

**Three-Day Training Program on Child Sexual Abuse and Child Domestic Labor for Judges
(FROM 07 – 09 AUGUST 2023)**



❖ Child Sexual Abuse and Child Domestic Labor are serious violations of children's rights, and efforts are made globally to prevent and address these issues through legal frameworks, awareness campaigns, education, and support for victims. The training program on these issues would provide judges with the necessary knowledge, skills, and sensitivity to handle these cases in a manner that protects the rights and well-being of children and upholds the principles of justice.

❖ The SJA in collaboration with the Group Development Pakistan (GDP) arranged the titled program for Judges of Sindh from 07 – 09 August 2023. It was attended by 45 Civil Judges and Judicial Magistrates.

❖ **Ms. Valerie Khan** (Consultant Child Protection, Justice with Children, GESI) along with the GDP Team oversaw the registration and attendance of Participants. She also shared the introduction and objectives of this training course.



❖ **Ms. Khan** also conducted a session on the subject of "Victim (and child) centric investigation skills, rights of a child as a victim witness." She also recapped the day's proceedings at the start of each day.

❖ **Mr. Umer Sajjad Chawan** (Advocate High Court) on the defined "Who is a Child?" from different perspectives



including international law, constitutional and national law, and provincial law.

❖ **Mr. Chawan** also talked about the "Overview of National Laws". In another session, he elaborated on "The Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018", "The Anti-Rape (Investigation and Trial) Act, 2021", Criminal Law Amendments related to Sexual abuse/offenses", "The Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children Act, 2017", and "The Sindh Child Protection Authority Act, 2011."

❖ **Syed Miqdad Mehdi** (Advocate High Court) on the subject of "What is Child Abuse and Child Labor". Under the subsequent subject of "Defining Child Protection as a Children's Right." **Mr. Mehdi** discussed Child Abuse, Child Abuse, Child Sexual Abuse (PPC 377-A), Commercial Sexual Abuse, Commercial Sexual Abuse – Sex Trafficking, and Online Sexual Abuse.



Mr. Mehdi also elaborated on "Child domestic labor (CDL) International Laws. He also explored "Child Domestic Labour (CDL) Federal and Provincial Laws."

❖ **Mr. Malik Tahir Iqbal** (Chief Executive Officer, Legal Right Forum) on the subject of “Legal Framework on Child Protection and Children’s Rights.”



❖ **Ms. Valerie Khan and Mr. Umer Sajjad Chawan** jointly conducted a session on “Exploring and applying Standard Operating Procedures.” They also conducted a Post-Test Assessment and Feedback.

❖ The participants also went on a study visit to Juvenile Prison.

Conclusion

❖ The training program on child sexual abuse and child domestic labor was essential for judges to uphold the law, protect the rights of children, and ensure that justice is served in a manner that is sensitive, empathetic, and trauma-informed. This was crucial for several reasons including Legal Understanding, Sensitivity and Empathy, Child Protection, Trauma-Informed Justice, Appropriate Sentencing, Preventing Re-victimization, and Legal Precedents.

❖ At the end of the training, participants were awarded Certificates.

