

# ► Annual Report 2017



## Forum for Language Initiatives

"Empowering language communities of  
northern Pakistan to revitalize their linguistic  
and cultural heritage through research,  
training, education and advocacy"



## ABOUT FLI

Pakistan is a country rich in cultural and ethnic diversity. Many of Pakistan's people recognize the importance of preserving this wealth of cultural heritage, including Pakistan's many languages. However, until recently there has been a lack of institutional support in this area. For this reason, the Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI) was founded in 2003. FLI's intent is to function as a resource centre for the many language communities in Pakistan's mountainous northern region.

## FLI'S VISION STATEMENT

We envisage integrated, diverse, sustainable and culturally recognized communities

## OUR VALUES

The following core values are the guiding principles for FLI:

- ▶ Transparency & Accountability
- ▶ Knowledge Sharing
- ▶ Gender Equality
- ▶ Integrity
- ▶ Partnership
- ▶ Plurality
- ▶ Empathy
- ▶ Teamwork

## SOME MAIN OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED NEXT FEW YEARS

- ▶ KP and GB governments implemented successfully language in education policy due to FLI's advocacy and training
- ▶ Developed and enhanced partner organizations' capacity in language documentation
- ▶ Upgraded and strengthened MLE projects through partnership
- ▶ Five more language communities formed CBOs as a result of FLI's advocacy
- ▶ Established R&D wing in FLI
- ▶ Integrated Kalasha and Gojri MLE programs to mainstream with MTB MLE approach
- ▶ KP Govt included five more languages in Govt School Curriculum
- ▶ Adult literacy program expanded in existing two communities
- ▶ Migrated people from ethno-linguistic communities organized and aware of their language and culture







## FLI'S BACKGROUND

Northern Pakistan is home to nearly 30 distinct languages, many of them with a relatively small number of speakers. Due to lack of institutional support many of these languages have been under the threat of extinction. The Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI) was established in 2003 with the goal of preserving these languages by building capacity among the people from local communities in the area of language documentation, multilingual education, literature production and organizational development.

In addition, FLI also publishes books about the languages and cultures of the region, runs advocacy campaigns for the language communities and builds bridges among people in the region. External linguists, anthropologists and specialists, in the areas of multilingual education and management, work as mentors and master trainers. They trained a core group of people from the language groups (LGs) through both long and short duration training interventions. Despite of many challenges, FLI has made significant progress towards achieving the goals in its first 15 years.

The situation as whole in the country and among these language communities is very different from the way it was back in 2003. Many trainees of FLI are actively involved in preserving and developing their mother tongues. Some have formed community-based organizations and established mother tongue-based education programs, and one of the provincial governments (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) has passed a bill to establish a government department to develop the languages in the province. The KP government also formulated its cultural policy this year. Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly has taken up the task to preserve and promote the regional languages of Gilgit-Baltistan and very positive initiatives are being carried out. FLI trained a number of people from the language communities as facilitators. These people further trained and passed on their enhanced skills to other people in their communities, other community people, university students and faculty members.

## Executive Director's Message



### Greetings,

I'm so humbled to bring you yet another report about what we achieved during the last year. Let me thank, first of all, those who together with us played their great role in enabling more people in the reporting period. All those community people who have been working for the development of their cultural heritages, all the government officials who helped us solve language issues and, of course, all those great foreign and national consultants who are resolute to make us strong owe my tribute.

In this issue, we are presenting you the results of our efforts we managed to produce in a span of one year. Enabling people is our main goal and, while pursuing this, we carried out scores of trainings for our communities. We worked with them to enhance their capabilities so as to make them more efficient in their endeavors. These community people have taken inordinate responsibilities of serving their societies, especially conserving the intangible assets of their cultures.

At FLI, we invariably look up to those who desire to develop their language and connect with us to exploit the beauty of their traditions. We always encourage our community members to grow interest in discovering the charm of their culture. We are with you in this! Together we can, not only find out the very power of our languages, but to fight back, live long, be unspoiled and experience progress as well.

My thanks to the donors whose trust gives me and my team the strength to brave all the circumstances. I hope to live up to all the expectations of the donors, the communities, the stakeholders and the vulnerable groups in northern-Pakistan. We, at FLI, will continue to chase the dreams of protecting all the beauties of cultural diversity with cooperation of all of you.

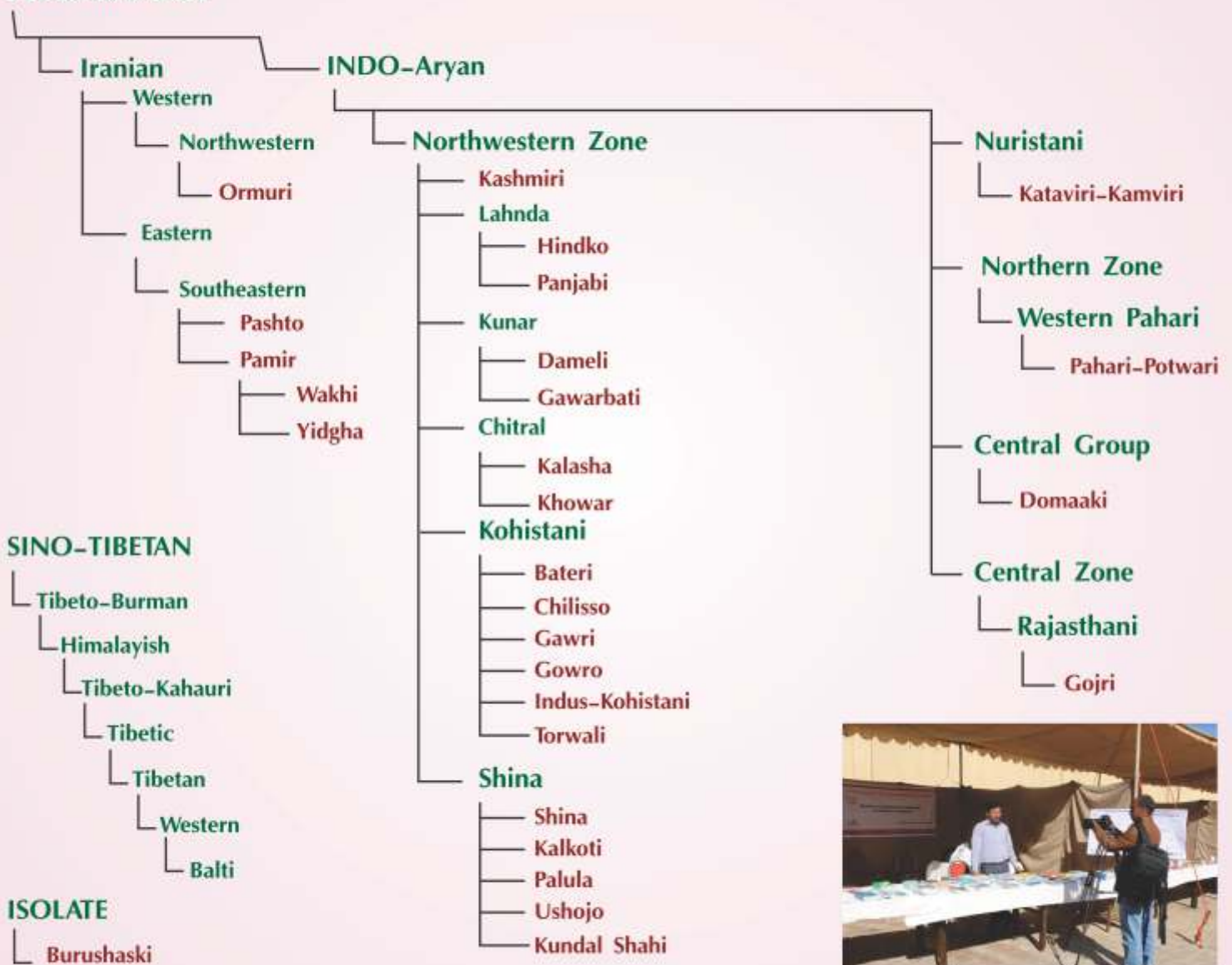
Thank you very much.

*Fakhruddin Akhunzada*



## Language Relatedness in Target Region

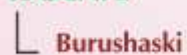
### INDO-IRANIAN



### SINO-TIBETAN



### ISOLATE



## Target Languages



FLI works with the following languages, spoken in Northern-Pakistan, for the purpose of preserving them through documentation and development. 15 of them have been documented through projects such as word collection and dictionary development, standardization of writing system and preliminary publications, while six of those 15 have also started Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) programs and two have Adult Literacy Programs (ALP) in their respective areas. 11 of these languages have been included in school curriculum as subjects by provincial government because of FLI and its partner organizations' advocacy efforts;

- |                                      |   |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. <b>Balti</b> (Gilgit Baltistan)   | 2. <b>Bateri</b> (Indus Kohistan)               | 3. <b>Burushaski</b> (Gilgit Baltistan-GB)  |
| 4. <b>Chilisso</b> (Indus Kohistan)  | 5. <b>Dameli</b> (Chitral)                      | 6. <b>Domaaki</b> (Gilgit Baltistan)        |
| 7. <b>Gawar-Bati</b> (Chitral)       | 8. <b>Gawri</b> (Dir, Swat)                     | 9. <b>Gojri</b> (North Pakistan)            |
| 10. <b>Gowro</b> (Indus Kohistan)    | 11. <b>Hindko</b> (Hazara Division)             | 12. <b>Indus Kohistani</b> (Indus Kohistan) |
| 13. <b>Kalasha</b> (Chitral)         | 14. <b>Kalkoti</b> (Dir)                        | 15. <b>Kam-Kataviri</b> (Chitral)           |
| 16. <b>Kashmiri</b> (Kashmir)        | 17. <b>Khowar</b> (Chitral, GB, Swat)           | 18. <b>Kundal Shahi</b> (Kashmir)           |
| 19. <b>Ormuri</b> (South Waziristan) | 20. <b>Pahari-Potwari</b> (Kashmir, Hazara Div) | 21. <b>Palula</b> (Chitral)                 |
| 22. <b>Pashto</b> (North Pakistan)   | 23. <b>Shina</b> (GB, Indus Kohistan, AJK)      | 24. <b>Torwali</b> (Swat)                   |
| 25. <b>Ushojo</b> (Swat)             | 26. <b>Wakhi</b> (GB, Chitral)                  | 27. <b>Yidgha</b> (Chitral)                 |



## A photograph showing three men working together at a table. On the left, a man in a white and black patterned jacket and a white kufi cap is pointing at a large pink map of the Gaza Strip. In the center, a man in a black and white patterned jacket and a white kufi cap is writing on the map with a pen. On the right, a man in a light blue shirt is also writing on the map. The table is covered with various items, including a laptop, a mobile phone, and some papers. The background shows a simple room with a wall-mounted electrical outlet and a green curtain.

As an important part of the Advocacy Resource Development, FLI translated a language tree into Urdu and printed it with a language map of northern-Pakistan, both developed by SIL International, and distributed among its stakeholders for displaying at offices, universities and press clubs in its target region. The aim is to facilitate the people to comprehend the clusters or families our languages are related to and the locations that are spoken in.

These resources have also been made accessible on FLI's website for online surfers along with other related material about languages. The visitors, specifically the native speakers of languages who aspire to write in their mother tongue, can also download keyboards and fonts from the website ([www.fli-online.org](http://www.fli-online.org)) we have provided under some of our target languages. FLI encourages all native speakers to use their own language for connecting with their community members. For this purpose FLI is employing all its resources to provide each and every language of northern-Pakistan with its own keyboard and fonts, and hopes to achieve this milestone in near future using its network and knowledge.

Map created with QGIS 2.18.4. Map design: Henrik Liljegren (2017). Produced for the Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI), with the right to display and distribute.

## FLI facilitators' skills enhanced further

FLI fundamentally as a training and resource centre has been founded to help the people enable their own community members in northern Pakistan who are lagging behind in many fronts of life cycle. Its mandate is to provide these marginalized societies with opportunities to grow; by making the required skills, knowledge and platforms available through training and other development related activities. In order to achieve this purpose, it's imperative that FLI must enhance its own abilities first then transfer the knowledge and expertise to the community members from its target area.

As part of its enabling efforts, FLI organized a three day long training workshop for its training facilitators in the first quarter of the year in focus. 15 of FLI's main facilitators including FLI staff members and people from its partner CBOs were among those who benefitted from the workshop. These people have been facilitating FLI's trainings since long.

The main goal of this workshop was to improve the facilitation skills and standards of those who facilitate FLI trainings, while also introducing them to and receiving their feedback regarding the new Facilitators' Guidelines and Training Policy that FLI is developing.

The objectives established towards achieving the goal of this workshop were:

- Introduce, discuss, and potentially revise FLI's drafted Guidelines for Facilitators
- Improve facilitators' understanding of adult learning principles and different learning styles
- Improve the lesson planning and preparation skills of FLI's facilitators
- Improve the quality and effectiveness of FLI's facilitators' teaching sessions
- Provide opportunity for facilitators to practice good lesson planning and delivery
- Introduce facilitators to FLI's upcoming training policy, and the parameters they will need to meet to continue facilitating trainings with FLI





## 225 more Children start education in their Mother Tongues

The Mother Tongue based educational program, FLI introduced in Northern-Pakistan in 2008 has added 225 more children to start the journey of learning in their own language. With this addition, the total number of the students, enrolled in these 14 schools under this program that are run by our partner organizations in six language communities: Gawri, Hindko, Indus-Kohistani, Khowar, Palula and Torwali has increased to 600. There were 369 children in the previous year.

MTB-MLE is a quality education approach, highly supported and recommended by UNESCO, that first builds a strong cognitive foundation in the language that children understand and speak best (L1), then gradually transfers these acquired reading, writing and numeracy skills into a second language (L2), as required to gain access to the mainstream school system.

FLI helped these education programmes by providing trainings in methodology and committee formation, for supervisors and teachers, and developing and publishing materials. Also noteworthy is that 50% of the kids receiving education in their mother tongue from these schools are girls – a very impressive percentage given the culture and general attitude towards girls' education in the regions where these schools are located. These projects, in assistance with FLI regularly carry out following activities to bring constant improvement to their schools:

- ▶ Establishment of Good monitoring systems
- ▶ Up gradation of school records as well as teaching and instructional materials
- ▶ Enhancement of the supervision and project management skills
- ▶ In-service teacher trainings to further improve teaching skills
- ▶ Awareness raising and mobilization in communities through literacy needs assessments and connecting the communities with government education authorities.
- ▶ Printing of two years of revised and re-designed MTB-MLE curriculum material for all six MLE projects.



### FLI published another book in Khowar

FLI added another book to its Language & Cultural series by publishing a fine collection of the idioms specific to the Khowar, a dominant language in District Chitral under the title of Khowar Muhawiray (translation in English as Khowar Idioms). The book has been authored by Afsar Ali Khan; a language researcher from Chitral who has been attending FLI's training since very long. This collection



also contains Urdu translation for each Khowar Idioms in the patterns of his previous book titled as Khowar Proverbs FLI published in 2016.

The idioms and proverbs are structured in a long course of time and describe the very wisdom the people of a particular community develop by using the knowledge and experience they gain from their lifelong journey. This resource provides in-depth understanding of the culture and language.

It was a great accomplishment FLI has achieved as this book has been written by one of its trainees from Northern Pakistan. It has

been providing training to the community members in language documentation aiming to equip and enable the community researchers to how to gather and preserve their local treasure for generations to come. This book also clarifies the difference between idioms and proverbs many people get confused while referring to. Though Khowar seems to be comparatively a vigorous language having a decent sum of literary work but this book is hoped to be of crucial importance in the future for being published on standard writing system of Khowar. FLI is utilizing all its resources to get all the languages the unified pattern of writing facilitating the users and increasing their interest in the literary work.





## Credited Course in Organizational Management

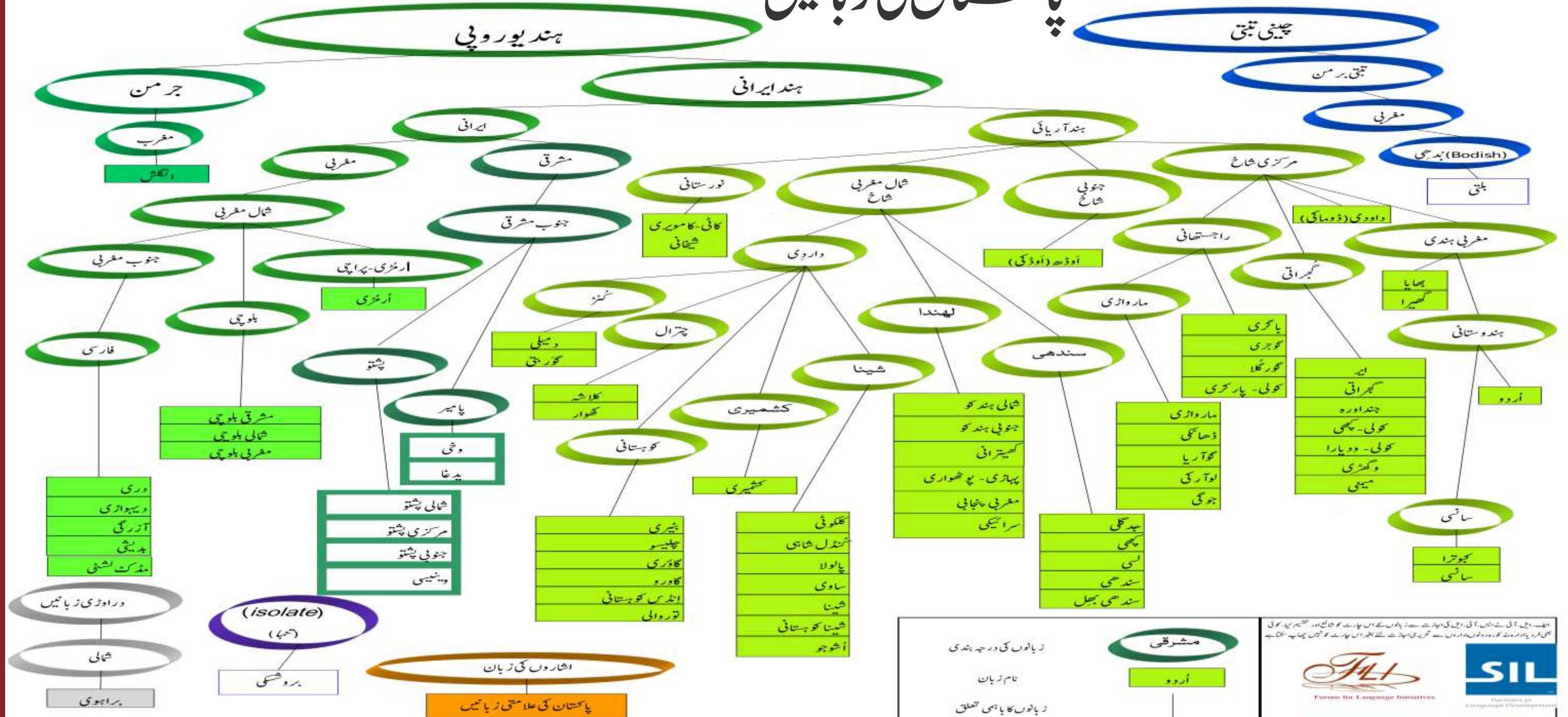
FLI in partnership with Payap University, Thailand, was able to offer a year-long course to any of its language development trainees that provided a certificate from an accredited international university. This was very valuable partnership FLI has had in its history which enhanced organizational management skills of the participants. 12 participants from eight language communities; three from south and nine from north Pakistan benefited from the program. The main goal was to enable our people to manage their organizations professionally. While the objectives of this 13 credit course were:

- ▶ Introducing the participants to the interplay of interpersonal skills and diversity in an organizational setting;
- ▶ Ability to identify the benefits and challenges of a diverse work environment and understand the unifying and motivating effect that effective core values can have on an organization;
- ▶ Understanding the system thinking and identify the strengths and weaknesses in their organizational systems;
- ▶ Identification of the essential habits of high performing teams and ways to strengthen the effective habits of their teams etc.

The certificates were awarded to the trainees in Islamabad on 12 Apr 2017. FLI also distributed experience certificates among those who facilitated the course while the services of our Language Consultant and Training Coordinator were appreciated and honored by presenting them shields from Executive Director of FLI.



پاکستان کی زبانیں





## Good News for cultures of KP

### KP Govt. formulates 'Cultural Policy'

The culture lovers of the province take the news with joy, as the biggest good-news of the year that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government has formulated a holistic approach towards how it will deal with culture in the future. It has called for establishment of culture complexes, cultural education and encouraging research besides recommending other measures to preserve and promote culture in the province. This 28 pages document is the first cultural policy the province has framed aimed at preserving and promoting the indigenous culture which was approved by the provincial cabinet chaired by the chief minister.

National

### KP evolves first cultural policy after 18th Amendment

January 11, 2018

Share

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PESHAWAR: The first culture policy of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government calls for establishment of culture complexes, cultural education, censorship policy and encouraging research besides recommending other measures to preserve and promote culture in the province.

The goal of the policy is to create conducive and enabling environment for the culture sector to flourish, acknowledge culture rights and promote diverse cultural heritage of the province and integrate culture. It covers most aspects of culture and context to different cultural products with an effort to create a close connectivity between inhabitants of the province for sustainable development. The objectives included incorporating all tangible and intangible culture heritage including all major and minor cultural traditional festivals, languages, artifacts, performing arts, visual arts, literature and aspirations, discourage the culture of violence, intolerance and fanaticism by promoting social cohesion and inter-cultural dialogue. The operational scope of the policy is the culture heritage of KP including tangible and intangible cultural heritage as defined by the UNESCO.

The document suggests to the government to preserve the culture heritage through research, documentation, promote it through resource allocations and utilization and prevent the culture from disorientation. It also stresses developing a

platform in collaboration with the relevant ministries/departments and other autonomous bodies for the induction of culture with regard to development and promotional spending. The document suggests integration of cultural studies in the curriculum for true identification of culture heritage, special education for artistes, artisan's, craftsmen, encouraging research and creating awareness among the people through debates, seminars and publications. The policy calls for establishment of at least one state-of-the-art cultural complex in each division to accommodate cultural heritage elements. It also called for a strategy to protect the culture heritage from manmade and natural calamities and develop a proper inspection and maintenance system of cultural heritage sites, run awareness campaigns and other steps.

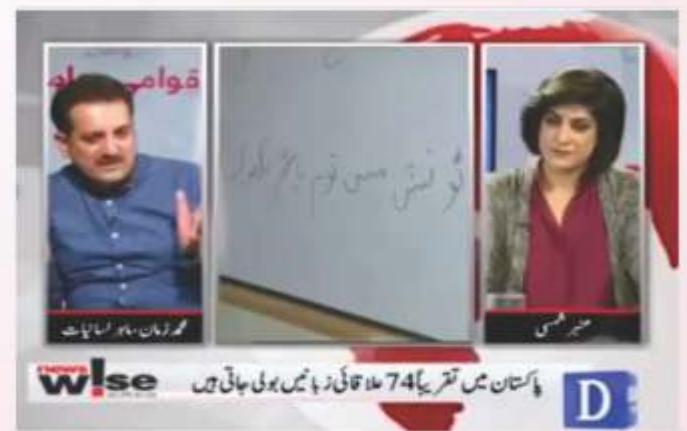
## “Voiceless Languages”

### Partnering with Media for Language Rights

Many journalists, working with national and international media houses approached FLI in 2017 and benefitted from its resources. Several reports were broadcasted and programs relayed on Inclusion of Languages in the Census Form highlighting the importance of enumeration of people based on the languages they speak throughout Pakistan. These reports became part of daily discussion in the country especially when the Census was underway.

Briefly, the BBC Urdu broadcasted a series of programs titled “Khamosh Zubanen” translated as ‘Voiceless Languages’ covering 13 Pakistani languages. This series was inspired by FLI’s campaign for the inclusion of the language column in the Census Form. BBC

Urdu also interviewed the Executive Director of FLI. The Dawn News, an influential media outlet in Pakistan also approached FLI and dedicated a 30 minutes slot of its prime time for the campaign. FLI’s Senior Advocacy Officer contributed to a discussion of Dawn News as a guest panelist. Additionally, the print media also joined us in this campaign and the language issues were given good space in the coverage throughout the season.





## FLI granted Tax Exemption Certificate



Federal Board of Revenue  
Revenue Division - Government of Pakistan



2(36)(c) (Order to grant / refuse / maintain / withdraw approval to Non-Profit Organization)

**Name:** FORUM FOR LANGUAGE INITIATIVES (FLI)  
**Address:** 86, Street 70, G-9/3, Islamabad Islamabad Urban



100000022857952

**Registration No** 4051510  
**Tax Year** : 2016  
**Date** : 13-Sep-2017  
**Period** : 01-Jul-2015 - 30-Jun-2016  
**Medium** : Online  
**Due Date** : 13-Sep-2017  
**Valid Upto** : 30-Jun-2016  
**Document Date** 13-Sep-2017

### ORDER

**Subject:** Approval U/S 2(36) of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001.

In exercise of powers conferred under section 2(36) of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001, the approval is granted to M/s Forum for Language Initiatives, NTN: 4051510-9, as a Non-Profit Organization (NPO) for a period of 03 years ending on 30-06-2019 for the purposes of the tax credit and other benefits admissible under the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001.

The Trust will act as a withholding tax agent and will submit withholding tax statements and returns of income by the due date along with documents specified under Income Tax Rules, 2002. Non compliance to any provision of the Income Tax ordinance 2001 and the Income Tax Rules 2002 would result in withdrawal of recognition.

Imran Latif Minhas, Commissioner  
Zone-Corporate, Inland Revenue  
RTO ISLAMABAD, 20 KHAYABAN E SUHRAWARDY SERVICE ROAD SOUTH G-9 MOUVE AREA G-9/1



## Forging Network for the Development of Languages





## FINANCE

In the year ending July 2016 - June 2017, FLI's consolidated income was PKR 10,928,019 and consolidated expenditure was PKR 11,949,320.

The consolidated accounts of FLI included the full accounts of the PMU funded I-LEAD Project and FLI's own income; generated through its local resources.

FLI's accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost convention and in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

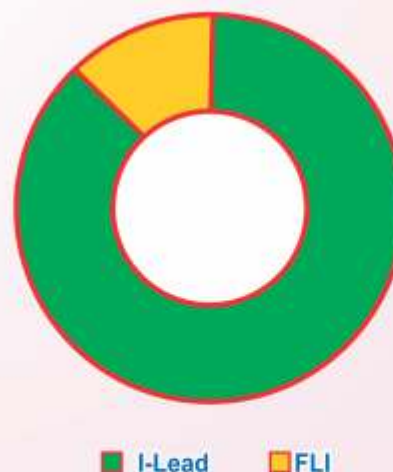
### INCOME

Consolidated income was PKR 10,928,019 for the complete year July 2016 – June 2017. FLI's own income was PKR 1,326,567 accounting for 12% of overall income. Grants from PMU was PKR 9,601,452 which is about 88% of the total income. It has been noticed that, FLI has increased its income from the local resources from 6% to 12% as compared to the last year's financial data.

### BREAKDOWN OF GRANT INCOME

DONOR	PKR	%
PMU InterLife	9,601,452	88.0
FLI	1,326,567	12.0
Total Grant Income	10,928,019	100

### Breakdown of Income



## FINANCE

### EXPENDITURE

Consolidated expenditure was PKR 11,949,320 for the whole year July 2016 – June 2017. FLI's own expenditure was PKR 1,071,859 accounting for 9% of overall expenditure. Expenditure under PMU funded I-LEAD project was PKR 10,877,461 accounting 91% of the total expenditure.

### HEAD-WISE BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE

PARTICULARS	TOTAL	FLI	PMU
Transport/travel	163,444		163,444
Rent	1,368,093		1,368,093
Administration	68,401	1,885	66,516
Staff cost	6,751,504	608,654	6,142,850
Consultant/contractor	544,831	20,800	524,031
Auditing	106,000	40,000	66,000
Education & courses	1,998,126	400,520	1,597,606
Material costs	948,921		948,921
Total Expenses	11,949,320	1,071,859	10,877,461

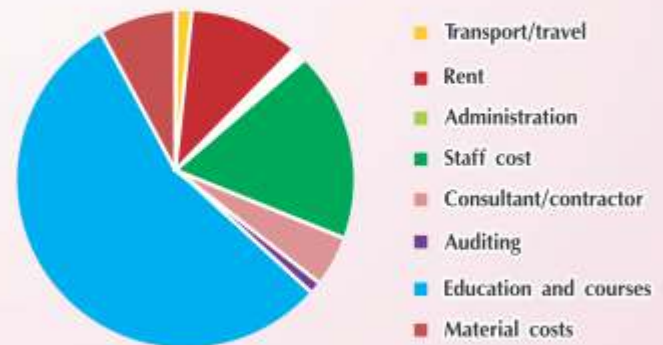
### BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE

DONOR	PKR	%
PMU InterLife	10,877,461	91.0
FLI	1,071,859	9.0
Total Expenditure	11,949,320	100

Donor-wise Breakdown of Expenditure



Head-wise Breakdown of Expenditure





## International Days

There are many international days; the world marks to attain certain goals matching with ours. UNESCO observes February 21 for spreading awareness on significance of mother tongues. Similar to the world the language researchers, activists, students & teachers and community people in Pakistan also get together on this day and discuss ways to preserve and promote their traditional language assets. In parallel, 8th of September every year is witnessed as International Literacy Day while on 8th of August the Indigenous People world over take to the streets, hold events and celebrate their actuality. These instants provide great opportunities to sensitize the societies and play effective role to remind the humanity of its responsibilities towards certain groups worldwide.

FLI joined hands for the second year in a row with Indus Cultural Forum, a civil society organization which organizes a nationwide event, relating to language development in Islamabad. These international days are also observed in our communities. Our partner organizations observed the days and organized various activities in their respective areas.







## Seminar for local Journalists of Chitral

As the third stop of this yearly interactive and collaborative drive FLI organized a get-together with local journalists of Chitral and invited writers, poets, and language activists from various language communities living in Chitral in Aug 2017. More than 50 people attended the event and majority of the participants came from the Khowar language community while the Dameli, Yidgha, Gawar-bati and the Palula languages, also spoken in Chitral were also represented.

The journalists were briefed in detail on recent status of the languages of Chitral, the importance of MTB-MLE and how to effectively highlight the issues of the languages through media, focusing the public awareness about their traditional languages. The matter of how to influence policies at government level and change the behaviour of the people with regards to create a sense of ownership and patronage at community level through reporting was discussed. The journalist fraternity of Chitral like others in northern Pakistan responded positively and seemed to have received our message in a great manner. FLI assured the writers and researchers of its full cooperation in any kind of research into languages by providing resources, available with FLI and guidance to facilitate their research work by the community members.



## Brief Language News

### Roundtable discussion on language-in-education policy and practice in KP

Society for Enhancement of Education (SAHE), a Lahore based civil society organization, working on standardization of education in Pakistan and Forum Language Initiatives (FLI) teamed-up to organize a roundtable discussion on above topic. The event was hosted on December, 2017 in Peshawar and was attended by official representatives from various govt. offices, educational institutions and civil society organizations. The discussion provided an opportunity to discuss the complexities surrounding the implementation of language policy in schools across the province. The event was also attended by a political representative from the ruling party, KP who was able to shed light on her party's efforts towards the promotion and inclusion of local languages in education.

### Language vitality survey in Khowar, Gilgit-Baltistan

The sustainability of Khowar language in Gilgit Baltistan (GB) was tested in the areas of identity, orality and literacy measuring the language with a survey tool, Sustainable Use Model (SUM) followed by the preparation of a future course of actions based on the findings of the survey. By this way, FLI added four more language activists (mother tongue facilitators) to its network, this time from Khowar community of GB who have been given training in how to find out the aspects of vulnerability in a language and how to fix the issues that are causing life threats to our traditional languages. This week long SUM workshop was organized in the last quarter of the reporting year of 2017 for Khowar, one of the six languages spoken in GB.

### Shina & Khowar Keyboards for Cell Phone

FLI received encouraging response from the native speakers of Shina and Khowar languages after it uploaded their keyboards on the Google Play Store. People are downloading the keyboard and appreciating. FLI developed these keyboards a while ago and recently made them available online for android phones upon successful installation and function subsequently passing them through test.

### Communities discussed sustainability options (Consultation Meeting)

FLI organized a fruitful meeting for the language activists, heads of CBOs and senior management of the organizations working in northern Pakistan in Islamabad in May 2017 providing them with opportunity to innovate ways for how to bring sustainability to their work in future. 17 people from various language communities participated in this discussion. They committed to document their past results, present status and future vision, illustrate/document evidence of sustainable development and identify several income source options and make 'short term and long-term strategies' for securing and managing funds from new sources, addressing gaps in their organizational capacity, and enhancing internal mobilization and external advocacy efforts.

### Seminar on Literary Folk Heritage of KP

FLI was invited to a one day seminar, arranged by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cultural Department, Directorate of Culture in October last year in Peshawar. The program's goal was to create the awareness about the significance of indigenous wisdom in form of folktales, myths, legends, songs etc. specific to the languages especially in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Speakers on the occasion shed lights on the importance of elements of intangible cultural heritage in a society. Sr. Advocacy Officer of FLI, Mr. Muhammad Zaman also spoke on the occasion.



## Helping GB Govt in language development

FLI, in response to a request from the State Government of Gilgit-Baltistan facilitated an Orthography workshop covering the regional languages of the area. The goal of this activity was to find the common sounds existing in the languages of GB and separating unique sounds specific to the particular languages. The Burushaski and Wakhi communities decided to adopt Shina characters for their unique sounds with Khowar speakers insisting to stick to their own writing system. 19 people from four language groups participated in the sessions which held in the last week of December last year. Four languages; Shina, Khowar, Burushaski and Wakhi were represented in the workshop.

## Gawri people enhanced their skill in curriculum development

Four people from Gawri language community were trained in a workshop FLI facilitated, designed to enhance the knowledge and skills in curriculum development. The workshop was organized by our partner CBO, Gawri Community Development Program in the last quarter of the reporting year in Kalam, Swat. The participants learned how curriculums are developed for minor children especially in their mother tongue.

## FLI's Adult Literacy Program completes all its stages

Adult Literacy Program (ALP) in Palula language community has successfully completed its third stage the last year by educating 36 women in a backward area of Ashret Valley, situated in north of Chitral district. FLI is supporting this program in three minority language communities of North-Pakistan. The Gawri and Torwali languages in Swat Kohistan and Palula in Chitral are among those communities that initiated the program for elder people in their communities who, for any reason did not have the opportunity of getting educated but still carry the motivation to learn, with technical support of FLI in 2015.

## Standardized Orthography; Wakhi community moves a step ahead

FLI organized an orthography workshop for Wakhilanguage in Gilgit-Baltistan to standardize the writing system for this language in the last quarter of the year in Passu, Hunza- GB aiming to develop a systemic writing system with the consent of concerned community. Wakhi is spoken in the sparsely populated upper portions of four of the northernmost valleys in Pakistan: Hunza(Gojal), Ishkoman, Yasin, and Yarkhun (Chitral). Wakhi speakers are estimated to be between 7,500 and 10,000 people. 12 people from the Wakhi community participated in the workshop.

## 'Child Rights Protection' workshop for disadvantaged communities

FLI trained seven more people including three females in the area of protection of Child Rights. The participants came from the very disadvantaged communities of northern Pakistan; Indus Kohistani, Palula and Hindko. The main objectives of this training workshop, held in the first quarter of the year were to improve the understanding of child rights among participants, enhance their knowledge and make them aware of their positive role in their communities so that they could be advocates of children rights in their circle of influence. The training theme also covered this topic giving more attention to how to create more conducive environment for young people based on ethics and good practices not only in our MLE schools but also in the society at large.

## Universities jump into Language Service

The Air University Islamabad, a reputable institution in the private sector, in collaboration of FLI is working ardently to enhance the skill of its faculty and students. It organized a training workshop to enhance the capacity of its faculty members in certain areas. This participants included not only the students but a number of faculty members, from the various universities also attended the training. FLI appreciates any move from the universities by offering its available resources and expertise aimed at producing the language researchers within the country.





# **Mohsin -e- Pakistan Abdul Qadeer Khan Award**

***Presented to Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI)  
for the meritorious services in promotion of education  
in district Chitral***



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