



NEWSLETTER

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7th Asia Pro Bono Conference

The Asia Pro Bono Conference 2018 was held at the Harbour Grand Hotel in Hong Kong from 25th, October to 27th, October, 2018. The Conference was founded in 2012 and is a yearly event which celebrates and emphasizes pro bono legal work and legal ethics with an effort to generate dialogue on advancing the outreach of pro bono ethos and impact throughout Asia and around the globe. The Committee for the Welfare of Prisoner's legal empowerment work was showcased on day two of the conference in a session titled 'Emerging Pro Bono Communities in the South Asia Region.' This session brought together pro bono legal service providers, and policy leaders from a number of South Asian jurisdictions to engage in a dialogue about their experience of scaling up initiatives which assist in delivering access to justice. The focus was on a variety of divergent themes including pro bono related legal services for prisoners; child victims of sexual abuse; the strengthening of paralegal efforts; restorative justice for minority communities and the role of non-traditional actors in supporting access to justice. Panelists included Mariam Faruqi, i-Probono, Trishna Mohan Kripalani, Thomson Reuters Foundation, Ram Tiwari, Nepal Institute of Justice and Haya Zahid, Legal Aid Office Project, Pakistan. The 8th conference is expected to take place in the last quarter of 2019 in Nepal.

Associate Director **MALIHA ZIA LARI** of Legal Aid Society has been appointed as a member on the legal expert committee notified under the Sindh Commission on the Status of Women Act 2015. The committee is chaired by Ms. Nuzhat Shirin

FREE LEGAL AID AND AWARENESS ACROSS PRISONS

Right to a fair trial and due process are fundamental human rights however, a large number of under trial prisoners(UTP) in Pakistan remain deprived of such rights which is largely on account of lack of free legal aid services and lack of legal awareness. In this backdrop, CWP-LAO provides legal aid and advice to UTPs across 25 prisons in Sindh. During the period of **1st Oct 2018 - 15th Dec 2018** the following has been achieved in this regard:

- 443 Legal aid clinics were conducted across 25 prisons 
- 1,480 Interviews were conducted with inmates, including the provision of on the spot legal advice 
- 665 Vakalatnamas were signed and filed in courts 
- 111 Cases were disposed of through court orders 
- 180 Bail orders were granted to inmates 

In bidding farewell to the year 2018 one can't help but feel as though one is a pendulum swinging frailly between hope and despair. Unfortunately, hope may be a good breakfast but is certainly a bad supper. The grandest moment of the year that has been was the PTI sweeping away the 2018 polls knocking over the status quo. What followed was an ambitious 100 day agenda which many would say has selectively focused on unravelling buried accountability scandals. Brushing aside all things associated with the buzzwords of 'accountability' and 'corruption', taking stock of the rule of law-oriented promises in the 100 day package, it appears that hope is deferred and continues to make the heart sick. The high claims made in the Prime Minister's performance report assert 18 out of 35 commitments have been 'completed'. Included in this list, ranking at the very top, under the theme of Transforming

Governance, lies the legal reform package which would "revolutionize access to justice". Tall claims splashed across news bulletins read the judicial reform package would ensure speedy and fair disposal of all civil cases within the span of one year and would clear out the backlog of pending cases. Perhaps it would have been less misleading to state that the process of legal reforms has merely been initiated at best gauging from the creation of task forces assigned to review "bad laws" and suggest amendments. Needless to say that these "bad laws" were the product of a period of 20-30 years of work by the British. As ambitious as the promises were and as sluggish as the progress may be, it does appear that the direction is more visible. However, institution building cannot lie on the sole shoulders of strengthening institutions such as the NAB alone. If more effort was laid in transforming governance through a grass root level empowerment of the people approach more would have been borne in terms of documenting successes. In addition to amending archaic procedural laws, focus on auditing the performance of existing administrative mechanisms such as the criminal justice coordination committees in each province would also oil the cogs in the reform agenda.

EDITORIAL

BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAYA EMAAN ZAHID

At a conference held in Balochistan in December 2016, the then Secretary of the Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan, Mr. Sarwar Khan said that the Provincial Justice Committees were the only apex bodies that were responsible for improving the quality of service delivery as a sector against composite sectoral indicators such as fair convictions as well as designing, leading, implementing, monitoring and evaluating justice sector performance and reforms. The PM's performance report mentions the Federal Government would launch its Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill 2018 along with the Legal

Aid and Justice Authority Bill 2018 and table them in the national and provincial assemblies in December 2018. One can appease the soul by telling it that such self-led accountability and performance reviews have at the very least revived and given some sanctity to election and party manifestos -

perhaps in a way never seen before. This Government has promised to continue to engage with the public and as implementation proceeds, progress review reports will be published twice a year, in July and in January. Until then hope springs eternal and so forth.

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CALL**

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SLACC

Sindh Legal Advisory Call Center

**Sindh Legal Advisory Call Center
In Partnership With The Law Department
Government Of Sindh**

International Children's Day

Celebrated in Partnership with AMI School

The United Nations' Universal Children's Day, which was established in 1954, is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness and awareness among children worldwide. Celebrations were also held at the Early Learning Centre in Karachi's Women Prison. On this occasion the AMI school donated toys and educational material to the children which were raised through a school donation drive. The purpose of this donation drive was firstly to promote mutual exchange and understanding among children and secondly to initiate action to benefit and promote the welfare of children at the ELC.



Early Learning Center - Karachi Women Prison

Anger Management Workshop with Female Inmates

Sana Sharif

The Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners- Legal Aid Office in collaboration with the Women Development Department and Prisons' Department organized a two days workshop on Anger Management & Conflict Resolution on 26th and 27th November, 2018. The workshop was attended by 10 inmates who are mothers and reside at the Women's Prison in Karachi with their children. The specific objective of the workshop was to better understand the concepts of anger management and conflict resolution techniques and strategies. They learnt how to identify and label challenging emotions such as frustration, anger or distress. They discovered ways of effectively communicating anger and other negative feelings. The workshop covered various topics such as tracing common anger and frustration, understanding children's behaviour, causes of children anger and resolving conflict between children. The mother inmates used previously mentioned situations and examples from daily life instances in prison to use as role plays. The more relevant the situation is to their lives, the greater the impact it will have on them. The lead trainer of the workshop was Ms. Mehnaz Mehmmod (Education Expert and member of the Advisory Committee for the Early Learning Centres) along with Ms. Mahrukh Iftikhar (Consultant Clinical Psychologist). The expected outcome of this workshop is

enhancing and developing confidence levels, skills to communicate in a positive manner of mother inmates and the control of anger for female inmates during the harsh periods of their incarceration.



Anger Management Workshop- Karachi Women's Prison

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GIZ) and the Sindh Judicial Academy

In order for the legal system to function, those administering justice must have a strong grounding in both criminal procedure and good criminal practice. Between September and December 2018, the LAS team designed six training manuals on criminal procedure for the Sindh Judicial Academy (SJA). These six manuals constitute a facilitator's and participant's manual each for police, prosecution, and the judiciary. This project was commissioned by the donors at Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), a service provider that works in international development and education. Headed by Associate Director Maliha Zia, the LAS team consisting of legal consultant Aiyan Bhutta, police consultant Faizullah Korejo, and two research associates, designed manuals to train police, prosecution, and judiciary in criminal procedure and practice. The LAS team researched the primary gaps in the administration of justice at police, prosecution, and judicial levels by speaking to consultants for each field, specifically focusing on the impact of these gaps in trial. This research helped shape the topics to be covered in the manual. Topics included correct steps to an investigation in the police manual,

reading and using medico-legal reports in the prosecution manual, and recording a CrPC 164 statement in the judicial manual. These findings on the gaps at each level of the legal system were analyzed and based upon this training sessions were designed using adult learning methodologies. This methodology, known as andragogy, was crucial to the vision for the manuals: rather than presenting redundant information about criminal procedure and practice to our trainees, we wanted to stand out from the multitude of existing manuals by taking a skills-based and hands-on approach to the issues. Training sessions included different types of exercises, including role-plays, interview practice, group discussions, and case scenarios, allowing the participants to take an active part in their learning. Utilising adult learning methodology shows the participants first-hand the impact that mistakes at each level has on trial and the administration of justice as well as how to remedy these errors through practical application exercises. The LAS team hopes that through the training that these manuals will provide, Sindh's criminal justice system will function more smoothly and efficiently.

Tara Khan

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS OF LAS

- The Legal Aid Society entered into a fresh MOU with the Sindh Prisons Department and SAHEE on November 08, 2018 to continue provision of basic and legal literacy in partnership with Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI) for the year 2019. The objective of this project is to empower juveniles to make the right decisions during their trial process and to be more aware of their rights.
- 113 community re-engagement meetings were conducted
- Field teams assisted 189 members in filing complaints before various administrative bodies such as the office of the ombudsperson, HESCO, SEPCO etc.
- 05 awareness clinics were conducted on ADR in Karachi and Hyderabad which were attended by 188 community members.
- 02 focus group discussions were conducted with 19 community leaders and influencers in Karachi and in Larkana to identify issues for class actions.
- 103 Salis members were provided with accredited mediation training in collaboration with the Sindh Judicial Academy
- 77 cases were filed in courts on a pro bono basis on behalf of clients in Darul Amans, Child Protection Units and from the community out of which 20 cases were successfully resolved through court orders.

SINDH LEGAL ADVISORY CALL CENTRE – LAUNCHED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GOVERNMENT OF SINDH (0800-70806)

Jamil Junejo

The Law Department, Government of Sindh officially launched the Sindh Legal Advisory Call Centre (SLACC) on 24th November, 2018 which is based on a public-private partnership between the Law Department, Government of Sindh and the Legal Aid Society. The toll free call-in service provides the general public free of cost legal advice and guidance and immediate access to High Court enrolled and experienced lawyers. The objective is to create greater legal awareness and increase access to justice particularly for underprivileged and marginalized segments of society.

On this occasion, Legal Aid Society also launched its three research studies: The Justice Gap in Sindh: Evidence from the Legal Advisory Call Centre authored by Barrister Haya Emaan Zahid and Menaal Munshey which provides an insight into citizen's legal needs, redressal mechanisms, and gaps in access to justice in Sindh; Understanding Domestic Violence within the Legal Framework of Pakistan by Maliha Zia, which unpacks some of the major social and legal challenges that influence key justice sector actors' response to domestic violence; and The Victim and the Accused: An Analysis of Legal Needs in the Criminal Justice System in Sindh by Omar Maniar which presents different needs of victims and the accused in the criminal justice system in Sindh, Pakistan. Serving the needy and poor people of Sindh is a central agenda for the Government of Sindh, stated Barrister Murtaza Wahab, Advisor Law, Government of Sindh in his keynote address at the launch ceremony. The SLACC, he added, is a reflection of our conviction that legal empowerment constitutes the core of the access to justice paradigm and legal empowerment. Further, he stated categorically

that the helpline is initiated to help vulnerable people. It is the duty of people to call in and inform the SLACC when they are not getting redress and it is the duty of the Sindh Government to assist them with their issues.

Syeda Shehla Raza, Minister Women Development Department noted the importance of implementation of existing laws in Sindh and felt that the SLACC will be important in creating legal awareness among the people. She stated the Women Development Department and the Government of Sindh are committed to ensuring that access to justice and implementation of laws becomes stronger.

Justice (R) Nasir Aslam Zahid, Chairperson Legal Aid Society noted that legal literacy and access to information remains a formidable challenge for the province. He appreciated the Government of Sindh's enthusiasm in providing accurate, quality and easily accessible legal information to the people of Sindh through the SLACC.

Justice (R) Anwar Zaheer Jamali said it was very fortunate that the government was going to benefit from an expert organization LAS that was able to provide assistance to women particularly in Interior Sindh. He wished a good future for the organisation and hoped that the judiciary would also further help in providing access to justice for the people of Sindh.

Justice (R) Arif Hussain Khilji, Board Member Legal Aid Society, Director General Sindh Judicial Academy said that it is not difficult to conclude that common people do not have sufficient knowledge and skills which could empower them to address the "Justice Gap" presently prevailing throughout the nation and was certain the SLACC could help fill this gap.

Mr. Shariq Ahmed, Secretary Law Department, Government of Sindh said that this collaboration is testament to the



Government of Sindh's continued commitment to values of justice, legal empowerment and its efforts to uplift the lives of citizens. Unless masses are legally educated and their access to legal information is ensured, the process of legal empowerment and more than that principle of access to justice remain affected, he added.

The event was moderated by Farieha Azia and Sana Sharif and participants included representation from government, civil society, media, academia, judiciary and legal fraternity.

LOBBYING SESSIONS ON ADR WITH SUKKUR BAR ASSOCIATION AND LARKANA BAR ASSOCIATION

Legal Aid Society held two separate lobbying sessions with the Sukkur Bar Association and Larkana Bar Association on 19th December, 2018 and 21st December, 2018. The necessity, usage and significance of formal Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms with a focus on court-annexed mediation were discussed at length in the events. The discussions triggered an interesting dialogue on various conceptual and structural dimensions of ADR. Amidst, pendency of 1.8 million cases before the superior and subordinate judiciary of Pakistan (out of which 200,000 cases are pending before the superior and lower judiciary in Sindh alone) the exigency of utilization of the formal ADR mechanisms was highlighted. Both events included significant participation of lawyers and the leadership of the Bar Associations such as Advocate Qurban Ali Malano, Member Sindh Bar Council, Sukkur, Advocate Shabir Ahmed Khoso, Sukkur, Advocate Imdad Malik Sukkur, ex-General Secretary, High Court Bar Association, Larkana, and Advocate Abdul Razaque Jamali, Larkana.



UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WITHIN THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF PAKISTAN

Naima Qamar

As part of the 2018 research series emanating from the Sindh Legal Advisory Call Centre, the LAS published a paper titled Understanding Domestic Violence within the Legal Framework of Pakistan. The paper was authored by Maliha Zia and its scope contextualized domestic violence justified by religion, within Pakistani culture, as a private family matter and compounded by vulnerability and inequality of women. Domestic violence is a difficult crime to understand with challenges that begin with the identification of the crime and with the choice between different pathways of resolution. Is it better to classify it as a family matter and resolve it within the confines of the home or to employ the penal laws to find justice? The former may not completely solve the issue and the latter is bound to rupture relations permanently.

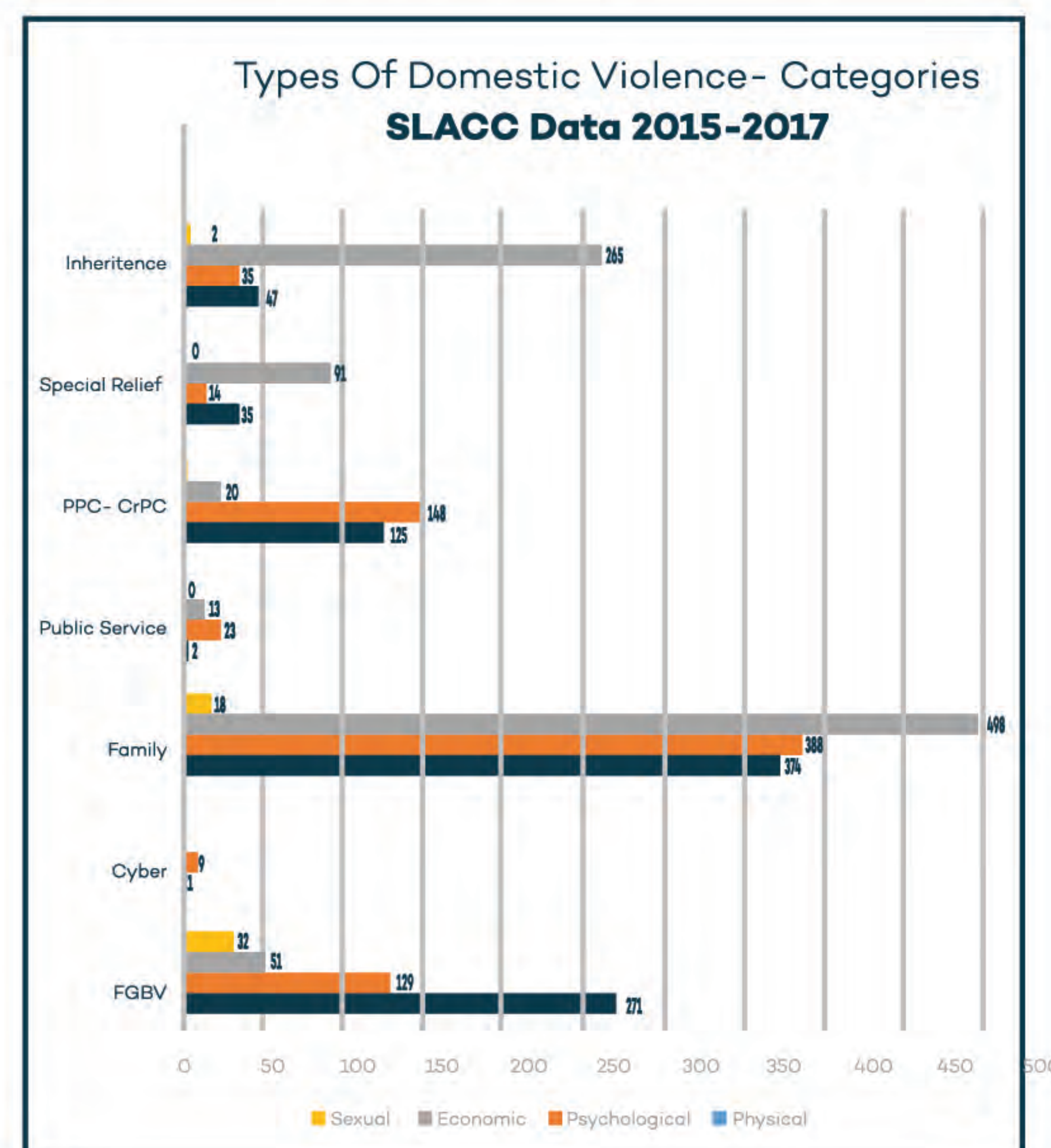
The paper included mixed methods; the quantitative data of the Sindh Legal Advisory Call Centre, (the calls relating to domestic violence) and the qualitative data consisted of interviews of a survivor, her mother, her lawyer, a judge and a police officer in a test case in the Sindh High Court.

The data was gathered by a second level analysis where the query of the caller was found to be compatible with the definition of domestic violence outlined in this paper. The second analysis was undertaken because the callers more often did not classify their issues as falling under domestic violence but were labelling them as family issues that needed to be sorted by mediation of elders in order to keep their marital home intact. Many female callers looked for ways to reform their husbands' and other family members' behavior without legal recourse.

The case study explored the process from the filing of a complaint to the experience with the police to the lower court's method of dealing with the first case presented before it. The survivor's experience with the justice system and analysis of the case that has so far proceeded are also looked at.

The data reveals that one of the most common examples is threats of divorce or pronouncing verbal divorce and then taking it back before it comes final. This has a massive impact on the psychological state of women who remain uneasy, not knowing the state of their marriage. This also causes women to fear for the custody of their children and their maintenance. Thus it becomes an economic abuse situation where women who previously were not permitted to work, now have to look for means to sustain themselves and their children while fighting court cases.

The research demonstrates that domestic violence is often hidden within other offences, crimes and issues. It is essential that work be continued to isolate this issue and highlight it appropriately so that it is properly utilized in allowing vulnerable groups inside the home to find justice.



MOVING TOWARDS A CULTURE OF ADR: Maleeha Azhar

ENHANCING THE CAPACITY OF ADR PRACTITIONERS

The Legal Aid Society in collaboration with the Sindh Judicial Academy organized 5 trainings of saalis members during this last quarter on the mechanism of Court Annexed Mediation, Human Rights, Protection of Vulnerable Groups and on Mediation Skills. 103 saalis members from Karachi, Larkana, Sukkur, Tando Muhammad Khan, Tando Allahyar, Hyderabad, Sanghar, Khairpur, Jacobabad, Shaheed Benazirabad and

Badin attended the 6 – day uniquely designed and structured training sessions that were led by Advocate Naveen Merchant. The trainings targeted those saalis members who have recently been nominated through the High Court under section 15 of the Small Claims and Minor Offences Ordinance 2002 (SCMMO 2002).

The 6 – day training designed after considering the needs of the local culture and system. The first day of the training covers general topics in which LAS trainers cover and revise the main features of SCMMO 2002 and the responsibilities of saalis members as defined under the ordinance. Human rights, gender and the concept of equity and equality in connection with powerful and vulnerable groups were also part of the 1st day's curricula. 2nd Day starts with the basic concepts and the process of mediation and this carries on over 3 days. During these days, the participants were able to engage in interactive methods and role plays through which they attempt to play a mediator between parties.

Since 2016 LAS has provided mediation trainings to 218 saalis members across Sindh . The passing rate has been 77%.



Salis Training At The Sindh Judicial Academy



HIGHLIGHTS OF SUCCESS FROM LEGAL AID OFFICE

TOT for Master Trainers

Shahzaman Panhwar

A five-day Training of Trainers (ToT) on the “Prison Paralegal Program” was conducted from 1st to 5th October 2017 at the Hotel Days Inn, Karachi. The training was aimed at improving teaching skills for LAO staff members engaged in delivering legal awareness and empowerment programs, particularly legal awareness and legal aid camps and the prison paralegal program. The training was also meant to serve as a comprehensive revision of substantive laws on the relevant subject areas and to ensure that staff was made aware of recent amendments in the Pakistan Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code as well as other special laws related to criminal law, violence against women and child protection. Lastly, the training was meant to inform participants about the legal empowerment approach and the modalities of the prison paralegal program and how it is meant to be operationalized. Participants were also given the opportunity to practice and receive feedback from their peers as well as the trainer on the final day of the training.

Prison Paralegal Program in Central Prisons Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur

The first of its kinds in Pakistan, CWP-LAO runs a Paralegal Program with the inmates within the prisons in Sindh. Convicts are trained in a wide range of topics covering constitutional and legal rights who further continue to disseminate this information to other prisoners. This sustainable initiative is grounded in our premise that

Access to Justice Paradigm includes, inter alia, proper access to information including knowledge about available remedies and rights of the common citizens as well as the prisoners.

A total of 78 inmates were trained as Paralegals in the above-mentioned prisons and they have gone on to train a further 526 prisoners so far. These paralegals conduct awareness sessions for all new entrants in to the prison. All new arrivals attend a 2-hour legal awareness session that covers fundamental rights, criminal trial and sentencing and prison rules. Paralegals also connect prison inmates with legal advice and legal aid providers and other state and non-state service providers.

Currently, these selected paralegals are engaged in organizing weekly session with old and new inmates at Central Prison Karachi, Sukkur and Hyderabad under the supervision of CWP-LAO advocates.



One Day Orientation of “District Oversight Committees for Prisons of Karachi”

Sindh Prisons Department under the patronage of the Home Department of the Government of Sindh in collaboration with the Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners, Legal Aid Office organized a one day orientation seminar on “District Oversight Committees for Prisons of Karachi”. The objective of this seminar was to provide a networking and introductory session for the committee members so as to lay the foundations of coordination and to provide a collaborative platform for the oversight work that lies ahead.

The Minister for Prisons Mr. Nasir Hussain Shah, I.G Prisons Sindh Mr. Muzaffar Alam Siddiqui, DIG Prisons Mr. Kazi Nazeer and Home Secretary Mr. Kazi Kabir were also present at this event.



Minister for Prisons Mr. Nasir Shah with district oversight committee members

HIGHLIGHTS OF SUCCESS FROM THE WELFARE DESK:

Sana Sharif

Establishment of Child Friendly Safe Spaces

The Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners- Legal Aid Office with the support of the Women Development Department and Sindh Prisons has established play rooms for children of female prisoners in the Women’s Prisons in both Larkana and Sukkur. The official inauguration of these spaces is expected in the spring of 2018.



Football Camp in YOIS Prison Karachi

The Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners – Legal Aid Office (CWP- LAO) in Partnership with Karachi United Football Club and with the support of Women Development Department has successfully continued football training for juveniles in YOIS Karachi. In the third phase, each participant received football kits and shoes to get them started for the football camp. The training camp is held on a weekly basis and the partnership seeks to fulfill the mandate of assisting juveniles with their reintegration post-release. A former juvenile inmate Imran Azeem is seen here after his release from the YOIS Prison in Karachi. After release he has gone back to his neighborhood and has joined the KU football club in his own local area for further improvement of physical skills.

Paralegal Training with Convicts

Our second phase of prison paralegal trainings continued in this quarter in which 22 female convicts were screened, assessed and trained so that they could become master trainers.



Legal Advisory Camps in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur & Larkana

CWP-LAO organized mega legal aid camps at the Central Women & YOIS Prison in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sukkur & Larkana. The objective of the legal advisory camps was to spread awareness regarding fundamental rights for citizens. This awareness session was also used to explain the scheme of remissions prisoners can work towards in reducing sentences post-conviction. The camps were attended by 124 women & juvenile prisoners.

LEGAL HELP DESKS AND KIOSKS

Legal intervention help desks, whether they be situated in police stations, court premises or prisons, can assist in facilitating the free flow of legal information and awareness. Such interventions have been seen to provide a plethora of services ranging from educational facilities, solution focused counseling, trainings, referrals such as to sports and substance abuse campaigns, motivational interviewing and life skill trainings in order to prevent offenders from future crimes and help reintegrate them into society afterwards. An instance from Gauteng, South Africa engaged youth volunteers through a youth crime prevention desk model so that social crime prevention interventions could be designed and piloted. In Pakistan, some documented successes came through a project lead by the United Nations Development Programme titled Strengthening Rule of Law project in 2012 in the Malakand Division of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Through this project gender-responsive policing desks were created in model police stations in Peshawar, Mardan, Abbottabad, Swat, Bannu, Nowshera and DI Khan. Skilled officers were placed on these desks with qualitative listening skills. The aim of the desks was to provide women with a safe and secure platform where they would be able to register their complaints without any inhibitions. The help desks have been of significant value as in 2014 and 2015, 73 and 124 women issues were documented as having been resolved respectively and it appears the model has achieved sustainability. Similarly, in Multan, Punjab a violence against women centre (VAWC) was also inaugurated, which was exclusively run by females with the aim to protect women from physical, emotional and psychological abuse and promotes gender equality. With the foremost objective to provide prompt justice to females along with other services that includes: FIR lodging, first aid, prosecution, medical examination, forensics, post trauma rehabilitation, shelter homes and provision of free legal aid to the inmates. In collaboration with the Punjab information technology board (PTIB) a complaint management system has also been developed to assist this mechanism. The system records complaints and automatically provides the relevant assistance from the concerned departments that include: forensics, police department, medico-legal dept, law, social welfare and prosecution. Around 552 violence incidents have been reported by this project, from 11 districts of Southern Punjab in Multan, Bhawalpur and Dera Ghazi Divisions. Women help desks have also been established in different cities of Punjab, wherein exclusively female officers are assigned to facilitate women through police help-desks. In terms of youth which may be in conflict with the law, the Government of Punjab has been managing a youth helpline service which has been working on Youth based issues and provides counseling related to emotional, psychological health and reproductive health of adolescents. The aim of the helpline is to provide prevention based intervention through awareness raising, psychological support and referral.

Earlier this year in Sindh, the Government of Sindh re-designated existing Women Police Stations as 'Women

THE SINDH LEGAL ADVISORY CALL CENTRE

(0800-70806)

received and processed 4,883 calls from October-December 2018 from across Pakistan providing free legal advice and information. The SLACC is a flagship project of the LAS run in partnership with the Law Department of the Government of Sindh.

and Children Police Stations' and sanctioned a total of 1,400 police officers for these stations and provided an additional one month's basic pay to this staff to motivate them. However, data is currently not available on the performance of such police stations in terms of whether they have managed to increase the reporting of crime or the resolution of crimes and reported problems. According to the newly enacted Juvenile Justice System Act 2018 every juvenile or child who is victim of an offence shall have the right of legal assistance at expense of the State and they shall be informed about his rights available under the law by a legal practitioner within twenty four hours of taking him into custody. The legislation opens up space for different NGOs along with community based volunteers and bodies to come together in the hopes of owning and supporting their neighborhood police stations which may lead to reduction in recidivism and increase the scope of reintegration. Data collected from the juvenile prison facility in Karachi indicates that in the year 2018, the highest number of arrests of juveniles were from the police stations located in Awami Colony -District East, Chakiwara -District South, Peerabad - District West and Surjani -District West. These areas could be a prime starting point for piloting such initiatives to gain further empirical evidence on the merits of such community assistance.

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