

# The Kaghan Flame

A Quarterly Newsletter of The Kaghan Memorial Trust

Spring 2011 (January-March)

IBM KidSmart Training, February 23, 2011

# Information and Communication Technology comes to Kaghan through KMS...



At KMS, it is a priority to teach the children how to use computers and other multimedia at an early stage. By exposing the children to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) the Teachers at KMS are enabling the Kaghan children to catch up with their more fortunate counterparts who have easy access to technology in their homes and at schools around the world.

Thanks to the KidSmart computers donated to us by IBM, KMS is better equipped to incorporate ICT into its curriculum. The software in KidSmart computers is designed to be used in most curricular areas, such as Maths, Sciences and Language Studies and KMS is intending to do just that, namely to use the software across as many school subjects as possible in its mission to provide quality education.

In February 2011, the KMT Head Office team and Sharon Heywood, a KMS Senior Teacher and Academic Advisor (STA), took part in a KidSmart training session with Ms. Pooja Dawani, a Communication Analyst at IBM Karachi. During the training Ms. Dawani demonstrated the tremendous possibilities and usefulness of the KidSmart software. KidSmart is designed to assist the learning process by making learning fun.

Sharon has since then trained the local teachers and other STAs at KMS in the practical use of KidSmart computers and how they can be incorporated into the daily classroom learning activities. The children have themselves been fascinated by these computers and have discovered how exciting it is to learn by playing educational games. KMS is also in the process of integrating ICT into the general school curriculum, for which the KidSmart computers will no doubt be invaluable.

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### The Managing Trustee's Quarterly Overview

The past quarter has been relatively quiet for KMT, allowing for a long overdue, if brief, period of respite for the team from the incessant pressure of the previous 18 months.



This lull in activity was primarily due to the School being shut for winter break during most of the quarter before re-opening on March 14<sup>th</sup> for the 2011 School Year. Additionally, due to some large donations received by the Trust between July and December 2010, KMT's financial position was considerably more secure than it had been

during the same period a year ago, and that directly helped ease a lot of the burden that the team had been under the previous year.

The first quarter of a calendar year is always a slow period at the School, since the cold weather in the Kaghan Valley doesn't permit the continuation of structural construction work until the onset of Spring, usually towards the end of March. During this period, KMT is therefore limited to conducting indoor refurbishment and uplift work within the various rooms and facilities. Most of January and February were therefore spent on painting of the classrooms and on the production of new furniture for the two new classrooms that were to launch in March. Shelves and cabinets were also made for the staff room, library and resource rooms. Construction work eventually also re-started by mid-March, allowing for the completion of masonry work on a new classroom that had been sponsored by UNICEF in the second half of 2010.

At the Head Office in Islamabad, the team continued with its routine fundraising activities, a big component of which is the Sponsor a Child programme. In addition to this, another major focus of the Head Office was the selection and recruitment of new staff members for the School and Head Office. Two international volunteer teachers and two international volunteer programme officers joined the team in February and March whereas interviews for selecting a further three international volunteer teachers were continuing at the end of the period. Five new local teachers were also recruited for the School before the resumption of classes.

KMT also added another Trustee, Shaheryar Chishty, to its board in March, thereby increasing the number of board members to 7. Shaheryar is an investment banker based in Hong Kong, and his addition to the Board is expected to help KMT achieve its goal

of becoming a sustainable and resilient institution over time. This expectation is based on the natural assumption that the increasing diversity and representation of successful and dedicated individuals on the Board of Trustees shall ensure that KMT is always in good hands.

A new academic year has now started, and we are all looking forward to another year of development and expansion. Challenges will, no doubt, present themselves again from time to time, but with our expanding team, our determination in the face of adversity, and the support that we receive from our benefactors and friends, we shall remain committed to achieving our goals as best possible.

Thank you for your continued faith and patronage.

Khurram Khan April 2011



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#### Commencement of Academic Year 2011

# Much to celebrate...and some important new skills!

March 14<sup>th</sup> marked the first day of the 2011 Academic Year and there was much to celebrate. We welcomed new Senior Teacher and Academic Advisors (STAs), local teaching assistants, Kindergarteners and Grade 1 children. As always at the start of a new year, there were a few tears and 'accidents' amongst the new Kindergarten children during the first days, but by the end of March they were starting to fit in with the rhythm of the school routine. They also learned important new skills such as: how to sit in a chair, how to share resources, and how to ask permission to go to the washroom a few minutes in advance!

Although the School was closed over the winter, it continued to be staffed whilst development work continued during the break. This meant that last year's students returned to freshly-painted classrooms, tables and chairs. Grade 3 has relocated to temporary classrooms while their permanent classrooms in the new second Junior School Academic Block are being built. Thanks to the generous help of our donors, our most senior (and tallest) grade arrived to find new desks waiting for them. The desks are not only higher, but are different in design. They will allow for group work to be undertaken and can also be rearranged to allow for individual work and assessment exams.



# Seventeen members in our local teaching team...

Our academic team has also grown considerably this year. We said goodbye to Adrienne, but welcomed Karen and Carrie to the team. We also welcomed five new local teachers, which means we are now very pleased to announce that our local teaching team has seventeen members. In order to improve spoken English amongst the children, all of the English classes will be taught by the STAs, with assistance from local teachers. Furthermore, Karen has started conducting two hour-long ESOL classes for the local teachers every week, as well as separate lessons for the administration and logistics staff. We are encouraging English-speaking throughout the school day as well as in the playground.

The children are still captivated every time a storybook is opened...

Bookshelves have been made for our library room, and Carrie has been working hard cataloguing the library according to the international MARC (Machine-Readable Cataloguing) 21 format. Eventually the library will be online but for now just having a library organised by subject and grade level is exciting! For the children, to be able to go to the library, sit on a mat and be surrounded by books is a new experience. They are still captivated every time a storybook is opened.



There are many things to look forward to this term, including the arrival of more STAs, an external curriculum workshop, inter-house activities and the annual medical camp. The STAs look forward to the challenges and adventures the First Term will bring!



# Five eventful years...



Five years have passed since the inception of the Kaghan Memorial Trust. In retrospect, it has been five eventful years. KMT started out as an idea thought up by three friends who were moved by the sight of the devastation caused by the earthquake in 2005. Today, there are eight classes running in the school in the Kaghan Valley. Every academic year new students with a thirst for knowledge are welcomed to the school which we are very proud to say now has 272 students!

KMT is truly a success story, but the road

has not been easy, and we have encountered many challenges along the way. One of the biggest struggles for KMT is reaching financial stability. Initially the plan was to make KMT economically independent within 3 to 4 years, but this turned out to be more difficult than expected. However, through an effective income generation programme KMT is gradually inching towards this goal. The most important focus of KMT's efforts in this regard is on its Sponsor a Child Programme which relies on generous child sponsors from all around the world. Each sponsor supports a child directly at the Kaghan Memorial School with educational material, daily school lunches, school uniforms and medical care which will allow the child to grow into an independent individual with the possibility of later in life pursuing higher education.

Another way of achieving a regular income flow is by organising various fundraising events which KMT does with great success. These events range from socials and lucky draws to charity dinners and sport tournaments. Of course all of these efforts would not have been

possible without the help of friends and family who have supported KMT with time and money throughout the years. KMT is also dependent on a strong board of Trustees and committed international volunteers from all over the world who dedicate their time and energy to KMT.



Although KMT has experienced some tough financial years, this fact was all but forgotten when the first two classes opened at the Kaghan Memorial School on September 15, 2008. Watching the children preparing for classes and listening attentively to their new teachers was one of the most rewarding memories for the Managing Trustee, Khurram Khan. He highlights the fact that he himself was fortunate to have received a good quality education because his family could afford it, but that such an education should be a right of every child, not just those of the privileged. KMS is specifically meant to deliver a solid and meaningful education to disadvantaged children from Kaghan.

Although KMT had originally planned to build and operate only this one school, having seen the positive impact that the institution has had on its students in the first two years, the Trustees have decided to eventually establish two other schools of the same standard in other underdeveloped areas. Tentative sites for these additional schools have already been selected in Swabi and one in Buner, and land in both cases is being donated to KMT free of cost by the Managing Trustee's family. This planned network of three large schools will give more children the chance of receiving high-quality education with the long-term aim of bringing real improvements not only to their lives but also to their local communities.

Five years have passed since KMT was born. Looking ahead, we hope that in another five years' time KMS will be fully built and operationally stable and and that work on the second school will be well underway. Much can happen in five years - as the past five have clearly demonstrated!

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# More schools planned...



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#### Curriculum Workshop, January 29, 2011

On January 29<sup>th</sup> we held a fourth Curriculum Workshop to review the updated draft Curriculum prepared by the KMS academic team. The specialized Curriculum is designed according to the students' special needs and will gradually prepare them for British O and A level examinations. The Workshop was held at KMT's head office and covered the following subjects: Maths, Social Science, Islamiat, Urdu (for Kindergarten up to Grade 3) and English, Art and Physical Education (for Kindergarten up to Grade 5). Mrs. Adrienne Scott, who had completed her term as an STA (Senior Teacher and Academic Advisor) with KMT in December, was kind enough to fly back to Pakistan to participate in the workshop. After having reviewed each subject separately some of the conclusions were as follows:

- 1. A monthly social service activity for each class will be added to the Curriculum. These activities will help develop important values related to social responsibility and community service amongst the students.
- 2. A presentation of the new Maths standard was made and it was agreed that the revised KMS Maths Curriculum would be based on British standards.
- 3. The KMS Curriculum for all subjects from Kindergarten up to Grade 5 will be completed in time for presentation at the next Workshop which will be held in April. The forthcoming Workshop will include external educationalists who shall be invited to give their views and inputs on the Curriculum before the KMS academic team finalises it.

#### Student Profile

Taj Mohammad Class 3B

Taj Mohammad has been at the Kaghan Memorial School since 2010. He settled in immediately and has gone from strength He is a delightful little boy who is never caught without a cheeky grin on his face. His favourite class is English and he loves to sing and dance, with 'heads, shoulders, knees and toes' as his most recent accomplishment, which he performs with enthusiasm and passion!

Taj is an excellent role model for his peers. He always finishes his work first and is an absolute joy to have in lessons. He is always looking for ways to help around the classroom, such as offering to carry the teacher's boxes to and from class, or tidying up the crayons and toys.

Taj is fascinated by water and loves the river that flows beside his house; his dream is one day to see the ocean. Taj speaks highly of his family's brown cow and his best friend Umair Saleem. He loves the sunshine and playing outside. His favourite day is Friday because he has a half-day, and when he gets home in Kawai he plays cricket with his four brothers. He is a self-proclaimed winner, and said that he can easily score one hundred runs!

#### Donations in kind



Mobilink, the national market leader in Cellular Services and part of Orascom Telecom Holding, kindly donated 300 school bags to the students of the Kaghan Memorial School. Mobilink plays an The active role in supporting community stud development through their CSR the activities especially in education. The Mo donated school bags were made from sup recycled advertising skins and as such are also environmentally friendly.

They will be of great use to the KMS students and will be distributed during the First Term. We would like to thank Mobilink for this donation and for their support of the Kaghan Memorial School.



KMS students receive school bags from Mobilink

KMT would like to thank Ms. Ifeta Selimanjin, for completing one year of voluntary service with us as a Programme Officer in the KMT Head Office. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

### New staff profiles



Having spent the past three years in Islamabad in a diplomatic capacity, Leith joined KMT Head Office during March 2011 as the Public Relations Manager. Leith's main focus will be on strengthening KMT's fundraising programme as well as raising awareness of KMT in the wider community. Prior to joining KMT, Leith has worked with UNIFEM, GTZ and the Australian High Commission.

It may be her Australian nomadic roots that have inspired a love of travel in her, and as such, Leith chose to<br/>study Anthropology and Development Studies, with an area focus on South Asia,<br/>at the Australian National University. When not relieving her "itchy feet", she<br/>enjoys reading and kickboxing.

Turkish born Melike was raised in Sweden and graduated from Uppsala University with her Masters in Peace and Conflict in 2010. Soon after graduation, Melike moved back to her birth country to work for six months in the Political Platform at Cultur University (Istanbul), before joining KMT as a Programme Officer.

Melike has recently been appointed as Programme Manager and she will be responsible in this role for overseeing daily office administration for both KMT and KMS. In addition to this, she will also be assisting Leith on the fundraising programme.

In her spare time, Melike enjoys the great outdoors and going to the theatre - she is also rumoured to be ferocious on the backgammon board!

# Melike Karlidag

Programme Manager



Carrie was born in the US to British parents, and was schooled in the UK and Hong Kong. She returned to the UK to complete her Undergraduate studies at The University of Sheffield in East Asian Studies and Business. On graduation, she volunteered at an informal primary school and orphanage outside of Mombasa, Kenya. Her passion for education was realised, and has been further developed, with three years teaching in Nanjing and Shanghai, China.

With an eagerness to learn and develop her awareness of education in the context of development, she studied her MA in Education and International Development at the Institute of Education, University of London.

Carrie Bewley Senior Teacher and Academic Advis

mic Advisor Carrie has a very keen passion for travel, and experiencing new and

exciting cultures. Her international background fuelled this eagerness to learn and see as much of the world as possible. In her spare time, Carrie loves running and yoga, and is a keen amateur photographer.

Karen is a native of Portland, Oregon in the Pacific Northwest of the United States. She lived there until the age of 20 when she married and moved to the mid-west of the US. After finishing her studies in sociology she worked for a time as a social worker and also had two children. When her children were very young, her husband accepted an overseas assignment with an international business firm and for the next 35 years the family traveled throughout South America, and Europe.

Karen has three children and five grandchildren. She has continued to travel and within the last 10 years has

worked as a volunteer in Lesotho, Africa with rural schools, as an English teacher with young children and with post-doctoral candidates in Gansu province, China and with young people in both Chile and in Ecuador. She was intrigued by the advertisement for teachers with KMT and by the

Karen Allen Senior Teacher and Academic Ad

mission of the organization, in addition to having an interest in learning more about Pakistan. She speaks German, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and some Sesotho and is hoping to learn Urdu as well.



# Contact Us

 The Kaghan Memorial Trust

 House 1, Old Firing Range Drive, Main Bani Gala Road, Bani Gala

 Islamabad, 44000, Pakistan

 Phone: +92 (0) 51 2612678, 2612541, 8436973, 8436974

 Fax: +92 (0) 51 2612678

 E-mail:

 info@kmt.org.pk



#### About the Trust

The Kaghan Memorial Trust (KMT) is a non-profit Charitable Trust registered in Islamabad in January 2006 in the aftermath of the 2005 earthquake in Northern Pakistan.

The sole immediate objective of the Trust is to establish and operate the Kaghan Memorial School in the Kaghan Valley of Northern Pakistan. This School offers a first-class education to children of this underdeveloped region that was severely hit by the earthquake. Through the provision of quality education, KMT contributes towards sustainable long-term development in the Kaghan Valley.

### About the School

The Kaghan Memorial School (KMS) is the first of its kind in Pakistan, in that the highest quality of education is being made freely available to some of the poorest children in the country. When fully operational, the resources and facilities being provided and developed in this school will rival those at the best institutions in Pakistan.

The Kaghan Memorial School is dedicated to the memory of the thousands of children who lost their lives to the earthquake.

New Contr	Friends of KMT	
Child Sponsorships (New)	General Donations	Pakistan
Mr. Shaheryar Chishty (Trustee)10 childrenMr. Yousaf Ghous1 childMr. Rizwan A. Shah1 childMs. Melahat Ulger1 childChild Sponsorships (Renewals)	Private Education EndowmentRs. 83,741FoundationMr. Khurram Khan (Trustee)Rs. 50,000Syed Junaid Qasim (Trustee)Rs. 50,000Dr. Noraisha OyamaRs. 8,470	Munawar B. AhmadTariq HusainMeraj Humayun KhanMaryam Shahid KhanDr. Tasleem AkhtarCarmen FabianDr. Murad AfridiFaridullah KhanDr. Hina Inayat KhanTahir Ayub KhanMehr ZebJawwad Abbasi
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Mr. Tahin'& Mis, Faiza QaderI childMs. Kiran Aziz1 childMr. Fawzi Mohammad Khawaja1 childMembers of St. Mary's & St. George's Church1 childMs. Fiza Chaudri1 childMs. Amanda Lawrence1 childMr. Norman Kuzel and Ms. Mary Horan1 childMr. Najeeb Ali Khan1 child	Interest Free Loans (Outstanding on March 31, 2011)Mr. Khurram Khan (Trustee)Rs. 8,312,024Syed Junaid Qasim (Trustee)Rs. 100,000De Laas Gul Welfare ProgrammeRs. 250,000Mr. Tashfeen SarfrazRs. 169,200 (US\$ 2,000)	InternationalNew ZealandUSANathan DahlbergAmanda LawrenceRobin ReidElizabeth LoganBritta MartinUAEJamila AhmedUAEIranAkbar AhmedMitra SarrafYousaf Ghous Ayesha Ahmed
Khurram Khan Syed Junaid Qasi	<mark>d of Trustees</mark> m Kashif Khwaja Naila Hussain <sup>B</sup> ajwa Shaheryar Chishty	United Kingdom Jeremy 'Jez' Cox Germany Isabel Puchinger Switzerland Pilar Aguilar

### New Trustee - Shaheryar Chishty



haheryar Chishty is currently the Global Head of Industrials Investment Banking at Nomura International. Shaheryar joined Nomura in anuary 2009 and currently manages 100+ investment bankers based out of offices around the world. Previously he worked at Citigroup for 12 years where his last role was as Head of the Asia Industrials Group for Citigroup Investment Banking. Shaheryar has over 17 years of investment banking experience in Asia and has originated and executed M&A and capital markets transactions across Asia. Shaheryar joined KMT's Board of Trustees in March and he will be a Trustee for the coming three years. KMT is convinced that Shaheryar, given his broad professional background, will be able to guide and support KMT in the best of ways.