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# Educating Girls in Muslim Countries: Possibly the single most important thing we can do to alleviate poverty.

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## 2010 Report

February 6, 2011

**A project of the ICB Wayland Sunday School and Parent Association**

Administrative members:

Mohamad Ali, Michelle Syed, Hina Bukhari, Tahir Chaudhry, Tasneem Mohammed

# Agenda

## ■ Background – Why is this important?

- ❑ Reason for focus on girls
- ❑ State of education in Pakistan
- ❑ Oxfam's 9 part girls' education program

## ■ 2010 Report – What did we accomplish?

- ❑ Parents' project – 4 schools, 800 students
- ❑ Students' projects – “Kids for Kids” Sister School project
  - Playground Equipment – Michelle Syed, Lena Syed, Saadia Ali
  - Pen Pals – Hina Bukhari, Tasneem Mohammed

## ■ Going forward – How you can help?

- ❑ Students – fund-raising (e.g. bake sale) for Sister School playground equipment
- ❑ Parents – fund-raising for large school projects (for up to 8 schools)
- ❑ Leadership – Girls' Education Project Team

# Why Girls?

Research shows that educating girls is the most effective way to promote economic development

- “[E]ducating girls yields a higher rate of return than any other investment available in the developing world,” Lawrence H Summers, economist and former president of Harvard University
- "There is no tool for development more effective than the education of girls." Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of the United Nations



“We've been learning how to measure things. When we buy from shopkeepers, they cannot cheat us now. “ Adeeba, schoolgirl from Khoj

# Why Pakistan?

Pakistan has one of world's largest populations of out-of-school Muslim girls

- Pakistan has the third largest out-of-school population in the world, after Nigeria and India.
- Nearly 50% of girls never attend school.
- Of those that do attend, 59% leave before reaching 5th grade.
- Women represent only 13% of the work force.
- Over 60% of the female population 15yrs and older is illiterate.
- In rural areas of Pakistan, boys are three times more likely than girls to complete their primary education.
- Parents who cannot afford to send all their children to school usually send the boys and keep the girls at home.



# Why Oxfam International?

Oxfam is one of the world's largest and most respected organizations seeking lasting solutions to poverty and injustice

- Confederation of 14 organizations working with over 3,000 partners in approximately 100 countries
- Founded in Oxford, UK in 1942 as the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
- Oxfam Great Britain is the largest Oxfam with over 6000 employees.
- Oxfam America (Boston, MA) was formed in 1970 in response to the crisis in Bangladesh
- Highest ratings: Charity Navigator, Charity Watch



partnering with:



# Oxfam's Girls' Education Project

Sustainable education requires more than building schools

## ■ 9 Components of Oxfam's Program

1. Renovation / Rehabilitation of existing school premises
2. Provision of school supply materials
3. Teacher Training
4. Formation and Training of School Management Committees (SMCs)
5. Health and Awareness Sessions with Teachers, Students and SMC members
6. Participation of Children in School Improvement
7. Establishing links with District Government
8. Policy Advocacy
9. Capacity Building of Partners and Oxfam



# 2010 Report

We selected 4 schools within Oxfam's girls education project.

## Our 4 selected schools\*

- ❑ Government Girls Elementary Schools 120 P Sadiqabad, Rahim Yar Khan
- ❑ Government Girls Primary School 258, Sadiqabad, Rahim Yar Khan
- ★❑ Government Girls Primary School, Darkhan Wala, Multan
- ❑ Government Girls Primary School, Nanwan Noor Shah, Muzaffargarh



Seven-year-old Shabana is a pupil at the Government Girls' Primary School in **Rahim Yar Khan**. "I don't like having my lessons outside in the sun," she says. "My mother says this is what sometimes makes me ill."

\* Certain designated "girls" schools also enroll boys.

# 2010 Report

We raised \$62,442, benefitting 4 schools and 887 students

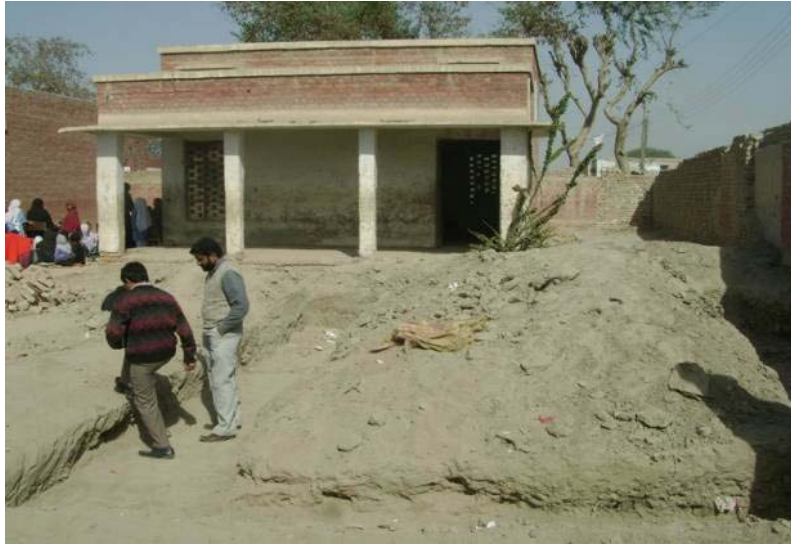
- **\$62,442**
- **4 schools**
- **887 students**
- **Also included**
  - ❑ Furniture
  - ❑ School supplies
  - ❑ Health programs
  - ❑ Teacher training
  - ❑ School committees



# 2010 Report

Schools were renovated: structure, toilet, electrical, boundary walls

Before



After



Completed in 2010: **Multan, Muzaffargarh**; Complete Feb 2011: **Rahim Yar Khan 120, Rahim Yar Khan 258**

# 2010 Report

Kits provided: learning, teaching, health, sports, library

## Standardized Package of Teaching & Learning Materials (TLMs)

Primary Teaching Kit



Health Kit



Sports Kit



Reading / Library Club



Learning Kit for  
Early Childhood Education (ECE)



# 2010 Report

Furniture included; Kids using kits.



# 2010 Report

Water, sanitation & health (WASH) education provided for students.



LAHORE, Oct 15: Hand washing with soap is the most effective and inexpensive way to prevent diarrhoeal and acute respiratory infections, which is taking the lives of millions of children in developing countries every year.



*“We enjoy and learn a lot while playing with snakes and ladders. We learn that we must wash our hands with soap and we should keep ourselves neat and healthy.” Shanzay Class 3rd GGPS, Rahim Yaar Khan 258*

# 2010 Report

Enabled permanent capacity building: teachers training, local advocacy, school committees.

*Trainees on “2 Days on Early Childhood Education” in **Multan***



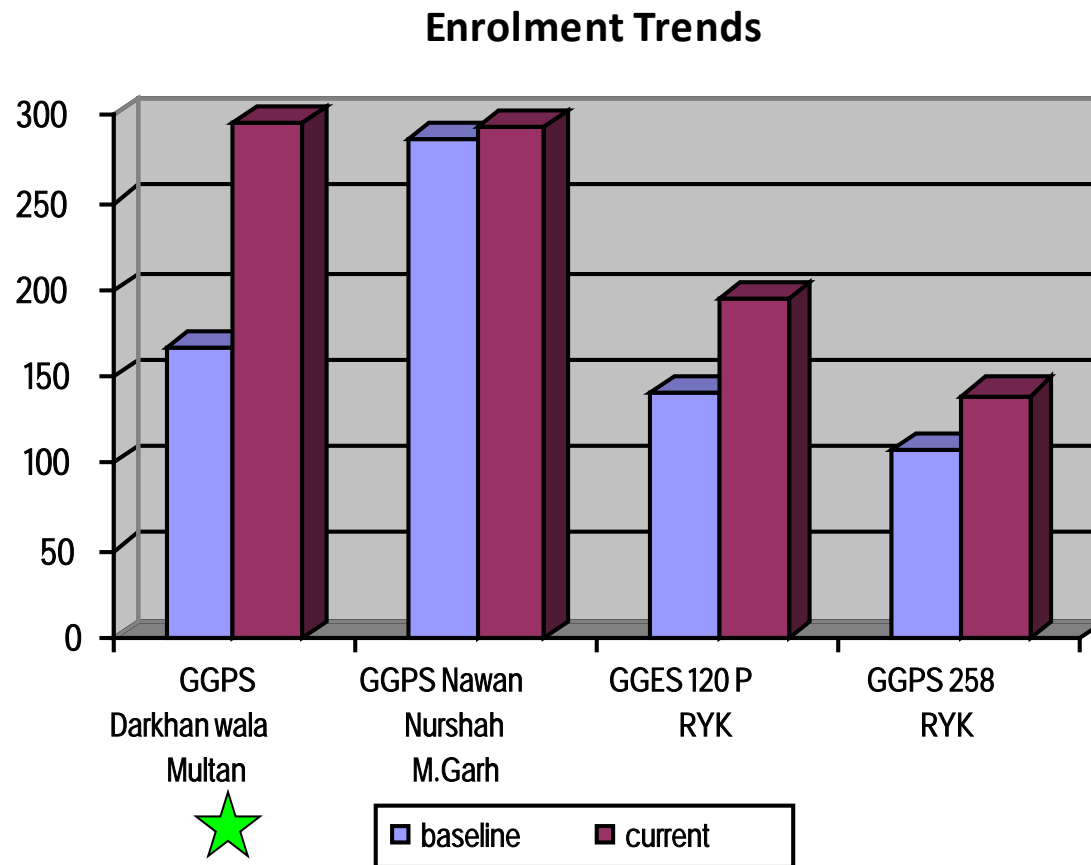
*“I am really impressed and pleased to spend two very useful days with OGB’s Girls Education Program team and all the partners who keep on interacting with us in the districts. [S]uch consultative sessions where NGOs and our colleagues from other district governments get together to jointly deliberate upon improving the delivery of services is really encouraging and the need of hour”.*

*Mr. Amjad Ali, EDO (Finance and Planning) District **Muzzaffargarh**.*



# 2010 Report

Observed significant increase in enrollment, especially in Multan (our sister school).



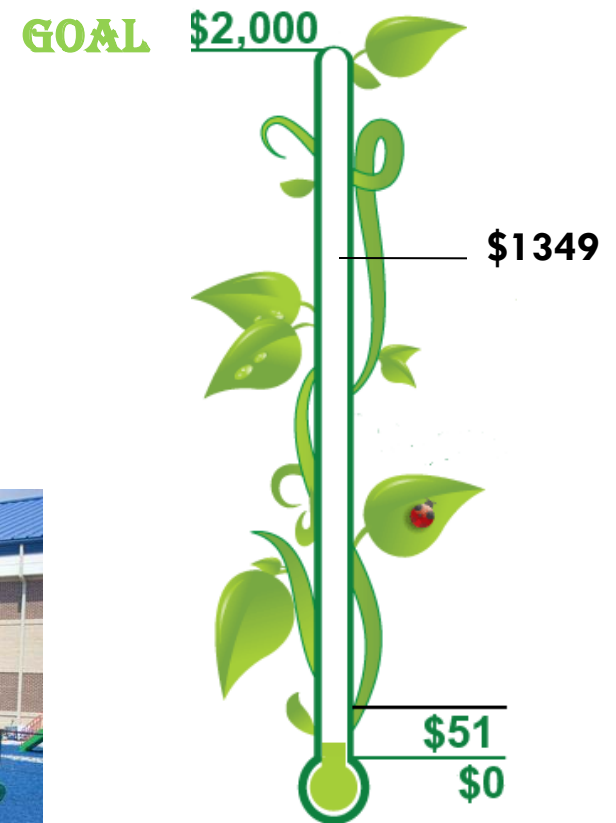
*“Now as the school has newly constructed boundary wall, we don’t find any reason not to send our girls to school. The teachers are also behaving well with the students and focus a lot on cleanliness and discipline which we really like and wanted for long.” Community Member GGPS Nawan Nur Shah district Muzzaffargarh.*

# Sister School “Kids for Kids” Project

Kids to raise \$2000 for playground equipment at Multan Sister School

## What is Kids For Kids?

- Program in which both boys and girls, (with the help of many generous adults), raise money, which is donated to OXFAM America to help renovate schools in Pakistan for mostly girls, and some boys.



# Sister School Pen Pals

Sister School will be Government Girls Primary School, Darkhan Wala, Multan.

- Located in Southern Punjab province of Pakistan.
- Primary school: K-5
- Bulk of students in school are in lower grades
- Co-ed institution, but over 50% of students are female. Grades 3, 4, 5 are majority female.

**Multan Sister School**  
Government Girls Primary School, Darkhan Wala  
Enrollment

Class	Boys	Girls	Total
K	68	75	143
1 <sup>st</sup>	29	37	66
2 <sup>nd</sup>	30	10	40
3 <sup>rd</sup>	1	24	25
4 <sup>th</sup>	0	14	14
5 <sup>th</sup>	2	5	07
Total	130	165	295

# Sister School Pen Pal Project Rollout

Goal is to provide a cross-cultural experience for students in Pakistan and America

- Letters are planned to be written monthly by class (not individual student)
- Topics may include: holidays, sports, hobbies, weather, school, current events, etc.
- We may come up with a theme or topic for each one of the letter exchanges. Still in the formative stages, so feel free to add input.
- Letters will be written in English and translated into Urdu by project counterpart in Pakistan
- We will receive letters in Urdu and we are working on creating a small team of translators at ICB.
- All teachers will be provided any materials needed to write class letters
- Initial letters will be an introduction of students in the class.
- We plan to take pictures of each class to send over
- All parents \*should have\* received permission slips to allow their child to participate in the project (have their names used, be photographed, etc.)
- Scheduled project inception: February 12th, 2011.

# How can you help?

## ■ Students - “Kids for Kids” (our Sister School project)

- ❑ Raise \$2,000 (2011) to support small project: playground equipment for Sister School
  - Contact: Michelle Syed, [michellesyed@comcast.net](mailto:michellesyed@comcast.net)
- ❑ Letter writing
  - Contact: Hina Bukhari, [hinz786@gmail.com](mailto:hinz786@gmail.com)

## ■ Parents

- ❑ Raise \$100,000 (2011) to support up to ~8 large schools projects (\$0 committed)
  - Seeking contributions of \$10,000 or \$10
- ❑ Checks to “Oxfam America” with memo line “Pakistan Education Project G”, OR
- ❑ Checks to “ICB Wayland” with memo line “Pakistan Education Project G”
- ❑ Contact: Mohamad Ali, [mhsali@gmail.com](mailto:mhsali@gmail.com)

## ■ Leadership

- ❑ Participate in Girls’ Education Project Management Team
- ❑ Thought leadership and program planning
- ❑ Currently include:
  - Mohamad Ali, Michelle Syed, Hina Bukhari, Tahir Chaudhry, Tasneem Mohammed
- ❑ Contact: Mohamad Ali, [mhsali@gmail.com](mailto:mhsali@gmail.com)

# More Information

- Website
  - [http://www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam\\_in\\_action/where\\_we\\_work/pakistan.html](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam_in_action/where_we_work/pakistan.html)
- Video #1, part 1
  - <http://www.youtube.com/user/whitericecom#p/a/u/1/PuMRkgXkSHo>
- Video #1, part 2
  - [http://www.youtube.com/user/whitericecom#p/a/u/0/WgcGENJZ\\_4I](http://www.youtube.com/user/whitericecom#p/a/u/0/WgcGENJZ_4I)
- Video #2
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eS1GXe1-vCY>