



## Building Sustainable Peace through Developing Internal Community Mechanism

### Coordination Meeting at Criminology Department, University of Peshawar, Peshawar

A coordination meeting was held at Criminology Department, University of Peshawar on 1st March 2018 in Peshawar. This was the third coordination meeting with the TOLANA and the 2nd meeting with the educated youth of Peshawar. The purpose of these coordination meetings is to revisit the purpose of the training that was given to the participants in Islamabad and build on the relationship that was developed during their time in Islamabad. Another purpose of the coordination meeting is to find an occasion to engage with the TOLANA and get an update of their peacebuilding efforts in their own

manner. We believed that since it was not affecting us therefore it was not important for us. We were not the victims therefore there was no need for us to take any action. At PAIMAN we realized that if we remain bystanders, it would not be long before we ourselves become victims of extremism". He appreciated PAIMAN's effort and thanked Chairman PAIMAN for being such an inspiration.

Dr. Basharat Hussein, Chairman Department Criminology, University of Peshawar, appreciated PAIMAN's capacity building initiative and said that more of such initiatives are needed in present day world. In order to protect our future generations from becoming victims of intolerance and hate crimes, it is necessary to take positive action towards having a socially cohesive society where people can pursue their life goals and dreams without the fear of becoming targets of unforeseen elements on the basis of their sect, ethnicity or ideological belief.

All the participants of the training were awarded certificates of participation and it is hoped that the participants will implement their action plans with as much enthusiasm and commitment which they had displayed while making them. The participants were told that their association with PAIMAN is not a temporary one. It was their commitment to the cause which will decide the length of their association with PAIMAN.

During the meeting with the TOLANA at University of Peshawar, Shafqat Mehmood, Chairman, PAIMAN Alumni Trust talked about the important responsibility the TOLANA has voluntarily taken upon its shoulders. He further said that building peace is not an easy task, they will have to face a lot of obstacles from family, from society etc but they have to stand firm and continue their peacebuilding work with patience and be composed in the face of all difficulties that come their way. The Chairman also wished all the trainees good luck and ensured them of PAIMAN's full support as peace practitioners.



communes. How successful have they been? Have they talked to anybody regarding social cohesion? How was their effort received and did they receive positive feedback or not? Answers to such questions can be very useful for reviewing the training content and strategy adopted by PAIMAN.

The coordination meeting began with the recitation from the Holy Quran which was followed by a welcome note from Fakhr-e-Alam, a youth from the criminology department who participated in the 4 day training at PAIMAN in Islamabad. Fakhr-e-Alam talked about his experience at PAIMAN and stated that he had attended numerous seminars and trainings, but the training at PAIMAN was all together a unique and memorable experience. Speaking on behalf of his batch, he said, "Although we are aware of the existing extremism in society, yet we had never thought about it in such a scientific