

Centre for legal Aid Assistance and Settlement

Annual Report 2017



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CENTRE FOR LEGAL AID ASSISTANCE & SETTLEMENT (CLAAS)

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Centre for Legal Aid, Assistance & Settlement (CLAAS) - Pakistan

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A Message of National Director CLAAS



The human rights situation of Pakistan in 2017 was no different than the previous years. The vulnerable and weak continued to be exploited. Minorities witnessed much of the same violence and persecution that they have been subjected to, in this country for far too long. This year in February 2017 a Christian Mukhtar Masih was falsely involved in a blasphemy case at Lambanwali Village. In another incident a young Christian student Tania Marriam killed by unknown Muslim persons and found dead at Sumbreyal Sialkot. In March 2017 a young Christian boy Nouman was murdered by unknown Muslims at Sheikhpura. In April a Christian Ameen Masih was tortured

and burnt alive by Muslim shopkeepers at Uggoki Sialkot. A minor Christian girl Maria Ashraf was abducted by her Muslim neighbour and forcefully converted for marriage in District Veharri. A young Christian girl Stella became the victim of professional jealousy at her workplace. In June 2017 a Christian girl Mehwish was raped by Muslim brick kiln laborer at Rao Khan Wala District Kasur. A conflict rose between the Christian and Muslim at Father Colony Gujrat. A young Christian Ashfaq Masih was allegedly involved in a fake blasphemy case. In August 2017 blasphemy case was registered against Asif Masih. A tension arose due to a conflict between the Muslims and Christians in Puran Pura District Gujranwala. A Christian student Sharoon was killed by a Muslim school fellow in the District Vehari. In September 2017 a religious tension arose between Christian and Muslim community living in Khushab. Blasphemy law continues to be exploited for personal ambitions and 09 new Blasphemy cases were registered in 2017.

The major concern of Christian labors especially domestic workers is that their minor Christian girls are being abducted, raped and then forcibly converted to Islam and they also suffer religious discrimination at their work places. However the lower courts and high courts are continuously showing biased attitude towards forced marriages of the affected minority community as they are under the influence of some fanatic religious organizations. Due to these biased attitudes of law enforcement agencies (Police) and courts many cases remain unreported. The state has failed to eliminate the discrimination against forced marriages because it has not been able to find its root causes which develop insecurity and inferiority among the minority community. However in such chaotic and turbulent situations there are some positive aspects which proclaim our faith in continuous struggles in building a balanced and just society. In few alleged bigotry and blasphemy cases the police officers along with local Muslim community played a very positive and vital role in defusing the riots by providing protection through interfaith dialogue to the alleged victims and the non-Muslim residents of the occurrence locality.

I would also like to acknowledge the efforts and hard work of all the individuals especially CLAAS staff for compiling this report for the year 2017. I am thankful to God Almighty for such a brilliant and devoted team, especially the administration, lawyers, Apna-Ghar staff and other supporting staff. Also without the support and encouragement of our national and international partner organizations we would not have been able to fight this war against discrimination and religious persecution.

Thank You
M.A Joseph Francis MBE
National Director CLAAS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LEGAL AID:



Centre for Legal Aid, Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS) was established with the vision of providing free legal aid to religious minorities especially Christians who were charged under Blasphemy. We also provide legal assistance in cases of abduction, illegal detention, sexual assault, forced marriages, domestic violence and forced conversion. CLAAS has a panel of four Christian lawyers on its payroll, who pursue cases in lower courts and High courts in Lahore and surrounding cities. Local lawyers are hired for cases outside the Punjab.

FACT FINDINGS:

CLAAS is known for its reliable and impartial reporting of incidents of human rights violations.



Besides accuracy and comprehensiveness on time approach is a critical factor in validity of any fact finding mission. To acquire actual facts we conduct our own fact findings of incidents of human rights violations; after which a report of the incident is published. This helps us in assessing the situation and the need of the affected individual or family. In some cases legal assistance is not required in such cases we still maintain documentation of these incidents and use these reports as case studies.

Through these publications and reports we highlight persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan. These reports and publications are shared with like-minded local and international human rights organizations, individuals, diplomatic missions and church organizations. This helps us in bringing these important issues and cases to the notice of national and international community and to motivate and mobilize public opinion on the situation of human rights violations in Pakistan.

REHABILITATION CENTRE (APNA GHAR):

In the cases of sexual abuse, forced conversions, forced marriages, abductions and domestic



violence of female survivors not only bear physical and emotional pain but are victimized again by the shame and stigma forced on them in a culture that places blame on the victim and ignores those who brutally attacked them. In many cases these survivors are rejected and cast out by their own parents, husbands and communities. In some cases these women survivors face threat to their lives from the perpetrators; who through, local police and community leaders pressurize these

survivors to drop legal and criminal charges against them. These survivors are given safe boarding and lodging in CLAAS shelter home called “Apna Ghar”. CLAAS ensure that women and children staying in “Apna Ghar” are provided treatment not only for their physical wounds

but also for their emotional healing. Awareness raising sessions and workshops are arranged to facilitate these survivors about their legal rights. These workshops are conducted with the help of qualified human rights activists and lawyers. Women staying in “Apna Ghar” are also provided hands-on skilled based trainings to empower them to become financially independent. CLAAS also encourage them to get formal education by providing them a female teacher who comes to shelter to give them tuition. Any survivor who wish to continue their studies in school or college, observing all security measures CLAAS make arrangement for their admission in regular schools and colleges.

SAFE HOUSE:

Religious intolerance in Pakistan makes it extremely dangerous for individuals who find spiritual fulfillment in Christianity and wants to practice their Christian faith. Furthermore, free will marriages and Inter faith marriages are not acceptable in Pakistan. Women who dare to marry without the consent of their family, especially outside her religion are viewed as someone who has brought embarrassment and disgrace to the family. The homicide of the victim is viewed as a way to restore the reputation and honour of the family. The perpetrators of honor killings are often legally pardoned due to loopholes in the present law. Since its operation in 1992 CLAAS was



approached by individuals, couples and families who converted to Christianity and Muslim woman married to a Christian male were now facing serious threats from their respective families and local radical groups. At that time CLAAS was unable to provide them shelter but extended legal help in criminal cases filed against them. In 2004 Barnabas Funds UK enabled CLAAS to purchase a piece of land to build a Safe House for new converts. It has proved to be a safe haven for couples and families who face life threats.

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FEEDING PROJECT:

CLAAS always felt the need to do more in cases of Blasphemy where the male member of the family was accused and put behind bars. In almost every case the person accused was the sole bread earner of the family. CLAAS was also approached by many widows who were unable to feed their children due to lack of resources. Also there were victim’s family members who were unable to find work. Therefore, with the financial help of Barnabas Funds – UK and through the struggles of CLAAS these Christian families acquired help. Barnabas Funds – UK supported CLAAS to start a Feeding Project to give monthly grocery to needy families. Currently through this project forty (40) Christian families are



given grocery on monthly basis.

JAIL VISITS:

In the past years, CLAAS was engaged in quarterly jail visits covering Punjab. Through these



visits we were able to identify the needs of non-Muslim male, females and children confined in different jails in various cases. Since 1999 the government has restricted the access of nongovernmental organizations to prisons. We have approached The Ministry of Interior as well as The Home Ministry in written to allow us to visit at least the Christian inmates our request has been denied due to security reasons. CLAAS will continue to struggle to get permission to visit prisons on monthly basis in our quest to provide legal aid to those who do not afford to hire a

lawyer. CLAAS intends to start a Prison Ministry through this Ministry we will arrange a pastor to visit the inmates and besides giving them spiritual counseling, he will hold Sundays, Christmas and Easter Mass for them. Due to sensitive security, provincial and federal authorities denied any access to any detainees under blasphemy and Youhanabad case. Mr. Francis and CLAAS lawyer Mr. Tahir Bashir were given special permission to meet Zafar Bhatti in Adiala Jail, Rawalpindi, and Sawan Masih in Central Jail Faisalabad.

ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING:

A very important activity of CLAAS is advocacy on society's concerned issues. For that reason



we arrange seminars and consultations for young Christian girls and boys to sensitize them on major concerns faced by religious minorities including forced conversions, gender based violences, sexual harassment and any other faith based discriminations. They are given awareness on their legal fundamental rights and what steps they need to take to confront these challenges. CLAAS arrange social integration programs to talk about the work of CLAAS and how our community can participate in our work to strengthen our struggle

against injustice and discrimination. To highlight our concerns we arrange press conferences, public meetings, seminars and workshop to engage the stake holders through dialogue process.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT/ SEWING CENTRE CLAAS:

Women Empowerment is not possible without giving social, economic, political and personal



rights to every female living in this country. There are various laws that are discriminatory to women and restrict them from participating in decision making. CLAAS is very vocal on women rights and has long struggled along with other prominent women rights organizations for the promotion of equal rights to education for girls, change in Pakistan's family laws to protect women, equal pay scale for women and right to own property. CLAAS

aims to end gender based violence and discrimination in the society. That is why CLAAS encourage young girls to actively participate in all activities carried out in their own communities, churches, villages and even in families to assert their presence. Empowering our young women can play a significant role in the economic development of our community and nation and that is only possible with women employment. To empower our young women CLAAS has programs, workshops, skilled based trainings in jewelry making, sewing and stitching, cosmetology and other activities to enable them to generate income to support themselves and their families. We also encourage our girls to gain education and in some cases CLAAS financially support girls who want to study but due to financial constraints and family problems, are unable to continue their education.

DISASTER RELIEF & MEDICAL SUPPORT:

From the beginning of its operation CLAAS has been very active in providing immediate relief to survivors of mob attacks: on Churches, Christian residential areas, villages and now suicide bomb



blasts in public places and parks. After initial visit to the place of occurrence CLAAS identify the areas where assistance is needed. It has been observed that the individuals injured in bomb blast require immediate and long term medical care. Most of the survivors live with lifelong physical and mental disabilities. Through its friends and partners CLAAS has been able to provide one time financial help to cover medical expenditures.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

The children on brick kilns are most deprived and marginalized section of the society. They are



born in the inadequate situation and grow up as part of the system where they cannot attend school; instead they work with their parents. Because their parents are busy in making bricks and paying off the owner's debt, hence their children are unaware about the religion as well as academic education. In December 2015 during a visit at brick kiln and having a discussion with the brick kiln families Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis realized the need that children must have basic Bible study teaching. However Sunday school is important in the spiritual

development of Christians because it provides a forum for learning. Sunday school encourages spiritual interaction among students and teachers, as well as provides a comprehensive way of learning. CLAAS took initiative in starting Sunday school at brick kiln and in other different possible areas. Currently CLAAS supported five Sunday schools on the brick kiln and educate more than 300 children. Therefore one Sunday school teacher is hired in Youhanabad, Lahore and six teachers are running Sunday schools in the rural area of District Kasur. All the teachers were briefed that they are not only responsible to teach the students from the books but also groom them by conducting extracurricular activities. So, besides giving them spiritual and academic education CLAAS also arranges recreational activities including picnic, excursion, funfair etc to build the confidence among the students.

SETTLEMENT OF SURVIVORS:

The victims are generally so poor that they do not even have enough resources to fulfill their needs. CLAAS helped in their settlement by supporting financially, also helped them out by providing resource of earning rickshaw, donkey carts, etc so that they can earn their living and stand on their feet. CLAAS also encourage the Christian students to get formal education so that they can match the status with other children. Any survivor who wishes to gain education or improve study in school or college, CLAAS make arrangement for their admission in regular schools and colleges. CLAAS also supported for medical treatment in major surgeries and bears all expenditures of the survivors.



Legal Aid & Fact Findings:

In 2017 CLAAS has provided free legal aid and assistance in 26 Criminal Cases and 40 Civil Cases to the deserving persecuted people who were not able to afford the court expenditures including lawyer's fee. These poor people acquired justice with the efforts of CLAAS. In some cases CLAAS conducted fact finding and visited the affected people and places. The details of legal cases and fact finding reports are listed below:

Detail of Legal Cases of 2017 pursued by CLAAS

Category of cases	Number of Cases
Criminal Cases	
01- Blasphemy Cases (02) 02- Sectarian Hatred (01) 03- Abduction, Forced Conversion and Forced Marriage (03) 04-Rape cases (02) 05- Murder, (05) 06-Theft matter (02) 07- Miscellaneous writ petitions etc(05) 08-Habeas Corpus Petition (05) Including trial, appeals, writ petitions, pre& post-arrest bails, recovery of persons, registration of FIR etc	25
Civil Cases	
Family Matter/ Domestic Violence including 1-Dissolution of marriage, Recovery of maintenance allowance, Recovery of dowry articles & Execution, Application for medical examinations, Jactitation of marriage, Statement Recorded, Habeas Corpus Petition for the recovery of children	26
2- Freewill Marriage	05
3- Forced Marriage	02
4-Civil Matter including Issuing of succession certificate, Writ Petition for job	03
5-Property & land Dispute of Christian Graveyard	05
Total Cases in 2017	66
Fact Finding Reports of 2017	
Blasphemy cases	05
Abduction Forced Conversion and Forced Marriage	01
Rape cases	02
Murder	06
Conflicts between Christians and Muslims	04
Total	18

Case studies and court proceedings of criminal matters

Blasphemy Cases:

1- State Vs Nabeel Masih

A young Christian boy Nabeel Masih (16) dragged into blasphemous case on clicking 'like' to



Islamic sacred place on the Facebook. On September 21, 2016 CLAAS Fact Finding team visited the concerned Police Station and the sub-police (Chowki) station. Later on Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis, National Director CLAAS along with his team visited District Police Office Kasur to inquire more about the incident. However, section 295 and 295-A of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) has been invoked against the teenager in an FIR 487/16 furnished by the Saddar Police Station, Phoolnagar. Akhtar Ali the complainant had mentioned in the FIR that he had seen an offensive post on Nabeel Masih's Facebook

timeline; which was derogatory towards the Islamic sacred place Khaana-e-Kaaba. Nabeel by posting the picture of Khana-e-Kaaba in a derogatory manner had hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims. Nabeel Masih was imprisoned under the blasphemy charges. On November 07, 2017 his father Amanat Masih approached CLAAS office and requested for free legal aid in trial court. Although another organization was helping them in his case since 2016 but due to some reason, they requested CLAAS for pursuing the case trial. He further shared that he belongs to Chak 66, village Dina Nath, District Kasur where the incident took place. Amanat works in a poultry farm as a sweeper and earns a very low monthly income however his wife has been passed away. Amanat has six children namely Shazia, Nazia, Wakeel John, Alishba, Nabeel and Maqsood. Two daughters are married whereas Alishba takes care of the household. Wakeel John had to quit his job after getting involved in an accident at work. At present Maqsood the youngest all is learning stitching skills so that he can help his father to manage the monthly household expenses. Amanat Masih further shared that Nabeel was working in a cooking oil manufacturing factory as a loader. He had some Muslim friends at work place as well as in the neighbourhood and had also added them to his friend's list on Facebook (social media website). On the evening of September 04, 2016 while Nabeel was at home and busy using Facebook on his mobile, he came across a picture and shared it on his timeline. Nabeel was totally unaware that his simple action could have a ghastly outcome. Some of his Muslim friends noticed that Nabeel had shared the picture therefore they alleged him of committing blasphemy and complained in the local police station to register an FIR against him. Soon after the FIR registered the local police raided at Nabeel's residence and arrested him. A large mob of Muslim fanatics gathered around his house as well as the police officials demanding that he must be punished severely for hurting their religious sentiments. It is believed by the Muslims that anyone who commits blasphemy should either be sentenced to death by law or it becomes obligatory for them to kill him for insulting Islam. Due to severe life threats by the Muslims Amanat Masih left the village and relocated his family to Lahore. Consequently Nabeel's imprisonment brought his family to such an extent that they had to flee from that place and hide themselves to secure their lives. Thus it became difficult for Amanat to continue his work and afford the monthly household expenses at the same time following up Nabeel's case. On November 20, 2017 CLAAS legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu moved his power of attorney in the trial court and case fixed for evidence from complainant side.

2-Zafar Bhatti Vs The State

Since 2012 CLAAS is pursuing the case of Zafar Bhatti who is confined in the jail under the charge of blasphemy and in 2017 he is convicted under section 295-C PPC and sentenced to imprisonment of life. According to the facts, Zafar Bhatti s/o Sabir Bhatti and Ghazala Khan were booked in a fake case with the allegation of Blasphemy FIR No. 526/12, dated 11-07-2012, offence under section 295-C, 298-A, 109 Pakistan Penal Code and 25/D Telegraph Act at Police Station New Town Rawalpindi. The allegation against the accused was that on July 11, 2012 Zafar Bhatti sent blasphemous messages against the Holy Prophet and His Mother from his mobile to the complaint of FIR namely Israr Ahmed Khan s/o Muhammad Rafique Khan resident of Rawalpindi Deputy General Secretary of a religious organization in Islamabad. On July 23, 2012 police arrested Zafar and after investigation sent him in Adiala jail Rawalpindi to face trial whereas co-accused Ghazala Khan got pre-arrest bail and died while case was under trial. Since 2012 - 2017 CLAAS has tirelessly perused Zafar's case, due to high security risk his trial was conducted inside Adiala Jail Rawalpindi. During these five years period CLAAS made its best efforts to provide justice to accused Zafar from the court of law. Several times we travelled from Lahore to Rawalpindi on daily basis particularly for hearing. During the trial twelve prosecution witnesses were recorded and also cross examination made by the CLAAS lawyer, the complainant and his witnesses badly failed to prove the allegation against Zafar because there is no direct evidence against Zafar. Moreover nobody has seen the accused sending blasphemous messages. On April 24, 2017 case was fixed for final arguments in jail premises. The arguments begun around 1: 00 p.m. and continued till 7: 30.p.m. CLAAS lawyer Mr. Tahir Bashir accompanied with Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director and other staff members were present there during the course of arguments in Adiala Jail Rawalpindi. Subsequently hearing long arguments in advance by CLAAS lawyer the court observed that Zafar's case has no direct evidence; the accused does not have any previous criminal history and never met the complainant earlier. The court further observed that no dissemination of blasphemous words by the accused has been found on social media i.e. facebook, what's App or any other person therefore mitigating circumstances exist in this regard to avoid capital punishment of death, hence accused Zafar Bhatti is convicted under section 295-C PPC and sentenced to imprisonment of life. CLAAS being not satisfied by the order of trial court filed an appeal against conviction of life imprisonment before the Lahore High Court Rawalpindi Bench. Appeal is not fixed yet for hearing but hopefully CLAAS would plead the case of Zafar Bhatti.



Further Nawab Bibi (50) w/o Zafar Bhatti is not able to earn for herself due to her old age. Nawab Bibi shared that she lives in a rented house and paid Rs. 5000/ rent every month. Being alone she has no income sources therefore she is unable to manage the house rent. CLAAS supported her financially by providing Rs. 10000/- Pak rupees monthly. CLAAS is also helping Nawab Bibi by providing monthly grocery given by Barnabas Fund UK. She is thankful to CLAAS for helping her in such difficult times hoping that CLAAS will continue this support to needy and poor people.

3- Pastor Jadoon's blasphemy case (Fact Finding Report)

Babu Shahbaz, a Christian resident of village Kamaha was arrested on December 30th, 2016 falsely accused of tearing pages of Holy Quran with his name inscribed on it. On Haji Nadeem's complaint a case was registered against him under 295-B of Blasphemy Laws and he was kept in police lockup for investigation. During investigation police took Babu's finger prints and sent it for forensic identification. The forensic report clearly proved that Babu Shahbaz was innocent. After Babu Shahbaz's arrest on 30th December 2016, police started its investigation to conclude

if Babu Shahbaz had any involvement in the defamation of Holy Quran. Police also interrogated people who could have motives to hurt Babu Shahbaz and plot this heinous act against him. During the investigation Babu Shahbaz disclosed that he suggested the Salvation Army Church Committee to remove present Pastor Jadoon from his services (on certain reasons) and appoint a new Pastor, which created a little tension between the two. Taking the lead as a reference police called Pastor Jadoon to the police station for interrogation. But Pastor Jadoon denied any malicious feelings for Babu or his family. Police then took writing specimen of Pastor Jadoon's wife and children. After two days police again called Pastor and his family to the police station to take few more writing samples, the family went to the police station carrying along the writing samples as required. On 21 January 2017 police again asked Pastor Jadoon to visit the police station for further investigation, they told him that we also require your writing specimen as well. The next day 22nd January 2017 Pastor Jadoon did not show up in the police station. On 24th, January 2017 Pastor Jadoon's brother Shamoun contacted CLAAS office and informed that Pastor went missing since Sunday 22nd, January 2017, he left home at 6pm and did not return back. The family members with other members of their Church searched for him in the surrounding areas but were unsuccessful in founding him. The family was concerned that he could be in danger. Therefore Mr. Francis met Mr. Ismaeel Kharak Superintendent Police Model Town and informed him about the missing Pastor. On Mr. Francis' complaint Nishtar police registered a case FIR No. 107/17. The next day on 25th, January 2017 CLAAS team visited Pastor Jadoon's family in village Kamahan. While Nishtar police recovered Pastor Jadoon's brief case and his motor bike no. LAO 7098 stranded in the fields. The Police informed Mr. Francis suspiciously that Pastor Jadoon has plotted his own kidnapping but in real he was hiding to avoid police investigation regarding the Blasphemy accusations against Babu Shahbaz.

Mr. Joseph in CLAAS office while talking to Pastor Jadoon's wife and children.

On 7th February 2017 Pastor Jadoon's wife Nasira, daughters Mahanoor 20 yrs old, Zarish 14



yrs old and two sons Haroon 18 yrs old and Sharoon 16 yrs old came to CLAAS. Mr. Francis shared with them the views and the suspicion of police and asked them to cooperate with the police. The family said that they had no contact with him and were unaware of any plot he was conspired against Babu Shahbaz. Mr. Francis advised them to contact CLAAS if the family suspects any danger or threat. Meanwhile CLAAS were closely in contact with the police officials investigating the case. On 9th February 2017, Mr.

Francis received a call from Ghulam Abbas Incharge Ichra police station informing him of Pastor Jadoon's arrest from brick kilns near Raiwind. Mr. Francis told Mr. Ghulam that Pastor was a heart patient and must be dealt carefully. Police assured Mr. Francis of their full cooperation. During investigation police took Pastor Jadoon's writing samples to match with the writing on the torn pages of Holy Quran. On February 27th, 2017 during police interrogation Pastor Jadoon confessed of writing Babu Shahbaz's name on the torn page of Holy Quran found on the ground near Babu Shahbaz's house. On 1st March 2017 Mr. Francis met Mr. Ghulam Abbas, Incharge Investigation and Station House Officer Ichra Police Station. He showed the confession statement and forensic report of Pastor Jadoon hand writing that matched with the writing on the torn pages of Holy Quran. Mr. Francis requested for a personal meeting with Pastor Jadoon. Mr. Abbas told him that he has to get permission from higher officials before meeting the arrested Pastor as the accused was still under investigation.

CLAAS team at Nishtar police station

On 2nd March 2017 Mr. Francis met Pastor Jadoon in the presence of In-charge Inspector Ichra



police station Mr. Ghulam Abbas, Superintendent of Police Investigation Mr. Kashif Aslam and Superintendent of Police Operation Ismaeel Kharak. Mr. Francis inquired about his physical and mental health. Pastor said that he was physically feeling fine but was very ashamed of his deed; he further stated that he did this in jealousy and was not aware of the consequences. The meeting lasted for 45 minutes. The police officials informed Mr. Francis that they want to hold another meeting with Senior Superintendent of Police Lahore, CLAAS representatives, complainant Haji Nadeem, accused Babu Shahbaz, Local Village Chairman and Muslim community leaders from Kamaha Village. Pastor Jadoon was sent in Kot Lakhpat Jail on March 24, 2017 after police investigation. Babu Shahbaz and his family have returned to their village form CLAAS Safe

House. Pasort Jadoon's wife and his children were asked to leave their home in Kamaha and move to another area for any unexpected attack. CLAAS was in close contact with the investigating police officers as well as Pastor Jadoon's family and his brother Shamoun. Currently the Pastor is facing trial in the court.

4- Mukhtar Masih was falsely involved in a blasphemy case (Fact Finding Report)

A 70-year-old Christian man Mukhtar Masih was allegedly involved in a blasphemy accusation



by the Muslims of village at Lambanwali situated in district Gujranwala. He was under pressure by a large Muslim mob and being scared of the aggressive mob he admitted in front of the local council of the village that he has committed blasphemy. After his confession he was sent to judicial jail by the local police. On February 2, 2017, CLAAS fact finding team visited Model Police Station at Cantonment Gujranwala and village Lambanwali to collect the actual facts of this incident. Muhammad Amanat, Sub Inspector the Investigation Officer of this case stated that upon confession of Mukhtar Masih he was sent to district jail at Gujranwala. He further explained that Mukhtar's son Griffin and daughter were also in police custody due to serious life threats from the mob and after release it's dangerous for them to reside in that village. A case FIR No. 49/17 was registered against Mukhtar Masih on January 29, 2017 by the complainant Qari Shahbaz Hussain at Model

Cantonment Police Station District Gujranwala, offence under section 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage the religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion and religious beliefs) and 298 (use of derogatory remarks, etc in respect of holy personages) of Pakistan Panel Code. The team headed to village where they met Dr. Mushtaq Masih a member of Presbyterian Church of Pastor Sharif Alam. Dr. Mushtaq is a local leader at Lambanwali practicing herbal medicine. He stated that only 17-18 Christian families are living in the village among 400 Muslim families. According to Dr. Mushtaq about two months before this incident, a local resident named James Masih came to him with two letters, the content of these letters stated that "Aftab Bhatti wanted to kidnap James's children" which were handed to James by Muhammad Mansha, a local shop owner. At that time Muhammad Mansha did not

disclose who delivered it to him. On January 25, 2017, five Muslim religious leaders approached



Dr. Mushtaq along with Aftab Bhatti with another letter containing derogatory words against Prophet Muhammad and the Quran and claimed it to be found in the local mosque. These people held a meeting with local counselor who discouraged them that all such defamation materials must not be entertained because this is nothing but mischievous and fake. After about 2-3 days, another letter with such content was found by some school girls on the street, they straight away took it to a religious leader, who flamed the issue and gathered a mob. Dr. Mushtaq and others were called in a local meeting, where he assured them that no Christian can commit such heinous act. The mob called Muhammad Mansha, and insisted to blame Mukhtar Masih. The village council meeting held and called Mukhtar Masih, in the presence of Pastor

Sharif Alam, where Mukhtar Masih agreed for writing these letters but factually his writing did not match with the letters. It is assumed that he may have agreed upon seeing a large mob to save his life. CLAAS fact finding team could not find Mukhtar's family in the village during visit and no one knows of their whereabouts, without them it was hard to meet Mukhtar Masih in the jail. However, Mukhtar Masih acquired bail and released from the jail while his case is under trial. He was living along with his family in Abbotabad recently on 3rd November, 2017 died due to a natural death.

5- Ashfaq Masih a victim of blasphemy case(Fact Finding Report)

CLAAS intervened in the case of a Christian Ashfaq Masih who was allegedly involved in a false blasphemy accusation and confined in judicial lockup. According to the facts a Muslim Muhammad Ashfaq resident of Green Town Lahore had given five shops on rent out of which one was rented by Ashfaq Masih. Ashfaq Masih repaired bicycles and in front of his shop a Muslim Naveed Ashraf had a motorbike repairing shop. According to the facts on the day of the incident i.e. June 15, 2017 Naveed Ashraf blamed that Ashfaq Masih is a blasphemer and gathered some people of nearby shops, the news spread out like a fire in the area which gathered numerous people. But no one declared that the blasphemous words uttered by Ashfaq Masih. Someone informed to the local police of Green Town about this incident and immediately police reached at the place of occurrence. Police arrested Ashfaq Masih and locked him up in police station. After hearing about the incident on June 23, 2017 CLAAS team headed by Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS visited Green Town Police Station Lahore and collected FIR No.797/17 which was registered on June 15th 2017 by the complainant Muhammad Ashfaq against accused Ashfaq Masih under the offence 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code. The Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) investigation Muhammad Mehar Mumtaz shared during the conversation with CLAAS team that Ashaf Masih has confessed that "There is no any prophet after the Jesus Christ". After the investigation police sent him in judicial lockup at Camp Jail Lahore and his case is under trial.

6- Asif Stephen's blasphemy case (Fact Finding Report)

A Christian teenage boy Asif 16 s/o Stephen was arrested and imprisoned in Gujranwala Jail under the accusation of blasphemy as he was allegedly involved in burning the pages of the Holy Quran. On August 12, 2017 a case FIR No. 293/17, offence under section 295- B of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) was registered against him in the police station Ali Pur Chatha District Gujranwala on the complaint of Arshad Ali s/o Muhammad Ashfaq r/o Jamkey Chatha Tehsil Wazirabad District Gujranwala. The complainant of this FIR is Imam of the Mosque and

he is not even the eyewitness. The local media highlighted this incident and on 22nd August



2017, CLAAS team went to Gujranwala and visited the concerned police station and collected FIR. CLAAS team met Mr. Parvaiz Sub Inspector, Investigation Officer (IO) of this case at police (chowki) post, Jamkey Chattha who shared that he was informed by someone about the incident on August 12, 2017 in the evening at about 7: 00 p.m. and he immediately reached at the place of occurrence accompanied by his police force. A huge mob was gathered there consisting of some local

residents along with other religious Muslim organizations. The eyewitnesses caught Asif and they all tried to beat him up but police intervened and controlled the situation. The IO immediately took him to the police station Ali Pur Chatha where Asif confessed his crime that he had burnt the Holy pages of Quran. The aggressive mob was also gathered outside the police station and intended to punish him. The police shifted him to alternate police station for his safety and next day on 13th August 2017 transferred him in judicial lockup at Gujranwala Jail. He further shared that the incident happened near a shrine outside of the local graveyard of Muslims at about 12 in the afternoon while police was informed in the evening. He had been caught by the eyewitnesses while was burning the pages of Quran which are now in the police custody. The police officer did not share the names of eyewitnesses with CLAAS team and also declared that they did not find any sources linked to this incident. CLAAS team also visited Asif's house to meet his family members to find out more about the incident, his parents were not available at home instead his grandfather namely Younis Masih and other siblings were present. Asif has three sisters and one brother namely Mujahid (19), Kajal (18), Iram (15) and Kiran (12). During the visit to his house CLAAS team found out that he belonged to a very poor family and living the life below the average. The grieved family resides at Reham Pura Colony Jamkey Chatha since almost 23 year where only 50 Christian families were living among more than 100 Muslim families. There is only one Catholic Church for worship in the area. According to the facts Asif and his elder brother Mujahid are mentally disable (they look like adult but act childish) and they all are illiterate. Asif's father Stephen is a field laborer and is working with a landlord, Chaudhry Iqbal Sandhu whereas mother Parveen is a house maid. Asif did not obey his parents and often spent his time out of the house. The family claimed that the incident happened on 24th of July 2017 and Asif was not involved in this matter. They further shared that a local Muslim namely Majoo Mahchi a hawker who sells corn in their area took the burnt pages of Quran along with him on 24th of July 2017 and informed the local Muslims but at that time no one took any legal action against it. Later on August 12, 2017 the Muslim mob gathered in the area and they blamed that Asif burnt these papers. They beat him and forced him to confess that he had burnt the pages. Subsequently, due to the pressure of the mob he confessed that crime, which he did not commit. CLAAS team inquired about any litigation of the family with the local Muslims but they have no complaint against any one. CLAAS also asked the family for any legal assistance and help in this matter. After that CLAAS team met some local residents and inquired them about the incident. The people, who were unfamiliar with team, shared the same facts associated to the police investigation officer which made difficult to acquire the real facts behind this incident until Asif discloses the real facts. At present his family is living in the same village while Asif is still confined in the jail and his case is under trial.

Observation/ Finding:

Prima facie bare reading of the FIR it seems that some ulterior motive exists, behind this case from the complainant side. How is it possible that the accused Asif Masih in presence of the complainant entered in the shrine took up the Quran and sat near the stairs then he threw black

oil on it and burnt the Holy pages of Quran? Shockingly this thing does not appeal to a prudent mind that a lot of adverse acts were being done before the complainant but complainant never tried to stop Asif Masih. There is unexplained delay in the FIR possibility of false implication of accused cannot be ruled out.

7- Iqbal Masih who was mentally retarded (Fact Finding Report)

CLAAS was informed about the case that was registered on November 15, 2017 against Iqbal



Masih (mentally retarded). CLAAS team visited the family at Fazlia Colony Lahore and met his son Shamash Iqbal to inquire about the incident in which his father was arrested. Shamash Masih shared that he is working in Dubai and has 08 siblings (one brother and seven sisters). His father Iqbal Masih 65 years old is mentally retarded while his mother is a sweeper in Ganga Ram Hospital Lahore. As his father is mentally retarded therefore he always uses abusive language against Christian and Muslim community. But the family did not take it seriously as he is under medical treatment for his mental condition. Shamash shared that he came to Pakistan to attend his younger brother Raheel's funeral who was a drug addict and became ill thus he died a natural death on November 04, 2017. The family was busy for arranging his funeral service while people were gathered in their home for condolence. But Iqbal Masih was shouting and abusing the people about their religion i.e. Christianity and Islam. To avoid any unpleasant

incident his family, local Christian and Muslims decided to give him in the police custody. They collectively informed to the local police station Ichra Lahore. But police could not arrest him without the registration of FIR therefore an application was moved by a Muslim Muhammad Waqas against him without mentioning the date of incident. Muhammad Waqas claimed that Iqbal alias Bala Masih used abusive language all day while roaming in the streets of the area. He further added that the accused reciting the Kalima and abusing it afterwards and when tried to stop him but he did not listen to anyone. Police registered a case FIR no.1110/17, under the offence 298 of the Pakistan Penal Code (hurting for religious feelings and is a bail able offence). After registration of FIR police arrested Iqbal Masih and confined him in the police lockup for one day and next day police sent him in judicial lockup. After one week Iqbal's brother Samuel arranged a legal advisor for him and post –arrest bail of Iqbal was moved and he was released. After his bail, his family decided to admit him in mental hospital to save him from any further mishap or to secure local Christians. At present Iqbal is in mental hospital and there is no threat to the local residents.

Sectarian Hatred

1- The State VS Muhammad Ashraf

Muhammad Ashraf s/o Muhammad Nazir was falsely booked in case FIR no. 127/16 on May 19, 2016 offence under section 6(2)(1), 7 of Anti- Terrorism Act 1997 and 16 Maintenance of Public Order (MPO) registered at police station Gojra District Mandi Baho UI-Din. As per the allegation of the complainant Riaz Ahmed s/o Shah Muhammad, the accused Muhammad Ashraf made derogatory speech against the Muslims during Friday prayer at Mosque. He tried to spread sectarian hatred among the people living in the village. The back door story briefs that a Christian boy Imran Masih was working in government dispensary adjacent to village as a sweeper. There were allegations against Imran Masih for keeping some footages/ videos containing blasphemous material in his mobile. The people of the vicinity became very harsh towards Imran Masih and intended to kill him whereas Muhammad Ashraf defended Imran Masih on humanitarian grounds. Consequently Riaz Ahmed conspired against Muhammad Ashraf and provoked the people to act against him. After registration of above said case victim/ Muhammad Ashraf approached CLAAS for legal assistance and CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate contested his case in the court Mr. Khalid Bashir Judge Anti - Terrorist Court Gujranwala. CLAAS took up his case in February 2017 and energetically appeared before the ATC Judge Gujranwala till his acquittal i.e. on December 07, 2017. During this time period CLAAS made its best efforts in providing justice to Muhammad Ashraf. Trial continued at least 10 months therefore while cross examination on prosecution witnesses CLAAS legal advisor gave strong rebuttals which created possibility of M. Ashraf's acquittal. In October 2017 CLAAS legal advisor moved an application 265-K of Cr.PC for the acquittal of accused and case was fixed for arguments.

Merits of the case:

As per the arguments raised by CLAAS lawyer there was a 13 days delay in lodging the FIR; speech of sectarian hatred was not mentioned in complainant's application; while making the improvements mentioned the words of sectarian hatred in his supplementary statement; two prosecutions' witness Nokhaiz and Manzoor denied the occurrence during their statements; during the cross examination there is contradiction in the statements of witnesses; The Imam of Mosque where the occurrence took place was not implanted as witness; there is political rivalry between the complainant and the accused; no incriminating material was found in the mobile recovered from accused/ Muhammad Ashraf. Keeping in view of the above grounds the Anti-Terrorism Court acquitted Muhammad Ashraf. Hence, CLAAS won the case of Muhammad Ashraf alias Fazi a victim of sectarian hatred booked in this case in May 2016. Through CLAAS free legal assistance he was successfully acquitted from all charges on December 2017.

Abductions, Forced Conversions and Forced Marriages:

1- Elizabeth Vs Munir Ahmed etc (*Sumbal victim of Abduction and Forced Conversion*)

CLAAS Succeeded to recover a girl from the illegal custody of a local police official who forcibly



converted the Christian girls to Islam and traded them. A Christian girl Sumbal 14 was forcibly converted into Islam by the local police official, Munir Ahmed who is Assistant Sub Inspector of City Police Station Hafiz Abad, kept Sumbal in illegal detention for six months. On Sunday April 21, 2017 Sumbal's mother Elizabeth age 37 widow of Arif Masih approached CLAAS office and met Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS. She requested for legal assistance for the recovery of her daughter. Elizabeth shared that she has two daughters and four sons and her

husband expired in 2013 due to diabetes. Elizabeth's elder son Sunny works as a sweeper in NADRA office Hafiz Abad and he is the only breadwinner of the family. Sunny and his wife Shazia is living with Elizabeth in a rented house in a joint family system at Hafiz Abad. There were only two Christian families living amongst the Muslim Community. Munir Ahmed, Elizabeth's Muslim neighbor who is Assistant Sub Inspector of City Police Station Hafiz Abad has two sons, wife named Muqdas and a sister in-law Marriam who lives with them. Elizabeth's daughter Sumbal had friendship with Marriam and often they paid visits to each other's home. On December 06, 2016 Sumbal and her sister in-law Shazia had a quarrel on domestic issue in the presence of Marriam. To settle the dispute Marriam took Sumbal at Munir's house where she was living. Sumbal spent the whole day with Marriam and later Munir did not allow her to go back to her home. When Sumbal's family tried to contact her, Munir and his family did not allow them to meet her. Sumbal's mother filed an application against Munir Ahmed in the local police station where Munir was deployed as ASI. The concerned SHO called both families in the police station where Munir Ahmed manifested the girl before them. When the concerned police officials asked Sumbal to go with her mother and she did not say a word because she was terrified. Hence, Munir Ahmed stated that Sumbal embraced Islam and her Islamic name is Fatima. While living with Munir she started practicing Islam and does not want to go with her mother anymore. Elizabeth further shared that Munir Ahmed is a corrupt police officer who brings the girls from Dar-UI-Aman with wicked intention and takes them home and sells them to others for prostitution. Majority of the girls were Christian who he had converted to Islam and then traded them. The local Muslim community is against him and often he was dismissed from his service due to his bad reputation but after a little while he reinstated on his duty. Elizabeth left her home and shifted to Lahore in a rented house after the incident happened whereas her son Sunny is still living at the same place.

Up-date of the Case:

On Corpus Petition on behalf of Elizabeth in Lahore High April 26, 2017 CLAAS through its legal advisor filed a Habeas Court Lahore for the recovery of her daughter Sumbal and pleaded to register of FIR against Munir Ahmed. It was brought into the knowledge of the honorable court that Munir Ahmed is involved in illegal activities and doing a business of women trafficking. Same day the court deputed bailiff for the recovery of Sumbal and ordered to bring forth her on April 27, 2017 before the honorable court. After court orders on April 26, 2017 CLAAS team headed by Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS along with court bailiff went to Hafiz Abad and succeeded to recover Sumbal from the house of Munir Ahmed. On April 27, 2017

Sumbal was brought forth the honorable Lahore High Court Lahore and during the court hearing it was argued by the counsel of Munir Ahmed that adolescent Sumbal has embraced Islam with her own consent. On the other hand the CLAAS lawyer argued that Sumbal is an adolescent and how can an adolescent change her religion. Further argued that Sumbal was induced by Munir Ahmed, his wife Muqdas and sister in-law Marriam and forcibly kept in their custody. The court after hearing the arguments of both parties ordered to handover the custody of Sumbal to her mother Elizabeth. Moreover the court keeping in view the circumstance of the case passed a strict direction to the Station House Officer (SHO) City Hafiz Abad to register a criminal case against Munir Ahmed, Muqdas and Marriam.

Statement of Sumbal:

After the court hearing Sumbal visited CLAAS office and shared with the team that she had friendship with Marriam (Munir's sister in-law) who were living in her neighbourhood. Sumbal stated that during her detention at Munir's house she was forced to attend the primary Quranic education school. She was also asked to practice Islam and named 'Fatima Noor'. All day they kept her busy in household tasks and did not allow her to go out from the house. While living with them she came to know that from the past ten years they were involved in criminal activities like women trafficking and forced prostitution. Sumbal shared that there were two other girls Naina and Faiza who were also confined with her. According to Sumbal, the other girl Faiza was sold to a man in return of heavy amount. Muqdas prepared Sumbal's mind that they will arrange her marriage to a Muslim man. They also restricted her not to talk to anyone and if someone comes from biological family to see her, she should refuse them to go back. Sumbal expressed her torments while staying with that family but she could not escape from the confinement.



Achievement of CLAAS

After case disposal CLAAS team visited Hafiz Abad city police station and submitted an application for the registration of FIR against the offender Munir Ahmed and others. The police did not register the case against them and after investigation Munir Ahmed was dismissed from his services. Later, Elizabeth shared that Munir Ahmed approached them and asked for compromise but the family refused him.

2- Saima Bibi Vs Ahmed Subhani (Saima victim of Abduction, forced conversion and forced marriage)



A young Christian girl Saima d/o Sadiq (27-years old) is a victim of forced conversion and forced marriage approached CLAAS office along with her family and asked for legal assistance. On April 22, 2017 Saima was forcefully married to a Muslim named Ahmed Subhani, who was already married. Saima's family registered an abduction case FIR No.211/17, offence under section 365-B of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) against Ahmed in Raja Jang Police Station Kasur. Saima a resident of village Singh Wala District Kasur belongs to a poor family; her father is a labourer at a brick kiln however her mother is a housewife. Saima lives with her parents and 7 siblings (1 elder brother is married). Two of her younger

brothers work with their father at the brick kiln. According to the facts Saima was getting beautician training from the local beauty salon run by a Muslim lady. The abductor Ahmed Subhani was familiar with the owner of the salon and often visited her. Ahmed often tried to talk with Saima but she ignored him. On the day of incident when Saima was on her way to home she was abducted by Ahmed and his companions. When she did not return back home, the family started to search her and also inquired from the salon's owner but she was unaware about her. Next day Saima came back home and informed her family that she was abducted by Ahmed Subhani. During the statement at CLAAS office she shared with the team that on April 22, 2017 Saima was going to her salon as usual when Ahmed abducted her and took her to Lahore from Kasur. After the abduction Ahmed told her that he wanted to get married with her but they belonged to different faiths and he knew it was not possible. Therefore, he planned for her abduction and afterwards he forcibly married her in court under the Islamic Law. While he was going through the process of marriage, Ahmed fraudulently took her signature on some blank stamp papers along with papers for conversion to Islam. After this whole episode, he took her at his home and stayed only a night with Ahmed. During her stay she was informed by Ahmed's parents that he was already married and they refused to accept Saima as his wife. Saima was also least interested to live with him, hence she pleaded his family to let her go back to her parents' house. The next day Saima returned back home and explained her family about the whole incident. At present she is living with her family in Kasur and CLAAS has provided legal assistance to Saima for contesting the pre-arrest bail of accused Ahmed. The application of Saima's abduction was already moved by her family and the police had registered a case against the perpetrator Ahmed. Thus Ahmed wanted her back in order to save himself from legal litigation and he had filed a habeas corpus petition for Saima's recovery from her parents' home. Saima was brought forth before the court of Additional Sessions Judge Kasur and she recorded her statement in favor of her parents. The concerned Additional Sessions Judge Kasur allowed her to go with her parents and disposed of the habeas corpus petition. After her statement Ahmed filed a pre-arrest bail petition in Sessions Judge Court Kasur and the bail was under proceeding when family approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance. On July 12, 2017 CLAAS contested the pre-arrest bail of accused Ahmed through its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu. The family did not want to linger on this matter and after three or four court hearings the family decided to stop pursuing the case and on August 05, 2017 a written compromise was moved in the court and after that the bail of the accused was allowed by the Sessions Judge Kasur. After compromise the case was closed.

3- Sidra Javed VS Muhammad Atif

On October 10th 2016 already married Muhammad Atif abducted nineteen years old Sidra Javed Masih from Badami Bagh Lahore when she was buying grocery. The abductor was living in the same building where Sidra and her family was living. He sexually assaulted Sidra before converting her to Islam and then forcibly married her. Somehow Sidra managed to escape from the detention of the abductor and reached her family. Sidra was legally Muhammad Atif's wife her family resisted to take her back. Since Sidra was determined to seek justice against her illegal conversion and marriage her family approached CLAAS for help. Due to threats from her Muslim husband she was accommodated in CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre "Apna Ghar". CLAAS provided her free legal assistance by filing Harassment Petition on her behalf in the court of Sessions Judge Lahore and also produced her before the Judicial Magistrate Lahore for recording her statement in March 2017. Through Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu legal advisor CLAAS a suit for Jactitation of Marriage was also filed on her behalf in the court of Civil Judge family Court Lahore and the case was decreed in her favor on October 26, 2017. At present she is living with her family. Sidra's younger sister Iqra Javed and cousin Zara Niamat was also

accommodated at rehabilitant centre CLAAS along with Sidra. During stay at shelter home they got stitching training from CLAAS stitching centre.

4- A Christian girl 13, was abducted by a Muslim who forcibly converted her into Islam and then married (Fact Finding Report)

A Christian girl 13, Maria Ashraf was abducted by a Muslim Amjad Ali on April 15, 2017 (Easter



night) he assaulted her sexually and forcefully converted her into Islam. After that married to her just to save him from legal litigation. The incident occurred in Gaggo Mandi, a village in Vehari District. After abduction of Maria her family pleaded for the recovery of their daughter but the girl has not recovered yet. After eight days of the abduction on the complaint of her mother Bushra Bibi a case FIR No. 255/17, offence under section 365-B (abduction) of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) was registered on April 23, 2017 at local Police Station against the culprits namely Amjad Ali s/o Niaz Ahmed (abductor) and his

accomplices Muhammad Imran s/o Sultan, Muhammad Ashfaq s/o Niaz Ahmed and Kaka s/o Muhammad Rafique. CLAAS team visited the victim's family on April 24, 2017 at Gaggo 247-EB Vehari District. Maria's family is the only Christians who live among the Muslims. Maria's father Ashraf Masih died six years ago. Maria's grandfather Shahab Masih, mother Bushra and three siblings were accommodated in a local health dispensary which was not operational. Shahab Masih (grandfather of Maria) is respectable person among the Muslims and he is working as catering assistant in marriage ceremonies of the village. Bushra 46 years old shared with CLAAS team that she is working as housemaid in the Muslims' houses day-night to earn for her minors. Her daughter Maria has got primary education and started working with Bushra as housemaid since 2014. Two months before the abduction of Maria, her mother Bushra realized that Amjad Ali who lives in front of their house had bad intentions towards her daughter Maria but Bushra did not complain against him to his family. Later Bushra fixed Maria's marriage in another village with Maqsood Masih. On April 15, 2017, on Easter night Bushra went to Maqsood's house for Easter greetings and stayed there over night. In her absence Maria was abducted by Amjad and his companions at night while Maria's grandfather and her siblings were sleeping. Bushra was informed about the missing news of Maria and next morning Shahab Masih and Bushra pleaded to counselor of the village Muhammad Tariq for the recovery of their daughter. Muhammad Tariq produced the victim's family before the local Muslims Council (a committee consisting of local residents) and shared the matter with them. The village council inquired about the matter from abductor's family and Niaz Ahmed (Amjad's father) assured them that he will hand the girl over to the family as soon as possible. Therefore the council did not allow the victim's family to register an FIR against abduction of Maria. After eight days of the abduction, on April 23, 2017 the abductor Amjad Ali sent certificates of Maria's conversion to Islam and Muslim marriage documents in the local police station. Thereafter Bushra took strong initiative and registered an FIR against the culprits. CLAAS team also visited the local police station and met the Assistant Sub Inspector Muhammad Sittar investigation officer of Maria's case, confirmed that Amjad's father Niaz Ahmed is confined in the police lockup for interrogation. In Addition he assured that police will recover the girl as soon as possible. CLAAS team also met the counselor of the village Muhammad Tariq and other local Muslims and asked the reason in delaying the FIR against abduction of Maria. According to them they have the set procedure that every issue of the villagers will be discussed and settled through local council

(the council is consisting of elderly people). But if the matter will not be resolved in the council, only then the issue would be taken to police or courts for decision. To strengthen Maria's family CLAAS team offered legal assistance and any other assistance if needed.

Finding and Observation of Team

- CLAAS team observed the bias attitude of the villagers that after the abduction of Maria they showed sympathies to the Christian victim's family and prohibited them to register an FIR and on the other hand they gave time to the abductors family to prepare Islamic conversion and Muslim marriage certificate of Maria to make abduction legal.
- The concerned police and local council still waiting for the accused's family to produce the girl but if meanwhile Maria recorded her statement in court against her parents than it will be difficult to recover her legally.

Rape cases:

1- Muhammad Awais Vs the State (Fact Finding Report)

A newly married girl (got married five months ago of this incident) named Sumaira age 20 wife



of Muhammad Shahbaz was raped on April 26, 2017 in broad daylight in Mir Muhammad, an area of Raja Jang District Kasur. Police registered a case FIR No. 172/17, offence under section 376 (rape) of the Pakistan Penal Code at local Police Station Raja Jang District Kasur on April 27, 2017 on the complaint of her father Muhammad Younis against the accused Muhammad Awais s/o Ashraf. The police arrested the accused on April 29, 2017 and confined him in police lockup for interrogation.

Furthermore the family of victim (girl) was forcibly converted into Islam about 15 years ago and asked to practice Islam and now they are Muslim. CLAAS team visited the victim's family on April 28, 2017 at their residence. According to Sumaira, on the day of incident she was alone at her home while her husband Muhammad Shahbaz went to take fodder for the animals. In his absence at about 1:00 p.m. (in broad daylight) her neighbour, Muhammad Awais took advantage of the situation and he forcibly entered in her house by climbing the wall and molested her. After few minutes while he was committing rape, suddenly Sumaira's brother knocked at her door and the rapist absconded from there (he escaped by climbing the house wall). Sumaira communicated the whole incident to her brother then her family took her at local police station and her father submitted an application against the rapist Muhammad Awais. Police registered a case against Muhammad Awais and raided at his house. The male members of the accused family fled from the house to avoid police interrogation. Sumaira further shared that although police registered the case against accused but police covertly joined hands with the culprits' family and the concerned Investigation Officer Muhammad Shar instructed her to refuse for medical examination. Alternatively accused's family offered money to victim's family for compromise. But as they refused for compromise the opponents started threatened for dire consequences and asked them to refrain from further legal proceedings. Furthermore Muhammad Younis age 40 (father of victim girl) is a field laborer and was accommodated at Sheikh Mubashar's farmhouse where he works as animals caretaker. He has three daughters and two sons named Javed 24, Iqra 22, Sumaira 20(victim), Humaira 13 and Junaid 09 years old. Muhammad Younis shared with CLAAS team that his name was Azeem and he was

Christian by faith. They were the only Christians among the Muslims and almost 10-15 years ago, the local Muslim community of Mir Muhammad Raja Jang had forced him to embrace Islam along with his family. Further at that time his children were minors and he had no sources to leave the area. All the local Muslims converted him from Christianity to Islam along with his family. He was also asked to practice Islam and named 'Muhammad Younis' "a local Muhammad Iqbal said". Now they are Muslim. His daughter Sumaira got married with a Muslim Muhammad Shahbaz a poor field laborer and is living in the same farmhouse where Sumaira's family is living. CLAAS provided legal assistance to the victim and moved an application for legal medical examination of Sumaira, on April 29, 2017. Apparently, Sumaira recorded her statement against the accused before Judicial Magistrate Kasur. On the same day, the concerned court allowed her legal medical examination from District Hospital Kasur. Nevertheless police delayed to obey the court orders. The unnecessary delay made it difficult for victim girl to get legal medical examination report and its advantage goes in rapist's favour. Meanwhile taking advantage of the situation the accused moved his post-arrest bail which was contested by CLAAS and due to non- submission of legal medical report he was released on bail on June 01, 2017.

2-Ayesha Zulfqar Vs SHO etc

Ayesha d/o Zulfqar, an 18 years old Christian girl was sexually abused by her real brother-in-



law since she was 11 years old. Ayesha has a 5 years old daughter. In June 2017 Ayesha managed to escape from the confinement of her brother in-law and reached at her parents' home without her daughter. Later, on August 04, 2017 along with her parents she approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance and shelter support. In her statement Ayesha disclosed that she was sexually abused by her real brother in-law Shahid Abid (husband of her elder sister) at the age of 11 years in 2011. Shahid raped her and consequently she got pregnant. When she disclosed about the pregnancy to Shahid

threatened her not to tell about this to her parents otherwise she would be killed. Subsequently Shahid Abid took her at some unknown place where she gave birth to a baby girl. Ayesha many times tried to run away from his detention but failed to do so. Shahid used to give severe beating to her whenever she asked him to let her go. Surprisingly her real sister Saima was also supporting her husband Shahid in this criminal act and hid the facts from her parents just to save her marital life. On June 17, 2017 Ayesha succeeded to get rid from Shahid's detention and reached at her parents' home. Shahid to save himself from any legal charges showed Ayesha as his wife and registered a false case against Ayesha's parents according to the FIR No. 873/17, offence under section 496-A of the Pakistan Penal Code (Enticing or taking away or detaining with criminal intent a woman. Whoever takes or entices away any woman with intent that she may have illicit intercourse with any person, or conceals or detains with that intent any woman, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine). After registration of this false FIR police arrested Ayesha's aunt and two brothers and kept them in police station. On August 05, 2017 CLAAS filed a harassment petition on behalf of Ayesha against the police in the court of Sessions Judge Lahore. Besides that CLAAS also filed an application for recording of statement of Ayesha under section 164 Cr.pc before the Judicial Magistrate District Courts Lahore. Through tireless efforts of CLAAS both the petitions were successfully disposed of in favor of Ayesha. On August 08, 2017 CLAAS team headed by Mr. Joseph Francis National Director, Mr. Tahir Bashir

Advocate and Mr. Sohail Habel visited the police station where the three persons of Ayesha's family were detained. CLAAS team met Mr. Syed Iqbal Hussain Shah Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Lahore and submitted the real facts, after which he ordered the investigation officer (IO) to release the arrested three persons immediately. On August 12, 2017 CLAAS also filed a petition for registration of FIR against Shahid on behalf of Ayesha upon which the learned Sessions Judge summoned the report from concerned police station. Later on the petition for the registration of FIR was disposed off on August 23, 2017 in favor of Ayesha and a case FIR No. 969/17, under the offence 376 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) was registered against Shahid Abid at Liaquat Abad Police Station Lahore. Police raided at his residence but the accused During Ayesha's stay at Apna Ghar CLAAS legal team helped her through counseling sessions to come out of the mental trauma that she had been through. A decent Medical treatment was provided to her and she also developed her knitting and embroidery skills during her stay. Fortunately, Ayesha returned back home safely and living with her parents happily.

3- Mehwish rape case at Rao Khan Wala District Kasur (Fact Finding Report)

CLAAS was informed about the rape of Mehwish daughter of Shoukat Masih by a Muslim brick kiln laborer at Essa Nagari Rao Khan Wala District Kasur.



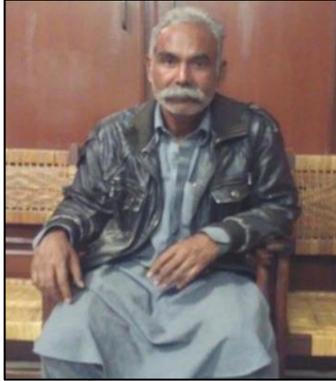
On June 22, 2017 CLAAS team visited the brick kiln of Haji Waseem where the incident happened and inquired about the victim girl and her family. The brick kiln owner Muhammad Baber stated that there was a quarrel of petty nature between the workers but he intervened and tried to resolve the issue. Muhammad Baber did not explain the real story to CLAAS team because the victim's family was not present at the brick kiln at that time. CLAAS met some local persons namely

Lal Masih, Salamat Masih and Shoukat Masih (another person) belonged to same village and were also working on the brick kilns. They confirmed the incident and further stated that Muhammad Aslam committed rape of Mehwish daughter of Shoukat Masih aged about 11 years. Shoukat Masih registered a case FIR No. 243/17 against Muhammad Aslam. The concerned police station arrested Muhammad Aslam and sent him to jail. After the arrest of Muhammad Aslam, owner of the brick kiln pressurized Shoukat Masih to compromise with Muhammad Aslam accused. But Shoukat Masih refused to compromise. Consequently on June 18, 2017 by the instigation of brick kiln owner, Ramish Masih levied a false allegation against Haroon Masih s/o Shoukat Masih for attempting to commit rape of his three years old daughter. After this allegation the brick kiln's laborers badly tortured Shoukat Masih and his son Haroon Masih. Although Haroon Masih is innocent and he did not commit rape of Ramish's daughter but police arrested him and confined him in the police lockup. Eventually, the brick kiln owner forced Shoukat Masih (Mehwish and Haroon's father) to compromise with Muhammad Aslam who committed the rape of Shoukat's daughter. The matter has still not been resolved yet.

Murder Incidents:

1- State Vs Shahzad alias Chitta & Bilawal alias Sonu

A middle aged Christian Shamas approached CLAAS office on January 16, 2017 regarding his son's murder case. During his statement he shared with CLAAS team that his son deceased Adil (23) was a rickshaw driver. He had passion for snooker game and was a champion among his friends. On the day of incident i.e. December 05, 2016 while he was at the club with his friends due to the exchange of harsh words, a minor dispute turned into a big quarrel. Adil's two friends Bilawal and Shahzad assaulted him brutally; his legs, shoulders and even his neck were fractured. They left him half dead nearby a salon and ran away from there. The owner of salon Nadeem Masih informed Adil's family about his severe condition. Shamas along with his son Majid reached immediately at the place of occurrence and provided him first aid treatment. Later they managed to take him at Nishter



Colony police station to report against the incident; there a police official Shaukat Sub Inspector (SI) recorded Adil's statement. An application was submitted in the same police station by Majid (Adil's brother) but police did not register the case against the culprits although the victim has recorded his statement against them. On the same day on December 05, 2016 Majid filed a writ petition before the Sessions Judge Lahore for the registration of FIR. The case was decided on December 14, 2016 and after receiving court orders the police registered a case FIR no.1826/16 under offences 337 L-I, 147, and 149 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) against the culprits. After the registration of FIR Shahzad was arrested by the police on December 15, 2016 three days later police sent him to prison in Kot Lakhpat Jail Lahore. While on the other hand Bilawal managed to escape and moved his pre-arrest bail. Shahzad also moved his post-arrest bail on December 16, 2016 which was canceled twice from the Model Town court and Sessions Judge Lahore. On December 26, 2016 Adil was discharged from the hospital and again on January 6, 2017 he was admitted in General hospital due to some internal injuries. The next day i.e. on January 7, 2017 he succumbed to his wounds and died in the hospital. The dead body was handed over to the family after the autopsy. After his death the murder offence under section 302 lodged in the same FIR. Shamas requested CLAAS for free legal assistance in this case as he was not able to afford the lawyer fee. Thereafter both accused persons moved their pre & post arrest bails which were challenged by CLAAS for six or seven time through its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate High Court and at present case is under trial proceedings for evidence of complainant side.

2- Rasheed Masih etc Vs the State

Bashir Masih a Christian by faith resident of Shekihupura approached CLAAS office on January 15, 2017. He stated that in January 2011 his daughter Sonia (25) was abducted by a local Muslim resident Muhammad Imran who forcefully converted Sonia to Islam and married her. His son Rasheed was a brick kiln worker husband of Rizwana Bibi father of a child, resident of village Chapa Minara, Sheikhupura. In July 2011 his son Rasheed had a fight with Muhammad Imran, consequently Rasheed got injured. At that time Rasheed did not report any case in police station as he does not want to highlight the issue of Sonia's conversion and marriage. However Imran always teased Rasheed and his family by using abusive remarks whenever he comes across. But they always ignored him just to avoid any further mishap or fight. Imran's obnoxious behavior towards Rasheed's family increased outrage for him. Due to that on April 18, 2012 he lent a gun and shot Imran when he was on his way to home from his work. After his death Rasheed absconded and lodged himself in a shelter. On the same day a case FIR no. 338/12,

offence under section 302/ 34 of the Pakistan Penal Code was registered against Rasheed Masih, Naseer Masih alias Shakeel sons of Bashir Masih, Asif Masih s/o Boota Masih and Bashir Masih at Police Station Sadar, District Sheikhpura by the complainant Naseeban Bibi (Imran's mother). Thereafter Rasheed was arrested and after investigation police sent him in judicial jail at Central Jail Sheikhpura. After the completion of common investigation the report (challan) was submitted in court for trial. The case lasted for four years in trial in the Sessions Court Sheikhpura and decided on May 31, 2016 by the trial court. All nominated persons in the FIR acquitted except Rasheed Masih who was convicted and sentenced life imprisonment, due to the contradiction between ocular account and Medical evidence. The complainant party filed two appeals against the acquitted persons and Rasheed Masih's conviction. An appeal was also filed by Rasheed Masih against his conviction for life imprisonment. Bashir Masih requested CLAAS for contesting the appeals which were filed by the opponent against them and are pending in Lahore High Court Lahore. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate for court proceedings.

3-Fiaz alias Gajni Vs the State

Boota Masih 49 a middle age man approached CLAAS office on February 14, 2017 for legal



assistance regarding his son who is confined in the jail. Boota Masih shared that his son Fiaz alias Gajni (20) was arrested in December 2010 in a murder case of his Muslim friend. Fiaz faced trial in the Sessions Court Sheikhpura (Juvenile Court) and the trial court convicted him of life imprisonment for 25 years on April, 2013 after two years and three months of court proceedings. According to Boota Masih that on the day of incident i.e. December 22, 2010 his son Fiaz spent the whole day along with him in Christmas shopping. In the evening when the whole family was busy in their routine work and Christmas preparations, Fiaz took the gun which they kept at their home for security purpose and went to his Muslim friend to show him. His friend saw that Fiaz takes out all the bullets he asked him not to empty the gun and tried to

stop him by snatching the gun from his hands. They had collided to safeguard shooting but, somehow, the trigger got pressed by Fiaz and hit his friend. Resultantly his friend got seriously injured, the local people took him to nearby dispensary, as he was seriously injured so they called rescue 1122 ambulance for hospitalization. When they reached the hospital the doctors declared him dead and on the complaint of his father police arrested Fiaz for his murder. Boota Masih appointed a lawyer Mr. Zahid Saeed for court proceedings and trial court convicted him in 2013. Boota Masih filed an appeal against his son's conviction and the appeal is pending in Lahore High Court Lahore but he has not enough money for lawyer's fee therefore CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate for court proceedings in High Court Lahore. Boota Masih further shared that they were the only Christian family in town and had good relations with their Muslim neighbors and his four sons's had friendship with Muslim boys of their age. Boota Masih was the in charge of installments money collection in neighborhood. Once he kept money at home and some robbers robbed them at night. After that incident his elder son brought a gun for the safety of house and hid it somewhere at home.

4-Patras Bhatti Vs the State

Patras Bhatti (65 years old) resident of District Faisalabad approached CLAAS office on June



19, 2017 for free legal aid in Lahore High Court Lahore for contesting murder appeals which were filed by the accused who murdered his son in 2013. His son Faisal Patras 15 years old was murdered by a Muslim Noor Ahmed and his companion on May 17, 2013 due to a dispute on the property. Patars Bhatti and his son Danish were injured too. On the very same day a case FIR no. 82/2013 was registered against the 16 accused persons under the offence 302/324, 337-148/149 of the Pakistan Penal Code at Police Station Tarkhani District Faisalabad. According to Patras Bhatti, he is a traffic police officer in Gojra and he had a property dispute with a Muslim Noor Ahmed who deceivngly

wanted to grab his property in Faisalabad. On the day of incident i.e. May 15, 2013 Patras along with his two sons namely Faisal Patras, Danish Patras and nephew Asad s/o Rehmat was cutting fodder in their fields. The opponent Noor Ahmed along with his fifteen companions forcibly entered in his fields with deadly weapons and physically harassed them for harvesting. The arguments started between them and during this instigation Noor Ahmed's companion Malik Hussain opened his fire on Patras Bhatti and his sons. Consequently his son Faisal died on the spot while Patars and his son Dansih got severely injured. Since then CLAAS is providing free legal aid to Patras Bhatti by contesting pre & post-arrest bails of the accused in Sessions Court Faisalabad and High Court Lahore. All accused faced trial which was contested by CLAAS on behalf of Patras Masih and on May 27, 2017 four accused were convicted whereas 10 accused were acquitted by the trial court. The convicted persons filed appeals in High Court Lahore against their conviction therefore on behalf of Patras Bhatti CLAAS legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir submitted his power of attorney for contesting these appeals furthermore an appeal against the acquitted person was also filed by CLAAS on behalf of Patras Bhatti and all appeals are not fixed at yet.

5- The state Vs Zeshan etc

On March 08, 2017 an unpleasant incident occurred among a Christian family at Asif Town,



Lahore in which 2 boys were murdered and other 3 were badly injured. According to the facts Zeeshan opened fire on his sister in-law Samina and her sons Khuram 20, Haroon 16, Moon 15 and Saghar 11 years old and after the attack he ran away from the place of occurrence. Samina and her sons were severely injured and taken to General Hospital by Samina's brother in-laws Yousaf and Naveed. Her son Haroon died in the hospital due to critical condition while Moon passed away after one month of the incident on April 10, 2017 as his condition was also very critical. Khuram got back and chest injuries which after 10 days of medical

treatment recovered consciousness. Due to sudden attack and severe injuries the police was unable to record his statement. Samina was shot on right elbow and Saghar's right hand was injured. On March 21st 2017 CLAAS team visited the distressed family

at General Hospital when Samina approached CLAAS office for legal assistance. Samina



shared with CLAAS team that before two days of the incident Zeeshan blamed on Samina's son Moon and his cousin Sulman Akmal 16 year old of committing sodomy with Zeeshan's son Yashua who was 05 years old. However the family suggested Zeeshan for medical examination of Yashua if he had any doubts of sodomy. But Zeeshan asked to shave the heads of the alleged boys as punishment. The family agreed to shave the heads of two boys to settle the dispute. Samina further shared that her husband Marqas died seven years ago and she was living with her in-laws in a joint family

system at Asif Town, Lahore along with her five sons and one daughter. Her daughter and elder son Khuram were married. Samina works as housemaid to fulfill the needs of her family. Samina's sister in-law Sobia and her husband Zeeshan alias Shani who is a rickshaw driver by profession were also living in the same house in the upper portion. Sobia and Zeeshan have one son named Yashua who is now 5 years old. All the family members were living in friendly environment but the situation was changed when Zeeshan forcefully intruded in Samina's room where she was sleeping with her sons and opened fire at them. Consequently her two sons died and one son Khuram is still under medical treatment whereas Samina and her younger son were also injured. Khuram's wife Ayesha shared with the team that on the day of incident Ayesha along with her four years old daughter named Aman went to her parents' home to meet with them. Her husband Khuram is a barber by profession but he is employee in corporation.



The whole family could not believe that they could face such difficult situation. Khuram's condition was very critical and he could not recall the incident at that time. Khuram already had two surgeries and is still under medical treatment. The doctor suggested him that he cannot do heavy work till he fully recovers. CLAAS team also visited Police Station Nishtar Colony, Lahore and met Assistant Sub Inspector Mr. Shafqat Investigation Officer informed that a case FIR (First Information Report) 341/17 was registered on March 09th 2017 against the accused Zeeshan on the

complain of Samina under the murder offence 302/324 of the Pakistan Panel Code at Nishtar Police Station Lahore. Police arrested Zeeshan and confined him in police lockup for interrogation after getting remand. During police investigation Zeeshan confessed his crime and police sent him in judicial lockup on March 22, 2017 after remand. Police also recovered crime weapon (one pistol) which is in police custody. Zeeshan purchased the pistol from Sharafat a Christian boy who was also arrested and confined in police station. Police also got medical examination report of injured persons and after completion of Challan filed Zeeshan was sent to Jail. Police also registered another FIR 422/17 against Zeeshan for recovery of illegal weapons. CLAAS team met Zeeshan in police lockup and in his statement he shared that due to his short temperament he committed murders and injured his family members but now he is guilty of his act. CLAAS is providing free legal assistance to Samina in the court of Sessions Judge Lahore therefore on August 12, 2017 CLAAS legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir moved his power of attorney on behalf of Samina Bibi. The case is under trial proceedings for evidence. CLAAS

also helped Samina for the funeral of her son Moon and for the medical treatment of her son Khuram.

Statement of Sobia (Yashua's mother)

Sobia along with her son Yashua and mother Hameedan Bibi approached CLAAS office on March 31, 2017 and in her statement Sobia shared that her son Yashua (05) became a victim of sodomy by his cousins Moon (15) s/o Marqas and Suleman (16) s/o Akmal on March 8, 2017 at Asif Town Lahore. She further explained that she lived with her family at paternal house in a joint family system with her four married brothers. On the day of incident Yashua normally went along with his cousins for playing. When he did not come back she got worried and started to search for him but failed. Yashua came late at home and she observed that he was shivering with fear. When she asked him, he started crying and told her that he was on the rooftop with his cousins Moon and Suleman. After that he went in to the bathroom and Sobia heard Yashua's cry. Sobia felt that her son was uncomfortable and she examined him in the bathroom. Then she assumed that his cousins committed sodomy with him. She started



weeping and shared with her mother Hameedan about Yashua's condition. She did not want to disclose to her husband because he often gets aggressive on minor issues. When her husband came home from work she asked him to shift to another place. Upon continuous insistence from him Sobia's brother Yousaf disclosed the whole matter to Zeeshan. Zeeshan showed his normal behavior and agreed to shift his family to another house but he kept animosity in his heart. The elders of the family sat together and asked Zeeshan for medical examination of Yashua and lodge case against the

suspects but he did not agree to it. Later on to punish Moon and Suleman family agreed to shave their heads. Thus the matter was resolved within the family after punishing them for the satisfaction of Zeeshan. On the same night at about 12:40 am Samina and her sons were in their room and Sobia was also with them. Zeeshan asked his wife Sobia to let's go to sleep. Sobia and Zeeshan left the room and after few minutes Zeeshan came back in Samina's room while they were trying to sleep but he opened fire on them. It was a sudden attack and there was no one to defend them. Khuram tried to stop Zeeshan but failed because all five of them were injured. Meanwhile Sobia and other family members reached on the spot till then Zeeshan was not there. After the registration of FIR police arrested Zeeshan and he confessed his crime. Sobia expressed her feelings that she got depressed after her husband's confinement because he intentionally attacked on Samina's family. She is a diabetic and is not able to do any work therefore she shifted in her sister's home at Youhanabad Lahore though Samina and her remaining sons are still living in the same house at Asif Town. Sobia requested CLAAS for negotiation in this matter for the release of her husband Zeeshan. The only way to defend Zeeshan was to get medical examination of Yashua therefore CLAAS suggested for the medical of Yashua for evidence. When CLAAS asked Sobia to move an application in the same police station Nishter Colony Lahore she agreed but later Sobia did not move any application as she did not want to have the medical report of Yashua. After that when case trial was fixed for hearing, Sobia and her in-laws forced Samina and her son Khuram (injured and an important eyewitness of this case) for compromise but Samina refused them and shared it with CLAAS team. Later, Sobia and her in-laws also approached CLAAS office and informed that they

decided to pay four hundred thousand Pak rupees to Samina. Afterwards due to Samina's refusal Sobia started to threaten Samina and Khuram for dire consequences and said that she will take revenge.

CLAAS Findings:

- CLAAS found that if Yashua became the victim of sodomy then Zeeshan and Sobia should have allowed his medical examination and case should have been registered against the suspects through police.
- If Sobia wanted to defend her husband Zeeshan then why she didn't allowed her son's medical examination and why she forced Samina for compromise as her two sons were murdered by Zeeshan.

6- A young Christian student Tania Marriam abducted by unknown persons and found dead at Sumbreyal Sialkot (Fact Finding Report)

News of rape and brutal murder of a Christian minor girl named Tania Marriam sent a wave of anger and fury around the world. CLAAS received numerous calls from outside Pakistan inquiring about this incident. On February 8th, 2017 a fact finding team headed by Mr. M. Joseph Francis, Ms. Shagufta Nazir and Mr. Saddique John visited the grieved family in Sialkot. Deceased Tania Marriam daughter of Nadeem Anwar Gill age twelve years was the youngest of four siblings. The oldest sister Hannia Gill age twenty four years old is married to Akash Gill and settled in Rawalpindi. Harrison Gill age twenty one is also married and works



with his father in Dubai as an electrician; his wife is living with her in-laws in Sialkot, Johnson Gill age twenty years old works in a courier company in Sialkot. Their mother passed away in 2011 after which their father Nadeem Shahbaz Gill who works as an electrician in Dubai married their maternal aunt. Five years ago the family moved to this present address in Chak Mudhir, Sumbaryal, district Sialkot in a rented house. The family belongs to Catholic denomination and is member of Catholic Church in Cantt Sialkot. Stating the facts Hannia Gill said that her deceased sister Tania completed her primary education from a local institute called Brite School System. Six months ago Tania's dream came true when she got admission in the sixth grade in the prestigious catholic School "Convent of Jesus and Mary -Sialkot".



Being the only male at home it was Johnson's responsibility to pick and drop Tania from her school. On Monday 23rd January 2017; like any other day, Johnson dropped Tania at the entrance gate of her school at 08:12am and watched her sister go in the school. He then went straight to his work. At about 10:45am he received a call from an unknown caller; who was later identified as Tariq. The caller asked Johnson to come to the upper Chenab Canal to identify a dead body of a young girl recovered from the canal, he told Johnson that he found his mobile number from the writing register that was found near the body. According to Johnson, for a second he thought it could be his sister but then immediately dismissed this thought as he saw his sister go safely into the school building. To

confirm his doubt he rushed to Tania's school. The school office informed Johnson that Tania was marked absent and did not attend the school that day. Johnson was still arguing with the school office when at 11:30 am he received a call from Sumbaryal police station to come to the Upper Chenab canal. Knowing that there was something wrong he rushed to the Upper Chenab Canal. On approaching the site he saw a large number of police force gathered around a dead body; which was covered with a white rescue sheet. He then reluctantly asked the police to see the body and was shocked to see that it was his baby sister Tania. He immediately noticed that her mouth was full of froth and her face was covered with wet sand. Police took the dead body for medical and autopsy. Johnson managed to get home and immediately called his father in Dubai. Tania's dead body was handed over to the family at 1:30am. The next day 24th January 2017 their father Nadeem Gill arrived from Dubai, the family held the funeral the same day. Her funeral was conducted by Father Philip John. Tania was laid to rest in peace in Christian graveyard at Chak Mudhir. Her funeral was attended by large majority of Christian and local Muslim community. Three days after the funeral Nadeem Gill left for Dubai leaving his younger son Johnson Gill to pursue the case. Police tried to close the case declaring it a suicide. Tania's family strongly rejected the idea and insisted that their daughter was a happy normal twelve year old with lots of dreams and goals in life she wanted to achieve but her life were cut short by some insane brutal murderer who was still at large. According to the initial medical report there was no visible mark of violence or injury on Tania's body which was confirmed by her sister Hannia Gill, who gave bath to the dead body. The final medical autopsy report will confirm the cause of death, this report usually take two to three months to come. Her family shared a very important fact that Tania's school record show that she was also absent from the school on Friday January 20th, 2017, three days before the incident. Johnson claim that even on Friday he dropped her at the school main gate and waited till she was in the school building and picked her up after school. Johnson was able to acquire the video footage of Tania entering the school on both days Friday 20th and Monday 23rd in uniform and leaving school after an hour in plain clothes.

On February 3rd, 2017 Johnson was able to register an FIR No: 42/17 under section 302 of



Pakistan Penal Code at Sumberyal police station against unknown individuals. The homicide cell is handling this case. CLAAS team was able to meet with the Investigating Officer Mr. Fayez Khan who informed the team that Tania's school bag and her uniform was recovered from the school bathroom and was submitted as evidence. He assured the team that his department was committed in providing justice to the grieved family, he further stated that everyone involved in this case were

cooperating with the police including the school administration. Johnson has filed a petition before the magistrate to excavate Tania's grave to conduct new autopsy in the presence of her family members. This petition is pending before the court. Before leaving Mr. Francis asked the family not to hesitate to contact CLAAS for any support needed in this case.

Team Findings:

After collecting the facts CLAAS team was convinced that this was a brutal and heinous murder of an innocent minor girl who happen to belong to Christian faith but it was not religiously motivated to target this specific community. The area where victim family is residing is heavily populated by Muslim majority who have showed their sympathy and support to the family.

7- A Christian boy was brutally murdered by some anonymous persons (Fact Finding Report)

Ishfaq s/o Liaquat Masih, 18 year old was murdered by some anonymous persons and found dead. His dead body was recovered on March 25, 2017 early in the morning at 6: 00 a.m. near Gullokot graveyard at Khaliq Nagar adjacent to his house. Same day at about 9:30 a.m. Liaquat Masih, father of deceased approached CLAAS office along with other community members and informed Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS that his son Ishfaq worked with his friend Chand as a shuttering laborer. On the evening of March 24th 2017 Chand called him on his mobile, Ishfaq went out of the house and did not return back home the whole night. Liaquat and his family tried to contact him on his mobile but it was switched off. The next morning at about 6:00 a.m. Liaquat, who works as a sweeper and was on the way to his workplace found his son's motorbike outside of Gullokot graveyard of Khaliq Nagar (nearest graveyard of Liaquat's residence). He entered in the graveyard and saw that his son was shot dead. Immediately he informed to his other family members who reached at the place of incident and Mushtaq Masih (Liaquat's brother) called at 15 Emergency Helpline Punjab Police and informed them about the murder of Ishfaq. The Station House Officer (SHO) Mr. Muhammad Ameen Police Station



Nishter Colony, Lahore along with his team immediately reached at the place of occurrence and took dead body to Jinnah Hospital for autopsy. Police also arrested Chand and his two acquaintances and confined them in police lockup for investigation. Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS along with the aggrieved family went to the Police Station Nishter Colony, Lahore and submitted an application on behalf of Liaquat Masih for the registration of First Information Report (FIR) and a case FIR No. 456/17 and offence under section 302 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC)

was registered against the culprits. CLAAS was closely monitoring this case and came to know that Chand and his two companions were confined in the police lockup. During police interrogation it was disclosed that Chand's real name is Anosh and his companion Zeshan alias Shan were found guilty. They confessed committing the crime by saying that they had no intension of murdering Ishfaq and it was just an accident. After confession they both were transferred to judicial lockup at Kot Lakhpat Jail Lahore. On April 13, 2017 again the distressed parents of deceased Ishfaq visited CLAAS office and stated that police sent the accused in judicial lockup and now their families are forcing them for compromise. Chand's mother also approached CLAAS office for legal assistance for her son's release and wanted to move post-arrest bail of her son as she is living in another city and was not aware about the activities of her son. The case is under trial and the accused is behind the bars.

8- A Christian man Ameen Masih 45 burnt to death at Uggoki – Sialkot (Fact Finding Report)



On April 04, 2017 Ameen Masih 45 was locked in his house and burnt to death by two shop owners and their accomplices for not paying the installments of the home appliances that he bought from the shop in Uggoki, Sialkot. CLAAS team reached at the place of incident for condolence with Ameen's family and collected facts from the local residents. According to the local resident Mr. Khalid Yousaf who was an eye witness of the brutal

incident, Ameen bought electronic equipment from Afzal Electronics and Shehran Electronics worth Rs. 350,000 and sold them out to pay off his debt. He was a hosiery worker with a limited salary therefore unable to pay the monthly installment of Rs. 18,000/- on time. On April 3, 2017 at 10:15 a.m. Muhammad Usman, Asim Ali, Yasir Bajwa and Shehran came to Ameen's house, beat him with wooden rods and cricket bats and dragged him out while threatening to kill him if he did not pay the remaining amount. The family failed to find Ameen whole day when later that night shopkeepers returned and confined him at his residence and set the room on fire and locked it. They stayed outside the room and did not allow anyone to unlock it to save Ameen's life. Later, helpless family dialed 15 police helpline number for help meanwhile the perpetrators managed to escape with the burning rooms' keys. The local residents and relatives broke the wall of the room engulfed with heavy smoke and found Ameen dead and furniture burning in



blaze. The police shifted the dead body to the Government Allama Iqbal Memorial Teaching Hospital Sialkot for autopsy. His funeral was held later in the evening and he was laid to rest on the same day on April 04, 2017. CLAAS team physically visited the room where Ameen was burnt by the perpetrators. The team visited Uggoki Police Station and met the Investigation Officer Mr. Razzak, who was already cooperating with the family and requested to carry a fair investigation in the murder case of Ameen. The team collected the copy of FIR report from the Police Station. A case FIR No. 143/17, under the offence of murder 302, 147/ 149 of the Pakistan Panel Code (PPC) was registered at Uggoki Police Station Sialkot on the complaint of

Ameen's wife Rakhil Bibi aged 40. After registration of FIR police arrested the perpetrators named Asim Ali whereas Yasir got pre-arrest bail, Usman and Shehran had managed to escape. The team expressed condolence and offered legal assistance to Rakhil Bibi. However, she works at Forward Gear Factory and has three children. Rakhil Bibi was in a great shock on the tragic loss of her husband and said that it would be difficult for her to manage the household expenses and education of her three children. The children were traumatized on the loss of their beloved father. She said that her children were silent after witnessing the brutal death of their father and were in a state of mourns. The team visited Afzal Electronics to meet Yasir, however he was not present at the shop and his salesmen were not allowed to speak on this incident. The other shop Shehran Electronic was found closed after the incident.

CLAAS visited Rakhil and supported her financially through Barnabas Funds UK

On October 26, 2017 CLAAS team visited Sialkot to meet Rakhil widow of Ameen Masih.



CLAAS through its partner Barnabas Funds UK helped Rakhil by giving her rupees Ninety Three Thousand (Rs. 93,600/-) for her settlement. After her husband's murder earlier this year in April, she was worried that it would be difficult for her to manage the household expenses. Until she found a job to support herself and three minor children she took loan from Urban Poverty Alleviation Project (UPAP) to manage the monthly expenditures. Recently she started working in a factory named Forward Gears Company Limited Sialkot that manufactures sports goods as a support staff at a salary of rupees 14,000 per

month. Rakhil has three children namely Suleman 14 (9th grade), Mishal 13 (8th grade) and Unis 09 (3rd grade). All the children are studying in Quaid-e-Azam Public School Sialkot and her factory bears all their educational expenditures. Since she is earning a very low monthly income it has become difficult for her to pay back the loan and manage other expenses as well. Therefore she contacted CLAAS office and asked for financial support and she got support from Barnabas Funds through CLAAS.

Up-date of the case:

Further upon inquiring about the up-date of murder case of her husband she informed CLAAS team that it was difficult for her to pursue the murder case in the court as well as to look after her household expenses, therefore she did not want to follow the case. On May 16, 2017 she submitted a written statement that she has no objection if the bails of accused were granted and if court will acquit them as police arrested one accused in this case, other one was on pre-arrest bail and two managed to escape.

9- Young Christian boy Nouman Munir was brutally Murdered (Fact Finding Report)

Nouman Munir Masih was shot by seven bullets and died on March 20, 2017 in Sheikhpura.



He was a sweeper by profession and belonged to Basti Baloachan City, District Sheikhpura but was found dead at Mandelia Road Bypass, Sheikhpura. His family and local Christians protested against this brutal murder in Mohallah Peer Bahar Shah by blocking the road. CLAAS Team came to know about this incident on April 07, 2017 and visited Nouman's family for condolence and to show solidarity with them. Khalida Bibi (Nouman's mother) was not at home. Nouman's younger brother shared that his father Munir passed away in 2015 and after his death Nouman was the only source of

income for the family. Nouman has two sisters one of them is married and three brothers who are younger and dependent on Nouman. The family is living in a rented house with his widow mother. Tariq (Nouman's uncle) shared with the team that deceased Nouman was innocent. Although he was adult but he was not mature and his behavior was childish. They never received any complain against him till his death. They have no enmity with anyone therefore they have no idea what happened with him and it was a blind murder. Tariq further shared that on the day of incident Nouman went to his job early in the morning at about 5:00 a.m. Later Tariq was informed by someone that a Christian sweeper was murdered. He went to the place of occurrence to verify his suspicion and was shocked to see his nephew Nouman's dead body. Through nearest shopkeeper it came to their knowledge that two unknown persons who covered their faces shot him and ran away from there. They were on motorbike therefore no one was able to follow them. The nearest shopkeepers who were eye witnesses of this incident informed the local police about the murder. Immediately the concerned police reached at the place of occurrence and took the dead body for autopsy. Afterwards Nouman's mother Khalida Bibi registered an FIR No. 235/17, offence under section 302/ 34 Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) against the unknown persons.

Team Visited Police Station:

CLAAS team also visited the concerned Police Station B- Division, District Sheikhpura and collected the facts from Sub-Inspector Muhammad Afzal, investigation officer of this case. He shared that it was disclosed during investigation that Nouman was a garbage collector and routinely collected garbage from door to door. Two months before Nouman's murder, he shared with his mother that a Muslim girl often paid him extra money and gave him lunch. Whenever he collected garbage from her house, she showed sympathy, love and affection towards Nouman.



But Nouman's mother did not take it seriously. After his murder Khalida shared these facts with the local police. The investigation officer also suspected that Nouman might have had a relation with the same girl and the girl's family might have killed Nouman in order to save their honor. The police did not share the name of the girl but was searching for her for further investigation. However, police initiated the investigation from Nouman's mobile phone and four sim cards which he was using, but no arrest has been made yet. From the newspaper sources it was shared that Nouman was

murdered after refusing to clean a Muslim man's house named Danyal who was in police custody for interrogation. He was the main culprit however proved that he was not in the city at the time of murder. In addition the autopsy report was sent to Forensic Lab. On June 12, 2017 CLAAS team came to know that case is still under investigation and police has failed to make further arrests in this case and completed challan file.

10-A young Christian boy was brutally beaten to death by a fellow student (Fact Finding Report)

A Christian young boy Sharoon Masih s/o Ilyas Masih was brutally beaten to death by a Muslim



fellow student Ahmed Raza at MC Model Government High School Boys Burewala, District Vehari. Sharoon was the student of 9th grade and on August 30, 2017 at about 11: 30 a.m. he was going to MC school to submit his admission form where a Muslim student namely Ahmed Raza blocked his way. After some fiery arguments between the two Sharoon asked him to move out of his way but Ahmed did not pay any attention. Sharoon crossed over his leg and while crossing his foot touched Ahmed's legs. Ahmed flared up with anger and punched him on his head. Sharoon fell down but Ahmed kept beating him while he was unconscious. The students and teachers stood there watching the whole incident but nobody intervened to help him. When Sharoon did not react in return and he was still unconscious then he was taken to the hospital by someone where the doctors confirmed his death half an hour before reaching the hospital. After his death the local Christian leaders were informed about this incident and they immediately

reported it to the local police. The concerned Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) along with police officials reached at the spot and took the dead body in police custody for autopsy. Later a case FIR no.471/2017 was registered against Ahmed Raza and an unknown person under the murder offence 302/34 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) in Model Town police station District Vehari. At present Ahmed is in the police custody for investigation whereas the unknown co-accused person has not arrested yet. The local Christian community headed by the local

counselor Mr. Shamoun Masih, Pastor Haleem local pastor and Arman Masih Gill CLAAS representative from Sahiwal protested against this brutal killing of the innocent young Christian student. After police investigation the case challan was submitted in the court and case is under trial proceedings. CLAAS is monitoring this case and also asked the family for legal assistance in this case if they needed.

11- Arslan Masih murder case (Fact Finding Report)

A young boy Arslan Masih who belonged to a Christian family was murdered on October 09,



2017 by six Muslim policemen over a personal conflict. Victim's father Mushtaq Masih went to launch an FIR against the culprits in the local police station but police was reluctant to register the case. CLAAS National Director Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis was telephonically informed about the incident and directed his team to visit the village Jhabhran, District Sheikhpura where the incident took place and gather facts about the case. Arslan Masih (16) s/o Mushtaq Masih was the resident of Dera Nawab Masih, village Jhabhran, District Sheikhpura. There are only 8 to 10 families living among the Muslims in the locality. His father works as a day laborer and

mother is a housemaid. He has eight siblings namely Allah Ditta (30), Mehnaz (28), Shamshad (26), Nazia (24), Tashiba (22), Jackson (20), Safyan (18) and Sneha (13) out of which Mehnaz, Nazia and Jackson have passed away. Shamshad and Tashiba look after the household while Allah Ditta and Safyan work as laborers along with their father. Only Arslan (8th grade) and Sneha (6th grade) were studying in Government High School Jhabhran as being poor their parents could not afford to provide education to all the children.

According to facts, few days before his murder, Arslan was involved in a heated dispute with his



class fellow who is the son of one of the murderers named Sardar alias Billu. To seek revenge, Sardar along with his accomplices arrived at the academy that Arslan attended and began to beat him until the young boy died. The eye witness Farhan Ali (Arslan's academy teacher) told the team that the policemen arrived at the academy and abruptly started to beat him with clubs and guns' handles, subjecting him to excruciating torture that caused his death. When the policemen saw that the boy had stopped reacting to their beating they put him in the police van and took him to the local dispensary where Dr. Babar after examining the body pronounced him dead but asked the policemen to take the dead body to Civil Hospital Sheikhpura for confirmation. The culprits left the young boys dead body at the dispensary and fled away. As soon as Arslan's family came to know about the whole thing they rushed to the place of occurrence and brought his dead body home. All the neighbors gathered around his house and supported his father Mushtaq to launch

an FIR against the murderers. As the news spread in the locality the political leader Mr. Imran Athwal (PPP) President minority wing Punjab visited Arslan's house and offered help for the

funeral ceremony. District Police Officer (DPO) Sheikhpura, Sarfraz Virk after hearing about the incident said that he will do his best in getting justice for Arslan Masih and see that the culprits get maximum punishment.

The team along with the local facilitator Mansha Masih visited the local police station and met with Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Safdar who assured that a fair investigation will be carried out against the culprits and they will soon be put behind bars. Team also went to Arslan's house to extend their condolence to the grieving family and offered all legal aid and assistance in the case.

Conflict between Christians and Muslims:

1- A Christian girl became the victim of jealousy (Fact Finding Report)

Twenty five year old Stella d/o James Masih was burnt by her Muslim colleague who threw acid



on her back. Stella is a Christian by faith and resident of Mohalla Basti Noor Peer Dunyapur, District Lodhran. She was working as clinical assistant in Lahore Poly Clinic Dunyapur for the past four years. Ijaz, one of her Muslim colleagues threw acid on her on April 25, 2017. After that on April 26, 2017 on the complaint of her mother First Information Report (FIR) was registered at Police Station City Dunyapur, District Lodhran under the offence 336-B (throwing acid/hurt by corrosive substance) of the Pakistan Penal Code. Stella shared that the clinic is owned by Doctor Munir

who is a Muslim. Stella was the only Christian among 25 Muslim staff members. Due to her honesty and hard work she was always appreciated by her owner Dr. Munir and became famous among other colleagues. One of her colleagues Ijaz and his wife Musrat disliked her and felt jealous. Ijaz and Musrat were working there from the last 25 years and since the last three years they started to create problems for Stella by trying to involve her in different litigations. They made complains against her and insulted her. Often she ignored them but later she started to argue with them and fought back. She further stated that Ijaz and his wife Musrat did not want her to continue her job. Ijaz always insulted her and often used filthy language against her. The administration got involved in their dispute and always advised Ijaz and Musrat to avoid the issues and change their behavior towards Stella but they did not pay any heed to that. They did not accept her as their colleague and were not ready to change their behavior towards her. Although it was very difficult for Stella to work in such an environment, she tolerated their bad behavior for the sake of her family. Ten or fifteen days before the incident, Ijaz quarreled with Stella on a minor issue and threatened her for dire consequences. On the day of incident all male staff members went to mosque for prayer. In their absence she was looking after the clinic along with two staff nurses and junior staff. The Medical Superintendent Munir was also in his room. Only Stella was present at the reception. While she was busy in her work, Ijaz came from behind and threw acid on her lower abdomen. She got unconscious and when she came in her senses, she found herself in the same clinic under treatment. After that her family took her at home and registered a complaint against the accused. Later on Ijaz and his wife came at her home to inquire about her health and gave some money for her treatment. Afterwards they started to threaten her to stay away from further legal proceedings and pressurized her for compromise but Stella refused. She further shared that her father was a cancer patient and he died four years ago. After the death of her father it was difficult for her

mother to fulfill the needs of the family without any income. Therefore, Stella started working in the clinic on Rs. 15000/- (Fifteen Thousand Pak Rupees) monthly salary just to support her family. Her elder sister Naila is married and Shumaila is a teacher. Her two younger brothers are dependent on her while mother is a diabetic patient. Dr. Munir was her family doctor and knew about her domestic issues therefore Stella's mother allowed her to work in his clinic. Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS was telephonically informed by someone about Stella's incident. Stella requested CLAAS for medical treatment therefore CLAAS supported her financially for her treatment and also for legal assistance as the opponent forced her for compromise but she did not agree. On June 14, 2017 CLAAS National Director visited the distress family at their residence at Dunyapur. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Saleem Gill Advocate for court proceeding in Stella's case but before going to the court it was disclosed that the opponent took Stella's signature on the written compromise. To get justice a private complaint could be filed in the High Court but Stella did not want to pursue the case further.

2- Father's Colony incident (Fact Finding Report)

On 17th June 2017 M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS along with Mrs. Shunila Ruth



MPA (PTI) and CLAAS team members visited the locals in Kharian District Gujrat and met with the victims' families of Father's Colony incident that occurred on 08th June 2017. Team also visited the District Police office. According to the locals, police allegedly tortured Christian residents of Father's Colony in Kharian and used third degree torture. Local Christians claimed that the police beat Christian children, women and men alike. Police have involved these Christians in false cases, while Christian community is urging the Chief Minister of Punjab to take notice of the incident. Details emerged

that Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Muhammad Azeem along with his force raided the cricket ground in Father's Colony- a predominantly Christian neighborhood. Police alleged that the local youth had been involved in match fixing and drug trafficking. Consequently, the police tried to hook the youngsters which resulted in clash between locals and the police force. After the clash erupted, police force withdrew from the neighborhood however, after the sunset SHO Tanveer Abbas Bhatti sent heavy contingents of Police and Elite Force to Father's Colony. The police invaded the houses of Christians unleashing inhumane series of torture on Christian children,



women and men. Moreover, the police also opened fire at the residents of Father's Colony wounding many. On the other hand, police sustained that it carried out an operation against criminals. Police claimed that the locals obstructed during the operation, for which reason they were tortured. Police says that during the operation locals launched an attack on them, injuring four policemen. Consequently, an FIR no 34/17 was registered against Christians of Father's Colony. In this FIR 18 Christians were nominated along with 25 unknown persons. Police arrested 3 people

namely Saeen Mehmood, Farhan Riaz and Asif Shangara and confined them in the police station where they brutally tortured them. Police also opened fire at Mehboob son of Saeen

Mehmood and he got hit by one out of the four gun shots fired at him and wounded his left thigh. Local Christians demanded that the police should carry out operations against criminals and drug dealers however they must not entangle innocent civilians in false cases. Christians condemned unlawful police operation in Father's Colony where police harassed and tortured Christian residents. After many protests, the District Police Officer (DPO) Gujrat took action and suspended Tanveer Abbas Bhatti Station House Officer (SHO) of Guliana Police Station District Gujrat. In his statement, Ammad Zafar Superintendent of Police (SP) said that the police raid at Christians was an illegal act. During the conversation with police officials Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS asked about any record against the Christian but police failed to provide any. Further the real culprits behind this incident are Malik Akram and Ehsaan Dar belonging to Muslim League (N) who had personal conflicts with Saeen Mehmood and the Christian community. Since Mr. Roqas is elected by PTI as the District member of Gujrat therefore Muslim League (N) created issues over this. After hearing about this incident Mrs. Shunila Ruth MPA (PTI) intervened and raised her voice in Punjab Assembly. Rana Sana Ullah (Law Minister) took notice and ordered immediate bails of the arrested innocents. The concerned DPO after canceling the FIR discharged the arrested person from allegations leveled against them.

3- Conflict between Christian and Muslim villagers at Puran Pura, Kamokey District Gujranwala (Fact Finding Report)

Tension arose at village Puran Pura, Kamokey District Gujranwala after conflict between the



local Christians and Muslims of the said village on the issue of church property. CLAAS was informed about this clash through a phone call by one of their partners. Mr. Shamshad Elder of the Church was contacted and later on asked to take efficacious action in order to thwart any possible sectarian clashes to provide protection to the local Christian community and their properties are not harmed. On August 28, 2017 fact finding team of CLAAS consisting of two staff members named Mr. Sohail Habel (Finance Manager) and Ms. Rubina Ghazal (In-charge Legal Department) visited the conflicted area of Kamokey, Gujranwala. Team had a meeting with the local Christians and after knowing about the real facts the team along with the distressed villagers visited the concerned police station Aiman Abad, Gujranwala. Team informed the Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) about the issue although he was already aware about this conflict. The members

of the peace committee of Kamokey Gujranwala (a group of Muslim religious leaders who "work for the common cause of humanity") were also the part of this meeting and they assured for resolving the conflict between both the communities. According to the facts, in the village Puran Pura, Kamokey District Gujranwala only 20 Christian families (200 to 300 members) are living among the 400 to 500 Muslims families (more than 3000 members). The Christians had no personal land property in the village therefore Muslim landlords accommodated them by giving land property after the partition of Pakistan. As the Christians are poor and have no proper jobs, the men of the village are working privately in factories and elsewhere whereas women are working as housemaids of Muslims. The Christian children are studying in the local government school while some parents can afford private educational institutes. After the conflict Christian females stopped working in the Muslim houses as Christians were scared for their lives. The Christian community protested against the Muslims and also moved a writ petition in the court for justice. The concerned DSP visited the conflicted area and assured that he will provide justice to the local Christians.

According to the information collected, a Muslim (cast Dogar) family belongs to political party (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf founded in 1996 by former national cricket captain Imran Khan) and during the election campaign in 2013 they wanted support from the Christian community. To get vote from the Christians the political leadership of (PTI) donated a piece of land consisting of 05



Marla to the Christians for their worship and inaugurated the foundation of Church building. The poor Christians made boundary wall later on but could not build a proper Church building due to insufficient funds for the construction. The Christians started worshipping and offering prayers in the incomplete building. The Church was handed over to the Assembly of God ministry but the ministry was also not able to complete the church building. Every Sunday a Pastor who was appointed by the ministry had to pay visit for prayer. Mr. Shamshad was appointed as Church Elder and he is still involved in Church activities. In August 2017 the

same Muslim Dogar family built a farm house for their animals in front of the Church and blocked the Church path. At that time no Christian objected or stopped them from construction. Later on Elder Shamshad raised his voice against the Muslim and all Muslims gathered and tried to stop them for prayer. The Church was not registered that's why police did not take any legal action against the Muslims. The local Christians protested and moved a writ petition against the Muslim villagers. After that Muslims of the village jointly made a plan that if any Christian tried to raise this issue against the Muslims then all the Christians will be cast out of the village. The concerned DSP visited the village Puran Pura and had a meeting with both parties. He tried to resolve the matter between the parties and assured that he will provide a separate Church path to the Christians. For this he called a meeting on August 31, 2017 for further negotiation. All the Christians are safe there and living freely and no one tried to harass them after the intervention of the police and CLAAS organization.

4-Intense situation of Christians in Khushab (Fact Finding Report)

Christian villagers have been facing threats of a possible attack from local Muslims as tensions



amplified between them. Details emerged that Christians in villages number 36, 37 and 38 located in Division Quaid Abad of District Khushab are imperiled as they anticipate retaliatory action from Muslims. It is believed that the clashes were activated after a local Christian boy Sunil Masih (24) eloped with a Muslim girl Shazia Parveen (16). Soon after the news of the incident spread, local Muslims started demanding the return of Shazia. Christian villagers were being threatened and pressurized by the Muslim majority to call the eloped couple back. The Christians were calling upon the authorities to

provide them protection so that they were not harmed. After knowing this incident on September 07, 2017 CLAAS team comprising of Mr. Sohail Habel and Mr. Asif Raza immediately rushed towards the conflicted area to gather facts. The team was facilitated by Mr. Javed Bhatti District coordinator of Pakistan Christian National Party Khushab, and Pastor Wikson John, Church of

Pakistan. The team also met with the local residents and visited the concerned police station and collected the FIR (First Information Report).

According to the facts, Maria and Jacob Masih alias Vicky are the parents of Sunil who came



from Faisalabad and settled in the village of Khushab some 10-15 years ago. Jacob was a drug addict and did not work. Maria was a Lady Health Visitor (LHV) nurse and ran a private clinic at home. She was the sole earner of the house and often visited people in the remote areas near her village to provide medical health care. As time moved on she continued her work and developed good relations with people in the nearby villages. Mohammad Suleman (Shazia's father) developed close relations with Maria and despite living in separate villages they started paying visits to each other's' homes just like relatives. On September 02, 2017 Maria along

with her family went to Mohammad Suleman's house to attend his niece's wedding. Since they came from another village, Maria had to stay night at Mohammad Suleman's house with her family. Next morning i.e. September 03, 2017 when everyone woke up to get ready for the function, Mohammad Suleman found out that Maria and her family along with his daughter Shazia were not present at home.

They started searching them and went out in the neighborhood to look for them but did not find



them. As they were searching them in the nearby villages and during the investigation by the Muslims the Christian of above said villages were scared for dire consequences and the news spread like a wild fire. But later on September 06, 2017 Mohammad Suleman went to the local police station Quaid Abad to register a complaint for his missing daughter. The police registered an FIR No. 336/17, under the offence 365-B (Kidnapping, abducting or inducing woman to compel her marriage) of the Pakistan Penal Code against Sunil Masih. The complainant also mentioned two eye witnesses in the FIR namely Syed Rasool and Mohammad Hussain who told

them that they saw Maria and her family with Shazia getting into a white car and took her away. After registration of the FIR the local police raided Maria's house but she along with her family had fled from the scene. The District Police Officer's PSO (police support officer) Inspector Imtiaz deployed heavy contingents and elite force in front of Maria's house so that they could catch the culprits if they tried to come back to home. Further the local Christians were safe as the police controlled the situation and assured that they will curb any unfavorable circumstances as told by the on-duty police officials. Later on the girl Shazia recorded her statement in favor of Sunil under section 164 Cr.pc before the Magistrate Court in which she stated that she was not abducted by anyone and got married under the Islamic rights with her free will. After her statement the complainant although did not accept her marriage but they stopped harassing the other local Christians.

Embezzlement Matters:

1- Saima Bibi & Waqas Masih VsThe State

Saima Waqas (25) is resident Youhanabad, Lahore. She is a house maid and her husband



Waqas is a sweeper. The couple has three minor children named Haroon 07 years, Poonam 05 years old and both are student of 1st grade and Kinza 03 years old. Saima and her husband Waqas Masih were falsely implicated in a theft case by the complainant Samiya Altaf a Muslim who is living in Defence, Lahore. According to the facts Waqas was working as a part time sweeper in the house of Samiya Altaf since (2013) the past four years just for three or four hours in the evening. In February 2017 his wife Saima also started working as a cook in the same house and after three months Saima left her job. Saima was

not only responsible for maintaining the kitchen but was also bound to buy grocery from market which was far away from the house. Further Saima was appointed as cook but was working as housemaid therefore it was difficult for her to fulfill all her duties all day long. Moreover their children were neglected due to extra duties and full time jobs. So finally in April 2017 Saima left full time job from Samiya's house and started working with her husband Waqas as sweeper in the evening in the same house for few hours. Samiya hired two new workers a man and a woman both Muslim and belonged to a rural area therefore she also provided them residence in servant quarters. On May 26, 2017 as per routine Saima and her husband Waqas cleaned the house and returned back to their home. But in the evening Samiya took copies of their National Identity Cards from them by saying that she needed it. On Saturday May 27, 2017 they had a day off but suddenly Samiya called them telephonically and asked to visit her house. When they reached there they were astonished to see a policeman who was already present there. He started investigating them about theft of gold ornaments of Samiya. Saima and her husband repetitively refused for stealing the belongings. After inquiry policeman allowed them to go to their home but Samiya forcibly kept their motorbike in her custody. Samia further shared that the new workers were not investigated by the police in this matter. Later on Saima and Waqas stopped working there and after five or six days they received a phone call from the local Police Station Defence-B Lahore. They were informed that a theft case FIR No. 327/17, offence under section 381 of the Pakistan Penal Code was registered against them on May 30, 2017 by the complainant Samiya Altaf. After informing them police captured Waqas in police lockup and Saima came at home. On June 02, 2017 through some resources she came to know about CLAAS and approached for free legal assistance for their bails. CLAAS through its legal advisor moved pre-arrest bail of Saima on June 03, 2017 in Sessions Court Lahore which was dismissed on June 12, 2017 due to non-appearance/absence of Saima in the court. CLAAS again moved her bail on June 13, 2017 which was dismissed. Then CLAAS moved her pre-arrest bail in High Court Lahore and she got bail. CLAAS also moved post-arrest bail of Waqas in the court of Ms. Bushra Anwar Judicial Magistrate Cantt Lahore on June 20, 2017 which was allowed on the same day and police released Waqas after the court order. After bail Saima and Waqas visited CLAAS office on June 22, 2017. They were thankful to CLAAS for their tireless efforts. Waqas further shared in his statement that they both are innocent and they had no litigation with Samiya but they have no idea that why she registered a false case against them. Now their case is under trial.

2- (i)Sobia (ii) Imran Liaquat (iii) Meena Vs The State

Sobia (22) d/o Liaquat Masih who is a Christian and has been working for a Muslim family namely Allah Din for the past 06 years (till 2017) on a monthly salary of Rs.3500/. She was implicated in a false embezzlement case of stealing gold ornaments by Allah Din's son-in-law named Rizwan Riaz. Rizwan tortured her physically and pressurized her to admit committing embezzlement. Then he lodged an FIR against her and demanded to either return the ornaments or its net worth in cash. The police also joined hands with Rizwan and illicitly forced her to sign on a false application in which Sobia admitted her crime and asked for two days' time to return the ornaments. Sobia is a resident of Christian Colony, Kamahan village, Dak Khana Khas Lahore. She shared that her father died some 5-7 years ago and she is living with her mother along with other siblings who are married. Her mother used to work as a housemaid but since she is old now and cannot do proper job, Sobia takes her along at work. Sobia is still single and uneducated so she works as a housemaid to support herself and her mother. Although Sobia belongs to a poor family and lives hand to mouth but never lured to use false means to earn living. Sobia further shared that Rizwan blamed her that he saw while stealing his wife's ornaments when he visited his in-laws (Allah Din's house) where Sobia works as a housemaid. According to Rizwan when Sobia came for work they were busy having breakfast and while cleaning their room she stole the gold ornaments. When they went back to their home his wife realized that her jewelry was missing from her hand bag. They immediately went back to Allah Din's house and called her for inquiry where Rizwan physically tortured Sobia and her two family members. Later a case FIR no. 1483/17 under offence 380 of Pakistan Penal Code was registered against them on September 14, 2017 in which Sobia along with her brother Imran and sister-in-law Meena were nominated for embezzlement. Therefore Sobia approached CLAAS office on September 15, 2017 to seek free legal assistance in this matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate for court proceedings.

Miscellaneous Criminal Cases:

1-Sohail Eric Vs SHO&C.C.P.O (dispute)

Sohail Eric 36 was physically tortured by two Muslim brothers Ajaz Ali and Muhammad Ali on February 20, 2017 at Youhanabad Lahore. The accused brothers were running an electronic's shop. Sohail briefed that in October 2016, his brother Shahrukh purchased a motorcycle on monthly 3000/- installments from Umar Electronics. In January 2017 Shahrukh was going through financial constraints and did not pay the installment. He requested the proprietors for more time to pay his remaining amount. But they detained him illicitly in their shop for a whole day and Sohail released him as guarantor. On February 20, 2017 while Sohail was at home along with family, suddenly Ajaz Ali with his accomplices Muhammad Ali, Asad and Shahzaib forcibly entered his house. Sohail was brutally beaten up with steal punches and pistols; therefore he had got head and arms' injuries. They also snatched his gold ring, gold chain and a mobile phone. His mother and sister tried to stop the attackers, but they beat and harassed the females as well. Some community members intervened and save Sohail's life from the attackers. Sohail called police helpline 15 and by all means they managed to escape from there. The Police took him to General hospital for medical treatment and registered a complaint no. MLC- 41 against physical torture at Nashtar Colony police station. On March 8, 2017 Sohail received his medical report and he went to the same police station to register a case against accused persons. The police did not register case FIR due to the



opponent party's influence. Therefore Sohail approached CLAAS office on March 17, 2017 for free legal aid and assistance for the registration of FIR. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate High Court for court proceedings.

On March 18, 2017 CLAAS lawyer filed 22-A, 22-B petition for the registration of FIR in the court of Sessions Judge Lahore against the accused persons. The said petition disposed of in his favour on April 29, 2017. But the relevant police officials did not register the case against the accused. Therefore a compliance petition of order was filed by CLAAS in the court of Sessions Judge Lahore on behalf of Sohial Eric and disposed of in his favor and after that police registered a case against the opponents. The opponent moved their pre-arrest bails which were contested by CLAAS

2- CLAAS Vs Inspector General (Writ Petition)

On July 10, 2017 a meeting of Executive Body of Centre for Legal Aid Assistance & Settlement held at 160-Hamza Town Ferozpur Road, Lahore in Central Office. The issues of Christian prisoners of District Jail Kasur were deeply discussed in the meeting. The Christian prisoners of District Jail Kasur were being ceased to offer their prayers in the fixed allotted place of chapel in jail premises. Knowing their rights the prisoners projected this issue and moved an application to The Inspector General Prisons Punjab through a private lawyer. In the application the lawyer pleaded to redress the grievance of Christian prisoners in District Jail Kasur and necessary action must be taken against the responsible persons but no action was taken by the I.G Punjab. Through some reliable sources the matter came to CLAAS knowledge and after discussion Executive Committee of CLAAS passed a resolution that a writ petition must be filed in High Court Lahore to resolve this issue. Therefore Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS courageously authorized CLAAS lawyers to file the writ petition on his behalf against I.G. Prison Punjab and Superintendent District Jail Kasur. The petition was filed by CLAAS legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu in High Court Lahore on which the honorable Chief Justice Mr. Sayyed Mansoor Ali Shah ordered I.G. Prison Punjab to resolve the problem of the Christian prisoners. After this notice the matter was resolved.

3-Khuram Shahzad Vs SHO Nika Pura Sialkot

Three minor girls were sexually assaulted by their paternal relatives. Their mother had passed



away and father was struggling to provide them basic necessities of life. He had some disputes with the relatives while trying to get a share from his parents' properties. In Khuram's absence his daughters were sexually assaulted by his cousins. To get justice for his daughters he registered an FIR against the rapists in result of that his eldest daughter Suman 11 years old was abducted by the culprits on April 22, 2017. Khuram Shehzad Victor (35) s/o Morris Abdul Masih is a Christian and resident of Marriam Town, Daska Sialkot. He got married in 2003 with

family's consent to Farzana Sharif and had six daughters who are minors. His parents died some years ago and left properties which were supposed to be divided equally among himself and his other five siblings. But his elder brother and other relatives did not want to give him his share. According to Khuram when his parents died he went to his uncle Iqbal (Morris's younger brother) to ask for his share but Iqbal along with his wife Seema and five sons mistreated him badly and refused to give any share. Also his elder brother grabbed his mother's property and

refused to give any share to other siblings. Khurram kept struggling for his right and share in property but all in vain. Meanwhile he was living with his family in a rented house and working as a laborer to support his family. His wife, Farzana passed away in 2011 due to heart attack. Later, Khurram started working in a football printing factory to support his children and on the other hand kept visiting his relatives for his share in his father's property. Days turned into months and they had the same routine until a few months ago when Khurram got to know about a vicious act that his relatives had been doing behind his back. When his daughters returned home from school in the afternoon, Iqbal's sons along with their cousin (Seema's nephew) came to visit them regularly and would sexually abuse his three minor daughters. This went on for about a month until on April 18th, 2017 when Khurram returned home from work, his eldest daughter Suman (11) told him about the relatives' misconduct with them. Flared with anger Khurram left the house along with his daughters and take temporary shelter in the local police station Haji Pura District Sialkot and also filed a complaint against the wrongdoers. A case FIR no. 302/17 offence under section 376 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) was registered and police investigated the matter and got medical examination report of the victim girls. After getting the medical report which confirmed that the minors were sexually assaulted, the police arrested four persons for further interrogation and confined them in the police station. Later, the opponents being influential tried to pressurize Khurram for reconciliation and withdraw the charges against them but he plainly refused to do so. As a result, to punish him further the culprits abducted his eldest daughter Suman on April 22nd, 2017 she was a victim of rape while he was in the police shelter so that he would withdraw all charges. Khurram again went to the police station to launch another complaint for abduction of his minor daughter but did not get any positive response. His daughter was still in the custody of the abductors and there was no one to help him rescue her. Khurram went to Islamabad and protested in front of the press club still there was no fruitful result. He went from one place to another seeking help but did not get any support from anywhere. Through some sources he came to know about CLAAS and approached the office with his remaining five minor daughters to seek shelter and legal assistance for the recovery of his daughter Suman.

CLAAS Team visited Police Station:

On July 21st, 2017 CLAAS fact finding team went to Haji Pura police station in Sialkot to gather



facts about the incident and met the Investigation Officer (IO) Imdad Shah. According to him, police arrested the accused persons and confined them in the police station after getting the medical reports of sexual assault and registration of FIR against them. The police also provided temporary shelter to Khurram and his daughters in the police station. Meanwhile his eldest daughter was abducted by the opponents as they were pressurizing him for compromise but he refused to do so. He tried to file another complaint for his missing daughter but that

couldn't register as the concerned police station was Nika Pura instead of Haji Pura. The Distressed and heartbroken, Khurram took his remaining minor daughters and moved from Sialkot as he felt that it was not a safe place for them to live and did not pursue the case further. In his absence the opponents got released from the police station under the heavy pressure of the local counselor with a promise that they will present themselves whenever needed by the police for investigation. CLAAS team acquired copies of the FIR and medical reports from Haji Pura police station and also submitted an application in the Nika Pura Police Station to register

case on the abduction of Khurram's daughter. But the case will be preceded further after meeting with the DSP, seeing the lengthy procedure CLAAS decided to file a habeas corpus petition for the recovery of Suman. On behalf of Khuram CLAAS filed a habeas corpus petition on July 25, 2017 in High Court Lahore for the recovery of his daughter Suman (11) who according to Khurram was illegitimately detained by of his relatives. The honorable Judge issued the direction to the concerned Station House Officer (SHO) Nika Pura District Sialkot for Suman's recovery and produces her before the honorable court on the next date of hearing on July 26, 2017. On the said date both parties were present in court and the judge heard the arguments from both sides in which it was brought into the knowledge of the honorable judge by the respondent party that the minor was not in their custody rather the father of the minor was well aware about her whereabouts. Even though the learned judge ordered to register a criminal case against the accused persons but later the petitioner did not contact his lawyer to pursue the case further. Therefore for the time being the counsel of the petitioner did not pursue the petition and hence the case was disposed of accordingly. Later on a writ petition under section 22-A, 22-B Cr.P.C. for issuance of direction to the Station House Officer (SHO) Police Station Nika Pura, Sialkot to register a criminal case against the accused persons mentioned in the application was filed by CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate High Court Lahore on behalf of Khurram Victor in the court of Sessions Judge Sialkot. The said application disposed of in his favor. But Khurram Victor did not want to pursue the case accordingly. Furthermore CLAAS provided shelter to Khurram Shahzad Victor along with his 5 daughters and also provided them all basic necessities. However due to some personal reasons he left the shelter house after staying for a short span of time. As he had property dispute with his relatives, the local police offered him all possible assistance in this matter. Nevertheless he is not willing to take appropriate measures to resolve the issue within his family. In October Khurram along with his daughters protested in front of Press Club Lahore to project his issues through print, electronic and social media. He was using different platforms to cash his story. When he was offered help he does not cooperate with anyone and was just emotionally blackmailing people for some other motives.

4- Saleem Inayat Vs The State

On August 4, 2017, a 26 years old lady Mahreen d/o Iqbal Gulab Masih (a British victim)



approached CLAAS office and she discussed with CLAAS staff about the mistreated and unfair attitude of her in-laws which was pre planned but was executed later. According to her she got married with Zohaib Gill two and half years back (May 2015) who was British citizen and lives at Slough London with his family. The marriage was performed in Pakistan with the consent of both families. Subsequently Zohaib went back to abroad and came back to Pakistan after one year. Then he took her to abroad where she started living with her in-laws in a joint family system. Zohaib was the only son of his family and he has three sisters who were living with them in the same house. After 08 months while she was with her husband, he shared that he got married twice but his both wives left him. She ignored this fact and fulfilled her responsibilities although her in-laws always kept her busy in domestic work and did not behave well. In April 2017 the couple was blessed with a baby girl named Liyah who was

three months old (In August 2017 at the time of reporting of CLAAS). Suddenly in July 2017 her husband got sick and died on 16th of July 2017 in the hospital then she came to know that he was suffering from heart and blood pressure problem. On 27th of July, 2017 his funeral

ceremony was held. After that on 31st of July 2017 her in-laws informed her that they have planned to offer memorial service of her husband in Pakistan. Therefore Mahreen and her sister in-law name Roma Gill had travel to Pakistan and her in-laws kept her daughter Liyah in their custody. Upon inquiring about her daughter, they assured that the other family members including her minor daughter will reach after two days. So, on 1st August 2017 she along with her sister in-law reached at Lahore airport through PIA airline where Roma's uncle Sabir, cousin Amjad and Pastor Saleem Inayat were already present there to receive them. She was in shocked when her sister in-law Roma Gill informed her that she will join her later, and she forced Mahreen to go with his uncle Sabir's house. Suddenly, Roma snatched her passport, visa card and CNIC card from her and Sabir took her at his home. Later on her family was informed by someone about her arrival then they approached her and she told them about the whole incident. Immediately she registered an FIR against Roma Gill, Sabir and Amjad in the concerned police station. Police arrested Sabir and Amjad who are confined in the police lockup while Roma Gill moved back to abroad. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate for contesting the bail of arrested persons and Saleem Anayat moved his post-arrest bail which was contested by CLAAS.

5-M.A. Joseph Francis Vs SHO & Justice of Peace Lahore

On October 10, 2017 a politician Captain retired Muhammad Safdar MNA Pakistan Muslim League (N), who is the son-in-law of the ousted Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif made bigotry remarks against the religious minorities on the floor of National Assembly. Captain Rt. Safdar's hate speech was telecasted on news channels, published in newspapers and posted on other social media sites. While the floor of the National Assembly was being used to spread hatred and attack on the minority community but none of the MNAs had the decency to object. Even the opposition parties who had championed themselves as the upholders of human rights lost their voices and the ruling government also did not take any action against him. A wave of anger and fear spread among religious minorities after Captain Rt. Safdar's hate speech right on the floor of National Assembly. The general public also reacted strongly to the speech through various social media platforms. Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis was outraged at Captain Safdar's speech filled with baseless wrath against the religious minorities and strongly condemned his horrendous behavior. While on the other hand the efforts by some government leaders to curtail the hate speech were condemnable, in Mr. Joseph Francis' view it was not enough. Consequently, being aggrieved Mr. Joseph Francis issued press release to condemn the hate speech of Captain Rt. Safdar and also after consultation with his legal advisor Mr. Joseph Francis moved an application in Police Station Nishtar Colony, Lahore for the registration of an FIR against Captain Safdar. A copy of the application was also submitted to CCPO office Lahore on October 13, 2017. But police did not register the case against him and even did not pay any heed on the said application. Therefore on October 14, 2017 a writ petition was moved in the Sessions Court Lahore on behalf of Mr. Joseph Francis MBE, for registration of case against Captain Muhammad Safdar. On October 17, 2017 the concerned Sessions Judge Lahore issued notice to the Station House Officer (SHO) Police Station Nishtar Colony, Lahore to submit comments. The concerned SHO showed his biased attitude but he submitted comments in the court which were not in favor of minorities. The concerned court while showing its biased attitude towards the religious minorities disposed of the writ petition with the observation that the alleged speech was made in National Assembly and any speech in the National Assembly has constitutional protection under the constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. So that constitutional protection cannot be challenged. Initially the case was refused by the Additional Sessions Judge Lahore and subsequently writ petition no. 97181 of 2017 was also refused by the Lahore High Court Lahore. CLAAS through its legal team filed Intra Court Appeal (ICA) before the Divisional Bench of Lahore High Court Lahore. The Divisional Bench of Lahore High Court Lahore while redressing the grievance of the applicant referred the matter to

the Speaker National Assembly Pakistan and disposed of the petition. After wards the same petition was submitted before the Speaker National Assembly, Islamabad- Pakistan where the speech was made. The Speaker National Assembly Pakistan rejected the application with the order that Captain Safdar does not contain even a single word regarding Christians.

Habeas Corpus Petition:

1-Aslam Masih Vs Rabia & SHO etc

Rabia Aslam 29 is a victim of domestic violence was accommodated at CLAAS shelter home along with her three children and provided free legal assistance accordingly. Rabia approached CLAAS on January 13, 2017 and shared with CLAAS team that she had a love marriage with Aslam Masih on June 29, 2009 without her family's consent. After marriage she started living in Lahore with her husband and God blessed them with three children named Arsh 6 years old, Mariam 3 years old and Abraham 1 year old. Rabia further shared that after marriage; she was not allowed to visit her family although she lived in Lahore. Thus she had no family support. She started working as a cook and lived in the servant quarters and then they shifted to Islamabad as her employer got transferred there. Rabia's employer helped her husband Aslam to get a job as driver on contract basis at WAPDA. Aslam was careless and often remained absent from work. He had never been responsible towards domestic affairs and used all her



salary on alcohol rather than providing basic necessities to the children. Due to these entire circumstances the relation between Rabia and Aslam were not cordial. Often arguments between them turned into dispute and Aslam beat her harshly. In spite of all that Rabia tried to compromise with him for the sake of marital life and children. She always requested Aslam to mend his ways and take his responsibilities seriously for their better future. But Aslam did not change his attitude towards her and in October 2016 he beat her brutally and she sustained bruises on her face. She had not experienced

anything as hideous as this as he also blamed her for having extra marital affairs. She was not only brutally beaten up but left alone as Aslam travelled back to Lahore to his family without informing her. After that Aslam did not contact her. Rabia shared that she discussed the entire incident with her family and came back to her parents' home. Later on a habeas corpus petition was filed by Aslam in High Court Lahore for the recovery of his children from Rabia as the children were living with her. Furthermore Rabia's two brothers Tanvir Iqbal and Azeem Iqbal were also nominated in the petition. The concerned Judge ordered The Station House Officer (SHO) Aray Bazar Lahore to recover the minor children from Rabia's brothers and produce them in the court. The concerned police raided Rabia's parents' home and did not find the children there then police took her brother Tanvir and confined him in police lockup. On January 13, 2017 Rabia approached CLAAS office and requested for free legal assistance. CLAAS provided legal assistance to Rabia for the release of her brother and also contested habeas corpus petition (filed by her husband) through its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate High Court. On January 16, 2017 Rabia along with her three children was produced in the court and recorded her statement that she is living with her parents happily and she along with minors does not want to go with her husband Aslam. After her statement court allowed Rabia to live with her children and habeas corpus petition was dismissed. As children were not handed over

to Aslam then he started harassing Rabia and her family therefore Rabia along with her children and sister Fouzia was accommodated at CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre “Apna Ghar” for a short period. After that a compromise took place between the parties and Rabia went back to her husband’s home along with her children. Rabia and Alsam thanked CLAAS for its support towards her family matter.

2-Sobia VS Naeem Lal

Sobia 21 was compelled to move out from her house by her husband Naeem Lal Masih on March 1, 2017. She came to her parents’ home and on March 14, 2017 she approached CLAAS office for legal assistance and shared with CLAAS team that she married Naeem about four years ago and the couple had one child named Isaac 2½ years. Sobia shared that she belongs to a poor family and did not bring any dowry at the time of her marriage. Therefore her in-laws always mistreated her. Her husband did not show any love or affection towards her. She was



insulted and beaten up by them on minor domestic issues. The situation worsened day by day instead of improving. She tried hard to compromise for the sake of her marriage and child but the violent attitude of her husband Naeem and in-laws remained unchanged throughout the period of 04 years. On January 15, 2017 Naeem severely beat Sobia, and snatched her son Isaac asking her to leave the house. She refused to leave the house without her son but they forcibly drove her out of the house. Therefore she had to come back to her father’s home and tried to reconcile for two months but all struggles were in vain. She felt

hopeless as the poor parents had no money for lawyer’s fee to get her child back. Hence on March 14, 2017 she approached CLAAS office along with her sister and requested for legal assistance regarding her son’s recovery. On March 15, 2017 CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum filed a Habeas Corpus Petition in the Court of Sessions Judge Lahore on behalf of Sobia Bibi for the recovery of her minor son. The honorable court issued notice to the concerned Station House Officer, Police Station Green Town, Lahore to recover the minor and produce him before the court. On March 16, 2017 the minor was recovered and produced before the court. Later on his custody was handed over to Sobia Bibi and the case ended successfully after the recovery. Sobia along with her son Isaac visited CLAAS office to thanked CLAAS for its untiring efforts as she was happy to get her son back.

3-Aster VS SHO & Ruhail Nadeem

On March 21, 2017 Aster approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance for the recovery of



her son. Aster Samson 25 got married to Ruhail with parents’ consent on January 11, 2015. After marriage she lived in a joint family system. Ruhail worked as painter whereas she was a housewife. The early five months of marriage were cordial for her but after that she came to know that Ruhail had extra marital affairs and was also an alcoholic. Often she was beaten up brutally by him whenever she requested him to give up drinking. Instead of getting rid of his bad habits he stopped providing her basic needs instead increased his cruel behavior towards her. However he tortured her physically during her pregnancy days. She told her in-laws about Ruhail’s behavior but they did not stop him for his violent attitude.

She felt helpless among her in-laws and never shared with parents just to save her marriage. She gave birth to a baby boy Bilsan but her husband did not accept him. On March 19, 2017 Ruhail started to quarrel with her after drinking and beat her brutally while she was two months pregnant with a second child. He snatched her son Bilsan and drove her out of the house in the middle of the night on March 19, 2017. One of the neighbours contacted telephonically and informed her family that she sat on road in critical condition at Mughal Pura Lahore. On March 21, 2017 CLAAS through its legal advisor Ms. Ayesha B. Boota filed a Habeas Corpus Petition in the Court of Sessions Judge Lahore on behalf of Aster Samson for the recovery of her minor Bilsan. The honorable court issued notice to the concerned Station House Officer, Police Station Ghalib Market, Lahore to recover the minor and produce him before the court. On March 22, 2017 the minor was recovered and produced before the court. Later on his custody was handed over to his mother Aster. After recovery Aster along with her son Bilsan visited CLAAS office. She thanked CLAAS for its efforts and was happy to get her son back. An application for her medical treatment was also moved which was accepted same day by the Judicial Magistrate Lahore. Later a compromise took place between both parties and Aster went back to her husband's house.

4-Shoukat Vs SHO

Shoukat Masih, a brick kiln worker alleged that his son Shahid Masih 19 had been detained by



Muhammad Imran s/o Master Khan on April 30, 2017. Shoukat shared that he was working at Master Khan Brick Kiln along with his family members including sons Shahid and Ejaz; and sisters Naila and Elisha. Shoukat took rupees one hundred thousand in advance about six months ago. Half of the borrowed amount had been deducted by the owner. In the month of April, the owner stopped their weekly wages; therefore family moved back to Lahore. However Shahid's wife Marriam remained in Faisalabad with her mother. She called him and asked him to visit her in Faisalabad. So Shahid

went to Faisalabad along with his mother Majeeda Bibi and brother Ejaz on a rented rickshaw LEU 4354 driven by Nabeel Masih. When they reached Faisalabad, there stood Muhammad Imran, who took them all to the brick kiln at gunpoint. There he detained Shahid and rickshaw and released Majeeda Bibi, Ejaz and Nabeel. Shahid's sister Shamshad went to Master Khan Brick Kiln and met Shahid, she said that he was chained at the brick kiln. He was physically tortured by Imran that caused him multiple bruises on his face. She further said that Imran threatened to kill Shahid in case his advance was not paid back. Shoukat Masih along with his wife and children approached CLAAS on May 03, 2017 and requested legal assistance to recover their son Shahid Masih. Mr. Joseph Francis, National Director instructed his lawyer Mr. Tahir Bashir to file petition of habeas corpus for the recovery of Shahid Masih. On the instructions of Mr. Joseph the petition was filed immediately in the High Court Lahore on May 02, 2017. The High Court Lahore deputed bailiff that accompanied CLAAS team to Faisalabad. The bailiff reported to the local police station and local police official accompanied bailiff and raided the Master Khan Brick Kiln and found out that Shahid was not in the custody. However, the police inquired about Shahid but Brick Kiln representative said that they were not aware of Shahid's whereabouts. The bailiff submitted his report in the court that Shahid has not been recovered. Later case fixed for next hearing and on the said date the sub-inspector submitted his report that the concerned police officials made efforts but failed to trace out the detainee. The honorable High Court while rejecting the same report issued an order to CCPO Faisalabad

to find him and produce him in the court on May 11, 2017. On the given date which was May 11, 2017 the detainee Shahid Masih was produced in the court by the concerned Station House Officer (SHO) and the court directed the SHO to investigate the matter abiding by the Law. Thus the habeas petition was disposed of accordingly.

5- Sarafeen Vs Tanvir Masih etc

Sarafeen (32) d/o Bashir Masih a resident of District Kasur. She has 4 brothers out of which 3



are married and the youngest unmarried brother lives with his mother. Her father passed away one year before her marriage. Her mother used to work as a housemaid but she stopped working because she is diabetic and lost one leg in a surgery. Sarafeen had a love marriage with Tanveer Ahmed six years ago and started living with him in a joint family system. Tanveer had a large family of 7 brothers and 6 sisters all living together and Sarafeen had to take care of the entire household. Her husband worked in a garments factory but he left his job and afterwards became a pastor. Since he had no proper job it became difficult for Sarafeen

to manage the household. In consequence they started having fights on tiny issues. Whenever she asked money for daily expenses he would beat her in return. Tanveer and his family also used to mistreat her because she did not bring any dowry articles at the time of her marriage. Sarafeen gave birth to twin daughters Yuana and Persicla after one year of marriage and later had a son named Zerick. When the twins were 2 and a half year old Tanveer had a huge fight with Sarafeen and forced her to get out of the house. He kept the daughters and gave the son to her. Then after two years Tanveer brought her back home but his attitude was as usual the same. On September 1, 2017 both of them again had a huge quarrel at home when they were celebrating Tanveer's nephew's birthday. Tanveer severely beat Sarafeen in front of his whole family but nobody stopped him. Then he called her brother Qaiser to come and take her away. He kept all the children with himself. Afterwards, she had a medical check-up done as her condition was not good enough due to her husband's beating. The doctor told Sarafeen that she was two months pregnant but because her husband beat her up brutally she had a miscarriage. Sarafeen was shocked due to her husband and in-laws behavior. She wants to get her children back from her husband. At present she is living at her mother's house along with one unmarried brother who earns to run the household. Sarafeen has passed 9th grade and was looking for a job. She wants to be able to earn for herself so that she can support her children. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on September 19, 2017 to seek legal assistance for her family matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhter Masih Sandhu for court proceedings. On September 21, 2017 through its legal advisor Mr. Akhter Masih Sandhu Advocate CLAAS filed a Habeas Corpus Petition in the Court of Sessions Judge District Kasur on behalf of Sarafeen for the recovery of her three minors namely Yuana (4.5), Persicla (4.5) and Zerik Mathew (3.5) who were in her husband's custody. The honorable court issued notice to the concerned Station House Officer, Police Station Saddar District Kasur to recover the minors and produce them before the court. On September 22, 2017 the minors were recovered and produced before the court. Later on their custody was handed over to their real mother Sarafeen Bibi. Afterwards on October 03, 2017 Sarafeen Bibi visited CLAAS office and informed that a compromise took place and she went back to her husband's house along with her children.

Forced Marriages:

1- Annie Vs Shafqat and SHO etc (*Annie victim of Abduction and Forced Marriage*):

Annie was just fourteen years old when she was abducted by her own paternal uncle Shafqat.



Her family took help from the local police to locate Annie but was unable to find her. Her abductor took her to a remote area and detained her in a remote house. Few months later he took her to a local mosque to marry her under Islamic ritual as this was the easiest way to legalize abduction and keep her confined. Annie ran away from the mosque but was unable to escape as her captor was stronger enough. She was again taken to the same house and was kept in solitary confinement without provision of edibles. During the confinement he continued raping and physically torturing her. Annie gave up all hopes for getting

out of the detention. During her captivity she got pregnant and gave birth to Aliyah who is now 8 years old and Aliyan 6 years old. Annie said that after having children without marriage she gave up hope of ever seeing her family because she knew that her family will never accept her. Her kids were still young when Shafqat forced her to work as domestic worker. He would take all her salary and would give her little amount for bus fare only. She briefed CLAAS staff that her husband brutally beat her up leaving bruises and injury marks on her body for days. One day she went to work and her mistress was shocked to see Annie's bruises and swollen face. She forced her to get some help. She left home without her children and reached CLAAS office on 9th February 2015. She was accommodated in 'Apna Ghar' CLAAS shelter home. CLAAS supported Annie and she got beautician skill training. Her children are going to school and CLAAS is bearing all their expenditures and still they all are living in CLAAS shelter home. On February 13, 2017 CLAAS lawyer Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba filed habeas corpus petition in the court of Sessions Judge Lahore on behalf of Annie for the recovery of two minors Aliyah and Aliyan. On February 15, 2017 Annie's partner Shafqat appeared before the court with their sons. The Honorable Judge gave them opportunity for reconciliation but Annie refused to go back with him. The Judge handed over both minors into Annie's custody. Annie's partner Shafqat has been constantly calling CLAAS for patch up. CLAAS is giving time to Annie to rethink on her decision. At present both Annie and her sons are residing in "Apna Ghar" CLAAS shelter home. Upon her request CLAAS also filed suit for dissolution of marriage in the court in April 2017 which is decreed in her favor. In September 2017 a suit for the recovery of maintenance allowance was also filed which is decreed in her favor. Furthermore during the court proceedings Annie's husband Shafqat tried to compromise and often he visited CLAAS office for meeting with his sons.

2- Salma Vs Javed Gill

Salma (40) d/o Bashir Masih is the resident of Lahore. She works at a beauty parlor in Defence Housing Society at a salary of 35,000 per month. She got married to Yaqoob Goga in 2001 with family's consent and moved into a rented house with him. Salma had one daughter with Yaqoob namely Naina who is now 16 years old and a student of 9th grade. Her husband died in 2005 due to illness. Later on, her aunt's brother-in-law named Javed Gill who used to frequently visit their house when they were young, after her husband's death drugged her and then he raped her and afterwards kept blackmailing her to do as he said otherwise he would kill her and her daughter. Since she lived separately on rent she did not tell her family members anything about

this whole matter at that time. Javed kept on torturing and sexually abusing her. Then in September 2016 he forcefully married her with the help of his friend and kept the same attitude. He would torture her physically and mentally on daily basis. Javed kept threatening Salma that if she told anyone about him or tried to leave him then she would have to face dire consequences. Salma kept on tolerating his bad behavior for several months when finally she got fed up and came to her father's house and told him everything about Javed. Her father kept her in his house along with daughter Naina but Javed kept contacting her and threatened her for life and forced her to return back to him. However due to his threats and torture she is not able to go to work or send her daughter to school. She is afraid and scared for her life as well as her daughter. Javed sells drugs and alcohol and is indulged in other criminal activities as well. Later on Salma found out that Javed was previously married and has three children. He is also a Christian by faith but has not divorced his first wife and fraudulently married Salma. She wants to take a divorce from him now and wants to live a peaceful life with her daughter Naina. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on September 19, 2017 along with her brother-in-law James Paul to seek legal assistance in her family matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate for legal proceedings. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate for court proceedings. On September 28, 2017 Mr. Nasir Anjum filed a writ petition of 22A, 22B Cr.PC for direction to register the FIR against respondent on behalf of Salma Bibi in the court of Additional Session Judge Lahore. The court noticed to Station House Officer, Police Station Factory Area, Lahore to produce their report in court on next date October 10, 2017. On September 23, 2017 Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate (CLAAS Lawyer) filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Salma Bibi in the court of Family Judge Lahore. The case is under proceedings for notices to respondent Javed Gill.

Freewill marriage Cases:

1-Mrs. Tanvir Maqbool Vs SHO etc (Aynas freewill marriage case)

Aynas Anwar 29 years old is living with her widow mother. She has two siblings, one elder brother and an elder sister, both married and living abroad with their families. Her father passed away on 3rd May 2009 and at that time she was in last year of graduation in B.Sc. (Honors). Ever since she completed her studies she has been working and earning to support her family. Her mother was a teacher at St. Anthony's High School, Lahore and retired in March 2013. After that only Aynas was earning and running her household, trying her best to make both ends meet. As her siblings got married and they provided just a little financial help only when she and her mother would be in grave need. In 2014 she quit from her job as she fell ill with dengue fever. Aynas was also not able to do any job due to health issues so; she got married with her freewill. Later her ex-husband started to torture her physically and mentally. After few months Aynas got divorce from him and he started to threaten her for dire consequences. Thereafter she started living with her mother in a rented house and there were no proper means for income. Therefore their owner of the house started to create problems through different ways for them because both ladies were living alone and he took advantage of this fact. Mrs. Tanveer was suffering from throat problem and unable to manage their household expenditure as well as medical treatment. Further Aynas has severe life threats from her ex-husband and both ladies were scared therefore on April 21, 2017 with the reference of Rt. Rev. Dr. Bishop Andrew Francis (late) she along with her mother approached CLAAS office for shelter as they have no proper place. CLAAS provided them shelter at "Apna Ghar" and legal assistance in the court against the owner of the house where they were residing as tenant and he forcibly occupied their household articles. CLAAS provided legal assistance to them for the recovery of household articles by filing the case in the court. During the stay at CLAAS's shelter home Aynas's mother Mrs. Tanveer often got unconscious as her condition was critical. Then CLAAS helped her for

her medical treatment twice and got her operated from a private hospital and tumor from her throat was removed after surgery.

2- Zoya Vs Malik Ali Raza,

Zoya Ali (30) a Christian by faith and resident of District Lahore is a victim of domestic violence



and domestic abuse. She has one brother who is the eldest and two sisters (married) whereas she is the youngest among all. Her father Iqbal Javed died when she was just a little child. Her mother struggled hard to raise her children as a single parent. She got married to Malik Ali Raza who was her neighbor and a Muslim. On 23rd April 2016 under Islamic rites after converting to Islam with her free will. The first few months of her marriage were cordial but later on Ali changed his attitude towards her when she refused to practice Islam. He started quarrelling with her on minor issues and often beat her up severely. She felt guilty why she left her parents and came to a Muslim

family. She missed going to the church as well. Zoya felt lonely and unhappy all the time and realized that this was a consequence of being away from Jesus and hurting her family by marrying a Muslim. After a few months Ali gave divorce to Zoya on a stamp paper and she came back to her parents' home but did not stay more than 2-3 weeks. She had a fight at home and then went back to Ali but after a few days came back to her mother's home again. She realized that it was not feasible for her to carry on a peaceful married life with her husband as his behavior had totally changed. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on August 28, 2017 along with her brother Aurangzaib to seek legal aid regarding her divorce legally. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu for court proceedings. On September 09, 2017 CLAAS Lawyer Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu Advocate filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Zoya Ali in the court of Senior Civil Judge Family Court Lahore. The notices were sent to Ali Raza by the court order while the case was under proceedings; Malik Ali Raza filed a habeas corpus petition for her recovery. CLAAS also contested the said petition on behalf of Zoya and produced her before the court. Zoya recorded her statement that she wants to live with her family and after her statement case disposed of accordingly.

3-Naila Raza Vs Khayyam James

Naila Raza (28) is the resident of District Lahore. She got married to Khayyam James Hussain



on 15th May 2015. It was a love marriage without her parents' consent which secretly took place at Khayyam's home. Naila knew Khayyam for only 2-3 months before getting married. At the time of her marriage Naila knew that Khayyam was already a divorcee and his first wife left him only after 6 months of marriage. Later he also got engaged to some girl before marrying Naila. Khayyam worked as a Project Coordinator at Bunny's Limited and Naila worked as an Arts teacher at LACAS School but he did not give her any maintenance allowance. She used to manage all her expenses from her own

salary. The first few months of Naila's marriage were spent happily but afterwards Khayyam changed his attitude towards her. His parents also mistreated her and often used foul language.

Her in-laws would forcibly get involved in their personal matters and blamed Naila of having bad character. Later on Naila came to know that Khayyam was having extra marital affairs with a lot of other girls. When she confronted him for this, Khayyam would gang-up with his parents and severely beat her up. He also gave her life threats and said that he would destroy her life completely. He used to have disputes with her on minor issues and blamed her of having affairs with his friends and her own students. Lately, Naila had a huge fight with Khayyam on a minor issue and he again threatened her for dire consequences. As a result she decided to go to her parents' house and does not wish to live with Khayyam anymore. She approached CLAAS office on 19th June 2017 along with her parents to seek legal assistance in her family matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba (Advocate High Court) for court proceedings. On June 23, 2017 suit for dissolution of marriage and suit for recovery of dowry articles has been filed on behalf of Naila Raza through Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate in the court of Family Judge Lahore. Both cases were under proceedings for notices to the respondent Khayyam and after getting notice of the court, Later on in September 2017 Khayyam James instituted the case against Naila Raza, suit for restitution of conjugal rights. CLAAS Lawyer Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate appeared in the court on behalf of Naila Raza on October 04, 2017 to contest the case.

4-Nasreen Vs Khawar Zaman

Nasreen Bibi (38) is a Christian by faith and resident of Lahore. She got married to Arif Keval in 1999 with her family's consent and moved to a rented house with him. Arif used to work as a government driver while Nasreen worked as a private nurse. The couple was blessed with children. Nasreen shared that the first few months of her marriage were spent happy and peaceful but gradually she realized that Arif was a very aggressive person. He started mistreating her and would often beat her on petty issues. But she ignored his rude behavior and compromised with him for the sake of her children. With the passage of time Arif's behavior got worst with her and even he used foul language with Nasreen all the time in front of the children. Nasreen was very much upset because of Arif's behavior and often shared it with her father. Despite their enormous fights and differences Nasreen's father always told her to manage with her husband under all circumstances. Meanwhile, one of Arif's colleagues



named Khawar Zaman who was Muslim used to visit his house frequently. Nasreen often shared her domestic issues with Khawar and asked him to talk some sense into his friend Arif. Instead of telling Arif to mend his ways, Khawar took advantage of their personal conflicts and started poisoning Nasreen against Arif. He told Nasreen that Arif was into other women and also an alcoholic trying to convince her that he was a man of bad character. Nasreen's heart was filled with so much hatred for Arif that eventually she left Arif and married Khawar under Islamic rites on 06th November 2016 and moved in with him. Afterwards even Khawar's behavior was not appropriate with her and she had to look after the entire household and his children from previous wife that made her realize that she made a huge mistake leaving her house and daughters. So she was determined to leave Khawar and contacted her first husband Arif for help. She apologized to Arif and asked him to take her back home to her daughters. Arif was also ashamed at his behavior and took Nasreen back home where she stayed with him for two weeks. Khawar followed her and threatened her for life. Nasreen got puzzled and scared and Khawar forcefully took her back to his home. Nasreen felt so lonely and depressed that she fell ill. She was not able to look after Khawar's children and the household so he started torturing her on daily basis. Nasreen became fed up of the entire situation and managed to escape from

there. She contacted Arif somehow and approached CLAAS office on August 10, 2017 to seek shelter and legal assistance. CLAAS provided her shelter at ApnaGhar and provided legal assistance to her by filing a suit for dissolution of marriage and a private complaint on her behalf and both cases are decided in her favor. After getting divorce from Khawar, Nasreen went back to Arif's house and at present she is living happily with her family.

5-Tabita Vs Shahbaz

Tabita (34) d/o Bashir Masih is the resident of Lahore and belongs to a Christian family. She got



married to Shahzadjaz with her free will on September 04, 2017 under Islamic rites and after three months solemnized marriage through a pastor under Christian faith. After marriage Tabita moved into a joint family system with Shahzad's parents and siblings and had to look after the entire household. Shahzad worked as a property dealer and it was not easy for him to manage the household expenses as he did not have a proper job. Shahzad's parents did not heartily accept Tabita as a part of their family and always created disputes with her on minor issues. As Shahzad was under his

mother's influence he used to beat Tabita for petty reasons. After one year of marriage God blessed Tabita and Shahzad with a baby girl and later they had six more children. Since Tabita gave birth to five daughters and only two sons Shahzad and his family were not so happy about it. His mother used to push him for second marriage in the hopes that he would have more sons. Shahzad informed Tabita about the whole thing and since she knew that her in-laws were not in her favor and she had nowhere else to go she gave consent to her husband for second marriage. He got second marriage in 2008 with a girl named Shazia who was his parents' choice. Shahzad brought Shazia to live in the same house and naturally both his wives had disputes on daily basis. He had three children with Shazia, two daughters and one son out of which one daughter died while she was an infant. As time passed on Shazia started to create problems for Tabita and turned Shahzad against her. Shahzad started beating Tabita on daily basis in front of everyone as Shazia blamed her of having extra marital affairs. Tabita was so fed up of the entire situation and decided not to tolerate Shahzad's torture anymore. Therefore she left the house with her younger five children and came to her brother Naseer's house. Naseer is already supporting his father and younger sister along with his wife and children so it was not easy for him to afford another sister with five minor children. So he told Tabita about CLAAS and she approached CLAAS office along with her children to seek legal aid and shelter. CLAAS accommodated her in shelter house ApnaGhar and appointed Miss Ayesha Boota for court proceedings. A suit for dissolution of marriage was filed on her behalf and decreed in her favor.

Family Matters

1- Shakeela Arif VS Waris Mirza

Shakeela d/o Arif (27) is a Christian by faith and resident of Youhanabad Lahore got married to Waris Mirza in 2012 with the consent of both families. Waris was previously married twice but his family disclosed about only one marriage and shared that his wife left him therefore Shakeela's family agreed for her marriage with Waris. Shakeela's came at her parents' home just after two weeks of her marriage after a minor dispute with her husband. The family got involved and after reconciliation Shakeela went back to Waris' home but she did not adjust with him although the couple has two children. Since 2014 she permanently came at her parents' home and



during this period her husband and in-laws never tried to contact with her. In January 2017 she approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance as she wanted to file a divorce case against her husband. Through Mr. Akhthar Masih Sandhu CLAAS filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Shakeela in the court of Civil Judge Family Court Lahore. During proceedings notices were sent to her husband (respondent Waris) and after receiving notice from the court Waris approached Shakeela and her family for compromise. In March 2017 the case was withdrawn by Shakeela as her family insisted her for compromise and she went back to her husband's home. Later on CLAAS was informed that Shakeela left her husband and got second marriage with another man.

2- Shahbana Karamat Vs Sunny Justin

Shahbana's marriage was arranged by her family in 2013 with Sunny Justin under the Christian rights. After few months of her marriage, Shahbana started to demand money from her parents on the instigation of her husband and in-laws. Her poor parents were unable to pay her a huge amount and she was pressurized by her in-laws. She got sick due to rude behavior of her husband and in-laws. She did not get any medical treatment and in June 2015 she was forcefully sent back to her parent's home. Her husband did not contact with her and she was informed that his family arranges her second marriage with another lady without divorcing Shahbana. Somehow her



parents arranged money for Sunny and gave him in October 2016 but Shahbana was still at her parents' home when in January 2017 her family approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance in this regard. Two cases were filed by CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba on behalf of Shahbana against her husband Sunny. The notices were sent to Sunny by the court orders and after receiving court notice Sunny appeared in the court of Civil Judge Family Court Lahore for contesting the suit for dissolution of marriage and suit for the recovery of dowry articles which were filed by CLAAS on behalf of Shahbana. The concerned court gave time for compromise to them and finally on January 03, 2018 after one year court proceedings a compromise took place between the parties at CLAAS office in the presence of

Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS and the eldest of the both families and at present Shahbana and her husband Sunny are living happily. During the one year of court proceeding CLAAS conducted counseling sessions with Shahbana off and on. The couple was thankful to CLAAS for their support to resolve their family issues

3-Shamim Yaqoob Vs Babar Akram

Shamim Yaqoob (35) is a victim of domestic violence visited at CLAAS office for seeking free



legal assistance and briefed in her statement that she got married with Babar Akram (38) on June 11, 2006. The marriage took place with the consent of both families at Kot Lakhpat Lahore. The couple lived solely in a rented house in Dhulam, District Lahore. They had three children Boomi 10, Ronaq 8 and Elishbah 2. Shamim also shared that her marriage turned into unhappiness when she came to know that her husband has extra marital affairs. When she argued with Babar about his extra marital affairs instead of defending himself he started her character assassination. Shamim further added that

her husband was a drug addict and did not take interest in his household responsibilities. He left his job and often Shamim requested him to earn for the family but he ignored. In January 2016 he started beating her brutally and sent her back to her parents' home along with her children when she demanded money from him. After that Babar neither came to see her nor her children for a whole year therefore she decided to file a divorce case and case for her children's expenditure. On February 7, 2017 Shamim approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba for court proceedings. Mr. Nasir filed dissolution of marriage and maintenance allowance on her behalf and both cases decreed in her favor on April 08, 2017. Later on an execution petition for maintenance allowance was filed which was executed.

4-Shaheen Bibi VS Shakeel Masih

Shaheen Bibi (38) was forced to leave her house by her husband Shakeel Masih (45) after 14



years of marriage. Shaheen married to Shakeel on November 12, 2002 and they were blessed with 3 children named John, George and Aylia. Shakeel worked as a janitor at various restaurants and factories while she is a domestic worker. The couple lived happily for few years after their marriage but later quarrels started between them on minor domestic issues. Shaheen was not allowed to see her family in Kasur and neither could anyone else visit her. Shaheen was aware that her husband Shakeel was a regular alcoholic and had spoiled the behavior of 3 minor children by Shaheen's character assassination. Therefore her children stopped

obeying and respecting her as they followed their father. Shaheen shared her family issues with her parents and whenever the couple had minor disputes the elders in the family resolved their issues. However, she compromised with the situation for the sake of her children. She further shared that Shakeel had low income and he could not manage monthly expenses of his children. Therefore Shaheen took initiative to work as a housemaid to earn and fulfill the

expenses of children's education. He disliked Shaheen working and blamed her for extra marital affairs. However Shakeel was not in favor of children's education therefore he asked his sons John and George 15 to start work as painters to support the family. He had close bond with the elder sons; therefore they stayed with their father. On March 1, 2017 Shaheen had moved back to her family in Kasur along with her younger son Aylia, student of 3rd grade. Shaheen's mother is retired and on pension whereas her brother pledged to provide all the necessities needed by Shaheen and her son. Shaheen approached CLAAS office along with her brother Rasheed Masih on March 10, 2017 for legal assistance to get divorce from Shakeel Masih. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu to file a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Shaheen and to file a suit for recovery of maintenance allowance for the education of her son. During court proceedings notices were sent to respondent Shakeel Masih and after seven months court proceedings a compromise took place between the parties in October 2017.

5-Misbah VS Mansha Masih

Misbah Aslam 40 resident of Lahore got married to Mansha Masih on June 1, 1992 with the



consent of both families and shifted to her in-laws at District Sheikhpura. The early period of her marriage was pleasant but after 6 months she came to know that her husband was a drug addict and an alcoholic. Whenever she requested him to give up drugs, he warned her to stay away from his personal matters and often she was physically and mentally tortured by her husband. But Misbah compromised on the situation despite her husband's addiction of alcohol. Since two years they had no child and her mother-in-law Sharifan blamed her that she was medically unfit to conceive a child. Therefore Misbah requested her mother-in-law for her medical checkup. After medical checkup of the couple the reports confirmed that Mansha cannot become a father because of drinking alcohol.

When Misbah asked him for medical treatment, he got aggressive and beat her brutally. Thereafter her mother-in-law tried different kinds of amulets for Misbah's pregnancy to hide the fact that her son is medically unfit. In result Misbah suffered from many diseases and got depressed. Due to her critical situation someone from her in-laws informed her family about Misbah's condition. Then her family took her back to their home afterwards admitted in the hospital for psychiatric treatment. After some days she got stable and requested her family that she did not want to go back to her husband's home. Her husband also did not contact her for three years. Because she did not want to live with Mansha therefore she approached CLAAS office on March 30, 2017 for free legal assistance regarding her divorce case. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Ms. Ayesha B. Bhatti for court proceedings. On April 04, 2017 CLAAS through its legal advisor filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Misbah in the court of Senior Civil Judge Lahore. The notices were sent to the defendant Mansha on court's order and even proclamation in newspaper was also published but he did not appear before the court to defend or compromise. Later, on May 03, 2017 the statements of Misbah and two of her witnesses were recorded. On May 08, 2017 CLAAS lawyer had final arguments case in the court. After hearing the arguments the suit for dissolution of marriage was decreed in the favor of Misbah Aslam.

6-Anum VS Ijaz Masih

Annum 23 d/o Dinkson Mull got married with Ijaz Nazir with the consent of both families on August 16, 2015 at Fazlia Colony Lahore. She shared that she became a victim of physical torture by her husband Ijaz. On their wedding night Ijaz avoided consummating their relationship because he did not want to get married to her and also did not want to share the same room

with her. Later she discovered that he is a drug addict and also he was interested in another girl.



Therefore her husband did not show any love and affection towards her and beat her harshly. The newly wed Annum tolerated his cruelty to save her marriage hoping that he might change. But one night Ijaz beat her harshly and tried to attack her with a knife and threatened to kill her. His severe physical torture created immense hatred in her heart and she decided to leave him. Just after fifteen days of her marriage her parents took her back when she shared with them about the cruel attitude of her husband. Two years have been passed but Ijaz and his family did not contact or visit her. The marriage ended up and after two years on April 13, 2017 Annum approached CLAAS office for legal assistance regarding her divorce matter. On April 20,

2017 CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Annum in the court of Senior Civil Judge Lahore. The notices were sent to the defendant and even the proclamation in newspaper was also published by the court order but he did not appear before the court. Later, on May 30, 2017 Annum's evidence was recorded and on June 16, 2017 after CLAAS lawyer's arguments the suit for dissolution of marriage was decreed in the favor of Annum.

7-Naila Nazir VS Haider Afzal

Naila's marriage was arranged by her parents within relatives on February 16, 2014 with Haider



Masih at Taj Park, District Lahore. Haider worked as a janitor while Naila was a housewife. The first month of her marriage was cordial for the couple but later they started having disputes on tiny issues. With the passage of time she came to know that her husband was interested in another girl. She tried to make him realize that he is not treating her right but instead of changing attitude towards her he made her life even more difficult. The attitude of her in-laws was also not good towards her and she became victim of domestic violence. She starved

while being at her in-laws' house with husband. She was not allowed to use phone or visit her parents to share her sufferings. Haidar also threatened to divorce her as she had failed to conceive for the past three years however he did not have medical checkup for both of them. Having so many restrictions and domestic violence, Naila was compelled to leave her husband. She came to her mother's house in January 2017 and waited for five months for her husband to take her home. Haidar did not contact her neither visited her. She decided to give up on Haidar rather than being humiliated. Naila along with her mother Martha approached CLAAS office on May 02, 2017 for dissolution of marriage. On May 12, 2017 CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Akhter Masih Sandhu filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Naila Bibi in the court of Senior Civil Judge Lahore. The notices were sent to the defendant and proclamation in newspaper was also published by the court orders. Later on June 19, 2017 Naila's evidence was submitted and statement of Naila was recorded. On September 12, 2017 lawyer completed his arguments and then Naila informed about compromise with her husband. Later, on September 26, 2017 the case was withdrawn due to compromise between both parties.

8-Nabeeta Nasir VS Nasir Daniel

Nabita 28 d/o Wilson married Nasir Daniel on October 16, 2012 with her parents' consent at Youhanabad District Lahore. Nasir worked as a driver. The couple had three children Anaya four year old and twins Aina & Mark seven months. Nabita told that after marriage she shifted at her in-law as joint family system at Gulberg III Lahore. The first three months of her marriage were pleasant and after that her husband started ignoring her. Later she discovered that he was a drug addict and was also cheating on her. When she tried to dig out why there is a sudden change in his behavior, he disclosed that he did not want to marry her. Often he beat her brutally on the domestic issues even when she was pregnant and he did not provide proper diet and medications. He also stopped providing money for household expenditures therefore her parents were fulfilling her needs. In April 2017 he started quarrelling with her on tiny issues and forcibly sent her to her parents' home and did not bring her back. It became difficult for her to manage her children's needs as her parents also were not able to afford. On May 10, 2017 she approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance regarding her issue. CLAAS through its legal advisor Nasir Anjum Suba filed a suit for maintenance allowance for her children. On May 17, 2017 suit for the recovery of maintenance allowance was filed on behalf of Nabeeta in the court of Senior Civil Judge Family Court Lahore in which notices were sent to the respondent. After receiving notice from the court her husband Nasir contacted her and asked for compromise. Later, on July 25, 2017 the case was withdrawn due to compromise between both parties.

09-Uzma Vs Wilson

Uzma Ishaq (29) Christian by faith is a resident of District Kasur. Uzma got married to Wilson in



2004 with her family's consent. They lived in a joint family system and her husband was working as a government employee in the Corporation. She has 3 children namely Nelson age 12, Esther age 10 and Silas age 8. Wilson was a drug addict and used to beat her up whenever Uzma tried to stop him. Her husband kept the same attitude towards her instead of mending his ways. After 10 years of marriage Uzma came to know that her husband had an extra marital affair with his elder brother's wife. She had a huge fight with her husband and involved his family into the matter. Her in-laws who

earlier used to mistreat her stood by her side in this matter but begged Uzma not to disclose this to Wilson's elder brother fearing that it would destroy the two brothers' relationship forever. Wilson also assured her that he would quit his relationship with his brother's wife but it was just a false promise. He secretly kept his relations going on until one night when Uzma saw them together in his room. Upon asking him, he brutally beat her up and forced her out of the house in the middle of the night and kept the children with him. Uzma came to her parents' house in Feb 2016. Uzma had no clue that her husband had filed a missing report for her and accused her of stealing gold and cash from his house. Her family kept waiting for Wilson to have reconciliation between them but all in vain. On 14th May 2017, Uzma came to know that her husband got married to a girl without divorcing her as he claimed that his first wife (Uzma) had passed away. Uzma is currently living with her two elder brothers as her parents have passed away. She is illiterate and does not have a job so she is totally dependent on her brothers who work as laborers on daily wages. She approached CLAAS office on 24th May 2017 with her sister Fouzia and brother Surakh to seek legal aid and assistance for her family matter. CLAAS has appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu (advocate high court) for court proceedings. On May 29, 2017 CLAAS legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu Advocate filed a

suit for the recovery of dowry articles in the court of Senior Civil Judge Family Court District Kasur and later on June 19, 2017 a suit for dissolution of marriage was also filed on behalf of Uzma. The suit for dowry article was decided in her favor and she received back her dowry articles from her husband's home. The suit for dissolution of marriage was contested by her husband and still is under proceedings.

10-Amber Vs Anjum Arif

Amber Anjum (36) is a resident of Lahore. Amber got married to Anjum Arif on 05th February 2000 with her family's consent. They lived in a joint family system and her in-laws were quite poor. She has 2 children namely Dourin age 14 and Suleman age 12. Since day one Amber's in-laws mistreated her because she was Anjum's choice and did not accept her. They abused her in the absence of her husband. They further did not allow her to work as she wanted to support her husband who was a rickshaw driver. Later her husband set up his own business as a janitorial supervisor. Afterwards he started his own catering business in 2012. As soon as Anjum started earning good he developed bad habits. He started drinking and also became a drug addict. Often times he would severely beat Amber whenever she asked for money. Anjum kept the same attitude towards her instead of mending his ways. After a few years of marriage Anjum even tried to kill Amber by setting her on fire but luckily she managed to escape and went to her parents' home. Later on she came to know that her husband had an extra marital affair and wanted to leave Amber. Anjum started staying out late at night and often would go



straight to the other woman's house from work. She involved his family into the matter but they did not help her resolve their issues. Anjum stopped supporting Amber and his kids financially and she would often turn towards her mother for help. He did not let her go out of the house or meet her parents. The children also became upset due to their father's behavior for he would beat up Amber in front of them. Amber did not want her children to suffer so she kept trying to convince her husband to mend his ways and have a better life with her but all in vain.

She has been living like a maid with her in-laws in the hopes that Anjum will leave his bad habits one day and become a better person. On 28th May 2017, Amber had a quarrel with her husband on a petty issue and he threatened her for life. Amber called her mother who came to her in-laws house to have a chance for reconciliation between them but Anjum forced Musarat Bibi (Amber's mother) out of his house. Musarat Bibi approached CLAAS office on 30th May 2017 for legal assistance for her daughter and grandchildren. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate for court proceedings. On May 30, 2017 through its legal advisor CLAAS filed a Habeas Corpus Petition in Sessions Court Lahore on behalf of Musarat Bibi for the recovery of Amber 36 and her children Dourin 14 and Suleman 12 years old. The honorable court issued notice to the concerned Station House Officer, Police Station Naseerabad, Lahore to recover the detainees and produce them before the court. On May 31, 2017 the detainees were recovered and produced before the court. Later on their custody was handed over to Musarat Bibi. After recovery Amber accompanying her children and Musarat Bibi visited CLAAS office and requested for shelter. CLAAS accommodated Amber and her children at "Safe House" Rehabilitation Centre CLAAS. On June 7, 2017 CLAAS filed suit for dissolution of marriage and suit for the recovery of maintenance allowance on behalf of Amber in the court of Civil Judge Family Court Lahore through Ms. Ayesha Boota legal Advisor CLAAS. The notices were sent to Anjum by the court orders and after receiving notice, Anjum asked Amber for compromise. After three months on September 06, 2017 both cases were withdrawn due to

compromise between the both parties. Amber moved back to Anjum's house along with both her children and now they are living happily.

11-Komal Tariq Vs Rashid Minhas

Komal Rashid (29) d/o Tariq Masih is resident of Youhanabad District Lahore. She got married to Rashid Minhas on 19th May 2012 with her family's consent. She stayed at her parent's house along with her husband for almost 10 months after marriage because her husband was jobless. Afterwards she was shifted to a rented house with her husband in March 2013 and stayed there for almost 4-6 months. Her husband got a small partnership with one of his friends and worked as a fuel supplier. During this time she got pregnant but when she shared this with her husband he became unhappy after hearing this. Rashid said that until he finds a proper job he is not interested in having a child because he cannot afford a family at this time. When she was 2 months pregnant, her husband gave her some pills without her knowledge which resulted in her miscarriage. She realized that her husband had deliberately given her the wrong medicine after which she had a miscarriage but he simply denied it. After that she was not on good terms with her husband and they had minor disputes on daily basis. In Nov 2013, Rashid adopted his sister's 11 months old baby boy named Johnson. Rashid was secretly planning to go to Thailand without informing Komal anything about it. When Komal came to know about this she



had argument with him and asked him to take her along but he plainly refused. Before going to Thailand he also asked her to return the baby to his sister but Komal kept him for almost 3 years. In the meantime, Komal also came to know that her husband was having an extra marital affair with a girl named Sana who was his friend's sister. Rashid's aunt had warned Komal about it earlier but she did not pay any heed to it. Sana went to Thailand in May 2014 and subsequently Rashid went in July 2014. They were living together in Thailand and soon got married. All her in-laws knew that Rashid went to Thailand with Sana and married her over there so they ended up all contacts with Komal and did not help her in this matter. Komal approached a pastor in Bahar Colony who had helped Rashid get the visa for Thailand and asked him to help her out. The pastor told Komal that he was going to Thailand to attend a seminar and would take her along so she could meet her husband. Despite the fact that Rashid asked the pastor not to help her, Komal reached Thailand in September 2015. She contacted her husband from the airport but he plainly refused to receive her. Komal stayed with the pastor for about a week and then she moved to Aakash's house (Rashid's nephew) who was also living and working in Thailand. Komal tried to contact her husband but he would either not attend her calls or accuse her of having a bad character and involved with his nephew. After many attempts she failed to reconcile with her husband, she approached UNHCR's office in Thailand to report about her husband's wrong doings but did not get any fruitful result. However Rashid produced a marriage certificate with Sana and proved that she was his legal wife. Rashid got deported due to over stay and is currently residing in his home town Narowal. Komal also returned to Pakistan and is currently living at her parents' house. She visited CLAAS office on 29th May 2017 with her brother Nouman to seek legal assistance for her family matter. CLAAS has appointed its legal advisor Ms. Ayesha Bhatti (Advocate High Court) for court proceedings. On June 03, 2017 a suit for dissolution of marriage was filed in the court of Senior Civil Judge, Lahore on behalf of Komal. Another case for the registration of FIR against her husband was filed on June 05, 2017 in the court of Sessions Judge, Lahore. On July 04, 2017 CLAAS legal advisor Ms. Ayesha Bhatti Advocate argued the case and after hearing the arguments the court directed to Komal to approach the concerned SHO and record her version. The petition was disposed of. Later, on July 21, 2017 the petitioner's council Ms.

Ayesha Bhatti Advocate argued the case and after hearing the arguments the court decreed the petition in favor of Komal

12-Mehwish Vs Shahzad Masih

Mehwish aged 20 d/o Sarfraz Masih is resident of Gulberg Lahore got married with Shahzad Masih s/o Shahbaz Masih on February 06, 2016. The marriage solemnized according to Christian Rites and out of this wedlock the couple was blessed with one child named Elat. Mehwish shared that the early few months of her marriage were pleasant for her but later conflicts started between husband and wife on minor issues. She tried for compromise with her husband and requested him to mend his ways but all in vain. With the passage of time differences arose and Mehwish found that her husband is a drug addict. Upon demanding money for household expenditure Sarfraz gave harsh beating to her and also used filthy language against her. The situation was growing worst for Mehwish and after one year in July 2017 she left his home and came at parents' home. The in-laws and her husband did not contact with her and did not try for reconcile therefore Mehwish approached CLAAS office and requested for free legal assistance and she did not want to live with her husband and is not able to bear his cruel attitude. CLAAS provided free legal assistance to her and on July14, 2017 CLAAS filed suit for dissolution of marriage, suit for the recovery of maintenance allowance and suit for recovery of dowry articles on behalf of Mehwish Bibi in the court of Senior Civil Judge Family Court Lahore through its legal Advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate and all three cases are under proceedings in the courts. During the court proceedings notices were sent to respondent Shahzad Masih and even proclamation in newspaper was also published but Shahzad did not appear before the court to defend himself or compromise therefore Mehwish recorded her statement that she does not want to live with her husband anymore and her cases are pending for order.

13-Sonia alias Saba Vs Boota

Sonia 27 got second marriage with Boota Masih nine years ago. They have two children boy



name Umar 5 and girl Sania 3 years old. According to the facts Sonia was living with her in-laws in a joint family system and the relation between husband and wife was pleasant but after one year her husband's behavior was changed towards Sonia. Boota is alcoholic and beat Sonia and children very badly on petty issues. He also did her character assassination and used abusive language against her parents. In the mid of July 2017 (one week before approaching CLAAS office) Sonia left his home along with her children and came at her parents' home due to cruel

attitude of her husband and in-laws. On 20th July 2017 her husband came at her house and forcibly snatched children from her. As her husband and in-laws were not able to look after the children and fulfill their responsibilities therefore Sonia wanted to take back her children from them. Sonia started working as a sweeper in Medix Hospital, Lahore near her home for the needs of her children but her income is not sufficient so she could not afford court expenses. Sonia has seven siblings, four sisters and three brothers. Her brothers are working as brick kiln laborers and they are not able to help her financially. Therefore on July 25, 2017 Sonia approached CLAAS office for free legal assistance for the recovery of her children from her husband. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Ms. Ayesha B. Bhatti for legal assistance. On July 26, 2017 a habeas corpus petition was filed by CLAAS lawyer on behalf of Sonia in the court of

Sessions Judge Lahore. The honorable Judge directed the concerned Station House Officer (SHO) to recover the children and produce the minors before the honorable court. On July 27, 2017 the minors were recovered and produced before the court. The custody of recovered minors was handed over to their mother Sonia and the habeas corpus petition was disposed of accordingly. CLAAS also filed a suit for maintenance allowance on her behalf. After the recovery of her children, Sonia's husband started to threaten her for dire consequences and also filed a theft case against her. Thereafter a suit for maintenance allowance was filed on behalf of Sonia and in December 2017 a compromise took place between the parties and case was closed.

14-Saima Vs SHO etc

Saima d/o Ditta Masih (37) got married with Imran James in 2010 with the consent of both



families. She shared that after marriage she along with her husband started living in a rented house in Youhanabad, Lahore. She has two daughters named Samra 06 years old and Angel 05 years old. The family was living happily and the seven years of her married life were pleasant for them. Often minor arguments were exchanged between husband and wife but these issues were not affected on their matrimonial life and she was satisfied with her life. Since three years (2014) her in-laws started to create problems for her especially her mother in-law who

disliked her. In June 2017 her husband got sick and her mother in-law and other family members came to see him and after that they admitted him in the hospital and after his recovery they took him to their house. After that her husband did not come at home where she was living with her daughters. After one week in August 2017 her husband, mother in-law and brother in-law came at home and snatched her daughters from her. She was left alone in the rented house and tried to contact with her husband and in-laws but they did not want to see her. She left rented house and came at her aunt's house as her parent had died long ago. In August 2017 she approached CLAAS office and asked for legal assistance for her daughter's custody. CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu moved a habeas corpus petition for the recovery of her minor daughters and through court the custody of her daughters was handed over to her. After that CLAAS filed a suit for maintenance allowance and notices were sent to respondent Imran (Saima's husband) but he did not appear before the court for compromise and still case is under proceedings.

15-Shazia Sadique Vs Razaqat

Shazia d/o Sadique Masih resident of Lahore got married with Razaqat Anwar Masih in January 2008 with the consent of both families at that time she was 18 years old. She shifted with her husband and started living in a joint family system. The first three months of her marriage were cordial but later dispute started between them on minor issues. Shazia ignored her husband's attitude and compromised with him just to save her marital life. Four years passed for their married life but Shazia did not bear any child. After four years Shazia came to know that her husband was interested in another woman and she requested him to stop his extra martial affair but Razaqat started to beat her harshly. After that it was difficult for her to survive with him and she asked him to mend his ways but her husband forced her to leave the house. Since 2012 she left his house and came at her parents' house but her husband did not contact with her and remained in contact with another girl. Shazia waited for him till 2017 and finally in September 2017 approached CLAAS office for free legal aid and assistance for divorce case. CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on her

behalf in the court of Family Judge Lahore. During court proceedings notices were sent to respondent Rafaqat and even proclamation was published in the newspaper while the case was fixed for the statement of Shazia her husband Rafaqat appeared before the court and contested the suit for dissolution of marriage. His counsel submitted his power of attorney but did not submit any reply and still case is pending for reply from respondent's side.

16-Nargis Vs Anwar

Nargis came to CLAAS office on August 03, 2017 for legal assistance. CLAAS heard her story which was somehow complicated According to her she got married with the Ijaz Arif fifteen years back in October 2002. The marriage was performed with the consent of both families under the Christian Rites. The couple was blessed with one daughter and they lived a happy life but three months back (in June 2017) her husband got involved with another Christian girl and later got married with her in the court under the Islamic Law. After his marriage Nargis wanted to put a case against her husband, who was no more willing to live with her. CLAAS told Nargis that it is not possible to put a case against her husband and second wife since both of them have converted to Islam as their marriage is performed with Muslim Law. Nargis realized today for the first time that due to her negligence and cold behavior the gap between her and her husband increased. She stayed more with her mother than her husband. Her lack of interest and little conjugal relationship she faced this situation. So, Nargis asked CLAAS for filing a suit for maintenance allowance for her daughter's expenditures. CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu filed the case accordingly in the court of Family Judge Lahore. During court proceedings notices were sent to respondent Ijaz and even proclamation in newspaper was also published but Ijaz did not appear before the court for reply therefore Nargis withdraw her case.

17-Shazia Vs Allah Ditta

Shazia Barkat (32) d/o Barkat Masih is a Christian by birth and resident of District Lahore. She



got married to Allah Ditta (35) on 04th March 2007 with her family's consent. Shazia started living with her husband in a joint family system after marriage. The first few years of her marriage were spent peaceful and her husband was always supportive of her. Suddenly Allah Ditta started to distance himself from Shazia and changed his behavior towards her. Shazia was quite upset due to her husband's changed attitude. Eventually she came to know that her husband had an affair with his elder brother's widow even before their marriage but did not disclose it to her. Later Allah Ditta started mistreating her. Meanwhile Shazia got pregnant but her husband was not happy about it. When she was seven months pregnant, he left his home and had no contact with Shazia. Even

when Kinza was born he did not come to see her. Shazia stayed at her in-laws house for almost two years after Allah Ditta left, hoping that he would return home but all in vain. She was very distressed and left her in-laws home and moved to her brother's house in the mid of 2013. Shazia had absolutely no contact with Allah Ditta and had no idea of his whereabouts. She waited for him for four years; in July 2017 she came to know that Allah Ditta had embraced Islam and married his elder brother's widow. At present, Shazia is working in a medicine factory at Rs.7000 monthly salary. She lives in a rented house and it is difficult for her to manage the household expenses and also nurture a growing minor in such a low income. Therefore through some reliable sources she came to know about CLAAS and approached the office on August 17, 2017 to seek legal assistance about her family matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate for court proceedings. On September 08, 2017 Mr. Nasir

Anjum Advocate filed a suit for dissolution of marriage and suit for maintenance allowance on behalf of Shazia Bibi in the court of Senior Civil Judge Lahore. Both cases are decreed in her favor.

18-Kiran Vs Yaqoob

Kiran Shareef (25) is resident of Lahore and a Christian by faith. She got married to Yaqoob



Barkat on 15th May 2009 with her parent's consent and moved into a joint family system with her in-laws. Yaqoob did not have a proper job as he was an alcoholic and had cruel attitude towards Kiran. Often he would argue and fight with her on minor issues when she asked him for household expenses. Her in-laws supported her financially yet Yaqoob's parents worked as janitors in a hospital. Kiran was very much upset at her husband's behavior. She used to go to her parents' house after her fights with her husband

and would stay months there until her in-laws came to take her home. This went on until Kiran had her first baby named Aerwan in 2011. She thought that Yaqoob would realize his responsibility and mend his ways after becoming a father but all in vain. Her hopes went down the drain when in 2013 she came to know that Yaqoob had embraced Islam and married a Muslim woman under Islamic rites. He shrouded about his second marriage from Kiran for two months. After knowing about her husband's second marriage Kiran moved to her parents' house with Aerwan. However Yaqoob kept visiting her at her parents' home and brought her back to his own house but also had relations with his Muslim wife. When Kiran asked him to leave the Muslim wife he used to torture and beat her up and forced her to adjust under such circumstances. Since the past two years Kiran is living at her parents' house. She gave birth to her younger son Roeez and went back to her in-laws house but Yaqoob had the same attitude towards her so she returned to her parents' home again. Further about a month ago (in August 2017) he came to meet his son Aerwan and took him out for a walk but never brought him back. Afterwards he threatened her that if she does not come back to him he will snatch Roeez from her as well. Yaqoob does not want to leave either of his wives and wants Kiran to come back to his house to look after his parents and accept the fact that he has two wives and she should adjust in the same situation with him. Kiran does not wish to live with Yaqoob anymore and wants a proper divorce and keep the children with her. Therefore she approached CLAAS office along with her uncle on September 07, 2017 for legal assistance in her family matter. On September 13, 2017 through its legal advisor CLAAS filed a Habeas Corpus Petition in the Court of Sessions Judge Lahore on behalf of Kiran Shareef for the recovery of Aerwan (07) student of grade 01 who was in her husband's custody. His father Yaqoob Masih forcedly took him away without informing his wife Kiran. The honorable court issued notice to the concerned Station House Officer, Police Station Factory Area, Lahore to recover the minor and produce him before the court. On September 14, 2017 the minor was recovered and produced before the court. Later on his custody was handed over to his mother Kiran Shareef. After recovery Kiran along with her children Aerwan and Roeez visited CLAAS office. She thanked CLAAS for its efforts and was happy to get her sons back. On September 15, 2017 CLAAS Lawyer Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on behalf of Kiran Bibi in the court of Senior Civil Judge Lahore. Later, on September 24, 2017 suit for maintenance allowance was also filed on Kiran's behalf. Both cases were decreed in Kiran's favour.

19-Bushra Vs Shahzad Masih

Bushra Bibi (33) d/o Rehmat Masih is the resident of Kasur. She got married to Shahzad Masih Bhatti on 08th June 2003 with her family's consent. After marriage she moved in a joint family system with her in-laws. Shahzad has 04 sisters and 02 brothers and since he was the eldest, Bushra had to take care of the entire household. Shahzad was an epileptic and a drug addict but his parents did not inform Bushra's family about his mental condition before her marriage. Since Shahzad was not able to work due to his health issues, Bushra started working as a housemaid and sometimes her parents supported her financially. She stayed with her husband for one year and had a baby boy named Aman. When Aman was only 05 days old Shahzad took him away from Bushra and forcefully threw her out of the house. She filed a petition through CLAAS to get her new born back and moved to her parents' house. Since then she has been working as a housemaid and doing other jobs to raise Aman on her own. Now it has been 13 years that she is living at her parents' house and taking care of her son's needs while Shahzad never contacted her during that time. Her father who works as a laborer on daily wages also supports her little bit. Recently, her husband Shahzad contacted her and wanted her to come back to him with their son after 13 years. He also brought some people of the local council to her parents' house so that they can convince her for reconciliation. Bushra does not wish to go back to her husband and wants a divorce from him. She wants to keep Aman with herself as she has been looking after him on her own since he was born. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on September 11, 2017 to seek legal assistance in her family matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu for court proceedings and a suit for dissolution of marriage is still under proceedings in the family court, Kasur.

20-Nasreen Vs Khurram Taufail

Nasreen (35) is a Christian by faith and resident of Lahore. She got married to her cousin Khurram Tufail in December 2004 with the consent of both families. Nasreen moved to a rented house with her husband and lived separately. Khurram worked in a cars workshop and he earned a handsome amount every month to fulfill the household needs whereas Nasreen remained a housewife. Although everything seemed fine but Nasreen was not happy with her marriage. It was Khurram who used to like her and told his parents that he wanted to marry Nasreen however his behavior was not good with her since day one. He had bad company and often used alcohol. Often times she would leave her house after a fight and go to her parents' house but Khurram did not care to contact her or visit her and after some time she would return back to him on her own. Whenever Nasreen got pregnant he did not care much about her diet and that is why she had two miscarriages. At present they have 03 children namely Emmanuel (09), Asher (07) and Sawera (03) but Khurram does not care about them and is not interested in providing them any education. Even when her son Asher fell seriously ill he did not provide for his medical treatment so Nasreen had to ask her parents to help her. In January 2017 Khurram had a huge fight with Nasreen over a minor issue and forced her out of the house. Later she found out that Khurram had married another one of his cousins under Islamic rites without divorcing her. At present, she is living with her parents but since she does not have a job, it is difficult for her to manage her children's daily expenses and school fee. Therefore, she approached CLAAS office on September 25, 2017 along with her elder sister to seek legal assistance regarding her family matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate for legal proceedings and a suit for maintenance allowance was filed on her behalf. The notices were sent to respondent Khurram and after receiving court notice Khurram approached Nasreen for compromise and they both recorded their statements in the court and withdraw case.

21-Reema Vs Saleem

Reema (25) daughter of George Masih is the resident of Lahore. Her father George works in Mayo hospital and mother Rani works in Corporation office, both serve as janitors. She belongs to a poor family as her parents are illiterate and do menial jobs. Reema got married to her paternal cousin Saleem Yousaf on February 06, 2016 with the consent of both families and moved in a joint family system. Saleem has 05 siblings, two brothers and three sisters out of which only one sister is married so Reema had to look after the entire household at her in-laws house. His father who worked as a janitor in the Government Forestry Department fell ill and had to stop working so Saleem filled in for him at his job. Although he did not have such good job still Saleem could bear all the household expenses but he always fought with Reema whenever she asked for money. Even her in-laws used to mistreat her in front of Saleem but he never stopped them. He would not even allow Reema to meet her parents or any other relatives. After one month of marriage Reema came to know that she is expecting. Saleem was not ready to afford a family at that time so he made up a plan with his mother to have Reema's abortion. Her mother-in-law bought some medicines that would result in her miscarriage and gave them to Reema daily saying they were just regular supplements. Reema fell ill due to the medication and was admitted in the hospital. Later she had a miscarriage after three months of pregnancy. As her condition was not so good, Reema's parents decided to take her to their house for a few days. Ever since she came to her parents' house her husband did not visit or contact her. She called him many times but Saleem did not pay any heed to it. Reema has lost all hopes of having a married life again with her husband. She no longer wishes to go back to him because he has also blamed her of having extra marital relations with other men and later gave her divorce on a stamp paper. Therefore, Reema approached CLAAS office on September 27, 2017 along with her mother Rani to seek legal assistance for her family matter. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhter Sandhu Advocate for the legal proceedings. On behalf of Reema a suit for dissolution of marriage was filed in the court of Family Judge Lahore and still case is pending.

22-Amna Vs Naveed Ahmed

Amna (24) d/o Lal Din is the resident of Lahore and belongs to a Muslim family. Her father passed away 09 months ago and mother is a housewife because she is old and cannot work. Amna got married to Yasir in April 2016 but divorced him the very next day when she came to know at her wedding night that he is not fit for marriage. Later her father fell ill and wanted to see her settled in life so her elder sister's husband told them about a proposal of one of his relatives. So Amna got married to her brother-in-law's cousin named Naveed Ahmed on March 03, 2017 and moved in a joint family system with him. Naveed worked as a salesman in a local phone network franchise and earned a handsome amount on daily basis. His father was a drug addict and often stayed out of home for days. Soon Amna came to know that her mother-in-law Suraiyya had relations with a man named Nabeel aged 24 who owns a stationary shop near their house. He used to visit Suraiyya at her house when all her sons including Amna's husband Naveed would be at work. Later on she told her husband and when Naveed inquired about it from his mother she plainly refused and started beating Amna in front of everyone. Thereafter it became a routine for Suraiyya to beat Amna on daily basis but whenever she told her husband he would not bother much about it. Afterwards, Suraiyya created an issue at home with Amna and severely beat her up with the help of one of her sons and daughter and then forced her out of the house. Amna contacted her sister and came to her parents' house. Naveed did not bother to visit or contact her after that. He did not even care that she is pregnant with his child. All her in-laws are aware of Suraiyya's relations with Nabeel but have ignored it. Amna's husband Naveed Ahmed is also under the influence of his mother and is not ready to bring her back home. Amna is now 08 months pregnant but her in-laws are not ready to accept the baby as

Naveed's child instead they are blaming her of having relations with some other man. Amna does not wish to go back to her husband's house. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on October 09, 2017 along with her sisters Saima and Sumera to seek legal assistance regarding her family matter. CLAAS has appointed its legal advisor Ms. Ayesha Boota Advocate for court proceedings. On behalf of Amna three cases were filed in the court and all are under proceedings.

23-Saima Vs Muhammad Boota

Saima (31) d/o Lal Din belongs to a Muslim family and is the resident of Lahore. Her father passed away in January 2017 and mother is a housewife because she is old and cannot work. Saima got married to Sheraz Khalid in 1999 with the consent of her family and moved in a joint family system with him. Since day one Saima had a hard time managing the household and adjusting with her in-laws as her husband was a drug addict and did not earn anything to support his family. Oftentimes her in-laws forced them out of the house and then she would live on rent with the support of her parents. She had four children with Sheraz out of which one daughter died when she was just a few months old due to some illness. At present she has three children namely Hussain Ali (17), Abdullah (14) and Ume Ruman (10). Abdullah and Ume Ruman are studying in school while Hussain Ali works as a motor mechanic to help his mother with the household expenses. Since Sheraz was a drug addict he went missing in 2010 and despite all efforts Saima was not able to find him. Thereafter she moved to her parents' house along with her children. In January 2017 when Saima's family was looking for a proposal for her younger sister they came across a proposal for Saima. At first Saima was reluctant for second marriage but then her family asked her to consider the option so she got introduced to Mohammad Boota aged 55 who was a widower and had seven children. Eventually in March 2017 Saima got married to M. Boota and moved in with him along with her sons while left her daughter at her mothers' house. M. Boota used to work as a day laborer while his sons had poultry shops and altogether they earned a handsome amount every month. But since day one M. Boota's children did not behave well with Saima. They were totally against Saima and her sons and did not accept them as family members. After some time even M. Boota changed his attitude towards Saima and both her sons and started mistreating her. He stopped giving her monthly expenses and often fought with her on minor issues. Later in August 2017 Saima moved to her mothers' house with her sons and M. Boota did not bother to visit or contact her. Afterwards on October 05, 2017 M. Boota gave her divorce on a stamp paper and sent her belongings through his elder son at her mothers' place. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on October 09, 2017 along with her sisters Amna and Sumera to seek legal assistance regarding her family matter. CLAAS has appointed its legal advisor Ms. Ayesha Boota Advocate for court proceedings. Suit for dissolution of marriage and suit for maintenance allowance was also filed on her behalf in the court of Family Judge Lahore and later suit for maintenance allowance was withdrawn and divorce decreed in favor of Saima.

24-Saira Maqsood Vs Stephen Saleem

Saira (23) d/o Maqsood Masih is the resident of Lahore and belongs to a Christian family. Her father has a spare part's shop while mother works as a housemaid. Saira has seven siblings namely Tariq (35), Sumera (33), Shahbaz (28), Humera (25), Kiran (21), Sana (20) and Monica (15). Saira has studied I.Com and used to work at a beauty salon in Y-Block Defence at 6000 rupees monthly salary. Stephen Saleem who is their distant cousin had some disputes with Saira's brothers 8-9 years ago. He had bad company and was also involved in women trafficking and drug dealing. Stephen's parents had passed away when they were young

Children, and his three siblings were not in contact with him that is why he was indulged into



illegal activities. When Saira's family got to know about his immoral affiliations they forbade him from visiting them. Stephen threatened them that one day he will seek revenge for their attitude towards him. Many years had passed and Saira's family had completely elapsed about Stephen. In June 2017, while Saira was busy in house chores she received a call from Stephen. He started to blackmail her that if she did not do as he said he would kill all her family. Since her father was a heart patient and also she knew that Stephen had a criminal background and was capable of hurting his family, she agreed to do as he wanted. Then she left her home and went away with him where he forced her to sign the marriage certificate that he

had already got made. Later on he took her to a remote village near Sheikhpura and left her there with a family. She stayed there for about four months and he did not contact or visit her during this whole time. Saira's family kept looking for her but after some time they were informed that she left her house with her free will and married Stephen and was happily living with him. Meanwhile he was also making arrangements to send her to Dubai where she would be forced to do prostitution. To prepare her for going to Dubai, Stephen came to meet her and she begged him that she wanted to see her parents one last time. He did not agree for that but instead took her to meet a cousin who was working in a dental clinic so she could ask about her family. So on September 30, 2017 Stephen brought Saira back to Lahore to meet her cousin and Saira managed to tell her cousin about Stephen's malicious plans and with her help managed to escape from there and reached at her parents' house. When Stephen came to know about this he telephonically contacted Saira's elder brother Tariq and threatened him for dire consequences. Therefore, Saira along with her brother Tariq approached CLAAS office to seek legal aid and assistance for her family matter. CLAAS has appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate for court proceedings. Suit for dissolution of marriage was filed on behalf of Saira in the court of Family Judge Lahore. The notice was sent to respondent Stephen and after receiving court notice a compromise took place between the parties. Case was withdrawn after fifteen days of court proceedings.

25-Zarina Vs Nasir Ali

Zarina (19) d/o Allah Bakhsh is the resident of Faisalabad and is a Muslim by faith. Her father used to work as a laborer on daily wages but due to blood cancer he was often hospitalized and could not continue his work while her mother is a housewife. She has 4 siblings, 2 brothers and 2 sisters and all of them are married. Zarina is a Hafiz-e-Quran and used to teach at a local madrassa near her house. She used to go to the madrassa along with 2-3 other girls from her neighborhood who also taught there. On September 27, 2017 while Zarina was returning home with her colleagues, she crossed by a car with three men in it. As soon as she passed by, two men jumped out and grabbed Zarina while forcing her to get in the car with them. Seeing this, her colleagues started shouting for help but no one came forward. The men were successful in kidnapping Zarina and vanished from the scene. Her colleagues ran back to Zarina's home and informed her family about it. Since her brothers were at work and her mother was in the hospital looking after her ailing father, Zarina's sisters-in-law went to look for her but in vain. Later her brothers went to the local police station to report her missing but the police did not register an FIR at that time and asked them to wait in the hopes that she might return home herself. After a few hours when Zarina came to her senses she found herself tied to a chair in a small room. She also got to know that she was no more in Faisalabad as her abductors had brought her to Lahore. The men harassed and physically tortured her and also threatened her for dire

consequences. One of the men named Nasir Khan forced her to sign the marriage certificate and sexually assaulted her for about a month. Nasir was also planning to send Zarina to Dubai for prostitution. Then he told her to contact her parents and say that she left home and married Nasir with her free will so they should not go into any legal litigation against him. When Zarina called her parents she told them exactly what Nasir had asked her to say. Later on Zarina's brothers kept calling Nasir asking him to let Zarina meet her father one last time since he was on his death bed. After much persuasion by her brothers, Nasir finally agreed to send Zarina back to Faisalabad to meet her father. So, on October 29, 2017 Zarina came to her parents' home and told her family what she actually went through all this time. Her parents and siblings do not want to send her back to Nasir while he has been constantly threatening them for life through phone calls. As Zarina belongs to a poor family it is difficult for her to manage all the legal expenses and get a divorce from Nasir. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on November 3, 2017 along with her mother and elder brother to seek legal assistance regarding her family matter. CLAAS has appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhter Sandhu for court proceedings. Suit for dissolution of marriage was filed on behalf of Zarina and is still under proceedings.

26-Najma Noreen Vs Ilyas

Najma Noreen (45) d/o Sohan Masih belongs to a Christian family and lives in Lahore. Her father worked as a day laborer but now stays at home due to old age while her mother passed away 26 years ago. Najma got married to Ilyas Masih on May 14, 1993 with the consent of both families. She shifted in a joint family system with her husband after marriage. Ilyas had 13 siblings, 10 brothers, 3 sisters and all of them lived in the same house. So it was not easy for Najma to manage in a small house with such a large family. The first two years of her marriage were spent cordial but gradually under the influence of his family, Ilyas started to distance himself from Najma. She was quite upset because of her husband's changed behavior towards her. Eventually she came to know that her husband had an affair with his younger brother's wife even before their marriage but did not disclose it. Later on, Ilyas started to physically torture her on daily basis because his mother and elder sister started poisoning him against Najma. Meanwhile Najma had two daughters namely Sumbal and Rama but her husband did not show any concern for them. He did not provide their basic needs and often Najma was forced to ask her parents for help. After four years of marriage in August 1997 Najma had a big quarrel with her husband and in-laws and was forced out of the house. So she went to her parents' house and stayed there for seven years but Ilyas did not bother to contact her during all this time. Afterwards they reconciled and Najma returned to her husband's house but still the behavior of her in-laws was the same towards her. She kept tolerating the cruelties of her in-laws and husband for almost ten years. But in October 2015 Ilyas had a big dispute with Najma and blamed her of having extra marital relations. His family also intervened into this matter and after a lot of arguments they forced her out of the house. Thereafter, Ilyas did not contact Najma and did not even bother to bring her back to his home. At present, Najma is working as a housemaid at 10,000 rupees salary per month. She is living in a rented house along with her father and younger brother who works in a factory as sweeper at 14,000 rupees salary per month. Najma is trying her best to provide education and basic necessities to her daughter and manage the household but it is not easy for her to manage all the expenses with a low income. Therefore through some reliable sources she came to know about CLAAS and approached the office on November 16, 2017 to seek legal assistance about her family matter. Suit for maintenance allowance was filed on behalf of Najma and still case is under proceedings in the court of Family Judge Lahore for evidence of Najma Bibi.

Property Matters:

1-Iqbal Hussain VS SHO & Khurram Shahzad etc (Graveyard & Church Property Matter)

A portion of Christian Graveyard property was taken into possession by a Muslim man Iqbal Awan at District Kasur. This graveyard land was allocated for Christians that measured 5354.25 square yards, for 50 Christian families in the village at Awan Chak 39, Tehsil Pattoki. Khurram Shahzad 30, a local Christian resident, approached CLAAS Office on January 24, 2017 for legal assistance to save that graveyard property from Muslim community. He explained that there had been no boundary around that property, so Muslim community had started draining sewerage water in the property which caused damage to a number of graves. These



Muslims were from influential political backgrounds and local Christians could not stop them to drain sewerage water that created hazardous situation in the graveyard. However, local Christians were scared of Muslim community and had not raised their voice against Muslims. Local Christians did not have any documentary evidence of that graveyard property at present. Khurram shared that Iqbal Hussain had obtained 'stay' from the Sessions Court which was illegal possession. On a piece of land from graveyard, Iqbal claimed it to be residential land where he had constructed a house and an animal shed for the past 20 years that measured 514.25 square yards. Iqbal also claimed graveyard to be originally owned by Ghulam Muhammad (deceased) father of Iqbal Hussain. He had filed a suit as a legal heir of that property. Khurram approached CLAAS for legal assistance to contest the suit for declaration of Christian Graveyard property. Mr. Joseph Francis, National Director CLAAS appointed its counsel Mr. Akhtar Sandhu to contest the suit on behalf of Christian community at Kasur. Suit for declaration, permanent Injunction with consequential relief was moved in the court of Civil Judge on behalf of Christian community and disposed of in December 2017.

2-Arshad Masih Vs Muhammad Usman etc (Suit for permanent injunction)

Mr. Younis Tella and Mr. Nazir Javaid informed CLAAS about a riot in Khaliq Nagar and requested for immediate help. CLAAS team including Mr. Joseph Francis, Sohail Habel, Mr. Iqbal Khokhar and Ms. Eiga Kenny reached at the place of occurrence. Large crowd of local Christian residents were gathered outside Arshad Masih's house. His wife Rubina told the team that their four kids Sehr 10yrs, Sana 13yrs, Sneha 12yrs and Sunil 15yrs were home alone when about 15 men with fire arms broke into their house. The assailant threw their stuff on the street including the Holy Bible and other religious books. Arshad's sister called 15 and informed the police who arrived immediately. Mr. Francis talked to the Nishtar police station Inspector Ameen who was present on the spot to register a case against the culprits. The crowd was getting angry and demanded to register a Blasphemy case against attackers. Seeing the tense situation Mr. Francis called the Superintendent Police and asked him to send a high rank official to handle the case. Additional Superintendent Police Mr. Maaz Khan arrived with his force. He requested Mr. Francis to speak to the crowd. Talking to the crowd Mr. Joseph Francis said that he will not encourage registration of a Blasphemy case. He said that he is totally against the use of Blasphemy Laws and his struggle is that no one belonging to any religion Christian/Muslim/Hindu should be charged under this discriminatory law. With the consent of the residents an application prepared by CLAAS lawyer Nasir Anjam and signed by Arshad Masih was given to Inspector Ameen for the registration of a case against the attackers. On March 8th, 2017 CLAAS lawyer Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba filed a civil suit for permanent Injunction in the Court

of Civil Judge Lahore on behalf of Irshad Masih resident of Khaliq Nagar. Responding to the application the Civil Judge Javeria Zia Malik granted tentative injunction of the property to Arshad Masih.

3- Ruby Nobel Vs SHO

Nabeela Nobel d/o Noor Din Nobel is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. She has 4 younger brothers namely Azeem, Nabeel, Sharjeel and Aqib. She lived with her parents and brothers in their own house. Nabeela shared that her father was a heart patient and died of typhoid fever in 2001 when she was only 14 years old. Her mother Ruby Nobal married a Muslim man in 2003 only after 2 years of Nobe l's death and left the house and children. At that time their neighbors were looking after the children. Soon after filled with greed the neighbors devised a plan to take over their property and bank balance. They made a fake CNIC for Nabeela showing her to be an adult and made her guardian of all the property and bank balance. Then they married Nabeela to their son named Shoukat Ghulam Masih aged 27 at that time and gradually made her withdraw all the money from her father's bank account and also deceitfully got all the property transferred to them. Nabeela's in-laws kept her captive in their house along with her brothers. They did not let them go out or meet anyone and made them starve. Ruby lived with her Muslim husband for only two years. She got divorced in 2005 and came back to her children when she found out that everything had gone upside down. She had lost her house as well as the children. Ruby shifted to a rented house nearby and started working in a factory as a seamstress. After a few months and trying her utmost she finally got her sons back. Nabeela stayed with Shoukat and had one daughter and two sons with him. Despite grabbing all the property and money from her he used to mistreat her. Shoukat would often beat Nabeela in front of his family and use abusive language. After facing domestic violence for 10 years Nabeela finally decided to divorce Shoukat and came to live with her mother. Ruby remarried Nabeela to another man named Samuel Sadiq in 2012. Currently, Ruby is living with her four sons in a rented house at street no. 04, Asif Town, Lahore. Two of her sons are working in a factory as tailors while the other two are rickshaw drivers. It is not easy for Ruby to manage the daily needs of the household and other expenses including house rent in the low income earned by her sons. Therefore, through some sources she came to know about CLAAS and approached the office for legal assistance. On July 04, 2017 CLAAS Lawyer Mr. Nasir Anjum Advocate filed a petition on behalf of Ruby Nobel (petitioner) for the registration of case in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Lahore. The court directed to the concerned SHO police station Nishtar Colony, Lahore to appear in court and submit comments. After police's comments the concerned court dismissed the case of Registration of FIR.

4-Aslam Masih Vs Haji Muhammad

Aslam (43) s/o Munshi Masih a Christian by faith is the resident of Green Town, Lahore and belongs to a Christian family. He has 04 daughters and 01 son namely Amber (20), Saira (18), Muskan (16), Fizza (14) and Ifraheem (10). Aslam had been working at a general store in partnership with a Muslim man named Haji Muhammad Hussain Gujjar for the past fifteen years and later on he was hired by his partner as an employee on monthly basis at rupees 10,000 salary. Aslam was required to sell the products given to him by his employer and maintain the daily expenditure account which would later determine his salary at the end of the month. After a few months Aslam was not able to sell all the products given to him by his employer and at the end of each month Haji Muhammad did not pay his salary. As he had been running the utility store business with his Muslim man on partnership basis therefore the profit and loss of the business was to be equally divided between them but his Muslim employer blamed Aslam for the loss and also alleged him of committing fraud. Afterwards Haji Muhammad forced Aslam to pay him his demanded amount Rs. 435600/ PKR or give up his house in return. Aslam was

unable to pay such a huge amount and his partners started to harass him for dire consequences therefore Aslam started to demand his salary from him. Haji Muhammad refused him for paying his salary and claimed that Aslam owed him money although Aslam had cleared all the account on monthly basis. Aslam approached CLAAS office when he received threats from his employer for grabbing his house. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate for court proceeding and he filed a Civil suit for rendition of account which is under proceedings in the court of Civil Judge Lahore.

5- Atif Masih Vs Rana Farzand Ali

Atif Masih aged 27 s/o Waris Masih resident of Gujranwala working in "SYNES TILES FACTORY" in Gujranwala for last three years. According to Atif Masih his forefathers and the parent are Christian and living in Chandali Village since before Indo-Pak partition. They were farmers and at present the native Christians are linked with trade of farming. Obviously the Christians are landlords of the area and there was no graveyard for the Christians in the area. Atif Masih further added that they unanimously allotted a piece of land of 08 Kanal (one Kanal land measure equivalent to 20 Marla) for the Christian cemetery. The said allotted piece of land was used by Christians accordingly but the graveyard was without boundary walls. Atif Masih further said that the Muslims as well as surrounding residents



started to use the Christian cemetery as trespass or the way to use as street, leap over and insulted the graves of their forefathers. Whenever he stopped the Muslims for not to trespass the graveyard and instead of stopping they deliberately jumping over the graves. Atif Masih time and gain made requests to trespassers for not to use their graveyard as street way but instead of using the main roads of the village they preferred the use the Christian graveyard as shortcut way. Atif Masih told that Barkat Ali s/o Muhammad Boota and Shahid ALI s/o Muhammad Bashir along with other resident Muslim fanatically has planned to grab the Christian graveyard because they wants to construct a road in-between the graveyard. Following their plan on March 10, 2010 Atif Masih filed a suit for temporary injunction in the Civil Court, Gujranwala through Mr. Ch. Tariq Naveed Manj (Advocate High Court). Atif Masih also mentioned that he was not satisfied with the lawyer because he is also a Muslim and could be resolute and may be favor to the Muslims. He came to know about CLAAS and approached on March 25, 2011 for legal help and assistance. Following the nature of the matter CLAAS at first on March 25, 2011 submitted the Power of Attorney in the Civil Court, Gujranwala on behalf of Atif Masih through Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba advocate High Court (Legal Advisor CLAAS) and during the hearings in December 2012 Atif Masih Demolished the under construction road without any Court decision and amended the broken graves. Rana Farzand Ali took advantage of this mistake of Atif Masih and joined hand with village registrar (Patwari) and Mayer of locality (Nazim) further in December 11, 2012 he gave an application to assistant commissioner namely Ms. Sumaira Zaheer in which he mentioned that Atif Masih demolished whole the under construction road in graveyard whereas he has no authentic orders. Ms. Sumaira Zaheer took action and investigated the entire matter in which she found that Rana Farzand Ali as guilty and correct place for road is inside of his fields. Ms. Sumaira Zaheer changed the direction of investigation and ordered to make road inside the fields further the concern DSP of locality reconciled between them and dissuaded the FIR due to compromise. But Rana Farzand Ali took grudge in his mind and thought that it is wrong decision so he started to plan to take revenge. Accordingly after two years in 2014 he filed a petition of private complaint in which he mentioned that Atif Masih and his companion made this road forcibly through deadly weapons. On February 9, 2015 Atif Masih approached CLAAS office for legal assistance and CLAAS appointed Mr. Kamran Yousaf Advocate High Court Gujranwala for legal assistance. On February 22, 2015

Mr. Kamran Yousaf moved his power of attorney on behalf of Atif Masih which is decided on March 17, 2015 in favor of Atif Masih. After two year in 2016 Rana Farzand Ali filed a case suit for injection against the revenue board and did not nominated to Christian community and got one sided degree in his favor in April 2016. When June 2017 Christian community started to make boundary wall then Rana Farzand Ali showed degree paper and informed that he will issue the execution for order which is under proceeding and fixed for 22 July 2017. Then he moved an application against him community in CPO and he called Atif Masih, Khazan s/o Waryam, Sabir Masih s/o Waryam, Abaas Masih s/o Haider Masih, Alyas Masih s/o Haider Masih and other total six member were appeared before the CPO who after inquiring stopped for boundary wall and contested the case in the court. Atif again approached CLAAS office on July 20, 2017 and CLAAS referred him to Mr. Samson Joseph for court proceedings and still his case is under proceedings.

Civil Matters:

1-Patras Vs Public at large

Patras Masih 26 required Succession Certificate from the court to claim Social Security death grant on behalf of deceased father Liaquat Masih. Liaquat Masih worked at Nagra Bricks Company, Kasur. He was secured by the Social Security Government of the Punjab. The department issued him Card R-5 which secured the worker and his family. If any secured person dies during his service, the government's concerned department gives amount of death grant rupees five hundred thousand to the family of the deceased worker. In this case Liaquat Masih who was worker of brick kiln industry died during his service. He was a secured worker and legal heirs of Liaquat Masih deceased had applied for the amount of death grant in the concerned department. It is required to file application for death grant to annex succession certificate issued by Civil Court. Patras shared that his father had to take loan from owner of the brick kiln during his service when his left leg was fractured. Later his father had taken loan again when he was severely sick. So the total outstanding advances reached up to rupees three hundred thousand. Succession Certificate would enable them to benefit from the Social Security death grant to pay off that loan. Patras approached CLAAS on March 29, 2017 and requested legal assistance to get Succession Certificate from the Civil Court at Kasur. Mr. Joseph Francis, National Director asked his lawyer to file a case for the Succession Certificate. On the instructions of Mr. Joseph the petition was filed immediately in the Court of Sessions by Mr. Akhtar Masih, Advocate High Court. On April 27, 2017 CLAAS through its legal advisor Mr. Akhter Masih Sandhu filed a petition for issuing of succession certificate in the Civil Court Kasur. Notices were sent to the respondent and later statements of the witnesses were recorded. Later on July 24, 2017 documentary evidence was submitted in the court and after hearing the arguments the case was decided in the favor of petitioner Patras Masih.



2-Shaukat VS Govt. of the Punjab

Shaukat Masih s/o Rehmat Masih is the resident of District Gujranwala and a Christian by faith. He worked as peon at Government Girls High School Banka Cheema District Gujranwala. In 1999 Shaukat Masih along with his brother Iqbal Masih were booked in a murder case, FIR # 451/99 and faced trial. Subsequently the trial court convicted death sentence to Iqbal Masih whereas Shaukat Masih was convicted under section 201 PPC and was sentenced to five years in prison and fine of Rupees 15,000/ PKR. Afterwards Shaukat Masih filed an appeal in the

Federal Shariat Court for acquittal which was disposed of and being aggrieved by the order of the Federal Shariat Court filed another petition in the Supreme Court which was disposed of in his favor and he was acquitted from all charges. Later on after acquittal Shaukat Masih rejoined his service and requested his employer to release his salary from the period of 2004 till 2010. He also submitted applications to probe the credibility of his service record and after inquiry recommendations were made in his favor for the release of salary but the government officials did not pay any heed to Shaukat's request. Since Shaukat is a poor man and faced a lot of crisis after being booked in a false case therefore he approached CLAAS office for legal assistance and CLAAS appointed its legal adviser Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate for Court proceedings. On behalf of Shaukat a writ petition was filed in Lahore High Court Lahore to release the salary of Shaukat Masih. The writ petition is pending in Lahore High Court Lahore and not fixed yet.

3- Munir Ahmed Vs Rabia Bibi

Rabia Bibi is the resident of Essa Nagri, Kahna and was born in a Christian family. She got



married to Sadique Masih with the consent of her family and moved in with her husband after marriage. Both husband and wife were working at brick kiln and with the passage of time had 6 children. When Rabia was pregnant with her 7th child she left Sadique and got second marriage with a Muslim man named Munir Ahmed who was her neighbor under Islamic Rites. And after fifteen days of her second marriage she gave birth to a baby girl Saima who is now 17 years old. Later on after 4 months of her marriage to Munir Ahmed her first

husband Sadique came and took Saima away from them as Saima is his daughter. After 12 years Rabia took divorce from her Muslim husband and came back to live with her parents at Essa Nagri, Kahna. After divorce, Munir Ahmed filed a case against Rabia for the custody of Saima which was contested by her real father Sadique Masih and during court hearing Saima recorded her statement that she wants to live with her biological father Sadique. Later on Munir Ahmed started to threaten Sadique and Rabia for dire consequences. Therefore, Rabia Bibi approached CLAAS office on May 25, 2017 to seek legal assistance to contest the case filed by Munir Ahmed whereby a remedy may be provided for a Christian minor to join her biological father. CLAAS appointed its legal advisor Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu Advocate for court proceedings and he contested the case in in the court of Family Judge Chuniyan District Kasur on behalf of Rabia. While case is under proceedings Saima to avoid any unpleasant situation got married to one of her cousins so that she would end the feud of living with either one of the parents. The case still is under proceedings in the court whereas the opponent also moved an application for DNA test.

Rehabilitation Centre Apna Ghar:

24 females accompanying their 18 children were accommodated in “Apna Ghar” in 2017.



CLAAS provided free legal aid to 06 female survivors of Apna Ghar. Two young girls and two minors were supported for formal education. During the stay at “Apna Ghar” 07 girls got stitching skills training from CLAAS Stitching Centre and one survivor got beautician training from another institute with the support of CLAAS. So, over all basic commodities, medical facilities, clothing, personal care items etc were provided to 42 individuals in 2017 further awareness sessions and

counseling sessions were conducted by CLAAS for the survivors.

The detail of Apna Ghar survivors is listed below:

Sr. No.	Name of Survivors	Number of Children	Nature of Case/ Time period of stay
1.	Afroze Yaseen d/o Yaseen	Nil	Victim of Interfaith Marriage. Legal aid and medical treatment was provided to her by CLAAS and she got skills training during her stay in Apna Ghar from October 2015 to April 2017 (19 months). At present she is living happily.
2.	Komal d/o Samuel	Nil	Poverty and she got skills training by the help of CLAAS. She was living from April 2016 and working in CLAAS as support staff. CLAAS also supported her for her informal study. She left “Apna Ghar” on 1st February 2018 and went back to home to take care of her father and siblings.
3.	Jessica d/o Emmanuel	Nil	She had some issue with her step grandparents. She stayed in “Apna Ghar” from August 2016 to April 2017 (09 months). CLAAS financially supported her and provided medical treatment to her. Now she is living happily with her mother Sajida.
4.	Anita Iram d/o Sadique	Nil	Her brothers were falsely involved in a murder case and her family is under life threats. CLAAS provided legal assistance to her brothers and Anita is getting formal education by the help of CLAAS. She is in “Apna Ghar” from January 2016 till present.
5.	Mehwish d/o Waris	Nil	She had some issues with step siblings and she was supported by CLAAS for education. She stayed (13 months) from May 2016 to May 2017 and got admission in college for formal education.
6.	Sidra d/o Javed	Nil	Sidra is a victim of Abduction, forced conversion and forced marriage. CLAAS
7.	Iqra d/o Javed		

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8.	Zara d/o Niamat		provided legal assistance to her and she along with her sister Iqra and cousin Zara was accommodated in “Apna Ghar” for two months and they got skills training during their stay in “Apna Ghar”.
9.	Rabia w/o Aslam	03	She is a victim of domestic violence. CLAAS provided legal assistance to her and accommodated her along with her 3 children and sister Fozia for a short period. After compromise she is living with her husband.
10	Fozia d/o Iqbal		
11	Anni d/o Younis	02	Anni is a victim of Abduction and forced marriage and later became a victim of domestic violence. CLAAS provided free legal assistance to her and accommodated her in “Apna Ghar” with her two sons. From February 2016 till date she is living in shelter home and got beautician training with the help of CLAAS and her sons are getting formal education.
12	Khursheed w/o Yousaf	Nil	Khursheed had a property dispute with her husband. She and her sister Jameela were accommodated in Apna Ghar for few days.
13	Jameela w/o Akhtar		
14	Nawab Bibi	Nil	Nawab Bibi’s husband Zafar Bhatti is confined in the jail under the charge of blasphemy. She along with her two sisters-in-law and their two children were accommodated in “Apna Ghar” for few days.
15	Farzana		
16	Rehana	02	
17	Naziran widow of Ghulam	Nil	An old lady was accommodated in “Apna Ghar” for few days as she belongs from Bahwalpur and has no place in Lahore for living. She wanted medical help from an MPA for her daughter who is a cancer patient.
18	Ayesha d/o Zulfqar	Nil	She is a victim of sexual abuse and has life threats from her brother-in-law (sister’s husband) who abducted her and detained her for five years. CLAAS provided her legal assistance, medical treatment and accommodated her in “Apna Ghar” for two months.
19	Nasreen d/o Bashir Masih	03	Nasreen is a victim of domestic violence and got freewill marriage with a Muslim. Who later sexually abused and converted her into Islam. She left him and got free legal assistance from CLAAS office. She was also accommodated in “Apna Ghar” in August 2017 as she has life threats from the Muslim man and she went back to her parents’ home in December 2017.

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20	Sumaira d/o Waris	02	Sumaira's husband got second marriage and left her at her parents' home along with her two children. She was in stress and her parents left her in Apna Ghar for her counseling and after two months she went back to her parents' home.
21	Iqbal Khursheed	Nil	Iqbal Khursheed is a staff nurse by profession and is an old lady. She has property dispute with her husband who got second marriage. Iqbal is living in "Apna Ghar" as her property case is under proceedings in Lahore. She belongs from Gujranwala and has no place for living in Lahore for pursuing the case and still she is residing in the shelter home.
22	Komal Amoon d/o Ashiq Naranjan	01	Komal Amoon got married with her freewill and has a daughter. Her husband did not take care of her and her daughter due to this she left her husband's home and approached CLAAS office for shelter as her siblings did not cooperate with her. After a short period CLAAS contacted with her siblings and she went back to her home.
23	Tabita d/o Bashir	05	She got freewill marriage and later on became a victim of domestic violence as her husband got second marriage. She left him and was accommodated at Apna Ghar along with her five children. CLAAS provided legal assistance to her and she went back to her parents' home after staying for four months in Apna Ghar.
24	Alishaba d/o Salamat Masih	Nil	Alishba a teenage girl is resident of Green Town Lahore got involved in a love affair with her neighbor and she wanted to marry him but her family did not agree and when they came to know that Alishba had plans to run away with that boy then her father tried to beat her. To avoid any unpleasant incident the family left her at Apna Ghar for a short period and during the stay at Apna Ghar through CLAAS' counseling sessions Alishba agreed to obey her parents and then went back to home.
	24	18	42 individuals were accommodated in Apna Ghar in 2017

Safe House:

06 families including 12 individuals accompanying 15 children were accommodated in Safe House during 12 months of the year 2017. 05 individuals were provided free legal assistance by CLAAS. Medical treatment in major surgery was provided to one female survivor. Over all 27 individual were accommodated in Safe House. Further awareness sessions and counseling sessions were conducted by CLAAS for the survivors.

The detail of Safe House survivors is listed below:

Sr. No.	Head of the family	Number of Children	Total Members	Nature of Case
1.	Nasreen wife of Sajid	04	06	Property dispute with her in-laws and they did not get their property shares from the in-laws therefore they were accommodated in Safe House along with four children. Nasreen and her husband Sajid are employed in CLAAS office
2.	Sajid Sadique			
3.	Parveen wife of Ishaq	02	03	Dispute with her husband who got second marriage with another lady and left Parveen along with two children. She was accommodated at shelter for few months along with her children.
4.	Rani wife of Shahbaz	02	05	Rani's husband Shahbaz was falsely alleged in a blasphemy case and with the intervention of CLAAS he was declared innocent during the police investigation. The family was accommodated in Safe House for two months and went back to their village after the settlement of the dispute and living happily.
5.	Shahbaz Masih			
6.	Ayesha (Shahbaz's sister)			
7.	Mrs.Tanveer Maqbool wife of Anwar Naz(late)	Nil	02	Mrs.Tanveer Maqbool was a cancer patient; CLAAS accommodated her along with her daughter in safe house and provided medical treatment to Mrs. Tanveer Maqbool. CLAAS also
8.	Aynas d/o Tanveer			

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				provided legal assistance to her daughter who got married with a Muslim and both ladies have serious life threats from that man. At present her daughter Aynas is employed at CLAAS.
9.	Amber wife of Anjum	02	03	Amber's husband was interested in another lady and wanted to marry with her. Amber left her home and took shelter along with two children in "Safe House" and by CLAAS free legal assistance she filed a case against her husband in which later compromise took place between them. After compromise the family went back to their home.
10	Khuram Shahzad	05	06	Khurram's wife died and he has six daughters who are minors. Due to his property dispute with his family Khurram left his home as his daughters were not secure there. CLAAS provided him legal assistance for the recovery of his daughter and for the registration of FIR against the culprits. After few weeks he left safe house.
11	Diwan Hashmat	Nil	01	He is a victim of blasphemy and acquitted by Lahore High Court Lahore. He along with his wife was accommodated at safe house for few weeks.
12	Ashraf alias Fazi	Nil	01	He was allegedly involved in the case of sectarian hatred. CLAAS provided him legal assistance and he was acquitted from all charges.
	12	15		27 individuals were accommodated in Safe House in 2017

Beneficiaries of Feeding Project:



With the help of Barnabas Feeding Project CLAAS is providing monthly grocery to 40 persecuted Christian families besides legal assistance who are involved in different fake cases especially in blasphemy and Youhanabad incident. These families deserved help as they have to live in hiding, hard to go out for work and unable to fulfill their needs easily. Widows who were unable to feed their children due to lack of resources were also supported. Thus CLAAS provides monthly food items to them in the first week of every month at CLAAS office Lahore. CLAAS team collects the statements of these families so that they should know about the progress and changes in their circumstances and also visiting at their houses off and on.

The brief description of some beneficiaries is mentioned below:

1- Parveen Bibi (40) widow of Iftikhar Zulfiqar is suffering from cancer for the last one year. She has four children out of which two are studying. She is a domestic worker, while her 19 years old son is a cleaner (support staff). It is difficult for her to manage her medical expenses as well as household and children's education expenses in low-income. Through the support of Barnabas Fund UK, CLAAS provided them grocery items on monthly basis, she can easily manage her family.

2- Marriam 63 w/o Yousaf Masih has three daughters. Her elder daughter got married with her free will and has three children. The married daughter along with her family is dependent on her parents as her marriage was a trouble for her family. Marriam's family lost all property in confronting cases, filed by her son in-law's family. Marriam's husband is a patient and unable to continue his work. The family was living below the poverty line without basic necessities. Therefore CLAAS supported Marriam's family financially and grocery items which is provided by Barnabas Funds UK.

3- Yasmeen widow of Tariq age 21 was living in a joint family with her in-laws in Youhanabad, Lahore. Her husband Tariq Masih was arrested by the police on March 21, 2015 in Youhanabad bomb blast incident. Tariq was bailed out on July 16th 2015. In December 2015 he had a heart attack and did not survive. His wife Yasmeen was eight months pregnant at that time. She gave birth to a daughter who she named Jessica. All 5 of her brothers-in-law were also arrested in the same case and there were no source of income. CLAAS decided to support Yasmeen with some financial help so that she could buy milk and other basic stuff for the child. CLAAS is also providing monthly grocery through Barnabas Feeding Project. Furthermore, after the death of her husband her father in-law Javed Masih looked after her but unfortunately in November 2016 he expired due to heart attack. Therefore Yasmeen along with her minor daughter went to her parents' home.

4- Fozia is a widow of Karamat Bhatti, he expired due to cancer and left behind three children who are minors and studying in a different grades. After the death of her husband, she started working as a domestic worker; her income is not enough to meet the needs of her family. Therefore, CLAAS helped her by providing the grocery given by Barnabas Funds UK. Through CLAAS support she easily managed the other necessities of children.

5- Shamim's husband named Ilyas Gill (50) was arrested by the police in Youhanabad incident and imprisoned in Kot Lakhpat Jail, Lahore under the charge of murder. She has six children and Shamim could not speak and listen properly. She is a domestic worker and her elder son is a laborer. Therefore their earning is not sufficient for the whole family and they are under financial crises. CLAAS provided free legal assistance to Ilyas and financially supported the family with grocery given by Barnabas Funds UK.

6- Ludvina 70 w/o Hidayat Masih has two daughters and her husband Hadayt left her 20 years ago. Her elder daughter Yasmeen 32 (paralyzed and mentally retarded) and Iram 30, has one daughter. Iram's husband divorced her and wants to snatch Ludvina's house. Ludvina lost eyesight from one eye. She has no income sources and it is difficult for her to meet the needs of the family. CLAAS helped the family by providing the grocery given by Barnabas Funds UK.

7-Margarate, (22) d/o Heera Masih is a resident of Lahore, was burnt by her husband Baber in 2013. CLAAS provided legal assistance to Margarate and accused Baber Masih who is behind the bars. Margarate and her minor son, both are living with Margarate's parents and she has seven siblings. Margarate requested CLAAS for financial help as she is unable to work; whereas her poor parents are bearing the expenditures of the entire family with little income. CLAAS helped her by providing the grocery given by Barnabas Funds UK.

8-Mukhtaran Bibi (65) widow of Hidayat is a resident of Sandha Lahore. Mukhtaran Bibi had 9 children, 5 are married and 4 are unmarried daughters. In April 2012, her son Lazar was murdered by Falak Share (son-in-law). Falak is behind the bars and his wife Ruby (Mukhtaran's daughter) came back to her mother along with her 5 children. CLAAS provided free legal assistance to Mukhtaran Bibi for her son's murder case. It was difficult for Mukhtaran Bibi to bear the household expenditures without any income, therefore CLAAS started to support her by providing grocery with the help of Barnabas Fund UK on monthly basis.

9-Maragaret (45) widow of Pastor Patras Javed is the resident of District Sialkot. She has 8 children and after her husband's death nobody helped her not even from relatives. In September 2013 Maragaret's elder daughter Maria was raped by a local pastor Shamshad. CLAAS provided free legal assistance in Maria's rape case and also started providing grocery on monthly basis.

10-Shahnaz Bibi aged (47) is a widow of Lawrence is living with her son in a rented house in Youhanabad Lahore. Shahnaz had a heart stroke in a result her left side of the body got paralyzed. She is unable to do any kind of work to meet basic needs of life. Since 2011 CLAAS started helping her by providing grocery given by Barnabas Funds UK.

11-Asma Bibi w/o Pervaiz Masih, resident of Sahiwal is mother of three sons. CLAAS has been supporting her financially on a monthly basis since her husband was murdered. She was unable to survive along with her minor children for having no income source. Therefore, with the help of CLAAS and Barnabas Fund UK, now she can easily manage the other expenses of her children. She is very thankful to CLAAS and its friends for helping them.

12-Sobia w/o Sawan Masih is a mother of 3 children. Her husband Sawan was allegedly accused of committing blasphemy and is imprisoned, his appeal is pending in Lahore High Court Lahore. Sobia is a domestic worker and living with her parents. CLAAS helped the family by providing the grocery given by Barnabas Funds UK also provided legal assistance to her husband Sawan in a blasphemy case.

13-Asif Javed 25 s/o Javed Masih was arrested by police on March 21, 2015, in Youhanabd incident. He is a mason by profession and his wife is a domestic worker. He is a father of two minor children. Through CLAAS efforts, Asif got released on bail in July 2015. He was severely tortured by police. Therefore, he was unable to continue heavy work. CLAAS helped him financially also provided grocery through the help of Barnabas Funds UK. He is happy and thankful to CLAAS and Barnabas Funds UK.

14-Hanifan w/o Safdar is a resident of Khaliq Nagar Youhanabad, Lahore. She has three daughters and only son Faisal age 17 who was arrested by police in Youhanaad incident. Through CLAAS efforts Faisal was released on bail and the case is under trial. CLAAS supported them financially and also provided grocery by the help of Barnabas Funds UK.



Magrate Bibi a burn victim



Afzal Masih (blind)



Marriam Latif



Zubaria Chand



Hanifan Bibi

(Marriam, zubaria and hanifan are victims of youhanabad incident)

International Advocacy and Lobbying:



Her Excellency Ms. Jeannette Ambassador of Netherlands & Mr. Martijn, First Secretary Political Affairs visited CLAAS office, Lahore on January 18, 2017. Mr. Joseph Francis discussed about various ongoing CLAAS projects, activities and legal cases.



Mr. Joseph Francis met the honorable Dr. Almut Besold, Head of Country Office Pakistan Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom and the honorable Mr. Muhammad Anwar Head of Administration at Friedrich Naumann Stiftung office Islamabad on January 20, 2017. Mr. Joseph shared about ongoing CLAAS activities and projects. Religious Minorities' issues were the key subject which was discussed in the meeting with Dr. Almut and Mr. Muhammad

Anwar. They admired and appreciated CLAAS work.



On February 04, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis and Ms. Eiga Kenny attended the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington DC accompanying the host group and family.



The Honorable Ms. Michaela Koller from IGFM-Germany visited CLAAS office on February 16, 2017. Ms. Koller was on the visit to Pakistan to document the testimonies of individuals who have received the Stephanus Stigtung award. Mr. Joseph Francis received this prestigious award in 2009 for rendering services in human rights. Mr. Joseph briefed Ms. Koller about continuing CLAAS activities and the situation of religious minorities in Pakistan. She also visited

CLAAS Rehabilitation and stitching centre.



On February 28, 2017, CLAAS welcomed the honorable delegation from Scotland and Edinburgh they spent the whole day with CLAAS Staff. They were briefed on different projects of CLAAS and its activities. Mr. Joseph Francis also discussed the challenges and struggles faced by CLAAS team and also the future endeavors. The purpose of their visit was to have a meeting with the female survivors of blasphemy, sexual assault, abduction, acid attack, forced marriage, forced conversion and domestic violence who were helped and settled through CLAAS efforts. The delegation also visited CLAAS “Safe House” and “Apna Ghar” shelter homes for the survivors.

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Meeting with the Honorable Mr. Knox Thomas Special Advisor for Religious Minority U.S. Department of State, Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS, along with Mr. Cecil S Chaudhry, Mr. Peter Jacob and Mr. Sajid Christopher met him in Islamabad on March 29th 2017.



for women.

The Honorable guests Mrs. Laura Hayes and Ms. S. Hammersley from Release International U.K visited CLAAS office on April 4, 2017. CLAAS ongoing projects, activities and cases were main focus of the discussion in the meeting. The esteemed R.I delegates visited CLAAS Rehabilitation Centres; Safe House and Apna Ghar and had prayer with the survivors. During their visit at Apna Ghar they appreciated the women empowerment program and skills training



On April 05, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis, National Director and Ms. Eiga Kenny, Deputy National Director were in Australia for the scheduled meetings with various INGOs, CSOs and Australian Government Officials. The purpose of the visit was to highlight the issues of Pakistani religious minorities, through lobby and advocacy on severe issues at international level. During the meetings with Australian Government they also requested and convinced them to open doors of their country for Pakistani Christian asylum seekers.

The esteemed Delegation from Belgium visited CLAAS office on April 10, 2017. Ms. Nathalie



Boschman, Mr. Ken Schuermans from office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons from Belgium and Mr. Bruno Vandecasteele from Belgium Embassy in Islamabad. The situation of religious minority in Pakistan and Pakistani Asylum seekers in Belgium and other countries issues were discussed with them during the meeting. They were updated about the cases taken up by CLAAS and were also provided the opportunity to visit CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre.

The Honorable delegates; Rev. Thomas J. Reese Chairperson, Dr. Daniel Mark Vice Chairman,



Ms. Sahar Chaudhry from U.S Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), Mr. Yuriy R. Fedkiw Consul General Lahore, Mr. Robert C. Newsome Political and Economic Section Chief, Lahore visited CLAAS office on May 03, 2017. CLAAS work and legal cases were briefly discussed with the delegation. Issues like force conversion, discriminatory laws, blasphemy laws, freedom of speech, and religion, forced marriage and religious

intolerance were key focus of the whole discussion. The delegation also met with the survivors of forced conversion and force marriages, blasphemy accused and the innocent Christians who are facing trial procedure in Youhanabad havoc. The delegation had one to one discussion with the victims and their families and enquired about their experiences and appreciated their brave struggle to stand against the brutal agonies. In the end Mr. Joseph Francis proposed the recommendation to the delegation to put pressure on our government to work on these issues and relieved the innocent victims. The delegates ensured that the proposed recommendations came through CLAAS will be shared with USCIRF and U.S government and further plans will be made that how to talk with Pakistani Government to ensure religious freedom in Pakistan.



On May 14, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis MBE had a meeting with Mr. Ole Thonke Ambassador of Denmark and other Danish Government Officials. Mr. Joseph Francis shared CLAAS work and current situation of religious minorities in Pakistan and asylum seekers in other countries. The meeting was held after Danish Festival in Lahore.



Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS had a meeting with the esteemed church leaders during his visit to Europe. During his visit in July 2017 to Europe he travelled to various cities i.e. Brussels (Belgium), Amsterdam (Netherlands), Paris (France), Geneva (Switzerland) Frankfurt (Germany) and Luxembourg.



On July 25, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis MBE National Director CLAAS had a meeting with the honorable Mr. James Allman-Gulino Political Officer of US Embassy at Islamabad. Mr. Joseph Francis shared the perspective about current situation of the Pakistani Christians especially all sorts of discriminations against religious minorities, forced conversion, forced marriages, blasphemy laws and other minority issues and also discussed the issues of Pakistani Christian Asylum seekers in Thailand, Malaysia and Sri Lanka.



On July 25, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis MBE, National Director CLAAS also had a meeting with the honorable Mr. Martijn First Secretary Political Affairs of Netherlands Embassy Islamabad. CLAAS current activities and project were discussed in the meeting. Mr. Francis highlighted the issues of minorities and discussed about the current situation of Pakistani Christian Asylum seekers in Thailand, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Mr. Martijn appreciated CLAAS' work for the depressed people of Pakistan. Mr. Francis also thanked The Embassy of The Kingdom of Netherlands for supporting and

encouraging CLAAS ongoing projects and activities.



On August 07, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis MBE National Director CLAAS had a meeting with the honorable Mr. James Allman-Gulino Ex-Political Officer who introduced CLAAS with new Political Officer U.S. Embassy Islamabad the honorable Mr. Collier F. Graham. The current situation of the minorities in Pakistan and their social, economic, educational, and political issues were discussed in this meeting. Different types of injustice done to minority particularly Christian community, Ahmadia community, Hindu community and the current political situation of the country was also the part of

discussion. The Christian Laws i.e. Christian Marriage Act, Divorce Act and Inheritance Law and the loop holes in laws and policies that needed to be reviewed for a quality provision and

protection of women rights and law relating to Christian Community was also highlighted. The cases of forced conversions & forced marriages, blasphemy cases of Asia Bibi, Sawan Masih and Zafar Bhatti, the issues of bricks kiln workers and the situation of Pakistani Christian asylum seeker in Thailand, Malaysia and Sri Lanka was also discussed. Mr. Cecil S. Chaudhry Executive Director National (Catholic) Commission for Justice and Peace was also present in this discussion. The meeting held at Serena Hotel Islamabad which started at 9: 30 and lasted for an hour.



Her Excellency Jeannette Seppen, the Ambassador of Netherlands in Pakistan, visited CLAAS office Lahore on August 11, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. The Ambassador was welcomed by Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS. Mr. Joseph Francis briefed Ms. Seppen about CLAAS activities, projects and the cases in which free legal aid provided by CLAAS to the victim of faith i.e. forced conversion, blasphemy, domestic violence and other criminal matters. The Laws related to minorities particularly Divorce Act and its impact, current political situation of Christians in Pakistan and upcoming meeting of CLAAS were

also discussed. The Ambassador asked about the positive change in the issues related to minorities, possibility of CLAAS' collaborations with their partner organizations for potential partnerships and other collaborative opportunities were discussed. A tour of the office then took place which included a visit to the CLAAS legal department "Anpa Ghar" CLAAS shelter for women survivors and "Safe House" shelter for the families. The Ambassador met the survivors and also listened to their problems carefully. After visiting CLAAS office, she also visited Media Forum Cell at Hamza Town Lahore for the inauguration.



On September 14, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis MBE, National Director CLAAS had a meeting with His Excellency Mr. Carlos Morales Ambassador of Spain at Spanish Embassy and the honorable Mr. Forrest Graham Political Officer US Embassy at Serena Hotel Islamabad. Discriminatory Laws, census report regarding Christian community, Youhanabad Victims, Sharoon murder case and Pakistani Christian asylum seeker issues were discussed in both meetings.



On September 27, 2017 a civil society delegation from Pakistan scheduled a meeting with the honorable European Parliamentarian Mr. Peter Van Delan and other parliamentarians in Brussels (Belgium) on the current situation of religious minorities in Pakistan. CLAAS delegation also discussed the situation of Pakistani asylum seekers of Malaysia, Thailand, Srilanka and Europe, forced conversions, current result of census for religious minorities, forced marriages, blasphemy laws and all discriminatory laws for religious minorities. Ms. Eiga Kenny Deputy National Director CLAAS, Mrs

Shunila Ruth MPA (PTI), Mr. Mahinder Pall Singh, Bishop Arshad Khokhar also shared their views regarding sufferings of religious minorities of Pakistan. Mr. Iqbal Khokhar, Mr. Sohail Habel, Mr. Nasir Saeed (UK) Mr. Emmanuel Naz (France) and other participants were also present there.



On September 29, 2017 a very productive meeting held with the honorable Parliamentarian Mr. Joel and other Parliamentarians at the Netherlands Parliament about the current situation of religious minorities in Pakistan. Ms. Eiga Kenny Dupty National, Shunila Ruth MPA, Mr. Mahinder Pall Singh, Bishop Arshad Khokhar and others exchanged the ongoing issues and rights of the religious minorities especially the Pakistani Asylum seekers, forced conversions, discriminatory laws, blasphemy laws, recent census result about religious minorities, Generalized System of Preference etc.



On October 18, 2017 CLAAS participated in the Universal Periodic Review pre sessions meeting in Geneva. The purposes of these meetings wereto facilitate civil society to directly advocate to members of permanent diplomatic missions in Geneva on human rights situation in their own respective countries. CLAAS has submitted a joint report with NCJP and Christian Conference of Asia regarding discriminatory practices in Pakistan, including misuse of Blasphemy laws, forced conversions; hate material taught in our schools and non-representation of religious minorities in Parliament and main stream politics. Pakistan will go under review in November to advise the Human Rights Council what actions were taken to improve human rights situation. During the pre-sessions meetings CLAAS along with NCJP lobbied with various diplomats asking the missions to propose specific recommendations to Pakistan regarding procedural amendments to Blasphemy laws to apprehend its exploitation, to criminalize forced conversions and to make amendment in present electoral system to ensure equal participation of religious minorities in main stream politics.



On Wednesday November 8, 2017 three European Parliamentarians along with four staff members reached Lahore and visited various human rights organizations striving for the rights of the religious minorities in Pakistan. They also met His Grace Archbishop Sebastian Francis Shaw and other church/religious leaders. The Parliamentarians were also provided the opportunity to visit the victims of religious persecutions and their families. The visit was supervised by the European Diplomatic Mission Islamabad and hosted by CLAAS.



On November 19, 2017 Her Excellency Ms. Ardi Stoios-Braken Ambassador of Netherlands along with staff members visited CLAAS office. They also visited CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre 'Apna Ghar' to meet the women survivors. Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS had a general discussion with the Ambassador on the current political situation of Pakistan as well as the issues faced by the religious minorities.



The Honorable Norwegian official delegation visited Lahore on November 23, 2017. A meeting was arranged with Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) at Dar-ul-Mussarat. The meeting was organized by Human Friends Organization (HFO), Ms. Sobia John facilitated the meeting on behalf of Mr. Sajid Christopher. CLAAS Team also participated in this meeting with other partner organizations to discuss the challenges faced by religious minorities in Pakistan.

Community Development:

1- Awareness Sessions for survivors and Christian Community:

CLAAS conducted 4 awareness sessions in the surrounding cities of Lahore for 370 general survivors. These seminars were focused on legal rights of religious minorities, women and children, political issues of the religious minorities i.e. censuses, education, discriminatory laws regarding religious minorities. The purpose of these activities is to share the information with general public on how to combat intolerance and who to approach in case of conflicted situation.



The detailed list of awareness sessions is mentioned below

Sr. #	Date	Area	Number of participants	Name of Activity	Impact
1	January 11, 2017	CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre	35	Awareness on Women's Rights	Redevelopment of social attraction among survivors to teach the value of women rights
2	March 6, 2017	Hamza Town	105	Awareness on Census	To discuss the importance of census and how the outcome of the census will impact on our social and political status as a minority
3	March 14, 2017	Khaliq Nagar	110	Awareness on Census	To discuss the importance of census and how the outcome of the census will impact on our social and political status as a minority
4	March 19, 2017	Kasur	120	Awareness on Census	To discuss the importance of census and how the outcome of the census will impact on our social and political status as a minority
Total figure			370 Individual	04 Sessions	

1-On January 11, 2017 CLAAS organized awareness sessions on women rights at Apna Ghar



Rehabilitation Center CLAAS in which 35 Individuals (07 staff members, 18 survivors) participated. Through presentation and different activities women rights were described. CLAAS found it necessary at this point, to note down some observations, that illiterate women and young girls had common persistent problems and sufferings in various issues. Through these awareness sessions CLAAS, encouraged, aware and conveyed the message to the women to move in the society with confidence and raise

their voice against the violation, at right time. Issues of forced marriages, rape in Pakistan and crime against women were briefly discussed in this session. Brief detail about the rights according to the Constitutional Law, basic rights, civil rights, political rights, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and Constitutional Protections (Constitution 1973) was also discussed. They were also aware about the different types of human rights and women rights e.g. Right to Education, Right to Health, Right of Liberty, and Religious Right, Violence against women Target Killing, Domestic Violence, Abduction Acid Attacks, Kaaro- Kaari and Honour Killings were also discussedetc..

2- On Monday March 6th, 2017 CLAAS organized an awareness seminar on Census. The



seminar was addressed by Mr. Peter Jacob from Centre for Social Justice; Ms. Shunila Ruth PTI Member of Punjab Assembly and Dr. Rubina Feroze Bhatti from Taangh Wasaib Organization and Mr. Martin Michael from Pakistan Christian National Party. The seminar started with opening prayer led by Pastor Asghar John. The main speaker Mr. Peter Jacob emphasized on the

importance of census and how the outcome of this census will impact on our social and political status as a religious minority. Therefore he encouraged the attendees to actively participate in the upcoming census by sharing the correct information of their respective families. Speaking to the participants Ms. Shunila Ruth insisted the female participants to take a leading role in all this process, she also stressed on the need that every individual male or female need to have a national identity card. Dr. Rubina Feroze Bhatti stated that our leaders need to educate our community on the importance of political participation. The seminar was attended by more than hundred people from Bonded Labour Union Kasur, Youhanabad residents, Asif Town residents, Community Advancement Society staff, CLAAS staff, Awami Mohabat, PCNP and Hamza Town residents. Mr. Peter Jacob also distributed some relevant reading material. The seminar wrapped up with the prayer led by Pastor Rafique from Shakayena Church.

3-On Tuesday March 14th 2017 an awareness seminar on Census was organized by CLAAS at



Pentecostal Mission Church Khaliq Nagar, Lahore. The seminar was addressed by Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate, Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate and Rubina Ghazal from Centre for legal aid assistance and settlement (CLAAS). The seminar started with the prayer by Pastor Nadeem Aziz of Mission church and CLAAS' staff member Ms. Sehrish Rasheed recited the Holy Bible. The main

speaker Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate talked about the importance of census and how the outcome of this census will impact on our social and political status as a minority. He encouraged the attendees to actively participate in the upcoming Census. Speaking to the participants Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba insisted the participants to take a leading role in all this process. Ms. Rubina said the purpose of this session is to discuss with the community about the rights and laws. She stressed on the need that every individual male or female need to have a national identity card, birth certificate and marriage certificate etc. Importance of education, political participation for the progress of Christians was also discussed in this session. The seminar was attended by more than hundred people from Khaliq Nagar residents and CLAAS staff. Some related reading material was distributed. The seminar was ended with the words of thanks to all participants.

4- On Sunday March 19th 2017 an awareness seminar on Census was organized by Legal



Advisor CLAAS Mr. Akhtar Masih Sandhu Advocate, Mr. Sadiq Gill, President and Mrs. Zarina Akhtar General Secretary of Bricks Kiln Workers Federation Kasur at National Bricks Company Qadi Wind Road Kasur and Kasur Bricks. The seminar was addressed by Mr. Joseph Francis National Director Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS). He talked about the importance of census and how the outcome of this census will impact on our social and political status as a religious minority.

He encouraged the attendees to actively participate in the upcoming Census and insisted them to take a leading role in all this process. Ms. Zarina Akhtar, (member Christian National Party) Ms. Rubina Ghazal CLAAS from CLAAS staff, Mr. Akhtar Masih Advocatend Mr. Sadiq Gill, also talked to the participants in the seminar. The seminar was attended by more than hundred people from both bricks kilns.

2- Social Integration Events and Competitions for both shelters' survivors

06 Social Integration Events were organized for 278 survivors on monthly basis. Such social



integration interventions have helped survivors in bringing back their confidence and thus supported towards their rehabilitation. The Social integration events were organized to celebrate, Christmas, Easter, International Women's day, Human Rights Day, Independence Day, Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day and also survivors' own birthdays. However a fun day was also arranged to celebrate minors' success in final examinations at shelter where they had cake cutting and enjoyed singing and dancing. During such social

events, various competitions were arranged like poetry and speech contest, card making, singing & dancing, cooking & salad making and hair style competitions to show the hidden skills of survivors by perform in front of others. Prizes were distributed to the winners for participating in the said competitions.

The detailed list of social integration

Sr. #	Date	Area	Number of participants	Name of Activity	Impact
1.	February 10, 2017	CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre	18	Social Integration	Knowledge shared with the survivors so that they would be able to speak up for their rights and raise their voices against violation and discrimination
2.	March 7, 2017	CLAAS Office	45	Women's Day Celebration (social integration)	Described the importance of women participation in our society
3.	April 19, 2017	CLAAS Office	35	Easter Celebration (social integration)	To discuss the importance and celebration of Easter
4.	May 15, 2017	CLAAS Office	40	Mother's Day Celebration (social integration)	To pay a tribute to mothers and appreciate their efforts in our lives
5.	December 5, 2017	CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre	20	Christmas Celebration (social integration)	To share the joy and true spirit of Christmas with the survivors
6.	December 12, 2017	Hamza Town	120	Christmas Lunch (social integration)	To share the joy and true spirit of Christmas with the survivors by giving gifts and lunch.
Total Figure			278	06 Events	

1-A Social Integration Event was organized at CLAAS rehabilitation centre on February 10, 2017. The program was attended by the survivors in CLAAS' shelter home and young women who are taking sewing classes organized by CLAAS. The event started with the Holy Bible's reading and a small prayer. The introduction of social integration and work of the CLAAS was shared by staff members. Each survivor actively participated in the session and presented a speech on "Sympathy" followed by a Skit on "The Importance of Jesus Christ in our lives". The basic purpose of this event was



arranged to enlighten and encourage the female participants so that they would be able to speak up for their rights and raise their voices against violation and discrimination. The National Director CLAAS, Mr. Joseph Francis expressed his valuable experience and motivated the participants for being actively involved in activities organized by civil society.

2- CLAAS celebrated women's day on March 7th 2017 at CLAAS office. The event started with prayer. Ms. Rubina Ashraf from Hope Fellowship and Ms. Sharon Shamir from Community Advancement Society shared their personal experiences, struggle and success of their life for the encouragement of the participants. Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS and Ms. Eiga Kenny further described the importance of women participation in our society. All CLAAS staff members and participants actively participated in all activities and applauded each other. The event was attended by more than 40 women from community Advancement Society staff and their trainees, CLAAS staff and female survivors.



3-On April 19, 2017 CLAAS organized an event of Easter Celebration for survivors of CLAAS rehabilitation centre at CLAAS office. The event started with prayer and one of the shelter survivors read the verse from the Holy Bible. After participant's introduction Ms. Shagufta from CLAAS staff discussed about importance of Easter & Resurrection of Jesus Christ in Christianity. One of the shelter girls presented a play to share the essence of Easter celebration. The moral of the play was: 'When God created men and women, we were in a close relationship with Him. However, when sin was introduced into the world, it created a big gap between us and God'. No matter what we try to



do, we cannot fix the gap that sin created between us and God. God sent His only Son Jesus – who never sinned – just for our sin's salvation. The play was appreciated by all participants and guests encouraged the girls for such an amazing performance. Two other activities were arranged for the survivors and CLAAS staff. The entire CLAAS staff members and participants actively participated in the activities. In the end certificates were also distributed to the trainees of stitching centre during program. CLAAS has started this program to empower women and

provide them free stitching courses so they can earn for themselves and support their families. CLAAS National Director Mr. Joseph Francis, Ms. Sobia John Program Officer and all participants shared their views about the event. The event was attended by more than 30 people from CLAAS staff, female survivors, trainees of skill training and children.

4-On May 15, 2017 CLAAS celebrated the mother's day with women survivors and CLAAS staff.



The purpose of the program was to pay tribute to mothers and appreciate their efforts in our life. After prayer service Nazia shared Calcium and vitamin D's importance in women's health especially after 30 years. She focused on healthy diet and regular medical checkups of mothers. Children of staff and survivors' gave tribute to their Mothers by performing on a song. Songs and poetry were shared by participants for mothers. CLAAS distributed the gifts to all the mothers who participated in the program.

5-CLAAS organized an event of Christmas celebration for the survivors of CLAAS Rehabilitation



Centre on December 05, 2017. The event was attended by 20 people including CLAAS staff and female survivors with their children. The survivors sang several Christmas Carols and also presented a Christmas Play. Ms. Eiga Kenny and other participants shared their precious views about the event and appreciated the organizing and performing team's efforts. Christmas gifts were also distributed among the children and female survivors.

6-On December 12, 2017 CLAAS organized a Christmas Lunch with the survivors of



Youhanabad incident and other cases in which CLAAS is providing free legal aid and food package on monthly basis to the families of victims confined in the jails. The honorable guests Dr. Liaqat Qaisar from FGA Church, Mrs. Shunila Ruth MPA (PTI), Commissioner Carol and Major Aasia from Salvation Army, Dr. Tahira and Dr. Asher along with Pastor Rafique from Shekinah Church Ministries, Mr. Pervaiz Barkat and Korean Ministry Leadership graced the event with their kind presence. Female survivors of CLAAS Rehabilitation Centre Apna Ghar along

with their children performed a Christmas play at the event. CLAAS distributed Christmas gifts among the existing survivors. Commissioner Carol from Salvation Army brought special Christmas Gifts for children of Apna Ghar to spread the spirit of generosity and happiness during Christmas celebration. National Director CLAAS Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis and the entire CLAAS staff are extremely thankful to all the guests and participants for joining and making this event a great success.

3- Staff Capacity Building Trainings

Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS) conducted 4 Training Workshops for the capacity building of staff. CLAAS is empowering the voice of indigenous communities against injustices through advocacy at national and international levels. Through these training workshop CLAAS aims to enhance its staff skills and knowledge needed to guide their professional development and activities. The collective works allow all participants for producing results in shape of group presentations & discussions. The proceedings of these seminars and workshops were documented and shared with donors and partner organizations

The detailed list of Staff Capacity Building Trainings

Sr. #	Date	Number of participants	Name of Activity	Impact
1	June 08, 2017	20	Training Session on "Risk Management, Security and Protection of Human Rights Defenders (HRD) and their organizations"	To escalate awareness among HRDs about identifying the recurring risks and to empower them to overcome these atrocities in order to save themselves and their organizations.
2	July 18, 2017	20	Training Session on "Women Empowerment"	Empowering our young women to play a significant role in the economic development of our community and nation which is only possible with women employment.
3	July 27, 2017	15	Training Session on "Christian Laws"	Consultation about the Christian Laws i.e. Christian Marriage Act, Divorce Act and Inheritance Law, highlighting the loop holes in laws and policies that need to be revised for a quality provision and protection of women rights and laws relating to Christian Community
4	November 13, 2017	20	Training Session on "Advocacy"	To review the general staff performance and provide an opportunity to resolve concerns and to give participants the chance to establish aims and objectives for long term positive outcomes.

1- On June 8, 2017 one- day training session for staff capacity building was conducted by



Centre for Legal Aid Assistance & Settlement (CLAAS) in collaboration with The Kingdom of the Netherlands at CLAAS Office Lahore on “Risk Management, Security and Protection of Human Rights Defenders (HRD) and their organizations”. More than 20 staff members from different organizations including CLAAS; Community Advancement Service (CAS), Save the Human and Hope Fellowship participated in the training. The training was facilitated by “Umeed Partnership Pakistan (UPP) Mr. Yousuf Jalal Gill, Executive Director and Founder, Mrs. Shamim Gulzar Chairperson &

Coordinator. The purpose of this training was to escalate awareness among HRDs about identifying the recurring risks and to empower them to overcome these atrocities in order to save themselves, their families and the organizations. Keeping in view of the alarming security issues prevailing all around the world there is a dire need for HRDs and Organizations to identify and analyze the possible threats and risks involved while protecting the human rights for the society. During the session the facilitators used different materials and methodologies such as group discussions, power point presentation, chart papers, sticky notes etc. For better comprehension and motivation they also distributed training material handouts and case studies to each participant. Each candidate actively participated in different activities and group presentations. The participants were thankful to CLAAS and the trainers for providing training, activities and learning.

2- In June 2017 one day training session for staff capacity building was organized by CLAAS in



Kasur for its own staff as well as from other organizations and during sessions through presentation and group activities the importance of women participation for economic development of the society was discussed. Women’s role in families and at the workplaces was neither fully recognized nor accepted and was, more often than not, overshadowed by men. We cannot formulate a strategy for development without considering the involvement of women in socio-economic activities. Women are mainstreamed in all

economic sectors and have become a visible and productive part of the economy. Today in this competitive world, women entrepreneurship and women empowerment plays significant role in the socio-economic development of all underdeveloped countries like Pakistan. Women represent around 48% of Pakistan’s total population, while female employment participation is only 19-20%. As per labour force survey of Pakistan, contribution of female labour is around 13.4% in agriculture and only 6% are engaged in non-agriculture sector (2% formal and 4% informal).”This shows a significant potential for women empowerment and engagement in various sectors; such as light manufacturing i.e. garments (kids and ladies wear), leather products (traditional garments, shoes, etc), home textiles, services, etc. The 20 staff members participated in this training session.

3- On July 27, 2017 (Thursday) Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS)



organized a consultation meeting for the capacity building of staff at its office 160 Hamza Town Lahore. Mr. Jamshed Rahmat Ullah Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan was facilitator who discussed about the Christian Laws i.e. Christian Marriage Act, Divorce Act and Inheritance Law. He highlighted the gap in laws and policies that needed to be reviewed for a quality provision and protection of women rights and laws relating to Christian Community. The purpose of this discussion was to acquaint and familiarize the Human Rights Defenders about the Christian Laws and retain the skills

and knowledge needed to guide their internal development and activities. More than 15 staff members of CLAAS, The Salvation Army and Community Advancement Society (CAS) participated in this consultation. Through this voluble discussion the participants learnt that how they will bring a positive change in the attitude of the people through counseling, unity, healthy family environment etc.

4- A training session was conducted by CLAAS for its staff capacity building at CLAAS office



Lahore on Monday November 13, 2017. The discussion included Guiding Principles for Institutional Decision Making and Organizational Structure to empower employees to improve their performance and support the goals of the organization. The significance of the session was to motivate and mobilize the staff to share concerns about a specific problem and devote time, expertise and resources available to reach the desired change. The whole training was summarized into quick discussion of topics in question, staff reflecting on their day to day

activities and providing feedback to the trainer on what went well, what could be improved and other suggestions for the organization's development. From the discussions, it was clear that having a strategy and choosing a strategic issue for the advocacy work is an important foundation for planning, budgeting, monitoring, reporting and learning. In addition, since advocacy competes for scarce resources, it is reasonable for people to expect to have a well thought out strategy and plan of action and know what they want to achieve and how they propose to achieve it. The session also touched on power mapping tools. Some of the groups with power or influence discussed included politicians, faith based organizations and faith leaders, lawyers, women groups and NGOs etc who can make change happen, who can make the decision and influence them. The overall objective of the training was to review the general staff performance and provide an opportunity to resolve concerns and to give participants the chance to establish aims and objectives for long term positive outcomes. Group works to allow all participants for producing results in shape of group presentations & discussions. The training was attended by 20 CLAAS staff members including lawyers and other organization's staff members.

Women Empowerment:

Women empowerment is not possible without giving social, economic, political and personal



rights to every female living in this country. CLAAS aims to end gender based violence and discrimination in the society. Empowering our young women can play a significant role in the economic development of our community which is only possible with women employment. To empower our young women CLAAS has organized programs, workshops, skilled based trainings in sewing and stitching, cosmetology and other activities to enable them to generate income to support themselves and their families. CLAAS runs two sewing centres where

young women are provided stitching trainings.

1- CLAAS Sewing Centre

On January 15, 2016 National Director CLAAS Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis donated four sewing machines and two tables to Razia Nazir who was running that Sewing Centre in the village Kamas, Raiwind Lahore. Razia shared with CLAAS team that in 2015 she started sewing centre for illiterate or poor girls of the village. Her purpose is to train the girls in stitching skill for their better future. Although 12 girls were learning stitching skill in the centre but Razia has no resource to establish her sewing centre. Razia further shared with CLAAS team that she belongs to a poor family and has three sisters Najma, Nazia and Shazia who are already married while her brother Faisal is single and is working as a laborer in a factory. Her father Nazir Masih is an old man and a laborer and her mother Jameela is a housewife. CLAAS appreciated her efforts and CLAAS director started to pay her monthly salary. Razia is grateful to CLAAS for their support and she named her centre “CLAAS sewing centre”.

2- Trainees of Stitching Training Centre CLAAS



1-Ansa Iqbal (20) d/o Iqbal Khalil (late) is resident of Galaxo Town, Lahore. After the death of her father she discontinued studies and her mother started a pico/ hem machine shop. She has 2 siblings, elder sister is married and brother is studying. She helps her mother in managing daily expenses by stitching. The monthly income was not enough for them to meet living expenses. As she was interested in stitching and wanted to get a professional training. But she could not afford the expenditures of training institutions. Therefore she

approached CLAAS office on January 05, 2017 to get free stitching training in CLAAS stitching centre.



2- Humaira Yaqub (24) d/o Yaqub Bhatti is resident of Youhanabad, Lahore. Her father is an electrician and mother is a maid in school. She has 6 siblings, all are studying. She couldn't continue further studies due to financial crisis. She did stitching and gave home tuitions to meet the needs of her family. She desired to improve her stitching and cuttingskills. Hence, she approached CLAAS office on January 05, 2017 to get free stitching training in CLAAS stitching centre.



3-Sarafeen Mukhtar (40) w/o Mukhtar Masih is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. She has two children, a daughter and a son, both are studying in school. Her husband works as assistant supervisor in LUMS University. She is a house wife and gives tuitions at home. She shared that she had interest in stitching but she could not afford stitching expenses of training institutes. She approached CLAAS office on January 05, 2017 and CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training in CLAAS stitching training centre.



4-Sidra Mushtaq (16) d/o Mushtaq Masih is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. She belongs to a poor family and the family lives in a rented house. Her father is a drug addict and her mother is a house maid. She has 4 siblings, her elder sisters are working with her mother and brother works as a tailor in a factory. She shared that she had interest in stitching and wishes to establish herself as a professionally trained person, to meet the needs of the family. She approached CLAAS office on January 09, 2017 to get training in CLAAS stitching centre free of cost.



5-Sana Saleem (18) d/o Saleem Masih is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. She belongs to a poor family, her father and mother work as sweepers at Mental Hospital & Gaddafi Stadium Lahore. They are living in a rented house and all family members are struggling to meet the needs of the household. She has six siblings, two elder sisters are married and two brothers are working to support the family. She and her younger sister look after the house. She shared that she has other skills as well .i.e. beautician, cooking and also has an interest in stitching. She approached CLAAS office on January 05, 2017 to get free stitching training in CLAAS centre.



6-Shumaila Manzoor (18) d/o Manzoor Masih is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. She belongs to a poor family, her father works as a sweeper in Punjab University, Lahore. Her mother died three years ago and she has six siblings. Three of her sisters and one brother are married, and two younger brothers work with their father. She had interest in stitching; therefore she approached CLAAS office on January 05, 2017 and got opportunity for free stitching training in CLAAS centre.



7-Marriam Arif (40) w/o Arif Masih is resident of Galaxo Town, Lahore. She has three children, all are studying in school. Her husband works in a call center. They live in their own house and she is a house wife. She is interested in stitching, so she approached CLAAS office on January 05, 2017 and got opportunity for free stitching training in CLAAS centre.



8-Anum Wajahat (27) w/o Wajahat is resident of Hamza Town, Lahore. Her husband is a rickshaw driver and she is privately studying from Open University. She is a house wife and a Sunday school teacher. She shared that they are living in their own house but the income of her husband is not enough to meet the needs of life. She is interested in stitching, so she approached CLAAS office on January 06, 2017 to get free stitching training in CLAAS centre.



9-Sana Iqbal (25) d/o Iqbal Masih is resident of Khurd Khan, Lahore and belongs to a poor family. Her father is a mason by profession, suffering with weak eye sight. Doctors recommended him eye operation that's why he is not in a state to do any work. Her mother is a house maid. She has 7 siblings, 4 are married and other brothers work to support the family. She stays at home with her sister and she has a desire to help her family. She wanted herself to be trained in stitching but they could not afford the fees of other training institutions. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on January 18, 2017 to get free stitching training. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



10-Mahnoor Hanif (20) d/o Hanif Masih is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. Her father is a security guard in an organization and her mother is a house maid. She has 4 siblings, two sisters and two brothers. Her elder brother and sister are married; another elder brother got serious leg injury in an accident. She has skills of a beautician and wants herself to be trained in stitching. Thus, on January 19, 2017 she approached CLAAS office to get free training of stitching provided by CLAAS.



11-Rukhsana Zulfiqar (30) w/o Zulfiqar Masih is resident of Galaxo Town, Lahore. She has four children who are studying in a school. Her husband is a driver by profession and drives a rented vehicle. They are living in their own house but they have to pay all the utility bills. She shared that the monthly income is not enough to fulfill all the needs of the family and she has a desire to support her husband. Thus, she approached CLAAS office on January 19, 2017 to get free training of stitching in CLAAS centre.



12-Sehrish Patras (19) d/o Patras Masih is resident of Galaxo Town, Lahore. She belongs to a poor family and lives in a rented house. Her father is a painter who works on daily wages and her mother is a house maid. She has six siblings, four of them are married. Her elder brother works in a factory and she looks after the home. She has a desire to become a helping hand for her parents. On January 19, 2017 she approached CLAAS office to get free training of stitching. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



13-Kiran Umar (16) d/o Umar Hayat is resident of Galaxo Town, Lahore. She has three siblings and one elder brother is married. Her father was psychologically disturbed and left his job three years ago. Due to that her mother started working as a house maid and her younger brother also started a job. She has a desire to be a helping hand for her family therefore she wanted herself to be trained in stitching. On January 19, 2017 she approached CLAAS office to get free training of stitching. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



14-Neelam Baber (27) w/o Baber Michael is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. Her husband had a road accident in April 2016 and got his right leg fractured. She is a house wife and living with her in-laws. Her in-laws and parents helped them with medication and daily expenditures. She wanted to get a stitching training to support her husband in the difficult times. She has interest in stitching, so she approached CLAAS office on January 20, 2017 to get stitching training and CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



15-Raini Munir (40) w/o Munir is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. She has three children and all are studying in school near their house. Her husband works in a factory on daily wages. She is a housewife and stitches at home, to meet the needs of the family. She desired to get a proper stitching training, so she approached CLAAS office on January 20, 2017 to get free stitching training provided by CLAAS.



16-Shiza Liaquat (34) d/o Liaquat is resident of Hamza Town, Lahore. She has five siblings and two are married. She is living with her parents and two younger siblings in a rented house. Her father is a retired sanitary worker from PF and mother is a house wife. She has done her matriculation in Science and also has Montessori training. She taught at the Peshawar School for almost 10 years. Shiza has a desire to support her family and wants to learn stitching to acquire the skill so that she can train other girls and stitch clothes as well to generate income for self and family. On June 01, 2017 she approached CLAAS office to get free

training of stitching. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



17- Alia Shehzad (21) d/o Pervaiz is resident of Asif Town, Lahore. She has five siblings and 1 elder sister is married. Her father is a laborer and mother owns a small tuck shop. Alia got married to Shehzad in 2014 with her family's consent. She has not been on good terms with her husband since day one because he was a drug addict and did not have a job. Whenever she asked for money for household expenses he would fight with her, accuse her of having bad character and often beat her up. Alia's parents kept providing her financial support. Her parents and in-

laws tried to convince Shehzad several times to mend his ways but all in vain. Recently she again had a fight with her husband and came to her parents' house in March 2017. Alia has a 1.5 years old daughter and is again 5 months pregnant. She wanted herself to be trained in stitching so she could support herself but could not afford the fees of other training institutes.

She approached CLAAS office on June 01, 2017 to get free stitching training. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



18-Sehrish Iqbal (20) d/o Iqbal is resident of Umar Town, Lahore. Her father is a laborer and her mother works in an office as a helper. She has three brothers and one elder brother is married. One younger brother works in an office as an office boy. She belongs to a poor family and lives in a rented house. She wanted herself to be trained in stitching so she could support herself and her family but could not afford the fees of other training institutions. Thus she approached CLAAS office on June 01, 2017 to get free stitching training. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



19- Hina Adil (22) d/o Akram is resident of Umar Town, Lahore. Her father works as a security guard in an organization and her mother has passed away. Hina got married in 2015 and lives in a rented house in a joint family system with her in-laws. She wanted herself to be trained in stitching so she could support her husband but could not afford the fees of other training institutions. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on June 01, 2017 to get free stitching training. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



20-Zeresh Arif (17) d/o Arif is resident of Galaxo Town, Lahore. Her father works in a call center and her mother is a house wife. She has two younger siblings who are studying in school. She recently appeared in the 2nd year board examination and now has 3 months summer vacations. Zeresh wants to get a proper stitching training so that she can acquire a skill and use it later on if needed. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on June 01, 2017 to get free stitching training. CLAAS provided her the opportunity to get free of cost training.



21-Shazia (13) d/o Allah Ditta is resident of Asif Town II, Lahore. Her father has passed away and mother works in Metro Bus Station as a sweeper. She has 3 siblings, two elder sisters and an elder brother. Shazia belongs to a poor family and lives in a rented house with them. Due to her father's death she could not afford the school fees and was thus compelled to quit her studies. She wants to become a helping hand for her mother and has a desire to learn stitching so that she can generate some income for herself and family. Therefore she approached CLAAS office on June 01, 2017 to get free of cost training in CLAAS stitching centre.



22-Kainat (16) d/o Shehzad is resident of Galaxo Town, Lahore. Her father is a painter by profession and mother works as security-check officer at Metro Bus Station. She has 8 siblings out of which two brothers work at a motor-bike workshop. She lives in a rented house and it is difficult for her family to meet the daily needs of life in a low income. In a desire to support her family in difficult times she approached CLAAS office on June 12, 2017 to get free of cost training in CLAAS stitching centre.

Settlement of Survivors:

CLAAS provided financial support to the deserving survivors for their medical treatment in major surgeries who were injured in blast, who were accommodated in CLAAS's shelter homes, as well as people who are old, widows and have no proper means of income. In some cases the victims who are confined in the jails and their families were dependant on them and are suffering from financial crisis were also financially supported by CLAAS on monthly basis.

The survivors list of 2017 is mentioned below:

Sr. No.	Name of Beneficiaries	Nature of support	Description
1.	Sulman	Medical	One surgery from Avicenna Hospital Lahore
2.	Khuram Marqas	Medical	One surgery from General Hospital (Private)
3.	Mrs. Tanvir	Medical	Two surgeries from Avicenna Hospital Lahore and Adil Hospital (Private)
4.	Aster	Medical	Victim of Gulsan Iqbal blast incident and still under medical treatment. CLAAS supported financially for physiotherapy for one year.
5.	Adnan Denial	Medical	Victim of Gulshan Iqbal blast incident and CLAAS supported him for his medicine as he is still under treatment.
6.	Irfan Patras	Medical	Victim of Gulshan Iqbal blast incident and CLAAS supported him for his medicine as he is still under treatment.
7.	Sneha d/o Tabita	Medical	She is asthma's patient and stayed at CLAAS shelter home with her mother. She got medical treatment from Medix Hospital and General Hospital Lahore.
8.	Alyan Shafqat	Medical	He is minor and fell ill with typhoid fever and also has liver problem. He got medical treatment from Children's Hospital Lahore and other private hospitals.
9.	Professor Emmanuel Bhatti	Medical	Diabetic patient, lost eyesight and CLAAS supported him on monthly basis.
10	Sobia widow of Emmanuel	Medical	She is a widow and has five children. She has kidney's issues and CLAAS supported her on monthly basis.
11	Arif Zia	Medical & Grocery for his son	Old and heart patient and has no income sources therefore CLAAS supported him for his medicine on monthly basis. CLAAS also provided him g
12	Mr. Martin Javed	Medical	Operated from Avicenna Hospital Lahore
13	Sobia Swan	Financial Support	Sobia's husband confined in the jail in blasphemy case and CLAAS supported her on monthly basis for her household expenditures.
14	Parveen Younis	Financial Support	Parveen is old lady and her husband is

			mentally unstable and they have no proper means of income and CLAAS supported her on monthly basis.
15	Nawab Bibi	Financial Support	Nawab Bibi' s husband confined in the jail in blasphemy case and CLAAS supported her on monthly basis for her household expenditures.
16	Yasmeen Tariq	Financial Support	Yasmeen widow of Tariq (victim of Youhanabad incident) has one minor daughter and she has no proper income sources therefore CLAAS supported her on monthly basis for her minor daughter.
17	Ansar Hayat	Financial Support	Ansar is a poor man, disable from his one leg and he is a rickshaw driver. He borrowed some money for his wife's medical treatment and was not able to return. The lenders snatched his rickshaw from him. CLAAS paid his debt amount and he got back his rickshaw.
18	Victims of Youhanabad	Grocery support in Jail	CLAAS provided grocery to 06 victims of Youhanabad in the jail regularly.



1-From past ten years Sulman father of 3 children resident of District Bahawalpur was suffering from piles disease and was unable to get medical treatment therefore his wife Saira approached CLAAS office for financial assistance for medical treatment. Keeping in view of the family's misery CLAAS helped him for his surgery from Avicenna Hospital, Lahore. The grieved family shifted to Lahore to earn bread and butter but Sulman could not get work due to his ailment. His wife shared that they were living in a room which they got through the help of a Christian person of Youhanabad. CLAAS team physically visited the family at their home and found they are living in a miserable condition. CLAAS provided them food package twice and financial support to their children.



2-Khuram's uncle opened fire on him and four other family members during a family dispute. His two brothers died. Khuram was admitted in General Hospital Lahore and had needed major surgeries for his recovery and CLAAS supported him financially



3-Mrs. Tanveer Maqbool had thyroid problem and CLAAS helped her for her surgery from a private hospital and doctors removed tumor from right side of throat and after biopsy test it diagnosed cancer cysts in left thyroid gland. The doctors recommended for another surgery for removing cancer cysts because it's on initial stage and can be operated. Therefore CLAAS admitted her in Adil Hospital Lahore on August 23, 2017 for surgery. Now she has fully recovered.



4-CLAAS supported Adnan Daniel victim of Gulshan-e-Iqbal incident (Easter bombing in March 2016). He is still under medical treatment.



5-Irfan Patras injured in a bomb blast incident of Gulshan-e-Iqbal and is still under medical treatment. CLAAS provided him financial support for his medication.



6-Professor Emmanuel Bhatti is a Diabetic patient and suffering from this disease since the last 15 years. In 2013 his left leg was affected due to diabetes and he also lost his eye sight. He was only hand to mouth as he has no income sources. He is living in a rented house and due to his ailment it was difficult for him to fulfill his family's needs and proper medical treatment therefore CLAAS monthly supported him for his medication.



7-Sobia widow of Emmanuel Masih is a housemaid and has 5 children. After the death of her husband she was depressed due to her domestic circumstances. The continuous stress affected her health and she became a kidney patient but cannot afford dialysis and other medical expenditure. Still she is working for few hours as housemaid and her income is not sufficient for them. She is not able to afford her children's education and other necessities. No one is supporting from her relatives, therefore she approached CLAAS office and requested for financial

help and CLAAS supported her for medication on monthly basis.



8-CLAAS provided financial support to Anser by paying off his debt of Rs. 45000/-. He borrowed this amount for medical treatment of his wife who is a heart patient. Anser is a victim of polio and his right leg is disabled. He is a rickshaw driver and purchased a rickshaw on installment to earn and support his family. He has a daughter and two sons. Due to his wife's sickness he had needed money for medical treatment therefore Anser took 45000/ rupees on interest from two different persons in August 2016. Anser was unable to return their money at once with heavy interest therefore those persons

snatched his driving license and other relevant documents of rickshaw. Although, they were taking interest amount every month from Anser but they planned to snatch his rickshaw as well. Anser was the only breadwinner of his family and living in a rented house. He was very depressed therefore he shared his miserable situation with CLAAS. CLAAS cleared his debt and he took back his driving license and other relevant documents of rickshaw. Now he is joyfully living with his family and thanking God for answering his prayers through CLAAS.



9-On September 09, 2017 Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis distributed grocery to the Youhanabad victims who are confined in Kot Lakhpat Jail Lahore under the lynching case of Youhanabad on the request of one of the CLAAS lawyers. CLAAS also provided travel expense to the victim's families for their Jail visits. CLAAS is providing grocery on monthly basis to some deserving families of Youhanabad's victims and also supporting them financially for their household needs. CLAAS is providing legal assistance to the distressed families of Youhanabad incident who are suffering due to their male member

are facing trials and waiting for justice.

General Education & Support Program



CLAAS is supporting and bearing the expenses of school going children belonging to the families involved in the legal cases that are troubled and allegedly accused against blasphemy charges. Whether they are living in apna ghar their own houses, CLAAS bears all the expenses of the school going children. In 2017 (14) children were supported for their education.

The details of the students are listed below:

Sr. No.	Student Name	Grade	School	Residence
1.	Maha d/o Sabir	9 th grade	Community Education Centre School System	Youhanabad Lahore
2.	Diya d/o Sabir	6 th grade	Community Education Centre School System	Youhanabad Lahore
3.	Fraz Arshad	10 th grade	Christian High School Gujranwala	Gujranwala
4.	Shamim d/o Pervaiz	10 th grade	Ahmed Public High School	Fazlia Colony Lahore
5.	Asad s/o Nasir (late)	3 rd grade	Don Basco Technical & Youth Centre Lahore	Sahiwal
6.	Emmanuel s/o Nasir (late)	3 rd grade	Don Basco Technical & Youth Centre Lahore	Sahiwal
7.	Alishba d/o Naveed	6 th grade	Victory Christian School	Bahar Colony Lahore
8.	John s/o Naveed	8 th grade	Victory Christian School	Bahar Colony Lahore
9.	Summer d/o Naveed	1 st year FSc	Government Degree College for women	Bahar Colony Lahore
10.	Allian s/o Shafqat	Nursery	Hope Fellowship School System Hamza Town Lahore	Apna Ghar
11.	Alliya	1 st grade	Hope Fellowship School System Hamza Town Lahore	Apna Ghar
12.	Anita Iram d/o Sadique	2 nd Year FSc	Sanjan Nagar Public Education Higher Secondary School Hamza Town	Apna Ghar
13.	Mehwish d/o Waris	1 st year of FA	Sanjan Nagar Public Education Higher Secondary School Hamza Town	Apna Ghar
14.	Sana Patras	8 th grade	Sanjan Nagar Public Education Higher Secondary School Hamza Town	Asif Town Lahore

Sunday Schools:

CLAAS is supporting 5 Sunday schools while 2 Sunday schools were clogged due to insufficient funds as CLAAS was not supported by any one for the Sunday school system. CLAAS is not only responsible for paying the teachers but also providing the bible story books, drawing books, colors pencils etc for the students. The current running Sunday schools are, Josuha Sunday school, God is love Sunday School, Arooj Sunday School, New Apostilic Sunday School and National Brick Sunday School. The Sunday school class is conducted in the evening mostly from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. which is attended by maximum number of children. The activities begin with a prayer offered by a student followed by holy songs sung by everyone. Then the Sunday school teacher recites the Holy Bible and helps the children learn the verses by heart. After that the teacher tells a biblical story to all the children and they actively take part in the question answer sessions. Later the teacher encourages the students to participate in extracurricular activities like painting, playing games, presenting skits on biblical stories etc. In the end a prayer is offered and refreshments are distributed among the children after which they go back to their homes.

The details of the students are listed below:

Sr. No.	School Name	Teacher	Number of Students	Area
1.	Joshua Sunday school Ministry	Maria Yaqoob	50	Youhanabad, Lahore
2.	God is Love Sunday School	Robina Niamat	30	Pak Bricks Company Ferozepur Road, Kasur
3.	Arooj Sunday School	Mary Rafique	25	KotPakkaQilla, Kasur
4.	New Apostolic Sunday School	Katherine Akhtar	30	BastiCharagh Shah, Kasur
5.	National Bricks Sunday School	Junaid Saleem Masih	30	National Bricks Qadi Wind Road, Kasur
Total Figure		05	165	

Christmas gifts distribution among the children at brick kilns & Sunday school students supported by CLAAS UK

On December 24, 2017 Christmas Gift distributed through CLAAS representative Mr. Akhtar Masih Sindhu Legal advisor CLAAS among the 140 children of Sunday School & Brick Kilns in Kasur. Keeping in mind that Christmas is not just a time of festivity rather it's a spirit of loving, caring and sharing. Believing that the more good things you do to others the more good things you do for yourself.

The names of the schools and brick kilns are mentioned below:



1- Arooj Sunday school at Kot Pakka Qilla, run by Ms. Mary Rafique and the gifts were distributed among twenty five children in her school.



2- New Apostolic Church Sunday school at Basti Charagh Shah Kasur, run by Ms. Katherine Akhtar and the gifts were distributed amongst twenty five children in her school.



3- God is Love at Pak Bricks Company Ferozepur Road Kasur, Sunday school at Brick Kilns run by Ms. Rubina and the gifts were distributed among twenty five children.



4- National Brick Company Qadiwind Road Kasur Sunday school at Brick Kiln, run by Mr. Junaid and the gifts were distributed among twenty five children.



5-Joshua Sunday school Ministry at Youhanabad, run by Maria Yaqoob and the gifts were distributed among 40 children.

On December 31, 2017 Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis, National Director CLAAS distributed Christmas and New Year gifts among 110 children of laborers working at different brick kilns at District Kasur.

1- Ali Bricks Raiwind Road Kasur



2- Ch. Shabir Bricks Haveli Paharian Wali Kasur



3- Chaudhary Zahid Bricks Rasool Pur Kasur



Persecuted Christians:

There are several forms of oppressions faced by the Christian community of Islamic Republic of Pakistan but unfortunately just few are being addressed and highlighted. Keeping in view the biased situation of persecuted Christian community it is obligatory for CLAAS and other NGOs to support the victims without disclosing their identities and localities as they face serious life threats. The list of the faith based victims are mentioned below that were facilitated by CLAAS and there are many other cases which are left unattended and unreported which are not mentioned here.

Sr. #	Name	District	Dated
1.	Naeem Akhtar & his family	Sheikhupura	Jannuary 2017
2.	Naqas Pervaiz Masih	Lahore	March 2017
3.	William Aamir	Wazirabad	March 2017
4.	Nouman Serosh	Lahore	May 2017
5.	Younis Hameed	Lahore	August 2017
6.	Pastor Innocent Sindhu	Lahore (refferecne of Fr. Shahzad)	October 2017
7.	Sania Malik	Faisalabad	October 2017
8.	Amjad Masih	Gujrat	October 2017
9.	Nosheen	Lahore (reference of a Pastor)	November 2017

Law Open to Abuse:

Blasphemy Law:

The blasphemy law is a part of the PPC, which was introduced in 1860 by the British Government to protect religious feelings. It may be observed that Section 295 provides protection to worship places of all classes of religions living in the subcontinent. It does not contain an element of discrimination or preference to any class. It maintains the equality of all before the law. The law appears to maintain mutual harmony and peace as well as to promote a sense of mutual tolerance, understanding, and respect in the multifaceted society of the subcontinent. This section represents the typical example of a secular democratic law for the benefit of all and loss to none. But it gradually was envenomed and the additions in it made this law a weapon of annihilation.

There have been instances of intolerance relating to the blasphemy laws, promulgated by General Zia in 1985. They state that whoever says anything disparaging about Holy Qur'an and Muslims can be punished by life imprisonment and that anyone who blasphemes against Prophet Muhammad [PBUH] is liable to the death penalty. The blasphemy law continues to be abused because of its vague formulation, which allows arbitrary enforcement. In addition, it only takes the testimony of four Muslims to bring about a conviction. It is not worthy that in several cases, complaints have been filed at the insistence of local clerics or members of the Islamic parties. The motives are varied and some seem to be pure because the accused is a member of a minority faith. In other cases, this fact is exacerbated by economic or profession rivalry.

Original Sections of 1860 Code: 295-298

Section 295

Injuring (or) Defiling Place of Worship, with intent to insult the Religion of any class

'Whoever destroys, damages, or defiles any place of worship, or any object held sacred by any class of persons with the intention of thereby insulting the religion of any class of persons or with the knowledge that any class of persons is likely to consider such destruction, damage or defilement as an insult to their religion, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.'

Section 296

Disturbing Religious Assembly 'Whoever voluntarily causes disturbance to an assembly lawfully engaged in the performance of religious worship, or religious ceremonies shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.'

Section 297

Trespassing on burial places, etc 'Whoever, with the intention of wounding the feelings of any person, or of insulting the religion of any person, or with the knowledge that the feelings of any person are likely to be wounded, or that the religion of any person is likely of sepulture, or any place set apart for the remains of the dead, or offers any indignity to any human corpse, or cause disturbance to any person assembled for the performance of funeral ceremonies, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine or with both.'

Section 298

Uttering words, etc with deliberate intention to sabotage Religious sentiments

'Whosoever with the deliberate intention of damaging the religious feelings of any person, utters any word or makes any sound in the hearing of that person, or make any gesture in the sight of that person, or places any object in the sight of that person, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.'

First Edition

In 1972 section 295-A was introduced as a result of the failure to convict one Rajpal, who had written a scurrilous tract against the holy Prophet [PBUH]. Rajpal's acquitted led to serious Muslim-Hindus communal tension. To fill the lacunae in the laws that had enabled his acquitted 295-A was introduced by the Act XXV of 1927. This was the second blasphemy law.

Section 295-A

Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage Religious feelings of any class by insulting its Religious (or) Religious believers 'Whoever, with deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class of His Majesty's subjects, by words either spoken or written, or by visible representations, insults or attempts to insult the religion or religious beliefs of that class, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.'

Additions by General Zia-UL-Haq

Thereafter the laws remained unchanged until 1980. Between 1918 and 1947 there are only 4 reported cases in India under sections 298 and 295-A i.e. the blasphemy laws. Between 1947 and 1986 there were only 5 reported cases in Pakistan.

All the above laws also continue to be part of the Indian and Bangladesh Penal Codes.

In 1980 section 298-A was introduced. This was the third blasphemy law.

Section 298-A

Use of derogatory remarks, etc. in respect of Holy personages 'Whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representations, or by any imputation, innuendo or insinuation, directly or indirectly, defiles the sacred name of any wife [Ummul Mumineen], or members of the family [Ahle-bait], of the Holy Prophet [PBUH] or any of the righteous Caliphs [Khulafa-e-Raashideen] or companions [Sahaaba] of the Holy Prophet [PBUH] shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine or with both.'

Section 295-B

Defiling etc. of a copy of Holy Qur'an 'Whoever willfully defiles, damages or desecrates a copy of the Holy Qur'an or of an extract therefrom or uses it in any derogatory manner or for any unlawful purpose shall be punishable with imprisonment for life.'

Section 295-C

Use of derogatory remarks etc. in respect of the Holy Prophet [PBUH] 'Whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation, or by any imputation, innuendo, or insinuation, directly or indirectly, defiles the sacred name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad [PBUH] shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine.'

The two technical changes introduced by this law are that for the first time blasphemy becomes a capital offense. Further, in 1991 the Federal Shariat Court ruled that the option of life imprisonment was to be removed and the death penalty became the mandatory punishment for this offense. The second innovation is that this is the only law in the entire PC that requires the presiding judge be a Muslim. The other noteworthy aspect of this section in the absence of the expression willfully or intentionally in the text of the law. Disregard of the element of will or intention in the law makes the whole environment, suspicious of the reason that "will" or "intention" is an essential part of human behavior in the context of identifying a criminal offense. Thus, under section 295-C, a person committing an offense without "will" or "intention" is awarded death sentence at par with one committing it "willfully" or "intentionally." We can see that law is required to punish the "unintentional" offense on the same scale as in the case of "intentional" one, without any justification.

Blasphemy laws, like other discriminatory laws, have changed the fate of Pakistani Christians, the Ahmadis community, and even the Muslims are not safe from this brutal and savage law.

Christians and Ahmadis are the main targets of the fundamentalist and religious-political parties. The law is being used for forced conversions, forcibly taking the lands and businesses of non-Muslims and for settling personal scores, rivalries, and vengeance. These laws have also hindered the preaching of any other faith except Islam. Nevertheless, these laws have proven to be the most injurious weapons for active religious persecution used by the extremists.

Once a person is held under blasphemy charges, the victim and his/her family are sore-pressed and are harassed with problems. As a matter of fact, none of the victims has ever availed relief from the lower courts and have to go in appeal in the higher or **even if the person gets relief from the higher courts, he/she can never go back to this place and have to live in danger for his/her entire life.**

Hudood Ordinance (Rape and Adultery)

This law was promulgated on February 22nd, 1997. It covers theft, drunkenness, adultery, rape and bearing false witness. Zinah (adultery) is a part of this ordinance, which is divided into two sections, Zinah (adultery and fornication), Zina-bill-Jabar (rape). In this, it is easy to accuse women, at times even falsely of adultery. Both sections are liable to hold, and victim requires at least four Muslim adult male witnesses about whom the court is satisfied having regard to the requirements of "Tazkyah-al-Shuood" that they are truthful persons and abstain from major sins give evidence as an eyewitness of the act of penetration necessary to the offense. The non-Muslim witness is not admissible, against Muslim, but if the accused is non-Muslim, the eyewitness may be non-Muslim.

Moreover, the presiding officer of the court by which a case is tried or an appeal is heard under this ordinance shall be a Muslim. In the case of a non-Muslim accused the presiding officer may be non-Muslim.

If a victim is non-Muslim and the perpetrator(s) Muslim, it becomes hard to prove rape, because the non-Muslim witness is not admissible and four male-Muslims cannot be provided anyway. In

such cases, female victims cannot prove their case are subsequently charged with Zina or Qazaf (Islamic law) for making a false statement and becomes liable to hand. This is an effective deterrent against women complaining of rape or abuse. Many women are suffering in different jails in Pakistan charged under this law.

Qanoon-e-Shahadat (Law of Witness)

This law came into effect in 1984. It is discriminatory against women and the non-Muslims. In this law, the evidence of two women equals to that of one man in the case of non-Muslim while four male witnesses are needed if they are non-Muslims. In the case of non-Muslim women, there is much confusion as to how many witnesses are required to testify. In fact, non-Muslims cannot give evidence in Hadd (maximum) punishment if a Muslim is on trial. Moreover, in the case of Hadd punishment, the Zina Ordinance does not take into account a woman's evidence even if she is the victim.

Qisas-o-Diyat (Blood Money)

Qisas literally means retribution, with the logic of an eye for an eye, while Diyat is blood money for murder or financial compensation for physical injury in the law of retribution. It provides for punishment for murder and injury, but it is discriminatory towards women in terms of their number of witnesses in order to testify in the court of law. Only two male witnesses can testify for maximum punishment while women can only testify for awarding lesser punishment. Evidence of non-Muslims is only acceptable if the accused is also a non-Muslim. Diyat is meted out with discrimination, as blood money awarded to women to the aggressive party is only half of that of a man while women are liable to the same punishment.

Interfaith Marriages

Interfaith marriages are not very common in Pakistan, as people prefer to stay in their respective religions. People in Pakistan when settling a marriage between a man and a woman try to get information about the family they are to have their son/daughter to be married with. They often do the investigation through different sources for own satisfaction and to avoid any problems to be faced in the future.

Every person/family tries to get married in their respective religion, cast, and sets of beliefs. Like a Muslim Sunni would prefer to be married in a Sunni family, the same is in Shia and other sects of the Muslim religion.

Christians also prefer to marry in their own religion and would not like to go out of their cultural differences. It is not possible for either side to accept and follow the religion of any side, especially in the case of a Christian woman. Legally, there is no objection for a Christian or Muslim to tie in the bond of marriage, but the pressure from the families and the communities from either side make it impossible for a Christian or Muslim to get married. But still, these marriages take place in the community with or without the permission of both the families.

These marriages take place in two different ways:

- Forced Marriages
- Love Marriages
 - Muslim boy & Christian girl
 - Christian boy & Muslim girl

Forced Marriages

Most of these marriages take place in rural areas where a Muslim feudal marries a Christian woman by force. This usually happens to teach a lesson to a Christian servant either for not obeying the orders of the feudal lord or if the Christian woman is beautiful the feudal gets a desire to have her and this forces him to marry that Christian woman. This also happens in brick kilns and other labor industries where the whole of the family works and Christian women are being subjected to this forced marriage and are asked to forget about their previous marriages as their marriages automatically dissolve after marrying a Muslim man. These marriages also take place when a minor forcibly converted to Islam and to prevent her from going to her Christian parents, they are usually forced into marriage with a Muslim male twice older than then her own age.

Love Marriages

Muslim Boy & Christian Girl

Unlike the marriage between a Christian boy and a Muslim girl, there is no problem for a Muslim male to marry a Christian girl. It is said in the Muslim community that by marrying a Christian girl and bringing her into the circle of Islam is to commit a good deed for the male and for Islam. Muslims welcome Christian girls in their family and expect the girl to get involved in the new environment and to follow her religion obediently. But soon they start to have conflicts with the girl and these types of marriages do not last long and in the end, the girl gets tired and wants to get freedom from her husband and his religion. This enrages the Muslim husband and his family and they take this against Islam to let the girl go back to her previous religion. They often kill her or does not give her a divorce and keep her in their custody forcibly. Even if the girls manage to escape from her Muslim in-laws, they follow her and try to threaten her and her family to send her back or else they (a Christian girl and her family) will be killed. Even after getting a divorce from her Muslim husband, the Christian girl lives her life under fear and tries to live where no one can recognize her. Therefore, interfaith marriages do not bring any good results for Christian men or women as in either way they lose in the end.

Christian Boy & Muslim Girl

It is not possible for a Christian boy to get involved with a Muslim girl. If a Christian boy and a Muslim girl fell in love with each other they cannot get married because of the fear and pressure from their families and also the pressure built by the extremists. Muslims do not allow their daughter to marry a boy Christian by faith, and then they take it against their pride and honor. They take it very seriously, and if the couple goes into hidden they search them, find them and kill both including the family of that Christian boy. They also charge the boy/man and his family for the abduction of their daughter and try to get them behind bars.

Constitution of Pakistan Relating to Women

The Rights of women are being protected in the constitution of Pakistan as well as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

- All citizens are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law.
- There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex alone.
- No citizen otherwise qualified for appointment in the service of Pakistan shall be discriminated against in respect of any such appointment on the ground only of **Sex**

- Steps shall be taken to ensure full participation of women in all spheres of national life.....
- The state shall protect the marriage, the family, and the mother.....
The state shall..... [Ensure] that women are not employed in vocations unsuited to their sex.....

Constitution of Pakistan, Articles 25,27,35,37

- All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.....
- Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedom set forth in this declaration, without distinction of any kind.....
- All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.....
- Men and women of full age.....are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during the marriage and at its dissolution.
- Marriage should be entered into with the free will and consent of the intending spouses.
- Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in his country.
Mother and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 1,2,7,16,21 (2), 25 (2)

Constitution of Pakistan Relating to Children

Child rights are being protected in both the Constitution of Pakistan and in the UN declaration for the protection of child rights.

- No child below the age of 14 years shall be engaged in any factory or mine or any other hazardous employment. Constitution of Pakistan, **Article 11 (3)**
- The state shall protect the marriage, the family, the mother and the child. **Articles 35**
- The state shall make provisions for ensuring that children.....are not employed in vocations to their age.....Article 37 (e)
- In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by the public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interest of the child shall be a primary consideration. Article 3 (1)
- Childhood is entitled to special care and assistance.

UN Convention on the Right of the Child, Preamble

Due to improper administration of the law in Pakistan, the law and the Constitution are being violated and the government has no means to stop it to protect children.

Child rights are being protected in both the Constitution of Pakistan and in the UN declaration for the protection of child rights.

No child below the age of 14 years shall be engaged in any factory or mine or any other hazardous employment.

Other Key Activities:



On January 15, 2017 Pakistan Christian National Party has arranged the 8th death anniversary of Christian Leader Patras Ghani (late) at Gora Qabristan Jail Road Lahore (Christian Cemetery) under the leadership of Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis Chairman Pakistan Christian National Party along with other political leaders and his family.



On January 23, 2017 Mr. M.A Joseph Francis was the key speaker in a Labour conference organized by National party in Lahore. Ex- Chief Minister Baluchistan, Dr. Abdul Malik and Federal Minister for Ports and Shipping Senator Mr. Meer Hasil Khan Bazinjo, President National Party Punjab Mr. Ayub Malik, and other political leaders visited CLAAS office.



On March 23, 2017 Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS was invited as a Chief Guest by Mr. Irfan Nazir (Principal) of The Gospel Foundation School System on the result day to share some encouraging words with students. Mr. Joseph Francis congratulated the school management and students and appreciated them for their achievements; he also insisted parents to provide higher education to their children.



On March 25, 2017 Ms. Naheed Khan Chairperson of Pakistan People's Party visited CLAAS office. Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS warmly welcomed her and had a productive discussion on the current socio-economic and political situation of Pakistan.



A delegation of Pakistan People's Party & Pakistan People's Party workers headed by Ms. Naheed Khan Chairperson of Pakistan People's Party and Dr. Safdar Abbasi met Pakistan Christian National Party on April 29, 2017 at CLAAS office. Mr. M.A Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS & Chairman of Pakistan Christian National Party along with other members welcomed the delegation. The current issues and religious minority's situation of Pakistan were discussed in this meeting.



On May 01, 2017 Labour Day Rally in Kasur organized by Mazdoor Ittehad District Kasur and Brick Kiln Workers Federation Kasur. Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS, Mr. Irfan Mufti, Mr. Shakeel Abbas SAP Pakistan, Mr. Tariq Awan Piler Pakistan and Mr. Akhtar Sandhu Coordinator addressed the people in this Rally.



On May 02, 2017 Chairman Pakistan Christian national party (PCNP) Mr. Joseph Francis MBE had a meeting with the President of National Party Federal Minister of Ports and Shipping Senator Mir Haasil Khan Bajinzo, Mr. Talib Hussain, Mr. Ayub Malik, Mr. Iqbal Khokhar and other leaders at Parliament Lodges Islamabad.



Mr. M.A Joseph Francis had supported 'Shamshad Bashir Welfare Foundation'. Training Centre for the blinds in Model Town Lahore.



The Salvation Army delegation headed by Major Carol Telfer visited CLAAS office on May 7th, 2017. The purpose of this visit was to discuss and identify areas of mutual concerns where both organizations can collaborate to serve the community in more efficient way. It was decided that CLAAS will work in close association with Salvation Army on women health education, women empowerment including Advocacy on Human Trafficking. The delegation later visited

CLAAS shelter home “Apna Ghar” and met with the survivors. The visit was very successful and opened doors for future joint ventures of both organizations.



Apna Ghar survivors had fun filled outdoor activity organized by CLAAS staff on Saturday May 8th, 2017. The purpose of the activity was to provide the survivors and their children an opportunity to spend a day while enjoying nature’s beauty. Children enjoyed the rides in the park, played football and other outdoor games.



Discussion on minority issues at Praise TV Hosted by Pastor Shahzad saddique. Mr. Joseph Francis MBE National Director CLAAS Chairman Pakistan Christian National Party, Mr. Iqbal Khokhar and Mr. Sohail Habel accompanied him.



Mr. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS attended a consultation conducted by CHANAN with key stakeholders of society for the promotion and protection of domestic workers. The human rights violations of domestic workers and the possible solutions were discussed in the consultation.



On July 08, 2017 CLAAS celebrated birthday of one of the survivor's child at CLAAS office. The children of CLAAS shelter's survivors enjoyed tremendously during the birthday celebration.



On July 22, 2017 Sunday school children accompanying CLAAS staff, Teachers, Team of Save the Human Welfare Foundation and Survivor's children of Apna Ghar went to the excursion trip at 'Food Point Park' in Kasur.



On July 24, 2017 Mr. M. A. Joseph Francis had a meeting with our Senior Lawyer Mr. Mahmood Sheikh Advocate Supreme Court about the legal cases of minority and other ongoing issues in Supreme Court of Pakistan at Islamabad.



On August 14, 2017 at 10:00 am Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis National Director CLAAS hoisted Pakistani National Flag at Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement to celebrate 70th Independence Day.



On August 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Liberty Chowk Gulberg Lahore a Candlelight Vigil was organized by Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS) along with other civil society organizations to pay tribute to late Sister Dr. Ruth Katherine Martha Pfau who devoted her life to eradicate leprosy in Pakistan.



On August 21, 2017 a very productive meeting took place with The President of National Party Senator Federal Minister Ports and Shipping Mir Haasil Khan Bazinjo and Senator Dr Ashok Kumar NP on minority issues in the chamber of National Assembly Islamabad. Mr. Ayub Malik, Mian Aftab Ahmad was also present during the meeting. Mr. Joseph Francis MBE National Director CLAAS and Chairman Pakistan Christian National party shared his reservations on the overall situation of minorities Mr. Iqbal Khokhar, Mr. Rashid Lala and

Sohail habel were also with him.



On December 15, 2017 CLAAS National Director Mr. M.A. Joseph Francis arranged a Christmas Lunch at CLAAS office for the entire staff to share the joy of Christmas season before going for holidays. Everyone relished the delicious meal and had pleasant discussion on the table. The entire CLAAS staff was grateful to the Almighty God for blessing us throughout the year and prayed for the upcoming year's blessings and joys to come.



A Candlelight vigil was arranged by CLAAS at Liberty Chowk Lahore on Monday December 18, 2017 in commemoration of the Martyrs of Quetta Church blast.

Acronyms:

Sr.#	Acronyms	Description
□	AI	Advocates International
□	AA	Advocates Asia
□	AGM	Annual General Meeting
□	AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
□	ASST.	Assistant
□	ATM	Automatic Teller Machine
□	ACT	Action by Churches Together
□	ARD	Alliance for the Restoration of Democracy
□	ASI	Assistant Sub Inspector
□	Adv.	Advocate
□	ATC	Anti-Terrorist Court
□	ATA	Anti-Terrorism Act
□	A.R.P Church	Presbyterian Church
□	AGHS	Legal Aid Cell
□	ASJ	Additional Session Judge
□	ADJ	Additional District Judge
□	ASP	Assistant Superintendent Police
□	ACRE	A unit of area used in some countries, is equal to 4,046.86 sq.m./4,840 sq.yd.
□	BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
□	BHC	British High Commission
□	BIBI	Word Bibi usually used for in respect of a lady
□	CEO	Chief Executive Officer
□	CLAAS	Centre for Legal Aid Assistance & Settlement
□	CWS-P/A	Church World Service Pakistan/Afghanistan

Centre for legal Aid Assistance and Settlement

<input type="checkbox"/>	CM	Chief Minister
<input type="checkbox"/>	CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	CID	Criminal Investigation Department
<input type="checkbox"/>	CNN	Cable News Network
<input type="checkbox"/>	CD	Compact Disk
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAP	Community Advance Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	COP	Churches of Pakistan
<input type="checkbox"/>	CIP	Country Information Policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	CPI	Consumer Price Index
<input type="checkbox"/>	CIR	Christian Institute Raiwind
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cr.P.C	Criminal Procedure Code
<input type="checkbox"/>	CCPO	Chief City Police Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	CH	Chaudhary & Landlord
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLAP	Christian Lawyer Association Pakistan
<input type="checkbox"/>	CNIC	Computerized National Identity Card
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHAK	The word Chak use for Village
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHALLAN	The word Challan is used for Charges sheet.
<input type="checkbox"/>	D&C	Dilatation and Curettage
<input type="checkbox"/>	DOC	Document
<input type="checkbox"/>	DPO	District Police Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	D/O	Daughter of
<input type="checkbox"/>	DIG	Deputy Inspector General
<input type="checkbox"/>	DHQ	Divisional Head Quarter
<input type="checkbox"/>	DSP	Deputy Superintendent of Police
<input type="checkbox"/>	DSJ	District Session Judge
<input type="checkbox"/>	DNA	Deoxyribo nucleic Acid
<input type="checkbox"/>	DCO	District Coordination Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	DDOR	Deputy District Officer Revenue

Centre for legal Aid Assistance and Settlement

<input type="checkbox"/>	DAR-UL-AMAN	Shelter Home for women
<input type="checkbox"/>	EDO	Executive District Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	EU	European Union
<input type="checkbox"/>	F/O	Father Of
<input type="checkbox"/>	FIR	First Information Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	FIA	Federal Investigation Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	FBI	Federal Bureau Of Investigation
<input type="checkbox"/>	FCO	Foreign and Common wealth Office
<input type="checkbox"/>	GEO	Gene Expression Omnibus & name of a TV Channel
<input type="checkbox"/>	G.T ROAD	Grand Trunk Road
<input type="checkbox"/>	HMK	Hilfsation Maertyrer Kirche
<input type="checkbox"/>	HRCP	Human Rights Commissionof Pakistan
<input type="checkbox"/>	HAZRAT HAZRET	or Hazrat or Hazret is an honorific Arabic title used to honoraperson
<input type="checkbox"/>	HLB	Habib BankLimited
<input type="checkbox"/>	IGFM	International Society for Human Rights-German Section
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICCO	Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I.O	Investigation Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	N.I.C	National Identity Card
<input type="checkbox"/>	IBA	International Bar Association
<input type="checkbox"/>	IGI	Industrial General Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/>	JAC	JointAction Committee for People's Rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	JD	Name of School
<input type="checkbox"/>	KM	Kilometer
<input type="checkbox"/>	KG	Kilogram
<input type="checkbox"/>	LTD	LaneTransit District
<input type="checkbox"/>	MFI	Mehdi Foundation International
<input type="checkbox"/>	MS	Medical Superintendent
<input type="checkbox"/>	MBE	Member Of The British Empire

Centre for legal Aid Assistance and Settlement

<input type="checkbox"/>	MSS	Marie Stops Society
<input type="checkbox"/>	MNA	Member National Assembly
<input type="checkbox"/>	MPA	Member Provincial Assembly
<input type="checkbox"/>	MLC	Medico Legal Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/>	MCB	Muslim Commercial Bank
<input type="checkbox"/>	MCFI	Muslim Christian Federation International
<input type="checkbox"/>	MD	Managing Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	MQM	Muttahida Quami Movement
<input type="checkbox"/>	MP	Member Parliament
<input type="checkbox"/>	MEP	Member European Parliament
<input type="checkbox"/>	MARLA	Themarla is 1 square rod,so 272.25 square feet.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MASIH	Masih is the Arabic work for Messiah (Christ).
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAO	National Audit Office
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAZIM	Organizer, Convener & Coordinator of cities and towns in Pakistan
<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
<input type="checkbox"/>	NCJP	National Commission Justice & Peace
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICCD	Interfaith Commission for Community Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	NCIDE	National Commission for Inter-Religious Dialogue
<input type="checkbox"/>	NCCP	National Council of Churches of Pakistan
<input type="checkbox"/>	NUML	National University Of Modern Languages
<input type="checkbox"/>	NBP	National Bank of Pakistan
<input type="checkbox"/>	NWFP	North West Fortier Province
<input type="checkbox"/>	NIC	National Identity Card
<input type="checkbox"/>	OPD	Out Door Patient
<input type="checkbox"/>	PA	Personal Assistant
<input type="checkbox"/>	PAF	Pakistan Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/>	PPP	Pakistan People Party
<input type="checkbox"/>	PPC	Pakistan Penal Code

Centre for legal Aid Assistance and Settlement

<input type="checkbox"/>	PBUH	Peace Be Upon Him
<input type="checkbox"/>	PCNP	Pakistan Christian National Party
<input type="checkbox"/>	PCCS	Pakistan Christian Credit Society
<input type="checkbox"/>	PIMS	Pakistan Institute for Medical Science
<input type="checkbox"/>	PML (N)	Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz Group)
<input type="checkbox"/>	PST	Pakistan Standard Time
<input type="checkbox"/>	RI	Release International
<input type="checkbox"/>	R/O	Resident of
<input type="checkbox"/>	RPO	Regional Police Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	RS	In Pakistan, Rs is referred to as the“rupees”
<input type="checkbox"/>	SHO	Station House Officer
<input type="checkbox"/>	SLMP	Sharing Life Ministry Pakistan
<input type="checkbox"/>	S/O	Son of
<input type="checkbox"/>	SI	Sub–Inspector
<input type="checkbox"/>	SP	Superintendent of Police
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPARC	Society For The Protection of The Rights Of The Child
<input type="checkbox"/>	SSP	Senior Superintendent of
<input type="checkbox"/>	SAP	South Asia Partnership
<input type="checkbox"/>	SMS	Short Message Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	TSA	Technical Services Association
<input type="checkbox"/>	TLC	Trinity Law College
<input type="checkbox"/>	TOLA	Ten Gram Gold
<input type="checkbox"/>	TB	Tuberculosis
<input type="checkbox"/>	TDA	Tehsil Development Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	TMA	Tehsil Municipal Administration
<input type="checkbox"/>	UK	United Kingdom
<input type="checkbox"/>	USA	United States America
<input type="checkbox"/>	UN	United Nations

Centre for legal Aid Assistance and Settlement

<input type="checkbox"/>	U/S	Under Section
<input type="checkbox"/>	UAE	United Arab Emirates
<input type="checkbox"/>	UC	Union Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	UP	United Presbyterian
<input type="checkbox"/>	UCH	United Christian Hospital
<input type="checkbox"/>	UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	UNO	The United Nations Organization
<input type="checkbox"/>	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissions For Refugees
<input type="checkbox"/>	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
<input type="checkbox"/>	UNHRC	United National Human Rights Commission
<input type="checkbox"/>	UNHCO	United Nation Health Care Organization
<input type="checkbox"/>	VS.	Versus
<input type="checkbox"/>	WWW	World Wide Web
<input type="checkbox"/>	WAR	War Against Rape
<input type="checkbox"/>	WCC	World Council Churches
<input type="checkbox"/>	W/O	Wife of
<input type="checkbox"/>	WASA	Water and Sanitation Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	WAPDA	Water and Power Development Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	YRS	Years
<input type="checkbox"/>	YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
<input type="checkbox"/>	YWCA	Young Women's Christian Association

Introduction of CLAAS Coordinators



Mr. Emmanuel Naz promotes CLAAS work and does advocacy on human rights issues faced by Christians in Pakistan by providing help to asylum seeker in France. He is President of Pakistan Christian National Party and President of International Media Forum Paris France.



Mr. Akhtar Bhatti is Coordinator of CLAAS in Frankfurt Germany, President of Pakistan Christian National Party (PCNP) and President of International Media Forum Frankfurt Germany.



Ret. Rev Arshad Khokhar is working with European parliamentarians in Belgium to raise human rights issues faced by Christians in Pakistan. He is the coordinator of CLAAS, President of Pakistan Christian National Party (PCNP) and President of International Media Forum Belgium.

Board Members of CLAAS

1. Rt. Rev. Samuel Robert Azariah, Chairman CLAAS
2. Ms. Resha Qadir Baksh, Board Member
3. Fr. Inayat Bernard, Board Member
4. Mr. Younis Rahi, Treasure
5. Mr. Marvin Parvaiz, Board Member
6. Ms. Eiga Kenny, Deputy National Director
7. Mr. M.A Joseph Francis MBE, National Director
8. Albert David, Board Member
9. Amjad Saleem Minhas, Board Member

CLAAS office appointed the following Legal Advisors from Lahore and outstation

1. Mr. Tahir Bashir Advocate High Court (At CLAAS office, Lahore)
2. Mr. Nasir Anjum Suba Advocate High Court (At CLAAS office, Lahore)
3. Mr. Akhtar Sindhu Advocate High Court (At CLAAS office, Lahore)
4. Ms. Ayesha Boota Advocate High Court (At CLAAS office, Lahore)
5. Chaudhary Muhammad Amin Javaid Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan, Lahore
6. Mr .Saleem Gill Advocate High Court, Bahawalpur
7. Mr .Malik Zaman Haider Advocate High Court, Shahdra-Lahore
8. Mr .Mohammad Idress Advocate High Court, Khanewal
9. Mr.Sheikh Sarfraz Advocate High Court, Sheikhpura
10. Ms. Tasnees Bashir Advocate High Court, Sahiwal