



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION ISLAMABAD

25 November 2014

Press Release

Australian High Commission and Nomad Gallery work to stop violence against women and girls

The Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan, H.E. Peter Heyward along with MNA Shaista Parvez Malik opened an art exhibition at Nomad Gallery on 25 November to mark the beginning of 16 days of activism to stop violence against women.

The exhibition, 'Art & Installation', delivers a powerful message to raise awareness of gender based violence and includes creative works from women and girls who are participating in a program supported by the Australian High Commission.

Under the Australian High Commission's Direct Aid Program (DAP), Nomad Gallery is running a training program focused on women's economic empowerment and awareness. Most of the trainees are from marginalised or victimised sections of society who through the program will be equipped with the skills and knowledge to improve their livelihood opportunities.



Australia is supporting several grassroots-level projects, through DAP, across Pakistan working to prevent violence against women, through skills training for improved livelihood opportunities and promoting awareness among women and children of their basic human rights. This work aims to help some of Pakistan's most vulnerable women, including victims of abuse.

The United Nations observes 25 November as the 'International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women' to raise awareness on violence against women and girls. In many countries including Australia, 25 November is known as 'White Ribbon Day' which is a male-led campaign to change attitudes and behaviours that lead to violence.

The exhibition at Nomad Gallery will remain open until 10 December 2014.

Media enquires: Media Liaison Officer 051 8355422 or 03008547816