



**PROJECT ACTIVITES REPORT**  
**ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF**  
**THE SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024**

S#	Name of Activity	Venue	Date
1	Community awareness raising session	Jogi Colony Umerkot	25-08-2024
2	Community awareness raising session	Vehro Sharif	26-08-2024
3	Awareness raising session with school Teachers and students	Rising star Public High school Umerkot	27-08-2024
4	Seminar- community leaders role to eliminate cycle of child marriages	Razzaque Butto Village	28-08-2024
5	Community awareness raising session	Dongrani Muhalla Umerkot	29-08-2024
6	Community awareness raising session	Shahmir Colony (Bheel Paro)	01-09-2024
7	Seminar with out reach workers FWW/FWA/Doctors on The Sindh child Marriage Restraint Act 2013, child marriages and their consequences and Role of PWD	District Population Welfare Office Umerkot	02-09-2024
8	Awareness raising session with school Teachers and students	Desert flower KG high school Umerkot	02-09-2024
9	Seminar & interactive Theatre performance on Child Marriage through the implementation of The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013	Comprehensive High school Umerkot	03-09-2024
10	One day capacity building workshop with youth leader for elimination of child marriage through implementation of The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013	TINHAS	11-09-2024
11	Petition drive campaign	Umerkot	11-09-2024

SUPPORTED BY: INDUS RESOURCE CENTER (IRC)  
CHANAN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION  
ORGANIZED BY: SUKAAR WELFARE ORGANIZATION UMERKOT



**COMMUNITY AWARENESS RAISING SESSION UNDER  
ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024**

**25 August-2024**

**VENUE:JOGI COLONY UMERKOT, SINDH**



## **Purpose of the community session**

It is promising that the establishment of the Coalition, networking with communities and raising awareness to reduce Child and force Marriage, advocacy with power holders and sensitize and show commitment of Govt line departments to ending child marriages and protecting the rights of every girl and boy to have a childhood. Reducing poverty for girls means that every girl must have options for education, being healthy, being protected from violence and being empowered to transition to productive adulthood and promote SRHR, Reducing poverty will have a positive impact on both economic growth and the future workforce.

## **Procedure of the session**

Sukaar Welfare organization with the collaboration of Indus Resource Center(IRC) and Chanan Development Association (CDA) arranged an awareness raising session with community members on Advocacy campaign on Early and forced Child Marriage through implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013” under Young Omang-project on 25 August 2024 at Jogi Colony Umerkot, Sindh, in the awareness raising session there were more than 60 community leaders, women activist actively participated and appreciate this kind of awareness session will play key role to reduce child marriage, domestic violence and Gender based violence (GBV)

The main objective of the session was to raise awareness regarding this issue among the community in addition to defining its harmful health and social consequences.

## **Objectives of the session**

- Working with and engaging communities with stakeholders to end child marriages
- Raise awareness on The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013
- Increasing Awareness of Child Marriage and their consequence

The campaign purpose to engage the gatekeepers of social norms, in particular the Religious Leaders, Caste Panchayats and Community Traditional Leaders. Often, they are the most respected figures in the community and are frequently approached for mediation and counseling for various community/family level problems. They have immense power to influence the thought process in the community.

The issue of Child Marriages is largely present in district Umerkot and common practice of child marriage in Jogi community. The main objective of the session was to raise awareness regarding this issue among the community. Adv: Muhammad Bux Kumbhar Executive Director Sukaar Welfare Organization started the session by providing an overview of Child Marriage across the globe, South Asia and Pakistan. He spoke about the basic facts, provided statistics and shared real life examples in Pakistan. Consequences of Child Marriage, negative impacts and reasons why it should be abolished were also discussed. Child marriage takes away a girl's right to safe and healthy childhood, quality and complete education that can lead to decent economic opportunities, and social and political empowerment. Pakistan has the 6th highest number of girls married before the age of 18 in the world. Child marriage is prevalent due to several reasons including deeply entrenched traditions and customs, poverty, lack of awareness and/or access to education, and lack of security. The impact of child marriage is usually associated with health and nutrition, fertility and population growth, child mortality, educational attainment, participation in the labor force, women's agency and gender-based violence. The health and human rights-based angles are frequently used to advocate for ending child marriage, but it is often neglected that early age marriage also negatively impacts the economic growth and development of a nation. Child Marriage is deeply rooted in socio-cultural practices of the community particularly those in the low resource setting. Therefore, it is essential to engage and work with the community to end Child Marriage. However, challenging the rigid traditions like patriarchy, discrimination, coercion, social customs and norms requires focused and participatory action at the community level.

The session was interactive, where participants shared their views and talked about their issues and why they choose to marry their children before the official age. Upon questioning, the following reasons were discovered:

- The majority of the children consisted of out of school children, who have no interests or other healthy activities to participate in.
- The reason why those children are not enrolled in any educational institution is because most of them were not registered at birth, which makes it impossible for them to get admitted into schools.
- Since they do not have the option of attaining their education, the majority of boys get involved in work/labor, and girls generally are forced or encouraged to marry at an early age.

By the end of the session, the majority of the audience understood and appreciated the negative impacts of early child marriages. They realized and recognized that early child marriages should be discouraged and that they all had a responsibility to ensure that the issue is curbed, raised and prevented. They show commitment to stop child marriages in their community and pledge that we will send our girls and boys to school.

Gango Jogi, an influential person of the Jogi Community, said that the main activity of the awareness session was to lobby district and provincial public authorities on the implementation of laws related to women, such as the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 and Article 25, right to education,

## Photo Gallery





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ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRANT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024**

**26 August-2024**

**Venue:Vehro Sharif**



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The issue of Child Marriages is largely present in district Umerkot and common practice of child marriage in Meghwar community. The main objective of the session was to raise awareness regarding this issue among the community. Adv: Muhammad Bux Kumbhar Executive Director Sukaar Welfare Organization started the session by providing an overview of Child Marriage across the globe, South Asia and Pakistan. He spoke about the basic facts, provided statistics and shared real life examples in Pakistan. Consequences of Child Marriage, negative impacts and reasons why it should be abolished were also discussed. Child marriage takes away a girl's right to safe and healthy childhood, quality and complete education that can lead to decent economic opportunities, and social and political empowerment. Pakistan has the 6th highest number of girls married before the age of 18 in the world. Child marriage is prevalent due to several reasons including deeply entrenched traditions and customs, poverty, lack of awareness and/or access to education, and lack of security. The impact of child marriage is usually associated with health and nutrition, fertility and population growth, child mortality, educational attainment, participation in the labor force, women's agency and gender-based violence. The health and human rights-based angles are frequently used to advocate for ending child marriage, but it is often neglected that early age marriage also negatively impacts the economic growth and development of a nation. Child Marriage is deeply rooted in socio-cultural practices of the community particularly those in the low resource setting. Therefore, it is essential to engage and work with the community to end Child Marriage. However, challenging the rigid traditions like patriarchy, discrimination, coercion, social customs and norms requires focused and participatory action at the community level.

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By the end of the session, the majority of the audience understood and appreciated the negative impacts of early child marriages. They realized and recognized that early child marriages should be discouraged and that they all had a responsibility to ensure that the issue is curbed, raised and prevented. They show commitment to stop child marriages in their community and pledge that we will send our girls and boys to school.

Dheeli women rights activist highly appreciate the initiative, she is passionate about helping communities advocate for themselves and, in particular, about women having a voice. “I have experienced people not wanting to hear about the importance of women’s rights, but slowly we have started to change people’s mindsets and gain their trust,” she says. “Families are now supporting their daughters to have an education. Young Omnag is a great initiative to aware the communities to eliminate harmful practices like child marriage and GBV.

# Photo gallery





## Awareness raising session with school Teachers and students

ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024

27 August-2024

Venue: Rising Star Public High school Umerkot



## Procedure of the event

Sukaar Welfare Organization with the collaboration of Indus Resource Centre (IRC) and Chanan Development Association (CDA) Pakistan under the Young Omang Pakistan project organized awareness raising session with students and Teachers under the theme of Advocacy campaign on Early and forced Child Marriage through implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 at Rising star public High school Umerkot. Child marriage does occur among both boys and girls; the prevalence is about six times higher among girls. Child marriage is deeply rooted in gender inequality and societal values that place less worth on girls than boys, deprive girls of their agency, and perpetuate systems in which women and girls have little power or voice. Child marriage reinforces gender inequalities by denying girls their freedom and rights, limiting their access to education, health and economic participation, and limiting their control over their bodies, including who and when to marry and when to have children. It is closely linked to social and cultural beliefs that once a girl reaches puberty, her value lies in her role as a wife, mother and homemaker. Students and teachers participated in the session and committed to work jointly for the elimination of child marriage through the implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013” need to raise awareness for proper implementation of SCMRA 2013, The Sindh provincial government enacted the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act (SCMRA) in 2013, raising the age of marriage for boys and girls to 18 and increasing the prison sentence to a minimum of two years and fine.

Young people in Pakistan face challenges such as child marriage, which have adverse consequences on their education, employment, health and overall well-being, When participants discussed making decisions about marriage, the range of what constituted girls’ consent was considered particularly important. It seemed that young women’s participation in decision-making was limited to giving consent for marriage, and only in a few cases extended to choosing a partner. Generally, there is a lack of awareness among people about the negative consequence of child marriages which is a very important factor. People have little knowledge of the negative impact of early marriages on children, especially girls as the impact on them is multi-fold. Birth registration system is very ineffective and non-responsive and the birth registration for children, especially girls, is never prioritized, which gives room for manipulation regarding the exact age of the child at the time of marriage. It should be ensured that all present laws related to child rights/child protection are implemented without any discrimination and with a special focus on girls. Similarly, special capacity-building programmes should be initiated for stakeholders particularly the *nikah* (marriage) registrars, communities, teachers, the police, judiciary and media to be able to prevent child marriages.

Proper implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 can play key role to save the future of children, children are ambassadors of the society and they can create mass mobilization to stop child marriages through education.

## Photo gallery





**Seminar- community leaders role to eliminate cycle of child marriages**  
ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRANT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024

**28 August-2024**

**Venue: Razzaque Butto Village**



## **Procedure of the event**

Sukaar Welfare Organization with the collaboration of Indus Resource Center and Chanan Development Association (CDA) under the Young Omang Pakistan project organized Seminar “Community Leader role to eliminate the cycle of Child Marriage through Education. A community leader plays a prominent leadership role in guiding, directing, and organizing people to help make the community a better and progressive. Community leaders can be allies in ending child marriage and Education is a powerful strategy to end child marriage and ensure girls can fulfill their potential, Most girls who marry leave school before getting married, and so access to education affects the timing of marriage more than marriage affects access to education.

Community leader Kewal Bheel said that Child marriage can be reducing through education and our constitution provides the right to education, Article 25 A: “Right to education. The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of five to sixteen years in such manner as may be determined by law.

Community leader Ms.Bhagi Bheel expressed that Young people in Pakistan face challenges such as child marriage, which have adverse consequences on their education, employment, health and overall well-being, When participants discussed making decisions about marriage, the range of what constituted girls’ consent was considered particularly important. It seemed that young women’s participation in decision-making was limited to giving consent for marriage, and only in a few cases extended to choosing a partner. Generally, there is a lack of awareness among people about the negative consequence of child marriages which is a very important factor. People have little knowledge of the negative impact of early marriages on children, especially girls as the impact on them is multi-fold. Birth registration system is very ineffective and non-responsive and the birth registration for children, especially girls, is never prioritized, which gives room for manipulation regarding the exact age of the child at the time of marriage.

Community leader Ms.Nasiban said that it should be ensured that all present laws related to child rights/child protection are implemented without any discrimination and with a special focus on girls. Similarly, special capacity-building programmes should be initiated for stakeholders particularly the *nikah* (marriage) registrars, communities, teachers, the police, judiciary and media to be able to prevent child marriages. Community leader and women right activist participated in the Seminar and committed to work jointly for the elimination of child marriage through the implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013” need to raise awareness for proper implementation of

SCMRA 2013, The Sindh provincial government enacted The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act (SCMRA) in 2013, raising the age of marriage for boys and girls to 18 and increasing the prison sentence to a minimum of two years and fine.

Child marriage is a violation of human rights that limits girls in reaching their full potential. This harmful practice is closely associated with deprivations in education, health, access to resources and empowerment. Chief among these deprivations is the exit from schooling that typically accompanies the marriage of a child.

Access to quality education and decent work are also critical to breaking the cycle of poverty and the intergenerational transmission of child marriage, since girls from more educated and wealthier households are less likely to marry in childhood. As the world rallies to accelerate progress against child marriage, understanding what drives change in how people think about the practice and act is key to its elimination.

## Photo gallery





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**29 August-2024**

**Venue: Dongrani Muhalla**



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By the end of the session, the majority of the audience understood and appreciated the negative impacts of early child marriages. They realized and recognized that early child marriages should be discouraged and that they all had a responsibility to ensure that the issue is curbed, raised and prevented. They show commitment to op child marriages in their community and pledge that we will send our girls and boy in schools.

Gomi Bai women right activist share their views, she said that Young Omang project is a very good initiative to create mass mobilization around child marriage and girls rights he said that” I want to help communities to become stronger by receiving an education and for women and girls to receive their basic rights. People are now well aware of their rights and are more confident and independent to take initiative and resolve women-related issues by themselves. My message to other women is to be strong, independent and know your rights and empower their children through education and skill development and especially we should focus on our girls.

## Photo gallery





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**01 September-2024**

**Venue:Shamir colony (Kewal Bheel Paro)**



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Bhagi said that now we are able to raise awareness on harmful practices, such as early marriage within the community, resulting in a reduction in child marriages.

# Photo Gallery





## Seminar with out-reach workers FWW/FWA/Doctors on The Sindh child Marriage Restraint Act 2013, child marriages and their consequences and Role of PWD

ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024

02 September-2024

Venue: District Population Welfare Office Umerkot



## **Procedure of the event**

Sukaar Welfare Organization with the collaboration of Indus Resource Center and Chanan Development Association (CDA) under the Young Omang Pakistan project organized Seminar with out-reach worker Family Welfare Worker (FWW) /Family Welfare Assistant (FWA-M/F) /Male Mobilizers /Doctors on the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013, Child Marriages their Consequences and role of Population Welfare Department, Representatives from Population Welfare Department staff, local government, and civil society organizations participated in the Seminar. Population department has the wide outreach and Population Welfare Department is the key stakeholder serving to promote reproductive health rights, reduce child marriage, healthy mother and child, reduce MMR/IMR, Provision of family welfare services including family planning and general medical care, Information, education, and communication services, Promotion of population planning activities through private and other public sector institutions. The persisting trend of child marriage is not due to any duress, rather a cultural compulsion, said "This indicates a mindset we have in our society," "We need to change this mindset. The government, relevant ministries, civil society and media must come together for collective and transformational change to prevent child marriage. Child marriage is a clear violation of reproductive and child rights and directly contributes to poor maternal and child health as well as high fertility rates. Child marriage has broader consequences in terms of early childbearing and population growth. The Sindh government is focusing on timely family planning counseling to young couples.

Abdul Hameed Memon District Population Welfare Officer (DPWO) Umerkot, Mohabat Ali Soomaro District Information Department Umerkot, Muhammad Eidal Manager CWSA, Saba Rindhwa Manager CWSA, Saroopchand Malhi National lobbying Delegation Member and District Population Welfare Staff and Doctors participated in the Seminar.

Abdul Hameed Memon District Population Welfare Officer Umerkot said that the persisting trend of child marriage is not due to any duress, rather a cultural compulsion, "This indicates a mindset we have in our society," he said adding, "Waderas are not behind these practices, rather it is a local trend that needs to be addressed." Parents were also facing various socio-economic issues. "Police's role is important; He said that monitoring committees were set up after the law was passed from the Sindh Assembly. I do not see them working anywhere now.

Mohabat Ali Soomro Information Department said child marriage has broader consequences in terms of early childbearing and population growth. The Sindh government is focusing on timely family planning counseling to young couples. emphasized the report findings will help in increasing access to

girls' education, facilitating women's employment and participation in politics, and raising awareness at all levels regarding women and child rights and the issue of reproductive.

Saba Rindhawa Project Manager Community World service Asia (CWSA) said that "Child marriage is as much a health rights issue as it is a social issue. It contributes to higher birth rates as young women are less likely to be able to access contraceptives. A broader behavioral transformation is required to dismantle the social narratives and cultural practices which keep this tradition rooted in place, Child marriages cannot be restricted until the law is implemented; she said there were two aspects of child marriage; legal and behavior change. It was the change in public behavior that rendered laws effective and instrumental in addressing the issues of child marriages.

Doctor Pooja said child marriage was a complex issue and there was a need to address it from various angles. Birth registration, effective law and awareness regarding the detrimental effects of child marriage should all be important elements of advocacy initiatives.

Muhammad Eidal Jumani Manager Community World service Asia (CWSA) said emphasized the significance of implementing preventive measures when addressing the issue of child marriage. He said efforts should aim to empower communities with necessary resources and knowledge, end gender-based violence, exclusion, exploitation and intolerance.

## Photo Gallery





## Awareness raising session with school Teachers and students

ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRANT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024

02 September -2024

Venue: Desert flower KG high school Umerkot



## **Procedure of the event**

Sukaar Welfare Organization with the collaboration of Indus Resource Centre (IRC) and Chanan Development Association (CDA) Pakistan under the Young Omang Pakistan project organized awareness raising session with students and Teachers under the theme of Advocacy campaign on Early and forced Child Marriage through implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 at Desert Flower KG school Umerkot. Child marriage does occur among both boys and girls; the prevalence is about six times higher among girls. Child marriage is deeply rooted in gender inequality and societal values that place less worth on girls than boys, deprive girls of their agency, and perpetuate systems in which women and girls have little power or voice. Child marriage reinforces gender inequalities by denying girls their freedom and rights, limiting their access to education, health and economic participation, and limiting their control over their bodies, including who and when to marry and when to have children. It is closely linked to social and cultural beliefs that once a girl reaches puberty, her value lies in her role as a wife, mother and homemaker. Students and teachers participated in the session and committed to work jointly for the elimination of child marriage through the implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013” need to raise awareness for proper implementation of SCMRA 2013, The Sindh provincial government enacted the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act (SCMRA) in 2013, raising the age of marriage for boys and girls to 18 and increasing the prison sentence to a minimum of two years and fine.

Young people in Pakistan face challenges such as child marriage, which have adverse consequences on their education, employment, health and overall well-being, When participants discussed making decisions about marriage, the range of what constituted girls’ consent was considered particularly important. It seemed that young women’s participation in decision-making was limited to giving consent for marriage, and only in a few cases extended to choosing a partner. Generally, there is a lack of awareness among people about the negative consequence of child marriages which is a very important factor. People have little knowledge of the negative impact of early marriages on children, especially girls as the impact on them is multi-fold. Birth registration system is very ineffective and non-responsive and the birth registration for children, especially girls, is never prioritized, which gives room for manipulation regarding the exact age of the child at the time of marriage. It should be ensured that all present laws related to child rights/child protection are implemented without any discrimination and with a special focus on girls. Similarly, special capacity-building programmes should be initiated for stakeholders particularly the nikah (marriage) registrars, communities, teachers, the police, judiciary and media to be able to prevent child marriages.

Proper implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 can play key role to save the future of children, children are ambassadors of the society and they can create mass mobilization to stop child marriages through education.

## Photo gallery





## Seminar & interactive Theatre performance on Child Marriage through the implementation of The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013

ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRANT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024

03 September-2024

Venue:Comprehensive High school Umerkot



## **Procedure of the event**

Sukaar Welfare Organization with the collaboration of Indus Resource Centre (IRC) and Chanan Development Association (CDA) Pakistan under the Young Omang Pakistan project organized Seminar and Interactive Theatre Performance on Child Marriages through The Implementation of The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013 at Comprehensive High School Umerkot. Fighting child marriage through Theatre Highlighting the woes of child marriages, a play was staged in Comprehensive High school Umerkot under age of Child marriage leads to increased risk of maternal and infant mortality, reduced access to education for underage brides and their children, and decreased earnings and decision-making power throughout child brides' adult life. Early marriage has severe consequences on the lives of child brides and of their children. It can lead to increased risks of complications during pregnancy and childbirth as well as increased maternal and infant mortality. Underage brides are almost always denied the right to education, which leads to decreased earnings and reduced decision-making power throughout their adult life. The children of girls married under the age of 18 are also less likely to access education. The actors captured the audience's attention through their honest embodiment of the plot. By emulating a reality close to the spectators' lives, they provoked the audience to think about the issues presented, motivating them to find solutions. Audience members wished to influence the characters with their ideas and thoughts, which they shared during a discussion that followed the play. People from different walks of life and school children participated in the programme and appreciated the efforts of the organizers who focused on the ills of early marriages. In the end of theatre guest of honor presented the gifts to school children who perform the theatre on Child marriages. The characters demonstrated adverse psycho-social impact of child marriages with reference to the early child marriage restraint law

Our methodology aims to allow the audience to seek solutions to the issues the play presents. Their attempts to introduce positive change to the characters' mindsets and lives give them a sense of satisfaction. But early marriage has severe consequences on the lives of child brides and of their children. It can lead to increased risks of complications during pregnancy and childbirth as well as increased maternal and infant mortality. Underage brides are almost always denied the right to education, which leads to decreased earnings and reduced decision-making power throughout their adult life. The children of girls married under the age of 18 are also less likely to access education

The actors captured the audience's attention through their honest embodiment of the plot. By emulating a reality close to the spectators' lives, they provoked the audience to think about the issues presented, motivating them to find solutions. Audience members wished to influence the characters with their ideas and thoughts, which they shared during a discussion that followed the play. In the theatre performance clear message to all participants to raise against child marriages in the communities. This woman's story is an example of the play's success in motivating women and girls to come forward and speak freely about their experience, The women here today were fully conscious of the negative impact of underage marriage and were adamantly against it.

Mr. Haresh Chandar Deputy Director Local Government (ADLG) office said that I am greatly impressed by the audience's high level of awareness on the issue. The women here today were fully conscious of the negative impact of underage marriage and were adamantly against it, He said this kind of activities create the mass mobilization around child marriages, consequences of child marriage and proper implantation of The Sindh child marriage Restraint Act 2013.

Mr. Ghnasham Das Assistant Education Officer (ADOE) said that awareness in schools will be very useful for students and teachers to inform them about the harmful practices and knowledge about child rights laws, sustainable development goals (SDGs) and international commitment of Govt of Pakistan. He said Life skill based education (LSBE) is mandatory in schools, Life skills Education enables secondary students to understand critical situations intelligently and wisely and behave in a logical way to solve life-related problems. Life skills education is being emphasized throughout the world to ensure the survival Role of Life Skills Education in Empowering Secondary School young people in this demanding world. Generally, the life skills education seeks to develop skills and promote the behavior of students that help them to take decisions of their life, accept responsibilities of their decisions, effectively communicate, manage their emotions, develop strong relationships and get overall success in their life. Secondary education is recognized as an important stage because children's transit from childhood to adolescence brings about rapid changes in the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social aspects of their personality, learning life skills, especially in everyday life, can be a great way to help young children to show acceptable behavior, have strong interpersonal relationships, and get their interests.

Mushtaque Ali Kumbhar PRO to DC said that this is great event for engagements of girls and women empowerment and especially contribution to address and highlight the child marriage issues in different provincial, national and global forums, this event will open the window for joint initiatives

under Young Omang project to stop child marriages in Umerkot district through the support and engaging all stakeholders specially activation of District Monitoring Committee on child marriage and strengthening the role of child protection unit (CPU).

## Photo gallery





## One day capacity building workshop with youth leader for elimination of child marriage through implementation of The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013

ADVOACY & AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON EARLY AND FORCE MARRIAGE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINDH CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRANT ACT 2013 UNDER YOUNG OMANG PROJECT-2024

**11 September-2024**

Venue: Thar Nursing institute of Allied health and sciences Umerkot.



## **Background**

This training was particularly designed to respond to youth leaders to develop advocacy and Networking skills training around health and consequence of child marriage and information about the Sindh Child marriage Restraint Act 2013. The purpose of the advocacy skills training was to strengthen participants' knowledge with practical and necessary tools for influencing policies, practices, guidelines and people's perceptions etc. The training methodology used various adult learning techniques like group discussion, role-plays, brainstorming sessions and guided discussion. This methodology of using various styles of presentation was purposely applied to consider the people's capacity for learning better when they are actively engaged and they are more likely to retain information. Participants were given practical hands on knowledge and skills on advocacy work and how they can apply the skills gained. Furthermore, participants were introduced to definition of advocacy, good practice in advocacy, the purpose of advocacy, importance of advocacy, and 'why advocacy', as well as the basic elements of advocacy and the basics of advocacy strategy planning and development. The training workshop aimed to equip community leaders with leadership skills for their effective participation in decision making process and increased accountability on the implementation of polices and laws related to women empowerment and address the gender related issues

### **Ground rules of the Workshop**

- ✓ Punctuality.
- ✓ Mobile on silent
- ✓ Participate actively and contribute
- ✓ Only one person to speak one time
- ✓ Raise hand before speaking.
- ✓ No mini meeting
- ✓ No political & religious discussions.
- ✓ Respect each other's view point.
- ✓ Disagree in an agreeable way

### **Procedure of the event**

Sukaar Welfare organization with the collaboration of Indus Resource Center (IRC) and Chanan Development Association (CDA) arranged one day capacity building workshop for youth leaders for elimination of child marriages through implementation of The Sindh child marriage Restraint act 2013

under the Advocacy campaign on Early and forced Child Marriage through implementation of “The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act 2013” under Young Omang-project @ Thar Nursing institute of Allied health and sciences Umerkot.

Adv:Muhammad Bux Kumbhar Executive Director Sukaar Welfare organization said the main objective of the training was to impart training regarding the contents and provisions of the recently enacted law The Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013 as well as fundamental Rights in the Constitution of Pakistan, especially Articles 25 (equality of citizens). He said this article ensured that every citizen had rights to equally important before law without any discrimination, briefed the audience about the basic concepts of child rights, and highlighted the main causes and impact of child marriages.

Proper implementation of The Sindh Child Marriages Restraint Act, 2013 and The Sindh Hindu marriage amendment act 2018 below 18 year marriage is illegal we should (emphasized that marriage should be registered, marriage registrars were morally and legally bound to exercise their duties to look into the social, psychological and medical conditions of the bride and bridegroom. When all above things were ignored at the time of marriage, women and children suffered a lot. These child marriages had grave adverse impact in terms of maternal mortality, child mortality and involvement of child in armed conflicts, drug addiction, malnutrition and lack of education.

Girls involved in early marriages were most vulnerable because they faced many complications especially irritation, hopelessness, isolation and fistula disease. He said the girls married before 18 years of age could not perform bio-psycho-social responsibility of motherhood

Every marriage solemnized under Muslim laws should be registered and it was compulsory under Section 5 of The Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961 where by the union council had authorized the Nikah registrars to maintain marriage record, he said. Not only the parties concerned, but also any person could get the copy of Nikahnama after paying the prescribed fees. The participants said that it was the need of hour to strengthen the union council system for registration of marriages and regulation of the Nikah registrars under the government umbrella. The government should act on the Sunnah and Shariah pattern in solving the social, economic and ethical problems of society. Participants stated emphatically that ending child marriage is feasible. It will however be a gradual process because it's deeply rooted in the social norms of communities.

Some key drivers of child marriage include:

Poverty: Where there is acute poverty, a young girl may be seen as an economic burden, who when purchased will relieve the family financially and socially. Hence, marriage is considered a transaction and a significant economic activity. This transaction involves the exchange of a girl with a certain sum of money or goods such as livestock or both, that is termed a bride price, bride wealth or dowry.

Gender norms and culture: In many communities, social norms dictate that women must be married at a young age, preferably to men who are older than they are. The age disparity a marriage between men and women is rooted in stereotypical gender norms and roles there main in most cultures, which hold that women are to be mothers and wives and men to be providers for the family unit. Women are thus deemed to be ready for marriage at an earlier age than men, who ought to finish their professional training and ideally be financially secure.

# Photo gallery

