Amn Kachehri: Cultural Revival through Peace Dialogues

Social Action Project (SAP)



Organized By: Laung Lakhan (Social Action Project Grantee)
28, March 2026 | Village Noor Lakhan, Ghotki (Sukkur Division)

1-INTRODUCTION:

Amn Kachehri: Bringing Stakeholders for Peace Dialogue was part of a broader Social Action Project carried out by the Centre for Youth Development & Engagement in collaboration with the Chanan Development Association (CDA) and Amn Rang. The primary objective of this initiative was to foster peacebuilding, tolerance, active listening, empathy and news verification to combat misinformation. The event brought together key stakeholders from various sectors to engage in a constructive dialogue aimed at tackling social issues such as religious extremism, misinformation, and community conflict.

This event was held on 28, March 2026, in the village of Noor Lakhan (Ghotki, Sukkur Division), was the first of its kind in this context. The village was chosen as the venue, given the area's need for a positive community-driven approach to resolving local conflicts and promoting peace. With participants ranging from 14 to 70 years of age, the event was designed to ensure active participation from individuals across different age groups, creating a well-rounded dialogue on social harmony and conflict resolution.

The event was graced by prominent local figures, including local politicians, village caretakers, members from the union council, media representatives, social activists, teachers, and civil society members. These participants contributed their perspectives on how peacebuilding can be fostered in the community through collective effort and individual responsibility.

2-*Summary of Amn Kacheri*:

The primary objective of the event was to engage 35-40 participants in various discussions and panel sessions, focusing on key topics such as active listening, peacebuilding, and empathy. A major part of the activity centered on news verification, providing the community with the tools needed to identify and counter misinformation. The event featured two panel discussions, where various local figures shared their views on how to contribute to peace-building and social harmony. The discussions included: Educationists discussing their role in fostering peace in early primary years, particularly in shaping children’s understanding of tolerance and empathy.

Representatives from the development sector and NGOs focused on how they can contribute to sustaining peace-building practices through their work in the community. Village caretakers talked about their initiatives to curb mishaps and reduce hatred in the community, emphasizing the importance of local leadership in community peacebuilding. The Imam of the village mosque provided a religious perspective on promoting peace and harmony, urging the importance of understanding and coexistence in society. Student activists shared their role in peacebuilding and what they can do to help resolve community issues. Civil society members discussed the gaps in

community engagement and promised their ongoing commitment to continue such peace-building efforts.

2.1- Facilitators' Profile:

Mr. Laung Lakhan is an MS Scholar and Human Rights Activist and an advocate for social change and conflict resolution. Hailing from the village of Noor Lakhan, he made history as the first person from his village to pursue higher education and become an MS Scholar. His journey, which included overcoming significant social and economic barriers, has made him a beacon of hope for many in his community. Mr. Lakhan's work is focused on empowering marginalized groups, advocating for human rights, and providing youth with the skills and knowledge to actively participate in peace-building efforts.

Recently, Mr. Lakhan was also part of the Safeer E Amn: Capacity Building Workshop for Youth, where he successfully helped secure grant among 6 more individuals to conduct Social Action Projects in his vicinity. His leadership in both the Safeer E Amn workshop and Amn Kachehri has made him a respected figure in the local peace-building community.

2.2- Participants' Profile:

Sr#	Female	Male	Transgender	Others	Total
1	**-**	**38**	**-**	**-**	**38**

3-SESSION WISE PROCEEDINGS:

Session-01:

This session introduced key concepts of peacebuilding and tolerance, highlighting the role of empathy and active listening in resolving conflicts. Participants actively shared their personal experiences and perspectives on promoting peace in their communities. A panel discussion encouraged open dialogue, allowing participants to explore real-life conflict situations and practical solutions. This exchange of ideas helped deepen understanding and mutual respect.

Additionally, a chart activity engaged participants in group work to identify causes of conflict. They also mapped out possible peacebuilding strategies. The activity reinforced learning through collaboration and presentation. The second session focused on the importance of verifying news and understanding misinformation. Participants learned how to distinguish between reliable and false information through practical examples. Role-playing exercises allowed them to practice empathy while handling conflict situations. A panel discussion provided a platform to discuss the societal impact of misinformation and responsible information sharing. Participants shared ideas

on how to promote truth and awareness in their communities. Through a chart activity, they created step-by-step guides for verifying news. These visual tools helped strengthen their understanding and can be used for future reference.

4-





PARTICIPANTS QUOTES: Please use the following box to provide participants quote.





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*greater good." (**Sahib Dino, Village Caretaker, Village Noor Lakhan)***

Amn Kachehri On-Going, Participants sharing their insights & performing group activity

*"I have always believed in the power of community-driven change. Today, hearing everyone's perspectives on how to foster peace in our community has reaffirmed my commitment to supporting such initiatives. It's not just about donating resources, but about inspiring others to take ownership of peace and equality in their communities. I'm excited to see how this event will inspire continued efforts." **(Shahban Oghai, Social Activist, Philanthropist, and Social Entrepreneur)***

*"As the Imam of this village mosque, I have always emphasized the importance of peace and unity in our community. The teachings of Islam guide us to live with tolerance, understanding, and respect for others. Today's session has reminded us of the role we all play in promoting peace. I will continue to preach these values in our mosque and encourage the community to act towards building a more harmonious society." **(Haji Adam, Imam of the Village Mosque, Noor Lakhan)***

5-Challenges:

During this activity, several challenges were encountered, primarily due to the extremely limited resources available in the village. There was almost no access to electricity, internet connectivity, or mobile signals, which made it difficult to conduct real-time demonstrations of news verification tools. Additionally, at the beginning, some community members were reluctant to participate and there was noticeable resistance, with a few individuals expressing concerns and labelling the activity as a foreign-funded agenda. In some instances, participants even mocked the initiative, and during lunch, a few attendees were uncomfortable with photography, requesting that no pictures be taken even for personal record-keeping.

Despite these challenges, the situation improved significantly as the sessions progressed. The team adapted by using offline materials and printed resources, ensuring that learning continued effectively without reliance on technology. Mr. Lakhan's guidance, along with his clear and engaging explanations, helped build trust and understanding among participants. Gradually, attitudes shifted, and participants became more open, engaged, and supportive. By the end of the event, the sessions were well-received, and many participants expressed appreciation for the knowledge and skills they had gained.

6-Lesson Learnt:

The activity highlighted the importance of adaptability when working in resource-constrained environments, as limited electricity, internet, and connectivity required a shift toward offline and low-tech learning methods. It also underscored the need for prior community engagement and trust-building, since initial reluctance, misconceptions, and resistance can affect participation. Addressing concerns with patience and clarity proved essential in overcoming skepticism and negative perceptions. Furthermore, the experience demonstrated that respectful communication and cultural sensitivity are key, especially in situations where participants are uncomfortable with documentation such as photography. Strong facilitation and clear delivery of content helped bridge gaps in understanding and gradually built confidence among participants. Ultimately, persistence and community-centered approaches can turn initial resistance into meaningful engagement and positive outcomes.

The activity also provided several valuable lessons for both participants and facilitators. The involvement of both youth and older community members enriched discussions through intergenerational dialogue, bringing diverse perspectives on peacebuilding. Participants recognized empathy and active listening as essential tools for resolving conflicts and promoting harmony in their daily lives. Additionally, the focus on news verification revealed significant gaps

in community awareness and skills related to identifying misinformation. This emphasized the need for continued education and practical training to strengthen critical thinking and responsible information sharing.

7-Conclusions & Recommendations:

Conclusion

The Amn Kachehri event proved to be a meaningful step toward fostering community engagement on the critical issues of peacebuilding, tolerance, and news verification. Despite initial challenges, participants gradually became more involved and demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment to continuing these discussions within their communities. The sessions successfully created a space for dialogue, learning, and reflection, leaving a positive impact on participants' perspectives and attitudes.

Key Takeaways:

The event helped promote a culture of active listening, empathy, and tolerance among participants, encouraging them to apply these values in their daily interactions. It also highlighted a strong interest in learning about news verification, revealing it as an essential skill for addressing misinformation within the community. Participants showed willingness to adopt these practices and share them with others.

Recommendations for Future Programming:

Future initiatives should include follow-up sessions that focus more deeply on media literacy and conflict resolution to reinforce learning outcomes. Additionally, expanding community outreach efforts to actively involve youth and local leaders will be crucial for sustaining long-term impact and strengthening peacebuilding efforts at the grassroots level.