

Monthly
NEWSLETTER
July 2025



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Society for Human Rights & Prisoners' Aid
Humanity Beyond Borders

Message from the CEO



Muhammad Mudassar Javed

**Chief Executive Officer,
SHARP-Pakistan**

Dear Partners & Readers,

As we move through these challenging times, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the unwavering dedication of our SHARP team, the resilience of the communities we serve, and the steadfast support of our partners. Together, we uphold the values of **compassion, humanity, and solidarity** that define our mission.

The recent government decision on Afghan repatriation calls for a renewed commitment to **compassion, generosity, and dignity**, values that Pakistan has proudly demonstrated for decades. We strongly urge the Government to **review this decision** and work collaboratively with UN agencies, international partners, and civil society to ensure a **peaceful, sustainable, gradual, and dignified repatriation process** that respects human rights and minimizes suffering.

On a personal note, my recent participation in **International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL-Sanremo, Italy)** was truly transformative. It provided not only deep insights into **international humanitarian law and protection principles**, but also strengthened our ability to engage in **strategic advocacy at national, regional, and global levels** for the people we serve. Meeting global leaders and building networks reaffirmed my commitment to ensuring that SHARP continues to be a strong voice for justice, protection, and dignity for all. I am deeply grateful to SHARP's Chairman and our incredible team for enabling such opportunities and for their tireless efforts in advancing our shared humanitarian cause.

Our hearts go out to the families affected by the recent devastating floods. We stand in solidarity with them as they cope with unimaginable loss and destruction. SHARP remains committed to supporting affected communities through all possible means, as we have always done in times of crisis.

Together, we will continue to safeguard dignity, restore hope, transform lives and shape a better future for all, because serving humanity is our lifelong mission.



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SHARP Pakistan met with a Swiss Embassy delegation to discuss issues of Afghan refugee under IFRP-II. The session led by Chairman Liaqat Banori, accompanied with Mr. Aatif Afzal (Project Director).

SHARP briefed the delegation regarding legal documentation, health, education, and psychosocial needs, while Legal team shared field insights. Both sides reaffirmed commitment to collaborative legal aid, mental health support, and advocacy for refugee rights and dignity.



SHARP hosted a delegation from the Royal Norwegian Embassy, visited Reception Desk Center and discussed different topic of mutual interest such as refugee protection, Gender based violence, human trafficking, and Justice mechanisms.

Mr. Mudassar Javed (CEO) highlighted SHARP's global collaborations and commitment to expanding legal aid for refugees through outreach, helplines, and field visits.



Delegates from Dutch Embassy visited SHARP Peshawar Office, to discuss the prevailing protection environment, the overall situation of refugees in KPK and SHARP legal services. Ms. Memoona. B Khan along with team welcomed distinguished guests and briefed them regarding challenges of refugees in light of Government notification and IFRP phase II. The visitors had detailed discussed with Legal team regarding documentation, Court proceedings and Legal assistance through different service providers. SHARP services were highly appreciated.



SHARP congratulates CEO Mr. Mudassar Javed on completing the Annual Summer School on International Humanitarian & Refugee Law at IIHL, Sanremo, Italy, enhancing SHARP's commitment to rights-based refugee protection and humanitarian response.





SHARP's ALAC-1 team held a capacity-building training in Attock for 30 police officials, including 8 women, on human rights, refugee law, and Pakistan's international obligations. Sessions were led by SHARP's Tayba Hafeez and Taufiq Ahmed, with UNHCR's Ms. Ghazal highlighting refugee rights. DSP Mr. Iftikhar praised SHARP's efforts and urged continued collaboration. Certificates were awarded to participants, and a souvenir was presented to the Chief Guest.



SHARP Timergara held a capacity-building workshop in Batkhela for 34 Levies officials on human rights, international protection, and legal frameworks for displaced Afghan populations. Facilitated by SHARP's Farhat Bibi, Noman Rahim, and Salman Farooq, the training covered national and international laws, the Juvenile Justice System Act 2018, and the Torture and Custodial Death Act 2022. Deputy Commissioner Hameed Ur Rehman and other officials attended, reflecting strong institutional support.

The event ended with a Q&A and SHARP's reaffirmation of its commitment to rights-based protection.

SHARP Peshawar team organized consultative workshop for Prison Officials at Peshawar Barracks Hotel, focusing on Human Rights, International protection, Status of registered Refugees in Pakistan, and Prison Reforms.

Joined by UNHCR, Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR-KP), and High up from Prisons Department. Inspector General (IG) Prison grace the event as Chief Guest



SHARP's ALAC-II Lahore team held a training at DPO Office Gujrat to strengthen police officials' understanding of human and refugee rights. Facilitated by SHARP and UNHCR representatives, the session covered human rights principles, refugee law, and the role of law enforcement in protection.

DPO Gujrat Rai Muhammad Riaz Mehar praised SHARP's efforts, while officers from various ranks actively participated. The event reaffirmed SHARP's commitment to promoting protection-sensitive policing across Pakistan.



SHARP's Protection Team in Lahore held a capacity-building workshop for Lahore District Bar Association lawyers on human rights and refugee protection.

Led by SHARP, CAR Punjab, and legal experts, the sessions covered national and international frameworks and practical applications in refugee contexts.

Chief Guest Chaudhary Mubashir Rehman praised SHARP's legal aid efforts, presented a letter of appreciation to CEO Mudassar Javed, and joined in awarding certificates and shields to dignitaries.



SHARP's ALAC team in Peshawar held a sensitization workshop at Police Training School Shakas for 29 officers, focusing on Human and Refugee Rights, International protection and role of police officials to uplift human rights in Pakistan. Mr. Hukam Khan (SP Trainings), appreciated the continues efforts of SHARP, for arranging sessions for police capacity to protect vulnerable communities.



SHARP, in collaboration with UNHCR, held a one-day training in Haripur on human rights and refugee laws for key stakeholders. Sessions covered SHARP's mandate, UNHCR's protection role, Pakistan's refugee legal framework, and investigation procedures. Mr. Farhan Khan (DPO Haripur) graced the event as Chief Guest, praised the initiative, session concluded with certificate distribution and presentation of souvenir to DPO office.



SHARP, in collaboration with UNHCR, held a one-day training at Police Lines Juherabad for 26 police officials on human rights, refugee laws, and the legal status of Afghan refugees.

Led by SHARP's Amina Taj and UNHCR's Waseem Rehman, the session emphasized dignity, equality, and protection for vulnerable communities. Chief Guest DSP Nighat Firdus praised the initiative, which concluded with certificate and souvenir presentations.



SHARP's ALAC team, in collaboration with UNHCR, held a one-day training in Muzaffarabad for over 200 AJ&K police officials on human rights, refugee rights, and protection standards. Led by SHARP and UNHCR trainers, the sessions stressed dignity, fairness, and non-discrimination in policing. DIG Yasin Qureshi and SSP Khurram Iqbal praised SHARP's role in strengthening legal awareness, and recognition shields were presented to dignitaries.



SHARP, under its Protection Project, conducted a 3-day capacity-building training for protection teams from Rawalpindi, Islamabad, and Attock at its head office. The sessions covered Accountability to Affected Populations, Data Protection, Sexual Exploitation, Abuse & Harassment, Child Protection, and Gender-Based Violence, equipping participants with ethical, legal, and survivor-centered approaches. SHARP's CEO and Project Director appreciated the teams' commitment to strengthening protection standards and accountability.



In partnership with UNHCR, SHARP held Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) outreach sessions in Swabi and Islamabad to enhance Afghan refugees' skills, promote self-reliance, and link them to dignified jobs locally and abroad. In Swabi, 44 participants received guidance on job market access, CV building, and interview skills. In Islamabad, 83 refugees attended gender-specific sessions, with a female participant showcasing her crochet work as a symbol of resilience. Participants gained practical skills and reaffirmed SHARP's commitment to supporting their employment journey.





UNHCR Deputy Representative, Ms. Fumiko Kashiwa, met with our partners in KP to recognize their critical role in supporting Afghan refugees and their long-standing collaboration with UNHCR.

She reaffirmed UNHCR's commitment to protecting displaced communities in Pakistan while also highlighting the funding challenges we face. UNHCR remains steadfast in its mission: to protect, assist, and empower refugees and host communities.

SHARP-LOP Peshawar held a joint mid-year review, led by Ms. Memoona Batool Khan and Mr. Aatif Afzal, to assess UNHCR-supported projects in K-P and ICT.

The meeting reviewed progress, shared best practices, addressed protection challenges, and planned next-quarter revisions to enhance impact, sustainability, and coordination for vulnerable populations.



SHARP's protection team in Attock held a Stakeholders Coordination Meeting with 35 participants from partner organizations and Afghan community elders to strengthen collaboration, share services, and update the stakeholder directory for improved support to displaced Afghan nationals.

SHARP's Child Protection Team in Peshawar held a one-day training on Children's Rights and Child-Friendly Procedures, attended by government officials, Afghan Commissionerate representatives, refugee elders, and partner organizations.

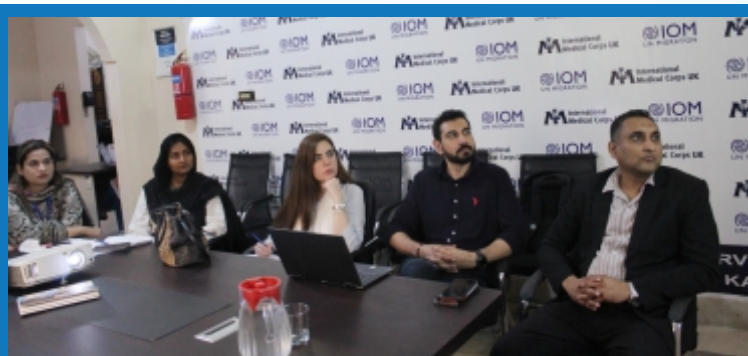
Sessions by SHARP's Manzoor and UNHCR's Noor Khan emphasized collaboration and practical strategies for child protection.



SHARP's Protection Team in Karachi hosted a Stakeholders Consultative Meeting with UNHCR, IMC, government, and civil society to review referral mechanisms, address service gaps, and strengthen protection for displaced Afghans. Mr Quaim Uddin (Commissioner for Afghan Refugees Sindh) participated as Chief Guest. He appreciated SHARP team for providing such platform for coordination and future collaboration.



SHARP's Protection Team held a stakeholder consultative meeting in Mardan to strengthen referral mechanisms and coordination under the SHARP-IOM project. Attended by Government and non-government stakeholders. The forum reviewed service gaps, shared field experiences, and discussed practical solutions to improve protection support for displaced and vulnerable populations.



SHARP, IMC, and Protection Project partners held a coordination meeting in Karachi to strengthen referral pathways and enhance support for vulnerable populations. Participants reviewed gaps, shared field insights, and reaffirmed their commitment to effective, collaborative protection services.



SHARP and UNHCR held a coordination meeting in Peshawar to review Child Protection targets, finalize activity schedules, and strengthen collaboration.

Discussions focused on improving referrals, enhancing case management, expanding Mobile CFS activities, and increasing follow-ups on PSN cases, with a commitment to monthly coordination and community-driven protection efforts.



In Karachi, SHARP and UNHCR reviewed emerging protection needs of Afghan refugees, discussing documentation challenges, verification progress, and rights-based support. SHARP's Ms. Quratulain also led coordination meetings with SPARC, Justice (R) Hasan Feroz, and ADC South Ms. Asma Batool to strengthen child protection referrals, address IFRP-related concerns, and uphold dignity and transparency in humanitarian action.



SHARP Lahore's Field Manager, Ms. Arooj Awan, met with newly appointed CAR Punjab Commissioner, Mr. Mazhar Yasin Wattoo, to congratulate him and discuss strengthening collaboration for Afghan refugee protection. Director (Legal) Mr. Usman Ghani also attended.



SHARP's senior management held review meetings with project teams nationwide to enhance operations and service quality for Persons of Concern (PoCs). Led by CEO Mudassar Javed and PD-ICT Aatif Afzal, discussions focused on performance, strategic planning, and removing barriers to protection and justice. Teams revisited priorities with renewed emphasis on accountability, quality assurance, and collaboration. The RDC, Protection, and Admin teams were commended for successfully relocating to the new Attock office, improving access for PoCs.



ALAC II Lahore hosted UNHCR's Mr. Richard Grindle and Mr. Yasir Ayaz, where SHARP shared protection updates, legal challenges, and strategies to enhance refugee legal aid.

The delegation praised SHARP's commitment to refugee rights and access to justice.

ALAC-II Lahore hosted an M&E visit from PRM and UNHCR, led by SHARP CEO Mr. Mudassar Javed. Partners reviewed mid-year progress, addressed protection gaps, and discussed strengthening legal aid for PoCs.

The meeting reaffirmed a shared commitment to coordinated, rights-based refugee support.



SHARP Karachi held a focused learning session for the Post-Monitoring Team on improving Key Informant Interviews, covering transcript accuracy, probing techniques, and ethical practices to strengthen evidence-based programming and service to vulnerable communities.



SHARP Lahore met with the District Bar Association leadership to share its mandate and legal aid efforts for vulnerable communities, fostering mutual understanding and paving the way for future collaboration to uphold justice.



SHARP's Lahore team held a Community-Based Committee meeting with 10 displaced Afghan women to define member roles and strengthen community structures for rights awareness.

In Hazro, Attock, the Islamabad team engaged 30 male and 30 female refugees in Broad-Based Community Meetings to introduce SHARP services, form CBCs, and recruit volunteers, fostering community ownership and coordination.



In Lahore, SHARP held two BBCMs with displaced Afghan women and men to form Community-Based Committees, strengthening engagement, representation, and protection planning between SHARP and the refugee community.



SHARP ALAC-II held a Legal Camp in Lahore, providing on-the-spot legal aid to refugees on documentation, tenancy, civil registration, and service access. Attended by SHARP CEO, UNHCR, and PRM representatives, the camp promoted legal rights awareness, referral pathways, and free legal aid services, strengthening protection and community engagement.



SHARP, in partnership with UNHCR, held a legal camp in Muzaffarabad, AJ&K, engaging 39 PoCs (26 male, 13 female). Led by Mr. Taufiq Ahmed and Ms. Kainat, the sessions addressed key protection concerns and provided legal guidance. Project Director Mr. Aatif Afzal reaffirmed the commitment to refugee rights, legal literacy, and inclusive access to justice in AJ&K.



Success Story

Justice for the Voiceless

An innocent Afghan refugee, striving to rebuild his life through an apiculture business in Mianwali, tragically lost his life due to the violent actions of two influential individuals. His legal heirs, already facing immense hardship, lacked the means to seek justice. Stepping in as a beacon of hope, the SHARP Mianwali team provided dedicated legal representation, ensuring the case was pursued with diligence and determination. After a comprehensive trial, the Honorable Court sentenced both perpetrators to life imprisonment and ordered them to pay Rs. 500,000/- in compensation to the bereaved family. This victory is a profound reminder that with the right support, justice can prevail even for the most marginalized and vulnerable.

Thank you for standing with SHARP-Pakistan in our mission to protect and empower vulnerable communities. Your support fuels our work for a more just, inclusive, and peaceful society.