



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY
Institute for Educational Development

13th International Conference
Raising Children in Our Times
PDCN Gilgit | October 20, 2025

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025	
9:00 – 9:30	Conference Registration - PDCN
INAUGURAL CEREMONY	
09:30 – 09:35	Tilawat-e-Quran
09:35 – 09:45	Welcome remarks by Farid Panjwani, Dean AKU-IED
09:45 – 09: 55	Conference Overview by Conference Co-Chair, Sharifullah, PDCN
09:55 – 10:20	Address by Dr Anjum Halai, Vice Provost AKU
10:20 – 10:45	Remarks by the Chief Guest: Mr. Abrar Ahmed Mirza: Chief Secretary Gilgit-Baltistan
10:45 –11:00	Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of PDCN Chief Guest and AKU Team with Mola Dad Shafa Cake-cutting and Group Photo
11:00 – 11:30	TEA BREAK
KEYNOTE SESSIONS	
11:30 – 12:10	Keynote Session Nishat Riaz , Chief Executive in Pakistan, Malala Fund <i>Chair: Dr Farid, Dean, AKU-IED</i>
12:10 – 12:20	Creativity on Display (Musical Performance)
12:20 – 12:40	Session F4HE Project Findings Kausar Waqar , F4HE Team Leads <i>Chair: Yasmeen Mehboob from F4HE Team</i>

Monday, OCTOBER 20, 2025, PDCN Gilgit			
CONCURRENT SESSIONS 12:40 – 13:30			
F2F Room 1 MP Hall	F2F Room 2 CLM Room	F2F Room 03 Library	F2F Room 04 Social Area
<i>Philosophical & Artistic Understanding of Education</i> <i>Skills, dispositions and attitudes</i> <i>Mental Health and the Well-being of Children</i> Current ECE & Caregiving Models	<i>Child Development: Equity, Economy & Environment</i> Technology, AI, and Media in Children's Lives	Children and the Question of Inclusion Current ECE & Caregiving Models	Current ECE & Caregiving Models
Chair: Shah Azam Co-Chair: Mahi Parveen	Chair: Dr. Dil Angaiz Co-Chair: Manzoor Khan	Chair: Memona Azam Co-Chair: Bashir Ahmed Khan	Chair: Bulbul Khan Co-Chair: Sobia Bilal
The Eastern Philosophies of Child Raising: The Insights Coming from Ibn-Khaldun, Al-Ghazali, Confucius, and Buddha. Dr. Mola Dad Shafa and Sharifullah Baig (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Raising Children Amid Economic Challenges: A Case Study of Rural Households in Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral Abdul Wali Khan & Noor Shamsudin (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Promoting Inclusive Education in the Mountainous Region in Pakistan Tahira Sher (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	The Role of Early Childhood Education, Development, and Caregiving in the Rupani Foundation's Agah Walidain-Informed Parents Model Pari Bano (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)
Deriving Intellectual Curiosity through Religious Education in the Context of Gilgit Zohra Parveen (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Primary School Students' Nutritional Status: Variations across Gender, School System and Districts in Gilgit-Baltistan Anees Fatima (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Promoting Gender Inclusivity in Teaching and Learning Nazira Bibi (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Nurturing Young Minds: The Transformative Power of Nature-Based Learning in Early Childhood Education Tahira Jabeen (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)
13:30 – 14:20	Lunch Break		

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 14:20 – 15:35			
F2F Room 01 MP Hall	F2F Room 02 CELM Room	F2F Room 03 Library	F2F Room 04 Social Area
<i>Philosophical & Artistic Understanding of Education</i> <i>Skills, dispositions and attitudes</i> <i>Mental Health and the Well-being of Children</i> Current ECE & Caregiving Models	<i>Child Development: Equity, Economy & Environment</i> Technology, AI, and Media in Children's Lives	Children and the Question of Inclusion Current ECE & Caregiving Models	Current ECE & Caregiving Models
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Child Raising in Testing Times: The Challenges for Women in a Remote Disaster-hit Context Abida Begum and Sharifullah Baig (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Fostering Mathematical Competencies Through Integrating Play-Based Pedagogies in ECE in a Low-Resourced Public School in Karachi, Sindh Saleema Bano (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Masculinity, Honor, and Violence: Educational Interventions for Change in the Context of Honor Killings in Pakistan. Riaz Ahmed (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	ECD Pocket Reference Guide for Champions; Key messages booklet related to early child development (ECD) for ECD champions in Gilgit Baltistan and Chitral. Nazeem Uddin (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)
Employing Child-Centered Teaching Pedagogies for Holistic Development of Young Learners Bibi Salima (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	The Digital Dilemma: Examining the impact of social media on Students Aminuddin Khan (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Exploring the stakeholders' experiences of students' transition from ECE to Grade 1 in a non-profit school system in Karachi, Pakistan Najma Begum (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Empowering Communities for Holistic Early Child Development: The Impact of Parenting Interventions Tahira Jabeen (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)
<i>Poster Presentation</i> A Successful model of holistic interest ECD in far-flung areas of Gilgit Baltistan, Chitral Fatima Syed The Intersection of Technology and Media in Children's Lives Saadia Jameel	Self-alienating Citizenship and the Making of Docile Citizens: The Case of the Politically Disputed Territory of Gilgit-Baltistan Nazeem Aman (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Principal-Led Diversity Initiatives: A Case Study from Karachi Safina Shaheen (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)	Current Projects and models of Early Childhood Education and Development and Caregiving Meher Parwer (20 min presentation, 05 min Q&A)

CLOSING CEREMONY		
15:35 – 16:30	15:35 – 15:55	Address by the Guest Ghulam Shehzad Agha, Minister Education Gilgit-Baltistan
	15:55 – 16:15	Certification
	16:15 – 16:25	Vote of Thanks by Dr Mola Dad Shafa
	16:25 – 16:30	Group Photo
16:30 – 17:00 TEA BREAK		
The End		