

**Kashmir Charitable Trust-AK**  
**Lower Plate near Four field Mosque Muzaffarabad AK**  
**World day for prevention of Child Abuse**  
**19 November 2007**



## Executive summary

The protection of children is fundamental to their survival, health, and well-being. Every day, millions of children are exploited, abused, or are victims of violence. Only time reveals the consequences of children uneducated, unhealthy and poor; forced and bonded for child labor. Poverty is the main underlying cause of millions of preventable child deaths each year. It is the cause of tens of millions of children going hungry, missing out from school, or being forced into child labor. Children and adults are lured into trafficking by the promise of a better future. There is therefore a heightened risk of children being trafficked during times of conflict or in situations of extreme poverty. The UN estimates that annually around 1.2 million children are trafficked and that the global trafficking industry generates considerable profits every year.

The General Assembly of UN passed and adopted a convention in November 20; 1989 entitled as "The Convention on the Rights of the Child" and it entered into force in 1990. The Convention has been ratified by 192 countries. It enshrines in law a child's right to survival, to develop to the fullest, to protection from harmful influences, abuse and exploitation and to participate fully in family, cultural and social life. It protects children's rights by setting standards in health care, education and legal, civil and social services.

The abuse of a child is a breach of their rights. It may however also be a major obstacle in their healthy development. Children who suffer abuse and negligence are at risk of shortened lives, poor physical and mental health, educational problems and poor parenting skills in future life. Child abuse can occur in the home, in institutions and is also organized for financial gain.

**Kashmir Charitable Trust-AJK** is working for the assistance of Kashmiri people especially minorities like women and children. It is greatly engrossed in the protection of children from different types of abuses and exploitation because children are the future of any country or nation. **KCT-AJK** makes every effort to protect children from physical, emotional and sexual abuse. It endeavors to build protective environments for children & our mission is to shield children, running campaigns against child abuse and informing children about their rights. **KCT-AJK** celebrated 19 November as a world day for prevention of child abuse.

## Initial Activities

A range of initial commotions were taken place on 18 November; before conducting this activity.

- **Students Committee**

Inside the University, a committee consisting of the students of AJKU was made with equal gender to hold up for organizing this activity.

- **Involvement of AJKU's students**

The students committee raised funding amount of RS.2500 from all the students of the University as an active participation from them for this event.

- **Meetings**

A variety of sessions were conducted to convene the Exceptionals of university



e.g Dean of Fine Arts who is responsible for the city campus and with the Chairman of Fine Arts as the department of fine arts took a real dynamic participation in conduction of this event.

- **Symbol of child abuse Day**

It is finalized that all the participants will wear "Yellow Ribbons" as the symbol of child abuse day & KCT-AJK will provide these ribbons to more than 3000 people including participants of this ceremony.



- **Publication**

Pamphlets & brochures were distributed in the city for the awareness of the common people concerning the rights of the children and importance of child abuse day.



- **Say "YES" To prevention of child abuse**

A 50 feet wide banner was designed and in the center of the banner, this thematic word "YES" was engraved for this special event. The theme behind this activity is that all those people who oppose child abuse and are aware and confess child rights will sign there to show their agreement.



- **Media's participation**

Invitations were sent to different channels and News papers for media coverage.

## Concluding Activities

KCT –AK celebrated 19 November as a day for prevention of child abuse collaborated with the students of Azad Jammu & Kashmir University Old Campus Muzaffarabad. For this purpose, different activities were organized.

### Inauguration

The ceremony was started at 10: am in the back ground of Azad Jammu & Kashmir University. It was inaugurated by acting Vice chancellor Dr. Mirza Shahid Baig by signing the Banner which was hanged by KCT-AJK. After him, all the students, teachers & faculty members signed this banner respectively. Thus more than 1500 people signed there on the banner to show their solidarity with children.



### Children's Participation

All orphan and vulnerable children participated actively and joyfully in this ceremony. They sang famous and beautiful songs along with the students of AJK University; they presented different rhythmical & non-rhythmical poems before the audiences. The elder students were given chart papers to write their views about your rights & they wrote according to their will.

**Orphan children:** More than 30 orphan children were invited from five different government and private schools in this ceremony.

**Vulnerable children:** More over, 35 vulnerable children were also invited from the tent village of upper Addaha near University.



## Other Activities

Beside these activities, the students of AJKU from different departments organized some other activities which are mentioned respectively as;

- **Economics Department**

Economics Department organized a race among the participated children. The purpose behind this race was to reduce shyness, hesitation to talk with others and idleness among these children.



- **Fine Arts Department**

The students of this Department conducted an exhibition for these children by drawing the pictures of children doing different types of labors. This was reaction against child labor. Alongside, these students also held drawing competition amongst these children. Task of the children was to fill the colors in these pictures. At the end of the competition, positions were announced and gifts were assigned to all the students according to their positions.



- **Geology Department**

This department conducted a cricket match for the entertainment of these children.



- **IT Department & Department of Computer**

The students of computer department visited these children the computer lab and give them information about this technology. Children used computer for some time and they were enjoying this visit as their faces were showing their feelings. IT Department arranged a tea party for the participant children. At 02:00 am, they took the children to the cafeteria & entertain them with tea party.

### **Involvement of Media**

Apna Channel, Aaj Channel, Geo, Khabrain News Paper, Daily Siasat, and so on participated vigorously. This activity was highlighted with different advertisement activities by media.



### **Walk against Child Abuse**

A walk was also conducted, which was a repulsive indicator against child abuse. All the teachers, students, faculty members of AJKU and guest children participated in this walk. The walk was started at 03:15 pm from the main gate of AJKU; City Campus and finished at the Girls High School MZD & they came back after 15 minutes. During this walk, many other people also joined this convoy. The students of AJKU were carrying those children in their hands who were youngest or those who were tired.



### **Closing stage**

This ceremony was closed at 03:30 and KCT dropped all the children at their residencies.

### **Conclusion**

We believe that everyone has a responsibility to see that children are safe. We work with individuals, civic groups, governments and the private sector to help create protective environments for them. Healthy, nurturing surroundings allow children to resist abuse and avoid exploitation. Caring environments fortify children against harm in the same way that proper nutrition and good health care fortify them against disease.

At the end of the ceremony, all the children were gathered at a spot and exchanged comments with them about this ceremony. They were really very pleased to being aware with their rights. They presented some compliments for the festivity of this day because this celebration has made them to aware with their rights as well their importance in the society. This activity also created confidence among them for future life. Their innocent faces were glowing with joy as it is seemed that they enjoyed this event heartily. Through this event we got a chance to see the world through children's eyes and we also realized how the world is looking beautiful with these beautiful eyes.

