

13th International Conference
Raising Children in Our Times
 October 15 & 16, 2025

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME
Karachi & Online

[DOWNLOAD THE ABSTRACT BOOK & SCHEDULE](#)



CONFERENCE DAY 1 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025 AKU AUDITORIUM, STADIUM ROAD CAMPUS	
8:30 – 9:30	Conference Registration – AKU Auditorium Entrance
INAUGURAL CEREMONY	
9:30 – 10:30	Readings from the Sacred Literature
	Welcome Remarks by Farid Panjwani, Dean, AKU-IED
	Address by Tania Bubela, Provost, AKU
	Address by Salim Virani, Vice Provost, Research, AKU
	Overview by Sajid Ali, Conference Chair, AKU-IED
	Remarks by the Chief Guest, Syed Sardar Ali Shah, Education Minister Sindh
10:30 – 10:55	TEA BREAK
KEYNOTE SESSIONS AND PANEL DISCUSSION	
11:00 – 12:00	Keynote Session The Flourishing Child Lynne Wolbert , Associate Professor, HU University of Applied Sciences Utrecht PhD, Philosophy of Education, VU Amsterdam <i>Chair: Naveed Yousuf, AKU-EB</i>
12:05 – 12:15	Instrumental Performance by AKU Music Society
12:20 – 13:30	Panel Discussion Beyond Survival: Shaping Safe and Supportive Spaces for the Modern Child Panelists – 1. Omair Ahmed, NOWPDP; 2. Mehmood Mughal, ISRA University; 3. Nargis Asad, AKU; 4. Fozia Parveen, AKU Moderator – Shelina Bhamani, AKU
13:35 – 14:20	LUNCH BREAK
14:30 – 15:15	Keynote Session I In conversation with Haroon Yasin and Bronwen Magrath <i>Chair: Farid Panjwani, AKU-IED</i>
15:15 – 16:00	Dastangoi by Meesam Naqvi, and Nazrul Hasan
16:00 – 16:30	Session I Voices of Children <i>Chair: Nasima Shakeel</i>
16:30 – 16:45	Activity by AKU Synergy Team
16:45 – 17:15	Conclusion of Day 1 Sajid Ali, Conference Chair, AKU-IED Vote of Thanks Haris Tohid, AKU-IED
17:15	End Day 1 and Refreshment

Sponsors



Virtual: Presenters will be online

Conference Day 2 Thursday, October 16, 2025 AKU-IED Karimabad Campus											
8:30 – 9:00	Conference Registration AKU-IED Entrance										
CONCURRENT SESSIONS I 09:00 – 10:30											
F2F Room 02 (Zoom)	F2F Room 05 (Zoom)	F2F Room 08	F2F Room 09 (Zoom)	F2F Room 10 (Zoom)	F2F Room 12	F2F Room 13	F2F Library	F2F Computer Lab	Virtual Room 03 (Zoom)	Virtual Room 11 (Zoom)	
Chair: Munir Lalani Theme1: Current ECE & Caregiving Models	Chair: Sadia Bhutta Symposium DARE-RC ‘Improving Drivers of Learning for Marginalized Children’	Chair: Hina Velji Theme 3: Technology, AI, and Media in Children's Lives	Chair: Naveed Yousuf Theme 2: Child Development: Equity, Economy & Environment	Chair: Sajid Ali Symposium GPE-KIX	Chair: Sarwat Nauman Theme 4: Mental Health and the Well-being of Children	Chair: Nusser Sayeed Theme 6: Children and the Question of Inclusion	Chair: Rabia Nauman Theme 5: Moral Development	Chair: Aien Shah Theme 6: Children and the Question of Inclusion	Chair: Yasmeen Mehboob Theme 1: Current ECE & Caregiving Models	Chair: Seema Laasi Theme 3: Technology, AI, and Media in Children's Lives & Keynote	
Mapping ECE Projects Through Indigenous & Family Lenses Ghazal Azeem	Lived Educational and Social Experiences of Minority Children Farid Panjwani Experience of Children with Disabilities in Mainstream Schools Julia de Kadt Increasing Girls’ Middle School Enrolment: Testing Targeted Solutions Zainab Latif	Preparing Teachers for STEM in Uncertain Futures Tasneem Anwar	Eco-Consciousness Through Child-Centered Learning Nazir Ahmed Shaikh	Transforming Teaching, Learning and Leadership through Contextualized Global Practices Takbir Ali Taimoor Zahida Nasima Shakeel	Integrating Neuropedagogy & Creativity in Online ECED Training Zainab Shahzadi (Theme 3)	Breaking Barriers: Innovative Education for Underprivileged Children Alina Majid	Moral Development via Religious Education: A Case from a Faith-Based Community Shairose Jessani Seema Surani	Raising Inclusive Children: Strategies for Educational Equity Mahwish Kamran	Neuro-pedagogy & Early Learning Fatima Javed	Keynote Takuya NUMAJIRI University of Fukui Raising Childre: The Japanese Way (40 mins)	
GSED Implementation for 0–3-Year-Olds Across Three Countries Ambreen Nizar		Digital Tools & English Comprehension in Middle School Faiqa Asim	Raising Climate-Conscious Children Erum Khan		Adolescents’ Emotional Intelligence & Early Childhood Development Anum Zulfiqar Ali	Dietary Challenges in Children with Neurodevelopme ntal and Genetic Disorders: Insights from Karachi Ayesha Zahid Khan	Teachers as Conflict Resolvers in Early Childhood Peace Education Laksha Bheem Kashaf Fiza	Early Intervention for Children with Special Educational Needs Seerat Fatima	Formative Assessment for Holistic Development Shahzadi Anwari		Parenting in the Digital Age: Challenges in Managing Children's Social Media Mujahid Ahmad
Parenting & Education in Modern Times Paras Aslam		Digital Storytelling: Screens to Values Hina Amin Kavita Parvaiz	Active Citizenship for Sustainability Asma Shahid Kazi		Empowering Teachers to Support Student Mental Health Shazmeen Karim	Promoting Inclusion through a Rights-Based Approach to Disability and Gender Kausar Waqar	Metaverse and Moral Values: An Islamic Perspective Lubna Imran	Beyond the Digital Divide: Can Low-Cost Tech Make a Difference? Nasira Parveen	Preparing Teachers for Child Development: A Review of Pre-Service Courses Sohail Ahmed (theme 7)		Impact of Moral Development on Students' Academic Achievement in Public Secondary Schools Shahnaz Parveen Channa (theme 5)
10:30 – 11:00	TEA BREAK										

Virtual: Presenters will be online

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CONCURRENT SESSIONS III 13:30 – 15:00											
F2F Room 02 (Zoom)	F2F Room 03 (Zoom)	F2F Room 05 (Zoom)	F2F Room 10 (Zoom)	F2F Room 12	F2F Room 13	F2F AV Room	F2F KIVA	F2F Room 1			
Chair: Farid Panjwani <i>Theme 8: Philosophical & Artistic Understanding of Education</i>	Chair: Al Karim Dattoo <i>Theme 6: Children and the Question of Inclusion</i>	Chair: Fauzia Shamim Symposium DARE-RC <i>‘Developing Resilient Education Service Delivery through Improved Systems Coherence’</i>	Chair: Salma Alam <i>Theme 7: Skills, Dispositions and Attitudes</i>	Chair: Meher Rizvi <i>Theme 4: Mental Health and the Well-being of Children</i>	Chair: Kiran Qasim <i>Theme 10: Play-Based Learning in Early Childhood Education</i>	Chair: Rumana Hussain Arts Presentation	Session	Session			
The 'Other' We Teach: Childhood, Everyday Prejudice, and the Art of Undoing Exclusion Mehar Fatima	No Child Left Behind? The Untold Story of Pakistan’s Forgotten Children Nasreen Bibi	Tracing Child Migrants’ Education Access, Continuity, and Quality Amidst Climate-Induced Disruptions Seher Aftab Sevim Saadat Schooling Strategies & Climate Change: A Coherence Analysis Rabea Malik Hadia Majid Resilient education system for adolescent learners Sapana Basnet Fozia Parveen (Discussant)	Real-Life Numeracy: A Toolkit for Mixed-Age Rural Classrooms Kainat Safdar Abbas	Attention Span and Its Impact on Early Childhood Development Ghazala Mumtaz	Play-Based Literacy & Numeracy: Insights from PBC2C Pakistan Faryaal Khalid	The Bridge of Positivity Tazeen Haque	Mindfulness Session Mohsin Kazi	Art-based Activity Dr Maria Iqbal Alishbah Rutaba CFAW			
						Wings and Roots Yasmeen Zahra					
						Parenting in Pixels Ramsha Hayder & Haris Tohid					
Explore the Empirical Pedagogies for Learning craft Traditions Asiah Seemab	Sustaining Engagement through Student Voice and Choice Sara Rahim		Community-Based Simulations to Teach Children Life-Saving Skills Ayesha Ahmed	Parent-Adolescent Communication Shape the Mental and Emotional Well Being Kadija Gul	Listening to Children's Voices Sophia Khan Amina Yar Baig	It Takes a Village to Raise a Child Iffat Allana					
Music: more than entertainment but a key to open consciousness Syed Hamza Ali	Education and Intergenerational Gender Norms: A Capability- Based Analysis. Tayyaba Tamim Rabea Malik					Raising Problem Solvers: Developing Mathematical Thinking in Children Munira Amirali			Critical Analysis of Cross-generational Perceptions on Childhood in Pakistan Ayesha Syed (Theme 8)	Impact of Parenting and Schooling Erum Nazir (Theme 4)	A slow dance of life Bilal Ahmed
											Red Flower / Gul Lala Aliya Yousuf
			Echoes of Childhood Fiza Ashraf								
									Play Based Learning Romila Kareem		
15:00 – 15:15	TRANSITION BREAK										

F2F: Presenters will be in-person
Virtual: Presenters will be online

CONCURRENT SESSIONS IV 15:15 – 16:45									
F2F Room 02 (Zoom)	F2F Room 03 (Zoom)	F2F Room 05 (Zoom)	F2F Room 09 (Zoom)	F2F Room 10 (Zoom)	F2F Room 12	F2F Room 13	F2F AV Room	Virtual KIVA	F2F Room 01
Chair: Sajid Ali Theme 7: Skills, Dispositions and Attitudes	Chair: Rabia Nauman Theme 2: Child Development: Equity, Economy & Environment	Chair: Farid Panjwani Invited Speakers	Chair: Hadia Pasha Theme 4: Mental Health and the Well-being of Children	Chair: Zainab Latif Symposium DARE-RC ‘Centering Marginalized Voices in Education Policy Discourse’	Chair: Kausar Waqar Theme 9: Social & Cognitive Development of a Child	Chair: Haroon Yasin Theme 6: Children and the Question of Inclusion	Chair: Sarah Khan Video Presentations	Session	Session
Curriculum Mapping for Future-Ready Children Meher Rizvi	The future of early childhood education Taimur Khalid Bandey	Twinkle Twinkle Little Star: A Pedagogy of Wondering Al Karim Datoo	From Anxiety to Empowerment: Strategies for Children's Mental Health Ruba Shakir	Language Hierarchies and Instruction for Multilingual Learners Fauzia Shamim & Aliya Khalid Disability inclusive data and systems Julia de Kadt	Using Pictures to Build Comprehension in Early Years Salimah Kaisani	Empowering Educators: Professional Development for Equity and Inclusion Noureen Lakhani	Interview on Mental Training for a child Altaf Mukati	Mindfulness Session Mohsin Kazi	Art-based Activity Dr Maria Iqbal CFAW
			Impact of Teacher Training on Mental Health Support in Rural Sindh Seemi Batool		From Paper to Pixels: Building a Sustainable Blended Reading Culture in Schools Madiha Saeed	Exclusion or Inclusion? Teacher Practices in Pakistani Classrooms Sadia Bhutta	A Model of Holistic, Family-Centered ECEE Batool Ishaque		
Fostering Learning Through Assessment: A Case from AKU Examination Board Munira Muhammad Rangwala	Effects of Civic Engagement Programs on Student Environmental Awareness Sana Abdul Salam	Importance of Arts in ECD Rumana Hussain	Measuring Positive Youth Development in Pakistan **Salima Kerai (online)	Predictive Modeling of Policy Impact on School Enrolment Farah Nadeem Irfan Muzaffar (Discussant)	Urdu’s Role in Cognitive Growth & Cultural Identity Sanober M. Parvaiz	Technology for Learning in Low- Income Contexts: Raftaar Program Findings Kanwal Ilyas	Transgenerational Trauma Mahir Shafi Saeed		
							ECE Development Rashda Irshad		
Breaking Stigma: A Culturally Relevant Sex Education Model for Pakistan Kulsoom Zaman	Promoting Inclusivity in Education Abid Gill	Rumana Hussain	Measuring Positive Youth Development in Pakistan **Salima Kerai (online)	Predictive Modeling of Policy Impact on School Enrolment Farah Nadeem Irfan Muzaffar (Discussant)	Urdu’s Role in Cognitive Growth & Cultural Identity Sanober M. Parvaiz	Technology for Learning in Low- Income Contexts: Raftaar Program Findings Kanwal Ilyas	Urdu Language Proposal Urooj Farrukh		
							Rethinking Discipline in ECED Syeda Ansa Gardezi		
							Discovering Talent through School Club Zara Moiz		
Breaking Stigma: A Culturally Relevant Sex Education Model for Pakistan Kulsoom Zaman	Promoting Inclusivity in Education Abid Gill	Rumana Hussain	Measuring Positive Youth Development in Pakistan **Salima Kerai (online)	Predictive Modeling of Policy Impact on School Enrolment Farah Nadeem Irfan Muzaffar (Discussant)	Urdu’s Role in Cognitive Growth & Cultural Identity Sanober M. Parvaiz	Technology for Learning in Low- Income Contexts: Raftaar Program Findings Kanwal Ilyas	Cultivating Eco- Conscious Leaders Noureen Lakhani		

F2F: Presenters will be in-person
Virtual: Presenters will be online

CLOSING CEREMONY		
16:45 – 17:30	Garden Area (Zoom)	Synthesis of Conference, Conference Chair, Sajid Ali, AKU-IED
		Awards and Certificates Distribution
		Address and vote of thanks by Dr Farid Panjwani
		Networking Tea
DAY END		

Sponsors

