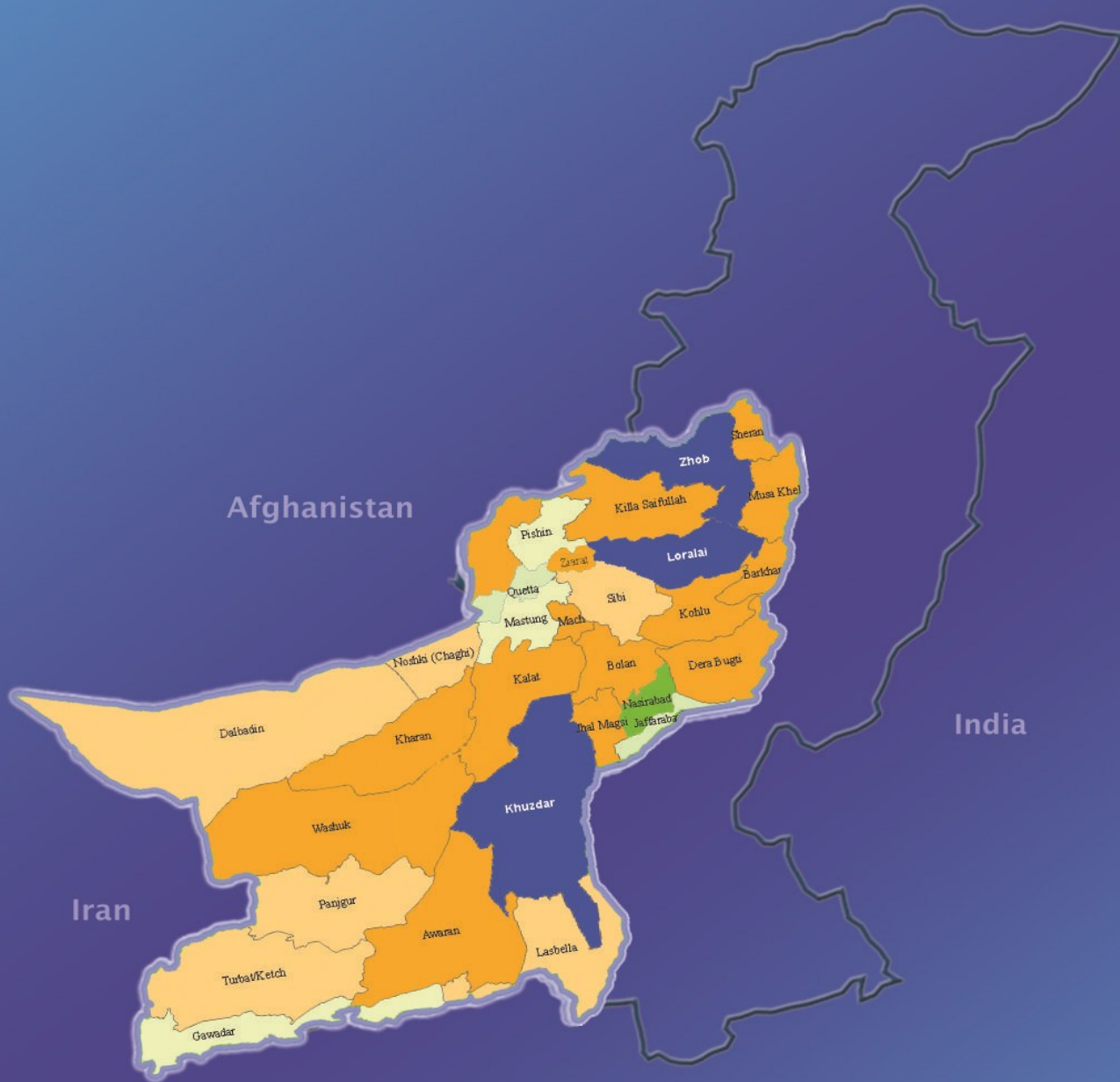


# VOICES FROM BALOCHISTAN



Center for  
Research &  
Security  
Studies

Rule of Law - Security - Governance

# VOICES FROM BALOCHISTAN



Foreign Affairs, Trade and  
Development Canada

Center for Research & Security Studies (CRSS) would like to thank the Canadian Department for Foreign Affairs, Trade & Development (DFATD) for providing invaluable support for a series of radio shows “**Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz** (Voices from Balochistan). This document is based on the nationally syndicated radio shows aired live from Quetta.



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Studies

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*Rule of Law - Security - Governance*

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## **Acknowledgement**

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The management would also like to thank CRSS Research fellow Abbas Ahmad for reviewing and editing the transcripts that are the core of this publication. A word of gratitude also goes to Haroon Gul, CRSS Graphic Designer/Video Editor for proof reading and providing the titles of the publication.

## Introduction

This report draws on over 80 radio nationally syndicated shows that the Center for Research and Security Studies (CRSS) produced and aired in 2014-2015. These shows were titled “Balochistan Kay Awam ki Awaz.” (The Voice of Baloch People) ” The main objective of publication is to:

- a) Highlight the socio-political grievances of the ethnic Baloch in the restive Balochistan province,
- b) Identify general governance gaps in the province, and,
- c) Document and disseminate these gaps and grievances in black and white across Pakistan for broader understanding of the Baloch dynamics.

The primary data for this report was obtained from two distinct sources:

1. The discussions at radio programs by leading voices from Balochistan.
2. Exclusive field stories and news reports produced for the CRSS radio shows on the ground by reporters.

Political and civil society activists, experts from various fields of life such as health, media, politics and education participated in these programs. Since “Balochistan Kay Awam ki Awaz” was a youth-focused show, almost every episode also included students and young socio-political activists. Most of these young leaders had been part of a similar CRSS intervention ‘Balochistan Youth Forum’ (2012) which included capacity building training workshops, dialogue and exposure trips to Islamabad, Lahore, Peshawar and Karachi.

Balochistan Kay Awam ki Awaz endeavored to develop a democratic discourse on socio-political issues being faced by the people of Balochistan. It was essentially designed as a counter-radicalization measure that could help mainstream Baloch voices via airwaves across Pakistan. Under this initiative , over 80 Radio programs were aired in Balochistan, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh on the following radio networks:

1. FM-101 Quetta (Balochistan),
2. FM-101 Peshawar (KPK),
3. FM-93 Multan (Punjab),
4. FM-93 Mithi (Sindh)

All these programs were rebroadcasted on the corresponding day on radio networks of Turbat and Loralai (Balochistan), Radio Pakistan with the frequency of two programs a week. The programs were also live streamed on the CRSS website [www.crss.pk](http://www.crss.pk).

The objective of the wider transmission was to propagate and promote ideas and measures for de-radicalization, pluralistic values, universally acknowledged democratic values, raise awareness on fundamental human rights and push for political accountability all over Pakistan. The idea behind the nationally syndicated radio show was to generate demand for the rule of law, gender responsive society and equal citizenry.

## Balochistan at a Glance

Bound in the West and North-West by Iran and Afghanistan; in the North by the provinces of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and the Punjab; in the East by the province of Sindh and in the South by Arabian Sea, Balochistan has a common border of estimated 800<sup>1</sup> kilometers (KM) with Iran and of over 1,300<sup>2</sup>(KM) with Afghanistan, while its coastal area extends over 750<sup>3</sup>(KM). Balochistan guards the oil-rich Persian Gulf and is the Western most part of South Asia. This geographical location of Balochistan makes it a significant strategic area.

Balochistan covers nearly 44% of Pakistan's total landmass and yet only has a fraction of the population with over 13 million people as of April 2012. Despite the wealth of natural resources, 88% of the region's population lives in extreme deprivation and poverty, an inequity which has fuelled an ongoing Baloch nationalist security crisis. The region suffers from corruption, poor and non-representative governance, organized crime, tribal conflicts, oppressive and easily-abused blasphemy laws, and economic inequality. The management of justice and rule of law are highly dependent on tribal lords. Armed violence, disappearances, kidnapping for ransom, and religio-sectarian terrorism, targeting ethnic minorities, particularly Hazaras (shiate community) are common occurrences. The large Afghan refugee population puts an additional burden on the social service infrastructure and strains social cohesion in these areas.

The education sector in the region is directly affected by all of these factors, resulting in extremely low literacy rates, eviction and attacks on teachers (especially punjabi-speaking settlers or other ethnicities), and corruption. Schools, where available, continue to function in most areas, but militants attempted to close down schools while separatists banned the official Pakistan textbooks, flags and the singing of the national anthem in certain nationalist stronghold areas.<sup>4</sup> Approximately 800 Hindu minority families have migrated from Balochistan to other countries and provinces, whereas, the press reports indicated nearly 30,000 minority Shia Hazaras have fled the province in last five years.<sup>5</sup> Since June, 2013 a coalition government of Baloch and Pash-tun nationalists headed by Chief Minister Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch is in place in the province.

## Balochistan Administration

Balochistan's administration system is a hybrid of formal and informal systems. Only five percent of the provincial territory is governed by the formal policing. Law and order in the remaining 95% of the province is managed by a system of "levies" recruited from among the local tribes, who provide security services through a mix of tribal norms and quasi-official procedures. Levies are primarily state-funded private armies of tribal chieftains.<sup>6</sup> The tribal system with its archaic social structures and a justice system controlled by the tribal elite had long made formal rule of law framework irrelevant for most of the population. Such a system obviously perpetuates a high degree of conflict and insecurity thereby, leaving the poor communities distant from the 'formal' state.

Balochistan is split in six major administrative units called Divisions. They include Kalat, Makran, Naseerabad, Quetta, Sibi and Zhob. The divisions are further divided into the following 32 districts.

Awaran, Barkhan, Nolan, Chaghi, Dera Bugti, Gwadar, Harnai, Jafarabad, Jhal Magsi, Kalat, Kharan, Kohlu, Khuzdar, Qilla Abdullah, Qilla Saifullah, Lasbela, Lehri, Loralai, Mastung, Musa Khel, Nasirabad, Nushki, Panjgur, Pishin, Quetta, Sherani, Sibi, Sohbat Pur, Turbat, Washuk, Zhob and Ziarat.

As many as 21 of Balochistan's 32 districts are ethnically Baloch dominated. The common man – Pash-

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<sup>1</sup>Google Earth

<sup>2</sup>Ibid

<sup>3</sup>Ibid

<sup>4</sup>Center for Research and Security Studies, "Pakistan Conflict Analysis Summary, May 2014

<sup>5</sup>Express Tribune, April 12, 2014 <http://tribune.com.pk/story/694559/losing-ground-30000-hazaras-fled-balochistan-in-five-years/>

<sup>6</sup>Center for Research and Security Studies, "State in Turmoil, 2013, 2013 <http://crss.pk/downloads/Reports/Research-Reports/State-in-Turmoil.pdf>

toons, Baloch, ethnic Hazara and non-Baloch settlers alike - is sandwiched between the tribal chief (Nawab, Sardar, Mir) the separatist militants, and the government as well as the security establishment.

## **Balochistan Security Crisis<sup>7</sup>**

Nowhere in Pakistan is the political landscape as fragmented as in Balochistan, probably because of the tribal nature of a society that is scattered in sparsely populated areas. Balochistan is not a political society in modern socio-political terms, but still it has some deep-rooted nationalist and democratic political parties. The current ruling party – the National Party - is among those political groups who were influenced by Moscow's socialist ideology in the 1970s and who in vain tried to enforce the seeds of socialism in a society that remains tribal in nature.

In recent years, Balochistan has also seen a systematic terror campaign targeting Shia-Hazara Muslim community, resulting in deaths of hundreds of innocent Shia-Muslims.

The province has seen four major nationalist insurgencies since the creation of Pakistan in 1947. All the rebellions in 1948, 1954, 1961 and 1977 essentially centred on the Baloch nationalists' dissatisfaction with the Center. Their demand, as they claim, stems from decades of neglect and denial of socio-economic and political rights by the Centre.

The current unrest was sparked in August 2006, when a Baloch tribal chief and former governor Nawab Akbar Bugti, was killed in a military charge on the cave he had been hiding in.

Certain regions in central Balochistan such as Khuzdar, Lasbela, Wadh, Chaghi, Mastung, and Kohlu epitomize the intensity of the Baloch insurgency, which has triggered a wave of exodus, particularly of non-Baloch, from the province. Many ethnic Sindhis, Punjabis, and the Urdu-speaking immigrants have left the area for fear of elimination by Baloch separatists. All five military operations were also conducted in the same regions, predominantly occupied by the Bugti, Marri and Mengal Baloch tribes.

## **Balochistan Kay Awam ki Awaz: What did Baloch Say in Radio Shows?**

The radio show Balochistan Kay Awam ki Awaz was anchored in fundamental human rights, good governance, and justice delivery. It provided the Baloch youth in particular with a platform to articulate their grievances and put them across to the wider audience in Pakistan. This platform was also meant to encourage the angry Baloch youth into a democratic discourse on rights and responsibilities rather than insisting on militant ways for achieving their rights.

The transcripts of nearly all the radio shows appear in the next section of this publication. Yet, for the benefit of readers, a brief extrapolation of the most recurring themes and ideas is being produced below. They are **not a CRSS commentary** but an encapsulation of the sense of the discussion on these subjects.

### **Fundamental Rights**

A lot of debate in the CRSS radio shows centred on fundamental human rights. Regardless of whether the participants were politicians, students, government officials or political activists, most of them remained critical of the human rights violations in the province, which they say are the direct consequence of the government-military policies towards the Baloch people in general. Security forces also came under attack for killing

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<sup>7</sup>Center for Research and Security Studies, "State in Turmoil, 2013 <http://crss.pk/downloads/Reports/Research-Reports/State-in-Turmoil.pdf>

and abduction of Baloch nationalists.

Yet most of the participants rooted their discussion in the pre-June 2013 conditions, when nearly all Baloch nationalists were out of the government. A certain level of cynicism is discernible through most of the discussions – something that has resulted from years of political conflict between the Center, pro-Center-Baloch politicians on the one hand and Baloch nationalists on the other.

Many participants did, however, also acknowledge the renewed focus on fundamental human rights by the Baloch-led government; chief minister Dr. Malik Baloch, for instance, claimed on March 10, 2015 that the security and human rights' situation had improved by over 70 percent – measurable through the significant drop in abductions, acts of violence and incidents of subversion.

## Education

Many participants complained that despite a doubling of funds for education and health by the Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, no improvement on ground was visible. They appeared to ignore the fact that education in provinces is a provincial government responsibility and has under the constitution little to do with the federal government. Those responsible – ministers, bureaucrats, teachers - within the system are largely driven by their own vested interests. Javed Lasi, an educationist from Balochistan feels that, “unless education is provided in the remote areas their socio-economic plight is not going to change”. The plight of state run schools all over Balochistan is lamentable, it was pointed out. Even the provincial capital Quetta has hundreds of schools without boundary walls and bathrooms. The situation in interior Balochistan, they said, was even worse as many schools are without teachers or many existed just on paper. Private schools are mushrooming at the expense of government schools but not many people can afford private education with 59% people living below the poverty line in Balochistan, some participants in the radio shows revealed.

The provincial government has tripled the education budget and introduced new administrative checks on teachers, yet they are not likely to offset the consequences of decades of neglect, nor is the reform of the system likely to take root in such a short span of time. Nearly everybody agreed on the crucial role of education in development, yet most remain cynical and despondent.

## Women

Women continue to remain marginalized and at the receiving end in a male-dominated, tribal society. Participants of the radio shows agreed that most women in Balochistan continue to suffer as secondary members of the family and society. The basic problem with our young women is lack of education. “Primarily they are not allowed to go to schools. When they have an opportunity to attend a school then they are not permitted to complete, says Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader in Balochistan, Sakeena Abdullah Khan. It is indeed regrettable to note that out of total budget of 215 billion rupees, only 75 million rupees are sanctioned for women, which constitute nearly 50 percent of the population in Balochistan. No scheme worth mentioning for the uplift of backward and ignorant rustic women of Balochistan has been announced so far, guests complained. They agreed that women are deliberately kept indoors because of the centuries old tribal customs and strict interpretation of the Islam in the Pashtun belt of province. Female literacy hit new lows in Balochistan, only in 2014 as much as 70% girls dropped out of schools. The statistics paint a bleak picture, with less than two per cent rural women educated and only 26 per cent overall female literacy in the province, as cited by sources in the education department.<sup>8</sup>

## Youth

Balochistan is a place where there are fewer opportunities compared to other provinces in Pakistan, opined participants of the radio programs. They see rise in crime rate among youth as a resultant factor. This makes

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<sup>8</sup>Syed Ali Shah, “Female literacy hits new low in Balochistan, *Dawn*, December 31, 2014 <http://www.dawn.com/news/1154252>

the situation very grim, Baloch people feel that culprits have become more powerful than the state and criminals are often not punished, which is encouraging for youth to turn criminals. Unemployment, illiteracy and lack of sports facilities also compel youth to involve in crimes.

To reduce the grievances of youth Prime Minister of Pakistan launched a youth loan scheme in 2014 mainly to empower youth of the neglected province, however, the scheme was questioned and regarded as yet another project of government to benefit their own people. Lateef Ahmad a youth representative from Khuzdar district explains the scheme in these words to CRSS reporter, “we were happy when we learnt about this scheme, but the pre-requisites and other conditions set to apply for the loan were very tough. I have applied but have not received any response. It is possible that such schemes are for rich people and not for poor people who actually deserve such loans.”

### **Health**

Health and hygiene is an important issue all over the world but in Balochistan people seem to be totally ignorant about the importance of this issue. Guests in ‘Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz’ complained about the improper system of cleanliness even in major cities and open defecation by animals and humans. They revealed that hospitals have no management to dispose-off the waste material.

Moreover, a grave and bleak picture of parental and infant health care was also brought to limelight in discussions. Mother’s and infant mortality rate is very high in rural Balochistan. The main reasons for such a pitiable situation are lack of hospitals, lack of trained officials in the available health units, lack of awareness and paucity of transport facilities.

Many Health Care professionals and general public alleged that Polio vaccination campaign is suffering from mismanagement in the province. “We do not know how many children are in a house in rural areas. All the children were not given polio drops. That’s why we faced program failure. Another matter is that we might have received the right quality of vaccine but there are many places in Balochistan that are not easily accessible. When the drops reached there we could not maintain the temperature level for the drops”, said Dr. Baqi Durrani, principal of Bolan Medical College in ‘Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz’.

### **Freedom of Press**

Media is considered to be the fourth pillar of a society. It plays an important role in the development of a country through shaping ideas and highlighting the shortcomings. Journalists are obligated to present the true picture on ground, for which they require freedom of expression and non-interference from other quarters.

Media persons and youth representatives agreed in the radio shows that journalists of Balochistan are working under extremely unfriendly environment in the form of being influenced and receiving threats from both the state and a variety of non-state actors. Their freedom of expression is limited in the wake of these pressures. As many as 40 journalists have lost their lives since the latest insurgency started in 2006 in incidents of target killings and bomb blasts in Balochistan as quoted by the journalists in ‘Balochistan Kay Awam ki Awaz’. Such killings prevent journalists from highlighting the actual plight of the people of Balochistan.

### **Target-Killings-Enforced Disappearances**

Target-killings and enforced disappearances of Shia Muslims and Baloch activists, organized crime, victimization of Baloch opposition and high-handed handling of security issues by the security establishment are some of other most talked about subjects in the radio shows. Frequent attacks on the utility infrastructure such as gas pipelines, electricity pylons and railway tracks by Baloch separatists also kept coming under discussion. Civil society Baloch activists attribute arbitrary killings and disappearances to the security forces, while the latter deny that. With a nationalist-led government in place, such incidents have, however, significantly gone down, according to officials in Quetta, the provincial capital.

## Future Road Map

With an elected provincial government in place and a continuous outcry from the media, civil society and international community, Balochistan is witnessing some progress politically, though little. Balochistan has successfully conducted its local government elections in 2014 leading rest of the provinces. A new opportunity of economic development is awaiting the province with China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project linking Gwadar port with western Chinese city of Kashgar.

Experts are of the view that Gwadar port, due to its strategic location, could become a major source of livelihood for the people of Balochistan. Being handled and expanded by a Chinese company, Gwadar promises to be the engine of change, which could not only help develop this coastal region but also drive regional trade. The Gwadar port also holds key to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for which Beijing has earmarked some 40 billion US dollars.<sup>9</sup>

Gwadar was a recurring theme in many radio shows and this also underlined the importance that the Baloch attach to this deep-sea port. The port is the key link in the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project that will link Gwadar with Kashgar in China's western Xinjiang province. Beijing has earmarked some 40 billion US dollars for this project. Baloch believe that if implemented with the local community's ownership, the Port could not only become a source of development and prosperity but also drive regional trade. That is why the subject kept coming up for debate in the radio shows.

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<sup>9</sup>CRSS interview with Chinese ambassador to Pakistan, March 2015, Islamabad

## **Voices From Balochistan – Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz**

### *Transcriptions*

#### **Episode: 1**

#### **Topic: Women’s health problems in rural areas of Balochistan**

Guests: Musarat Tahira (Health Sector), Numara (Youth Representative), Rahim (Youth Representative) and Khalid (CRSS Representative)

Field Story: Recorded Interviews

Anchor Person: Mehreen

Dated: 21-04-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Balochistan is a hub of problems especially in the field of primary health care in rural areas. There is virtually no concept of a qualified male or female doctor in the rural regions. Women have to work in fields and at home with no awareness about various health hazards. Most of the women have to work in the field even during pregnancy. A collective effort on the part of the government and social sector is needed for the uplift of these poor rustic women where mortality rate is so high. According to Muskrat, every village needs a proper health unit with a qualified doctor. Education is the important tool which can improve the situation.

#### **Transcription**

Mehreen: I may introduce my guests now. We have Musarat Tahira who is an experienced LHV. We have also Numara who teaches in Fezaiya Inter College Quetta. Our third guest is Rahim Khan who has great experience about productive health. And the special guest is a reporter, Khalid Baloch representing CRSS. Pakistan is a developing country where rural women have many problems. Almost 1600 women die during delivery out of each million. We will try to discuss all those factors which lead to such high rate of mortality.

Now I request Khalid to brief us about the nature of this program.

Khalid: CRSS is a think tank involved in various activities in Balochistan. Our youth project has been going on for almost one year now. Recently we have started this program for the people of Balochistan to highlight various problems in Balochistan. CRSS endeavors to provide opportunities to the people to share and voice their problems. We will try to discuss and analyze all major issues with the help of our guests.

Mehreen: What would you like to say about today’s topic?

Khalid: Situation is alarming in Balochistan as far as women health is concerned. There are no maternity health centers available in the whole province except Quetta. It is such a gigantic problem because Quetta is not accessible to all.

Mehreen: we have some recorded interviews about the problems of Balochistan. Let us listen to it.

RECORDED Interviews:

Interviewee: Most of the children die because there are no facilities. Mothers also die because there are no doctors and medicines available to them



Reporter: Then what is the role of doctors in the hospitals?

Doctors are present only on papers. Even paramedical staff is not available.

Reporter: Are medicines provided to the hospitals?

Only common sort of medicines are there like for headache and vomiting.

Reporter: Then why you do not take your patients to the hospitals in cities?

Our women cannot even think of going to a hospital in city without the proper permission of their men. Our women are simple ladies and do not know anything about cities and treatment.

Reporter: Is health care facility available here?

That is the problem I am lamenting about. Health care center are not available here.

Reporter: What are the problems faced by women in rural areas in regards to health care?

Seventy percent of our population resides in villages. And in civilized world undeveloped regions are given priority. Our country has the negative trend not to pay attention to those places which are giving you production. In Pakistan cities are given priority where only consumer reside and receive the finished products. At the end of the day women have to face all the problems. She has to take care of kids, home and cooking etc. if she is not healthy and resourceful then you cannot expect any progress. You cannot find a health unit in rural areas. If policies are framed then all the doctors and other relevant staff should be bound to serve in their respective regions before receiving any higher qualification. If this happens then I am sure all the regions will get qualified doctors.

Reporter: How tough are for women conditions out there?

All the problems emerge from homes. Every male member belongs to any religious sect or group and he can decide well about the women in the family. Some of the men may try to convince their MPs about this issue.

Mehreen: We heard the interviews. I may ask Mr. Raheem that we heard, health units are scarce while some are used as private property?

Raheem: We are far behind even from developing countries. Basic Health units in our region are used as a cattle farm or a Hujra. No women can dare to come there for a delivery. It is evident that mortality rate will be high here. Local attendant women serving as female doctors know nothing about various problems during delivery.

Mehreen: It was also told that most of the medical staff is absent in rural areas. Why this negative trend is in vogue in our country?

Musarat: I have spent almost 12 years in rural areas. I have seen that local staff is present in these health centers but it is impossible to find a doctor in such areas. There are various problems like transport. I have provided services to the people because I belonged to the same region. Some women officials pretend that their husbands do not allow them to work in outer regions. I have trained many female lady health visitors.

Mehreen: we also heard that rural ladies have a tough life. What is your own observation?

Musarat: They have no awareness about their situation. Mostly they are poor people and do not know about health issues. According to a survey in 2005 and 2006, almost 24% women live below the poverty line. These women have no facilities and face different health hazards.

Mehreen: I have read that 61% women work in the fields in rural areas while some of them are pregnant. Is it

true?

Musarat: I have observed that such women have various diseases like dust allergy and asthma.

Mehreen: Mr. Raheem, please tell us about the outdated customs in our rural areas and whether these contribute to the health hazards of our women there?

Raheem: We see that where there is feudal system, no concept is there that men may earn and women can eat. All the activities and work of women cannot be counted even inside home. Ours is a man dominated society and women have to suffer. Men eat the best available food at homes and the rest is left for women. How can you expect better health for women? Man has to take all the decisions and women have to obey. In eastern Balochistan, women mostly do agriculture. These women have to look after their homes and kids as well. Such heavy burden will certainly affect her health. Check up and treatment in time is essential. Education and awareness is required for healthy mothers and infants. In our traditional methods we will face female mortality. We did not have gynecologist ten years ago and no male doctor could touch a pregnant women.

Mehreen: You stressed upon proper checkup. Are females allowed to visit male doctors during pregnancy?

Musarat: Women are not allowed to consult a male doctor in our culture. It is a pity that these women do not know about their diseases and problems in delivery.

Mehreen: I may ask Humaira that our women have no awareness and what is the role of education in this regard?

Humaira: Education is the most important sector in a country but unfortunately our education system is very low. Balochistan is far behind in this field and especially in rural areas. Women have no awareness in rural areas about health hazards. Even those girls who attend schools are not provided any education about health. Pregnancies are always complicated here.

Mehreen: Is there no set up for education?

Humaira: Where there are schools then no teachers are available to them. In our tribal system girls are not allowed to get schooling. We all know well that an educated woman can rear her children so well. Mortality rate is very high among uneducated mothers who do not know about health care.

Mehreen: How far is their environment responsible for these problems? These women work in field even during pregnancy.

Humaira: yes indeed if a pregnant woman is working in the field then she may face many problems for her child. If a women is working where pesticides has been sprayed then it is essential that she must wear some kind of gloves. But our women have no knowledge about this step.

Mehreen: What other health problems are there?

Raheem: We need clinics in our rural areas because funds are always flowing for these areas. It is observed that women working in the fields have skin diseases which are transferred to men and children. Contaminated water and cattle can also affect the health of these women. All these factors increase infant mortality rate. Balochistan has low literacy rate with weak communication facilities resulting in these problems. Even our men need more information and awareness because they are holding the reign of powers at home. Mother serves as a library for her children.

Mehreen: You said well that men should be made aware because they are the decision makers.

Musarat: I want to say that all the BHUs should have qualified doctors both male and female. We must train

our women about child health and contraceptives. Family planning is also to be introduced to them. Some of the attendant women also come to health unite and all the health staff should guide and educate all the visitors about proper health. We should transfer our knowledge to these poor rural people.

Mehreen: How can we improve our education system to help us in this regard?

Humaira: We should have training sessions for different women who can adopt this profession to earn a livelihood.

Mehreen: It means that women should know about the adverse effects in the fields. Do you think that we should bring changes in our curriculum about this issue?

Humaira: Yes indeed we should include health knowledge in the curriculum. We should introduce our girls about the basic health hazards for women during pregnancy.

Mehreen: Please tell us about the role of state institutions and social sector in this field.

Raheem: Government has taken a good step to bound the new doctors to serve for one year in their native place. All the other provincial and federal bodies have the responsibility to facilitate our people in health and education sector. Women should be given all important information about her health. But it is true that government alone can't achieve the target unless the social sector helps it. Our state organizations should work in collaboration with NGOs and should learn the line of action from these private bodies. We need to improve our curriculum and ought to include basic health information in it. We need collective effort to overcome this problem.

Mehreen: My last question is that we talked about different suggestions. How can we improve our situation?

Musarat: Lady Doctors should be appointed in rural areas. Each village must have a hospital to help the poor. It is essential that whether it is NGO or government, a lady doctor must be there.

Mehreen: What change of behavior is desirable on the part of our rural people?

Raheem: Education is the key to achieve the desirable change of attitude and conducts.

Mehreen: How does our religion deals the issue pertaining to health?

Raheem: Islam stress equality among all the human beings where women are granted equal rights in most of the fields. We have no religious harmony and do not follow Islam in Totality.

Mehreen: Thank you so much for being with us. We have highlighted some of the health problems with possible solutions. What role can all the departments play with our own behavior? We will continue talking about the problems of Balochistan in the coming programs. Any message from our valued guests?

Raheem: My message is that health and education are the basic rights of each human being and we must extend these rights.

Humaira: I stress that female education is very important and it should be made compulsory. Women should have training centers in all the areas.

Musarat: My message is that each girl should get education for awareness.

Mehreen: It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 2

### Topic: Reasons for educational backwardness in Balochistan

Guests: Wajid Ali Ruki (Teacher), Abdul Ghafoor (Micro Biologist) and Javaid Khan Lasi (Educationist)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch from Noshki

Anchormperson: Saleem Shahood

Dated: 22-04-2014

#### ProgramSummary

Keeping in the view the ground realities, it can fairly be assessed that Balochistan has the worst education scenario in Pakistan. In the prevailing feudal system and corrupt education department, education for all has become a dream only. Female education is so rare in rural areas. Although the present provincial government has declared educational emergency in the province, much more is needed to put the education system on track. Schools are needed to be constructed; teachers are to be appointed on merit with proper training. The problem of medium of instruction needs to be solved once and for all.

#### Transcription

Saleem: Dear listeners, life is a precious gift by Allah and we must take care of it accordingly. This show is conducted by CRSS. We will talk about the reason of backwardness in education and will discuss the reasons with our guests

Now I address my guest Mr. Wajid and extend my gratitude to him for being with us. You are a teacher and may well understand problems in education. What major problems are we facing in Balochistan?

Wajid: The first problem that I may talk about is the strength of schools in Balochistan. We have fewer institutes for growing population. Second problem is access and the third is the lack of facilities.

Saleem: The basic needs of a school are lacking most of the time. Teachers are not available on regular basis. There is an unnatural atmosphere in our schools. Then how can our students get regular education?

Wajid: Education is a vast field and the most important problem is scarcity of teachers. Secondly if the facilities are there but are not effective then it is another problem. Some physical facilities like toilet, boundary wall and playing ground is also part of educational process which is often overlooked by common people. If a student is not physically stable then education is not possible.

Saleem: Mr. Ghaffar thank you for your presence.

Ghaffar: It is an important topic and we want to highlight this issue.

Saleem: As an educationist, our learned people have objected to the curriculum in Balochistan. A small kid is overburdened by so many text books. Do you think it is justice with the kids?

Ghaffar: It is a flagrant injustice to our kids. There are so many books in the bags of our small kids. Our primary aim should be to make them good human beings. But we just want our children to get education. It is always wrong to overburden such a small child with so many books. Education means construction of a human being. But we have different education systems in the country. All these things clash against each other for the greater repercussions for our children.

Saleem: You mean that at the start of education career a child should not be overburdened. Mr. Lasi, do you want to add your own views about this issue.

Lasi: You praised me by calling me an educationist rather I consider myself as a student. I have established the very first private school in district Hub. I have also established the first private college In Quetta. But some of the people with vested interests are discouraging all such efforts to spread education in Balochistan. I want to tell you, the college we had established all by ourselves was demolished by few politicians. We were arrested and all the material of the college was auctioned. Today when we are talking about education is a good omen. If all the important politicians make a firm commitment to spread education for the coming generation in Balochistan, then we will revolutionize our nation. Why should we send our youth to other provinces for good education? We have all the talent in here.

Saleem: Mr. Wajid Ruki, you are a teacher and have observed our system from close quarters. We have a tribal system in Balochistan, do you think this system is responsible for lack of education?

Wajid: This system is affecting female education to a greater extent. You have to conduct a proper research about the progress of our education system. You have to set a standard for the coming years. What should be required to achieve that target? Then for the next five years you have to set another target, learning from the past mistakes. We have only primary schools for girls. High schools are always far off.

Saleem: You have identified our major problem which is female education. Mr. Ghaffar, Why don't we have some arrangement for girls to access high schools in a far off place?

Ghaffar: The problem is that whether the negative elements in the system would allow us to send our girls to schools. It is right that girl's education is almost at the brink of disaster. We think that some of the people do not permit us for girls' education but the question is that what we are doing to defeat such elements. I belong to district Khuzdar which is the worst affected. Our kids are getting education in the poorest scenario. It is the setup which either allows us or discourages us to get education. We all have to get united against it.

Saleem: Mr. Javed Lasi, what do you think that our present government can do to address the problems in education? Have you been consulted?

Javed Lasi: The Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has doubled the budget for education and health. But unfortunately the structure is the same. People in the system are driven by vested interests. Some of the bureaucrats are consuming everything and damn care about our future generations. Only blue eyed people are granted everything. The basic thing is that we have to provide education in the remote areas. Cities are flocked with all kinds of schools. Remote areas people are not getting any real education.

Saleem: I may ask the question that the new people joining our education system should have some kind of special training?

Wajid: You can do the simple thing by training all the existing teachers.

Saleem: But as I know most of the teachers are already trained.

Wajid: Positive changes are coming. Scholarships are flowing for able teachers. Examination system is being reformed. Up gradation of schools is also a good step. I want that all the scholars and educationists should be consulted and especially the teachers for adopting an effective education system.

Saleem: Mr. Ghaffar, please tell us about the examination system in Balochistan which is in really bad state. Cheating is wide spread and no able student can hope for fair results. Why is not any NGO or government taking any step against the people involved in unfair means?

Ghaffar: We want to get right education from the very start. If the private schools and government schools

have the same education system then it will be good. Rich people have a different education system while the poor people are getting education in the worst possible scenario. But I may tell you that poor students are more educated mentally than the rich students.

Saleem: We have a report about the education system from the remote areas. Let us listen to the report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Noshki.

I am present in district Noshki talking about backwardness in education. Let us talk to the local people about the reasons for poor education.

Can you tell us the reasons about the backwardness in education?

Umar: Our situation is very bad and teachers are not coming to schools. Schools are rare

Yasir: Some people say that there is no proper infrastructure and facilities?

Umar: Our budget allocation is a meager amount. There are no doors and windows in our schools with no light. Even we don't have clean drinking water.

Yasir: Who is responsible for it?

Umar: I think our rulers are responsible for it and not our teachers.

Yasir: We have reached to a remote area. What is your name and what are the reasons for backwardness in education.

Abbas: My name is Abbas. Transportation is not good and students are not serious.

Yasir: Whom do you hold responsible?

Abbas: I think teachers, students and authorities all are responsible.

Yasir: What do you suggest for betterment?

Abbas: I suggest that education emergency be declared by the government.

This was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Saleem: On one hand we are stressing the public to join school while on the other hand we have no facilities in our schools. How can we provide healthy environment for education?

Javed: We cannot expect anything good out of this situation. This is not only the problem of Noshki but the whole province is suffering from it. Our bureaucracy, teachers and education directorate are playing havoc with our coming generations. We will observe the repercussions during the coming years. Politics should be banned in all the educational institutes. All the teachers should be held responsible for their respective classes.

Saleem: Can standard of education be improved if education is imparted in native language? Will it prove good?

Ghaffar: I think that if a child reads in Urdu medium for the first five or six years and then you introduce him to English medium....

Saleem: Sorry to interrupt you but I have observed that even in government schools English is being introduced from the very first class.

Ghaffar: It is indeed a good step and must be encouraged. We see a different native language every ten kilometer in our country. The question is that whether your native language is able to impart education to your students. Balochistan has different languages. I suggest that English is important to be learnt to compete in the modern world.

Saleem: Mr. Wajid, Do you agree with this suggestion?

Wajid: I may say that education starts from the lap of the mother where a child learns each thing in mother tongue. Then we should impart education in mother tongue.

Saleem: I would like to listen to your comments Mr. Javed about the medium of instruction. We know that our neighbor Afghanistan imparts even medical knowledge in Pashto. All the terminology has been developed. Why we cannot do the same?

Javed: The direction we are moving in means that we are playing with our coming generations. Education of a mother is indispensable. Look at the case of Japan where education takes place in their native language.

Saleem: Why don't we try to free ourselves from foreign domination in education?

Javed: When Akbar Bugti was the chief Minister he took the step to start education in native language. But our own people failed this move. Talent of a child can be refined if he receives instructions in his mother tongue.

Saleem: We have received a message from Babu Raisani and he says that the girls school in their area is without proper facilities and teachers are not trained. My question is that why training of teachers is not affecting our education?

Ghaffar: There are different kinds of trainings. A teacher is trained to facilitate a student in learning. Some of our teachers have improved much after such trainings. It is hard to read the mind of each student but a teacher has to deliver to maximum students. Government should train teachers during summer vacations.

Saleem: Mr. Wajid, what should be the priority solution to move ahead in education. What should be the first step?

Wajid: I think that appointment of teachers should be based according to the union councils. Local teachers should be appointed in schools. Access of students should be made certain to schools.

Saleem: Mr. Ghaffar, what should be a one line solution according to your understanding?

Ghaffar: A simple and durable course avoiding the British legacy. Theory and practical should have equal portion in our education system.

Saleem: Now I may turn to Javed Lasi for final comments about the problem?

Javed Lasi: CM has imposed emergency and I suggest that scrutiny should be carried out eliminating inefficient teachers. Merit should be adopted in the new appointment and teaching profession should be adopted as a matter of choice and not chance.

Saleem: I am thankful to all of you. We had fruitful discussion about the education scenario in Balochistan . I hope you have enjoyed the discussion brought to you by CRSS. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 3

### Topic: Reasons for high poverty in Balochistan

Guests: Watan Yar Khelji, (Social worker) and Mola Dad (Social worker)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch, Noshki

Dated: 28-04-2014

#### Program Summary

Balochistan constitutes 27% of the total area of Pakistan but still this whole region is the most backward area where poverty ratio is almost 60%. It is a pity that a province which has all sort of natural resources and precious minerals is living in abject poverty. According to Watan Yar and Mola Dad, the major reasons for poverty in Balochistan are poor literacy rate, feudal system, poor communication and lack of transportation facilities, and misuse of huge funds by the people in power.

#### Transcription

Dear listeners, today we are going to discuss a very important topic which is poverty. It is the root cause of many troubles in Balochistan. Balochistan is far behind all the other provinces as far as health, education and other facilities are concerned. We have our guest today for discussion. My first guest is Watan Yar khelji from social sector. We have also Mr. Mola Dad. my first question is that Balochistan is replete with natural resources like gold and minerals along with a long sea coast, therefore why is it so poor in the presence of all these natural wealth and riches?

Watan Yar: You have asked a very pertinent question. I think the prime reason for poverty and backwardness in Balochistan is that it is almost 47% of the total area of Pakistan and education is very low here. It is the main reason for our backwardness. Second reason is that people are not skilled and third reason is the lack of communication and transportation. Communication is the key to economic progress and prosperity. We do not have many roads in Balochistan. Even our major cities are without proper roads and facilities. There are factories only in Hub and Lasbella districts where very few people are employed.

Mehreen: Now may I ask you about industrialization and how is it a reason for poverty?

Mola Dad: We know that Hub Zone has some factories in Balochistan. There were some mills in Bolan but systematically our province is deprived of all factories and mills.

Mehreen: Here are several opportunities for new factories like marble and precious minerals?

Mola Dad: There are many mountains in Lorelei and Chaghi districts where marble is found. But the problem is that our province is always ignored and deprived of its rights by the federal government.

Mehreen: We need training institutes for our people. We import human resources for our factories in Balochistan, it is a tragedy?

Watan Yar: Many countries of the world have progressed by making their people skilled in various professions. I stress that the federal and provincial government should pay special attention to this sector and our people should be make skilled and expert indifferent professions. Communication is very important and agriculture is developing wherever there are new roads. Every region should have good roads for progress.

Mehreen: Yes indeed roads can also establish us factories. SDPI has a survey and according to it there are almost 52% people below poverty line in Balochistan. It is the highest number of poverty in the whole country.



may I ask you that why international groups are working in Balochistan?

Watan Yar: International community has interests in Balochistan but that is a vested interest and is the main reason for poverty in Balochistan. If they had invested in Balochistan then people would have crossed the poverty line towards betterment. It is also the reason for violence and militancy in Balochistan. We need peace and positive thinking.

Mola Dad: Mega projects are also running in Balochistan like Gawadar Project. But some of the international powers do not want to see it completed. Many countries are not in favour of Gawadar project.

Mehreen: It is said that PKR 85 billion worth of gas is produced each year in Balochistan but it gets only seven million as royalty. How these factors contribute to poverty in Balochistan?

Watan Yar: We have a large region as compared to other province with no good communication. I stress that Balochistan should get maximum share in NFC according to its area. Federation should pay more attention to Balochistan and other provinces should voice our concerns as well. Money may flow to Balochistan but check and balance is very necessary. Huge funds have flowed to Balochistan but all the funds were embezzled and exploited by the people in power. Otherwise you may not have asked me the question about poverty in Balochistan.

Mehreen: Is Feudalism responsible for poverty in Balochistan?

Watan Yar: This system is the biggest hurdle in the progress and poverty alleviation in Balochistan. Feudal system does not permit education and awareness among the masses because it is harmful for the present system. People are not allowed to seek education and free thinking. KPK has made progress because of education while Balochistan is lagging behind due to lack of education.

Mehreen: Let us listen to a report about the same issues as we are discussing.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Balochistan is the largest province of the country but it is faced with famine and water shortage. Farmers have no facilities and resources. Poverty is on the rise. Literacy is also very low. There is no proper planning to store rain water or use underground water resources. People are not aware about the importance of education. Education has also become very expensive and ordinary people cannot get their children educated. All the efforts of government and NGOs have brought us no good results. People are ignorant and voting turn out is also very low. The first thing is to educate the people and jobs should be according to the skills of the people. Poverty can be eradicated slowly and with patience.

Yasir: Here is another boy standing in the field. Let me ask him why he is standing here while during school time?

Yasir: What is your name and what are you doing here?

My name is Ali Baloch. I can't go to school because my father cannot afford my school expenses. I have to share the burden of my family with my father. I have been to school for almost six years but now I cannot afford to continue my education.

Yasir: This raises many questions that why students like Ali Baloch cannot afford to attend their schools. It is creating all sorts of problems for their future life. Who is responsible for all this?

Mehreen: We heard the report where a child told us that he cannot afford to go the school. We have 216490 schools in Pakistan. It is strange that 164335 are in Punjab, 46500 in Sindh and 36029 in KP while Balochistan has only 10381 educational institutes. When will people rise against this injustice?

Mola dad: We know that schools in our rural areas serve as Hujra for the Maliks and Khans. Water table is also going down in Balochistan which is devastating for our agriculture. It is increasing our poverty to higher levels.

Mehreen: Only six percent land is agricultural in Balochistan. What could be done for agriculture sector?

Watan Yar: It is true that water table is receding down. I have observed two dams in Balochistan where people are very happy and agriculture is on the rise. Balochistan needs water reservoirs and storage of rain water.

Mehreen: Let us listen to another report about the issue in focus.

REPORT:

Yasir: Balochistan is a poor province and what are the reasons for such a high ratio of poverty despite the fact that Balochistan is a rich province as far as natural resources and riches are concerned. Let us ask this question from the common people and find the answer in their own words.

Yasir: Please tell us your name and tell us the reason for poverty here.

Muhammad Rahim Is my name. I guess that education is important for eradicating poverty. Then we have communication problems and lack of schools in the whole province. People are uneducated and involve in manual labour to remain below poverty line. Law and order situation is another major issue.

Yasir: Are you making any efforts to develop agriculture here?

Rahim: Yes indeed but we are waiting for rain waters and have no resources to take our products to cities because we have no proper roads.

Yasir: We have reached further up and may ask another person some questions.

Yasir: What is your name and how can we reduce poverty?

My name is Saleem and I may tell you that education is non existent in Balochistan. Government should increase the budget for education. We have fewer schools at present. Employment should be provided on merit. Technical training centers should be established for our youth.

Dear listeners, you heard the views of common people about the reasons for poverty in Balochistan. This was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Mehreen: We heard the report and now I may ask a related question about the presence of so many afghan refugees In Balochistan. I may ask that whether the presence of these refugees in such a large number and for such a long time is a factor for poverty in Balochistan?

Watan Yar: It is true that for the last 34 years Afghan Refugees are living across this province and have made inroads in the economic and social life of the province. They have replaced the local people in daily wages and manual jobs. These people have also brought violence and scuffles to our society.

Mehreen: How will you relate globalization with our present situation on Balochistan?

Mola Dad: We have our own weaknesses and so we cannot benefit from globalization. You need education, communication and awareness to take any advantage from globalization. Electricity is the biggest problem in Balochistan because only a few major cities have electricity which constitutes only 15% of the total population in Balochistan. We should take help from solar system.

Mehreen: After so much protest now some cities are provided with gas and electricity. We want to talk about small cottage industry. I want to ask you that what should be done for poverty alleviation in Balochistan to

provide basic three things of bread, cloth and shelter.

Watan Yar: I may say that our country should pay special attention to this unfortunate province and to be brief I may suggest that communication holds the key to poverty alleviation in Balochistan. There are still people in this region who have not climbed a bus.

Mehreen: Your message was good about transportation and communication. What do you have to say Mola Dad?

Mola Dad: Government should educate people in the remote areas of Balochistan. We need industry to give employment to the people.

Mehreen: Thank you so much for being with us. We have discussed several local and international issues. We have come to the conclusion that Balochistan needs the basic infrastructure for progress. Gawadar Port and the projects like that may bring progress and prosperity for the province. It is good bye for now

## **Episode: 4**

### **Topic: Unemployment in Balochistan**

Guests: Waheed Ur Rehman (Youth Leader), Adil Jahangir(Social sector) and Kalsoom Akhtar(Student)

Field Story: Reporter

Anchor Person: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 29-04-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Youth in Balochistan are faced with the gravest possible situation in respect to get a decent job according to their qualification. Most of the federal posts are filled in Islamabad on political basis without the knowledge of the local youth of Balochistan. Government jobs are rare and private investors are not coming to invest in Balochistan, consequently youth is getting frustrated and desperate. Moreover people are getting degrees and relevant job is hard to get. Private sector is also exploiting the youth, according to Kalsoom. Adil Jahangir views social sector as the only area providing opportunities of employment to youth in Balochistan.

#### **Transcription**

Ahmad Zeeshan: Dear listeners, your host Ahmad Zeeshan is here with Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz brought to you by CRSS. You can listen to this programme live or can access its contents and script on the internet. We strive to bring an important issue for discussion. Whenever we talk about progress of a region it refers to the living standard of a common person and not by wide roads and glowing signboards. Today we will talk about unemployment in Balochistan. We have Waheed, who is a youth leader. We also have Adil Jahangir, who belongs to civil society. We may start our discussion by asking Mr. Waheed that, is unemployment very much high in Balochistan? And we would like to know the reasons for it.

Waheed: In fact I am representing Youth in Balochistan and I can fairly assume that the prime reasons for unemployment are the following. When you do not plan your studies according to your selected profession then a qualified person cannot find a job. Technical degrees are lacking in Balochistan and cannot be cashed. Most of your youth just take simple Master degrees and go for odd jobs. Private sector is not developed here and most of our young qualified people do not find an opportunity to get a job. The third major issue is that there is no investment in Balochistan. Foreign investors are not coming to Balochistan and there is no appeal for any investor here.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Investors are afraid to invest in Balochistan. Career counseling is also no more in Balochistan. Another thing mentioned was that there is no field for technical education. Mr. Adil did private sector do anything for youth in Balochistan?

Adil: I think unemployment is the burning issue of Balochistan. As far as NGOs and social sector is concerned, I may take pride in saying that if fifty percent of youth in Balochistan is employed it is due to social sector. Everyone knows the state of government jobs in Balochistan where merit is never followed. But it is only in private sector where your talent and qualification is valued.

Ahmad Zeeshan: You mean able people work in NGOs.

Adil: It is our bad luck that our people only get a degree and have no proper training or initiative. Our country has no value for degree but only reference and relations have value. NGO sector has the credit that every person is appointed according to his qualifications.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Mr. Waheed wanted to say something.

Waheed: I want to say that every new government is always expected too much by the youth. Previous government introduced a special package for Balochistan where thousands of posts were announced for Balochistan. Provincial posts were filled while posts relating to federal government are still lying vacant. Why?

Ahmad: It is a trend in our country that every next government tries to stop some of the policies of the previous government but I have come to know yesterday that our new PM has asked for a report to know about these appointments. Mr. Adil, what is your opinion?

Adil: Government can play the prime role to eradicate unemployment. I know that there are almost four thousand vacant posts for Balochistan in the federal government. These posts are often announced in dummy newspapers with fake post box. I met a person in Islamabad who was appointed on the quota of Balochistan although he was not from Balochistan. Only his father had once served in Lorelei as a Patwari. I stress that people of Balochistan have the sole right over such posts. I also stress that interviews should not be held in Islamabad but in Balochistan. Domiciles should be verified by the concerned deputy commissioners. There is Balochistan officer's flat in sector G8 in Islamabad. I was shocked to see that there was no person as resident from Balochistan in these flats.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Shahida Rouf MNA has raised this issue in the National Assembly. We hope provincial assembly will also discuss this issue. It is time to listen to recorded interviews. Kalsoom is also here who is a student. We will talk to her after the report.

#### REPORT:

My name is Kalsoom Akhtar and I belong to district Turbat. I am doing MCS. I have applied for federal job on three seats. I have applied for so many posts on local level. But I have received no response as yet. Interviews are so tough and criteria are very high. But when we pass all these steps and list is displayed, we are discouraged because all the appointed people do not fulfill the requirements. We are ignored at federal level. I have also applied to private jobs and I was horrified to see that highly qualified people are only paid three or four thousand in private schools. This meager amount is refused by the maid servant. Balochistan is maltreated. You cannot get a post unless you bribe someone or have some approach. You cannot get a salary more than eight thousand rupees in private sectors. Private lecturers in universities are getting twenty thousand rupees. My field is computer and no school has computer as a subject till metric. My question is that how our people can compete with the world when you do not about computer unless you reach university. I stress that government should provide computers to all the schools. It is the plight of Balochistan. Our youth is losing interests in education. I was taunted by a rustic girl who was earning while I am still unable to get a decent job.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Dear listeners, you heard the interview and luckily Kalsoom is here with us in the studio. Do you want to say anything else which was not told by you in the recorded interview? Private education is also creating real problems for our people because these institutes are running businesses and people are dealt commercially. Meager wages are paid to the employees.

Kalsoom: I am really thankful for giving me the opportunity to express myself. It is a pity that fees are very high in the private schools but teachers are paid low salaries. Most of the teachers are only matriculate and it is ridiculous to expect them to teach to eight and ninth classes. Another issue is that such low grade teachers are paid less pay while a qualified person will demand higher salaries. While the criterion for government job is to pay heavy bribes to the officials. I have a bitter experience because my father is a poor person and could not pay the bribes. On several occasions I could not get the job despite I fulfilled the requirements.

Ahmad Zeeshan: You are right about certain issues. What would like to add to this assessment Mr. Waheed?

Waheed: Our youth is getting desperate in Balochistan. When a person cannot get a job after receiving ex-

pensive education, he becomes desperate. All of us know well that bribe and recommendation culture is very common here. Even in competitive examinations people are promoted through unfair means. If an incompetent person gets a job in a department then that unworthy person will corrupt the whole department.

Adil: Kalsoom was right about her analysis. We cannot expect any good from a corrupt department where people are appointed through bribes and corruptions.

Ahmad Zeeshan: It is true that private sector is not very much interested in Balochistan. Unemployment will always be on the rise when private sector is not investing. Life has become very fast and people prefer to work in the private sector to remain active and fit.

We have another report prepared by our reporter. Let us listen to it.

REPORT:

My name is Faisal Muhammad. I hold double master degree. I have applied for five different posts in the federal government through reliable testing authority. WAPDA, PTCL and geological survey of Pakistan are some of the departments that I have applied for. I appeared for the test but was not short listed for interview. Test is so hard to qualify. I guess these tests were influenced by political considerations. Balochistan is not given any serious thought by the multinational organizations. In UN Agencies, Balochistan has no quota for higher posts. There are four thousand vacant posts for Balochistan in the federal government. It has also happened that people from other provinces were appointed for the posts exclusively set for Balochistan. These are political appointments.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Welcome back to the show. We heard the short interview where it was again told that some of the posts are advertized in such newspaper which are not read by the people locally. Could you please tell something about this?

Kalsoom: I want to say that when our students go for higher qualification to other major cities of the country, our students are not facilitated and are looked down upon. Our students are maltreated and no proper accommodation is given in other provinces. The behavior and conducts of local student is always discouraging for the students in Balochistan.

Ahmad Zeeshan: It is an important issue and I will narrate my own experience. My observation is that our students are considered a bit lower at study level and people of Balochistan are lacking the necessary skills. It is certainly a wrong perception and our students have to prove it wrong. A good institute is no guarantee for success in life but individual effort is a must. This impression will change if our students from Balochistan go frequently to other major cities.

Kalsoom: I may add that people of Balochistan have great talents and have proved themselves in and abroad the country. Problem is that they have got no opportunities to come forward within their own region. Those who go abroad once will not wish to return. I know many such people who would not like to return to this province.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Mr. Adil you wanted to say something a few minutes ago.

Adil: If we look at this matter in a broader spectrum then we have to look at the NFC award. Till 2000 A.D. Balochistan had a meager share but even now our share is not according to our area and strength. If I go to Islamabad then I can reach within ten hours, whereas if I wish to go to Turbat or Gawadar which is within the same province then it may take even 24 hours. Our province is replete with natural resources. It was read in a report by a French archaeologist, who said that if the resources in Balochistan are judiciously used then each citizen of Pakistan will get five thousand rupees each day without laboring himself.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Balochistan has also some other resources like our famous dates which has no mechanism

to be stored or exported to other parts of the country. Dear listeners, you heard the discussion with your valued guests. We hope that federal posts will be filled soon and unemployment may be reduced in Balochistan. Unemployment is a curse for a young man and we hope that the situation may ameliorate soon. It is god bye for now.

## Episode: 5

### Topic: Technical (vocational) education in Balochistan

Guests: Shabnam Naz (Principal Government Vocational Training institute), Khalid (CRSS) and Ameer Baloch (Student)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 05-05-2014

#### Program Summary

The need and importance of vocational/technical education cannot be denied for a backward place like Balochistan where there is no industry or employment opportunity. Balochistan is replete with natural resources and there is likelihood that the youth can self-employ themselves after getting the necessary vocational training in the available 34 government centers and other institutes by different NGOs for the purpose. According to Shabnam Naz, it is high time that government should pay serious attention to this field to decrease the sense of deprivation and exploitation among the youth in Balochistan.

#### Transcription

We have our guest here to talk about technical educations in Balochistan with all its problems and importance for the region. We have Mrs. Shabnam Naz who is principal of Government Vocational Institutes. Mrs. Shabnam Naz, a master trainer in E learning, is associated with other vocational institutes, a part from being a member of WOT as well. She has also paid visits to Malaysia. We have another guest in the form of Mr. Khalid who represents CRSS. A student from our Youth is also here who Ameer Bakhsh Baloch. I welcome you all in the show.

Today we are talking about technical education in Balochistan and it is pertinent to ask what is the difference between regular education and technical or vocational education?

Shabnam Naz: Normal education is our formal education as taught in our schools and colleges. But informal education imparted in our vocational training institutes where we learn some kind of skill is called technical education. Balochistan is such a place which is replete with all kinds of resources but we have seldom youth force to explore them. Keeping in view this fact if we provide the required skills to our youth, it will decrease their sense of deprivation and exploitation.

Mehreen: At present if we look at the backwardness of Balochistan, what do you suggest for the improvement of the situation in this regard?

Shabnam Naz: In this connection I would like to say that at present there are many institutions and organizations which are imparting technical education but the need is that a greater number of youth should enroll themselves in these institutes. It is not a formal education and a person has to apply it in the field. A person can self-employ himself and may not wait for government job. Balochistan is a rich province as far as resources are concerned but the people are poor. Unless the people learn a skill and apply it, there is no end to our misery.

I want to ask now that what courses are available for boys and girls,

Shabnam Naz: There are 34 centers in Balochistan for such training in all the important cities and towns. We don't have good industry in the region and cannot train trainees for this skill and so we are forced to resort to



self-employment. We have training for tailoring, plumbing, electrician, wood work and the like for boys. For female we have training in cooking, catering and tailoring. We have fully facilitated these trainings. Different NGOs are also working in collaboration with us. Vocational training is focused throughout the world. It is important to provide skills to the common people to help themselves. A skilled youth is burden to none.

Mehreen: Mr. Khalid, what do you think that if we compare formal education with technical education then which one is more important?

Khalid: The topic for today is very important but we have not touched it till now. Youth have greater opportunities here. We have a bad job situation in the country and we should have focused on it more attentively. It is more important for our region. I don't deny the importance of formal education but I give more importance to technical education.

Mehreen: What is the reason that our youth is not attracted to technical education?

Khalid: Most of the people give priority to medical, engineering and agriculture education because it provides more job opportunities. There is no opportunity to go for higher education in the field of technical education. Government is not supervising this field at the higher level. Secondly there are some districts where these institutes exist like Turbat and Zhob but the students will not come to these Centers from far flung areas.

Shabnam Naz: No doubt, doctors and engineers are doing great for the society but we have to see how many people can get employ in the present system. We have immense poverty and we have free of cost training institutes for such people. There are so many success stories of such people where our youth have earned a lot abroad. These centers not only provide training but are also improving domestic training. People are flocking now and we have to run four session. It is an income generation programme.

Mehreen: I may like to add that students are different in their capabilities and all cannot become doctors. Every child has his own skill and mental level. My question is that some of the projects are not as successful as claimed like Benazir Income support programme. What are the reasons?

Shabnam Naz: I attended a high level meeting a few days back about a project. It was good to see that the people from Balochistan, KPK and Gilgat were given proper attention. BISP was handed over to NGOs at first but the fact is that some of NGOs have no valid background and they can make a miss of all things. These NGOs did not granted funds to the rightful persons. Now the Youth programme for youth of Balochistan is launched across the whole province now. Almost 1120 students have reserved seats in Balochistan . It was announced simultaneously across the whole country and application form was provided to all those who came to seek it. Teams from interviews also came from Islamabad and boys were selected according to a certain criteria. The whole process was transparent.

Mehreen: Is the curriculum also uniform?

Shabnam Naz: It is another reason for failure for any project when you employ untrained people but now all are trained.

Mehreen: Control and command are important for any trainer. We want to talk about Asian Development Bank. It was a big project where Balochistan was to receive a fund of 23 million dollars. But the project was cancelled after receiving just 4.3 million dollars. Whatever the reason may be, it is bad for Balochistan. We have to learn from our mistakes to go forward. Do you thing funds are sufficient for technical education in Balochistan?

Shabnam Naz: I do not think funds would be insufficient if honesty is displayed by the officials. If the official keeps a vigilant eye over all things then funds cannot be misused. Transparency should flow from above and not the other way round. Transparency is very high in Mercy Schools for three years and the project is a suc-

cess.

Mehreen: If we consider all the mega projects like Gawadar, the concept is to import everything from abroad. Is it not injustice with our people?

Shabnam Naz: It is bad indeed but we should be optimistic. Now for the first time our youth is given opportunity to have skills through a transparent process. The point is that one incident should not provide a pretext for terminating the whole project. Our people are capable to compete with other people.

Mehreen: If you remember we imported boiler machines from Germany and the case when our local engineers managed them. We have to test and trust our own people.

Shabnam Naz: The important thing is that our leadership should trust our own people.

Mehreen: We have a recorded interview and we will listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Yasir: Poverty is on the rise in our country. Some of the NGOs have established centers where people are provided skills. We are with the principal of such an institute.

My name is Abdul Naeem and I am the principal in Pakistan Gem and jeweler training institute. We provide training about precious stones and jewelry designs. We have established a laboratory where we test all the precious stone with nominal charges. All the people are getting help from it. This laboratory is of international standard with latest machines. Technical education is very important along with formal education for a smooth society. Different countries have worked in these fields. Minerals are teeming in Balochistan and it was necessary to have this kind of training. Now our youth are getting skill in this field and they can self-employ themselves. Machinery is not too expensive and anyone can buy them after six month training. We have many small training centers for this purpose. We established different shops here in 2007 and then technical centers in 2011. We have trained 700 people till now including boys and girls who are employed now in different fields. Our institute is internationally affiliated. Our ratio is 40% for female and 60% for boys. Women can employ themselves even at homes because we provide them the required machinery. We have separate classes for female students. Our aim is to increase our export to the outside world. Awareness is lacking in this region. It is a dignified profession and can easily access the international markets.

Yasir: There are other institutes where people learn different skills. It is required that such institutes should be increased to reduce the unemployment.

This was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Caller: I am Shagufta Lodhi from Quetta. I want to appreciate your efforts for such programmes. This is a good programme to guide our youth in the right direction.

Mehreen: If you have any question to ask?

Shagufta: I want to ask, how much minimum education is required for such training?

Shabnam Naz: I may tell you that for our PM Youth program we need only primary level education. Scholarships are also available for such students. They will receive a kit after completing their training.

Mehreen: I hope you are satisfied with the explanation dear caller. Do you think that government supports such skilled people after getting their training?

Shabnam Naz: We have raised this question on all forums that what should our youth do after getting such

skills. We want a loan procedure for such people with minimum mark up with just one guarantor. Students may be able to receive such loan for proper utilization. There is no industry in Balochistan and the domestic trades are the only option available to us. It is also important to note that why four five people work together and may not need a bank loan. Small medium enterprise is a good idea.

Mehreen: We are short of time but please convey your message about technical education in one line.

Shabnam Naz: Our youth should develop the confidence to trust themselves. They are not lacking in talent.

Ameer Baloch: We should follow the example of Malaysia and introduce small industry.

Khalid: Government has a greater role to play in this regard. Continuity of projects is a must.

Mehreen: It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 6

### Topic: Good governance

Guests: Saddam Baloch (Youth leader), Sakeena Abdullah Khan (Social worker and PTI leader), Khalid Baloch (CRSS) and Dad Muhammad (Journalist)

Report: Yasir Baloch

Anchormperson: Saleem Shahood

Dated: 06-05-2014

### Program Summary

Balochistan is a worst case in regard to good governance. According to Naheed Chushti, Head of the Department of Political Science in Balochistan University, "We do not have even bad governance in Balochistan rather we have miss governance which means an absence of government and anarchy in Balochistan". There is a growing sense of deprivation among the youth of Balochistan which need proper redress otherwise the situation may become worst. To almost all the people, education holds the key to most of such issues relating to good governance and progress.

### Transcription

Saleem: Our guests for today are noteworthy in their respective fields. My first guest is Saddam who is a student of Economics and is also a youth leader. He has visited other provinces as well. I welcome you sir.

Saddam: My purpose for today is to encourage our youth and have a lasting interaction with them. We are going to discuss an important topic.

Saleem: My second guest is a dynamic personality who has achieved many things in a young age. She is Sakeena, who is the president of PTI in Balochistan for youth. She runs an NGO for the divorced and orphan women of Balochistan, as well as women craft center. She is also associated with Saiban organization and works as volunteer with human rights organization. She is also active in promoting sports in Balochistan. With all these credits we welcome you in the show.

Sakeena: I am here to represent youth which is a symbol of our party. It seems as the previous rulers have not delivered good governance but our youth has a lot of potential and will bring good governance in Balochistan.

Saleem: we have another guest who is making hectic efforts to improve this show and he is Mr. Khalid from CRSS. Please tell us about the good governance in Balochistan as compared to other provinces?

Khalid: If we compare the ground reality then we do not have ideal conditions in our province. We have the problems of law and order, health, education and agriculture is very backward. Although the government is doing what it ought to do but it is certainly not enough.

Saleem: Tell us about the campaign initiated by CRSS. Do you think political situation is responsible for bad governance or there are some other factors?

Khalid: It is evident that main responsibility lies on politicians. They should have done enough during the last 68 years. As far as the role of CRSS is concerned, we are constantly working for the last one year. Our aim is to give a voice to all the grievances, complaints and problems of the people of Balochistan. We want to highlight the main issues for the realization by the authorities. We want to provide the opportunity to the common people to express themselves.

Saleem: We have another guest here who belongs to the field of journalism. He is Mr. Dad Muhammad. Miss Sakeena, please tell us as a youth representative that do you think merit is cared about in Balochistan?

Sakeena: If merit was there then our talented youth in Balochistan would not have been in this worse state. Our youth has joined terrorism and is sitting idle. Our youth is roaming along the roads and is wasted. There is no merit at all.

Saleem: Mr. Saddam, you have visited other provinces and have studied the systems there. What depression is there for our youth? What are the reasons?

Saddam: According to my understanding the main thing is that our people have grievances. We are kept in isolation. Our rulers in Balochistan have not ended the distances. When I represented Balochistan there were so many questions about Balochistan because people do not know about us. A student asked me a question in Karachi that whether Peshawar is in Balochistan. We have so many grudges in Balochistan. Our present situation is a witness that democracy has never been practiced in Pakistan. We want to convey our voice through CRSS to our countrymen that there is another province in Pakistan called Balochistan.

Saleem: According to my observation that masses are with us and realize our problems. Mr. Dad Muhammad you are a journalist. Do you think that when a young man joins journalism in Pakistan, does he face problems in this field?

Dad Muhammad: I want to say that journalism is faced with many problems in the world and Pakistan is the most risky area, Balochistan being the prominent one. The ground realities set us depressed but the spirit of youth pushes us ahead.

Saleem: Miss Sakeena, you are involved in many things but when we talk about women in Balochistan, we realize that most of the male members of a family are ignorant. Women face different psychic problems due to the attitude of male members. Can we make our people aware about this issue where men want to dominate women due to their ignorance?

Sakeena: Good governance is related with this issue. It is well said that an educated women can give you a successful nation. If a woman can educate her family then she is a major stake holder to make this society social and developed. All our listeners know that we reside in a feudal area. It is very fortunate that within the last twenty years things have started to happen well. Many girls are getting education now and parents are willing to send their daughters to schools. Illiteracy occurs when there is no awareness and facilities. Most of our villages lack education facilities and no parents dare to send his kids to far off schools. But if there is a good school available in the village then no parent would like to miss this opportunity to educate his children.

Saleem: You are also young Mr. Saddam and do you think that when a poor and able person applies for a job, he can expect fair appointment?

Saddam: We need true representative people through elections. We need a clean and clear system through which true people may get elected.

Saleem: you know that our region has been dominated by feudalist mindset through a strong network. Is it possible that our youth can change this set up?

Saddam: We can change this system through education. We must educate our youth to elect true representatives.

Saleem: Yes indeed we have to be optimistic and may associate our aspiration with our youth. Mr. Dad Muhammad, what is your take about the notion that our youth can carry the new system in the present situation?

Dad Muhammad: We have an intact system in Balochistan and we cannot bring changes overnight. We have

to give opportunities to our youth. The recent Youth festival was a good incident for our youth. As long as we have people like Saddam who would try to raise a voice for our youth then we hope that change will come. We must provide them proper guidance in the right direction.

Saleem: Miss Sakeena, I was delighted to know about all your activities for the uplift of our women. What problems do you foresee when women come to you. What is your general observation about the plight of our women?

Sakeena: The basic problem with our young women is the lack of education. Primarily they are not allowed to go to schools. When they have the opportunity to attend a school then they are never permitted to complete their education. Nature has always vested a special talent in each woman but they have no opportunity to display. They have no forum to prove themselves. Most of the girls are married in an early age. Even professional women have no chance to do a job and have to sit at home.

Saleem: Dear listeners, we have two reports in this programme. Let us listen to these reports.

FIRST REPORT, Yasir Baloch

The biggest province, Balochistan, as far as area is concerned, is faced with good governance. We are talking to head of the department of Political Science in Balochistan University Professor Naheed Chushti says...

Governance execution has three components; jurisdiction, law-making and law adjudicating. When we observe all these three components then we can say that there is good governance. Most of the responsibilities lie with government. No doubt in Balochistan two governments of federal and provincial governments are working. There was a sense of deprivation in Balochistan over the years. These things happen in a home when there is discrimination. Principles of social justice are very essential for good governance otherwise there will be no more justice. Social justice means equal rights in all fields. The prime duty of the government is to implement social justice and peace. It must be based on the justice.

Yasir: As a teacher what would be your recommendations for good governance in the province?

Naheed: There is another concept of miss governance which means absence of government. It means that law and order situation is worse and people have no rights and livelihood then it is not bad governance but miss governance. It is a menace and may lead to many ills. It is recommended that we should change our system which should be perpetual. We need to observe the change otherwise our masses will go into depression. Some programs for the youth are a must in Balochistan. We must engage our youth to help all. My suggestion is that all the departments of the government should work sincerely for the people. People remember only those personalities who work for their nations like Nelson Mandela and Bachaa Khan. We must go towards implementation. History always reveals the truth. We must be very much careful about this issue.

Yasir: Naheed Chushti stressed that government should take some steps to end bad and miss governance for the brighter future of Balochistan. This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

SECOND REPORT:

Country is run by the government and government by the people. We are talking to the masses...

My name is Nadeem Awan and work as a cameraman with Geo TV. There is a challenge of good governance in the whole country and Balochistan is the worst case. It is witnessed in all the departments like traffic, education and local government. There is no rule for traffic and school. The whole city is replete with example of bad governance. For instance talk about police, health or Municipal Corporation. There is no good governance.

Reporter: How can it be improved?

Nadeem: We can improve it by imparting good education right from the beginning. We must truly educate them to be good citizens. Attitude and conducts of our students should be improved.

Reporter: Who is responsible for bad governance?

I think we all are responsible for it. We all try to violate the rules and regulations. We park our vehicle at the wrong place and don't give a damn care about others.

Reporter: We will talk to another person.

My name is Khaliq and I am working with the Daily Jung. My answer to your question is that there are two important things in a society. One is writ of the government and the other is good governance. Our new Chief Minister has given it top priority. Good governance is very important for any government. It must flow from top to bottom. Without good governance there is no progress.

Saleem: Dear listeners, welcome back in the show with our valued guests. You have also worked in Balochistan Disaster project. What was the standard of this project in regard to good governance?

Sakeena: Pakistani nation is thought to be inactive and idle. Balochistan is a red zone in regards to earthquake, floods, Drought and monsoon rains. We often blame ourselves when the matter is out of proportion. The basic reason for our failure is that we do not plan in advance. I warned a minister the other day about the impending drought in Balochistan. We often wait for aid and donors after the disaster but do not try to avoid the calamity. We just do post planning instead we must do pre planning. As a focal person I request the government to preplan about these disasters. We are a red zone.

Saleem: Mr. Saddam, how far our youth is pre planned?

Saddam: Youth is alert and attentive about many issues. Our youth has learnt many things and have zeal and spirit.

Saleem: You are optimistic about the youth. Mr. Dad Muhammad, as a journalist what will be your message?

Dad Muhammad: My message for youth is that don't get depressed but fight for your rights. If winter comes, then spring be far behind.

Saleem: I am really thankful for your time. Command and control system are essential for good governance. We will take all people on board. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 7**

### **Topic: Causes and effects of drug addiction among the youth in Balochistan**

Guests: Aneel Kumar (Social Worker), Jalil Ahmad (Youth leader) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS)

Report: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 12-05-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Drug addiction among the youth in Balochistan has become a menace. The healthy environment and easy availability of all kinds of narcotics and drugs make most of the youth in Balochistan vulnerable to addiction. Government is certainly not doing enough to check the rise in drug trafficking and drug addiction. There are some scattered hectic efforts by the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) but it is not proving any help unless they are in coordination with the government departments. This menace is creating law and order situation in the province and government should provide employment and sport and other related activities to the youth.

#### **Transcription**

Dear listeners, our topic for today is the increasing drug addiction among the youth of Balochistan. Our guests for today are Aneel Kumar, who is a social worker in the related fields. He is now associated with Red Cross in Balochistan. He is striving hard to make our youth aware about their potentials. Our second guest is a student representing youth of Balochistan, Jalil Ahmad. He also visited other places and we will like to know about his experience. I may tell you that almost 60% addicts are ranging from age 15 to 30 years? What are the reasons behind this alarming phenomenon? I may ask Aneel Kumar to brief us about the main reasons for drug addiction among the youth of Balochistan?

Aneel: We have to clarify two things in advance. We have two things called medicines and the other is drug. According to the definition medicines are used to treat an illness, while by drug we mean anything that may bring any change mentally, physically or apparently. Now we have to see whether people are using medicine as drugs or drugs as medicine. Now we have to see why there is the misuse of drugs and medicine. The first natural drive is curiosity and suspense. People are curious and want to clarify talk of the town and use drugs. Another factor is peer pressure. It is well said that society moulds a man and if a person moves in company where drugs are used then he is most vulnerable to it. Another factor is enmity in our society. It is also a kind of recreation for our youth. Our people resort to drugs and alcohol during happiness and tragedies.

Mehreen: We must avoid bad company. Our generation is called a crazy generation and would like to do things out of the world. If we ask you that which people are mostly prone to drug addiction?

Aneel: You have to keep in mind that a person from any age group may fall into addiction. But the age group from 15 to 30 years is the largest one because they are easily led to it because of several reasons. These addicts are easily led astray and are emotional. It becomes hard for a person to leave it after being an addict at such an early age.

Mehreen: There are also drug dealers in our society and these people are in a high risk because of access to drugs all the time. What are other risky groups?

Aneel: Primarily there are two larger groups who are addicts. One is that group which is composed of rich people who use narcotics for fun, sexual enjoyment, jubilation and merry making during the parties. Another



level of poor people use to meet tension and frustration. There are two kinds of feelings called inferiority and superiority complexes. Our youth is the most vulnerable group to drug addiction.

Mehreen: According to the information provided by the Ministry of Narcotics, there are almost 45 thousand drug addicts in Balochistan. Injected drug users are 4500. While UN office reports that in 2013 drug users were almost 280000 in Balochistan. We have a student as our guest and may I ask you that youth is most prone to drugs. What do you see around you and all those who use drugs have what response from the society?

Jalil: All those involved in drug dealing or drug addiction, have no proper check on them from their families and society. Their elders do not bother about them at the start and they lack affection in their life. When they become addicts then everyone ignore them and they go into depression and move in their special circle. Most of these addicts are illiterate people and do not know about the repercussions of drug addiction.

Mehreen: If the present strength of drug addicts continues for some years then they can infect many healthy people in the future. Do we need training sessions and rehabilitation drive for these people?

Aneel: Many addicts sell their blood which is not screened and is contaminated.

Mehreen: It should be advised that always try to find fresh blood for your patient. We have Mr. Khalid from CRSS with us as well and I would like to ask him that each year several steps are taken by the government but no rehabilitation takes place. Do you think government is doing enough for these wretched people?

Khalid: I want to add that in our society its effects are grave and what should be the role of government. There are many problems emanating from drug addiction. It is worsening our law and order situation. Many of our young people are involved in violence and they are drug addicts. The role of the government should have been better what we see at present. Although there are some steps in big cities but the rest of the places are lacking any serious steps. Some organizations are working on their own. There is no serious grip on all the drug dealers. People get free easily. NGOs have limited resources and government can do better on the larger scale. Many people start taking drugs as a fashion and inspiration from movies but are entrapped later on.

Mehreen: I was reading a data that arrests are not frequent in this field. It says that in Pakistan during past years only 36% people were arrested while for the last one year the arrest rate is only 12%. It is very strange that with such a large set up and resources, we cannot arrest the culprits. People involved are let loose and the circle continues. It is time to listen to a report.

#### REPORT:

NGOs and related people express their views about drug addiction. Let us talk to Dr. Yasir Basheer...

We have introduced an herbal course to curb drug addiction. Many people ranging from 15 to 45 years have approached us. Most of the cases are of opium and heroin. There are many patients who had quit taking drugs but have started it again. We have noted that the environment is not good here. There are no training and sport activities for our youth. Drugs are easily available in our society. The whole family suffers when the bread earner becomes an addict. The living standard of the whole family comes down. All the money is used for drug by the addict. It is a shame in our society to be an addict. We should plan activities for our youth and the state should take strict action against drug dealers.

My name is Nadir Shah and I am the vice president of drugs rehabilitation center. Most of the addicts are young people. Some people fall into the trap due to some problems and some due to merry making. Many students are prone to it. We need restrictions on narcotics by the government. Such policy should be framed that all the drug centers should be shut done. We need employment for our youth.

In Balochistan the main reason for drug addiction is the presence of some adjacent areas with our boarder which have become international routes for drug supply. According to survey there were 6.4 million drug ad-

dicts in 2013. The main reason is the international trade in Afghanistan. It passes through Balochistan. Almost eight percent young people are drug addicts in the country. There are other contributing factors like mental depression, which is caused by illiteracy and unemployment.

Drug addiction is on the rise because many students after completing their education cannot find a job. Another reason is their depression after getting nothing from the society. They find refuge in drugs for mental peace. Drugs are also easily available to all such people in our society.

We need concrete measure to check this issue. Legislative measures and their proper implementation are essential. Secondly, we do not have a conducive environment for our students. We need awareness among our students through proper drive. Seminars should be held to portray the causes and effects of drug addiction.

Mehreen: We need a road map and policy for this issue. When students do not find a decent job after qualification then they will go for drugs. It was also mentioned that there is no awareness in our society. Availability is also an issue. If we reduce availability then our graph could be reduced as well. Why no action is taken in this regard? Everyone knows about drug dealers.

Aneel: Government has done its due and we have several Acts about drugs and narcotics. We have the necessary law but no implementation.

Mehreen: Our society tells us that our youth face much criticism, when they are involved in drug addiction. people shun them and look down upon them.

Caller: My name is Tabbasum. I want to appreciate Aneel for his work. But I want to correct him about the number of drug addicts. The figure is certainly very high. There are so many centers where drugs are available. Even it is used on roads. As long as we cut the buds it will grow unless we nip it from roots.

Mehreen: Please tell us what steps should be taken to control it? People are using it in open air and on the roads. What do masses want?

Tabbasum: I request all the authorities to arrest all culprits. We have never heard about any punishment awarded to drug dealers. Only corpses are found of drug addicts. I want to ask Aneel what he is doing to motivate the concerned officials to arrest such people.

Mehreen: Many organizations are contributing but government should take the ultimate steps.

Tabbasum: Unless we ask the concerned department about their proper duty, we cannot improve the situation. I have seen myself some policemen taking drugs.

Mehreen: Thank you so much for calling us. He asked a question about coordination among the government department and sincerity of the officials. Why is the system so rotten?

Aneel: When we talk about departments we know that they work according to a time frame and limited staff. They have meetings with different stake holders and appoint some people who have once used drugs. But unfortunately there is no follow up by the families.

Mehreen: We have also observed that our people give alms to drug addict which is a negative aspect of our attitude. Mr. Jalil what message would you like to the people in this regard?

Jalil: But if we do not help them then crime rate increases in our society. These drug addicts will try to get money by any means.

Mehreen: What role their families can play to bring them back to normal life? Family members can bring changes in a man's life.

Jalil: Unfortunately there is a negative attitude on the part of our families that should adopt indifference and negative attitude towards drug addicts. We must understand their depression and must lead them to rehabilitation center.

Mehreen: We have a disagreement about data and we do not have reliable data. Rehabilitation process is also very defective. Staff should change their behavior as well. Flaws are everywhere in the system but we are optimistic about it. It is also our dream that civil society and government may work in collaboration. It is aimed that in the year 2020 Pakistan will be a drug free country. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 8

### Topic: Guidance and career counseling for youth in Balochistan

Guests: Naghmana Muneer (Student), Mubashar Shah (Youth Activist) and Zia Khan (Social Activist)

Report: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Saleem Shahood

Dated: 13-05-2014

#### Program Summary

We have the worst case scenario in the field of education in Balochistan. Youth in Balochistan are like blind people who do not know in which direction to go but just follow those who are leading them. Career counseling is an important aspect of modern education. Proper guidance is necessary for choosing a relevant field for future career. People from civil society like Mubashar Shah and Zia Khan are doing something for the youth in Balochistan but there is no effort made by the government for these talented young men whose talent and potentials get wasted each day.

#### Transcription

Saleem: Dear listeners, your host Saleem is here with “Balochistan Ki Awam Ki Awaz”. Please accept a warm welcome in the show. We have been discussing the problems in Balochistan of late. Our topic for today is Youth Counseling for their career. Our youth is very talented, indeed, but lack the proper forum to prove themselves. We have invited our worthy guests today to discuss about youth counseling according to their own experience.

I may break the ice with Naghmana, who is a student of Balochistan University of information and management sciences. You have an exposure and have visited several cities from the forum provided by CRSS. What difference do you feel between our universities and other institutes in regards to our students?

Naghmana: I will express my gratitude to CRSS for making it possible for us to visit different places. First difference that we found was the facilities available to those students. There are many universities and there is a sense of competition. Those students have many facilities. Students in other universities have the sense to bring the change through education, while the students in Balochistan are no way near to that.

Saleem: You found a passion for knowledge there, is it a reason that there is not a strong culture of cheating in the examination?

Naghmana: I was in a college in Chaman, where teachers did not teach me justly. I had no other option but to resort to cheating in the examination. It is necessary to change the system.

Saleem: Mr. Mubashar, our youth in Balochistan get a degree just for the sake of a degree. But students in the Punjab seek knowledge and work hard, while our students are involved in politics and games only.

Mubashar: I have also visited different cities and it is my observation that they have a good system for a long time. They have many opportunities for exposure and experience. These opportunities are provided by the state. There is a culture of competition.

Saleem: Atmosphere also plays an important role. Our people are very idle and cool minded. There is no sense of competition in our education and business. Does it affect the students as well?

Mubashar: Our students are involved in politics and I do not know whether these parties are supporting their

education or not. When a new student comes to a college he thinks it essential to join a political party.

Saleem: Mr. Zia you are a social activist working for youth empowerment and career counseling. Please tell us about your volunteer group on social media. There is wrong perception about social media. Can you make it work through social media?

Zia: We are working in the whole country. We have taken the step to involve our students in games and quiz competitions. We have donated blood through social media.

Saleem: It is a positive step and must be appreciated.

Zia: Our focus is youth and we have run a campaign for tree plantation in Quetta airport. We have to give a vision to our youth. Thus, we have started a cleanliness drive for our youth. We have enrolled many students and try to help them in their studies. In addition to thus, we are running a radio channel as well. Our efforts have been recognized by many people. We have members even outside Pakistan. And are self-sustained and bear all our expenses. Nobody can force us about our activities. I have witnessed immense talent in our youth. We have to move out of Quetta because we have no opportunity for career counseling in the remote places.

Saleem: Do you think that all the social activities by people are focused on Quetta alone?

Zia: I do not think anyone has gone to district Kharan for career counseling. We have fresh intake from all the districts and plan to go from door to door to convince our people to be pragmatic.

Saleem: Now Naghmana, our remote areas need the most guidance. If women in these remote places try to get education then how hard it is for them to serve their people in their respective places?

Naghmana: It is a general notion that women can only serve as teachers but I think that women in our remote areas are very talented.

Saleem: You said well that all our women universities are topped by those students who belong to remote areas.

Naghmana: The problem is that we do not have opportunities. We do not know how to explore our talent. Our girls are mostly allowed to get a degree and then become a housewife.

Saleem: Let us now talk about career counseling. What is it and what is the need of it?

Mubashar: Half of our population is composed of youth in Pakistan. I will talk about the youth of Balochistan. It is necessary that we may offer career counseling here. We are confined to syllabus only at present but we have to introduce certain activities in our schools. Our students should be encouraged to express themselves. We should provide the platform to our students. Government must involve itself in these activities by arranging various training for career counseling. The youth has to take our society forward.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch .

Career counseling and guidance are lacking in Balochistan, which is wasting our talent. We have students from MBA and Social Sciences undertaking research on the same issue.

Our youth is faced with many problems in Pakistan. We need proper guidance and education for our students. They have hardly any guidance and do not know what they want. Other people suggest fields for them and they just follow those lines without realizing what talent they have.

Our criterion for education is very low here. Employment is also a problem relating to career planning. We must be guided from the primary level. There is no bound procedure for us. A student should know what career he has to undertake.

Saleem: Welcome back in the show. Naghmana, we heard the report. If a good student shows good result in the class even then he is not awarded his due place and he is neglected?

Naghmana: It is a great tragedy that there is only one Examination Board in the whole Balochistan. Most of our students are unable to get first division. Our system is creating hurdles and obstacles to all the talented students.

Saleem: In the presence of present flaws if we practice career counseling for our students then can it improve our situation?

Mubashar: Career counseling is not only necessary for a student but for all the people. Actual role of a young man is clarified to him.

Saleem: Let us explain it a bit with an example. If a young man has a capital of fifty thousand rupees. He seeks career counseling then what will you suggest to him?

Mubashar: We have to see how well developed he is for utilizing the amount.

Saleem: Mr. Zia, we have a trend in Balochistan that people follow a successful person in a field. There is an obscurity about many fields but people are flocking to it. How far career counseling is important in this situation?

Zia: We are always to follow others blindly. There was a time when all the parents wanted their children to be doctors. When a field has some scope then it is overflowed very soon. My request to parents is that every child should be studied closely. Everyone has a certain talent. We often see that some kids are good at grouping but weak at studies. It shows that the child has the ability to lead others. That student should be made to lead others during cleanliness drive and the same activities. Role of teacher is very important in this regard.

Saleem: Yes, indeed, if there is coordination among the teachers then it will be beneficial. It may continue throughout schooling.

Zia: I suggest that our teachers need training for career counseling. All the competent teachers should be given incentives and appreciation. Every teacher should be made to sit for a special test in this field. The new breed of youth will be better off.

Saleem: New ideas and trends are spreading in the world but we are living in static surroundings. How can it be changed to pace with the modern world?

Mubashar: We have the best possible facility of internet with us. We can seek so many opportunities through internet like scholarships and jobs. We have to motivate our students to make the best use of internet. Our non governmental organizations should work in collaboration with the government. We should have well connected and well directed efforts to guide and train our students.

Saleem: Career counseling is required in life in every field. What is your opinion Zia?

Zia: I hold the view that we all can change this situation. We are at war with our self and can resolve many issue by thinking deeply about these problems. Talent should be promoted irrespective of social status of a person. Change is coming in Balochistan but lasting change cannot be brought by the government but by the people themselves. I request the government to work something for the youth especially people from outside Quetta

Saleem: I extend my sincere gratitude's to all of you for being with us. I may suffice to say we had a fruitful discussion today. I propose that government should pay some attention to football after the honor brought by our street football team at international level. Cricket is not the only game in the world and we should promote football as well. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 9

### Topic: Tribal customs and the youth of Balochistan

Guests: Waseem Kamran (Advocate), Waleed Liaqat (Youth Leader) and Honak Nazeer (Youth Leader)

Report: Yasir Baloch

Anchormperson: Mehreen

Dated: 13-05-2014

#### Program Summary

Tribal system in Balochistan is a matter of debate among the people. Most of the youth in Balochistan consider tribal customs and tradition as responsible for most of the ills in their society. This system has kept the society stagnant and is a hindrance to progress and development. While Waseem Kamran advocate lauds the tribal system and holds the view that it has every capacity to take the society ahead because it has so many good aspects, which make us distinguished throughout the world. Education and awareness are the keys to overcome all the obstacles in the way forward for the youth in Balochistan.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: Dear listeners, your host Mehreen is here with “Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz”. I welcome you all. First of all may I ask Waseem that what are tribal customs and how do we perceive these in Balochistan?

Waseem: Our customs and traditions are very strong in the whole world. If you study our traditions it is clear that we give much respect to women and human beings. It is rare in the world.

Mehreen: You mean that most of our customs are positive?

Waseem: There is no negativity in our customs but behavior of the people has changed with the passage of time. Nevertheless, our customs are very good and strong. Honor and respect for women is very high in our tradition. For example when there is a tribal feud and a female goes there then scuffle is ended. There are many examples like that to prove that our customs are very strong.

Mehreen: What are those practices which are harmful to the society and pushing our society in the backward direction?

Waseem: It is our custom to give respect to women but if a person is not doing that then it is the fault of the person and not the custom. Similarly affection to youngster is also in our tribal tradition irrespective of financial status of the family. It is our tradition to honor our neighbor, which is lacking in other societies. Modern society do not know about the neighbors. In our society if a person gets ill then the whole surrounding people worries about him.

Mehreen: Mr. Waleed, do you think that the feudal system is a hindrance in the way to progress or not?

Waleed: There is nothing good or bad in the world but it is our attitude which makes it so. I may elaborate that our tribal system is good or bad. Waseem was right about the status of women but it is only one sided picture. The greatest harm for us in the feudal system is the worst condition of education. Visit any place under a feudal and you will find that schools are empty and barren. Feudal lords will not allow any child to get higher education which may prove harmful to their present status. Feudal system even does not recognize the importance of a doctor. They are oblivious to the human rights for women.

Mehreen: How can restrictions be put on education?

Waseem: I want to add that basically we have not observed in-depth our customs and traditions. When we sit in other provinces we often hear that Balochistan is very backward due to feudalism. I want to make it clear that our feudal system has many good aspects. There was a report published about Dera Bhugti which is considered as very backward. According to the report the best education system is in Dera Bhugti. In regard to judiciary may I say that if a person is compelled to seek the help of a court of a justice then he has to pay a lot of money for the court proceedings. The concerned person has to suffer a lot financially. But if a person seek the help of a lord or feudal then he can get justice quite easily. These are our traditions that decisions are taken instantly. Although government has declared Jirga system as Black law but now by the local government system the same Jirga system is recommended. Courts are not providing any relief to our people and local arbitration is the most effective method.

Mehreen: You seem to be optimistic and always look at the brighter sides of the picture. I may disagree with you on the ground that many things are good only in papers. It seems through documents that all the people are very happy and prosperous. Our Jirga system is at one extreme and it is also true that our people do not understand our judicial system. Our people are fed up with this system. If education is so good then why our youth is so uneducated in Balochistan? If Jirga system is so good then why people are not favoring it?

Waleed: My brother Waseem told us that literacy rate is very high in Dera Bhugti then he should also study the report by United Nation. Female literacy rate is just four percent in Dear Bhugti. Imagine the society where only four percent girls are educated. I also negate the notion that feudals do not restrict education. They fear that educated people may oppose them in the future and so they discourage education.

Mehreen: I also recall that young girls are not asked to give their opinion before marriage. In matters of family planning, women are not taken into confidence. When an adult human being cannot decide about the major issues in her life then how can we call it pragmatism? Feudal always decide the major decisions of women in rural areas. Are women consulted about the decision of wedding and education? Look at the health set up in Balochistan. If education is so good then why we do not find a doctor in the rural areas?

It is time to listen to a report in the form of an interview.

REPORT:

In Balochistan tribal tradition are still very effective in all the fields. It is the most backward province because of these tribal customs. Let us find it reasons and its effects. Now we are present in district Khuzdar and ask the people about this issue.

Tribal system has positive and negative aspects. We respect our elders, women and children. We are hospitable. Its negative element is that one person holds all the powers and his will is imposed. Common people have no power. Education is most affected, especially for the women. If a young man comes back after high education then he is faced with many problems to promote his progressive thinking. Politics has also spoiled our society because these feudal are elected as MPS and do not bother about the progress of the regions. No one can oppose them.

Let us ask a young student in Khuzdar the same question.

Our youth is most affected. Only rich people can get education while lower strata have to suffer all the time. Our females are not allowed to play their role. Female can get education only till primary level. Tribal society is biased and full of prejudice. It is causing feuds and scuffles because we are biased. Tribal youth is full of egocentric and want to stick to the tribal customs. This tribal prejudice has to give way to modern thinking for the progress of the country.



Mehreen: Welcome back dear listeners. We heard the report in which politics and prejudice were also mentioned. Can we relate these issues?

Waleed: We see that when a package or any project is announced then each tribe will try to have it. Prejudice is already there and conflict is natural in this situation.

Mehreen: We find many examples in our history about such conflicts. We are also suffering from religious prejudice. We cannot even announce Eid unless we are happy to do so. Values and traditions are good things but it should not be compromised for balanced society. Excess of everything is bad. How can we reduce prejudice?

Honak: Education holds the key to reduce prejudice. It broadens your vision and outlook.

Mehreen: But how can we educate our people unless our feudal system allows us to do so. Our feudal system just wants labor force and peasants. A justice of law has to get a lot of education and training before assuming the office. How can people in a Jirgas system decide complicated cases without any education and training? A doctor knows how to treat a patient. How can we compare an uneducated person with a regular judge?

Honak: Jirga system is a bad proceeding. We should not follow these traditions like giving girls in Exchange called Wani and Wata Sata.

Mehreen: I have observed that boys are preferred over girls in the tribal system. Girls are looked down. May I refer to a question asked by our caller Mukamil Shah, who asked the difference between old and new customs.

Waseem: One of the person in the report said that we should abandon our customs in order to go ahead. If we leave our traditions then we can never make any progress. Our tradition is to respect the elders. Our culture inculcates us to respect the women. It is in our customs that if a woman approaches a place where fight is taking place then the fight ceases. Our customs guarantee the safe journey of our women. But now there are some practices which are polluting our customs. Our situation is bad due to some other factors and not our customs. The problems that are emerging in Balochistan are due to a conspiracy.

Mehreen: But what about Honor Killing and Wata Sata?

Waseem: These are not our traditions. Baloch is a liberal nation but there are many good things like veil for women in our tradition. If our customs are twisted and misrepresented then repercussions will be grave. When we hear talks about Balochistan , it seems as we are talking about a wild land.

Mehreen: It is time to listen to another interview.

#### REPORT:

Tribal traditions are affecting the youth in Balochistan. Tribal customs and the system and the plight of these people are some of the questions that we are asking to Manzoor Baloch who is a professor. He says ...

First of all may I tell you that our province has the oldest culture. Our languages are the oldest. The British Raj tried to control it through Feudal in the region. They gave freedom to these lords to have peace here. Here is no modern education while poverty is widespread. Population here is scare here. Our people live on cattle herding or live as gypsies. No concrete house in the rural areas are present here. Situation changes for a nation with the arrival of new equipment. We still use outdated instruments for agriculture. When there is no industry and modern equipment along with no freedom of expression, we cannot expect progress. Feudal lords have a grip on our society and they are supported by the government. Most of these feudal are in power and have the support of establishment. We are living in a modern world and our youth is becoming aware about their plight. When our youth see the education and life standard in other places then a natural reaction emerges. When our youth have no opportunity to progress in life they join politics. Their mind is changing now which is a good omen for our future.

We were in Khuzdar and talking about the impact of tribal customs on our youth. This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

Mehreen: It is also observed that women are not taken to a male doctor in Balochistan . Does our culture allow us to let someone die?

Honak: It is certainly against humanity not to allow our women to seek the help of a male doctor. It is impending in our religion to save the life of an individual.

Mehreen: It is also noted that if our feudal lords allow us to go for a business only then we go for it. Is it a cause of poverty as well? Feudal hold large areas of farm land but will not allow peasants to work on it. Is it happening?

Waseem: I may ponder about the health scenario. It is a tragedy that there is only one medical college which does not produce enough doctors for the whole province. We should have at least ten medical colleges. I offer land for a medical college and university in my area. I am sure all the feudal lords will grant you land for medical college.

Mehreen: There was only one university in Balochistan. Now several universities have been set up but these are only buildings because we have no system to run these institutes. We have to coordinate and cooperate in this direction. Rich are becoming richer while poor are going down the ladder. I am also a part of a tribal system. When I joined radio eight years ago I faced a hell lot of problems. Now the same people are listening to e who opposed me once. This problem is recurrent in the whole country.

Waseem: You asked about the consent of Sardar about cultivation. You know that there is electricity for just one hour in Balochistan. Most of our tube wells are powered by electricity and it is not possible to water our gardens and fields in this situation. Balochistan has no gas except in few places.

Mehreen: It is our main problem that we are already so neglected and our tribal system is adding to our troubles. No doubt our culture has so many good aspects that are certainly lovable. But still there are so many things that pinch us. Alteration and modification are always preferable. There is always space for reforms and positive changes. Mr. Honak conveys your short message for our listeners.

Honak: My message is to get education. Please focus on education and development will follow.

Mehreen: Mr. Waleed what will you say?

Waleed: We are living in a democratic society and it is my right to get education and take all decisions myself. The same goes for other people.

Waseem: Please try to understand our customs and traditions. We must take our culture along with us to make progress in the world. Our customs always take us to the good of humanity.

Mehreen: All those things should be adopted that are beautiful and are need of the time. I stress that our religious clerics should play a vital role in this regard. Education and legislation can also help us. We can merge our feudal system through dialogue. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 10**

### **Topic: Role of youth in politics in Balochistan**

Guests: Shazia Ahmad Langu, (Provincial president of National Party of Balochistan for Women Affairs), Abdul Qayyum Katharine (Youth Welfare Development Organization), Shehbaz Brohi (Youth Leader) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS)

Report: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Saleem Shahood

Dated: 20-05-2014

#### **Program Summary**

There is a general impression among the youth of Balochistan that politics is a hub of dirt and exploitation. But there is no denying the fact that without the participation of youth, politics can never be complete. Students in Balochistan join politics at college and University level for all the wrong reasons. It is required that students should have awareness about the real aims and trends of politics. Young People like Shazia Langu, Abdul Qayyum and Shehbaz can be trend setters in this respect. Student's organizations are very important if properly guided and directed. These can prove nurseries for the future politicians.

#### **Transcription**

Saleem: My first question is directed to Shazia because her party is in power these days. May I ask her that what should be the role of a young man in politics? There is only blame game in our politics these days and our youth is learning the same. Only slander is there in our politics.

Shazia: Youth is a responsible group in a society, while politics is the most important field to bring change in a society. Politics is a tool for the right direction. Youth have to join politics actively to bring the lasting changes in our nation.

Saleem: Another aspect of my question was the blame game in politics. We always blame the previous government.

Shazia: We are called as Third World and it is our responsibility to give a new start to our nation. We must be optimistic. We have to change the ethics and methods of our politics. We must respect the difference of opinion.

Saleem: Mr. Khalid Baloch, Shazia pointed towards positive politics and not the blame game. Do you consider our youth to be satisfied with our politics?

Khalid: Our topic for today is very important. We have confined our role in the politics to raise slogans only in rallies. We are not doing enough as youth. We must play our positive role as a worker. We have left the issues like education and health. We must support our community to make them aware. May I add that our senior politicians belonging to different parties have no institutions to guide our students. The role of youth is restricted to participate in political rallies only.

Saleem: Miss Shazia, our youth in Balochistan is involved in politics since school. Do you think there is room for improvement?

Shazia: It can be improved a lot. Student politics start at school but turns to something else later on. Our politics has not remained the same. There is a lot of foreign intervention in our politics. But still there are many

political leaders who could be followed like Bachaa Khan and Bazenjo. We must have study circles and healthy activities to give a good road map to our youth. Our aim should be to bring our youth together to work for their rights.

Saleem: You have stressed that we must go for positive politics. Does our youth has the potential to adopt positive manners in our politics and not only involving in wall chalking and slogans?

Shazia: Things are changing in the global world. Youth is aware now to deliver.

Saleem: Mr. Qayyum, in the light of your experience, please tell us whether there is any contradiction in our traditional politics and the ways our youth want it to be?

Qayyum: Our impression about politics is just banner and wall chalking. But we have to leave all these traditional norms. We cannot ignore the value of our old politicians but certainly we cannot ignore the role of youth in the modern world.

Saleem: There are some young people in each locality, who are working at local level for the society. Do you think that such devoted people deserve more to be our leaders then our traditional politicians? They are active and operational.

Qayyum: We have to consider the welfare activities of a person and not his education and rare breed. Efficiency should be the criterion.

Saleem: Mr. Shehbaz you are a student and must have different view about politics as a student. Do you think the traditional ways of politics should change now?

Shehbaz: There is a lot of difference in the politics done in Balochistan University. Politics is not complete without the participation of youth. The role of youth is so vital in all the major movements in the world. If youth is not involved in politics then the results are devastating. When we see the youth in Balochistan we realize that they are not trained and are easily misled.

Saleem: You mean that students should be trained from college level to avoid violent politics?

Shehbaz: If you train the youth to solve their problems through democratic means then he will avoid violence.

Saleem: It is evident that our youth has no 'know how' of politics and are easily misguided. Do you think that the training should start from school level?

Shazia: Yes indeed if a student is interested in politics then he must be encouraged. It depends on personal interest. It requires world knowledge as well. Student's political organizations are also doing well for many years. But we must make a difference between politics and violence. Most of our great leaders have emerged from these student organizations. Your personal inclination and trends must lead you.

Saleem: My other question is that you are a woman and still there are many restrictions for women in politics. What do you perceive for women in Balochistan in politics?

Shazia: We have achieved some of our targets for the progress of women in Balochistan. People like us are trend setters for others to follow. If the process continues then we are sure to have several women in politics. The misunderstanding should be removed about women of Balochistan.

Saleem: Youth of Balochistan is no more backward and obsolete. The basic reason is the activeness of social media and electronic media. Mr. Khalid you are striving to bring awareness in our society. Do you think such programs will inculcate patience and tolerance in our politics?

Khalid: Our aim in CRSS is to provide opportunities to youth to express themselves about their problems. We want them to come forward and be practical. We have involved the youth in many positive activities with many opportunities. We stress upon them to struggle for their rights through peaceful means.

Saleem: Mr. Shehbaz, do you believe that our politics in Balochistan favors tolerance?

Shehbaz: Politics should be done through persuasion but unfortunately our politics is power politics. We lack political training. Anybody can come and claim to be a politician with the most vulgar language. There are no ethics and training in our politics.

Saleem: We have a report to be aired in the show about the issue in focus.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Role of youth is vital in every field and the same is the case in the politics in Balochistan. Most of our leaders have started their career as a student leader. We will ask the same question to Hashim Baloch is a member of a student organization...

Youth have introduced politics in Balochistan like Bazenjo or Murree. At present the role of youth is also very vital in politics. Politics is not possible without the participation of youth, student organizations are serving as nursery for our politics. Student organizations provide the best possible platform for the politicians of the future. Sana Baloch is a good example to be cited here who reached parliament at a very young age. In the present assembly we also have young politicians. We have refused the perception that only feudal are elected from Balochistan. All credit goes to BSO.

Sami Agha is also here, who is also a young man...

Role of youth is very important in politics. All the nations have made progress by involving youth in the politics. Pakhtunkhwa student organization is working hard for a better society in Balochistan. We have been having an education drive for the last three years. Our objective is to guide our people in the proper direction by having efficient institutes. All our political parties are well organized because our youth are helping them in every respect. All our leaders have reached assembly from the platform of student organization.

This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

Saleem: Dear listeners, welcome back in the show after the report. We have our worthy guests today for the topic. Miss Shazia, what do you think whether politics is a hard field for a young lady like you?

Shazia: It is a thorny field indeed for a woman but leadership need sacrifices. A lot of tolerance is required for it.

Saleem: Mr. Qayyum, tell us about the methodology through which our youth is promoting its politics. Situation is not encouraging for a young man to join politics. Do you think all the political parties are sincere to our youth in their ranks?

Qayyum: Every party has its own manifesto and it tries to work accordingly. May be some political parties are not able to fulfill their commitment. Our youth should come forward to join politics because we have low literacy rate in Balochistan. Most of our young people do not know about the real politics. Politics does not mean rallies and slogans but it means practical and welfare works for the society.

Saleem: Mr. Shehbaz, keeping in views all the social and financial problems of youth Balochistan, how can a young man become a good politician in Balochistan?

Shehbaz: We are filled with abhorrence and bad feelings when we talk about politics. The fault lies with the

politicians and not the politics. With the same perception when our youth comes to university, they use politics for the wrong ends.

Saleem: But we say that our youth is aware now and would not our politician realize that people will reject them in the future?

Shehbaz: It is possible that it may be the case in the future but not at present.

Saleem: Do you think there is grouping in all the political parties where merit is discouraged?

Khalid: It is a reality indeed. Most of the things are by chance in Balochistan and not by choice. When students come to university, they join different organizations...

Saleem: These students are persuaded to join a party to have some advantages. It is a kind of black mailing.

Khalid: Yes these students are lured to politics for various reasons.

Saleem: But If these students are promised some facilities then why do not we see any facilities provided to these students?

Shazia: Our efficiency is good during the last one year. We have increased the education budget enormously. We provided laptops to the students.

Saleem: It will be better if the process continues. Abdul Malik will have maximum support in the coming days.

Shazia: You can see that there is no feudal politician in National party. We are from the masses and will draw our powers from the masses.

Saleem: What is your future vision for politics Mr. Qayyum?

Qayyum: It depends on the needs. Our youth needs a proper guideline and awareness. Our youth is passing through hard times and are not driven towards politics. We must inculcate a sense of participation in politics.

Saleem: Mr. Shehbaz, you are also a youth leader and what is your opinion about politics in the future?

Shehbaz: I may also request my youth to join politics. We can do many things. We should not provide room to bad politicians.

Saleem: You heard our friends Shazia and I may ask you to convey your message for women in Balochistan in the field of politics for the betterment of our society?

Shazia: Good people in politics can fulfill our needs for a better society. Youth must have political conscious to decide better. We criticize all the time, but if we are aware about all the factors then we will be able to realize our own responsibility. Political awareness is important whether you join active politics or not. I stress that women are no less important than men. They have equal rights as citizens of Pakistan. They should also play their role in politics for the progress and prosperity of our country.

Saleem: Thank you all so much for being with us. It is evident that youth in Balochistan are aware now and have a sense of direction. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 11**

### **Topic: Sports scenario for youth in Balochistan**

Guests: Niaz Muhammad Baloch (Football coach and lecturer), Tahir Muneer (Football player) and Shakeel (Young Cricket player)

Report: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 26-05-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Sports scenario is indeed very grim for youth in Balochistan. With the presence of just one stadium in Quetta for the whole province, the situation can fairly be assessed. Youth of Balochistan is replete with talent but there are simply no means, resources and opportunities available to them for their manifestation of this talent. Professional coaches are also rare and no funds are available to these sport organizations. Lack of sport facilities is one major cause of involvement in drugs and unhealthy activities. Although boys face a multitude of problems for sport activities, the situation for girls is the worst and they are totally ignored when it comes to games and sport opportunities. It is high time that government should pay special attention to promote sports and games in Balochistan to normalize the situation.

#### **Transcription**

Mehreen: My first question is to know why sport activities are important for a young man.

Niaz: Importance of sport lies in the fact that our inner organs in the body are activated. It is also necessary for healthy growth of a child. He can develop defense mechanism in the body. There are so many diseases in our society but if we flourish our sport stadiums then our hospitals will remain empty.

Mehreen: Physical health is improved along with mental and psychological fitness. We see that people are associated with sport in the developed countries. Old people also play there. In respect to Balochistan, what are the reasons for lack of sport facilities?

Niaz: There is no policy for any game in our Balochistan. In newly established schools, there are no sport grounds. Sport is very important during learning age, from seven to fourteen years. It is to see that if we have sport ground, will sport trainer and qualified coaches be available in our schools.

Mehreen: It may be the reason that we do not address the problem from the roots. It is true that we do not arrange sport facilities from the start. Being a player Mr. Tahir, do you think parents are conscious about sport opportunities to their children?

Caller: I am Mukamil Shah from Peshawar. I want to ask a question that nowadays most of the children go for cricket. The whole nation is gripped by the frenzy of cricket. Other sports should be promoted, because cricket is not our national game and we have other games that are very beneficial and interesting.

Mehreen: The caller asked a pertinent question that why we do not promote our traditional games and local games?

Khalid: We are not giving any priority to the local games. There is no financial support for the players in Balochistan. There are no other facilities as well. We should support our cultural and traditional games. Players have to show efficiency while facilitation rests with the government. There is only one ground in the whole of

Quetta and it is a pity.

Mehreen: Now I realize that the caller from Peshawar was named as Mukarar Shah. You may now continue Mr. Tahir.

Tahir: Our parents are not aware about the utility and effects of sport in our life. They favor only studies and think that if children get involved in sports in the evening, it will be wastage of time.

Mehreen: Parents try to keep their children focused on studies and not to come to sport. What is the reason?

Niaz: There is a lot of charm in sport in the developed world. I may cite the example of football players who earn millions for a season. Our youth has a lot of charm but parents are not supportive. We should have a balance in our attitude. Sport and games are very essential for a child for a normal growth and development. Students have a certain capacity to study, nowever they are made to study for long hours. A healthy mind rests in a healthy body and we must realize it. Normal heart beat is 72 times per minute but the heart beat of a sportsman is just 60 times. The rest is saved because his heart will take rest and remains healthy and strong. I stress that physical education should be included in the curriculum right from the primary level.

Mehreen: There is a wrong perception about sports in our country. We have again the caller from Peshawar. Oh it tripped again. Anyway, we were talking about the misperception of our parents. It is also necessary to realize that everything is not for money and sport can have many more advantages.

My next question is from Mr. Shakeel, who is a player. What difference do you feel among those young people who play and those who do not play any game?

Shakeel: Difference is quite evident. A sportsman is physically fit and healthy and sharp. Those who do not play are often involved in unhealthy activities.

Mehreen: Our youth population in Pakistan is almost 61% of the total population. We have to utilize all their energies and potentials. Otherwise they will go in the opposite diction and may adapt to negative practices. What bad influences these children may inherit in the scenario in our region?

Khalid: There are two important factors in our society, which are education and sport that can stop violence in our society. We see that most of our youth is sitting idle the whole day, long and empty mind is certainly a devil's workshop. No free person in our society will ever think positively in our society, but will so negatively. All the crimes and mal practices will cease if we have education and sports for our youth. Study is important but a couple of hours in the evening must be spent in playing some game.

Mehreen: It is true that an empty mind is a devil's workshop. Some children just remain mischievous when they have nothing to do. Some of their deeds may cause harm to others. It is time to listen to a report about the same topic.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Our Youth has a lot of talent in the field of Hockey, cricket, Karate, football and other sports. But due to scarcity of opportunities and facilities all our talent just gets wasted. We have to provide opportunities to our youth. In this connection we are asking these things to a cricketer...

I may stress that youth in Balochistan are participating in sport and have a lot of talent. Many people play cricket but there is no support and facilitation for us from any organization or government. We have no facility of grounds and coaches. There are so many other problems as well, like finance. Most of the young players are discouraged and leave the sport for good. Youth is so interested that they go to private institutes to play karate and Thie koindu. But most of our students are poor and cannot afford private training. When there is no sport in the life of a young man then he finds refuge in drugs and crimes.



We have a coach Mr. Qayyum. He says...

Youth in Balochistan has no facility and facilitation by the government. Muhammad Hyatt is a cricketer from Khuzdar who was selected to Pakistan Under 19n cricket team but could not join the team because of financial constraints. Youth needs monitory help as well in Balochistan. We have the concerned sport department but even then we have all the possible problems and our youth is strayed to drugs and negative activities. Government should pay attention and sport can be a better substitute for drugs and violence in Balochistan.

Mehreen: Dear listeners, we heard the interviews about the importance of sports. Now I may ask you about the sports specifically for girls and boys. There is always discrimination in our society when we deal with boys and girls. There is such a meager amount of fund for girls in sport fields. Why is it so? Take up any sport and you will find that funds are not available for female players. Girls have no support from their homes, schools, parents and the whole society. What is the reason behind all this?

Niaz: Our government and society thinks that female have no opportunity to have games in society so therefore funds are not needed for them. I have been a coach for Balochistan women football team and I have realized that girls have more problems than boys. For example a boy can reach to sport ground by any means but a girl need special arrangements to reach the ground. Our girls need more funds than our boys because of special needs. When we take our team to Lahore, we have a special booking for our female players. All the female associations have a lot of responsibilities because of our culture and traditions. Most of our girls are not allowed to play games by our society. We need special funding and incentives for our female players.

Mehreen: I have been a sportswoman for many years. I know the zeal and spirit during those days when we did not bother about a seat in a train or bus and used to hang at the sides of a train just to reach the ground. I went to Lahore on a number of occasions as a hockey player. We did not demand any money. We felt pain to observe the facilities in Punjab. Our kit was not complete and even then we were able to win a position. We felt so sorry to see excellent equipment with other players. People used to wonder at our success, considering we had such less facilities. How can we change the perception about sports for girls?

Niaz: Sport age for girls is so less. For example a girl comes to us at the age of fourteen years and we train here for the next three years. But then suddenly we come to know that she has got engaged and she is about to get married. She has to care about two families now and mostly she is not allowed to continue playing. Talent is teeming in Balochistan and our sportsmen do wonder with meager facilities. I request the government to give maximum funds and facilities for our female players.

Mehreen: But there are some women who do not leave sport and earn a name for themselves. Sameena Beg is an example. It all depends on our support to the players. What is the effect of E technology on sport? But let us first listen to another recoded interview...

REPORT:

Today we have to meet a famous coach and captain, Hajj Ubaid Ullah...

I have my own football team and there is no support from the government. We help ourselves. We do not have resources and ground. We can't promote our best players and our players get rusted in the society. The major problem with us is that we do not have fund. We can go national and international if we have the required funds. Our players have the potential to excel. I have prepared the ground myself. Our sport minister and officials in the department are never in the habit of helping people like me. The result is the rise in crime rate and unemployment. If our players see any prospects in the future then sports will be promoted. Our players are not appointed by any department due to law and order situation. All the good players are snatched by the departments in the Punjab.

You heard that paucity of funds and negligence of sports is spoiling the youth in Balochistan.

Mehreen: Welcome back after the interview. It was mentioned that our best and prominent players are taken up by the departments in other provinces. How to stop this negative trend?

Shakeel: The important thing is the availability of sport grounds in Balochistan. Our best players are appointed on temporary basis by the departments in other provinces. I live in Mastong where there is no sport ground.

Mehreen: There is no job security for our players in our province. What is the quota for players and why our players cannot get a job?

Niaz: When we used to play, there were almost eight departments and our players focused on these departments. We had a team for Sui northern, Mark Up factory and the like but now all these teams are abolished. There are no more jobs in these departments available to our sportsmen. Now we have only one departmental team and that is the temporary football team of Balochistan Secretariat. There is price hike in Pakistan and our players' cannot buy sport shoes without external help.

Mehreen: Do you think E technology is also responsible for deviating our youth from sport?

Tahir: The fact is that when a boy is involved in sports then he will have no spare time to sit in front of computer and waste his time on E technology. When a player will come home in the evening, he will be tired and will have sound sleep with no time to waste on computer.

Mehreen: Many players get injured while playing and I want to ask whether there is some fund for compensation or insurance in that case?

Tahir: I may tell you that truth that our players don't ever have no refreshment during the play, what to talk about insurance.

Mehreen: But if a players get injured then who bears the expenses?

Tahir: First aid is given by the concerned team and then he is left to suffer at his home.

Mehreen: My father is Mr. Pakistan and holds many titles. Now when I see him there is no appreciation and recognition for his achievement. Is there any package for older players to keep them involved?

Niaz: There is no concept about the involvement and help of old players. Some meager amount is paid to the old players by the Balochistan sport federation but their help and guidance is not sought for sport promotion.

Mehreen: My last question is about the status of coaching in Balochistan.

Niaz: When a player ceased to be a player and become a coach then it is a different field. A coach needs proper courses and trainings to be a professional coach. We have five coaches for football in Pakistan but none of them are in Balochistan.

Mehreen: I am thankful to all of you for your presence here. I may suffice to say that support of parents and society coupled with sufficient funds is essential for the promotion of sport in Balochistan. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 12

### Topic: Role of media in character building

Guests: Liaqat Ali (Journalist), Zahoor Ahmad (Youth leader), Zubair (Teacher) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS)

Report: Yasir Baloch

Anchormperson: Mehreen

Dated: 27-05-2014

#### Program Summary

Media can certainly play a vital role in the character building of our youth but at present it is just destroying it by all sorts and means. Media is termed as the fourth pillar of a modern state and a main source of information, future vision and entertainment. But unfortunately, the culture of breaking news and unbridled freedom is spreading violence and negativity in our society. On the name of entertainment, foreign culture is imported through vulgar dramas and fashion. Our media is not portraying our true culture but has become a source of monetary gains. Government should adopt clear policy about the code of conduct for media and all the laws and regulations of PEMRA should be made practical.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: In this program we will discuss various topics with our valued guests. Today we will talk about the role of Media for the character building among our youth. May I ask Mr. Liaqat to tell us about the main goal of media in our society?

Liaqat: Role of media is very important in modern world. We need media for publicity about any issue. In the scenario of Pakistan media is used to highlight our culture and tradition. Media can also play its role for religious harmony in our country. But positive and negative aspects are also there in regards to media.

Mehreen: My second question is from Mr. Zahoor that whether media is representing our society truly?

Zahoor: Media is doing well for us. It is imparting us information about our country and the outside world. It is affecting our youth and directing them.

Mehreen: We have Mr. Khalid as well and I may ask him that whether our media is portraying our true culture and traditions?

Khalid: Media is doing wonders for us but there are negative aspects as well. Sometime our youth idealize the militants and follow them. It is a negative impact. As far as culture is concerned I may say that we have made poverty as our culture in the past. People used to travel on camels and we portrayed as our culture.

Mehreen: We are a nation that is confused and the role of many things is blurred. We mix different things. Today we have to discuss all the aspects of media. May I ask Mr. Zubair that when a young man watches television what comes in your mind.

Zubair: Everything has two roles, either bad or good. When I sit in front of television, both positive and negative elements come in front of me. Some of the programs are thought to be good for youth but they have the opposite effect. Media has made progress in the modern world and we do not only have print media. Violence is also portrayed on media with the purpose to abhor it. But there are many young people who just absorb all the negative elements from these programs.

Mehreen: News is conveyed in a bad manner. Crime rate is on the rise and young people learn new methods of crimes from media. Anyway let us talk about culture. There is a fusion of media and culture in our country. We have mixed too many things. Do you agree Liaqat?

Liaqat: Our customs do not depend on our resources as propounded by Mr. Khalid. But the problem is that we do not research in any field, there are certain channels that are airing western dramas and movies. These are the programs of a developed society while our society needs something else. Our news and shows should be based on research our programs should be for our particular society. Our standard should be western but our approach should not be western but eastern.

Mehreen: It is time to listen to a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Media plays such an important role in a nation's life. Media is the tool through which problems are identified and then solution is found. How do media play its role in character building for youth? We asked the same question from Habib Ur Rehman who is a student in Balochistan University.

Media is very important for a nation and its youth. Leadership qualities are instilled through media. Youth is made aware and their actions are properly directed. But it is lacking in our country and youth are not moving in the right direction. We have to bring media in the proper path with maximum freedom. Youth of Balochistan are frustrated with media.

Izat Ullah is another student in journalism department who says...

I take media as an institute as it is the fourth pillar of a state. I consider the role of media very positive. Media has brought many positive changes in the world. It has encouraged the youth all over the world. But locally I am not satisfied with the role of media. There are many media houses that are paid media and practice yellow journalism. They show us the world from a third eye. We are deceived and misled through media.

This was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Mehreen: Welcome back after the recorded interviews where it was told that the role of media is not praise worthy. Mr. Liaqat what do you understand by the term freedom for media?

Liaqat: Media should be free and authentic to air news about any common problem. But sometime when media present a person as a cartoon and caricature then we need a regulatory body like PEMRA. Slander is not favored in media. There are several issues where our media cannot voice its concern. It means that media is not still fully free.

Mehreen: We see in the developed countries that media is not totally free. But the situation is different in Pakistan when we have so many cameras rolling all around after a tragedy. Our media has become so debase and money minded that if a women is raped and media reaches there then the anchor would ask the woman that how she is feeling. It is ridiculous and shameful. We have received a message through our cell phone where the eagle group has alleged that our media is exploiting our situation. Breaking news culture is not good for the country.

Liaqat: You have given an example and I may reply that it depends on personal approach and not because it is a norm in media.

Mehreen: I may like to cut you short because it is not a matter of personal approach but proper training and culture. We are sitting here and try to be decent and cordial because we do not practice absolute freedom. Freedom of media does not mean absolute liberty to do anything.

Liaqat: Code of conduct is there for media. It is the duty of PEMRA to make it practical but that department is not doing its proper duty. You said that FM 101 is good and decent and I may say that you are directed correctly and checked. Our people have to think about it.

Mehreen: But the basic responsibility lies with the government.

Liaqat: We see so many cartoons at present of the people in power. And they cannot stop it.

Mehreen: If a child can't take proper decision then his parents keep the power of decision with them until the child reaches maturity. The same is the case with freedom of media. Our media has acquired freedom for the wrong reasons and is harming our society. We must have not given so much freedom to media. Mr. Zahoor may I ask you that what is your view about the role of social media on youth?

Zahoor: Youth are receiving both good and bad influences from social media. We should have some programmes about general knowledge and information for our youth.

Mehreen: There are crimes through social media and cybercrime is common now. There is a trend to trap people through facebook, twitter and internet.

Zubair: Rule and regulations must be followed by any form of media whether social media or electronic media. Fake Ids are there to defraud people.

Mehreen: social media should also be under some code of conduct and rules. Mr. Tabbasum has called us and told us that some of the channels dramatized crimes and present it with sound and visual effects and people are scared and frightened. It is time to listen to another recorded interview.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Media is called the fourth pillar of the state. Character building is also influenced by media. We have met Muneer Ahmad Baloch who is a teacher and psychologist. He says...

I think that media plays an important role for the change of behavior in the youth of a country. Our youth is affected by media. National Movements start due to media and desire for change is also generated by media. Print media is there in Balochistan while electronic media is not so common here. Our people like to read and not to watch. Being a psychologist I think that media brings the change in our society. Media is not as free as to portray all the issues. World has become a global village due to media. Role of media for character building is very good in our society. There are several names that come to our mind who are good journalists and are guiding our youth.

You heard that media can play its due role in the character building for our youth; it was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

Mehreen: It was an optimistic interview. No doubt media is the main source of information but its negative role is evident in our society. Media idealized a person as hero who is extremely wealthy and fashionable. What is the role of media from educational aspect? When you open a channel, do you find anything for education?

Zahoor: There are quite a few programs for education and information in our media. Mostly we find dramas and entertainment.

Mehreen: Unfortunately there is not much for education and capacity building in our media. When we were kids media was so decent and good. Cartoons are so vulgar at present, whereas in our time we used to recite the holy Quran by sitting in front of television. Our children are imitating other nations and culture. We do not have quality in any aspect in our media. Why our heroes, legends and customs are not portrayed on the media?

Khalid: Keep in mind that our media was not ready for twenty four hours continuity. All the channels are concerned to fill the time and do not bother about quality. Liberty does not mean that we should go for negativity alone.

Mehreen: I am really thankful to all of you for your time with us. I may suffice to say that monitoring is missing in the whole process of media portrayal. Media plays a vital role to change the behavior and approach of people but government must perform its due role in this regard. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 13

### Topic: Crimes among youth in Balochistan

Guests: Liaqat Shawani (Advocate), Ahmad Hassan (Student) and Akram Ali (Student)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch from district Chaghi and Habibur Rehman from district Quetta

Anchormperson: Mehreen

Dated: 02-06-2104

#### Program Summary

With no proper environment for education and honest job opportunities, it is natural that youth will involve themselves in crimes. Balochistan is a place where there are fewer opportunities as compared to other provinces in Pakistan. The resultant factor is a rise in crime rate among youth. Situation is indeed very grim because culprits have become more powerful than the state and people see that criminals often go unpunished which is encouraging for youth to join. Parents, educational institutes and state, all three have the responsibility to provide a conducive and healthy environment to the youth in Balochistan to detach them from crimes.

#### Transcription

Dear listeners, when we talk about crimes, the list is so long which make us think about these. My first question is from Liaqat, who is a lawyer by profession. What is crime and what are the types of crimes prevailing in our society?

Liaqat: I am thankful to CRSS for sponsoring such programs. Man is not criminal by nature but society makes him so. Basically there are two ideas about it. One is propounded by Thomas Hobbes in Leviathan. He says that man is wild and criminal by nature. He cited many examples from history like the Gladiators in Roman Empire where people took delight in bloodshed and killing. But later on Rousseau negated him by presenting his social contract theory. Rousseau says that man is innocent by nature but society compels him to be a criminal. Crimes are basically triggered by poverty, hunger and social behavior.

Mehreen: Liaqat what do you think what are the important factors?

Liaqat: Economic factor is the major factor. Human activities are all centered on the family and its needs.

Mehreen: But crimes have become very complex in the modern world. There are white color crimes, property crimes and so on.

Liaqat: Yes indeed it has become complex and the reason is that economic system is complex. Earlier we had only barter system and crime rate was low. Women were considered as personal property and cruelty was wide spread against them. Crimes were also very simple. We have cybercrimes now. Banking system is complex and an expert will commit a crime in a bank. Laws are also complicated now. The basic drive for crime is the system in your society. If justice is not there and corruption is rampant then crimes are common.

Mehreen: Mr. Ahmad Hassan, what is your opinion about the modern society and crimes. If we look at the effects on youth then how do you perceive them?

Ahmad Hassan: Crime is a complex topic and we have to consider all factors. When I see an acquaintance who is well off, I wish to be like him. But when my pocket does not allow me I become frustrated. In my complex condition I do something which is against the norms and laws of the society. There are several reasons for it.

Mehreen: Our youth has become rebellious and suicidal. Psychiatric illness is wide spread. Prediction about the thinking of youth is impossible. Mr. Akram Ali, what are the factors for the rise of crime in youth? Is our family system, education and development is the cause that our youth is off the track? Are parents responsible for it?

Akram: The basic reason in Balochistan is poverty. If we look at the government we see that it is not able to provide good jobs to all. Youth is suffering from inferiority and superiority complex. Some of our youth are envious and they resort to crimes. Poor people have many needs which remain unfulfilled. They are prone to crimes to fill their needs. Drug addiction is widespread in Balochistan which is a major factor for the rise of crimes. Drug addicts have weak minds and commit crimes. Another factor is greed and pride, which are reasons for crimes. Courts ought to be strong and powerful to curb and control crimes.

Mehreen: Do you think that working class parents do not give enough time to their children to avoid crimes in their lives. We have seen that amateur criminals from wealthy families are also involved in many crimes. Is our family system and values are growing weak?

Liaqat: Family is the basic nursery for a human being. Nobel families have low crime rate. But illiterate families and criminal parents have offspring who are vulnerable to crimes. Our family system is passing through a transitional period. We are leaving the old values but are not accepting the modern values. The reason is that there is a gape of almost five hundred years among these old and new values. We appreciate the modern values but cannot adopt them readily due to our old values.

Mehreen: Media has a vital role in the society. I may ask that if our youth watches foreign violent movies and programs, what message you are getting as a youth.

Ahmad Hassan: Movies have great attraction for youth. Young people try to imitate the hero. Youth want to kill the villain if he comes in his life. It is human nature that negativity attracts us.

Mehreen: Media is portraying negativity to such an extent that a villain is shown as a hero. Youth is affected and attracted towards crime. It is time to listen to a report.

REPORT: Habib Ur Rehman, Quetta

Habib: Youth is an asset of a country but youth is moving towards crimes these days. We are talking to Najam us Sehr in Balochistan Women University, who is a senior lecturer in Sociology department...

Najam: Parents are not giving enough time to the children. Many children come from such families where they have no attention. Secondly our children are not interested in studies.

Habib: What is the reason that children are not interested in studies?

Najam: Parents are compelled by economic drives and have no time for their children. Students are also not interested in studies. Children are forced to adopt the profession of their parents liking. Unemployment is so widespread that children have no hope of getting a job. Youth resort to street crimes and other illegal acts. Many students become drug addicts. Some go for cybercrime. Electronic media is mainly responsible for it because crimes are portrayed all the time. There are no separate programs for youth to guide them in the proper direction.

Habib: What are other reasons beside these?

Najam: Some of the departments are lacking rules and regulations.

Habib: What is the sole solution to resolve this issue?



Najam: The important thing is that parents should pay attention to their children. Government should force media to have guidance programs for youth. Check and balance along with merit should be the norm in our department. When youth will get job then crimes will minimized.

Habib: Youth is the main capital of a nation and it is time that our government should do something for them to keep them away from crimes. It was Habib Ur Rehman for CRSS.

Mehreen: Welcome back in the show dear listeners. Now I may ask you Liaqat that we are talking about crimes at each age level. After eighteen years we enter into youth crime and before that age we call it adolescence crimes. Children are so immature at an early age. Do we have separate place for juvenile offender? Such innocent children come out from jail as mature criminal. Who is responsible for it?

Liaqat: You asked too many question. If you study the children at home and put a thing like mobile in the middle, both of them will fight for it. Over possessiveness is taught at home when the mother takes the thing from the gentle child and give it to the stronger one. Children learn to snatch things at home. Mind develops in the same pattern. We should avoid such practice and neutrality should be taught. Similarly sometime action movies are shown at home where there is violence. Even cartoon programs have violence. We should have peaceful things to portray. When the child grows there are many changes in the body and mind. Peer group at school exerts powerful influence at him. The only solution is that parents should be alert because our state is not performing well. Non state actors are stronger than government and elders of a family are mainly responsible for keeping an eye on the youth.

Mehreen: Another question comes to my mind that if parents are punished for the crimes of their juvenile offender then will it be a good solution? Parents must be cautious and attentive about their growing children. If a child does something wrong then parents are blamed for their training? I will ask this question but before that we have to listen to a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch., Chaghi.

Unemployment, illiteracy, lack of sport and a bleak future compel youth to involve in crimes. Today we are in Chaghi and may ask the same question to Dr Abdul Samad Sanjarai....

Youth is heir to our future with many responsibilities. Why youth are involved in crimes? Youth get astray because our society has so many negative factors in our society. The first thing is the lack of education and the second factor is unemployment. Youth is compelled to resort to crimes to meet the expectation of their families. Street crime is common now among our youth for petty crimes. When they get courage after street crimes then such young men get into serious crimes like target killing and extortion

Here is another young man Sher Ali in the vicinity. Let us find out what he says...

I think the basic reason is education coupled with joblessness. It is very true in Chaghi because we have not many opportunities to get education here. Merit is not followed during appointment. Youth get dishearten and some may go for crimes. Some find refuge in drugs and then commit crimes. People like to do smuggling of all kind in Chaghi. It is easy to do a crime here then to get education. Criminals are not punished in Balochistan which is an encouraging factor to do more crimes.

This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS from Chaghi.

Mehreen: Should parents be fined and punished for the crimes of their juveniles?

Akram: It is true that parents are responsible for the ills of their children and so they should share the penalties.

Mehreen: People get no punishment and fines for their crimes in Balochistan. Can we decrease crime rate if

we increase the fines and penalties?

Ahmad: I do not think it will be of any help rather it may increase the crime rate. We have to create a healthy and conducive environment for our youth. Sport activities must be prevalent and healthy competition among our youth can reduce crime rate.

Mehreen: We are the people without vision. You are right about your assessments. Mr. Akram, it is said that a person is known by his family. If a family has a criminal record then the children from that family are not accepted as equal citizens by our society?

Akram: The problem is that our family is so ignorant and illiterate. We blame the whole family for the crime of a single person.

Mehreen: What is the solution then?

Akram: Solution lies in the fact that we need an educated and aware society. We need role of media, sport activities and availability of information for our youth.

Mehreen: You mean that our attitude should be positive. We must give chances and opportunities to our youth to reform themselves. Mr. Liaqat, poverty is said to be the main factor for crimes. Do you agree?

Liaqat: Poverty and scarcity are the root cause of crimes. We have almost two million jobless youth in the country but all of them are not criminals. Some just get desperate and go for crimes but the majorities try to earn honestly. Only the coward people will seek the short cut and become criminal. Those who are afraid of their past cannot face the future and so go deep into drugs. Such are the people who become criminals and commit suicide. Where there is unemployment in the world, crime rate will be high. On the contrary there are seldom any crimes where all the people are employed, although there are many people who will rather die of hunger than to snatch bread from others. According to Martin Luther only people without a heart need laws and courts.

Mehreen: Do you think it is the duty of the state to keep youth away from crimes or society and parents have more responsibility?

Liaqat: We have three institutes for human development. At first we have the family which is the basic nursery. Then we have educational institutes and state comes at the last. I think all the three institutes should coordinate among them.

Akram: I think the basic responsibility lies with the state.

Ahmad Hassan: I think parents have more vital role to play.

Mehreen: Thank you very much. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 14**

### **Topic: Prime Minister Youth Loan Scheme**

Guests: Arif Baloch (CRSS Program manager), Sameena (MPA and coordinator PM youth scheme), M. Islam (Journalist), Israr (Student) and Qazi Sahib.

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Saleem Shahood

Dated: 03-06-2014

#### **Program Summary**

The much awaited and ambitious program of Prime Minister Youth Loan Scheme proved an illusion and deception for the youth in Balochistan. The meager quota for the province was added with such hard conditions in the application form that only a few candidates were able to apply for it. But it is like an insult to injury when these few could not receive the loan either. Many people have expressed their concern that the Balochistan should have been paid special attention due to its backwardness and easy conditions should have been applied to it. But Mrs. Sameena (MPA) thinks otherwise and stressed that even now our youth can get benefit from the scheme.

#### **Transcription**

Guest: When the scheme was announced, I went to National Bank. When I tried to fill the form I faced many problems.

Saleem: Were the conditions in the form hard?

Guest: Yes indeed I had to declare some property and a proper guarantor.

Saleem: You mean that you had to prove some tangible property and a guarantor that you will return the loan.

Guest: Yes indeed that was the case.

Saleem: We have prepared a report about the same issue and let us listen to it.

#### **REPORT:**

Whenever any such new scheme is announced, the youth get optimistic and hope high. But what have they received in reality from all such schemes? Let us listen to the youth themselves. Latif Ahmad belongs to district Khuzdar and he says;

We were happy when we learnt about this scheme. But the conditions were very hard in the form like guarantor and other formalities. I have applied but have not received any response. It is possible that such schemes are for rich people and not for poor people who deserve such loans.

We have a person from District Awaran who says;

I was happy to learn about the scheme because I was unemployed after doing my Master. I thought to run a business with it but I have received nothing so far. There are so many problems for poor people. Nobody is doing anything for us.

You heard that youth has received nothing so far and what will be the repercussions; only the future will tell

us. It was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Saleem: You heard the views of some students about the scheme. We have Mr. Arif Baloch who is Manager Programs for CRSS. He knows well about the views of the youth. I may ask you that the scheme was started ambitiously with high claims. But the turnout is not good. What is your opinion?

Arif: Yes people were very happy about this initiative for youth but the procedure we observed especially about valid guarantors proved a hard nut for our youth. Youth got repelled instantly. Our people are financially so poor and everybody needs a loan but the scheme seeks property and guarantee. Only the poor need loan and the rich do not need such loans. All such schemes need implementation. The present negative aspects in our society deter people to give guarantee to a person. It is really hard to seek a guarantor for a bank loan. There should have been proper mechanism with simple procedure.

Saleem: You are right that clarification is essential but the procedure should be simple. A good case in hand is the attestation of our National Identity Card, where a person is verified easily before signature by seeking his identity. Now coming to you M. Islam, I may ask you how this process could be simplified.

Islam: I may stress that the case of Balochistan should have been paid special attention in this loan scheme. Conditions should have been eased for this province. It is hard to find an officer and then compel him to give you a guarantee for such a huge loan.

Saleem: If this condition is eased then what substitute system do you suggest for receiving this loan. What guarantee would be there that people will return the loan?

Islam: I think monitoring teams should be devised for this purpose. They can keep a check on the whole procedure.

Saleem: Mr. Qazi, what do you think about this suggestion?

Qazi: It involves legal matters. You should have a mechanism to implement the rules and regulation. Every person who receives a loan should have at the back of his mind all the time that he has to return it. There should be a proper body to make them return. If there is a sense of freedom then the whole system will cripple. If this deterrence is there then only the deserving people will come to apply for the loan. An industry can be started with this loan money in the province where many unemployed people can be employed instead of providing separate loans to them. Every government always comes up with lame excuses that they are facing many challenges. But solid steps should be taken now for Balochistan. When I visit other big cities in Pakistan I realize that youth there have no realization of the true conditions of youth in Balochistan. Our youth is well aware about the national and international issues. The distance should be reduced among all the youth.

Saleem: We have another report and we will be right back after the report.

REPORT: Youth was Jubilant when the PM Youth scheme was announced because they thought to start their new business or continue their education. Let us know what Basit has to say;

When the PM scheme was announced we were happy. But we were disappointed to find fewer ratios for Balochistan. It would have benefited our youth but nothing of this sort happened. None of my friends have received any loan. My dreams have shattered.

We have Zaid Anwar and he says;

The scheme created a new dream for us and we hoped high. When I tried to apply for it I found that the conditions were so hard that I could not qualify. Guarantee was a hard question. Later on some of friends told that they could not get it even after fulfilling the conditions. Our youth should be given opportunities to work for their country.

Dear listeners, you heard that Balochistan has a meager quota and maybe some of our youth are lucky enough to get a loan for their life and family.

This was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Saleem: Welcome back in the show. The youth in the report expressed their views about the hard conditions for receiving this loan. We had a call from Peshawar who said that this scheme triggered a sense of happiness among our youth but are discouraged after knowing the hard conditions. We hope the conditions may be eased in the future because the amount is huge and any business could be initiated with it. Balochistan deserves to be paid special attention because of its backwardness. We have a young man with us Mr. Israr. May I ask you that when you applied for the loan what vision did you have for the future.

Israr: I thought to run a shop to sustain myself and continue my studies at the same time.

Saleem: Did you had a survey or consulted any person?

Israr: I consulted my friends about my business and they suggested going for a shop.

Saleem: Did you face the same problems while applying?

Israr: I submitted the form but still receive no response. It was really hard to fill the form.

Saleem: Almost 800 forms were submitted in Balochistan. Is the situation same in other parts of the country?

Israr: according to the spokesman of the government there are one hundred thousand people who will receive this loan. There are almost four thousand vacant posts with the government for the people of Pakistan.

Saleem: We have been joined by Mrs. Sameena Khan who is the chief coordinator for Prime Minister Youth Scheme and an MPA as well. We are happy to have you because the youth have expressed their concerns about this scheme. We have heard that 154 forms were rejected on the ground that they were incomplete. Youth are disgusted with this scheme and we want to learn about your response.

Sameena: As far as Balochistan is concerned, I want to say that when I went to the launching program of this scheme in Islamabad, I expressed my concerns there. But when I saw the form I realized that some changes were made in it. It is not a grant but a loan with certain grace period. I don't think there is so much complication in the form. SMEDA staff is always there to facilitate all the candidates. We have provided help line to all the people. If the loan has to be returned then there must be some guarantor. I don't think it is hard to find a guarantor of 16<sup>th</sup> grade. It is also important for the development of a person to create the trust to be trusted. We may have this problem in interior Balochistan . Many more schemes are in the offing about skill development and the like. I agree that the whole Balochistan may not fulfill the criteria but there are many more schemes are coming.

Saleem: Now we are able to know the point of view from the government with your arrival. Till now most of the people have criticized the schemes because of hard conditions. Mr. Arif, what do you have to say after the expression from Sameena?

Arif: We talked about many problems but my observation is that due to hard conditions our people find it difficult to get the loan. There is also an apprehension that loan is granted on party basis. Is there any reality in this blame?

Sameena: It is certainly not true because it is an official scheme. Relaxation is for all. Women age limit is up to 45 years. There is transparency in the whole schemes and we invite all the people to apply for it. We have based this scheme according to the population and Balochistan has received its share accordingly. Security concerns are high in Balochistan and I stressed that it should be based according to the area. We need special

concessions for Balochistan. Work is under discussion in this regard. Our intentions are good for the progress of Balochistan. All the people of Pakistan are my own people and I am ready to provide any facilitation.

Saleem: We hope for the good. The good news is that people up to 45 years are counted among the youth in this scheme. Mr. Islam, What is your view about the discussion after the arrival of Mrs. Sameena?

Islam: There is no denying the fact that it is a good step for the youth as promised by Nawaz Sharif during the election campaign. But the process is a bit hard for the youth in Balochistan. I suggest that monitoring teams should be constituted to make the process easy and transparent.

Saleem: It is true that all the people were glad to know about this scheme.

Islam: I suggest that awareness campaign should be run throughout the province to encourage our youth to apply for it.

Sameena: Our people do not take such schemes seriously. We need to encourage our unemployed youth to take this opportunity. Our Pashtun and Baloch belts have diverse opportunities for employment. We have minerals, agriculture and fisheries with many opportunities. We want our people to run their own business. The question is that how the government can create jobs for all the people. We have to resort to investment for lower level. There are greater opportunities, when you start an independent enterprise. You will become a part of the development of the country. We have provided funds to many institutes to develop skills of our people. These loans will benefit all those skilled people. We will provide the safeguard for the continuity of this program.

Saleem: Thank you so much for being with us for such fruitful talk. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 15

### Topic: Literary trends and the youth in Balochistan

Guests: Shafqat Ali Hashmi (poet and writer), Habib Ahmad (Student) and Fida Ahmad (Student)

Field Story: Habibur Rehman and Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 09-06-2014

#### Program Summary

Literature reflects the spirit of the age and serves as a mirror for a society. It is the expression of finer feelings and spirits in human beings and its absence often leads to a rotten society and hallow men. We had some good trends a few years ago but now we are losing all the literary trends fast. People are simply not interested in literature and literary figures. Poets are looked down upon and nobody can dare to become a poet at present because he may die of hunger. Government and society both have a role to play to revive our great literary traditions. Mehreen suggested that some of our roads and famous places should be named after great authors and poets to pay our homage to them and encourage other people to follow in their footsteps.

#### Transcription

May I ask the first question directed for Shafqat to tell us what do we mean by literature and literary activities?

Shafqat: I am also a teacher and understand that literary activities are very necessary for the development and growth of a society. We can bring positive changes through literature.

Mehreen: Why are these necessary and what role can it play for youth?

Shafqat: I think that without literature a society becomes rotten and redundant. It is essential that aesthetic aspects should be highlighted in a society.

Mehreen: May I ask my youth here that what those positive aspects, necessary for a young man are?

Habib: Literature means love for all the languages. It should be there from nursery to university level. Our youth is interested in literature but we have limited resources. We have some literary activities at university level but not at college level.

Mehreen: You talked about the environment and may I ask Fida, that do you think that whether literary environment depends on our family background or it is something natural?

Fida: I may apply your question upon myself. I was interested in literature from the very beginning. But an important factor is that we do not have an environmental home, which does not encourage literature. Literary people are thought to be useless and obsolete. We must know the literature and society in Balochistan. Our culture can be preserved through literature.

Mehreen: Fida spoke well about literature in Balochistan. We need literature in our tense environment. Frustration can be balanced out through literature. How far these activities are necessary to ease the environment?

Shafqat: Poetry is thought to be the work of an idle and worthless person. I may narrate this idea in the form of a verse;

As Asmi is a poet but he is an idle person lying at home.

We are thought to be the same. But fine arts and literature are necessary for softness and humanity in the society. Poetry is an expression of refined thoughts. We are tense indeed in Balochistan but even then there are several literary societies in Balochistan. When we were at school, we had literary settings weekly. This activity is missing at present.

Mehreen: You said well that poets are lazy and non-practical, as considered by our society. Why do we discourage our children to go for literature? Why parents become worried when they see a poetic book in a child's hand?

Fida: When you do not promote your own culture and literature then foreign culture is adopted. We get astray and forget our culture. Western culture dominates our society and our values go into recession. Why do not we create such an environment where our own culture is promoted? We do not try to promote it.

Mehreen: It means supply of literature is not enough in our society.

Fida: When I was studying in Multan University there were literary activities in the departments. But we do not see any such activities in Balochistan.

Shafqat: Our children also lack the sensitivity necessary for literature. I am a teacher trainer and have observed that our children do not know about our poets. The children will give you full detail about Indian film actors. We need reforms in our curriculum along with print media.

Mehreen: What should be added in our curriculum to make it literary?

Shafqat: Courses at intermediate level have been changed now and again the some old famous poets are included. I stress that contemporary poets should be included.

Mehreen: It may raise another debate that if our curriculum is in our local language only then we can include local poets. We may resort to translation then.

Shafqat: It is true but some of our local poets have also expressed themselves in our national language. It can be done.

Mehreen: It needs discussion and agreement. Only then we can have good results.

Shafqat: Government should also restart the literary activities at school and college level. We used to learn so many verses during school time.

Mehreen: I still remember so many verses.

Shafqat: Our students cannot recite the verse even from book. They have lost the trend.

Mehreen: It is time to listen to some recorded interviews in the form of a report.

REPORT: Habib Ur Rehman, Quetta

Habib: Lack of literary trend is one reason for many ills among our youth. We are talking to Senior lecturer Zafar Ullah Raisani;

Literary activities or co-curricular activities are also very important for students. It explores the hidden potentials of students. They get involve in healthy activities and avoid bad company. World has changed today as told by our teacher. He used to say that now we have multiple intelligences. In the past intelligence was considered only the ability to get good marks and be studious. But now we are told that good grades are not any proof of intelligence but intelligence is of different kinds. A person may have any kind of intelligence and given the opportunity, he can excel in his favoured field. We all know about the contributions of Allama Iqbal.



We have towering poets in our national language. Rehman Baba and Khushal Khan Khattak in KPK and Mir Muhammad Hussain in Balochistan are the most famous poets. But the problem is that we are drifting away from literary activities. We do not promote such activities at schools now. Not are debates and speech competitions held. There is no such trend at college and university level. Youth is forgetting its own culture and languages. They are getting involved in negative activities. Book reading is scarce, thus, our youth is proving an unsuccessful generation.

Mehreen: We heard the interview, where it was beautifully described that how badly a young generation can be led astray in the absence of healthy literary activities. Our youth is roaming idly and there is no one with a book in his hand. When a nation gets into degradation then how can poets lead them towards proper direction through their poetry? Many freedom movements are won through literature in the world like in Russia and France. How do you relate it with literature?

Shafqat: Literature provides the proper direction to a nation. We have several revolutionary poets in Urdu. Revolution in literature does not mean to take arms and try to change the system. Rather poets will tell you to change your thinking and adapt to a new direction. Poetry is the most powerful tool to give a sense of right direction. Our society is getting confused and rotten because of absence of literature and fine arts. Parents also discourse association with literature. Our education system is serving as a banking system and only information is stored in our students. Basic things are not taught to the students but are made to memorize each and everything.

Mehreen: I think that if we associate and name roads and building to the names of our leading poets and writers then it will be great encouragement in the future. It is time to listen to a report again.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Literature is the mirror of a society. Young people are brought up in a certain literary environment. Let us talk to Madam Zeenat Baloch who is the Dean Gender Department University of Balochistan;

There is a great deal of difference between the literature that was twenty years ago and at present. When we were students, there were few people who were associated with literature. There were a lot of barriers for them in the society. Electronic media was not so fast, while print media was also not so common. People faced problems to present their writings. Publication and typing was such a major problem that years were spent on it before publication. Now we are living in a global world with so many facilities in information technology and print media. We have so many books now because publication is so easy. Media also plays an important role in this regard. I observe that now youth are participating in seminars and gatherings for long hours. Recordings take place and students sit till the end. It is a good omen. This region has the distinction that now people are taking interests in literature.

Youth has to be given more opportunities to involve in co-curricular and literary activities.

Mehreen: Dear listeners, you heard the report. Art and literature are essential for keeping the environment soft.

Shafqat: I saw yesterday on television that a train named after Faiz Ahmad Faiz was railed from Lahore to Multan. I demand that the same trends should be initiated in Balochistan. We see that funds are scarce with all the literary academies and it is high time that funds should be made available to start healthy activities.

Mehreen: Mr. Fida, there are many authors, who are so poor that they cannot even publish their book. What should be done for them by the government?

Fida: The present government in Balochistan took a positive step when this year was named after our famous poet Mir Gul Khan Naseer. His death anniversary was also celebrated. I also request that in the new budget,

larger portion of funds should be allocated for literary activities and authors.

Mehreen: Mr. Habib what do you suggest?

Habib: I stress that in the new budget funds should be allocated for all the literary societies and co-curricular activities.

Mehreen: We demand more literary academies. We also need translations and preservation of languages. We also talked about the specific period in our schools. A lot more could be done. Shakespeare is still living in England because his plays are enacted for the last three hundred years.

It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 16

### Topic: Tourist attractions and scenic points in Balochistan

Guests: Salar Baloch (Youth representative), Zahoor Shawani (Youth representative) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 10-06-2014

#### Program Summary

Balochistan is replete with scenic spots and natural beauty. The attracted points include the long coastal area, Juniper forest of Ziarat, Shaban, Khuzdar, Bibi Nani, Harboi, Bolan and Khajuri. But the problem is that government has never paid any attention to develop these places into a tourist attraction. Due to the worst law and order situation in the province, even the local people have stopped to visit these places and all these spots are deserted now. It is a pity to note that there is only one park in the provincial capital Quetta. There is a façade of parks and sports grounds in the whole province. Students and youth have no opportunity to get refreshment or relaxation.

#### Transcription

May I break the ice with Khalid Baloch by asking him a very pertinent question about the pine forest in Ziarat, which is considered as the second most vast juniper forest in Asia. It is in international focus at present. It is a scenic point and what facilities should have been provided there?

Khalid: Your topic for today is very important. You cited the example of Ziarat where no great facilities are provided. There is a lack of commitment on the part of government. Then we have a scenic spot of Bolan where rivers flow. There are no facilities for tourism. Our coastal area is also very good.

Zeeshan: Only recently natural-gas was extended to Ziarat, where this precious wood was used as fuel.

Khalid: It is a pity that still there are many places where precious wood is used as fuel because of no gas connection. Law and order situation has weakened the tourist department. I went to Ziarat a few weeks ago and observed that hotels and guest houses were empty. Owners were just crying for losses. It was the same Ziarat where once we could not get an empty room without advance booking.

Zeeshan: Mr. Salar, what is your opinion about the facilities available in Quetta and other scenic spots for tourism?

Salar: I want to say that most of our scenic sights are much affected during the last few years. Everyone is busy in their own work and these places are ignored.

Zeeshan: Do you think parks should be increased?

Salar: It is the nature of youth to get refreshment for healthy activities. They get refreshment in these parks. There are many sights in Khuzdar and Quetta that are ignored. If these places were in a foreign country then these would have been marvelous.

Zeeshan: Foreign countries earn a lot through tourism. Mr. Khalid wants to add something.

Khalid: We have given no priority to this field and there is no policy for entertainment and tourism. The most favored entertainment is to sit in a tea stall and take tea. Quetta is our capital city and our biggest entertainment is to take tea on a food point. Sport and tourism are not considered as departments. The economy of Western countries depends on tourism.

Zeeshan: The landscape of our neighbor is the same but they have invested so much in tourism and are earning a lot. A few years ago we had a film culture where people used to go for entertainment to watch movies. Now our film industry is destroyed. Film is a good way to show the landscape. Mr. Khalid, you have visited many places in the country and what do you think that what facilities we must have in Balochistan?

Khalid: I may compare the facilities with other provinces. Where there is tourism, there would be less violence and terrorism. We took some of our students to other provinces and they thought as if they are in paradise. It is a genuine example.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report in the form of an interview.

REPORT: Habib ur Rehman, Quetta

Habib: Tourism is a main source of mental and physical refreshment but our youth is deprived of it. We will talk to Mehtab who is a youth representative. What is your view about the importance of tourism for youth?

Mehtab: Tourism is a hobby and a means to lead a healthy life. We need some time to remain in a pleasant environment to get refreshed. Travel teaches us many things. We have firsthand observation and experience. We also get information and knowledge about different cultures. We have so many places in Pakistan where we can search our history and culture. But our youth is diverted away from these things. They are only involved in internet and mobile.

Habib: What are the reasons that our youth is getting astray and are not coming round?

Mehtab: The main reason is that people do not have time. There is a competition among the youth in our society. Students study and also try to earn a living. We are living in a flawed society with fraud and kickbacks. We are surviving in this scenario. It is hard to have time for tourism.

Habib: What steps should be taken to drive youth towards tourism?

Mehtab: There are many places in Balochistan like residency of Quaid in Ziarat. There is no attraction at present for tourists at present. Facilities and attraction should be provided for our youth. We must go to Lahore and other scenic places. A healthy mind rests in a healthy body.

Zeeshan: Welcome back in the show. I may ask Salar that whether he has the opportunity to visit another city or province as a student?

Salar: When our annual tours are announced, many places are suggested. But there are some teachers who have no knowledge about tourism and they may go to a hotel in Karachi to spend three days. When we go to a minister for funds to have a tour, we are ignored to such an extent as if we are terrorists.

Zeeshan: Mr. Zahoor, have you ever been to other places as a student?

Zahoor: Our teachers at College and University level do not tell us about tourism at all. Students are not encouraged to visit other places like Harboi.

Zeeshan: Harboi is also a famous place for pine forests. It is ignored and there are only a few huts build by the British a long time ago. Bolan, Khajuri and Bibi Nani are such places which need development. What facilities should be there?

Zahoor: Transport is a major problem to such places. Not many people have their personal vehicles. Then there is the problem of food and bathrooms and the like.

Zeeshan: You are right about these facilities because food and washrooms are essential at all places. I have observed that these things are available at the developed places in other parts of the country. Hannah Lake was so famous but it also needs development. Mr. Khalid, what other steps should be taken to improve it?

Khalid: The good thing is that Hannah Lake is not under the supervision of civilian authorities otherwise it would have also gone to ruins. At other scenic spots all the facilities are natural and government has done nothing. We have a department for it but it needs action. There is already lack of facilities and now we have a bad law and order situation. Many places are deserted now.

Zeeshan: Urak valley is also a picnic point and many local people used to go there. There are natural brooks and a good place. I have observed in other picnic points in the country that there is a place for worship and separate place for ladies. Hotels are available there. There are other facilities for kids. Hannah Lake can be an attractive point in winter when birds migrate here.

Khalid: Hannah Lake is not accessible to all the people from interior Balochistan. We have picnic points in all the places and all of them need development.

Zeeshan: What is the name of the lake near Noshki? It is a pity that we have only one park in Quetta. We have another report about tourism by Yasir Baloch.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

In all the places in Pakistan we have tourist attractions. Tourism is not favored among the youth in Balochistan. They have no opportunities to visit such places. How many opportunities do our youth have? Let us talk to Saddam;

People learn a lot of things through tourism. There is no opportunity with our youth. No step has ever been taken on grass root level. If tourism is improved then it can bring positive changes among our youth. We all know that our education institutions from top to bottom there is no culture of tourism. We need to have opportunities to study other places and cultures. Our students are confined. We have no chance to study diversity of culture. Only a few institutes take their students to other places. Balochistan has several scenic spots where our people must go. I have visited many places including historical places. These places are very important in our history but our students are ignorant about it. If students are taken to these places then they can enrich their knowledge. It should be highlighted in the media to attract foreign tourists which will increase our foreign exchequer.'

Yasir: Tourism holds a very important place in a country's economy. But we need to provide all kinds of facilities and positive steps to increase tourism in our country.

Zeeshan: Welcome back once again in the show. There is another place called Shaban near Ziarat but it is not developed. It has no road to reach there.

Khalid: It is very beautiful but very dangerous place. Road is muddy, narrow and perilous. Although, there is a waterfall and shady places in Shaban but no chance to stay. Government should extend little support. It does not need a lot of funds.

Zeeshan: Yes, indeed, we need lodging and other facilities there. Coastal areas are always an attractive place all over the world. The coastal area in Balochistan is known to be very clean and clear.

Khalid: The sunset of our coastal area is the most beautiful and scenic place in the world. Foreign visitors used to come here in the past. Water is unbelievably beautiful and clean in Jewani. The whole long strip along

our coastal area is so beautiful and attractive even to the border of Iran. But the problem is that we have no facilities and security. We don't have education, health, agriculture, tourism and infrastructure. Our youth are compelled to remain idle and think negative. We don't have grounds for our youth and no institutes for research. A living man must think one way or the other and if you have facilities then he will think positive. Basic responsibility lies with the federal and provincial government at all levels. We have specific department where people are getting salaries. These officials should be monitored.

Zeeshan: I certainly agree with you that if these places are developed then we will have positive effect on our society. Revenue will increase and people will be better off. Several of our problems will be solved. It is required that steps should be taken in the right direction. Mr. Salar, you heard that our youth has no facilities as compared to other provinces. Libraries and research is scarce. What other steps should be taken to facilitate our youth in regard to sport and tourism? Sport is very important these days and it is a good profession. Many backward students could be good players and may represent the country.

Salar: May I say that we have not sufficient parks. We have parks that are constructed as a project and not to facilitate the people.

Zeeshan: What is your take Mr. Zahoor?

Zahoor: I stress that new sport grounds should be set up to provide refreshment and opportunities to play.

Zeeshan: We have a small stadium called Nawab Bhugti ground, which is often over crowded. We must have some grounds, where our youth could play. We do not have a player from Balochistan in our national hockey and cricket teams. We have no facilities to produce good players. Karkhasa is another visitor's spot in Quetta, which also needs improvement.

Khalid: We have stressed that government should feel its responsibility to develop these places. It is also our responsibility to approach our MPs and to compel them to provide us these facilities. We should demand all such things that are needed in our respective districts. The problem is that we do not have such culture. We never approach our Mps in the form of a group to demand facilities. I have never seen any group going for the same purpose. We often blame government but forget that we are also a part of the government because we elect our MPs. We never ask our MPs what they have done in five years.

Zeeshan: You are right about this trend in our society. Our people are not conscious about this fact. People should approach their MPs for the solution of common problems. We must have a list that could be presented to the MP. Some of the problems in the list may certainly be solved. Our people are in the habit of protest only.

Khalid: The problem is that our people do not approach the MPs but resort to violent protest. In European countries, people protest by dancing on the road.

Zeeshan: If our people get aware and meet the Mps in the form of a delegation about the major issues. There must be some connection between the masses and their representatives. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 17

### Topic: Plight of schools in Balochistan

Guests: Abdul Faiq (Journalist), Asad Ullah Baloch (Youth Representative), Jalal Abbas (Youth representative) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch & Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 16-06-2014

#### Program Summary

The plight of state run schools in the whole of Balochistan is lamentable. Even the provincial capital Quetta is having hundreds of schools without boundary walls and bathrooms. The situation in interior Balochistan abhors where many schools are without teachers and schools are so rare like a precious commodity. Private schools are mushrooming on the expense of government schools but not many people can afford private education with 59% people living below poverty line in the province. Government, bureaucrats, civil society and parents are required to make consistent effort to ameliorate the situation otherwise our future seems to be quite dark and bleak.

#### Transcription

We will start our discussion by asking Mr. Faiq what is your own opinion about education in Balochistan.

Faiq: Imparting education has always been a challenging job in Pakistan. Standard of education is still very low. According to the 18th Amendment in our constitution free education is a right of all children in the country. If we look at the present literacy rate, it is clear that we will provide education to all the people within next fifty years. We have a sorry scenario at present. 35% children are out of school in Quetta. You can realize the situation in the interior Balochistan with scanty population. Schools are inaccessible for most of the children in the remote villages.

Zeeshan: We are also joined by Khalid Baloch, who represents CRSS. Let us ask him if he wants to add something to our ongoing discussion about the plight of education in Balochistan . Mr. Faiq briefed us about the situation in Quetta and also referred to the situation in interior Balochistan with scanty population.

Khalid: Your topic is very good today about schools and education. I have been involved in this field for five years. Situation is grim indeed. Infrastructure is defective with no boundary wall and other facilities. There is a sense of depression when we look at the situation in Quetta, which is our provincial capital. Teachers do not go schools in the remote villages. Teachers from cities do not like to go the villages. Many villages have no qualified teachers to be appointed locally. I had a project for primary education and we recommended that local teachers should be appointed in the local schools.

Zeeshan: Jalal is sitting in front of me, who is a youth representative. May I ask you that which place do you belong to?

Jalal: I belong to Rakhshan Patki area in Balochistan .

Zeeshan: Please tell us about the situation of schools in your local area. Are there any facilities in schools there?

Jalal: There is only one teacher in our primary schools. When he is ill then school remains closed. We need

more teachers in our schools. We need sport facilities and boundary walls in schools. There is no proper system of monitoring in our area. Many teachers force the students to work in their private fields.

Zeeshan: What is the ratio of school going children?

Jalal: There are only 150 students in the school although it has been promoted to the status of a high school now. There are no science teachers and science laboratories in the school. Many students are studying through their personal efforts and are studying science subjects.

Zeeshan: It means there are no facilities. Mr. Asad is also here and may I ask you about your area.

Asad: I belong to district Punjghor and I live in a rustic area.

Zeeshan: Please brief us about the schools in your area?

Asad: Our schools are in the same situation as told by Khalid and Jalal. There are only defective buildings. There are two high schools and five primary schools. Rooms are not enough and no clean water is available.

Zeeshan: All the people that I have met from Punjghor seem hard working and fond of education. But the conditions you have told me make it clear that situation can be improved. What is the condition if teachers there?

Asad: Teachers are scarce and only a few teachers are available. Most of the teachers belong to cities and do not come on duty in rural areas. But now local people are getting higher education. Results are not good by these schools. Private schools are showing better results.

Zeeshan: When poverty ratio is so high many parents cannot send their children to private schools. We have a report about the issue in focus. Let us listen to the report.

REPORT 1 : Habib Ullah

Habib: Reading is good for a human personality but our youth is far away from reading. We are talking to the principal of House of Knowledge School, Madam Fareeda. What is your opinion about studies and book reading in our youth?

Madam Fareeda: Library culture was a good practice in the past. There existed a good culture then when people were friendly with books. But now the situation has changed. Media has also affected this practice. People like to spend their time in front of internet. Book reading is scarce now. There are no libraries at present. There are only a couple of libraries in Quetta that are situated at a far off distance. Books are not available to our students in these libraries. Students do not have time to study books outside their course books. Research work is not a common practice in our country. Our students resort to plagiarism and we have degree holders but not educated people.

Habib: What are other reasons beside internet that our students are getting away from book reading?

Madam Fareeda: We do not have good writers and good books. We have mostly foreign writers to read. Our local writers are not valid and up to the point. Foreign books are so expensive that our government cannot buy them for libraries.

Habib: What are the steps that we can take to overcome these problems?

Madam Fareeda: We must start a campaign from school level where students must be compelled to read at least two hundred books beside their syllabus. Books should be free of cost. It will promote a reading culture and they will then encourage to write their own books.

Books are the most trustworthy friends. This was Habib Ullah for CRSS.



REPORT 2: Yasir Baloch .

We are talking to teachers about the lack of facilities and facade of book reading. The principal of Wahdat colony Government high school Mr. Ghulam Qadir Magsi says;

There is no playground for students. Water is not available and there's no electricity. We are trying to provide facilities to this school. Books are also not available. We have to drink dirty water. There are three washrooms that are not sufficient. We are in a worst state and we request the government to help us. Poverty is wide spread in our province and children drop out frequently. Youth often involves in negative activities.

Naseeb Ahmad is a young man and let us know what he says;

We do not have a ground. I want to play football but have no opportunity. There is no water in our school and walls are about to collapse.

This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS

Zeeshan: Welcome back in the show after listening to two field reports. we have realized the condition of state schools but we have a parallel system of education run by the private people. Students are dealt as a customer with proper protocol. While there are no facilities in a state run school. Voice was raised in the parliament that state schools cannot get better unless the rulers enroll their children in these schools. Is it possible?

Faiq: Private schools are divided into two categories. One type is of high standard while the other category has mushroomed in our streets and lanes with no grounds. The teachers there have no standard. Special treatment is given to students in the higher category. But not many people can dream to enroll there because it is very expensive.

Zeeshan: Mr. Jalal, how can the situation be improved according to your perception?

Jalal: If trained teachers are appointed in our area who could educate our students properly. Those teachers who are already working there should be provided all the required facilities. Laboratories should be established in our schools with playgrounds as well.

Zeeshan: Mr. Asad what is your opinion for improvement?

Asad: It can be improved if honesty is there. We should start from the foundation. If students are taught well with all the required facilities then there is no need to cheat in the examination. We need trained teachers appointed on merit. Local educated people should be appointed in the schools. There should be no political interference in education. We are destroying our youth by pushing them towards negative activities. Austria is the only country where no natural resources exist and their production is exported to the Middle East. Human resources is the only resource with them and they have made progress. We must educate our people.

Zeeshan: People should have the awareness to consult their elected member of parliament about their problems. Local people should meet them in the form of a delegation. What is your take on this issue Mr. Faiq?

Faiq: We see that people are protesting regularly but I have never seen a protest by the parents to educate their children. It is a lamentable fact. We see parents in government school on result day to ask why their ward failed. Otherwise, no parent visits a school to ask about their children. Parents must visit the schools to make the teachers alert about their efficiency. Problems cannot be solved unless you discuss them and point out them.

Zeeshan: It is time to bid fare well now. Let us suffice to say that all the developed countries of the world have made progress due to proper education. No country can make progress without education. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 18**

### **Topic: Role of youth for the betterment of Society**

Guests: Bilal Ahmad (Social worker), Najeeb Azeem (Youth representative) and Waqar Ahmad (Youth representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 17-06-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Youth constitute almost 64% of the total population of Balochistan. Youth of Balochistan is at the cross roads of their lives with no sense of direction. With no adequate opportunities for education, sports and other recreational facilities, most of our young people are just wasted along with their potentials and hidden guts. If education and awareness is provided to the youth then they can prove a force to reckon with. Youth is the largest group in the society and if they are united then they can wipe out most of the ills from our society and can bring lasting positive changes in the whole country.

#### **Transcription**

We will break the ice with Bilal who is a youth leader. Mr. Bilal, you are a youth leader and can brief us about the progress made so far. Please give us a general sketch about the work done in this field.

Bilal: One thing for sure that youth of Balochistan is not focused so much as compared to other provinces. I may tell you where we can focus. Youth have no platform in Balochistan.

Zeeshan: It is like a player of football who has much talent to excel in this field but he has no ground to play.

Bilal: Cricket is preferred here. Look at the fee of a playground which is not affordable by ordinary young man. This is a major factor and government can facilitate our youth. Government can arrange night tournament during the Ramadan.

Zeeshan: It means that sport is a field which can be improved.

Bilal: There were some major events in Quetta and I have witnessed some marvelous singers and dancers but the problem is that they have no platform to perform.

Zeeshan: What efforts have you observed so far to explore this talent?

Bilal: Our chief Minister has arranged a youth festival recently where some talent was explored. We need budget for such events.

Zeeshan: Youth is the backbone in a society and the role of youth is vital. They will play their part if you train them sufficiently. Youth need facilitation. Work is so slow at present.

Bilal: In most of our institution there is only formal education and study. If a student opts for fine arts then he has no opportunities to adapt to that field.

Zeeshan: In foreign countries students are encouraged to go for the field of their liking.

Bilal: Yes indeed students in foreign countries are encouraged to opt for their preferred fields.

Zeeshan: Mr. Waqar, what would you like to add to our ongoing discussion?

Waqar: Youth can play its role in every field either sport or studies but our youth is not provided the opportunities to expose them. CM festival was a particular group and not for the common people from remote areas. Rest of the youth has no chance to prove themselves.

Zeeshan: All the youth in the province should be involved. Are there any acquaintances that have talent but are not given the opportunity to come forward in various fields?

Waqar: There are many people with great skill but have no chance to prove themselves.

Zeeshan: It is a major obstacle that youth have no money to provide fees of the grounds and academies. What is your opinion Mr. Najeeb?

Najeeb: Youth has always triggered revolutions in societies. Our youth has also done much for the society but at present they are helpless.

Zeeshan: There was a tendency to focus on degree a few years ago. But now I feel that the trend has changed and now efficiency is given priority rather than degree. People are learning. How far we can bring changes in ourselves?

Najeeb: Youth is bringing change in itself. They have grown technical and have brought changes in the society. They are learning from the media as well.

Zeeshan: Where are you from Mr. Najeeb? And how many people from your district are here for education?

Najeeb: I belong to district Washiq. We have a few people from my district although the number has increased as compared to past. Youth is united now and are helping each other. I encourage my native students to come to Quetta for education.

Zeeshan: Your own district might have lesser facilities than Quetta. What is the situation out there? Everyone has a natural talent and different from others. It is good that you encourage people to get higher education. We have several short comings in each district and it is good to come to capital for education. You are doing career counseling and I stress that you continue with it. It is natural tendency to involve in negative activities when you don't have the opportunity to do positive activities. Mr. Waqar, where are you from and what is the situation in your district?

Waqar: I belong to Turbat and the situation is much better now after 2005. Education was a limited phenomenon but now many youths are getting education.

Zeeshan: Both of you are doing well by encouraging youth to get education.

Najeeb: Youth at present are getting real education and I wish to open an academy for my youth in my native district to promote education. Youth is liberal at present and wish that girls should also study. We also want peace in our society.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report about our topic.

REPORT: Habib ur Rehman

Habib: Youth is a precious asset of a society. We are talking to Imtiaz Ullah, who is a social worker. What role can youth play for their society?

Imtiaz: Youth can get better education and can prove them a positive factor. They should not involve in political unions but local councils to help all those people who need help and support. They should facilitate the de-

serving people in the society. It will increase love and support in the society. Another thing is that youth should take interest in sport and games by involving in healthy activities to avoiding drug addiction. They should keep away from drug addictions and intoxication. Social work is their field and they can help many people in the society who need a helping hand. These should be the activities of our youth. A time will come when our youth and elderly people will all join them for the welfare of our society. These union councils should start from school level. Cleanliness drive should be carried out by these students in their respective areas.

Habib: Youth is an asset of a society and their training and development is our responsibility. This was Habib Ur Rehman reporting for CRSS.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners, you heard the report about the role of youth in the society. Youth have to take the initiative themselves. Mr. Bilal, how can youth bring positive change?

Bilal: Youth need to be made aware by getting career counseling. We lack awareness and education. For example if a young individuals wants to do something, their home do not support them. First of all we have to provide an encouraging environment. If a boy wants to become a singer and his parents bound him to be a doctor or an engineer then his skills are pushed back. Even if i do become a doctor, I will not be good enough because it is not up to my liking.

Zeeshan: Mr. Najeeb what is your view about the change that could be brought by youth?

Najeeb: There are many methods for improvement but we need support. Youth at present is united and liberal.

Zeeshan: You used the word liberal but I understand that living in tribal customs we can get modern education. Our culture does not forbid us to get modern education. Mr. Waqar, what is your opinion about this issue. Mr. Bilal cited an example of a singer but it is hard to have a career in Quetta because we do not have a platform for singers.

Waqar: If you have the guts and have no opportunity, this is another issue. Youth has a lot of guts in Balochistan . There is no exposure for them. If a young man is studying in a university, he is discouraged when he applies for a job.

Zeeshan: We have another report in our show. Let us listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch .

Youth can bring social change in the society. They can end all the ills in the society but we need youth with a strong character. We have to meet Dr. Naqeeb Areef Ul All who is a social worker to find the answers;

Success and welfare of a country depends on the role of youth. All the changes and revolutions in the world are brought about by the young people. Old people have spent their lives and cannot bring change. West has witnessed positive changes due to their youth. Those countries which are replete with violence are also in this situation due to the negative role of their youth. Youth is the future of a country. If you think about freedom of women then you have to bring change in your youth. As well if a country wants to make progress then youth is the only player that can do it. 60% of our population is composed of young people. We are lucky to have such a large young population but our youth is scattered. If the youth of Balochistan is given opportunity, we will not be short of potential compared to other nations. All the movements in the world depend on education. All the social and economic changes can also be brought by the youth if they remain aloof from fake slogans of politicians and religious clerics.

Yasir: Let us meet a student B K Baloch to know about his views.

Youth in Balochistan have to enrich a positive trend to get education for greater positive results. We can end all the social evils if we give them education.

You heard the views. This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

Zeeshan: Welcome back to the show. You heard the interviews about the potential of youth. It is good to know that we have such a large number of young people in our society but they need proper training and education to get benefits from their energy. I need your brief comments now. What would you like to add Mr. Bilal?

Bilal: Media is the greatest platform at present. It should support our youth. Social media is another strong factor at currently. Youth can be mobilized through social media and the very place we are sitting now in the studio is also a powerful tool. Our voice can be heard by a young man on a mountain.

Zeeshan: We try to impart awareness through all our programs. We invite two representatives from youth in this show. Mr. Waqar how do you perceive this whole discussion about the role of youth? We also discussed the opportunity and end to a sense of deprivation among our youth. But it is also true that if you are focusing on your deprivation then no one can go forward.

Waqar: I understand that if all the youth of Balochistan get organized and have full cooperation in every field then it will be good for all of us.

Zeeshan: You stressed a healthy environment for our youth. Many people hold the view that a single person can make no difference but I often cite the example of Edhi who is now running a large organization. The largest group in our society is youth and if they get organized then our society can witness healthy changes. Now what is your opinion, Mr. Najeeb about the unity of youth for higher purposes?

Najeeb: Youth can get united but elder people cannot get united. It is high time that now youth should elect their own representatives and send them to the parliament. Our present trend centers on personalities. We have to end this set up.

Zeeshan: It is also possible to compel the old leaders to work for the youth. Change will be imminent when incompetent people get rejected by the people.

Najeeb: Youth has no role in politics and often elder members of the family compel youth to vote for those favoured by the family elders.

Zeeshan: It is not true because youth have greater role in politics, amounting to 64% of the total votes. Nobody can compel a young man to vote when he is alone before casting his vote.

Waqar: Our votes are divided along religious, racial and tribal lines. Youth is not united and lack awareness.

Zeeshan: We must come above these lines and cast our vote according to the greater interest of our people. Dear listeners, you heard our discussion about the role of youth in our society. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 19**

### **Topic: Lack of library culture in Balochistan**

Guests: Jamil (Librarian), Azharud din (Student) and Saddam Hussain (Student).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch from district Mastung

Anchormperson: Mehreen

Dated: 23-06-2014

#### **Program Summary**

It is a pity to note that there are only seven libraries in the whole of Balochistan. Most of these are inaccessible to the common people and lack all the basic facilities. We can say for all practical purposes that there is no library culture in Balochistan. Nobody can deny the importance of libraries for progress and development. It is indispensable for a student and all the people to visit library. It is the main source of knowledge and information. We need consistent and coordinated effort to develop library culture for all the goods of our down trodden society.

#### **Transcription**

Mehreen: My first question is for Jamil and may I ask you to explain what do we mean by library? Is it a collection of books or a shelter for students?

Jamil: Library is a store of books which provides you space and environment to quench your thirst for knowledge.

Mehreen: One important question that I want to ask is that why the establishment of library is essential for a healthy society?

Jamil: It provides you the place and space where students can study. Study without books is not possible. To achieve your goal you need books and environment which a library provides you. Thriving societies need libraries.

Mehreen: Mr. Azhar, we can study at home as well then why library is so important?

Azhar: Library is a house of books. It is a treasure house and the second house of a student. There is a great deal of difference between your home and a library. You can find all kinds of books according to your choice. We have limited choice of books at home. We cannot focus well at home because we have many distractions. There are also other people who are studious and can encourage us to study further. We learn from these people as well.

Mehreen: Those who cannot afford books must go to a library. Only a membership card let you study that many writers.

Azhar: We can learn about various modern branches of knowledge in a library. We know in a library how vast knowledge is.

Mehreen: When we find a huge collection, we are compelled to study further.

Azhar: Various kinds of newspapers and magazines are also available which we cannot afford at home.

Mehreen: Sometime our people do not know about various publications regarding case studies and figures.

Azhar: Our students do not know about the journals and magazines published about our region. But we come across such books in a library.

Mehreen: Our mind is diverted at home while studying. Irrespective of text books, it is also good to visit a library for information and knowledge. Our main problem is ignorance. Now may I ask Saddam Hussain, what are the demerits of not having a library in a society like Balochistan where libraries are scarce?

Saddam: There are several disadvantages when we do not have libraries. Our literacy rate is 38% in Balochistan and scarcity of libraries is one reason for it. We can have several problems nationally or internationally without libraries.

Mehreen: How do you relate these problems with libraries?

Saddam: These are related to each other. When there is no education then we cannot find a job. When we have no skill and education then we lack the source of income. Politics is associated with our social life. We must know about the rights of others and ourselves. There are several social problems we are facing due to lack of libraries. We have street crimes in Balochistan.

Mehreen: Ignorance is the main source of crimes.

Azhar: Violence is on the rise in Balochistan because of ignorance. We are led like animals with no knowledge. We have neither education facilities nor libraries. We do not know about the rights of each other.

Mehreen: We see through the eyes of others. I want to ask about personality development through libraries.

Jamil: It is well said that this world is like a stage where everyone plays his act and leave the stage. If we talk in societal context then library is that stage. When our youth visit a library they have a chance to learn a new environment.

Mehreen: Mr. Saddam, common people should also visit library?

Saddam: Library is a source of knowledge and it cannot be confined to a particular group only. Students also need libraries but all the people in the society are in need of it. I may cite the example of Japan where the greatest numbers of libraries exist. Their literacy rate is the highest in the world. These are for the whole society.

Mehreen: If an individual does not know about his rights and the rights of others then how can he benefit the society? It is time to listen to a report about the issue in focus.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Library culture has great advantages for a society. Where there are libraries flourishing, crime rate is on the decrease. Existence of libraries is very important for students. Unfortunately we have seven libraries in our thirty districts beside Quetta. Now we are present in District Mastong and talking to Ghulam Nabi in Shaheed Nawab Ghus Bakhsh Raisani library. Let us ask him about the state of library here.

We have a library here but students are not visiting it frequently. The reason is that it is away from the town. There are fewer tendencies among our students to visit a library. Students also find it hard to come here from the town. School children cannot come here all alone. Although our library is very beneficial for our students and we have good books here. But you know that the situation in Mastong is not good. It is really hard for students to reach this library after travelling for almost one hour.

There is a school in the vicinity. Let us talk to a student. What is your name?

My name is Osama and I study in class 6.

Yasir: Do you go to the library?

Osama: No we are not allowed to enter it.

Yasir: There is no university in Mastong and the college students have no time to visit the library. This library seems vacant. This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

Mehreen: Dear listeners, you heard the report. There are only seven libraries in the whole province and it is a lamentable fact.

Caller: I just opened the radio and learnt about your important topic. I want to say that I am a student of 9th class in Muslim Abad high School, where we have no library. We are made to learn by heart all our lessons and are not able to understand the topic. Our teachers take help from various guides and waste their time.

Mehreen: I may ask you the question that how can you enhance your course books with the help of libraries? Are you guided how to use a library?

Caller: Libraries have good books to increase your knowledge. There is no good library in Quetta. We have a library in our area but are not allowed to use it. My complaint is about the teachers who waste our time and do not make us understand the topic.

Mehreen: What is your name dear?

Caller: My name is Khalil Khan.

Mehreen: Thank you so much for calling us. He alleged that teachers do not teach them well. Now coming back to our main topic may I tell that when we were kids there were libraries in our schools. We had cards for libraries and I am crazy about the books from the very start. I used to go to library once a month during our zero periods. I used to wait for that particular day. Why books are now locked away at our school level.

Jamil: Access to libraries is a major problem. Libraries are basically for students but it virtually does not mean only degree seekers. We are students at each stage of our life and need library. A person in the report told us that library is far away in Mastong. I have observed in Quetta that libraries are far away from the population. Book collection is not the main purpose to build a library. It should be accessible to the main population. Our second concern to establish a library is about the sections in a library. Digital library is also very important in modern times. Periodicals from foreign countries and newspaper section are also important. There is also a conversation and discussion section in a modern library. But we have the main issue of having no access to all the seven libraries in Balochistan. When we enter a library here, we find a few broken chairs and tables with a few books which are out dated. There is no provincial department which can own libraries. Most of the libraries are run on donation. We do not have reading rooms and chairs. We do not have funds to accommodate our students. I have seen myself that in a famous library, outside students are not allowed to enter. Digital system has melted down in our libraries.

Mehreen: World has shrunk into a global village but we do not have digital sections in our libraries.

Jamil: I have spent some time in Allama Iqbal library in Islamabad and I saw that digital library was fully functional. You cannot imagine use of facebook in our libraries.

Mehreen: Digital connection is very important for us in the present times.

Jamil: Many students are doing research and they need Google, facebook and Skype. When there is no digital section then research is not possible. Libraries keep your concentration intact. But we do not have even safe



drinking water and washrooms in our libraries. Only books are not important but all such facilities are necessary to make a library workable.

Mehreen: I cannot draw reference books from a library. It is time to listen to another report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

District Mastong is regarded as a developed area in regard to education. We have a library here. Let us approach some students and ask them about this library. Let us ask a young student.

My name is Tayab and I am student of BSc. We often visit this library and study our subject. This library is far away from the town and a lot of time is wasted while reaching here. Library is a good place to study and I stress that all the students should come here.

We have Hafeez Ullah and he says;

We have a library with all facilities but students are not interested in it. The reason is that most of the people are living in villages and it is hard to reach here. Books are here but not many students come here. Many rich students go to other cities for higher studies and poor students do not take any interest in library. There are books and magazines but our students do not take advantage from it. We have only middle level and intermediate students while these books are for higher studies. I request all the students that they should visit the library at whatever level they are studying.

In Mastong a library is existing but students' are not approaching it.

Mehreen: There is no trend of visiting a library. I may ask Saddam that how wrong doings can be stopped in our society. For example some verse and theories are associated with wrong persons. People readily accept it.

Saddam: This is due to lack of awareness and education. There is a famous saying of our Holy Prophet PBUH that seeking of knowledge in binding on each Muslim male and female. People must be compelled to get education.

Mehreen: How can we justify libraries through our religion? We are asked to read by the Almighty Allah. We will know about the real authors if we study and learn.

Saddam: Most of our authors just copy foreign authors and publish books with their names.

Azhar: I may add that reading is not the sole purpose of a library. There are seminars and inaugural ceremonies along with debates. We can mobilize people for research. But it is our bad luck that we do not have enough libraries.

Mehreen: Research and development is at zero level in our country.

Saddam: Japan has the largest number of libraries and our neighbours have good libraries as well. We do not have the tendency to research and develop.

Mehreen: Mr. Azhar, what is the role of NGOs and other related departments to develop the library culture?

Azhar: Government is not paying any attention and these supportive organizations are running the existing libraries. It is hard for a female to visit a library in our society. When we talk about library we mean a place with all facilities and access by all the people. NGOs have a greater role to play in this situation.

Mehreen: What should be done at government level?

Jamil: We have funds for sport by many departments but when it comes to library, funds cease to flow. Librar-

ies are run by private institutions. We must institutionalize our libraries to help us in education.

Mehreen: What is the role of parents and peer groups for promoting library culture?

Saddam: All the groups in our society are not playing their part. Parents should stress the use of library by their children.

Mehreen: Niamat Ullah has sent us his message that library is very important for students. We must attract foreign donors to establish maximum libraries. We must have a set up where we should have a multipurpose library culture. Our politicians and bureaucrats must visit our libraries frequently. It is time to bid you good bye.

## Episode: 20

### Topic: Budgetary allocation for women of Balochistan

Guests: Arsalan Fayaz (Journalist), Naz Baloch (Social worker), Aryana kasi (Chairwoman Women chamber of Commerce), and Khalid Baloch (CRSS Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 24-06-2014

#### Program Summary

It is indeed regrettable to note that in a total budget of 215 billion rupees, only 75 million rupees are sanctioned for the fifty percent population of women in Balochistan. No scheme worth mentioning is announced for the uplift of backward and ignorant rustic women of Balochistan. Almost 785 women in rural areas are actively involved in agriculture along with men. They do the most laborious job but have no opportunity to prove their talent and earn at their doorstep. For all practical purposes this budget is a defective one and has ignored the important section of society, that is youth and women. Clean drinking water is a serious problem throughout the province but no project is announced in the budget to overcome this issue.

#### Transcription

Zeeshan: Mr. Arsalan, May I ask you the first question, to tell us about the allocation for women in the recent budget?

Arsalan: On 19th June provincial budget was presented. The total volume of the budget was 215 billion Rupees. They call it a historical budget but it is sorry to say that almost fifty percent population of women is ignored. There is an allocation of only 75 million rupees for women in this budget. There are no proposed new schemes for women.

Zeeshan: It is a pity that women are ignored and progress is not possible with this mind set.

Arsalan: If we focus on the budget and look at the rate of unemployment. We may see that government has announced more than three thousand new appointments, while jobless people are more than two hundred thousand. Government claims to sanction a lot of funds for education and health but there is no remarkable improvements in these fields. Implementation has remained a problem.

Zeeshan: I may now ask a question from Aryana who is an experienced lady. First tell us what kinds of matters do you deal with as chairman of women chamber of commerce?

Aryana: As Arsalan told us, budget allocations for women is minimum in Balochistan. Men can go out for work but women are mostly confined to the four walls of their homes. Women are helping themselves but unless government extends support to them, they cannot progress in life. These 75 million is a meager amount and can do no good to our women. Even if government does allocate some compensation or remuneration for poor women it hardly reaches the deserving women.

Zeeshan: Now I will ask Naz Baloch who is a social worker, about the mentioning of scholarship for female students, in the budget. How can a meager amount support girl students who are already so poor.

Naz Baloch: Education is a must for us. We have heard that health and education are now being focused and we hope that it is true. We must focus on the remote areas where education is scarce.

Zeeshan: Mr. Khalid Baloch is also here and we will ask him that what steps are suggested in regard to youth in the budget?

Khalid: I have gone through the whole budget along with federal budget. I am not satisfied because youth is not focused in this budget. Home work was not done in this field while ignoring health and education. Education is the main area for youth. Priority is not given to women in this budget.

Zeeshan: What other things you want to add Mr. Arsalan?

Arsalan: In health sector, look at the hospital in Quetta where cardiac machines are out of order. Our civil hospital has no medicines. There is no proper system of cleanliness in our main hospital. It is well said that budget is a document of shining and hopeful words only. Government has announced to spend five billion rupees on SANDEK project. It is required that our precious minerals should be refined and finished locally to create jobs. 256 million rupees are allocated for live stock but it is vague proposal.

Zeeshan: May I ask Aryana that what facilitation do you provide to those women who want to do business? What kinds of enterprises women undertake in our province?

Aryana: Women of Balochistan are mostly associated with agriculture. Almost 70% women are involved in agriculture because there is no remarkable industry in Balochistan. Women help their men in agriculture. I have observed in the rural areas that education and knowledge is no longer, available there. But their talent is greater than women of educated families' and beauty parlors. They prepare sauces and pickles. They preserve some of the fruits and vegetables through local methods. It can be a blooming business if they are given opportunity to have a small industry. But it is a pity that nothing was allocated for such women in the budget.

Zeeshan: It is our main objective to give a voice to the local people of Balochistan CRSS is striving for it. You said well that women in rural areas are working side by side with their men. It is also a great credit to save the surplus food. It is time to listen to a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

No proper scheme was announced in the recent budget for women. Women are down trodden and far backward in Balochistan. There is no opportunity for women to progress in life. To find some answers we have to visit the department of gender studies in Balochistan University. We are talking to the female students of this department. Miss Tahira Baloch what is your view.

It is sorry to note that no proper attention is paid to women in the recent budget. Women are always ignored in our country. Foreign countries are making progress because there is equality of gender. Unfortunately women are ignored in the recent budget and it is very harmful for the whole family. Women control the whole family. Government should have invested in health and education for women.

Ashen Hameed says about the recent budget;

There is nothing special for women in the recent budget. Our department is also ignored and no funds were announced for us. Women are in dire need of some facilities and development. Budget should have a special share for women. In a province like Balochistan women should be given opportunities even inside their homes. Working women and girl students should also have special attention in the budget. We are really disappointed.

Half of our population consists of women but no steps are taken for women in the budget and they are disappointed. This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

Zeeshan: Welcome back in the show. What is your observation in the interior Balochistan, Naz Baloch?

Naz Baloch: There is no deficiency of talent in Balochistan. In cities people are educated and know about their

rights but in rural areas education is rare. Girls are not sent to schools in rural areas. We were having a survey in the rural areas and it is incredible to note that in hot summer women were working in the fields while men were sitting in the shade enjoying whey. Women were also looking after the kids and working in scorching sun. When we tried to talk to women, men preented us. Some women had amputated hands and we were told that it was because of grass machines. I salute all those women who were working so hard without realizing that they are doing a laborious job.

Zeeshan: There is another report and let us listen to it.

REPORT: Habib Ur Rehman.

Women are the color of life and world but no priority was given to women in the recent budget. It is a pity. We are talking to Miss Beena who works in WAPDA. Let us ask her about the recent allocation and budget and their role in national development;

The important point is that our women have no knowledge about their rights. Secondly our female MPAs are not doing enough for women. They just serve their respective parties. They do not benefit our women and do not solve our major problems. Another point is that our traditional culture restricts women to talk about their rights. In Baloch and Pashtoon belt, women are not allowed to talk much.

Habib: You described three important points but what are those factors which can solve these problems?

Beena: Many women are now educated in Balochistan and are serving along men. They should be assembled in different seminars to inquire about their problems and progress. Most of the women remain silent in daily life and do not exert themselves. The simple method is to hold seminars and workshop where their problems should be highlighted. Our MPs should take women along with them and they should try to end their backwardness. Vocational training centers should be established for all the women. MP should convey their problems in the parliament.

Women are an important part of the society and their progress may lead to the progress of the whole nation. This was Habib Ur Rehman from Quetta.

Zeeshan: What are your views about the budget in general?

Arsalan: People expected an increase of 20% in their salaries but government came up with just ten percent increase and workers are not happy. Government has also traditionally announced higher duty on luxury cars but it is not helping the nation. Economic zone is announced in Quetta and Lasbella but it is only an announcement and will remain in papers only. It was also announced to construct parks in Quetta, which was also announced in the previous budget. The matter is that we should renovate the already existing parks. 135 million are sanctioned for agriculture, which is insufficient for this vast province.

Zeeshan: It seems the government has done no home work for this budget.

Arsalan: It is a budget, prepared by bureaucracy and signed by our parliamentarians. The whole province is faced with the problem of clean drinking water and no project is announced for it. Although a summery was sent to the government to transfer all the tube wells on generators during load shedding but it was not included. When the employees are not given their salaries, they go on strike, which creates problems.

Zeeshan: It is a tragic situation because when this department is on strike people are longing for water.

Arsalan: Treasury department has issued a notice that power connection of any department cannot be disconnected unless prior notice is issued. But we see that ARSA disconnect connection to WASA and other department causing serious situation.

Zeeshan: It was suggested that water bill should be included in gas bills?

Arsalan: It was suggested but people did not accept it because these are two different departments.

Zeeshan: In the interior province the situation of clean drinking water is precarious and people are compelled to migrate. Some people are forced to drink contaminated water causing various diseases.

Arsalan: A scheme was announced in the budget to transfer tube wells to solar energy. But first of all water problem has to be solved.

Zeeshan: Lack of clean water is a serious problem in Bhag area and there is no project for water. There is news about other regions as well.

Arsalan: It is a serious problem of the whole province. There is a short fall of 170,000 gallon water in Quetta, although it is the capital city.

Zeeshan: Mr. Khalid you were talking about youth share in the budget. What should have been done according to your perceptions?

Khalid: Scholarships should have been increased for students. It is said that funds were granted in the overall funds to MPs. I may fairly say that all these funds are just wasted. I am an eye witness that only ten thousand rupees were granted to some students who bought mobile phones with it. It is not the proper method to give money in cash to students. Funds should be increased and provided for the studies. Those students who want to do M.Phil and PhD need a lot of money. The problem is that only draft is read and no implementation is done. Most of our MPs just read the budget draft and do not make it practical. Youth is our main power and if we ignore them then what are you doing for the society. Our tradition is to facilitate the parliamentarians and party members.

Zeeshan: We need to support our students for higher studies.

Khalid: Our youth is hopeless and are prone to violence and crimes. When the youth see the exploitation with their own eyes then they resort to violence and terror. When justice is not there in the society you cannot expect peace and normality.

Zeeshan: It is true that injustice trigger aggression and violence in the society. Sense of deprivation is very dangerous for a society. We hope that this fact must be realized by the authorities. I hope some of our talk may have struck many hearts through this programme. It is often said that Balochistan is faced with some burning issues but all of these problems can be solved amicably. Government has announced education emergency in the province. What is your take on it Mr. Arsalan?

Arsalan: Declaring a state of emergency is not enough but practical steps are needed to be taken. We can see worn out and barren schools all around and we wonder what kind of education emergency it is. Is it only to sanction money in budget or to use it? We see that scholarship is granted only to cronies and party members. Merit is not considered.

Zeeshan: Nepotism is a trait in our politics. Merit is not the general policy. I am thankful to all the participants for being with us. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 21

### Topic: The issue of clean drinking water in Balochistan

Guests: Muhammad Nasir (WASA officer), Aziz Baloch (Youth Representative) and Muhammad Tayab (Youth representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 30-06-2014

#### Program Summary

Water is life but Balochistan is an unfortunate region, where this fountain of life has become a precious commodity. There are virtually many places in rural Balochistan, where humans and animals drink water from the same pond and most of the people are compelled to drink contaminated water. According to Nasir Muhammad, officer of WASA, in cities we have tube wells as the safe source of drinking water. While in rural areas we have springs and lakes as the safe source. In the whole, Balochistan is on tube wells. There are open surface wells and hand pumps as well but it is shallow water and is not so safe. Deep surface water is pure and safe. In our suburb we have rain water lakes and the whole populations use it throughout the year. But it is not hygienic and gets contaminated.

#### Transcription

I welcome you all in the show. We have an expert in the field, who is Mr. Nasir and may I ask him what we mean by clean drinking water?

Nasir: We call that water clean which we test and find nitrates and other minerals in it at such a level, which is drinkable and may not harm human body. It should not be bitter and maintain a good level of minerals. Some-time we add chlorine to purify it further.

Mehreen: May I ask Muhammad Tayab from Kharan, what the standard of drinking water in Kharan is?

Tayab: It is drinkable but we have no facilities there and the water gets contaminated. All the humans and animals drink it together.

Mehreen: What are the safe and unsafe sources of water?

Nasir: In cities we have tube wells as the safe source of drinking water. While in rural areas we have springs and lakes as the safe source. In the whole, Balochistan dependence is on tube wells. There are open surface wells and hand pumps as well but it is shallow water and is not so safe. Deep surface water is pure and safe. In our suburb we have rain water lakes and the whole populations use it throughout the year. But it is not hygienic and gets contaminated. But now our provincial government has concentrated on this problems and public health engineering department has started good work on it. Cm has clear instructions about this issue to extend the supply of clean water across the province. Speedy work is in progress on several projects. Water is life and we have to provide it to our people. We are lucky that we can drink water from taps in our cities, while in other cities people have to buy drinking water. We are hopeful for the future.

Mehreen: What do you mean by shallow water?

Nasir: It is found at a hundred feet or deep through open digging. It is not safe because water from the surface also gets mixed up with this water and render it impure. While we dig up to a thousand feet for a tube well so it

is pure and safe. Western portion of Quetta receive all the dirty water of the city and shallow water is not safe there. Deep wells have pure and clean water. We have some hard dig tube wells, which are fully mineral water.

Mehreen: You said that rain water is preserved and if it is collected on safe surface then it is good for drinking.

Nasir: It can be seen in other parts of the country that teen roofs are set up to collect rain water and then to use it later on. It is better than to collect it in a lake.

Mehreen: Mr. Aziz what area do you belong to?

Aziz: I am thankful to you. I belong to district Washaq which is the most backward district of the country. There is seldom water available in our district for drinking. We do not have even dirty water for our animals.

Mehreen: It is a worse situation. There are many places in Balochistan where water is not available at all. What kinds of diseases are frequent in your area?

Aziz: There is cholera, malaria and all kinds of ailments. There is no hospital and many children die in infancy. Water is there in some places but more than three hundred feet below but many places depend on rain water. In a drought we do not have any water.

Mehreen: How long have you been here in Quetta?

Aziz: I have been living here for almost one year. People in our area migrate in search of water but we are lucky that we have a natural spring in our area.

Mehreen: What are other places where situation is so bad?

Nasir: Bagh Lahri is a place, where ground water is not available. People store rain water and use it. But situation is improving now and we are working in this field. Where ground water is not available then we have to supply water from other areas. Many departments are working in this direction and we are working according to our resources. Balochistan is a vast and scattered area and it is impossible to provide water to each and every place. It will take time to provide all facilities.

Mehreen: But when will we have these resources? 27 billion is sanctioned for water this year in the budget. Where does all this money go?

Nasir: Every scheme once initiated has to be completed. Our province was an ignored area for so long and now we have started some developmental work. We will be able to provide facilities with the passage of time.

Mehreen: Mr. Tayab, please give us a full picture of your area especially the diseases.

Tayab: Man is faced with all kinds of disease due to contaminated water like hepatitis and dysentery. There are some wells where water is so low and it is hard to pull it up. There are some springs which are at a great distance but people have to fetch it on animals.

Mehreen: It is said that mortality and disability is very high in Balochistan due to contaminated water. There are all kinds of deadly diseases in Balochistan. With no proper health facilities, people die and epidemics spread frequently. I witness in Lorelei district that men and animals were drinking water from the same storage. People took it for granted and felt nothing. Another thing is the manure, which contaminates water. How clean water gets contaminate?

Nasir: Whatever the source of water may be, it is clean at the start but our people make it dirty later on. We do not channelize sewerage water properly and it gets mix with clean water. We lack awareness and cannot manage the system. When education will improve then awareness will also come.



Mehreen: What are the methods to purify water at all levels?

Nasir: At small level people can manage it themselves but not for big cities. In Quetta we have established a water purification water plant and it is good news. It is functional now.

Mehreen: Please brief us about all the methods of purification and cleaning it from germs?

Nasir: At present we have just one water treatment plant in Quetta to produce grey water for forest department. It is a recycling unit and dirty water is recycled here.

Mehreen: In the Punjab such filtration plants are run successfully on community basis. Why do not we imitate them? It is not so expensive. It is time to listen to a report containing some local views.

REPORT:

Quetta is a heap of dirt and garbage. Water is also a big problem. Government has set up water plants but most of them are shut down. People are pining for water. We meet people in the suburb and they said as Abdul Manan says;

In our area there is scarcity of water and we do not have clean water for months. Dirty water mix up with clean water and we are faced with deadly diseases. I appeal the government to solve our problem. We have not seen what kind of clean water is provided by WASA. We are forced to drink contaminated water. Tanker mafia is in action and they are extracting money from us.

Abdul Kareem is a political worker and he says;

We are not having any clean water and our voice is not heard. We request that we need clean water during Ramadan. Tube wells are out of order and we are still paying the bills. We get water from private tankers. We store water and use it for one month. We have not experienced filtered water yet.

Muhammad Pervez also wants to say that;

Water comes in the tap for just twenty minutes and then we do not receive any water. Now we are having contaminated water and we cannot drink it.

Quetta and its people are dying for each drop of water. It was Yasir Baloch from CRSS.

REPORT2: Habib Ur Rehman:

Water is a natural blessing and we all need it. 71 % of the earth is composed of water but people in Balochistan are deprived of it. We are talking to senior associate professor Abdur Raouf in Botany department and he says;

Water is a blessing of Allah but we have no resources of water in Balochistan . Water level is going down. Vegetables are watered with muddy water and it is causing several diseases. Drinking water is also not pure and safe because all the clean and dirty pipes are running side by side. Our population is not secure. We cannot have a healthy mind if we are drinking polluted water. People and government should think about. We have to make safe each and every drop of water. We must boil it before drinking. People do not bother about it. If you go to a hospital you will see that most of the diseases among children are due to drinking contaminated water. In suburb of Quetta plants are grown with polluted water which is causing health hazards. When we buy such vegetables we are taking a certain disease back home.

Habib: What kinds of disease are found among the masses due to this factor?

Abdur Raouf: Mainly we find diarrhoea and hepatitis among children due to polluted water.

Habib: What steps could be taken to overcome this problem?

Abdur Raouf: Government should supply water to all the people. An awareness campaign should be run to save water. Dams should be developed. All the old rusted pipe lines should be replaced. Life is impossible without water. We must value this precious gift of Allah.

Water is a blessing of God and we must use it properly. It was Habib Ur Rehman from Quetta.

REPORT 3: Yasir Baloch.

In rural Balochistan people and animals drink water from the same pond. Naturally rain is rare in Balochistan and water table is so low. People are longing for clean water. What are the reasons for it? Let us meet managing director of WASA Shahid Saleem;

We have discussed Brohi and Sarob areas with you. I may tell you that most of the people migrate to these areas in summer from Punjab and population increases. Water table also goes down during the same period. Discharge from tube well also decreases and people face problems. There are also illegal connections from main supply line. We have chalked out a plan to disconnect these illegal connections. We have also purchased new pumps and are replacing many old pumps. Strong water generating project has been punctured unfortunately and people are having some problems. We are coordinating this issue with the administration and overcoming this problem. It is also a fact that our water reserves beneath the ground do not recharge sufficiently because rainfalls is scarce.

Government has no master plan to solve this problem. Access to clean water has become a hard issue. This was Yasir Baloch for CRSS.

Mehreen: Welcome back in the show. The report was very good and we heard first hand views of the people about the issue in focus. The managing director WASA also tried to justify himself. My question is that why various departments do not coordinate with each other? There is no one to take notice of this issue?

Nasir: I told you that our source at the start is safe and secure but due to lack of awareness we are polluting it. We are having fortnight meetings with Commissioner Quetta and all the problems are identified there. Delay is caused at lower level by the working staff. There is a lack of coordination among the lower staff. We are not intimated at proper time about damage. Local people come and inform us about pollution points. Secondly we have the problem of migratory people from other parts to Quetta which is an extra load. You might have also seen that multi story buildings are common these days and water is wasted there.

Mehreen: You mean that illegal connections should also be checked. You also said that if residents inform us about some damage but what about the complaint of a local person in the report?

Nasir: Problem is also caused by them. You heard about illegal connections where some points are left uncovered and contaminated water also adds in the pipe lines.

Mehreen: One person said that filter plants are just present in papers?

Nasir: Some filter plants are established by NGOs. These did well at the beginning but now they are out of order.

Mehreen: Now may I ask you Aziz Baloch to tell us what is that positive way by which we can preserve our clean water?

Aziz: Springs are our main source of clean water. Both the humans and animals use it. Many springs come down from hills and animals graze above while people collect this water below containing defecation of animals.

Mehreen: But we have greater responsibility as human beings. We can manage our animals easily. Even our educated people in cities do not cover water.

Aziz: Large ponds are formed after rain and that water is open and uncovered.

Mehreen: What should be done? What is the role of government and people?

Aziz: Government should provide boring facility where it is required. Poor people are ignored while rich people are benefited.

Mehreen: I wish all your complaints are heard and met. We can use chlorine and green mint to purify our drinking water. We can do much at our own level. Media can play its positive role. We can teach and train our children to use water properly and keep safe. I am thankful for your time with us. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 22

### Topic: Civil and political rights of youth in Balochistan

Guests: Maqbool Ahmad (Political Analyst), Abdul Sattar (Youth Representative) and Muhammad Azeem (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch from district Qalat

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 01-07-2014

#### Program Summary

With hardly 40% literacy rate and a defective education system, it is no wonder to know that youth in Balochistan have no knowledge of their political, civil, social and economic rights. Students' politics is also a curse in the educational institutions and political wings are exploited and misused by political leaders to disturb the education of our youth. Education holds the key to give awareness to our youth as discussed by the youth representatives along with greater opportunities for recreation and conducive environment. According to Maqbool Ahmad, our youth should have the guts to approach their MPs about their problems. He also stressed that youth must make it a point to cast their vote in any situation for the right person and make themselves aware about the changing trends in the politics and our society.

#### Transcription

Zeeshan: We may begin by asking Maqbol that please narrate to us the political and civil rights of youth.

Maqbool: Youth have a great role in political affairs. They help in vote casting and political campaigns. When we talk about youth our mind automatically turn to all those students who are studying at college and university levels. They study and support a particular party. But unfortunately we have low literacy rate and youth does not know about democracy and political rights. They just support the person who is favoured by their elder members of the family. They vote for the wrong person most of the time. After the election, it is our responsibility to go to the MPs and ask about the projects about our region. We have to ask our MP what he has done within five years. We have to inquire about the progress in health and education. But we have no such tradition. We just follow certain people without confirmation about the credibility of a political leader. We just follow the personalities. We need awareness and consciousness about democratic norms. There is a lack of awareness among our youth.

Zeeshan: Age of the voter has been decreased now and we have greater number of youth with the right to vote. Do you think that our tribal system is subtle enough to give political rights to our youth? It is a common practice that if a leader of a tribe is contesting election then he has to be voted for. Sometime he is elected without any rival contestant.

Maqbool: It often happens in rural areas, where people are compelled to do so. These tribal heads have all the powers vested in them even from the times of the British Raj. They were given powers to control a particular area. It is the case in rural Sindh and Punjab where serfdom is still in practice. These feudal provide private jobs to the common people. We do not have any other means of employment in rural areas and these feudal employ people as their private employees. A city like Quetta has greater opportunities for common people to get employment and private business. Imran Khan is a good example who does not have any political background. Youth is following him because they think he will give them new Pakistan. Youth is becoming aware now and media is playing a major role in this regard. Media is telling people about the basic rights of all the people. It is through media that common people are posing questions to their elected representatives.

Zeeshan: It is pertinent that our people should approach the MPs.

Maqbool: It is called sick democracy by the foreign people which is practiced in Pakistan. It is not a healthy democracy. Democracy cannot be witnessed in Pakistan. According to the ranking by the American institute 'US Democracy', Pakistan is almost a failed state because of frequent violence and child labour, existence of polio cases and the like. The important parameters for democracy are freedom of expression and freedom to cast vote according to your will. But in Pakistan people cannot go against the will of the feudal lords.

Zeeshan: I have two youth representatives here and I may ask Sattar that as told by Maqbool, it is the charm of the democracy to cost your vote according to your will. Have you casted your vote this time?

Sattar: I did not cast my vote.

Zeeshan: Why?

Sattar: I wanted to cast my vote but circumstances did not allow me to do so. Baloch insurgents had threatened us not to cast our votes. It was a general tendency in Balochistan that youth was reluctant to cast their votes.

Zeeshan: Were you choosing someone, whom you wanted to elect as particular person?

Sattar: Yes, indeed, I wanted to cast my vote for a particular person but I was not allowed.

Zeeshan: Mr. Azeem what was your situation?

Azeem: I also did not cast my vote because our situation was not favorable.

Zeeshan: Are you aware about the importance of casting your vote.

Azeem: Yes, indeed, I was well aware but we could not cast our vote.

Maqbool: I think a leader is only powerful if he is supported by the people. Our present system was chalked out by the British, who imposed these feudal on us. But for centuries it was our tradition to elect an able person as a tribal leader irrespective of his age and social status.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report.

REPORT:

How much our youth is aware about their political and civil rights in Balochistan? In this connection we are in District Qalat and talking to common people. We have Gul Sher Somalan;

Thank you for being in Qalat. I may vocally say that our youth is now aware about civil, social, political and economic rights to a great extent. Deprivation is because of our leaders. We have no good leadership so far. All the leaders reached the corridors of power through rigging the election. We have no role in bringing them to powers. Our establishment has brought them up. I have not cast my vote so far because the person whom I want to elect cannot contest the election in the present system. My vote is valueless at present. I request the rulers that Qalat can also become a city of colleges like Lahore. We need educational awareness. We need colleges and universities.

We will now talk to Zahoor Shahwani, a tribal elder;

Those who are educated are aware about their rights but illiterate youth is in darkness. Votes are cast here for personalities and a feudal is supported by all the ignorant and illiterate people. If we had education here then situation would have been different. It is not necessary that a political leader must be a duke or a feudal. I feel the slight change at present.

Education is the yard stick through which people know about their rights. It was Yasir Baloch from CRSS.

Zeeshan: You heard the report from Qalat. There was a striking statement in the report that in the system my vote has no value.

Maqbool: That's why education was stressed in the report. It is through education people come to know about the right system. People come to know about the weaknesses of the present system. If you elect a leader for five years to represent you then you have the right to ask him about his efforts for your area.

Zeeshan: When we talk about society then all the people are equal and have equal rights. Can you tell us if there are any separate rights for youth in society?

Maqbool: There are countries that have no resources but their human resources are the main resource for them. In Balochistan we do not have any research center to develop this human resource. Our focus is on youth because our population of youth is almost 54%. They have a big role for the development of our country. Older people have no opportunity to develop their personality.

Zeeshan: Let us ask our youth if they can bring any change.

Sattar: Yes we can bring the change if we are given the opportunity. Youth has done wonders for many countries. Youth is not focused in Balochistan. We do not have any facilities. We cannot express ourselves because we have a lot of pressure from all quarters. Our rights are violated.

Maqbool: All the policies in a state can either develop us or take us backward. When you implement a policy of the whole population it is an important thing. Unfortunately policies are not framed for long term implication. America is framing policies for Zombies which seem a fabrication at present but it is in fact to end street crimes in the future. Our government frames policies for just five years and then the new government changes it. Many of our young people have died due to wrong policies of our leaders. To practice democracy is not an easy thing and leaders have a lot of responsibility.

Zeeshan: What kind of opportunities do you want Mr. Azeem?

Azeem: Our greatest opportunity is to get education. It is the main reason for our backwardness.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to another report.

#### REPORT:

It is to see how much our young female population is aware about their rights. In this connection we are talking to Rubeena Shahwani who is a teacher.

First of all we have to see our region for which you have asked the question. Look at our tribal system where females have lesser opportunities to get education. An educated woman knows about her rights but even they do not know about the constitutional rights of women. In the tribal system women have some rights with some disadvantages. Women are respected in our tribal culture. But our system is a male dominated society where women are pressed and exploited. Education is not focused upon the way it is required. As a teacher we try to tell and guide our youth to realize their rights. But our youth lack the required awareness and proper opportunities to get education.

Yasir: Our female youth has no proper realization of their rights to work for the development of their country. It was Yasir Baloch from CRSS.

Zeeshan: Welcome back to the show. I have a common question for the youth here that we often say that our institutes have student's political wings. It is destroying our institution. Student's politics is also important in

its own right but do you think that our education institution should have political wings?

Sattar: If we look at the education system in the world, we don't see any such trend in the educational institutions. Student's politics is destroying our education system. We are often faced with strikes and closures due to these politics.

Azeem: I also agree with this view. When I was a student there was a strike for the whole month and our exams were postponed.

Azeem: Mr. Maqbool, our youth does not support politics for student then how can they know about political rights?

Maqbool: Politics should not be there among the students, however awareness should be present. All the students need political awareness and how to cast their votes. Unluckily we are in the habit to harm all those things which are fruitful for us.

Zeeshan: Every system has some weaknesses including health and education. What other opportunities do you favour for youth in Balochistan ?

Sattar: Recreational activities are very important for students. Crime ratio decreases with healthy activities. Recruitment in the education institutes should be depoliticized and merit should be followed.

Zeeshan: What other opportunities would you like to mention?

Azeem: Youth include both students and uneducated. We must teach some kind of skill and craft to all our uneducated young people.

Sattar: There is no technical center worth mentioning in Balochistan.

Maqbool: Social evils are caused by unemployment. There are no opportunities in Balochistan to get employed. People are led to join those groups that are harmful to the state. We are in dire need to give awareness and opportunities to our youth. After six decades of existence we are almost a failed state.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners, we discussed the rights of youth and the level of their awareness. It was stressed that all the young people must cast their votes for the right person. They should also have the guts to approach their MPs. Our young guests here told us that they were unable to cast their votes due to unfavourable circumstances. It was also discussed that youth should have greater opportunities to get education and skills. Civil rights are acquired after good education. Role of media was also discussed. We will come again with new topics. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 23

### Topic: Vaccination, Myth and Reality

Guests: Professor Dr. Dr. Baqi Durrani (Head of the Department of Medicine in Bolan Medical College), Dr. Shehzad and Malik Baloch (Medical student).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 07-07-2014

#### Program Summary

Vaccination among children, against several deadly diseases, is a common and recognized practice throughout the world but it is a pity to notice that our national vaccination campaign has failed over the years. Our people lack awareness about it and are entrapped in false rumors and misconceptions about these vaccines. Our health department also lacks trained staff and sufficient equipment to keep these valuable vaccines safe and effective. Secondly, transportation to far flung rural areas is also a problem. But above all lack of awareness, education and consciousness about the importance of vaccination among our masses is causing a failure to all the efforts made by national and international community to eradicate some of the deadly diseases, like polio, from our society. We need a consolidated and coordinated effort to run this campaign successfully.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: We have a sensitive topic for today. I will begin the talk with Dr. Baqi, what do we mean by vaccination and why is it so important?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: Vaccination basically means all those medicines used to control a disease. There are various kinds of vaccines. All those epidemic and contagious diseases are contained through vaccination.

Mehreen: What are those diseases that can be controlled through vaccination?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: there are many diseases including infective diseases like hepatitis, measles, TB, Typhoid and the like that can be controlled through vaccination. Sometime pneumonic injections are required. Dupery is another deadly disease. We apply vaccination for tetanus. There is a large spectrum of diseases for which vaccines are available. There is a certain schedule for all these illness with the government and United Nations. We usually follow the schedule provided by W.H.O.

Mehreen: What is the difference between injection and vaccine?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: Basically vaccine comes in injections as well as in drop form. It depends on the disease. Sometime both the forms are available for certain diseases, like typhoid. But we administer drops for polio. For example measles, tetaria and meningitides are those diseases where we apply injection. There are certain vaccines which we apply through a certain instrument by dropping vaccine on the skin. These are several methods for the application of vaccines.

Mehreen: Polio drops are said to be saved from sunlight. Why don't we apply it in injections?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: Injection has its own problems. There are fewer side effects through drops. If there are mass injections for a disease like hepatitis then it is feared that many people may contract this disease. Sometime the injection has some dust or any other particles on it and may harm the applicant. When the injections are shifted to other countries then it may lose its utility. Both have merits and demerits. There are certain vaccines



which were not available in injection at the start. It is my view that both have merits and demerits.

Mehreen: There is a misconception in our society about the drops that these are only simple water drops.

Dr. Baqi Durrani: Polio vaccination campaign is suffering from mismanagement. For example all those field health workers administered the available children and chalking was done on the doors. But we do not know how many childrens are in a house in rural areas. All the kids were not given polio drops. That's why we faced programme failure. Another matter is that we might have received the right quality of vaccine but there are many places in Balochistan that are not easily accessible. When the drops reach there we could not maintain the temperature level for the drops. There are several factors for the failure of polio campaign. We are working hard to solve this issue.

Mehreen: Mr. Shehzad you belong to Noshki. Please brief us about the concept of common people in your area. What are the perceptions of common people about vaccination?

Shehzad: In regard to Noshki, I may say that in urban area campaign is good but in rural areas it is hard to reach there. People have wrong perceptions about vaccination. Government should run an awareness campaign in rural areas about vaccination.

Mehreen: Mr. Malik what is the situation in Kharan?

Malik: As you go away from Quetta we have rural areas. Most of the people in Kharan live in countryside where people are scared about the use of vaccines. Religious factor is also a strong factor in rural areas. Situation in Kharan is the same as in Noshki and may be a little worse. People should be made to understand that it is for the good of our children. It is pertinent that we may eradicate these diseases. Transportation is another major problem. There are certain areas in Kharan where polio teams cannot go. Our people have also some old traditions. Another problem is that vaccines are sometime to be applied periodically. Teams cannot sometime reach for the second round and children are left unvaccinated.

Mehreen: There are some common diseases in our society like cholera and tuberculosis that are vaccinated from childhood. Please brief us about their timing.

Dr. Baqi Durrani: There are several schedules for vaccination. We apply two vaccines at the time of birth depending on the place of birth. In hospitals we apply BCG vaccine along with a vaccine for Hepatitis B. For two months we do not apply vaccine. After two months the schedule starts. We administer the first dose which is a long list. We may apply Rota vaccine if it is needed. EPI is a full programme and it starts after two months. Three vaccines are compulsory for tetanus and potosis. We can also give polio vaccine at that time and Nema-cocal as well. After three months we give another dose and then again after six months. Then the next period is after one years and then after eighteen months. It is also possible that you can apply these vaccines in adult age up to eighteen years of age if you are not vaccinated in childhood. Schedule varies in different countries. Difference in the schedule is not much and all agree that vaccination is a must.

Mehreen: What should be the maximum age of a child? It is said that up to two years, all the vaccines should be completed?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: That is an ideal situation and it is done in the developed countries that are educated. Our situation is different and up to two years we cannot even reach to some children. If we consider two years as the upper age limit then many of our children will be left without vaccination. I think it should be a flexible schedule and may be extended to seven years.

Mehreen: But people will take it easy and people will forget it altogether?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: It is true that our people are lazy. But all those areas that are under our control, we must follow the schedule of WHO but it should not an absolute schedule. We may extend the schedule in some areas

like Balochistan where we do not have proper statistics and easy approach to all places.

Mehreen: Sometime it happens that vaccinations time and again may create complications for the children. If a child is already vaccinated and is faced with an epidemic or flood situation then is it harmful if he is vaccinated again?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: Vaccination is never done once and for all. According to American schedule vaccination for polio is four times. Its aim is to create enough antibodies in your body. The presence of these anti bodies can be tested before the application. Even if the vaccine cannot create antibodies, the side effects are minimums for the patient.

Mehreen: Can vaccine be given to handicapped and crippled children?

Shehzad: Yes indeed, all the children need immune system against the disease because in child hood immune system against many diseases is weak.

Mehreen: Our listeners should remove their misconceptions. If a child is suffering from flu and throat infection the mothers try to skip the schedule for vaccination. Is it wrong or right?

Malik: It is wrong to postpone vaccination due to flu and temperature. These are minor diseases and may not be a cause of stopping the vaccination.

Mehreen: Mothers should listen to it carefully. It is time to listen to a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Yasir Baloch : Youth has several incurable diseases due to lack of vaccination in Balochistan. Polio and Hepatitis are common diseases. Government and several NGOs are working on it but still the campaign is not very successful. Let us meet Akram Ali who is an expert in Biochemistry;

Vaccine is given as prevention for many diseases to the children. Coverage ratio for prevention of many diseases is very low. The ratio for polio is 46%. Tetanus 12%, Measles 22.8%, TB 6.7 and Pneumonia has no vaccination at all. Its basic reasons are lack of awareness and teams not reaching the rural area. Its effects are diseases like TB and Hepatitis are very common. People live in the far flung areas which are inaccessible.

Dr Abbas Megal holds the view that;

Our people need vaccination and our people are unaware about it. For many deadly diseases vaccination is available but still they exist because people do not vaccinate their children. In Qila Abdullah and Quetta many cases of polio are found. Measles is a kind of epidemic in many districts. All these can be stopped if proper vaccination is applied. Due to tribal customs our people are afraid of vaccination.'

Yasir: You heard that proper vaccination is not done in Balochistan and we have to make it a proper practice for a better Balochistan. It was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Mehreen: Welcome back in the show where we are discussing the issue of vaccination in Balochistan. It is true that our campaign for vaccination has failed and people are having several doubts about the whole issue. Lorelei is replete with polio cases. Where are the flaws?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: One factor is transportation and repeated vaccination. Another factor is the proper mechanism for storage. Ours is a tribal society and it was also discussed that in places like Khushki and Khuzdar people have no trust on this programme.

Mehreen: It is also feared by people that it is going to take the children towards family planning?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: Many people think that these vaccines are having certain elements that are harmful for reproduction and mental state. These are only rumors and based on false notions. But I would like to admit the fact that our health institutions are not up to international standards. We have transport problem and we do not train human resources. We are also faced with the problem of awareness. There is no knowledge about various vaccines. Role of media is very important in this regard. Our media is different from the rest of the world. Our media waste time on talk shows and there is no positivity in their programs. Health has never been the priority of our media. Our government should compel them to give priority to health sector. The behaviour of media also needs to be reformed. The channels controlled by the government lack the trust and people do not give any importance to them.

Mehreen: Efforts are always rewarded but it seems as our health department is making no serious effort. Money is just wasted and no positive effects are visible. What role can supportive department play in this regard? I mean local and foreign organizations.

Malik: Local NGOs have a very important role in our society because they are familiar with the local environment. They can convince local people easily in their own language. Many NGOs are in the field but we are not sure about their achievements.

Mehreen: But how to restore the trust of the people? What necessary steps should be taken?

Malik: When people will be conscious about the utility of these vaccines then work in the field will be easy. We have to change the mind set. We can do this by having an awareness campaign.

Mehreen: It is true that unless we stress on soft part, hard part can never be achieved. Mr. Shehzad, what is your message for our listeners at home or in educational institutes?

Shehzad: School is a center of learning and is an important place to run an awareness campaign. Teachers can be taken into confidence and they can convince the parents further. While those who are studying at university level, should convince other people to be deaf toward the rumors. Students should help in vaccination the children.

Mehreen: I want to ask you a question about pregnant women. What is the schedule for these women?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: It is important to clarify that till now we talked about regular vaccines for children and adults. But for pregnant women we have vaccines according to their blood group for infection. If RH is positive of a woman with an infant with negative group, there is a greater risk to lose the child. We provide certain vaccine in that case. That vaccine is not related with infection and is different. Another vaccine is for German measles that can be given to a pregnant woman. Mostly we apply NTD.

Mehreen: What steps are needed for this campaign on national level?

Dr. Baqi Durrani: It is not such a difficult task but we only need commitment. We need to change the behaviour of our people. Many people in rural areas have a radio set in their pockets and I am sure that if you run an awareness campaign for one whole year then people will be convinced. Schools and Madrassa should also be involved in this campaign.

Mehreen: According to a survey there are three reasons why people do not vaccinate. One is the transport, second is the safety of these vaccines and the third is the lack of awareness about the effectiveness of these vaccines. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 24**

### **Topic: Baloch culture; need for awareness**

Guests: Aman Ullah (Youth Representative), Muhammad Arif Sasoli (Youth Representative) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS Representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 08-07-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Balochistan has been an abode to one of the oldest culture and civilization of the world. According to Dr. Zeenat Sana Baloch, culture is almost eleven thousand years old and has stood the test of time. Culture is a way of life and common practices, which are familiar to a particular group of people and a part and parcel of their lives. It is quite a sad fact that people outside Balochistan do not know about Baloch culture or Balochistan region. Baloch culture is a rich culture with fabulous folk lore in every respect and is recognized all over the world but not known to people of our own country. Provincial government should make a sustained effort to make people aware about Baloch culture. Media and education institutes are the best tools to promote local culture.

#### **Transcription**

Zeeshan: We will start our discussion by asking Dr. Zeenat to inform us about culture?

Dr. Zeenat Sana: I belong to University and hold a PhD degree in Baloch culture. Culture is a Greek word which means farming. But according to us, culture means customs and traditions practiced in a particular society. Starting from your birth till your death a person is not alone in his activities and he acts according to the norms of the society called culture. Culture never remains the same. It is elastic and keeps changing with the passage of time.

Zeeshan: Temperament of a race also influences its culture. Temperament never changes so easily although material things keep changing. Gypsy life was a hard life and even now people are living a hard life in rural areas, while in cities people are living comfortably.

Dr. Zeenat Sana: Tendencies may change but you cannot change the nature of things. Materialism may come in your society but what is there in the blood cannot be changed. You cannot drag out religion from your personality and so you cannot pull out your culture from your blood. Culture has two aspects. One is related to an individual and the other is an association with the outside but associated things.

Zeeshan: Hospitality is a good feature and is found everywhere in the country. What is the situation in Baloch Culture?

Dr. Zeenat Sana: Hospitality of Baloch culture is quite exemplary throughout the world. It is in our culture that even if a foe comes into your home then he is your guest. When guests come into a Baloch home and even if male members are not present, guests are to be fully entertained.

Zeeshan: Now I would like to talk to our youth here. Both of them have studied in other provinces. I may ask Aman who studied in Lahore. How did you find the awareness about Baloch culture in Lahore?

Aman: When I went there in 2010, the first thing i wondered was not the Baloch trouser which is so large.

They do not know who Baloch are and do not even know about the geography of Balochistan. Only a couple of students know about Quetta. Someone asked me how far Quetta is from Kurram and Swat. There is nothing about Baloch culture in the textbooks in the country. Media is not making people aware about our culture.

Zeeshan: Did you make your fellow students aware about Baloch culture?

Aman: Some of my friends took interest and asked me several questions about Chaghi and Turbat. We used to be so busy in our textbooks that we had no time to discuss culture. It can be done through media. Textbooks are also a good source for it.

Zeeshan: Mr. Arif, you studied in Karachi, please tell us about your own experience.

Arif: There was a culture day on 2nd March in Karachi. I was surprised to find out that people did not know about Baloch culture on culture day.

Zeeshan: Did you provide any awareness on that day?

Arif: I gave information about our large trousers and shoes. My friend requested me to bring shoes for him but I told him that these are very expensive. I delivered a lecture on Baloch culture.

Zeeshan: There is a tradition of Mar in Baloch culture which is so distinct from other societies. It is a positive aspect where elders try to find a solution to a problem in case of dispute.

Dr. Zeenat Sana: Mar is a good trait in Baloch culture. Most of people still approach mar to solve their disputes and feuds. It is an easy and speedy way to find justice.

Zeeshan: Please brief our listeners about the procedure in Mar.

Dr. Zeenat Sana: It is a common practice that people from Syed family are sought to approach the parties. People do not reject the request of these noble people. Sometime girls are given in marriage to settle a dispute. Balochistan has practiced resistance for so long and it is also reflected in our poetry and culture. Baloch soil has often faced foreign invasions and remained an attractive piece of land. Our people have resisted for centuries and this trait has entered our blood.

Zeeshan: I am enjoying this talk. You said that for centuries resistance has entered our nature. Self-esteem is another important feature in our culture. Baloch do not bear a wrong deed by anyone. It is my observation that even a class four employee cannot be insulted by an officer. Wrong behaviour is not born by anyone in Baloch culture.

Dr. Zeenat Sana: Baloch race has spent the life in mountains and migrating throughout the year. Mountains and rough weather has never stopped their way but when you insult him he cannot resist resistance. It is a part of his culture. They believe in 'give respect and get respect.'

Zeeshan: Baloch cannot be forced to obey you but it is possible through friendship.

Dr. Zeenat Sana: Job is never a hurdle to tame a Baloch rather he has a large tribe and has his own self esteem. Baloch are famous for giving respect when you give him respect.

Zeeshan: My question for Mr. Khalid is that, what do you think that all the efforts of government to promote Baloch culture are enough in comparison to other countries?

Khalid: You asked about the efforts of the government and I will tell you frankly that I am not satisfied. Government has done nothing for the promotion of Baloch culture. I may cite the example of European culture which is promoted enormously. Baloch culture is never promoted. Dr. Zeenat Sana quoted several examples about

Baloch culture and we have promoted these traits ourselves. If other people give us respect then it means they have read about our culture. If a foreigner has read about our culture then he will respect us. We have one of the richest cultures in the world. But unfortunately all our civilized and peaceful features are ignored. When you give shelter to even your enemy then it means that you are a peace loving nation. When I will not protect myself then my culture is at threat. Government should establish institutes for the promotion of our culture. Culture is a vast department and must be made practical in our universities. It is a provincial subject rather a district subject. Our MPs and our people should promote their culture. Media should also be involved in this campaign.

Zeeshan: We often hear in political scenario that Baloch culture is under threat. When huge number of people migrate to Balochistan our people become a minority.

Dr. Zeenat Sana: I should have told you in the start that Balochistan is the pioneer in culture and civilization for almost eleven thousand years. Our culture was promoted by the whole world and many inventions took place here. Why history is silent about these contributions? It needs research and exploration. We wanted to stress upon the world that our culture is the oldest surviving culture. So the threat is not real but our culture has stood the test of time. Even Greek civilization migrated from Mar Garh. But still we have several weaknesses. Our MPs should pay attention to it in the way other cultures are given important. We are to blame and especially our parliamentarians. We should have sanctioned greater funds for Baloch culture. It was wanted that now we should have been engaged in further proposal.

Zeeshan: What is Bachar?

Aman: It is a custom during wedding. Bridegroom is financially supported by his relatives and friends. It is a kind of helping hand where love is promoted.

Zeeshan: It is an old tradition and people used to help through money and animals. Is it still there and what is the situation in cities?

Aman: Our culture is the oldest culture. I did not know much about our culture while I was in Lahore. I have learnt many things in villages and not in cities.

Dr. Zeenat Sana: I spent my whole life in cities but I know about my culture and language. Sindhi language is a living language because it is willingly practiced by the local people. But we try to be fashionable and try to use Urdu and English language. We should try to speak in Baloch language. Our medium of instruction should be local language.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report about the same issue.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Balochistan is famous for its rich natural resources and its distinct culture. People of other provinces are unaware about our culture and people. It is a national tragedy. It is harming our national harmony. Let us meet Zaka Ullah Magsi, who got educated in Lahore;

I went to Lahore in 2009 and felt quite different about that culture. All the people were in jeans. When we talked to them in our peculiar style they were surprised. They wonder at our dress and styles. They looked down upon us in a certain way. They call us Balochi and not Baloch. They are ignorant about us. They even did not know about Quetta which is our capital. We know everything about their major cities but they did not know about our capital. How can they give us our rights?

Let us talk to Gulab Baloch who has also studied in Lahore;

People were surprised to look at us and wondered at our dress. They like to take pictures with me as if I was a

wonder. But now people are aware about us. Awareness and information get transferred through people and tolerance is created. I felt sad when I realized at first that they did not know about my large province.'

Yasir: If we are unaware about each other's culture, it will harm our national harmony. Our understanding of each other will result in national progress. It was Yasir Baloch from CRSS.

Zeeshan: You heard the report where it was focused that other major cities of the country are unaware about Balochistan and Baloch culture. Dr. Zeenat Sana, literature is your subject and may I ask you to tell us about Baloch ballad, folk poetry and epics?

Dr. Zeenat Sana: I want to talk about folk literature first. Folk literature is initiated by women all over the world. We have a rich Baloch folk literature. Our folk literature is composed of Loli, Soth, lado and wedding songs. It is a natural creation by the local people extracting colours from the surroundings. I have carried a research on Loli which is quite different from Lullaby of the world. In Greek Lullaby child is asked to be a king in the future but in Baloch loli child is asked to fight with six weapons to save the country. In Punjabi Lullaby a mother never curses a child but Baloch mother tell her child to sacrifice his life for the country. Our wedding songs called Soth are started with lamentation for separation. Its tone and rhythm is sad and agonizing. Muth is a kind of elegy. There are epics about our long wars.

Zeeshan: How much research has been done about this culture?

Dr. Zeenat Sana: I hold a PhD and at present almost twenty students are doing research about Baloch lure.

Zeeshan: What should be the next step? Should it not be translated for other people to read?

Dr. Zeenat Sana: I have raised this issue with HEC and they have accepted my proposal. Foreign people from America, Sweden and Japan have also done research on Baloch culture and lure. But the problem is that indigenous work is deficient. Khalid is also working in this field.

Zeeshan: Mr. Khalid, what other efforts could be initiated for the promotion of our culture?

Khalid: We are providing different opportunities to our youth for the last one and a half year. We have named our project as Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz. We have given opportunity to all the people with a positive approach. We want to empower youth, to have greater understanding about their rights. We want them to get their rights through peaceful means.

Zeeshan: Our time is up and we still need a lot of discussion about this topic. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 25

### Topic: Health and Hygiene

Guests: Dr. Aqeel Shah Gillani (lecturer in Bolan Medical College), Abdul Ghaffar (Medical Student) and Zaka Ullah (Medical Student).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 14-07-2014

### Program Summary

Health and hygiene is an important issue all over the world but not so in Balochistan where people seem to be totally ignorant about the importance of this issue. Although our religion stresses so much on cleanliness and good habits but our society is replete with those habits and practices that are harming not only our own body and mind but the whole environment at large. There is no proper system of cleanliness even in major cities and open defecation by animals and human is frequent. Hospitals have no management to dispose off the waste material. Mothers do not follow the steps for cleaning their hands and consequently infant mortality rate is so high.

### Transcription

Mehreen: May I ask my question from Dr. Aqeel Shah that usually health and cleanliness is often misconceived. What do we really mean by it?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Health and hygiene is a broad category. One is personal hygiene and the other is environmental. We live in this environment and we must take care of ourselves and the surroundings than we could have a healthy package. Our Holy prophet has said that cleanliness is half of faith. We must abide by the principles of Islam. We must take care of our body, dress, home and the whole environment.

Mehreen: Why trimming the nail is so important?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Maintenance is the best principle for a person. The most important bullet head is health and hygiene. Nails' trimming is a healthy habit and must be done rather daily. It may store certain elements that could be harmful for health. If someone wants to keep nails then it must be taken care of properly.

Mehreen: It means that if you want to maintain it then it is not harmful. There are other things like playing of kids with animals and when housewives handle things at home.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: World Health organization takes surveillance across the world about health. It describes six steps for washing hands. But the most important thing is that mothers have to wash their hands with soap and keep it wet. Similarly when they take their kids to washrooms then hands must be washed. Most of the diseases of stomach are spread through dirty hands.

Mehreen: Let us talk to our young guests now. Soap is often not available in remote villages. Some people use earth and ash to clean their hands. Is it a good practice in your area Ghaffar?

Ghaffar: I belong to Khuzdar but it is not so backward to be deficient of soap. I have heard from my elders that they practiced earth and ash to wash their hands. It was a good practice to get rid of certain bacteria. Things were pure at that time. Milk and food was clean and pure. Now we have so many diseases due to pollution and CFCs that has damaged ozone layer. Polythene bags are so harmful to our environment.



Mehreen: Mr. Zaka, what kinds of diseases one can face by not following the health protocols?

Zaka: There are several diseases that are caused due to unhealthy practices. I belong to Jal Mugsji which is a remote area. Hepatitis, Tb, JIT problem and lungs problems are common. I observe all these things in hospital which I usually visit. There are no proper facilities in our hospitals. All our critically ill patients are to be moved to Jacobabad or Quetta.

Mehreen: Health centers are the same everywhere in Balochistan and many patients die on the way to hospitals. We have discussed this issue in a number of programs. Now again coming to Dr. Aqeel Shah, may I ask you that as far as food is concerned and its purity, what do we mean by purity of food?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Raw food is used in salad. Some are cooked and half cooked while others are fried. By purity of food we mean that food product is properly cleaned and washed. Then it should be properly cooked and no part should be left uncooked. Viral bacterial infection or virus dies as a result of cooking on fire.

Mehreen: We often hear that food and vegetables should not be washed and cooked too much because it may lose its taste.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: You are referring to some habits prevailing in our society. We do such things to satisfy our food buds. It is a misconception that protein and ingredients will be lost if we cook it properly. We should give enough heat to our food. Vegetables should be properly washed if you want to use it in the raw form.

Mehreen: It is also said that leaves of salad should not be eaten because it may cause hepatitis as dirty water is used to water these vegetables?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Polio and hepatitis are viral in nature and this virus spreads through waste of the humans. If the vegetable watered with that water which is used by the patient, it can spread through these vegetables. Washing all the food items is very important and then proper cooking. Such occurrences can be avoided through cleanliness.

Mehreen: Dear listeners, it is time listen to some recorded interviews about the same topic.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Yasir: Clean environment gives birth to a healthy society. Quetta and its surroundings are very polluted. We had to meet Abdur Muhammad Shaheed who is a political leader:

There is no proper system for cleanliness in the city and heaps of garbage is scattered everywhere. Open sewerage system is there and officials come after months to clean it. We demand clean environment for us. We have a lot of mosquitoes and flies everywhere. Illness and diseases are common.

Yasir: We have a student Aman Ullah who is a medical student and he says:

Health and hygiene system is very bad in rural area. Stagnant water is there and causes a lot of germs and diseases. People are also ignorant there with no proper system. Dengue virus has a greater ratio in villages because it nourishes in standing water. The first step to meet this issue should be to take steps to avoid standing water with proper spray each evening. Water is not hygienic in villages and there are no tube wells.

Health and hygiene is in a worst state and we need a lot of work to do in this field. It was Yasir Baloch from Quetta.

REPORT 2: Habib

Today we are talking to chief Sanitation officer Ihsan Ullah:

Sewerage line is being laid by WASA at present and most of the drains are like ruins. The main garbage is being emptied by the officials and some temporary heaps are also set up. Our chief Minister is taking special interest in this matter.

Habib: It is also seen that most of the areas are flooded after rain. What are you doing for it?

Ihsan: Quetta is a rainy place and WASA is working on it. Water flows from mountains and flow away instantly. We clean our lanes properly. We took to street for cleanliness early in the morning at 6 am while the shop-keeper come at 9 am and crate heaps of garbage in the street or put it in the drains. We request all of them to put garbage in the dust bin. We are also distributing bags for garbage in the city which will be collected the next day.

Habib: Abdul Samad Mengal is the former vice Nazim on Peshawar. Let us talk to him about this issue...

There is no proper system of cleanliness in the city and heaps of garbage are everywhere in the city. I request the authorities to pay attention to this problem.

Habib: Cleanliness is half of faith and we must be very careful about it. It was Habib Ur Rehman for CRSS from Quetta.

Mehreen: Dear Listeners, welcome back after the reports. Our chief sanitation officer presented an ideal situation to us. Let me ask a question about the use of feeders to infants that whether it is good or bad?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Mother milk is very good for immune system and defense of the child. It is required that we should introduce our people to the importance of mother milk for two years. Bottles and feeders need proper maintenance and cleanliness. Its use may cause digestive diseases like diarrhoea.

Mehreen: It is also said that feeding from bottle also causes inhaling other gases in the body of a child.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: From medical point of view, most of the formula milk contains lactose as the important ingredients. Such children suffer from intolerance that uses bottle milk resulting in gastric problems.

Mehreen: Milk of animals is not said to be good for infants.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: If the milk of animals is not properly boiled and pasteurized then it is harmful for children. Children need mother milk for various reasons.

Mehreen: Mr. Ghaffar please brief us about Bar B Que which is famous practice among our people. Is it safe for health?

Ghaffar: The most important thing is the quality of beef used in Bar B queue. It has a type of quorum which is transferred in the muscles and it needs proper cooking. We have observed that beef is not properly cooked and is eaten with sauce. It should be cooked at home and not in the bazaar where we do not about the flesh of the animals.

Mehreen: It is also said that if flesh is put for a long time on coal then carbon particles add to it causing cancer.

Ghaffar: It should be heated to a certain limit and may not be left to burn. Care is the most important issue.

Mehreen: What is included in environmental cleanliness?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: As a doctor I want to tell you that in our remote areas and in Quetta there are hospitals that have waste management cells but they are ineffective. Waste materials from the laboratories are mixed with clean water and may cause certain disease. Every hospital has certain waste materials like radioactive material. These radioactive wastes may cause skin cancer. Similarly if used syringe are not properly dispose off then they

may cause several diseases.

Mehreen: I want to address all the NGOs to work in collaboration with the government to establish public toilets for poor people. What should be done by the government for vector control?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: We have to look at the community participation. If we spread garbage all along then flies and mosquitoes will also spread. People can generate local funds to have proper spray to control; the spread of vectors. Garbage should be collected at proper time and on daily basis.

Mehreen: Mr. Asker has sent us a message as well as and Fiza as well along with her friends. What message would you like to convey for the change of behaviour?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: First of all I may talk about educational institutes that can play a vital role for the change of behaviour. These should spread the awareness about health and hygiene right from the grass root level.

Mehreen: What do you think Zaka that government must to do?

Zaka: Government should launch awareness campaign frequently. Remote areas have no knowledge about health and hygiene.

Mehreen: What would you like to say about the role of media and mothers?

Ghaffar: Diseases can spread through unhygienic habits and they should be controlled.

Mehreen: Thank you so much for being with us. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 26

### Topic: Quality education and youth

Guests: Naqeeb Harifal (Educationist), Jamil Ahmad (Youth Representative) and Shoaib Isazai (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 15-07-2014

#### Program Summary

According to Naqeeb Harifal, Quality education starts from class 6 and continues till class 12. But unfortunately Balochistan is a large province and we have inherited ignorance. Our provincial budget is not enough. We should have education emergency here along with a department to have check and balance. Our population is less and scattered and it is hard to access all the people. There are several inbuilt weaknesses in our system that is proving as hard hindrance in providing quality education. We do not have good trained teachers and most of the students are discouraged to ask questions. We do have ghost schools and cheating has become the accepted culture in our examination system. Teachers, parents and government should make consolidated efforts to improve the system.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: I welcome you all in the show. Mr. Naqeeb, what is the basic difference between education and quality education?

Naqeeb: According to experts, quality education starts from class 6 to class 12. It is a crucial period where a student can be molded, while primary education commences from nursery and continues till fifth class. Quality education is the focus of education for all the governments.

Liaqat: You spoke well but primary education is considered as the most important level of education. We could not promote primary education so how is it possible to promote quality education at the higher level?

Naqeeb: It is true that we could not promote primary education well and quality education is also not good. But Pakistan is a developing country and we are making progress steadily.

Liaqat: What are the reasons for the lack of quality education in Balochistan?

Naqeeb: Balochistan is a large province and we have inherited ignorance. Our provincial budget is not enough. We should have education emergency here along with a department to have check and balance. Our population is less and scattered and it is hard to access all the people.

Liaqat: My next question is for youth representatives. Mr. Jamil, I want to ask, can we have quality education while rolling in poverty in an area like yours.

Jamil: First of all we have to see what the weaknesses are in our education system. You asked about kharan and I know well about it. Our government has said in article 25 of the constitution to impart free education to the poor regions including Balochistan. Government has to take a proper survey if any school exists in remote areas. Our population is almost one hundred thousand with 30% literacy rate. Most of the people cannot complete their education because of poverty. There are seldom any schools in the remote areas. Three factors are responsible for it. One is teachers, other is parents and the third and the most important is the state. State

should built schools all along. Teachers should be appointed according to the standard.

Liaqat: Mr. Shoaib, are the curriculum and co curricular activities in accordance to quality education?

Shoaib: Primary education is the base of education but in Balochistan it is most scarce. In our remote areas there are schools where students are sitting on the floors. They do not know about co curricular activities. When the base is so dark then next stage is also full of troubles.

Liaqat: Is our curriculum able to make our students equipped with the knowledge and skill to compete in the modern world?

Shoaib: Absolutely not. Our curriculum is outdated. Students and teachers have no good relation.

Liaqat: Mr. Naqeeb, you are an educationist and may tell us that whether instructions should be in mother tongue or English?

Naqeeb: In all the developed countries medium of instruction is in their native languages. Look at China and Europe. But unfortunately we are away from research traditions and there is a basic flaw in our education system. Our teachers even cannot translate books in foreign languages into native languages. We should have a uniform education system in the whole country. We must translate science subjects into native languages.

Liaqat: It is true that most of our educated people do not know even about their course book. English is the language of science and whether we ought to have everything in English?

Naqeeb: English is a language and not a science. Only two percent students in Pakistan reach to the research level. If we have medium of instruction in native language then this ratio will rise.

Liaqat: Do our primary level teachers have the ability to use modern tools of education?

Naqeeb: Primary education is the backbone of our education. It is the best business in Pakistan at present. Nelson Mandela once said that if education becomes a source of income then that nation is doomed.

Liaqat: Mr. Shoaib, is our examination system good for quality education?

Shoaib: Our system is based on cheating and unfair means.

Liaqat: Let us listen to a report by Habib Ur Rehman.

REPORT: Habib Ur Rehman, Quetta.

Let us talk to Professor Ali Khan who is a principal in Islamia Boy's school. We asked him about the low quality of education and he says:

It is incumbent upon all the men and women to get education. As far as quality of education is concerned, our province is lagging behind. World has gone ahead but because of defective policies our kids are far behind in education. Government schools are in such a bad state. Private cadre with some reputation is overburdened because many people want to get their kids admitted in good institutions. I think that we need instant attention to education by the authorities, parents, society and the government. If we lag behind in education then we cannot compete with the world. Quality of education has to be maintained eradicating loop holes in examination system. Institutions are to be reestablished according to the needs of modern times. Otherwise we continue the same way then it will be great injustice with the masses.

Habib: What are the reasons for low quality of education in Balochistan?

Balochistan is mostly has population in rural areas where people do not have the facilities required for a bet-

ter life. There are not sufficient educational institutions. If we built enough schools with proper maintenance and good system then we can hope for good quality of education. It needs struggle and collective efforts. It is imperative for our brighter future and progress of the country.

Habib: Education inspires people to be good citizens. It was Habib Ur Rehman from Quetta for CRSS.

Liaqat: Welcome back in the show after the report. Mr. Naqeeb, do the teachers in Balochistan have the ability to impart quality education? According to World Bank Report, our teachers are not able to educate students properly.

Naqeeb: I may tell you that all the teachers in Balochistan are the product of the same system. It is a discouraging fact that our teachers' cannot be called model teachers. Our rotten system has to be blamed at large. Government is also responsible because it has no proper check and balance. Annual training and annual efficiency reports are defective. Our system is dominated by our tribal system and there is no exporting and importing system for teachers. Government has taken some steps where Master qualified students are sent to various departments to work as internees. It is a good step.

Liaqat: It is imperative that all the qualified students should work voluntarily in their native regions for a few months. How much our youth is affected by the lack of quality of education?

Jamil: The teachers we have at primary level are not of any standard. They cannot guide students for further studies in the future. They often discourage student and ask them to go for low and odd jobs. I asked a student in class eight about his future course. He said that I have to pass my secondary school examination and then will go to join police force. I was horrified to know his mentality. There is no proper guidance for our students by the teachers. Most of the students do not know about social sciences and modern branches of knowledge. Our medical college has limited seats and almost all the students try to get admission in medical college.

Liaqat: It brings us to the role of community and all the organizations to create awareness among our students. It is time to listen to another report about the same topic.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

A nation can get progress through quality education. Rulers claim high for promotion of quality education but let us meet some young students to answer this notion. Sahib Dad Khan says:

Quality of education is no more in Balochistan. Our teachers are not qualified for the job. Education can wake up a nation to go for progress. We do not have facilities to perform well. We are deficient of laboratories and libraries. Youth can be encouraged to study well through small competitions. Interest can be created through healthy competition. Government should pay special attention at primary level. We lack good teachers and basic facilities. There is only one university in the whole province and it is also not doing well. We do not specialist teachers in any field. Research is not the norm in our university. Examination system is a failure and is based on cheating only.'

Yasir: Ali Hassan is a political worker and he says:

There is no proper education in Balochistan. All the teachers are not qualified and merit is not followed in their appointment. Future of our youth is very dark. I am not satisfied with the present system. We need qualified teachers and facilities as available in the Punjab. Our students are talented but have no facilities.

Yasir: This was Yasir Baloch from Quetta.

Liaqat: Dear listeners, now I may ask a question to be answered by Mr. Naqeeb about the recruitment of teachers in Balochistan. Is merit followed?

Naqeeb: There was Madrassa school system in Pakistan in the past. But at present we have only Madrassa for religious studies. There is no specific department to have a check on the appointment of different teachers. Public service commission of Balochistan is now taking steps to appoint teachers. But new policies of the government have marred all their efforts and have recruited so many teachers. Private sector is also working in a chaos. Teachers with low qualification are appointed in private schools.

Liaqat: Yes indeed it is required that all the teachers should be provided refreshing courses. We try to adjust non-deserving people in the education department. I may again refer to the report by World Bank. It is also alleged that whenever a student wants to ask a question in the classroom, the teachers discourage them.

Shoab: It is true that students must have a good relationship with the teachers but unfortunately no cordial relations exist in our schools. Teachers are not trained and discourage asking questions. Confidence of students is never boosted up and they try to run away from schools.

Liaqat: It is proved that questions in the classroom are not appreciated. For such weaknesses, what could be done to improve the situation?

Naqeeb: Corporal punishment in the school is under discussion these days. Two provinces have worked intensively on this issue and corporal punishment is banned now. Students become psychotically ill and it is a great tragedy. Teachers should have such a get-up that it does not deter the student. Balochistan is at the top as far as corporal punishment is concerned. We must resort to love and respect and not abuse and physical punishment.

Liaqat: Does government have a system to monitor it?

Naqeeb: Government has a system but we spend only two percent of our GDP on education. Government is also in a dilemma whether to spend this amount on construction of new schools or on monitoring. Punjab has done much in the field of education and many ghost schools are unveiled. Community has also the responsibility to monitor the activities of schools and teachers.

Liaqat: There are teachers' unions and my question is whether they perform any positive role for education or is it only for self-interest?

Naqeeb: Union is formed when rights are not granted to a group. But there are always black sheeps among these unions who work for vested interest. These unions are silent during the vacations but start strikes when the schools open.

Liaqat: How can we accomplish our dream of quality education?

Jamil: Teachers should be recruited on merit. Schools should be increased and our PhD scholars should also visit our schools to encourage good teaching.

Liaqat: What is your message for youth to improve quality of education?

Shoab: Youth should concentrate on education. Political interference in education should be avoided. Nepotism should be excluded from education. Trained teachers should be appointed. Relation between teachers and students should be cordial. Corruption in education should be terminated. Facilities should be provided along with scholarship for our students.

Liaqat: Thank you all for being with us. Dear listeners, most of our students get degrees but do not know about quality education. We have no culture to research in any field. It is good-bye for now.

## Episode: 27

### Topic: Maternal and child health care

Guests: 1. Dr. Aqeel Shah Gillani (Dermatologist), Rehan Iqbal (Medical student) and Saeed Badeni (Medical Student).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchor Person: Mehreen.

Dated: 21-07-2014

### Program Summary

The fact sheet issued by World Health Organization about Balochistan presents a grave and bleak picture of parental and infant health care. Mother's and infant mortality rate is very high in rural Balochistan. The main reasons for such a pitiable situation are lack of hospitals, lack of trained officials in the available health units, lack of awareness and paucity of transport facilities. Tribal traditions also do not permit women to consult doctors at proper time. Women are mostly ignorant about the needs of pregnancy and infant they carry. Most of the women suffer from mal nutrition during pregnancy. Government has failed the people in health sector and now we all have to make a concerted and consolidated effort to achieve the goal of good parental and infant health care.

### Transcription

Mehreen: First of all I would like to ask Dr. Aqeel Shah about maternal health and what do we mean by it?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: In the developing countries 74% population is composed of this group. It is important to note that WHO has termed mother and infant as one unit. If mother is ill then child will face illness as well.

Mehreen: Almost 74 infants die every thousand infant. What is the reason for such a high mortality rate? Almost 800 mothers die out of every hundred thousand mothers during delivery.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: We have scattered population in Balochistan and it is hard to provide health facilities within due time. Lack of education is also another major reason. WHO has issued a fact sheet that each year almost thirty thousand women die in Balochistan during delivery and almost two hundred thousand children die in infancy. We are among top 26 countries with highest mortality rate.

Mehreen: If we consider the whole country then there is no lame excuse for this situation. Rehan Iqbal, may I ask you that when we talk about maternal health, what things should be considered. Balanced diet is also very important and what are these ingredients?

Rehan: During the nine months of pregnancy we are dealing with two souls in one body. Nutrition is very important during this time. Meat is essential to avoid anemia. Labour work should be minimized during pregnancy. Our women are mostly shy and cannot ask for many things but the husband should take care about her nutrients.

Mehreen: What is the practice in Mastong which is your native town?

Rehan: Women work heavily in my native town. In the periphery the situation is bad and mothers even avoid their children being vaccinated against polio.

Mehreen: You said that women are forced to work excessively at homes even during pregnancy. I want to



remove my misconception about necessity of rest for pregnant women while some people say that women should work during pregnancy. Our elders stress labour work for pregnant women.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: There is a concept of positive health which means social and mental well being besides physical health. During pregnancy there is some physical exercise which is essential to update your hormone level and metabolism. We mean mental and social well being by taking rest. Pregnant women should not be stressed mentally. Female are kept active if they take physical exercise. It helps during delivery.

Mehreen: Our traditions about this issue are not wrong then.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: It has been proved that if women work properly before delivery then they feel fewer problems during labour.

Mehreen: In the remote areas women work in the fields during pregnancy and also maintain their homes. Is the work load right during pregnancy?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: It is good if it does not get a woman exhausted. Otherwise that woman needs special food and nutrition.

Mehreen: Mr. Saeed, complications during pregnancy increased if nutrition is not good. What should be done in this regard?

Saeed: Malnutrition affects the mother and infant, no doubt. A woman needs enough nutrition during nutrition. Folic acid and vitamin A and B are essential to be taken. Fruits should be regularly taken.

Mehreen: It is time to listen to some recorded impressions.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch .

Maternal and infant care is a sad issue in Balochistan. When mother is healthy then infant will also be healthy. In rural areas nutrition is a big problem for mothers. Dr Hameed Kethran says:

In Balochistan maternal and infant health is a neglected issue. Infants and mothers depend on each other. Facilities are scarce and hospitals are not enough. Mortality rate is high during pregnancy. Many infants die due to mal nutrition. Mothers are ignorant about the requirements of their infants. In our remote areas infants mostly suffer from mal nutrition and lack of protein. Doctors keep such infants in hospitals and guide the mothers.

Yasir: Let us see what the opinion of Dr. Aftab Las is;

Balochistan is a vast area and doctors are not available at each place. There are no health centers in our villages and untrained people are there during delivery. There are no vaccines and many children die during delivery. If we do not pay attention to the health of mothers then infants will suffer from mal nutrition. Infants are born with many defects. During delivery the mortality rate is almost 40 to 50% in Balochistan. We should provide health facilities in all the areas with trained officials.

Yasir: Situation is very grave in Balochistan. Mothers are ignorant and suffer from lack of proper nutrition. We need an awareness campaign about nutrition for mothers. It was Yasir Baloch from CRSS.

Mehreen: Dear listeners, we listened to the interviews about the issue in focus. What is the situation in your native region in regard to health care?

Badeni: I belong to Kharan and the situation is very bad there. Our people have no trained officials. Transportation is deficient. People are not aware about health care and midwife is the only person to be employed

during delivery.

Mehreen: Mr. Dr. Aqeel Shah, I want your attention to answer us about complications in pregnancies.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: A whole health center is working in this field. WHO has set up a goal for all the countries and maternal and child health is the pivotal issue. All the hospitals and BHUs in Balochistan have been providing brochure about maternal and child care. All the mothers have to undertake four checkup during pregnancy. She has to visit the doctor at specific time. High risk mothers are those who are too young, short stature, lack of nutrition, lack of enough weight and those who are suffering from any chronic disease like hyper tension.

Mehreen: You said that women should continually go for checkup but our rural areas have no hospitals to visit. What are the common signs that may cause alarm to pregnant women?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: We must appreciate the role and efficiency of Lady Health visitors in rural areas. They are doing wonderful job in the remote areas. If women are suffering from high weight or permanent headache or back pain, it means that they have to carry out a checkup instantly.

Mehreen: It is said that iron pills are very important. What is the proper way to use these?

Rehan: It is indeed very lethal and undesirable to use iron and vitamin pills without the advice of a doctor. Normally women use medicine during pregnancy that may have adverse effects like aspirin.

Mehreen: Let us discuss HIV aids and may I ask that if a women who carry HIV aids then how can her child be saved?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: If a woman carries HIV virus then we have to wait for the signs to term it as aids. Viral load is a term that we use. It is observed that how much that virus is present in her body. Its quantity shows the viral load in a mother. It can be detected in milk of a mother. That woman needs a special kind of treatment to decrease the viral load. Child can be saved in many cases with special treatment.

Mehreen: Mr. Saeed, it is said that pre and post cleanliness in pregnancy is very important. Please brief us about it.

Saeed: I stress that a proper center should be established in each health installation for delivery. Our midwives used instruments and cloths that are not clean and are mostly infected. Uterus is often damaged due to unhygienic environment.

Mehreen: It is time to listen to another report.

REPORT: Habibur Rehman

Many mothers and infants die each year in Balochistan due to defective health facilities. Let us talk to Sameena Afridi who is an MPA. She tells us about the various reasons for such a high mortality rate in Balochistan;

Mothers face several kinds of complications during delivery. One reason is poverty. Another reason is lack of medicines and trained officials in hospitals. Mortality rate is very high in rural areas. Transport is not available to them. If a woman is ready for delivery but she cannot reach a hospital. She may not get the blood at proper time and her bleeding cannot be stopped. Sometime even an expert LHV or midwife is not available to them. She must have access to a hospital. They should have expert LHV and lady health visitor. Proper facilities at proper time are important to reduce the mortality rate.

Habib: What steps should be taken to avoid mortality rate?

Sameena: Proper food and nutrition should be available to them. Proper checkup at proper time is also very

essential. Our traditions do not allow women to come out of homes to see a doctor. Such women should be provided with facilities at home. Lady health visitors should check them at home and in case of emergency they should be transported to hospitals.

Habib: Government should do the utmost to provide health facilities to all such women who are going to bear a child. This was Habib Ur Rehman reporting for CRSS.

Mehreen: Welcome back after the report. Mr. Dr. Aqeel Shah, what are the steps which are important to be taken when an infant is born?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: IMNCI is the body which is dealing this whole protocol till the age of five. The most important thing is the role of midwives. Trained birth attendance is a vital training for all such concerned women. They should be given professional training. They have to see that an infant is not infected. If a child is not screaming after birth then it means that mucus is augmenting in his throat and such a child should be transported to hospital. If color of the skin is blue or coloured then infant has to be referred to hospital. Similarly during the first 28 days infants face chest and lung inflammation which is a main cause of mortality. If infant breathes heavily and has fever; it means he is suffering from pneumonia.

Mehreen: In our rural areas infants are put near fire, rather they should be transported to hospitals. Mr. Rehan is there are any trained birth attendants in your areas? Are people satisfied?

Rehan: Mastong is an important city and there are some facilities, but in the peripheries, there are no facilities. Lady health visitors are not enough and government should establish enough health centers. There is a growing trend in cities to care about health care.

Mehreen: What steps should be taken by the government?

Saeed: Centers are to be established. Masses should be educated. Transport facility must be there. Vaccination for children should be provided.

Mehreen: Our health sector is divided into many parts. How can we synchronize it? Our health units are present only in name with no doctors and other facilities.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: It needs a coordinated effort. Health department, family planning and other organs should work in coordination. District hospitals should have facilities for parental and infant health care. Full fleshed labour room should be established in each district hospital.

Mehreen: What is the present situation?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: At present I may tell you that I have been a district incharge of Peshin which is at a distance of 45 minutes from Quetta and there are no facilities.

Mehreen: It is a big issue and cannot be covered in just one programme. UNO has set millennium goals for 2015 and we are far behind those goals. We all have to make persistent efforts to reach it. It is time to bid you good bye.

## Episode: 28

### Topic: Mineral resources and backwardness

Guests: Mr. Roshan Khan Baloch (spokesman of NP District Chaghi, Writer), Mr. Zobair Mengal (Geologist) and Mr. Fawad Baloch (Geologist)

Anchorperson: Liaqat Ali

Dated: 22-07-2014

#### Program Summary

We have world's biggest Mineral Reserves such as copper, iron, coal, chromite, marble, and onyx but still we are poor and backward, why? If this is due to lack of policies then who will do, because people elects the politicians to form the government for legislation in the favor of their bright future and rights? Every party claims Democracy but unfortunately within the party there is no democracy. In Saindak Chinese mining company is producing Copper and Gold from last 15 years but still District Chaghi and Saindak don't have any facilities, the people of the area don't have any educational institutes and hospitals. No one knows what will be next plan of Government about Reko Diq.

Government should realize the importance of these minerals and should make the suitable and reliable plan. For that, Special Royalty should be distinguished for the Districts and Tehsils which contain minerals and the detected royalties should be served for their basic needs. Job priorities should be given to local people. Saindak project should be declared an institute for the students in which the company should train the youth for new coming projects. Government should bind the local companies to ensure labor safety and social value of people should be raised. Government should call an open and transparent tender to worldwide audience to explore and mine these minerals.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Let me commence with the honorable guest Roshan Khan. Sir would you please tell me that why are we lagging behind day by day despite having abundance of mineral resources?

Roshan Khan: No doubt, we are fully enriched with scores of mineral resources. A report reveals that Baluchistan has the reserves of more than 52 sorts of minerals.

The government seems to be failing in utilizing the opportunities and reserves for the benefit of the mass. An astonishing report reveals that some hundreds of acres of Reko Diq were sold on only fourteen lac rupees. Nobody is there to question. Despite all these resources people have been given no benefit or advantage. We are abundant in marble, iron ore, copper, gold, silver etc. Public tries to explore mines but in vain, for the government seems uninterested in its exploration. There has been no consistency in the policy of the government in mining the reserves. Different contracts signed with companies were cancelled.

Liaqat: Why the government does not take interest. Does it lack policy making or anything else is behind this failure?

Roshan Khan: First, I think, the public representatives are incompetent. Secondly, they are those whose who have left no stone unturned to exploit the poor people of Balochistan. These landlords are sure, if the people will be well off, they will be free from their control. Indeed, such people have seized the wealth of the poor people of Balochistan; and unfortunately, they, by hook and by crook, have reached our assemblies both provincial and federal.

Liaqat: Let me know the view of our youth representative. (Addressing Zubair), what do you think is the reason

of backwardness and failure?

Zubair: The reason behind our backwardness is not utilizing our resources. They surely is lack of the technology and machinery. For instance; Reko Dik reserves are explored by foreign companies which give only ten percents to Pakistan which is totally insufficient.

Liaqat: If we put aside these big projects and just talk about the minor projects such as coal mining etc; so we are not taking benefits of these projects as well. Why?

Zubair: Actually only a single tribe or family avails all the benefits.

Liaqat: Let us ask Fawad Baloch about our backwardness?

Fawad Baloch: I think, lack of education is the main reason of our backwardness. Were we educated, we would have availed all these things.

Liaqat: Why the public representatives seems to fail in making laws to avail these resources?

Roshan Khan: Prior to eighteenth amendment, we were totally handicapped in making any sort of law regarding mining or using these blessings; but after having passed the eighteenth amendment, the provinces were given autonomy. So the provincial government needs to formulate policies regarding mining etc. Now we request public representatives to make attractive policies in order to benefit the poor people of Baluchistan. All sorts of mineral and reserves must be transparently tendered internationally in order to avail the poor.

Liaqat: Nice. Has your party ever consulted you in policy making?

Roshan Khan: Yeah. A lot of times, we were consulted on different issues; and specially regarding there projects, the party is highly concerned. The ANP some days back formed a commitment to discuss all the issues regarding reserves and other government contracts. The main objective of the formulation of this committee was to take steps to dissolve problems in the path of benefitting our national resources. We also consider the performance of different companies.

Liaqat: Well done. It is time to listen to a report prepared by our reporter.

Report: Yasir Baloch

Enriched with scores of blessings, Balochistan in this modern era is deprived of science and technology to avail invaluable minerals and other resources like chromites, copper, marble, gold and silver etc. What is the main reason behind this failure? Let us talk to an engineer, Naseeb Ullah Kakar.

Naseeb Ullah Kakar: Our province is fully self-reliant and abundant in all sorts of natural resources. Now we need to take initiatives to avail all of them; but this reason our government needs to show seriousness and responsibility. The first thing is to invite industrialists and businessmen and to install industry in this province. And in the presence of raw material, we will surely be not facing power shortage. Both the industrialists and government will certainly be well-off in this province. In Muslim Bagh, we have chromites in abundance. It is shifted to Karachi to further purify and refine, and then to other places. If we have our own industries, we will be free from this huge circle and able to send it to other countries directly. We have oil, gas and coal in a huge quantity. The only thing, we are lacking of is the interest of the government and resources. I think, the other reason of not benefitting from these blessing is illiteracy. People are uneducated. They know nothing about the precious minerals. Were they educated; they would pave ways for availing these things.

Ali Baloch, a political activist, informed CRSS: I think, the main cause behind our depravity is lack of unity and mutual consultation amongst political parties. We are also lacking of sound political leadership who can guide us towards prosperity and well-being of the new generations. Unluckily our educational institutions, as well,

have not produced such people who can guide us. We are lagging behind day by day despite having invaluable resources.

Yasir Baloch: The cause of our depravity is not showing seriousness to utilize the unlimited blessings in the form of minerals and other reserves.

Liaqat: Welcome back. You listened to the report prepared by our reporter Yasir Baloch regarding reserves of Balochistan and our backwardness. Let me ask Roshan Khan that has anyone amongst high-ups has demanded you something in the form of drafting in order to keep themselves informed?

Roshan Khan: Obviously, recently the leaders of ANP asked us to draft a report regarding sundry reserves and their use as well as projects in order to keep themselves up-to-date. On different level in and outside the party meeting, we have discussed such matters to keep in view the benefit of the people of Balochistan. We have also sent consultants and expert to different projects to inspect and draft reports.

Liaqat: Let us ask our youth representatives about their ideas and views regarding our depravity in spite of these natural reserves.

Zubair: We have experienced that no party has formulated laws and regulation for our natural reserves. Now Roshan Khan told that they were doing their best. The incumbent government seems serious to provide the subjects with maximum facilities. Likewise, proclamation of emergency in education, we hope it will announce an emergency for utilizing our natural reserves. However, we still demand to involve local people in all projects.

Liaqat: Has the mega projects benefitted the locals?

Roshan Khan: Actually the federal government used to sign projects with multinational companies as it was its duty. In those projects, Balochistan was liable to get only 2 percent of royalty.

Liaqat: Let us listen to another report.

Report: Yasir Baloch

The apparently-barren mountains of Baluchistan are unbelievably enriched with natural reserves like gold, silver, coal and marble. Let us talk to a lecturer of mining department of Baluchistan University of Information Technology, Bilal Khan.

Bilal Khan: The main thing is the utilization of natural reserves and mineral. Riko Dik that is one of the biggest gold reserves of the world has fallen prey to our vested interest. The government should initiate all the projects as soon as possible with the aim to facilitate the youth as well as the province. Pakistan in few years can become the one of the happiest and developed countries if it starts all these projects. We have only a few mining engineers. We have unfortunately no technology to explore all the reserves.

Liaqat: Welcome back. You listened to the report. How much the non-seriousness of the government has affected the lives of our youth?

Zubair: I think, all the projects should be started locally so that our youth can avail the opportunities.

Liaqat: After the passage of the eighteenth amendment, the province has the right to utilize its reserves. Do you think, the government will be able to handle these projects?

Roshan Khan: The provincial government should formulate sound policies.

Liaqat: I thank all of our honorable guests. Thanks for joining us.

## Episode: 29

### Topic: Shortage of food and the problem of balanced diet in Balochistan

Guests: Dr. Abdul Malik (Food expert) Shabeer Ahmad (Youth representative) and Zaka Ullah (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 04-08-2014

#### Program Summary

Balanced diet and malnutrition are such issues, which are not known to most of the people in Balochistan. Balochistan is a poor and backward province and most of the people live in rural areas, where simple and specific food items are used in daily diet. Hospitals and health care centers are scarce and infants and mothers often suffer from malnutrition and lack of minerals and vitamins. Most of the pregnant women do not get enough nutrients and their infants are born with several complications and deficiencies. A vigorous health awareness campaign is essential to make all the people aware about the need and requirements of balanced diet for a healthy life.

#### Transcription

Zeeshan: We start with Dr. Abdul Malik to tell us about balanced diet. You belong to Balochistan will you brief us about the topic.

Dr. Abdul Malik: By balanced diet we mean food that contains all the nutrients that are necessary for our health. We may give the example of egg and milk which is a balanced diet. It has all the necessary minerals and vitamins that are required by human body.

Zeeshan: It needs awareness among our masses to tell them about the need of protein, vitamins and carbohydrates. What do you think how much our people are aware about it?

Dr. Abdul Malik: Balochistan is a backward area and people are not aware about all these things. People are only worried about filling their stomach. We need to make our people understand about the need of balanced diet.

Zeeshan: Now may I ask Zaka to tell us where are you from?

Zaka: I belong to district Jal Magsi.

Zeeshan: You are a young man and may I ask you about your own knowledge about balanced diet.

Zaka: We are lacking awareness about this issue in Balochistan. In our own areas there is no awareness about balanced diet. People are only concerned about eating something and have no knowledge about the nutrients. I do not see people using milk and fish as their important food item. It leads to a unhealthy life.

Zeeshan: Lack of any nutrient may lead to a deficiency in human body. Paucity of vitamin A can lead to weakness of eye sight and problems in curing of infections.

Zaka: Advanced countries use meat too much that may cause cancer and high blood pressure.

Zeeshan: What food items are mostly used in your own area? Whey and loaf is mostly used in rural areas. Can

it cause any deficiency in human body if used constantly?

Zaka: Our average food does not contain meat and fish. We mostly eat vegetables and cereals. Whey is mostly consumed by the farmers.

Zeeshan: Poverty is the main cause for this state of affairs. Do you think that everyone needs a considerable amount of money to have a balanced diet?

Zaka: All the people are not in abject poverty. There are many people who have enough income and resources to acquire balanced diet. But they have no awareness about it. That's why our ratio for defective nutrition is almost 80%.

Zeeshan: Mr. Shabeer, what is your own view and knowledge about balanced diet especially in regard to Pashtun Belt?

Shabeer: I have visited the Pashtun belt and I have observed that most of the people entertained us with whey and loaf. There was no concept of meat and cereals. These are poor people and cannot afford meat and cereals. They depend on livestock and agriculture. Limited items are utilized. There is no concept of egg in the breakfast. As a result there are deficiencies in human body.

Zeeshan: Poultry farming is also a common practice in our rural areas. You said that element of poverty is not such a major factor.

Shabeer: They pretended to be poor but according to their herds and cattle they could be counted among the rich people. But they live simply and do not spend on their body.

Zeeshan: The reason is that people live simple lives in villages and they do not pretend to show off. Traditional food is used by all the people. They take green tea in the breakfast with bread. They take lunch early consisting of simple food items. But awareness is still needed for a healthy life. It is time to listen to a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, district Awaran

Yasir: Balochistan is very backward in respect to nutrition. Diseases are common. We are present in district Awaran. There is no hospital or health care unit. There are no qualified doctor Dr. Akbar Baloch has to be met to tell us about nutrition;

There is no awareness about nutrition. Infants do not get proper nutrition when they are born. They are given only water for three days. Pregnant women need enough food but they eat insufficiently. We have no lady health workers in Awaran. People are involved in agriculture where land is fertile but where there is no agriculture people suffer from lack of nutrition. We need education and awareness in the whole Awaran district. Pregnant women do not get enough nutrition. Their HP is often low when tests are taken. They need awareness for all such women. First we make these pregnant women understand to get enough nutrition. We guide all such women but only ten percent women act upon our advice.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners, you listened to the report from a remote region of Balochistan. I want to ask Dr. Abdul Malik to explain this issue in detail in regard to such remote areas as Awaran.

Dr. Abdul Malik: Pregnant women need extra amount of food and nutrition. Food items should be doubled for such women. They need vitamins and minerals in sufficient quantity. They should be made aware to get enough minerals and vitamins. They should frequently visit the hospitals for proper check up.

Zeeshan: Please correct me if I am wrong. I have heard that for almost six months you do not have to give anything but mother milk to a child. Lady health workers should give awareness to all the mothers as told by us in the report.



Dr. Abdul Malik: You are right that for the first six months an infant must have mother milk. It is important to feed the infant with mother milk for the first three days. It develops the immune system and resistance is created in his body. Fruits and other items are also essential after some time. It must be cared that not a single food item is taken daily. Fruits should be fed according to the season. Indoor fruits and vegetables could also be grown if parents are poor and cannot afford to buy in the open market.

Zeeshan: What is your own observation Shabeer in this regard?

Shabeer: Mother milk is very vital for an infant. Allah has also declared in the Holy Quran to feed infants for two years. As we do not have awareness in our rural areas but as a tradition mothers feed their children for two years. Rustic people are healthy for the sole reason that mothers feed their kids for two years. But it is observed that in cities mothers resort to substitute milks and nutrients.

Zeeshan: What is the situation in your area Zaka in reference to diet and awareness?

Zaka: Balochistan may be called a deprived region. Many children are suffering from malnutrition. Feeders are commonly used now for feeding children who are causing several diseases.

Zeeshan: We have another report from the interior Balochistan. Let us listen to the report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

How much people are aware about their nutrition and health needs in Balochistan? Most of the people are illiterate and so not know about health hazards and need for balanced diet. We are going to ask this question to a female school teacher who says;

People here are unaware about their nutrition. In the whole district of Awaran soil is depending on rains. Most of the people are facing problems due to malnutrition. Most of the people need vitamins and proteins in their daily diet. Agriculture is scarce here and people cannot grow private vegetables and indoor fruits. We should have a health care center with qualified doctors. We are remote from major cities.

Yasir: In the whole area there is only one girl student who can speak Urdu. Let us listen what she says;

There is no health care center and doctor. Many infants die in infancy. Many mothers die because of malnutrition. Government should work for such backward area.

Yasir: People are unaware about health and hygiene. We must take steps to make these people aware.

Zeeshan: Welcome back after the report from Awaran. What are your suggestions Dr. Abdul Malik about deficiencies of certain minerals?

Dr. Abdul Malik: Deficiency of any mineral causes certain diseases. Night blindness is caused by deficiency of vitamin A. Lack of vitamin C causes scurvy. Vitamin B1 causes muscles and brain damage. Similarly vitamin B2 and 3 is important for hemoglobin. Its deficiency can cause anemia. Vitamin D and calcium are important for the growth of bones. Osteoporosis is caused in grown up people if these vitamins are deficient in the diet. Zinc is important for the proper function of different enzymes. Hormone cannot act well during pregnancy if zinc is lacking in the body.

Zeeshan: How can we get these minerals?

Dr. Abdul Malik: It is found in the diet and supplement is not as effective as the natural occurrence. If these are taken in the diet then it is stored in the body for a long time.

Zeeshan: It is said that we must have a full and healthy breakfast. Stomach has greater potential to absorb in

the morning. Have you observed that people in your area have sufficient diet in breakfast?

Shabeer: Our people do not take a full breakfast but take simple one. We have seen that people do not take the essential items like milk and egg in breakfast. We do not have strong breakfast. On the other hand they engage in hard manual work which needs strong breakfast.

Zeeshan: People in the cities complain that they do not get pure food items while in rural areas we have simple and pure food items. But they repeat the same food items for a long time and we cannot call it a balanced diet. We do not even have pure milk in cities. How is the breakfast in your area?

Zaka: We do not have stable and balanced diet. Breakfast is simple. It is my personal experience that if I take proper breakfast then I am ready to undertake manual and hard labors. People in our villages eat two or three loaves but it does not meet the needs of the human body.

Zeeshan: Are fruits grown in your area?

Zaka: We do have apple, mango and fig; we do not have dry fruits in our region. Fruit is expensive.

Zeeshan: Do people eat flesh and poultry in your area?

Zaka: The usage of flesh as a diet is very less and most of the people prefer to eat poultry from farms.

Zeeshan: White meat is objected these days while it was advised by doctors for people with high blood pressure. It was our custom that we use to kill a hen for our valued guests. But the chicken available at present is totally different from domestic chicken. What is your opinion Shabeer?

Shabeer: In our area meat is still the favorite dish and people eat flesh in greater quantity.

Zeeshan: I have also observed that the related health problems are faced by people after forty years of age. We need fish meat as well for our health. What is your view Dr. Abdul Malik about excessive use of meat?

Dr. Abdul Malik: There are many people who can afford and they like to eat meat all the time. It is not a good habit. Protein is in access with its use but it also causes obesity and the related problems. Awareness is very important in this regard and alternate food items should be used.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners, you listened to a fruitful discussion about balanced diet. We have reached the conclusion that Balochistan needs a lot of work to be done to meet our food requirements. We need to make our people aware about balanced diet. We also talked about food supplement. We will come again with another important issue. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 30

### Topic: Paucity of educational institutes in Balochistan

Guests: Asad Ullah (Political leader), Qazi Israr Baloch (Youth), Ibrar Barkat (Youth) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchormperson: Liaqat

Dated: 05-08-2014

#### Program Summary

Education is a precious commodity in Balochistan, while it is a fundamental right for the modern world. It is indeed a pity that there is only one government university for the whole province. It is great injustice that all those who intend to appear as private candidates for master level examination must necessarily come to Quetta from all the thirty districts of Balochistan, travelling for almost 24 hours and staying in hotels. Same is the case for primary schools, high schools and colleges. Many schools and colleges only exist in papers. Education has never been a priority with any government but now it is high time that this scenario must change. Education is indispensable for progress and all the people must realize it.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: May I break the ice with Khalid and ask him to tell us about the various reasons for lack of educational institutes in Balochistan?

Khalid: Our progress depends on our educational institutes. As a matter of fact we do not have enough educational institutes in Balochistan. In various districts like Kharan and Chaghi, I have the first-hand knowledge that in each union council we have five primary schools with no middle and high school. It is the major issue when you do not have a high school in a union council, which is at a distance of ten kilometer drive from another union council. Most of the teachers are not local and are not present in the schools. When there are no educated people then you may not have other institutes in the area as well.

Liaqat: Most of the politicians are building schools only to get some employment for their people. Mr. Asad, could you please tell us why no government has ever paid any attention to this important issue?

Asad: I have suffered a lot because of paucity of schools during my education career. Facilities are also lacking in all the schools.

Liaqat: Why no government has ever taken any step in this direction?

Asad: Unfortunately our politicians are not taking any interest in this matter.

Liaqat: As a matter of fact youth are the worst affected when there is no education. Let us ask this question to Qazi Israr.

Israr: In Kharan, we have more than hundred students who are studying in Punjab. The reason is that we do not have opportunities in our native cities.

Liaqat: But what about all those students who cannot afford to study in Punjab?

Israr: I blame the government for this state of affair. State has not established enough institutes for us. If our students go abroad then their potential is utilized by other countries. Another problem is that our teachers

are not serious about their teaching. They have an understanding among themselves and remain absent from schools. I request the government to pay attention to this issue.

Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar, what are you doing to motivate our youth to help themselves in this matter?

Ibrar: I want to talk about lack of institutions in Balochistan from the very start since our independence. We must take into consideration both negative and positive points. Previous governments only paid 20% attention to education. In our rural areas most of our teachers were involved in other private jobs as driver and shop keeper. Now the present government has established three hundred new primary schools while another three hundred were upgraded. Now university branches are opened in Kharan and other major cities. When a child is born he knows only mother language.

Liaqat: You said that many new schools are built but these are certainly not enough. Do you think that only a branch of university is enough or we need separate universities in each district?

Khalid: When there is master level examination, all the intended candidates have to come to Quetta from all the three districts. Not many people can afford to live in hotels. Many students have to travel for almost 24 hours. There is no MA examination on division level. Our political leaders do not take interests and it is not among their priorities. We are only concerned with our vested interests.

Liaqat: There are dozens of universities in a single city in our neighbouring province.

Khalid: Our people do not use their common sense and vote for the wrong person. We must reproach our politicians about their efforts to establish educational institutes in their respective constituencies. We must not vote for those who just repair our streets and wells. Educational institutes must be the criteria for our politicians.

Liaqat: Our teachers also do not want to work in other districts but native district.

Khalid: There are no local teachers in Gehchki because there are no educated people in that place and teachers have to come from other places.

Liaqat: Has any political party acted upon its manifesto?

Khalid: I have never witnessed any political party that has acted upon its manifesto. Awareness can do wonder in this field.

Liaqat: It's time to be practical and conscious. Our youth carry most of the responsibility to promote education and awareness. It is time to listen to a report about the same issue.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Yasir: Education situation is worse in the whole Balochistan. In the interior Balochistan there is paucity of education institutions. In district Washaq, there is only one college with no building and classes. We are going to ask local people about the real situation. Molvi Abdullah is an experienced teacher who says;

Education is scarce in Washaq and no attention is paid to this sector. Government does not provide any facility while masses are ignorant. We have a college just for the sake of name with no building. Examinations are taken and students are enrolled in papers. Teachers are not available. Girl high school has no boundary wall and is closed at present. Our MPs do not pay attention to education. We are living in a remote area and we are lacking many necessities. Literacy rate is too low.

We are going to ask a young student;

I have not taken a single class during the whole year. We just sit for the examination and only then we see our teachers. We cannot go to other places because we are poor people and cannot afford. We do not take classes but take examination.

Yasir: Government has to establish education institutions if it wants to make progress a reality in Balochistan. People are dying to get education but have no opportunities.

There is no girl's college in Washaq and boy's college is established only in papers. We are going to talk to a political and social worker, Balaj Khan who says;

High claims are made but the fact is that we do not have any progress in the field of education. There are no buildings or facilities in our area. There is a school in front of my home but the boundary wall had to be raised, so the last four months the school has been shut down. There is no system of education in this area. Schools are about to fall but rulers are turning a deaf ear to it. Here is an inter college but we have never seen it. Funds are coming for this college and are consumed by various people. We need transport facility for our students. We need teachers and boundary walls in the already existing schools. We are protesting constantly through strikes and protests, but in vain. Salaries of teachers are robbed on the way.

Yasir: Washaq is facing lack of educational institutes and government must take notice of it. It was Yasir Baloch from district Washaq.

Liaqat: Welcome back after the report. May I ask our youth, who are present here that how will they motivate their MPs to work in proper direction to promote education?

Asad: Our political leaders must be conveyed the concerns by the parents. Teachers should be forced to teach properly in the schools.

Khalid: People have to take the initiative and ask their MPs to work for the promotion of education.

Liaqat: How can this be done?

Ibrar: Youth can do it as an active force when they are organized. Baseema had mentioned in the report about the ghost college. I have done my FSc from there but never had I attended a class. There is no boundary wall of the girl school for five months and school is locked. I have talked to the sports men there who are willing to go there and build the boundary wall all by ourselves after the Eid. We have to build it for our sisters.

Liaqat: What message would you convey to the youth in other districts? You are doing well in your own area but how to convince our leaders?

Ibrar: We have talked to the education Minister and they have ordered to build the boundary wall but no action has been taken yet.

Liaqat: Mr. Qazi if same is the situation in your area then what action would you take?

Israr: We have three sectors in education field. One is private sector, other is government sector and then we have Madrassa.

Liaqat: Distance education is also a popular notion in the world. Can we apply it in Balochistan?

Khalid: There are many facilities like internet and transport in developed countries but we do not have such facilities in Balochistan. Travel is major problem in this province. Many pregnant women die on the roads.

Liaqat: Government must facilitate people to get education but MA examination is conducted in Quetta only. High fees are cost although.

Khalid: Education department must make arrangements to take MA examination in each district. People must be facilitated to have ease in getting education. Our districts are so pole apart and far away. Many people want to get higher education but they cannot come to Quetta from a far off place. We have to study all these issues to solve them.

Liaqat: Many regions do not permit girls to get higher education along with boys. Why does not government frame a decent policy?

Khalid: Government contains such persons who are from amongst us.

Liaqat: Elections are contested on the basis of manifesto. Why they do not act upon their manifesto about education?

Khalid: Till now I have never heard any manifesto, which has mentioned education as their priority. Hundreds of schools are closed in Punjhor and almost ten thousand students are out of schools.

Liaqat: What message would you like to convey to the people and government?

Khalid: Our people and MPs should give priority to education. People must approach their MPs to ask about education efforts. Our MPs should also give attention to this issue.

Liaqat: Mr. Qazi, how can we motivate our youth in this regard?

Qazi: We all have to make consistent effort to promote education. Private sectors should also be given some respect.

Liaqat: Dear Listeners, you heard our discussion today about the plight of education in Balochistan. Let us try to promote education which is a key to our success. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 31

### Topic: Child labor in Balochistan

Guests: Sami Sarah (Expert in the field), Salar Ur Rehman (Youth Representative) and Nisar Ahmad (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 11-05-2014

#### Program Summary

With 47% people living below the poverty line with no schools in most of the areas, child labor has become an acceptable menace in Balochistan. Poverty and ignorance are the main cause of child labor. Most of the responsibility lies with government that has failed to provide free education to all the children. Most of the parents have several children with meager resources. Illiterate parents do not hesitate to send their very young children to work in shops, garages, hotels and workshops, where most of them grow up to be robbers, thieves and addicts. If the situation remains the same then our future is certainly bleak and we are doomed as a nation.

#### Transcription

Zeeshan: May I start with Sami to ask her how we define child labor with its various aspects.

Sami: I saw a child who was a labor, having innocent looks. When I asked him will he go to school? He replied that how will his hearth be maintained with his ill mother and a sister, who is to be wed. What will be our future when our present is in doldrums? We all witness so many children daily, who are involved in child labor. There is a cup of tea or a tool in their hands instead of pen and books. It is a great national tragedy for the rulers and the masses. We need almost 28 thousand schools in Balochistan, while at present we have only 12 thousand schools. It is a pity that there are many non-functional schools among these.

Zeeshan: Is there any hope for improvement in the present situation? How can we prepare our children for a better future?

Sami: First of all let us look at the 18th Amendment, which declares child labor as a crime. When our government ignores this law then it is a pity. The fact is that nongovernmental organizations are working much better in this field.

Zeeshan: It is often alleged that NGOs are only limited to seminars and a few photographs and no tangible steps are taken.

Sami: People criticize them due to ignorance. Our people are expert in criticism. We ought to encourage these NGOs. We cannot change the mess created for long sixty five years. Though building is an important step and it can be done through seminars and workshops.

Zeeshan: Mr. Salar, where are you from and please tell us about your personal observation concerning child labor?

Salar: I belong to Peshin but have spent my life in Quetta. May I tell you my observation in Quetta. The problem is that, if we stop child labor then who will earn for the families of these children. It is a fact that federal or provincial government is doing nothing.

Zeeshan: My point is that if some children are doing labour work and many of them wish to read in a school then who will help them? What is your opinion?

Salar: You have to do economic reforms for it. No father wishes that his child will work. Schooling system is destroyed here and there is no imparting of real knowledge.

Zeeshan: Mr. Nisar, where are you from and what is the situation in your area?

Nisar: I also belong to Quetta and reside on Zaryab Road. Situation is the same and children are involved in child labor. Children are away from schools and are working in workshops and hotels. Many more can be seen searching the garbage.

Zeeshan: What do you think about the idea that their economic condition may be improved to discourage child labor? Whether some stipends may be sanctioned for them to sustain their education and family?

Sami: Sorry to interrupt but I may say that we may have small organizations in different areas for this purpose. There is a lack of attention on the part of the parents because they are illiterate. We have a cultural trend that a child has to follow his father in regard to profession. The son of a cobbler will necessarily be a cobbler. God has gifted each individual with certain qualities. All of our people are thinking in term of individuality.

Zeeshan: Talent is good if we have opportunities to prove it. Mr. Khalid is also here and eager to say something. You have worked in this field and may clear our concept about the credibility of NGOs. You have firsthand knowledge about it and I want you to give us a complete picture.

Khalid: It must be remembered that NGOs have limited funds and functions. They work in a limited area. When we talk about Balochistan; I may tell you that the situation is quite alarming. We consider child labor only when we see a child working in a workshop. But when I travel across Balochistan for hours I have never seen a shepherded above the age of forty years. I only see small children grazing the cattle. I stressed upon their parents to educate them but they replied that the kids are earning money for them. Most of the kids get money ranging from a thousand to fifteen hundred rupees.

Zeeshan: What could be the possible way forward in interior Balochistan? People are unaware about the proper rights and care of kids. They are wasting their children for a few ruppees.

Khalid: There is no school for children in rural areas and they have to be engaged somewhere.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report now.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Sadiq Somalani who works for UNICEF says;

I have observed that many parents cannot afford to let their children go to schools. Parents have several children and cannot pay high fees of the schools. So children are sent to workshops and garages to earn some money for the family. There is unemployment in the province and educated people are unable to get jobs so parents deem it right to give some skill to their children. Parents want their children to learn a skill or craft to become expert soon. Child labor means children working during juvenile period. It is a crime to employ children at this age. Government has its own department to look into this matter. Parents do not pay enough attention to this issue. My message is that parents should try to bear the burden and sent their children to schools. An educated young man can sustain his family easily. They are our future and we have to take care about them. Otherwise our whole future will be very bleak. Education is the key to success in life. In many families only father works and the whole family depends on him. Many families have ten family members who are supposed to be sustained by a single working father. It is the reason children are sent to work in the field.



We met an old parent whose son is working with an old parts dealer. He told us the reasons why he let his juvenile son work in the field instead of going to school;

We need money and I was ill for several years. School needs fee and money. How can I buy books for him? If I can get enough money to bear the school expenses then I am willing to send him to school. I have three kids and I do not have money to send them to school. We sent them to Madrassa where no money is charged. Therefore, I am compelled to send them to work so early. My son was also not interested in school and Madrassa so I sent him to work in a shop. I was ill for two years and in debt

My father had no money and I was not sent to school. I will become an expert mechanic soon and will earn enough.

Zeeshan: Welcome back after the report. What is your take after the report Sami?

Sami: I may narrate a brief incident. When Hazrat Hamza was martyred, Hazrat Muhammad (SWA) ordered that his infant daughter should be brought from Medina. Hazrat Zaid and Hazrat Ali got ready to bring her and rear her well. Both claimed to have the right to bring her up because they were near relatives. Our Holy Prophet decided to grant the right to Hazrat Jaffar because he was the husband of the child's aunt. It was a great transformation because now Arabs were fighting for the rearing of a baby child who were accustomed to bury the infant girls alive before. We are so far away from the teachings of Islam.

Zeeshan: A caller has mentioned another fact that if a parent is crippled then what his children will do?

Salar: It is also a fact that the developed countries also resorted to child labor during the industrial revolution but now put a ban on us. We should make arrangements to educate our children along with labor work.

Zeeshan: I may comment that envy is also a fact. I have seen myself that football cannot be made by a child because it requires a force of an adult. It was propaganda.

Salar: Sewing is done by the children.

Zeeshan: There are many children who are begging, which is worse than child labor.

Nisar: You can see in Balochistan that many families are fond of education but they have not enough resources to get education. Over population is also a main cause. Our government should help and support all such parents, who want to educate their children. Stipend is granted in Punjab and we must also do the same in Balochistan.

Zeeshan: I would like Mr. Khalid to wind up the discussion.

Khalid: You asked a question about the handicapped parents. I may say that in a welfare state the responsibility lies with the state. I may say that how much money a child of just five or six years can earn? There is a whole powerful mafia involved in child labor. We have a labor department and it must look into this matter.

Zeeshan: What is the basic function of labor department?

Khalid: I also do not much about its function but only hear its name. It works for the welfare of labor force. We have so many departments but we do not see anything for the welfare of the people. Many good ideas and rules are written on papers but we see no practical steps by these departments.

Zeeshan: Dear Listeners, you heard the discussion and we have realized that the first step is not taken yet. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 32**

### **Topic: Youth development policy of Balochistan**

Guests: Mr. Liaquat Shahwani (Youth Secretary of National Party), Mr. Khalid Baloch (Program Manager CRSS) and Mr. Najeeb Ullah

Anchorperson: Liaquat

Dated: 12-08-2014

#### **Program Summary**

After the 18th Amendment the youth department has been handed over to the Balochistan Government and one government has completed their time, while other elected government passed one and half year but still youth policy is not final. The criteria of policy development are not transparent.

Some important questions, which were raised in the program are as under:

During last one and a half year, how much youth events were arranged by government of Balochistan? How much inter cultural youth groups finalized and sent to other provinces? Is there any youth delegation sent to foreign tour? if yes then what were the selection criteria of delegations? For the social, economic and political uplift of the youth what is included in the policy?

The guests reiterated that;

Government should finalize youth policy as soon as possible and it should involve the maximum number of youth during policy making, for youth exchange programs delegation should be on merit. Policy should give clear direction for social, economic, political and development path for youth.

#### **Transcription**

Liaquat: Mr. Liaquat as the present government has completed one and a half year, but it hasn't formed any policy for youth as yet. What is the reason?

Liaquat Shahwani: At the time of 18th amendment, People's Party was the ruling party. They didn't take any initiative for making youth policy. Only KPK and Punjab has made youth policy. As a party youth secretary we have conducted three to four meeting with Baloch Students Organization. We want to arrange focused group meetings in every district. We will invite male and female youth and will ask what their problems are.

Liaquat: Have you formed a team yet in this regard?

Liaquat Shahwani: We haven't formed a team. These are informal meetings. We have arranged three formal meetings via Baloch Students Organization. Youth Ministry has been handed over for the past six months. We have been talking to NGOs that deals with youth issues. We want to make a comprehensive policy that will be formed after conducting and utilizing the expertise of NGOs officials and after conducting focused group meetings. We will be having a youth conference in Quetta after which we will get to know about the genuine issues of youth by the end of which we will form youth policy.

Liaquat: Mr. Najeeb what elements should be brought under consideration while making policy?

Najeeb Ullah: Youth policy was made after 18th amendment, but it wasn't for rural areas. A policy will now be formed as well, but it won't be for poor people.

Liaqat: Formation of youth policy is ongoing and it has been completed to some extent. We do have policies on papers, but no implementation. Mr. Khalid Baloch how will we implement these policies?

Khalid: Implementation is very important. Policy should be the same for everyone. It shouldn't favor only high class people. The policy shouldn't replicate the policy in the past. Only favorite people are favored in such policies. We should involve parliamentarian and youth of other provinces as well so that they know what Baloch people want.

Liaqat: Mr. Liaqat has any youth group been sent abroad or to other provinces if yes, what was the criterion of selection?

Liaqat Shahwani: A delegation of Baluchistan went to China two months ago. Youth Department got informed very late about the delegation that was going to South Korea. Three youngsters were selected, but we couldn't send their documents due to delay by the department. Baluchistan delegation goes to other provinces as well. We have been arranging many sports events for Baluchistan Youth. We have given scholarships to hundreds of poor youth.

Liaqat: We have talked to the youth. They have grievances about China Visit. They say that poor youth was ignored during selection. They have grievances about selection criterion as well. What would you add to this?

Liaqat Shahwani: Most of the youth don't have their documents ready and we get calls from Islamabad to send documents. As a result we send documents of youth who have their documents ready. We have requested the department to make a list of potential students, who can represent Baluchistan effectively. We have requested the department to have their documents ready all the time.

Liaqat: There are youth in farther districts and tehsils that don't have access to Quetta. What are your initiatives on district and tehsil level?

Liaqat Shahwani: Only one youth directorate isn't enough in Quetta. There should be youth affairs offices in every district so that youth can easily access it. There are issues which we are serious about. Wasim, who is a boxer, won a silver medal. Chief Minister of Baluchistan gave him a prize of 2 lac rupees. We are appreciating youth. This is why we are concentrating on focused group meetings, which will be conducted on district and village level. We want to end sense of deprivation of youth. We have sent many youth who are good singers at a festival in Lahore.

Liaqat: Youth Department gets informed late by central government, as said by Mr. Liaqat. Mr. Khalid. Why can't government of Baluchistan directly access things?

Khalid: As far as the delay of documents is concerned, department officials are new here. They will learn everything with the passage of time. Youth that is sent abroad should be merit based. Two or three time youth have been sent abroad using sources or references. Youth that is sent abroad should have the caliber to represent the province. They only go for sightseeing. There might be some talented youth as well, but many of them are only taken for showoff.

Liaqat: We have got a report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Habib-Ur-Rehman, Quetta

Development work regarding youth is in progress in different provinces of Pakistan. Baluchistan youth is backward and underdeveloped. No development activities can be seen here, which is a big tragedy. We talked to a political member Babar Khan Durrani. He says, "Baluchistan is a different province all together. We have many natural resources. Awareness is brought by youth, but only when youth is properly trained. Changes take decades of duration. Such changes are obsolete here. There are other elements that don't let this change come. We do have ideas and system, but we don't act accordingly. Youth want sports, good health and good educa-

tion. All the three activities are getting worse. We don't have lack of anything. We have problem of security. Peace is essential in any society for bringing change. We do have capabilities. We do get funds, but political thinking needs to be changed. Leaders are the ones who can take you towards a right direction. They should be visionary. They should have enough perception and education to judge right and wrong. First of all elected bodies should be refined. Youth is the key to every society. Education institutes should be reformed. We need to work on the standard of education. There should be intelligent teachers. They should get a good pay. Legislations should be formed for them. They should be given security. The education institutes will become better itself if better teachers are there." Youth play a vital role in the development of any country.

Liaqat: Mr. Najeeb what points that you would like to include in youth policy?

Najeeb: There should be youth affairs offices in every district and tehsil as youth from all districts don't have access to Quetta only. Officials of youth affair offices should be local. Officials should ask people what their issues are. People should be facilitated according.

Liaqat: Is there any reserved quota for youth in elections?

Liaqat Shahwani: This model exists in western countries. The problem here is that youth first has to complete their graduation after which they can get into politics. Youth cross their youth age limit in convincing people. There should be quota for youth in parliament. Election Commission of Pakistan better not register parties that don't have a particular proportion of youth quota. Youth has got energy. They should be given a chance as they can give us better results. Local bodies' government is an example of it. Most of the members are youth.

Liaqat: Would it not be better if government of Baluchistan pass a resolution in the assembly under which youth is allocated a particular quota. What would you do in this regard?

Liaqat Shahwani: It is the duty of National assembly and Senate to do so. Provincial Assembly can't do anything in this regard.

Liaqat: What if a resolution is passed?

Liaqat Shahwani: Resolution can only be passed if coalition parties are convinced. There is a problem with reserve seats i.e. most of the members on reserve seats can't show their performance i.e. most of women who got to assembly on reserve seats in the government of General Pervez Musharraf, couldn't deliver. A person who is elected by people is a talented person.

Liaqat: There should be a criterion for the selection of reserved seats. Mr. Khalid is it possible and would it be a beneficial for youth?

Khalid: I agree Liaqat Shahwani. Women should be sitting in assemblies only for showcasing them. They are only used for party's benefits. I am not in favor of reserve seats. We aren't against the opportunities given to them, but they should be made to struggle.

Liaqat: Mr. Khalid what would you suggest to government regarding youth policy?

Khalid: I think everyone should be involved in making youth policy. One shouldn't criticize it.

Liaqat: Mr. Najeeb what would you say?

Najeeb: Youth should have democratic representation in parliament rather than on reserved seats.

Liaqat: Mr. Liaqat Shahwani how would you play your role in youth development policy?

Liaqat Shahwani: We have been working for the welfare of youth for many years. Not only educated young-

sters are youth for me, but those who are uneducated also fall into the category of youth. Our motto is to encourage and empower them all.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 33

### Topic: Economic constrains of students in Balochistan

Guests: Abdul Ghaffar Jamali (Educationist), Bilal Ahmad (Youth Representative), Khayyam Sana (Youth Representative) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habib ur Rehman

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 18-08-2014

#### Program Summary

Balochistan is a backward and poor province and people are faced with multitudes of problems. Students are also facing many problems. The most important problem is economic problem. Most of the people being to the lower class or lower middle class. Only five percent students are from the elite class. Economic problem is the prime problem for poor students. There are not enough open merit seats. Self-finance education cannot be afforded by many students. Third problem is the proper guidance. There are not many people to guide our students at proper time and in proper direction. Most of the students from rural areas come to Quetta for higher studies where they have to bear the cost of hostels, transportation and expensive books. Situation is indeed precarious and need consorted effort on the part of the government, parents and civil society.

#### Transcription

Ahmad Zeeshan: Dear listeners, your host Ahmad Zeeshan is here with Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz. Before proceeding any further let us listen to a report about the same topic.

REPORT: Habib Ur Rehman, Quetta

Habib: Standard education helps in developing a sound personality but unfortunately the students in Balochistan are deprived of this facility. We are going to talk to a student Usman Afzal about the reason for the lack of education due to financial constraints;

The aim and purpose of a student is to get good education. The most important problem is economic problem. Students reach higher secondary level and still remain undecided about their future course. There are five thousand students from Quetta for medical college for only thirty seats. We are deficient of colleges. Balochistan is a large province and students have to travel long distances. Most of the institutes are situated in Quetta and accommodation is expensive. Another problem is that if they do not stay in Quetta then travel expenses become too high. What could be the solution? One solution is scholarships and another is internship for students. It is available in other provinces where students are paid. Third solution is part time job. But not many companies and organizations are working in Balochistan and there are no opportunities for our students. Some universities offer a certain package like NUST to lessen the economic burden of students.

Zeeshan: Mr. Jamali, could you please brief us about the economic obstacles for our students. How many students suffer from it?

Jamali: I am happy to talk about such an important issue. I belong to district Jaffarabad which is a rural area. Our main problem is that most of our areas are rural areas with meager resources for education. Urban areas have colleges and universities. Jaffarabad is a green belt area and most of the people are farmers. We have a feudal system in most of the places and education system is very weak. Our students are backward in comparison to the students from Punjab.

Zeeshan: Prime reason is poverty in Balochistan. Most of the students try to get an earning after doing their higher secondary education. They have to leave education for good. What is your observation?

Jamali: In KPK and Punjab we have industrial areas where students can do part time job. When a student comes from Mastong or other far off places to Quetta, they face a lot of problems for lodging and transportation. Our government should at least establish youth hostels where poor students could reside with fewer charges. Most of the parents want their children to keep away from hostels because the environment is not good there.

Zeeshan: It is a valid point because our hostels are not good place to live. Mr. Khayyam, could you please tell us how many students face financial constraints and quit education for good to earn some money?

Khayyam: The place I hail from is Turbat and the situation there is not good there. According to my personal observation in Turbat and Makran Belt the major problem is education. Most of the parents in our region are uneducated and are working abroad. Most of the students belong to poor families and cannot go for higher education. They find it hard to accommodate in the high society. I have several friends in Quetta who belong to Makran Belt. They are working round the clock doing odd jobs. Finance is the major hurdle in the path of education. These students do not have time to attend the classes' because they need money for survival and have to work.

Zeeshan: You referred to such people who got a chance to get a job. You might have seen some students who have come from rural areas and are faced with many economic problems. Do you know any such people?

Khayyam: I will mention a student named Hafeez who could not continue his education. You know well that education is so expensive here and not many people can afford it.

Zeeshan: It was also told in the report that even books are not available in libraries.

Khayyam: To get a book copied through a photo state is also very expensive.

Zeeshan: Mr. Bilal what else would you like to add to our topic?

Bilal: If a middle class family wants its children to go for higher studies then it is hard to do so. Scholarship can aid them but they are always too less. Another fact is that we don't have good schools and universities in Balochistan. Private schools from middle class do not provide a good solid foundation unless you belong to an elite class. Economy is the main reason.

Zeeshan: What kind of set up could be established to overcome these problems?

Bilal: Much can be done by the state. Education can be made free for poor students or at least registration fee can be remitted. Students may be able to afford higher education in that case. A higher commission should be formed to look into this matter to provide free education.

Zeeshan: We have Mr. Khalid who has a magnitude of experience in this field. What could be the solution? What is your own observation?

Khalid: All spoke well before me. You did not thought about female students and all of you only talked about male students. It is not possible for female to get education easily in Balochistan. There is no opportunity for part time job. Half of our population comprises of women who have no opportunity to have part time job. Bilal talked about universities and it is a fact that there is only one university. Access is a major problem. Students of Gawadar do not even know about Quetta. Out of three hundred, only one student would have ever been to Quetta. State has the responsibility to look into all these problems. I don't stress that all problems should be solved within one year but steps should be taken in the right direction.

Zeeshan: It is important to take the first step. There is another report by our reporter. Let us listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Yasir: Balochistan is backward in all respects. Economic problems of our youth are the main hurdle to get education. Many youth go for unfair means and wicked ways. Poverty and joblessness is the main problem. Let us talk to Nawaz Baloch who is a student in a university.

Most of students are from poor families and it is hard for them to continue their studies. Scholarships could not be received because they even do not have money to attempt the test. They cannot afford the fee for higher studies. Economic reasons are the main hurdle for higher education.

Hayat Ullah from Peshin says.

Financial problems of our students are so many. Each step should be taken after careful consideration. Each step requires a specific amount and unless our students have sufficient money they cannot go for good education. Poverty is the root cause of our students. No student can go further if his economic status is not improved. The meager amount our students have cannot be sufficient to solve all the problems.

Even our students cannot get education in their own province what to talk of going abroad and other provinces. First of all we must eradicate poverty so that our students are able to get education and help this country to make progress; this was Yasir Baloch from CRSS.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners. Welcome back after the report. Mr. Jamali, what are your suggestions to decrease this problem?

Jamali: The major point is that, imposition of educational emergency and distribution of laptops as done by our PM, is not sufficient. No government has ever paid any attention to primary education. We have observed that several schools are closed in Balochistan and many teachers are drawing salaries while sitting at homes. When you do not have a solid foundation then our students cannot compete with other provinces. Another matter is that there is no career counseling in our province. Our parents do not know about our education and we have to go ourselves. It depends on the personal willingness and desire of students. When there is no career counseling students wander here and there. Students often follow their friends and opt for those subjects which are not suitable for them. Our syllabus is not uniform and different institutes offer different curriculum. Our government schools are dealing in out dated syllabus and cannot compete with private school students. Our government has declared emergency but still there is no uniform syllabus. There is also paucity of scholarships for our students. Government must come up with a plan to grant scholarships to deserving students from rural areas. Youth hostels should be established in all major cities to support poor students. Scholarships should also be initiated for poor students.

Zeeshan: Do you think scholarships could be granted on merit and through a transparent procedure?

Khayyam: Our society is like a vehicle whose all four wheels are flat. We always try to change the driver instead of changing the wheels. Our system is defective and rotten. Being a poet I often meet people from diverse background and I may say that many students sell the jewelry of their mothers to get education. But it cannot last long and government has to do something for such deserving people. Now talking about female students I will tell you that many girls in hostels are earning through handicrafts and embroidery. They are not paying attention to their studies.

Zeeshan: Mr. Bilal, do you think scholarships are granted transparently?

Bilal: You know well how clean this process is. There is always an element of doubt in the process. If the money wasted through laptop scheme would have been used to build new schools then it would have been much better. We represented Balochistan so well recently. People were surprised to find such teeming talent in our



students. The only reason was that we got the platform. We were invited again to attend the gathering next year. It is needed that government should extend a little support to our talented students.

Zeeshan: I can conclude that government should develop the system at primary level and establish new schools. Poverty should not prove a hurdle to stop our poor students to attend the school. Students must be observed and talented students must be supported to get higher education. What do you think?

Bilal: Career counseling must also accompany these steps. Parents must also support their kids to help them opt for favorite career.

Jamali: I have seen two Indian movies about the same topic where it was shown that students should not be forced to adopt a profession which they do not like.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners, you listened to our discussion. It was aired with the help of CRSS. We pondered in detail about the economic constraints in regards to our students. We did not talk much about the problems of female students. Men can solve their problems one way or the other but both the groups require support of the government. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 34**

### **Topic: Female participation in political process**

Guests: Fatima Khan (Political analyst), Parveen Mir (Youth) and Hira Arshad (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 19-08-2014

#### **Program Summary**

As a matter of fact there is no remarkable female participation in the political process in Balochistan. There are several reasons for it. The foremost problem that women face is the tribal and feudal system which does not allow women to contest the elections. There are other social and cultural issues related with it. No family wants her women to be in public and vulnerable to so many hazards. A few women have broken the ice but they are from the elite and educated class. Another big obstacle is the wide spread illiteracy among Baloch women. It is good to see that there are young potential women like Parveen Mir who are contesting the elections with the support of their families although they belong to lower class. We need to make all the political parties understand that women are as talented as men to serve this nation.

#### **Transcription**

Liaqat: My first question is from Fatima to tell us about the extent to which women play their role in the political process in Balochistan?

Fatima: Your question depends on the area where we are dealing with regard to politics. In urban areas we have almost thirty percent women participating in politics which is not sufficient. There are some political parties which do not have women political wings.

Liaqat: What is the percentage for women contesting elections on general seats during the election?

Fatima: That percentage is very low where women contest the elections as independent candidates on general seats. The problem here is that of acceptance for women. All the parties do not let women contest elections freely.

Liaqat: Many parties have only reserved seats for them. Reserved seats are not enough and they are selected members and not elected. Miss Parveen, you have contested a direct election. How was your experience?

Parveen: It was a great experience and I contested it without any plan. In Jaffarabad, domestic election is frequent and no one could imagine a woman to contest election. I was the only female who was contesting the election. It was a great experience at a place where women are not allowed to come out of their four walls.

Liaqat: Have you the guts to contest again?

Parveen: Yes indeed, because I got enormous response. It was a great credit for me to have broken the norm of fifty years to contest against Jamali family. I am encouraged and will contest next time.

Liaqat: What kind of resistance you faced?

Parveen: Several candidates came to me and tried to convince me to withdraw. I was lured again and again but I declined and went for the election. Several women joined me and I had a good support.

Liaqat: Hira, what is the role of youth in politics?

Hira: I want to endorse Fatima about the ratio of women participation. Parveen narrated the hurdles during election. We belong to an orthodox system where women are not tolerated. Our religion grants us enormous rights in all fields. Our state has the obligation to support all the citizens. But we have divided ourselves in different communities. No tribal leader would ever allow his female members to come in the politics. Zubaida Jalal was the first woman to have emerged after winning the election. But all such women belong to educated families.

Liaqat: Fatima, could you please tell us about the nature and criteria of reserved seats for women?

Fatima: I do not endorse reserve seats for women. Female are not given rights to contest elections besides reserve seats. If we want to stress upon our party to contest general elections then we are told that we may face several problems. We may be attacked and it is hard for us to run the election campaign.

Liaqat: Value is not given to reserved seats. There is no female minister from reserved seats.

Fatima: In the current coalition government there is no female minister although all the parties claim to be progressive parties.

Liaqat: Our women cannot contest direct election for various reasons. Have we accepted this fact and do not take any initiative for change? Is there democracy among the parties?

Fatima: Change will come but we have to take the initiative. We talk about this issue on various forums but the question is that how much guts we have to be practical? It may happen that all the women politicians get united to take the stand to contest the election openly. If we want to go for election then how much our families and parties support us.

Liaqat: Crime is also an issue against women during election. Parveen was also attacked and I will ask her to tell us about this incident.

Parveen: When I was attacked, the youth group called Caravan instantly came forward. We informed all the members through messages. We went to press club and held a press conference. After one hour we were taken note of. National party was extending support to me and CM asked the police officials to register an FIR.

Liaqat: What happened after FIR?

Parveen: FIR was registered after one week when the election was over. I was asked not to roam about due to security reasons but I had to go. We live in Balochistan and have to follow Baloch traditions. I was approached by the culprit and I let that person free according to Baloch traditions.

Liaqat: That is what I wanted to hear that whether the justice was meted out to you or not. Miss Hira, you talked about educated youth. But education is in bad state in Balochistan. There are rare female educated youth. What about all those young people who are not educated. Who can approach and help them?

Hira: We would not go forward with educated youth only. There will be a hierarchy in all the places and uneducated people will also be taken along. Balochistan is not lacking in talent and spirit. I had been in the developmental sector and have firsthand knowledge about the talent of Balochistan. There will be no discrimination because our women also want to get educated. Parveen followed Baloch traditions and forgave the culprit but I stress that why he contested the election against Baloch tradition. I am not talking about the educated youth only but I am talking about the specific youth group according to age factor. We can guide them all to improve their lives and country.

Liaqat: It is time to listen to a report now.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Jaffarabad

Yasir: Women have limited role in politics in Balochistan. No woman dares to contest election but have only reserved seats and remain silent in the parliament. Professor Husan Ara Magsi says:

Women participation is very low in Balochistan. We have the wrong perception that women are not fit for politics. But during the last election we observed that several women came forward in the election. Nevertheless, a lot of changes have come with the participation of women and several important bills about the rights of women have been passed by the parliament. Women harassment bill is an important step. Even our female MPS were criticized when this bill was moved in the assembly. Women are making efforts to do something through assembly floor. We are feeling the change and I am hopeful that women will have equal strength in the parliament. The fact is Balochistan is a tribal area and feudal system is in vogue. A woman can contest election here that belongs to the elite class. I do not think a common lady may cover all the obstacles to contest and win the election. Most of the people vote for the established feudal lord of the area.

In the coming days future of women politicians seem bright in Balochistan.

2nd Report: Yasir Baloch, Jaffarabad

Yasir: There is no remarkable participation of women in politics. Due to tribal feudal system women have no greater opportunities to take part in the political process. We are present in District Jaffarabad and will talk to some local women about their opinions.

We face several kinds of restrictions. The first one comes from our families. Then political parties do not support us either. We are not extended financial support. Women are not given any importance although they runs the home affairs. They can also lead the nation. If financial help is extended then we can do well. It is hard to compete in this tribal system without the help of political parties. Women are not independent. Education is also a problem with women. But our literacy rate is on the rise. Many women have proved themselves in various fields and they can do well in the parliament. Every woman wishes to prove herself.

Yasir: We have Prince Zahoor Jamali who says:

Our Balochi system does not allow women to come forward. In our district Majori is an instant example who participated in election as a potential woman candidate but all the elders rose against her and tried to stop her. Education is lacking among women and that is a major problem. Most of the women have only primary level education. Even the family of a woman does not support her.

Yasir: Women are faced with many problems in Balochistan and she cannot participate in the election. Even her own family is not going to support her. This was Yasir Baloch from Jaffarabad.

Liaqat: Welcome back listeners. If a woman wants to participate in politics then what problems does he face?

Fatima: You asked about the hurdles for women. I will tell you that there are several such problems which even do not allow a woman to think about involving in active politics. Cultural and family barriers are so many. An unmarried woman cannot think of participating in politics because her family would not allow her to do so. A married woman has to deal with her husband, children and in-laws.

Liaqat: Parveen, did you face any problems from your family?

Parveen: My family supported me. When my picture was printed on paper, my rivals criticized me and my family. My father is an uneducated person but is extremely supportive. My brother is also praise worthy who ran the election campaign for me. They stood by me through thick and thin. When my poster was opposed, elder brother went and pasted my picture on the walls of my rivals. It was his reply to all of them.

Liaqat: Your family supported you but what would you like to say to all those women who are not supported by their families?

Parveen: We need active youth representatives who can influence others. We should not boast but should be practical. We should not talk about impossibilities. We should research each region and identify the potential youth who can go ahead. We must support each other in the process.

Liaqat: Miss Hira, our youth is not conscious about the rights of women. How can we make our people understand that women must be given opportunities?

Hira: No single person shoulders all the responsibilities. If youth is to bring at the front in Balochistan then we need youth power in each place to hook our initiative. Being a settler in Balochistan, it is hard for me to move to certain areas in Balochistan. So I have to select a few broad minded people in Balochistan who want real change must be brought together to polish their potentials. Such group has to be made aware about the greater role for the progress of the whole country.

Liaqat: Why women are not bestowed with ministries in Balochistan?

Fatima: There is an issue that female minister has to perform so many duties. The minister has to deal all kind of people. Male can easily take a decision and may face the consequences.

Liaqat: But these are manmade norms and thinking otherwise women can do anything.

Fatima: The question is that male minister will think them deprived of their rights. Political campaigns are run by male and they also wish to be minister. It will take a long time when women will be at equal footing with men in ruling matters.

Liaqat: If all the political parties have the same notion about women, then where they can get help?

Fatima: We are fighting for the cause to have ministries and proper rights. Women need ministries and equal funds. All the political parties should allow women to come forward. My association with CRSS has been for the last two years and I want to request that the anchors of CRSS have approach only till district level. I want them to do something for career development for our youth at provincial level. They should provide a platform to our youth.

Liaqat: Miss Hira what is your opinion about the problems of women in politics and how can we address these?

Hira: If we start from our self and from our own area then it will be a strong initiative. Political issues can also be solved in this manner. If people are not satisfied with a person then he must not get votes.

Liaqat: What message would you like to convey Fatima?

Fatima: We need to make our men realize the rights of women.

Parveen: Men should be made aware about the rights of women.

Hira: I will stress that youth have greater responsibilities and they should come forward.

Liaqat: Dear listeners, you heard the discussion. We have to make our people conscious about the rightful rights of our women. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 35**

### **Topic: Role of youth for peace development**

Guests: Kiya Qadir Baloch (Expert), Sadam Hussain (Youth Representative) and Saeed Baloch (Youth Representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 25-08-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Youth is the most effective part of society for bringing any change. Youth is aware about importance of peace in Balochistan but they cannot bring change in current situation. Youth of Balochistan wants development in their province which is directly related with peace. Lack of proper guidance for youth is also a problem for them to excel. Youth can play a major role for peace in Balochistan but first of all government should give importance to our youth. When government facilitates youth, the youth will serve the society. Youth of Balochistan is full of energy and courage so government should give them platform and a proper direction for a peaceful and healthy environment in Balochistan.

#### **Transcription**

Zeeshan: Mr. Qadir Baloch what can be or is the role of youth in peace building and where do you see lacking?

Qadir: Youth is the richest wealth of a nation. People think that Balochistan's youth are unemployed and aren't on high rank positions so they can't play their role in the establishment of peace. Status doesn't matter for bringing peace. We have got educated and well-aware youth, but they aren't properly guided. They don't have a mentor.

Zeeshan: How can youth be guided?

Qadir: Youth has got great potential, but they aren't guided by our leaders or educated individuals. They don't have any role in this regard. First of all, it is the responsibility of parents to bring their children up in a better way. Parents should teach their children the lesson of peace and brotherhood. Next is the responsibility of school teachers. Besides, it is the responsibility of community leaders to train youngsters. Community leaders should call youth for meetings and should guide them. All the three category of people don't have any role in this regard. Both parents and teachers are regardless of their children and community leaders don't have a role at all.

Zeeshan: Mr. Saad how can youth play their role in building peace and how can they bring out the image of Balochistan outside?

Saad: The brain of youth is being drained with extremist acts. Our youth have got political perception. Youth are the future of a country. They have to take the responsibility of the country eventually, but most of the parents don't allow their children to participate in political activities.

Zeeshan: Mr. Qadir, should students be participating in politics physically or they should only concentrate on their studies?

Qadir: Unfortunately people in Pakistan think of politics as something corrupt and insincere. French Student Federation played a vital role in French Revolution. When I was a student, our friends who were active in

politics only used to blackmail government officers. They used to take money from them. Those who used to refuse, our friends would carry out a set-in in front of their offices. They used to protest against them or burn their offices.

Zeeshan: Mr. Saddam how can youth play their role for the welfare of society and in building peace?

Sadam: Youth are the builders of the society. They have an indispensable role in society. Peace has been the issue of entire globe, but peace issues have thoroughly engulfed Pakistan. Youth have a great role in setting peace. The reason of peace issues is intolerance in our society. Intolerance is due to lack of education. Poverty is also a reason to it. Youth can play their role by getting education. After getting education, they will have the perception to comprehend problems.

Zeeshan: Youth must have resources via which they can bring change.

Sadam: You said that without resources youth can't bring change. Aristotle says, "Poverty breeds revolution." Poverty can also be the reason to peace disturbance. Some people have got intellectual abilities. They can be proved as changing factors.

Zeeshan: We have got a report. We will take our discussion further as we get back on-air.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Law and order situation in Balochistan has been worst for the past one decade in Balochistan because of which Balochistan hasn't developed. The circumstances in Balochistan are getting worse day by day. Foreign investment, tourism and other departments have been affected to a great deal due to worse law and order situation because of which Balochistan is becoming further poor. The role of youth is very effective in maintaining the stability of peace. In this regard we spoke to the General Secretary of Student Youth Federation Mr. Saif Ullah Taren. He says, "Our message to every youth and organization is to live with peace and maintain peaceful environment. Every student has his or her own opinions. They should co-operate each other. As far as the role of youth is concerned, we have called rallies and conducted seminars for stabilizing peace. We have done many campaigns in this regard. We keep conveying our messages on social media and everywhere. We get tranquility and development in the presence of peace. We can make progress with peace. Besides, our inner conflicts can be eradicated with peace. Everything will get ruined if there is no peace." Beside we spoke to a worker of Youth Alliance Balochistan. He says, "Balochistan is backward as compared to other provinces. There is no peace here due to the lack of education. Educated youth and some organization are making efforts for the stability of peace. Happiness and development will occur with peace. People from other provinces don't visit Balochistan due to law and order situation. We are trying to spread awareness among people to bring peace." Youth are trying to stabilize peace, but government and other organization should co-operate with them. The development of Balochistan depends on peace in Balochistan.

Zeeshan: Mr. Qadir Baloch what factors cause disturbance to the peace of society?

Qadir: Poverty and unemployment are the factors that can destabilize any society. By educating youth the roots of worse peace can be eradicated. There is an African Proverb i.e. "train a child in a way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Zeeshan: What is the role of corruption in destabilization of the society?

Qadir: When people don't get their basic rights, they will revolt.

Zeshan: Mr. Saad you said you are studying in Islamabad. Have you ever felt that base of Balochistan students isn't as strong as students of Islamabad or the students of Balochistan are behind in terms of educational abilities?

Saad: After studying in Islamabad I got to know that literacy rate in Balochistan is very low the reason of which is the lack of facilities. There is only one medical college and a university in Balochistan. Same is the case with schools. If opportunities are provided to Balochistan students, they will show their talent because they have got a lot of potential.

Zeeshan: Mr. Sadam what opportunities should be provided to Balochistan youth to bring change?

Sadam: I think awareness should be spread among people to bring change. Educational facilities should be provided to them. Unemployment rate is increasing day by day. Government should provide job opportunities to them. Infrastructure needs to be improved.

Zeeshan: We have got another report. We will continue our discussion after the report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Balochistan needs peace because development is possible only in the presence of peace. Youth and government are working in this regard, but yet law and order situation in Balochistan is worse. We spoke to Mr. Agha Tanvir who belongs to student federation. He says, "We are working for the maintenance of peace. Balochistan desperately needs peace. Youth want peace, but the role of political parties is vague. We are spreading awareness among people on districts and tehsil level, but we are facing many problems due to the lack of education. We will keep struggling until we bring peace. We need government co-operation for maintaining peace. People are waking slowly and gradually. We will soon succeed in our aim. We want other organizations to cooperate with us. We arrange different monthly programs where youth from different areas participate and are getting aware. There will be happiness and development if there is peace. In such a scenario youth will come forward and will serve their nations." Dr. Abdul Waheed says, "Youth have got a vital role in bringing peace. We should work on every level for this purpose. We should work in schools, colleges and universities. All the people should work together for getting peace. We will only be able to bring when we get together and work together. All student organization should play a positive role in this regard. They should keep their conflicts aside. Student Federations are working in this regard and they want to bring peace in Balochistan. We can only succeed when there is peace." The critical need of Balochistan at the moment is peace. Government and other organizations should cooperate with youth and should bring youth forward to maintain peace.

Zeeshan: Mr. Qadir how much the role of students' federation can be effective vis-à-vis peace?

Qadir: Students' federations have a vital role in this regard. They can play their role effectively if corruption among politicians ends.

Zeeshan: How much positive is social media used by youth in this regard?

Saad: Youth shouldn't be wasting time on social media. They should utilize it as a platform.

Zeeshan: Mr. Sadam what would you add to it?

Sadam: Everything has got its side effects. We can either use social media positively or negatively. Youth are not aware of its power. Social media is mostly used for time wastage these days.

Zeeshan: As a matter of fact youth is in dilemma. What do you want to say Mr. Saad?

Saad: There are some extremist pages that are being used. They put a ban on progressive activities, but yet they are allowed to run. Indeed they are promoted.

Zeeshan: Thanks a lot for joining us. It's goodbye for now.



## Episode: 36

### Topic: The menace of cheating in the examination system

Guests: Raffia Baloch (Educationist), Imran Ata (Student), Bilal Shah (Student) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 26-08-2014

#### Program Summary

Nobody can deny the fact that cheating and unfair means have become the part and parcel of the examination system in Balochistan. It is a pity that people have accepted it as a necessary social evil and it is a part of culture now. The basic reason is the defective and flawed system. Teachers are scarce at all levels and syllabus is never completed in the schools and colleges. Incompetent teachers are unable to finish the course and often remain absent from classes. Students have a mind set to get through in the examination by resorting to cheating. Honest teachers are often pressurized and even threatened to allow cheating. It is destroying the whole fabrics of our society because cheating and corruption are synonyms. To wipe out this scourge from the system, the main responsibility lies with the government. The support of parents and community and teachers is also indispensable to get rid of this menace.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Raffia, what are the reasons for growing tendency of cheating in Balochistan?

Raffia: As far cause for this phenomenon is concerned, there are several reasons and youth is not solely responsible. Our system is mainly responsible for it. Our education system is defective and there is no good system of imparting education. I am mostly associated with female education sector. I have observed that when a child sits for examination from the very start is free of this menace of cheating. But when he reaches to class 9 then he seek help from cheating. The reason is that teachers are not doing well and students are not well prepared for examination.

Liaqat: You said that fault lies with our system. But the fact is that we are all a part of the system. Mr. Imran, please tell us that after spending the whole year in the class with hundred percent attendances, why do student resort to cheating?

Imran: I endorse Raffia that our education system is faulty. We have two sectors of education called private sector and government sector. Private sector is much better and is yielding good result. But our government sector is really in bad state. Students do not attend the classes and most of our teachers are not performing their duty efficiently. Teachers are not sincere with their job. Nepotism and recommendation are the sole criteria for appointment of teachers. Our system is defective and breeds cheating.

Liaqat: Mr. Bilal, does our system compel students to go for cheating?

Bilal: I also agree with both the guest to a great extent to blame the system. But system is not the only reason. You know that private sector is leading at present and government sector is lagging far behind. Imran alleged that teachers do not do well and I certainly agree with him. I know many people who take pleasure in telling others that they enjoy too many leaves during one calendar year. But we are all a part of this system. Raffia was right about the fact that students are good till class 8 unless they come to know about cheating in the upper examination.

Liaqat: It is time to listen to a report about the issue in focus.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Cheating has become a curse in Balochistan and it has affected our education system. There is no proper system to check cheating. It happens at all levels and is spoiling our students. We need a proper system to have brighter future. We are going to ask Aman Ullah who is an education expert that how can it be controlled;

Tendency for cheating is of high proportion in Balochistan. If we want to find the root cause then it becomes clear that our flawed education system is mainly responsible. Our out dated syllabus, untrained teachers, political appointment, low budget allocation and our bad state of affairs are also causes. There are so many ghost schools in the province. Our faculty requirements are not enough. There is not complete staff in our colleges. Our statistics tell us that staff is scarce. Cheating and plagiarism is common practice. We need to reform the system. It is like the scourge of corruption. Our system is at the verge of collapse. There is no room for creativity in our education system. It is destroying our youth. Cheating is wide spread and even in universities it is a common practice. We need a good frame work for education covering all aspects of education process and then it needs implementation. We need to train our teachers. Accountability should be practiced.

Liaqat: Dear listeners, you listened to the report where Mr. Aman Ullah expressed himself beautifully. Let us talk to Khalid Baloch. Are there other elements in addition to the system which is spoiling our education?

Khalid: The element of cheating is added intentionally into the system. A few years back there was no concept of cheating. Our older generation is more brilliant although they are less educated. There are many defects in the system. All those people who cannot get employment anywhere else try to become teachers. Less qualified people are appointed as teachers. Teaching is a heavy responsibility and requires special ability and techniques.

Liaqat: Cheating and corruption are synonyms. Those who get through cheating will turn out to be a corrupt citizen. Miss Raffia, when we talk about system we refer to the efforts of the government to put us on the right track. What is our government doing in this regard?

Raffia: We cannot blame a single person for spoiling the system. We all are responsible for it. Child is like a triangle. Child is the focal point. Every angle has its own responsibility. One angle is composed of community, other is parents and the third is teachers and school. Every angle has to perform its duty well to educate the child well. Lack of responsibility by any angle will destroy the whole effect.

Liaqat: Please tell us that if one angle goes towards the government then what is the responsibility of the government?

Raffia: After the 18th Amendment, education is a provincial subject. Policies were framed in Islamabad in the past. Government is making changes in the curriculum but it is not implemented yet. Government is also taking steps to check cheating practices in the examination. It was told that teachers promote cheating and incompetent people are appointed as teachers. Government should adopt a specific criterion to appoint teachers.

Liaqat: Are we at the level to follow this criterion?

Raffia: We can practice this but we are not following it at present. An examiner is so much under pressure. We are often threatened with dire consequences.

Liaqat: Society does not offer a positive response.

Raffia: Government has taken certain steps but monitoring is very slow in our system.

Liaqat: Mr. Imran, our annual system is defective. Do you favour semester system?

Imran: Annual system is the general pattern in Balochistan. Our neighboring countries have adopted semester system. Semester system requires qualified teachers. Incompetent teachers cannot survive in the semester system. State is not performing its responsibility well. We have approached the high ups to introduce semester system for good.

Liaqat: But it is also reported that some teachers are pressurized to award higher marks to the students in the semester system. How to improve it?

Imran: We have to change the basics of our education system. We have to wipe out nepotism and regionalism. Qualified teachers can prepare his students well for each semester but only if he is appointed on merit. We have seldom an able and qualified teacher in the government system. An able teacher cannot be pressurized.

Liaqat: Mr. Bilal, what is the role of student in the system. Why students resort to cheating?

Bilal: I will add to the views of Khalid about private examination where students get through easily. There is a mind set about private examination where everything goes well. Students are fond of private examination where cheating is the norm.

Liaqat: But everyone has a conscious and does it not prick them?

Bilal: Our observation is that conscious never comes in their way. Only degree is the aim and the means do not matter.

Liaqat: Raffia talked about a certain triangle. Please tell us as an educationist that in primary and secondary level teachers are using certain guide books frequently.

Raffia: It is evident that such teachers who use guide books cannot teach well. It is a practice with incompetent teachers who are a product of cheating.

Liaqat: Is there any check and balance about such teachers?

Raffia: Monitoring system is so weak here. High officials seldom visit a school. It is officially forbidden to use such guide books. It is also true to high officials cannot reach each school frequently. It all depends on the head teacher to report it to high ups.

Liaqat: Let us listen to another report about the same topic.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Education system of Balochistan is very backward with cheating as common practice. Students remain incompetent. We all know about the reasons and implications but take no steps. Hafeez Ullah is a young student who says;

Schools are not offering quality education and students depend on cheatings. Teachers are scarce and students are not taught well. It often happens that there are only two teachers in primary schools. High schools are running without science teachers and students have to resort to cheating. We have observed all these facts ourselves. Students in Zhob are to cheat because they are not taught well.

Aqeel Ahmad is also here who says;

I did not cheat till class 9 and always depended on my ability. But in class 10 I had to resort to cheating because what was in the paper was not taught to us. I did not attend a single class during my FSc because our college was situated in the jungle. It was at a distance of three hours' drive.

Liaqat: Welcome back in the show after the report. It was reported that there is scarcity of teachers at primary level and how can we control teaching?

Raffia: It is true that in our rural area there is multi grade teaching where a teacher has to teach to almost six classes. He cannot teach them but only can spend his time to control the students. Government should introduce an entry system to appoint cream teachers.

Liaqat: I have heard that an education council is going to be framed for this purpose?

Raffia: It is true that such a system is going to be devised. We have also suggested a certain system for appointment where able teachers will be appointed. Teachers are responsible for creating doctors and engineers and they must be competent people.

Liaqat: The world is changing but why we are not changing the education system? Why our system has not produced any scientist or inventor?

Raffia: I have travelled abroad to study the education system of developed countries. We observed that there was biometric system in the schools. Attendance was ensured through this system. We need to introduce this system. Punjab has introduced this system in some institutes.

Liaqat: It was told by Aqeel in the report that his college was so far away and the papers were out of course. What problems are faced by such students?

Imran: You know that access to colleges is a big problem. Balochistan is a vast area and students have to travel a lot. Government should appoint more teachers on merit. Nepotism should be discouraged.

Liaqat: Mr. Bilal, we have only one education Board in Balochistan. Our students are not taught the whole syllabus and students do not know about several questions in the examination. They have to cheat to get through.

Bilal: It is my personal experience that students found paper with questions that are out of course. It is the duty of our education specialists to look into this matter. Papers with out of course question are a common phenomenon. Teachers are also often on strike about their demands and students have nobody to teach. Students are left with the only choice to cheat in the examination.

Liaqat: One of listeners Mr. Ayaz has sent us a message that our teachers do not come to class and students are not taught properly. Madam Raffia, what is the criterion for training in PITE?

Raffia: At present we are doing only refreshing courses. All the trainings are conducted by the donors about specific subjects. We inform our higher authorities and then through Dos teachers are nominated for training. We teach methodology about different subjects. We make them realize the basic aims and objectives of each lesson. But there is no monitoring afterward.

Liaqat: Do you think our present staff of teachers is capable of imparting quality education?

Raffia: Yes indeed if they have a will. We take proper evaluation tests after every training.

Liaqat: Dear listeners, we talked about a very important issue but we are faced with paucity of time. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 37

### Topic: Violation of merit in Balochistan

Guests: Aman Ullah (Expert), Irfan Baloch (Youth Representative), Aslam Akhtar (Youth Representative) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 01-09-2014

#### Program Summary

It is an established fact that merit is violated in every nook and corner of Balochistan. The implications of this phenomenon are devastating for the whole society in general and for the youth in particular. According to a young potential candidate for competitive examination; 'we are compelled either to commit suicide or take to labour work after getting highly qualified degrees because we cannot get a decent job through merit in Balochistan.' The situation is deteriorating with each passing day and government ought to take some serious action to check this menace before it causes a total collapse of our society.

#### Transcription

Zeeshan: I may start with Aman Ullah to ask him how much merit is violated in Balochistan and what is its impact on our youth?

Aman: Thank you for inviting us. When we talk about merit then we must know what does it mean and what are its implications. Talent means what is the capacity of a person and what services can he provide you. When a person has a good potential to deliver and you ignore such a person then the services you need will not be provided. It means that an institutional loss will occur. You will lose an opportunity to take help from such a talent. His talent may rust and wear out. He may resort to negative activities or he may face pessimism. Its greatest impact will be on the institutional development.

Zeeshan: In reference to Balochistan, in what ways merit is violated?

Aman: We can consider this issue in regard to studies and job. Our statistic shows us that corruption and nepotism is destroying us. Our unemployment ratio is very high. Productivity of our educational institution is very low. We are not moving good governance and we do not have a robust system. These all are the implications on the youth and the society. Recommendation in the jobs and offices is an established culture. Corruption is wide spread.

Zeeshan: Two points are important in regard to Balochistan. One view is that merit should be the only criterion. While many people say that quota system for various regions and communities should be practiced. What is your own opinion?

Aman: It is a kind of political issue at present. As a merit lover in person I may prefer quota system. If we consider the overall situation in Balochistan, We may find fundamental difference in the education system and caliber of various regions. When we apply merit and quota system then it may clash. Many people may be pushed further backward. Quota should be increased according to population. More departments should be established. I may prefer merit within the quota system.

Zeeshan: What would you like to add to it Mr. Irfan's assertion?

Irfan: Quota system is an old system for backward areas. Balochistan is a third world province in a third world country. We are extremely backward. We are asked to compete with those people who are highly educated in the most modern institutes. Quota system was introduced in the United India for backward communities. If you give facilities to the people with good teachers and mentors then we do not need a quota system. It is very unfortunate to see that our government has established all the institutes in Quetta. But the fact is that Balochistan has more than 80% people living below the poverty line. People cannot educate their children. If they get education one way or the other but even then if you snub their rights, the consequences will be dire. We need merit all along and government should take pains to implement it.

Zeeshan: We have Aslam Akhtar as well here. Irfan expressed himself well. When the difference is so huge as between Turbat and Quetta then merit cannot be followed. But if facilities are there then it could be followed. Quota system has the beauty of representation from each region. Unity can be achieved through Quota system. But quota also kills the talent of many ambitious people. Do we need to increase seats in Quota system?

Aslam: You asked me a question about deficiency of seats in Quota system. I want to say that this matter should be looked after by the government. According to the census of 1992 our population was not too high. But now look at the population at present and then consider the seats available to our youth? Constituencies are also developing. Our districts were 28 earlier on but now there are 32 districts. Seats need to be increased as well. Your topic for today is the violation of merit which means promotion of corruption. It kills the talent and justice. For instance, a department like Public service commission of Balochistan is alleged of violation of merit. When there is no merit, it means talent is destroyed and mal practices are promoted. Youth is getting frustrated. If merit is violated, it means all the expectations of our youth are shattered.

Zeeshan: Mr. Khalid is also here who has done intensive work about youth affairs. I may ask you that do you think what kinds of benefits are obtained by violating merit in the province. Is it the sole objective to get their cronies employed?

Khalid: I may say that it is done for certain benefits. We are stressing quota system and open merit but the crux of the matter is to impart justice. There are many departments in Balochistan University but positions are not available for the qualified people all the time. I may not identify a particular department that is violating the merit. It is happening everywhere that only people are selected after backstairs influence.

Zeeshan: We have often stressed to create awareness among our masses through our programmes. We have asked our people to approach their MPs about the major issues. It is time to listen to a report about the issue in focus.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Yasir: In Balochistan joblessness has pushed the youth to a quagmire. Nepotism is a common practice. Petition shave also been filed in High court against a couple of departments. Merit is violated everywhere in the province. Despair among the youth is widespread. Zubair Ahmad is a youth representative who says;

There is education emergency in the province but merit is violated in all kinds of admissions across the province. Irregularities have occurred in medical college and other departments. Public service commission examination has high hopes for the youth but each post in the commission has a certain rate and can be won through money only. We have to take strict action against it. We have to root it out from the beginning. We have to appoint deserving teachers. We need able teachers. Our people are getting depressed and are losing trust in education. Our coming generation is also being affected.

Zeeshan: Welcome back listeners. Mr. Aman Ullah, what do you think what are the implication for the society at large when merit is violated?

Aman: Implications are intensive and drastic. It was told in the report that people are compelled to commit

suicide. Violation of merit also violates all the norms of the society. It is a great injustice where rights are snatched. You have wronged the whole society. The first reaction will be that an incompetent person will be posted who cannot utilize his services for the society. It will affect the efficiency of the concerned department. Then next comes the probable reaction of unemployment. It also increases poverty in the society. Youth get desperate and resort to negative activities.

Zeeshan: I may ask Irfan to tell us about its implication for youth?

Irfan: I may have devastating effects. We need skilled people in the modern world, right person for the right job. When an incompetent person is employed at a wrong place then the results will be devastating. If we compare third world with the developed world then it becomes clear that it will increase crime rate in the society. Crime rate is associated with quality of education in the modern world. But we have no such concept here.

Zeeshan: Mr. Aslam is also here and I want you to add something.

Aslam: There is no standard of education and no production. The basic reason is violation of merit. Competent people are left out and non-deserving people are earning. All the people say that dominancy in Pakistan is prevalent and dominant people are those who rise through corruption and recommendation. They get in through various means in each department. We saw during the previous government that low qualified people were posted at high places. Our constitution talks about fundamental rights but these rights are violated which means that constitution is violated.

Zeeshan: We have another report and let us listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Yasir: In all the departments in Balochistan merit is violated and youth are getting depressed. Political parties are raising their concerns to adopt merit. It is creating rifts in the society. Education is most affected. We have to meet Agha Hassan Baloch who is a political leader. He says;

Merit is violated in Balochistan and when political parties talk about it then it is clear that they are the most violator. Punjab and Islamabad are developed areas but Balochistan is intentionally kept backward. Merit is not applied here and we are pushed further back. Our rules are framed by other people and we have to suffer. It is a kind of exploitation. Our youth is economically and socially exploited. Youth are the builders of a nation and when they are mal treated then this injustice may lead to drastic results. We need to create awareness among our youth. We have to highlight these issues that we are being conspired against.

Zeeshan: If you have any suggestion to improve the situation?

Aman: Education should not be a source of income. It is a source of knowledge and awareness and it should remain so.

Zeeshan: Unless we have accountability then people will play the same way. Mr. Irfan what do you suggest?

Irfan: Things are already there we just need to implement it seriously.

Zeeshan: Mr. Aslam, what would you like to add?

Aslam: We have already a set up with some distinguished institutes like NTS. When an organization is vested with so much power and responsibility then irregularity is obvious. We need to produce expert people in each field.

Zeeshan: Thank you so much for being with us. Dear listeners, you heard our discussion about the violation of merit in Balochistan. We tried our best to highlight this issue. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 38**

### **Topic: Acid throwing attempts on women**

Guests: Miss. Yasmeen Lehri (MPA National Party), Miss. Afsha (Advocate), Mr. Rizwan Kassi and Mr. Khalid Baloch (CRSS)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat Ali

Dated: 02-09-2014

#### **Program Summary**

There is a great respect for women in tribal culture, but on the other hand they are being treated unfairly in many ways. Acid throwing is a new trend that has set in. Women are degraded and frightened by throwing acid on their faces. There are many reasons behind it such as stopping them from getting education. Girls feel afraid of getting acid thrown, while going to school. Women who have been victim to acid throwing are afraid of filing a report. They have lack of education and awareness. They don't know where to complain and how to complain. They don't want to get into trouble of police stations and courts. Government should form stern legislations in this regard. Government should take serious action against the offenders and should set an example of the offender for the rest of the people.

#### **Transcription**

Liaqat: My first question is from Ms. Yasmeen who is an MPA. Many acid throwing cases have been reported from different places in Balochistan. What has the government done so far in this regard?

Yasmeen: Women have been given a great respect over the years in our culture. Throwing acid is something our government should pay importance to. Legislation is needed in this regard. Print media, electronic media, civil society and political parties holds a vital role in this regard. We need to condemn problems that aren't a part of our culture. Such problems are being produced on purpose.

Liaqat: Ms. Afsha when was first acid throwing case reported?

Afsha: I think first case was reported two years ago in Kalat. It is a very ill act. Women are being degraded so that they can be limited only to houses. Government should introduce stern laws in and should implement them. Laws are formed but no implementation. How a law can be acted upon until it is not implemented. Strict laws should be introduced so that offenders may think a hundred times before offending it.

Liaqat: Mr. Rizwan what are the reasons behind acid throwing according to you?

Rizwan: First of all acid is available everywhere. One can easily get it. Government should introduce license system for the use of acid so that its use can be decreased. The reason behind acid throwing is that there is no implementation of laws. There is a law in this regard which says that if a person throws acid on someone, he or she will be prisoned for 14 years and will be charged one million rupees, but nobody has been either jailed for 14 years or charged one million rupees as yet. We have lack of implementation of laws.

Liaqat: Mr. Khalid Baloch what are the reasons behind acid throwing?

Khalid: There are many reasons behind it. For example girls are threatened not to go to schools. Besides, there are some other hidden reasons which women don't want to expose for the sake of their honor. Government should take stern action against it.



Liaqat: I spoke to a female student of Balochistan University yesterday in this regard. She belonged to Mastung. She said that female students feel fear of acid throwing while going to school. They feel fear while shopping. Apart from this threatening letters were thrown in schools to stop girls from getting education. What would you say in this regard?

Khalid: There are some elements who don't want female to be educated. They have been doing it by the name of religion. There was no concept of hiding women at houses in our culture.

Liaqat: Ms. Yasmeen has government of Balochistan formed any legislation in this regard?

Yasmeen: We passed a bill in the assembly against domestic violence on women. Apart from that we also approved a bill for children health matters. Acid throwing is also a part of our plan. We have been working on it. Our society has been liberal. There is no extremism in our society. There are some outer forces who don't want women to contribute in the development of the province. Sectarian violence is carried out to gain personal advantages. We will form legislations and will implement it if someone reports a complaint in this regard. They don't have the courage to report it. We need to advocate people in this regard. Awareness campaigns should be done among people.

Liaqat: We have got a report regarding acid throwing.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Acid throwing has been spreading rapidly in our society which causes many negative impacts. Tribal traditions have given a high status to women, but the current generation has gone against tribal traditions and has set a new trend of acid throwing because of which our women live in fear that lest they become a victim to it. Considering tribal traditions we should eradicate this menace by countering it which is possible by taking serious initiatives. We spoke to Dr. Shahida, who is a professor of gender development studies, regarding the reasons and effects of acid throwing. She says, "By doing such ill acts we are pushing our female back rather than giving them confidence. They are being turned coward. If we look at women abroad, they have developed a lot. We are threatening our women by such cheap acts rather than bringing them forward. When acid is thrown on the face of a woman, can her confidence be restored, can her beauty be brought back or will our society accept her. There is lack of education. We have put a tag of development on ourselves, but yet we have old system and traditions. Our male society is very educated, but they should give women their rights. We have quit some traditions for our personal advantages. Females used to be respected. We give importance to our favors, but don't care about others. There is some kind of lacking in our system that we have been facing such problems." Women are respected to a great deal in Balochistan culture. Restoring this respect is the responsibility of everyone. We should eradicate it by taking serious initiatives.

Liaqat: Ms. Afsha why don't women report their cases i.e. why don't they register their complaints?

Afsha: Women don't have awareness about their rights. They don't know where to go and whom to tell. There is lack of awareness. Apart from that there are some other threats which a woman feels. She thinks she will go through a long process i.e. facing police and court. We should do awareness campaigns. Media can be helpful in this regard. They fear to go to police or any other law enforcing agency. They should be aware that registering their complaint is not a big deal. If this fear is eradicated, many cases will start reporting.

Liaqat: Mr. Rizwan where will confidence come from? Is our education system taking us towards awareness and is your point of view about gender discrimination?

Rizwan: There are women who are very determined and have the will to fight every circumstance, but there are some factors either by the family or society which weaken her. There is no mechanism of mobility of women at police stations. In developed countries there is a women police officer in every police station who deals with women issues. There are no female police officers in our police stations.

Liaqat: It is difficult even for men to file a report, yet we have to do something.

Rizwan: Family members should raise the confidence of women. Nobody will fight for the rights of a woman until she fights herself.

Liaqat: Mr. Khalid Baloch, can any special cells be established at police station for women complaints?

Khalid: Of course. We have developed a mindset that women are supposed to wash dishes, sweep the house, cook the meal etc. we can't do justice to women until we change our mindset. Women are treated like slaves.

## Episode: 39

### Topic: Role of media for the youth in Balochistan

Guests: Safi Ullah Shahwani (Reporter the Daily time), Shakeel Ur Rehman (M.A Mass Communication), Muhammad Sadiq Somalani (PTV correspondent) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 08-09-2014

#### Program Summary

Media plays an indispensable role in the development of a nation or state. Most of the people have grumbling opinion vis-a-vis media in Balochistan. Electronic media faces a lot of criticism in youth related issues in Balochistan. Electronic media hardly highlight the issues of youth. They only focus on political and criminal activities. However, local print media has worked for the welfare of youth to some extent. National Media have also ignored the issues of Balochistan Youth. People of Balochistan say that the negligence of media has left Balochistan Youth way behind. Youth in Balochistan don't get proper education, scholarships, job opportunities and many other things. People of Balochistan appeal to media to divert their attention towards the issues of the people of Balochistan.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: Mr. Khalid, what is your opinion about the role of media in regard to youth welfare and development in Balochistan?

Khalid: Well, apart from Quetta the role of electronic media in Balochistan is almost zero. Even in Quetta I am not satisfied thoroughly. There would be few districts where newspaper would reach. There would be fewer journalists who would be covering news on daily basis. I don't mean to say that they should only be covering news like bomb blasts. There are other positive activities as well which need to be covered. The newspaper gets two days later specially to interior Balochistan. You would hardly see a channel which would share any news regarding Balochistan. And if it shares a story it would not be detailed.

Mehreen: We have got Mr. Safi Ullah Shahwani who is a reporter of Daily Times. Safi Ullah, What are the goals of media and is it only to address the issues of particular class of people?

Safi Ullah: Media is a medium of voice of the people. It transfers facts as it is to the people. Media is called the pillar of state because it keeps a watch on all the institutions within the state. One needs to understand media. If we closely observe the complaints of Mr. Khalid against media so it sounds that media is just like an industry where different people work and get payments. Youth issues like education for instance gets less attention because most of the reporters are not well qualified. They cannot report over such issues.

Mehreen: Moving to our next guest Mr. Shakeel. Do you think that media is able to represent our society genuinely?

Shakeel: Media is like the back bone for a democratic government. It resembles a mirror. Media has shed light on many problems of the society, but yet its level needs to be improved. New equipment should be introduced. It is a very pious profession. Media doesn't report anything until they confirm it.

Mehreen: Does the confirmation take place in our society?

Shakeel: One should not believe unless it is confirmed.

Mehreen: Mr. Safi Ullah raised his finger to comment on this question. Please go ahead if you want to comment.

Safi Ullah: Confirmation has its rules. For example if we have a crime news we do confirm it from the concerned administration. People think that anchors are the media. They are not working journalists. They only give their personal opinion. Media is of two types. One is pro-government and the other is anti-government so the opinion of the anchors is not the true picture of politics. Media counter confirms the news and then reports it.

Mehreen: Media has been immensely commercialized due to which media won't be able to reinvestigate the news or report. What is your take on this?

Safi Ullah: I mentioned simple news for example if I get information of some casualties through unofficial sources, I wouldn't report it without confirmation. Media definitely confirms it from the concerned officials. We don't report anything without any confirmation.

Mehreen: Well, yet if one channel arrive first it would earn high ratings. The channel that arrive first quote hundred casualties and the one that arrive last quote twenty five casualties. How do you justify this difference?

Safi Ullah: Well, this is one of the drawbacks of media. People have a craze of live coverage. Media reports unconfirmed facts through unofficial sources because of the channel ratings. Many persons from media have faced immense loss due to the craze of the people. We have lost many colleagues because of this craze.

Mehreen: I would like to ask you Mr. Sadiq Somalani. Do media highlight the problems of Balochistan Youth?

Sadiq: Mr. Khalid said that we don't get to know what happens in our district because media doesn't shed light on their issues. It is a fact because we don't have many reporters and journalists in Balochistan . You would find few people in this field.

Mehreen: It is a little contradictory because earlier Mr. Safi Ullah said that if one isn't worthy of doing anything else, he or she joins media. On the other hand you say that the trend of people towards media is less. How can one justify this?

Sadiq: I don't agree. Most of the people working in media don't have degrees. They are joining universities now after having worked already in media. You know how many reporters have been working in Kalat, Mastung and Khuzdar. The number of the reporters is very few. Unfortunately, many dummy newspapers are published in Balochistan, which are limited only to commercial level. Media need to focus on youth related issues like education and many others.

Mehreen: As today's program is regarding the role of media vis-à-vis youth problems, so let's go for a report and listen to impression of the people.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Quetta

Yasir: Media hold the position of third pillar in the state in present time. It is helpful enough to shed light on the problems of people. Balochistan is a victim of many problems as compared to other provinces. It has majority of youth who have fallen in many different problems. In relation to this topic, today we are talking to a young journalist Shahab Agha in order to know which level of media has been playing its role in highlighting the problems of people.

Shahab Agha: Media has started highlighting problems of people since the dictatorship came to an end in 2008. After the democratic government came, media started talking about the rights of youth in Balochistan.

Media has raised its voice many times for the rights of youth in the field of education because of which the number of scholarships has increased and the youth of Balochistan are studying in the universities of Balochistan.

Yasir: Apart from education what are the other issues in which media has been playing its role and since when?

Shahab: Apart from education, transport is another issue where media has been playing its role since 2008. Before 2008 the people of Balochistan couldn't raise their voice for their rights but since then people have been able to raise their voice for rights through media. Unemployment is another problem which is very high in Balochistan. Other provinces also quote that Balochistan is backward in employment. Local media has been working against it, but central media of Pakistan hasn't turned their attention toward this issue. If local media is highlighting it, central media would also highlight it eventually. The youth of Balochistan have been left backward. To my mind media is raising its voice for such problems and issues of the youth of Balochistan. The problems of the people of Balochistan are getting revealed for which the solution is tried to be found. This program is also a part of raising the problems of the Balochistan Youth.

Yasir: The role of media is of great importance in any society. If one observes the role of media in the reservation of Balochistan Youth, Youth are disappointed with the role of media. None of the media i.e. national, printed, local and electronic has played that role by which youth may get hope. We are questioning a senior journalist Mr. Shahzada Zulfiqar in this regard who says;

Shahzada Zulfiqar: I think neither national media nor local electronic media has played its role in highlighting the grievances of youth. Print media has worked a little but only for business concerns. Balochistan Youth have their own grievances and Baloch Youth have their own grievances. They don't get quality education. They don't have colleges. No job opportunities after education. No internship facilities are provided. National Media hardly highlight the grievances of Baloch for few minutes. Media is the hope of every common person. Nobody goes to a police station or a court nowadays. People rather go and protest in front of press clubs. They think media would divert the attention of the concerned officials towards the issue. Balochistan Youth have the same hope from media. I think media has not done anything in this regard. It is the responsibility of media to take the issues of Balochistan Youth to every single person in the country. Rather a negative picture is being spread of Balochistan people that they are either militants or illiterate.

Yasir: In the 21st century where media hold an important role in a state, I wonder why Balochistan Youth are disappointed from media. Media can play a very positive role in adding Balochistan youth to National Circle. It was Yasir Baloch from Quetta Balochistan.

Mehreen: The positive that we can take from the report is that at least local print media has been highlighting the issues of Balochistan Youth. These issues can also be highlighted through some programs like CRSS where people could freely share their problems so that their message is taken to higher authorities and officials. I think Mr. Sadiq wants to comment on this.

Sadiq: Youth can share their problems through media only. A class of youth is working in shops and other different places. They don't have enough financial resources to get education. Media should play its role in education. If media can't divert the attention of authoritative people towards such issues, how a common man could have access to higher authorities.

Mehreen: Nature has blessed Balochistan with so many resources. Media can play its role in this sector as well. Mr. Safi Ullah, the talk shows in which different issues are highlighted, is only propaganda or we really are heading towards solution?

Safi Ullah: Talk shows are based on current issues going on at a place. Different people are invited who have different school of thoughts. The guests give their opinion and judge people on their own perception. If an anchor tends to support a side so he or she is not picturing media as the fourth pillar of state. He or she is making

media sub pillar of a particular interest. A reporter is not the authority. If I prepared a report so I shouldn't think that it is going to be published the next day. Editor is the decider and authority of it. Editor follows your policy. To make a report more effective you need to make researches and investigations. Issues related to education need to be investigated by media. If we talk about Juvenile justice system, there are many legal issues of youth which need to be investigated. These issues would be investigated if the reporters are qualified enough. There are a lot of people in media who have less capacity of investigation. You can't keep a juvenile with a huddle of criminals. You have reformatory centers for juvenile. How many juvenile prisoners are there? It needs investigation. Female youth has their own problems in which many of them are cultural. You can't ask a person why he is not sending his daughter to school. All these issues need capacity of investigation which is the responsibility of institutions. The institutions keep you this much underpaid that you hardly fulfill your expenses. This is where media goes corrupt.

Mehreen: Well, as Mr. Sadiq said social issues are not the goals of media. Only politics is the solo goal of media. Students don't get informed of the admission dates. Similarly if a position is vacant, students are informed after the dates are gone. Then it is of no use. Safi Ullah wants to comment.

Safi Ullah: So far as admissions are concerned, they are related with portion of advertisement. Social media can be really helpful in this regard. Radio channels should contribute. We can make a good use of it.

Mehreen: Well, social media doesn't have access everywhere especially in rural areas. Radio doesn't give information about admissions and scholarships. Even people in urban areas don't get informed.

Sadiq: I want to add one thing that through mobile phones people are informed regarding such activities.

Mehreen: Yet, common people are not aware of it. Media needs to spread awareness in people so that they can be informed of different activities through mobile phones. I want to ask Mr. Shakeel that whether social media has been able at doing justice with the issues of Balochistan Youth specifically?

Shakeel: Social media is really helpful in highlighting the issues of youth, but yet education is important to utilize social media. Most of our youth has no access to education because of the financial problems. Radio programs can highlight these issues as they are being highlighted now.

Mehreen: In our times different educational based programs used to be televised which were really helpful. Today we hardly see such programs. Programs that are televised are against our culture.

Safi Ullah: These programs cannot bring a big change. The goal of the media is to force legislators to legislate upon an issue. Legislation would bring a change. Media persons should be educated enough to highlight the issue in an attractive manner.

Mehreen: At the end I would like to take at least one sentence comment on what steps should the legislators and higher officials take on the government level to improve the efficiency of the work of media in terms of common people's issues? What should they do to divert the attention of media more towards common people issues?

Shakeel: Media persons should bring maturity and sincerity in their work.

Sadiq: Media should give at least one day to common people's issues which would bring change to some extent.

Safi Ullah: We do have article 19, but it should be implemented more vigorously. Media should be given liberty to investigate and collect information by removing bureaucratic hurdles.

Mehreen: To access the information is the right of media. This is all from today's program. Goodbye for the moment.

## Episode: 40

### Topic: Effects and symptoms of Thalassemia disease in Balochistan

Guests: Shaina Baloch (Microbiologist), Zakaullah Lashari (Medical Student) and Abdul Malik Mengal (Medical Student and Socialist).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 09-09-2014

#### Program Summary

Thalassemia has turned into a serious issue in Balochistan. In this disease human body doesn't make blood due to the lack of hemoglobin in red blood cells. Pale face, whitish nails and swelling body and fever are the symptoms of Thalassemia. The ratio of Thalassemia is 8% in Balochistan which is the highest in the country. There are 2 care centers for its treatment in Balochistan that are in Quetta. The number of patients exceeds the limit the center can afford. There are no care centers on district level due to which most of its victims die. According to doctors the major reason of Thalassemia is cousin marriages. If cousin marriages are avoided the ratio of this disease will decrease. The people appeal the government to establish new care centers on district level.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: I shall ask today's first question from Shaina. As you are a program specialist, tell us what Thalassemia is?

Shania: Thalassemia disease is an inherited disorder which is transferred by parents to children through genes. There are three types of blood cells i.e. red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. This disease occurs due to the lack of hemoglobin or abnormal hemoglobin in red blood cells.

Liaqat: Mr. Zakaullah Lashari, we would like you to tell us what the initial symptoms of Thalassemia are.

Zakaullah: As far as kids are concerned their stomach and face get swelled. They become very weak. They aren't even able to walk.

Liaqat: Mr. Abdul Malik, tell us how many centers are there in Balochistan for the treatment of Thalassemia and what are their locations?

Abdul Malik: Its treatment center is in Quetta i.e. Kidney Center where approximately 11 thousand patients are under treatment. Considering the population of Balochistan, the number of patient in Kidney Center Quetta is very large. I mean to say that this disease is expanding very fast.

Liaqat: There are other districts in Balochistan that are very far from Quetta. Miss Shaina, are there any care centers on district level as well?

Shaina: Not yet. It is under consideration. There is lack of awareness in people. I think the government should open blood banks in small areas.

Liaqat: Mr. Zakaullah, is there any permanent cure for Thalassemia? Can one thoroughly get rid of it?

Zakaullah: There are different stages of Thalassemia. If it is treated in early stages, it can definitely be cured

thoroughly. It depends on the stage of the disease. Else only blood is the solution from time to time. In foreign countries bone is transplanted through which it can be cured, but it is a highly expensive treatment. It hasn't been introduced in Pakistan till now.

Liaqat: As it is a genetic or inherited disease, Can it be identified in a baby during pregnancy?

Zakallah: It can't be identified in Pakistan, but in some foreign countries they do test it before birth. If there is any disorder, they go for abortion.

Liaqat: Ms. Shaina, how does Thalassemia spread and how can we prevent it?

Shaina: If the parents are also Thalassemia victims, there are 25% chances that the baby would also be having this disease. If the baby has a major Thalassemia, the blood transfusion is very crucial within 15 or 20 days.

Liaqat: Mr. Abdul Malik, as there is tribal culture in Balochistan in which marriages are arranged with nearest relatives like first cousins etc. Does it have any relation with Thalassemia?

Abdul Malik: If the parents are carrier of Thalassemia, so child may also be affected. Otherwise it doesn't matter whether they are cousins or have any other close relation.

Liaqat: Ms. Shaina will tell us that how we can bring change in our society for the prevention of this disease.

Shaina: We should do awareness programs for its prevention. If we aware people from blood disorder particularly the ones who value cousin marriages, it would prevent different diseases. It would be better to make people aware about Thalassemia.

Liaqat: Let's take a report regarding Thalassemia from our reporter.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Quetta

The performance of health department in Balochistan seems to be very poor due to which the state of health in the province is going from bad to worse. The increasing rate in the ratio of Hemophilia and Thalassemia has made this problem very serious. The rate of Thalassemia in Balochistan seems to be the highest in the country. Regarding Thalassemia and Hemophilia, we met the head doctor of Bolan Medical Complex Thalassemia Center Dr. Luqman Butt who says;

According to a survey the ratio of Thalassemia in Punjab, Sindh and KPK is 5.2%, 4.3% and 7% respectively. Unfortunately its ratio is 8% in Balochistan which is almost double of Sindh. There is only one Government Thalassemia Center in Balochistan where not only patients from Balochistan are treated, but patient from Afghanistan and other provinces are also given treatment. The number of registered patients is 1150. As we have tribal culture, so it is important to test the hemoglobin of male partner at least. If the report is negative, the marriage is possible then. If Thalassemia exists to a minor level in both the partners, the marriage shouldn't be arranged then. These types of marriages should be stopped especially cousin marriages. As the ratio of Thalassemia is extremely high in our province so we will have to work hard for its prevention through awareness. We appeal that people should do Hemoglobin Electrophoresis Test before marriage so that we can decrease its ratio. Hemophilia is a disease in which blood doesn't stop once it starts coming out of the body. There are not much cases of this disease in Pakistan, but unfortunately here are no special centers for its prevention.

Yasir: Let's listen to a father of a newborn baby what he says;

I have got two kids who are victims of Thalassemia. The doctors say I have to transfuse blood from time to time. We have been treated kindly despite we are new here.

Liaqat: Shaina, what is the difference between Thalassemia and Hemophilia?



Shaina: Thalassemia belongs to red blood cells whereas Hemophilia is a white blood cell disease. In this disease clotting factors are missing due to which the blood of the baby won't stop once it starts coming out.

Liaqat: Mr. Zakaullah, what are the symptoms of Hemophilia and how is it different from Thalassemia?

Zakaullah: In this disease the blood won't stop. It has three types i.e. A, B and C. Hemophilia is caused due to the missing of clotting factors in blood.

Liaqat: Is it a viral or bacterial disease? Or is it also a genetic disease?

Zakaullah: It is caused due to none of the aforementioned factors. It is caused only because clotting factors are missing in white blood cells.

Liaqat: How is it cured? Shaina will tell us.

Shaina: Plasma is given to children to cure this disease. As blood is changed through transfusion to the patient of Thalassemia, similarly plasma is given through transfusion to the patient of Hemophilia.

Liaqat: 11 thousand cases have been reported which is a large number. I would like to know from Abdul Malik that what role can youth play for its prevention.

Abdul Malik: Youth can play their part by donating blood and spread awareness among the people. Youth should avoid cousin marriages if their partners have Thalassemia minor or if they are Hemophiliac. They should not let this disease pass to the coming generations.

Liaqat: As far as the prevention and cure is concerned, there are facilities in Quetta to counter these diseases, but there are many districts where such facilities are not provided. How a poor and middleclass person would face these diseases. Shaina, Is there any package for such people that may have been introduced by the government of Balochistan?

Shaina: Most of the people who belong to far areas die because they can't reach care centers. The process of the care is also complicated. Sometime the amount of iron is overloaded which causes other problems. I have a cousin who is also a victim of Thalassemia. He has been practicing blood transfusion for 27 years.

Liaqat: Has the treatment been given to your cousin by the government?

Shaina: No, there is a foundation which has been giving treatment to my cousin.

Liaqat: Social Sector gives helping hand in every problem in Balochistan, but unfortunately we haven't seen any role as such by the social sector in health related issues. Mr. Zakaullah tells us why it is so and how social sector can be encouraged to come forward so that this disease can be prevented.

Zakaullah: People should come forward, but first the government should introduce health care centers for this disease. Afterwards the government should start awareness among the people which will encourage them to come forward and give a helping hand. This is how this disease would be prevented.

Liaqat: Shaina, how much does it cost per one transfusion of blood?

Shaina: It costs a lot because first you need to agree someone to donate blood. Afterwards you need to diagnose this blood for other diseases. At the end you will make transfusion. It is difficult to pay for it this is why we want foundations to help us.

Liaqat: Mr. Zakaullah, as there are many infectious and contagious diseases which can be passed to others by touching or through breathing etc. Is Thalassemia also a contagious disease?

Zakaullah: No, Thalassemia and Hemophilia are not contagious diseases. These diseases can't be transferred by touching someone or having meal with someone or through sneezing. They are transferred through genes only.

Liaqat: Most of the people avoid these patients and they abhor such patients. What message would you give to people who think that Thalassemia is a contagious disease?

Zakaullah: People who think so should not show abhorrence towards such patients because it is not a contagious disease. People should show love and affection towards them because they are fighting with life and death.

Liaqat: It is said that this disease is usually seen in one type of blood group i.e. "O negative". What is the reality of this?

Zakaullah: Well this disease is irrespective of blood groups. It can occur in any of the blood groups.

Liaqat: Shaina, if parents see the initial symptoms of Thalassemia in their child, what should they do initially and where should they go for the prevention?

Shaina: The parents should consult a doctor.

Liaqat: As Zakaullah told that stomach gets enlarged, so there are doctors who are not well qualified. They might prescribe medicines for stomach. What should be done in this case?

Shaina: I think any doctor could easily understand it because in Thalassemia skin gets paled. You hardly see a drop of blood in the eyes. Nails get whitish. If the doctor finds these symptoms, he or she would tell the parents that their child is a victim of Thalassemia.

Liaqat: I think people should check it before the marriage. Is the hemoglobin electrophoresis test inexpensive and easy?

Zakaullah: This test is not very expensive, but first awareness needs to be produced among the people. Only then they would conduct these tests.

Liaqat: Can this test be conducted by common doctors on district level? Are there centers in Balochistan for this test?

Zakaullah: Yes, if the doctor is an MBBS it can be conducted on district levels, but there are no such centers on district levels. Balochistan does have such centers for these tests.

Liaqat: Mr. Abdul Malik, if the symptoms of this disease are hidden in parents and get revealed later after marriage, so is it possible that the child would also be affected?

Abdul Malik: Female partner is the carrier of hemophilia. Female partner looks normal but child get affected.

Liaqat: Let's take a report vis-à-vis Thalassemia and Hemophilia.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Quetta

Reporter: Thalassemia is a disease in which the patients do not produce blood but are given blood. It is a very dangerous and deadly disease. There are many patients of Thalassemia in Balochistan . We met Dr. Shumaila concerning Thalassemia. Let us listen to her.

Dr. Shumaila: The major reason of Thalassemia is cousin marriages. We can't avoid cousin marriages in our society, but we can test the blood before marriage. Apart from cousin marriages this disease also occurs.

Reporter: How do you treat the patient of Thalassemia?

Dr. Shumaila: In Pakistan only blood transfusion is the cure, but in European countries medicines are given to treat this disease. There are two centers in Balochistan for its treatment i.e. Bolan Medical Center and Kidney Center.

Reporter: What would you suggest people for its prevention?

Dr. Shumaila: We suggest people not to have cousin marriages, but if yet they want to value it then we suggest blood tests before the marriage. An international day is also observed vis-à-vis Thalassemia. Most of its patients live to 17 or 18 years. The patients who are given proper treatment can survive to maximum 30 or 35 years. The symptoms of this disease are the lack of blood and swelling of hands and feet.

Liaqat: Shaina, as we heard in the report that medicines are given in European Countries for the treatment of Thalassemia, why not in Pakistan?

Shaina: No such medicine is introduced in Pakistan as yet. It's being worked upon.

Liaqat: Mr. Zakaullah, is it possible to treat this disease thoroughly through medicines?

Zakaullah: Yes, it is possible if the disease is properly treated in its early stages.

Liaqat: What's the reason that this medicine is not available in Pakistan till now?

Zakaullah: It's not as simple as it looks like. We don't have that technology. It needs researches. It's being worked upon.

Liaqat: If the child is having Thalassemia by birth but the symptoms couldn't be seen, is it possible that 2 or 3 years later this disease would start showing itself?

Zakaullah: Yes, it is possible.

Liaqat: At what age this disease identifies itself?

Zakaullah: It is identified in a patient at the age 4 or 5. 8 to 14 years child can survive if the stage of the disease isn't chronic.

Liaqat: Have you seen any case in which the disease is suddenly identified at the age 15?

Zakaullah: I haven't experienced such a case. The disease shows itself at the age of 4 or 5 or even 7 years.

Liaqat: We have seen that the children of some people fall victim to this disease although nobody else has ever had this disease before not even the ancestors. Shaina, what's your take on this?

Shaina: It happens due to mutation in genes. It's usually because of x-rays or other rays.

Liaqat: Is it possible that this disease occur due to x-rays or any other rays?

Shaina: If x-rays are passed through body again and again, it can damage hemoglobin which would cause Thalassemia.

Liaqat: Mr. Zakaullah, red cells get less or white cells get less in Thalassemia?

Zakaullah: In Thalassemia oxygen doesn't supply to red blood cells due to which red blood cells don't work.

Liaqat: Abdul Malik, what should be the role of social community in the prevention of such diseases?

Abdul Malik: Social community should play a positive role in the prevention of such diseases. Nobody should hesitate to donate blood. People should take the patient of Thalassemia to hospital as soon as possible.

Liaqat: How long can a child survive without blood after the identification of the disease?

Abdul Malik: It depends on the severity of the disease.

Liaqat: Mr. Zakallah, what would be your message to the government for its prevention?

Zakallah: My message to the government is that it should run awareness campaigns in both peripheral areas and mega cities. There should be care centers on at least divisional level if not at district level.

Liaqat: Mr. Abdul Malik, as a youth leader what would you appeal to the government?

Abdul Malik: The government should spread awareness among the people through campaigns and media particularly through radio because everyone listens to radio. Social NGOs should play their part as well.

Liaqat: Shaina, what should we do for the prevention of Thalassemia as a nation?

Shaina: We should donate blood to children who are just waiting for us and who we are hope for.

Liaqat: I also appeal the government to introduce hospitals, care centers and blood bank for such patients. Other people from the society should also help through donating their blood. It's goodbye for now.

## Episode: 41

### Topic: Role of youth in national integrity

Guests: Irfan Mulazai Baloch (Social Activist), Zahoor Ahmad (Student and Youth Representative) and Behram Zakir (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Bakhtawar Hashim

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 15-09-2014

#### Program Summary

The secret of the development of any nation lies in the performance of youth. Youth is considered to be the most precious capital of the country. National integrity plays a vital role in the progress of any country. Youth can contribute a lot in national integrity. Pakistani Youth, particularly Balochistan Youth, is pretty determined to contribute in the development of the country, but they are not facilitated properly. Pakistani Youth have got loads of potential, but if they are provided with the opportunities they want. Balochistan Youth have proved in every department i.e. sports, education etc. According to social experts youth have got disappointed by the politicians because they aren't given their rights. The role of youth is getting less because of the lack of awareness among youth. Youth is being exploited by politicians and religious activists. Social Activists and experts think that youth can contribute in national integrity only if they are facilitated and polished.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: I shall start the series of questions with Irfan Baloch. What do we mean by national integrity?

Irfan Baloch: As today's program is about the role of youth in national integrity, I want to shed light on population aspect. ICRW is an international NGO that does research on demography. The figures and facts of this NGO are very much authentic. According to ICRW, more than 25% of the world's population comprises of youth. In Asia, 35% of the population comprises of youth according to the data of ICRW. The highest percentage of youth exists in Pakistan. Its ratio is 35% that of the total population. 19% of which falls in the age 18 to 24.

Mehreen: But these statistics differ accordingly. It is said that 60 to 63% of the population in Pakistan comprises of youth.

Irfan: It does differ accordingly, but the readings of international NGOs are more authentic because they go from country to country and door to door. Here in Pakistan people don't understand the definition of youth in terms of age. If a job is announced for youth, the age limit is mentioned 18 to 40, which is illogical. Getting back to the question, the main role in the development of a country is that of the youth. The youth of Pakistan have got a lot of potential in spite of the fact that they are not facilitated. Recently a boy, Rafiullah, from Fort Abdullah got a scholarship from Cambridge University which is given to one person in entire Asia. This proves that how much potential our youth have got. But the government needs to commence activities to bring the best out of the youth.

Mehreen: Mr. Behram Zakir, is large percentage of youth a threat to a nation or a capital of a nation, in terms of Balochistan?

Behram: I think the high percentage of youth is nothing to worry about only if they are properly facilitated. As far as Pakistan is concerned, it has got highest ratio of youth in Asia, but they are not properly facilitated. Most of them are illiterate.

Mehreen: If China can impose a ban on population growth, why not Pakistan can do the same? Considering all the problems in Pakistan i.e. unemployment, illiteracy etc. don't you think there should be a little control over population?

Behram: There should be control on population, but Chinese youth have shown their potential in the growth of their country. Pakistani youth is yet to show their potential, but if they are properly utilized. We need work-force. If the government encourages multinational companies to start working in Pakistan, our youth can be used positively.

Mehreen: Mr. Zahoor, what can be and what should be the role of youth in the development and prosperity of the country?

Zahoor Ahmad: The role of youth is very important in the development of a country. Youth can show their potential only if government provides specific forums for them to excel.

Mehreen: Mr. Irfan, I would like to take your views on the same question.

Irfan: Youth have a lot of grievances from the government. Youth isn't provided with the forum they need. There are lots of fields in which youth can earn a name. Sports are loved the most in Balochistan. The captain of the football team is from Balochistan. Without facilitation youth is showing such potential. It would have been better in the presence of facilitation.

Mehreen: Absolutely right. Youth haven't been given the right platform to prove their potential which is why they are being wasted. We've got some views of the people regarding the role of youth in national integrity. We will be back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Quetta

Yasir: The big role in the development of national harmony and brotherhood is that of the youth. The youth of Balochistan haven't been provided the facilities to come forward and play their role in the development of national harmony. Let's take the views of Muhammad Khalid who's a senior journalist of Quetta Press Club. He says;

Youth of Balochistan are playing their role in national integrity as compared to past, but the lack of facilities for the youth is a hurdle. If the youth of Balochistan is facilitated, the people of Balochistan are patriotic enough to come forward and help their country. Awareness events should be organized. Sports event should be scheduled. Youth fair took place on 14th of August. Sport has been given attention for the first time in the history of Balochistan. Youth should be provided opportunities so that they can be in contact with each other. The hurdles need to be eradicated.

Yasir: Let's ask a youngster, Asad Ghalib, to take his views on the same topic. He says;

The role of youth regarding national integrity is very positive. There is no proper planning for youth so that they can come forward and work for the welfare of national integrity. Our efforts are still ongoing.

Yasir: Balochistan Youth need opportunities to develop national integrity so that they can come forward and play their role in strengthening the country.

REPORT: Bakhtawar Hashim

The development of any nation and state relies on youth. Youth is the future of the country. We met Ms. Shaina who is a student of Balochistan University. She says;

The development of any country lies in thinking of the youth for the future of their country. The youth of Ba-

lochistan should concentrate on education.

Bakhtawar Hashim: What else can be the role of youth apart from this?

Shaina: Youth can play their role in awareness of the people. Youth's role in tolerance is also very important. Youth can play their role in changing the old systems of rural areas. Youth should force the government authorities to provide people with their rights. The youth should play their role in making it possible for the people to get education.

Bakhtawar Hashim: If youth play their part in the development of national integrity as mentioned by Shaina, it would an important role in the development of the country.

Mehreen: Mr. Zahoor Ahmad, Is our youth disappointed, under pressure or negligent?

Zahoor: They are both disappointed and negligent. Youth is disappointed because the system is disturbed. People are being exploited both politically and religiously. If youth gets guidance at University level, they can come forward. Media also has an important role in the awareness of the people.

Mehreen: Irfan Mulazai Baloch is waving his hand so that I should take his comment. Yes?

Irfan: Why wouldn't be youth disappointed? They want to do something in life, but they don't get the opportunities. Youth is not negligent. They are disappointed because their potential doesn't get a chance to come out and flourish.

Mehreen: Our youth seem to be a victim of depression. They tend to go up against each other for small issues. They tend to get furious without any reason. Hatred is another problem. Since when, this mixture of menaces got birth in our youth and how?

Irfan: The main reason is the lack of insight in people. Getting a degree doesn't make a person aware. In schools, colleges and universities only bookish work is done. When Pakistan Tehreek Insaf (PTI) had their first gathering in Lahore, 1 million people participated in it among which 90% was youth. Youth want to come forward, but they aren't given chance. The main reason of the situations today in the country is that we don't let people what they want to do in life. People are being manipulated and divided. It is said that Pakistani people isn't a nation, it is just a crowd. It is true to some extent because people have divided themselves in different casts. At some point of time in the past Balochistan used to be famous for national harmony, but now due to the law and order situation it has become famous for terrorism. I request the youth ministry to facilitate youth properly so that they get out of this quagmire.

Mehreen: Mr. Behram, in the past youth used to give importance to our cultural values, but nowadays youth is tired of their cultural values. People are imitating other cultures and practices. What is your take on this?

Behram: Youth is doing so because they have had enough of the disappointing circumstances. If you ask a well-educated person that what he would do in future, he or she will say that they want to go abroad because there is peace and luxury. These things have affected our youth. Youth have no other option except joining PTI. They feel a ray of hope in PTI. Thanks to our politicians and religious activist for disturbing the lives of youth slowly and gradually. The potential of the youth is being wasted. Dr. Abdul Salam who was a great scientist was wasted just because he was Qadiani (a religious group). USA used his talent for the development of their people.

Mehreen: First there used to be scientists, painters, champions, world record holders etc. in our youth, but for the last two decades we haven't produced anybody as such, why?

Behram: There is no patriotism in our youth now because they have been depressed by the circumstances created by the politicians. They know they can't do anything whatsoever because of which they don't have the feeling of patriotism anymore. Recently a ban has been put on Pakistan in Olympics. How could a sportsman

get exposure? What would be the future of sports? How could one ask why good sportsmen are not being produced if the government can't give them exposure?

Mehreen: Mr. Zahoor; is social media awakening youth or is it taking youth off the track?

Zahoor: It depends on the mindset of youth whether to take positives or negatives from media. There are many things in social media which youth can use to increase their talent and potential.

Mehreen: Is our media playing its role in highlighting the potential of youth?

Zahoor: I don't think media is playing its part. Media only means business. Some channels are televising Turkish Dramas which would destroy our culture. We have got brilliant writers in Pakistan who can write outstanding dramas. It might be playing its role, but to a very limited and low level.

Mehreen: Although youth is disappointed and negligent, but they don't take the responsibilities on their shoulders as youth used to do in the past. Mr. Irfan, why is youth running away from their responsibilities nowadays?

Irfan: It depends upon the circumstances and issues at different times. I would like to add something to the previous question. I think social media has played its role in awakening the perception of the people, but have got limited the reason of which is the negative use of media. We waste our time in chatting on the internet despite learning or getting some information. If social media is used positively, it can give better results. Electronic media is also playing its part by arranging different awareness programs for youth. This program is an example of that. If electronic media is used in a positive manner, it can be very effective in the contribution to national integrity.

Mehreen: We discussed all the issues and reasons how our youth is spoiled. What theory should be implemented for the solution to this problem?

Irfan: It isn't rocket science. We have got institutions for its solution, but the government need to appoint sincere and honest workers.

Mehreen: Where can we find sincere and honest workers? I don't think there are any left.

Irfan: We still have such people, but if they are properly facilitated. We need to know what kind of instructors and mentors we should have on university level. In Punjab, Chief Minister Shehbaz Sharif has arranged debate clubs on school and college level which would improve the writing and debate skills of the youth. Incentives are given to motivate youth. One can hardly find even a single debate ceremony in Balochistan in a year. The government should arrange such motivating programs in Balochistan.

Mehreen: Mr. Behram, what steps can be taken for the betterment of the circumstances?

Behram: We need to bring changes on grass root level. If a student has the mindset that he or she would pass in examination by cheating, how and why would he or she study?

Mehreen: Mr. Zahoor, any last comment?

Zahoor: If education gets free for everyone, it would develop awareness in people.

Mehreen: Yes Mr. Irfan, you want to say something?

Irfan: I think youth should be determined about their career first. They should know what they would be doing in future. Youth shouldn't be blind followers.

Mehreen: It's enough for now. Take care and good bye.



## Episode: 42

### Topic: Precarious scenario of education in Makran division

Guests: Chakar Baloch (Education Specialist), Ali Baloch (Youth Representative) and Mariam Baloch (Female Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch , Panjgur

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 16-09-2014

#### Program Summary

The secret of the development of any nation lies in the education of youth. Education plays an indispensable role in the development of a nation. Balochistan is considered to be backward in terms of education because a very less amount of budget is spent on education. On the other hand some people in rural areas and some part of urban areas are against female education. Panjgur in Makran Division was on the top of the list in Balochistan in the field of education, but recently some extremist groups have threatened both students and teachers. Their demand was to stop co-education. After having accepted the demand, they stopped school vans, alighted teachers and students and set the vans on fire. Some schools have also been burnt. The schools in Panjgur have been closed for 5 or 6 months. The closure of schools has badly affected students. People have protested against it, but no serious action has been taken by the government as yet. Females of Panjgur are eager to get education, but they are not allowed. Both the teachers and students appeal to the government to take stern action against the alarming situation of education in Makran Division.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Let me ask the first question of the program from Chakar Baloch. Could you please shed light on the recent incidents against education in Panjgur?

Chakar Baloch: As we are living in a deprived province of Pakistan, the body of education hasn't been good since Pakistan came into being. In the past there were hardly any educational institutions, but if there are any now, they are in organized cities. So far as the rural district Panjgur is concerned, private sector of education has been completely closed. None of the private schools is functioning at the moment. So far as the government schools are concerned, their level of education is very poor. The most affected sector in private sector of education is female education. At the very commencement of the threats given to schools, female education got affected immensely. Local people and students protested against it to a greater extent.

Liaqat: Mr. Ali Baloch, what are the feelings of youth after the recent incidents?

Ali: The youth of Panjgur and Makran division are highly frustrated after the occurrence of the recent incidents. Panjgur used to be very advanced in education, but it is no longer. The youth have gone very backward because of the ban by the militants. The government tends to improve education in urban areas, but a large number of populations reside in rural areas. The government needs to focus on these areas for the advancement of education.

Liaqat: What is the youth feeling because of the recent militancy?

Ali: Youth is depressed because of the recent incidents in the field of education. The youth have gone backward in terms of education. When a federal post is announced, our youth is not able to compete for the seat because of the scenarios of education. Students don't find themselves in a position to apply for jobs on merit. And this frustration gives birth to criminal activities.

Liaqat: Ms. Mariam, what are the feelings of female youth after the recent incidents against education in Makran Division, particularly Panjgur?

Mariam: The youth have gone centuries back in the field of education because of the closure of schools. There are 360 schools for boys and girls in Panjgur. The number of private schools in Panjgur is 24. The closure of 24 schools have affected youth very badly. Now that the schools are reopened after 5 or 6 months, the students still have fear in their hearts. The schools were not closed only by a threat; the militants went and fired shots in front of the students. The kids were threatened. Even the teachers were beaten in front of the students. Robberies were also carried out. The mobiles of the teachers were taken by militants.

Liaqat: I think recently a school was set on fire?

Mariam: Yes, the militants broke into the school and set the halls on fire. Memar-e-Nu is a renowned school in the area. The militants broke into the premises of schools and set the offices on fire and beat the staff of the school. When a student is away from school for a day, it affects a lot. What would be the effect if a student is away from schools for six months? It is something to worry about. If such incident and activities continues to take place, development can't be considered at all.

Liaqat: What are the reasons behind these activities and who do you think is benefiting by keeping the children away from education particularly female?

Mariam: The aim was not only to stop female education. First the demand was to make separate sections for females. This demand was accepted. Despite having accepted their demand, school buses were stopped on the way and were blazed. Their aim was not only to stop female education, but to stop the education of the entire province I guess. The education of Panjgur was on top these days. Some people couldn't stomach it. You asked that who is behind these activities.

Liaqat: We don't see any practical steps seem to be taking place in five years?

Mariam: Absolutely. The government should have provided security in the early stage of this problem. No practical steps were taken against the militancy in the commencement. Most of the people are of middle class. They can't afford to send their children to outer cities for education. They can't leave their settled jobs and houses.

Liaqat: Mr. Chakar Baloch, what initiatives have been taken by the government in this regard and what are the responsibilities of the government?

Chakar Baloch: The government is well aware of the situation, but it is absolutely unreasonable why the district administration hasn't taken any solid action against it. The recent steps by the government indicate that only government schools are trying to be resumed. The militants are against co-education, but it is not a sin to provide a more effective environment of education for your children. The main reason of giving co-education to children is to make them confident.

Liaqat: But Mariam said that co-education isn't the only issue with which militants are unhappy because after having stopped co-education, they blazed schools and buses. The aim behind all these activities seems to be something else?

Chakar Baloch: Absolutely. The government didn't take care of it in its initial stages. First the demand was only to stop co-education, now their demand is to stop female education. They want the females only to focus on Islamic Education. People who are behind this won't get anything at all by doing all this. I think their own children might also be victim of these incidents. The government should take a serious action or else this menace would spread in entire province.

Liaqat: If female education is stopped how we would produce female doctors. Mr. Ali, what is the role of social

sector i.e. human rights in this regard?

Ali: NGOs have been working, but they too have been threatened. Shots are fired at them. Local people are migrating from the area so how can the NGOs work. Female Polio Agents were tortured by dogs. Our government is least concerned about it. Our education budget is less than 10%. The government needs to spend maximum amount of money on women education so that the damage caused by the militancy can be minimized or else the future seems to be dark.

Liaqat: Now we will move towards a report vis-à-vis the aforementioned hurdles of education.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Panjgur

Education is the basic right of any society and nation. When nations remain ignorant of education, those nations can't make development. The lack of education in Balochistan has already caused many problems. The ratio of education is very low. Educational institutes have been closed for the last 5 or 6 months in Makran Division so that women couldn't get education there. All the educational sectors are closed in Makran Division presently which is an unrecoverable loss. Let's ask the principal of a college Mr. Nizam Ul Karim regarding this issue that what he says.

Nizam Ul Karim: I think it is a very serious problem. People still don't know who the enemies of education are. The effect on future of the nation is very grave. It is said that if one wants to get familiar with a nation, have a look over their education. I don't know the main reason of the closure of the schools, but the extremists say to stop female education because it is a sin. The extremists have not commented on it so nothing can be said what the reasons are. We don't know who these people are. Not only Panjgur is suffering, but an incident of the same type has occurred in Turbat where a school and library were set on fire. It was said that getting English Education is a sin. The extremists said not to get western education. Whoever these people are, they are the people of our country. Security was given to schools and colleges, but two incidents occurred in the presence of security. Principal office and staffroom of a school were blazed. A school van was attacked and a female teacher and some students were threatened. No serious security steps have been taken by the government till now.

Yasir: The closure of educational institutions has raised a new problem in Balochistan particularly in Makran Division because of which youth is going far away from education. Educational Institutions have been closed for four months. Co-educational Institutions have been closed. Threats have been given to female students. Schools have been burnt which has caused another big loss to education.

Liaqat: Mr. Chakar Baloch, as you belong to Panjgur, what has been the role of government against the closure of schools and has the government provided any security?

Chakar: Security problems are not only in Panjgur, but entire Balochistan. The security provided by the government in this case is not satisfactory. The schools are given two police men who stand in front of the school. I think this is not a satisfactory security system. The government needs to prepare a solid security plan in these situations.

Liaqat: The law and order situation in Balochistan is another problem in itself, but why the government hasn't been able to provide security to schools?

Chakar: Providing security is not the solution to the problem. This kind of security might be effective temporarily, but the government needs to find the solution to the problem by negotiating with the extremists. If the extremists don't negotiate then the government should take stern action against them. When the students find policemen out of the school every day, it badly affects their minds.

Liaqat: Have the people talked to their MPAs and MNAs in regard to this problem?

Chakar: All the MPs are usually in Quetta. They only visit these kinds of areas on Eid or for their personal matters. It seems that they too have been threatened. Some sincere people from the teaching faculty have met the MPs and media in this regard, but they don't seem to be serious in finding a solution.

Liaqat: Why aren't all the political parties getting together to solve the problem or isn't education a priority for them or do they not want the problem to be solved?

Chakar: During the election the slogans and promises of the politician suggest that they would turn Balochistan into Europe after the elections, but nothing as such has happened in the history. Different parties and politicians aren't serious about the problem because their children are studying in advanced schools, colleges and universities in peaceful environments. They don't have their own family problems. They don't seem to be doing anything for the welfare of the people after having elected, because they think politics is an investment like business. Invest 20 million and earn 100 to 200 million Rupees. We don't have ideological politics. The political parties get together only for their personal favors.

Liaqat: Let's listen to a report in regard to recent crises of education in Makran Division.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Panjgur

The closure of educational institutes in Balochistan has caused negative effects on the minds of youth. All the private schools have been closed for 4 or 5 months. Unfortunately students are being deprived from education. What impacts would it have on students; to know this we met a student Hani Baloch. She says;

The closure of schools has struck the minds of student very badly. We were threatened that Baloch females can't get education. We don't know which period we are living in that we aren't allowed to be educated. Islam says that getting education is must for men and women. Development is not possible without women education. We rallied and demonstrated in different cities, but no serious steps were taken by the government.

Yasir: Let's ask another student Shari Baloch that what she says,

Shari Baloch: All this is being done to stop Baloch female from making progress. The institutions which were really good in term of education were closed. We don't know who these people are. It wouldn't have happened if the government had taken stern action against the extremists. The schools can reopen only if the government shows some interest in the problem. Everyone wants to become a respected person in the society by studying and getting a job, but if the studies are interrupted, it hurts a lot.

Yasir: The provincial government of Balochistan is requested to reopen the educational institutes as soon as possible so that youth can be lightened with education. Youth seem to be disappointed with the closure of educational institutes because of which youth is going far from education.

Liaqat: Before the report we were discussing the role of politicians. Ms. Mariam why don't we compel the politicians before the elections, isn't it our fault to elect them?

Mariam: We do blame politicians, but it is our fault as well. We know that the politician have their own favors yet we vote them. We don't get any response from them. We shouldn't be dependent on them. I request youth to fulfill their duties. We at least can educate a child. I live in Quetta. When I heard about the closure of schools, I shifted around 15 member of my family to here and rented a house for them. Their complete education responsibilities are mine. Every individual should contribute in solving a problem.

Liaqat: Media spends hours on unimportant issues i.e. when a person falls into a pit, media televise it for hours. Why our media isn't interested in these kinds of problems?

Mariam: You are right. None of the media channels have televised the closure of education in Panjgur.

Liaqat: Ali Baloch, why isn't media playing its role in Balochistan?

Ali: Media is busy in highlighting their internal contradictions. They don't get any time for such big issues. They are running after ratings. They report only political issues which don't need any reporting at all. People in other provinces won't have any idea what is happening in Balochistan.

Liaqat: But CRSS has tried to some extent to make other people know what the problems of Balochistan are.

Ali: We are thankful to them.

Liaqat: Mr. Chakar Baloch, what is your opinion about the role of media?

Chakar: The role of media is very important, but unfortunately none of the media channel televised this issue. They mean business and ratings. They don't consider the problems of common people.

Liaqat: The government needs to consider this problem solemnly. Media should also play its role as they made Malala Yousafzai the symbol of education. I am sure media would find many Malalas in Makran Division. If we want to make progress, we need to educate our females. This is enough for now. Till the next program, it is goodbye.

## **Episode: 43**

### **Topic: The effects of corruption in Balochistan**

Guests: Zubair (Program Expert), Adil Baloch (Youth Representative) and Faisal Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchormperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 22-09-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Youth is considered to be the future of a nation. Youth in Pakistan particularly in Balochistan are very disappointed and frustrated because of the high corruption rate. There are several types of corruption, but nepotism is said to be the worst of them. Stealing money via different projects by political representatives is also considered to be the biggest form of corruption. Youth is frustrated because of unemployment in the province. Those who have authority appoint only their favorite and known ones. Those who have talent and right are kept deprived of their right. The government hasn't taken any satisfactory steps against its eradication. If the level of education is improved and awareness among people is spread, corruption can be eradicated. Some people think if the salaries of the employees are raised; it can also be helpful in the eradication of corruption.

#### **Transcription**

Ahmad Zeshan: I will start the series of questions from Zubair Ahmad. How do you assess corruption in Balochistan ?

Zubair: Corruption is of different types. Nepotism exists in Balochistan. Out of turn promotion is another type of corruption. Apart from that money stolen in different developmental activities is also a type of corruption. The government claims to develop health and education sector before the elections, but it happens otherwise. I think the biggest corruption is being done in these two departments. All these forms of corruptions affects youth badly.

Zeshan: Earlier you mentioned different forms of corruption. How badly can nepotism affect the deserving youth?

Zubair: I think the biggest menace in Balochistan is nepotism. Talented people don't get their rights. Youth has already been frustrated. It would take them to deep frustration. This frustration would cause alarming law and order situation because all these problems are interrelated somehow directly or indirectly.

Zeshan: Mr. Adil as a youth representative, how do you assess all these forms of corruption?

Adil: The role of institutions regarding such issues is very important, but no such role has been seen to eradicate corruption. Due to corruption people are instigated towards criminal activities. No state can make progress if the performance of the institutions is poor. Most of the people in Balochistan are talented enough who have done their graduation, but have no job due to corruption.

Zeshan: Mr. Faisal what do you say about corruption?

Faisal: Corruption destroys a society specially youth. Youth studies and hopes they would get a job, but due to nepotism and other corruptions they don't get their rights. They get frustrated due to which they find themselves unworthy in society.

Zeshan: Mr. Khalid Baloch is with us who is a program manager for CRSS. He keeps a close observation on the issues of youth. Sir what would you add to the topic?

Khalid: Corruption is everywhere. He who finds a chance of doing it would do it. The government officials think that this is the only chance which they should cash. They not only think of their luxury, but of their coming races. Common people are also corrupt to their extent. A shopkeeper sells things at higher prices. Everyone is corrupt to his or her level of authority. The problem is we don't ask for any accountability. For example if a road is being constructed, we don't ask the officials about its quality and its budget. We even don't discuss it within the community.

Zubair: Mr. Khalid said that people don't ask for the accounts. I think people haven't been educated for doing so. These people are victim of corruption as well. Hardly 40% of the people in Balochistan are educated. He who can write his or her name falls into this ratio. He who studies till eighth standard declares himself and educated person. These kinds of people don't know to interrupt such activities. People have been kept deprived of getting education. The government claims that they have done enough work in the field of education, but it doesn't seem so.

Khalid: I would like to comment on this. You said people don't have the perception because they are not educated. No education is required for raising your voice against any ill acts. For example if one goes to a hospital and doctors are absent and there is pile of filth everywhere, one should have sense to feel uncomfortable as a result one should complain. In the past when a teacher used to make long absentee, uneducated people would file a complaint against them, but nowadays the teachers are making absentees for their private teachings and tuitions.

Zubair: First people would raise their voices because immediate action used to be taken against any corrupt activity. Even now the people protest if a patient dies due to the carelessness or absence of doctors, but no action is taken due to which the people have gone frustrated. They no longer raise their voice because they know it would be useless.

Zeshan: We have got a report regarding the topic. We will be right back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Quetta

Corruption has reached to its highest level in Balochistan. Nepotism is being done in every department. Merit is being trampled because of which the youth of the province is being disappointed. The prevention of corruption is the basic need of current time. We met a social and political leader Mr. Mir Chakar Khan Baloch to know how youth is being affected by corruption. He says, "The state of corruption in Balochistan is very critical. Corruption is being done in almost every field of life whether that is politics, economic or social. You will find corruption in every department. Corruption ruins nations. Corruption benefits a person for the sometime, but it destroys the upcoming nations. Education holds the position of spinal cord in the development of any nation. The highest level of corruption is being done in the field of education. Quetta is the biggest city, but there is only a single university in which the level of education is pathetic. Sometimes the lecturers don't get salaries for a month or so. Nobody is worried about it. Corruption demolishes the roots of the society. A sort of injustice gets birth when corruption enters a society. For example if I am a position holder and yet I don't get proper scholarship, I won't be able to continue my education and I would no longer have the interest to get education. Nepotism is being done in every department. People are being appointed for posts which they are not worthy of. People are being educated how to do corruption. Youth should play its role in the eradication of corruption especially university students. They should aware people. The setup needs to be deleted. Talented people who have the ability to face problems and issues should be given chance to come forward."

Yasir: The government and judiciary should take serious initiatives for the prevention of corruption in the province so that youth can be prevented from disappointment and can be encouraged towards a bright future. Corruption has spread to its immense level in different departments due to which the future of the province

seems to be dark.

Zeshan: Welcome back listeners. Mr. Adil wanted to say something before the report?

Adil: People are facing problems in the field of education, health and water in my district. The government claims developmental work in the aforementioned departments, but nothing as such has been seen.

Zeshan: Which part of Balochistan do you belong to?

Adil: I belong to District Gawadar.

Zeshan: There are many claims about the development in your district though.

Adil: There are so many claims regarding development, but no practical evidence has been seen. There is a degree college in which there is shortage of lecturers. There is one hospital in which machineries are available, but no doctors. The problem of water is getting worse. The government claims it to be the gate to Central Asia, but it is easier said than done. Most of the people in Gawadar are fishermen. There are no education opportunities for their children. In fact they don't want their children to be educated because they believe there are no jobs in this country due to nepotism. People should be given their rights. If the corruption goes on, the society would be destroyed. Crime would also be increased due to corruption. The country would not make progress.

Zubair: As far as Gawadar is concerned, it has been promoted internationally. People who are out of the country or province would think Gawadar is being turned to Dubai. As a matter of fact there are many problems in Gawadar. There is no proper sanitation. I myself have been there. In near future a big problem of water would raise. As you enter Gawadar you would feel nasty smell all around.

Zeshan: You are right. I have also gone through a detailed report vis-à-vis water problem in Gawadar.

Zubair: The government needs to solve the problem of water, before Gawadar is announced an international city. One cannot live without water. It would be the biggest corruption if such a serious matter is ignored.

Zeshan: We have another report regarding corruption. We will continue our discussion after the report.

REPORT: Habib-Ur-Rehman, Quetta

Apart from other problems at the moment corruption has also become a destiny of our people and youth. Corruption is very common in our society that person of both lower and upper class is victim of it which is a big tragedy. It is the reason of the distortion of the youth. Let's ask Ms. Sobia Zaheer, the director of agriculture about the effects of corruption. She says, "Corruption means when a person uses his or power illegally. There are many types of corruption i.e. nepotism, bribe etc. There are many reasons of corruption. Poor people are too poor and rich are loaded. There are upper class, middle class and lower class people in our society. The salaries of the people don't meet their expenses. Inflation is increasing. If a person can't meet general expense so he or she will have to take support of corruption. Political members appoint their family members on most of the seats. The biggest impact of corruption is unemployment. When an illegible candidate is given a job of high rank or grade, the ones who deserve it will get frustrated. Because of unemployment these youth will be involved in criminal activities. To prevent corruption there must be an anti-corruption department like NAB which could take neutral decisions. Our judiciary must be strong because justice delayed is justice denied. Political parties should be neutral. Only one member of the family should be in politics. There should be equal rights of both rich and poor. Awareness campaign can help people know their rights. Corruption is a big tragedy of our society. We can only cross our finger for its eradication."

Habib-Ur-Rehman: The eradication of corruption plays a positive role in the development and growth of youth.

Zeshan: Welcome once again. Mr. Zubair how can the rate of corruption be decreased?



Zubair: Media hold the position of pillar in the state. It should expose corruption. It should televise awareness programs. Apart from that there should be accountability of everything. Judiciary should take action against the departments which are corrupt. It should be independent. Last but not the least people should not elect persons who are not educated and sincere.

Zeshan: Mr. Adil what would you add to it?

Adil: NAB means National Accountability Bureau. It should play its part in the eradication of corruption. Media should also play its part. Journalist should write about this menace. Police should also work for its prevention.

Zeshan: Mr. Faisal what is your opinion?

Faisal: The government should give a good pay to its employees. There is a high rate of inflation at the moment. The government should facilitate its employees so that corruption can be stopped.

Zeshan: First the records used to be stored in books, but as the computers came, every department was computerized. People said that it will bring accuracy and would decrease corruption, but as a matter of fact these computers have to be operated by human beings. If the human being is corrupt how the rate of corruption would be decreased. We need to build the character of the human beings rather than computerizing every department. We need to educate people. The level of education needs to be improved. We should not think of education as a source of job. Education makes a good human being.

Zeshan: Mr. Zubair what do you say?

Zubair: You are right. Computerization might decrease it to some extent, but we need to aware people of its effects. We can't eradicate it through computerization thoroughly.

Zeshan: The point of Mr. Faisal was also good, but despite good pay if one does corruption, then there should accountability and punishment.

Zubair: The government should pay according to the expenditure of the people, but the psychology of the human is that he or she won't be happy if even a high salary is given.

Zeshan: The government needs to put its complete focus on the level of education.

Adil: The government has imposed emergency on education. There is only one university in Balochistan. No new colleges and universities have been approved by the government.

Zeshan: There are buildings for education, but no quality education is there. The government needs to make them active.

Zubair: Up gradation of a school or college won't improve the level of education.

Faisal: They do have funds and support of the federal government. They can easily open colleges and universities in any part of the country if they want.

Zeshan: The bottom line is that youth is mostly affected by corruption because youth is considered to be the most active group of people in the country. It is enough for now. Till the next segment it is goodbye.

## **Episode: 44**

### **Topic: Rights of minorities in Balochistan**

Guests: Jagdesh Kumar (Hindu Representative), Boez Rahib (Christian Representative) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 23-09-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Human beings are noble creatures. There is no preference of one person over another. People who belong to a specific religion and are least in number are entitled as minorities. Minorities have specific rights in any society, religion or state. There is a large number of minorities in Balochistan as well. The constitution of Pakistan secures the rights of minorities in every walk of life. Islam is a religion that secures and respects the rights of minorities. Islam ensures the security of these people. It allows them to practice their religion. People belonging to minorities seem to be unhappy with the title minorities. They believe there is no implementation of the laws for minorities. They are treated unfairly vis-à-vis job opportunities on the basis of their religion. And same is the story in every walk of life. People from minority and majority both suggest that awareness be spread among people to eradicate feelings of hatred and inferiority among people. Political leaders and Ulema should play a part in doing so.

#### **Transcription**

Zeeshan: Let me break the ice with Boaz. As you represent Christian Community, how do you assess the rights of minorities?

Boez: Minorities are very backward in Pakistan. People from minorities have problems of jobs. Minorities are not at all safe in Pakistan.

Zeeshan: Please shed light on the issues of jobs for minorities.

Boez: Apart from Muslims there are people in Pakistan who belong to other religions. Christians are also included in these religions. People belonging to other religions are known as minorities. Muslims undoubtedly have done immense hard work and many sacrifices for getting Pakistan, but Pakistani Christians have also played their role.

Zeeshan: There is no doubt that Christians have played a part in the creation of Pakistan. Do the people of your fraternity feel that they don't get platform for doing things only because they belong to minorities?

Boez: Yes, they do feel so.

Zeeshan: Where do they face such problems i.e. while getting education or when they get into practical life?

Boez: They face such problems in both the cases.

Zeeshan: Jagdesh is representing Hindu Community. Do your people feel that belonging to minority is the only reason behind their less growth?

Jagdesh: Competition and keeping someone deprived are two different matters altogether. Generally talking

we are not kept aside. Minorities aren't given their rights to some extent. They aren't kept aside deliberately, but are neglected.

Zeeshan: Khalid Baloch is with us who is our program manager. What are minorities' grievances?

Khalid: The topic chosen for today's program is very important for minorities all over the world. A trend has been developed that people who are in majority think that they deserve everything at first choice. We only say that minorities should be given a chance to come forward, but we don't do anything in practical. These people are labeled as minorities. They are made to feel that they are divided. Even majorities don't get their rights in Balochistan. When violence occurs in Balochistan, these people are affected the most. A trend has been set to make them leave the place or rob their shops which shouldn't be done. We should condemn this. I think there is a ministry for minorities; it should play its role. These people are also Pakistani. They have equal rights like us. It irritates one when he or she is made to feel a person from minority.

Zeshan: Mr. Jagdesh how many people have migrated from Balochistan?

Jagdesh: Approximately 800 families have migrated from Balochistan to other countries and provinces. We are one people. No particular group is involved in activities against minorities, but there are some people who do it for their personal profits. There are good and bad people everywhere. I agree with Khalid Baloch that we better produce awareness among both majorities and minorities. We shouldn't think of what happened in the past, but we better make strategy that nothing as such happen in the future. I would be very happy if any MPA is listening at the moment. When people from far places bring their problems to MPAs, they don't know them. How a representative would raise the problems of people in the assembly, if he or she doesn't know the people.

Zeeshan: Mr. Jagdesh, how are the members of minority elected? Is it the same as members of majorities or is it different?

Jagdesh: It's absolutely different. Minority can stand from any constituency; he can't win though because he doesn't have enough people of the community. Members submit their papers through a party in the election commission. Those who pay large amount of money in party fund are given preference. There are three seats of provincial assembly for minorities in Balochistan. There is a systematic method of the election commission through which they give one seat of minorities to the party that wins more seats and other seats to the rest of the parties according to their position. Sometimes two seats of minorities are given to the party who get a high mandate and one to the runner-up party. The members of the minority are selected by the party so they don't even know where minorities reside.

Zeeshan: Irfan Baloch is with us as a political worker. Islam gives us the lesson of moderation. There are a lot of rights for minorities in Islam. Pakistan is an Islamic State. Even in state of war their places of worship, women, elders and children are taken care of. Political workers keep a close eye on such matters. Sir I would like you to shed light on moderation in terms of humanity.

Irfan Baloch: Pakistan is no doubt an Islamic State whose founder is Muhammad Ali Jinnah. On March 23rd 1940 he said that minority will be given rights equal to Muslims. Minorities can freely practice their religion. The rights of Muslims and Non-Muslims were equal till Pakistan came into being in 1947. So far as their right is concerned at present, there aren't satisfactory rights given to them. They have issue of security while worshipping. They can't promote their culture and social activities. We have only seen "Diwali and Holy" in movies, but not here in practical. If these people are given a space to practice their culture, it would help in building national harmony.

Zeeshan: Our reporter has prepared a report vis-à-vis rights of minorities. We will take our discussion further after the report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Quetta

Minorities have specific rights in any society, religion or state. Minorities have their reservation regarding their rights in Balochistan. Yousaf who is a Christian and a professor at Balochistan University says;

“I am really thankful to CRSS for choosing such a topic which would spread awareness in people. No rights and law have been specified here in the history of Pakistan. There are 4% minorities of the total population in Pakistan. Minorities have a feeling of inferiority complex when it comes to jobs, religious freedom and other social activities. It is the duty of the government and elected members to take them out of this feeling so that they don't believe themselves minorities. I am against the terms minorities and majorities. Our youth has a complaint that their application is placed aside after having looked at their religion. We are recognized by our religion not by humanity. It is a strange exercise. Minorities have been residing in Balochistan in a large number because people used to be kind to them and their rights used to be reserved. There are laws regarding minorities by the government, but if these laws are practiced properly, it would eradicate inferiority complex. As the quota for minorities is increased from 3 to 5% by the government, but it is not followed when we apply for a job.” Minorities aren't happy with their rights. They face different problems in different scenarios. There are laws for minorities on government level, but it is the duty of government to apply these laws so that people of minorities also come forward for the welfare of the province. Pakistan has specified laws for minorities.

Hamid Hasan khan, who is a professor of Philosophy in Balochistan University, on minority issues opines;

The term minority is challengeable. One can call it in two different lifestyles. When one uses this term, it will cause opposition and antagonism. Rights should be on merit. To draw a line of division is an evil itself. Balochistan is a tribal society. Linguistic division would cause tribal division. Minorities of Balochistan are a part of the geography of Pakistan. We should not treat them as minority, but as humans.

Assistance Professor Dr. Haider Shah of Islamic Department describes the rights of minorities under the lights of Islam. He says, “Islam has given the same equal rights to minorities as Muslims. They get freedom of religion. They get security of their lives and property in Islam. Although there isn't Islamic Government (Sharia) in Pakistan, yet minorities are treated under Islamic moderation. They have the facilities to get education, get jobs, do business etc. in Balochistan. They have religious freedom as well in Balochistan. They can make places for their worship. They can also celebrate their feasts. They do have nominations in assemblies as well. If something ill has been done to them that might be due to the law and order situation in Pakistan, these mishaps occur to majorities as well so it is natural. These incidents don't occur to them on specific reasons.” Islam also gives the lesson of the securing the rights of minorities. Being a citizen, it is the duty of everyone to secure the rights of minorities.

Zeeshan: Mr. Irfan, before the report you were mentioning that we only highlight the problems, but nothing is done for its solution. If you could please throw some light on it.

Irfan: Government is aware of these problems, but it is careless. We've been trapped by these two terms i.e. majorities and minorities. There should be terms like Muslims and Non-Muslims. The government hasn't even fulfilled the rights of majorities. There should be a proper and solid coordination within the communities.

Zeshan: Mr. Jagdesh what steps should be taken toward betterment?

Jagdesh: There are all the rights for minorities in the constitution of Pakistan, but there is no implementation. Mr. Irfan said that even Muslims don't get their rights so how could minorities get their rights. He said it wrong. He didn't have any negative sense behind it, but the use of words affect the minds of people. So far as the solution of the problems is concerned, there should be awareness and forums. Election system should be reformed so that members can be elected through voters, not party. It is our homeland. We won't leave it.

Zeeshan: Mr. Jagdesh most of the people are aware that minorities who have been living for centuries in Paki-

stan have every right. They have contribution in the development of Pakistan. CRSS has provided a forum for those people who are unaware of it.

Jagdes: I really appreciate it.

Zeshan: Mr. Boez what initiatives should be taken for the rights and ease of minorities?

Boez: One of the governors of Balochistan while addressing these people said that first they should put the signboards down on which the term minorities was written. If we eradicate this difference, the matter can be solved.

Zeeshan: Any other solution and suggestion you have in mind?

Boez: Religious scholars can play a part in the eradication of the difference between majorities and minorities.

Jagdes: Boez has suggested a very good point. We need to eradicate the evil from its root. Ulema, Pundits and Priests can eradicate this hatred and difference.

Zeshan: Both Ulema (Islamic Scholars) and political leaders can play a part in this regard. Mr. Irfan would you like to add something?

Irfan: Political leaders are the ones who encourage Ulema, Pundit and Priests to play their role in national harmony. Political leaders need to encourage this group of people. They should be considered the people of the society and should be treated on the basis of humanity. Religion is a private matter of everyone. It's everybody's choice how he or she practices a religion. We should get together for the development of our society.

Zeeshan: Thanks to all of you for joining us. Till the next program, it's goodbye.

## **Episode: 45**

### **Topic: Provision of opportunities of forums vis-à-vis complaints and reservations of Balochistan youth**

Guests: Doctor Aman Ullah, Doctor Younis, Shaheena Shaheen and Khalid Baloch.

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 13-10-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Youth is considered to be the main asset of a nation or state. Youth can play a critical role in the development of a country, but if they are facilitated. Youth in Balochistan, particularly in Interior Balochistan seem to be disappointed. They have a lot of grievances. The biggest problem according to experts is the lack of forums and opportunities. Youth in Interior Balochistan don't have forums within the terrain to showcase their talent. There is a youth department by government, but no output has been witnessed which would be considered good enough to satisfy the youth. There are some non-governmental organizations which are trying to provide opportunities and forums to bring out the talent of youth.

#### **Transcription**

Ahmad Zeeshan: Mr. Khalid you keep a close eye on the youth related issues. To which level opportunities of forums for complaints and reservations are available to Balochistan Youth particularly for youth of Interior Balochistan as they have a lot of grievances?

Khalid Baloch : Grievances of interior Balochistan Youth are genuine. They are not given opportunities. All the facilities i.e. education, health etc. are available in Quetta, but not in interior Balochistan. If youth in cities are facilitated, youth in Interior also have the right to be facilitated. Is it possible for the women of Gawadar, Turbat, and Panjgur etc. to get education in Quetta? Women of 20 and 25 years don't have the facilities during delivery cases at district level which usually causes deaths. We have raised these issues at different forums i.e. universities and colleges that it is the responsibility of the government to solve their problems. The problems of youth haven't been raised to a satisfactory level. We can't progress unless we solve the problems of youth. The youth here isn't satisfied. They don't have platforms for the solution of their problems.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Youth isn't satisfied, it in itself is awareness that they know what their problems are and who can solve it. You provided an opportunity to youth by taking them to different cities, colleges and universities, but it was a limited opportunity because you couldn't have taken many people.

Khalid: You're right. An organization has limited resources. We took as many youth as we could afford. These people too have their rights. We don't want the government to take youth to universities in cities. All we want is to approve universities and colleges in interior Balochistan. The establishment of a university or a medical college, schools, roads etc. is not a big deal for the government of Balochistan . If we can't do this much, we don't have the right of leadership then. Problems related to universities, hospitals, infrastructure don't even exist in other countries.

Ahmad Zeeshan: As we're talking about fundamental facilities. We have scarcity of clean drinking water in Interior Balochistan as well.

Khalid Baloch: There is no clean drinking water in Nushki which is not even very far. There are ponds of water

from where both animals and humans drink water.

Ahmad Zeshan: Doctor Aman Ullah, how much is the availability of forum opportunities for the grievances of youth?

Aman Ullah: There are neither opportunities nor forums for the grievances of youth. A student is told to become either a doctor or an engineer because there aren't forums and facilities for any other option to choose. There is talent in Balochistan. You may have heard of Rafi Ullah Kakarr, who competed with students at world level due to the provision of a small opportunity. We can expose our talent if we get an opportunity by a forum.

Ahmad Zeshan: How can youth convey their message to authoritative individuals regarding their problems? Is media playing its part in highlighting the problems of youth?

Aman Ullah: Media is supposed to highlight the problems i.e. spread awareness among the people. So far as the forum by the government is concerned, no such forums are there to spread awareness among people regarding health and education related issues. The government should introduce such forums alongside media which can spread awareness.

Ahmad Zeshan: Dr. Younis, do people have opportunities of forums vis-à-vis their rights and complaints to convey their voice to authoritative institutions?

Younis: People in Interior Balochistan have got talent, but no forums unfortunately. We formed a literary forum for students in BMC (Bolan Medical College) to check whether students are talented enough or not. Students demonstrated their talent to a very good level. If we hadn't had formed this forum, we would have not been able to bring out the talent out of the students. Talent of youth will only be displayed if there are concerned platforms and opportunities.

Ahmad Zeshan: Miss Shaheena Shaheen, how many such forums are there and to which level the problems of women are highlighted?

Shaheena: As far as the forums and opportunities of women in Balochistan are concerned, I don't think any forums or opportunities have been given to them. If there is no policy for youth, how can they know of their rights and how can they come forward. When youth is in school or college life, they don't even know which field they will go to. They don't have awareness. Women in Baloch Society are given fewer opportunities as compared to men so that they can come forward. Recently women are coming forward i.e. in media etc. Women will only be able to contribute if their families support them and government provides them with forums according to their skill where they can demonstrate their talent.

Ahmad Zeshan: We will take our discussion further after a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Kharan

Youth are of great importance in any society. The role of youth in the development of a nation can't be ignored at all. The youth of Balochistan are loaded with the abilities blessed by nature, but due to the lack of forums and opportunities they are not able to utilize these natural abilities at which they can contribute in the development of the country. Hasan Baloch, who is a political and social leader, says, "I think internal platforms are very few. Internal platforms have great value for the youth of a society. Unfortunately there is no platform or forum in Balochistan where they can highlight their problems both nationally and internationally. Youth in Balochistan have a lot of grievances, but they can't expose them because media doesn't have the freedom where youth come and expose their problems. This is the reason one can't express his or her problems freely. The biggest problem of Balochistan Youth is the absence of forums. Youth from different departments aren't provided with opportunities accordingly. If they are provided the required opportunities, they can perform in a better way. Youth from Kharan District have got many God-gifted abilities i.e. in the field of education, sports

etc. Unfortunately opportunities according to the talent of the youth are not provided.” We met a leader of the student association Mr. Arif in this regard. He says, “There aren’t any opportunities for youth in Balochistan vis-à-vis education, health etc. Most of the youth can’t continue their education after matric due to poverty. Agriculture is the main source of income in Balochistan which is in the worst condition, so the youth is further pushed into quagmire of poverty. They don’t have resources to go to Quetta.”

Ahmad Zeeshan: Mr. Khalid Baloch , there is a department for youth in Balochistan. How active is this department active and what is it doing?

Khalid: We hear from time to time that it takes youth for foreign visits, but on references. There is no merit. This department is limited to Quetta only. Majority of youth are the kith and kin of the parliamentarians. I don’t think it is playing an active role. Different committees are formed time to time, but we haven’t seen any output as yet.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Has any youth seminar been arranged for the awareness of youth in which youth from Interior Balochistan have also participated?

Khalid: We all belong to Balochistan and I have been working in NGOs for the last 14 years, but haven’t heard of any seminar till now. There should be such departments at district level and they should be active.

Ahmad Zreshan: I took your views on this question because I myself have participated in a program of youth department. I was taken by someone else in fact. I assessed the same idea what you just said. I didn’t want to comment on it because I thought I may be wrong that’s why I took your views.

Khalid: We give comments on the basis of observation shared by people.

Ahmad Zeeshan: There is no bigger forum than youth department if it works in a proper way.

Khalid: Absolutely because youth is the main power. We are an organization not government, yet we have provided forums and opportunities by inviting youth from colleges, universities and from different places of Interior Balochistan. Those who are talented should be given an opportunity. It is said that we only criticize. We don’t criticize; we represent the true picture which is our right.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Earlier Doctor Younis said that they arranged a literary activity for students in BMC. Same activities have been arranged by youth department as well, but on temporary basis.

Khalid: It is a governmental department. They should have a proper plan for the whole year which should be shared with the people. I was sitting in a same program in which it was being discussed what to do what not to do in this regard. It means they don’t have any plan. There is no criterion for youth. We can’t progress until and unless favoritism and nepotism aren’t eradicated.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Dr. Aman Ullah, what opportunities have been given to youth till now if not, when and how would other opportunities be given i.e. other than becoming a doctor or an engineer?

Aman Ullah: People choose to become a doctor or an engineer because there are some opportunities provided in these fields. It has financial security to some extent. If one wants to become a painter or a musician he or she will be limited only to a shop. One is not able to showcase his or her talent nationally or internationally due to the absence of platforms.

Ahmad Zeeshan: As far as sport is concerned, there should be academies on school level. In developed countries if a student is playing well, he or she is not stopped from playing, but they are backed. Government provides sport facilities after basic education so that youth can spend their whole energy in sport. This is the reason such countries produce good players. Dr. Younis what would you add to it?



Younis: The story here in Balochistan is different. People are fighting for living a life. They are very backward. People are struggling for earning a living. First this backwardness needs to be taken care of. When a person gets free of this tension, he or she will focus on all the aforementioned fields and the talented would be highlighted then.

Ahmad Zeshan: You are right. We have done many programs via CRSS on this issue. There are very few resources of income in Balochistan because no money is invested. How would people be able to think toward other fields if they have the problem of earning a living? Hope the government does something in this regard.

Ahmad Zeshan: Miss Shaheena you said, fewer women come to the field of education. You said earlier that women have to do something on their own because everybody is busy in their problem. What else would you add to it?

Shaheena: Absolutely if one doesn't take a step, his or her problems can't be solved. Very few women in Balochistan come forward. Those who come forward, have many problems. There are very few training centers for women. If women wants to teach, she is not given training. Women should be given training. They should also be included in awareness programs so that they get to know of their rights.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thanks to all of you for joining us. It is enough for now. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## **Episode: 46**

### **Topic: Tribal conflicts and its effects on youth**

Guests: Gul Sher Somalani (Tribal Representative), Arif (Youth Representative) and Iftikhar (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 14-10-2014

#### **Program Summary**

The stability of society plays an indispensable role in the stability of a country or state. Ups and downs are a part of every system and society. No system is free of maladies, but there are some problems within the society which later become disputes or conflicts. Such conflicts are mostly found in tribal systems because of the lack of education and awareness. People stretch their small problems to a very high level and declare it the problem of the entire tribe which becomes a tribal conflict. Jirga is considered to be a positive aspect of the tribal system, but some women are forced to marry someone else as a sign of compensation to someone else's guilt by the chiefs of Jirga. Youth is considered to be the future and main asset of the society, but youth is mostly affected due to these conflicts. Their education, health and career are affected to a great deal as a result of which Balochistan is in backward state. Experts declare education and awareness the sole solution to these conflicts. Government plays a vital role in the eradication of these conflicts, but unfortunately our government hasn't taken any step in this regard because the government is run by tribal chiefs. They are a part of the assembly. Youth should be extra careful in electing their leaders.

#### **Transcription**

Liaqat: I will ask the first question from Mr. Gul Sher Somalani. Sir what are tribal conflicts and what are their reasons?

Gul Sher: There have been many systems going on since the birth of human being. Tribal system is one of the preliminary systems of the world. Ups and downs and contortions do occur in a system. No system is free of maladies, happiness or woe so it is all about system.

Liaqat: Mr. Arif what is the take of youth on conflicts?

Arif: Balochistan is tribal territory where different tribes are residing. Every tribe has its own customs and systems. Youth are also a part of this system. Youth are also affected due to conflicts. There is a tribal system in Balochistan which has some good aspects as well as some bad ones. Youth is directly affected by both good aspects as well as bad aspects. Besides negative effects there are some good aspects as well of this system.

Liaqat: What does youth think about tribal conflicts?

Iftikhar: The conflicts in Balochistan have a social and economic background. Balochistan has been a tribal area for over the years so these conflicts are inherited through social learning. Balochistan has been disconnected from outer world for over the years.

Liaqat: Mr. Gul Sher how much is youth affected by tribal conflicts or what is the role of youth in causing these conflicts?

Gul Sher: Only that unit of youth is involved in causing conflicts that have been left uneducated. They belong

to an area where the level of education has been very poor.

Liaqat: You said that uneducated youth is involved in the generation of conflicts, but we have seen some educated youth who generate conflicts at school, college or university level which later become a tribal dispute. What's your take regarding this?

Gul Sher: We can't specify conflict only to tribal system. These conflicts occur in top educated countries as well. Conflicts are a part of any society.

Liaqat: But it has been witnessed that these conflicts later turn to tribal disputes.

Gul Sher: It is due to lack of awareness. First the heads or chieftains of such areas used to be uneducated, but now they are educated. All of these people try to take a step to control these conflicts or solve them as soon as possible.

Liaqat: We've got a report about the same topic. Let's listen and find out that how tribal conflicts are generated.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Conflicts have pushed Balochistan further towards backwardness. We met Mr. Niaz Baloch, a tribal and political leader, to take his views about this matter. He says,

Tribal conflicts are not letting youth progress. When different tribes fight, youth and other common people are badly affected. Those who cause these conflicts get aside. If a tribe is having a conflict or fight in Quetta and an innocent person of this tribe is found in Khuzdar, he will be killed for not having done anything. Due to such tribal conflicts education and livelihood are collapsing. These conflicts cause negative effects on the education and jobs of youth. The entire tribe suffers due to the guilt of one person. Whenever tribes get up against each other, development stops. .

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz Baloch said that tribal conflicts are caused by financial and economic problems. Mr. Gul Sher, Aren't financial and economic problems being caused by these conflicts?

Gul Sher: Absolutely such social problems are raised due to conflicts.

Liaqat: Financial and economic problems are interrelated. How can government and other heads of the society play their role in this regard?

Gul Sher: Government and tribal chiefs can play their role effectively because chieftains or other heads of the tribe are very much respected. If they want that their tribe won't raise any conflict in the future, they can solve this matter easily. We can get rid of such issues very easily through chiefs of the tribe.

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz Baloch said in the report that tribal systems are being demolished with the passage of time. Mr. Arif, do you agree or we are standing still?

Arif: In the past tribal systems were really strong, but now as more and more people are getting education in Balochistan, so they are trying to get out of their systems.

Liaqat: Sometimes female are used for the solution of a conflict by Jirga i.e. females are compelled to marry. How can you declare it positive?

Arif: Using women for compensation of killing or blood is a menace of our society. Youth have been denying following this rule of the tribal system. Youth give preference to the continuity of conflict over giving their female for solution to it which is a positive in itself.

Liaqat: Mr. Gul Sher, what would you add to this?

Gul Sher: It is a misconception that tribal system is the name of conflicts or fighting. Tribal system gives safety to women. Tribal system gives you respect. Besides, tribal system tells you how to help someone in trouble. We can't declare conflicts specific to tribal system only. The system of giving females for the solution of conflicts started in the period of Noori Nasir Khan. Whenever a conflict occurs, gap tends to increase between the two sides. This step was taken to bring the two sides closer by a relation i.e. marrying a woman to one of the people in opposite side. He had a positive aim behind it; it has adopted a very negative aspect today. In today's date it is immense cruelty to treat women unfairly. The positive aim behind this step has been replaced by negative aspect.

Liaqat: But marrying a female against her choice will have negative effects on her. If a female is married to someone whose family member has been killed, how could it be possible that she will be respected or taken care of in that house? There wasn't any guarantee to it neither in the past nor now that the mentioned female would be treated fairly. What's your take on this?

Gul Sher: It is due to the lack of awareness. So far as the choice is concerned, I have a clear opinion about it i.e. a boy or girl must have the authority to decide when it comes to marriage. This is the basic right of a person.

Liaqat: You said that Jirga is a valid system. We do accept its validity, but we are talking on the negative aspects of it. Females are not asked of their choice when they are decided to be given by Jirga. Cruelty is done to females in this case. What would you say?

Gul Sher: Nobody denies that cruelty is done. It will go on if the lack of awareness stays there. I am raising my voice against it. Youth too should raise their voices.

Liaqat: Mr. Iftikhar small issues are also taken to Jirga in which the entire nation or tribe gets involved. Many lives are lost due to the small issue or the mistake of one person. What would you say about this?

Iftikhar: Society is fed up of this menace. A boy from a modern city like Karachi or Lahore would think a thousand times before fighting because he knows none of his kith and kin would back him. On the other hand people in tribal areas start fighting because they know that their kith and kin would support them. They will not quit fighting because they think their tribe is behind them. We can't make changes or amendment in tribal system because it is unnatural. We better quit this system.

Liaqat: We've got second report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch , Surab

To find out the effects of tribal conflicts on youth we met Abid Baloch. He says:

Youth is affected the most in tribal conflicts. There shouldn't be conflicts among tribes. Youth is affected and youth is the future of our country. Youth is affected in terms of education, health etc. These conflicts should be stopped. Awareness needs to be spread among people. Heads and chiefs should come forward and play their role.

We asked a youngster Zahoor Anwar regarding this matter. He says,

The performance of a youth is for the entire country and nation to whatever tribe he or she belongs. He can earn a name for his tribe though. If this youngster gets trapped in tribal conflicts, it affects his future badly. I think the reason of backwardness of Balochistan is the tribal conflicts. All our heads and chiefs can't get together due to their tribal thinking.

Liaqat: Mr. Gul Sher Islam is a religion of peace and Islamic teachings teach to stay away from such conflicts.

Don't you think the better solution of tribal areas is the teaching of Islam? What is the role of Islamic Scholars of Balochistan in this regard?

Gul Sher: Islam is a complete code of life. Islam guides one in every stage of life effectively. If we completely follow Islam, we might hardly fall into a conflict. So far as Islamic Scholars and Ulema of Balochistan are concerned, they are immensely respected. They should touch a point at least in every Friday's Sermon.

Liaqat: Mr. Iftikhar what can be the role of educated youth like you in the eradication of these conflicts?

Iftikhar: Education is the only solution to these conflicts. Unconsciously no movement as such has been carried out against tribal disputes or tribal institutions for the last two decades.

Liaqat: What can be the role of government in promoting education and eradicating these conflicts?

Gul Sher: If the government is stable and perfect, hardly something would go wrong.

Liaqat: We do have government, laws and system, but yet there are conflicts. Government institutions can come forward to solve this problem. Mr. Iftikhar what can be the role of government institutions towards betterment?

Iftikhar: Assemblies are government institutions. Tribal chiefs are sitting in assemblies. There are more than 50 tribal chiefs in Balochistan Assembly. These chiefs introduce legislations in assemblies and besides they have their own court simultaneously where they break laws.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot to all of you for joining us. It's enough for today. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 47

### Topic: Freedom of expression of journalists in Balochistan

Guests: Shehzad Baloch (Journalist), Khayyam Sana (Journalist and Youth Representative), Khalid Baloch (Journalist and Program Manager) and Khadija Khan (Journalism Student and Youth Representative).

Field Story: Habibur Rehman and Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 20-10-2014

#### Program Summary

Media is considered to be fourth pillar of a state. It plays an indispensable role in the development of a country. Journalists are the people who present the true picture of a society, but it gets difficult for them to present this picture when they don't have freedom of expression. Journalists of Balochistan have been facing the same problem for quite some time. They can't express their views freely due to security threats. 40 journalists have been killed in target killing and bomb blasts so far in Balochistan. Journalists aren't able to bring the true picture of people in front of the society. This has greatly affected journalism department. Students of journalism hesitate to join this field. A journalism student was killed recently due to which students have become disappointed. Besides security issues they have economic problems as well. They aren't supported by newspapers or TV channels. National Media don't give any coverage to the problems of journalists and other people in Balochistan. They only give coverage to target killings and bomb blasts.

#### Transcription

Zeshan: Before we start our program, we have a report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Habib-Ur-Rehman, Quetta

Journalists are facing severe hurdles in Balochistan. Many journalists have sacrificed their lives while rendering duties. We will talk to staff reporters and senior journalist of Mashriq News Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad about the hurdles faced by journalists in fulfilling their duties. He says, "I have been the General Secretary of Balochistan Union of Journalist for the past three months. Our former general secretary got victim to target killing in his office while fulfilling his duties on 28th September. Two of his other companions also got killed in this incident, but it's woeful that his assassins still haven't been found out. We were assured by the government that the assassins will soon be arrested, but we are still waiting for the initiative of the government. Journalists face hurdles everywhere in Pakistan, but the scenario in Balochistan is worse. Approximately 42 journalists have been killed till now. Most of our press clubs have been shut down i.e. Khuzdar, Kalat etc. We have not only highlighted these issues through PFUJ (Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists) in Pakistan, but internationally as well. There are some armed groups here. Besides security departments are not happy with work either. If we publish any reality against the so-called secular parties, they too get unhappy. We get abuses and threats have become a usual activity. A person, political party or a group send us a piece of press release against someone, a political party or a group; if we publish it as the party wants it to be, thousands of people can be killed. To save thousands of people our journalists are sacrificing their lives. The current government is a nationalist government. A common man is the chief minister. The government does make promises. We have demonstrated hunger strikes as well. We have been on a protest, but nothing in practical has been observed as yet." The freedom of expression is the basic right of a person belonging to any religion, race or tribe.

Liaqat: Mr. Khalid Baloch , what are the problems faced by Journalists in Balochistan and what is the main reason to these problems?

Khalid: Journalists in interior Balochistan are facing the lack of resources to report news in timely manner. They have traveling issues besides. News Channels in Pakistan aren't giving coverage as much as journalists from other provinces. Considering the current law and order scenario of the country, journalists do get threats and many have lost their lives. It is responsibility of the government to protect them. Neither the government nor channels or newspaper provide concerned facilities to journalists i.e. camera etc. Media and journalism is said to be the pillar of the state, but the press club in interior Balochistan is in poor condition in terms of performance.

Liaqat: Khadija Khan has joined us as a guest and youth representative. She is a student of Mass Communication Department University of Balochistan Quetta. Mr. Shehzad Baloch, how do you assess the problems of journalists and what are the prior problems of journalists in Balochistan?

Shehzad: Journalists used to face payment problems, but now the problem of journalists is security. 40 media persons have been killed till now in Balochistan. This has affected the freedom of expressions of journalists to a great deal. A reporter Irshad and his trainee reporter were killed in his own office. The inquiry hasn't been completed as yet. Next is the problem of pay. Most of the journalists aren't even paid in interior Balochistan which causes them many issues. If the journalists are facing issues, they won't be able to fulfill their responsibilities effectively.

Liaqat: Despite many problems i.e. security and pay many youth is coming towards journalism. Ms. Khadija how is our youth effected by these problems and how can these problems be solved?

Khadija: Students of journalism have been facing many problems for not being facilitated thoroughly. Alongside Mr. Irshad, a student of final year was also killed. After the death of the student, many students had been disappointed, but later students said that they wouldn't step back of finding out the truth. Their spirit wasn't gone down. The students' spirit was high and they wanted to go further in search of truth.

Liaqat: Journalists face financial problems. TV channels and newspapers don't equip journalists. Mr. Khayyam what problems have journalists been facing in this regard?

Khayyam: I don't think there are financial matters to a great deal. There are students who come from poor families, but have graduated. The main problem is of the security. If Irshad was killed; he might have said something true against someone, but why Ghulam Rasool was killed. He was present there only for learning or to get a good score in exam. So I think students don't have many economic problems, but the main problem is of security.

Liaqat: By financial problem I mean that journalists aren't able to afford journalism related equipments i.e. camera, voice recorder, fax machine etc. Mr. Shehzad Baloch, please shed some light on these financial problems.

Shehzad: I have had a close relation with editors and newspaper owners for quite a long time. One of the editor who is the owner of a famous newspaper told me that why would they invest money in Balochistan if they don't have any profit from it. 150 newspapers are published from Quetta daily, but there are only 17 newspapers that one can get. There aren't any offices of the rest of newspapers. They are published only when the owners get advertisements. Their newspapers are dummy newspapers. The owners of national news channels don't want to invest in Balochistan by saying that they don't have profit from Balochistan. Even if something big happens in Balochistan, it isn't televised and isn't given importance. Balochistan doesn't have any importance in national press. People who are passionate about writing can't express their views openly because of the security issues. They get threats from all around.

Liaqat: Can you please name the groups or departments that threaten journalists?

Shehzad: There are some militant groups. Besides we have threats from government and security forces as

well. Political parties also pressurize us. After the death of 40 journalists, the government had formed a judicial commission, but we haven't seen any progress as yet.

Liaqat: Aren't there weaknesses of journalism department to some extent behind this?

Shehzad: 27 journalists got killed in target killings and the rest in bomb blasts. Journalism institutions did take a stand. A journalist can only register his or her protest. It is the responsibility of the government to protect them. Had one case been investigated thoroughly, the remaining 39 cases wouldn't have occurred. These cases aren't even considered by the government. It seems that militants have been given immunity to kill and terrorize journalists.

Liaqat: Miss Khadija what are the responsibilities of the government vis-à-vis security?

Khadija: Government should provide such a security in which journalists don't fear to write truth. Government should provide security to journalists so that nobody fears to join this field.

Liaqat: Let's include another report in our program regarding the same issue.

REPORT: Habib-Ur-Rehman, Quetta

Balochistan has become a very sensitive province for journalists. Killing of 40 journalists in one year has been a question mark. All the evils of the society can only be highlighted via journalists. The journalists of Balochistan find security as one of their biggest problem. Providing security to journalists is the critical need of time. The freedom of expression is the basic right of any society. Snatching this right is just like pushing the nation further into darkness. We met a senior journalist Mr. Naseeb Ullah regarding the problems of journalists in Balochistan. He says, "There is no freedom of expression at all in Balochistan. Freedom of expression is a part of human rights. There are articles about freedom of expressions in our constitution as well, but yet we aren't provided with this facility. Journalists present the picture of a society which is their duty. Journalists are only threatened for bringing the true picture of the society to front, but are killed as well. According to international surveys and reports Balochistan has been declared more sensitive than Iraq and Syria because of the killings of 40 journalists in one year. I myself am a journalist. We are stopped from expressing our views and expressions. We have security issues. There are no incentives by government either through which we can solve our domestic problems. Besides our press clubs are in worst condition. The main problem is we are stopped from fulfilling our duties. We have been requesting the government to take a notice of our problems and we will keep appealing because it is a democratic country." The government of Pakistan and Balochistan should take initiatives for the security of journalists so that they can highlight the problems of Balochistan and can make efforts for the solution of these problems.

Liaqat: Mr. Khayyam what are the factors and forces that don't want truth to come out in Balochistan?

Khayyam: The solution is to only say the truth. If a reporter fakes news about someone for the sake of money, the particular person will be safe, but if he tells the truth he won't be safe. Everyone wants exclusive news. Chief Editor of a newspaper doesn't care about the cameraman or journalist. He or she only wants exclusive news.

Liaqat: There are hundreds of exclusive news in Balochistan, but no one breaks it. What's the reason Mr. Shehzad?

Shehzad: The media persons only want to break the news of target killings in which at least 4 to 5 people have been killed. This is the breaking news for media persons. 111 children out of 1000 die every year. We are losing our generation. National media i.e. main stream media don't have any room to report such news and local media don't have resources. Only target killing and bomb blasts are reported by national media. They only report news about our backwardness that we are not well civilized. They only focus on such news.



Liaqat: There are some people, whose main profession isn't journalism, but they want to work in this field, but they aren't hired. How can such people give a better result in the field of journalism?

Khadija: There are many people who have been working in the field of journalism, but don't have degrees. Journalists who have been working for 7 or 8 years are now getting admission to get degrees so that they can give a better result.

Liaqat: Our media institutions don't hire degree holders, but hire those who don't have degrees because they work on a low pay as well. They are given freedom of reporting. As a result of which they take money from particular people to do bias reporting only. Isn't it the fault of our institutions?

Khadija: Of course it is the fault of media departments to hire unskilled people. It has kept Balochistan very backward. By hiring skilled people, not only a better result will be produced, but Balochistan Media will earn a name in the country.

Liaqat: I think there are departments of both electronic and print media. Mr. Khayyam what are they doing in this regard and I wonder whether these departments exist or not?

Khayyam: Being an editor of a magazine I have highlighted problems like health, education etc. but these problems aren't reported by both electronic and print media. They only believe in target killing and bombings.

Liaqat: Media can play a part to control such incidents. They only report killings, but not the reasons behind killings. Mr. Khayyam would you like to add something?

Khayyam: There are some reasons behind it. One isn't thoroughly authoritative of his or her choice. There are some religious, political and social groups behind all this. We want to write, but we face the wrath of all these groups. We may face one hurdle, but we can't face all.

Shehzad: I would like to add something. There are underpaid employees in journalism. Those who want to earn money shouldn't join journalism. It is very difficult to work with sincerity in this field. As the pay is low in this field due to which there is lack of skilled people. We aren't given coverage so youth should launch an independent website on which they can highlight their education and health issues. There are free platforms in which youth should contribute as volunteer. Youth can become an authentic voice for Balochistan.

Liaqat: What is the role of electronic and print media in highlighting the issues of journalists i.e. economic and security issues? You too belong to express news. What's your role or the role of your association?

Shehzad: We keep protesting in this regard. We discuss precautionary measures. There is lack of mature reporting in this regard that what to do what not to do. We have many issues that we can't report in this regard because there are very powerful people who target journalism. Being an association no one support it.

Liaqat: Miss Khadija what would you say regarding the role of social media?

Khadija: We can't blame only the media institutions. The journalists union should highlight this issue in front of their channel headquarter that why Balochistan is not given coverage. First it is the responsibility of the journalists then the media departments because journalists work in the same field. Youth have an immense contribution in our society particularly for journalists if they contribute as volunteers. If youth and public get together, it would be really helpful in solving any problem.

Liaqat: Absolutely it is the responsibility of every person in our society to highlight such issues and try to solve them. The government should take responsibility and come forward to take practical steps in this regard. Thanks a lot for joining. It is enough for the moment. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 48

### Topic: The new education system of Balochistan in mother languages and its impact on youth

Guests: Doctor Kaleem Ullah (Chairman Balochistan University), Ibrar Jamal Deeni (Youth Representative) and Rabia Khan (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 21-10-2014

#### Program Summary

Language is a source of communication among different people and nations. It is said by intellectuals that nations that have developed had worked hard for the welfare of their mother tongue. Language mostly used in our education system is English. People of Balochistan want their education to be given in their mother tongues i.e. Pashto, Balochi and Brahui. The government has introduced syllabus at primary level in which mother languages are taught, experts say that it will be comparatively easy for students to learn in their mother tongues rather than any other language. People who can speak Urdu or English are considered to be well educated which is only a phobia. There are other nations who are getting education in their mother tongue like Afghanistan, Iran, Japan, China, Germany, France, America UK etc. The aforementioned nations are well developed because of getting education in their mother language. The people of Balochistan can step towards development if syllabus is converted to mother languages.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Our first guest is Dr. Kaleem Ullah. He is the Chairman of Quetta University Balochistan. Mr. Kaleem Ullah why is receiving education important in mother language?

Kaleem Ullah: Our constitution and UNO have passed a resolution that education should be given in mother tongue because it will be easy for a student to learn the lessons in a language that he or she speaks at home as well. Besides we can provide education at a very low cost. This is why this resolution was passed in 1973. Mr. Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto started implementing it from Sindh. Awami National Party had passed the resolution in 1973 to give education in mother languages in Balochistan, but the resolution wasn't implemented effectively due to the martial law imposed by General Zia-Ul-Haq which continued for ten or eleven years. Nawab Akbar Khan Bugtti started practicing it again in 1990 and practiced it at a primary level. The provincial governments that followed didn't continue it. The present government's manifesto consisted of this initiative. We contacted the government officials in this regard. They passed a resolution. Syllabus has also been made which will be taught to primary level at the moment. The government tends to apply it to matric level. All the countries that have developed give education in mother tongues. For example China, Japan, America, UK and Britain etc. In many European countries mother languages are spoken.

Liaqat: Let's include a report in our program vis-à-vis education in mother tongue. We will be back to take our discussion further.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

The development of any nation depends on its education system. There are different curriculums in Balochistan at the moment. Every year a new course is introduced due to which students and teachers face problems. The present government has introduced a new syllabus. Balochistan can step towards progress by introducing

syllabus in mother languages, but no work has been done possibly in this regard, even though one year has passed though. We met Mohammad Panah Baloch a senior member of Baloch Academy to know the effects of changing syllabus to mother languages. He says, "Balochistan Academy has been working on syllabus on its own and government too has been working on it. Baloch Academy has been arranging a syllabus considering custom, tradition and literature of the people. An announcement was made by Balochistan Government last year in this regard, but not even a single syllabus has come out in front of people. The syllabus should have been completed by now. The process has been very slow. Nations can progress only if mode of instructions is given in mother tongue. National development won't be possible until and unless mode of instructions is changed to mother tongues."

Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar can we move toward progress by introducing syllabus in mother tongue, if yes, what are the logical reasons? If no, what are the negative points then?

Ibrar: I think introducing syllabus in mother tongue will help students a lot in enhancing their struggles and spirit towards studies. It's a positive step I guess.

Liaqat: Ms. Rabia Khan, should education be in mother tongue or not?

Rabia: Education should be in mother tongue because everyone is forgetting his or her culture by not speaking mother languages. We mostly try to present ourselves modern by speaking other languages as a result of which we have forgotten our mother tongue.

Liaqat: We have already been troubled by the two languages i.e. Urdu and English. Mother tongue is another issue. We know that if syllabus is introduced in Urdu or any other mother tongue it will only be till primary or secondary level. We will definitely be using English when we move further in our studies. Mr. Kaleem Ullah won't this mixture of languages cause problems?

Kaleem Ullah: Iran is ahead of Pakistan in development. The reason is they are offering education in mother tongue i.e. Persian. The only reason why Bangladesh separated was because of the language issue. It was the decision of the constitution that education will be given in mother languages and Urdu will be used as the official language. Besides, English will be taken out of syllabus within 20 years. We think that science isn't possible without English. Germany, Spain, Canada, Russia and even Japan are ahead of countries in science that use English. A phobia here has developed that science can't be learnt without English which is totally wrong. Afghanistan is our neighbor country which is war affected as well, yet they give medical education in Pashto. Syllabus till F.S.C was in Urdu for some time, but it couldn't continue later. This is a tragedy in Pakistan. The parliamentarians should approve Urdu as language of contact and should provide opportunities for students to get education in their mother tongue. It isn't bad to learn any other language, but it is alarming that someone forgets his or her own language.

Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar, do you expect the coming government or other institutions to promote mother languages in syllabus?

Ibrar: The government and our top-notch leaders should work on it. Those who can speak English or Urdu are considered educated, but English is only taken as a language in India.

Liaqat: It has been witnessed through media that most of the people in India speak English i.e. in news, dramas, movies or daily conversation etc. They have been making progress in research and IT. What would you say in this regard?

Ibrar: Besides speaking English they have been promoting their local languages as well.

Liaqat: Mr. Kaleem Ullah, does government of Balochistan have an intention to make a department where science subjects can be translated to mother languages?

Kaleem Ullah: It's in its early stages. Mother languages have been introduced to primary level till now. It was approved in resolution that it will be taken till matric. Balochistan Text Book Board has been working on it. Apart from that there are different academies in Balochistan that encourage people to learn their mother languages so that they might not forget their culture. Provincial government of Balochistan has taken a good step in this regard. It should be further enhanced. There are students of BA who even don't know Urdu. How they would be able to speak English. They do want to ask questions from teachers, but they hesitate. As a result they fall into inferiority complex. If these students are facilitated in their own mother languages, they will come forward with courage.

Liaqat: We have got another report regarding mother languages. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

The present leaders have said to introduce syllabus in Balochi, Pashto and Brahui languages in Balochistan, but mother languages haven't been introduced till now although one year has passed. Many experts say that there is only one way to secure a language that is by including it in education system. We met Assistant Professor of Pashto Department Mr. Naseeb Ullah Khan to know the importance of education languages, its effects on youth and how education system can be changed by the inclusion of mother languages. He says, "If education is started given in mother languages, nobody can stop these nations from developing. These nations can only make progress if they get education in mother languages. I think complete education should be given in these languages rather than teaching them as a subject. If they are taught as subjects, it will be considered extra burden. Parents already have complaints about the weight of bags that they are very heavy; by including another subject the bags will get heavier. It will have disadvantages rather than advantages. If complete education is given in mother languages, it would be really effective. It is being added as an additional subject though. If it is added as a compulsory subject, even then it will be useful." Besides this Madam Shagufta of Urdu Department says, "It will be useful if all subjects are taught in mother languages. Teacher can easily teach their lessons to students. Students will feel easy while learning a lesson because the language at home and at school will be the same." Youth will be encouraged towards education by including mother languages in syllabus because it is easy for them to get education in mother tongue rather than focusing on other languages. Much time and many resources are needed to get education in other languages due to which youth is mostly deprived of education.

Liaqat: The present government wants to arrange the syllabus in mother languages. Mr. Kaleem Ullah, has the syllabus been completed and what's it like? Is there only one subject included as mother tongue?

Kaleem Ullah: Provincial government has prepared syllabus to primary level which has been published by Balochistan Text Book Board. Provincial government is committed to take it further. Not just one subject is included, but it is tried that other science subjects can also be taught in mother languages.

Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar, how will you promote mother languages?

Ibrar: In my point of view, government should establish libraries particularly in villages so that people can utilize from them.

Liaqat: Ms. Rabia, how can you play your role?

Rabia: I contribute by expressing my mother tongue more and more so that other people also get encouraged to use their mother languages. There should be at least one subject of mother tongue at schools.

Liaqat: Mr. Kaleem Ullah which languages are improved by the government and which language is considered mother language by the government?

Kaleem Ullah: There are three major languages in Balochistan which are mostly spoken i.e. Pashto, Balochi

and Brahui. These are the languages which the government has introduced into syllabus at primary level. If there are students who belong to all the three languages, separate sessions can be taken for every language of students.

Liaqat: There might be students whose mother tongue might be other than Pashto, Balochi or Brahui. Will it be compulsory for them to learn one of these languages?

Kaleem Ullah: Yes, it is important for them to learn. For instance if there are Punjabi Students in Balochistan so it is important for them to learn Pashto, Balochi or Brahui so that they might not have difficulties while communicating with someone.

Liaqat: Will these three major languages be taught in different belt i.e. will Pashto be taught in Baloch and Brahui belt or vice versa?

Kaleem Ullah: No every belt will be taught their own mother tongue.

Liaqat: I may speak well in my mother tongue, but I may not write well. Do the teachers of Balochistan have the capacity to teach in these languages?

Kaleem Ullah: The teachers will be trained in this regard.

Liaqat: I asked a student that won't it be easy for him to study science subjects in his mother tongue. He said it would be easy for him to learn science subjects in English rather than his mother tongue. Won't there be problems if we want to make Urdu scientific language in future?

Kaleem Ullah: The person whom you asked is absolutely right. There hasn't been done much scientific work in Urdu. It will take time. After French Revolution, Britain developed their language after hundred years of hard work.

Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar, have you heard of any step taken in the promoting of mother languages or how long will take to establish this system of promoting mother languages?

Ibrar: We can do so by training teachers.

Liaqat: Political parties' manifesto comprised of the introduction of mother languages, but apart from manifesto have they made a solid research or plan about this?

Kaleem Ullah: The work that was supposed to be done by parties in this regard on political platform hasn't been done. There might be many reasons. Parties should compel NGOs to work on these languages. Two research centers are about to establish in Balochistan University by the help of National Party and Pashtun Khwa Milli Awami party.

Liaqat: The problem here is that we first establish a department before having done any research due to which it fails because of our flaws. Ms. Rabia, would it not have been better to establish these centers after having done enough research?

Rabia: Absolutely. It would have been much better. Our leaders address in English Language. They should give preference to their national language. Then they should promote their mother languages. Gandhi used to address in Hindi, but Nawaz Sharif addresses in English. First of all our leaders should express their national language and then should work for the welfare of mother languages.

Liaqat: Mr. Kaleem Ullah what message would you give to youth regarding the promotion of mother languages?

Kaleem Ullah: Youth should be learning other languages as well, but first priority should be given to mother languages so that our nation can accelerate towards development.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 49

### Topic: Literacy rate in Balochistan

Guests: Jamil Ahmad (Youth Representative), Aslam Baloch (Youth Representatives) and Aman Ullah Baloch (Educational Mobilizer).

Field Story: Habibur Rehman and Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 27-10-2014

### Program Summary

It is an established fact that literacy rate in Balochistan is highly devastating. We need sound planning to get over it; otherwise our new generation will never forgive us. In this regard, the government's negligence is massively deplorable. No government has so far shown interest to do something for its improvement. The incumbent government has declared educational emergency, however nothing serious has been done for taking further initiatives. A huge number of ghost schools clearly indicate the sincerity of the authority concerned in this regard. In education department, political interference has extremely worsened the situation. Incompetent teachers have been recruited who have no sincerity for the youth and young generation. Experts are of the view that sound system of board of directors, free from political interference and influence should be formed for the improvement of this sector. A strict check and balance system is also necessary for the development of education sector in Balochistan.

### Transcription

Zeeshan: I may start with Aman Ullah Baloch to ask him how much is literacy rate satisfactory in Balochistan ?

Aman: Before casting light on the literacy rate, I would like to talk about literacy rate measuring indicators. The first thing is literacy itself. We have to have a bird eye view on the literacy rate of Balochistan . The second significant thing is people's access to educational institutions. The third thing is quantity of people having access to education. Then comes the turn of quality of education and the last one is gender gap that tells us about the access of female to education. Having all these things in mind, we can calculate and sum up the ratio of education in an area. According to the report of the government the educational ratio is very feeble. Access of common man to education is unimaginable.

Ahmad Zeeshan: What is literacy rate of Balochistan in accordance to the government census?

Aman: In the country it is reported to be 51% that is a disputed figure. In Balochistan, certainly, it is not over 30%.

Ahmad Zeeshan: I think it consisted of all those people who can write their names.

Aman: Yeah. Those who can write their names only are included in literate people.

Ahmad Zeeshan: It means the things are badly deteriorated.

Aman: If we conduct a neutral and transparent analysis of the mentioned ratio, it will surely be further decreased.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Let me ask youth representatives regarding this hot issue of the province. Jamil Ahmad I welcome you in this program. Where do you belong to and what is the ratio of literacy rate in your area?

Jamil: I am from Kharan. Surely there is dearth of colleges in Balochistan. Instead of five to six colleges, we should have over sixty colleges. Surprisingly we have to accommodate over three thousand students in a single college. We have round about hundred lecturers who are totally insufficient. In this regard a report had been published in "Daily Jang" that some eighty percents of students see off schooling after getting through matriculation. Fifteen percents of student get admission in colleges where they are deprived of quality education. This situation disheartens them. Only five percent of students get higher education and join different departments. In the entire district of Kharan there are only twenty high schools which are completely insufficient to meet the need of the total population

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thanks a lot Jamil. You discussed it comprehensively. I have some more questions in mind. But we have Aslam Baloch in studio representing youth. Let us talk to him. Where are you from? Also cast light on the educational improvement of your area.

Aslam Baloch: Thanks a lot. I am from Turbat, a remote district of Balochistan. Both of my friends discussed well. I myself stress upon quality education. In Balochistan one can easily find a lot of ghost schools. In educational emergency, a lot of schools were upgraded to inter-colleges; and inter-colleges were upgraded to degree colleges. In our area some of the schools were upgraded but no competent teacher has been appointed or transferred. Nothing encouraging and effective has, so far, been done for bringing quality of education. On the other hand private institutions and language centers have improved and done well in providing quality education. There has been a trend of English language and other institution in our area since 2000 and onward. Same is the condition of private institutions in Panjgor and Gawadar, where private sector is doing well and imparting education a bit better. Due to dearth of quality education in government sector, the strength of schools is badly affected. A report published recently revealed that 2.2 million children are still deprived of getting education. That is really annoying. Government census regarding literacy ratio in Pakistan is 52%. But private organizations' report and surveys disclose that literacy ratio in Pakistan is 26%. If it is the situation of the entire Pakistan what would be the condition of Balochistan which is already considered a backward province of the country. Surely the literacy rate of Balochistan would be 12 to 16% this is exceedingly embarrassing. Keeping all these things in mind, we need to do a lot for the improvement of education in Balochistan otherwise we will be lagging behind day by day.

Ahmad Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report prepared by CRSS reporter regarding literacy rate of Balochistan. After that we will talk about ghost schools of the province.

Report by Habibur Rehman:

Low literacy rate indeed plays a vital role in lagging behind a society. Despite being the largest province of the country, Balochistan has fallen prey to illiteracy even in the modern era of science and technology. Regarding this burning issue we are going to talk to Arif Shah Kakar, Chairman Department of Entomology, Agriculture University Quetta.

Arif Shah Kakar: As you mentioned that Balochistan being the largest province of Pakistan is very backward. The budget allocated for education has borne no fruit and no child has availed the benefits of allocating so much money for the improvement of education. It is our personal observation that all the ghost schools are being used by the chieftains and other elders as their guest rooms and hujra. That's nothing but committing cruelty to the nation. All of our plans are limited to paper work only. No solid and effective steps have been taken for the improvement of literacy rate. We should not be limited to Balochistan only but we have to compete with the rest of country. Can our students compete with them? Certainly, the answer is no. We have sub-standard educational system. We should keep in mind the quality of education not the quantity. We need to be realistic.

Unfortunately the problem is not only with education. Most of the departments are lacking quality and standard. I think, right man is not in the right place. To tackle all these burning issues we need to encourage expertise. We need sincere people. Reshuffling in departments has destroyed our institutions. We have a lot foreign- educated and trained people but unfortunately they are not given their due rights.



Ahmad Zeeshan: Welcome back. You listened to the report regarding literacy rate and standard of the education in Balochistan . Now we are going to talk about ghost schools as a huge amount of money is being spent over teachers' salaries and other expenditures but the students have got no fruits. You may tell about ghost schools of your area if there is any. Also mention political influence and interference in teachers' recruitments.

Aman: Thanks a lot. You already talked about political interference and influence in the recruitment of teachers. Let me explain that our schooling system is already sub-standard. It is worth-mentioning that our educational system had divided into two—private and government sectors of education. The latter has unluckily fallen prey to mafia. Every remote area of the province has ghost schools fully backed and interfered by influential personalities of the area. Unfortunately, whenever a leader or elder wants to facilitate his men, workers or relatives, his first choice is to employ and engage them in a remote area school with the aim to free him from attending school. In all union councils, there are political appointments which resulted in the shape of ghost schools. Nobody performs his duty. We must think that teaching is the profession of Prophets. It is not a common duty. In this highly respectable profession we do corruption. Education is like an eye of human being with which one can differentiate between good and bad.

Ahmad Zeeshan: I think there are some schools where there is no building.

Aman: We frequently face the dilemma of lacking of proper documentation in our organizations. Our budget allocation for education is two or three percent that is not sufficient to meet the need of our population. In this meager budget, nothing can be done to curb out the culture of ghost schools. The way our education system is declining is highly dangerous for poor as it helps empowers private sector. This will certainly make education inaccessible for poor class. There is a chain of private schools everywhere in the province. This chain of private schools clearly indicates the failure of government policies regarding education.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Jamil Ahmad, would you please inform us about literacy rate of your area?

Jamil Ahmad: No doubt, our educational system has been badly handicapped by politicians and other influential people. They get their children admitted in private schools. They don't care about poor people. These political leaders also try to blackmail bureaucracy regarding recruitments. Unfortunately, we have not properly defined education. We just get education and learn something for getting jobs. We never think about the rest of the nation to work for its progress and development. In modern era education is considered nothing more than a business. Above all, I hold political leaders responsible for the failure and backwardness of our education system.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Right. Aslam Baloch, would you add something regarding literacy rate and education-related policies failure?

Aslam Baloch: If a man is appointed based on corruption or by political influence, then he never thinks of the nation. He is only concerned with daily bread which he gets by committing corruption. So is a teacher who does not have the idea of flourishing others' kids. Salary becomes the purpose of his life. As far as the matter of the ghost schools is concerned, majority of the teachers want their appointment in such schools so that they may run their private business along with getting salary from the government. Educational emergency announced by the provincial government is limited to lip talks only. Indeed neither there is any increase in educational budget nor proper planning to implement effective educational policies. The fresh example is that of Makran where all the educational institutions are closed. The flood-hit and militancy-affected people leading their lives as Internally Displaced people (IDPs) are fully deprived of schooling. Neither the government nor any other institution has taken initiative to provide these people with the blessing of education. So the things further deteriorate because of the feeble behavior of the authorities concerned.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Let us listen to a report prepared by the CRSS reporter.

Report: The declining literacy rate in Balochistan has worried the people. Dearth of teachers, government's

lack of interest, the problems of budget allocation and check and balance in educational institutions have declined the literacy rate in Balochistan. In this regard Najeeb Ullah, education expert expressed his views.

Najib Ullah: We face a lot of serious dilemmas regarding education. The shortages of buildings, teaching staffs and proper policy have deteriorated the things. It seems that the authorities concerned have no interest to educate their future generation. All the mentioned problems have also weakened the interest of the children and parents regarding getting education. A lot of students see off education after getting through primary education. Education department and government are equally responsible for this devastation.

Another expert Waheed informed CRSS, "Lack of government's interest has depreciated and worsened our educational system. Parents also do not want their children to waste their time in ghost schools. I think, sound policy and sincerity of the government and authority concerned can make things better. There should be sincere and strict officers to have check and balance on the said department. Poverty also plays its due role in declining educational system. Lack of roads and transportation get the students reach late. Education should be spread and made accessible to common people so that they may play their role in country's progress.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Welcome back. Let us talk how to improve literacy rate in Balochistan and what effective steps can be taken in this regard? Let us talk to Aman Baloch.

Aman Baloch: For education our approach is one-sided. We don't have any awareness. We should question the absent teacher. Can a villager or an educated person tell us that he has visited the school of his area? We are educated and aware of the system of a school. I mean we can check the attendance register of both students and teachers. The NGOs should also visit our schools. Unless and until a sound system of accountability is not developed, no change is expected. Our job is responsibility while the government's job is accountability.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Sometimes government servants particularly teachers complain against meager salaries? So what do you think?

Aman Baloch: The government's servants get far better salaries than those working in private sectors. In private schools and institutions teachers are held responsible for minute mistakes. On the other hand, in government institutions nobody can hold the teachers responsible.

Ahmad Zeeshan: I think there should be a healthy competition between teachers in which competent teachers must be awarded for their excellent performance. This will surely encourage teachers to work hard. Teachers should be highly respected in our society..

Aman Baloch: Yeah. That is really appreciable.

Aslam Baloch: For the appointments of teachers board of directors should be formed which will hold the teachers accountable.

Aman Baloch: Political influence and interference must be taken away so that a sound educational system may be brought forward for next generation.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thanks a lot for joining us.

## Episode: 50

### Topic: Unemployment and its effects on youth

Guests: Waleed Baloch (Pharmacist and Youth Representative), Chiragh Dost (Geologist and Youth Representative) and Mahzeb (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 28-10-2014

#### Program Summary

Youth is considered to be the biggest power of a state or nation, but the youth in Balochistan have gone into a quagmire of disappointment because of unemployment. Unemployment is increasing day by day in Balochistan. There are many vacant positions in different departments, but the government isn't announcing them. On the other hand there is a huge number of youth and fewer positions are announced by the government. Youth get further disappointed by corruption in appointment. There are not as many private sectors as needed. No one is willing to invest in Balochistan because of security issues. There are many natural resources in Balochistan. Unemployment can be eradicated by facilitating natural resources.

#### Transcription

Zeeshan: Mr. Waleed how fast is ratio of unemployment spreading?

Waleed: The main reason of jobless students is the less number of vacancies announced by the government. Fewer jobs are available as compared to the number of students.

Zeeshan: There are some students who are not well-qualified. When jobs that match their qualifications are announced, master students also apply for them. How can this situation be controlled?

Waleed: If an M.A degree holder doesn't find any job, he or she is obliged to apply for a position whose criterion is F.A. It suggests how fast unemployment is increasing.

Zeeshan: Mr. Chiragh Dost what would you comment on the scenario of unemployment?

Chiragh: I graduated in B.S Geology last year, but am still jobless. Even our seniors are jobless. They work in hotels and shops. The number of jobs in government sectors are fewer than jobs required. There are very few private sectors of Geology. They take ones who have sources.

Zeeshan: You are right. There are very few private sectors of Geology related matters.

Chiragh: I have applied at some sectors, but they only take people who have sources.

Zeeshan: Mahzeb what would you say about women unemployment?

Mahzeb: Women are bound in every activity whether it is education or job. They are bounded by the name of culture, society, yet females are making progress. Although they get education, they aren't allowed to do jobs. They are told that they have to take care of their own houses ultimately so it is useless to study or do a job. In case of jobs males are given preference over women.

Zeeshan: I have heard opposite to what you just said. Male youth complain that if women have applied for a post, they hardly get a chance. I have seen some cases in which females leave their post after they get married.

They say that if their in-laws allowed them, they will continue their jobs and if not, they will leave their jobs. This creates a lot of problems for males who have to support their families. They aren't selected at the time of interview and on the other hand females leave their jobs.

Mahzeb: This is the problem that women are compelled to leave their jobs. They want to carry their jobs, but are bounded by culture and society.

Zeshan: We have got a report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

We spoke to Mir Inayat Ullah about unemployment in Interior Balochistan. He says, "There is lack of education in Balochistan. Government Schools are closed. There is no support by the government in this regard. This is the reason children get uneducated and get jobless as a result of which they get addicted to drugs. Some youth fall into illegal activities. There are no jobs by the government due which theft have increased. We live in a village. There is only a high school which has closed. Apart from that there is a hospital, but no facilities. There are hardly few government servants from our area. If education gets common, unemployment will be eradicated itself. Education will guide them on a right path."

Zeeshan: Mr. Waleed what are the effects of unemployment on youth?

Waleed: If an educated person of the society is jobless despite studying for 16 years, the particular person tends to involve in evils or illegal activities i.e. drug addiction, thefts, robberies etc. or sometimes harms other people. Such youth doesn't have any other option left.

Zeeshan: Mr. Chiragh what is your observation vis-à-vis the effects of unemployment on youth?

Chiragh: I myself am disappointed because of the unemployment. I have been jobless for one year despite having degree. The department which I have a degree in is of no scope. .

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

We spoke with an unemployed youngster Mohammad Abbas. He says, "Unemployment is very common in Balochistan. It is a big problem. We need to work in this regard. To eradicate it, we need to develop awareness in youth. We need to establish vocational centers to provide job opportunities. Balochistan is very backward in this regard. There is lack of awareness in youth. Government too should take initiatives for the eradication of unemployment. The main reason of unemployment is corruption." "Most of Balochistan Youth is disappointed regarding employment. Positions in different departments are vacant, but no recruitments are done. All the positions of Balochistan quota in federal government are vacant. Public Service Commission hasn't announced any posts for 3 or 4 years due to which unemployment has increased to a great level. Government should announce vacancies for youth as soon as possible and should eradicate unemployment."

Zeeshan: Females in Balochistan are very good at embroidery. There are some NGOs that utilize the skills of these women, but they get a very low payment in compensation. However, the design is sold much costly abroad.

Mahzeb: They don't get fair payment of their work.

Zeeshan: If women in this field are facilitated, it can also eradicate unemployment. Mr. Chiragh Dost what should be done in your field for the eradication of unemployment?

Chiragh: If REKO DIQ is resumed, 80% of geologists will be on jobs. If a private sector related to geology starts in Makran, it will also be helpful in eradicating unemployment.

Zeeshan: Mr. Waleed what is the ideal situation for you, I mean how can unemployment be overcome via your department?

Waleed: Department should check its input and output i.e. it should give admission to students according to job vacancies.

Zeeshan: Mr. Waleed where are job opportunities for pharmacists?

Waleed: Pharmacists have job opportunities in pharmaceutical units. Apart from this pharmacists have opportunities in hospital as clinical pharmacist and drug inspector.

Zeeshan: Mahzeb how can betterment occur in this issue?

Mahzeb: Most of the females either choose the field of medical or apply for lectureship. They don't get permission to join any other field. They aren't at all allowed to join the field of journalism or media. Females should be permitted to go ahead in the desired fields. They should be helped and should be given opportunities.

Zeeshan: Females are in banking field as well.

Mahzeb: Yes, but very few. They don't get permission to join media or journalism.

Zeeshan: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 51

### Topic: Women's role in the progress of Balochistan

Guests: Amber Murad (Journalist), Shazia Farooq (Educationist), Shaheena Shaheen (Educationist) and Khalid Baloch (CRSS Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 10-11-2014

#### Program Summary

Role of women cannot be denied in a society for progress and development. Women in Balochistan are undertaking numerous hard and laborious jobs but without any recognition. There are simply no opportunities for women in Balochistan to explore and express their potential. Lack of education, rigid tribal system and male domination society do not permit women to come out of their homes and join a field of their interest. There are only two fields of education and health where women can have jobs. Education holds the key to women, but there are not enough institutes for them. It is indeed a great pity that there is only one university for the whole province. Prime responsibility lies with the government and then the society as a whole.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: It is well known that the progress and prosperity of a society is best judged by looking at the conditions of women. Women in Pakistan are already playing a pivotal role in our society. They are working shoulder to shoulder with men. We can realize the development of a region by looking at the role women play.

Khalid: Today's topic is very important and interesting. Ladies are in majority in the studio today. As far as the role of women in development in Balochistan, I may say that we have to see whether they are voluntarily contributing to it or not. In the whole of Balochistan including Quetta, women have certainly a role in the development but that is confined to their homes. It is a matter of opportunities. We have to see in which departments women are playing their role. One of your guests belongs to Turbat which is a bit developed but most of the areas are not developed. There is some industry in Quetta and Hub but rest of the province has no opportunity for women in the industrial sector. Their role is very limited. Unfortunately our society is not developed and women rights are considered a sin. Even education is declared a sin in most of the areas. Educated women are criticized and taunted. It is a crime to come to Quetta for education. In this situation what could be their role? We need mobilization and proper role of the government.

Mehreen: I may add that women are contributing a lot. They are cutting wood and making bricks, but there is no recognition.

Khalid: I may say that they are contributing a lot at homes. They are doing manual labour along with domestic responsibilities. They are working in the fields. There is no role of media and people have no access to it. People do not recognize their due role. There are too many barriers for them to come out and take risks.

Mehreen: The Opportunities and facilities are not there for them. We will talk about such issues but it is time to listen to a report about the issue in focus.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Yasir Baloch: In every society, development does not rest on men alone. Women role cannot be denied. They are equal in number and can play a due role. Women role in Balochistan had never been positive because the

society is gripped in tribal customs. Women are restricted. Khadijja Khan is a political leader who says;

I may say in the background of a tribal soil like Balochistan where feudal system exists. Women are not granted a place where they can play a vital role. Nevertheless many women are now in the fields and work in NGOs. It is a good omen that women are coming out of their homes. Education was the only field for women where they had some respect. But now situation has changed and in every department there are females. In politics, women are greater in number and people say that some time later men will be demanding their rights. Women are lagging far behind in every field but now women will lead women. They will support each other and will make progress. Female role is very important in society and a strong character of a woman is important for her. I am optimistic that soon every field will have maximum number of women. They are threatened and killed but even then women are coming out. Even the police department has women.

Mehreen: Welcome back dear listeners after the report. Shaheena, I may like to take your comments because you belong to the media. I would like to have your comments.

Shaheena: I am really thankful for being here. I am really pleased to represent women here. I would like other women to take inspiration from me. Every woman should take the first step. Unless women are in a field, that field will be incomplete. I may refer to the report where it was mentioned that education has maximum number of women along with health. We are not given support and opportunities as we deserve. All the other departments are deficient of women. Baloch families are in politics but in the interior there is a façade of women. They need awareness which comes through education. But the problem is that there is no proper system of education for women. In my area of Turbat, there is a branch of Quetta University which was opened one year back. In the whole of Makran area there is only one college for girls. Female students are facing a lot of problems there. We are very backward. In spite of meager education, women are contributing in Balochistan. I may also mention agriculture...

Mehreen: We will come to agriculture later. You have briefed us but now I may talk to Amber who is an educationist. I may ask her that the facilities available for women in Balochistan are sufficient? Do women have enough rights to step out of their homes?

Amber: The topic is so good for today to be discussed. I may add that the facilities are not enough for us. Our girls have teeming with talent but there are simply no opportunities outside. Women are coming out but still they are so scared. Our women cannot join each and every field. We have education and health sectors open to us. Other fields have no opportunities for us. We have no permission by our families to join other fields. The whole family is taunted and criticized where women join other fields. We have to follow the norms of our society.

Mehreen: But changes will come only if initiatives are taken.

Amber: We need opportunities to explore our talent.

Mehreen: What could be those activities?

Amber: As Khalid mentioned, embroidery is a rich field in Balochistan. We need proper industry for it. Our women need recognition.

Mehreen: Women need proper platform to magnify them. People should know about the skill and talent of our women. We were talking about education. I may ask you that our people need to understand simple facts. Girls are not even free to select their subjects during schooling. They cannot opt for the subjects of their choice. What would you like to say in this regard? What is the situation in your area?

Amber: I may talk about my school. My area is physical training in the school. When we want to involve students in certain activity then parents inquire time and again that's why a certain activity is to be undertaken. I

know about my field but face hurdles in convincing parents about physical activity. No parent bothers to come to the school to attend the parents meeting. Even educated parents are mentally backward. It is a sorry affair in our schools.

Mehreen: How could negativity be reduced in this regard? What should be done Shazia why parents are against physical training? How can their thinking be changed?

Shazia: Thank you very much for allowing me to talk about my favourite topic. The best factor is education and we should support it. Education can eliminate all our ills. I belong to a backward area in Turbat. It was almost thirty years ago when Zubaida Jalal established a school there. She requested parents to send their daughters to school. People thought that education spoils girls. But now there are students who are becoming doctors and teachers. They are studying Oxford and Cambridge books. She has done wonders for the women in that area. My sister was also her student who has topped the university this year in library science. This is a great change. People were mentally backward but now when women are getting education with greater benefits then thinking has changed. People have understood that education is very important for women. Role of women for the progress of Balochistan is very important. I may say that we should promote education so that women can make progress.

Mehreen: How can education be spread for the development of the country. How can this be done when we have just one university in the whole province. Is this enough for us? We should have a set up in the rural areas where a woman does not have to travel to get education. If we want to reduce the barriers then is it not possible that we should have a local education system?

Amber: In fact it is the prime responsibility of government to open new schools and colleges. We do not have a government college in Turbat. Girls are not allowed to go alone to colleges. We need local institutes in each region right from primary school to university. The duty lies with the government to spread education. It is our bad luck that in Pakistan no one is paying enough heed to it. Although many women are making their efforts but all this is through self help. All such women have to look at the cities to express themselves because there is nothing at local level.

Mehreen: You are right that government should make efforts. Some steps have to be taken.

Shaheena: There are almost six hundred students in our schools while there are only eleven teachers for them. We need to hire enough teachers.

Mehreen: We were talking about the status quo among parents. They are sticking to the old customs and traditions. Why someone like Zubaida Jala does not come forward in this era? We need to hold regular meetings with the parents. If they are not coming to us then we should approach them. NGOs should organize educational seminars. Awareness sessions are very important and our supportive departments can do it easily. We need to open the doors of the minds. If we talk about small industry then are their enough opportunities.

Amber: Our women have talent and can do anything. There are regions like Zamran in Turbat where there was no electricity one year ago. Women used to fetch water and wood from long distances. They would even find time to sew clothes and do other local trades to earn. Our state and NGOs should take step to give them proper training. Their skill needs recognition and polishing. Many women do not know about their hidden potential. I want to share that I am the first woman from Turbat who has joined the media field. I faced great opposition from my family. I went on hunger strike and after great efforts I was able to join this field. It was the field of my interest and everyone should join his or her field of interest. I was fond of poetry at school but I had no opportunity to express myself. We created an organization with the help of my friends. Our aim was to explore the talent of women in Turbat. We held painting and speech competitions locally. We wanted to provide a platform to local girls to explore their potential.

Shazia: But the crux of the matter is that we have to follow the norms of society. We have talent but we have



to obey norms.

Mehreen: We are always worried about the opinion of other people. It is time to listen to another report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Yasir: Progress depends on men and women. Women are half of the population and they can contribute much. Women in Balochistan are not playing greater role. We are going to ask a young student Sobia about this issue;

Sobia: In other provinces, women have certain rights and opportunities but not in Balochistan. We are not even allowed to get education. Unless our women get education, we cannot expect to make progress. Women are not allowed to go out of the homes in Balochistan. We see that developed countries are giving rights and freedom to women. We should also impart education to our women with greater rights. Our literacy rate is almost 24% which is very less. Education holds the key for the progress of women.

Yasir: Rabia is a political worker who says;

Rabia: Women have no role in the progress of this province. There are simply no chances for women. Women are confined to homes due to rigid customs and traditions. Women cannot leave their homes. Any greater role in the progress is impossibility. If women are supported then they can join many fields. Girls are better in education and sports but they have no support. There is no role for women in rural areas. Women are enslaved at home. The minds of our men are still backward.

Yasir: women have to come forward to play due role in the progress of the province.

Mehreen: Welcome back after the report. We have shed enough light on the topic but much remains. But still there are still several forbidden fields like fine arts, sport, forces and poetry. These are still dream fields for us. What do you want in this regard so that status quo should be broken? It is not necessary that women should only become teachers or doctors while the rest should become housewives. Why is this so?

Shaheena: I want to give my own example. I do a job and handle my family as well. Women need family support and encouragement. They should not be criticized because they lose confidence. Women can manage her family and duty at the same time.

Shazia: Every person should work according to a time table. It is a matter of time management only. Many women want to work in the field but do not get permission. There is famous quote that 'give me an educated mother and I will give you an educated nation'.

Mehreen: The lap of the mother is the first school for a child. It is well said that colours of life are due to the existence of women. If we try to make it fade then we will lose colours in life. It is time to snatch rights for women. I always say that men need to be addressed to change the status of women. I want comments from Shaheena.

Shaheena: I just want to say that women should follow the field of interest and avoid listening to others.

Mehreen: And the parents should be convinced.

Shazia: In just one sentence my message for men should be not to criticize women.

Amber: My message is also that men should have positive thinking about women.

Mehreen: I just want to say that please change your outlook and everything will change. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 52**

### **Topic: Violation of Balochistan rights by the center**

Guests: Malik Abdur Rehman (Social and political leader), Nisar Ahmad (Youth Representative) and Syed Faheem Shah.

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 11-11-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Balochistan is the most unfortunate region in the whole country. Blessed with abundance of natural resources and wealth, it is the most backward and underdeveloped area. Balochistan has a long history of maltreatment and negligence by the federal government starting right from the inception of Pakistan. It has never been paid due respect and great injustice has been committed against it. It is lagging behind in every field. People of Balochistan are growing frustrated and this restlessness may lead to an outburst like a volcanic eruption which will have serious repercussion for the whole country.

#### **Transcription**

Zeeshan: I may break the ice with Malik by asking him to tell us how far and long has Balochistan been maltreated and neglected.

Malik: I will try to be brief and to the point. As far as rights are concerned, Balochistan is the most backward and neglected unit among all the four units of the country. Its basic reason is that right from the start; people of Balochistan have no true representation. In all the periods, whether military or democratic, only rhetoric could be observed and no ideal true leader has come to the front. This is the reason that people do not realize the true situation in the region.

Zeeshan: why the standard of life could not be raised in Balochistan?

Malik: It is true that we have plenty of natural resources but policies of our rulers have never been justified and effective. Gas production from Balochistan meets almost sixty percent of requirement for the whole country but royalty has not been paid enough. There are no schools and other facilities in the whole province. We also have coal and sadak, chromites, gold and marble but the tragedy is they are not managed properly on the larger scale for the benefit of the masses.

Zeeshan: No doubt federal government has maltreated Balochistan. I may ask you that we had local bodies in the past and how far are they responsible for not doing any better. What has been the role of local government? People often complain that they have no power and funds?

Malik: Deserving people have never been given power at all levels. These are selected people by those who have vested interests. These are selfish people and do not bother about the rights and welfare of common people. For example I may say that during the 70s, a government was formed under NAB. People still cherish their memories because all the mega projects like Bolan Medical College and Quetta University was established during that time. Thirty thousand people got employed. People still remember them.

Zeeshan: My question is that why such a government could not be formed again? Why people were not able

to elect such honest and true people again? Why such people could not come forward who are true to the masses and soil?

Malik: It is our dilemma that all those who want to serve are not allowed to come forward but all the vultures and mean people are forwarded. You know target killing and kidnapping is very common here and political parties are not always free to work. When political parties are under such threat and coercion then how can you expect honest people to come forward? All such voices are silenced by force. There is no one to hear such voices. People are suffering.

Zeeshan: We have also other guests and I may ask Mr. Syed Faheem Shah that as you heard our talk, what is your own opinion about the present state of affairs in Balochistan and when can the desired change come? You have the right forum to express yourself.

Faheem: We have to look at these matters in present perspective. The main goal is economy and then education comes next. It is a matter of survival. Economic resources are in the hands of federal government. 18th amendment and NFC is not the solution to all our ills. Our people do not know about such things. The only way available to us is to protest.

Zeeshan: You said that NFC yields no benefits to us. I was in a political gathering a few days ago where Abdul Qadar Baloch also spoke. He said that after 18th amendment it is not possible to violate the rights of the provinces. He said that all the rights have been granted to the provinces. No one can snatch your rights now. I liked his talk when he said that now provinces have everything. He mentioned recorded projects where our youth are required to carry it forward. He said that it is time to take advantage from our resources.

Faheem: I may say that Rejo Dik projects are run in the Punjab by other people. These people are not even from Pakistan but they are foreigners. Under 18th Amendment we can run our projects but these rights are violated at present.

Zeeshan: We had a case in the court about such Rejo Dik projects but we do not know about its present state. If these projects are undertaken by the foreign organizations then we cannot expect much benefit.

Faheem: We want direct effect on our people. Our society is so isolated. There are several ethnic groups. None of the group in Balochistan are getting any fruit from such projects. New universities are being established but our literacy rate is not rising. There are no teachers in schools and colleges. People are protesting against Public Service Commission where bribes are a common practice.

Zeeshan: I may now ask Mr. Nisar about the issue in focus. What do you want to add?

Nisar: UN has also a standard for progress. Bread, home and cloth are the basic necessities. Similarly primary education and health facilities should be free. It is the basic responsibilities of a state. That region could be considered as progressive and developed which has these facilities otherwise it is backward. If we apply these yard sticks then we will realize that there is no progress. Economy is very essential but if there is no facility of education then you cannot even ask for your rights. Education gives you the sense and courage to ask for your rights. You cannot expect people to ask for their rights with this much education. If we look at the health sector then there are only two government hospitals. Rest of the good hospitals are owned by private people. Common people cannot afford these hospitals. Unemployment ratio is almost 3.5 million. Balochistan has a share of almost 20% unemployed people. People cannot sustain themselves and how can they afford private hospitals? I want to explain why we are so backward. The topic for today is the unjust treatment by the federal government. Gas was discovered in 1952 in Balochistan. Within a couple of years gas was provided to all the major cities of Pakistan but Quetta got it in 1982. This is the treatment practiced by the federal government. In 1970, fair elections were held and we had a good representative government, but Bhutto dissolved this true provincial assembly.

Zeeshan: I am sorry to interrupt but it is time to listen to a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

We met an elder Mir Saher Khan Kethran who says;

I do not understand why our people are maltreated. If the federation wants our resources, they need the people of Balochistan. They cannot exterminate all of us. No mega project has ever been initiated here. The reason is that people are getting irritated and impatient. I warn the federation to mend their ways. Balochistan is the most important region for the whole country. Our destruction will lead to the destruction of the whole country. Balochistan is our property and we would not let anyone deprive us of our rightful property. World is getting privatized and we want our equal share. According to a survey Barkahn region has gold resources almost at number five in the world. Now people are beaten in that region. Unless they do not consider us the owners of Balochistan, situation cannot be improved. We want our just rights and share. We are ready to share our resources with the rest of the country but we should not be deprived of our rights. All the other provinces are declared owners of these resources but not Balochistan.

Yasir: All the problems of this province can be solved if rights are given to the people. People are getting frustrated and it may lead to dreadful repercussions.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners, welcome after the report. We heard in the report also but I want Nisar to complete his comments about the deprivation of Balochistan.

Nisar: I was telling you that even in all kinds of sports especially cricket; our players do not get a place. Why are our players not selected? The reason is that PCB is controlled by the federal government and we are left out. We have just one stadium in Quetta.

Zeeshan: I hope the situation will improve in the coming days. Let us listen to another report.

REPORT:

There are too many problems in Balochistan. Its main reason is the negligence by the federal government. In this connection we had to meet Abdul Haleem Tareen who is a political worker who says;

Balochistan is the largest province in the country but rights are not granted as compared to other provinces. In regard to health and education there is nothing on the ground except Quetta. The center is not taking any interest. There had always been injustice in Balochistan. There is no law and order, no health facilities and no proper education. Our politicians are just rubber stamps and are getting financial gains for themselves. Funds are also not available for developmental works.

We also have a political leader Mr. Chakar Baloch who says;

Look at any sector in Balochistan and you will see the injustice by the federal government. It is evident in every walk of life. It has resulted into depression and impatience among the people. We see armed gangs and groups who are creating violence. It is all happening because of the sense of deprivation. Look at the royalty of Natural gas. We have only gas in a few districts but the rest of the country is enjoying it.

Yasir: People are prone to violence and disturbance because of persistent injustice and deprivation in Balochistan. The federal government should take concrete steps to bring these people into the main stream life of the country.

Zeeshan: Mr. Malik, what steps you think were good enough to be promoted in the past?

Malik: In reply to your question, I may say that much was promised to us. 18th amendment was introduced

with golden dreams but political parties in Balochistan have no power. Someone from another provinces comes and starts a project here. These kinds of actions further increase our sense of deprivation. There are many projects which can benefit our people if sons of the soil are given enough rights and proper share. Our share should be distributed among our people in the shape of health and education facilities.

Zeeshan: It can be inferred from your talk that unless you bring the people of this province into the main-stream, distances will increase. Facts and fictions are mixed and people get frustrated and may be derailed easily. Depression always leads to either negative activity like drug addiction or may trigger further aggression. I may ask Mr. Faheem to express himself in a few words.

Faheem: In short I may say that end injustice of all kind and depression will end. Military operation should not be the last resort. Give a vision to the people and they will go ahead.

Zeeshan: What do you say Mr. Nisar?

Nisar: Both my friends are right to say that through free and fair election real representation should be brought forward. These people will understand our problems and they will frame good policies. Another solution is that policies should be logical. All the projects should be real and logical. We have established some industries but most of them are at the wrong places. It is a rule that industry should be set up at the place where resources are found. We have chromites, gas and other resources but the industry is either in Sindh or Punjab. It will increase job opportunities.

Zeeshan: Thank you all for being with us for such fruitful talk. I may conclude after the discussion that we should have just and honest representatives. The federal government should also give us our due share. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 53

### Topic: Causes of the backwardness of Balochistan despite a stable democratic government

Guests: Sahib Jan Kethran (a political activist), Saud Aziz (Students' Representative) and Sana Baloch (Student Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 17-11-2014

#### Program Summary

Education's role in the development and progress of a country and in the formation of a sound and civilized society is massively eminent. In the current era of competition, its role in the survival of nations further increases. Despite all these facts we are lagging behind day by day. What is the reason? The reason which impedes the path of development is corruption. Corruption immensely hampers a society's progress and does not let the youth to compete with the rest of the nations. So is the situation of Balochistan where politicians' lip talks have badly hurt young generations' feelings. Balochistan has scores of reserves and other natural blessings but their exploration seems to be an uphill task because of nepotism, corruption and inactivity.

#### Transcription

Ahmad Zeeshan: Let us commence discussion from Sahib Jan.

Ahmad Zeeshan: What is the reason of backwardness of Balochistan despite a politically stable government?

Sahib Jan: First of all, I thank all of you for a discussion over such hot issues. Actually the worst situation of law and order spoils the condition. Nobody can move freely. Secondly we face the curse of corruption. So the current era should be a symbol for the people regarding development because it is well-said, "nothing venture, nothing have." As I am a retired teacher, wherever I go I find teachers and students fully unprotected. Even students are unaware about where and how to get higher education; which institution should be preferred. Things seem ambiguous. So I think above all we need to pay proper heed to law and order situation.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Balochistan is often said to be lacking of resources, and after 18th amendment, the province, to some extent, has been authorized. I admit it but still the province is not fully authorized. Do you think the funds in hands are being used for public prosperity?

Sahib Jan: Federal and Provincial governments are not standing on the same pitch even after 18th amendment. If both of them were sincere, much could be achieved and done in spite of the insufficient resources. Verily, 18th amendment was passed but no heed was paid to it. We should be single-minded to solve Balochistan problems. Indeed, we have more than sufficient resources and opportunities than other provinces but full-attention and sincerity is highly required to tackle the menaces. Gwadar corridor, Sui gas are the examples.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Now I am going to ask some question from the younger guests.

Ahmad Zeeshan: As it was mentioned earlier that Balochistan has plenty of reserves and opportunities such as; Reqa Dik, Sui and Gwadar. To benefit from all of them, a sound system of education and role of youth is needed. So what steps can be taken to advance our education system; and what are the difficulties, in your view, in its advancement?

Masood Aziz: Despite being the largest province of the country Balochistan is lagging behind with each passing day. Things are worsening. The province is self-sufficient but lack of quality education is a hurdle to benefit. The current government claimed to provide the children with best schooling and health but it proved to be just lip talks. The previous government was better than this one. In my view, without educating people the province cannot develop despite all these reserves.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Do you believe the current education system can well-equip our youth to run all the available projects and to meet the need of the society? Let me ask our guest Sana.

Sana: The current government's performance, to some extent is better than the past governments. It is a vast and big province. It will certainly take time to be covered. Provision of proper and quality education is truly a problem without which we cannot solve our problem. Besides dearth of quality, the menace of corruption has hollowed us. Some of the Balochistan belts are really deprived of education, such as Makran. Though students have competency but shockingly opportunities are tantamount to nothing. Poverty does not let them access to get higher education in Quetta. They are limited to matriculation only. The packages reserved by the government for deserved people are distributed amongst MPAs' relatives or friends. Universities or other institutions in Turbat are still dysfunctional. In Kharan College 45 students applied for admission but only three succeeded, the rest are annoyed. Our institutions don't have sufficient seats to place us.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Kharan is a big district and was the quota insufficient for the students?

Sana Baloch: Yeah. Only three youngsters succeeded in getting admission from the vast district. In technical college only two seats are reserved for our quota.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Khalid Baloch, program Manager CRSS has joined us. Let us talk to him. Mr. Khalid has an eminent role in highlighting youths' problems in Balochistan.

Ahmad Zeeshan: (Addressing Khalid). Please add something to what you listened about the difficulties of youth.

Khalid Baloch: Whosoever in power, unfortunately we don't have any vision and policy to tackle problems pragmatically. Neither have we had education nor health policy. Before starting something, one needs to devise a suitable strategy. Visit any hospital, and you will never find doctor. In each and every district at least 30 to 40 doctors are appointed. So is the condition of lady doctor. These doctors know that no one is to question our disappearance. There is no accountability. People think that accountability is to question all those who remained in government and power and to send them behind bars. In real meaning, accountability is to hold MPAs or MNAs responsible and to ask them about the closure of schools, disappearance of doctors and unavailability of dispensaries. People visit them individually. Unless we are brought together, we cannot dissolve our issues. The platform of CRSS has done plenty in this regard. We have invited students, young generation to come forward and express their view. Our aim isn't criticism. We want the people to question their MNAs and MPAs for they are public representatives.

Ahmad Zeeshan: You talk nicely. Really a common man must ask and question the performance of our representative. Not serving the people properly is also a sort of corruption.

Now we are going to present reports.

Report by Habibur Rehman

Backwardness really is a hurdle in the development of a society. Balochistan, a vast province of the country, despite the stable government and the provision of funds, is still deprived of health, education and other facilities. That's a tragedy for us. Regarding these issues we talk to a student, Sajjad Baloch, of Balochistan University.

Sajjad Baloch: Unfortunately we are overwhelmed by scores of hot and burning issues. Some of them need to be highlighted. Actually in past Balochistan used to be funded in accordance with its vast area and now population is considered while releasing fund. Except few cities, population of Balochistan is little. That's why fund release has decreased. Secondly corruption as a menace has devastated us. Thirdly nepotism has rooted deeply in our society. Funds are spent over relatives and the poverty is as it is. Literacy rate also matters because people do not know their rights and can't raise their voice for it. Tribal influence is also an impediment. A tribal is mainly dealt by chieftain. Funds are given to chiefs. So they don't spend them over populace. People turn to migrate to cities to seek their fortune. So villages are deserted. These were the reasons which kept Balochistan behind in terms of progress. Both the government and citizens are at fault. People are not serious for their demands.

Habibur Rehman: The government is required to have check and balance in the provision and usage of funds.

Ahmad Zeeshan: I would like to ask Sahib Jan. Tribal system was also discussed in the report. Do you think tribal system to be a peril to development?

Sahib Jan: Yeah, Tribal and chieftainship was really a hurdle to development.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Our elders have not performed their job as it should have been. For example elite class children read in private school, colleges and universities while the kids of a poor cannot do so. Unless the elite class pay attention and get their children enrolled in the government schools, the condition of government cannot improve. As there is a stable democratic government so consequently the things should have changed accordingly. CRSS reporter is going to present another report. Let us listen to the report.

Report: - Yasir Baloch

Federal government provides funds for different projects of Balochistan. Despite all these funds Balochistan has seen no progress and development; who should be held responsible for this fact. What is the reason of this backwardness? Let us talk to Mir Bahram Khan Baloch.

Mir Bahram Khan Baloch: No doubt we have always democratic governments but unfortunately the main cause has not been addressed. The core issue is the lack of education. The majority of the population of Balochistan lives in rural areas and early fifties like situation can be observed there. I think our leaders are responsible for this nuisance. In the modern era, we lack communication, road and access. Federal government just formulates a policy. Its implementation lies on the shoulders of our leaders. Bringing Balochistan back on track, I think, is not the priority of leaders.

A Political activist expresses his views,

The Nawab and Sardar (Chieftains) system has badly hampered the development. There is no transparency on check and balance. All the funds are conferred upon to corrupt elements. Just faces change in our country. On the contrary, poverty is on the peak that leads people towards militancy and extremism. The authority does not use its power to utilize the resources.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Saud Aziz, what do you think about the different schemes of giving laptops and refund the fees, initiated by the government? Do youths get benefit?

Saud Aziz: For student it was beneficial. Prior to it, a program of reimbursement of fee for M. Phil and PhD was also appreciable and students benefitted much. Furthermore, it assisted the students increase curiosity of getting education. Laptop schemes helped the poor students too much. This action of the government, in my view, was very much praise worthy.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Yeah. Really it was a good step. One can easily access matter of his want through internet. What do you think about this step, Sana Baloch?



Sana Baloch: Actually only one or two laptops are insufficient in the university. As it was mentioned that score of matter concerned to want of a student can be acquired through internet. So every student is really in need of laptop or computer. Laptops were distributed in universities only. Their distribution must be at school level as well.

Ahmad Zeeshan: We indeed have been bestowed with some natural blessings, such as coastal belt or international quality date production in Makran. We don't have any planning to further utilize and take benefit from them.

Sahib Jan: It is tantamount to cast off things in hands. We have each and everything, but unfortunately we know nothing to utilize them and get benefit. Our coastal belt is of high value. Makran produces score of variety and international standard of dates. But nobody dares utilize these opportunities. Our people go abroad to earn something. Though all these things are available here yet we are deprived of them

Ahmad Zeeshan: We have persistently been talking of its utilization. The impediment in the path of utilization and development is the menace of corruption. Since fifteen years, I have been listening to the claims of the installation processing plants in Makran to compete the rest of the world, but it is in vain. A massive amount of dates are wasted and discarded each year; that is annoying. A huge number of sea foods are available but who will utilize it. In short, we have all sorts of blessings but they need attention. Development means to develop the standard of life of a common man. Do you think a day may come to avail all these blessings properly?

Sahib Jan: Actually we should hold our politicians responsible and should ask them about our problems for we have voted them

Ahmad Zeeshan: Really, the time is over, and I thank all of the guests for joining us.

## **Episode: 54**

### **Topic: Early marriage**

Guests: Shazia Ahmad Lango, Arzoo Ziaratwala, Khalid Baloch (Program Manager CRSS) and Chakar Baloch (Youth representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 18-11-2014

### **Program Summary**

Unfortunately we are entirely overwhelmed by a huge number of problems in which early marriage is also considered a threat. We are required to tackle these problems sensibly and pragmatically. People belonging to every walk of life, particularly government, should contribute a lot to address the problem. More importantly while addressing a matter, full attention should be paid. Inconsistency further deteriorates things. According to experts, sometimes things worsen just because of the feeble behavior of the government and the authority concerned. Media and youth's role in tackling a problem cannot be denied

### **Transcription**

Liaqat: Shazia would you please tell the ratio of early marriage in Balochistan?

Shazia: Actually early marriage is highly tended to be in our province. We involve our youth in early marriage without providing them with an opportunity of getting education. The current government has focused on the issue and is about to present a bill regarding it in assembly. The bill would have been presented earlier but our religious parties are opposing it.

Liaqat: Ok. The government counters some difficulties. Now I would like to talk to Khalid Baloch, Manager CRSS that how can we address this problem effectively?

Khalid Baloch: It is a hot issue of the province. I think, in this regard, women have been proven to be ill-fated. They are deprived of education. On the contrary, boys are given priority regarding education with the thought to be supportive in future. Actually, in early marriage a girl is certainly unaware of her responsibility. She does not know her rights and duties. Other issues also emerge. Such policies need to be formulated that prove effective to halt rituals of early marriages.

Liaqat: Arzoo, would you tell us please whether the nonexistence of "Jahez" (Dowry) in our society helps support and increase the trend of early marriages?

Arzoo: Unfortunately birth of a baby girl is considered a humiliation in our society and we even conceal such news. While on the other hand, boy's birth is highly celebrated, sweets are distributed, people are invited. Then the girl is shouldered with domestic responsibilities. She has to tackle all domestic jobs. Her education and other rights are ignored. Sometimes her right of a few classes of education is admitted with a view that she has to be married. Sometimes due to allegations of society girls fall prey to early marriages. And the most deplorable and detestable custom of our society is "Walwar" which is tantamount to selling girls. Poverty often paves way for this repugnant custom.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot Arzoo. I am going to ask Chakar Baloch about the views of youth about early marriage.

Chakar Baloch: Early marriage affects youth whether economically, socially etc. Early marriage surely disturbs

the educational life of a young person. He turns into the life of dependency and starts earning. Though at this level his earning capabilities as compared to an elder are zero yet he is compelled to earn. This act certainly disturbs the family life as well.

Liaqat: One of our friends has prepared a report about the demerits of early marriage. He is going to present it. Let us listen to it.

Report by Yasir Baloch: Early marriage definitely alarms children's life. Parents want to lessen the burden by getting their kids married early but in ignorance dig a ditch for themselves. Regarding early marriage we are going to know the views of Dr. Nageel.

Dr. Nageel: Early marriage is serious problem that needs to be dealt and addressed rationally. The children in early stage are immature with little knowledge and awareness of dealing the society and addressing their problems. From medical point of view early marriage may threat mother's life. Law and order situation is also endangered. Educated segment, literates and pulpit of mosques should play their role to aware the people regarding its negative aspects. Low literacy rate and ignorance as well are causes of early marriages.

A young boy Saddam Hussain informed CRSS,

A couple of year back I was student of 2nd year. My parents compelled me to get married. Now I am repentant for I have lost my education. I request all the parents to relinquish arranging early marriages and let their children get higher education so that they may compete the rest of the youth of the society and lead a civilized life.

Liaqat: Shazia, would you please inform our audience how to minimize the after effects of early marriage?

Shazia: A child often counters psychological effects when his/her parents being immature know nothing how to look after him/her. That's why; a child faces dangers. Unfortunately we have developed gender discrimination in our society. A girl is always expected to give a helping hand to her mother while his brother should go out to play. We never mention or believe in the notion that a boy should also support his mother at home. We have our girls get only primary education and let the boys get higher education. So consequently a girl of such a level is married to a man of that level. Suffice to say that mother is the first teacher. The society will surely lack of competent people if a mother does not look after her children well. That's possible only if a mother is educated and mature.

Liaqat: Have you ever formulated anti-early marriage policies?

Shazia: We have indeed devised policies but its imposition is also a serious issue. Our religious parties mobilize and emotionalize people saying Hazrat Ayesha (R.A) marriage was arranged at the age of 9 year. It is also a good example but we must have a bird eye view of the other aspects. However we have continued our struggle to move the bill forward.

Liaqat: Let me tell our audience, fourteen hundred years ago, people were of strong physique; their food was pure. But we are weak..

Liaqat: Let us listen to a field report.

Field Report by Yasir Baloch

Early marriage not only affects a child's life but also causes social evil. Regarding this problem we spoke to Madam Shagufta.

Madam Shagufta: In rural areas of Balochistan cases of early marriage soar day by day. The situation is to some extent better in urban areas. The people have some awareness. We should make people aware of its demerits.

For this reason we hold sessions in different schools, colleges and universities. In urban areas educational institutions are highly beneficial but in rural areas we face a lot of problems in conveying our message. Recently we discussed the matter with deputy director women development who informed us that they are working in this regard. When a law is constituted then strong discussion becomes easy and possible. For the time being we just request the people.

Liaqat: Let us discuss the matter with Khalid Baloch , program manager CRSS, to ask that how can we convince our religious parties?

Khalid Baloch: Passing bill is easy but how to implement it needs consideration. In our society parents are dominant. Whatever they decide is admitted. Girls are not consulted and whosoever comes for “rishta”(marriage proposal) the parents agree. Then the girl is compelled for she has no other option.

Arzoo: Unfortunately she is not asked even at the time of wedlock (nikah). No registration or stamp is arranged; no precautions for the lives of girls.

Liaqat: The government should do something regarding nikah registration. Without registration, it should be banned. Why is the government not taking steps in this regard?

Arzoo: You are right. Without ID cards marriages should be banned. But implementation of laws has always been a problem. For this purpose we need to create awareness in the society.

Chakar Baloch: You are right. But in our society it is considered totally against the culture. The people will never allow any Moulana to come and check the ID card of a girl whether she is eighteen or not.

Arzoo: Moulana should not register such cases.

Liaqat: Our Ulama are respectable and the government should register them as well. It is not the job of a common man. Actually Moulana is called to “a man of letter”. And a Tehsildar should also have a watch over his area.

Chakar Baloch: First we will have to educate our people. Then all these matters could be solved. One is laughed and jeered at if he is asked to have nikah registration.

Liaqat: How to handle and motivate such people who despite knowledge behave like an illiterate?

Arzoo: If we start convincing the old ladies and women of a family, it will surely help tackle the matter to some extent. I would like to give the example of polio eradication. In spite of spending thousands of dollars the people still hesitate to feed their kid with polio drops thinking they breed sterility. In short, the ladies health visitors must convince women of a family regarding these changes.

Shazia: Our targeted audience can also be convinced and warned through media both print and electronic. Then as a nation we lead and go forward. If we start ignoring these dilemmas and calling them culture or terming it difficult then we will never be able to tackle them.

Liaqat: Should we include the matter in our curriculum?

Shazia: Yeah it must be included in our curriculum. It should be included class wise keeping in mind the level of students. Not only early marriage but also other social issues must be part of our curriculum so that they may help eliminate them with the passage of time.

Liaqat: (Addressing Khalid) How can we spread awareness regarding these issues?

Khalid: Actually we don't adopt these things. We don't have persistency in policy. Adding such matters in the

curriculum can help us too much.

Shazia: Things should be taken seriously. As long as we take them easy things will remain as they are. We need to use the most effective tool and that is media which directly influences the targeted audience.

Liaqat: The state responsibility is to bind the channels to cover the awareness program fully.

Liaqat: Chakar would you please tell us how to work to highlight such problems?

Chakar: I think we should drive our campaign in every area whether city or village and to sensitize the people about its seriousness.

Liaqat: People belonging to any walk of life should contribute whole heartedly for the awareness of the people.

I thank all of you for joining us.

## **Episode: 55**

### **Topic: Government's performance regarding child protection**

Guests: Nusrat (Expert of children issues), Abdullah and Zahid Nawab (Youth Representatives).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 24-11-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Amongst countless perils to our society, anti- children protection policies further deteriorate things. Our flower-like innocent children are massively exposed to certain threats of child abuse, child trafficking, sexual assaults, malnutrition and corporal punishments. If these issues are not addressed in time, they will surely affect the progress of the country. Who will handle these problems? Surely the main responsibility lies upon the shoulder of the incumbent government whether provincial or federal. Unfortunately it is really disappointing to say that no government has so far dealt and addressed the issue seriously. The incumbent provincial government has initiated some legislation and has declared educational emergency, however dearth of sound planning to implement the passed laws is a hurdle to triumph over these issues. The NGOs despite their meager capacities have shown some enthusiasm to embark upon these issues but so far they are not fully successful. But it is note-worthy that our collective efforts can prove effective against these menaces.

#### **Transcription**

As you know that we invite experts to discuss the issue. However before naming our guests, a report regarding the issue is being presented.

Report by Yasir Baloch: Scores of laws and reports concerning children protection have been filed but any effective step to address the issue has not been taken so far. Due to the frail behavior of the government children suffer a lot. Child protection is required to be dealt and addressed at emergency bases so that children may contribute a lot in the advancement of the province. How much is a child aware of his/her right? Let us ask children in district Mastung.

I am Tehmina student of class 10th. We surely encounter a plenty of problems such as acid attacks, suppression and wickedness of chieftains. Corporal punishment in schools is also a serious threat for us. Sometimes we are stricken off. Our society has turned to impiety. Unfortunately majority of the students smoke but no one pays heed. We want all the mentioned evils to be eliminated. We need to be encouraged to get higher education. Unluckily we are not supported by the government. Above all, cheating in examination must be strictly discouraged. We struggle hard but position is achieved by those who cheat. We are even disappointed with attention of our parents. The government has not even provided us with books, libraries, laboratories and computers. Whenever any function is arranged the principle does not join us. Only rich students are paid heed and the poor despite of their competency are pushed back.

Yasir Baloch : We, above all, request parents not to suppress their children. In this regard, teachers' role is also condemnable.

Paying full attention to the children and providing them with high education is their right. And it can be helpful to uproot the menace of cruelty and suppression from our society.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Honorable listeners you listened to the report in which students showed their reservations regarding educational exploitation. The guest participants of the program of the day are Nusrat, children's is-

sues expert including youth representatives Abdullah Anwar and Zahid Nawab. Let me commence with Nusrat.

Ahmad Zeeshan: How can we protect our children from exploitation and what are their reservations?

Nusrat: With the exception of Balochistan the rest three sister provinces have appreciable legislation regarding children protection. In Balochistan child labor, domestic violence, corporal punishment in both schools and homes are comparatively high. Unfortunately, sometimes it is termed to be our culture. But mainly it is because of illiteracy. A vast area of the province is still lacking of schools. And in some schools there is no proper teaching staff to meet the need of students.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Would you please tell and guide our listeners about children's nutrition? It is relatively significant as well.

Nusrat: Certainly majority of the children of Balochistan faces nutrition deficiency. I think both poverty and unawareness matter in this regard. The government has also legislated about breast feeding and other nutritive requirements but unluckily implementation is a sign of interrogation. Some of the private organizations carry out their duties concerning nutrition; however they don't cover the required area.

Ahmad Zeeshan: What is the ratio of child labor in Balochistan?

Nusrat: Regrettably our province again snatches the top position concerning child labor as a huge number of children work in workshops, homes and other places. Instead of being learners in a school they have fallen prey to workshops etc. The government has swiftly passed an act regarding domestic labors like others unimplemented acts in this regard.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Has age limit been mentioned in the act passed by the government?

Nusrat: Internationally, age under eighteen is considered a juvenile case. So is the condition and way of the legislation of Pakistan about children.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Does it mean to prevent children from working?

Nusrat: No, it does not mean that. It indeed allows children to work within the age limit specified in legislation, but education is must for them.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Now I would like to ask youth representatives. Zahid Nawab, as you know that Chief Minister of Balochistan has declared educational emergency in which every student is required and stressed to go to school. How much difference do you feel after the announcement of CM and what number of student has so far benefitted the educational emergency?

Zahid Nawab: Actually all these issues are limited to announcements only. So far no practical step has been taken. Not to speak of educational emergency, we are worried about child abuse. Who will protect the children? The best and real protection a student is bestowed with is education. An educated boy can make distinction in good and bad. He comes to know his rights and duties. Here a parent does not know the rights of his child. As you mentioned nutrition, it is also a critical issue. Our children do not have a balanced diet. Lacking of balanced diet let the boy doze in the class which leads to wasting his time. To me, only a prudent boy knows his right. For this purpose, a child needs friendly atmosphere, democratic-like environment to groom. A child is the architect of the nation. Ignoring him is tantamount to ignore development of a nation. Taking all the mentioned steps for a child will automatically stimulate our dead government.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thanks a lot. You really entertained us with interesting information. Now I would like to ask Abdullah Anwar to inform us about the initiative of the government about health and education.

Abdullah Anwar: I thank the management of CRSS for its struggle against elimination of serious and burning

issues of the Balochistan. I would like to say that in our society unfortunately a child faces agony from the very beginning of his educational career to the very last. This ill-treatment badly affects his behavior. Thus turning into the life of professionalism, he starts mistreating others for he has been educated so. A teacher being the backbone of a society can produce valued and well-talented generation but if he is serious and sincere. Secondly our syllabus is good for nothing. I studied the syllabus that my father had studied; and it will surely be shifted to the next generation. Another critical issue is that of a language. Soon after getting through matriculation the course is converted into English that creates tension for a student. If he cannot learn a course in Urdu how will he learn its English version? This mainly compels the students to take a U-turn after FSc.

As for as the question of child protection is concerned, I would like to say that a child is never considered a child but a beast. The responsibility lies on the shoulders of the government to help protect our new generation from exploitation and suppression. A child must be educated according to international level so that he may compete internationally. In private sector, incompetent teachers are hired for students who instead of flourishing their career further destroy it. All of our nine union councils of Quetta are badly suffering from quality education. All the governmental staff concerned to education should be sincere to impart quality education. I think a committee should be formed to formulate aims and objectives of teachers and to solve their problems so that they may fully concentrate on imparting education. A teacher needs not any building if he starts teaching sincerely, he may impart knowledge in fields or on other places. He can convey his message even on a footpath.

Ahmad Zeeshan: We have also observed street children who don't have any shelter. Regarding such children CRSS reporter has prepared a report. Let us listen to it.

Report:

Children protection and education is the responsibility of government and parents. They are the builders of the nation. Let us talk to a social worker Abdul Wadood to know about the laws so far passed regarding children protection and education.

Abdul Wadood: Children protection is vast field with different aspects like child-trafficking, child abuse, child sexual harassment, corporal punishment and child labor etc. It is a huge umbrella with massive burning issues under it. No government has so far seriously taken initiatives for child protection. The current government has done a little for it. But it needs more and more attention. The current pace is not impressive and effective. We need to work on emergency basis. The NGOs have shown seriousness and are working effectively about child protection. The NGOs not only draft these issues but also pursue and pressurize the government to address these problems. It is the responsibility of the government to entirely address the issues related to children protection and ensure its implementation with its real essence. Only passing bills, laws, and legislation will never prove affective.

Ahmad Shahzad: Nusrat please inform our listeners about the government's role played regarding dealing the matter of street children?

Nusrat: Street children are always exceedingly exposed to different threats and abuses such as drug addiction etc. These children pick up recyclables. To tell you the truth the government is completely uninformed of the threats of such children and has really paid no heed to their problems. To some extent, NGOs with their meager capacities try to deal these problems. We have also such an NGO in which we coach and instruct street children. They are unbelievably competent. Some children joined our soccer team. Their performance took the people aback; they went on winning matches as soon as they got a chance. So in short, such children happened to be of great talent. But they need attention and guidance.

Ahmad Zeeshan: As it is well-said, "health is wealth". Is there any health care unit or separate hospital for children in Balochistan?



Nusrat: No. there isn't any. So far, in my view, nothing efficient and remarkable regarding children's health has been done.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Shouldn't there be any awareness about health and nutrition of children?

Zahid Nawab: It must be. But unfortunately, hitherto no step has been taken. Believe me majority of the women don't know the basics of breast feeding and ways of nourishment. To undertake all these issues, I think, every citizen be provided with the best and possible education. Some are street children and some have shelter but they have been expelled from their homes due to poverty.

Ahmad Zeeshan: The Balochistan High Court has also issued directives of banning corporal punishment. Has this decision brought any change?

Zahid Nawab: In private institutions things seem better than that of government ones. In private institutions children are dealt in accordance with the desires of parents. Actually all these things happen in government schools only where unfortunately teachers often show indolence to attend classes. Consequently government can be held responsible for it should have a watch over its servants.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Abdullah Anwar would you add something in this regard?

Abdullah Anwar: I would like to say something about the health of a child. We need a healthy generation. For the development of sound health of a child, parents' role is considered extremely significant. Keeping in view the priorities of a child, parents must meet his needs. A child must not be tortured by frightening from ghosts etc. In short, mental growth of child is highly necessary. The ratio of forced and early marriages is increasing alarmingly. Unhealthy children mean unhealthy and feeble Pakistan. I humbly request all the parents and teachers to play their role sincerely for child protection. We can collectively change the fate of the nation. Let us pledge to work for the progress of the nation and act upon what we said. Finally I thank CRSS management for highlighting such issues.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Don't you think poverty and large family to be a threat for illiteracy?

Abdullah Anwar: Yeah. It is also a problem. Minute families can be addressed well.

Nusrat: Let me say something that we have a conventional mindset. Whenever we talk about family planning, we are highly criticized. We should think about our children's future and their education. The first learning stage for children is the lap of a mother. So parents must be aware of their duties. All these things can be handled and addressed effectively by the government. Without government's attention and support nothing can be achieved in this regard.

Abdullah Anwar: Tackling all these problems need collective responsibility. We can solve them by working jointly against these menaces.

Ahmad Zeeshan: We should contribute individually as well to undertake these hazards.

I thank all of you for joining us.

## **Episode: 56**

### **Topic: Character building and career counseling**

Guests: H. Salih Baloch, Waheed Jan and Shakir Ali.

Field Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 25-11-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Role of character building in flourishing a sound and impressive society cannot be ignored and denied. Without having sound character a society cannot go along with the rest of the world. Unfortunately our society profoundly lacks this great excellence. The government does not pay any heed to train students and youth regarding character building. A report sadly revealed that a student having got through Masters does not know what to do in future. This awareness program lies on the shoulders of government. Unfortunately youth affair ministry is not fully functional. The students and youth of interior and remote areas of Balochistan are deprived of the opportunities of getting awareness. Only a few students avail the package of students awareness programs arranged in Quetta. The government provides packages but due to lack of implementation and proper policies, all these packages bear no fruits. The youth of Balochistan is lagging behind day by day just because of ignorance. Despite massive opportunities they cannot go forward unless having a sound character building. No doubt, human character attracts others and paves way for success.

#### **Transcription**

Ahmad Zeeshan: I would like to initiate from H. Salih. Would you please define character building please?

H. Salih: In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, and the Most Merciful. First of all I would like to brief you about age limit of youth. The age between childhood and adulthood is called youth. According to UNO, it consists of the age between fifteen and twenty five. Character building means to educate and aware a boy to play his effective role in society.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Do you mean to train and educate a boy to the level that he could play a progressive role in the development of a society and to shoulder a duty?

H. Salih: Yeah. You are right. Unfortunately our students don't know what to do on college or university level; or what would be his choice if he got through Masters Degree. Training programs regarding character building should be encouraged on every level of education.

Ahmad Sheehan: Let me talk to youth representative, Shakir Ali. Shakir, would you please add something?

Shakir Ali: Thanks a lot. Character building plays vital role. One should be informed and trained in the light of responsibilities he has to shoulder in future. Surely our youth encounters dearth of career counseling. Pakistan is included amongst the countries blessed with man and youth power. Using this force appropriately will provide us with more opportunities. We need to guide our students and youth. But unluckily we don't have such an organization developed for career counseling of student.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Let me say that there should be a system in educational system that help a young know his own capabilities and likes. I have observed many science students who take a U-turn to arts subjects having no idea what to do. So how much career counseling do you think to be important?

Waheed Jan: Thanks for inviting us. No doubt, youth is the asset of a nation. One may use it in accordance with his choice and likes. We cannot achieve our goals of a bright future and development unless and until we use this precious asset aptly. In developed countries institutions have been established for career counseling of students just to save their time. Above all, students are given training to choose the field of his interest in future. This clearly indicates its importance.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thanks a lot. Let us listen to a report regarding character building.

REPORT BY YASIR BALOCH:

Youth of Balochistan is fully deprived of the guidance which paves him a way to success and brilliant future. The students seem to be discouraged. Let us discuss the matter with a student, Hashim.

Hashim: Character building is highly necessary for students. It becomes difficult to be a successful leader, father or any other important person of the society without character building. The current era of globalization exceedingly requires one to be of sound character. The youth of Balochistan is lagging behind day by day just because of ignorance. They despite having massive opportunities can go forward unless having a sound character building. Human character attracts others and paves way for success.

Another student of Balochistan University Khyam Baloch informs CRSS. "Every man living anywhere in the world needs extraordinary character building. Unfortunately we are neither bestowed with training nor opportunities to develop a sound career counseling and character. Due to an attractive character one can prove himself positively in a society."

Yasir Baloch: Youth of Balochistan must be provided with the training to develop impressive character building. This will surely pave a way towards awareness and development in the province.

Ahmad Zeeshan: (Addressing Salih). How to deal the dearth of platforms regarding character building? First of all we need to groom our youth, but we have not done so. Why are we failed in providing opportunities to our youth?

H. Salih: As Shakir told that there was no governmental institution for youth's character building. Actually there is. Youth affair had been included in culture and sports ministry in 1984. In 2005, Ministry of federal youth affair, a full-fledge ministry of youth affair was established. In Balochistan, youth affair department is fully operated under a secretary. They have different programs such 'Exchange tour program' with foreign countries. Recently a group of students of Balochistan study toured to China. I had conducted an interview with them. In Serena hotel, a program was launched in which Chief Minister was invited as a chief guest. To some extent, the Ministry is working. One of our friends got distinguished position in calligraphy. He then was invited to Washington D.C. it means that he had the opportunities of learning all these things. In Quetta some of programs were arranged. But the opportunities as compared to the strength of youth are less. The majority of students are still deprived of such activities. The government and NGOs should extend their circle to focus youth because they are the builders of the nation. They can play their role only when they are well-furnished.

Ahmad Zeeshan: A listener has called us appreciating our program and stressed to conduct such programs to aware the students.

Ahmad Zeeshan: (Addressing Shakir Ali). Do you think the youth affairs department functions well? As we have come to know that nepotism has prevailed there as well.

Shakir Ali: The said department, I think, is dormant. What out-put have all those students who visited China given to rest of the nation? Or does a program arranged in Serena Hotel affect the life of a common student living in interior Balochistan? How will a common student benefit if there is no university? A single program arranged in Quetta will never prove fruitful to a student living in interior and remote areas. Actually we need

to engage all of the youth population in development and career counseling. How can a boy judge and develop his talent? All these study tours and programs mean to share experiences with the rest of the students. We need productivity; and unluckily that's good for nothing.

H.Salih: As Shakir told that our aim should have been facilitating youth. No doubt; he is right. But students mustn't look for government only in every matter but they should take initiatives. They should not be dependent on others. We have scores of other serious issues. If we just start waiting for opportunities, all of our proficiencies will come to an end by wasting time. I myself belong to a poor family. I studied in a government school on a mat. I had no facility. But I worked hard and availed the opportunity whatever I had. I request all of the new generation to avail the opportunities they have in hand and not to waste precious time. We should not put all the matters on others' shoulders.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Really we should avail what we have in hands. (Addressing Waheed Jan). Would you please add something?

Waheed Jan: Verily scores of programs are available for students and young generation but no serious step addressing the basic needs and requirements has been taken so far. While doing something, population must be kept in mind. Only a little is done which is totally insufficient for the whole population. The government should further develop and establish institutions for the guidance of students. Only the government cannot be held responsible. For character building, the first stage is family. Parents, educational institutions, and culture must play their role in a child's character building.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thanks a lot. Let us listen to another report prepared by CRSS reporter.

REPORT BY HABIB UR REHMAN: -

Young generation is the backbone of a society. The young generation, due to lack of basic facilities, are lagging behind day by day. In this regard we are going to talk Fahim Nazar, a student of Balochistan University to know the causes of their depravity.

Fahim Nazar: Without character building no one can go forward to play a decisive role in the progress of a country. There are four main things which may help improve character building. First of all your home is the place where one can learn much to build his character. Secondly educational institutions' environment can entirely change the behavior and style of a student. Thirdly the company one keeps. Fourthly the aims and objective one decides about future can play a positive role in leading a student towards success. I think these four points can revolutionize the life of a young boy. Further a boy can get guidance from curriculum activities. Unfortunately we have not sufficient opportunities as compared to Punjab and other provinces.

Another student Muhammad Ayaz says, "In character building proper and the best education perform a fundamental role. Education has been put aside in our province. I would like to draw the attention of the Chief Minister to implement rules and regulation. No doubt, he is spending a lot of budget but due to lack of proper implementation the policy goes in vain. Staff attendance in school must be ensured. Teachers get salaries but they pay no attention to students. On the other hands students don't have opportunities due to nepotism and corruption which dishearten students. I request the government to fully support and back the competent students so that they may continue getting higher education. Another critical issue is that competent students leave the country just because of government ignorance. They go abroad and enjoy the rest of their lives. We don't have enough sports activities. There is shortage of grounds. That's why students have no opportunity to take part in extra-curriculum activities. That is the reason we are lagging behind. Just think, the province has so far produced no international level player. There should be sport functions and activities to encourage the young generation. Health facilities should not be ignored. All government funds must be invested properly.

Habibur Rehman: The government must pay its due role to provide the young generation with best possible education, health and sport facilities to enhance their abilities to a better and developed Balochistan.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Welcome back. Shakir Ali wanted to say something but it was report time. Would you please continue your discussion?

Shakir Ali: In Europe and America, social institutions' role is particularly considerable. But here the situation is totally different. It was said that everything should not be demanded from government. It is, I think wrong. Our social system is zero. It becomes government responsibility to provide its subjects with all facilities. We would have never blamed the government, had there been sound institutions for character building.

Waheed Jan: Actually I said that we should also take steps for a better future. We should not wait for the government for each and every thing. We really feel the government's feeble behavior. So in short, we have a lot of serious issues. For example; our system of giving examination in Balochistan Public Service Commission need improvement. Competent students are left behind. NTS was better in which poor talented students could get a chance. All these issues show that we will have to fight for our rights.

Shakir Ali: All the institutions already working in the province are on the verge of destruction. They need to be refurbished in real meaning so that they may work for the progress of new generation. The government institutions are involved in corruption. This situation worsens a friendly atmosphere for new generation and badly affects character building. So it is the responsibility of the government to take a step for revival and rectification of all the institutions. Because all of these institutions are accountable to the government.

Waheed Jan: Let me add that sovereignty belongs to Allah only. The institutions are directly answerable to public. If I am not conferred upon my right then I should adopt legal ways to get it. We can define democracy as "Government of the people, for the people and by the people". For getting our rights we can overthrow a government constitutionally. Mulana Waheed ud Din has well-said that we have to think across the traditional thoughts.

Shakir Ali: The government should provide cheap justice to its subjects so that they may not struggle against it.

Ahmad Shehzad: Thanks a lot. I thank all of you for joining us.

## **Episode: 57**

### **Topic: Women empowerment in Balochistan**

Guests: Ghazala (Program Specialist), Praagsa (Youth Representative) and Ibrar Baloch (Youth Representative).

Filed Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 01-12-2014

#### **Program Summary**

The constitution of Pakistan has given rights to both men and women, but women aren't given their rights particularly in Balochistan. They have been kept backward by restricting them only to household work. Most of the people follow tribalism in Balochistan due to which they don't let their women come forward and contribute in the development of the province. Most of the women in Balochistan aren't given education because it is considered immodesty. People in Balochistan don't want their women to go out for jobs. Those who are permitted to do jobs don't have the right to utilize their salaries. Women don't have decision making power. They are treated only like puppets. There are laws for the rights of women, but aren't implemented. Women can only be empowered by educating them and by giving them decision making power. Media can help a great deal in the solution of this problem by spreading awareness among people.

#### **Transcription**

Liaqat: Miss Ghazala what is women empowerment and what are its limitations?

Ghazala: Women empowerment means to give women authority that she can take a decision. There is absence of women empowerment in Balochistan. They are not all empowered. They are thoroughly dependent on men.

Liaqat: Miss Praagsa to which extent women are empowered in Balochistan and how much gap is there that can be filled?

Praagsa: There is lack of female empowerment in Balochistan. Women should be given power enough so that they can showcase their talent. Women should be empowered so that they can prove that women can do all the things what men can do.

Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar, aren't women empowered to some extent?

Ibrar: Women have been kept very backward in this regard. Male do want to go to colleges and Universities and want to study with females, but when our sisters tell us that they want to go to college or university, we tell them that don't they look at the circumstances of the society.

Liaqat: CRSS Program Manager, Mr. Khalid Baloch, is also with us. Sir to which level women empowerment exists in Balochistan and how much is it important?

Khalid: People take wrong meaning of women empowerment. They mean immodesty by women empowerment. By women empowerment our aim is to make them authoritative so that they can get their basic rights i.e. education, health, job etc. There are few women who are empowered in Balochistan, but majority of women in interior Balochistan aren't empowered. I have seen in most of the areas in Balochistan where women are taught to be kept only for house work. The question is how we can empower women. We can't do it by expressing only our views. We need to encourage and motivate people. Not a single NGO or government can

bring change in this regard unless our community gets involved.

Liaqat: We have got a report regarding women empowerment.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Women are an important part of any society. They too can work like men. They too can contribute in the development of the nation and country, but they haven't been empowered in Balochistan as such by which they can contribute in the development of the province. Very rare women are given rights and decision making power. We met a political worker Ghazala. She says, "Most of the people in Balochistan come from tribal areas. Women aren't given as much freedom as given in other cities of Pakistan i.e. women in other cities are empowered i.e. they can make their decisions and whatever. We want the women of Balochistan to be empowered. Women here too have abilities and talent, but they don't have a chance. Women education should be considered the most here because the literacy rate is very low in Balochistan. If a woman gets educated, the entire family gets educated. If a man can do something, woman can do that as well. Most of the people in Balochistan are from tribal areas. They don't prefer women education. They think woman is only made to be at home and should be at home." Besides this a student Safia says, "Rest of the world has developed a lot, but the women of Balochistan have gone backward rather than progressing. Nobody lets them come forward. Everybody knows what honor means and women can protect themselves. Women should be supported so that they can come forward and work alongside men. There are some works that can be done by women not men so they should be given a chance to come forward. Women don't have permission to study after matric. There are many places where girls are uneducated. Women have the right to be empowered. They should be given chance to come forward in terms of jobs and education." By giving rights to the women of Balochistan women can be made a part of policy making only if they are provided with the forum.

Liaqat: Miss Ghazala, men stand like a wall between women and their empowerment. How can this element be eradicated?

Ghazala: Men never appreciate women working alongside them. Men can't accept it although they are broad-minded. Unless men change their mentality, this element or gap can't be eradicated.

Liaqat: Praagsa men never give preference to women. Men need awareness in this case. How can we convince men on this issue?

Praagsa: By women empowerment we don't talk of absolute power. We only talk of power through which rights can be given to women. There are right for women in the law, but we need to follow them practically. Men think that if women are empowered, they will become superior or women will start thinking that way. If a woman achieves something, men would feel pride. It is need to be told to men.

Liaqat: Mother-in-law is a big hurdle in the empowerment of women. I think women themselves are a hurdle in their empowerment. What do you say Mr. Ibrar?

Ibrar: Women make decision by their heart not from their mind that is the main reason. Women today are banned from many activities with the name of Islam. However, the rights of women are very clear in Islam. There was no status of women before Islam. It is Islam that gave rights to women. They should be given education. We are mostly following tribal people i.e. what other people would think if our women go out.

Liaqat: Ms. Ghazala, what economic changes will occur if women are empowered and how can we develop our society?

Ghazala: The ratio of women is greater than men in Pakistan. If there is only one person who earns and there are many to eat, it will take us toward backwardness. On the other hand if women are empowered, it will make a difference. Women should be included in decision making. Women are underestimated when it comes

to thinking. They have been kept aside and don't have awareness about their rights. Poverty is increasing because one male earns and many females eat. Women are only kept for household work and aren't permitted to come forward.

Liaqat: How can poverty be decreased with women empowerment?

Ghazala: There are many skill training centers for women through which they can be empowered and as a result poverty can be decreased.

Liaqat: Praagsa, how much has the present of former government worked on women empowerment?

Praagsa: The present government is working in this regard. The former government too has done much work for the empowerment of women. Women empowerment exists in law, but implementation is more important. Napoleon said, "Give me an educated mother and I will give you an educated nation." The primary upbringing is done by a mother. If a mother is educated, she will educate her children in a better way so women should be given education because it is a part of women empowerment. Education is not only for getting a job, but it can be helpful in house related matters. An uneducated mother doesn't even know the expiry date of a medicine so she would be able to bring up a child in a better way.

Liaqat: All the hurdles in women empowerment are focused on men. They don't let women come forward and work side by side for the development of the country. Mr. Ibrar how can you motivate men on this issue?

Ibrar: There is lack of awareness in men. We only get education for getting certificates or degrees. If we look at developed nation, they have given freedom to women in all sectors of life. Men and women are considered equal there, but here we have imposed many ill rules on women. We should give women all their rights.

Liaqat: Women who do jobs, don't have right to utilize their salaries at the end of the month because either their fathers take the salary or their husbands take the salary if they are married. Miss Ghazala, Are women empowered only by giving education and jobs or is there still any gap?

Ghazala: Women are very sensitive. They support their families whether they are at the house of their father or their husbands. Salaries are taken from women as the check is issued by their husbands. Only 1 or 2 thousand rupees are given for pocket money. Mother-in-laws also blame them for spending half of the day out of home. On the other hand husbands go for parties and outings and go for costly shopping. Women aren't even appreciated for doing jobs. Men think that permission for going out is enough for women.

Liaqat: Praagsa, does such kind of women empowerment have any benefits in which women feel a burden and can't utilize their salaries although they have permission to get education and do jobs?

Praagsa: We do empower women by educating them, but we still have lack of awareness. Men don't even pick a glass of water for themselves after coming home from work. On the other hand women start doing household work as they come home from their duties. Women too get tired. They too are humans. If men can't do anything after work, they should feel the same fatigue for women which can only be done by proper counseling. Women want that their work to be appreciated.

Liaqat: Women do household activities after doing duties, but their work isn't appreciated. This falls into domestic violence which is cruelty. What does our constitution say in this regard?

Praagsa: I really appreciate the services of the former Chief Justice of Pakistan Iftikhar Mohammad Chaudry in this regard. He took action against the violation of rights of women in every aspect. We do have substantive laws, but they aren't implemented. Every government form a policy and try to implement it, but as the government changes, the policy also changes. People only get education for jobs. They don't get it for ethical education. Education shouldn't be limited to jobs, but it should have practical impact.



Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar we have lack of women counseling, but don't men need counseling as well?

Ibrar: Gandhi says that everyone wants to change the world, but nobody is ready to change himself or herself. We only say to empower women, but we are not ready to do so. Women in Balochistan are very backward at the moment.

Liaqat: How can we bring changes in thinking and this situation?

Ibrar: Tribalism has reached to its extreme level. Laws are introduced by the name of Islam which can't be found in Quran if one studies it. When British men were busy in war France, the system of responsibilities of the country was handed over to women. They empowered their women due to which they have developed to a great deal.

Liaqat: Miss Ghazala you belong to social sector. What is social sector doing for the empowerment of women? How many other departments can be improved?

Ghazala: We have established skill training centers in different districts where different skills are taught. They are given awareness about education.

Liaqat: How are you empowering women in terms of decision making?

Ghazala: We have introduced a helpline through which women can contact us regarding gender base violation. We provide them every legal facility i.e. lawyers etc. If women face domestic violation or want separation so they can contact us. There many other organizations that are working in this regard.

Liaqat: Government doesn't seem to be interested in taking any step in empowering women in terms of decision making. There isn't policy as such. There are limited seats of women in assemblies. Miss Praagsa how can these problems be solved?

Praagsa: Problems can be solved because there is a solution to every problem. Our government can solve this problem if it is willing. The biggest source to solve this problem is media. Our media has the freedom. We can give awareness to women about their rights. Programs should be conducted on this issue. I am thankful to CRSS for arranging this program. It would be better if some people get awareness about the rights of women. One person would tell to another and so on. Many women would know about their rights.

Liaqat: Mr. Ibrar, what message would you give to males for the empowerment of women?

Ibrar: Males should give education and opportunities of coming forward to women.

Liaqat: Miss Ghazala, what message would you want to give?

Ghazala: Women should know their rights and should raise their voice for it.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot to all of you for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## **Episode: 58**

### **Topic: Vaccines and immunization**

Guests: Nadeem Shahid (Health Advocacy Specialist), Rahim Sasori (Health Activist) and Muhammad Yasir (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 02-12-2014

#### **Program Summary**

It is said that health is wealth. There are many health issues in Pakistan, but some of them are caused by the irresponsibility of parents due to which children either die or become disabled. According to a survey, 62 children out of 1000 die within 28 days because of either not doing vaccination or not completing the proper course. Vaccines are given to children against lethal diseases i.e. measles, pertussis, hepatitis B, convulsions, polio, pneumonia, meningitis fever and tetanus. The people of Balochistan have false illusions about vaccination i.e. vaccinations are used for family planning etc. which isn't true. There are some places in Balochistan where no facilities of health centers are available and if available, people don't do vaccinations. The issue can be overcome by spreading awareness among people by conducting campaign, by the advocacy of Ulma, and by introducing lady health workers.

#### **Transcription**

Zeeshan: Mr. Nadeem Shahid, give us basic information about vaccines i.e. how many vaccines are there and at what age it is given to children?

Nadeem: Vaccines are given against nine kinds of diseases in Balochistan. Vaccination is started since the birth of a child and is continued for 12 months. Extra dose against measles is completed till the 15th month. Vaccination for tuberculosis is done right after birth. Vaccination for measles is done next. After that vaccination for pertussis and hepatitis B are done. Convulsions, Polio, Pneumonia and Meningitis Fever are the diseases against which vaccines are given.

Zeeshan: Since when vaccines for hepatitis B has started?

Nadeem: It has started for the last one or two years. All these vaccines are available at all health centers in Balochistan. An ID is given to the child, which stays valid for 15 months. I request the parents to keep the card at a safe place and bring it when the injection is due.

Zeeshan: How many people lose their cards and what's your take on this?

Nadeem: The ratio of the people who inject these injections is 16% according to Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2013. Only 16 % of the people complete protective injection course in Balochistan. The death ratio of newly born babies in Balochistan is very high as compared to other provinces i.e. 63 out of 1000 newly born babies dies. The main reason is we don't practice vaccine course. People have misconceptions about these vaccines that can be cleared through awareness. The ratio of the people who practice vaccine course is very low but the facilities by the government are lacking as well.

Zeeshan: My next question is related to what you just said. Are there enough facilities for people to have these vaccines and injection particularly in Interior Balochistan?

Nadeem: According to Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2013, there is no staff of vaccination in 227 Union Councils of Balochistan. All the children belonging to the mentioned area are deprived of vaccines. 40% of the total population is deprived of the facilities of vaccination. We keep appealing the government officials during meetings to approve at least two vaccinators per union council. The role of Balochistan Government is very positive in this regard. The government appointed 198 vaccinators in the former budget. We keep requesting them to appoint these new vaccinators in 227 union councils.

Zeeshan: Mr. Rahim what would you add to the conversation between me and Nadeem Shahid?

Rahim: Our duty is to encourage people that there are no side effects of these vaccinations. It is true that there aren't facilities to all the people in Balochistan, but many people don't believe in vaccination where there are facilities. They have some negative opinions about vaccination i.e. it is used for family planning etc. We give our examples to people that we too have injected these vaccines and we have children. We give awareness about the death ratio of infants. We give information about positive effects of vaccines on every forum as much as we can.

Zeeshan: Nadeem Shahid said that 63 children die out of 1000 within 28 days. Is there any role of not injecting vaccines in the increasing death ration of infants?

Rahim: Vaccines are also the reason, but there is lack of birth attendant experts in Balochistan due to which many infants die. There is lack of birth experts in far areas. All these elements contribute in the increasing death ratio of infants.

Nadeem: I would like to add something to what Rahim said. There are four points through which we can reduce death ratio of infants. First of all delivery should be done by expert staff. Baby should be given the milk of mother within 1 hour. People think that milk at the beginning is poisoned due to which it is wasted. Doctors say that first milk of mother is indeed the first vaccination of the baby. It increases the immunity in baby. Next is bath i.e. baby should be given a delayed bath. Most of the babies are underweighted at the time of birth. When we give bath right away, they turn into pneumonia as a result of which many babies die. Last but not the least vaccination should be started right away.

Zeeshan: Zahid Khan, who is a caller, asked that what are the reasons of pertussis and what are its precautions? Mr. Nadeem what do you say?

Nadeem: All these diseases occur due to not getting vaccinations. This is why we suggest starting vaccination right after the birth or else these diseases may occur. Most of the babies die due to pneumonia in Pakistan, but vaccinations of pneumonia has been included in the course.

Zeeshan: We have got a short report regarding the topic. Let's listen to it. We will be back. Stay with us.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Immunization System isn't stable due to the lack of awareness in Balochistan. People don't have awareness regarding it. The future of children can be saved by stabilizing immunization system through awareness. They can be protected from all dangerous diseases. We talked to Doctor Munawar Baloch regarding this. He says, "Immunization has to be done as soon as the baby is born. Defense power is almost zero at the time of birth. This is why immunization should be done. Vaccination course is done as prescribed. Immunization is done in Quetta, but in peripheral areas it is not done due to the lack of education. Most of the deliveries take place at home where no immunization is done. Midwives don't know what to do what not to do. Parents should have enough information. Females should be educated. Pregnant women should be told that immunization is important at the time of delivery as a result of which baby would be health and will be safe from lethal diseases. There is lack of education in tribal areas and security threats as well. Besides there are some rumors about vaccinations that they are imported from abroad and are illegitimate in Islam. All these accusations are

false. The lives of babies are saved with these vaccinations. People believe in rumors. There is lack of information in peripheries. There is a problem of security as well which too affect it. If immunization is not done in childhood, later the child may fall into different diseases. The child may become physically challenged and becomes a problem for the parents.” Doctor Aisha says, “The course of vaccination is very important. I appeal all mothers to do vaccination course so that the coming generation gets safe from lethal diseases. Doctors and other concerned departments should work together in this regard. Awareness should be spread particularly in peripheries so that people who are deprived can be benefited.” The mother and baby both can be saved from all lethal diseases by activating immunization system.

Zeeshan: Mohammad Yasir is with us who is a medical student and is representing youth. Abdul Ghafar called and asked that due to contagious diseases a patient is hated in our society. How can we eradicate this hatred?

Yasir: First we need to know which diseases are contagious and how they pass from one person to another. For example Tuberculosis doesn't pass by sitting near the patient. However, dishes used by patient shouldn't be used. We should know precautions. Similarly AIDS doesn't pass from one person to another by sitting or eating with patient.

Zeeshan: Rabia Malik called us and asked that how much reality is there in misconception against the vaccinations i.e. are there really any side effects? Mr. Rahim will answer this question.

Rahim: Ulama have given their opinions about these vaccinations that it is legitimate and can be used. There are no side effects. They have emphasized people to do vaccination course to protect their children from becoming special. There is no reality in these misconceptions whatsoever.

Zeshan: Umaima has called and asked that what are the reasons of death ratio in Balochistan that is higher than other provinces. Mr. Nadeem will answer it.

Nadeem: We have lack of facilities in Balochistan and government doesn't have many resources. All these elements contribute to this problem. However, where facilities are available, our behavior there increases the death ratio. Once we went to BMC hospital which is the biggest hospital in Balochistan. 10 out of 15 incubators were out of order. Incubator is a facility in which babies that born before the expected time or underweight-ed are kept for 7 days to 2 months depending on the nature of disease. Doctors say they need 25 incubators because of the load. The numbers of people who refuse to have vaccines due to illusions are very low. Many people don't want to go to these vaccines centers again due to the behavior of the staff, closure of center, lack of medicine or absence of staff.

Zeeshan: Mr. Yasir you belong to Kalat by birth. Do you remember or have been told that you have been vaccinated in childhood?

Yasir: I don't remember, but I was told that I had been given vaccines. There is center for vaccines in District Headquarter Hospital Kalat. The absence of such center is the main problem. I agree Mr. Nadeem Shahid. It depends on the behavior of the staff in the centers.

Zeeshan: We have got another report. We will take the discussion further after the report. Stay with us.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Immunization System isn't as much active as it should be in Balochistan. Different lethal diseases affect children from childhood because of not working on immunization. We met Professor Aqil Shah of Bolan Medical College regarding immunization. He says, “Vaccination schedule is followed right from birth till 15 months. There are centers in every district, city or periphery for the vaccination of every baby for 15 months. Mothers should be educated that they must complete the vaccine course. This course starts right from the birth. First vaccines for hepatitis and polio are given. During 6th, 10th and 14th week other vaccines are given for other

diseases due to which immunity produces in baby against diseases like bacteria, pertussis, tetanus and pneumonia etc. During 9th and 15th month vaccines against measles are given. Whenever campaign against measles and polio is conducted, mothers should be encouraged to participate in it and vaccines should be given to children who are aged to five years. We need to change the trend in Balochistan. Many areas and people are left to whom health facilities can't reach due to the lack of facilities and education. Immunization system is active in Balochistan, but is not effective enough. Mobile health Units should be activated so that they not only go door to door for survey, but make sure the facilities are available at the centers or not. I have worked in many districts where there are almost no facilities. It should be made sure that the vaccination schedule is completed there and the presence of staff and other elements should be made sure." People are requested to do immunization in childhood. Mothers too should do immunization so that the lives of children can be saved.

Zeeshan: Mr. Nadeem has the present government taken any initiatives towards betterment? Has any changes been seen so far and what are the changes concerned officials want?

Nadeem: We have observed clear changes since the government of Abdul Malik Baloch. The current survey and figures are on the basis of years gone by. Surveys will be done after his government and it will be checked whether change has come or not. What we can see is that he increased the budget for health and education. Rehmat Salih Baloch, who is the Provincial Health Minister of Balochistan, is a very energetic and hard working person. Balochistan Government appointed 7260 lady health worker on regular basis who were on contract. A project by Balochistan Government by the name MNCH is going on in which women who are matric passed are trained for 18 months in which matters before birth of a child are the care after the birth of a child are included. 275 women have been deputed who have been rendering services in the field. Approximately 600 women have got training and will soon be deputed to field. 1700 women will be trained and will be appointed in their own villages. We have approximately 900 vaccinators presently. There are no vaccinators at all in 227 union councils. We have written letters to Chief Ministers indeed we have met Chief Minister and he is very concerned about this matter. 198 positions were created in the 2013 and 2014 budget. Government of Balochistan together with some donors has introduced a project to overcome the lack of nutrition for mother and baby. People can be encouraged by introducing lady health workers. Lady health workers can play an important role in awareness of the people and can encourage them towards immunization if we facilitate them properly.

Zeeshan: Mr. Rahim what kind of campaigns should be conducted so that people consider vaccination an essential treatment?

Rahim: We should give awareness to people as a community. We should take the help of religious leaders i.e. Ulema. When these people would give their message to people, it will be more effective. Next are the dignified people of our society. If they take their children for vaccinations as a role model, people will easily adopt looking at their role models. If influential personalities play their role, other people will easily be encouraged.

Zeeshan: Mr. Yasir what would you add to this?

Yasir: Doctors don't do duties due to security reasons. They don't get facilities there. Some doctors go for higher education. But it should be considered a duty to serve their own district, province and country. Besides lady health workers, male youth should also be trained because lady health workers can't go to some far off places.

Zeshan: I agree. Not only financial support will be given, but they will get inner satisfaction because it is like serving people. Mr. Nadeem what would be your message for the listeners?

Nadeem: We have to do vaccination because children owe it to us. When the children become adult, they blame their parents for becoming disabled. In case of death, parents will blame themselves for not having done vaccinations.

Zeeshan: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## **Episode: 59**

### **Topic: Human Rights in Balochistan**

Guests: Faiz Hashmi (Member of HRCP Balochistan), Imtiaz Gul (Executive director CRSS), Hashim Baloch and Atif Baloch (Youth representatives).

Filed Story: Yasir Baloch and Habibur Rehman

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 08-12-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Human rights situation in Balochistan is worsening with each passing day. The situation is so deplorable that even a person who takes initiatives for the promotion of education gets disappeared and his entire family is badly tortured. Target killing, abduction for ransom, acid attacks and scores of other serious issues have bothered the citizens too much. Every new dawn breaks with sorrowful news. The incumbent government was massively expected to take steps for tackling the issue; but it also seems to be indifferent regarding human rights. The things seem bleak and the people are depressed. In deteriorating situation, the contributions of chieftains, landlords and politicians are quite obvious. In short, to tackle all these issues, our youth should raise voice against such elements.

#### **Transcription**

As you know that experts are invited in the program to highlight and cast light on different issues. So to talk on human rights situation in Balochistan, we have invited Dr. Faiz Hashmi, member of HRCP, Balochistan chapter, Hashim Baloch and Atif Baloch, youth and students' representatives. Executive Director CRSS, Imtiaz Gul is also with us. Let us commence the program with Faiz Hashmi. Would you please cast light on human right situation in Balochistan?

Fazi Hashmi: For a decade, the law and order situation in different parts of Balochistan is exceedingly depreciating. Sorrowfully, each passing day breaks the news of targeted killing, kidnapping, harassing of people and particularly of doctors in many districts of Balochistan. We reported, highlighted and raised voice for these issues but in vain, as nobody involved in these heinous acts have been arrested. Teachers, journalists and even human rights defenders have fallen prey to such butchery. Our human rights coordinators of Khuzdar and Pishni and of many other places were killed, their relatives harassed. In short, the situation is worsening and annoying. We have formulated a report based on facts and figures of such deplorable incidents. Some days back, surgeon Waqif Baloch of Makran, and Vinod Kumar of Quetta were abducted for ransom.

Liaqat: Thank a lot. Let us listen to a report regarding human rights situation.

Report by Yasir Baloch:

The law and order situation is no doubt worsening with each passing day in Balochistan. Target killing of teacher, migration of Hindus, bombing minorities, acid attacks over women, sexual harassment of children and other unlimited problems have bothered the masses. Under the umbrella of tribal customs and traditions, people of Balochistan belonging to different sects, religion and creed were leading a peaceful life. What has happened to the peace and tranquility of the area? Let us talk to a human rights worker, Abdullah Baloch.

Abdullah Baloch: "Four days back, a school teacher was murdered for nothing. His fault, I think, was educating the new generation. The whole disturbing situation reveals the behavior of multinational companies of not wanting Baloch people to benefit their existing resources. The things seem black for all us, and it seems that

we will further be sidelined in future. Juma Khan was assassinated just for establishing a women college that used to educate over three thousand students annually. I think, his fault was educating nation builders. The situation shows that our future generation is halted from getting education. Scores of political activists and students have disappeared. For such matter, we hold the state responsible for it has taken no serious step to dissolve the crises of the area. In the presence of forces, man is killed which shows the behavior of the government.”

Yasir Baloch: Serious attitude and steps can help solve all the existing issues.

Liaqat: Welcome back. In report, it was also mentioned that state was responsible for ensuring security to its citizens. Target killing badly affects the life of the students as well. Let us try to know the views of Hashim Baloch.

Hashim Baloch: In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful. I thank all of you for inviting us. Students’ condition in Balochistan as compared to the rest of the provinces is badly affected. Let me clarify it that more than 95% cases in different courts are about Baloch missing persons. They belong to different parties and raise voice for Balochistan rights. For instance, Sui Gas has been provided to the rest of the country, but despite being the reserve of Balochistan, majority of areas is still lacking gas facilities. It was common to say, there were ghost schools in Balochistan, but now, one can easily find ghost colleges. Baloch students cannot go even to Quetta. They are leaving the country. So I think, it is a conspiracy hatched against Balochistan.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot. Let us talk to Atif Baloch. It is well-said, where there is right, there is a duty. Not only Balochis, but other people as well, are victims of target killings. What would you like to say about it?

Atif Baloch: I thank all of you for inviting us. Actually Balochis are not endured in the area. Majority of Baloch people have been martyred and expelled. Their parents, sisters and brother are in great trouble. Nobody can ask.

Liaqat: Let us talk to Executive Director CRSS, Imtiaz Gul who has been working on human rights since long.

Imtiaz Gul: I am really happy to be here amongst you. The main objectives of the program are to convey the message of our Baloch brothers and sisters to the rest of the country. Unfortunately, we take human rights for target killings, abduction etc. Actually we need to think why schools or colleges in Balochistan have turned to be ghost ones; do they turn to be ghost ones due to our bad deeds or because of non-state factions that have initiated arm struggle against state for their vested interests?

Whosoever they are, but I request all them to strive politically for their rights. Educational institutions must not be the targeted for self interest. If you keep killing your teachers, professors or officials, it will surely barren this area. Education is the guarantee of progress and development.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot. (Addressing Faiz Hashmi) Would you please inform us regarding human rights in the sphere of constitution?

Faiz Hashmi: The 1973 constitution highly stresses all the basic rights of the citizens of Pakistan saying “education, health, fundamental rights” for all. We are deprived of best and possible education. Teachers, doctors and other officials face serious problem in the performance of duties.

Liaqat: The entire political leaders when they are in power forget about human rights but when they are in opposition they voice for human rights. Please cast light on the role of government in this regard.

Faiz Hashmi: The incumbent government has done much, for target killing and other dilemmas have ceased. Regarding education, the government’s steps are also appreciable for it has established a government college in Quetta, while the other in Turbat. In medical college institute Quetta has launched admissions. That’s really appreciable. As it was mentioned earlier that heads departments must be held responsible for their perfor-

mance in their respective departments. Accountability needs to be flourished for the development of a sound system.

Imtiaz Gul: Let me interrupt you. The first twenty articles of the constitution of Pakistan are consisted of basic human rights. Article 19 stresses upon right of education whereas article 25 relates and guarantees the equality of all the citizens. Article 20, 21 and 22 allow the minorities to exercise their respective religions freely. Our youths keeping the above stated articles in mind should question their respective representatives for their performance.

Liaqat: It is time to listen to a field report prepared by Habibur Rehman.

Report of Habib Ur Rehman:

Indescribable and worsened human rights situation of Balochistan has indeed worried the mass. What steps can be taken to tackle these problems? Let us talk to Amir Jan, a member of HRCP Balochistan chapter.

Amir Jan: "Enforce disappearance, target killing, acid attacks, bullet-riddle bodies of political workers and killings of lawyers, teachers, professors and other common people have perilously soared. Sectarian violence has also increased. Targeting Security forces has also increased. Honor killing, karo kari is also no less than other issues. I think, state may be held responsible for all the mentioned issues as it is state's duty to tackle them pragmatically. Youth of Balochistan has detracted because of no proper guidance and despondency. Our educational institutions have been badly destroyed. Special attention should be paid to youth so that they may be brought back on track of hope and prosperity."

Habib ur Rehman: Let us talk to a laborer representative Abdul Wadud to know his view about human right situation.

Adbul Wadud: "Actually people are not given their rights, that's why they are sad and raise voice against the government. Government has failed to provide them with proper education and other required facilities. This despondency has led youth toward arm struggle and even target killing and other social evils."

Yasir Baloch: Government should play its role to bring the youth back on track. Government can surely deal with all these serious dilemmas if it shows seriousness.

Liaqat: Welcome back. Let us include a caller, Najeeb Azeem who wants to ask that who is involved in lagging the province behind. Let me make it clear that our caller wants Imtiaz Gul to answer his question. But let me give a chance to youth representatives, Hashim Baloch. Hashim would you please brief us how to motivate youth to come forward and play their role in development of the province.

Hashim Baloch: There are different platforms for youths through which we can guide and motivate youth.

Liaqat: Let me interrupt. Political parties are also a platform for youth. Do you agree?

Hashim Baloch: Baloch student's federation plays a pivotal role in providing basic trainings to students in vacation with the aim to make them capable of knowing their rights. Besides, some representatives are sent to different districts with the aim to educate the youngsters and motivate them to get admissions in schools. NGOs also play their role and we motivate them to come. But unfortunately some of our areas have turned to be "No go area" where access to students becomes a herculean task. There are ghost schools and colleges where teachers and other relevant staff cannot go. There should be an active role of political parties to guide the youth to join educational institutions; and compel the concerned teachers to attend schools. So, political parties' role in promoting quality of education is indispensable. Unluckily, our election process has turned into that of a selection process which brings the most incompetent people to the provincial and national assemblies.

Liaqat: Why don't you approach to political parties if they fail to perform their duties well?



Hashim Baloch: We certainly approach but there is a minister-like culture in some areas. They don't visit their constituencies. They live in Quetta. If someone who approaches them in Quetta, their problems may be addressed there.

Liaqat: Atif Baloch, just tell me that sometimes students force their institutions to close. Why do they do so? And sometimes, youth strikes to close news-channels. Their closure is tantamount to close the doors of information to public.

Atif Baloch: As you talked about news channels. Actually these channels don't pay heed to the problems of Balochistan. They have put the problems of this province aside. As far as students' role in this regard is concerned. We have done a lot to convince them not to do so. We have visited a lot of educational institutions, students' federation in this regard.

Liaqat: Let us talk to Imtiaz Gul. A caller, Najeeb Azeem had asked him question that who was behind deteriorating law and order situation of Balochistan?

Imtiaz Gul: Oh that, it would have been easy to answer. It is a long story. I think, a single institution or a person cannot be blamed for its devastation and destruction. Chieftain, Landlords, politicians and security forces have contributed a lot in bringing the province on the verge of destruction. Mutiny against state and militancy has a long history. Whatever you name it, however there has been a long history of arm struggle. Still, unfortunately, in the era of science and technology, this unfortunate province has been split into pieces amongst landlords, chieftains and other elements. The newly-elected government was highly expected to do a lot for this province, but it also seems failed. In short, I would like to say that there are a lot of elements that play their role in the backwardness of Balochistan. It is not sufficient to say that target killing or abduction is the issue; but we need self-assessment as well. Holding politicians and concerned authorities responsible area also indispensable. Lip talks will never be proved effective. It is also note-worthy and deplorable that people living in Islamabad or rest of the country know little about the dilemmas of Balochistan.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot. As it was mentioned that we should claim our rights or is there democracy in different political parties?

Hashim Baloch: It is quite obvious that political parties are lacking of democracy. The ruling has democracy to some extent in the party.

Liaqat: What are your observations about sectarian crises?

Hashim Baloch: It is a long story. In early seventies, the people were targeted, killed and disappeared. These are the aftershocks of those cruelties. My right comes first over my reserves. There would have been no target killing, disappearance, had there not been any Sui Gas. All the planned drama is played just to capture our reserves. The other thing is to bring reforms in politics. The entire Balochistan has only fourteen seats in National Assembly. On the contrary only Faisalabad has some twenty seats.

Atif Baloch: Had there been our representatives in Islamabad. There would have not been such despondency. I think, Balochistan has always been deprived of its rights.

Liaqat: Not only our educational sector but also our laborers are badly affected. What should we do for them?

Atif Baloch: We are overwhelmed by poverty. Our lives have always been in threat. Our political leaders forget their promises made before winning election. If we raise voice for our rights we are wiped out. We can do nothing. However, everyone knows the reality. Our Chief Minister cannot get out of his house; how will we ask and question him and how will he solve our problems?

Liaqat: What has HRCP has done regarding missing persons?

Hashim Baloch: Our performance is quite clear. We formulate all sorts of findings and facts regarding missing persons and raise voice for them. Unfortunately the people still go missing in the current government which means that the incumbent government has also been careless about such a critical issue.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot. You all participated in this program and did your best for the awareness of our listeners.

## Episode: 60

### Topic: Hurdle in the path of women education

Guests: Behram Zakir, Shabana Baloch and Rafia Baloch (Education experts).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 09-12-2014

#### Program Summary

No doubt, our educational system has multiple flaws; but the most deplorable is that of the depravity of females from education. Situation in Balochistan further deteriorates as tribal norms and traditions become an impediment in the path of girls to get education. Poverty is another hurdle which does not allow girls to get education. The government seems to be feeble in formulating sound policies and taking initiative to boost up girls' education. Though it has announced educational emergency, yet no positive and appreciable steps have been taken so far. The current budget allocated for education ascertains government's behavior towards education. Unfortunately those who take some steps for promoting and imparting education to a girl, are detested. The traditions and culture barriers also close ways for girls to get education. We all should voice collectively for the promotion of girls' education as it will surely kick out ignorance from our society and homes.

#### Transcription

Ahmad Zeeshan: What are the main causes due to which you think women see off education or do not go to schools from the very beginning?

Raffia Baloch: There are many reasons but the most prominent amongst them are tribal traditions and poverty. Our literacy rate as compared to the rest of the provinces is very low. Both male and female ratio becomes 34%.

Ahmad Zeeshan: In interior Balochistan, some areas have abundance of facilities where women have the opportunities of getting education.

Raffia Baloch: Yeah. You are right. There is only one Women University across Balochistan. Now the second is established. They both are located in the capital. In other cities, not to talk of universities, they are lacking in colleges and schools. In urban areas, you will see no schools; or one can find ghost schools only.

Ahmad Zeeshan: What is the situation of interior Balochistan as the incumbent government has proclaimed educational and health emergency? Do you see any betterment after this proclamation?

Raffia Baloch: First of all, we need to facilitate teachers. If a teacher has no facility, how will he reach to the school? If there no transport facility; how will he facilitate the students? The government might have initiated, to some extent, the system of check and balance but I think the most significant thing is to facilitate a teacher.

Ahmad Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report prepared by CRSS reporter.

Report by Yasir Baloch:

Woman's role in a society cannot be neglected. Literacy rate in Balochistan is very low. It is just because of shortage of facilities to women. Our tribal traditions are also impediment for woman in the path of getting education. Let us talk to an educationist Shazia.

Shazia: "There has been a bit improvement in women education but still it is not satisfactory. Woman has been a victim of exploitation. Women education should be honored and graced in every walk of life. Our thinking towards women is also deplorable. For bringing change in our society, we need to change our thoughts regarding women. We have to take steps to eliminate negative thoughts regarding gender differences. This will become possible just because of proper education. We also need to bring awareness."

A student Khadija informed CRSS, "We have scores of serious problems in every walk of life but education specially that of women encounters serious threats. Mainly poverty impedes too much. Sometimes domestic problems also come forward. Sometimes father agrees but the rest of the family disagree with the education of a female. Transportation becomes another headache for girls while leaving for institutions."

Women should be provided with basic education which is their right. Women can build a nation well, that's why; all the impediments in the way of women for getting education should be uprooted so that they may play their role in the development of country.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Welcome back. I would like to ask Bahram Zakir to express his view regarding women education and the hurdle a female faces while getting education.

Behram Zakir: I thank you very much for inviting me in your program. Education is the fundamental right of every citizen but unfortunately women are deprived of this basic right. Men never accept women dominance in the society. Men think women to be for domestic duties only. They are not aware of the importance of women's education. First of all we need to change our thoughts regarding women. Then we think solution of everything that is in the imposition of emergency. As education is a fundamental right so it will be dealt thoroughly and fundamentally. For bringing a change we need to change entirely the current atmosphere. We just memorize and don't learn. Our basic structure of education is full of flaws. We produce two-year graduate unacceptable for the rest of the world as there is four-year graduation throughout the world.

Ahmad Zeeshan: I would like to talk to Shabana Baloch. I welcome you in this program. Would you please introduce yourself please?

Shabana Baloch: Thanks. I am from Panjgore. In our areas there are a lot of facilities for women to get education. Everywhere one can find schools. Some of them are so-called schools and some are ghost schools. In mountainous areas the situation is worsened. I, as a social worker, have visited many areas where I have guided and motivated people to get their children enrolled in schools. The people, in those areas, are of the view that they need not educate their children. This is because of poverty as the majority of the people living there are farmers. In cities, situation, as compared to the villages is better.

Ahmad Zeeshan: How can we motivate the people particularly those living in the interior Balochistan to send their children to schools?

Raffia Baloch: There is dearth of awareness. First of all, we need to give awareness to our males. Besides it, there is no check and balance system in the society. We must develop it.

Ahmad Zeeshan: An educated lady can lead her family nicely. Education does not mean its must to do a job. Shabana Baloch please differentiates between an educated and uneducated girl.

Shabana Baloch: There is much difference between both of them. Her behavior and greeting etc show whether she is educated or uneducated.

Raffia Baloch: Education teaches us ways of civilization.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Let us listen to a report regarding women's education.

Report:

In the modern era of science and technology, over 70% of women of Balochistan are entirely deprived of the blessing of education. Due to lack of education, the women of Balochistan seem to be lagging behind in every walk of life.

Let us talk to Miss Farhana Nawaz, district education officer, to know her view about this depravity.

Miss Farhana Nawaz: No doubt, the women of Balochistan are exceedingly deprived of education due to some so-called norms and traditions of the area. Every year, we drive an enrollment campaign to get the girls admitted. We are trying to bring a change and a well-flourished educational atmosphere. Another serious dilemma is that of scattered population of the area. Shortage of teachers is also a serious matter. That's why; it becomes difficult for the government to provide teachers and other necessary requirements to public. The government has recently announced more than four thousand seats in educational department. Happily it has also been announced that all the recruitments will be made through National Testing System NTS which only means to bring the talented people forward. Such initiatives are appreciable. For further change, media, both electronic and print, ought to play its role in bringing awareness amongst mass.

Habib Ur Rehman: The government should take solid steps for women's education so that they may play their positive and prominent role in the progress and development of the country.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Welcome back. Some of the girls want to get education but tribal norms and traditions hold them back; and we have observed that sometimes, a girls' result is more impressive and outstanding than that of boys', which shows that if provided with a chance, girls can contribute a lot. So what do you want to say in this regard?

Behram Zakir: Who is there that does not want to study; but actually we need to change our thoughts and beliefs regarding women education. Islam also allows them to learn but we have held them back. We are lagging behind day by day. Poverty is said to be an impediment in the way of education; but how we can abolish it. If half of your population is ignorant, who will play role to uproot poverty?

Ahmad Zeeshan: (Addressing Shabana Baloch). Have you encountered hurdles while getting education; as you belong to Panjgore, where such cases often come forward?

Shabana Baloch: To tell you the truth that my grandfather had established the first school in Panjgor.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Great!

Shabana Baloch: And the first teacher in that school was my Grandmother. After having established the school, she started a campaign of educating girls. The majority of the people ignored her request of educating girls. They told her to educate their boys only. Now the majority of the teachers belong to our family. I wanted to do LLB for which I faced a bit problem; otherwise nothing happened like that before. A couple of months back, some people demanded ban on co-education as well as female education.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thank a lot for giving us information. Now there is request for a song in this program. Let listen to it.

Ahmad Zeeshan: You listened to the song which also conveyed us the message of getting education. Another message was regarding the negation of 'learning for earning'. In our society, an educated man is considered a rich man. It is a wrong notion. Most of the people are uneducated but they earn a lot. We all have to contribute a lot to educate our new generation. As Shabana Baloch told that her grandfather has initiated to educate the people and established a school in his home town for this purpose. It was a great and appreciable achievement. As we are the member of the same society so we should contribute a lot in this regard. Would you please say something more about that school?

Shabana Baloch: I don't remember too much about that. However, there were some students who were kicked

out from their homes; and my grandfather had sheltered them just for their future's sake. They still remember my grandfather. They then opened schools in their respective towns.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Do you think private sector is doing well in our localities?

Shabana Baloch: Private sector, to some extent, is doing well. It mainly depends upon curriculum. There is much difference between government and private sector's curriculum. Another critical thing which shows the quality of government-run schools is that all government teachers enroll their kids in private schools. It is quite evident in that school. It clearly indicates the flaws of government-run schools. Our ministers send their children abroad for studies.

Ahmad Zeeshan: What do you think has deepened the gap between private and government-run institutions?

Shabana Baloch: there used to be national curriculum across the country but after passage of 18th amendment in constitution, every province adopted its own curriculum. But still it is not final.

Ahmad Zeeshan: It was also mentioned in 18th amendment that education would be offered in regional language.

Shabana Baloch: Unfortunately, our teachers cannot differentiate between curriculum and text-books.

Ahmad Zeeshan: As I asked about regional languages. If we start educating our new generation in their respective languages their parents may understand it; and hopefully they urge their kids to get education. Now they don't understand what their kids are taught in schools.

Rafia Baloch: Not to speak of preliminary classes but also higher education ought to be imparted in regional language so that the students come to know what they are learning. The science students don't know some of the terminologies of physics and chemistry. Indeed, these terminologies are used in our own languages.

Ahmad Shehzad: There should be a sound system to translate the latest researches in regional languages. What do you say in this regard? Beharam.

Behram Zakir: I would like to say that if India can do it why we cannot. Our government does nothing for the development of education and curriculum. The government does not allocate even a sound budget for it. The meager budget allocated for education is good for nothing and nothing outstanding can be done by this budget.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Most of the budget is spent over the salaries of teachers, professors etc; so what about children facilities and other expenses. It is note-worthy that PhD is must for being a university teacher.

Shabana Baloch: I think PhD teacher should be recruited for primary level in order to guide and train the students in the very beginning.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Do you think, literacy will increase in case of imposition of regional languages for teachings?

Rafia Balloch: I think the course must be in regional language as it will certainly encourage students to learn more and more.

Ahmad Zeeshan: I thank all of you for joining us.

## Episode: 61

### Topic: Corruption and nepotism and role of government

Guests: Samina Khan (MPA Pakistan Muslim League (N)), Abdul Malik Baloch and Arif Kurd (Youth representatives).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 15-12-2014

#### Program Summary

The worsening and spreading environment of nepotism and corruption has brought the province on the verge of destruction. Each passing day dawns over youth with nothing but despondency. Corruption being one of the most serious and poignant issues needs full concentration to deal with. The previous governments had done nothing peculiar to halt the menaces of corruption. The incumbent government was expected to initiate something special to eliminate corruption; however, it also seems failed. To provide the nation a transparent environment free from all perils, development of self-assessment is highly stressed by the expert. It is well-said that charity begins at home. So first of all, we need to change ourselves then the rest of the society. To flourish a sound society, we also need to abandon criticism for the sake of criticism. A change in the curriculum is also of great value. A sound system of check and balance was massively recommended by the experts. Along with government and politicians every individual of the society should contribute to halt the menaces of corruption and nepotism.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Let us commence our discussion with Samina Khan. First of all, I welcome you in this program. Would you please tell us that in the presence of corruption can a society flourish and develop?

Samina Khan: Corruption being one of the most serious and poignant issues needs full concentration to deal with. We have developed committees and have taken initiatives but unfortunately we could not succeed. Corruption has prevailed so much in our society as if it is a ritual or custom of the society. It is said that elimination of corruption from society seems to be impossible. But indeed, it is not so. We need to have a sound strategy. It will certainly take time to be uprooted. Government, politicians and public have the responsibility to take steps for its elimination.

Liaqat: (Addressing Arif Kurd). As a youth representative, what would like to say about corruption? Every government claims to eradicate it but has not succeeded.

Arif Kurd: Corruption has, no doubt, hollowed our country. But nobody has paid attention to tackle this heinous issue. Not only the government but every person of the society is badly involved in it. Everybody abuses his power. As it was told that different organizations had been formed to throw this menace away from the society; but I think no single organization will prove to be effective unless there is awareness in society. A society moulds a person. If one person is involved in corruption the other also follows him. National Accountability Bureau or other organizations cannot be fully valuable.

Liaqat: Everybody is aware of this menace. Abdul Malik, would you please say something about it?

Abdul Malik: It is not the problem of government only. Everybody should contribute a lot to end this nuisance. We have to do a lot for the entire society. As it was mentioned earlier that society moulds a man. Everybody learns from others and their seniors. If one earns something by corruption, the other wills as well.

Liaqat: Let us listen to a report to know the views of other people in society.

Report by Yasir Baloch:

The increasing population and despondency have paved a way for nepotism and corruption in Balochistan. In different departments, organizations and even in every walk of life, corruption has spread. It has also deepened its roots in education. Let us talk to a politician, Shafiq Khan to know his view about the menace of corruption.

Shafiq Khan: The pest of corruption has verily affected the entire system. In every office taking a bribe is common. Even the hike of price is due to heavy corruption. Jobs are offered after heavy bribe is received. I would stress that the government must recruit such officials who can control his subordinates. Apparently, it seems a hazardous step. However, sincerity can make it the easiest one to be tackled. It might take a long time to eradicate the curse of corruption and nepotism but we should not be disappointed. High ups in anti-corruption and national accountability bureau must be recruited on the basis of merit in order to control and run their institutions freely and transparently. NAB and Anti-Corruption departments should receive every sort of cases; they both coordinate with each other in this regard.

Asad Ullah informed CRSS, "Corruption and nepotism have grieved the youth. They are deprived of their rights. We submit forms; pass the tests; however rich and incompetent students are appointed instead. We, the poor, are ignored everywhere. Since long, I have been running after jobs but with the exception of despondency I got nothing. Everywhere nepotism and bribe is dominant."

Yasir Baloch: To eradicate nepotism and corruption, institutions like NAB and anti-corruption department need to be uplifted and functional.

Liaqat: Welcome back. Let me ask Samina Khan that what is the role of the government in this regard?

Samina Khan: The incumbent government of Balochistan counters multiple serious problems as the situation of this province is entirely different from rest of the province. The previous governments had paid no heed to the serious issues of the area. It is note-worthy that the federal government is very hopeful of the provincial government. Secondly our province has been unfortunate as no party has got majority so far to establish a full-fledge government. Had there been a single party government, there would have been chances of embarking upon the issues.

Liaqat: Do you mean there should be a single party government to undertake the issue?

Samina Khan: No I mean in that case it will be free to making decisions. In coalition government, every political party threatens the incumbent government to quit if it does not address its demands. Getting rid of corruption is difficult. National Party has flourished nepotism in the province.

Liaqat: Has your government done something to eliminate nepotism?

Samina Khan: Actually we need to be on the same page. No party has taken us into confidence regarding making any critical decision. We are striving to uproot such menaces.

Liaqat: As, now, your party is federally backed so what have you done in this regard?

Samina Khan: There should be merit. Reshuffling in different department should be avoided. NTS should be enhanced to other departments. Now we suffer scores of serious and critical issues as we want to take the rest of the parties and province along.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot. Abdul Malik Baloch, do you agree to what Samina Khan said?

Abdul Malik Baloch: I don't agree with her as it is a talk of the town that the incumbent government has done



nothing for the elimination of nepotism and corruption.

Liaqat: Don't you consider yourself at fault for casting your votes in favor of incompetent candidates.

Abdul Malik Baloch: Next time everybody has to be careful about using vote power.

Laiqat: As Samina Khan told that corruption is not the issue of Pakistan only, the rest of the world also faces this menace. But indeed, there is development in the world as well. What development have we made, nothing special and note-worthy.

Instead of criticizing the previous governments and political parties, we all should discuss the issues at the assembly floor. On the assembly floor there should be sound planning and policies to tackle all these issues. I have already said that every person is involved in corruption. Everybody who doesn't perform his duty accordingly, I think, is involved in corruption.

Liaqat: Can your elders in Federal government not develop a strategy to develop a check and balance system?

Samina Khan: Let me clarify it that I am not criticizing the previous governments or political parties. I am presenting realities. Every incumbent government praises its system and way of governing. I meant the claims we cannot address fully, should not be made. We should forward truth to the public. Lame excuses and claims have become a custom of the governments. We all will have to see off these customs. Prime Minister is sincere to solve the issues of Balochistan. He was of the view that nationalist would perform their duties well. But just think that Pakhtunkhwa doesn't like ever the name of Balochistan, how will it be sincere to dissolve the issues of this province? Chieftains and Nawab who are dominated in our society have also become a problem. In the incumbent government, majority of people belong s to middle class but unfortunately they are also not serious to solve their issues. Our Chief Minster has done nothing even for his own constituency. He does not confer funds upon MPAs.

Liaqat: Let us listen to a report.

Report by Yasir Baloch:

Both corruption and nepotism have brought Balochistan on the verge of destruction. Future generation seems to be fully disappointed with their future. Who is responsible for this devastating position? Unless and until the government takes initiative against these menaces, the progress will just remain a dream. Let us talk to Bangan Mengal, a political activist.

Bengan Mengal: Being the biggest province of the country, Balochistan is badly hampered by corruption. Every department is involved in corruption. A minister when he gets funds, receives his percentage; then a contractor does so. So everyone receives his percentage. At last poor public become the victim of this menace. Huge funds of hospitals, roads, schools and other departments are embezzled. Government needs to be serious in this regard to take stern actions against all those involved in this troublemaking.

Aftab Lasi informed CRSS, "Corruption has spread everywhere. I think the incumbent government seems to be serious in uprooting corruption as the things look better. In previous governments, nobody had done even a little for benefit the people. There was no proper planning to solve the issues of the people. To eliminate corruption everybody has to play his positive role. First, it should be initiated from ourselves. It is well-said that charity begins at home. Government should make anti-corruption departments operative and free from all sorts of political interference so that these organizations may provide a transparent accountability system.

Yasir Baloch: We all need to be active and serious against social evils so that our future generation may lead a better and happy life.

Liaqat: Welcome back. While conducting an NTS test, a huge sum of money is bestowed to other depart-

ment—NTS, if we conduct such tests through Public Service Commission which will surely be beneficial for our province. What do you think about it?

Samina Khan: You are right. Do tests conducted by NTS are fully implemented? It should be entirely developed and conducted on provincial level.

Liaqat: One of our callers—Zaheer Mashwani— wants to ask you a question.

Zaheer Mashwani: Heavy fee is collected from the poor people of Balochistan on the name of NTS. Isn't it corruption?

Samina Khan: There should be a discount in the fee of NTS or it should be conducted and controlled by Public Service Commission. Merit must be ensured whatever the way of examination may be.

Liaqat: (Addressing Abdul Malik Baloch). Why don't we develop a positive thinking?

Abdul Malik Baloch: Self assessment is the most important thing to be developed. Islam also teaches us to be true and fair.

Liaqat: Why can we not differentiate between good and bad?

Arif Kurd: I would like to stress upon self-assessment. Until and unless we develop self-assessment, we will be unable to tackle the issue of corruption.

Liaqat: There is a call. Let us listen to it. Assalam-o-alaikum. Who is this, please?

Caller: I am Abdur Rehman from Quetta.

Liaqat: What do you want to ask or say?

Abdur Rehman: Unfortunately, there is Zardari and Nawazi system in the country. All these chieftains and Landlords have done nothing special for the benefit of the people. Actually people are at fault. We don't use our votes on merit. Let me tell Samina that you should pay heed the public issues so that the people have a confidence on this party.

Liaqat: Thank you.

Arif Kurd: I was saying that we need to change our thinking for bringing a change in the system. We should also change our curriculum.

Liaqat: Do you think, curriculum should be changed for bringing a change in minds?

Samina Khan: Yeah. Sound curriculum can obviously bring a change in society. If Khyber Pakhtunkhwa can take initiative for bringing a change in curriculum, why can't we? The most critical issue in this regard, is to bring to a standstill in cheating in examination. Cheating has destroyed our youth.

Liaqat: I think, teachers' role is highly deplorable in preventing cheating. Not to talk of preventing cheating they even don't attend their classes. Has the government done something to stress the teachers to perform their duties?

Samina Khan: We have raised voices so many times for bringing a change in the behavior of teachers. We have allocated funds for all these issues, especially for children's betterment and their positive role in the development of the country.

Liaqat: (Addressing Abdul Malik). Would you please convey any message to our listeners?

Abdul Malik: I would like to say that we should concentrate on mental development rather than physical one; and self-assessment must be initiated.

Liaqat: Arif Kurd, you Please?

Arif Kurd: Full devotion to nation.

Liaqat: Samina Khan, you please?

Samina Khan: There should be check and balance in all departments. Politicians should have a positive check on laws and policies. Political victimization, nepotism and corruption should be avoided.

Liaqat: I thank all of you for joining us.

## Episode: 62

### Topic: Reasons of growing drug addiction in Balochistan

Guests: Abdullah (Member of Human Development Organization Kalat), Adnan Baloch (Youth Representative) and Umair Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 16-12-2014

#### Program Summary

Youth is considered to be the asset of the nation and state, but youth in Balochistan have been getting addicted to drugs. The menace of illegal drugs is spreading in Balochistan very rapidly. There are many reasons to the growth of drug addiction in Balochistan such as poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, domestic problems, and social injustice. Besides, drugs are easily available. Second cause is that it is affordable. One can get it at a low cost. There is no prevention of drug addiction by law enforcing agencies i.e. police etc. Parents too are responsible for it somehow. Although there is an anti-narcotics department in Balochistan, but yet it is spreading very swiftly because it isn't functioning properly. There are very few rehabilitation centers for the prevention of drug addiction. People aren't satisfied by the performance of this department. Drugs not only ruin the life of the addicted person, but family as well. It can only be quit by self-intention.

#### Transcription

Zeshan: Mr. Abdullah what is the major reason behind the growing usage of drugs in Balochistan?

Abdullah: The main reason is our education syllabus. When a child is first admitted in school, he or she is told about what tobacco is.

Zeshan: We too have studied the syllabus you mentioned, but we have not been affected. Not all children are affected, but yet some get affected.

Abdullah: Not all children are affected, but it has been tried in syllabus to affect them to some extent. Another major reason is the ignorance of narcotics department.

Zeshan: Mr. Umair youth is easily becoming victim to drug addiction. Why does Balochistan Youth easily get addicted to drugs i.e. what are the reasons?

Umair: There are many reasons. The first cause is that drugs are easily available. Second cause is that it is affordable. One can get it at a low cost. There is no prevention of drug addiction by law enforcing agencies i.e. police etc. Parents too are responsible for it somehow. Most of the students smoke cigarettes for the sake of style. This later becomes a habit. If smoking becomes a habit, it means the person gets addicted to smoking. One smokes cigarettes for self-indulgence. It stops giving pleasure after some time. Then one thinks of taking strong drugs. By doing so one gets addicted to powerful drugs i.e. heroin etc. Drug addiction has two effects i.e. environmental and genetic. It brings changes in the mentality and behavior of a person with other people. It has a negative effect which guides the person towards crime.

Zeshan: I have observed medical students whose studies are tough. They smoke cigarette in order to keep them awake. Later it becomes a habit. Mr. Adnan is this the reason why students get addicted to drugs?

Adnan: They get mental fatigue due to which they smoke for relaxing their minds for the time being.

Zeshan: Mr. Umair said by doing so later they get addicted to it. Have you observed such cases?

Adnan: I have observed such cases, but I don't think smoking can guide someone towards studies. One can perform prayer for relaxation as well.

Zeshan: We have got a report regarding the same topic. We will take our discussion further. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Growing trend of drugs in Balochistan has ruined the future of youth. Youth leave education and turn towards drugs by which many evils are giving birth in the society. The main reason of thefts, robberies and killings is that youth are going away from education. The main reason of the growth of drugs in Balochistan is its availability with ease. Growing trend of drugs in Balochistan can be stopped by educating youth and giving them awareness. It is the responsibility of the government to take steps for the eradication of menace of drugs. We spoke with Aqil Khan regarding growing drug addiction. He says, "Youth start smoking cigarettes by looking at different cigarette commercials on TV. Youth think that smoking cigarette is a heroic act. As a result they get a habit of it which they can't quit. Cigarette companies give incentives for buying their brand. Some people start smoking for this cause. There are a lot of drug usages in our city Quetta. Government has taken a step against it. Many people have been arrested. Besides, rehabilitation programs are also conducted. Media has a great effect in this regard. Parents should keep a check on their children because the company of bad friends can encourage them do what their friends do. The youth is being spoiled. They can't study in a state of drugs. Some run away from their homes. They go off the track in life due to drug addiction. They start thefts and robberies. They cannot obtain their goals in life." Besides, Saif Ullah Sasori says, "These evils are growing in Balochistan due to the lack of education and awareness. The responsibility of the government is to encourage students towards education because education is the only way to eradicate all evils. When youth predispose towards education, evils are eradicated automatically. 50 to 70% of drugs are imported from Afghanistan. The government is appealed to take stern actions against the people who are involved in it. Most of the youth is victim to this menace in our area. They are a part of our society so it is the responsibility of the government and local chiefs to rehabilitate them back to this society. When the government takes actions against drug, it will automatically be eradicated." The government should take such steps for the eradication of drugs by which the coming generations can be saved from such a devastating menace.

Zeshan: There are many other drugs beside smoking cigarettes. The usage of Gutka (herbal concoction which is a mixture of tobacco, catechu, betel nut, lime and certain food additives) is a lot. Mr. Abdullah, In which area Gutka is mostly used in and what are its side effects?

Abdullah: Gutka is mostly used in the coastal belt. It is mostly used in Khuzdar, Kalat, Panjgur and Awaran. It is also used in coastal areas of Sindh as well. It is a mixture of tobacco, catechu, betel nut, lime. And the most evil ingredient is blood which is illegitimate in Islam. Crushed pieces of glass are also mixed in it which is harmful for jaws. It damages throat, face and cut flesh of the human. Besides, it causes cancer. Apart from that another drug is used by youth to avoid sleep. Most of the drivers are using it. It is harmful for both flesh and bones. This drug is mostly taken in Makran and it is taken in Lasbela, Khuzdar and Quetta. It is an attempt to keep Baloch Youth aside from education. Many multinational companies have been focusing the natural resources of Balochistan. They want Baloch Youth to get its education and utilize it. All this is happening due to the irresponsibility of the state.

Umair: I would like to ask Mr. Abdullah a question. He said that it is the responsibility of the government to prevent it. We also believe that it is the responsibility of the government, but sir what has your NGO done in this regard?

Abdullah: We have arranged seminars at schools in Khuzdar by the name of "drug is a curse". Approximately 11000 children participated from all the schools. We arranged it for the sake of awareness.

Zeshan: We have got another report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Habib-Ur-Rehman, Quetta

Drugs not only ruin the life of the addict, but create disturbance in the entire society. Unfortunately most of the youth in Balochistan are addicted to drugs which cause an unhealthy society. This is a big tragedy with our society. We took Mr. Adil Shah's view regarding this. He is a social worker. He says, "According to a report of UNDP, 7.6 million people are addicted to drugs. Drugs consist of heroin, opium, alcohol, crystal, hashish etc. I am surprised to hear that the number of deaths in Pakistan due to drugs is more than deaths due to war in Syria and Iraq. This is something to worry about. 70% of the drugs are supplied by Afghanistan to the world. Balochistan is the supply line. The government should form serious legislations. The laws that exist aren't implemented. There is no sense of responsibility. Government is doing little in this regard. There are rare narcotics department. There aren't sufficient rehabilitation centers according to the number of drug addicts. This isn't a disease that can be diagnosed and treated. They have got a habit of it which can only be eradicated by self-intentions. There should be many rehabilitation centers. Awareness should be spread among people. It has become a menace for the society. Our law enforcing agencies know where this is cultivated. Public knows that heroin, hashish and alcohol are sold openly in streets. In religious, moral and logical sense it is harmful for our society. There are laws, but they should be implemented. The reasons to drug addiction are poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, domestic problems, social injustice etc. For example if one is unemployed, it will have a negative effects on the particular person. There are very few people who believe that God will take their tough time away and will bless them. Being Muslims we should face problems rather than start taking drugs which will not only take the addict toward ruination, but the whole family." Government should take satisfactory initiatives for the prevention of drugs in order to give protection to youth from drugs. The government should help youth to bring them on right path.

Zeshan: Mr. Adnan Baloch what are the effects of drug addiction on society?

Adnan: It has many effects on the society. First of all, the sense of patriotism dies. It destroys social life of the addict. They want to live in isolation most of the times. They lose their status in society. Drug addiction is caused due to the carelessness of parents. Domestic violence also causes drug addiction. Besides lack of religious values also is a reason to it. Lack of awareness is another reason. We can control it to some extent through media as a source of awareness. By conducting gatherings and seminar we can overcome this matter to some extent. According to UN report there are 7 to 8 thousand drug addict in Quetta. Most of the people misuse sedatives. We don't buy medicines through prescription. We rather buy it directly which unlawful. Apart from this injector drug addicts are 0.3% i.e. there are 17000 drug addicts who inject themselves in order to take drugs.

Zeshan: Mr. Abdullah is there any rehabilitation department by the government which rehabilitates drug addicts?

Abdullah: There are such departments, but there isn't any check and balance over these institutions. There are budgets in this regard, but there is no check and balance on it.

Zeshan: How can we contribute to prevent drug addiction?

Umair: We should consider drug addicts apart of our society. We should treat them with affection. We should try to motivate them. Drug addicts might have been encouraged by someone else, but they themselves will try to quit it. Parents too can play their role. There should be government institutes where drug addicts could be properly counseled. There are many centers of Narcotics Department in Quetta, but aren't functioning properly. Drug addicts start taking drugs again after treatment in these centers. It means that these centers aren't giving results. We should individually contribute in this regard.

Zeshan: Mr. Adnan what would add to this?

Adnan: We can control it by establishing rehabilitation centers. There are some centers, but aren't functioning the way it should. There is a narcotics department, but it is corrupt. They should know where the drugs are coming from, but there is a lot of corruption and nepotism in it.

Zeshan: It was said in the report that most of the drugs are supplied by Afghanistan and Balochistan is the gateway so it must affect Balochistan to some extent.

Adnan: The state should play its role in this regard. I wonder why the state isn't securing its borders.

Zeshan: We can't blame the state because we people make the state. People like us are running the state. The scenario won't change until we bring changes from grass root level. The system is alright, but we need to correct human first. Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 63

### Topic: Scope of youth participation in politics in Balochistan

Guests: Shams Ur Rehman Rend, Nodan (Youth Representative) and Waheed Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson:

Dated: 22-12-2014

#### Program Summary

Politics in Balochistan is under the firm grip of influential and all powerful feudal lords since the inception of Pakistan. They do not like opposition from the common people and always try to silence all such voices which are a danger to the present state of affairs. But there are good signs at present and we see people like Abdul Malik Baloch, the current Chief Minister of Balochistan, who belong to middle class. There are some young MPs in the provincial assembly who belong to middle class as well. Youth is eager to come forward and join politics but still they have serious obstacles because politics is a dangerous game for ordinary people. Education holds the key for the success of democratic system in Balochistan and unless the youth equip themselves with this weapon, they cannot bring any change in the political system of Balochistan. But the problem is that there are no greater opportunities available to get education when there is a dearth of educational institutions all along.

#### Transcription

Zeeshan: My question is, that whether in the existing system and political scenario, our youth can play an effective role in politics?

Guest: First of all I want to thank you for inviting us. I may answer your question in the affirmative. Our common youth had the opportunities in the past and in the present as well. You all know that our present chief Minister also belong to a middle class and is an educated person. He does not belong to any feudal family. Abdul Malik Baloch is our sitting chief minister who struggled in politics for a long time. In the past, some of our leading politicians like Mir Bakhsh Bazenjho did not belong to aristocracy. Then we had Samad Khan Achakzai, Akhtar Mengal and Bhugti are like a institution for us in politics. They introduced youngsters into politics. Our youth is playing an effective role at present. There is greater room for our youth in the politics. But we expect from the youth that they must have the required talent. The foremost requirement is education. If our youth is educated then they will succeed in politics and other walks of life.

Zeeshan: Thank you for being so explicit in your views. Dear listeners, you can also participate in the show through our prescribed number. I may take the views of our young friends now. Mr. Nodan I may ask you that do you agree with Mr. Rend that youth can play an effective role in politics?

Nodan: First of all I want to add that I endorse what Mr. Rend said. Anyway, I may say that youth in Balochistan have maximum freedom and opportunities to come forward and join politics. If we consider the role of Bazenjho who served this region during the British Raj, Abdul Samad Khan Achakzai and Naseer had an effective place in our politics. It was in 1967 Abdul Hai Baloch, who hailed from a middle class family, organized students to play their role in politics. Students have brought many changes in our politics in both the Pashtoon belt and Baloch belt. Many students have assumed important place in our politics later on.

Zeeshan: Mr. Waheed Baloch, I welcome you in the show and may I ask you that whether you also agree with them or you have some reservation. We have heard just one example of Abdul Malik Baloch and none other.



Is it true that youth are playing an important role in our politics? It is also true that all the political parties have greater number of young workers.

Waheed: I am happy to express myself here about the role of youth. To some extent I do agree with you but not completely. I do not agree because in the existing scenario our youth has all the rights and opportunities. We have to see whether our young people have all the rights as granted in a true democracy. It is also true that there are many young people in each political party but unfortunately our society is ridden with customs and traditions that we can call it as a backward society. We simply cannot provide all the opportunities to our young people; we have to analyze the existing structures of political parties. The leading people in each political party are either capitalists or feudal. They are the face of the same coin. I believe that we are not providing the due role to our youth. The reason is that we are so backward with defective norms of democracy.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to a report about the issue in focus.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Balochistan used to have feudals as their pivot in politics but now the youth has also been attracted towards politics. It is a good omen. In some areas, some feudals are being elected from a particular region for the last fifty years. But it is a pity that the same area is so backward and these MPs have done nothing for their region. Whether the youth of Balochistan have the potential and opportunities to join politics? In this connection we had to meet Wadera(Feudal Lord) Kaleem Ullah Khan Kethran who says,

In the presence of Feudal and Maliks there is no place for young people. The feudal consider themselves as the center of attraction. They do not bear any opposition. They want to maintain their perks and leading role. The opponents are killed through target killing. They silence all voices through coercion. In our district a young man called Rasool Bachaa rose against these feudal and joined politics. But he was killed in 2013 in Quetta. He was punished for his role. The feudals feared his eminence. I may say that our youth should get united and get education. They should raise voice against the existing state of affairs. They should work to eliminate poverty. In the whole of Balochistan the situation is that all the funds are plundered by these feudal lords. There is no progress in Balochistan because they think about themselves only. The chief minister alone cannot do anything although he is a good person. He needs assistance from the whole province. Young people need awareness to bring change. These feudals are ruling for the last fifty years but they have not laid a concrete road. Masses should not get education and progress seems to be the common criterion of these feudal and rulers.

Yasir: Politics in Balochistan still revolves around Feudal and Khans, thus the youth have no good opportunities. Future of Balochistan can be brightened if the youth are given opportunities to join the main stream politics.

Zeeshan: dear listeners, welcome back in the show after the report. We are talking about the prospects of youths in politics in the present scenario where feudal are dominating the whole scene. We have mentioned one example of the present chief minister but it is a rare case. I may ask about the opinion of Mr. Rend.

Rend: first of all I may refer to the report and affirm that to some extent we may agree to its contents. But in Pakistan as a whole and in Balochistan as well, our youth has great potential. Our youth has proved themselves at national and international level. I may cite hundreds of names in this regard. In Balochistan, whether pashtoon or Baloch, we have many worthy names. We can see that several young people who belonged to poor families have excelled in life and have drawn enormous respect from the people. In the political field there had been many names worth referring to who have proved themselves in politics like Hussain M.kar, Faiz Muhammad Yousafzai who joined politics when nobody was familiar with this field. At present we have Habib Jalib and Sana Baloch, Waheed Baloch and Javed Mengal are all young politicians in Balochistan. Waheed Baloch was the Speaker of Balochistan Assembly. There are several names to this list. There are many young politicians in all the leading political parties. I may say that if anyone wants to come forward then he cannot be stopped and curtailed by any feudal or duke. It is a natural gift and no one can contain it. I don't agree to the notion that feudal are capable of stopping anyone from entering politics. It is also true that some feudal have

great influence in their regions. It is a fact that Bhugti and Atta Ullah Mengal did a lot for their areas. There is no beggar in Bhugti tribe. It is not an impossibility to join politics in Balochistan. Sardar Yar Muhammad Rend is considered to be an all powerful person and nobody can compete with him but the fact is that there were 28 contestants in the last election. I had been a candidate myself in the election and I faced no difficulty in my political campaign. There are schools and hospitals in the respective areas of these feudals and leaders. According to my understanding our youth have the problems of education and short cut tendency. Students are prone to unfair means in education. We need real education among our youth. Another hurdle in our society is the drug addiction and weapons culture. It is a conspiracy against our youth.

Zeeshan: Your examples were quite judicious and apt, I agree to his statement that if a young man desires to do something then system cannot curtail him. Feudal and dukes are in all parts of Pakistan but they were unable to stop the youth from joining politics. There is no doubt that each tribe is connected through a feudal lord or leader but each political party cannot draw its power by resorting only to these feudal. They need popular support. The point is and I have observed that youth is struggling hard for long to have a good place in each party but could not achieve that.

Nodan: As it was discussed that if youth is educated then they can have a good place. But I am sorry to say that youth are not supported so much by common people. We have indeed some examples in our politics but when these young people reach the corridors of power they join the elite group of these feudal. They forget their roots and become capitalist and feudal. Abdul Kareem has defeated Sana Baloch and now he has become a Nawab (Duke) himself. We need our youth to remain the same after the election.

Zeeshan: Waheed Baloch wants to say something.

Waheed: Youth has opportunities to come forward but I want to stress that Chief Minister of Balochistan is from Middle class. But once I was sitting in a seminar where he was invited as a senator. He pondered in detail how feudal in Balochistan have confined politics to their own homes and estate. He said on the record that he is unable to go his own area without the permission of Magsi Tribes. Same is the case with other regions which are under the control of some powerful feudal. A common man cannot contest against a feudal. It is true that our youth are not interested in education but most of them want to get education. But we have to see how many educational institutes we have in each region. The fact is that most of our young people do not have enough educational institutes. No government has ever paid enough attention to education. I also belong to Makran and our society is quite open and liberal. I can even contest against the chief minister of Balochistan. But it is not the case in other parts. We have to admit this fact.

Zeeshan: Mr. Rend what do you want to add to what Waheed said?

Rend: My friend spoke about the tradition that when a poor man becomes a minister then he joins the ranks of Feudals. It is a sad fact and I agree with the statement of Waheed. But election is such a process where common people are given the power to bring change. If a person keeps guards after winning and behaves like a feudal then people have the ultimate power in the next election to reject him.

Zeeshan: We have another report about the issue in focus.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Politics in Balochistan is under the grip of tribal leaders, Chieftains, Feudal lords and Nawabs. It is said that these are the pillars of politics and a young man has no place in politics. Saif Ullah Kakar is a young politician who says...

From the very start in this province Khans and Feudals were the main hurdles in the path of education and joining politics. But now people are educated and aware and the power of Feudals has declined. There are now opportunities along with many obstacles. In the whole country such powerful people are still having maximum

powers at the helm of affairs. But there are good signs at present and we have mps and ministers from lower strata of society. Now people have greater chances. Honest and educated people are really required in politics. Such people should come forward and guide the people. In our present assembly there are almost fifty per cent members from middle class. Politics is a positive thing and the youth should join this field. We can serve our country very well through positive politics.

Yasir: Najeeb Ullah is a young person with us who says..

All the talk about Feudals is not correct. It is assumed that these Feudals do not allow youth to join politics. This is a wrong concept because in the modern technological era the common people have progressed in politics.

Yasir: This trend indicates that changes are coming in the politics of Balochistan. The youth is ready to come forward and join politics. Balochistan can have a better system based on equality and not caste system if the youth comes forward to join politics.

Zeeshan: Dear listeners, welcome back after the report. I had interrupted Mr. Rend and now I invite him to continue his talk.

Rend: My friend said that common people also change ways after success in politics. I said that democracy has a good checking system for it. We have seen that many influential people lose the election when people reject them. It was also told that we have no schools and teachers. I may quote Iqbal who said that we should raise our integrity to such a level that we may chalk out our own destiny. We can see that even before the creation of Pakistan there was a parliament and striving ordinary people had ascended to the parliament in the present of Khan of Qalat. We also see that those people who opted for Pakistan were the middle class people and had rose to eminence. Balochistan conceded to Pakistan after majority of decisions. Tahir Muhammad Khan was a successful lawyer who belonged to a lower class. He served as the law minister of Pakistan. Another personality was Yahya Bakhtiar, who drafted of the constitution of Pakistan. He was our asset who constituted the constitution of Pakistan. These people had no facilities but made their way to the top. At present you can find a primary school in each village. But during that time schools were so rare but they got education one way or the other. Now we have a medical college and universities. We have institutes of information technology. We only need thirst for knowledge. I have observed that our youth is seeking short cut only. Our young people want that their elders should seek a job for them and bring the appointment letter for them. They are easy going and shirk hard work and lack striving. I think our youth has grown lazy and dull. I request my young people to get education. It is said that seek knowledge eventhough you have to travel to China. We need to get religious and modern knowledge.

Zeeshan: All the physical knowledge's take a man towards the Providence. Every branch leads to God and our Creator. According to my understanding what our young friends wanted to say that there is a façade of facilities for our young people. Mr. Waheed , if you want to add something.

Waheed: Mr. Rend spoke well and I agree with him to some extent. He said that powerful people are rejected in politics but I want to say that one feudal is defeated by another feudal and not by a common man. We need a change in our behaviour. We need to have a durable political structure just like the civilized countries.

Zeeshan: That concludes our discussion. It is good bye for now.

## **Episode: 64**

### **Topic: Wild life scenario in Balochistan**

Guests: Ashraf Aheer Baloch (Expert Wild life), Fariq (Youth Representative) and Muhammad Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 23-12-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Wild life is the most neglected issue in the entire Balochistan. It is a pity that most of our people whether educated or uneducated do not know about the importance of plants and animals. Balochistan is home to several precious plants and animals, which are being destroyed at an alarming rate. It is quite disgusting to know that our government is so willingly allowing foreigners to hunt down our animals and birds for the sake of few rupees. Our state machinery guide and protect these hunters, mocking the verdict of High court and laws of the wild life. Our youth can play a vital role in this regard if we equip them with enough education, resources and awareness.

#### **Transcription**

Wild life is in precarious condition in Balochistan. We all are responsible for it. We have invited a panel of guests. We have Ashraf Aheer Baloch, who is an expert in the wild life field. We will be asking him several questions. We have youth representatives, including Fariq and Muhammad Baloch. We will start our program by asking Ashraf Aheer to tell us briefly about the current situation of wild life in Balochistan.

Ashraf: I am really grateful for being here. As our topic is about wild life I will say that it is a serious issue in Balochistan. It includes wild life and is the beauty of Balochistan but on government level there is no attention directed towards it. Our wild life is badly affected. We have to start from zero level because there is no check and control over the misuse of forest and wild life. It is affecting our whole environment and social life.

Liaqat: What do you think Mr. Fariq that what is the duty of youth in this regard?

Fariq: Its my pleasure to be here and I am thankful to CRSS for giving me this opportunity. I will speak about its importance. Our whole life is dependent on wild life. We wear dress, eat food, use paper and above all we breathe in the air. All this is due to wild life. At the present rate, when all the animals and birds are hunted and smuggled, it is alarming. Its main reason is poverty. All the wealthy and influential people do it for fun. They are in the habit of hunting.

Liaqat: What is the responsibility of youth?

Fariq: We can spread awareness and can make people understand its importance. Forest department is not performing its duty well. Salaries of the employees should be raised to curb corruption.

Liaqat: We all know that wild life includes animals and plants. Mr. Fariq Riaz spoke well and now may I ask Muhammad Baloch to tell us more about the issue in focus and duties of the youth.

Muhammad Baloch: Thanks for the invitation. There is no protection of plants and animals in Balochistan. There is a thing called law, which is present there but is not followed. How this law can be activated. We need awareness about the rule of law. The most important aspect is that we may hold sessions in each district and

mobilize youth about the importance of wild life. How plants and animals play such an important role in our lives. Each weekend so many bullets are used for hunting by the youth. Our youngsters are fond of hunting. The reason is that our youth is not conscious about the importance and role of wild life.

Liaqat: Dear listeners, our guests have tried well to tell you about the situation in Balochistan. It is time to listen to a report by Yasir Baloch.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch.

Markhor, Partridge and various precious birds are growing scarce in Balochistan. It is because no attention by the government is given to them. Deforestation and extermination of wild life is at the brink of disaster. What are its reasons and implications? To find the answer we had to meet a social worker Saddam Sarahi, who says...

I understand that the protection of wild life is very important for life but unfortunately there is no attention by the government, civil society and international organization in this regard. We see that hunting is the most common hobby among our people. To get a few moments pleasure, precious animals and birds are killed. Mark Twain once said that man is worse than animals and dogs. According to his experiment, if a man needs a single animal then he will hunt down ten animals just for the fun of it. No animals do the same. We see that there is no protective law for wild life.

Yasir: We have a young Student Kaleem Ullah, who says..

It is a common phenomenon in Balochistan to hunt animals. People from Middle East also come here for hunting. Markhor and Partridges are mercilessly killed. Foreigners should not be granted hunting license. There is no gas supply and trees are cut down for fuel. There is much restriction in the foreign countries. But there is no proper law in our country.

Yasir: Natural beauty of Balochistan can be saved if the government takes proper steps in this direction. People should also extend support to the government in this regard. This was Yasir Baloch reporting for CRSS.

Liaqat: Welcome back, dear listeners, after the report where the dangerous situation in Balochistan was described. It was also told that if government is unable to provide gas to its citizens then deforestation will occur. Let us ask Mr. Ashraf that as the situation demands what is the responsibility of the government.

Ashraf: I will cite the example of my own district Kharan. The High court has also issued a notification that free hunting is a crime, which could be punished by law.

Liaqat: But we see that our foreigner brothers from Arabia are being facilitated by our people and government. Why our government issues the license for hunting in the first place? We see that our security agencies accompany these foreigners and guide and facilitate them. Our forces provide them maximum security. Till now our government has taken no steps to check this illegal practice. We have heard that there is a hospital in Kharan called Sheikh Hospital which is a good thing but even then we should not compromise our wild life over these things. We should preserve our plants and animals. Hospital is a good thing but we need not go to a hospital if we have good wild life.

Zeeshan: Mr. Fariq, please tell us that if our youth go hunting then government is not responsible directly. Why do we kill animals when we have enough meat in the market?

Fariq: Hunting has become a fashion among our youth in Balochistan. They take pride in showing others that they are going for hunting.

Zeeshan: Most of our educated youth is doing this practice? Do they not know that it is a bad thing?

Fariq: We need awareness more than regular education.

Zeeshan: Educated people are doing it and they are not aware. Where does this awareness come from?

Muhammad Baloch: All those who have done graduation cannot be called educated. A person with enough maturity is an educated person. I am a student of M.A. English where importance of animals and plants is not taught to us. These things are not included in our curriculum.

Zeeshan: Is it not the responsibility of a student to get knowledge about other things if he is good enough to read books? Why are we so disappointed? We have to do each thing.

Muhammad Baloch: Facilities and atmosphere are two different things.

Caller: My name is Syed Noor Shah. Your topic is very good and I want to express my thought. The main reason for the worst condition of wild life is hunting and scarcity of rains in Balochistan.

Zeeshan: The call just dropped. But the caller was right to say that main reason for this scenario is illegal hunting. Although, High Court has clear verdict about it. Mr. Ashraf, if we talk about hunting then we may mention fish as well. We have a long coast but why government is not taking any interest.

Ashraf: You might have seen in media that our fishermen are protesting every day that fish is life blood for their life but there is an on going genocide due to infiltration of heavy loaded ships in the coastal line. They protest that they used to collect enough fishes within two hours but now they cannot catch enough after a whole week. Their earning has started to drop.

Zeeshan: It may be the reason that it is due to climatic changes. There are some natural lakes where fish is found but people have used gunpowder and chemicals that have destroyed the fish production. Are we not responsible for it?

Ashraf: We need a full campaign to make our people aware about all these facts. There are some lakes in our area where our people used to go on the weekend and enjoyed fishing. But now people have dropped and exploded so much chemical and gunpowder in these lakes that the whole nursery is destroyed.

Zeeshan: It is time to listen to another report by Yasir Baloch.

Wild life scenario has assumed dangerous shape in Balochistan. Licenses are issued to foreigners and many of our species are at the brink of disaster. We had to meet Mulla Bakhsh, who is a social worker for wild life. He says...

Most of our animal species are at the brink of disaster. Arab Sheikhs are issued so many license and permits that our animals are growing scarce. Balochistan is very vast but many species are rare now. We can give the example of Cheltari, where no steps are taken for the protection of wild life, although it is a central region. I think we need mutual effort along with the government. We need to facilitate our people for all kinds of success. In the field of plantation we have done much but people continue to destroy these rare plants. Most of our hunters are unlicensed hunters. We can't create a better situation unless we have a mutual interaction in this field. Wild life is endangered here because people are unaware about this situation.

Yasir: Licenses should be cancelled and with practical steps wild life can be protected in Balochistan.

Zeeshan: Welcome back after the report. Molla Bakhsh said in the report that some rare plants which are so effective for medicine are going to become a thing of the past if we do not protect them. What is our responsibility in this respect?

Muhammad Baloch: The problem is that we do not know about the worth of these plants and people are exporting it.

Caller: I am Iqbal Baloch from Quetta. I want to say that there is a notice near our mountains, which forbid people from hunting. But we see the foreigners, who come here for hunting.

Zeeshan: What is our responsibility here?

Iqbal: I am a hunter myself and I request people to buy such allowed animals and slaughter them at home. I request all the people to take care of the country and wild life.

Zeeshan: Sometime we burn bushes while having picnic and kill many such animals that are forbidden for us to eat like lizards. What should we do?

Muhammad Baloch: I want to say again that we do not about the worth of many bushes and animals. Our youth is going for modern technology and are not careful about wild life. Our youth has a mindset for short cuts.

Zeeshan: You said that the youth is going for machine life only and are not caring about their ancestors and their professions. Tallor (Bird) comes from Siberia and our people hunt them down. What can be done to protect them?

Ashraf: Arabs come here and we should create awareness among our people. We are famous for hospitality but we should not sacrifice our birds and animals. We need to give hundred percent awareness along with government.

Zeeshan: Why the government does not include this subject in the curriculum?

Ashraf: Government makes effort but our people are not learning anything. Government should implement the verdict of High Court.

Zeeshan: It is also important to note that mining is also done at a large stage in Balochistan. How can we improve our mining to protect our wild life?

Fariq: Mining is affecting wild life in Balochistan.

Zeeshan: Please tell us Ashraf that how mining is affecting our wild life at places like Chaghi and other places?

Ashraf: Mining is also a technical process, where many machines are used by the modern organizations.

Zeeshan: Urbanization takes place, where mining is done. How to control it to protect our wild life?

Ashraf: Blasting during the mining process affects the environment. Water gets polluted and animals are affected. In fact our whole environment is affected.

Zeeshan: Why such mining companies are not put under restrictions to protect wild life and local population?

Ashraf: All rules are present on papers but practically our government is not taking any steps. Although much is claimed and announced by the government but still there is no practical step.

Zeeshan: How can we support and pressure the government to make these laws practical?

Muhammad Baloch. I will say again that the youth is the right kind of force with us, which can bring all these changes. Awareness is needed.

Caller: This is Saleem Baloch. Wild life is on the decline and I may say that the major reason is that we have put restriction on hunting but we invite foreigners for the sake of a few rupees that allows them to wipe out our rare animals.

Zeeshan: What do you suggest that we should do?

Saleem: We have to stop them through our people and through the government. We have to stop deforestation. We are turning our forests into urbanized regions.

Zeeshan: What do you request from the people and the government Mr. Ashraf?

Ashraf: Wild life is a crucial issue and we have been hearing about pollution and deforestation. I request the government that kindly control destruction of our wild life.

Zeeshan: What would you say for youth Mr. Fariq?

Fariq: Strict laws should be imposed and implemented.

Zeeshan: What do you say Muhammad Baloch?

Muhammad Baloch: Laws are made for the people and not for the government. Such programs should be aired frequently. I appreciate the efforts of CRSS.

Zeeshan: We have an incumbent duty to protect our plants and animals. It is good bye for now.



## **Episode: 65**

### **Topic: Political interference in education sector**

Guests: Aslam Baloch, Babar Khan and Waqar Baloch (Youth representatives.).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Zeeshan

Dated: 30-12-2014

#### **Program Summary**

Political interference in education sector has, no doubt, badly deteriorated the education system of Balochistan. The education sector needs reforms. All those who cannot qualify PCS, CSS etc. easily come and join education department. Internationally, the most proficient personalities are recruited as teachers; but in Pakistan the situation is entirely different. Then its impact on society is quite obvious. A sorrowful inquiry conducted last year revealed that 8500 fake teachers have been recruited in different parts of the province; amongst them some twelve hundred were politically backed. If the holy profession like teaching is fully exploited how we will compete with the rest of the world. The incumbent government's initiative of recruiting teachers on the basis of NTS is very much good and it is a good omen; but incompetent and politically backed people have started propaganda against it. The only genuine complaint made against NTS is its high fees. The government ought to take steps for its decrease. The government seems keen to provide each and every citizen of the province with the best and possible education. That's why; some thousands of new schools, colleges and universities were opened in different parts of the province. Experts are of the view that punctual and sincere teachers should be facilitated whereas incompetent ones should be held responsible.

#### **Transcription**

Aslam Baloch: It is really devastating and deplorable that all those who cannot qualify Public Service Commission, CSS etc, are then recruited as teachers, who destroy the nation. Internationally, the most competent figures are recruited teachers; but here the things are totally different. The result is quite evident. The inquiry conducted last year revealed that 8500 fake teachers have been recruited. That's really sorrowful. And some twelve hundred were recruited on the basis of political influence. If the holy profession like teaching is fully exploited how we will compete with the rest of the world. Now the recruitments are made on the basis of National Testing System (NTS), which is a positive omen and initiative for the future of the province.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Thanks a lot. Let me include the youth representative in the program. We have Babar Khan. Would you like to cast light on the recruitment made through political influence?

Babar Khan: The report discussed earlier is really sorrowful; but let me say that education on ethnic and regional basis should highly be discouraged. It is well-said that give me an educated woman and I will give you an educated nation. We should not compromise on education and its quality. To educate the nation means to eliminate the social evils. Unless we provide quality of education to our generation, we cannot make progress and development. The step of introducing NTS for the very first time in the province for teachers' recruitment is massively appreciable. It is a step to refine our education system.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Nice. Let me invite Waqar Baloch to add something to our discussion.

Waqar Baloch: Both have said well. The step of NTS is really praise-worthy; however the fees are very high that are to be paid. A poor boy cannot pay the fees of NTS. It is imperative to decrease the fee of NTS so that the poor may avail the opportunity.

Ahmad Zeeshan: I think its fee in the rest of the provinces is less than that of Balochistan as it was criticized too much. Now I would like to ask Aslam Baloch to highlight political interference in different sectors with the exception of education.

Aslam Baloch: Verily we have a flawed political system. Every leader wants his workers to get benefit irrespective of being legal or illegal. In majority districts, educational institutions are built just to benefit the political activists. In Naseer Abad over 60% of the educational institutions are locked up. We should get and learn something from the developed world. It is quite evident that doors and ways to development and progress will remain closed if political influence and interference in education persists.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Ok. Let us listen to a report.

Report by Yasir Baloch:

Education in Balochistan has been a victim of political influence and interference. This inference has brought educational system on the verge of destruction. Recruitments in education sector are made on political basis. Teachers don't pay any heed to children and their respective institutions as they are fully backed by politicians. To know in detail about it, let us talk to Zafar Ullah Khan, an educational expert.

Zafar Ullah: The incumbent government of Balochistan has contributed a lot to eliminate political interference in the educational department. However, further steps are needed to be taken to liberate this holy system from political interference. The higher education commission has also seen off the old ways of recruitments. Chief Minister, Dr. Abdul Malik is keen to do a lot for the improvement of education sector. A report published recently by Balochistan University reveals the betterment and good gestures regarding improvement of education sector. Every political party has its wing in educational institutions that disturbs the situation. The importance of political wings cannot be neglected; it flourishes a good political system; however educational system and process should never be disturbed.

Yasir Baloch: The incumbent government can do a lot for the improvement of education sector only when it is keen.

Ahmad Zeeshan: We are talking about political interference. Is political interference not involved in examinations and paper checking? Even a student, a newspaper revealed, stepped back in his M. Phil.

Aslam Baloch: It is quite evident and the most frequently occurring matters in our province. This is because of political interference. If a chairman of educational board or a University Chancellor is appointed on political basis, he must try to satisfy his leaders who have backed and appointed him. Cheating culture has badly prevailed. There isn't any transparency in our system. Teachers' Associations are highly involved in this blackmailing. They threaten high ups and get them to decide whatever these associations want. Despite imposition of section 144, everybody enters the examination halls and provide unfair material to students. Trained teachers and staffs are required to conduct examinations.

Ahmad Zeeshan: What would you like to add to Aslam's views?

Babar Khan: The news of the boys who stepped back his M. Phil is really disappointing. To keep all these serious issues in mind, the government should reform the whole system. We cannot hold a single institution responsible for such incidents. The whole system needs to be changed and serious initiatives be taken. I would like to give you an example of developed countries. An American senator is said to have applied for a post but he could not qualify. He was rejected. I mean he did not approach or used his influence. But unluckily, here the most incompetent people are recruited as teachers. In every street, there are schools and colleges without following any rules and regulations. I think there should not be any compromise on education. Serious steps should be taken for its improvement. If education is reformed, all other social evils will gradually come to an end. Even terrorism can also be tackled easily by education. All sorts of decisions must be taken on the basis

of merit.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Political workers may be bestowed with scholarship if they are eligible.

Babar Khan: During a visit of mine to University of Peshawar, I met with the president of Pashtoon Students' Federation. He had over twelve degrees in different disciplines. I found him very much busy in his theories and research. He said to me that he had got LLB degree from Balochistan University. Being a political activist, he was very much busy in his studies. A leader should be well-aware. He should be highly qualified.

Waqar Baloch: Being a university student, I would like to say that the majority of the faculty in university is good for nothing. Our staff receives thousands of salaries but does nothing. Some of the people do their PhD on the expenses of the government in foreign countries; but after the completion of education, they settle there and do not return. So I request all these qualified people to come back to their respective areas and serve the nation.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Let me tell you that in real senses they are politically backed people. They are influential people. Unfortunately we are morally degraded, that's why; we do everything of our own interest. Let us listen to another report. Then we will continue our discussion.

Report: Yasir Baloch

Political interference in education has destroyed our education. Due to lack of proper education the nation is going behind day by day. Let us talk to a political activist Ali Ahmad Lango.

Ali Ahmad Lango: Corruption has crossed all its limits in our society which has badly hampered development. Majority of politicians and bureaucrats have tainted their hands in this menace. For last ten to fifteen years the situation has more worsened. But, I think, any sort of corruption in education department is highly destructive for the nation. The incumbent government has, to some extent, take steps to uproot the menace of corruption and political interference, especially in the education department. Those who politically influence the recruitments remain highly proud in their society. This pride urges others to use political influence for themselves as well. I am of the view that there should not be any political interference in education department. For education will lead us toward progress and prosperity.

Umar Baloch adds, "Unfortunately, education has been the victim of political interference since long. To give the best and possible education to every child of the province will ascertain, elimination of political interruption in this holy department, I think. Bringing highly qualified force in politics may do something to eradicate the nuisance of political interference in education. Now-a-days, NTS is highly criticized that shows the incompetency of candidates desirous to join education sector.

Yasir Baloch: Parting politics from education will ensure the integration of the province.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Welcome back. A caller, Muhammad Hashim Parwana, has joined us. He says that everybody has spoken well, especially about the eradication of cheating in examination, but no one seems to be sincere in this regard. Strictness in examination hall will never uproot this menace. It can be tackled through training and facilitating teachers. I think, things seem better regarding teachers' facilities. So what do you say about this?

Aslam Baloch: To tell you the truth, the teachers of Balochistan are less facilitated than those of other provinces. Our teacher, to meet his needs, gets himself engaged in part time jobs as well. This clearly indicates the conditions of teachers. If the government is failed to address the problems of a teacher, how it will improve education in the province. All the genuine issues of the teachers must be met.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Good. Waqar what would you like to say about the issues of students particularly regarding paper checking as we have observed scores of student complaining against the way of paper marking?

Waqar Baloch: You are right. We have experienced all these things. Paper marking system is good for nothing. Favoritism, likes and dislikes are on hike in this regard. Especially in practical markings nepotism, likes and dislikes flourish massively. We have observed that the toppers of the examination cannot pass the viva. Just think.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Babar Khan, would you like to add something?

Babar Khan: Our system, in this regard, is substandard. Just feed the teacher and get high marks.

Ahmad Zeeshan: As the government has announced educational emergency but still problems exist. What should be done further?

Babar Khan: Just think about the budget allocation for education. Proclamation of educational emergency means proper steps should be taken to improve the system. Only dialogues will help improve the system. The teachers should be held responsible; they should be given tasks. Then it might give us some output. All the differences of English and Urdu medium need to be abolished. We need to take all these things serious or else the things will remain as they are.

Ahmad Zeeshan: Aslam what would you like to say in this regard?

Aslam Baloch: We should credit the incumbent government. Let me tell you that Rome was not built in a day. It will take time. However the incumbent government seems to be serious and has increased the numbers of schools, colleges and universities throughout the province.

Ahmad Zeeshan: A caller says. Have you paid attention to the facilities of teachers?

Ahmad Zeeshan: Verily the teachers have problems but a lot of problems are due to teachers. Ok. I thank all of the participants. Good bye.

## Episode: 66

### Topic: Ethnic discrimination in youth and its impacts

Guests: Advocate Imran Baloch, Abdul Qayyum Kathron (Student) and Abdullah Baloch (Human Development Organization)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 05-01-2014

#### Program Summary

Balochistan is facing racial and ethnic discrimination along with sectarianism for so long, which is one of the major obstacles to the development and prosperity of the province. There is discrimination in Balochistan due to cast, sect, faith and political parties. The elected members also serve groups/communities on the basis of their race and sect. Being Muslims, racial discrimination has no place in our social set up, thus, we have to discourage all kinds of prevailing discriminations in the society. For the betterment and prosperity of Pakistan, it is the call of the day to say no to all forms of ethnic and religious based discriminations. For this purpose the youth must be sensitized to play their due role in elimination of all forms of discriminations. Provision of education, availability of equal job opportunities, public awareness and mutual harmony can put Balochistan on the path of development and prosperity.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: When it comes to ethnic discrimination and its impacts on the development, we can say that diversity is the spice of life. People from different faiths, creeds, sects and cultures bring diversification and that is the beauty of the world. But if these people with various faiths and sects indulge in religious differences and sectarianism, then it creates problems. The society of Balochistan, which was once peaceful and prosperous, is facing ethnic discrimination and extremism for last many years that has affected the society adversely. My first question is from Advocate Imran Baloch that what does ethnic discrimination mean?

Advocate Imran: There are different kinds of racial discrimination and it is like safeguarding the rights of a specific ethnic group/community and violating the rights of other. There are ethnics within an ethnic nationality and sub-castes of one group of religious people /community. Similarly we witness religious or political based discrimination in the society. Different tribes of the same community are dealt by different ways and some of them are considered superior and other inferior. Favoritism and nepotism in job allocation is also a kind of discrimination.

Mehreen: What are the impacts of racial discrimination on the youth of Balochistan? Can disparity and inequality among the people deter the way of development?

Advocate Imran: Discrimination of ethnicity has both positive and negative aspects. According to the political theory of famous historian and sociologist Ibn-e-Khaldun, when a nation perceives its norms and language superior than norms and languages of other nations, it makes progress and those nations who neglect their norms, culture and language, they cannot get development. So in that sense ethnic discrimination has a positive impact. But negative aspect is that it develops a sense of revenge and frustration among the neglected people that can be harmful for the national integrity and unity. The people of all provinces of Pakistan want development and prosperity, but it is rather deplorable that the centre keeps small provinces deprived of their rights and autonomies. In Balochistan people of various religions, sects and ethnics are living i.e. Baloch, Pakhtun, Punjabi, Hazara and Sindhi. Unfortunately, none of them are ready to accept each other and show

tolerance. There is no sense of national integration to work for the welfare and stability of this country.

Mehreen: You are right that national interests are sacrificed for personal interests. World is like a bouquet having different flowers; just like that we all humans of various faiths and beliefs are part of this bouquet (world). This diversity is the real beauty of the world and if we all were same then there would be no charm. But the formula of divide and rule can further disintegrate us. In case of Balochistan, the theory of Ibn-e-Khaldun that ethnic discrimination is imperative to get developed, is being proved destructive for the province. Mr. Abdullah Baloch what are the reasons behind the current mess and agitation in Balochistan?

Abdullah Baloch: in my opinion the curriculum being taught at educational institutions of Balochistan contains hate material against other faith people and ethnics. The curriculum is full of glorification of war, violence and propaganda against minorities. There is nothing in it that could lead us towards peace, harmony and development. We see old faces again and again in the Balochistan Assembly, who do not want to bring change in the region. These elected members do not fulfill their promises made with the people before the elections. As far as sectarian clashes and rift is concerned, I believe foreign elements are involved in deteriorating situation in the region. Saudi Arab and Iran are blamed for promoting sectarianism in this region and we have plagued by war and insecurity for so long. It is a war for natural resources in Balochistan. Gawadar port in Balochistan has a strategic importance and powerful counties of the world want to take over it. I can see no hope that peace will revive in the region for next twenty or thirty years, if foreign intervention is not curbed in the region. Balochistan is also suffering due to complex and poor relations between two neighboring countries Pakistan and India.

Mehreen: Mr. Abdul Qayyum Kathron, as a representative of youth, what is your view, what are the main reasons for chaos in Balochistan?

Abdul Qayyum: the society has divided and there is grouping and lobbying even in educational institutions of the province. Unless you are part of one of the group/lobby, you cannot survive. This situation is affecting the education of youth badly. Ethnic differences and favoritism in job market is causing of increase in crime ratio, poverty and destitution.

Mehreen: Great responsibility lies upon the shoulder of youth to steer the country out of existing situation by utilizing their capabilities in an appropriate manner. Unfortunately youth is the most vulnerable group in the country in general and Balochistan in particular. There is violence and conflicts that has put negative impacts on young minds. Advocate Imran, what steps should be taken for rehabilitation of the affected youth?

Advocate Imran: Youth has become psychologically dispersed owing to various reasons. Educational system has divided into many parts in the province i.e. Madrassa, public institutions and private institutions, producing different schools of thoughts that's why unity and harmony is unattainable. The children of elites are studying at standard private educational institutions with bright future while the children of poor are studying at state-run schools, and we know the condition of these schools is just pathetic. Class education system is resulting in poverty, unemployment and backwardness. There should be equal opportunities for children of all groups/communities. So first of all class-education system should be ended from the society, so as students could learn in a more broad and enlightened environment.

'Report: Racial discrimination and prejudice lead a society or nation towards destruction. Those countries cannot make progress and development, where equal opportunities of development are not available to the people. In Balochistan, political parties are limited to their ethnics and groups and they are just trying to raise the lifestyle of their own people. This political immaturity and ethnic based politics are creating a gap between various groups and communities. A young student of Balochistan, Mr. Saleemullah said in this regard as under:

Respondent 1: 'There is racial discrimination and prejudice in the region that is the biggest hurdle in building one nation. Educational institutions have almost paralyzed due racial disparity and inequality. Instead of going forward, we are moving back towards backwardness. It seems we are still living in a stone age. We all nationali-

ties and groups should promote tolerance, unity and brotherhood in the region like European countries, where the right of every person is safeguarded in a right way. Religious bigotry is also common among our people. For example religious scholars and leaders of various faiths are supposed to guide us in right direction; instead of this they are also involved in propagating each other negatively’.

Respondent 2: ‘Balochistan is the most backward province of Pakistan, because of poor education system. When you don’t have a uniformed education system, then problems are certain to be prevailed. In backward and far flung areas of the province, children are deprived of quality education and this is leading hatred among them against elite class, therefore unless equal opportunities are ensured to all citizens regardless of their faith, creed and sect, the dream of a peaceable Pakistan cannot come true’.

Reporter: It is high time for the authorities and political parties of Balochistan to think seriously about these issues and take some practical steps for elimination of racial discrimination. Ends...

Mehreen: When you declare a group/nationality incapable of doing something then reaction is sure to come. Mr. Abdullah, what practical steps need be taken to eliminate all kinds of discrimination from the society? How to end this status quo to ensure a peaceful and prosper Balochistan to the new generations?

Abdullah: It is put in the minds of the people that they will have to offer bribe if they want their work to be done. But as a citizen, it is my responsibility to avoid bribing an official, if we all citizens will not offer bribe, no one will demand this from us. 2013 Elections were conducted in a very tense situation in Balochistan and new government came into power, but student’s organizations have banned in the universities for last 25 to 30 years and they are not functional properly. For producing new leadership in the province, it was necessary to involve students in co-curriculum activities like group discussions and speeches. The result is that we have only Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch (Chief Minister Balochistan) from the university otherwise we have hardly any elected member who has any affiliation with student’s political organization. Interestingly in Punjab province, Punjabis are elected and in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pashtoon are given votes, but Balochistan assembly have representation of Baloch, Pakhtun, Punjabi, and Sindhi, who work for welfare of their own communities. There is no legislation for improving the performance and raising the capacity of institutions, in this regard our lawmakers don’t have any vision. Change is unimaginable in Balochistan unless the elected members work without looking at the interests of a specific group. School is a learning place for a child, but we can see that there are a total of 57000 schools in the province and almost 25000 teachers are said to remain absent from their schools, which is a dilemma. There is no system of check and accountability.

Mehreen: Government should be made accountable during its tenure and the people, the youth, media and different organizations should come forward to make the government accountable for its policies and actions.

Abdullah: It is also observed that new setup doesn’t tend to accomplish an ongoing project launched by the previous government. The government tries to launch new projects for corruption.

Report: Balochistan is a vast province having multi cultural society where people of different religions, sects, ethnics and cultures are living, but despite this the province couldn’t make development. Terrorism, religious bigotry and sectarianism have just poured oil on the fire. Regarding the impacts of ethnic discrimination on the development of Balochistan, a social and political activist, Mr. Gul Khan Durani said:

Respondent 1: ‘There are social and political reasons for racial disparity. This is a multi-cultural society and different nationalities like Balochi, Pashtoon, Hazara and Sindhi etc. are promoting nationalism in the province. They have developed their own ideologies that increased discrimination and prejudice in the society. If we will think as one nation, we can have sustainable peace and stability. Devoid of tolerance, social harmony and cohesion led to poor law and order situation in the region. These all communities are striving for protecting their own interests and no one will ask if the sentiments of a ethnic group are hurt or its rights are curtailed. In order to eliminate racial discrimination, individuals from all walks of life including intellectuals, writers, teachers, politicians and media should play their due role for promotion of unity and harmony. When all of the people

unite, we can build a cohesive and pluralistic society’.

Reporter: Balochistan can be put on the track to development and prosperity, when all the inhabitants are aware about their national obligations and responsibilities. There is no space for ethnic discrimination or human disparity in the religion Islam therefore our people should realize this that they will have to live with love and unity for better prospect of their future generations. Ends...

Mehreen: Mr. Abdul Qayyum Kathron, you know that youth of the province are facing multiple problems. How can their problems minimize? In your view what is the panacea to the elimination of ethnicity in Balochistan?

Abdul Qayyum: This will end gradually through quality education and awareness. Media should highlight this issue and sensitize the people on it. Political leaders, authorized persons and elected members should not limit themselves to a particular group or area rather they should think in greater interest of the whole nation. Besides improving the education system and solving the issue of teacher’s absentee, the government should exclude hate material against minorities from the curriculum and to inculcate positive things in it to promote peace, harmony and unity from school level.

Mehreen: Advocate Imran, how can a person contribute his/her part in eliminating ethnic discrimination? I found an opportunity to visit some backward areas of Balochistan and I met there with the mothers. I observed that despite having no education, some women were enough conscious and sensible. What should both educated and uneducated mothers do for prevention of discrimination?

Advocate Imran: A well known scholar said that “Give me an educated mother; I will give you an educated nation”. A mother should look after her child and try to transfer good values to her child. The youth should be instilled with the spirit of serving the nation regardless of religion, sect and community. If the constitution is followed in the true sense of words, we can eliminate racial discrimination from the country.

Abdullah Baloch: First of all discrimination should be ended from the homes, then we can end it from the society. My humble message to all people of this province is that they must educate their children and to keep close watch on their children’s activities.



## Episode: 67

### Topic: Law & Order situation in Balochistan

Guests: Zafar Durrani (Secretary Information National Party Quetta), Hashim Baloch (Youth Representative) and Kaleemullah (Youth Representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Dated: 06-01-2015

#### Program Summary

The duty of police is to eradicate crimes, control different problems of the society and provide security to the people rather to counter terrorism. There is not only sectarian violence and agitation for the last ten years, but the ratio of crimes like kidnapping for ransom and target killing has also been increasing day by day in Balochistan. Despite government's claim that political interference from police has ended, still the institution remains poorly equipped, politicized and corrupt. It is the responsibility of the government to enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to make criminals answerable for their doings. Political intervention in the department must be eliminated, so that the police officers can perform their duty efficiently. Balochistan in particular and Pakistan in general has great potential for the economic growth and investment, but the only problem is poor law and order situation that needs to be improved.

#### Transcription

Host: Mr. Zafar Durrani, your party (National Party) is in power in Balochistan and has setup the government. As a representative of the government, what is your outlook about current law and order situation in Balochistan?

Zafar Durrani: As compared to last few years, the law and order situation has improved to great extent in Balochistan, but it is still not an ideal situation. Lot of efforts need to be made in this regard.

Host: Mr. Hashim Baloch, as youth representative, what is your view about existing situation in the province? Do you think it has improved or further worsened?

Hashim Baloch: First of all I am thankful to CRSS for highlighting and debating on the burning issues of Balochistan. As far as the state of law is concerned, it started getting worse in 2004, when security forces attacked the fort of Nawab Akbar Bugti and then he along with his companions sought refuge in hilly areas and a state of insurgency was created. As compared to 2009 and 2010, situation has just improved, but still some areas are insecure and you cannot just go there. There business and routine life activities have almost paralyzed and state institutions including schools are not functioning. The second biggest problem is lack of quality education in the province.

Host: My second question is from Mr. Kaleemullah that is it only the responsibility of government to ensure peace rather people specifically youth should also play a role in upholding of peace?

Kaleemullah: I would say that youth are the real change agents. They have played a vital role in Pakistan movement and other freedom movements launched in the world. At present internal and external problems have troubled Pakistan, due to which there is lot of pressure on the youth that what to do in this nasty environment. Socio-economic and psychological problems have made the lives of people miserable. I mean to say due to unemployment, sectarian violence and unrest, our youth looks unable to play any role.

Report: Over the decade long insurgency and strife is causing social, political and economic instability of Balochistan. On the other hand target killing, kidnapping for ransom, violence and ethnic differences have made

the lives of the people miserable. Balochistan was famous for its exemplary peace before the emergence of terrorism in the province. About worse situation of law and order, a senior journalist from Balochistan, Mr. Saleem Shahid remarked:

Respondent: 'Non-stop conflicts and sectarian violence, has created worse law and order situation in the province. It seems the government has failed on all fronts. Nawab Akbar Bugti was killed in 2006 that forced some people to agitate against the government. Anti-state elements took benefit of this situation and they are carrying target killing. Since then the situation is getting worse with each passing day and the reasons are many for that. With the influx of Afghan nationals from Afghanistan, some criminal elements also entered Pakistan. Presently many unregistered Afghan Nationalists are living in Balochistan and some of them are said to be involved in crimes. Governance and hold of the government is completely missing from the region. During British colonial era, local administration consisting of magistrate and commissioner was actively running the administration, but the system was abolished and powers were transferred to Nazim and DC (Deputy Commissioner). I think commissionerate system should be revived in the region with slight modification and improvement, because local body system is a complex system and Nazim, Naib Nazim and Counselors, who are public representative, do not know how to run the governance system. Police should be trained and well-equipped. Similarly government should end political interference from the police department as well as to ensure implementation of laws. Merit should be observed throughout the departments of Balochistan thus posting and transferring on political basis should be stopped. All institutions and department should be authorized to perform their duty independently and vigorously'.

Reporter: In case violation of merit is stopped, Afghan nationals are restricted to their camps and government takes serious steps, then the issue of law and order can be resolved once and for all. Ends...

Host: Mr. Zafar Durrani why government couldn't establish its complete writ in the province?

Zafar Durrani: There are four basic reasons for that. First of all the political system is full of flaws and weaknesses. There is no culture to focus on training of political activists and workers that gives them an ideology. Political activists are supposed to be chosen leaders in future therefore they must be provided a platform for learning and grooming. We need visionary and sincere political leaders for this country. Secondly a proxy war is continued in Balochistan. Thirdly, external factors are involved to destabilize the province and occupy the natural resources of Balochistan.

Host: Sorry to interrupt you, is it not the duty of government to stop these elements, who are creating a state of insurgency?

Zafar Durrani: Three districts of Balochistan like Pangur, Turbat and Ghusdar are facing worse law and order situation. The conditions in other districts are normal.

Host: According to data provided by the current government, most of the sectarian conflicts and terror related incidents took place in the capital Quetta!

Zafar Durrani: I do not agree with you, because in the first six months of 2008, when the new government came into power, the incidents of target killing and sectarian clashes were on peak all over the province.

Hashim Baloch: Unrest forced around 80% people to migrate from Khuzdar territory, but with appointment of an honest and capable deputy commissioner and some police officers, we saw improvement in the area.

Kaleemullah: I think there are a large number of causes for political and economic instability including lack of leadership at national level. European countries of the world have a policy of promoting nationalism in third world country to disintegrate the nations. They do not want harmony and unity among our ranks. The antidote to this issue is to aware the people socially and politically, so as the sense of serving people on regionalism or disintegration that we are Balochi, we are Pathans etc. could be ended. Peace is unattainable unless there is

leadership crisis, nationalism, corruption, bribe, class education system and no utilization of resources. Youth has also become frustrated with this situation and unwilling to play its due role in present circumstances, because they also need an effective platform and resources.

Host: Mr. Zafar, how is it possible to change the mindset of people?

Zafar Durrani: As I was saying that unemployment is also a factor for conflicts in the region. Previous government of Balochistan claimed that it had created 5000 jobs in public sector, but there was nothing on ground. The present government of Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch (chief minister) has introduced NTS (National Testing Services) system to ensure appointments on merit and without passing this test, no one can be appointed in any government run department. It is like bringing transparency in appointments of employees.

Host: How many jobs can the government create alone for the youth of Balochistan? Whether there is any planning with the government to setup industries and factories as well as attract the investors? Mr. Kaleemullah should answer this question.

Zafar Durrani: I undertook a research on investment opportunities in Makran Division few years back, I found that most of the employees in both public and private sectors are incompetent, in a sense they are not specialized. So there is dire need of giving opportunities to highly qualified and skilled persons in all fields of life. Government cannot ensure jobs to all people, but on the other hand investors will not invest unless there is no stability and security.

Report: Peace is pre-requisite to development and prosperity. In Balochistan, the people of every district, village and Tehsil are concerned about unrest. Due to insecurity and uncertainty, a number of minorities, Baloch, and non-Baloch people have fled from the province. In this regard, a political leader Akram Baloch commented as under:

Respondent: 'Injustice and inequality is leading the province towards destruction. In presence of corruption and inequality, we cannot expect peace, because peace and tranquility can restore when people are served and treated regardless of their faith, racial and sect. They should tolerate and respect each other and should not exploit one another. All humans have been created equal; they all require equal rights and treatment. Youth is the future of this country; they should strive for social harmony and unity in the region. Peace is not being revived in the province, since people of various faiths and ethnics are not doing cooperation with each other. There is anarchy and it seems government has lost its writ. Therefore government should find the reason behind that. It is a universal truth that poverty and injustice lead to social crimes and those countries are with high ratio of crimes, where people are deprived of their rights and equal opportunities'.

Reporter: A young poet Mr. Khayam Sana shared his views with us as follows:

Respondent: 'During previous government, the state of law and order was worst in Balochistan, fortunately we can see a sign of improvement for the last two years. People including me were frightened and disappointed with this situation, but slowly routine life activities are being restored. It is an optimistic sign that the inhabitants are taking part in different kinds of activities and programs like literary gatherings and cultural programs. Women and children were vulnerable to this situation, but they also take part in such kinds of activities now. I think the situation is controlled in Balochistan'.

Reporter: For revival of peace in the region, there is need of concrete steps on part of the government as well as to educate and aware maximum number of people about peace. Ends...

Listener's question: My question is for Zafar Durani that whether NTS conducts transparent examinations? What would be the result, in case the members of NTS are themselves corrupt? NTS should be applied in all departments rather only in education department!

Zafar Durrani: I know some people have reservations over NTS. It is a newly introduced system; let it work to ensure merit in all state departments. Some people are propagating it negatively, which is not fair. Actually it is in progress and Chief Minister Balochistan is taking keen interest to develop this system. During Mathmi Jalos (procession) of Shia last year, the chief minister was himself sitting in control room to monitor the security arrangements. He monitored all security measures for consecutive six hours, so any untoward incident might not occur. It shows how much he is sincere to provide protection to the lives of people.

Host: Peshawar High Court has banned NTS in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and you said that some people are propagating against this system?

Zafar Durrani: Judiciary is respectable for us, but we have to ensure justice to the youth and it is only possible without observing merit. Education is a public dealing sector and it was ignored in past. Our government is giving special attention to this sector. Turbat and Panjgor are areas of chief minister, schools have been closed down there due to insecurity and fundamentalism. In some areas influential and powerful persons are misusing their powers while insurgents and militants are also creating problems and they are well-trained, we devoid adequate resources to deal with them. Till 2009, we had only 21 police stations in Quetta with 753 police personnel. Some of them have to be deployed for VIPs security. Both police and Levis forces are not well-trained to counter terrorism. Our government has increased Levis force as well as announced incentives for them to keep their moral high.

Hashim Baloch: Our concern is that NTS is an NGO, why government doesn't improve Public Service Commission (PCS), which is a permanent institution. Through PCS, people elect on administrative, executive and other official ranks. We do not have even chairman of PCS in Balochistan!

Host: Government claims that crime ratio or terror incidents have been controlled to some extent, but my question is that, are criminals and insurgents arrested by the government?

Hashim Baloch: There is growing issue of kidnapping for ransom in the province and even members of minorities are also being kidnapped. Recently ten persons were picked up from a passenger's coach by unknown armed persons. The incident occurred in Qilal Saifullah area. It is said crimes are taking part on the behest of police.

Zafar Durrani: government is trying to control kidnapping and other crimes. In past some elected members were said to be involved in backing and supporting criminal elements in the region. Quetta has population of 3 million, but government has no adequate resources and manpower. Around 1400 CCTV cameras are being installed throughout Quetta to improve the security of the city. The government has ended political interference from the police department and there will be no more transferring and posting on political basis. When the new government came into power, till six months no untoward incident occurred in the province, but after that a suicide attack took place.

Host: Who are behind these suicide attacks and bombings?

Zafar Durrani: Balochistan has turned into a playground for international forces and they are fighting a proxy war here. Actually they are interested in minerals and natural resources of the province.

Kaleemullah: The geographical location of Balochistan makes it vulnerable to war and conflicts. Balochistan provides a gateway for trade and transportation for central Asian countries and other countries of the world. We have different energy recourses that need to be utilized. Involvement in Balochistan is something that Pakistan and federal government should realize.

Host: How to curb foreign involvement in the region?

Hashim Baloch: First of all government will have to strengthen law enforcement agencies and other institu-

tions, improve intelligence coordination and establish rapid forces. Sectarian war and Baloch national issue are two main problems of Balochistan. Baloch National issue arose when Nawab Bhugti was killed. Nawab Bugti was asking for justice for its people, but he was attacked, since then there is agitation and agitating people are asking for their rights and justice.

Zafar Durrani: Since independence we see capitalists and feudalists have monopolized the country, thus in Balochistan too, people are deprived of their fundamental rights. For example Rako Diq is a dream project of Balochistan and the development and prosperity of the people is linked with it. We will not let anybody from the outside take control of Balochistan's minerals. Secondly It is not easy to change the mindset of the people within few days or months, rather it will take time. Education will be given priority and present government is the only government, thatsetup universities and two medical colleges in the province. For thispurpose, the classes of the students have already begun. Education would have to be spread to each and every corner of Balochistan.

Kaleemullah: Mahathir Mohamad (Former Malaysia Prime Minister) said that for change, education should be the first, second and third priority. We all humans should realize our status, given to us by Almighty Allah. We need to put our knowledge into practice that will solve our many problems. Government should bring corrupt elements of the country to the justice and take money back from them, which they earned through unfair means. One of the verses of Quran says, which means, that change begins within you.

Host: Are you satisfied from government performance and appointments made in police, and other departments?

Kaleemulah: Education and health are basic necessities of life and these are the main priorities of the Chief Minister. There are some obstacles that need to be addressed first. Civic issues can get solved when specialized and competent persons are given opportunity in the public sector.

Hashim Baloch: Only chief minister of Balochistan is not responsible for everything rather his cabinet members should also play their due role for improvement. A single person cannot bring change; we would have to play our role on individual basis.

Zafar Durrani: Practically we are promoting education in the region and people will bear its fruits in the coming days.

## Episode: 68

### Topic: Role of media, poet and writers in peace building

Guests: Fariq Riaz (Artist, Film maker), Salman Khan (Youth Representative) and Salim Shahid (Bureau Chief Dawn News, Balochistan)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 12-01-2015

#### Program Summary

Media is said to be the fourth pillar of state, because it is a source of disseminating information. In Pakistan some industrialists and businessmen have launched TV channels for commercial purposes rather to accomplish the mission of serving and informing the people. If we have a look at today's print media, it has undergone maturation. Electronic media, which introduced later, is still going through a transition period and it will take time to be matured. Journalism is a sacred profession and it can bring drastic (positive) change in the lives of the people. Similarly intellectuals, poets and artists can also contribute positively in upholding of peace and tranquility. Before insurgency in Balochistan, poets used to narrate the poems of spring, love and happiness, but now unrest and terrorism reflect in their poems. Poetry and literary gatherings are indispensable for flourishing literature and it is a major way to preserve and promote our culture. Media must promote literary events so as to keep the magnificent heritage and rich literature alive as well as it is required to be more concentrated on basic issues of Balochistan such as poverty, unemployment, injustice and extremism.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: Mr. Salim Shahid, what is the importance of literary figures/personalities i.e. poet, writer and artist for the society?

Shahid: Actually poet, author and artist are also part of the society, who reflect the society through their writing and art. They are said to be cream of the society and can lead a society either towards betterment or destruction. There is war and trouble in the region and it is being reflected from our present literature as well. For instance during 1940 and 1950s, most of the western movies were based on wars, because it was an era of wars and the world had divided in communist and capitalist bloc. So the literature developed at that time, was also inclined towards wars, conflicts and promoting capitalist and communist ideologies, since poets and writers were greatly influenced from that situation. In current scenario of Pakistan, media is playing a pivotal role in bringing change in the society and people look very much inspired by it. Responsibility lies on film and drama producers to depict the content that may lead the society towards betterment.

Mehreen: Mr. Fariq, are our artists and young poets doing their part in maintenance of peace and stability?

Fariq Riaz: If we talk about Balochistan, there is no platform for artists. They are not given the respect they deserve. Film and drama play a significant role to bring about drastic change in the society. I made a short film titled 'Choto' and this achieved fifth position in an international festival. The film was about success of a child labor. I don't believe in negative movies, which is destructive for the society. We need movies like 'PK', an Indian movie, which gave the message of humanity.

Mehreen: Islam is a religion of peace, truth and love and stresses on humanity. All religions are based on some truth and should be given equal respect. Mr. Salman in past there were few artists (actors and actresses), but they had name, fame and popularity among the people. Old movies and dramas had great influence on the

society. Currently there is an influx of new artists while quality is also not being preferred.

Salman: In past authors, writers and artists gave preference to creativity and quality. Old is gold, still we watch old and family oriented movies, which have a lesson. With the arrival of private TV channels, the number of artists i.e. actors, actresses and singers has also been increased enormously. In Balochistan we have intellectuals, talented writers, poets and artists, but the problem is that they are not supported. Private TV channels are also ignoring small provinces and their focus is just on Sindh and Punjab for raising their rating, on the basis of which they receive advertisements. So the media is also oriented towards profit. Media is the trend setter and whatever our youth watch on TV, they try to copy them. Instead of defending the interests of a specific nationality/community, media should promote peace, brotherhood and unity. Like media, theatre also is also an effective tool for building peace. Deprivation and absence of equal opportunities, can indulge the youth in unlawful activities.

Mehreen: No doubt youth is the change agent, but in current scenarios there is lot of pressure on youth like pressure of unemployment, owing to which they are unable to do their part appropriately. Mr. Saleem, activities related to culture and literature are next to nil in Balochistan, what are the reasons?

Saleem: Our people lack interest in such kinds of activities. In past Jinnah road was famous for cultural and literary activities and people used to participate in them. They had a platform to discuss topics related to culture and literature. So there was an interaction between artists and common people. Jinnah road has now converted into commercial market. The aspect of commercialism is dominant in all fields of life including film and drama industry.

Journalism is no more missionary in Pakistan and we can see these media organizations have become money minting institutions. Some TV channels and newspapers are opened just for blackmailing and achieving personal goals that have stained journalism in the country. Ethics of journalism is not being followed. Quetta was lively in terms of cultural and literary activities. We had great singers and poets like Momin Khan Momin in this city, but militancy and extremism affected our artists.

The government of Balochistan claims that education is its first priority, but one and half year elapse with the government, we see no improvement. There is dearth of sport grounds forcing children and youngsters to play on roads and in streets. This is also spoiling the talent of the youth.

Report: Terrorism is the biggest issue of the world in general and Pakistan in particular. Prolonged war on terror has affected all aspects of life including education. At present neither mosques nor educational institutions are secured. What is the panacea to this problem and what role intellectuals and artists can play in this regard, a young columnist, Mr. Amanullah said.

Respondent: 'Terrorism has badly destroyed the peace of the country and it is government's first priority to root out this menace, but I say first the root causes of this issue should be identified and then solve them. The problem of law and order can be minimized through many ways. Journalist, artist and poet are the most sensitive and aware segment of the society and they can create awareness among the people regarding this issue. A poet can instill the youth with the spirit of patriotism through inspiring and motivating poetry. The role of a teacher can also not be underestimated in this regard. They should present themselves as a role model before the children and educate them on peace, tolerance and unity. Our children are exposed to violence and negative activities at home and society level, that's why they are growing up with negative attitudes. Islam does not allow us to torture kids, because this can be destructive for them. Media should show maturity and avoid reports and stories that can promote rift among different sects/communities. We should spend life in the light of Islamic teachings and doctrine. It is deplorable that Islam is misinterpreted by some so-called religious clerics resulting in violence, extremism and sectarian differences. We should present true spirit of Islam to the people so a positive message could be imparted to the world. By following Islamic teachings, we can get rid of terrorism and other issues'.

Reporter: About role of media and literature in peace building, a student Mr. Muhammad Wafa Lashari commented:

Respondent: 'Terrorism has spread throughout the country therefore both electronic and print media should play its role in mitigating unrest and trouble. Media should highlight positive things and avoid showing blood and violence that can put negative impacts on the minds of people. Poets should narrate the poems of peace and serenity to sensitize the people'.

Reporter: For building a progressive and democratic society, it is necessary that all people are respected and treated equally. Ends...

Mehreen: Mr. Saleem is there no check on print and electronic media? Violence, blood and terror related events are enormously shown that can lead psychological disorders among the people.

Saleem: Laws exist for regulating and controlling things, but these are not being implemented. Rulers and law enforcement agencies fail to implement them, due to which people violate state's regulations again and again. The prime responsibility of lawmakers or elected members is to make effective laws for the country and work for rule of law, but we see they take interest in taking funds from the government to initiate small uplift schemes in their constituencies. If ruling party doesn't implement a law, then lawmakers should force it for its implementation. Other countries of the world are moving ahead, but Pakistan is going back in terms of development. The example of China is before us, they have stitched the crowd into one nation and reformed the system without damaging the basic ideology of socialism. Thereby we should also bring reforms in the system and society.

Fariq Riaz: Self-accountability and assessment is the best way to stop crossing your limits. Accountability is a principle of Journalism and as a journalist; I should hold responsible myself that whether I have done justice with the profession and performing my duty devotedly? Not only journalist, but every individual of the society should encourage self-accountability in him/her, which is imperative for change.

Report: Pakistan is in grip of terrorism and trouble for last many years leaving thousands of civilians and personnel of law enforcers dead. Under the given situation, law enforcers also feel themselves insecure. Program Manager Pakistan Television Corporation Quetta and columnist, Mr. Abdul Qayyum Baidar said that media and literary figures can play a vital role in maintenance of peace and stability.

Respondent: 'Our poets, writers and artists are against terrorism from the very beginning. History is evident that poet and writer are the messengers of peace and love, in current situations too, they are contributing a positive part in promoting aforesaid things. If peace is there, life is there. In absence of peace and presence of fear, there will be no development and prosperity. Some elements are playing havoc with the lives of the people and they are mitigating peace in the country. It is very necessary to tackle these elements with an iron hand. Writers and authors have raised voice against cruelty and injustice in every era and always stressed on peace and unity. They are peace loving creatures and can play an instrumental role in upholding of peace. As a nation, we should stand united against insurgents and work for development of the country to ensure a bright, liberal and prosper Pakistan to our future generations. There is no religion in the world that induces people towards violence and trouble. No one visits a place where there is insecurity and uncertainty, that's why foreign investors hesitate to invest in the country'.

Reporter: It is high time that the nation should become one force to rid Pakistan from the scourge of terrorism. Ends...

Mehreen: Mr. Saleem Shahid, what steps need to be taken to eliminate terrorism?

Saleem Shahid: first of all the reasons of terrorism should be identified. Institutions should be made active and functional. Police should be utilized to eradicate crimes rather to use it for political purposes and just to



protect the lives of its officials and VIPs. Unless institutions are strengthened and their roles are cleared, we cannot get rid of existing problems. An honest and devoted leadership can steer the country out of existing crises. Our political leaders should shun their differences and work for prosperity and survival of the country. They have to put the youth on right direction by inspiring them through their good deeds and attitudes. Youth must have standard education and facilities. There are fifty thousand teachers in Balochistan and they may not be able to produce even 50 competent students who become able to take part in competitive exams and come up at national level.

Salman: Education is the base; therefore curriculum must be uniformed throughout the country. Government should build schools in those areas, where it is needed and to ensure quality education to all children.

Fariq Riaz: Government should create opportunities for the people and artists, sorry to say there is only one media institution, PTV in Balochistan and its producers have hold on it, preferring only their own relatives in jobs.

## Episode: 69

### Topic: Tribal politics in Balochistan

Guests: Ashfaq Ahmad Mengal (Youth Representative), Abdul Qayyum Lahri (Expert and General Secretary Balochistan Bar Association) and Abdullah Noor (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Ahmad Shahzad

Dated: 13-01-2015

#### Program Summary

Balochistan has a strong tribal society where communities/people of diverse cultures and faiths are living here. Many factors including involvement of international forces, bad governance, internal corruption and tribal politics etc. are said to be responsible for backwardness and nourishment of unrest in the province. There are numerous tribes in the province and almost every tribe has its own Nawab or Sardar, who is a powerful person of the society. These Nawabs and Sardars are even part of the government and assembly, who would never want to bring change in the lives of their people by giving them education and development. Without permission of these influential persons, no development project can be started unless they are given their share. According to media sources every elected member (MPA) receives 450 million rupees annually for development, but yet there is no sign of development and improvement in any sector. They do not want education for their people, since it can be a threat to their monopoly. The people of Balochistan need to wake up and bring fresh faces to the assembly through voting, who may serve them regardless of any ethnic, sect and nationality and end their long-lasting deprivations.

#### Transcription

Report: Balochistan is a tribal province where tribal politics is promoted and encouraged. The members of the provincial cabinet and provincial assembly also belong to different tribes/communities and without affiliation with a tribe, a common person find difficulty to enter the politics in Balochistan. Tribalism is putting negative impacts on the development of the province. In this regard a young political worker, Attaullah Khan remarked:

Respondent: 'tribal politics has drastic (negative) impacts on the development of the province. If a nationality or group of people want to be privileged, then it must have its representatives in the cabinet and assembly. All development projects are carried out on the basis of tribalism. A candidate wins elections from his constituency because of tribal politics and then he will have to safeguard the rights of the concerned tribes/people. Some communities are in large number and they try to elect their Malik (community chief) or political leader, so as their interests could be safeguarded. The result of this type of politics is that corrupt elements come to the cabinet and government resulting in injustice, deprivation and poor governance system. We can say the politics of tribalism is an obstacle in development of the province. Most of the elected members become uneducated, who believe in nationalism and serving their own people rather to think for welfare of the whole society. They are working for the benefit of their own people. We should educate the people on politics that use of vote is a sacred obligation and they must vote those candidates, who think about whole nation. Time has come that we must decide now that whether we need tribalism or to emerge as one nation. The youth can play an instrumental role in this regard'.

Reporter: Besides educating the youth of Balochistan, they must be provided a political platform through which they could be able to take part in political activities and develop leadership qualities in them. Ends...

Ahmad Shahzad: Mr. Abdul Qayyum, what is tribal politics?

Abdul Qayyum: There is a difference in tribal politics and tribalism. The system of living together in tribes is coming since a long time and there are various tribes having their own Malik/chief, living in the region. Tribalism is harmful as well as beneficial in some cases. It is beneficial, in a sense all feuds and disputes are settled down by tribal chiefs within a day or days to stop bloodshed and protect the lives. But sometimes these Maliks/chiefs misuse their powers and can favor a party. Introducing tribalism in politics is harmful for the national interest. Maliks, Sardars, Nawabs and Khans are influential people of Balochistan society and they have hold on the politics though it is the basic principle of democracy that the government is for the people, of the people and by the people. We need true representatives, who may solve the problems of commons by legislation. In educated societies, powers are transferred from top to bottom and candidates are elected on the basis of their broad vision and services. For the first time, we have chief minister (Dr. Malik) for Balochistan, who has no tribal background. Dr. Malik is an educated person, but yet most of the elected members in Balochistan Assembly are Nawabs and Sardars and people elect them, because they belong from their tribes. They serve the people or not, but yet people will vote them, on the basis of tribalism, which is harmful for integration in the province.

Ahmad Shahzad: Mr. Abdullah Noor, do you agree that tribalism based politics is detrimental for the society? Malik and Sardar cannot understand the basic problems of poor and downtrodden people, because they might not face these problems in their life.

Abdullah: Balochistan is a multiple society where people from various faiths, ethnics and sects are living. Every community/nationality has its own culture and way of thinking. If we study the Balochistan belt, you will know that twenty or thirty years back, we have the same system, but there was exemplary peace but then a question arises here that why there is absence of peace and tranquility nowadays? In my opinion we are far away from the teachings of Islam. Secondly national interests are sacrificed for personal interests by our politicians and rulers. Politics is dominated by Malik (chief of community) and Sardar, who have powers and resources. Nationalism and disunity is the cause of clashes in Pashtoon and Baloch belts while on the other hand corruption and bribe culture is also on its peak. Atleast our Malik/Sardar should realize that it is his responsibility to serve the people without looking at worldly interests. They will be answerable for that on the Day of Judgment. Our elected members need to utilize the funds through proper planning. It is said that a MPA (member of provincial assembly) receives Rs.450 million annually to disburse it on development projects, but there is no accountability that where he has spent this money.

Ahmad Shahzad: Mr. Ashfaq tribal politics is also fruitful in case a tribal leader works for welfare of his community? In my opinion there is dire need to increase coordination and interaction between elected members and common people to reduce the gap between them.

Ashfaq Mengal: Actually the whole system has collapsed in Balochistan. Malik or Sardar have their own mindset and it is hard to change that mindset. The youth is the only hope to get Balochistan rid of tribalism and nationalism and to promote harmony and unity among the people.

Listener message: 'Tribal politics has given irreparable loss to democracy and without permission of Sardar and Malik; no uplift scheme can be launched in their concerned area. People don't have freedom of expression'.

Report: Tribal system has an importance in Balochistan, but the politics has also been dominated by community's Maliks and influential persons, who are responsible for no development and progress in the region. In this regard Malik Kamran Qazi said as follows:

Respondent: 'Tribal politics fail to solve the problems of the people. Sardar and Nawab are looting the citizens with both hands, we want to get rid of this kind of politics and that powers should be transferred from top to bottom. If a MPA will disburse development funds in a right way, our majority of problems can be solved. Politics is monopolized by this powerful segment and people from middle or lower class are given no space to come up forward. A political activist can never become a leader in Balochistan. Unless elections are held fair and transparent, we cannot see any change. Educated and knowledgeable individuals should come forward

and they should be given a chance. All departments and institutions including police are politicized. There is no protection to the lives of people and they are left on the mercy of insurgents and criminals’.

Reporter: Another resident of Balochistan, Mr. Syed Agha Hidayatullah remarked:

Respondent: ‘People are suffering due to oppressive system of tribalism. The rich get richer and the poor becomes poorer. It is rather a dilemma that labor and poor class cannot afford two times bread for their children. If someone raises voice against this, their voice is curtailed or he is killed. There is no sign of development and uplift scheme launches on the will of Nawabs. Some people have turned weapons against their state and institutions, because of injustice and deprivation of their rights’. Ends...

Listener’s message: ‘Our ancestors have given us tribal norms and a system, through which we can solve our problems, but sadly to say our Sardars are utilizing these norms for their vested interests. They do not give education to their nation, because education creates awareness that brings development’.

Ahmad Shahzad: It is not possible that a Malik or Nawab would not be aware about the basic problems of his people. They think their monopoly can come to an end, in case people get educated. But they have expertise in tribal affairs; hence they play an important role in solving community’s problems. Mr. Abdul Qayyum, how is it possible to bring change in the system?

Abdul Qayyum: After independence, Nawabs used to run the system in Bahawalpur area of Pakistan. They were well-aware and they established colleges, hospitals, libraries and parks for the residences of Bahawal Pur, which is amazing. Still you can see those libraries and educational institutions, they built. Children were educated free in specific schools of Bahawalpur. Contrary to this, none of the Nawab or Sardar established any library or college in this backward province (Balochistan). Development and building of schools and hospitals are the responsibility of government, but it fails to do so. If half of the development funds, which are provided to an elected member, are spent for development purpose, we could see a big change in the region.

Ahmad Shahzad: For the last ten or eight years, there is an invasion of TV channels. Media is a source of disseminating information and it is highlighting every issue and events taking place around us. We came to know through media that for the first time in the history of Balochistan, governments and elected members are receiving huge development funds. This is the money of the people and must be disbursed on them. Poverty ratio is really high in the province. Both education and health sectors have almost been destroyed while just looking at the broken roads of the capital Quetta. Do you think accountability system needs to be introduced?

Abdul Qayyum: In terms of development, the example of Lahore is before us. There a flyover builds within 62 days, this shows the government’s commitment to raise the living standard of the people. In Quetta an under construction flyover couldn’t be constructed even in four years! Due to extremism, injustice and inequality, frustration is fast spreading among the people and they are looking for alternate ways for solution to their problems. People elect these representatives therefore they must be accountable to public. Unless we all have sense of responsibility to fulfill our duty, we cannot get rid of existing situations.

Abdullah Noor: In Balochistan no sector of life has seen any improvement for the last several years. The education system is incapable to produce a productive citizen thereby first of all the curriculum being taught at school level, must be reshaped and modified to meet the existing needs. Education is a slow moving, but a powerful force to bring about change in the tribal system of Balochistan. The voters should present their demands before a candidate in written to bound him that he will have to fulfill these demands after getting into power, otherwise he is not going to receive a single vote. The main problem is lack of awareness among the people that how to hold an elected member responsible for his incapability to address the problems of the public. People don’t have access to their representatives, what kind of democracy is it! Poor and ineffective justice system has just poured oil on the fire. In my opinion injustice and inequality is the root cause for mess and trouble in the country. Our Sardars and Maliks solve our disputes and conflicts through Jirga, but they also demand for money from rival parties. I believe if they cannot solve our civic problems, then as a citizen, we

should ourselves visit an elected member or the concern authority for solution. The four caliphs of Islam and companions of Prophet (PBUH) had sense of responsibility; they had devoted their whole lives to serve the humanity. We should learn a lesson from them.

Ahmad Shahzad: Our rulers and authorities know that people are facing many challenges and problems, but they are considering their positions as a source of enjoyment, relaxation and nothing else. Mr. Ashfaq, how can they be made accountable to the public?

Ashfaq Ahmad: A strong check and balance system is imperative for smooth running of democracy. People should decide that what they want for their future generations. Whether they want to retain the old system of tribalism or to encourage a new system in Balochistan? Their right to exercise the vote can bring a real change in the country. If we cannot differentiate between good and bad, then atleast we should seek support of educated and qualified persons before using this right. This will not atleast spoil our vote.

Ahmad Shahzad: We can conclude that tribal system cannot be abolished altogether, but atleast it can be improved and modified, so as to meet the existing needs and requirements. Thank you very much, all of you for being with us.

## Episode: 70

### Topic: The rights of women

Guests: Ms. Sahiba Baloch (Headmistress and President Alit Teachers Association Female Wing), Ms. Mahzeb (Youth Representative) and Ms. Pinha (Youth Representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 19-01-2015

### Program Summary

Woman is an important component of any society and our society greatly depends on women in terms of development and prosperity. They are not only playing a vital role in domestic life, but they have a great contribution in economic growth and prosperity of the nation. But despite their importance, women in Pakistan in general and Balochistan in particular are facing numerous problems including domestic violence, restrictions and gender disparity in all spheres of life. In the tribal society of Balochistan, women are kept deprived of their fundamental rights i.e. right of education, right to get inheritance etc. granted to them by religion Islam. In the province, many educated women want to make their professional carriers, but due to tribal norms and traditions, they are not allowed for that. Skilled women both in urban and rural areas face obstacles like lack of professional and social networks and access to the market. As a result, they are confined to low or unskilled professions, spoiling their talent and capabilities. We should not forget the fact that west has made substantial development because they empowered women. Unless women become part of economics, the dream of having developed and prosperous Pakistan will never come true.

### Transcription

Mehreen: The development and prosperity of a society can be judged by how women's rights are protected there. If the rights of women are not protected in a society, you cannot call it a civilized one. Pakistani women are contributing their part in growth of the economy magnificently, but yet it is not being acknowledged. Before starting a formal discussion, we will first listen to a report.

Report: In the tribal society of Balochistan, not only a large number of women are unaware about their fundamental rights, but their rights are also not being protected. A social worker hailing from Balochistan, Mrs. Noshin Kakar pointed out the basic reasons for keeping women deprived of their rights as under:

Respondent: 'In this print and electronic media, every man and woman is aware about his/her right. But both male and female are denied of their rights in the province. Islam says education is mandatory upon both man and woman, since it creates awareness among the people about their rights and duties. In case women are given a meaningful education, they will come to know that only performing household chores is not her duty rather she can work in fields as well if needed. I am working because of poverty. Government and non-governmental organizations should hold awareness sessions for males to educate them on female's rights. This will help safeguard the rights of women. In the nasty situation of Balochistan, women do not step out of their house, because of fear and conservative norms. In case she goes against these norms, she may face dire consequences for that. Women are restricted in their homes or killed in the name of honor killing. There are some customs in Baloch and Pashtoon culture, under which a woman is given in marriage without knowing her consent. Sometimes she is forced to marry with a much older person than her. This is brutality'.

Reporter: A young female student, Shabina Baloch also gave her comments on this topic:

Respondent: 'Balochistan has strong tribal society, where women are given due respect and homage. It is against the norm of Baloch society, to harass or manhandle a woman and there is harsh punishment for that. However the problem is that their other rights are violated like right to inheritance/property, right to education and right to participate in politics. Similarly, early marriage is a cruel custom that must be abolished. Their rights relating to marriage are particularly violated. In many areas, universities and colleges are not available, thus women don't have access to higher education'. Ends...

Mehreen: My first question will be from Ms. Sahiba Baloch that whether women's rights are preserved in tribal societies of Balochistan?

Ms. Sahiba: Actually women living in tribal society of Balochistan are even not aware about their fundamental rights. Earlier in the report we listened that a working lady said she is working, because it is her need. I think it is not her need rather it is her right to work in the field if she wants. Both Islam and constitution of Pakistan has guaranteed rights of women while Islam believes in equal rights of both genders. In other words there is no gender disparity in Islam. The apathy is that even a mother gets disappointed when she gives birth to a girl-while the birth of a boy is more celebrated. So we can say gender disparity starts from our homes. Our people forget that a woman is also human, who is created by Allah Almighty. As compare to developed societies of the world, the state of women is worst in Balochistan where they are denied from all kinds of rights. I believe there is only physical difference between man and woman, otherwise from mental and capability wise, she is equal to a man. In Balochistan different tribes and communities inhabit together. Woman is considered as a sacrificial goat, in a sense, she is utilized to end old feuds and disputes between the rivals, ignoring this fact that whether she will be happy with this decision or not. So still customs against women are being exercised, which is viciousness with them. Sometimes women's marriages are not arranged, because their men relatives will have to give her property and valuables. As teacher I have worked in Dera Bugti, Kohlo and Sibi districts of Balochistan. I have observed in these areas that most of the women are spending a miserable life.

Mehreen: Ms. Mahzeb, as youth representative, what is your opinion in the context of Balochistan whether women right to freedom of expression, right to education and right to dignity is preserved? Are women consulted before their marriage?

Ms. Mahzeb: Many girls are not allowed to choose a career of their own interest. There is a saying in our society that women have less common sense than men or women make decision by their heart not from their mind. Therefore they are not involved in decision making process. I think our women lack social interaction, owing to which they become unable to understand some sensitive social issues.

Ms. Sahiba: Can you believe some mothers discriminate between their children! They offer good food to their male child. A female child is neglected in terms of quality food and education.

Mehreen: What is the reason behind this discrimination? Why a mother does this so?

Ms. Sahiba: Lack of education and awareness is the basic cause for that. If we serve and treat our children equally, none of them will consider themselves superior or inferior. It is put into the minds of girls from the beginning that they become sensitive and vulnerable and they cannot do any hard job. In this way she feels herself weak forever. A woman should be able to defend herself and fight for her right. In our society, when a girl grows up to be an adult, her education is stopped. It is her right to gain further education and to be an active and productive citizen of the society. It is wrong to restrict her to home for only performing domestic chores and nothing else. Working ladies cannot only manage their home's affairs effectively, but they can do professional jobs in a better manner.

Mehreen: Ms. Pinha it is observed that in our orthodox society, if a girl wants to be a social worker or artist or painter, she is not allowed to do that. She is forced for a particular profession like teaching and medical. What was the case with you?

Ms. Pinha: Not only in backward areas, rather in cities and developed areas too, it is seen that women are not allowed to choose a subject on their own will or adopt a profession. Parents should concentrate on education and character building of children. They should be confident about their kids that they will choose a better career for them. At school level, there is no counseling of students, to help them choose a career, which is suitable for them. I was fortunate that my father supported me a lot.

Ms. Sahiba: Many girls, who wished to be a doctor or engineer, are now serving as teacher and they are not happy with it. I think teaching is a sacred profession and the ground is open for all to adopt this profession. At the same time, it is a very tough and sensitive profession and everybody cannot do justice with it. We not only need highly qualified teacher, but they should be skilled having good conduct, which is important for grooming a child. Children at nursery level need special attention and love of teachers. But we see from the first day of school, children are pressurized by teachers, which destroy their confidence. Many people don't know the actual meaning of term 'gender', they think it is mere a difference of sex, but in broad sense, it means what rights you are giving to both males and females.

Mehreen: Ms. Mahzeb, is women right to politics guaranteed in the society?

Ms. Mahzeb: First of all they are restricted to their homes in the name of tradition. A Sardar or Nawab (influential persons) doesn't allow that a woman of his tribe or sect should work in field. If she raises voice against it, then she is threatened. It is unimaginable for a woman to take part in politics in tribal society of Balochistan.

Ms. Sahiba: I also faced problems in forming Alit Teachers Association Female Wing. We assured males that it is pure for solving the problems of female teachers. So in this male dominating society, females are facing many problems in all fields of life.

Ms. Mahzeb: Women are deliberately kept deprived of education, because men think, through education, women will get awareness and if women are empowered, they will become superior and will not go on their direction. So our men want to keep women dependent on them. It is surprising that men want that their females be treated by a female doctor, but they do not allow their women for education! How can we produce female doctors, if they are not allowed for education?

Report: Woman is an important component of any society, who can play a significant role in development and prosperity of a society. Their role as a teacher, as doctor and as politician etc. cannot be overlooked. They can move a society from backwardness and poverty to development and self-sufficiency through their contribution, only if they are given appropriate opportunities. Regarding violence against women, a social worker Naila Khan said as under:

Respondent: 'I belong to Balochistan. In the past there was too much violence against women, but with the span of time, when the world made progress and people came to know about female's rights, now violence against women is being reduced. A research revealed that domestic violence against women is high in Turbat, Punjab and Bashin of Balochistan province of Pakistan. Similarly they face Karo-kari (Honor killing), exchange marriage and early marriage customs. On the decision of Jirga, a woman is sometime sacrificed to end feuds between rival groups. Domestic violence is the most common violence against females, practiced at home level. Media and social media are playing an important role in discouraging all forms of violence against females. Some districts are being developed in Balochistan resulting decrease in domestic violence, but people don't have access to radio and TV in some uncivilized areas of the province, where still women are tortured and harassed. NGOs or social sector can play a vital role in empowerment of women. They have launched different projects of women's mobilization. There are laws for preserving rights of women, but government and law enforcement agencies couldn't implement them. Social workers don't have access to many areas while the police can access everywhere. Police should be motivated in these areas to curb violence against women'.

Report: It is high time that women should come forward and speak for their rights while government should also ensure implementation of Women's Right Bill, to safeguard their rights. Ends...



Mehreen: Our women are treated like they don't have any feeling.

Ms. Sahiba: A woman also has emotions and feelings and going against her will, can hurt her sentiments. Siah-kari and Karo-Kari (honor killing) are some shameful and inhuman practices in Balochistan society. If a female walks with a strange male, she is instantly stained and sometime she is killed in the name of honor killing. I would appeal to the government to take practical steps for prevention of such kinds of practices. We see girls less than 16 years getting married, which is cruelty to them. Parents are responsible for destroying the lives of such women. Mother prefer son over daughter on the pretext that her male child will earn for her in the future, while a daughter cannot do a job? After recommendations, women are given some reserved seats in assembly but here too women lawmakers face difficulties on part of their male counterparts.

Mehreen: Ms. Pinha domestic violence against women is the most common type of violence in our society. They face violence on minor issues. If a wife is better than her husband in terms of education, attitude and communication, so it is also a problem for him. They become in inferiority complex. One of my friend was beaten by her husband, just because she won a game from her husband. Ms. Pinha is it a psychological problem?

Ms. Pinha: You are right that the mindset of man needs to be changed. It is put in their minds that they are superior then women from the beginning. Even our some so-called political leaders particularly in Balochistan, who consider themselves the champions of women's rights, they use to torture their women at home.

Mehreen: My question is, where the problem lies? Why some men treat women so harshly and sometimes brutally?

Ms. Sahiba: Men cannot always be blamed for that rather some women also become problematic. We have seen some women have destroyed their lives by themselves due to their wrong attitude and negative thinking. A husband maybe unable to fulfill all demands of his wife due to some reasons. At that time women should show tolerance and should not force him. She should know her limitations. There are some influential people in our society, who prevent women from education, though their own women will be studying at foreign universities. Government has the responsibility to protect the rights of people and ensure merit in all state departments and educational institutions.

Mehreen: There is tremendous talent in Balochistan and women can contribute towards the growth of economy. They can work in offices, industries and commercial units. They are already engaged in small scale income generating jobs at homes like sewing, handcrafting and stitching etc. but it is a reality that women are not ensured equal economic rights.

Ms. Pinha: Government should not only ensure working opportunities to them, but to provide protection to them against Sardar and Nawab, who do not allow them to work in the respective fields.

Ms. Mahzeb: Financial support can encourage many women to join practical fields. A woman should be clear about what she wants to do and then to start any enterprise. Government should provide them a platform to engage them in social activities that will build their confidence. Many women are engaged in entrepreneurship in the Quetta society. Small industries like embroidery, tailoring and carpet manufacturing etc. are running with great contribution of women. Unless they will have knowledge and skill, they cannot become successful in business.

Mehreen: In villages and remote sites, women don't have access to internet and technology. Government should ensure opportunities for women to exploit their skills and talent.

Ms. Sahiba: Government should open special institutions in backward areas of Balochistan to give awareness to people about their rights. Media should be engaged in awareness campaign so as to reach the voice of experts and intellectuals to each and every corner of tribal society.

## **Episode: 71**

### **Topic: Drought and decreasing level of water in Balochistan**

Guests: Abdul Razaq Khelji (Program Specialist, Deputy Director Irrigation Department Balochistan, Chairman Balochistan Geo Scientist Association), Atif Baloch (Youth Representative) and Zafar Zeeshan (Youth Representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 20-01-2015

#### **Program Summary**

Pakistan has been affected from various kinds of natural and man-made disasters for the last couple of years. Due to lack of capacity to handle and respond adequately to the disasters the communities are living in great vulnerabilities. It has been observed that the people of Balochistan are experiencing drought, a natural disaster due to which the water level has considerably declined and people are facing water deficiency for their lands, domestic use and drinking purposes. So it is about time that national and provincial authorities should take practical steps to strengthen community based disaster risk management (CBDRM) because due to lack of funds and resources it will be difficult to access all vulnerable areas by the authorities in Balochistan. This would make the indigenous communities able to handle and respond appropriately to this emergency situation like drought and other disasters. It will be beneficial for them in the long run. Besides this, the people are also demanding that government should ensure provision of groundwater recharging and water replenishing facilities in piedmont areas of the province to counter the prolonged drought.

#### **Transcription**

Liaqat: Mr. Abdul Razaq the water level has dropped in Balochistan to an alarming level. What would you say about this?

Abdul Razaq: There is drought for the last many years in Balochistan that is the basic reason for falling water level in the region. Underground water is the only source of water for irrigation of crops and orchards. We have had no rain for the last 15 years, but unfortunately no precautionary measures were taken to deal with this prolonged drought. More and more tube wells were dug, to meet the need of water for cultivation and domestic use and when electricity was provided in many areas of Balochistan. Although the tube-wells brought many arid areas under plough, it has affected the groundwater levels resulting in declination of water table to a dangerous situation.

Field Report: Major portion of Balochistan, which is the largest province of Pakistan, consists of arid lands and hilly areas while on the other hand 900km long seashore in the south, increases its beauty and importance. But unfortunately despite having seaport in South, this could never benefit the province. According to experts water reservoirs are being reduced due to drought, no rains and no precautionary steps on part of the government resulting in dropping water level in Quetta upto over 2000 feet. On one hand sectarian violence and terrorism has troubled the inhabitants of this backward province, while on the other hand the agriculture and economy of the province is also not stable either. Chief of Irrigation Engineering, Mr. Pervez Bukhari remarked in this regard:

Respondent: 'There are no adequate rains due to climate change, thus underground water is declining day by day. Under Provincial PSD and Federal PSD, several projects are under process that concern towards the construction of small dams in North and South of Balochistan and irrigation schemes. But agricultural lands mostly

depend on availability of groundwater and rains. Without rains and snowfall, the water level cannot be raised. Another source of water is from Indus River providing water to four districts Jag Magsi, Dera Murad, Dera Layar and Suhbat Pure while in rest of 95% area of the province, we are facing shortfall of water. We can overcome water shortage, in case it rains enough. Extraction of water is high in Quetta, a highly populated capital city of Balochistan. People need to be aware about using the water carefully and not wasting it. They should not use fresh water for cleaning lawns and vehicles. Maximum population is living in rural areas and they depend on agriculture, but owing to no availability of rainwater, they are suffering. These farmers are shifting towards cities and doing labor there. The province was once surplus in water, but now is facing drought and shortage of water’.

Reporter: Water is God’s greatest blessings without which life is unimaginable. Therefore, we should not waste this greatest blessing.

Liaqat: Mr. Abdul Razak, we listened in the report that dams are being built, but what is the reason, that still there is shortage of water?

Abdul Razaq: Balochistan is a large province consisting of 18 hydrological basins and 72 sub-basins. From Qalat to Chaman, the area is affected by drought and over-extraction. The aforesaid areas are overpopulated depending completely on underground water. Unless we will not ensure recharging facilities, we cannot make available supplement water.

Liaqat: Why the concerned authority and technical experts do not take serious step in this regard?

Abdul Razak: The concerned authority particularly our secretary Nasibullah Khan is working on groundwater recharging program. He has already proposed this to the government. There is a need of establishing check dams and trenches in piedmont areas otherwise there is no other way to overcome this situation.

Liaqat: Mr. Atif Baloch, do you think the government is committed to deal with this sensitive problem?

Atif Baloch: I belong to district Chaghi and there too people are deprived of clean drinking water. In the district, a program named Chaghi Water Management was completed, but just on the papers while on ground there was nothing. Development funds are being wasted in corruption and there is no system of check and balance. Farmers and planters don’t have awareness, thus they waste large quantity of water during irrigation of their fields. Social awareness program is much needed.

Umar Khelji (listener): ‘Irrigation department is working on its 20 years old planning and policies while they didn’t think about growing population of Quetta, which has increased almost 200 times during the past 20 years. The authority holds meetings, but practically no work is done’.

Liaqat: Mr. Razak, what is the reason that government is not making new plans to deal with existing issues? I think through help of technology and scientific method, we can reduce the water shortage problem?

Abdul Razaq: Steps are being taken to resolve this issue, but the way population is increasing, the problem is not manegable. Water reservoirs and dams are established, but it has not yet proved advantageous for the province. The best source for water recharging is piedmont areas and valleys, where we should launch activities. Injection wells should be installed on drains as well as to retain water from mountains. Rainwater should be retained in sub-basins in Quetta, if it is raining, the groundwater could be recharged. It is also called water replenishing activity in the world.

Liaqat: Has any work started on water replenishing facilities or recharging of groundwater?

Abdul Razaq: At the movement, I am not in a position to say anything in this regard, but government is serious in this regard and soon water replenishing programs will be started.

Zafar Zeeshan: Main plight with our government is that it promises to launch projects of public welfare, but it doesn't materialize things. The recent extended drought and dry-spell has further aggravated the situation of water availability. The government of Balochistan must take this problem seriously. We see water is wasted in homes, streets and markets. Municipal committees are responsible to repair broken pipelines to stop water wastage.

Alia Mengal (listener2): In my opinion one of the main reasons for water shortage is tanker mafia or private water companies, who have support of some corrupt elements of the department. If they can ensure water to us then we won't have water directly from tube wells.

Liaquat: Mr. Razaq, what are other disadvantages of long-existing drought and water shortage?

Abdul Razaq: Agriculture sector and livestock has affected a lot from long dry spell and our hundreds of thousands of acres of land has not been in use. Drought has not only dried agricultural lands and orchards, but peasants and farmers have also suffered huge financial losses. Quetta is the most affected area from prolonged drought and many farmers had to leave farming due to no water supply line, so economical issues are being created. The most critical issue is underground land subsiding and fractures in Balochistan. In Qasim Abad, I saw fractures on the land surface, because of extraction of water through tube wells. This had dried the land. These fractures extend with the passage of time that can damage the infrastructure. I suggest water replenishing facilities in such affected areas.

Liaquat: Who is supposed to start underground water recharging activities? What are the hurdles in this regard? Is there lack of funds or government is not sincere?

Abdul Razaq: You are right that projects couldn't be initiated due to lack of funds.

Liaquat: After nuclear explosions in Chaghi area of Quetta in 1998, government established Chaghi Water Management (CWM) authority. What is the performance of CWM so far in Chaghi?

Abdul Razaq: CWM is not associated with irrigation department, thus I couldn't say anything in this regard.

Atif Baloch: Every year government releases funds for uplift schemes, but as I mentioned corruption is the main issue. As far as performance of CWM is concerned, its performance is unsatisfactory. Noshki district lying near to Chaghi, uplift schemes have been initiated there, but the situations in Chaghi are pathetic. In case any development project is launched, it is completed without any planning.

Liaquat: Zafar Zeeshan, as a nation what are our responsibilities to protect water from being wasted?

Zeeshan: Still our nation is uneducated and unaware as we don't know how to utilize natural resources in an appropriate manner. Water and wind is life, but we have no planning to ensure availability of water for our future generations. Our rulers make tall claims for nothing and take no practical initiative.

Field Report: Balochistan is facing drought, due to insufficient rains resulting in drastic fall of water level. This is also the cause of environmental pollution. Due to no proper dams, a large quantity of water goes to waste. What could be the impacts of prolonged drought and the increase in the fall of water level? A meteorologist Dr. Ali Mengal said:

Respondent: 'Rainwater is not being stored in Balochistan and this falls directly in the sea through different rivers. Water table has considerably dropped in the region due to no water reservoirs while maximum numbers of tub walls are installed for water extraction that caused of further declination in water level. There are trees that need more and more water like apple, pomegranate and grapes trees. There are two major reasons for water shortfall i.e. irrigation system is not effective therefore maximum number of dams need to be built. Five main rivers flow in Punjab province, the water of these rivers needs to be diverted to Balochistan as well. The second reason is political one. Through a conspiracy, the province is being kept isolated and deprived of basic

facilities of life. There are huge deposits of minerals, which are also being explored, but instead of benefiting this backward province, the advantage is taking someone else. Large provinces should have provided water to Balochistan as both agriculture and livestock sectors are being affected here. Animals are being killed due to drought and many farmers have stopped cultivation and they have started other work. Balochistan is a mountainous area, highly depending on rainwater. Government is responsible to ensure storage of water’.

Reporter: A young student Abdul Wadhu lamented on this situation and said:

Respondent: ‘Both clean drinking water and water for irrigation is not available. This is affecting the humans and animals. The recent drought is the result of no rain and water. In case government does not make immediate efforts for this regard, the problem will further become severe.

Reporter: By proper utilization of natural resource and deforestation, water shortage problem can be overcome in Balochistan.

Liaqat: It is also a solution to obtain water from Punjab rivers while we have two rivers Qirtar and Rabi in the province. Through these rivers Dera Murad Jamali and Jafarabad are irrigated.

Abdul Razaq: Underground water level is declining day by day, which is destructive for this backward province. If we talk about 15 or twenty years earlier, there were open tube wells with minimum 100 or maximum 350 feet depth. Now you will not see such kinds of tube wells throughout the province, it means we have finished water till 500 feet beneath the surface.

Liaqat: Ever growing population is an important reason for that. Should the department of irrigation indicate such areas, where homes should not be built?

Abdul Razaq: No doubt it is a weakness of the department that it couldn’t aware the people that they should avoid construction in piedmont areas and on hydrological basins. I was working with a Dutch firm in 1998, and we proposed the government to ban construction of homes in piedmont areas in Balochistan. These should be utilized for groundwater recharging activities, but we now see homes built there. Still the government has an opportunity to stop urbanization in some areas and ensure underground recharging facility.

Liaqat: Government was required to initiate projects in collaboration with social and development sector that could provide it funds. Can social sector play its role in this regard?

Abdul Razaq: Government cannot overcome this problem alone, the help of social sector is much needed. In Balochistan, social sector is assisting the government to provide facility of groundwater recharging. Government accompanied by media, NGOs, and educated people should sensitize the people to stop water wastage. In California, United States, there was a similar drought. Their government asked the citizens that they should not clean their lawns and vehicles on daily basis, so as to stop water wastage, so they overcome the situation through preventive measures. Therefore, our people should also realize the gravity of this problem and adopt preventive measures. I have personally observed agriculture tube wells that run for 24 hours in villages. I think pumps and injectors should be utilized for irrigation purposes.

Liaqat: I think government should show strictness against those people who waste the water. If government holds special sessions and programs with the help of NGOs to create awareness among the people in this regard, we could unitedly solve this problem.

Abdul Razaq: For countering such kinds of problems in the world, replenishing or recharging facilities are provided. The example of water level is like a bank account that first you deposit money and then withdraw money. The same way the groundwater should also be recharged to raise its level. Few days ago it was raining, but we didn’t have enough dams and pounds to restore the water. The more people will be careful about use of water, the more their future will be safe.

## Episode: 72

### Topic: Social, economic reservations of Balochistan and federal government

Guests: Dr. Abdul Hai Baloch (Leader National Party), Jami-ul Rahman (Youth Representative) and Saadullah Baloch (Youth Representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 26-01-2014

#### Program Summary

Mineral sector plays an important role in economic development of any nation. Pakistan in general and Balochistan in particular is rich in resources but how to extract these resources efficiently remains a big challenge for our governments. In Balochistan, the exploration activities of all natural resources are being suffered, due to political instability, insecurity and agitation. There is abundant of minerals like gold and oil, but these could not be explored, because of this scenario. A bright future of Balochistan depends on provision of uniformed and modern education facilities for the young generation. Education is indispensable for the redressal of problems being faced by the inhabitants of Balochistan. Besides for modern education, government is required to expand scholarship program for the talented students of Balochistan, so that they may come up at national and international levels. Government requires creating new venues for the youth of FATA, where they could explore their talent in a proper manner. It will provide opportunities for the youth to find jobs within the country and abroad.

#### Transcription

Mahreen: The inhabitants of Balochistan are kept deprived of their fundamental rights since a long time that has led to many social and economic issues i.e. frustration, unemployment, lack of trust, deprivation and increasing number of crimes. In today's show, we will discuss all these issues, but before this we include a report. We will be back again.

Report: Balochistan in area wise is the largest province of the country, which is facing political and economic instability, due to a number of reasons. The political leadership of the province is not happy with the federal government for not paying proper attention to the province to eradicate militancy, poverty, unemployment and other issues. A senior leader of the ruling party, Zafar Khan remarked about social and economic deprivations of the people as under:

Respondent: 'The province had been overlooked by every government, thus, increasing inferiority complex and deprivations of the communities. The reason behind its backwardness is negligence on part of the central government. The economic growth and development is linked with standard education and without it social and economic development is impossible. First of all, quality education should be ensured to the people. Provincial government doesn't have enough resources to ensure standardized education to its people. Around 119 billion rupees are paid monthly to teachers and the other government employees by the government of Pakistan and then you don't have enough budget for developmental works. Besides, annual budget, we receive 2% share of NFC award, which is quite insufficient to move Balochistan from backwardness to development. Initially, federal government was not ready to provide us 2% share of NFC Award, we don't know where the money was going to! The provincial government doesn't have capacity to resolve the problems of the people. The federal government was required to approve special package for militancy and operation stricken province. Recently, Balochistan Development Forum was held in which Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif should have sanctioned special funds for the province, since he knows about the sufferings of the people. Perfor-

mance wise, our government is best than other provincial governments. Despite good reputation, if we do not get anything, it is excessively with us. Balochistan should receive 25 or 30% funds in head of oil and gas royalty, because economically, it is the poorest province, in a sense we don't have proper industries and factories'.

Reporter: The province should be given equal rights therefore central government should cooperate with small provinces and by strengthening all units, federation could be strengthened. Ends...

Mehreen: Mr. Abdul Hai Baloch, what is your view about long-lasting deprivations of the people of Balochistan?

Abdul Baloch: Actually no one is paying attention to the basic problem of Balochistan. My question is that whether we are beggars that no one is ready to listen to us. Balochistan has great importance for Pakistan, it has geo-political and geo-strategic importance for the state. The province is the richest provinces in terms of minerals and natural resources having 770km long coastline. Reko-Dec project is launched for exploration of gold and other precious minerals. Gas was first discovered in this province by 1952. I believe Pakistan's prosperity is linked with Balochistan's development. Balochistan is contributing a great part in generating revenue in head of oil and gas. An expert told me that till date 350 billion dollar benefit is given by Balochistan to federal government, because of its gas reservoirs and government has to reduce import of fuel. Despite this a step motherly attitude is being kept with us and voice of the people is suppressed. Federal government should allow us to utilize our resources, so as Balochistan could be put on the track of development. Instead of this, our people are suppressed and time to time operations are launched i.e. in 1948, 58, 62, 74 and now since December 2005, military operation has continued in Balochistan. My question is what is the sin of our people? Our sin is that we demand for our rights. East Pakistan was separated from West Pakistan for similar reasons. Balochistan is a unit of Pakistan therefore it should be treated equally like other provinces. There is unitary form of government rather than federal form of government in Pakistan, because the voice of small provinces are not listened to and they have no participatory role in administration. Our assembly and institutions are nominal, they have no status. Our children face discrimination, when they want admission in other universities of the country, but students of other provinces are studying in Balochistan's universities. In Khuzdar University of Balochistan, three or four subjects are being taught while other universities of the country have 30 to 40 disciplines. How can we achieve targets in education sector? Similarly in federal & civil bureaucracy and secretariat, our representation is zero. According to report of Wapda and other institutions, from 10 million acre to 14 million acre feet is being waste and there is no water reservoirs to store water.

Mehreen: People have been scattered in Balochistan and they are living in far flung areas, owing to which they are inaccessible and do not have access to basic facilities of life. Mr. Abdul Baloch, is present government better than previous governments? Are we going on right direction?

Abdul Baloch: Actually there is no true democracy in the province and the real ruler is security establishment. In the past, we found dead bodies and still dead bodies are being recovered. We still have the issue of missing persons. The law and order situation is worse for the last many years. Balochistan Development Forum is held in capital Islamabad, rather than in the province. Even Prime Minister doesn't bother to visit Balochistan. The government is following the policies of a dictator, which is destructive for this country.

Mehreen: But your party (National Party) also has representation in the government, yet we saw no change. Mr. Saad, what is the most crucial problem of Balochistan?

Sadullah: Balochistan is facing numerous problems since independence, but education and no development are crucial problems that need to be pointed out. There are various communities and nationalities like Baloch, Pashtoon, Hazara living in Balochistan and they all are suffering equally. The main problem of the province is deprivation of the people, for which we are ourselves responsible to some extent. We bring elected members to the assembly, who do nothing for us. Balochistan Economic Forum is continued in Islamabad where no main leader of the country or representative of government attended the session to listen to the grievances of the people. Federal government has released a lot of funds so far for Balochistan, but where these funds go, we

don't know.

Mehreen: Budget is increased for education, health and other sectors for Balochistan; however the main problem is that funds are not being utilized.

Sadullah: We have coalition government in Balochistan and national party is also an ally of the government. For the first time they were given opportunity to rule over the province. Funds are available, but there has been no improvement in any sector. Government fails to fulfill its promises made with the public. Establishment of Turbat University was the plan of previous government and we just hope that the government will establish more universities.

Mahreen: My question is from Mr. Jamil that after 18th amendment, all provinces have been authorized. Do you think provincial governments are taking benefit of this autonomy?

Jamil: I will represent youth in this show and I would just say that the youth has become mentally incapable due to no opportunities in the job market. Whether government is ensuring job opportunities to all graduates? Only administrative jobs are not enough to fulfill the job requirements of the youth. For a single vacant post, thousands of applicants apply; this shows job opportunities for them. So this situation is spoiling their mental capabilities. Physically they are present in the society but mentally they have become isolated from the society. They are not capable to compete with students of other parts of the country, because of poor education system. Education system is not unified and we have different kinds of educational institutions i.e. Madrassa, Urdu medium school, English medium and advance English schools having different curricula, thus we are producing different schools of thoughts. Under the circumstance how unity and social cohesion is possible? How the student of state-run school will compete with the students of private-run schools? At present there is stress and uncertainty among the youth. My question is what is the contribution of our intellectuals in mobilizing and giving a hope to the youth that they should not be discouraged? It was their responsibility to guide the youth and try to uplift their mental capabilities.

If people have become scattered and they are living in far-flung areas, so whether government couldn't develop new cities in last 67 years? There are many big countries in the world having huge population, yet there people have access to health, education, communication and other facilities. By establishing industries, government can create new job opportunities. Makran is the biggest area of producing dates, however we see there is no industry. We have huge deposits of coal, but it is not being exploited. Youth is never taken on board on such issues to know their opinions and views. Unless youth is brought into the mainstream, the province cannot be steered out of existing situations.

Report: Balochistan is the most backward province of the country from economic point of view. People have lot of grievances from the federal government and their deprivations are increasing day by day. Due to social and economic problems, some individuals of the province have joined militant's groups. Imran Kathran, a leader of student's union said:

Respondent: 'Balochistan is not given appropriate funds and budget keeping in view the problems of the people. We have no prominent political leader, who may point out this issue at higher level. Work on Sandaqq project couldn't be launched so far and the project is handed over to that company, which bribes the government. Gawadar is a mega project that would be run with the support of China. In case the project is launched, it will turn the fate of whole Pakistan. The whole world is taking interest in Gawadar port that will be connected with the subcontinents, West China and Central Asia. Despite its importance, the province is backward. Women literacy rate is hardly 2% and in rural areas and tribal society, they are not allowed for education. Educated people have been frustrated as they are not being offered jobs while some youth are fighting against their own security forces to seek revenge. Mama Qadir Baloch conveyed his message to the world about injustices with them. The people living in other provinces even don't know that what's going in Balochistan. Unemployment is on its peak and economic activities have also come to a standstill in the region due to loadshedding'.



Reporter: Another inhabitant, Wadera Shoaib Khan said:

Respondent: 'Education is not being given to our people, universities are insufficient as compare to other provinces. Due to no job opportunities, the youth are being indulged in negative activities while several of them are going in wrong directions. I call upon the federal government to concentrate on both man and woman education in Balochistan, so they may serve the province and glorify its name in the world. It is required to setup more and more factories that will automatically reduce unemployment ratio in the country'. Ends...

Mehreen: Mr. Jamil how to raise the standard of education in the region?

Jamil: First of all ghost schools and teachers should be ended. For example many schools exist on paper, but on ground they do not exist, yet we see, budget allocates for these schools and their teachers. In case these ghost schools are made functional, no child in Balochistan will remain deprived of education. Teachers do not come to schools; therefore strict monitoring system is needed to ensure their presence in the province. Secondly curriculum plays an important role in bringing peace, unity and harmony. It should be reshaped and a uniformed curriculum should be introduced. We see there is an atmosphere of distrust between the students of Madrassa and schools that is leading to hatred and differences. In remote sites, universities should be established to educate maximum number of people. Similarly there should be a check on use of development funds by the government.

Mehreen: Our people are also not sincere with their communities. As a doctor, teacher, politician, journalist and lawyer etc. we are not doing justice with our jobs. Dr. Abdul Baloch, women are not allowed for education in tribal society of Balochistan, in the name of tradition?

Abdul Baloch: It is wrong that some norms or customs are hurdles in women's education. British established tribal society and now our rulers also want to retain tribal norms. They do not want change in it. Children want to acquire education in every nook and corner of the province and people also make this demand. There are mothers, who sew and stitch cloths or doing handcrafting, but they are giving education to their children. Extremism is hampering efforts for promotion of education as many schools had to be closed down due to extremist's threats. Wrong policies of the center, class system and lack of governance are basic reasons for poor education in Balochistan. Infrastructure plays a vital role in development of a country. Unfortunately we don't have proper road infrastructure. Projects are not being accomplished within specific deadline and its process is slow. 90% water of Haq dam is diverted to Karachi while the dam is constructed for Balochistan. Electricity is produced in Balochistan, but it is being used by Punjab and the province is deprived of that. The sole solution to all issues lies in dialogues, through this way we could address many problems. Federal government should stop use of power against Baloch community in Balochistan and to sit with agitators and admit their demands. Otherwise it will have drastic negative impacts. We will defend our land, in case our rights are defended. Security forces should be deployed on borders rather than in cities, their movement and activities have made people psychologically ill. Secondly we should admit that Pakistan is a multinational state and these nationalities have their own language, norms and values therefore they must be respected. Powers should be transferred from top to bottom to bring change from the lower level. All departments should be made independent to utilize resources.

Mehreen: The talent of youth is said to be spoiled in Balochistan. How to utilize their hidden capabilities?

Sadullah Baloch: The youth are talented because despite studying at taut schools, they come up forward and study at the universities of Islamabad and Lahore and do wonders in examinations. The students in these cities don't know about Balochistan that whether here humans are living or not. So people should be aware about that. Government should provide scholarships to talented students as well as to involve them in healthy activities and competitions to explore their talent. Secondly their participation in decision making process must be ensured.

## Episode: 73

### Topic: Gender discrimination and role of women in policy making

Guests: Ms. Jahan Ara Tabasum (Deputy Director Balochistan Women Development Department, Manager Benazir Women Crisis Cell), Ms. Noushin Noor (Social Worker) and Ms. Shumaila Naz (Youth representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 27-01-2015

#### Program Summary

The contribution of women cannot be underestimated in development and prosperity of the country, since the example of west is before us where this gender enjoys equal rights and opportunities. But contrary to this in Pakistan in general and Balochistan in particular, their role in social and economic development sectors is overlooked, which is why the country is lagging far behind than the developed countries of the world. A report of World Development Organization indicated that 80% males are doing different jobs in the world while the ratio of working ladies is below 50%. A single salaried person cannot be able to bear all expenditures of home thus women must be encouraged for job to reduce the burden on men. In Balochistan, women have no major role in income generation. Moreover they face gender discrimination, harassment, domestic violence and many other problems. All men and women should equally enjoy the universally declared human rights and the state has the responsibility to protect their fundamental rights. Islam also lays stress on equal rights of male and female. Their right to education and right to do any job are often violated in the province. They are not involved in policy making process from the beginning, but a state of law and order and violence has just added to their woes and they feel themselves insecure to come out of their homes. To defend their rights, various NGOs and social welfare organizations are functioning, giving a hope of end to their deprivations. Government should design and enact effective policies to bring them into the economic and political mainstream.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Ms. Jahan Ara women in Balochistan are facing gender discrimination in almost all spheres of life. Their role doesn't look encouraging in policy making. What would you say in this regard?

Jahan Ara: Women are at 52% of total population of Pakistan, if this huge portion is ignored then Pakistan cannot make progress. I think due to lack of education, the talent and capabilities of many women are being spoiled. By giving education to them, they will be able to know their rights and will try to come forward in every field of life. Many women are skilled in tailoring, embroidery and handcrafting, thus they are generating money at domestic level.

Report: Women are said to be the backbone of any society and they can play a pivotal role in development and prosperity of the society. In this 21st century, still women are facing gender based discrimination and almost all fields including economic, political, education and health etc. are dominated by men. In Balochistan too, the environment is not encouraging for women. In this regard a female social worker Ms. Saba said:

Respondent: 'Woman is an integral component of the society, in a sense they look after their children as well as perform domestic chores. As compared to Balochistan, in other provinces of the country, women are actively contributing their part in different spheres of life. The social, economic and political rights of women are violated in Balochistan and their participation in policy making whether it is at national level or provincial level, is nil. The incidents of acid throwing are common and women are defaced through this brutal act, thus they are frightened to come out. In tribal society of Balochistan, women are restricted to their homes in the name

of tradition, thus we see men are appointed on the quota of women. They are oppressed, in case they voice for their rights. State is responsible to protect their rights and encourage them to claim their rights. Training workshops and seminars should be held constantly to aware women about their basic rights, so as they may be authorized’.

Reporter: Government should device effective policies for empowerment of women and ensures them proper opportunities, so that they could play their due role in development of the country. Ends...

Liaqat: Ms. Jahan Ara, what is the role of women in policy making at governmental level?

Jahan Ara: Women have 33% quota in Balochistan assembly and fortunately it is availed by our women. Comparatively to other provinces, women are in large number in the Balochistan assembly.

Liaqat: I think you are talking about reserved seats and in other provinces too, women are present in assembly on reserved seats. But there is no female minister in Balochistan!

Jahan Ara: In other assemblies the quota is not fulfilled except Balochistan assembly. It is a great achievement that over 12 women are sitting in the assembly and they are highlighting women related issues as well as tabling bills in this regard.

Liaqat: Ms. Shumaila, you are working for welfare of women with disabilities. Do you think female parliamentarians are striving for betterment of disabled women?

Shumaila: Nopractical steps are being taken for empowerment of disabled women. Balochistan is a backward province where women are facing multiple problems and hardships. Disabled women are in particular ignored and their problems are not being solved on priority basis.

Liaqat: Ms. Noshin without empowering women, the country cannot make progress. What is the reason that they are not ensured equal rights?

Noshin: Actually they are not aware otherwise they would not remain ignored about their rights and duties. Poverty has forced many women to do different jobs. They are not doing jobs for welfare of the country, rather to support their families.

Liaqat: Ms. Jahan Ara, who is supposed to give awareness to women? Is there no law in Balochistan that authorizes and encourages the women to work and lead a self-reliance life?

Jahan Ara: I would just say that disabled persons have special quota in the public sector, but they are not aware about that. Our parents should realize that women have talent and capabilities therefore they should not spoil their talent by restricting them to homes. Holding seminars and sessions in Balochistan is the first step to aware the women and lotneeds to be done.

Liaqat: Mostly women from settle areas or educated ones are invited to seminars and such kinds of activities. Those women need to be involved in such activities who are living in far-flung areas and they are illiterate.

Jahan Ara: The participants of a seminar have representation from different walks of life and they talk about their communities and their issues.

Liaqat: You are also representing women development department. What are its activities for empowerment of women?

Jahan Ara: First of all we want to aware the women. They are not supposed to work only as teacher rather they should prove their mettle in every field of life. An educated mother can look after her child in a better manner. It is the call of the day to enact such laws through which women could feel themselves secure in working plac-

es. Recently the assembly passed an act against women harassment and it has been implemented. Similarly Women Development Department also approved a bill against domestic violence, which is a great achievement. But the implementation of these laws is the main problem. Unless laws are implemented in true sense of words, women's rights cannot be safeguarded. Benazir Women Center has its sub-branches in Quetta, Sibi and Khuzdar. We organized a three days women festival in Khuzdar area to enable the women of the locality to display their handmade products and handicrafts. They were sensitized through speeches and stage dramas that how they can play their role in development of the society. Now we are moving towards Jafar Abad and then Turbat, which are extremely backward areas of Balochistan. There we will hold women's festivals.

Liaqat: Ms. Noshin what is the role of women in different fields of life i.e. education, health and business?

Noshin: After 65 years, we see women representation in the assembly. In past hardly three or four women would take part in lawmaking, for the first time their participation has been increased. Women don't have any participation in developing curriculum or upgrading education system. We see in remote sites schools are available, but teachers and students do not come there. Males are responsible for that in this male dominant society.

Liaqat: Ms. Shumaila, do you think lack of resources or opportunities is a hurdle in women empowerment? What is government's role in this regard?

Shumaila: Women should also show courage and bravery and try to get their rights. I am an example before them that despite disability, I got education and now fighting for the rights of other disabled women. Education will create awareness among the people that will raise their lifestyle. Government is neglecting its responsibility in terms of providing education to the people. Even schools are not available in many places of Balochistan.

Liaqat: Can the status of women improve by effective policy making?

Shumaila: Law makers should take concerned stakeholders on board before designing any law. This will help introduced an effective law as well as to implement it. We should serve as volunteer and try to sensitize our community women regarding their issues and rights.

Naushin: First of all government should ensure security to all people.

Jahan Ara: Balochistan is backward than other provinces of the country, so for that we are also responsible to some extent. If an educated mother discriminates between her children, then what could be expected from an illiterate woman? Due to this conservative society, even an educated woman lacks confidence and she cannot come forward. Only education is not adequate rather the role of parents is also necessary in personality building of a child. I admit this thing that government couldn't make adequate efforts for empowerment of women.

Report: Gender discrimination is one of the major problems in Balochistan due to which women couldn't contribute their part effectively in development of the province. Unless women are involved in policy making process, the dream of a bright and progressive Balochistan cannot come true. A female teacher Sabia Baloch remarked in this regard:

Respondent: 'Gender discrimination is not only the name of difference of sex, rather it means that men are considered superior than women, thus they are deprived of their rights. Around 80% people are unaware about this problem and a very small section of the society, who are taking education on gender discrimination, are aware about it. Even many politicians are not aware about the concept of gender disparity and rights of women. NGOs are playing a significant role in sensitizing masses to this issue. The message of ending gender discrimination should be imparted to each and every corner of Balochistan. Almost all fields are dominated by men and the contribution of women in policy making is next to nil. In foreign countries, females play their role as a lawmaker, minister or state head. They are entitled to equal rights. Our women face harassment in offices and other working places and there is no effective law to prevent such incidences. In Balochistan total number

of seats is 65 in the assembly and only 12 seats are reserved for the women, which is also discrimination’.

Reporter: A lawyer Anwar Sanjran shared his views with us as under:

Respondent: ‘Gender disparity is a major issue in Balochistan and it is increasing with the passage of time. Women participation in different spheres of life is almost zero, owing to tribal norms. They cannot even contest elections! They will defend the rights of women when they will have participation in lawmaking and policy making process’. Ends...

Liaquat: Ms. Jahan Ara, how can problems being faced by our women be solved?

Jahan Ara: On the recommendation of Islamic Ideological Council, a women judge has been appointed at federal level, which is quite appreciable. Many issues of women are dealt by local Jirga, but after electing a woman as judge, many problems of women would get resolved. Fortunately as compared to other provinces, women are respected in Balochistan, but it is not enough. Every woman wants to be self-reliant and to have dignity, for that she will have to enter the practical field. I would appeal of the government to increase quota for women in all departments. So there will be an environment of competition between male and female counterparts. Social sector is focusing on empowerment of women, but they should speed up their practical efforts. By saying that women cannot perform certain jobs, they imply that they are inferior and they consider them as feeble. They should be left to do their task by themselves.

Liaquat: Ms. Ara there is lack of educational institutions for women in Balochistan and in many areas they don’t have access to higher education.

Jahan Ara: I was not allowed to do masters from a university because of co-education system. I suggest that master degree program should be launched for women across the province in colleges so as no one may remain deprived of graduation. I will personally highlight it.

Liaquat: Ms. Noshin, what role young women can play in this regard?

Noshin: I think degree is not important only rather knowledge and understanding is an important thing. Youth should be aware that where their rights are being curtailed. There are special funds for them, but they do not know it. Instead of giving full time to video games and face book, the youth should study about their rights. They can solve petty issues and disputes at community level by giving people awareness. They should be instilled with the spirit of volunteerism.

Liaquat: Ms. Jahan Ara, what is the role of Women development department in providing sporting opportunities to women?

Jahan Ara: women’s sports has been confined to schools and colleges, otherwise there is no ground for them in Balochistan. Women Development Department is a newly born department and it will take time to improve its efficiency. We have discussed a lot of issues on this platform and I will highlight them before the concerned authorities. Women should also have representation in sports thus they must be provided maximum opportunities for that. Women development department will be extended to other three districts as well.

Liaquat: I think it should be extended all over Balochistan, so that women could be given more and more representation and they could be brought into mainstream.

Jahan Ara: women have talent in embroidery, but developing their market linkage is a difficult task. They must be provided a platform, so as their work could be displayed and they could develop their links with the market. The handicrafts of Balochistan is famous all over the world and their handmade antiques are exported from which the government can generate good revenue. But first it should be promoted.

Liaquat: What is the role of media in empowering women?

Jahan Ara: Media can play a vital role in preserving our culture and values. They can highlight the hand-work of women and to display it to the world.

Shumaila: First of all humans should be treated and served equally. All human beings have been created equally, they must have equal rights. Accompanied with the government, social development sector can do a lot for empowering women.

## **Episode: 74**

### **Topic: Worse status of health facilities in Balochistan**

Guests: Dr. Aqeel Shah Gilani (Public Health Expert), Muhammad Idrees (Medical Student) and Uzair (Medical Student).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 02-02-2015

#### **Program Summary**

On one hand over the decade long riots and insecurity have badly affected everyday activities in Balochistan then on the other hand, the province is ignored by every government since the birth of Pakistan. Problems like education, sanitation, clean drinking water, malnutrition and basic infrastructure etc. have made the inhabitants accustomed and hence the order of the day. But sheer lack of health facilities have been a crucial problem in Balochistan. In most of the hospitals and health clinics in remote sites, doctors remain absent and young practitioners or paramedical staff are assigned for checkup of patients, who are not enough competent to cater services in a proper way. Unawareness and poor hygiene conditions are causes of fatal diseases i.e. Diarrhoea and Pneumonia and other epidemic diseases in less developed areas. For prevention of diseases, in case health units are not available in some places, mobile health units should be motivated there. Development and upgradation of education and healthcare facilities in Balochistan should be the top priority of the government besides ensuring peace, justice and security to the people

#### **Transcription**

Mehreen: Pakistan is an under developing country where people are facing numerous problems including health issues. In Balochistan the state of health is pathetic and according to a survey every year around 1600 women die during delivery. Infant mortality rate is 105 out of 1000 children, which is higher than other provinces.

Report: The province of Balochistan is not only facing poor law and order situation and sectarian violence, but there is dearth of health facilities in the province particularly in interior Balochistan, which is a dilemma. Sheer lack of hospitals, health units and absence of doctors in existing hospitals is causing serious health hazards to the lives of the inhabitants. A resident of district Noshgi, Dr. Shehzad Mengal said in this regard.

Respondent: 'There is lack of qualified male and female doctors in existing hospitals. Medical officers are forced to perform their duty, but senior doctors are not asked by anyone to ensure their presence in hospitals, thus in many hospitals there are no proper OPD services. They neglect their duty due to insecurity and devoid of facilities. Doctors are threatened by insurgents or criminal elements for different reasons. Maternal mortality rate is high, since they don't have awareness that how to take precautionary measures during pregnancy. Only doctors can suggest a diet for pregnant women, but lady doctors are not available, therefore there is no guidance for them. Delivery is done in an unsafe and traditional manner, owing to which some women lose their lives. Government requires hiring lady doctors on priority level. A poor person cannot afford medicines, I would call upon the government to ensure free medicines to all hospitals of the province, so as to save lives. In Noshgi area, a hospital with fewer facilities is available, but health units in the surrounding areas are not operational. Many patients die in the way during shifting to the hospitals. A similar situation is in other parts of the province. Government should launch awareness campaigns involving religious scholars and renowned persons like Sardars and Nawabs to aware the people about importance of vaccination and other modern medical facilities and preventive measures'.

Reporter: Majority of the population is deprived of basic health facilities particularly in remote sites. Government claims that health is its top priority thereby it must fulfill its promises made with the people. Ends...

Mehreen: My first question is from Dr. Aqeel Shah Gilani that what is the condition of health facilities in interior Balochistan?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Balochistan consists of 627 union councils and according to a recent survey of Pakistan health and democratic, health amenities are available only in 400 union councils. As far as upgradation of health sector or absence of the facilities are concerned, it is necessary to discuss this topic. Last year more than 50 cases of polio reported in Pakistan out of which 21 were from Balochistan. The facts and figures show that how much health prevalence, health education and awareness is degraded in the province.

Mehreen: Dr. Aqeel, what kinds of diseases are common among the rural population?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Pakistan Health and Democratic Survey is a society providing data on statistics basis. Annual maternal mortality is 260 out of hundred thousand in Pakistan and 785 mothers die out of hundred thousand in Balochistan. The maternal mortality rate is much lower in other provinces of the country than Balochistan. Recent figures of UNICEF suggest that infant mortality rate is 58 out of 100 thousand per year while in Balochistan it is 158. The population of Pakistan is 199 million making it sixth biggest world's populated country. Balochistan has less population, but people have been scattered that is the main problem to access the people and ensure them basic facilities of life. Mostly Diarrhoea and Pneumonia are the cause of deaths in children less than 5 years while women are facing health problems like blood deficiency, malnutrition and various infections.

Mehreen: Muhammad Idrees, as a medical student, what is your opinion about health facilities in district Qilat?

M. Idrees: The lone civil hospital in the district, is not properly functional while in union councils people are suffering due to devoid of equipments, specialized doctors and nursing staff. Health technicians and nurses serving in the established health units, are incapable to treat patients properly. Even they do not know the method of injection that can have side effect. In emergency situations, you will have to shift a serious patient to Quetta or Karachi.

Mehreen: As we are living in a tribal society where women are not allowed to visit a male doctor, in the name of tradition.

M. Idrees: In both Baloch and Pashtoon societies, women have certain limitations. This will take time to change such norms, but people could be educated. The authorities should ensure availability of lady doctors in all hospitals and health centers. The mortality rate is high among women, because some women are not allowed to visit hospitals.

M. Uzair: Women are vulnerable to various diseases in Dera Murad Jamali therefore it is the need of the hour to increase the number of women doctors and nurses in the locality.

Mehreen: It is said some health centers are being used for keeping and raising livestock. Is it true?

M. Uzair: such cases are rare and in city side, it is not possible.

Mehreen: Besides absence of medical staff and equipments, what are other health related issues? Are people aware about their health problems in interior Balochistan?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Millennium Development Goals (MDG) are set globally in 2000 to achieve some targets like improving health and education sectors and eradication of poverty. Unless communities are sensitized on their health problems and how to deal with them, the targets cannot be achieved. 52% of the population of Baloch-



istan is suffering from malnutrition since long. I have served in remote areas of Pashin, I observed five children out of 10, were suffering from PCM 1 and PCM 2. The patients of PCM 3 cannot be dealt in local hospitals and they have to be referred to main hospitals. Health, education and administrative departments must work together to sensitize the people to health related problems. We need to train health motivators to deliver lectures on health in schools. I suggest special health sessions in schools as well as to make it imperative part of curriculum being taught at educational institutions of the province. The education must be given to children in their mother tongues. Booklets and brochures containing different symbols of diseases should be displayed in schools to guide the children. Imams (prayer leaders) should educate people on that during Friday Sermons after counseling of religious persons.

Mehreen: Mr. Idrees, is clean drinking water available to the masses in rural areas?

Mr. Idrees: In our area tube wells are not installed, because of prolonged loadshedding. Unavailability of clean drinking water is a crucial problem in both urban and rural areas of Balochistan. In some areas people are forced to fetch water from canals and rivers for drinking. Animals also use this water. Tube wells should be installed in all localities, so as to ensure water for domestic and drinking purposes. Water filtration plant was installed with worth Rs.5.5 million in our area, but it is not working. I wonder that why government setup this filtration plant, if it is not in use? Development or welfare projects are launched just to seek corruption and nothing else.

Mahreen: Mr. Uzair, what is the role of social sector in providing health facilities to the masses? Like we see world food health organization, UNICSO and other organizations are functional in lifting up the lifestyle of the people by carrying its activities.

Mr. Uzair: NGOs are controversial in our society. People don't allow these organizations to initiate activities due to some misconception. People think NGOs are working under a conspiracy. First of all people should realize that the NGO sector is working for betterment of the society. Supporting organizations can play a vital role in raising living standard of the people.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Maternity Child Healthcare (MCH) is government's unit functioning in rural areas, but high maternity mortality rate shows it is not so effective, because of untrained staff. All the available units require to be upgraded. The government hired 200 lady health workers recently and they are playing an important role in upgrading door to door service. But the question arises what incentives we are giving to field workers? Many LHVs despite working for many years, don't have job surety and they are being paid insufficient salaries.

Mahreen: Health workers do not perform their duty with passion because of low salaries and job insecurity, forcing them for dual jobs.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Supreme Court of Pakistan has issued directives that they would be considered government servants, but whether it is implemented or not. Despite working in state of insecurity, many health workers do not get salaries for months. In recent time, LHVs were targeted by terrorists in Balochistan and KPK resulting in increase of polio cases. Without provision of security, servants cannot perform their duty well.

Mahreen: Dr. Idrees, what about access to health facilities in remote sites like Qilat and Kharan and other areas?

M. Idrees: PPHI NGO is running a Basic Health Unit in Qilat. Despite repeatedly requests to provide an ambulance to BHU as the residential area is far away from the main road and we face problems in shifting our patients to the main hospital, the government is not budging an inch to address our concern. NGOs want to serve in our localities, but authorities don't allow them, so as to keep the area backward forever. PPHI organization tried to provide ambulances to BHU, but authorities were creating hurdles in its way. There are some authorized persons and officers, who do not want health sector improved. Government makes claim for nothing.

Mahreen: For improving education and health sectors, we must improve road infrastructure as well.

Report: The inhabitants of interior Balochistan lack male and female doctors and ambulance facility. Due to poor performance of the health authority, people are deprived of healthcare facilities in Khuzdar and Khushgi. A young political activist Faisal Baloch said in this regard:

Respondent: 'Doctors neglect their duty in Khuzdar and Khushgi, because they don't have facilities i.e. laboratory, equipments and residential facility. Medicines are not available to provide it to poor patients. Delivery cases are not handled here, thus maternity mortality rate is increasing day by day. It is not the problem only in said areas, but in whole Balochistan. Instead of ensuring medicines at the hospitals, these are sold with the behest of some officers. A patient neither gets medicines nor injection. The people in far-flung areas cannot shift their serious patients to hospitals and health centers, since ambulances are not provided, thus a patient can die. Doctors and nurses are doing their private practices and house jobs, but no action is being taken against them'.

Reporter: A student of Medical, Mr. Irshad expressed his views as under:

Respondent: 'Education and health are basic necessities of life. The dilemma with our people is that they are uneducated as well as unaware about health issues. For development and prosperity, it is necessary that a nation must be healthy. Every year 0.5 million children less than five years die due to various illnesses and infections. Several children are detected to polio and other fatal viruses. It points finger at the performance of health department. More hospitals, BHUs and health units should be established to ensure door to door medical aid'.

Reporter: It is the responsibility of the state to ensure this basic right to its subjects. Ends...

Mahreen: Health budget has been increased by the present government, but still there has been no improvement?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Budget distributes between the departments. Apart from health education and motivation taking preventive measures is important. The performance of BHUs, Rural Health Centers, district health hospitals and teaching hospitals should be evaluated that what is their progress. In that regard the budget should be distributed. The incumbent government has setup trauma centers to save the lives of trauma patients, which is a good step. However the need is to equip these centers with specialized staff and advance equipments. In the west specialized paramedical staff gives first aid to wounded persons and then shifts them to hospitals. Buildings will not benefit us rather capacity building of medical staff is necessary and they must be given free of cost training. Unless political interference and corruption is ended from the institution, transparency cannot be achieved in this sector.

Mahreen: Where these trauma centers are functional?

Dr. Aqeel Shah: These have already started work in Quetta city and Turbat and will soon be extended to Pash-toon belt and other areas, in order to upgrade the health status and health education.

Mahreen: Mr. Idrees in Turbat too, a medical college is established. Is it more important to construct new buildings?

Dr. Idrees: The already existing health institutions should be strengthened and facilitated. Funds are released to BHUs and RHCs, but the output is nil. In laboratories microscope and other equipments are not available in our institution. How can new doctors learn? This situation is affecting our education. Funds should be utilized properly.

Mahreen: Many health issues are raising because of poor hygiene conditions. People don't have awareness or they are careless.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: About 74% population is living in rural areas and their problems should not be neglected, because it can affect the urban population. A patient of polio can expose other children to this virus, if other children are not vaccinated. Local communities should be aware about fatal diseases. Cleanliness is said to be half faith therefore public latrines should be built in proportion to the population and to keep them clean.

Mahreen: Mr. Idrees what role media can play in informing and educating people on health related issues?

M. Idrees: Media should consistently highlight these issues and bring into the notice of concerned authorities.

Uzair: Poverty is the biggest reason for poor health status, since a poor person doesn't care about his cleanliness that leads to diseases, therefore poverty should first be eradicated.

Dr. Aqeel Shah: Prophet PBUH was also financially poor and sometimes he would not have one-time bread, yet he remained to be clean and neat. He stressed on both external and spiritual purity. Poverty should not be related with poor hygiene. People should be given education on cleanliness. In those areas where health centers are not available, mobile health units should be made functional.

## Episode: 75

### Topic: Lack of investment and corporate sector in Balochistan

Guests: Dr. Qaiser Bangali (Economist, Head of Chief Minister Policy Reform Unit CMPRU), Sajad Salim (Youth Representative) and Mukeem Baloch (Youth Representative)

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaquat

Dated: 03-02-2015

#### Program Summary

Balochistan is blessed with huge reserves of minerals and natural resources i.e. gold, chromites, coal, oil and gas etc. however according to experts, over the decade long turmoil accompanied by bad governance, unavailability of appropriate infrastructure, financial crisis, lack of political will and skilled labor are some major reasons owing to which minerals are not being explored. Government has exploration policies; unfortunately, they could not be fully implemented at the provincial level due to the ever-changing political situation. Government claims that external elements are involved in creating law and order situation leaving negative impacts on the social and economic structure of the province. Corporate and development sector can play a pivotal role in development of any country. But both local and foreign investors will not show willingness to invest in the region unless security is improved and communication infrastructure is developed. Now it is the time for the new government to demonstrate transparency, good governance and introduce new policy and planning for extraction of unexplored minerals.

#### Transcription

Liaquat: Dr. Qaiser Bangali we can see Balochistan has plenty of natural resources and minerals as well as having strategic and geo-strategic importance. Despite its importance, foreign and local investors are not willing to invest in Balochistan resulting in lack of job opportunities and poverty. What are the main reasons for no investment in this region?

Dr. Qaiser: There is no proper investment in any sector of Balochistan and only small-scale development projects are being initiated without any planning that doesn't benefit the public in long run rather spoil funds. It is wrong that insecurity and the law and order situation is an obstacle to development and bringing investment. We have example of Karachi city, where for last 25 or 30 years, situation is tense, yet it is economically stable and industries are running there. Basic reason of lack of investment is absence of infrastructure in Balochistan. Investment will not come to an area where road, communication, electricity and water are missing.

Liaquat: Why infrastructure in Balochistan couldn't be developed in last 67 years?

Dr. Qaiser: after 18th amendment, provinces have been made autonomous and provinces are receiving their share in NFC award since 2010, but still infrastructure was not focused by any government in Balochistan. Funds were not used in an appropriate manner that could benefit the masses.

Liaquat: Present government of Balochistan claims for a change in the province. Has it launched any mentionable project?

Dr. Qaiser: Establishment of Policy Reform Unit and hiring a professional staff shows that government is serious in introducing comprehensive policies and planning before launching uplift schemes. The unit has devised a roadmap for development projects in Balochistan and it is presented before the ministers and secretaries to start work on it. The government has set its priorities and these will be implemented in next fiscal year.

Liaquat: Mr. Sajad Salim, due to no investment and proper infrastructure, youth are facing unemployment. Under the circumstances, what will be the future of the graduates?

Sajad: I would say that development projects are accomplished with unnecessary delay. There is dearth of job opportunities for the youth. I graduated from Balochistan University and very few students were granted scholarship there, thus most of the children remain deprived of education. In mega and small projects, local youth are ignored and outsiders or foreigners are preferred.

Liaquat: What do the youth speak about of their problems? Whether youth has voiced their problems at any platform or to bring their problems into the notice of concerned authority?

Sajad: Youth don't have access to their ministers and elected members and media is the only source to reach our voice to the government. However media is also not enjoying complete freedom in Balochistan.

Mukeem: There are multiple reasons for backwardness of Balochistan. Absence of basic infrastructure is a major issue that leads to other many problems. Similarly there is ethnic discrimination that resulted in isolation of people of different religions and sects. Upper class and ruling elite have monopolized every sector of life and the voice of lower class is not listened.

Report: Balochistan is area wise the largest province of Pakistan, which is blessed with plenty of natural resources and minerals. However despite having 1000km long seashore, two international borders (Iran and Afghanistan), yet there is poverty and unemployment and a large number of youths are jobless. Neither corporate sector could develop nor local and foreign investors are investing. A political activist of ruling party, Mr. Niaz Baloch said in this regard:

Respondent: 'Investment is not coming to Balochistan and federal government is responsible for that, since it didn't concentrate on improving law & order situation in the region. Similarly Sardar, Nawab (influential persons) and different mafias don't want investment and development in this region. Since creation of this country, Islamabad didn't recognize and accept Balochistan. It is the largest province of Pakistan in terms of area having huge deposits of minerals i.e. gold and chromites. Pakistan can make sustainable development and progress in case Gawadar port is made functional. Balochistan contains a wide variety of minerals, but the local communities are not being benefited from it. The incumbent government of Balochistan is trying its level best to bring improvement in the situations. Target killing, kidnapping for ransom and road robbery etc. had become the order of the day in past, but now situation is comparatively better in the province'.

Reporter: By improving law and order situation, foreign investors could be attracted to invest in different sectors that will help reduce unemployment in the region. Ends...

Liaquat: Dr. Qaiser, why work on development projects is so slow?

Dr. Qaiser: Government could launch maximum projects without a comprehensive planning, but it would not have any advantage. The example of Gawadar port is before us, it is useless unless the port is linked with the market through a road or railway. At present only Karachi port is being used for import and export. Government in collaboration with private sector can start different kinds of projects however planning and paper work take atleast one year or more. As far as delay in completion of projects is concerned, funds specify for different schemes and government finds difficulty to complete them in time. Therefore new projects should not be started, unless ongoing projects are completed.

Liaquat: It is observed that when a new government comes in power, it stops work on ongoing projects and tries to start new ones for their corruption. What priorities government is setting for new fiscal year?

Dr. Qaiser: Policy reform unit is supposed to make policy and concerned departments/institutions are responsible to implement it. We have already forwarded some suggestions to the government. For instance a devel-

opment project should be handed over to a single firm/company rather to many companies. This will not affect work on the project, in case government changes.

Liaquat: How could investors be attracted to invest in the region?

Dr. Qaiser: before attracting investors, we must build an infrastructure. Secondly we don't have skilled labor and proper experts.

Liaquat: Recently Balochistan Development Forum was conducted at Islamabad. Was it not to divert the attention of investors towards Balochistan?

Dr. Qaiser: It was not an investment conference; rather we wanted to present Balochistan in the world. We held the conference in Islamabad, because we wanted to address different audiences. At present the government wants to launch two mega projects, one is about exploration of minerals and second is water project. We will involve technical experts in these projects.

Liaquat: Mr. Sajad how can we skill our people?

Sajad: The actual problem is that policies are not implemented in an appropriate manner while the new government ignores ongoing projects. For example an under construction flyover in Quetta couldn't be completed despite four years elapse.

Dr. Qaiser: Investment policy will be devised for the first time in Balochistan's history. In Punjab, development projects are being completed in time, since contract is given to a single contractor or company.

Liaquat: Do we have capable contractors in Balochistan to complete mega projects like construction of flyover or dam? Or we would have to depend on foreign experts?

Dr. Qaiser: If you don't have indigenous companies to deal with a mega project, then you will have to depend on a foreign company for the said purpose just to fulfill your need and benefit the masses. It is not an issue that who has built a bridge or flyover rather construction of bridge or flyover is important.

Liaquat: Is there any policy with the government to skill the youth in mining, electrical and other professions?

Dr. Qaiser: Actually we need skilled teachers, rather beautiful educational buildings. We have more than 60 poly-technique institutions in Balochistan, but the outcome is unsatisfactory. Government should hire skilled teachers or take services of other countries in this regard then we can produce skilled youth. I have discussed this with the responsible authority. In Balochistan, youth cannot do internship, because industries are not available.

Liaquat: Mr. Sajad students have graduated from different universities and colleges, but they do not become skillful! They become unable to face the new challenges.

Sajad: It is the problem of education system that it couldn't produce a productive person. Students are helpless in this regard. Unless they are equipped with entrepreneurship capabilities, they will not be able to come up with innovative ideas and solutions.

Liaquat: It is observed that students political organizations remain involved in non-issues, but they never stressed on the need of improving education system!

Sajad: Our education system is mostly theoretical based rather practical one. Students are not engaged in internship or practical work. A student cannot become a good geologist unless he works in factories and industries.

Mukeem: Curriculum being taught at our schools is not updated and modified and still students are studying the old syllabus. The government should inculcate productive material in the curriculum to make the students analytical onesso they are able to think about different things and issues.

Dr. Qaiser: Concept based education should be promoted in the country. There is no creative work at educational level, which is rather a dilemma.

Report: Continued terrorism and poor law and order situation has put negative impacts on the development of Balochistan. Private sector is also not operating in the region to boost up the economy and create working opportunities for the youth. Unemployment is one of the social-stressing problems of Balochistan that is affecting the minds of the youth negatively. A young political activist Khuda Sardar Kashti said in this regard:

Respondent: 'Balochistan is facing economic and political instability since long. This led to uncertainty and chaos in the region. In presence of unrest, one cannot imagine investment in the province. Corporate sector, multi-national companies or development sector will not come forward to invest, ultimately no development and prosperity is possible. Natural resources should be utilized and government must pave way for foreign investment by improving law and order situation. This will ensure job opportunities as well as development in the region'.

Reporter: A young person, Mr. Ali Baloch also shared his views with us as follows:

Respondent: 'Investors do not want to come here because of insecurity. Unemployment is increasing day by day that will have destructive impacts on the region in coming days. Government alone cannot ensure jobs to the people rather private sector or NGOs can create jobs for them'. Ends...

Liaquat: Government's flawed policies are resulting in negative impacts on the region while our attitudes and wrong perceptions also multiply our problems. For example NGOs have been made controversial and they are not allowed to work in some areas. Even Prophet (PBUH) had dealings with non-Muslims. But here some religious factors are hampering efforts for development and foreign investment. We cannot go side by side with the developed countries, unless we will have a deal with them.

Dr. Qaiser: Basic issues and problems have not been on the agenda of our politicians, rulers and even media. Our people have also been indulged in ethnic discrimination and religious issues. Some people are even trying to prove their other Muslim brothers as non-Muslims. In presence of religious disharmony and anarchy, development is not possible.

Sajad: Youth are the future builders of the nation. I suggest government should constitute a committee giving representation to the youth of different faiths and sects, so as they may play their role in promoting interfaith harmony and social cohesion. The youth should also have participating in decision and policy making process. In west, public opinion is known before making foreign policy. Student's organizations should be independent and freed from the influence of political parties and they should work for raising the standard of education and highlighting their basic issues.

Liaquat: Mr. Mukeem how can the mindset of the people be changed towards private sector or NGO to allow them for development in the region?

Mukeem: Standard and meaningful education can solve our all problems. We should spread education to each and every corner of the province that will change the mindset. Education should not be restricted to books or curriculum rather character building of students is also important. An educated person is that, who knows his duties and rights. We should not produce literate persons rather educated one with open minds.

Dr. Qaiser: Our curriculum is full of glorification of war and heroism. In our curriculum a warrior is depicted as our hero rather than peacemakers, social activists and intellectuals. Therefore curriculum should be reshaped

altogether to transfer good values to our future generation. Youth should not only study the prescribed syllabus rather they should read general knowledge books and historical books.

Liaquat: Parliament or assemblies approve modification in curriculum or to bring new policies and laws through legislation, but no work is done in this regard! Is it possible to reduce unemployment through an effective policy?

Dr. Qaiser: There are more or less 1.5 million families living in Balochistan, in that sense every single family need a job. It is not a difficult job and possible if we do planning in the next three or five years. First of all government should have to build an infrastructure in collaboration with the private sector then we can think about the development.



## Episode: 76

### Topic: Anxiety, fear and deprivation in youth

Guests: Sabir Nashad (Social and Political Worker), Shakir Hussain (Youth Representative) and Karim Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 09-02-2015

#### Program Summary

Youth is a valuable asset of any nation. Balochistan is considered the most backward province of Pakistan. There are many reasons behind it, but one of the reasons is youth. Youth has been kept deprived of the basic rights and facilities via which they can contribute in the development of the province. They are not facilitated in the field of education as equally as the other provinces. Balochistan youth have got potential. Unemployment, poverty and deprivation have kept them in feeling of inferiority and deprivation. Corruption has also pushed them into the quagmire of anxieties because they know they won't get a job by having a degree. They should rather have a strong reference or a huge amount of money to get a job. The problem of anxiety and deprivation among Balochistan youth can be overcome by facilitating youth with moderation as compared to other provinces.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: Today we will be discussing feeling of fear and inferiority among youth in Baluchistan. In this regard as a guest we have Mr. Sabir Nashad. He is a social and political worker. Shakir Hussain and Karim Baloch will be participating as youth representatives.

Mehreen: We will start the program by listening to a report. We will be right back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Kardagap

The reason to fear and inferiority in Baluchistan youth is that they have been kept inferior to other youth of Pakistan. Educational, social, political and economic deprivation has kept Baluchistan Youth in apprehension. To know about its reason we spoke to a social and political worker Mir Izat Ullah. He says, "The main reason of inferiority in Baluchistan youth is disconnection from other parts of Pakistan. There is only one university in Baluchistan. Baluchistan is the biggest province in terms of land area. Baluchistan Youth face problems in getting access to cities in Baluchistan. The main reason of inferiority is the social loneliness. The reason to it is not having an access to education, but development has occurred in this sense in the past few years. Baluchistan youth has been treated moderately like youth from other provinces in the field of education. Another reason is the deprivation of basic rights." To remove inferiority complex federal government and people from other provinces should play their role because Baluchistan too is a valuable asset of the Federation.

Mehreen: Mr. Sabir what is the current status of Baluchistan youth i.e. where do you see them?

Sabir: Baluchistan Youth is feeling anxiety because of political leadership. There is no political leadership on country level to end up the anxieties of Baluchistan Youth.

Mehreen: Mr. Karim Baloch where do you see current status of Baluchistan Youth?

Karim: They absolutely don't know where, due to poverty and political disorganization. They have a feeling of

anxiety. They are worried about their future. They feel alone. There is no one to support them in the field of education.

Mehreen: The feeling of anxiety and inferiority hasn't occurred in one day. There are many reasons behind it. Mr. Shakir what do you think is the major reason behind it?

Shakir: Poverty is the major reason behind all problems. Youth do get degrees, but they struggle for jobs everywhere, but they don't get it. They are constantly hit by the taunts of people due to which they become victim to anxieties. If poverty isn't eradicated, I can see youth committing suicide.

Mehreen: Although we belong to a rich province yet we are very poor. What are its reasons?

Shakir: Baluchistan isn't facilitated as well as the other provinces. There is a big difference in literacy rate in comparison with other provinces. According to my knowledge literacy rate in Baluchistan is 5%. There are many schools, colleges and universities in other provinces, but Baluchistan has been deprived. These are the reasons behind the feeling of anxiety among youth. We aren't being facilitated equally.

Mehreen: We heard in the report that there are no opportunities in the field of education in Baluchistan as compared to other provinces. How do you assess this?

Sabir: Balochistan Youth is very eager of getting education, but they don't get the facilities in this regard. There are schools in Balochistan but there are no teachers and books. Some schools have closed. This is the responsibility of education department to take notice in this regard. Few youth who get degrees don't get job opportunities. As a result of which they get into the feeling of deprivation.

Mehreen: We have got talented youth, but because of the increasing trend of cheating in exams have discouraged them. Can it also be the reason to the feeling of deprivation?

Sabir: Of course it can also be the reason because ones who cheat won't have the talent of doing something. Cheating is a menace which is spreading like a contagious disease. Text Book Board should arrange syllabus according to the comprehension power of students so that cheating can be avoided.

Mehreen: Mr. Shakir how much has been the role of media in causing the feeling of inferiority?

Shakir: Media can either be used positively or negatively. There are programs on TV that show the progress and facilities of other provinces. When people in Baluchistan watch such program, they become victim of inferiority complex. There are news and programs about blasts, physical violence by teachers, gender discrimination etc. which causes anxieties.

Mehreen: Mr. Karim has media played a positive role regarding youth?

Karim: Media hasn't played a satisfactory role in the development of youth. Media should have highlighted the basic problems of youth to government.

Mehreen: Mudassir Kakarr has sent a message. He says that although they have degrees, but they go hither and thither for jobs. Corruption is on its peak. Job isn't given without bribe. It will definitely cause deprivation feelings. Mr. Sabir how much is the role of corruption in causing feeling of deprivation?

Sabir: There are talented youth who go to a forum to showcase their talent, aren't allowed to do so because their right is given to someone else who either might have paid a huge amount of money or might be a reference of a minister. Such a corruption causes feeling of anxiety.

Mehreen: Mr. Karim would you like to add something?

Karim: Youth is discouraged by the corruptive manner of the job giving departments.

Mehreen: Youth has been divided into different groups in terms of cast, linguistics etc. How much has it provoked hatred, insecurity, jealousy etc.?

Karim: Politics is the main reason behind it. Politicians divide youth and exploit them. Political parties do so to achieve their political aims. There are some outer forces that have been causing it as well. They do it only to make youth fight with each other.

Mehreen: We have got another report. We will continue the series of questions after the report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Kardagap

Why Baluchistan youth think of themselves backward as compared to other provinces. On the basis of what reasons Baluchistan youth think they have been kept deprived. We wonder if they either have lack of awareness and talent or they have been kept deprived just because they have got a lower provincial status. We spoke to Dr. Niaz Baloch in this regard. He says, "There are many reasons. The biggest reason is social deprivation. Baluchistan is going through a political instability. There are no industries here. Education hasn't been ever a part of our priorities. Education sector has been underestimated. People need to be educated. Awareness needs to be produced. Adult literacy programs should be arranged. If parents are educated, they will be able to educate their children. Baluchistan youth think that they have been left far behind as compared to youth of other provinces. He doesn't have the potential to compete with the present world." We have got Habib Dashte. He says, "No initiatives have been for the sake of change in youth. This is the reason Baluchistan Youth are disappointed. Government isn't willing to take any initiative so the disappointment of youth can be removed. Unemployment is the reason to inferiority. There are not many industries in Baluchistan except major cities where everyone cannot reach. Political leaders don't have the sense of ruling. Federal government hasn't taken any step for the future of youth either. Due to the carelessness of political leaders youth have stuck in thinking of inferiority complex that in spite of achieving their goals they have raised guns." Regarding the inferiority of Balochistan youth what a common Balochistan youth thinks. We spoke to Abdul Jabar in this regard. He says, "All Balochistan Youth is eager to get education so that they can have a bright future. High rank officers spoil our educational efforts by appointing their favorite ones. Illiterate people are on high posts, but those having degrees are jobless. Appointment should be talent and merit based." Balochistan Youth is a valuable asset of the country. They should be given opportunities so that they can play a role in the development of the province and country.

Mehreen: Mr. Karim Baloch how much has the feeling of inferiority been caused by the company factor?

Karim couldn't answer

Sabir: It is the responsibility of parents to up bring their children in a cautious way. If youth is accompanied by a teacher, religious scholar or any other person of the same type, it will have positive effects. On the other hand if a child is in the company of a criminal or any other person of the same kind, it will definitely cause negative impacts.

Mehreen: Mr. Shakir how do you relate negative impacts of tribal system regarding feelings of deprivation in case of girls?

Shakir: Tribal chiefs don't want to see youth in the field of education. If youth get educated, there will be no one to back them to follow them. Women don't get the right of getting education. They aren't allowed to get education as they are females. It is considered immoral. Tribal chiefs should encourage youth on getting education.

Mehreen: What steps should be taken to take youth out of deprivation feeling?

Sabir: This is the role of institutions. Ministers and education department should take a notice of it. Youth should participate in sports and other positive activities.

Mehreen: Mr. Shakir what would you say in this regard?

Shakir: First of all poverty should be eradicated. Literacy rate should be increased. Apart from that females should be educated. By educating females we can overcome different problems. The media should do more and more programs on encouraging people toward education.

Mehreen: Mr. Karim what is your take?

Karim: There is lack of opportunities because of which youth is victim of loneliness and deprivation. Government should facilitate youth to solve this problem.

Mehreen: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 77

### Topic: Role and responsibilities of local bodies' government

Guests: Manzoor Rahi Baloch (Central Councilor National Party), Niaz Hasan (Youth Representative), Izat Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 10-02-2015

#### Program Summary

As the main duty of MPAs and MNAs is to form legislation rather than developmental work, the government of Baluchistan has conducted local bodies' election effectively. Baluchistan has been a backward province in many regards. People of Baluchistan have many grievances. They don't have access to their MPAs and MNAs, but after the formation of local government they will be able to access their elected members easily as they too are resident of the same areas. People have great expectations from local government members. People of Baluchistan have problems regarding education, health, infrastructure, electricity, water etc. Most of the elected members are the youth. They are very committed about the welfare of the people, but they want the government to allocate funds and cooperation with them. Besides, they have appealed people to support them.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Mr. Manzoor what is the structure of local bodies system?

Manzoor: It comprises of Union councils, District councils, Municipal Corporation and Municipal Committees.

Liaqat: What is the ratio of reserved seats in this structure?

Manzoor: Women have 30% of the seats. Minorities are given 5% of the seats whereas farmers have 5% of the seats.

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz Hasan is this structure valid for the achievement of needs of the people or does it require any amendments?

Niaz: The people who have been elected in local bodies' election should fulfill their responsibilities effectively as they are the representatives of the people. They should be taking care of the needs of the people. They should fulfill their duties with a sense of responsibility.

Liaqat: Mr. Izat Baloch, are you satisfied with the structure of local bodies' government or could any amendments be made?

Izat: This structure is good enough to resolve the problems of the people. It is the beginning of a democratic system. This system has the ability to prove itself as a solution to the problems of people.

Liaqat: We have got a report. We will be right back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

All the stages of the system that can pave the way of development have been completed i.e. electing local members, but will these members be up to the expectations of people or not. We spoke to Munawar Hussain Baloch who is a member of local bodies' system. He says, "I have been elected recently. My first priority will

be to serve people. There are many problems of water, electricity, health and education. I will try to look after all these matters. People should support us. We appeal to the Chief Minister of Baluchistan to cooperate with us. Besides I appeal to all the NGOs to cooperate. There is a big issue of health in Baluchistan particularly polio and measles. Besides we will be concentrating on the education of children. We will rehabilitate the communication system. The more the children get educated the more their future would be bright. We do have plans, but it depends upon resources i.e. how much government of Baluchistan cooperates with us. Let's hope for the best." Besides we have a social worker Noman. He says, "People have great expectations from the members of local government system. We want the inaugural of many different developmental works. We want local government system to play its role in sanitation system, agriculture and infrastructure etc. People think of members of local government as a ray of hope because these members are people among them. Therefore we want local government to facilitate people as much as possible. They should spend as many resources as possible for the welfare of the people. All basic need of the people should be focused such as the construction of roads. The provision of basic facilities should be made possible. Basic Health Units and Rural Health Units should be activated so that people can be facilitated. Apart from this sanitation plans should be inaugurated for people. People should be provided with clean water. Local government system will bring betterment in miserable conditions of roads in farther areas. All funds that are allocated by government should be used sincerely for the welfare of the people." People have elected their members. Now it is the responsibility of the members to be up to the expectations of people by taking out Baluchistan out from the pile of problems and lead it towards progress.

Liaqat: Mr. Manzoor how many councilors have been elected in local bodies' election?

Manzoor: According to Election Commission of Pakistan approximately 3600 councilors have been elected.

Liaqat: What are the responsibilities of these members?

Manzoor: All departments that are concerned with basic needs of the people are under these members i.e. health, education, water etc. The main duty of MPAs and MNAs is the formation of legislations. A change can come in the country through local government members.

Liaqat: How is the structure of the local government spread in Baluchistan?

Manzoor: There is a metropolitan council, 4 municipal corporations, 53 municipal committees and 635 union councils in Baluchistan at the moment.

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz is our local government authoritative enough and has enough freedom or it will be interrupted by provincial or central government?

Niaz: You asked a question at the commencement of program that whether our local bodies' government system is of the international caliber or not. It isn't of international caliber at all. There are many shortcomings in this system. Government should concentrate on it seriously.

Liaqat: What are your responsibilities i.e. how can you play your role as youth in this regard?

Niaz: Youth should concentrate on education. They shouldn't get into politics. If they are doing a profession, they should do it effectively.

Liaqat: Mr. Izat Baloch what can be the role of youth in bounding local government members to fulfill their responsibilities?

Izat: Youth is a sign of change. Awareness should be spread among them regarding their problems.

Liaqat: Mr. Manzoor how were these local bodies' election different from the ones in the past?

Manzoor: Unfortunately most of the times army dictators have used local government for their favors. General Pervez Musharraf brought a best local government system, but used it according his choice. This is the first time in the political history of Pakistan that an election for local government has been possible by our government on political basis rather than by the army. All parties have membership in it.

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz, will this ongoing system be beneficial for people or the systems in the past were better?

Niaz: There isn't drinking water in many districts. Besides, there isn't electricity in many districts. I request Manzoor Rahi and Chief Minister of Baluchistan to include these problems in their priorities particularly health and education.

Liaqat: Mr. Izat Baloch Manzoor Rahi said that local government has been formed for the first time on political basis. My question is that will people be benefited by the formation of this government or only political parties will have the benefits?

Izat: We can't have rapid result of this government. We will see the result after some time, but I think there should be a check and balance on this government. Hopefully it will deliver.

Liaqat: Mr. Manzoor, will this local government be authoritative enough, how much would provincial or central government be involved?

Manzoor: There shouldn't be any interruption by the government. Local government should be sovereign. Most of the elected members are youth. They are very committed. The government shouldn't be interrupting.

Liaqat: What are the main problems of the people here which are under local government circle?

Manzoor: Former members hadn't work for what they were elected. We have been inheriting many problems i.e. infrastructure, health, education etc. besides, we have problems of cleanliness. Schools and hospitals need to be renovated. Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch has said that education and health matters will be handed over to local government so that they can improve.

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz what are other serious problems?

Niaz: The youth have concerns about hospitals. Health Department isn't thoroughly activated. Most of the women in Baluchistan die by the time of delivery. Besides, most of the children die due to polio. Polio teams can't go to farther areas due to security concerns. Apart from this there are problems related to education. Primary education is free in Punjab. Government of Baluchistan should also introduce such policies.

Manzoor: I would like to add something to what Niaz said about death at delivery timings. We do have doctors, but most of them want to be appointed in cities like Quetta. If these doctors render services at their own districts, no death will be reported at delivery timing.

Liaqat: Most of the times elected members aren't seen in the constituency where they are elected from. They are in Karachi, Islamabad etc. for most of the time. How the local government system bound its members to be present at their union councils?

Manzoor: It is the responsibility of every elected member to be present for the services of the people. If they aren't, people shouldn't elect them again. Those who don't serve people are again elected by the people.

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz, what should people do if their members aren't sincere because they have been elected for five years?

Niaz: We will have to cope with them until next elections. This is the only solution I think.

Liaqat: Mr. Izat Baloch how can these elected members be bound regarding their responsibilities?

Izat: It has been the tragedy of the entire country. Politics is done only to secure personal businesses. Transparency is the only solution.

Liaqat: We have got a report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Baluchistan is ahead of other provinces in local bodies' election, but if Baluchistan is compared with other provinces in developmental sense, Baluchistan is an example of backwardness. Law and order situation has been very affected. People have great expectations from local member, but will these members be up to their expectations or not. We spoke to Naqeeb Khan who is a political worker. He says, "This system has been very successful in other countries. This system has also occurred in Pakistan many times from which people got many benefits. The promises that Baluchistan Government had made to people regarding Local Bodies' Election have been kept by Baluchistan Government. The advantage of local government system is that the elected members reside in the area in which other people reside. The elected member also has the same problem what other people have. It is the government of a common person. Provincial and federal government should hand authority and funds to these members as soon as possible. Baluchistan has been a backward province. It is difficult for the government to facilitate people door to door because the area of Baluchistan is more than the population i.e. Baluchistan has a scattered population. It is the responsibility of local government to reach areas where provincial government can't. They should be developing the sector of education. This system can be helpful in where funds should be utilized. We satisfied with members that have been elected this time. Members also had commitments that they want to serve people. We are hopeful and ready to cooperate with them." Provincial conducted local bodies' elections as they had promised, but had the the responsibility of the government to provide funds and make policies to strengthen this system for the welfare of the people.

Liaqat: Mr. Manzoor as you belong to ruling party; what change have you brought as yet in Baluchistan?

Manzoor: We had only one university and one medical college, but as Abdul Malik Baloch got mandate, he approved three medical colleges in Turbat, Khuzdar and Loralai respectively. He also led the foundation of three universities. He made reforms in education policies. He led the foundation of a college when he was the minister of education in 1995, but he upgraded it to Degree College now. He upgraded many boys and girls colleges to Degree Level. Besides, he upgraded schools as well.

Liaqat: Abdul Malik has done many things, but what has other members of his cabinet done?

Manzoor: I have to mention his name because he is the captain of the team. Although all soldiers participate in a war, but general is the hero by the end of the day. Present Education Minister has also been working in this regard. In fact everyone is working. We are trying to eradicate problems that we have inherited from former government.

Liaqat: Mr. Niaz have common people been benefited for real in the past two years?

Niaz: No special performance has been seen on grass root level as yet, but maybe some change occurs after local bodies' election. Whatever Mr. Manzoor said, may it be the priority of the government. Apart from education and health infrastructure has been the problem. We hope the road web will be spread. We have been listening of railway line from Quetta to Gawadar. We hope it gets started. The government should take practical initiatives in the field of education.

Liaqat: Mr. Izat what points would you raise on which the government should work?

Izat: Health officials should be facilitated so that they render their services.



Liaqat: Mr. Manzoor you have handed over responsibilities to the lower level. What do you want from elected members of the local government now as a party?

Manzoor: We want them to bring a change. They should spend their abilities for the welfare of the people so that their problems can be solved.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## **Episode: 78**

### **Topic: Child rights and role of government**

Guests: Syed Munawar Ahmad Shah (Provincial Commissioner for Children), Saeed Ahmad Khan (Professor) and Saliha Saddiquie (Youth Representative).

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Field Story: Habibur Rehman

Dated: 16-02-2015

#### **Program Summary**

Children are considered to be a precious asset of the state. The constitution of Pakistan has given them rights in every walk of life, but yet people have grievances about the rights of children. Most of the children are deprived of getting education as their parents can't afford their expense as a result of which they start working in hotels, garages, brick furnaces and lift garbage from streets and roads. Many of the children are being exploited by making them work more than their capabilities. They get a low pay for more than enough work. Due to the lack of effective initiatives by government many children are trafficked and abused. Besides, many children die due to the lack of health facilities. Children who aren't given education; most of the times get involved in destructive activities which Pakistan is already facing. Such children become a threat for the state and nation. Government should take serious initiatives for the provision of rights to children. Parents and teachers too can play their role in this regard.

#### **Transcription**

Mehreen: Dear listeners today we will be discussing children rights and the role of government. Before introducing our guests we have got a report about child rights. Let's listen to it first.

REPORT: Habib-Ur-Rehman, Quetta

Poverty, illiteracy and other social problems have stuck children of Pakistan particularly Baluchistan in quagmire of getting jobs. On the other hand child labor, child abuse and child trapping incidents can also be seen which is a big tragedy for our society and Pakistan is. Government and international organizations do have high claims about the rights of children, but reality is absolutely otherwise. We spoke to Dad Shah Achakzai who is the Chief Editor of Daily Awaz Times. He says,

The literacy rate in Pakistan is low particularly in Baluchistan. The numbers of school in Baluchistan is very low. Legislation was introduced according to which 10 year education was declared imperative, but no initiatives have been taken for its implementation. Children are seen working in four different child labor work i.e. hotel, brick furnace or in garages. An international organization has defined child labor in four ways. Children who work in early age or overtime get psychological and social pressure. Their salaries are very low which also keep them in pressure. They are pressurized to work more on a low pay. According to a survey 10 to 12 thousand children have been abused in Quetta. A project for their counseling was initiated, but due to unknown reasons it got winded up. There is no court or detention centers for children here. There aren't any borstal houses for children. There aren't any legislations vis-à-vis children. Provincial committee hasn't been formed as yet although 2 years have passed since the formation of provincial assembly.

Millions of children in Baluchistan are deprived of their basic rights and daily needs. Need of time is that government should form legislation regarding child rights and should make its implementation sure.

Mehreen: In today's guest panel we have Syed Munawar Ahmad Shah who is Provincial Commissioner for

children. Apart from this we have Saeed Ahmad Khan who is a professor and belongs to social sector. The third guest is Saliha Saddique as a volunteer for children activities. She is a youth representative.

Mehreen: Mr. Munawar what do we mean by children rights and what is the difference between the rights of children and the rights of an adult?

Munawar: The rights of children are categorized into four ways i.e. to work for the survival and development of children. Besides, working for the welfare of children avoiding any discrimination with children falls in this category. Giving the right of identity also is a part of child rights. We asked the government to establish borstal institutions for children. The government said there is no legislation for it. Legislation has been formed and has been passed by provincial assembly. Government of Baluchistan made a committee for borstal institutions. I am its member as Provincial Commissioner for children. We have done a session in this regard. We have started working on acquiring the land. Hopefully borstal institutions will be formed in 2015. Children who are in detention will be felicitated in these borstal institutions. We have tried to form separate barracks to separate them from adults. Most of the children follow adult criminals and think of them as their ideal. To avoid it we have asked for separate barracks. We have also tried to keep children in separate jails in police stations as well so that they can be isolated from the company of adult criminals. In this regard we are trying to establish a separate section in borstal institutions which will be called remand home. Under trial children will be kept there. These children will also be felicitated.

Mehreen: Mr. Saeed What difference do you observe between the education status of children in Baluchistan and children in other provinces?

Saeed: The education of children is basically the responsibility of the state. Government is bound by the constitution of Pakistan under article 25a to provide free and compulsory education to children. State has failed to deliver free and compulsory education to children because of which these children get into negative activities. It has negative impacts on the coming generation as well. Education is the responsibility of state, parents and society. The coming generation also gets deprived of education as a result.

Mehreen: According to the education department only 1.3 million children out of 3.6 million are able to go to school regularly in Baluchistan. Primary education is free in Punjab, but not in Baluchistan. We do have laws, but no implementation. What is the reason of incomplete implementation?

Saeed: Education to matric level is provided free in Baluchistan as well. There is no concept of fee in government educational institutes. Without any doubt there are many flaws in our education system because of which the standard of education is getting worse. The present government has been focusing on uplifting the standard of education for which new strategies are arranged every now and then. The government has started a new campaign to get rid of the menace of cheating in exam. Children who have a habit of cheating in Baluchistan will be discouraged regarding cheating and will be encouraged with the spirit of hard work so that he or she can succeed in practical life. Government of Baluchistan is arranging syllabus as well. Teacher training programs have been started. Committees of teachers and parents have been set to contribute in uplifting the standard of education. The government, parents and other societies are worried about the collapse of standard of education. How a child would be able to earn a living if he or she gets a degree from such a standard of education. Government and people are on the same page regarding the eradication of cheating so that the spirit of hardwork can be raised in students.

Mehreen: Ms. Saliha who is responsible for trend of cheating i.e. using unfair means in exam; parents, society, education system, teachers, syllabus or children themselves?

Saliha: A child doesn't start cheating in exam himself. When a child is given freedom, he or she then moves towards cheating. If teachers can't control children, they will definitely adopt the method of cheating. It is an easy way to pass in the exam. Children will definitely adopt an easy way if teachers don't stop them. Government has been definitely working in this regard, but it is important to see whether the work is result oriented

or not. We have formed a youth group for the welfare of children. We have opened a library that gives free books to children particularly to children who loaf around on the streets. We decided to teach them individually.

Mehreen: Mr. Munawar, Is sufficient fund allocated by federal government for literary activities or sports of children? If yes, is it completely implemented practically or not and what's your role in this regard?

Munawar: Government forms legislations and institutes act on them. Institutes that fail to act on these legislations are visited by us for their reformation. We take action against teachers who are absent from schools. We have visited many far areas of Baluchistan in this regard and have made the attendance of teachers certain. We made the provision of free books certain. Besides we have made the attendance of paramedics certain in health sectors. If any of such government institutes are not working properly, people should contact us. We will take action against it.

Mehreen: We have got a report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Habib-Ur-Rehman, Quetta

Due to the lack of effective initiatives regarding child rights most of the children on roads are seen begging, lifting garbage and are found doing other crimes which is sad and is against the human rights. Not only most of the children in Pakistan are deprived of their basic rights due to the lack of effective government initiatives and social hurdles, but it is equally a tragedy for the future of Pakistan. We spoke to a social worker Muhammad Sohail regarding this. He says,

As far as child rights are concerned, we don't see active role of state institutions in this regard. We usually see children doing activities which are not according to their ages. Parents who can't afford educational expenses, their children usually work in a hotel, garage or lift garbage. If teachers and parents do more than their capabilities, they can do a lot for these children. Parents who can't afford expense of children education should provide education from institutes that are effective in second shift where education is free so that they can beautify themselves with education alongside a profession. Teachers should also play their role in this regard which will produce interest in children towards getting education. State assures the provision of rights to its citizens. Three things are common and free in a society i.e. education, justice and health. It is the responsibility of state. We live in a very backward area i.e. Baluchistan that has always been very slow in pulling off the initiatives. People are still fighting for their rights. Considering the circumstances, government should spent most of its attention on the welfare work of children. Educational emergency has been imposed in Punjab. People in Baluchistan also say that educational emergency has been imposed in Baluchistan as well, but the backward scenarios are not hidden from any one so the state should come forward and play its role in this regard. If parents, teachers and state act together, child trafficking, child abuse and other social evils will be eradicated. This is only possible if teachers, parents and state play their role effectively. If today's child isn't educated and brought up properly, he or she will become a threat for the society. Such a child will do all the destructive activities which we are dealing with today i.e. militancy and other social evils. We can stop it today by well educating and socializing a child. God forbid if these steps aren't taken, we are producing ammunition. Government should take effective initiatives for child rights in order to secure the future of Pakistan from ruination so that honor of Pakistan increases and every child prospers.

Mehreen: Mr. Munawar what initiatives have been taken by the government regarding the decrease of mortality and morbidity rate?

Munawar: We have been trying to decrease it, but we can't decrease this rate until the attendance of staff at dispensaries, child and mother health centers, BHUs (Basic Health Units) and hospitals are not made sure. Mortality and morbidity rate can't be decreased until medicines aren't available at the aforementioned health centers. We have taken steps to make sure the attendance of paramedics and doctors. Besides, we have made sure the availability of medicines as well. If vaccines are taken during pregnancy and at the time of birth, it

can also control mortality rate. Besides, immunization of children should be done to decrease mortality rate. Government is accused for not keeping a check on its institutions, but people too are responsible for it. Most of the people are illiterate. Literacy rate is very low. Even today children are born at homes where they aren't properly taken care of. It is important to carry out the delivery at hospitals to save the lives and other health issues of both the child and mother. If people aren't facilitated at hospitals or health centers, our department will play an effective role in this regard. We have been trying and will try.

Mehreen: Healthy children don't get their rights. We have disabled children in society as well which aren't accepted even by the society. Once I was reading from a very reliable source that in Baluchistan only 2000 children out of 82000 go to special schools. It is a very dark side. Mr. Saeed what would you say?

Saeed: Pakistan has signed 27 conventions with UN among which 9 conventions are specifically about human rights. The last convention that we have signed is about the rights of disabled children. We have agreed international community to provide all the facilities to these disabled children. There are departments of special education and social welfare in Quetta. Departments in divisional headquarters are playing their part regarding special education. These children are given education in institutes of social welfare and special education department in divisional headquarters. Children who don't have access to these institutions are being ignored. Civil society has been meeting the government officials to form legislation for the right of these disabled children so that they can get rights that other children get on international level.

Mehreen: You said there are institutes i.e. schools and other setup for disabled children. Are there only buildings or they are functional?

Saeed: It depends upon the role of community. Local Bodies' Election has taken place in Baluchistan. It is the responsibility of councilors to look why these institutes are non-functional because they are our local leadership. State has provided facilities, but if people aren't being benefited, it is the responsibility of councilors to come forward and functionalize non-functional institutes so the people can be benefited. No one can keep a better check and balance than local government officials. It doesn't matter how many institutes the government opens unless the community play its role.

Mehreen: Mr. Munawar is there any complaint cell number on which people can register their complaints?

Munawar: NAB department is available in Baluchistan which is near Civil Secretariat. We have regional offices in Sibi, Dera Murad Jamali, Loralai, Khuzdar and Turbat. We have a divisional office in Hub and Zhob. We do receive complaints. If you have any complaints regarding your children about these institutes, you contact us via our fax number which is 0819202366. If you want to contact me directly, my cell number is 03337813944.

Mehreen: Thanks a lot for joining us. It's goodbye for now.

## Episode: 79

### Topic: Initiatives of government against cheating

Guests: Tariq Baloch (President ANP Chaghi expert), Khizran Waqar and Osheen Maryam Maryam (Youth Representatives).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 17-02-2015

#### Program Summary

The menace of cheating has played its role in devastating education of Baluchistan. Unluckily, nothing serious and critical has been done to halt this nuisance. Cheating in examination halls is considered a pride. The incumbent government is said to have initiated, to some extent, to eliminate this hazard; however much more needs to be done to tackle this problem. Installation of CCTV cameras is, no doubt, a good step; though, society and students should also play their due role to pull up the dangers of cheating. Unfortunately, students of the day cannot disassociate themselves from cheating. On the other hand, experts are of the view that education sector needs entire reformation as corruption and the current hollowed system is no more acceptable to society. Some hold teachers and political system as well as political interference in education sector responsible for flourishing the menace of cheating in the examination. Whosoever may be responsible, we need a collective step to give our new generation a solid and transparent system of education.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Cheating is the menace which leaves no stone unturned to hollow the capabilities of hard working and laborious students. To halt the menace of cheating the government's initiative, so far, is appreciable; as it has declared installation of CCTV cameras in examination halls and strict measures against all those, teachers or students, involved in the nuisance of unfair means. So I would like to ask Tariq Baloch that why do students prefer cheating to hard working?

Tariq Baloch: First of all, I thank you. Cheating in examination is not the problem of Baluchistan only but the whole country since long suffers massively due to this menace. We are very backward especially in education; that's why; cheating, as compared to other sister provinces, has badly flourished here. The authorities concerned have not taken even a single step to address this hot and burning issue.

Liaqat: What role does the society or students can play to bring cheating to a virtual standstill in the province?

Tariq Baloch: A strange psyche of students has developed. Now they cannot disassociate themselves from cheating. But the society may change the existing psyche of students. The society can launch a campaign against the dangers and threats of cheating in examination halls.

Liaqat: Let us talk to Khizran Waqar that why do students prefer cheating?

Khizran Waqar: Actually our students are not given any sorts of training. They are not taught how to use their potential and energy. A student is of the view that he will pass the examination by using unfair means and get a job by political or tribal influence. Majority of the parents guide the children to use unfair materials in the examination in order to get good marks. It is my personal experience. Parents also encourage them. The second phase is that of a society as it is well-said that society moulds a person. There is tendency of cheating everywhere, that's why; competent students are discouraged and they also give teachers a bribe to get them passed. Our flawed system has memorization which is also harmful for students. There should be learning and

teaching. A student should avoid memorization.

Liaqat: Let us talk to Osheen Maryam, youth representative. Do you agree to what the Khizran Waqar said that parents encourage their children to cheat?

Osheen Maryam: It is right to some extent, but actually our education system is full of errors. Cheating is not the matter of Baluchistan only; this menace has spread everywhere. But it does not mean that every student is involved in it. There is indeed a huge difference in our educational system. We need to remove all the flaws existing in our educational system. If a teacher does not teach well, how will a student learn?

Liaqat: Do you blame teachers?

Osheen Maryam: All the educationalists to be blamed. The government, teachers and other concerned people can be held responsible for their respective duties.

Liaqat: Should a child not think that he has to compete in his career?

Osheen Maryam: Yeah. You are right; but if it is not taught and convinced well, how will I be able to solve it?

Liaqat: So along with the system there are problems with teachers as well. If we have a bird's eye view of the private schools i.e. Beacon house, Grammar school etc. Cheating ratio is less there as compared to government-run schools.

Tariq Baloch: In real senses, there is no big difference between government-run and private institutions.

Liaqat: What do you say about the recent initiative of the government regarding imposition of educational emergency?

Tariq Baloch: The steps taken by the incumbent government for the betterment of educational system is highly appreciable. On the other hand, we should not blame teachers for poor performance. If the government takes any serious action against the menace of cheating, it will surely affect students' result. In that case teachers will do their best to pay heed to students so that they may pass and secure good marks.

Liaqat: Had the government not better to install the CCTV cameras in class rooms instead of installing them in examination halls?

Osheen Maryam: Yes. I think the cameras should be installed in the class rooms rather than in examination halls.

Liaqat: Why is the government not taking strict measures to develop and refine class rooms' environment if it is serious?

Tariq Baloch: The incumbent government has no doubt taken initiatives for the improvement of education. By the directives of Chief Minister, all sorts of data of the educational institutions in Baluchistan has been collected with the aim to have a transparent monitoring system. The next appreciable step is to affiliate all of them to a directorate that will be situated in Quetta; and the director will be having full authority to raid at any school.

Liaqat: Let us listen to a report.

Report by Yasir Baloch:

The devastating situation of cheating in Baluchistan has verily hampered ways to quality education. What initiatives has the incumbent government taken so far to halt this menace? Let us talk to a teacher, Ibrar Barkat.

Ibrar Barkat: The incumbent government's initiatives in halting the menace of teaching are massively signifi-

cant. But let me add that the installation of CCTV cameras or using any other sort of technology will never be proved effective unless electricity is provided. If there is no electricity in the area, how CCTV cameras will be functional. Halting the nuisance of cheating is possible only in developed districts i.e Quetta etc. In the backward area, this step of the government will, I think, never be proved effective.

Eisa Khan, a student, informed CRSS, "Being a student, I would like to blame the system of education. If we are serious to eliminate the menace of cheating then we have to commence from the grass root level. Our teaching system must be changed. If a student has learned nothing, what he will write in the examination. Actually the way we are taught is deplorable. There are no monthly or weekly tests in our schools. That's why; majority of students remain dependant on cheating. We have also seen such teachers who, unfortunately, teach more than five subjects; in this case, it becomes difficult for them to pay heed to their students.

Yasir Baloch: To uproot the menace of cheating, education system needs to be reformed.

Liaqat: Let me ask Tariq Baloch. As you told about a data collected by the authorities concerned on the directives of the current government about different schools of the province; was it not mentioned there that CCTV camera and use of other electronic devices would not be effective as there was no electricity?

Tariq Baloch: Let me clarify that such cameras will be installed in examination halls; and most of the examination halls are situated in the cities where electricity is available. Secondly, chargeable cameras are also available in markets.

Liaqat: Will such plans be effective?

Osheen Maryam: The government needs to show seriousness in this regard. It is easily applicable. There must be a check and balance.

Khizran Waqar: The most needed thing was the initiative; and that was taken. It is not the matter of CCTV cameras. Many high-ups, landlords and politicians do not send their children to examination halls. They just give the examiners the roll numbers of their kids. We need to eliminate such acts.

Liaqat: How to control human errors?

Khizran Waqar: Actually the majority of our public is involved in dishonesty. We need to provide them with Islamic teachings and training.

Osheen Maryam: We should also pay attention to the character building of our children. At home and school, the character building is highly important for our children. The other most significant thing is to eliminate the gap of rich and the poor; every child whether of a CM or a poor laborer, should be admitted in the same school.

Liaqat: Will the use of technology help us eliminate the menaces, or is character building equally important?

Tariq Baloch: As it was mentioned that nothing can be achieved by force. But to implement something in real essence, the government will have to force its employees or else nobody will do anything willingly. Along with government, citizens should also contribute to solve problems. Campaigns have been launched for the last six months regarding awareness and installation of CCTV cameras.

Osheen Maryam: The children of the today are very much talented. We can guide them well.

Actually I am of the view; unless the system is fully reformed we cannot make any progress. Our children give us an outstanding result in other areas but in Baluchistan we have seen no output. It is just because of the system.

Tariq Baloch: We have, no doubt, syllabus problems too.



Khizran Waqar: Our system is good for nothing. None of the governments have taken notice to change system.

Liaqat: A teacher, in our society, lives from hand to mouth. After getting free from school, he goes to attend different tuition classes. So what has the government done to provide a teacher with possible facilities so that he may impart his knowledge well?

Tariq Baloch: I don't agree with you. A teacher's monthly salary is more than enough for him. He is quite facilitated. Every government employee should be more and more facilitated so that he may perform his duty well.

Liaqat: A caller has called us from Multan. Let us listen to him. He asks us about the difference of the curriculum of private and government-run schools.

Tariq Baloch: That's the problem. The government is also planning to remove this difference.

Khizran Waqar: Let me tell you that I have got through matriculation in 1999. The curriculum which I studied fifteen years ago still exists. That's really annoying.

Liaqat: When will it be possible to have a sound planning for curriculum in Baluchistan?

Tariq Baloch: We have a bureau of curriculum which supervises the entire curriculum and very soon the difference will be removed.

Liaqat: It is time to listen a field report.

Report:

Will the initiative of the incumbent government regarding elimination of cheating culture in the examination-help satisfy the youth? Let us talk to educational expert, Tauseef Khan.

Tauseef Khan: Lack of quality education and proper teaching pave way for cheatings in examination. It is the duty of the government to have a check and balance on all the concerned departments to ensure the basic and best teaching in order to keep the students away from the cheating during examinations. To educate our generation, we all need to be sincere. The teachers as well as parents need to pay considerable attention to address the sundry issues of the children. The role of entire society can be highly effective in eliminating the menace of cheating. It is note-worthy that politics has deteriorated the whole situation. Education department must be freed from all sorts of political influence.

Yasir Baloch: The role of the current government is palpable; however, imposition of rules and regulations need to be stressed.

Liaqat: A caller has sent us sms saying that teachers' salaries are deducted in winter vacation. It is a wrong and unfair decision. Actually we are talking about the hazards of cheating. We talked about education in the mother-language. In developed countries, children are educated in the mother-tongue, that's why; they make developments by leaps and bounds.

Tariq Baloch: Educating students in the mother language will surely help them understand whatever they are taught. English will also be present but all other subjects will be in regional languages.

Osheen Maryam: If we start teaching kids in their mother language, it will boost up their learning quality; they will easily learn and pick everything well. I had a pukhtoon student in my class. He did not know Urdu and Balochi as I did not know Pashto. So I started learning Pashto from my colleagues and taught him. Within a few months, he was capable of understanding a lot of things. That was the result of teaching in the mother language.

Khizran Waqar: In the initial stage, a child can pick each and everything well. Teaching English can also be effective. A child can learn much English in his initial stage.

Liaqat: Has the government taken any steps to train the teachers, keeping the modern tools and techniques?

Tariq Baloch: It is quite evident. Much training is given to the teachers. There are different projects in our areas just for training the teachers. They are sent on study tours.

Liaqat: What message would you like to convey to the government regarding elimination of cheating?

Osheen Maryam: We should have a strict rule for selecting teachers. What will a teacher convey to students if he himself knows nothing.

Khizran Waqar: The syllabus must be up-to-date.

Tariq Baloch: The government should minimize the syllabus.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot. Thank you for joining us. The time is over.

## Episode: 80

### Topic: Labor laws and status of implementation in Balochistan

Guests: Rahat Malik (Column Writer, Political Worker and Human Rights Activist), Sadam (Advocate) and Hanif (Advocate).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 23-02-2015

#### Program Summary

Balochistan is considered to be the most backward province of Pakistan in terms of development. There are approximately 3 to 8 million labors in Pakistan. A large number of people are labourers in Balochistan due to poverty. The constitution of Pakistan has given rights to labors, but these laws aren't being implemented by the elite class or employers. Labourers are physically exploited by the elite class and employers. They aren't compensated according to their workload. They don't get their daily wages in time. They have been living miserable lives due to low wages. The pay doesn't fulfill their household needs. Government has set an amount of minimum pay for labors, but it isn't implemented. Government should take a serious step in this regard and should reform laws under the constitution of Pakistan.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: Dear listeners in this program we highlight the problems of the people of Balochistan. Today we will be discussing labor laws and status of implementation in Balochistan. We have got some guests for today's discussion. We have got Mr. Rahat Malik who is literati, a column writer and a political leader. Apart from it he is a human rights activist. Our next guest is Advocate Sadam. Third guest is Advocate Hanif. Before we move on to the program we have got a report. We will be right back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Labor rights and their implementation is the responsibility of government in a society. Law regarding labor rights has been formed by the government. They should be given compensation from 9 to 12 thousand. To know whether this law is implemented in the society, we met labor union leader Mr. Mir Zahid Nausherawan. He says, "Balochistan has been a backward province in terms of development. There is a huge amount of laboring here on daily wages. The rules and laws made for the facilities of labors aren't exercised at all. Their rights are in worse position. Nobody cares about their rights. Inflation has reached to its extreme level. Labors should be facilitated both by government and people so that they can earn a living. There has been a lot of injustice and corruption in our system. It's isn't being eradicated. No rules and regulations are implemented where there is injustice and corruption. In such a scenario the provision of rights to labors seems dead. Those who do laboring as a profession should be given their rights. It is the responsibility of the government to do so. Labors don't even get their daily wages. Their daily wages are taken as a loan. The government is ignorant in this regard. Elite class in the society is exploiting them. They want people to be uneducated. Elite class uses them as labors. They haven't been given their rights for a long time. After consecutive amendments in the rights of labors some changes in the present cycle have occurred. According to my knowledge laboring is on its peak and labors are getting their rights." It is the responsibility of the government to facilitate labors and give equal rights to them as other people. The rights of labors in Balochistan aren't given thoroughly. Government should take serious initiatives in this regard.

Mehreen: Mr. Rahat what is meant by labor laws in terms of their rights?

Rahat: A person who earns a living by spending physical and mental strength without having solid and productive resources is called a labor. Generally we think of industry workers as labors. They surely are labors, but there are other people who fall into this category. Children and women working at homes are also labors. People working in furnaces, farms, shops and particularly people in Balochistan who work at mines are also called labors. All human beings will be living a happy life if a society is economically human friendly. By a happy life I mean that everyone will be provided the basic rights i.e. health, education, living, employment, shelter etc. The state will be treating everyone equally. But unfortunately we haven't got such a society not only in Balochistan or Pakistan, but in the entire Asia. This is a tragedy with humans. Labors have been living a miserable life since Pakistan came into being. We must work in this regard so that labors don't have tough times.

Mehreen: Mr. Hanif how much know-how the labors of Balochistan have regarding their rights?

Hanif couldn't answer

Rahat: The example of unawareness of labors regarding their rights is that most of the private school male or female workers don't get the salary which is on paper. They are compelled to get less than the fixed salary. If educated labors aren't aware of their rights how can uneducated labors be aware of their rights? Elite class exploits these labors to every possible level. We can get out of this crisis if people value humans rather than the capital.

Mehreen: Mr. Sadam, are labor courts functional for the rights of labors?

Sadam: We have inherited labor laws from the British Government. Many amendments have been made to these laws till now. The current law we have is IRA which stands for Industrial Relations Act. This law can't address the problems of labors effectively. There are deficiencies in these laws. If a law isn't effective enough, how its implementation can be effective?

Mehreen: But at least laws that exist should be implemented.

Sadam: You are right, but according to a principal of law litigation is useless if its result isn't fruitful. There are a host of laws, but they are not properly implemented. Same is the case with labor laws. There is an article in the constitution of Pakistan i.e. article 3 which is about the elimination of exploitation, but exploitation still persists. Article 11 says that children below 16 years can not do any hazardous work at any place. Apart from this article 25 is regarding the equality of all citizens, but we aren't treating labor group equal to other group of people. There are laws under article 37 in principals of policy chapter which say that children and women shouldn't be physically exploited while working. According to ILO (International Labor Organization) a labor should be working 9 hours a day and 48 hours a week. Labors below 16 years should work 7 hours a day and 42 hours a week, but unfortunately our labor force is working night and day due to the worse economic condition of the country. There are 30 million labors in the world. According to a report there are 3 to 8 million labors in Pakistan. There was no addressing of labor rights in any political party's manifesto. No political party has taken a step in this regard. However, a conference was held in Sindh in 2014 in which our Chief Minister also participated. He said that they will be arranging such conferences in Balochistan that could address the issues of labor forces. Unfortunately this problem is getting prolonged like the other problems. Political parties, lawyers, civil society nor people of any other profession can understand this problem until they suffer the problems of labors.

Rahat: I would like to add something. Labor rights are the part of the manifesto of political parties. They do chant slogans about it, but the tragedy is they ignore it practically. We ignore a huge group of labors in Balochistan which is mines' labors. Mining industry isn't a part of Industrial Act. The work done in mines is far more difficult and bitter than any other industries, but Industrial Act isn't imposed on mining although many mishaps occur in mines. The owners of mines don't struggle. If we look at the life status of mine diggers, we will get to know that there is a big difference in the lives of owners of mines and mine diggers.

Mehreen: Many lives are lost in mining. Sometimes people get paralyzed or lose an organ. Mr. Sadam, are these people compensated? If yes, then how? Tell us in terms of Balochistan.

Sadam: Chief Minister has announced 7 lac rupees. I would like to add something to what Mr. Rahat said. There are some sectors that don't fall into Industrial Law. The constitution of Pakistan hasn't been considered while forming Industrial Relations Act. Article 87 and 98 of ILO haven't been considered either. 22 million labors of some sectors i.e. fishing, industries, hunting, agriculture don't fall under this law i.e. IRA.

Mehreen: Labors don't get their monthly or daily wages. Mr. Hanif to what extent these rights are given or trampled in context of Balochistan?

Hanif: Many people struggle for getting compensation if they get hurt. If they die their families get tired by going again and again to get the compensation. Laws aren't the problem, implementation is the problem. Government should implement the laws regarding labor rights.

Mehreen: We have got another report. We will be back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch, Quetta

Labors are the people who do all work of the society, but compensation of labors in Balochistan is very less which causes a lot of problems to them. They aren't given compensation according to their needs. In order to know why this problem isn't being solved, we met a political worker Syed Hussain Shah. He says, "The policy of the government was to give 9000 rupees to labors, and it has not been acted upon. The government has now ordered to give 12000 rupees to labors. Labors weren't given 9000, how they would be given 12000. Labors aren't facilitated at industries, hotels and other firms which is a big issue. Some labors were shot in Chicago on 1st May at which people felt that labors should be given their rights. This is the reason why 1st May is observed as a Labor Day. If a day can be observed, why can't they be respected and why can't they be given their rights. I wonder if they aren't a part of this society. Hazrat Mohammad (S.A.W) says, "Give compensation to labor before his or her sweat gets dry." No one is concentrating on the rights of labors in Balochistan. There are some labors in backward areas of Balochistan who are given 50 rupees per day which isn't sufficient, but they are obliged as there is much poverty." We have got a labor Ghulam Rasool. He says, "We are given 9000 rupees pay which doesn't fulfill our daily expense. Sometimes we don't have any money left. 9000 isn't enough nowadays to fulfill the household needs. Government orders regarding labor salaries aren't acted upon. No action has been taken in this regard. The role of local government in this regard isn't effective either. All industries and employers should act upon the policies of government in this regard. Only then labor will get satisfied and it will fulfill their household needs." Government should give rights to labors that hardly manage their household needs by increasing their compensation so that they too can live a relaxed life.

Mehreen: Mr. Sadam, are there any institutes in Balochistan that take care of old age or social security of employees?

Sadam: There might be such institutes or laws theoretically, but not anything as such in practical. After 60 years we have recognized education as a fundamental right. Right to employment, health and security isn't recognized as our fundamental right. No security is given to labors in this regard. People who are in power should take this problem as their priority. It should be recognized as a fundamental right.

Mehreen: Mr. Rahat what solution would you suggest for all these problem of either educated people or labors?

Rahat: If we look at the articles of the constitution of Pakistan, there are many laws being practiced against the aforementioned articles in different parts of the country particularly in Balochistan. All laws should be formed under article 3 and 11 of the constitution. If there are any flaws in it, they should be sorted out. All institutes of the state should not only be compelled to act upon the concerned laws, but it should be declared conditional

with salaries. Laws should be reconsidered under article 3 and 11.

Mehreen: Mr. Sadam what initiatives should be taken in this regard?

Sadam: Laws should be according to the institution and must be implemented. An independent committee should be formed where labors can have a direct access. The committee should be authoritative enough of taking prompt action. There should be accountability i.e. check and balance. Labors should make an association under article 17 of the constitution and they should raise voice for their problems.

Mehreen: Mr. Hanif what would you suggest?

Hanif: All laws in this regard should be implemented.

Mehreen: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 81

### Topic: Trade corridor from Gwadar to Kashgar

Guests: Ain Ullah Shams (Ex-health minister from Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam), Fahad Malik and Agha Daud Shah (Youth representatives).

Field Story: Habib Ur Rehman

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 24-02-2015

#### Program Summary

Experts are of the view that Gwader, being one of the most significant and leading sea-ports of the world can surely bring prosperity and pleasure not only to the people of Baluchistan but also to the entire country. Its significance cannot be denied. It will provide things and livelihood to more than two lac people. It will surely benefit not only Pakistan but also the neighboring countries. Facilitating the port will help increase in national revenue to forty billion dollars. It is note-worthy that it will bring happiness to all the backward areas of the province. Pakistan's economy will also boost up. Gwader has all the basic facilities like Dubai and Singapore ports. Unfortunately, this mega project has been politicized. The federal and the Punjab governments are in struggle to change its proposed route whereas KPK and Baluchistan government are struggling for its old proposed route. The primary and major stake-holder, China, which is investing more than 10 trillions \$ over this project is in favor of the old route; as bringing any change in the corridor will add at least 400 kilo-meters to the route that is not viable and acceptable to China. Now to avail and benefit from this mega-project, the federal as well as the provincial government should help and assist one another to tackle all these problems pragmatically.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: I am Liaqat your host with program "Baluchistan Ke Awam Ki Awaz". As you know that sundry burning issues of Baluchistan are discussed in this program with the hope to find out a suitable way out. The topic of the day is "Trade corridor from Gwader to Kashgar". Ain Ullah Shams would you please tell us about your reservation regarding the change in Gwader trade corridor?

Ain Ullah: Let me tell you that our leader Mulana Fazlur Rehman has told us that Chief Minister Punjab, Shahbaz Sharif along with some Chinese officials had an aerial view of the suggested corridor route between Gwader to Kashgar. All of them had showed satisfaction over the suggested route. We had discussed a six-point agenda which is beneficial and acceptable to both China and Pakistan. Now the federal government has changed the route. Ahsan Iqbal, federal minister, is not serious to chalk out a sound strategy to dissolve all the basic issues regarding this route.

Liaqat: Let us talk to Fahad Malik. What would you like to say about the change brought in the corridor route?

Fahad Malik: I don't agree to what Ain Ullah said; so far, China as well as other stake-holders have shown no reservation and concerns over the alleged change in the trade corridor; and to me, everybody amongst them is of the belief that it is viable via Quetta.

Liaqat: You, being the activist of ANP, don't agree with rumors regarding change in the trade corridor. Then why, a few days back, ANP backed the strike staged by JUI (F)?

Fahad: Actually it is just reservation and concern that this route may be changed. If it is really being changed, then our stand about it is quite obvious and we will never allow anyone to do so.

Liaqat: Ain Ullah, please inform our listeners that what would be the possible losses to Baluchistan if this route is changed?

Ain Ullah: We will be having quite sound share in tax collection. Secondly, industry can flourish here too much. We will have access to international market. If it is changed, then everybody will be sure that the federal government has never been serious to solve the issues of the Baluchistan.

Liaqat: Let us listen to a report prepared by CRSS reporter.

Report by Habib Ur Rehman:

The trade corridor route is really a step towards progress in the country and above all in Baluchistan. But in case, any change will surely ascertain the people of Baluchistan that Federal government never want us to be flourished and developed. Regarding this hot issue, let us talk to a young student, Jehangir Khan.

Jehangir Khan: I would like to say that any change in the proposed route in the trade corridor will surely mean that the pact has been signed by Lahore and China; and not by Pakistan; because it will affect us too much. Tough, it is the talk of the town that the proposed route will be changed however, the role and struggle of the Chief Minister Baluchistan, Abdul Malik in this regard is highly appreciable. I think, any change in the trade route will surely be an injustice with the people of Baluchistan. This corridor route is massively beneficial not only for Baluchistan but also for KPK and Punjab. The newly-proposed route will not be effective for the country as well. It is note-worthy that China itself is in favor of western route—the one signed in the beginning between the two countries.

Liaqat: Welcome back. You listened to the report. Dr. Abdul Malik has also said that he is not sure that the route will be changed. What can be the role of the incumbent government to halt the changes in the route?

Ain Ullah: Being the Chief Minister of Baluchistan, Dr. Abdul Malik must be aware of his discretionary as well as constitutional powers. Without the consultation of our CM, the federal government cannot bring any change in the proposed route. It is worth to remember that federal government always turns a deaf ear to our resolutions and demands.

Liaqat: You said that in the helicopter Mulana Fazlurrehman, CM Punjab and Chinese were present to discuss about the proposed route during an aerial view of the route. Why was not CM Baluchistan present at the occasion?

Ain Ullah: I would like to ask our CM that why CM Punjab comes here to inaugurate projects for Punjab? Why do they come and inaugurate projects for Punjab?

Fahad: Agreement of all stake-holders regarding change is necessary. Unless they agree, nothing can be changed.

Liaqat: Do you consider that the incumbent government is so much autonomous in using its power?

Fahad: Let me tell you that the incumbent nationalists' government has not raised voice for the province.

Liaqat: What would you like to say about change in the corridor route?

Agha Daud: Everybody has reservations. CM Punjab wishes the prosperity of the Punjab; Mulana Fazl of the D.I.Khan, so does our CM.

Liaqat: What is the role of opposition in this regard, if the government seems failed?

Ain Ullah: We have been struggling against the decision of changing the corridor route. The CM is in a fix; he



neither clearly mentions nor releases a single statement against the Federal or Punjab government. Being CM Baluchistan, he needs to be quite clear and single-minded. Now I would like to say that despite criticizing each and everything, we should single-mindedly come forward regarding this mega project which is a source of happiness and well-being for the entire country.

Liaqat: Let me include a caller, Asma, who wants to ask about the role of the incumbent government for bringing mega-projects. Before answering her, let us listen to a field report.

Report:

Gwader being one of the most significant sea-ports of the world can surely bring contentment and pleasure to not only the people of Baluchistan but also to the entire country. Regarding its importance, let us talk to a social worker, Farzana.

Farzana: The significance of Gwader port cannot be denied. It will provide benefits and livelihood to more than two lac people. It will benefit not only Pakistan but also the neighboring countries. Facilitating the port will help increase in national revenue to forty billion rupees. It is note-worthy to say that it will bring happiness to the all the backward areas of the province. Pakistan's economy will also boost. Gwader has all the basic facilities like Dubai, Singapore ports.

Habib ur Rehman: This mega-project will surely be helpful to the region.

Liaqat: What sorts of mechanism has the incumbent government of Baluchistan planned for the development and functioning of the Gwader port?

Fahad: Now we have to keep in view all the stake-holders of this mega project. We should not pay attention to any sorts of rumor spread to and fro. The major stake-holder is China. It will do whatever it likes and suits.

Liaqat: Don't you think the people of Baluchistan to be the major stake-holders as Gwader is situated in Baluchistan? Should this mega-project not be beneficial for these people?

Fahad: The primary and major stake-holder is China which is investing more than 10 trillions \$ over this project. Let me tell you that bringing any change in the corridor will add at least 400 kilo-meters to the route that is not viable and acceptable to China. For the public, it is a business venture; but it cannot be functional and useful unless and until China agrees.

Ain Ullah: We need to keep all the minor things in view. No doubt the newly-proposed route affects us. It is necessary for both national integration and defense. We will be able to develop and launch industrial zones on different points and places.

Liaqat: Why the nationalist parties are not planning for the benefits of the public?

Agha Daud: They are highly concerned about the people of Baluchistan. Dr. Malik is very keen in the development of Baluchistan; he is doing well and has planned much. Each and everything will be publicized on its appropriate time.

Fahad: The public elect the representatives because of the showing satisfaction over the policies of the party. The mechanism will soon be made and finalized.

Liaqat: Do you think that stake-holders must be prioritized to do whatever they like?

Ain Ullah: The entire parties should attentively and sincerely think for the development of the province. Unfortunately, the incumbent government, like others governments have no planning regarding policies. We remained in the government in 2008. The first budget we presented was of seventy seven billion dollars; and

the last one we presented was of 187 billion dollars. Just see the difference. We achieved much in NFC awards. For metro-busses in Islamabad, all the money is sent from Baluchistan government. Is it justice? Is it policy for the people? The federal government is sure that it has controlled and tamed Hasil Bizinjo and Mehmood Khan Achakzai. I am not blaming someone. It is reality.

Liaqat: What would you like to suggest for a sound law and order situation as CM himself welcomes this?

Ain Ullah: Hasil Bizinjo and Mehmood Khan Achakzai should hold the Prime Minister and bring him here to inaugurate this project on different points. Here is the government is of these two.

Fahad: I think the opposition should help and assist the government to tackle all these problems pragmatically.

Liaqat: I thank all of the participants. Thanks for joining us.

## Episode: 82

### Topic: Increasing poverty and lack of accountability in Balochistan

Guests: Nazir Lehri (Education Activist), Zubair Dehwar (Social Worker and Youth Representative) and Abdul Wali Khan (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 02-03-2015

#### Program Summary

Lack of accountability has caused poverty, discontent and many other problems in Balochistan. When there is lack of accountability in institutes of a state, there will be discontent and disorganization. Lack of accountability in Balochistan and increasing poverty has caused many negative effects on the development of the province. Politicians and bureaucracy have taken corruption and nepotism to its peak. It has not only suspended development work of the province, but increasing unemployment has caused discontent in youth. Education department has been a victim of corruption as well. There are many ghost schools in Balochistan. Many teachers are taking salaries by sitting at homes. On the other hand some teachers have been doing other jobs alongside school job. NAB (National Accountability Bureau) is a department that practices accountability, but it is said to be under political influence. The Director General of NAB has said that they recover all the money from the culprit, but it should punish the culprit so that he or she can be an example for others.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: Dear listeners, in this program we bring different issues, different topics and try to move towards a conclusion or solution. We have some guests for discussion. The topic for today is the lack of accountability in Balochistan and increasing poverty. For today's discussion we have Mr. Nazir Lehri who has an association with a project named "Alif Elan". I think it is an education project. Our second guest is Zubair Dehwar who is a social worker and youth representative. Besides them we have Abdul Wali Khan who is representing youth. At the very commencement, let's listen to a report. We will be right back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

The lack of accountability has caused poverty, discontentment and many other problems in Balochistan. When there is lack of accountability in institutes of a state, there will be discontentment and disorganization. To know the reasons of lack of accountability in Balochistan we met a social and political leader Ata Mohammad. He says,

"Accountability is important in every department because there are honest and dishonest people everywhere. Accountability should be carried out with those who don't fulfill their responsibilities sincerely. There should be a strict check and balance over such people. If accountability persists in all departments, not only the country would develop, but everyone will benefit. National Accountability Bureau should form a strict policy in this regard so that the accountability can be carried out efficiently. Offenders of malfeasance should be given severe punishment so that moderation in society persists and discontent eradicates. Capital of the country is in the hands of specific people. Rich is getting richer, while poor is becoming poorer due to unaccountability. 96% of the people in our country are poor. This figure is immense in Balochistan. Politicians should also be bound to accountability." Besides this we have got Jameel Ahmad. He says, "There is no accountability in Balochistan whatsoever. Politicians don't have time to go to the places from where he or she is elected from. They only stabilize their own financial status, but don't do anything for public. People want education. There are 12000

places where there are no schools. There aren't any quality teachers at places that have got schools. This is because of unaccountability. If there were accountability, teachers would give their 100% and every department would have been working. We should arise all youth and make them mature so that they can elect mature people as a result of which not only corruption is eradicated, but country also develops. There should be check and balance all the time. Public should rise if a responsible individual isn't fulfilling his or her responsibility."

It is the responsibility of everyone to support accountability and participate in awareness campaign to eradicate the menace of corruption. All the problems of Balochistan can be eradicated by setting accountability.

Mehreen: Mr. Nazir how would you define poverty in context of Balochistan?

Nazir: I belong to the field of education. I think there should be accountability in every department whether that is education, health or any other department. Besides politicians should also be accountable for what they do. We don't ask them what they have done after they have been elected. They are getting richer and richer. On the other hand meager people are becoming poorer. They admit their children in best institutes whereas children of poor people can't afford to get education. Poverty will increase if population isn't controlled. The main cause of poverty is unemployment. Although our youth is educated and have degrees, yet they don't get jobs easily. When I visit rural areas, people say that you ask us to admit our children in schools, but we are pauper. They told us that we will support them to some extent, but who will solve their other problems like transport and other educational facilities.

Mehreen: Admitting a child in school isn't a big deal. The problem is to sustain the process.

Nazir: We should carry out accountability against the educational institutes and teachers whom the government is paying. There are some big schools in Quetta where approximately 200 teachers are appointed, but some of them don't come. We should carry out accountability of stakeholders. If there isn't accountability one wouldn't do his or her duty effectively.

Mehreen: Mr. Abdul Wali Khan, what is accountability in context of Balochistan and are you satisfied with the accountability procedure against stakeholders in Balochistan?

Abdul Wali Khan: We hardly give education to our children. Those who get degrees have only hope of a job i.e. job via Public Service Commission, but the chairman of Public Service Commission in the former government used to sell all the seats by taking a monumental amount of money. We protested against him many times. Eventually he was suspended by judicial commission. The Director General of NAB has said that they recovered all the money from the culprit, but I think they should rather punish the culprit so that they can be an example for others. Accountability will sustain in this manner. If we want to eradicate poverty in Balochistan, we will have to carry out accountability against everyone. People will realize that if they do corruption, accountability will be carried out against them. In this way no one will indulge corruption.

Mehreen: What penalty would you suggest in this regard?

Abdul Wali Khan: Offenders should be charged. Besides, they should be jailed so that they can be an example for others.

Mehreen: Do common people have sense of accountability and how do you see self-accountability?

Abdul Wali Khan: I think the public has got immense awareness. If we observe the elections gone by, how badly have Pakistan People Party lost. People knew that they haven't done anything for their welfare so they carried out accountability against them via elections. They didn't vote them. We should do more work in this regard. We should arrange seminars and campaigns for the awareness of people. We should spread awareness in children at schools because they are the future of the country.

Mehreen: If embezzlement is going on somewhere, common people don't know what to do. Mr. Nazir what

would you say in this regard?

Nazir: I agree that common people don't have any sense of accountability. People who are listening to this program must have got the sense of accountability. We should establish different forums for people vis-à-vis accountability. 30 million rupees were embezzled in Baluchistan University by a clerk in BA BSc examination. A few days back the employees of the same department were demonstrating that they aren't given salaries. When corruption is on its peak, this has to happen. Forums should be established via which people should be told that they have rights over every department and they should play their part in accountability.

Mehreen: We have heard that monumental amount of money has been embezzled by Balochistan government since 2002 to 2012. People who used to live on mountains of Chaghi were displaced so that the government can do their atomic tests. People were told that the government will allot houses, but they still live in huts. How much is this true?

Nazir: When I asked the people what effects atomic tests have caused them, they said that crop no longer grows on nearby lands in surrounding areas. Agriculture got affected thoroughly. Nobody has been allotted any houses. I don't know why the government chose Chaghi for these tests; they could have been done anywhere else.

Mehreen: We have got another report. We take our discussion further after the report. We will be back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Lack of accountability in Balochistan and increasing poverty has caused many negative effects on the development of the province. Politicians and bureaucracy have taken corruption and nepotism to its peak. It has not only suspended development work of the province, but increasing unemployment has caused discontent in the youth. To know what the reasons of the lack of accountability are, we met Qayum Lehri who is the chairman of Union Council Mula. He says, "There is no accountability in any department in Balochistan. Corruption is on its peak in every department. Accountability is very important in administrative departments because many departments are working under these departments. If check and balance is kept on these departments accountability will be possible itself. Corruption has decreased in Balochistan due to accountability department and people have started getting justice, but yet this department has been under politics because of which people have gone disappointed from here as well. When corrupt departments realized that accountability department isn't threatening, they started corruption again. NAB hasn't played an effective role. It is said to be an independent department, but many corrupt ministers got away with their corruption although there were clear evidence against them. They were released. NAB is also under the influence of politics. People in Balochistan don't have the facility of education. Agriculture isn't in good condition either. Balochistan isn't an industrial place that people would have the opportunity of employment. Our leaders have been playing an important role in increasing poverty. They think that people won't follow them if they get jobs. Accountability on federal and provincial level is very important. A monumental amount of developmental work was done in the government of Musharraf, but we haven't seen any fund so far in this government. I don't think corruption and poverty will decrease by local government." The main reason behind the backwardness of Balochistan is corruption. NAB and government should take initiatives to carry out accountability against politicians, bureaucrats and all departments to give a bright future to Balochistan.

Mehreen: Mr. Zubair Dehwar how has poverty affected our youth?

Zubair: Youth is a great force. Youth can spread awareness. Seminars should be arranged at schools, colleges and universities. Although there are many schools and buildings, but there isn't any accountability. CRSS has an effective role in highlighting such problems.

Mehreen: We had a caller Mr. Junaid. He has asked Mr. Nazir that what the negative effects of poverty are. What are the effects of poverty in Balochistan?

Nazir: The biggest effect of poverty is unemployment. Crime ratio is also increased by poverty. Besides education, health, peace and all other departments have been affected. My friend said that NAB has been under the influence of politics. There is no doubt about this fact. Our leaders do corruption for five years. When NAB takes initiatives against the particular person, they are sent to prison or a jail of NAB for some days. The person returns the money embezzled to NAB and is set free. There is no system of penalty.

Mehreen: Mr. Abdul Wali Khan is NAB really under the political influence?

Abdul Wali Khan: I agree. Our accountability process is thoroughly under political influence. In the government of General Pervez Musharraf some politicians were blackmailed by NAB only to join Muslim League Quid-e-Azam. Director General of NAB has said that we recover money from the culprit. We say that recovery isn't enough. They should be charged. They should be penalized so that they can be an example for others.

Mehreen: There are many ghost schools in Balochistan. Many teachers are sitting at homes and are getting salaries. Mr. Abdul Wali Khan how and who will carry out accountability against these teachers?

Abdul Wali Khan: I personally have seen ghost schools. There are many teachers who have been getting salaries by sitting at home. People should have the awareness to carry out accountability against teachers and school officials.

Mehreen: Does tribal system have any role in the increment of poverty?

Abdul Wali Khan: Tribal chiefs are responsible to some extent for the increment of poverty. British gave power to tribal chief to control people. This system has been inherited from British. There are some tribal chiefs who don't want their area to develop. They don't want the children of people to be educated which can be a threat to their power in future.

Mehreen: I think Mr. Nazir wants to add something?

Nazir: You mentioned ghost schools. We have been working on this. According to secretary education there are approximately 50 ghost schools in Pashen. Provincial government has increased education budget the most. Our current budget is approximately 40 thousand million rupees in which 25 thousand million rupees is the yearly salaries of teachers. There are 65 to 70 thousand teachers in Balochistan. 15 thousand million rupees is left for developmental work. There is no accountability of this amount of money.

Mehreen: Why is its accountability not possible?

Nazir: Accountability should be carried out. If there is a ghost school somewhere or teachers aren't going to schools, we being citizens highlight can such issues through newspapers. Besides, we bring such issues under the notice of secretary and concerned minister. Taking action is the responsibility of the current government.

Mehreen: Besides ghost schools, many job seats are sold as well. Poverty and unemployment also increases that merit based people don't get their rights. Their rights are given to others.

Nazir: My friend said earlier that to which level the former chairman of Public Service Commission sold posts. Same is the case with the other departments. Secretary education has said that teachers who are appointed on the basis of Balochistan Package have been doing two jobs simultaneously. Such matters will increase poverty day by day. We can control poverty by highlighting such issues.

Mehreen: Mr. Abdul Wali Khan, what major and quick steps should be taken to eradicate poverty and practice of accountability?

Abdul Wali Khan: Stern punishment should be given to the person who is found involved in corruption so that he or she may not do corruption in the future.

Mehreen: Mr. Zubair what should be done for the youth so that the ray of hope arises among them?

Zubair: I think accountability should be carried out against ministers and secretaries who sell seats and give the right of deserved candidates to others.

Mehreen: Mr. Nazir what would you suggest?

Nazir: Accountability should be practiced against the people whom we have elected. Only then we will be able to give rights to the people who deserve them. We will be able to control poverty. There will be peace in our society.

Mehreen: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 83

### Topic: Zero discrimination in Balochistan

Guests: Fatima Iqbal (Program Specialist and Social Activist), Abdul Qayum (Youth Representative) and Nawaz Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 03-03-2015

#### Program Summary

Although international day vis-à-vis zero discrimination is observed, but there are some places in the world where racial, national, religious and linguistic discrimination still exist. The people of Balochistan seem to be unhappy due to the discrimination by government departments. Discrimination is done while appointing on jobs or giving admissions at colleges or universities. Similarly if a person belongs to ruling party he or she is given priority over others. Apart from it gender discrimination has also affected Balochistan to a great deal. Very few women are in politics, but on selected seats. We can lay the foundation of a society free of religious, political, social and linguistic discrimination on social and country level by practicing humanity, but to do so we first should cultivate awareness and brotherhood.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: Dear listeners we try to highlight one of the problems of Balochistan in order to discuss it and find a way round its solution. As we know that first March is observed as Zero Discrimination day, so today we will be discussing zero discrimination in Balochistan. As usual we have some guests for discussion. Today we have Fatima Iqbal who is a social activist. Besides we have Abdul Qayum and Nawaz Baloch who will be representing youth.

Liaqat: Miss Fatima how would you define discrimination?

Fatima: The behavior to defame, disrespect or hurt someone's feelings intentionally or unintentionally is called discrimination. We believe ourselves to be civilized and developed. A nation is known by the behavior of its people.

Liaqat: We will take our discussion further after listening to a report.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Baloch, Pashtoon, Sindhi, Saraiki, Punjabi and Hazara have been residing in Balochistan. There are people of every nation in deferent departments. We wonder if theory of zero discrimination exists in the people here or not. To know whether gender discrimination exists in tribal society, we talked to Advocate Sadam Iqbal in this regard. He says, "Discrimination is on its peak in Balochistan as compared to other provinces. There can be many reasons i.e. social factors or political factors etc. There are many social factors that compel us to do discrimination. Hazrat Mohammad (S.A.W) says that there is no preference or priority in humans over each other. Discrimination is thoroughly prohibited. The constitution of Pakistan says that every citizen will be given equal resources of employment without any discrimination on the basis of cast, creed, sex or religion. People don't have awareness about zero discrimination day celebration. There are some intellectuals who observe this day. We haven't been educated about it at schools. The way our syllabuses are, it clearly gives us a lesson of discrimination." Usman Ghani, who is a student, says, "Intolerance and prejudice is on its peak in every group of people here. This is the biggest reason of Balochistan backwardness because people here have divided to racial groups. Besides, there are religious contradictions as well. As a result of which everyone looks down



upon another person or tries to push another person back. People of one tribe don't want a poor person of another tribe to come forward and progress. Gender discrimination exists not only in big cities of Balochistan, but it also exists in interior Balochistan as well. We can progress when we get together as one province." We can maintain a society free of prejudice by spreading awareness and brotherhood in people. Every kind of discrimination can be eradicated when people get religious and modern education.

Liaqat: Mr. Abdul Qayum what are the reasons of discriminatory conduct in Balochistan?

Qayum: Different nations reside in Balochistan. Their style of living is different. Their cultures are different. Zero discrimination existed at the time of Hazrat Mohammad (S.A.W) when people of Makah got migrated to Madina. There is no concept of zero discrimination in Balochistan.

Liaqat: Mr. Nawaz Baloch why does youth discriminate each other's rights?

Nawaz: We don't want other people to progress or go ahead of us. This is the reason of discrimination. If we eradicate their mind set, we can become a good nation. Teachers sometime ignore unintelligent students and don't give them much attention due to which jealousy starts because teacher only gives attention to intelligent students.

Liaqat: Fatima what's your point of view about discrimination on government level?

Fatima: Pakistan is signatory of UDHR i.e. United Declaration of Human Rights. It is the responsibility of the state to defend rights of people. For example the state should provide free medical help, free education and employment opportunities. Above all state should secure the rights of minorities. Minorities' rights are being violated. Besides, we talk of equality, but discrimination is being done on the basis of gender.

Liaqat: You said that we are signatory of UDHR. Are we following them or not in context of Balochistan?

Fatima: It isn't followed completely, but it is trying to minimize the violation of rights in Balochistan. Minorities might not be as secure as in capital cities, but current government is trying its level best to provide health and education rights to people as most of the budget is given to these two departments.

Liaqat: Mr. Qayum do you agree that the current government is giving rights to people without any discrimination?

Qayum: Current government has been completely ignoring this. When you apply for a job in any department, the officials will first ask that which party you belong to. This is an example of immense discrimination on government level.

Liaqat: But the government claims that it has appointed people via an unbiased department that NTS or any other department. What would you say in this regard?

Qayum: Only education posts are being appointed via NTS. There is no merit in other departments. Although a committee has been formed, but the members either belong to National Party or Pashtoon Khwa Milli Awami Party.

Liaqat: It is a rule everywhere that members of such committees belong to ruling parties. It doesn't prove discrimination I think.

Qayum: There is no questioning in interviews by committees. They only check the documents. The claim of government regarding people's rights is false. There is no merit at all.

Liaqat: Qayum said that appointments are made on the basis of parties. Ms. Fatima is it really like so?

Fatima: I haven't had such an experience myself. If it is really is being practiced, the responsibility of youth is to raise their voice against it. Youth should spread awareness among other youth not to compromise such discrimination whatsoever. CRSS is a forum through which youth might have listened to it. We together should go up against it.

Liaqat: Mr. Nawaz do you agree with Qayum what he said about discrimination and merit?

Nawaz: I agree with him about 50%.

Liaqat: What are your responsibilities in this regard?

Nawaz: Youth can't fulfill their responsibilities due to problems created by our leaders.

Liaqat: Government has taken an initiative against use of unfair means in exam i.e. cheating material by using camera in examination halls. I think cameras should have been used long ago. Fatima isn't it discrimination with students by government?

Fatima: If government had taken such issues before, we wouldn't have thought of cameras now.

Liaqat: We have got another report. Let's listen to it.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Although international day vis-à-vis zero discrimination is observed, but there are some places in the world where racial, national, religious and linguistic jealousy exist. To know whether there is any unity in people of Balochistan regarding any subject, we spoke to a young journalist Kiyya Baloch. He says, "Discrimination is done on every level in Balochistan. Apart from government institutions, discrimination for the name of religion has reached its peak. Balochistan was a peaceful place where no religious extremism existed in the past. People from minorities could easily live with us. They didn't have any problems at all 5 or 7 years back, but the scenario has completely changed now. Religious madness has reached to an irreversible point. Some people do observe a day internationally in this regard, but more worth how much they are implementing it. Women are being discriminated in Balochistan. 1 out of 10 jobs is announced for females. Similarly males are given priority in admissions at medical colleges or universities. 70% seats are for male whereas 30% seats are for females. Zero discrimination can only be produced, when we have tolerance. We can implement theory of zero implementation here when we don't consider ethnicity, gender or religion. If we don't do so, it is very difficult to implement this theory. There is discrimination in every department of Balochistan such as schools and universities etc. Every person thinks of him or herself superior to another person or people on the basis of races. This is discrimination. We are humans so we shouldn't practice such behavior." We can lay the foundation of a society free of religious, political, social and linguistic discrimination on social and country level by practicing humanity, but to do so we first need to thrive awareness and brotherhood.

Liaqat: Ms. Fatima, are all people getting rights of education?

Fatima: There are many people who don't get their education rights. There aren't even schools in many areas in Interior Balochistan. Besides, there are some ghost schools as well. Schools have been registered but there isn't any physical existence.

Liaqat: Who is responsible for it?

Fatima: The state is responsible for it. Bureaucracy is responsible for it. Politicians should play their role in this regard.

Liaqat: Mr. Qayum what is the role of politicians in discrimination?

Qayum: Politicians have got their vote bank. They only work for their rights. They don't bother themselves to work for common people.

Liaqat: Children of politicians get education from schools and colleges where syllabus, medium and quality of education is different from children of common people. Fatima isn't it discrimination?

Liaqat: Government should eradicate the discrimination between private and government school syllabus. Syllabus of both education systems should be the same. Besides the government should provide all the facilities that are provided at private schools. Government should upgrade government schools.

Liaqat: You said a while ago that current government is very serious about education rights, but what you just said is opposing to it. It means current government hasn't done anything in this regard, has it?

Fatima: Improvement has taken place and initiatives have been taken for the prevention of cheating in exams. It is better late than never.

Liaqat: We can decrease the ratio of cheating by teaching, but teachers remain absent from schools. Many teachers who belong to ruling parties are doing other jobs. How can we expect change then?

Fatima: Such teachers and schools should be highlighted by people via different forums.

Liaqat: Mr. Qayum if such schools are highlighted will the government take any action against it?

Qayum: No not at all.

Liaqat: Many claims are made regarding improvement in health department, but the poor people aren't given even medicines. Fatima, isn't it discrimination?

Fatima: We should raise our voice against it.

Liaqat: We have raised this issue via this forum. Media doesn't give coverage, so where to raise voice?

Fatima: We can raise voice on social media. Youth can arrange seminars and protest voluntarily and independently. We are afraid to raise our voice.

Liaqat: Fatima said that problems won't be solved until youth come forward to solve them. We have got the social media. Why doesn't youth come on this side?

Qayum: Youth does protest in front of press clubs, but there is no one to listen to them.

Liaqat: Why doesn't the youth ensure their rights at the time of voting i.e. whom to vote and whom not to?

Qayum: Politicians make many promises at the time of election, but they back off their words after the elections.

Liaqat: Fatima what is the responsibility of youth?

Fatima: If we aware our youth politically, this youth will replace the present leaders in the future.

Liaqat: Youth belongs to different political parties. How can we bring them on one page to fight for their rights?

Fatima: Youth shouldn't be following political parties blindly. If a party is doing something wrong, youth should go against it. Youth should say that they are following the party for good cause not for bad. They should say to the party that they won't follow them if the party does such activities. We are doing injustice to ourselves by following them blindly.

Qayum: DC of District Khuzdar has made appointments thoroughly on merit basis. He hasn't accepted any references.

Liaqat: Ms. Fatima how do you assess gender discrimination and what are the initiatives of current government in this regard?

Fatima: I have a big clash with political parties that there aren't females in them. If males can be elected, why can't females be? The biggest injustice is that the minister of women development department is male. This is clear discrimination with females.

Liaqat: Mr. Qayum to which extent do we have gender discrimination?

Qayum: We have a tribal culture in which women aren't allowed to come forward.

Liaqat: I don't agree with tribal culture. If a female can be a teacher, she can be a doctor, an engineer or a minister. Fatima why aren't we able to get away with this issue?

Fatima: If the pictures of a female MPA can be published in newspapers, they should be elected via posters for elections as well. Political parties shouldn't limit female only to selected seats. They should elect them because females might show a better performance.

Liaqat: Mr. Qayum how can we bring zero discrimination in Balochistan?

Qayum: We can bring zero discrimination by following Islamic Rules.

Liaqat: Mr. Nawaz what message would you give to youth?

Nawaz: Youth should be united.

Liaqat: Fatima what would you demand from the government in this regard?

Fatima: Government should raise its voice for the rights of its nation regarding to which the government is signatory.

Liaqat: Thanks a lot for joining us. Till the next program it's goodbye.

## Episode: 84

### Topic: Women empowerment in Balochistan

Guests: Ayesha Wadood (Women activist), Meikan Baloch (Youth Representative) and Kia Qadar Baloch (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Liaqat

Dated: 09-03-2015

#### Program Summary

Women empowerment is a strange and distant notion in a tribal and backward society like Balochistan. Women are mostly unaware about their basic rights and the main reason is that Balochistan has a very low literacy rate. Government has done nothing praise worthy while the role of NGOs remains only a matter of high claims and boasting. More than 75% population lives in rural areas in Balochistan where women are bound and restricted by tribal customs and traditions. Women are not allowed to step outside the house and those who go out are always suspected of illegal acts. Education holds the key where the demand for women can be created in the society which will automatically lead to greater participation of women in the national and domestic affairs.

#### Transcription

Liaqat: First of all I would like to ask Aysha Wadood that how is the condition of women in Balochistan.

Ayesha: It is a hard question and I may tell you that women in Balochistan are in the worst state as compared to women in other provinces. We know that almost 76% of our population resides in rural areas where women have to fetch water and fuel from far off places. There are two levels where status of women can be observed. We have to see conditions of women and the other level to observe is to look at their economic condition. Till now our government is busy in improving the condition of women. We know that mortality rate is very high here and drop out from ratio from school is very high as well.

Liaqat: Status and conditions are two different things as told by Aysha. Let us listen to a report about the same issue by Yasir Baloch.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Women are the Integral part of any society and no society can improve until the condition of women is improved. In a healthy society women can play vital role but in Balochistan it is backward in this regard. To find the answer to these questions we have to meet a women activist Raheela Kakar who says...

We see that women have no good rights and facilities as compared to other provinces. Women are not allowed to get education here which is a must for progress. There are tribal regions where women are not allowed to go outside their homes. Women in developed countries have greater freedom. Our strength for working women is too less. We have greater potential in our women but they have no opportunity to prove themselves.

Sameera is a student who says...

Women have no power and freedom in Balochistan. They have no power to decide. We have no chance to prove ourselves. Women should get educated here. Our literacy rate is very low. One educated women can educate the whole family. Women can do all that which a man can do. If power and freedom is allowed to

women then they can do anything. Our tribal system does not allow women.

Yasir: All the developed countries have granted greater right and freedom to women to advance their societies. If women in Balochistan are also granted the same rights then they can also improve the condition of women and the whole province as well.

Liaqat: Welcome back dear listeners. You heard the report where it was told that women can change the condition of women in Balochistan. My question is that what the present government is doing to improve the status of women.

Aysha: I may tell you that there is no female minister in the province. Women are not included in decision making. It is indispensable to include women in decision making.

Liaqat: Meikan may kindly tell us about the inclusion of women in decision making.

Meikan: The problem is that women are not united to ask for their rights. The women are not united even in the same family. We have to fight together. We are deprived of our rights.

Liaqat: Why men are not willing to grant rights to women?

Kia Baloch: The basic problem is to look at the grievances of men and women as well. Men are also deprived of their basic rights in Balochistan. Whether men are granted the rights as they deserve? Women are not getting their rights for which several factors are responsible. Women are not coming forward. Women are also responsible for their plight.

Liaqat: But we have a male dominated society and they are not willing even to grant those rights which are essential for women. Anyway we have to include some questions asked by our listeners. Hussain Rend has asked the question from Aysha that what kind of rights women want. He further says that a woman has got all the rights as a mother, wife and sister?

Aysha: I told you that women are given rights to eat, drink and wear. But the question is that who decide what to cook and when to eat. When a man enters home even the remote control of a television is also in his hand. It is well said that woman is the foe of a woman. We have to see that when a girl is born then she is trained as a serving human being. She has to fight throughout her life for her identity and recognition.

Liaqat: In Balochistan women are not educated and government is also responsible. Hashim Khan is another listener who has asked that rights of women are usurped by women. Meikan will tell us that whether our curriculum should be changed for this purpose? If we empower this

Meikan: We have so many problems and the government is not willing to pay any attention to this section of society.

Liaqat: Why does not the government look at this matter Mr. Kia Baloch?

Kia Baloch: Our government is faced with so many serious problems that it is not in their priority to address this matter. Our society is a female dominated society because women are 51% of our population. In fact they are in majority and they should fight for their rights.

Liaqat: Yes they are in majority but affairs are in the hands of men. Women cannot reach the assembly by contesting against men in a male dominated society

Liaqat: Where are you from?

Kia Baloch: I belong to Turbat and women are free to contest elections there. Conditions are same for both

women and men in regard to health, education and politics. Why can't they contest the elections? They are free to reach the assembly by winning the election. They have no hurdles in our regions. Conditions are same for both genders. Only one female contested in our region and she won.

Liaqat: But why have you not tried to motivate your own women to contest the elections?

Kia Baloch: The problem is that some families are involved in politics only and common people are not allowed to participate freely.

Liaqat: Yes it is true that politics are dominated by a few families here. We have another message from Aziz who says that mother Teresa did a lot in our neighboring country but our women are only talking and take no practical steps. She is a practical example. We only hold seminars and do not do anything practical.

Ayesha: I told you that unless women are involved in decision making, nothing good can be expected. Women are not getting basic rights here. Our budget is framed by men and no woman is there to allocate something for women. We have family politics and our female MPs in the assembly cannot object anything.

Liaqat: It is time to listen to a report and after that we will be right back/

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Women are in bad condition in Balochistan. What is the status of women here? Sobia is a social worker who might give us the answer...

We have low literacy rate in Balochistan and they do not know about their rights. Women are protected in the tribal system in many regards but women have no awareness about their rights. All those women who are educated know something about their rights but they do not know about the rights granted in the constitution. Tribal system has certain rights which are beneficial in some respect as female are respected enormously. Women are given priority in many places. But overall the society is male dominated and women's rights are ignored. Education should be the main focus.

Aleema is a social worker who says...

Balochistan is basically a tribal society and women are not allowed to come forward, nevertheless many women are coming forward to work in NGOs and other departments. Women are coming forward but their number is too less as compared to other provinces. Women have to take courage and participate in the affairs in all the department.

Workers are not granted all the rights as enjoyed in the developed societies. Balochistan can be made a progressive province if women are allowed to come forward.

Liaqat: Dear listeners, you heard the report. I want to know what is meant by women empowerment.

Ayesha: I want to clarify that rights of women does not mean that women must be granted certain rights. In fact these are basic rights of women and they should be granted to them. Women empowerment means that women should have the rights to decide about their life themselves. Now the question is that whether women have the ability to think clearly about their life and decide about it.

Liaqat: We have a message from Muhammad who says that in contrast to European countries our situation is quite different and we cannot grant all the rights to the women. Islam has clearly defined the rights of women. I want to know whether these western rights are different than as incorporated in Islam.

Ayesha: We do not want to preach Western culture but we should grant the rights according to our culture.

Liaqat: What are those rights which women must be endowed with Miss Meikan?

Meikan: Women are not asked for their will when giving them in marriage.

Liaqat: Mr. Kia Baloch, our listeners ask about the rights of women in Europe and what do you think in this regard?

Kia Baloch: Every society has certain norms and customs. When we talk about the rights of women it does not mean that male are totally responsible for suppressing these rights.

Liaqat: As a male can you tell me what rights are you willing to grant women?

Kia Baloch: In Baloch society right of freedom of speech, movement, education and right to make decision are not granted to women. But the fact is that these rights are not granted to men as well in our society. I was not free to decide about my future career. I was sent to Quetta to study against my will. It is a common occurrence in our society.

Liaqat: Asif Bugalzai has sent us a message that in European society men are made subservient to women.

Ayesha: It is not the case in Europe where men are enslaved by women. The fact is that everyone has total freedom there. We do not want absolute freedom but according to our religion and customs. It is also true that men also do not enjoy freedom and greater rights. We have controlled rights in our families. Our kids are not free to decide about their future and career. But now we are living in the age of information technology and people are getting aware. We are passing through a transition stage.

Liaqat: Umeed Ali is also our listener who says that most of the NGOs are led by women and he want to ask what are their achievement? What are your achievements Aysha Wadood?

Ayesha: I do not know any organization in Quetta which is headed by a woman. I started a school for small girls. It was a project in collaboration with the government. We have passed a law for women called protection of women in field. We are doing advocacy for such laws. We are working to frame a law for domestic violence against women. We have also worked in alliance with other organizations for the women in prison.

Liaqat: Why do not you suggest to the present government to bring female ministers in the cabinet?

Ayesha: We held a press conference in this regard and have also met the present Chief Minister to appoint at least one female minister. But the government always compromise women for the elected male MPs.

Liaqat: There is so much discrimination for women in our politics. First we do not grant them party tickets and then refuse to include them in the cabinet?

Meikan: Government is doing nothing for women. Our women do not know about their basic rights. We only celebrate women's day.

Liaqat: Why don't you support women in their struggle?

Kia Baloch: Women should come forward and we will follow them. There are two factors. One is the religious factor which is hindering women to come out and the second factor is our culture.

Liaqat: We have a message from Khadija who asked Aysha that what steps are taken by the government in this connection. We have already discussed that nothing has been done. How can we give vision to women at home about their rights?

Aysha: They all know what things are needed to lead a better life. It is clear that we have to work with men to improve their life. We must declare it mandatory that girls must be sent to school.



Liaqat: Sorry to interrupt but I want to say that boys are sent to a good school and girls are sent to a poor government school. How can this trend be curtailed?

Aysha: We must create demand for women in the market. It can only be done at a government level. We must have maximum quota for women. Basic cost of living is growing high which is changing the values.

Liaqat: Are women facilitated in their health care scenario?

Meikan: All the NGOs claim high but neither government nor NGOs are doing anything praise worthy. I have observed no improvement in health sector.

Liaqat: What are your demands for greater health facilities?

Meikan: I have observed that in our area, no lady doctor is available in our hospital. We just talk and are not practical in any field.

Liaqat: You did not mention the right to be self sufficient for women. Why don't we give them rights to earn for themselves?

Kia Baloch: Unless you terminate this old rotten system nothing better can be done. We have seized half of our population.

Liaqat: Why is any project not started at government level to empower women?

Aysha: There are many projects for women which are headed by men. Even maternity matters are dealt by the men. I have said time and again that unless we decide clearly what we should do for women, we can't make any progress. There is no good scheme for women at present. Even youth projects are not yielding any fruit for our women. We have to create the demand for women.

Liaqat: Why women are not coming forward?

Aysha: There are several factors. We take women for granted and do not attach any importance to them. Women are thought to be tough managers and people feel uneasy with them.

Liaqat: How can we change our customs?

Meikan: We cannot change our customs unless we change our thinking. I have faced several problems when I leave my home. I have to bear many hurdles. First of all we need the right to be independent. Men are free to go everywhere but when a girl gets out of her home then she is suspected.

Liaqat: Mr. Kia Baloch, why men are creating so many problems for women?

Kia Baloch: Men are not responsible for all this but state is responsible. Why it does not frame good laws for women?

Liaqat: Men stare at women who are outside their home. Why?

Kia Baloch: People do not stare a woman in bikini but we stare a woman in full veil. Our society is to be blamed for it.

Liaqat: What is the reason that women are faced with so many problems?

Aysha: We have a male interpretation for our society. Women are exploited by men in our society.

Liaqat: How will you proceed in the future through your alliance?

Aysha: We want to ensure the voice of women in the coming budget.

Kia Baloch: You can do this only if you take it to the street.

Liaqat: Thank you so much for being with us. We all have to go together to make our society a progressive society. It is good bye for now.

## Episode: 85

### Topic: Growth of democratic traditions in Balochistan

Guests: Irfan Mulazai (Political activist), Adnan Baloch (Youth Representative) and Ghulam Ali Magsi (Youth Representative).

Field Story: Yasir Baloch

Anchorperson: Mehreen

Dated: 10-03-2015

#### Program Summary

Over the years, Balochistan suffered from the worst political and leadership turmoil. Democracy and democratic norms were never given a chance to flourish here. But now the omens are good as Balochistan has a government led by popular educated people who are mostly from the middle class. It also goes to the credit of the present government to hold local bodies' election and senate elections successfully. Youth of Balochistan are inspired and motivated by the present chief Minister. People of the province need education and awareness more than anything else to yield the benefits of real democracy. It is a good thing to note that feudalism is losing ground in Balochistan when the wind of changes are blowing. People are optimistic about the future because signs are good.

#### Transcription

Mehreen: Assalam U Alaikum dear listeners. Your host Mehreen is here with the programme "Balochistan Kay Awam Ki Awaz". Last year in April 2014, CRSS started this serial. Today we have its last program. We have tried to convey the issues and grievances of Balochistan and have discussed various issues to find a solution. We took up all the major issues related to Balochistan and have tried to address all the outstanding issues. In addition to this we also endeavoured to convey your voice to the authorities. We tried our level best to give awareness. How far we are successful depends on your perception. Today we will be talking about the democratic development in Balochistan. We do not see anything positive in this regard. We have Adnan Baloch and Ghulam Ali Magsi as youth. Our expert for today is Irfan Mulazai who is a political worker. Let us break the ice by listening to a report. We will be right back after the report to discuss this main issue.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch,

Democracy is the most liked system in the world. Steps taken in Balochistan for democracy have met ups and downs. Most of the governments could not complete its tenure. We have to meet Bahram Khan to find many answers who is a political worker...

The concept of democracy has changed over the years. Now we have elected a person from the middle class who is now in power. Another development is that local bodies' elections are held in Balochistan while all the other three provinces are still unable to hold local elections. Another achievement is the fair elections for the senate. Horse trading was controlled. Democratic process is an evolutionary process and takes time. I think that the concept of democracy is nurturing in Balochistan and the result will be good in the future. Political set up is a component part of democracy and most of our political parties are democratic. Every person has the right to join a party. An ordinary person can become a leading person in a party. We see that in Balochistan many common people are holding good positions in Balochistan. Freedom of speech and expression is still a challenge. There are threats and deterrence in this regard. Journalists are intimidated frequently. In the past nobody dared to write about the people in power but now they are openly criticized.'

Yasir: Federal government should help and support the province to give democracy a greater chance to develop in Balochistan.

Mehreen: Dear Listeners, welcome back in the show. This show is aired from leading radio channels like FM105.5 in Peshawar and Quetta. You can also access us through the internet and telephone through our prescribed methods. We are available on face book as well. We will ponder at our topic which is the democratic process and development. I may ask Mr. Irfan that in any society what is democratic process and why is it so popular in the world.

Irfan: Thank you for inviting me to talk about such an important issue. Why is democracy so important? The word democracy is derived from democracy, which means that people want a good system to run their affairs through mutual consensus and freedom. People want to take good decisions through unity and consensus. Any society where people are conscious and educated always like such a system where decision power lies with the people.

Mehreen: You said well that it is good to have rule over the people through people. What do you think that efforts made in Balochistan are enough?

Irfan: If we look at the state of affairs in Balochistan then I may clearly say that democracy is a culture. But unfortunately there has been no smooth sailing of democratic process in Balochistan right from our inception. Balochistan was a monarchy which merged into Pakistan and the new system was totally alien for the people. Then we had frequent military coups and dictatorships. In the recent past we have good elections and the process is good. We still do not have full democracy here and people have got no benefits. We need to continue this process. We should not be ambitious in our expectations. We need to make our people democratic. After twenty years, provided the process continues, we will have a good democratic system.

Mehreen: In our several programs, it was told that in the history of Balochistan, we see for the first time people's representation in our government. Mr. Magsi may tell us about these changes.

Magsi: I see that our democracy is passing through an evolutionary process. We saw that PPP had government for five years and now Nawaz Sharif has the government here. It was a positive change that power was smoothly transferred and many ordinary people got elected to the assembly. Democratic system was never let to establish by the military. Our present government is yielding results. People are watching them and they will not be elected next time if they do not deliver. If we compare it with our past then I may say that it is a positive change.

Mehreen: Beside intervention by the military, it was a practice that Feudals were a component part of our political system. But we see that now we have many people who have no feudal background. Is it a positive change?

Magsi: Our CM is not a feudal lord and came through election to become our Chief Minister. He is a common person with ordinary background. It is a positive change.

Mehreen: Adnan Baloch is also here and he may tell us that how many problems of youth have been solved through these positive changes?

Adnan: As Magsi told us democracy is passing through an evolution. Youth are benefiting when a political leader has come to the surface that belongs to a middle class. Youth will take inspiration from him and will join politics. I consider it a very positive step and I am optimistic about it.

Mehreen: Problems of youth have been highlighted through this program. We have talked about huge funds for the youth but still there is no tangible benefit for our youth. There are no facilities and opportunities for our youth in Balochistan. How far our government has played its part for our youth?

Irfan: You raised an important question about our youth. Funds are there but youth is not facilitated. We need to curb corruption and practice merit. We do not have any policy about merit in Balochistan. Nepotism is a common practice. Role of youth in national integrity is very important. Our youth is very vibrant and vigilant. They have proved themselves in sports and other fields. One of our youngster has won a silver medal in common wealth games. People are getting conscious and educational institutions are on the rise. A university is sanctioned in Makran and many colleges also. People are demanding all such things. We request the government to control corruption. The present government aims to control corruption and spread education. But it is a pity that still there is no clear policy about corruption. Coalition government is always faced with several problems.

Mehreen: You mean that practical steps are very important. Mr. Magsi, could you please tell us that the steps taken for democracy in Balochistan like local bodies' election and the elections for senate are good steps for democracy?

Magsi: It was alleged that horse trading is a common practice in Balochistan but the present government has the credit that local bodies' elections were held successfully here. Dr. Abdul Malik took the credit to hold this election. We saw change during senate election where horse trading was controlled. We can see that Mr. Jamladini got elected along with others to the senate who are common people and could not buy votes for themselves. It shows that change has occurred. Democracy has the beauty that people can ask their MPs about their performance. I see it as a positive change.

Mehreen: Stability of a government shows its power and credibility. It is time to listen to another report. We will be right back.

REPORT: Yasir Baloch

Horse trading, local elections and continuity of democratic process are positive steps in Balochistan. People were pessimistic in the past but now they have high hopes. To find the answer to these questions, we had to meet Qaim Khan who is an official in the local government. He says....

The present government has taken several positive steps. Local bodies' elections were held in the worst condition. Then senate elections were also held successfully. It was also a good step by the federal government to form the government through popular people. We hope that democracy will get rooted firmly in Balochistan. There is no opposition in Balochistan and government has good support. First we need to abolish the tribal system here. Muslim League (N) is getting established here which is a good omen.

Saleem Ullah is a young man who says...

Positive changes are happening in Balochistan. Youth is getting excited when they see young and ordinary people in the assembly. Everyone thinks that he has a chance to get to the assembly only if he is sincere and educated. Hurdles are diminishing. We see almost fifty percent people in our assembly from common background. Youth should join active politics. Politics is a sacred duty if we can serve our homeland.

Yasir: By nurturing democracy in Balochistan, people and the province can be put on the right track to progress and prosperity.

Mehreen: Dear listeners, right now in the press club in Quetta , CRSS is conducting a seminar. Mr. Imtiaz Gul is also there and let us listen to him through a live call...

Imtiaz Gul: If any minister or leading person is listening to us then he should come to us and encourage us to continue this process. We are making efforts for the youth of Balochistan. We try to create tolerance in the society. Our aim is to solve the conflicts and disputes through dialogue. Abdul Malik and the rest were also talking in the same vein as you are doing now. Their presence in assembly is a proof that if you try hard

then you can also reach the corridor of powers. We should be optimistic about the future. We need to have a government by Pashtoon and Baloch to have national harmony. Many schools and colleges are closed due to ethnic problems. I consider it an outrageous act against the whole nation. It is pushing your society further backward. If these militant succeed and there is no education in Balochistan then you have to import officers and skilled people from other provinces. Education holds the key for the success of a nation. The forces of status quo try to keep all the people as their slave. This heinous group consists of Feudals and military generals. All and sundry needs to make collective efforts for our bright future. We, as journalists, will try our level best to help and support the good people. It was a humble effort to benefit the people and we have no political whims. Thank you very much.

Mehreen: It was the executive director of CRSS who was speaking to the local people. Now may I ask that what issues should be addressed on priority basis? Mr. Magsi, what is your opinion in this regard?

Magsi: I have told you that evolution is underway in our democratic process. We have terrorism as a major problem. Our health and education sector is destroyed. Mr. Malik came up with the same slogan to help in health and education. He is doing well at present. Health and education should be our top priorities. Education is the cry of the day. Western nations have made progress through education. Merit should be implemented in health and education. These sectors are very important and we need to concentrate on it.

Mehreen: If I may ask the same question from Mr. Irfan then what will be your answer?

Irfan: I agree Magsi and education holds the key. We need to solve the problem of education. We also need to introduce informal education along with formal education. We have severe health issue and we have only two major hospitals in Quetta. What will be the situation in rural areas? Government should access rural area to solve health issue. I also want to add that NGOs are also working to solve our issues but the problem is that there is no collaboration with the government. There is no audit system. Corruption is also wide spread in NGOs. CRSS is a good example which is very good. It feels strange that this is your last program and it should have been continued. You convey our voice and such projects should be continued.

Mehreen: Much could be done for youth besides giving them awareness. Voter education is also very important here. People do not realize the power of their vote. Several steps are taken as we discussed earlier but we need to address other issues as well. Mr. Adnan, what steps should be taken to focus upon the youth?

Adnan: Youth should be given chances to change the thinking of our people. Our people take politics as a dirty thing but we need to make them realize that our problems could be solved through politics. An educated person can change the thoughts of a hundred people. We need to join politics.

Mehreen: Mr. Magsi, I may ask you that what do think that what role should we play to develop democratic process.

Magsi: We always blame the institution but we have moral obligations as well. We have certain duties and responsibilities. We have to educate our children to build this nation. We have an individual responsibility.

Mehreen: We may take your messages towards the end. It is our last show and what is your message?

Irfan: I may tell you in some detail. The educated section of our society has a lot of responsibilities. There is intellectual laziness in our society. We do not find a place where our intellectual may sit together and offer any solution for our ills. My message is that as I told you in the beginning that democracy is a culture and we must adopt it in our life. We should be democratic in our outlook. We have ethnic problems in Balochistan. Baloch claim to own this province. We need democracy as our main culture. It is the way forward and It is the way to success.

Mehreen: Mr. Adnan, What is your message?

Adnan: Everyone has to play his role and the youth are very important. We need to enrich our culture with democratic norms. We must participate in politics. The vote should be valued.

Mehreen: Mr. Magsi what do you have to say?

Magsi: The youth should take individual responsibility to educate all the people. Only then the sanctity of vote can be realized.

Mehreen: Thank you all for being with us. We talked about the democracy and democratic process. Political parties should not be family parties and popular participation is a must. Check and balance is also very essential during this process. It really pains me to bid you farewell but I want to say that we must think freely and act freely. Speak as you are born a free human being. Please take good care of yourself and your country. May God keep you safe and sound. It is good bye now.