SAHIL

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Interview with
M. Hassan Mangi
DG Human Rights

Early Marriage: A Risk of Life

A Story of Kasur

Play Therapy
GUIDELINES FOR CHILD PROTECTION

Never take anything for free because you can be asked for something in return.

Do not enter a house in which there is only one person.

Do not leave your child alone with any spiritual healer.

Make friends with children of your own age older children may exploit you.

Others should help in front of everyone.

Do not take anything for free from any one to fulfill a wish.

Never take a lift from strangers, they may kidnap you.

Tell your parents immediately if someone asks you to keep a secret.
SAHIL
Against Child Sexual Abuse

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Editorial

It is estimated that 6.1 million children in Pakistan are exposed to domestic violence. Witnessing violence can severely affect a child’s well-being, personal and social development. According to basic human rights approach, it is the right of children to be protected.

The most appalling scandal of child sexual abuse in Kasur, truly exposed the overall child protection system of our country. One of the major achievements towards improving child protection mechanisms is the amendments in Criminal Law Amendment Bill 2016, which proposed to enhance the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 7 to 10 years by amending the section 82 and 83 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC). It also proposed insertion of new sections i.e. 292A, 292B, 292C, 328A, 369A, 377A and 377B to criminalize the exposing of children to sexually explicit material, the child pornography, cruelty to children, human trafficking within Pakistan and sexual abuse. Necessary amendments were also proposed in the Schedule II of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr. P.C.).

Sahil is recognized, nationally and internationally, as one of the leading organizations working on child protection in Pakistan with a special focus on issue of child sexual abuse and exploitation. Its mission is to develop a protective environment for children free from all forms of violence. Its mission is to continue to break silence on this issue and improve prevention through better understanding of abuse, domestic violence and its devastating impact on children, women and families.

In this magazine you will have articles related to child rights, a detailed interview of Director General Human Rights Muhammad Hassan Mangi, update on Kasur incident, Child rights in the conflict-affected regions, Sahil Cruel Numbers 2015 highlights, case studies and other interesting information.

Enjoy a good read and share your feedback with us.
Prioritizing child rights

Arshad Mahmood
Human Rights Activist and Development Practitioner

I still remember media reports about a debate, in 2012, in the National Assembly of Pakistan about failure of the provinces to legislate in order to safeguard child rights following the 18th Constitutional Amendment whereby child rights have become a provincial subject. A parliamentary caucus was established then to look into the situation and make recommendations. Members of the federal legislature, in 2012, while showing their concern about failure of the provinces to legislate about child rights were failed however; to recognize the fact that the federal legislature has failed as well to legislate for areas and subjects under its jurisdiction such as the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and various Bills pending at the national level.

It is heartening to note however; that the civil society of Pakistan including the Child Rights Movement (CRM) Pakistan and its member organizations continued to put pressure on the government, through their consistent advocacy engagements at various levels particularly in the aftermath of the Kasur child sexual abuse scandal, to finally pass the long awaited Criminal Laws (Amendment) Act 2016 by the federal legislature. The new amendments have broadly touched on increasing the minimum age of criminal responsibility, protection of children from cruelty and from exposure to obscene and sexually explicit material and criminalized child pornography and internal trafficking. It has rightly been stated in the Statement of Objects of the Act, “The safeguards provided in this Act will go a long way in protection of all children”.

For further clarity, this piece will briefly review the changes made in the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) (XLIV Act 1860). Age of criminal responsibility has been increased from seven years to ten years under Section 82 of the PPC. Section 82 reads "nothing is an offence which is done by a child under seven years of age". The word seven has been replaced with the word ten under the new amendment. In simple language, the amended Section 82 is exempting a child under 10 whereby an act defined in the code (PPC) as an offence will not be considered an offence if committed by a person less than 10 years of age.

Similarly, Section 83 of the PPC reads “nothing is an offence which is done by a child above seven years of age and under twelve, who has not attained sufficient maturity of understanding to judge the nature and consequences of his conduct on that occasion”. Under Section 83 of the PPC the word seven has been replaced with the word ten and the word twelve has been replaced with the word fourteen. Section 83 is slightly different; it is exempting a child with a condition (mental maturity). An act by a person between 10 to 14 years of age not having sufficient maturity of understanding to judge of the nature and consequences of his conduct on that occasion. The court/judge is given discretionary power to decide the level of maturity.

It means police cannot arrest or register First Information Report (FIR) against someone less than 10 years of age. However; in case where a child is between 10 to 14 years of age, police can arrest the accused after registration of the FIR, and will produce the child in the court within 24 hours. It will be the discretion of the
Court to decide if the arrested child, who is between 10 to 14 years of age, should be given the benefit of section 83 or not. It may take time as the Court may not be able to decide in a single hearing. Overall, this change means that the lower age limit for criminal responsibility is now ten years and the upper age limit is fourteen years.

Similarly, Section 292 A, 292 B and 292 C have been added after Sector 292 of the PPC to protect children from exposure to obscene and sexually explicit material. Section 292 A states whoever seduces a child by any means whatsoever with an intent to involve him in any sexual activity or exposes him to obscene and sexually explicit material, document, a film, video or a computer generated imagine or attempts to do the aforementioned acts, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which shall not be less than one year and may extend up to seven years or with fine which shall not be less than one hundred thousand rupees and which may extend to five hundred thousand rupees, or with both.

Section 292 B has defined and criminalized Child Pornography while Section 292 C is about punishment for child pornography which includes imprisonment which shall not be less than two years and which may extend to seven years and a fine which shall not be less than two hundred thousand rupees and which may extend up to seven hundred thousand rupees, or with both.

A new section, Section 328 A. Cruelty to a Child has been inserted, which protects children against willful assaults, ill treatment, neglect, abandonment or an act of omission or commission that results in or has potential to harm or injure the child causing physical or psychological injury. Cruelty to a child has a sentence of imprisonment of either description for a term which shall not be less than one year and which may extend up to three years or with fine which shall not be less than twenty five thousand rupees and which may extend to fifty thousand rupees, or with both. Although it’s a positive development that cruelty to child has been made a criminal offence however; having a punishment of up to three years means that this is a bailable offence.

To respond to the long standing issue of internal trafficking of human beings including children, Section 369 A. Trafficking of human beings has been inserted in the PPC with a punishment including imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than five years and may extend up to ten years or with a fine which shall not be less than five hundred thousand rupees and up to seven hundred thousand rupees or with both. Furthermore, Section 377 A. Sexual Abuse has been added to PPC where sexual abuse has been defined and strict punishments have been introduced including imprisonment of up to seven years and fine which shall not be less than five hundred thousand rupees or both.

The struggle for child protection doesn’t stop here with this success where important changes have been made to legislation rather following this first important achievement all the relevant stakeholders are to embark on a new journey for the implementation of this piece of legislation. As we all know, Pakistan has this notorious image of being a graveyard of laws, there is a need to create widespread awareness about the law among the stakeholders including all the actors of the criminal justice system particularly the police, judiciary and the lawyers, among the general public and communities and among the broader civil society including the media. While remembering my and many organizations engagement with the juvenile justice system and the issues being faced in age determination under the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance (JJSO) 2000, it is strongly recommended that age determination mechanism should be refined as Section 82 and 83 and the JJSO in some cases will be dependent on specialized mechanism to determine the age of a juvenile.
Interview with Mr. Muhammad Hassan Mangi, DG Human Rights

Interview by; Mamta Gohar and Waqas Hameed
Program Officers Media

Mr. Muhammad Hassan Mangi is serving as a Director General in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Human rights. He has worked for the child rights and overall human rights in the country. SAHIL conducted this interview with him at his office.

While talking on human rights, Mr. Hassan Mangi said that the phenomena of virtue and evil have been a part of our society since the beginning of human civilization. However, there are certain elements around us which have created hurdles in a peaceful, pleasant and protected atmosphere, he added. These elements adopt illegal and illegitimate means to fulfill their sexual desires. It gives birth to grave complications in our society. He regretted that our children are at the mercy of these elements.

According to Mr. Mangi, an increase in such incidents is a cause for concern. He added that the government as well as society at large should be active and conscious in order to stem the tide of the issues of sexual harassment. Sexual violence is not only an issue of our society but global phenomena. Mr. Mangi, said that all segments of society will have to work in unison to minimize these incidents and to understand the causes behind this inhuman behavior. Sexual violation is actually a satanic behavior and no society is safe from this curse, he regretted. It is a psychological problem with fatal consequences for humanity at large.

Regarding child protection, Mr. Mangi said that child committees should be established to protect child from abuse. He added that such committees have been established during earthquakes and other natural calamities. According to him, these committees and the judicial system should have authority to intervene if and when an issue of child abuse occurs. We have laws but no effective implementation mechanism, he added.

While discussing Kasur incident, Mr. Mangi said that it was a painful incident and we all condemn it. After this incident, many culprits were arrested and decisions made in some cases. He referred to Javed Iqbal incident in Lahore and said that sometimes we don’t adopt self-conscious attitudes. According to Mr. Mangi, society and family can play an important role to deter such heinous crimes, but most of the times they have shown lackluster attitude.

Mr. Mangi emphasized that we should learn the methods to protect and safeguard our children. In many cases, we do not even report of child abuse at Police Stations. In the Lahore case, many parents did not even bother to report cases of missing children to the local police stations. According to Mr. Mangi, the main dilemma is that most of the time, we only rely on condemning government officials instead of taking action at the societal level. We always blame others for our own wrong doings. He suggested that we should work together to tackle this
issue.

While talking on the recent military amendment bill, he said, it is necessary to explain differences existing at this point. We should not attach this bill with the Kasur incident. Rather, we have been working on this subject for the last seven years. After a long struggle, this bill came into its real shape today. Law Minister, Mr. Zahid Hamid has played a vital role in the legislation of this bill. He said that at the start of the legislation we had awarded death sentences but when the bill passed through different processes, its time span was fixed at seven years. It is unfortunate for us. On one side we oppose death sentences but on the other side, we want its implementation. These double standards should be abolished.

While shedding light on sexual violence he said that often we settle these issues outside the court and parties make compromises before court decisions. If the victims of Kasur incident are not satisfied with court proceedings and decisions, they also have the option to unanimously submit a resolution to the human rights commission.

Mr. Mangi said that discussion a social stigma. We can talk observing the stipulated over the Islamic teachings sodomy. The war between right constant phenomenon. He poles apart from true Islamic occur.

He said that in order to reduce there is a need to promote the issues of sexual violence awareness in our society. According to him, many parents do not know the basic principles of child upbringing. We should struggle to involve children in decision making process. They should be enabled to protect themselves. He said that there are only a few programs airing child messages, protection and child upbringing. The volume of these programs should be increased.

According to Mr. Mangi, such incidents could also be minimized through the implementation of law and strict enforcement of punishments. He suggested increasing the role of religious scholars, and the introduction of community monitoring system and awareness campaigns to handle sexual violations.

In addition, he advised a strong and proactive judicial system with strict proceedings to provide timely justice.

In the end, he said that man is viceregent of Allah on earth and children are a reward of Allah to humanity. The continuation of humanity depends on children. It is necessary for the parents and other members of the society to protect the child and to provide a friendly and peaceful environment to them.
Early Marriage... A risk of life

You are given in the Nikah of Ghafoor Ahmed, Son of Jamal Ahmed. Do you agree?

Let's start the process of Nikah. Please give NICs of both bridal and groom. Take it Molvi sahib. Where is the NIC of your daughter? We do not have, as she is only 12 years old. Malik Sahib I cannot proceed the process of Nikah because identity card is a legal requirement for this process.

What do you mean Molvi Sahib? Before this no one shared this condition. Jamal Sahib, by doing this not only me, we both go to jail and we have to face 2-3 years imprisonment and fine.

One major loss may be that due to early marriage at the time of delivery both mother and child can die. The danger is that both mother and the new born may die at birth as a result of underage marriage.

Thank you, we have informed in time.
Milestones of a goal

Atiq ur Rehman
Senior Program Officer Training, Sahil

Pakistan has the sixth largest population amongst the countries of the world. According to Pakistan's demographic profile, 63% of the population of Pakistan is under the age of 25 years. According to development analysts it is a positive sign for Pakistan that the population is mostly young.

But illogically, children in Pakistan are considered a burden on the meager economic resources. That is the reason that children are facing a lot of problems in Pakistan, such as, deprivation of education, protection from diseases abuse, and neglect. Every year hundreds of children lose their lives to these conditions. But the government of Pakistan has failed to overcome these issues.

Pakistan signed the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in 1989. Pakistan was the first Islamic country that ratified the UNCRC which insures that children are given the rights of survival, protection, development and participation. Pakistan again has been unable to fulfill these basic needs of children.

However, many private institutions and non-government organizations are working in Pakistan to fill these gaps and promote child rights and protection. Most organizations are working on the common issues of education and health. There are very few organization that work on complicated issues such as child sexual abuse.

Sahil is one of them that works on child protection, especially against child sexual abuse, specified under the UNCRC article 34. (Protect of children from all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation). For the realization of their dream, Sahil started its work with teacher training. Teachers are an effective group through whom we can reach a number of children quickly. Sahil has trained more than 20,000 teachers through this program.

In 2004, Sahil training department conducted a teacher training in Murree Tehsil. It was the time when nobody was ready to discuss child sexual abuse and it was considered a taboo topic. But in the same training, Ms. Kathrin Sirdar, a participant, realized and said “it is our issue and we try to cover it up, but I will never do that.”

She replicated Sahil protection messages in her school, with 450 children who became the beneficiaries of the training. This was not end of her commitment. She continued that struggle and when she was transferred to another school in Josephabad, she contacted Sahil again to conduct trainings for teachers and parents, and the child protection puppet show in the school. Through these trainings, 651 teachers, parents and children were beneficiaries of the program.

In 2015, she contacted Presentation Convent School in Peshawar and gave them an orientation about Sahil program and requested them to contact Sahil for training. The management of Peshawar school arranged the training, in which 48 teachers and 841 children participated.

In 2016, she was appointed as a principal in Presentation Convent School, Risalpur. She yet again approached Sahil team to convey child protection messages in the school. Altogether, approximately 2,000 people received Sahil protection messages through Ms. Kathleen Sirdar's efforts. She is excited to spread Sahil protection
messages in all presentation convent schools.

At the end of training they requested the trainers to burn a candle, and share the candle flame with all the participants. It was a symbol of promise to continue to convey Sahil message to other people. Trainers reflected their emotions in poetry:

اے مرنا شکرہ بھرے کے تاریخ

The facts show that if you are sincere you can do everything. This is the story of a signal participant; there are several others who have contributed in this way.

According to Sahil Cruel Number the victims of child sexual abuse cases reported were 3,768 in the year 2016.

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**SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES**

**Dear Readers!**

For the Readers’ Corner segment of Sahil quarterly magazine we will publish the writings of our readers. Submissions of your articles are welcomed for Sahil’s upcoming issue July-September 2016, which shall be exclusively for children. You can send your writings in English or Urdu. The editors reserve the right to make the final decision. The last date for submission of articles, stories, jokes, amazing facts, poetries, is 18 June 2016.

**Send your contributions, on:**

The Editor No. 13, First Floor, Al-Babar Centre, F-8 Markaz, Islamabad, Pakistan.

P.O. Box # 235, Or
E-mail: mag@sahil.org

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**Child Protection**

A healthy personality leads to a brighter future for your child.

**Be Aware!!!**

Ignorance regarding child protection and development can lead to decline in child performance.

SAHIL assists you in getting information and help through trainings, free counseling and legal aid services.

Tel. Free Line: 0800-13518
Website: www.sahil.org
Cruel Numbers Report is a flagship of Sahil that has been compiled from 84 National, Regional and Local newspapers.

The fight against child sexual abuse is showing an increase in registration of cases. The total number of sexual abuse cases in 2015, stand at a staggering 3768 including 7 cases which were directly reported to Sahil and it brings the number of abused children to 10 per day. Which has increased by 7% as compared to the figure 3508 recorded in the year 2014.

Gender-wise distribution follows trends of the previous years where more girls are victims of sexual abuse. This report shows that 1974 girls and 1794 boys have been abused.

The phenomenon that sexual abuse usually occurs in puberty, in which it is alleged that the victim is a consenting partner does not hold true. The research shows that children between the age brackets of 0-5 years, and up to 10 years are abused.

This year the data also shows that victims in the age bracket of 0-5 years, 6-10 years and 11-15 years are more boys than girls.

Like previous years, the highest percentage of vulnerable age group among both girls and boys was 11-15 years.
Sahil has started recording child marriages since 2012 as it a sexual crime against young girls which is now being reflected in the print media. In 2015, 112 cases of child marriages were reported, which has increased by 9% as compared to the figure 103 recorded in the year 2014.

This year 112 child marriage cases were reported, of which 104 were girls and 8 were boys.

Out of 112 child marriage cases 36% of the victims of early marriages belonged to the age group of 11-15 years and the same number of cases were from the age group of 6-10 years.

Girls being married up to 5 years indicate that these brides may have been given away to settle old enmity and disputes among tribes or families.

Moreover the fact that more girls are being married at a young age in comparison to boys indicates that girls are being married to older persons. The power imbalance that is an intrinsic part of any child marriage will be further aggravated if the husband is a much older person with added problems if the child is a second wife.
Children of the lesser god:  
Child rights in the conflict-affected regions

By Noor Ul Islam  
Child Rights Activist and Development Practitioner

Home to severe human-induced conflicts for the last four decades, many regions of the country are home to child rights violations from the perspective of the State’s ratification of several regional and multilateral resolutions and covenants, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child (UNCRC) and its Optional Protocol on Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts.

Today, imitating fights while encountering enemies, having home-made toy-guns - have become a common hobby and recreational outlet for children. Alongside, children have uninterrupted exposure to psychological disorders related to extreme violence within the family and outside.

Children born in human-induced conflict affected regions are deprived from their basic fundamental rights whereas children in other parts of the world are born with a guaranteed life of security, protection, provision of basic social services and the freedom of speech, mobility, expression and inclusion.

Our children, till date, have never been able to express their willingness to undergo, with their State, a social contract where they can ask for their basic rights of survival, food, healthcare, basic education, and physically and emotionally secure environment - where they can learn and thrive with the visions and aspirations that they can exclusively discover and identify with, nor have they expressed their concerns over life and disability threats, abduction, humiliation, and the severe nature of the traumas existing around them.

Yet, the policy and governance protocols - responsible for the distribution of resources and services in these regions - do not inculcate any guidelines pertaining to the constitutionally protected and multilaterally ratified rights of children in these regions.

Strange is the notion that with ever increasing Federal and Provincial budgets, and manifold increase in the aid assistance for social security and development from “industrially developed” countries, there has been a statistically significant increase in the number of children being lost, malnourished, out of school, trafficked, displaced, disoriented and abused. The State apparatus is silent on the issue.

The State has an ever-increasing responsibility to bring an end to these multiplying violations of guaranteed and ratified rights. There is a limit to making children fodder for the hegemonic practices of the system.

Our Children are not only our future, they are our present too. The aspirations and ideals they acquire today have a way to influence societal norms, ideals, and the efforts towards a just, equal, prosperous and secure life. In fact they already have begun to translate their multi-dimensional insecurities, deprivations and inequalities into reshaping the outlook of the families and communities they reside in.

There must be a new beginning - A beginning towards the days where our children – and their children too - have secure shelter, enough food, quality healthcare, basic education, freedom of speech, expression and mobility, and most importantly the guarantee to life and protection from physical, sexual and emotional abuses. Our children deserve better.
Sahil Case Study
This case was registered at a police station in Sindh

On December 3, the day of incident, A.M went to the market to purchase household articles and returned to his house. After some time, he along with a friend and relative was standing in the street when they heard cries from the cattle pond of S.A. They immediately went there and saw three people were forcibly committing Zina with his eight year old girl named A.K. On seeing the complainant party, the accused ran away. Out of them, one culprit was identified as T, who was armed with a pistol; whereas remaining two were unknown. Baby A.K was in a terrible state, and she was crying. She was immediately taken to civil hospital, for medical treatment, after which the FIR was filed against the accused people The complainant A.M filed an FIR under section 364- A and article 10(4) offence of Zina (enforcement of Hadood) Ordinance 1979.

Sahil sent a legal aid offer letter to the victim party. Sahil lawyer appeared in the court and preceded the case. After complete procedure of the court, the Learned Additional Session Judge convicted the three accused under section 376 PPC. Out of these three one accused named M.A, was sentenced to imprisonment for 10 ten years with a fine of Rs.10,000, and in case of nonpayment of fine, he was to undergo further imprisonment for period of six months. Other accused named T & A, were convicted for 5 five years with Rs. 5,000 fine under benefit of Juvenile Justice System Ordinance.

Sahil Case Study
This case was registered at a police station in Punjab

The victim A.Z, a 7 year old boy, was playing in his street around 5:00PM on the day of the crime. After a while his father and brothers present inside the house heard noises of A.Z crying. They went outside to inquire, and realized that the sounds were coming from the adjacent house. They all went inside and saw that A.Z was being sexually abused by the accused Y. Upon their arrival Y fled the scene, leaving behind a terrified, naked and bleeding A.K.

Sahil took up this case. After a complete trial the accused was found guilty and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 30,000.

Sahil Legal Aid
Sahil provides free legal aid to all victims of child sexual abuse.
Confidentiality is strictly maintained.
Phone; 92-51 2850574
Email: Legalaid@sahil.org.
Toll free service on 0800-13518
The Story of Kasur

August 08, 2015
The discovery of 400 videos recording more than 280 children being forced to have sex in district Kasur jolts whole country. Most of the victims were under 14, the scale of the scandal emerged earlier this week after the victims’ parents clashed police during a protest against their failure to prosecute the men who orchestrated the scandal. Two dozen people were injured when police used force to disperse more than 4,000 protesters, who were calling for justice for the victims.

August 09, 2015
The police arrested seven of the 25 suspects, involved in sexual abuse of children.

August 10, 2015
The Senate, passed a unanimous resolution condemning in strongest terms the heinous crime of child abuse committed against innocent citizens of Kasur district.

August 10, 2015
Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Pakistan People’s Party (PPP) and Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) today filed motions in Punjab Assembly and call-for-attention notices against Kasur child abuse incident.

August 10, 2015
The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) has expressed grave concern over sexual abuse of children in Kasur and demanded prompt investigation.

August 11, 2015
Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif has formed a Joint Investigation Team (JIT), to probe the massive child abuse scandal.

August 11, 2015
The Lahore High Court has declined a government request for the formation of a judicial commission on Kasur scandal.

August 11, 2015,
The UN Children Fund, UNICEF, has described children being sexually abused over a period of several years in the Kasur district of Pakistan, are appalling.

August 12, 2015
24 more families have stepped forward to register their cases against victimization.

August 12, 2015
A senior provincial police officer has been transferred and three top officials of Kasur district police suspended, raising hopes of justice for the victims.

August 13, 2015
A special Anti-Terrorism Court remanded seven more suspects in Kasur child abuse scandal to police custody for 27 days and the province’s top court sought the JIT report on August 20, 2015.
August 14, 2015,
Sindh Assembly passed resolution against Kasur child abuse case.

August 15, 2015
Ten more cases have been registered in the Kasur child abuse scandal case, while five more people have been arrested.

August 19, 2015
The Lahore High Court has allowed interim bail to a suspect of Kasur child abuse scandal. Tanzeelur Rehman, himself an employee of LHC, was suspended by the chief justice soon after he was nominated in the case.

August 30, 2015
Three accused of Kasur child abuse scandal have been sent on 10-day physical remand into police custody.

September 01, 2015
The Lahore High Court has dismissed the petition of its own clerk Tanzeel-ur-Rehman allegedly involved in Kasur child abuse scandal.

October 14, 2015
Joint investigation Team submitted its final report in an anti-terrorism court. As per report, the committee has declared 15 accused as guilty of the heinous crime.

October 16, 2015
The Joint Investigation Team informed the Lahore High Court that it had interviewed 450 people including accused persons, victims, witnesses and complainants during its probe in child abuse scandal in Kasur. The team also examined a total of 47 video-clips and 72 photos in light of Punjab Forensic Science report. The JIT has presented challan of a total of 17 persons as accused. Out of these, ten have been challanned under charges of sodomy and seven under other charges like criminal intimidation and fraud. It said all the video-clips (47) relating to the scandal were 4-5 years old.

January 12, 2016
Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) has reserved judgment in respect of bail applications of three persons accused in Kasur child abuse scandal. ATC took up the bail pleas of the three culprits for next hearing. Counsels from both the sides presented their arguments.

March 1, 2016
An anti-terrorism court directed the police to remove Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) provisions from an FIR registered in the Kasur child abuse case and referred the case for hearing to the session court.

April 18, 2016
Anti terrorism court sentenced two accused Haseem Amir and Faizan Majeed to life imprisonment for their role in a pedophile ring accused of abusing dozens of children over many years in Punjab.
**Update:** Senate passed a bill that criminalises for the first time sexual assault against minors, child pornography and trafficking. Under the revised legislation, sexual assaults will now be punishable by up to seven years in prison. Previously, only rape was criminalised.

Out of 23 cases 17 cases are still pending adjudication before the trial court. All these cases are at evidence stage. Cancellation reports of other five cases have been submitted by police before the trial court but these cases are pending for arguments stage.

Source: Daily The Nation, Express Tribune

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**Sahil Training Department provides trainings to primary school teachers, parents and Communities**

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Email: teachertrainers@sahil.org

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**Parenting Skills**

Health, education and protection are integral to the proper development of children

**DO:**

- Trust your children and respect them
- Develop everyday rules together with children
- Be kind to children
- Be consistent in your behavior with children
- Give your children time to develop their interests and learn new skills
- Praise your children on good performances
- Stay informed about your children’s activities and friends

**DON’T:**

- Force decisions on children without discussing the issue
- Compare your children with other children
- Show favoritism to any one child
- Insult or embarrass your children
- Be angry with children due to your own stress
- Instill fear in your children
- Hit or abuse your children

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**WE NEED YOU TO PROTECT CHILDREN**

Sahil is working against Child Sexual Abuse and provides Free Legal Aid, Counselling Services and Trainings on Child Body Protection.
Mini and the free ride

Early morning Mini was ready to go to school, she was getting late. She ran up to the van stop. When she reached there, the van had already gone. In the meanwhile, a car stopped beside her side and a woman said: “come with us, and we will leave you to your school.”

Mini wanted to go to school because today she had her test. She would have liked to go with them. But then she remembered her parent’s advice “we should never talk with strangers and should definitely never go with them anywhere.” Mini shouted loudly “NO” and run back home.

Attention to Volunteers

Renew your Registration Card after it completes one year. To get the new registration card, kindly send us two passport size photos, copy of National ID card, old registration card and complete postal address along with contact Number.

For Contact: Incharge Volunteer Program,
No.13, First Floor, Al-Babr Centre, F-8 Markaz, Islamabad.
Phone: (92-51) 2260636
Fax : (92-51) 2254578
Frequently asked questions from Sahil JHC

A Mother of 7 years old child called counselor to discuss the problem of her child, She told her child is having behavior issues of hyperactivity and attention deficient, she can't sit for a single minute, and she is not satisfied from the treatment her daughter received, So Counselor recommended her to bring in JHC for play therapy that can be helpful for her behavior stability.

Play Therapy:

"Play therapy is a specialized area of practice and a way to relate to clients who are unable to verbalize their feelings."

It's a form of therapy and used as an alternative therapy tool to treat the children with different problem sometimes a child will start to develop patterns of behavior that may be causing disruption to their lives and to the lives of those around them. Parents, carers and teachers may recognize signs such as excessive anger, fear or worry that may be affecting a child’s development and their ability to get along with their family and friends at school.

While adults experiencing emotional and behavioral difficulties can seek help in the form talking therapies, children tend to find this therapeutic setting threatening and almost like an interrogation. As a result, play therapy is used to help children communicate at their own level and at their own pace. This enables them to understand confused feelings and upsetting experiences that they haven’t yet had a chance to process.

What can play therapy help with?

It help the children to express themselves, explore their thoughts, feelings and make sense of their experiences it deals with the problems including

- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Clinical depression
- Anxiety related issues
- Poor school performance
- Children who are dealing with parental separation, divorce or conflict.
- Children who have witnessed domestic violence.
- Children who are in hospital.
- Traumatized children who have experienced sexual, emotional or physical abuse.
- Children in care - adoption and fostering.
- Children dealing with stressful life experiences such as loss, illness or death of a loved one.
- Children who have experienced a serious accident or disaster.

Child psychologist have been that playtime can be used for the children to connect, learn, provide reassurance, to calm anxiety and perhaps to improve self esteem especially very young children can express themselves through play, it’s an indirect way for the therapist/ counselor to recast perception, cognition and behavior.
What is purpose of Play therapy?

- Include introducing the child to the creative media and allowing for pleasing art experiences,
  Stimulating verbal and nonverbal expression of the trauma,
- Building a therapeutic bond between the child and therapist, and increasing the child’s developmental level
- Helping the child recall traumatic memories in a safe way and overcome denial, amnesia, or suppression of trauma, encouraging the youngster to participate in the lengthy process of treatment, and helping the child to eventually become desensitized to the trauma.

What Different tool can be used in play therapy?

- Art therapy includes manipulative (e.g., clay, crayons, painting supplies) water and sand play containers
- Puppet therapy
- Puzzle games therapy
- Drawing material tool
- Clay and play dough
- Doll house (dolls and figures of various sizes and age)

Are the benefits of play therapy?

Ultimately, play therapy helps to facilitate healing and the development of new patterns of behavior and thinking that enables children to be more resilient in everyday life. By helping to free children from negative experiences and feelings that block their learning and development, play therapy allows them to see their world in a more positive light.
Some of the specific benefits children can gain from play therapy include:

- Reduced anxiety about traumatic events.
- Improved confidence and a sense of competence.
- Better able to form healthy bonds in relationships.
- Improved ability to trust themselves and others.
- Enhanced creativity and playfulness.

Jeet Healing Center provides trainings to secondary school teachers, communities and organizations

On
Para Counseling Skills, Trauma and Stress Management, Parenting Skills; Conflict Management, Adolescent Health and Child Protection

Phone: 92-051 2856950
Email: jeet@sahil.org
Toll free services on 0800-13518
Children of Pakistan: The Innocent Victims

Noor Pamiri
Social Activist and Communication Practitioner

The children of Pakistan have, directly and indirectly, been exposed to violence and abuse perpetrated by their elders and the society at large. From a child seeing his mother being beaten by his father, to being exposed to the unchecked gory display of mutilated and bloodied bodies on various media platforms, the impressionable minds of the children are destined to carry the baggage of graphic memories throughout their lives. Goes without saying that this worrisome practice impacts the lives of the children in ways more serious than are currently being understood by many parents, teachers and policy makers. While domestic abuse has been a recurring phenomenon for a long time, the broadcasting of graphic, violent, videos and images is a relatively recent phenomena.

As if the exposure to violence, as spectators or observers was not tragic enough, the children of Pakistan now stand as potential targets of loathsome terrorists who, in their acts of desperation, have assaulted and shot children enmass on point blank more than once. The APS tragedy brought the hidden bruises of the society to the fore, but the trials of the children did not finish there and then; many among the deceased in the Lahore Park blast were children picnicking with their parents and family members. Unknown, uncounted, number of children have fallen prey to the drones hunting for terrorists, and still many other have suffered due to the death of their parents, or immediate family members in the hundreds of bomb blasts that have caused the death of more than 60,000 people, at least, if the official figures are to be believed. Add to these statistics the high number of children raped, molested and trafficked. Not to speak of children affected by malnourishment, polio, measles, challenges in access to health and education, and child labor. It is a sad fact that millions of the children of Pakistan, since the 9/11 incident the subsequent war of terror, have lost their innocence even before attempting to understand the world around them. Such is generally in the plight of the children in war zones, declared or undeclared.

What is the state and the society doing to alter this situation, and make the society livable for all, but especially for the children? Not much, I am afraid, except for the pile of laws crafted by the governments, every now and then, under pressure from this or that NGO. The net impact of such unimplemented laws on the welfare of the children equals to zilch!

Not only does the state need to seriously reflect on the existing painful situation and put its acts together, it also needs to create a mechanism to make the society understand the plight of the children, and the visible and invisible wounds they carry.

On its part, the society also needs to understand the impact of its indifference, and silence, or sheer knee-jerk reactions to gruesome incidents involving children. The status of the children of Pakistan cannot be improved in a vacuum, because they are an integral part of the mismanaged and degenerated society that we have helped shape, overtly or covertly.

The lives of the people of Pakistan, including that of its children, can only be improved if the government moves beyond bragging about passing laws, and starts the practice of putting its citizens above every other priority. Without investing in education and health, better governance, training of the law enforcers and elimination of all kinds of violence, the society cannot be improved, and the status of the children cannot be altered positively.
Our Inspirational Talent

Irfad Imtiaz, Microsoft’s youngest security researcher

Irfad Imtiaz is an inspiring Pakistani Tech teen, who was titled as Youngest Microsoft Security Researcher. Irfad reported the first potential security bug in Microsoft back in 2013 at the age of only 15 and got his name listed on the TechNet Official Security Researchers list. After joining the Microsoft Virtual Academy in 2012 (Age 14), Irfad has completed 7 programming courses and has been the top student on the MVA from Pakistan for two consecutive months. Microsoft has highly praised this young man’s talent and passion for his field and has offered him an internship in Washington.

Irfad started using the computer when he was only 5 years old. Surrounded by family that is heavily involved in technology, Irfad’s interest in computers was an obvious choice. Starting out as something to pass the time over the summer holidays, Irfad’s uncle got him hooked on to programming which later led to an interest in cyber security. Irfad is inspired by Bill Gates and wants to join Microsoft in the future.

Irfad’s talent made the entire country proud. Despite so much negativity in the electronic media, this is something that highlights the positive side and soft image of Pakistan. We hope Irfad will keep climbing up the ladder of success. We wish him all the best.

Muhammad Abou Hafs, tops Australian university’s exam

A Seven-year-old student hailing from Kot Momin area of Sargodha has topped mathematics examination in Australian university’s International Assessment for Schools.

Muhammad Abou Hafs of Bhabra Government Higher Secondary School has won a gold medal out of hundreds of students from 16 different countries.

Parents of the hardworking boy said that they thank Allah Almighty and are proud of son’s achievement. One of Abou Hafs’s teachers, Muhammad Nawaz said that the student is very clever in his studies and is about to go a long way. Principal of the school, Zafarullah Khan said that the entire faculty is proud of Abou Hafs’s accomplishment.

Abou Hafs says he is determined to achieve much more in the future.
What's on at Sahil

Sahil Media Department

- Arranged Sahil National Peace Conference attended by 125 participants. CPN members and community activists of all four provinces were also present.
- Conducted six days awareness campaign on PTV News about early marriages and conflict resolution through animated messages.
- Seven days media campaign through five Pakistani news channels (Geo, Express, SAMAA, Dunya, ARY) through animation on early marriages and peace conflict resolution.
- Arranged Child Friendly Newspaper Award (CFN), Best Volunteer Award and Cruel Numbers 2015 Launching ceremony at Serena Hotel Islamabad.
- Published Sahil Cruel Numbers 2015.
- Published Sahil Quarterly Magazine titled “Year of Children, 2016”.

Sahil Resource Center

- Issued membership cards to 88 new Sahil volunteers.
- At CFN, two best volunteer and 14 special mention category awards presented to sahil volunteers.
- Sahil resource centre facilitated 6 students for research work.
- For internship, Sahil received 14 requests out of which 4 internees were given Sahil program orientation.

Sahil Training Department

- Trainings on peace & Conflict resolution were conducted in Jaffarabad Abbottabad and Sukkur districts.
- Held community training on child protection in UC Thari.
- District Khairpur, attended by 533 participants.

On Request Puppet Shows in:

- Little Harvard School Faisalabad.
- St. Michaels Convent High School Peshawar.
- Presentation Convent School Risalpur.

Conducted on request Trainings at:

- Little Harvard School Faisalabad attended by 11 teachers and 44 parents attended the training.
- Meri Hifazat training in St. Michaels Convent High School Peshawar, 43 teachers participated in the event.
- Presentation Convent School Risalpur, 58 teachers participate the Meri Hifazat training.
Sahil Jeet Healing Center
- Conducted Twenty nine peace and conflict training sessions with regional offices Lahore, Sukkur & Jafferabad, 1076 males and 1071 females participated in these session.
- Six group counseling sessions held with 64 women at Dur-ul-Amaan Rawalpindi.
- Two training sessions for the students of Master in Public Health at National Health Services Academy, Islamabad.
- Individual counseling sessions (In person, telephonic and via email) conducted with eight male and eight female clients.

Sahil Regional Office Sukkur
- Training on peace and conflict resolution Trainings in ten villages of Union Counsil Dhandhi and Sangrar, attended by 121 CPN and 544 community members.
- Two press conferences held at Press Club Sukkur and Al Manzar Hotel Khairpur on Cruel Numbers 2015.

Attended
- Meeting with District Support Groups on child protection and referral mechanism and its implementation.
- Meeting at World Vision Head office to discuss referral system and current situation of children in Sukkur district.
- Meeting with DIG Police for coordination and guidance between police and NGOs at regional level.
- A meeting with DC Khairpur regarding sweet homes.
- Meeting with Deputy Director social welfare department Sukkur to discuss the issues related to children of Dar-ul-Aman.

Sahil Regional Office Jaffarabad
- Counseling session held for women at Dar-ul-Aman Quetta, Total 87 participants attended the session.
- Training sessions conducted at 10 villages of District Jafferabad on peace and conflict resolution.
- Training sessions held for community on child protection at Union Council Maanjoth.
- Press briefing was conducted at district Jafferabad and district Sohbatpur on Sahil Cruel Number 2015, Total 60 media persons attended the press briefing.
- Awareness campaign through animated messages on early marriages and peace and conflict resolution through cable network in district Jaffarabad was conducted.
Sahil Regional Office Lahore

- Ten trainings sessions held at ten villages for communities and VCPN members on Pur Aman Muashra.
- Two press conferences held at Sheikpura and Lahore on Cruel Numbers 2015. Total 59 journalists participated the press briefing session.
- On-aired animated messages about early marriages and to promote conflict resolution through cable network in district Kasur.
- Established Child Protection Network (CPN) in kasur, Kot Hussain Khan Wala.
- FIR Posters were displayed at Police Station and Hospitals of Kot Husain Khan Wala.
- Two students entertained for their research work on child abuse.

Sahil Regional Office Abbottabad

- Ten training sessions conducted in Union Council Jhangi and Mirpur, total 242 males and 400 female community members participated.
- Two press conferences at Press Club Abbottabad and Haripur held on Cruel Numbers 2015. Total 41 journalists attended the press briefing session.
- Counseling sessions provided for 110 vulnerable women in Dar-ul-Aman Abbottabad.
- Counseling sessions and therapies were provided for 11 females and 02 male clients.
- One month awareness raising media campaign was on air through cable in district Abbottabad and its surrounding areas on early marriages and peace and conflict resolution.

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Children Need Attention

*Jeet Healing Centre Offers*
*Free Counseling through*
*In Person, Email, Telephone*
*For*
*All psychological issues including Trauma of child sexual abuse*
*Confidentiality is strictly maintained*
*Phone :( 92-51) 2850574, Email: jeet@sahil.org*
*Toll Free service on*
*0800-13518*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>My right</th>
<th>My responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Name and nationality</td>
<td>Know my date of birth</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Access to information</td>
<td>Refrain from Immoral information</td>
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<tr>
<td>27.</td>
<td>Provision of basic needs</td>
<td>No waste of resources</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>Education for all</td>
<td>Attend school regularly</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Work hard</td>
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<td>32.</td>
<td>No child labour</td>
<td>Educate myself for a better future</td>
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<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>Protection from all forms of abuse</td>
<td>Incase of any danger, protect myself by shouting or asking for help</td>
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Toll free: 0800-13518
Children need Protection, Education & Care

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