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CONTENTS

Main News

National

Islamabad

Karachi

Lahore

Briefs

Foreign

Editorial

Business

Real Estate

Sport

Infotainment

Advertise



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External Links

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Aman, Harvard SAI, CERP join hands to educate deprived

** The extensive education programme will offer financial and managerial support to small private schools*

KARACHI: Aman Foundation, Harvard South Asia Initiative (SAI) and the Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan (CERP) presented their latest collaborative project to provide low cost, quality education for the poor of Pakistan here on Tuesday.



The event held at the Institute of Business Administration, featured a presentation by Prof Asim Khwaja entitled 'Investing in the Education Market: Strengthening Private Schools for the Poor,' followed by a panel discussion with experts from pertinent institutional affiliations.

The panelists included Tameer Microfinance Bank President and CEO Nadeem Hussain, Prof Asim Khwaja from the CERP & Harvard SAI, Aziz Kabani from Sindh Education Foundation and Ahsan Jamil CEO Aman Foundation.

The discussion was moderated by Khadija Bakhtiar from Teach for Pakistan.

The extensive education programme will offer financial and managerial support to small private schools, taking flight with a pilot project across 1,000 schools with 200,000 students. Such support will specifically aid in the cyclical development of female entrepreneurs. The project is premised on research results by the LEAPS study showing low cost private schools outperforming government educational systems.

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[Anti-na destroy](#)
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[Former address](#)
[Edu mi corrupt](#)
[MQM ch Shujaat](#)
[Date fo](#)
[cards fo](#)
[announ](#)
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[take oa](#)
[Comm: to viole](#)
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CERP and Tameer Bank are working together with the help of Aman Foundation to make this microfinance intervention and education research possible.

On the occasion, CEO Aman Foundation said, "Aman Foundation is committed to creating a knowledge-based society and seeks to build alliances to this effect."

He said that this was driven by the belief that women's empowerment was fundamental for the society to make real progress.

Associate Director of Harvard SAI Meena Hewett was a special guest at the event. She spoke on the programmes SAI had already initiated in Pakistan and expressed enthusiasm for additional future collaboration and continued engagement in the region.

The collaboration potential of this project is commendable with each sponsoring organisation bringing unique strengths.

Aman Foundation is a local, not-for-profit, organisation, which believes in the cause of human development via strategic interventions in Pakistan, including educational infrastructure to empower youth. staff report

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