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## TIME TO CELEBRATE AND REFLECT

This is a very special time of the year. The week has just ended marking human rights day. The preparations are now underway for the festive season and holiday spirit is already round the corner.

**On behalf of the Pakistani Community in Western Australia, a very happy Christmas to all of our fellow citizens.**

A very happy new year to all the Muslim community as this week also marks beginning of Muslim lunar year which commences with the month of Muharram. Every year on the tenth day of Muharram, Muslims around the world commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Hussein who is the symbol of dignity and freedom for all mankind.

## UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The preceding week also witnessed a number of activities related to Human Rights Day. In this issue we are including message from High Commissioner of Pakistan, Her Excellency Fouzia Nasreen with reference to Human Rights Day. At the same time we are also including a summary of the thirty articles in the Declaration, thanks to The Network: Towards Unity for Health.

## ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INTERNATIONAL WOMEN DAY AWARDS

The nomination for IWD Awards closed on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> December. It is a pleasure to inform the members that Mrs. Faiz Khan has been nominated by the Executive Committee in the category 'Leadership and the Promotion of Ethnic Women through Substantial voluntary work within their community'. Mrs. Faiz is one of those members who have never been on the PAWA Executive committee yet her efforts and time devoted to the PAWA activities and specially related to women members have been remarkable and appreciated by all members. Our heartiest congratulations to her and the family.



## CITY OF JOONDALUP CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT JOONDALUP

The lunch will be held in from 11.45 in Central Park, Joondalup, a short walk from the train station, if people are unable to get there and need assistance they are encouraged to contact the organisers. Guests can register online or by calling 9300 0046. Please visit the website for more information-

[www.joondalupchristmaslunch.com](http://www.joondalupchristmaslunch.com)

## Executive Committee

2009 – 2010

Dr. Zarrin S Siddiqui

*President*

Mr. Sumair Sajjad

*Secretary*

Mr Mohammad Zaki

*Treasurer*

Mr. Ayaz Qaiser

Dr. Farah Adeeb

Mr. M Nazar Khan

Mr. S Nizamuddin Ahmed

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## PAWA Membership

Individual 15\$ per annum

Seniors 10\$ per annum

*Can be deposited electronically or by cheque*

Bank : ANZ Bank

Account Name : PAWA

BSB : 016464

Account Number : 560693466

## **Universal Declaration of Human Rights.** *HAVE YOU READ ALL THE ARTICLES?*

1. We are all born free. We all have our own thoughts and ideas. We should all be treated in the same way.
2. Everyone is equal despite differences in skin colour, sex, religion, language for example.
3. Everyone has the right to life and to live in freedom and safety.
4. No one has the right to treat you as a slave nor should you make anyone your slave.
5. No one has the right to hurt you or to torture you.
6. Everyone has the right to be treated equally by the law.
7. The law is the same for everyone, it should be applied in the same way to all.
8. Everyone has the right to ask for legal help when their rights are not respected.
9. No one has the right to imprison you unjustly or expel you from your own country.
10. Everyone has the right to a fair and public trial.
11. Everyone should be considered innocent until guilt is proved.
12. Everyone has the right to ask for help if someone tries to harm you, but no-one can enter your home, open your letters or bother you or your family without a good reason.
13. Everyone has the right to travel as they wish.
14. Everyone has the right to go to another country and ask for protection if they are being persecuted or are in danger of being persecuted.
15. Everyone has the right to belong to a country. No one has the right to prevent you from belonging to another country if you wish to.
16. Everyone has the right to marry and have a family.
17. Everyone has the right to own property and possessions.
18. Everyone has the right to practice and observe all aspects of their own religion and change their religion if they want to.
19. Everyone has the right to say what they think and to give and receive information.
20. Everyone has the right to take part in meetings and to join associations in a peaceful way.
21. Everyone has the right to help choose and take part in the government of their country.
22. Everyone has the right to social security and to opportunities to develop their skills.
23. Everyone has the right to work for a fair wage in a safe environment and to join a trade union.
24. Everyone has the right to rest and leisure.
25. Everyone has the right to an adequate standard of living and medical help if they are ill.  
Mothers and children, people without work, old and disabled people all have the right to help.
26. Everyone has the right to go to school.
27. Everyone has the right to share in their community's cultural life.
28. Everyone must respect the 'social order' that is necessary for all these rights to be available.
29. Everyone must respect the rights of others, the community and public property.
30. Nobody can take away these rights and freedoms from us.



High Commissioner

**HIGH COMMISSION FOR PAKISTAN**

4 Timbarra Crescent, O'Malley

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**MESSAGE FROM MS. FAUZIA NASREEN  
HIGH COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN  
ON  
PAKISTAN'S COMMITMENT TO PROMOTING  
AND PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS**

On the occasion of the International Human Rights Day on 10 December, the Government of Pakistan has decided to dedicate from 10 to 17 December as the Human Rights week in Pakistan. It gives me great pleasure to avail this opportunity and apprise the Pakistani community of some of the measures undertaken by Pakistan to underline its commitment to promoting and protecting human rights in the country.

As you would know the Constitution of Pakistan guarantees fundamental rights to all its citizens which are enshrined in article 4 as the basis of all rights of the individual and article 8 which describes the fundamental rights. Consistent with its commitment Pakistan has signed/ratified important international conventions related to rights of child, rights of women against racial discrimination and others. Manifestation of recognition of Pakistan's role in the Human Rights Council is its re-election to the Council of Human Rights.

With regard to women's rights, in addition to legislative measures which include political empowerment of women targeted policies have been put in place for their economic uplift. The micro credit schemes and capacity building in entrepreneurship have been of tremendous benefit to women. Similarly initiatives have been launched to create awareness about the rights of the child. Both the government and civil society is actively engaged in providing proper atmosphere for the children and in eliminating conditions that bring hardships to them.

For the special persons the government has introduced a National Policy for Persons with Disabilities focusing on early intervention, assessment and medical treatment, education and training, vocational training, employment and rehabilitation, research and development, strengthening of institutional mechanisms and provisions of adequate funding.

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Minorities constitute 2.5 to 3 percent of the total population. Their rights are regarded as important as the rest of the citizens in Pakistan. However as an affirmative measure the government has fixed 5 percent quota for minorities in all federal services. Although the system of separate electorate was abolished for minorities in favour of adult suffrage, 10 reserved seats are kept for them in the National Assembly.

I firmly believe that the facilitating role played by Pakistani Diaspora is a major complementing factor in the development of the social sector in Pakistan. It is my hope that the constructive and contributory role of our community will continue and together we will be able to build a prosperous and stronger Pakistan.

*Fauzia Nasreen*  
(Fauzia Nasreen)  
High Commissioner

### LIBRARY OF PAKISTANI BOOKS

For last few months we have been receiving requests from our Members to initiate a section of URDU books in at least one library in Perth. Our Executive Committee member Farah Adeeb is exploring possibilities on how to go about it. We did discuss it briefly with the Deputy Mayor, City of Melville Patricia Phelan when she visited us at Independence Day function. As most of the PAWA members are leaving or about to leave for holidays with their families in Pakistan. Through this newsletter the Executive Committee requests all Pakistani families who are visiting Pakistan to bring at least **one book** with them in Urdu or English from Pakistan and we are sure PAWA can start a library of its own perhaps a mobile one at the moment!. Any suggestions or ideas write to us at [president@pakistanassociation.com](mailto:president@pakistanassociation.com)

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