**Project Title:**

Supporting Poor Girls in Higher Education

**Summary:**

The overall objective of this project is to improve the educational status of poor girls to meet the Millennium development goals. Through this project will providing financial support to 50 young girls from poor families seeking to pursue higher education in District Tank of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan. This project will be provided concrete financial support for 50 poor girls approaching the conclusion of their studies. Educational materials, school/college fees and in some cases accommodation are among the costs to be met.

**Challenge:**

More than 573 million women and girls worldwide are illiterate. The child of a literate mother has a 50% greater chance of surviving past age 5. Children with educated mothers are 50% more likely to go to school. Throughout history, girls’ education has been a contested social, economic, political, and religious issue in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan. Studies suggest that the root causes of this gender gap are multifaceted and complex. Poverty, the lower status of women in society, and sociocultural issues coupled with poor access to schools, security, transportation, and lack of female teachers. Two decades of continuing war and conflict, extremism, and the introduction of strict cultural and religious ideologies have further complicated and magnified the issue of gender justice in education. Higher education is a major investment in District Tank, and one that poor families cannot take for granted humanism therefore gives these young girls a chance to escape poverty. Degree in hand, they will have access to well-paid jobs and be able to help their families meet their needs.

**Solution:**

The specific objectives of the project are to initiate the community to advocate for support and education of poor girls, to increase the enrollment of students in the secondary school/college, to increase the access of girls to higher education, to change the life condition of poor girls through higher education and to empower the households of poor girls economically. Major activities to be carried out are selecting poor girls, support to poor them, conducting community meeting, conducting student meeting, empowering the families of poor girls economically, formation and strengthening of girls club and employment of coordinator. The total budget of this project is PKR. 5000000. Duration of project is from March 2018 to December 2018. The direct beneficiaries of this project are 50 poor girls in District Tank whereas the indirect beneficiaries are their families. The expected outputs are 50 girls supported in education and their families supported economically. These are stationary materials, clothing and medical expense.

**Long-Term Impact:**

* Ensuring that % of poor Girls enroll higher education;
* Ensuring that % of poor Girls complete higher education; and
* Educational status of poor girls improved.

**Resources:**

<https://www.hamdam.org.pk>