



NEWSLETTER June, 2025

As Human Friends Organization (HFO) marks 22 years of tireless commitment to promoting human rights, religious freedom, and interfaith harmony, this edition of our newsletter reflects on a journey rooted in compassion, courage, and collective action.

The first half of 2025 has been a time of renewed purpose and impactful collaboration. From advocacy sessions on inclusion and economic reintegration of minorities, to trauma counseling and legal aid in Jaranwala, every initiative underscores our mission; to restore dignity, empower the marginalized, and build peaceful, resilient communities.

Through partnerships with UNDP, the Human Rights & Minorities Affairs Department, and civil society actors, HFO continues to strengthen bridges between government institutions, business communities, and vulnerable groups. Our work with bonded laborers, youth, and women reflects the power of empathy in action, transforming stories of despair into those of freedom and hope.

As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in advancing equality, defending the rights of minorities, and fostering coexistence through education, dialogue, and empowerment. Together with our partners and supporters, we will continue to move forward and remain focused on building a just and inclusive society, transforming lives, strengthening communities, and advancing the cause of human dignity for all.

Special thanks to all contributors and our dedicated HFO team for their unwavering commitment and hard work in making these initiatives a success.

Editorial Team, Human Friends Organization (HFO) June 2025

This newsletter highlights activities from January to June 2025, focusing on conflict prevention, human rights advocacy, and youth empowerment for peace and social harmony. Key initiatives include:

- Capacity Building Trainings: UNDP and HRMA Government of Punjab collaborated with local government of Faisalabad.
- HFO participated in 53rd international Conference on Human Rights, 29th March 2025. organized by IGFM in Bonn Germany.
- Youth Empowerment: HFO is educating the youth for using talents for promoting peace and social harmony.
- Trauma Counselling: UNDP and HFO provided Psychosocial Support Counselling and legal aid Sessions in Jaranwala.
- Community Engagement: Workshops on effective engagement with government departments and civil society were held in Faisalabad.



HFO, UNDP, and HRMA Government Punjab(Human Rights & Minorities Affairs) in collaboration organized an advocacy event on 13th March 2025, in Faisalabad. The event included the business community, Chamber of Commerce, government departments, religious leaders, and civil society. About 120 participants, including the Christian community from Jaranwala Faisalabad, attended the workshop. The workshop provided the ground reality which was faced by the Christian Community of Jaranwala. The Executive Members of the Chamber of Commerce announced their full support for jobs reinstating to the victims who lost their jobs and livelihoods due to Jaranwala incident.



HFO in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) organized Trauma Counseling/ Psychosocial Support Counseling Sessions in Jaranwala. The mob violence and humiliation not only cause physical and material damage to an individual, moreover it leaves behind severe and deep wounds on the mind and souls of the victims. The professional team of Psychosocial Counselling of HFO became an agent of healing for the community and individuals by providing the Counseling sessions. In phase II to the five effected 5 families and 25 individuals were served through the different sessions.



Community Session about the Legal Issues and Challenges: HFO in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) organized legal awareness session with the community of Jaranwala was held dated 12th May 2025 in Jaranwala 60 members of the local community participated in the session. In addition to this initiative, a series of capacity-building workshops were also held, focusing on empowering marginalized groups and equipping them with skills to advocate for their rights more effectively. These interactive sessions brought together educators, community leaders, and youth representatives, fostering an environment where dialogue and practical learning could flourish. Collaborative efforts extended to rural outreach programs, where volunteers addressed urgent needs such as access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for vulnerable families. By uniting diverse segments of society, these programs not only addressed immediate challenges but also laid the groundwork for longer-term resilience and empowerment.



HFO in partnership with (UNDP) and Punjab Government Department of Human Rights & Minorities Affairs organized one day Capacity Building training workshop on effective community engagement with the Government departments and Civil Society in Faisalabad. 12th June 2025, in the training 56 participants, government officials and members from the civil society had different sessions and fully engaged in the discuss. At the end of the event participant were awarded with the certificates.



HFO in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) organized one day training workshop on “Insider Meditation” as a part of our program on Protection of Minority Rights. The program was held on 20th June 2025 at Hotel One Faisalabad. The proactive approach inspires us to work more for “Mitigation” to enable the minorities and local administration to paly their vibrant role of mitigator at time of any conflict.



Faisalabad, June 21, 2025 – Human Friends Organization (HFO), in partnership with UNDP, successfully hosted the Advocacy Session on “Inclusion, Non-Discrimination, and Economic Reintegration of Religious Minorities in the Workplace”. The event, held at Serena Hotel, Faisalabad, invited Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI), Women’s Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WFCCI) and other local business community as key stakeholders to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion, 61 participants attended the Advocacy Session.

Interactive discussions featured insights from FCCI and WFCCI representatives on inclusive hiring practices, aligning with Pakistan’s labour and human rights commitments. Employers signed a pledge to implement diversity policies, focusing on fair hiring, pay equity, and tailored career development for minorities, with the event concluded with certificate distribution and closing remarks. Executive Member Muhammad Ali of FCCI reaffirmed the chamber’s commitment to promoting a workplace where every individual is treated with respect, regardless of gender, religion, or ethnicity, and highlighted initiatives like mandatory diversity training and support for home-based industries to empower women. A special priority was given to employing female candidates, supporting their economic rehabilitation.



Allama Paul Higher Secondary School , initiatives by HFO, organised a “Peace Painting competition” on 16th April 2025 in Allama Paul Higher Secondary School. Peace is utmost desire of every human being; the young students were encouraged to depict the peaceful world through their creative imagination and enlarge their horizon for a better world of Peace and Harmony. Sixty students from the different classes took part in Pace Painting competition. The school management awarded the certificates to the participants.



World Environment Day 2025 was celebrated at Allama Paul Higher Secondary School, organized by HFO with deep realisation that the education must prepare our young leaders to play their role for extending the awareness among the society about World Environmental issues. Mr Tony honoured us being the Chief Gust for the programme. Students from middle classes presented tableaus and performances to celebrate the World Environment Day 2025.



A Christian woman Shumaila Bibi and her husband Adnan Masih are free from the bonded labour today. His entire debt was cleared, granting him both legal and physical freedom from bondage labour. On 30th April 2025, HFO and CTS (Christians' True Spirit is a non-governmental organization) saved this family through a collaboration. For earning with freedom, a rickshaw was handed over to Adnan Masih by Lordship Bishop Doc. Indrias Rehmat, Catholic Bishop of Faisalabad, symbolizing a blessing and a beginning. In addition, the family was safely transferred to a peaceful environment, allowing them to start over without fear. This life-altering support transformed their lives, restoring dignity, freedom, and the promise of a better tomorrow. Heartiest thanks to IGFM (for making this possible).



A Christian family of Mushtaq Masih released from the bondage labour on 17th June 2025. His entire debt was cleared, granting him both legal and physical freedom from bondage. In addition, the family was safely relocated to a peaceful environment, allowing them to start over without fear. We are thankful to our collaborators of HFO transforming the lives, restoring dignity, freedom. Through reflecting this Newsletters' highlights of HFO, provide us encouragement that we are continually stepping forward with our stakeholders achieving our objectives and goals of advocating human rights,

gender equality, defending victims of violence, bondage labour and false accusations. The realignment of our strategies we have facilitated Collaboration of Government departments and Chambers of Commerce in Faisalabad to enable the minorities and local administration to play their vibrant role of mitigator at the time of any conflict. Including transgender in the society for equality and empowering the women with skills equal rights and social awareness.



Mr. Sajid Christopher had an opportunity to attend and address as a guest speaker at the 53rd international conference on Human Rights 29th March 2025. The event was organized by IGFM Internationale Gesellschaft für Menschenrechte in Bonn Germany. Mr. Sajid Christopher explained to the international platform and an assembly of collaborators; the present challenges and opportunities of human rights in Pakistan for protection of the minorities, eliminate the bondage labour practices in the rural areas and the efforts of HFO for the advocacy of human rights.



The president of HFO Mr. Sajid Christopher had a detail discussion with State Minister for Religious Affairs and interfaith harmony Khail Das Kohstani on 19 June 2025, for promoting interfaith dialogue and fostering mutual respect. Ejaz Masih, a resident of Jandhanwali, Sheikhupura, carried the weight of a debt that was never truly his. A husband to Saba Bibi and father to three young daughters—Sara (5), Malaika (3), and Dua (1) Ejaz's life was meant to be one of hard work and hope. Instead, it became an unrelenting cycle of bondage at Al-Rehman Bricks Company. HFO paid the amount of debt on 19th March 2025 to release Ejaz Masih from bonded labour.

