The power of “One” and the many!
Asma Latafat, a social activist, found a way to think big for her conflict prone district through SFCG’s platform

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Asma Latafat, a young activist with educational and professional experience, maintains great hopes for a durable change that will bring stability and peace to the violence affected society of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Asma belongs to Dera Ismail Khan, the second largest district of KPK and like most other districts of KPK, it has also been a target of extremism, terrorism, and sectarian killings, and has become increasingly unstable. The situation is getting worse by the day as terrorism strengthens its roots in that area.

Asma wants to work towards stabilizing the district in order to re-establish peace. With nine years’ experience in the social sector, Asma wants to dedicate her life to restoring peace to the district.

Keeping in view her commitment, Asma was invited by PAIMAN Alumni Trust and SFCG Pakistan to attend a training session on “Peacebuilding in KPK & FATA Through Mediation and Dialogue”. She found the training productive and fruitful. Asma felt privileged being part of the capacity building training. Through the training, she said that she gained more knowledge about peacebuilding and ways to engage with youth through mediation and dialogue techniques.

Further elaborating upon her experience with PAIMAN and SFCG, Asma said that before this training, she only had a dream about stabilizing her district, but after attending this training, “I have found a way to execute my ideas through the techniques and tools of mediation, dialogue and community mobilization. This training has given me the tools and platforms to realize my dream.”

“I believe that after attending the training, I can lead my people from the front as I have the necessary capabilities for the task. This training has given me innovative and realistic ideas which will be fruitful for my district, and in the long run, for my province and country,” Asma says.

As a result of the training, she has initiated a plan for a proper local level NGO, which will engage active and qualified persons willing to work for peacebuilding and conflict resolution by engaging various communities and leaders in DI Khan. She has also set a name for the organization as “Jazba,” or the passion, and its registration is underway. She also organizes debates with political representatives to further her mission. One basic theme that she seeks to master is the art of alliance building with a range of relevant organizations to maximize the impact of her efforts. “Indeed one individual can do a lot but a group of individuals can do even more,” she says.

“I wanted to excel for myself and my society and this training has given me an opportunity to seek a peaceful KPK. And for that, I will continue my struggle and hard work until I achieve what I seek,” she said while looking determined.

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