adobe Photoshop CS2, Facebook, twitter, Gmail account, blogs and a lot more. And it was all possible because of the iEARN trainings and Online Summer Camps. I am glad to say that SIE has launched an English Language

Program 'Access' in Pishin which will no doubt benefit us a lot. I believe I am lucky enough to be a part of Access as an ELT. To sum up, I would like to say, "iEARN has introduced me to the effective use of technology and to the people of the world. I am very much thankful to iEARN Pakistan and its hard working team and have no hesitation in saying that, you showed me the way to the glories. Hope, our journey continues. "

Regards,

Naqib Ullah,
TAGS, Pishin

Access Summer Institute (ASI)

The 12 day long Access Summer Institute held in Karachi (July 18th-29th) was indeed a landmark event for both SIE in general and Access in particular. Participants from all over Pakistan, that is nearly 100 teachers and 50 students, representing 14 Access Centers and 11 cities, participated in the event to learn, share, reflect and of course to have fun. Renowned trainers from Karachi and abroad made the event all the more enriching and exciting.

The participants attended sessions covering a wide range of topics related to teaching in general, teaching English in particular, along with sessions by guest speakers on some important life skills. Students on the other hand were constantly exposed to real life use of English language and were involved in variety of activities: interactive sessions on learning English, community service learning, online activities, media literacy, team building, and positive thinking. The reading corner, offering a wide range of colorful books, turned out to be quite a popular site with students after the daylong sessions were over. Students also enjoyed swimming and other sports activities.

Additional features of the program including field trips, excursions for sightseeing and shopping, and the cultural show made the whole Summer Institute memorable. And the closing ceremony at a local Hotel, indeed turned out to be a grand finale – it had 'official' speeches, sharing of reflections by teachers and students, followed by a sumptuous dinner, and of course a lot of pictures and videos to capture the memorable moments.



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Celebrate UN International Days by integrating iEARN Projects

World Teachers' Day
(5 October)
iEARN Project: Oral History

Universal Children's Day
(20 November)
iEARN Project: Global Art-Sense of Caring

Human Rights Day
(10 December)
iEARN Project: Finding Solutions to Hunger

Download lesson plans at:
http://www.earnpk.org/iEARN_workshops/intl_days.htm

iEARN Office, Quetta



Society for International Education (SIE) proudly announces the opening of its iEARN-Centre, Quetta. The SIE-Balochistan team consists of experienced professional staff who will coordinate various SIE programs and activities in the region.

An Ode to iEARN

Who knew this summer would bring
so much with its heat;
The fire that united everyone;
The sweat that spoke the effort we
put;
The passion that made us stand side
by side;
Something for which we labored day
and night.

The expeditions were adventurous;
And so has been the journey.
We went through all;
Travelled together in a roller coaster
ride;
Through thick and thin with our fists
clenched.

And so it continues..
Like a never ending happy tale;
With no antagonist to kill the protagon-
ist;
With arms so full;
With smiles so complete;
And so it continues...
Like a moment full of joy.

I wish and pray it remains the same;
The bond and ties never break;
And let memories be remembered .
Like an unseasoned rain.

Anum Faheem
Access Coordinator,
Karachi



Access Quetta

SIE has successfully launched the Access Microscholarship Program for Quetta and Pishin. Through 6 Access Centre, SIE will engage 600 students in 450 hours of after school English Language Proficiency Program starting from 3rd October. The students come from 30 different schools located near the Access Centres. The SIE team based at the iEARN Centre Quetta along with 30 teaching staff attended a day long orientation held in Quetta on September 30, 2011. The teachers participated actively in the sessions that prepared them to begin teaching the Module-1 of the program "Learning to Learn"



Classes Resume at Access-Karachi

Access-Karachi classes resumed in September after a two-month break for summer vacation and Ramadan. As expected, students were excited to be back in their Access classes. Initially, they showed a bit of rustiness in their English language skills; however, they soon got into their strides and started participating actively in different classroom activities. Their level of enthusiasm got a further boost when they received the new set of course materials (American Headway 1) along with stylishly designed silver-gray water flasks (branded with Access-SIE logos). Another wave of excitement was generated with the advent of elections for new Class Representatives. All candidates chose their election symbols and made speeches in English as part of their election campaign. On the election day, the voters were given ballot papers which they cast in 'specially prepared' ballot boxes made of recycled cartons. Overall, the elections proved to be an excellent lesson in democracy and democratic attitudes and behaviors.



Other activities include the Oral Proficiency Tests and follow up of Baseline Tests. Also selected students and teachers along with Access Coordinators participated in live performances by an American Jazz group - one was held at PACC where 30 students and 6 teachers from Access-Karachi were among the audience; another, and a much larger concert held at the Marriott Hotel was attended by nearly 100 students and teachers.



iEARN Pakistan delegate at iEARN International Conference Taiwan

A 10-member iEARN Pakistan delegate represented Pakistan at 18th iEARN International Conference and 15th Youth Summit 2011 in Taiwan (July 17-23). The opening ceremony held on July 18, 2011 at Garden Villa Hotel, Kaohsiung, Taiwan was followed by country call and different breakup sessions. 520 participants from 44 iEARN countries/regions are attended the conference including teachers, students and iEARN Taiwan team members.



Pakistani Youth also set up a cultural stall at Cultural Fair at the conference. The audience of the cultural night on July 21 thoroughly enjoyed the lively song and dance performed by the Pakistani youth. The folk songs and dances represented all provincial regions of Pakistan. The artistic talent displayed by the them - specially the luddi, Bhangra and Khatak dances - received thunderous applause from the audience. In addition to the cultural performances, the workshop sessions conducted by Pakistani contingent were highly appreciated by the participants.

YES Alumni activities

Summer 2011 came along with lots of exciting opportunities, activities and projects for the KL-YES Alumni Pakistan. The Karachi chapter set out with the CDGK Summer Camp where students at 3 different schools were involved in community service projects. The chapter organized a beach cleanup activity during September as well.

YES Alumni also celebrated US Independence Day at Lincoln Corner Karachi with kids and shared their exchange experiences. August came along with celebrations of International Youth Day where Karachi and Lahore chapters participated in two different events. They made presentations, participated in discussions and panels on topics such as peace building, community service, active citizenship, environmental awareness etc. Two dinners were organized by US Consulate General Karachi and Islamabad for the incoming batch of YES 2010-11 and the outgoing batch of 2011-12.

During Ramadan, YES Alumni Lahore also participated in an event with the US Consul General Lahore where they visited the Happy Old Age Home and distributed gifts. The Rawalpindi alumni organized an iftar-dinner for orphans at SOS Village and engaged them into different sports. At the end of Ramadan, US Consulate General Lahore and PUAN Punjab Chapter organized an Eid Gala Dinner which was attended by the alumni. Follow us on <http://www.facebook.com/yesalumnipakistan>



Iftar dinner for Pakistani YES Students

Seventy students gathered on August 18 for iftar and dinner at the home of William J. Martin, U.S. Consul General, to celebrate Ramadan and to share their experiences in the U.S. government funded Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program. Recently returned students participated as well as students who will be studying in the U.S. in the 2011-12 academic year.



YES-9 Arrival in Washington DC, USA



A batch of 106 Pakistani YES students (2011-2012) arrived in 3 groups in Washington DC during the months of August and September 2011.

YES Alumni American Host Mother Visits Pakistan



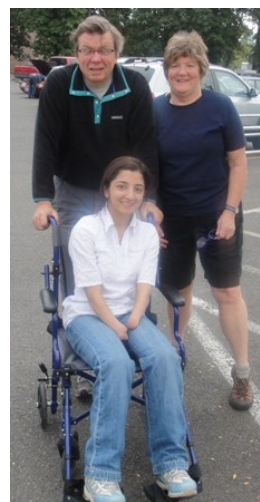
American host mother Christine Shelling came to Pakistan to visit Irfan Tahir, a Youth Exchange and Study alumni who recently returned from a one year U.S. government funded program in Minnesota. Watch Christine and Irfan talk about their experiences with the program and the people-to-people ties the YES program promotes at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojdz0JA_huE

A World of Change for YES Student from Pakistan...

Syeda Azima Haider Zaidi, a special student from Pakistan, begins her new life as Youth Exchange and Study student this year, 2011-12. She arrived in her host community of Eugene where she was given a warm welcome by her host family and the President, International Director and Admissions Director of her host school. Azima, who uses a wheel chair, has prosthetic legs and cannot make use of her hands, was placed in Eugene, which is known as a hub of innovations for people with disabilities. During visit to her new school, she was given a tour of the campus by International Director Buck Arbuckle as well as the President, Bob Sarkasian. The school is thrilled to have Azima in their student body and on her first day she was elected student international club president as well as a member of the yearbook team. Having Azima there to share her culture and raise awareness of what people with disabilities can accomplish, is a valuable asset to the school. Read complete story at:

<http://www.yesprograms.org/impact/story/world-change-yes-student-pakistan>



Celebrating Independence Day of Pakistan in USA



A YES student from Pakistan arrived at his host community on August 14 and celebrated Pakistan Independence Day with his American Host family.

Adobe Youth Voices Online Course

iEARN Pakistan has involved 3 teachers and 2 coordinators of Access Karachi program this year in Adobe Youth Voices 8-week online course started September 2011. Five more educators will work with them as support teachers. Around 70 Access students will be engaged in media making activities by these educators. These students will work in groups and use multimedia tools to communicate and share their ideas.

<http://youthvoices.adobe.com>



iEARN and I...

First, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to SIE for providing me a great opportunity to be part of such a dynamic and lively team. As I got on



board in July, I came to know about the wide range of programs being managed by SIE, focusing primarily on youth and teacher development. Soon after my joining, I got a wonderful opportunity to experience what's it like to be part of SIE – I was part of the team responsible for hosting the 12-day Access Summer Institute (ASI), involving 100 teachers and 50 students from all over Pakistan. Careful planning, commitment, teamwork, diligence and above all care and compassion for fellow human beings were some of my most important lessons learnt practically. Recently, the Access program has expanded to Quetta-Pishin and as the Senior Program Officer, liaising between the Karachi-based SIE management and the Access Quetta-Pishin management, I have been enjoying the various challenges related to my assignment. In short, working at SIE has been full of challenges, offering tremendous opportunities to learn. As a rookie, I understand that at SIE the way to succeed is to keep following the 'cycle of success': work, learn, grow, and share – share, work, learn and grow.

Usman Hashmi

Senior Program Officer
iEARN Pakistan

Upcoming Events and Professional Development Activities

<http://www.earnpk.org/PD/11schedule.htm>

Karachi Workshops

- Access AYV Software Training, October 8
- Teaching Vocabulary, October 8
- CCO-follow-up Seminar, October 12
- Enhancing 21st Century Skills with iEARN Projects & Club Activities, October 29
- iEARN PBL (Beginners' Training), November 19
- Social Media and Web 2.0 tools, November 26
- Youth Volunteering & Community Service, December 16
- YouthCaN, December 17

Islamabad Workshops

- iEARN PBL for Students, October 14
- YVS for Students, October 15
- AYV Intro, November 11
- Social Media and Web 2.0 tools, November 12

Quetta Workshops

- iEARN PBL, October 28-29
- Youth Volunteering & Community Service, November 5

Representatives from UNICEF Jordan, Islamabad and Karachi meet Children's Council



Ms. Jumana from UNICEF Jordan along with Ms. Pilar, Child Protection Specialist -UNICEF Islamabad and Mr. Sohail Ahmed from UNICEF Karachi met Children's Council staff and executive committee members on Wednesday, August 3, 2011. The representatives were briefed about the project activities and future plans. Jumana and Pilar not only shared their experiences of working with children but also asked several questions from the executive committee members. The team praised the active participation of the executive members and offered their support in future Children's Council activities.

iEARN Beginners' Workshop for Access teachers

An iEARN Beginners' Workshop was conducted on September 24, 2011 at iEARN Centre, Karachi for a group of 18 Access Karachi teachers. Workshop sessions included presentations, discussions and hands on activities. Teachers were briefed about the iEARN online collaborative projects and forums. They were given time to browse through iEARN forums, understand projects' details and get information about forum related activities. They later planned to integrate iEARN online collaborative projects with Access English language program activities.



"If you don't like the way the world is, you have an obligation to change it. Just do it one step at a time."

~ Marian Wright Edelman

**iEARN
PAKISTAN**

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www.youtube.com/earnpk



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