



Editorial

Dear Readers,

Six months in the life of a growing organization like TCF are marked by milestones and achievements. We are proud to announce that 40 new school units have been added to our network, bringing the total number to 180. We have extended our program to three new locations in Punjab and now have a presence in 21 different locations nationwide.

We are delighted that our support chapters are formalizing their efforts. We welcome Mehvish Khan, co-ordinator FTCF UK and Sarah Karim, co-ordinator STCF Karachi to our TCF family. We would also like to welcome Brig. Arif who has joined us as a full time volunteer in our Regional Office. We wish them best of luck and hope they prove to be assets to TCF.

Ami Qureshi

TCF Highlights June 2004

131 Primary School Units

49 Secondary School Units

Over 20,000 Students

Network in 21 Locations

Over 2000 Jobs created

TCF Features in Times London

The Times London recently did a 5 page feature on TCF, which appeared in the April 17, 2004 issue of their magazine. Times London journalist Joanna Pitman, who visited various TCF schools, has given an elaborate account of how worthy TCF's efforts are and how much they are needed in a country like Pakistan. The article, which is available on our website, received overwhelming response.

TCF Children win National awards

Two TCF children received outstanding achievement awards from the Government of Pakistan's NCCWD (National Commission for Child Welfare and Development).

Asghar Ali, an 8-year old student of TCF School – Shirin Sultan Dossa Campus VII in Jam Kando Goth, Karachi received the Takhliqi Award (for creative abilities in Arts, Science and Literature). He received the award for creating a three-dimensional model of a truck made from recyclable material such as empty juice packs, cardboards, wrappers and medicine boxes. Asghar Ali is a creative young boy who has a definite inclination towards arts and crafts.

The other award went to Rehmatullah, a 12-year old student from TCF School-Sabeeh Qamar-uz-Zaman Campus in Tarnol, Islamabad. Rehmatullah won the Himmat Award (for acts of Mental and Physical Courage).

Rehmatullah, at this young age shoulders the burden of running the household with his father. Along with doing every day chores such as filling water, fetching groceries and chopping wood, he also sells corn every evening.

Rehmatullah often comes to school with injured hands and an empty stomach but with eyes that are alight with hope and enthusiasm. He rightly deserves his award for outstanding mental and physical courage.



TCF children receive honours



International recognition for TCF



Computer Training

Teacher training & development is an important element of the TCF education programme. Recognizing the significance of information technology, we organized a comprehensive computer training for our secondary school faculty, conducted with support from Unilever Pakistan, whose employees volunteered as trainers for the programme. The first training session was held from Jan 19 to Jan 26, 2004 in which 64 principals and teachers participated. The second session was held from April 19 to April 28, 2004 in which 74 more school staff was trained.



Training for tomorrow

Saqib Khan Completes Marathon des Sables

Saqib Khan, our UK based supporter, completed Marathon des Sables to become the first Pakistani to achieve this honour. Saqib undertook this herculean task with the sole objective of raising funds for TCF. His goal was to raise £35,000 to build a TCF Primary School.

Marathon des Sables, termed as the 'worlds toughest footrace' is a 250 km, 6 day trek across the Sahara Desert amidst 300 metre high sand dunes and stony plateaus. With temperatures soaring upto 54C°, participants are required to carry all necessary equipment including food supplies for 6 days on their back. 32 year old Saqib, a statutory fundraiser for the British Refugee Council, believes that what really kept him going was the thought of all the children whose lives would change once he achieved his goal.



Commitment to a cause

LUMS Outreach Program

Seven TCF students have appeared for the entrance test for LUMS National Outreach Program (NOP). LUMS (Lahore University of Management Sciences) offers a scholarship programme that targets needy students all over Pakistan with exceptional Matric and FA / FSc results (70% & above).

Students clearing the entrance test will undergo three weeks of SAT coaching sessions at LUMS. Those who perform well in these sessions will be registered for SAT. High Scorers will be given admission on full

Inaugural Ceremony of HUBCO- IPGD Campus

A four- school unit Primary School Hubco-IPGD Campus Hub has recently been set up in the province of Baluchistan. This school has been sponsored by HUB Power Company along with International Power Global Development (IPGD), who are also funding the entire running costs of the school.



Our steps forward

Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Mir Mohammad Yousuf along with Senate Chairman Mohammad Mian Soomro inaugurated the school on April 24, 2004. They applauded TCF for playing a pivotal role in shaping Pakistan's future.

scholarship to BCS (Honors).

Mr. Sohail Hanif Baig, AM – Treasury from Unilever Pakistan Limited took the responsibility to coach these students for the test at Unilever's Rabtah Office in Karachi. May Allah reward him for his excellent effort.

We hope that our students manage to clear the test and are soon on their way to pursue a BCS degree from one of the most prestigious Management schools in Pakistan.



Ilmathon

Over 5000 people from various walks of life participated in 'ilmathon', a fundraising walk organized by STCF in Karachi on Sunday March 7th 2004. The theme of the walk 'Turn Strides into Schools' was designed to unify people from diverse backgrounds towards the common goal of promoting mass scale education all over Pakistan.

The walk started with over 2000 TCF children (who, thanks to our extremely able and dedicated Area Management staff, were transported in from various parts of the city) singing the national anthem with gusto. The opening ceremony was marked by a poignant speech by Erum Ara, a student of TCF Secondary School Crescent Steel Campus - Umer Maingal Goth, who secured 83% in her Matriculation Exam. Erum, who is now enrolled as a Pre-Medical student, thanked TCF for giving her the chance to pursue her dream of becoming a doctor. A bright and festive atmosphere prevailed throughout the event. There were a host of fun activities at the end of the walk including a wide variety of food stalls, a puppet show, concert by Strings, and comedy show by Black Fish. People from all walks of life enthusiastically joined in the festivities that lasted till late in the afternoon. Prominent personalities such as legendary cricketer Wasim Akram, renowned hockey player Samiullah, eminent writer and critic Adeshir Cowasjee showed support for the cause by actively participating in the event. Also, marathon runner, Saqib Khan came all the way from London especially for the event.



Erum Ara - a TCF success story



Sports icons show support

Academic Year 2003 - 2004

A number of initiatives were taken with respect to curriculum development. A completely new syllabus which focuses on learning by doing methodology, has been introduced in the KG classes. Kindergarten is a very significant phase of a child's learning process as it is the first step towards formal education. Being activity based, the new syllabus is designed to make this introductory phase interesting and exciting for the child.

At TCF, we aim to provide a well-rounded education. Much stress is therefore laid upon extra curricular activities and this year a student week concept was initiated. This involved a whole week being devoted to student-based activities and events such as debates, essays, talent competition, Qirat and Naat competitions and a full-fledged sports day. This in addition to the activities being carried out on various major events such as Independence day, Quaid day, and Earth day. Another effort in this direction was turning of student field trips into enlightening experiences. Pre and post visit activities such as information gathering and essay writing etc. have been made compulsory so that students gain the maximum from such trips.

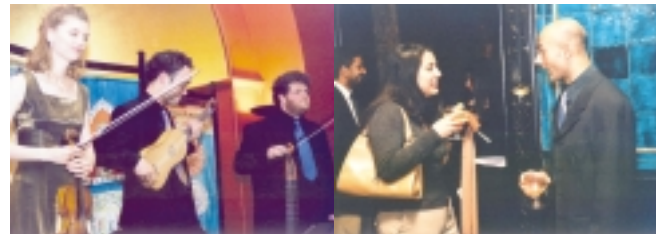


Changing lives

News from UK

Our Supporter Chapter in UK, Friends of The Citizens Foundation (FTCF), conducted a stylish and entertaining event on March 04, 2004. The event was held in one of London's most unique and beautiful museums. A delightful musical performance by 'The Realm of Music' transported guests to the tranquil courtyards of Cordoba upon strains of Moorsish Baroque played on period instruments.

The musical performance was followed by an exhibition of unique hand-made items imported from Pakistan. The evening concluded with a detailed update for all friends and supporters. Over £5,000 were raised through this event, all of which will go directly towards funding the education of TCF children in Pakistan.



An enjoyable evening

News from UAE

An agreement was signed between TCF and the UAE based Al-Makhtoum Foundation where they committed to build and support a number of Primary and Secondary schools with the first starting in April 2005. We are grateful to STCF UAE for their efforts in helping arrange this opportunity.





UK Events Calendar

A Literary Evening

Book reading and book signing event featuring William Dalrymple, Kamila Shamsie and Nadeem Aslam - Wednesday *June 09*, Royal Society of Arts in London.

Raat chali hey jhoom key ('A Night to Remember')

FTCF exclusive UK launch of Hasan Zaidi's film.

Sunday *May 30*, Glasgow, Film Theatre.

Sunday *July 04*, London, National Film Theatre.

Flora Light Challenge for Women

Sunday *September 05*, London Hyde Park.

FTCF Football Tournament

A round-robin 5 a side football tournament - Saturday *September 11*, Wembley Goals Soccer Centre, London.

FTCF Road Show

FTCF's annual road show of UK cities, including tea at the beautiful ballroom of The Dorchester, combined with an auction of the works by a number of Pakistani artists, who will compile a collection exclusively for FTCF.

Sunday *October 03*, Park Lane, London

For more information regarding these events, feel free to contact Mehvish Khan at ftcf@thecitizensfoundation.org

STCF Update

The supporters of TCF (STCF) Karachi, hosted its first "ilmathon", a walk for a cause, in March 2004. We are thankful to all participants including over 70 companies and many local schools. Enough funds were raised to run 13 TCF primary schools for one year. The date for next ilmathon has been set for February 06, 2005. Moreover, STCF Karachi has revived its donation box campaign, increasing the number of locations in Karachi where people can contribute their loose change to TCF. STCF is also running this as a pilot project in Lahore.

For more information regarding the events, feel free to contact Sarah Karim at stcf@thecitizensfoundation.org

Visit our website at:
www.thecitizensfoundation.org

Lahore Update

On the 5th of March STCF Lahore held a fundraiser at Avari Hotel. 'The Gripps' Theatre group was invited from Karachi to perform their new stand-up comedy "Open Heart Perjury." Over 350 people enjoyed a wonderful performance by this talented group. The performance was followed by an elaborate buffet dinner at the poolside. Proceeds from sale of tickets crossed Rs. 850,000. This was the first event held independently by STCF Lahore and we hope that all their future events turn out to be as successful as this. For more information regarding Lahore events, kindly contact Vajiha Ibrahim at stcf@thecitizensfoundation.org



TCF family in Lahore

Giving Concept

With the aim of developing a spirit of giving and sharing, we have initiated the practice of assigning each class III child the responsibility to nurture a plant during the year.



Sharing and Caring

A name tag is put on the pot, giving the child a sense of ownership and responsibility. At the end of the year, when the child moves on to the next class, he gifts the plant to a new class III child.

