

Mandate of Pakistan Interfaith League



PAKISTAN INTERFAITH LEAGUE (PIL)

1. IDEOLOGY:

Pakistan Interfaith League (PIL) is a socio-political movement comprising a network of religious scholars, clerics, political workers, journalists, lawyers, academia, students, civil society representatives, and members of corporate sector specifically focusing to promote interfaith harmony, peace and collective wisdom in their respective domains.

Pakistan Interfaith League came into being with the conviction that the people of Pakistan should be represented by a Socio Political movement that perceives the nation as one entity as depicted in the national flag; a movement that neither represents majority nor the minority but humanity on the basis of equality. PIL has come forward to ensure collective wisdom, coexistence, justice, peace, tolerance and interfaith harmony in the country.

PIL is of the belief that instead of treating people with different religious beliefs as minorities they should be given equal status as all other Pakistanis. They should be permitted to compete at all levels without bias, prejudice and condemnation. They should be considered an integral part of Pakistan as they are proud to be Pakistanis. PIL envisages bringing a positive change in mindsets and promoting equality for most vulnerable segments of the society such as, religious minorities, downtrodden, oppressed, victimised, women, senior citizens, and People with Special needs.

2. VISION

The whole nation united under one flag irrespective of religious beliefs, ethnicity, traditions and culture to contribute in prosperity, peace and stability of Pakistan.

3. MISSION

Uniting people for peaceful, social, political and religious coexistence

4. VALUES OF PIL

- Patriotism
- Justice
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Equality
- Sincerity
- Humanity
- Respect
- Tolerance
- Humility
- Integrity
- Compassion
- Stewardship

Mandate of Pakistan Interfaith League



5. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of PIL are as under:

- 1- Promotion of Interfaith Harmony, Human Rights and struggle to improve access to Justice, particularly for the vulnerable segments of the society (religious minorities, women, children, senior citizens, bonded labour, and People with Special needs)
- 2- Advocacy and Lobbying for the restoration of the rights of religious minorities and religious freedom
- 3- To advocate social and interfaith issues through print and electronic media
- 4- Restoration of Rule of Law through strengthening of Democratic Process and Good Governance
- 5- Improve access to Quality Education for all citizens of Pakistan
- 6- Improve living conditions and environment of vulnerable segments of the society



Explanation of Objectives

1. Promotion of Interfaith Harmony, Human Rights and struggle to improve access to Justice, particularly for the vulnerable segments of the society (religious minorities, women, children, senior citizens, bonded labour, and People with Special needs)

PIL will work towards promotion of peace and interfaith harmony by spreading awareness among communities regarding understanding of other religions, respect of others' religious beliefs, tolerance of others' religious practices, implementation of Human Rights in the true sense and provide legal assistance to vulnerable segments of the society through:

- i. Formation of Peace and Interfaith Committees at grass root level for:
 - a. Conflict resolution at community level on sensitive religious issues
 - b. Sensitise Police on religious issues in order to safeguard the environment and maintain law and order situation in the country.
- ii. Formation of Interfaith & Peace Clubs at Educational Institutions
- iii. Establish Interfaith Peace Museums at National, Provincial, District and Tehsil levels
- iv. Establish Community Study Centers at National, Provincial, District and Tehsil levels for study of Comparative Religions.
- v. Capacity building of religious scholars, clerics from all faiths through dialogues and seminars on Interfaith issues for reducing religious extremism and promoting peace in the region
- vi. Creating awareness about Human Rights among men, women, children, religious minorities, senior citizens, bonded labour, and People with Special needs.
- vii. Creating awareness about Civic Rights regarding:
 - a) Freedom to practice one's Religious beliefs
 - b) Rights of girls at the time of marriage
 - c) Inheritance rights for women
 - d) Issues related to Forced Marriages
 - e) Issues related to Forced Conversions
 - f) Issues related to Domestic Violence
 - g) Issues related to Sexual Harassment
 - h) CNIC campaign - giving awareness to people to apply for CNIC
 - i) Campaigns against Drug Addiction



- viii. Providing free legal assistance to:
 - a. Victims of religious violence, extremism and discriminatory laws
 - b. Juveniles in jails
 - c. Women in jails

2. Advocacy and Lobbying for the restoration of the rights of religious minorities and religious freedom

PIL will launch Advocacy and Lobbying for restoration of the rights of religious minorities through;

- i. Improve access to Justice for religious minorities at all levels such as in:
 - a) Representation in Special Committees for National Policy Making
 - b) Representation Special Committees for National Security
 - c) Representation at the Judiciary level
 - d) Representation at the highest positions in the government
 - e) Embargo on religious minorities on construction of worship places
 - f) Illegal possession and occupation of properties belonging to religious minorities
- ii. Advocacy and lobbying for amendment and repeal of all Discriminatory laws
- iii. Orienting and sensitising lawyers regarding social and interfaith issues being faced by the marginalized citizens of Pakistan
- iv. Advocate for allocation of at least 5% of National Development Funds for Religious Minorities

3. To advocate social and interfaith issues through print and electronic media

Sensitising journalists on the importance of Peace and Interfaith harmony through;

- i. Initiation of intellectual hours on monthly basis inviting members of print and electronic Media for highlighting social evils, such as existing discriminatory laws in the Constitution of Pakistan; International Human Rights vs. those practiced in Pakistan; orientation on the commonalities of different religions prevailing biased and unjust behaviors of people towards non-Muslim Pakistanis and victimisation on the basis of religion through:
 - a) Discussion forums
 - b) Seminars
 - c) Trainings
- ii. Launching PIL FM (Interfaith & Peace Channel)
- iii. Launch Urdu and English daily newspaper

4. Restoration of Rule of Law through strengthening of Democratic Process and Good Governance

PIL will struggle to establish Rule of Law and Good Governance through;



- a- Mass mobilisation to advocate and lobby on Accountability and Transparency at all levels
- b- Sensitising Police Force on the importance of true implementation of the Law
- c- Establish and empower Special Citizen's Committees to assist the Government to monitor the performance of the Police Force
- d- Establish a complaint mechanism at Union Council level to ensure justice as a right of every citizen by providing complete confidentiality, security and protection by a Special Citizen's Committee and the Judiciary.
- e- Establishing of Speedy Courts at Union Council level to ensure easy access to the poor of the poorest.
- f- Creating awareness among masses on the importance of Rule of Law
- g- Advocacy and lobbying for Institutional autonomy

5. Improve access to Quality Education for all citizens of Pakistan

PIL will promote Quality Education through;

1. Advocacy and lobbying for inclusion of Civic Education as part of regular curriculum in Educational Institutions and Religious Seminaries throughout the country
2. Advocacy and lobbying for increase in allocation of budget for education
3. Raising voice for access of Education as basic right of a Child
4. Promote Public–Private Partnership for restoration of non-functional government school buildings to enhance enrollment
5. Identify sources and arrange educational scholarships for non-affording and talented students
6. Organise regular teacher's training camps to enhance contemporary teaching skills
7. *Establishing and strengthening Parent Teacher Associations by proving trainings to parents on the following topics*
 - i- Issues leading to intolerance in daily lives
 - i- Study and gain knowledge of their respective religions
 - ii- Read Holy Quran through its translation for better understanding of religion
 - iii- Civic rights and obligations
 - iv- Respect for other faiths, beliefs and customs
 - v- Personal hygiene and environmental sanitation
 - vi- Respect for others on the basis of humanity
 - vii- Respect for animals and plants
 - viii- Promotion of sports and cultural activities



6. Improve living conditions and environment of vulnerable segments of the society

PIL will improve living conditions through;

Sustainable Housing in Climate Change

A respectable living in a sustainable shelter is a fundamental right of any human being irrespective of caste, colour, creed, religion and ethnicity. The increasing migration of the rural population to urban areas has been a major reason for shortage of shelters in both big cities and towns. Besides others, religious minorities are especially being affected by this situation and forced to live in slum areas where no basic necessities of life are available such as permanent shelters, electricity, clean drinking water, paved streets etc.

PIL is committed to address these needs of slum inhabitants by providing sustainable housing in the climate change environment and enabling them to live a respectable life in adequate housing with dignity. PIL will review the urban building codes and construction by-laws and ensure implementation of these codes.

Environment

- a. Creating awareness among masses about Green Environment
- b. Solid waste Management
 - i. Recycling
- c. Introduce Alternative Energies
- d. Raise voice for Climate Change by afforestation
- e. Introducing Organic farming

Generation of Economic Activities

- f. Introduce cottage industries in rural areas
- g. Provide Small Business Development opportunities
- h. Establish Linking the village communities with Financial Institutions for Small Enterprise Development
- i. Establish Cooperative and introduce Fair Trading System
- j. Increase export by linking small farmer communities to international market
- k. Create conducive environment to attract foreign investors

Health

- l. Promote Public-Private partnership to improve functioning of existing Basic Health Units
- m. Create a voluntary data base of doctors and paramedics for visiting rural areas to provide health awareness and services

Agriculture

- n. Provide legal assistance to restore land rights of oppressed farmers
- o. Formation of Farmer Groups at grass root level for empowering to adopt best Agriculture Management Practices through
 - i. Trainings
 - ii. Seminars
 - iii. Exchange visits

Mandate of Pakistan Interfaith League



- iv. Introduction of new technology
- v. Integrated Sanitation and Farming System (ISFS)
- p. link small farmer groups with National and International trade organizations/chambers
- q. Introduce Fair Trading system

Youth

PIL believes that Youth is a symbol of HOPE of our generation hence it is committed to work closely with youth to give them direction so that they can be the ambassadors of peace, interfaith harmony, nationhood, tolerance, nation building and become strong and visionary leaders.

PIL will involve youth at Educational level by forming Peace Committees to resolve issues that cause hindrance in the way of peace not only in educational institutions but also in the country. PIL envisions to involve youth in constructive activities such as educating non-affording children through adopt-a-child Programmes, providing educational awareness among children who do not go to school and providing sports grounds to involve them in health activities to help them contribute their energies in constructive work rather than indulging in drugs and other extremist activities.

Women Empowerment

PIL will give special focus to women empowerment by giving them awareness about their rights such as:

- 1- Rights of girls at the time of marriage (awareness of text of nikah-nama)
- 2- Inheritance rights for women
- 3- Issues related to Forced Marriages
- 4- Issues related to Forced Conversions
- 5- Issues related to Domestic Violence
- 6- Issues related to Sexual Harassment

PIL is committed to bring women in the mainstream and enable them to become part of economic activities to help their families.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of Pakistan Interfaith League will be open to all citizens of Pakistan irrespective of their religion, caste, color, creed, and gender. Every Pakistani citizen above 18 years of age, holder of CNIC, shall be eligible to become member of PIL.
