

A Project by YES ALUMNI
Peshawar

First Issue

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Young Peshawar

Who are we?

Youth Exchange and Study Alumni at Peshawar are proud to announce the commencement of their monthly news-letter i.e. your personal scrapbook! Where you can express your opinions, share your experiences, improve your writing skills, attain superior journalistic skills, and communicate your unique creative flairs. We embody the spirit of freedom of speech for the youth of Peshawar, specifically. But the best part is our readership will be nationwide and even international! Words are powerful tools; it can transform nations, it can change thoughts, it could articulate your emotions. So this is the ultimate chance for the youth in Peshawar: So pick up your pens, hear and be heard!

Some of our efforts until now include:

Young Voices:

The Brilliant Backbenchers!

Who says that the dull and lazy students occupy the back benches? The back-bench is the traditional place for all brilliant and intelligent students.

It is a place where students

are free from every kind of pressure and hence, their minds are in good condition. They are people of great abilities. They can easily try hands at sketching the professors.



They are also very gifted at commenting on the flaws of the teacher as well as at the active but BORING front liners. These versatile creatures also make some important discussions; they dis-



At Special Education Children's Complex

Art For All: In March 2011, YES Alumni Peshawar paid a visit to Special Education Complex, located in Hayatabad, Phase 5. About 150 kids participated in various activities that included drawing pictures with crayons and paints and various indoor and outdoor games.. The project served as a statement of the need to pay more attention to special children

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- First ever youth-led magazine in Peshawar!
- A forum where you are at liberty to write on any topic.
- You can send us you art work, poems, essays, opinions, childhood stories, adventures, experiences, achievements, complaints, suggestions; almost anything!

-cuss movies, songs, stories, etc. Their style of sitting is very interesting. They are normally seen sitting near window enjoying the weather outside the classroom. They are almost drooping in their chairs, relaxing their muscles, with their legs stretched on table.

As they are BACKBENCHERS, it is irrelevant for teachers to ask any pertinent questions because their ears are unable to catch the frequency of the teacher's voice! Such students live in their own world, and then even if the sky is falling, they don't care! Free and study periods are same for them. They have their own schedule usually consisting of a group of minimum 3 persons or maximum 7-9 persons and are mostly found near the canteens.

Now friends! Can you honestly say

Feature Story

Thank you God!

It has almost been a month since my grandmother passed away and the awful trip that took us to our village for her burial. Apart from the heartache of my grandmother's death, more sadness awaited me at the village. It was the third of Ramadan when this event took place. Even though some people in my family weren't fasting those days, it seemed as if they were. There was absolutely no water, no electricity, no food. Yes, my stay at the village was terrible but I guess the electricity, food and water shortages were the least of my concerns.

I went outside to see that a crowd of women, dressed in black (for some weird reason) were discussing how 'pretty' my grandmother looked on her death bed. I found this innocent and harmless. Then there was a lengthy moment of silence; someone sighed; suddenly, all the women broke out in tears and started beating themselves up! Apparently this was the village mourning!

Afterwards, some 'mourning' women came to meet my mother on an 'important errand'. My grandmother's

that the front liners indulge in any kind of real fun? "NOT AT ALL"

(Maheen Noor 7th M, University Model School)

Talent: Even though success in life is clearly determined by both drive and natural talent, I believe that natural talent has the bigger impact towards having success in life. Without natural talent success in life is hard to come by. Talent can never be destroyed; it's just hidden inside waiting to be explored. Talent is more like a miracle in a person's life. I can recall the example of Gregory Smith (nominated for a noble peace prize at age 12) who could read at the age of two and had enrolled in university at age ten.

dead body was outside on the bamboo bed, when one woman came and whispered something into my mother's ear.

The look on my mother's face made me boil with anger! I could not believe that she asked my mother to collect khums(alms) for her. I understand that we should pay zakat to people who really badly need it, how can you ask one for Zakat when they already are going through a tough time? Can't such tasks be done later? Shortly after that my grandmother's so-called unknown 'brother' came out of nowhere to claim her pension; it was stupefying to see this unethical man demand a dead woman's pension.

Shocked to core from witnessing such scenes, I went and sat down with a newly found friend of mine, of my age, maybe a year or so older, bearing a child! For me that moment was 'A Thousand Splendid Suns' all over again! It brought tears to my eyes when she told me how she used to be the "pampered, spoiled child" at home and how her present situation was un-imaginable. I guess she was even smarter than any of us city people, she reminded me of Laila, but her Tariq was noth-

Akrit Jaswal (the seven year old surgeon) he performed his first medical procedure in 2000 on a local girl whose hand was burnt into a tight fist. Akrit had no medical training yet, he managed to free her fingers and she was able to use her hand again. At the age of twelve he claimed to be on verge of discovering a cure for cancer.

Then there are people like, Cleopatra Stratan, a three year old singer who earns GBP 1,000 per song and Aelita two year old artist who showed her paintings in a gallery. All these people are great examples of talent. This proves that natural talent is equal to natural success!

(Umaima Zia 7th-M, University Model School)



ing like 'The Tariq' not even close! Aren't men supposed to be the head's of their families, carrying out all the hard tasks and earning money and so on? Her husband was nothing like that; sleepy, lazy, unhygienic and a very bad example for his young daughter. In our conversation she revealed a horrible incident; her husband's sister, who is a special child, was raped by a man who has still not been identified. How abominable can one get? Such a disgustingly hateful act was beyond my imagination. I had no idea something like this could ever happen, not at all, especially not to a girl who is mentally ill. What has the world come to? Greed, sexual frustration, it just leaves a terrible blow to the head!



When I came back to Peshawar all I could do was thank God for always protecting me and giving me so much for which I have never acknowledged Him. Life is unpredictable that is what I have realized and I guess most of us should work for the betterment for our world as fellow human beings. I never thought about this before but time alters that and teaches us everyday!

Sidra Adil

Straight from the Heart!

Family is the most important thing that a person should have in his peaceful or miserable life. Is there anyone who is not interested in spending time with family? I guess not! I am one of those people who have experienced enjoyable times, love and happiness with their families. I belong to a great family which consists of five family members, my parents and my two siblings

(excluding me). I am the eldest of my siblings, followed by my brother and lastly by my cute and impish sister. I always look forward to spend-time with my family (provided ryone is in a good mood). We usually go for a drive or play indoor games like ludo or watch tele-



vision together. Sometimes our parents don't allow us to do something we want and if we force them they get angry but we should not take that to heart because whatever they plan for us; it is to make our future brighter not dimmer. The most exciting time is during the summer vacations, when we can go out, have a lot of fun; I can always recall these times as sweet memories!

(Alishba Amir: Beaconhouse School System)

Never Feel Lonely!

Whenever you feel alone,
Or you are hit by a stone,
Whenever you don't see the way,
You will always have my way.
Whenever the world seems strange to you, Or when
someone has teased you,
Then come and hold my hand.
Whenever there is nothing to explain,
Then I will come and share your pain.
Whenever you have gone through bad times,
For you! I'll be there and sing my special rhymes.
Whenever you need me, I'll be there for you,
This is my promise to you.
So never feel alone as I am always here for you!

(Ambar Siddiq 9th-M University Model School)

Don't get it right, just
get it written!
~James Thurber

Going Global:

Technological development has transformed lives and revolutionized the world we live in. To keep up with the high demands, we have these modern electronics to keep us on track. These also help us stay connected with family, co-workers and friends. Of course, in such times the Internet, accompanied by some modern gadget, acts as our best buddy. Through this we are always in touch with the world and carry on

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side of this technology. When you are always connected with your work, you hardly find time for your family and friends. This hinders our social life. Children have a bad impact on their mind. Eyesight can also



own business. At the click of but- we have the ity of sending sages and pictures. But with we also have to the negative

be weakened by sitting three or four hours in front of a computer. Also we need to keep up with the technology to know how to operate these devices. Like all things it is advantageous in bringing people closer. All your old pals, with whom you have lost contact, are now just a message away from you. These electronic devices and machinery have played a considerable role in delivering customers with compact entertainment and unparalleled level of communication. That is why we say that the world has turned into a global village. It makes the world simple and compact.

By Zainab Ali.

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OUR EFFORTS: (Continued from Page 1)

HEALING BY CARING, Charsadda and Nowshera 2011:

In February 2011, We collected warm clothes from all over Pakistan and distributed them to flood camps in Nowshera. There were art activities held in the camp for the children who also received stationary items and bags. We made about 1000 people smile!

ONLINE SUMMER CAMP, Peshawar 2011:

In June-July 2011, YES Alumni Peshawar led a 4 week project known as the Online Summer Camp at the Resource Center Peshawar, in which the students from various schools of Peshawar aging from 13 to 18 participated and got educated about various online tools like Skype, Blogs, MS. Office, MS. Excel, Digital



Global Warming

Global warming refers to the increase in the average temperature of the earth's near surface air and oceans. The word started heating up in middle of the 20th century and this trend is projected to continue. Most of this temperature increase has been caused by increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases e.g. carbon dioxide; resulting from human activity such as the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation. Naturally, forest fires that occur to clear up old growth in forests, deplete trees in massive amounts. Since forests absorb large quantities of carbon dioxide and produce oxygen it is not surprising that their absence leads to a dramatically high atmospheric carbon di-

oxide level.

Oceans are also significant contributors of global warming as they naturally contribute much carbon due to the ecosystem support. Studies have also shown that the top layers of oceans contain more pollution and number of pollutants is also worsened by man. Both north and south poles also contribute a lot to global warming. It is in those areas where permafrost contains large amount of carbon that have frozen over time. Disturbances to these areas cause the permafrost to melt and release



the pollutants into the atmosphere.

There is no denying the fact that human beings play a huge role in global warming through industrialization and commercialization. Transportation is also among the largest contributors to global carbon dioxide emission motor vehicles are depend on fuel processed from oil.

(Halima Gohar 7th-M University Model School)