

Three-Day Training Program on Gender-Based Violence for Additional District & Sessions Judges and Prosecutors (19 – 21 SEPTEMBER 2023, BATCH-05)



❖ The rise of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) offenses that are coming to light brings about fresh hurdles, underlining the need for a fundamental grasp of GBV matters. To meet these challenges head-on, it was essential to adequately equip the judiciary and prosecution with knowledge about GBV crimes. This involved imparting training and education to boost their understanding, abilities, and strategies for response, empowering them to tackle and counteract these emerging patterns of violence adeptly.

❖ The Sindh Judicial Academy in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) arranged a “Three-Day Training of Trainers on GBV for 07 Additional District & Sessions Judges and 08 Prosecutors (Batch-05) from 19 – 21 September 2023 at Sindh Judicial Academy, Karachi.

❖ **Mr. Arsalan Masood** (UNODC Representative) oversaw the registration and attendance of the participants. He also provided an overview of the Code of Conduct/SOPs and introduced the training contents. Later, he also conducted a Post-Assessment and Trainers’ Evaluation.



❖ **Mr. Muhammad Shahid Shafiq** (District & Sessions Judge/Senior Faculty Member, SJA) and **Mr. Aftab Shoab** (Representative from UNODC) shared the Course Objectives and conducted a Pre-Course Assessment. In another session, he delivered a presentation on “Victim & Witness Protection.”



❖ In a jointly conducted session by **Mr. Muhammad Shahid Shafiq** and **Mr. Aftab Shoab**, the participants were enlightened on “Unpacking Gender constructs: Enhancing Understanding of Gender Concepts.”



❖ **Mr. Javed Ahmed Keerio** (District & Sessions Judge) discussed the “Medical Jurisprudence”. She also discussed the “Collection of Medical Evidence in GBV Cases”.



❖ **Mr. Muhammad Shahid Shafiq** and **Mr. Aftab Shoab** led a session on “International Legislation and policy framework in the GBV cases.”

❖ In another session **Mr. Muhammad Shahid Shafiq** collaboratively conducted a session on “National Legislation and Policy Framework in the GBV Cases”. They also covered the “Presenting GBV cases in the Courts – DOs and DONTs”. They elaborated on the “Submission of the final report/challan” and discussed “Case Management.”



❖ **Ms. Ambreen Aslam** (District and Sessions Judge) and **Mr. Aftab Shoab** (Representative from UNODC) discussed "Coordination and Cooperation among the Stakeholders."



❖ **Mr. Muhammad Shahid Shafiq** and **Mr. Aftab Shoab** led a simulated trial-centered Mock Trial around the topic of "Gender-Based Violence."

Conclusion

❖ The increasing prevalence of GBV offenses poses new challenges, emphasizing the necessity for a deep understanding of GBV issues. This training program addressed these challenges effectively and provided the judiciary and prosecution with comprehensive knowledge about GBV crimes. This training enhanced their understanding, skills, and response strategies. It also provided empowering legal professionals in this way, they can adeptly and proficiently confront and mitigate these evolving forms of violence. This training increased awareness, improved understanding, enhanced response skills with legal knowledge, and equipped to address and prevent gender-based violence effectively.



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

