

**CAPACITY BUILDING OF LAW STUDENTS
BY
SINDH JUDICIAL ACADEMY**

Introduction:

The Sindh Judicial Academy (the “SJA”) was established to improve and develop the capacity and skills of district judiciary and their staff, by conducting (i) legal orientation and training of members of the subordinate judiciary, law officers and members of the bar; (ii) continuous education of the members of the subordinate judiciary; (iii) conferences, seminars, workshops for improving of judicial system and quality of judicial work; (iv) providing opinion and constitutional research.; (v) conducting departmental examination of the members of establishment of the High Court and subordinate Courts; (vi) publishing of general memoirs, research papers and reports. Till date, the SJA has trained more than 64 batches, and participants of these batches are performing their duties with great zeal and dedication.

The SJA was headed by prominent Judges like Justice Z.A. Channa, former judge of High Court of Sindh, Justice Ghous Muhmmad, former Judge of High Court of Sindh, Justice Saleem Akhtar, former Judge of Supreme Court of Pakistan, Justice Shabbir Ahmed, former Judge of High Court and Justice Ali Aslam Jafri, former Judge of High Court of Sindh and is currently led by Justice Khilji Arif Hussain former Judge, Supreme Court of Pakistan.

The SJA during its training of 149 newly appointed Civil Judges, 62nd batch, provided participants the opportunity to conduct mock trials on various law points which developed advocacy skill of the participants and was applauded by the participants.

In order to enrich legal education and improve the quality of law graduates, the SJA will now be making these resources available to law students as well, and has collaborated with law colleges across Sindh to arrange annual mock court competitions at the provincial level.

However, it has been noted that currently, they are no mandatory courses in law colleges in Sindh that specifically focus on developing advocacy skills of law students and conducting mock court. Some law colleges have courses on drafting court pleadings and developing advocacy skills; however, these law colleges do not have requisite resources to impart requisite advocacy skills of students. As a result, many law graduates do not possess basic lawyering skills, and employers have to invest substantial resources in developing the

lawyering and advocacy skills of graduates from local law colleges. The reasons identified for this-

- (i) insufficient financial resources and inadequate physical infrastructure of law colleges;
- (ii) out dated legal curricula;
- (iii) faculty members who, for the most part, are neither qualified nor committed nor trained to impart quality education;
- (iv) absence or scarcity of courses that develop essential lawyering skills; and
- (v) failure to teach and develop logical, rational thought and analysis, analytical, communication and interpersonal skills of law students.

Therefore, prior to organizing the annual mock court competition in Sindh, the SJA will be developing capacity of law students and law colleges to prepare for and participate in moot court competitions.

Training program for Capacity Building of Law Students:

The SJA arranged [first mock trial training program](#) in the month of May 2017. The SJA will be conducting its second program, from 4th December 2017 to 09th December 2017, on developing advocacy skills of final year law students from law colleges across Sindh law students by teaching students how to prepare for and participate in mock trials training program. The objective of the Program is to develop core competencies of law students, which include clarity of thought process, appreciation of law in practical terms (i.e. ability to use the law to address real life cases/problems), strong writing, presentation and comprehension skills, analytical skills, logical reasoning, attention to detail, competency in English, good understanding of common law legal concepts, understanding of core laws in Pakistan, research skills, interpersonal and communication skills, strong work ethic, exercising sound judgment, ability to view commercial arrangements from a legal perspective, and enhancing their awareness and knowledge on women's rights and minority rights in Pakistan.

Training Program:

The objectives of the Program will be achieved through a series of exercises/activities as well as a discussion on applicable laws. Various exercises/activities will be used to teach students how to prepare for and participate in mock trials, and the knowledge gap will be covered by teaching them how to prepare a case for filing in court, draft pleadings, proceed with cases filed in courts, as well as overview of applicable laws and their key provisions (list of applicable laws that will be covered are attached herewith as Annexure A). The exercises/activities will be carried out by Faculty Members of the SJA and experienced

advocates. They will be supervised by the Director General. Research Society of International Law (the "RSIL") will conduct family law mock and in addition to make them familiar with the procedural laws, shall sensitize on human rights and gender issues. They would share how the legislation promulgated at national level has correlation with the International laws. This would be regular future of the SJA. Training program will be followed by a Mock Trial Competition at Province level. Two successful teams will participate at National level competition.

The subject matter of the mock trials will be-

- (i) recovery of finance in a banking court;
- (ii) family case; and
- (iii) criminal cases.

Participants:

Five law colleges in Sindh will be invited to nominate five final year students for participation in the Training program. Hence, it is expected that approximately 25 law students will participate in the Training program.

Nominated students must have successfully passed their last academic exam. The administrators of each law college will nominate such students. SJA has targeted students from interior Sindh since they do not have opportunities or access to resources to develop their advocacy skills, and will not charge students or law colleges to participate in the Seminar. Participants will be provided stipends to cover their transportation costs, and will be housed, free of cost, in SJA's hostel and will be served three time meal at its cafeteria.

Facilitators

Lead Facilitator:

Mr. Justice Khilji Arif Hussain, former Judge Supreme Court of Pakistan, Director General, Sindh Judicial Academy.

Facilitators and Trainers:

1. Ms. Nuzat Ara Alvi, District & Sessions Judge from SJA
2. Mr. Muhammad Shahid Shafiq, District & Sessions Judge from SJA
3. Mr. Muhammad Oves Anwar from Research Society of International Law

Program Details:

Six-day program from 9am - 5pm.

Venue: Sindh Judicial Academy, Karachi

Materials: Three real case files, handouts containing text of relevant laws and case laws Exercises

Chief Guests: Two chief guests will be invited; one from High Court (Hon'ble Chief Justice or a judge of High Court nominated by his lordship in inaugural session and another from sponsor's organization who will join on the conclusion of the program.

APPLICABLE LAWS

- 1) The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898
- 2) Pakistan Penal Code, 1860
- 3) The Sindh Arms Act, 2013
- 4) Juvenile Justice System Ordinance, 2000
- 5) The Family Court Act, 1964
- 6) Muslim Family Law Ordinance, 1961
- 7) Guardian and Ward Act, 1890
- 8) Code of Civil Procedure, 1908
- 9) Financial Institution (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance, 2001
- 10) Qanoon-e-Shahadat, 1984