

Taaleem Foundation



2015

ANNUAL REPORT

Message from the Chairman



"Taaleem Foundation was founded to educate the underprivileged and include them in the ownership of the

This year we have worked hard to streamline and consolidate our e-solution package of support as part of our vision for a realistic future for our children. We want to see the poor and marginalized being taught technologically so that they do not become obsolete, we are intent on equipping our future generations with the skills and confidence to meet the challenges of the modern world because we have a global outlook for our children. Our schools in Balochistan are flourishing and we are planning our roll out nationally to achieve this vision and goal. I am proud of the dedicated staff who continually look for ways to move us forward and achieve our aims. With the cooperation of our kind supporters, stakeholders, and communities, we will continue to provide the best services skills and development impetus to the children we educate. We must also focus on getting girls into schools as recent data indicates only 24% are literate, this must be addressed as when you educate women you are educating the entire family, and probably entire generations.

Dr. Zafar Iqbal Qadir

Where we Started: Balochistan

TF is presently active in the largest of Pakistan's four provinces, Balochistan, which covers 43% of Pakistan's total land mass, but houses only 5% of its total population of 182 million. A small population spread over a large land area means vast distances between habitations, transport connectivity and accessibility issues, security concerns given the Afghanistan border, very little infrastructure built by central government, and little political in/oversight. This has resulted in the region being neglected pretty much by everyone, except us here at TF. We have worked long and hard to meet these challenges head on over decades and have succeeded where no one else has with our eight schools and two Vocational Training Institutes. In Balochistan today, TF is seen as a respected and embedded part of the region and community.

About Us

We're a non-profit non-government Education & Community Support Organisation founded in 1989 registered in Balochistan since 1993, we strive for change through **quality** education for the underprivileged. Our innovative and forward-thinking education system has positively impacted communities in Balochistan, encouraging social change collective thinking and a desire for self-sustainability.

Location

We have 8 schools in remote Balochistan: Kohlu, Loralai, Killa Saifullah, Muslim Bagh, Zhob, Pishin, Mastung and Sui (Dera Bugti). We are in the initial stages of rolling out our successful e-solution in Pakistan, focusing on neglected children in remote locations .

The Girl Child

Our schools are English medium and co-educational with an emphasis on promoting education for girls, who pay even less than the minimal fees we charge,. We do our outreach for this, and also operate a Vocational Training Institute in Sui to empower women, and are in the process of adding another in Loralai.

School Management

The school management body is called a School Syndicate; local Deputy Commissioner, female Department of Education Officer, lady Medical Officer, Principal & Vice Principle of the school, representative from the schools Parents Committee. Each school is managed in accordance with policy ratified by TF's Board of Directors. A minimal tuition fee covers all staff salaries and TF works hard to generate revenue.

Alumni

Over one thousand TF alumni have gone on to pursue higher studies in the fields of business management, arts, medical sciences, engineering, agriculture and teaching, through our Sponsorship Programs and self-financing.

Vision Mission and Values



Vision

Encouraging social change by supporting communities to transform into socially responsive, intellectually and practically talented and economically empowered assets of the state. Reaching children who are most neglected and marginalized by severe



Mission

To expand Taaleem Foundations ability to work in underprivileged communities to provide opportunities and education for all thus alleviating socio-economic deprivation. We want to show them they can be ardent agents of social change, and provide realistic sustainable community development projects.



Values

Education is essential for any form of aspiration but now it has to be technology based to give disadvantaged children any real chance of achieving or having any future. We must prioritise Women and Girls struggling for equality in a patriarchal society. Those in remote areas have a right to quality education.

We attribute our success to good outreach work, community participation, our innovative, good private-public partnerships, and a hard-working staff and management team. Our inter-agency and inclusive working model has improved the relationship between communities and their administrative authority.

How we work

Donors

TF's current donors include: Provincial Government, Members of Parliament, PPL for Sui School and National Bank of Pakistan for schools at Kila Saifullah and Muslim Bagh, and individual Private Donors. We are most grateful to all of them for their unwavering support and belief in Pakistan's children.

Features of Taaleem Foundation

- Secondary schooling - Nursery to grade 10
- Co-education: TF schools presently have 33% female students
- Women-led institutions in the field, both on operational and managerial roles
- High-quality English medium schooling
- The Holy Quran taught by qualified (non-cleric) teachers as part of school curriculum
- An independent TF Board of Examination that conducts annual exams for students enrolled in grades V to VIII
- Scholarships and rewards for the gifted and talented
- Self-sustaining, proactive capacity-building and income generating model by which schools fund themselves
- E-learning program that links the students with open-source global knowledge through professional academics, technicians, and teachers at the central studios



Our Futuristic Approach

TF understands the increasing importance of Information and Communication Technology in the working world today, and in keeping with its innovative philosophy, and keeping up-to-date with educational advancements we introduced a new e-learning model of education. In August 2014 TF began a pilot project in its Sui school with a digital interactive white board in the classrooms and an online curriculum developed with TEC the international Education Consultants based in Singapore. It was so successful we began a roll out to all our schools, and by the end of March 2015 all our schools were now digital. This model allows students in TF schools in remote and rural areas to receive a better quality education from highly qualified teachers based in urban centers of Pakistan, something the recruitment and retention of teachers in these areas struggled with. Subsequently, TF began using the technology platform for e-Schooling, e-Assessments and e-Skills, all of which are now fully active in all TF Grammar Schools in Balochistan. It was a paradigm shift that was essential if we truly wanted to equip our children for the future, if they are not computer literate then they will not be able to compete with the other 60% of middle class children who are. They will not be employable and we will have failed them.



e-Learning and e-Schooling

TF's e-learning model allows the transmission of live and pre-recorded classes or lessons from a studio, in our case Karachi, where the teachers sit, and is streamed live to all eight TF schools in Balochistan simultaneously. Skilled teachers are thoroughly vetted and hired to deliver lessons in a virtual classroom environment. It's virtual teaching at it's cutting edge best, the teacher can see the all eight classrooms on his computer screen, and the students can see them, they can raise their hands and ask questions and see and speak to each other - a truly interactive experience. An adult Moderator sits in the classroom to manage the children and help them with anything they need. The TF e-resolution package provides all the hardware and software required for a complete e-Learning process, including computers, interactive white boards, multimedia projectors, power supply, and internet connectivity.

Teachers can also improve their own skills and access training and a world of knowledge is at their fingertips through the internet—the possibilities are endless for creative and engaging classes that the children can even enjoy. E-Learning does not limit the number of students, allows content to be paused, repeated, and skipped to match the requirements of the student in the class, or indeed individual students who will have their own login and page. E-Learning can simultaneously train all teachers in the field at their respective schools which is also cost efficient., similarly for the end of year examinations which are conducted via a 'Computer Based Testing System' (CBTS).



Quality Assurance & Training

Logistics of e-learning

Given our e-solution depends on electricity, to counteract the daily power shortages in Pakistan and more acutely so in the remote areas where e-solution is serving our communities, TF has again responded innovatively and ethically by researching and investing in a state-of-the-art solar power generation and storage solution - a renewable energy option. So along with uninterrupted lesson times we help to protect the environment and act as an example to our children and communities of respecting and conserving the resources of the planet – something that is crucial to their futures.

The e-solution has strong research and development practices to maintain high standards of education delivery, and is always upgrading its curriculum in accordance with the natural evolutionary improvements in a fast changing technological world. In this vein we have Academic Co-Coordinator who sit with the teachers and look at Quality Assurance issues around content, delivery, methodology, and lesson planning.

Training on e-Learning and teaching skills

All teachers undergo training at the beginning of each session and on an on going basis throughout the year. This year all the Principals of TF schools and the organizational support staff from the Head Office Team in Islamabad attended a 10 day training workshop on e-Learning and CBTS - our comprehensive Computer Based Testing System - in collaboration with our partners TeleCast and TEC from 5-15 of February in Karachi. Teachers used the templates produced by TeleCast and undertook training on various multimedia platforms to add to their skills around planning and designing their lessons. Some teachers were also given additional training for their Spoken English by the Zareef Khan Foundation in Islamabad, an institution known for its high standards in English schooling. In addition, a number of Teacher Training Sessions were also held at certain schools during the training days so teachers were trained on the use of e-Learning technologies in-situ at the schools. The main thrust of the training centered around training the teachers to be more confident and creative with the interactive digital boards, become more proactive and develop e-Content. The learning included Power Point presentations and the teachers added to their presentation skills in this way, and discovered even more ways to powerfully educate the children.

A few Events and Visits

Provincial Minister's visit to Asad Memorial in Zhob

On 21.5.15 the Provincial Minister Mr. Shiekh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail visited our Zhob school for a tour and to see how we have evolved and improved with time. He was impressed by our facilities and even more so by our e-learning model - he watched the children learning interactively and commented on how this was the future. He was also impressed with our solar power solution and understood it was a part of the way forward for our country and communities. Mr. Jaffar very generously announced a donation of one million rupees for the school and promised closer cooperation between Tf and the Provincial government. The money has since been used to complete some urgently required building and renovation work in and on the school.

Polio Vaccinations in Zhob, Muslim Bagh & Loralai

On 10.11.15 a Polio team vaccinated 22 students of Nursery and 12 students of Prep at our school in Loralai. On 14.9.15 the same team vaccinated another 70 students of nursery and 75 students of prep at our Zhob school, and on 15.9.15 46 students at Muslim Bagh. The schools management teams worked hard to prepare both students and their families for the vaccination process, distributing pertinent information prior to the event to allay parents quite natural anxieties regarding the vaccines, and clarifying any concerns. Our schools are not just schools that deal with an individual child who attends classes and goes home, but a holistic place for the dissemination of knowledge and information in the social services sphere for entire families and their communities.



School Trips & Excursions

17.6.15 Mastung School Trip to Hanna Lak

Taaleem Foundation organises various excursion and trips for its students and staff members throughout the year. Educational research shows a clear link between motivated students and some practical outdoor excursions which stimulate children in the classrooms - especially when like good teachers you find some way of incorporating some learning from their trips. Interacting with teachers outside of the classroom also strengthens student teacher relationships, and generally uplifts everyone. There were many trips out from all our schools like this one and the students and staff enjoyed them all thoroughly.

Sports Festival 2015 at TFGS Sui

All our schools have Sports Days and like trips out these are equally important, not just to have some fun but also to promote team work and encourage physical activity—which by the way is the only thing proven to increase intelligence. Sui had four teams: Blue Sharks, Yellow Scorpions, Red Crabs and Orange Octopuses, and the champions of the Sports Festival were the Yellow Scorpions while the Red Crabs won the Cricket Tournament.



CSR Partners

Pakistan Petroleum Limited

Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL) is TF's single largest CSR partner to date. Its PPL Welfare Trust has generously contributed to our school in Sui; the construction of the school building, the teachers' hostel, staff residences and the technical and Vocational Training Institute also at Sui. And many urgently needed repairs have also taken place in addition to all this thanks to their support. PPL is presently fully supporting us in our aim of opening a Virtual University in Sui, and we are working hard to make this a reality.

National Bank of Pakistan

The National Bank of Pakistan has transformed itself from a public sector organization into one of the largest commercial banks in Pakistan. It is a major player and showing growing interest in developing Pakistan's small enterprises and fulfilling its social responsibilities as a corporate citizen. NBP's generous donations have helped two of our schools - Kila Saifulla and Muslim Bagh to complete the following work; heighten a boundary wall, IT labs with all required equipment provided, sewage and sanitation reconstruction, windows rods repaired and replaced, curtains purchased, an E-Learning and Computer Lab, outer and inner walls re-painted, and all wall cracks re-plastered and repaired.

Hassan & Company

Hassan & Company are a tax-consulting firm in Balochistan who have been providing financial management, accounting, and auditing services for free to TF for over the past two decades. The company has also at times provided policy support as well as operational assistance to TF. Hassan & Co have to be commended for such long standing unwavering support to TF and its children, they truly have some share in the work we do and the successful children we create.

SBZ Associates

SBZ Associates offers marketing, management and supervisory services to TF for all its major initiatives in the field of Education, Public Health, Skills Development, Technology Integration and Community Development. The company also supports TF with management solutions to Policy and Human Resource concerns.

We would like to thank all our CSR partners for their on going support for all these children, families, and communities by their generous contributions.

Technology Partners

A founding principle of TF is self-sufficiency so we are currently negotiating to partner up with several local and national organisations to sustain on going work initiatives and implement new ideas, without compromising on the quality of our service delivery.

TEC

TEC is a Singapore based company specializing in research and curriculum development and ICT-enabled education solutions, including a Learning Management System and CBTS. They also provide professional teachers for our online classes from Karachi and its CEO works as an Academic Advisor for TF.`



Educast

Are a technology house specializing in data transmission and video-conferencing. They set-up the platform for video-conferencing to support e-Learning in all our Schools.



Bilytica

Bilytica is an Australian technology house that specializes in business intelligence and automation solutions and has very kindly given us their software programme called ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) which holds all our organizational data and allows quality assurance and data collection



Pi-teach

TF partnered with Pi-Teach to develop video based e-Content for its remote classroom lessons, so far the content for grades I-V has already been developed and deployed.



Intel

Intel formally signed a MOU with TF in May 2013 and has since been offering its global content on education and training to us. Intel annually conducts teacher training and financial management courses for all our TF staff.



Awards and Achievements for TF

For TF our greatest achievements are our children attending school, achieving results, and moving upwards educationally. Taaleem Foundation has been providing quality education to communities where basic municipal civic amenities are not readily available. And though we have met these challenges successfully, so have our pupils and their families. TF's approach to learning has allowed our students to compete successfully with the affluent middle class of Pakistan, and students of more developed provinces and indeed countries.

Many TF students, after doing their 8th grade have pursued secondary level education in prestigious institutions like Lawrence College, Burn Hall College, Lahore Grammar School, and several military and cadet colleges. Some TF students have pursued higher education in Pakistan and abroad on TF-sponsored /other scholarships, some have managed to finance themselves. In Pakistan they have been accepted onto professional colleges & universities, like the Institute of Science & Technology, LUMS, Institute of Business Administration, King Edwards Medical College, and Quaid-e-Azam University. Just recently four of our students have been offered places in leading European universities. We are proud that TF alumni are now serving the nation as highly competent professionals in the fields of engineering, medicine, business, government, consultancy, social activism and also in multinational companies.

We have won many awards over the years (see website www.taaleem.pk) but we would like to share our most recent International Award given to Taaleem Foundation in Turkey on May 2016 for Good Governance in promoting Female Literacy and Empowerment. Here is our Chairman Dr Zafar Qadir accepting the award on our behalf.



Future and Beyond

TF has made tremendous headway in raising the standard of education and creating educational opportunities in the remote and underprivileged areas of Balochistan. In addition to running schools and a Vocational Training Institute for underprivileged women and children, TF has also launched other projects to address the developmental needs of these neglected communities.

TF wants communities to see our schools as social institutions in the community there to serve them holistically, institutions that are adequately equipped with modern technology to provide innovative e-learning Programs not just for the day schools, but with the possibility of providing school and primary health care services, e-skills, e-clubs, e-jobs, e-community centers—the possibilities are endless and can be tailored to the needs of that particular community.

Presently we are looking to initiate a health care programme for the children in our schools to monitor and evaluate their basic health statistics and needs, using e-doctors to help diagnose and review children from our center in Karachi. We are also looking at women using the buildings on Friday afternoons, a place where they can sit, talk, share and network about their futures. We want to expand our idea of vocational training units to all our schools and are looking for partners and donors to help make this possible the way PPL has in Sui.



TF is keen and working hard to replicate its successful community and education models in other schools and regions to share its experience and knowledge, and to encourage and create the organic and progressive development of those communities.