## Women's Newsletter

March 2018

#### Women and children first

Express Tribune (March 31, 2018)

There is a growing awareness, albeit slow to grow and grudging in places, of the need to be proactive when it comes to the safety of the most vulnerable in society — women and children. The #MeToo movement and several high-profile cases of child sexual ...Read More

# It's like dream come true" Malala in tears on emotional return to Pakistan

The News (March 29, 2018)

ISLAMABAD: Nobel peace laureate Malala Yousafzai returned to Pakistan Thursday, saying tearfully that it was "a dream" to come home for the first time since she was airlifted to Britain after being shot in the head by a Taliban gunman more than five years ago., ...Read More

#### The enfranchisement of women

Express Tribune (March 24, 2018)

As another election draws ever nearer so does the question of the participation of women in the core activity of the democratic process. Votes for women was one of the defining movements of the early 20thcentury, and the enfranchisement of women is still far from universal, ...Read More

## Young poet pledges to use her talent for women rights

DAWN (March 21, 2018)

PESHAWAR: As literati around the globe are celebrating World Poetry Day, a young Pashto poet from Malakand reaffirms her pledge to continue raising her voice for genuine rights of Pakhtun women. Poets and writers across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Fata have planned...Read More

#### Women and Math

DAWN by Rafia Zakria (March 14, 2018)

THE drill is well known: every time the results of some sort of worldwide survey are released, women in the Muslim world are towards the bottom. Afghan women usually occupy the lowest rungs of political participation, women in Somalia and Sudan have the lowest. ...Read More

## Sorry state of women's rights

Daily Times (March 13, 2018)

The state of criminal justice system in Pakistan is abysmal to say the least. Consider the figures: a 0.09 percent conviction rate against 14, 212 cases of human rights violations reported nation-wide in the last year. Punjab tops the list of no-conviction offenders. The difference between Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (which comes in at number 2) is almost double. Balochistan and Islamabad follow....Read More

#### Aurat March 2018-The rise of sisterhood

Express Tribune (March 9, 2018)

KARACHI: In a world of glass ceilings, gender stereotypes and toxic masculinity, women are often sidelined or worse, stonewalled. In an ultraconservative society such as ours, the hurdles are tenfold and ceilings reinforced with iron sheets. But on Thursday, around 500 women made a stand....Read More

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# To the women of Pakistan: Get out there, march and reclaim your space

Express Tribune (March 8, 2018)

For this year's International Women's Day, Pakistani women from Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad have decided to stick it out together, get out on the streets of their respective cities, and march to reclaim their space in the public sphere. The event, called the Aurat March, is ... Read More

## Pakistani women's struggle for rights

The Nation (March 8, 2018)

This quote sums up everything a woman can be if she is not chained to patriarchal norms. Women have struggled for the right to vote, empowerment, employment, education and more, for centuries. Women's Day as a commemoration dates back to 1909 when the first.......Read More

#### Aurat March to be held on March 8

DAWN (March 6, 2018)

KARACHI: A collective of women from diverse affiliations, backgrounds and professions referring to themselves as 'Hum Aurtein' gathered at the Karachi Press Club on Monday to introduce and brief the media about the upcoming Aurat March to commemorate International Women's Day. It was said that Aurat March is unique because it is a collective effort not led by a single group or organisation. "As a result the march has been organised by 'Hum Aurtein' made up of women belonging to diverse classes, ethnicities and sections of society that not only comprises those planning the event but also includes participants," said classical dancer and peace activist Sheema Kermani. ...Read More

## Women to march against injustice on international Women's Day

Pakistan Today (March 5, 2018)

Hundreds of women are set to take to the streets to speak against economic, reproductive and environmental injustice. The Aurat March, a rally for a call for collective action, is scheduled to commence from Frere Hall, Karachi at 4:00 pm and from Hamdard Hall, Lyton . ...Read More

### **GEPA** report on Women

Daily Times (March 4, 2018)

According to the Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA) report case study on Pakistan (2016-17) — which has been jointly released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) — Pakistani women have made significant progress over the past 15 years. Indeed, their participation in the labour force during this period has increased by over 50 percent. Parity between men and women has also been achieved at the tertiary education level. In addition, recruitment of women through the federal service commission has also seen a five-fold increase. ...Read More

## Only 4.6% of federal govt. employees are women

Express Tribune (March 3, 2018)

ISLAMABAD: Even as recruitment of women through the federal public service commission has jumped by five times, only one in four women currently participate in the labour force, meaning that there is a vast talent which is unutilised. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) jointly released a study of women's representation and access to decision-making roles in the civil service at a launch event on Friday. ...Read More