

At a glance

Certificate No: PCP-2005/0022

Registration

The Societies Registration Act, 1860 (Registration No. RP-1708) on 27th April, 1995 in Lahore.

Major Programmes

Pearl Valley Public School and Teachers Training Institute, Rawalakot; Soan Valley Public School and Teachers Training Institute, Phakowal, Rawalpindi

Human Resource

Governing Body: 14 members

Chairperson: Maj. General (Retd.) M. Rahim Khan, HJ

Staff Strength: 95 (53 Males, 42 Females)

Area of Operation

Rawalakot & Rawalpindi

Banks

MCB (AJK), MCB, Habib Bank AG Zurich & Saudi Pak Com. Bank Ltd. Rawalpindi.

Auditors

Ford Rhodes Sidat Hyder and Co. Chartered Accountants, Islamabad

Tax Status

Exempt U/S 2(36) of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001

For Information and Donations

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Mission

To make quality education accessible to talented underprivileged boys and girls; to train teachers from rural areas for English medium primary and secondary schools



KEF Traces Its Roots

Upon seeing the dismal condition of education in rural Pakistan and the lack of English medium schools in these areas, a distinguished citizen of Rawalakot, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) M. Rahim Khan and his family, decided to set up quality English medium schools in an effort to reach out to the disadvantaged section of the population, enabling them to join in the efforts of national development. With a view to achieving this objective, the Kashmir Education Foundation was established.

The Foundation's primary aim is to make highest quality education accessible to talented girls and boys belonging to underprivileged sections of society, with an emphasis on female education. It aims at establishing schools and colleges in backward areas and setting up Teachers Training Institutes for female graduates particularly from rural areas to enable them to become high quality teachers.

What Sets Them Apart

KEF's distinguishing feature is its aim of identifying and investing in the reservoir of the country's talented youth. The emphasis is not just on establishing high standard schools for providing quality education but on establishing talent schools where children can be educated and groomed to become role models for the youth of the country. Stress is placed on development of character; acquisition of mental and physical discipline and ambition, whilst inculcating social and moral values.

Pearl Valley Public School (PVPS), Rawalakot:

In 1996 KEF launched its pilot project, Pearl Valley Public School (PVPS) at Rawalakot. For the establishment of the school a plot of land measuring over 3 acres was donated by the family. A complex with a total covered area of 25,000 square feet equipped with all modern facilities was built at a cost of Rs. 25 million contributed by various donors. PVPS is a non-residential day school where talented children from Rawalakot and surrounding villages (covering an area of 200 sq.km with a



population of over 100,000 people) are admitted on merit basis. The school is currently registered under the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education. A few months prior to annual admissions, wide publicity is given in the rural areas to encourage parents to bring their children for test and interview to determine their merit for admission to the school. The screening process is handled by a team of experts including child psychologists as well as experienced teachers with special training who give their assessment using the pre-school Intelligence Development Test (APID). The Foundation has now started the practice of having lateral entries at different levels as well. However, APID is not used since it is only applicable for first grade children. For admission at other levels, tests are designed by the teachers and on the basis of the results, the admission is finalised. The policy of the Foundation is to give priority to female education; girls constitute over 50% of the students. The Foundation believes that once a child gets selected on merit he/she becomes entitled to admission in the school and is financially supported by the Foundation. In view of this, the Foundation has started a Sponsorship Scheme. The Foundation not only emphasises the intellectual development of the students but also takes steps for their personal grooming. Due to the low-income levels of the parents, children's tuition fees have been subsidised by the Foundation. The existing fee structure is quite reasonable in view of the quality of education provided and the rates charged by comparable schools in the area. KEF plans to support their students through their higher and professional education. In this respect talks are already underway with the principles of Pakistan's top colleges to make arrangements for admissions in these institutes on full scholarship basis.

In 2005, PVPS was upgraded to college level with the first batch of students passing the matriculation examination under the Federal Board. The results achieved were exceptionally good. Of 30 students, 19 secured A+ grades while 11 achieved A grades. The school stands out and as recognition of this, *it is ranked seventh out of over 500 schools affiliated with the Federal Board.*

Institute of Teachers Education (ITE):

The provision of quality education depends on the availability of qualified and competent teachers. To meet the needs of KEF's new schools in the coming future, KEF started the Institute of Teachers Education in Rawalakot. It has now been shifted to a custom made building with hostel facilities in Pakhowal (Rawalpindi). At the institute, a 1-year course in Teachers Training is offered for primary school teachers at subsidised charges of Rs. 1500 per month, at the end of which a certificate is awarded. The Teachers Training Course has proved extremely beneficial. Virtually all students of the ITE course have been successful in gaining employment and some of them have even gone as far as opening their own private schools. The

Foundation is at present working on establishing a co-operative arrangement with the University of Gloucestershire, UK. Under this arrangement KEF's ITE course will be accredited with the university.

On similar patterns, the organisation has established the Soan Valley Public School, at Pakhowal near Rawalpindi, which started functioning initially with an intake of 50 students. The school will have classes up to 12th Grade with similar quality as PVPS in Rawalakot.

“ The quality of education being provided by the KEF schools and ITE can be compared with the best in the world. Undoubtedly, the students are achieving skills, attitudes and values which are absolutely essential to lead and develop Pakistan in the 21st century ”

Joan Atkinson, Member Board of Trustees, KEF UK

Income and Sources of Funding (Rs.)

Sources of funds	2003	2004	2005
Self Generated Income	3,929,416	5,096,262	8,383,435
National (Grants/ Donations)	10,813,876	5,895,376	17,135,619
International (Grants/ Donations)	-	-	-
Total	14,743,292	10,991,638	25,519,054