

UNITED NATIONS WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK FESTIVITY

February 2017



Festivity Themes: Muqadas Rabbt (Sacred Connection), Interfaith Peace Meal, Inner Peace is Spiritual Peace



AMNA SHAFI FOUNDATION

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A FINAL REPORT ON AMNA SHAFI FOUNDATION'S CONTRIBUTION IN SUSTAIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK WITH A FOCUS ON CREATING AWARENESS FOR AN INTERFAITH HARMONY AND SPIRITUALITY

GRATEFULNESS

I am grateful to honourable and respectable H.M King Abdullah II to propose such a worthy and beautiful project World Interfaith Harmony Week at the UN for worldwide nations to come together and spread the Love of God with unity and peace.

INTRODUCTION

It is an honour and pleasure for Amna Shafi Foundation (ASF) to organising and supporting the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW). The attributed event, seminar and meal took place in different places. ASF is obliged and grateful to WIHW to provide this podium where everyone from worldwide can express himself/herself through the beautiful message of peace and love without any barrier of religion, creed, culture and values.

ASF Blog: https://amnashafifoundation.blogspot.com/2016/08/ngo-profile.html

ASF Website: http://amnashafifoundation.org/ (Developing).

GROUND RATIONALITY

ASF registered in 29-12-2015 under the Pakistan Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, the Registration number is RP/9797/L/S/15. ASF's basic aim is to serve the free education to street beggar children and other poor children, on another hand to empower the talented but empty pocket women and girls. ASF has no funding and sponsor resources except family, relatives, friends and teachers' little donation. ASF is already spreading love and creating peace and now decided after celebrating the WIHW-2017 that every year between 1-7 February in fact whole year would promote and support the beautiful message of WIHW.



DAY 1: Saturday, February 04, 2017

Theme: Muqadas Rabbt (Sacred Connection) (Event)

Venue: Children Library Complex

Time: 09am-12pm

On this day, ASF organised an event in the name of Muqadas Rabbt (Sacred Connection). Muqadas Rabbt is the title name of Samra Khan's poetry book which will be published next year. The main purpose of this event was to collect and bring all religions on one forum. In this event, all communities (Muslim, Christian, Hindu, Sikh) were invited. The Later, Sikh community could not join us due to other commitments. Government high officials, honourable poets and poetess, political party people, doctorates, valuable students have attended the event. Speakers from different faiths and cultures shared their thoughts freely and also revealed their inspirational stories. Ms. Samra Khan delivered her keynote address on the significance of the WIHW festivity. Poets and poetesses expressed love of God (Sacred Connection) through their beautiful poetry and narrated Divine Power and His affection towards all His creatures and they also widen the message of WIHW. Rest of the speakers spoke on the importance of the Interfaith Harmony and Peace. The audience also participated in different activities and spoke of freedom. Peace Chefs distributed the peace refreshment throughout the event. Peace Chefs were little girls which invited from different schools especially for that day to maximise the importance of WIHW event.





Event Schedule

- Pray
- Introduction of ASF and WIHW
- Speakers spoke 10-15 minutes on Sacred Love, Divine Connection and Interfaith Harmony
- Asked for attendees to interchange thoughts and inter-religious dialogues.
- One Sacred Song
- Refreshment

Notable Speakers

- Mr. Afzal Saahir
 Punjabi Poet and Writer (3 poetry books published)
 Presenter at Radio Station FM103
- Ms. Victoria Patrick
 Poetess, Writer, Professor and
 Books Translator
 Board of Director for:
 - Girls Guide Association
 - Pakistan Bible Society Lahore
 - Mashi Ishavat Khana (MIK)
 - Care Channel International
 - Advisory Council of Bazm-E-Masiha

More than 30 poetry books published

Mr. Rehman Faris
 Poet (the first book will be published on this year)
 Anchorperson at Pakistan Television (PTV) and a columnist at Daily The Nation

Additional Commissioner Inland Revenue (ACIR), Islamabad

- Dr. Noor-ul-Zaman Rafiq
 Chairperson of Phoenix
 Foundation Research and
 Development (PFRD)
 Former Consultant at United
 Nations Office on Drugs and
 Crime (UNODC)
- Mr. Shahid Farooq
 Assistant Professor
 Political Science
 Government College Township
- Mr. Shahzad Khokhar
 District Member Punjab
 Assembly
- Ms. Samra Khan Chairperson Amna Shafi Foundation



Important Official Guests list of an event
1. Mr. Muhammad Azam Khan (Treasury and Donor of Amna Shafi Foundation)
2. Mr. Muhammad Tanzeem-ur-Rehman (Ret.Deputy Director AG Office)
3. Mr. Muhammad Rana Shakeel (Owner of Beautifier Cosmetics)
4. Mr. Muhammad Raheel (Advertising Manager)
5. Mr. Muhammad Saddique Chaudhary (Allam Iqbal Open University, Islamabad)
6. Dr. Manawar Chand (Chairman of Pakistan Hindu Welfare Council) (Hindu Community)
7. Mr. Rafaqat Sohotra (District Members Assembly) (Christian Community)
8. Mr. Kamran Chaudhary (News Reporter, Asia News) (Christian Community)
9. Mr. Agha Nasir (Pakistan Tehrek-e-Insaf) (Christian Community)
10. Mr. Hector Nihal (Chairperson of Aids Awareness Society) (Christian Community)
11. Mr. Nasir William (Pakistan Minorities Unity Council) (Christian Community)
12. Mr. Jameel Mohan Marcus (Executive at National. C. Comm) (Christian Community)
13. Mr. Samuel Payara (Representative of Bright Future NGO) (Christian Community)
14. Mr. Muhammad Zeeshan Niaz (Secretary Information MQM Lahore)
15. Mrs. Shakeela Saddique (Senior teacher at Government Girls High School, Lahore)
16. Mrs. Rosey John (Secular Francis Order) (Christian Community)
17. Mrs. Maria Goretti (Executive at Chain of Hands) (Christian Community)
18. Mrs. Sadia Faisal (Executive member of PFRD)
19. Ms. Donia (Singer) (Christian Community)

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoeOP_quXo8

Photos: https://amnashafifoundation.blogspot.com/2017/02/un-world-interfaith-harmony-week-

at.html

Link to valuable comments and views:

https://amnashafifoundation.blogspot.com/2017/02/testimonials-and-valuable.html



DAY 2: Sunday, February 05, 2017

Theme: Interfaith Peace Meal (Meal)

Venue: ASF, Lahore

Time: 12pm-2pm

On this day, ASF's children had a meal together and enjoyed. ASF has two faith students (Muslim and Christian). On this day the all students were happy and excited. That day the old students met new enrolled students as well.



Peace Meal Schedule

- Pray
- Introduced WIHW to children and their parents
- Artwork
- Meal

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IV9hIRQa_vQ

Photos: https://www.facebook.com/amnashafifoundation/photos/



DAY 3: Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Theme: Inner Peace is Spiritual Peace (Seminar)

Venue: Gender Studies Department, University of the Punjab

Time: 1pm-3pm



On the third day, ASF conducted a seminar in the name of "Inner Peace is Spiritual Peace". There were two basic purposes of conducting this seminar, first, to introduce and familiarise the message of WIHW and second to spread the beauty and grace of God through motivational discussion and sensitization. ASF specifically selected the Gender Studies department, University of the Punjab (PU) to this seminar. Two Speakers (Professors) were invited from PU, another speaker invited from other colleges and NGOs. Students have invited from different departments of PU and from other private universities to attend that seminar. Around 65 students have attended that seminar. We organised activities during the seminar to engage students.



FOCUS

Speakers multiply the knowledge of all attendees and refresh the purpose of living by adding the quotations and stories of great and inspirational personalities of Islam as well as Christianity. Speakers also interconnected the inner peace and spirituality with a human being daily routine life. They also sensitised the mind of attendees through involving them in question answer session.

Notable Speakers

- Mr. Muhammad Imran Nawaz Rana Professor Information and Technology Department University of the Punjab
- Mr. Muhammad Arshad Abbasi Assistant Professor
 Social Work Department University of the Punjab

- Ms. Maria Goretti Executive Chain of Hands
- Mr. Bilal Ahmad Professor English Literature Paak Vision College
- Ms. Samra Khan Chairperson Amna Shafi Foundation

Seminar Schedule

- Pray
- Introduction of ASF and WIHW
- Speakers spoke 10-15 minutes on tolerance, interfaith harmony and spiritual peace
- Attendees entertained with two active mind activities
- One Sacred Poem recited
- Refreshment

Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gF9xOMMkEeQ

Photos: https://amnashafifoundation.blogspot.com/2017/02/un-world-interfaith-harmony-week-

in.html

Link to valuable comments and views:

https://amnashafifoundation.blogspot.com/2017/02/valuable-comments-about-spirituality.html

AMNA SHAFI FOUNDATION

CONCLUSION

It was a wonderful and learning experience for me and my organisation members while

conducting the United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week event, seminar and meal. This

programme/platform took me through various phases of project development and gave me a real

insight into the world of love and peace especially Interfaith Harmony. The delight of working

and the excitement involved while tackling the various problems and challenges gave me a feel

of initiators hard work.

to media reports. Alas!

It was due to WIHW I came to know how to regard other religious communities and I also learn

how to implement religiosity without being extremist.

Well, I got pleasure from each and every small piece of work I had put into the WIHW

celebration. I would like to continue to celebrate and promote the beautiful message of WIHW

every year in fact throughout the year. God Willing.

IMPORTANT: Amna Shafi Foundation has invited the electronic and print media but due to their other preferences they couldn't reach on given time, that's why unable to share links



TESTIMONIALS AND REFERENCES OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS ABOUT EVENTS

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RECOMMENDATION AND THOUGHTS ABOUT AN EVENT

I have attended an event on 4-Feb, 2017 with the attractive and loving theme of MUQADAS

RABBT [SACRED CONNECTION]. Amna Shafi Foundation has conducted the UN World

Interfaith Harmony Week event and brought all religions likewise Muslims, Christians and

Hindus on one forum. I appreciate her courage that she organised such a sensitive event in

current situations of our Pakistan.

I was invited as a speaker and I observed that day the every other religion was excited and

happy with each other to meet in one platform. I am grateful to World Interfaith Harmony

Week, this program collect nations without creed and religious barriers every year with

responsibility and love.

I met Samra that day and she is very impressive personality. She is humbled and caring. Her

devotion and dedication are moderately priceless towards religions and people. Her foundation

goals are high. I highly recommend and prefer her for the prize. If she wins the prize definitely

she wins the heart of poor beggar children and poor girls because she is struggling continuously

to provide them with an honest livelihood.

I really wish her very best luck.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Victoria Patrick

Poetess and Books Translator

E-mail: victoriapatrick.amrit@gmail.com

Mobile: +92-302-4279-535

OBSERVATION AND PREFERENCE

To Whom It May Concern:

The last programs conducted by Amna Shafi Foundation (ASF) to celebrate the UN World

Interfaith Harmony Week were excellent. I was invited as a guest in an event on 04-Feb-2017

and as a speaker in a seminar on 22-Feb-2017. A large number of concerned persons from

different walks of life attended those activities, where the message of Interfaith Harmony was

delivered very effectively. These were beautiful events and the efforts were appreciated by the

participants to the great extent.

I am pleased to recommend/prefer Ms. Samra Khan, CEO Amna Shafi Foundation (a Non-

Governmental Organisation), working for Interfaith Harmony, child protection and women

empowerment.

I know Ms. Samra Khan keenly because she was my student in Msc. Social Work, University of

the Punjab (2009). She is a very responsible person, who combines exceptional natural ability

with a willingness and eagerness to learn. She is a skilled, qualified and result oriented person,

able to work under any environment confidentially. Her organisation, Amna Shafi Foundation is

delivering excellent services.

I wish her best of luck for future.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Muhammad Arshad Abbasi

Assistant Professor Department of Social Work

University of the Punjab, Lahore.

E-mail: abbasihere@hotmail.com

Contact: +92-322-444-2234



Views and Recommendation

I was invited as a speaker by Ms. Samra Khan, Chairperson of Amna Shafi Foundation, on the conducted event for United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week. To celebrate the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week in existing scenarios of violence and threaten in our country is a concrete step towards peace and harmony. Ms. Samra Khan and her team took an initiative to bring people from all religions and sects under one roof. Such programs or events should be continued and conducted on annual basis.

I also would like to prefer her competing for the prize. She is a talented and result oriented girl. She takes initiatives with very care and devotion. I know her from last two years. She was my member of staff.

I wish her good luck.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Noor Ul Zaman Rafiq Chairperson Phoenix Foundation for Research and Development (PFRD) Lahore

Email: nzrafiq@gmail.com Mobile: +92-300-8405511



Consideration and Reference

I have attended an event "Muqadas Rabbt- Sacred Connection" on 4th Feb 2017 at Children Library Complex, Lahore and I was invited to a seminar as a speaker on 22 Feb 2017 in Gender Studies Department, University of the Punjab, Lahore, and the theme of the day was "Inner Peace is Spiritual Peace". The both amazing events were organised by Ms. Samra Khan, CEO Amna Shafi Foundation to celebrate the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week.

It is my pleasure that I was the part of these events. I felt something different during that celebration days, being a Christian I shared my realities and what is my faith because the Bible has a lot to say about peace. Jesus is called the "Prince of Peace", (Isaiah 9:6). Paul refers to "the God of all Peace", (Romans 15:13, 33; Galatians 6:16). The term Peace is often used as a greeting and a benediction (see Luke 24:36). So, what exactly is Peace, and how can we have an "Inner Peace"? Like many people, I lived my life for a lot of years failing to understand Inner Peace is a choice. I am not sure, what I thought. Perhaps, I didn't believe anyone could feel a lasting peace inside. I did know that my own feelings of peace were always transitory.

Well, I know Ms. Samra Khan more than a year; we had worked together on a project. I strongly refer her to compete for the prize because she really deserves. She is talented and has a great vision of religiosity and respect for others. She writes Divine Love poetry, how beautiful heart she has.

I wish her best luck.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maria Goretti Waheed Director Chain of Hands

E-mail: mgkmarcus@gmail.com

Contact: +92-313-4333-172



Dated: February 24, 2017

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

This is to acknowledge that Samra Khan has been my student for the subject, Pakistani Society and Culture and I also supervised her research thesis in M.Phil Sociology.

I have known Samra Khan for more than three years as a student of the University of the Punjab, Lahore and Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan. I have always found her to be a young and enthusiastic, hard worker taking a keen interest in academics as well as professionals.

Samra Khan was an outstanding student with an aptitude for easily assimilating concepts. She is keen to strive for perfection and curious for new ideas in the field of research and development. Currently, she is running her foundation namely, AMNA SHAFI FOUNDATION with great devotion. She recently conducted events for UN World Interfaith Harmony Week 2017 with love and dedication.

In the light of above-mentioned credentials, I am confident that Samra Khan will qualify her selection for the prize. I am sure that she will be a good feedback for our country with a wider perspective to save humanity. She is poetess and writes sacred pieces of poetry. Muqadas Rabbt is her upcoming poetry book name. She has the knowledge of Islamic history.

So, I strongly recommend her and her foundation competing for the prize in your organisation. I wish her success and pray for the bright future.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Raza Ullah Associate Professor (Retired) Department of Sociology University of the Punjab

Contact: +92-3334532656 Email: razaullah01@gmail.com



Letter of Recommendation

Ms. Samra Khan is one of among highly ethical and professional people I came to know during the course of my professional experience. I got a chance to work with her during a survey that National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) conducted for Pakistan's largest social safety network AKA Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in 2010. She was our main trainer for the survey teams and our team lead for Johar Town and Township areas of City District Lahore. I was really impressed by her understanding of poverty scorecard (questionnaire for the survey), quality of the training she imparted to the enumerators and the response rate from the respondents that she obtained.

Lately, Ms. Khan started pursuing her higher studies and now she completed her M.Phil in Sociology. This is highly appreciable that besides her full-time engagement in her studies she wants to bring a change in the Pakistani society and community around her. A continuation of her ambitions turned into the establishment of her new not-for-profit organisation namely Amna Shafi Foundation (ASF) which aims at uplifting poor women entrepreneurs and finding new avenues for their production. Besides she is also working on promoting education for street beggar children whom parents cannot afford their education and at the end, they insisted on becoming beggar their children.

To me, these are highly commendable efforts from a lady in our male dominant society. I wish her best of luck in her future endeavours and would like to recommend and wish her for competing for the prize of UN WIHW-2017. I feel that she will be a valuable addition to the competition of the current year. I am hopeful that the winning of this prize your organisation will ultimately help her; polish her skills and achieve her goals and objectives to bring any positive change in the society of Pakistan.

In recent times she is conducting academic workshops and seminars at different places and universities across Punjab, Pakistan.

Finally, thanking you in anticipating and also I would like to thank the Judges and management for considering her submission and providing her with an equal opportunity to be a part of this prize selection. I wish you and all the participants of your organisation who will be a part of this prize competition.

Thank you

Sincerely

Naeem Ahmad Director Technical Services ALHASAN Systems (Pvt.)

Ltd.

E-mail: naeemjr@gmail.com Contact: +92-301-8560566



Foundation Details

Name of the NGO AMNA SHAFI FOUNDATION

Acronym ASF

Founder Samra Khan

Registered Address 543-G, M.A. Johar Town, Lahore

Founder and Managing Director Samra Khan
Contact No. +92-311-4820486

Legal status Pakistan Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860

Registration No. RP/9797/L/S/15
Date of Registration 29.12.2015

Communication Address

Website http://amnashafifoundation.org/ (developing)

Blog https://amnashafifoundation.blogspot.com/

Fax None

Contact Person Muhammad Azam Khan Contact No. +92-300-691-3940

Bank Particulars

Bank Name United Bank Limited of Pakistan

Bank Account Number xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (in process)

Type of Account Current Account

Bank Code 1937

Bank Branch Address 473, Johar Town Main Boulevard, Block G3, Phase 2, Lahore

Other Information

Funding Sources NGO members, family, relatives, teachers and friends

Present Working Area Lahore, Pakistan



SAMRA KHAN [Academic Record and Experiences]

Founder of Amna Shafi Foundation (ASF)

E-mail: samrakhan06@hotmail.com
E.mail:amnashafifoundation@gmail.com
Blog: https://amnashafifoundation.blogspot.com/

OBJECTIVES

Seeking career with a progressive organisation, having result oriented approach and potential to grow by self-motivation with professional qualifications. I want to be recognised as a competent and stalwart professional using all my potentials and abilities in my field.

ACADEMIC RECORD

Applied for **PhD Scholarship** (Awaiting successful candidate's list)...

M.Phil Sociology

Msc. in Social Work

B.Ed

Graduation with Economics as major subject

Intermediate with Education as major subject

Matriculation with science subjects

PRACTICAL WORK

- I refined raw data gathered in the field through the use of SPSS for the analysis and report writing
- Conducted Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)
- I have worked with local NGOs on Social Issues
- I conducted Free Medical Camps in slum areas of Lahore and Sahiwal
- I arranged various seminars on different issues in Lahore at the community level.



FIELD WORK Experience

Field work: Social Case Work Settings at Jinnah Hospital, Lahore

Field work: Community Development, Samanabad Town, Project # 3, Lahore

WORK EXPOSURE

- o Great work experience with FM Radio 104.6 (Campus Voice Punjab University, Lahore)
- Have a good experience as Administration and Management at Eastern College, Lahore
- o Tele Marketing experience in **Barclays Bank** as a **Lead Generate** (**L.G**), Lahore

WORKSHOP

- Recently organising the Creative and Active Mind Learning Programs (workshop) at college, school and community level
- Participated in workshop arranged by 'British Council' on 'Active Citizens'
- Joined The Citizens Foundation as a mentor and conducted a workshop for girls.

RESEARCH PRACTICUM

- One of my research papers is in IAFOR conference proceedings-UK on the topic of "Causes and consequences of acid attacks on women: A case study of District Lahore, Pakistan".
- M.Phil thesis research has conducted on the topic of "Acid Throwing on Women in Pakistan: A study of The Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act, 2011".
- I have done Master's thesis research on the topic of "A Study on Socio-Economic and Cultural Aspects of Acid Attacks on Women" with related organisations and institutions such as Diplex Smile Again Foundation (DSF), Shirkat Gah, Jinnah Hospital and Mayo Hospital in Lahore.

FIELD PROJECTS

- Training and Capacity Building in Reproductive Health & Family Planning in PRSP Target Districts. An Operations & Action Research. Research Unit, Punjab Safe Motherhood Initiative Project. Lady Willingdon Hospital; King Edward Medical University. Government of the Punjab, Lahore
- Worked as a mentor at The Citizens Foundation (TCF)
- Worked with Phoenix Foundation for Research and Development as a research consultant.
- Recently conducting UN World Interfaith Harmony Week-2017 events, seminars and roundtable discussions



- Conducted field research to assess the Impact of Micro Lending by KASHF Foundation as Research
 Assistant for Shore Bank International (an International Consultancy Firm) in the cities of Lahore,
 Kasoor and Gujranwala, Sialkot
- Selected as a Team Coordinator and Trainer at BISP (Benazir Income Support Program) a contracted project of NRSP
- Conducted field research to assess the REMMITTANCE and INSURANCE by KASHF Foundation as Research Assistant for Shore Bank International (an International Consultancy Firm) in the cities of Lahore, Kasoor and Gujranwala, Sialkot, Sahiwal, Hafiz-Abad, Islamabad, Faisalabad, Gujrat, Multan, Khanewal.

COMPUTER AND RESEARCH SKILLS

- Proficiency in MS Office, SPSS
- Expertise in Qualitative research

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Poetry
- Philosophy
- Singing
- Social Mobilization

REFERENCE

Reference will be provided on request.



WORDS OF LOVE

"Spread your love wherever you are and who you are"

I am not a Scientist, Philosopher, Lawyer, Doctor or an Engineer but I am a human being with a pure heart. World Interfaith Harmony Week is creating peace and Interfaith Harmony with a broader visualisation. I must say this is a marvellous effort is happening in the world.

I am also grateful to my team members. They helped me to make WIHW events possible.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Samra Khan

Chairperson

Amna Shafi Foundation Date: 04-March-2017