

Newsletter

July - September 2009

Learning with the world, not just about it...

iEARN Centre Pakistan

Message from iEARN Egypt

Dear Readers,

I am Dalia Khalil, director of the Egyptian Association for Educational Resources. I have been in contact with iEARN Pakistan since 2003 when I was taking my first steps in iEARN. Ms. Farah Kamal and her team has always been of great support to me, our teachers, and students. A big thank you has to be dedicated to them every time iEARN Egypt is taking an extra step. We have also enjoyed the wealth of culture of the Pakistani students and teachers brought to the iEARN 2007 conference. iEARN Pakistan is a true resource, mentor, and friend to the world. Much appreciation and good luck in all your steps.

Dalia.Khalil

(Director, Egyptian Association for Educational Resources)

Bilal Zubair Khan meets Ambassador Haqqani

A YES student from Government Degree Science College, Malir currently hosted by a family in Maryland, US was invited by Ambassador Hussain Haqqani at Pakistani High Commission in Washington DC. Bilal got an opportunity to share with Mr. Haqqani his exchange experience and updated him on the YES program as well as his ambition to serve Pakistan in a Pakistani diplomatic mission one day. (www.earnpk.org/yespk.htm)



Achay Dost in Collaboration with UNICEF, Sindh

SIE, has partnered with UNICEF for the project 'Achay Dost' (Good Friends). This project includes an FM radio program that addresses children's issues e.g. gender based discrimination, corporal punishment and child abuse, and aims at bringing awareness in the society about these issues. This radio program is developed and presented by youth and goes on air on FM100 radio every Monday 10:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Audience are welcome to participate live through emails at achaydost@earnpk.org, phone (111-111-100) and SMS (3636). As follow up activities to the radio programs, Youth Forum members also work with Listeners' Groups (Children and adults' groups) to enable them to identify and help children who need support regarding the issues mentioned above.



Summer Camps for the Students of The Citizens Foundation Schools

40 YES Alumni in Karachi and Lahore conducted the English Language Summer camps in 11 schools in Karachi and 3 in Lahore from 13th July-28th July 2009. 1600 students from TCF Schools benefitted from these camps. A couple of senior Alumni along with the iEARN facilitators designed the course materials and trained the volunteers before the camps.



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Special points of interest:

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Celebrate UN International Days by integrating iEARN Projects

October 5th
World Teachers Day
iEARN Project - Oral History
(Teachers Career & Life)

November 20th
Universal Children's Day
iEARN Project- Vision of me-Self Portrait
(That's Me)

Dec 10th
Human Rights Day
iEARN Project- Feeding Minds Fighting Hunger
(Food for All)

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

Partnership with the British Council



SIE has partnered with British Council for effectively implementing the Connecting Classroom projects nationwide.

This includes training 720 teachers from clusters of schools located in 20 cities around Pakistan. The training module to be delivered by SIE will focus project based learning integrating technology for creative classrooms. SIE facilitators have successfully conducted the Quetta and Pishin trainings from 29th –30th September. Know more about Connecting Classrooms at: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-connecting-classrooms.htm>



Adobe Youth Voices Summit in Stanford University-California

100 youth and educators from more than 30 countries gathered at Stanford University for the Adobe Youth Voices Summit from July 30th– Aug 1st for a media event. Marium Farooq and Danyal Sheikh from Aga Khan Higher Secondary School attended AYW Summit along with Alema Nasim, from iEARN Pakistan. Summit activities included new aspects of digital media, including filmmaking, photography, animation and design. Delegates presented their media projects and also participated in several workshops designed to empower youth to create media for social change and cultivate a deeper sense of social and civic engagement.



Being a part of first ever Adobe Youth Voices summit 2009 is the most memorable and red lettered event of my life. 4 days, jam packed with workshops and lined up with all sorts of recreational activities not only added to my technological knowledge but it also provided me with a chance to mingle with youth from all around the world. We shared our creative thoughts, perceptions, media pieces and most of all our cultures with one another.

Marium Tanna (Aga Khan Higher Secondary School, Karachi)

New Schools join AYW project

3 more schools have joined iEARN Pakistan for the 3rd round of Adobe Youth Voices program beginning September 2009. These schools include IISAR Foundation School Karachi, Education Trust Nasra School, Karachi and Bloomfield Hall School, Lahore. One teacher from each school will get the opportunity to complete 8 weeks online training.



Greetings from iEARN-Japan

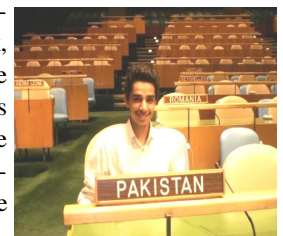
Here is one file at my hand, by Farah and Yoko in 1995 the "Proposal for the Teddy Bear Project Exchange with Japanese and Pakistan schools". Since then, there have been closer exchange programs between Pakistani and Japanese students and schools. In 2006, when we had iEARN Asia Conference in Tokyo, iEARN-Pakistan had a key role to start up iEARN-Asia Network.

We at iEARN Japan wish to have more sharing and working with Pakistani schools for Teddy Bear Project, The Natural Disaster Youth Summit, Environment, and projects for peace, such as "Machinto". It will be great project if Machinto has iEARN-Pakistan schools! Please visit at: <http://www.machinto.org> or write iEARN Pakistan Centre for more information and participation.

Yoko Takagi, iEARN-Japan Country Coordinator

The United Nations, Foreign Delegates and I

I am Aown Shahzad from Lahore, currently living in Middle Town, New York, USA as part of the iEARN YES exchange program. I was one of the 13 students from New York chosen to represent the Youth in the United Nations, the Secretary Generals Summit on Climate Change on 22nd Sept 2009.



I met over 100 Presidents of the world and 97 world delegates, and presented my personal narrative to the leaders on why climate change was important to the youth and what I wanted the leaders to do about it. With the youth group, we also showed an 8 minute long documentary on climate change to the world leaders. While meeting the world leaders, I was personally invited by Netherlands Prime Minister to their country. African and European leaders gave me a lot of appreciation. However the main highlight of the event, besides listening to Presidents Obama, Mohamed Nasheed and Nicolas Sarkozy's speech live from a distance of three seats, was the personal appreciation that I and my peers received from the Secretary General. I proudly stood right next to Mr. Ban Ki Moon on the stage of the United Nations General Assembly, then shaking his hand I personally received the summarized testimony of the actions of the leaders of the World.

I cannot believe that I met all those leaders and stood in front of the world as a youth delegate. I can truly say that I have made my country proud as on that day I stood there not only as a youth ambassador of Pakistan, but more importantly as a youth ambassador for the entire world.

http://www.unicef.org/policyanalysis/index_51189.html

"Coming together is a beginning. Staying together is a process. Working together is a success."

- Henry Ford

iEARN Youth initiate Micro-financing Project in Lahore

iEARN YES Alumni in Lahore initiated a project in order to self-employ poor people who can't find place to work. 10 such people were identified and after their verification from different sources, each was given a cart and goods to sell. Few of them set up the fruit cart where as others set up the vegetable and snacks cart. They are committed to repay the cost of cart in small monthly installments of Rs.150 to Rs.300. (<http://www.yespkalumni.org/>).



Pre-departure Orientations for YES students

66 students from different regions of Pakistan selected to participate in Youth Exchange and Study program 2009-10 convened in Karachi from 6th to 10th July, 2009. This week long residential Pre Departure Orientation program includes sessions focused at preparing students for their active participation in school and host family life during their one year stay in US. iEARN Pakistan invited some guest speakers who guided them to make this program a great success for them and for their country. Twelve iEARN YES alumni were also present during the sessions as mentors working with the groups of students, co-facilitating different sessions with iEARN team and sharing their experiences with the students.



Meeting with US Undersecretary Judith McHale

On 19th of August a group of YES Alumni and the iEARN Pakistan Country Coordinator, Farah Kamal, were invited to a dinner with the Undersecretary McHale. She appreciated the students and their contribution to US Communities enlightening them on Pakistani customs and traditions during their exchange year in USA. Later the students shared a video of some of the community service projects they have carried out as part of the iEARN YES Alumni program. Secretary McHale was truly impressed by students dedication to volunteerism and motivation to be engaged in their communities .



YES students depart to USA

On 4th August, 2009 a group of 53 students departed Pakistan and traveled to the United States of America as part of the Youth Exchange and Study program 2009-2010. These students will live and study in different states of the United States and play the role of citizen ambassadors.



Online Teachers Training Courses

19 teachers from different cities of Pakistan have received scholarship for online Professional Development Courses as part of iEARN Teachers training Program. These scholarships are provided by iEARN USA, Doris Duke Foundation and Adobe. 16 teachers got enrolled in 9 weeks Online Teachers Training Course in different subject areas, where as 3 teachers are selected to participate in 8 weeks Adobe Youth Voices Program.



YES Students Celebrate Independence Day with American Hosts

The 2009-2010 group of Youth Exchange and Study (YES) students started off their exchange year by celebrating 14th August with their American Host families. Many of the host families dressed in Pakistani clothes, hoisted Pakistani flags on their houses and decorated their homes with flags in a traditional Pakistani style. Many students cooked traditional Pakistani meals for their host families. The occasion provided the students a valuable experience of sharing Pakistan culture with the American communities, and to educate them about the country.



YES Alumni Reunion in Washington DC

26 YES Alumni (largest group among 30 countries) participated in the 1st YES Alumni re-union in Washington DC from 17th July to 31st July 2009. The reunion was organized in order to connect alumni from different countries with each other and to plan out activities and projects . YES Alumni Pakistan presented their most successful project "Poverty Elimination" in which wells were dug and employment was created through micro financing project. Being the most organized and active alumni, YES Alumni Pakistan served as the facilitators in almost all the session conducted in the Conference.



CAPTURE Millenium Development Goals

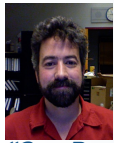
MDGs Only with Your Voice is an iEARN online project focused at community service. This year, the project includes the Action Project Guide Phase III, which invites participating classrooms to study Millennium Development Goal(s), select as many goals as they want, make community action plans and than discuss it in the relevant iEARN forum with the participating schools around the world sharing . The MDG selected can be highlighted in the form of digital images and short videos.

Classes carry out their action projects and then present their report back in the project forums. These reports can be in the form of Power Point, Video or a Narrative with images. For more information on joining MDGs project, contact Muhammad Salman at salman@iearnpk.org or visit MDGs only With Your Voice forum at: <http://media.iearn.org/projects/mgdswithyourvoice>

Join iEARN project “One Day in the Life” on November 10th 2009

On Tuesday, November 10th, 2009, students from around the world will digitally document a day in their lives with digital cameras and other forms of media and briefly explain the activities.

Interested students and teachers from Pakistani schools are invited to enroll in the iEARN “One Day in the Life project”. Log into <http://media.earn.org/projects/onedayinthelife>



It has been an absolute delight to work with the iEARN-Pakistan team – their dedication, enthusiasm, energy, and professionalism are a model for all of us around the world. I am especially honored to work with this amazing group of educators in orchestrating iEARN’s “One Day in the Life” project.

On 10th November, iEARN-Pakistan is helping to organize a special, worldwide event with us as part of the “One Day” project. We invite you all to join us! On this day, students from all over the world – at least 27 countries so far – will be documenting their (probably ordinary) day through writing, photography, video, and other media.

Please join us!

**Chris Baer (Art, Design & Technology teacher)
Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557, USA**

Teaching Resources

New iEARN Project Description Book for the year 2009-10 is now available. Softcopies can be downloaded at <http://www.earnpk.org/PD/2009-10pdb.pdf>. Hard copies can be collected from iEARN Pakistan office upon request.



16th Annual iEARN Conference- Morocco

A 14 member group of officials, teachers and students from iEARN Centre Pakistan and member schools, participated in this conference and youth summit from 18th-25th July 2009 held at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco. The conference was attended by 550 members from 54 countries around the world. The members of the Pakistani delegates presented one plenary and 5 workshops focusing like Media Literacy, Service Learning and Online Collaborative Projects. These sessions were very well received and appreciated by the audience.
(Conference website: <http://www.earn2009.ma/>)



Professional Development Opportunities

Registrations are open for the upcoming professional development workshops for teachers as part of iEARN-Pk Professional Development Program.

Nov 2009:

6th-7th Nov: iEARN Beginners Workshop-Karachi (2 days)

Jan 2010:

16th Jan: Seminar, *Into the 21st Century*

16th-20th Jan: iEARN National Master Trainers Course(5 days)

25th-26thJan: iEARN Beginners Workshop –Lahore (2 days)

Feb-Apr 2010:

Online Courses (Spring Term)

Visit <http://www.earnpk.org/PD/09schedule.htm> to know more about these workshops or contact irfan@earnpk.org for registrations. The registration forms will reach schools by 10th October 2009.

Schools interested in organizing need based workshops and trainings can inquire at earnpak@earnpk.org



**iEARN
PAKISTAN**

International Education and Resource Network
Pakistan
(A project of Society for International Education)

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