Providing means to achieve positive ends
Asad Ali, a student and energetic speaker, learns ways to counter conflict from the platform of SFCG Pakistan.

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Asad Ali Khan is a post-graduate student of International Relations from the University of Peshawar and holds a master’s degree in Computer Science. He belongs to a rural area of district Tank in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Tank is one of the most underdeveloped areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and is gradually drifting into instability. Extremism is gaining a foothold in the district due to its geographical proximity to the tribal areas. Militancy, extremism, drug addiction amongst youth and deteriorating education conditions have dragged Tank into a crisis situation.

To address the multi-pronged challenges, Asad Ali campaigned to spread awareness among the people of Tank. He spoke for their rights and called on them to shun those elements which have are the reason behind their difficulties. He conducted many focus group and roundtable discussions, and entered into dialogue with members of civil society and local communities.

Keeping in view the untiring efforts of Asad Ali for stabilizing Tank district, SFCG, and its partner PAIMAN Alumni Trust, selected him for a training on “Mediation and Dialogue”. Asad termed the training “highly relevant and pertinent” for resolving the issues in Tank. Asad Ali further elaborated that the training is applicable practically and systematically addresses various underlying conflicts.

“I learnt many useful techniques and tools which can be beneficial for bringing peace to the district, and will further open different arenas of development in the area,” he says. “These techniques came at the right time for me as I was looking for innovate ways to work for peace in my hometown.”

He recalled that the training taught him diverse ways to build dialogue and highlight the challenges posed by conflict. Moreover, the training also enhanced his confidence in speaking publicly about conflict resolution. “I feel that by using these methods and skills, I can explicitly discuss the matter to increase awareness.”

Referring to the benefits and outcomes of the training, Asad Ali said that the pace of his campaign for awareness has increased. He has conducted many awareness sessions in schools, colleges and public gatherings.

Asad acknowledges SFCG Pakistan’s and PAIMAN’s efforts and support for providing him an advanced and enhanced platform for addressing conflicts as a youth leader. Asad is planning to continue his work for the youth and spreading awareness through tactics learned from the training.

For more information, please contact infopk@sfcg.com