



Newsletter
April - June 2015

Together for a better world

Society for International Education

iEARN Centre
Pakistan



Message from Ramzan Baloch *Author of Lyari: The Unfinished Story.*

We at Lyari are usually worried about the unpredictable future of our youth under the given circumstances. Still we know there is always some light at the end of the tunnel. We saw a glimpse of this light when Humans of Lyari Grand Exhibition & Photo-Book Launch, organized by Society for International Education (SIE) and Karachi Youth Initiative (KYI), was held in the first week of the last month. It was amazing when Ms. Farah Kamal, General Secretary of SIE, apprised the audience of the wonderful job done by 36 out of 150 trained youth of Lyari in photojournalism showing tremendous photography skills. It certainly made us proud.

I think our teenagers have achieved main objectives of the project Humans of Lyari. This however could have not been possible without sincere efforts made by the General Secretary of SIE Ms. Farah Kamal and her associates. SIE provided and facilitated the Lyari youth with knowledge, professional guidance and leadership skills. And I think these kids by their interest, enthusiasm and commitment did not disappoint the project initiators of Humans of Lyari as is evident in the Photo Book. Hope, guidance projects would continue to be taken up by the SIE and KYI exploring capabilities of Lyari youth in other such fields as well.

Humans of Lyari Grand Photo Showcase and Launch of Photo Book



Project Humans of Lyari closes with the grand photo showcase and launch of photo book on June 7th, 2015. The event was organized to showcase the work done under this project by the youth of Lyari and to highlight a neutral image to the community. The photo stories showcased in the exhibition were the tremendous effort by a dynamic group of youth from Lyari, who has worked in this project to bring out inspiring, motivational and positive locals of Lyari and to capture culture, life style and every day routine of Lyariites. Humans of Lyari was a 9 month long project, which aspires to create increased opportunities and incentives to engage young and creative people from Lyari in socially beneficial and benign behaviors. In this project, participants got the opportunity to learn about photojournalism, photography skills, photo editing and other post-production

activities. Through this project, participants not only got a chance to indulge in a positive social activity but also get a platform to depict a positive image of Lyari.

The 36 selected participants from Lyari got training in respective fields for 2 weeks in which their abilities and talents got polished. After attaining training in photojournalism, the selected participants then held photo walks and arrange exhibitions in their vicinity along with training more people who have an interest in photography and photojournalism through street schools.

The efforts done by these 36 participants have been documented in a photo book, which contains more than 250 best photo stories from Lyari. The photo books is being distributed all over Karachi to spread the work by participants to the masses.

Access Beach Clean Up

With an aim to develop sense of responsibility and active citizenship, Access students in Karachi have been involved in a number of community



service projects in Access program.

On a bright and sunny Saturday morning of May 9, 2015, students from Access centers visited the beach as a part of their service learning project. They were all charged up to clean the beach and give back to the community. It was quite evident by enthusiasm shown by them while cleaning the beach, that a sense of active citizenship is taking roots in their way of thinking.

The activity enabled the students to take initiatives for cleaning their surroundings and areas. Working in groups bolstered friendly attitude and cooperative learning among the students.

Access Students celebrate Global Youth Service Day

Access students celebrated Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) at Access centers on April 17 and 18, 2015. Students were engaged in doing community service projects throughout the day including: Community Clean-up and Recycling. The objective followed in celebrating GYSD was to make students aware of various activities being performed by the youth around the globe on this specific day. A community service project was implemented based on community clean up and then doing recycling with all the recycling materials.



They were shown video presentations on how to keep our society clean, they were also shown the ways to recycle with the help of recycling materials which included reduce, reuse and recycle. Students cleaned their classrooms. However for recycling materials they picked up all the litter they could from the ground and from everywhere with in the vicinity of the school. Four different bins were installed already tagged as: plastic, paper, glass, metal. Once the litter was collected, students then sorted all the categories of recycling materials and collecting it in the particular bin.

The overall celebration of "Global Youth Service Day"

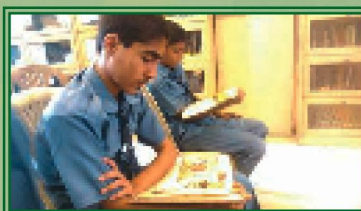
proved to be an informative and productive experience for the Access students.

International Library Week

A whole week as a library week was celebrated in Access classes from April 13 to April 20, 2015, with the aim to teach Access students about the importance of libraries and what are the ways libraries can be beneficial for them.

The activity carried out for a week focused extensive reading strategies i.e. SQRRRR –Surveying and Sampling, Questioning, Read, Relate, Revise and Review.

The celebration of "International Library Week" proved to be an informative and active week for the Access students. The purpose of celebrating "International Library Week" was to instill the approach of pleasure reading and how they could really enjoy a book without taking help from anyone.



SIE-I AM KARACHI Instameet On Wheels



Instameet On Wheels was a one of the idea of this kind, which proposed getting some of town's finest instagrammers on board for a tour around the city. This was aimed to create ownership and pride for the city through day long bus trip to the prestigious land marks of Karachi on the 31st of May, 2015.

A total of 20 instagrammers took part in this instameet including those 10, who were selected through competition run by the core instagram team of SIE and I AM KARACHI. Infograms were posted throughout a course of two weeks to spread a maximum word and to encourage entries to the competition for the InstameetOnWheels. After a pool of 400 posts was gathered on the dedicated hashtag for the competition which was #forgottenlights, core team shortlisted 10 best entries to be a part of the Instameet On Wheels. Others who were considered a valuable addition to the meet and were prominent among the instagram community were exclusively invited to hop on board.

InstaMeet On Wheels kicked off with the classic desi breakfast followed by a visit to the Quaid's Mausoleum. After that the bus tagged along a route on M. A. Jinnah Road. There group captured photos of KPT building and EFU house. Then, participants were driven through Native Jetty bridge and made next stop at newly painted walls by as part of another I AM KARACHI project aside the M. T. Khan road. Mohatta Palace, the last stop of "Tour de City" was really a cause of Pride in it for Karachi and Karachiites.

Hundreds of posts were submitted by the participants to the dedicated hashtag of this meet #InstameetOnWheels. The "Instameet On Wheels" has been widely popular within the instagram community as instagrammers from other cities in Pakistan and people from foreign countries took keen interest in its happenings and showed great support and appreciation sharing their reflections.

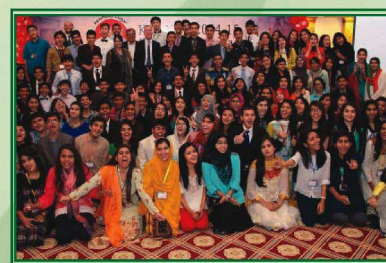
Pre Departure Orientation (K-L YES) 2015-16

The Pre-Departure Institute for outgoing batch of Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Program (K-L YES) 2015-16 was held from June 12 to June 18 2015 in Islamabad. 107 students from across Pakistan attended the Pre-Departure Institute. Alumni of the YES program, staff at Society for International Education and iEARN Pakistan and various guest speakers worked with the students over this week to prepare them for a successful exchange year ahead.

The sessions of the PDO week focused on helping the students understand the true nature of the program along with rules and guidelines. They expanded their knowledge of American culture and learned how to adjust with host families, in American high schools, how to deal with culture shock and become flexible and communicative. The students also built their presentation skills and participated in various team building activities. The notable key speakers from U.S. Embassy Islamabad included: Amy Lillis; U.S. Foreign Service Officer who talked about Blogging, writing diaries, essays and stories of exchange experience, Tracy Hightower; Office Manager in United States Foreign Service took a session on

Game Night – American Board Games and Family Recreations, where she played different board games with the students, Preston Savarese; U.S. Political/Economic Officer in Lahore, talked about American Cultural Festivals and Holidays, William McCue; Staff member in U.S. Embassy talked about School Life in USA, Sofia Khilji; U.S. Embassy Political Officer discussed about seeking opportunities while in US – Leadership Conferences, Contests etc., Stephanie Woodard; Political Officer at US Embassy and David Lewis; Commissioned Officer U. S. Foreign Services, covered the topic of Racism and Bullying.

The event was filled with productive sessions, fun energizers and ice-breakers. The students also played American board games during game night. Students were also given Tablets to participate on active learning through interactive activities and language games regarding listening, speaking, reading and writing. The tablets given to the students will serve the purpose of learning and language enhancement.



YES Alumni Pakistan celebrate Global Youth Service Day

YES alumni Pakistan celebrate Global Youth Service Day along nationwide with its true zeal and spirit by engaging in meaningful community service activities in all portions. The alumni in Peshawar carried out a 2-day Project Re-Educate for 35 students focusing on educating the students about child rights, environment, community service activities and cleanliness, etc. YES alumni in Lahore carried out a one-day participatory Global Youth Workshop in order to promote the importance and necessity of community service activities and volunteerism in the youth of our society.

In addition, YES alumni Rawalpindi took a one-day field trip known as Travel the History to the National Museum of Natural History, Islamabad along with 25 high school students from a school in the

local slums. YES alumni in Chitral organized a "Plantation Day" on the occasion of Global Youth Service Day at a community based public school, which is located in a village called Chuinj in Chitral district.

YES alumni Quetta spent a fun filled day with the orphanage kids of SOS Village, Quetta. Spreading Smiles was not only the name of the project, but alumni made efforts in bringing happiness to the kids' lives by involving them in different activities such as painting, drawing, quizzes, playing scrabble etc.

YES alumni Karachi planned an activity in order to revive the spirit of sports and extracurricular activities in school that has gone away due to recent terrorist attack and schools are reluctant to send their students

out for any activities. They also spent a day at Edhi Homes for women and children. The alumni from Karachi also conducted an awareness workshop regarding water importance and cleanliness for a healthier environment.

YES alumni Umerkot, Sindh along with some volunteers did a day long activity in a public place for a greener environment along with taking care of already planted plants and trees. YES alumni Gwadar conducted a 42 hours long (28 sessions, 1.5 hour each) activity on 7 Habits of Highly Effective teenagers for 15 girls. The main idea behind conducting this workshop was to equip the girls regarding their mission in life, and ways through which they can achieve it.

Re-entry Seminar for K-L YES 2014-15

The K-L YES Re-entry workshop followed by the seminar happened in Islamabad (June 17) and Karachi (July 2) for the recent returnees of the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Program (K-L YES) 2014-15. The workshops focused on community service projects and opportunities alumni can benefit from being part of the YES alumni network in Pakistan. The Chief Guest of the evening was Deputy Chief of Mission Tom Williams U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, while in Karachi we had Consul General Brian Heath, accompanied by U.S. Consulate Cultural Affairs Officer Li Ping Lo and Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer Griffin Rozell. Both the guests focused on strengthening ties between the two countries and role of the alumni as ambassadors previously for Pakistan and now for the United States.



Teaching the Digital Natives-Reach me if you want to teach me

More than 200 teachers and students from various schools in Karachi and Hyderabad gathered at a local hotel in Karachi to attend SIE conference 'Teaching the Digital Natives – Reach me if you want to teach me' on 23rd May, 2015. The day long conference aimed at equipping participants with best practices of teaching and learning in the 21st century and feature some of the ICT based projects that SIE has implemented in its partner schools.

Ms. Farah Kamal, General Secretary - Society for International Education and Executive Director iEARN Pakistan did the formal opening of the event followed by a welcome note in honor of the chief guest Mr. Mansoob Hussain Siddiqui, Director Private School Association. Ms. Farah Kamal also presented a keynote speech on 'Teaching the Digital Natives' which was highly appreciated by the audience.



Guest speaker Mr. Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, Commissioner Karachi also shared his thoughts on the importance of incorporating technology in education. He appreciated the efforts of SIE to engage young people and said that 'SIE's efforts are nation building efforts and should expand'.

Teams of students and teachers were invited to present and exhibit their project work done throughout the year in their schools. These projects' presentations included iEARN online collaborative projects, iEARN Club based activities, Adobe Youth Voices program activities, Level Up Village STEM Based Program, Photojournalism project etc.

iEARN Global Art – a Sense of Caring project Art Exhibit was arranged at the conference. Students were awarded shields for their best artwork, photos and poems. Students from Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Belarus and Romania also sent their artwork for the art exhibit. Online Gallery of students' artwork/photos was also created for global audience. All the participating students were given certificates of appreciation. During second half of the conference, eight concurrent sessions were arranged for teachers and students to learn about cutting edge technology integration in education. The participants took great interest in these sessions and learned ways to implement new technology tools in the classrooms. The conference ended with closing remarks and distribution of certificates to the conference participants as well as other projects' participants.

SummerTech-a technology camp for digital natives

SIE organized a summer technology camp for students from June 1 to June 8 at iEARN Centre Karachi. 21 students participated in this summer camp named 'SummerTech – a technology camp for digital natives'. This week long summer camp was designed especially to provide learning opportunities to students who were passionate to learn new tools and make their vacations a productive time. During summer technology camp interesting technology based sessions were arranged for students. These sessions included photography, digital storytelling, animation, 3D modeling and design, and introduction to programming and logic. Students were introduced to iEARN collaboration centre and also participated in iEARN online collaborative projects. They made interesting digital stories that were uploaded on the forum.

Students also got a chance to visit Photo Exhibition and practice their photography skills they had learned. Students enjoyed interactive learning throughout the week and got a chance to experience, explore, and share their learning with the world. On the last day of the camp, students shared their learning experiences and received certificates of participation for the training.



iEARN Professional Development August - December 2015

S. #	Date	Title of Workshop
August	29	Learning English through songs
September	4-5	Adobe Youth Voices (AYV) Training
	12	iEARN Project Based Learning (Beginners Training)
	16	iEARN Clubs meeting
	19	Enhance your creativity with Adobe Photoshop
October	3	Using Green Screen Effects in Media Making
	17	Create Amazing Presentations for Classrooms
	31	Activity Based Teaching
November	6-7	High School Photojournalism Training
	14	Teaching Math with Technology
	28	Learning and sharing through animation
December	5	Excel for Schools
	12	Poetry-Appreciating and Teaching it
	19	Capture your Creativity - Photography Workshop

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