

# NEWSLETTER



## NDIE Annual Review - 2024

As we reflect on an eventful year, this edition captures the milestones, achievements, and vibrant moments that shaped our journey. From insightful CPD sessions and inspiring guest speakers to student contributions, NDIE continues to thrive as a hub of learning and growth. Join us in celebrating the dedication and spirit of our community as we look forward to another year of excellence and innovation!

## Director's Message

2024 at NDIE was a lively reflection of the institute's strong dedication to excellence in teacher education. This newsletter highlights the event's key moments — from inspiring alumni stories and student successes to engaging classroom presentations and heartwarming guest interactions. Each feature demonstrates the dedication, creativity, and professional growth of our future teachers. We sincerely thank all faculty, students, and guests who contributed to making this event a memorable success. Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to nurturing educators who will continue to inspire change and make meaningful contributions to society and education.



**Dr. Sherwin Rodrigues**

## Inside, we explore...

- 🌟 Orientation Week – Honoring traditions and togetherness
- ☀️ Morning Assemblies – Inspiring reflections and student voices
- 🎙️ Guest Speaker Sessions – Wisdom from industry and academic leaders
- 🏞️ Excursions and Picnic – Inculcating fun in Learning
- 💻 CPD Sessions – Lifelong learning for educators



[linkedin.com/company/ndiekhi/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ndiekhi/)



0213-2781456-7



[www.facebook.com/ndiekhi](https://www.facebook.com/ndiekhi)



[www.instagram.com/ndiekhi](https://www.instagram.com/ndiekhi)



Notre Dame Institute of Education (NDIE), C/o St. Patrick's High School Campus, Saddar, Karachi, Pakistan.



## Orientation Week

A warm welcome to all our new students as they begin an exciting journey filled with possibilities! Our vibrant and inclusive community came together during the orientation session, where faculty and staff stood united in their commitment to support, guide, and inspire every student. With open hearts and shared enthusiasm, we look forward to a year filled with academic growth,

and memorable experiences that will shape the leaders of tomorrow. Here's to new beginnings, lasting friendships, and the pursuit of excellence!

As part of our commitment to holistic education, orientation week offered a chance for students to engage with the rich cultural heritage of Karachi. From the peaceful aura of the Shri Swaminarayan Temple to the creative and historical ambiance of TDF Ghar, our students immersed themselves in the city's diverse and dynamic spirit. A special highlight was the captivating exhibition at TDF Ghar, which beautifully traced the evolution of Karachi through stories, photographs, and artifacts. These enriching experiences not only foster cultural understanding but also deepen students' connection with the city they will now call home. In another memorable outing, our new cohorts ventured into the scenic beauty of Kidney Hills to celebrate the spirit of exploration and community. Amidst laughter, storytelling, and shared moments, students began forming the bonds of friendship that will support them throughout their academic journey. Surrounded by nature, the day offered a perfect blend of relaxation, reflection, and rejuvenation—marking the beginning of not just a semester, but a lifelong journey of connection and growth.



## Morning Assemblies



### Reflection

Our students gathered in the assembly room for a reflective activity focused on the blessings of God. The atmosphere was filled with gratitude and positivity as they shared moments of strength, joy, peace, and life. Following this uplifting reflection, we kicked off another exciting chapter at NDIE with the inauguration of our new table tennis facility! Faculty and students came together for a friendly match, showcasing teamwork, sportsmanship, and sheer enjoyment. Laughter echoed through the room as friendships were strengthened and memories created.

### Game Time

Our talented students put together a thrilling Trivia Jeopardy game, and the excitement was palpable as everyone came together for some friendly competition. From challenging questions to cheering on teammates, the energy in the room was electric! It is moments like these that truly showcase the spirit of unity and collaboration within our student body. Let us keep the momentum going and continue to foster these amazing connections and memories!



### Independence Day 2024

From heartily singing along to the National Anthem played, hearts swelling with pride for our dear homeland, to a vibrant and energetic dance performance; from the dulcet tunes of patriotic songs to a “quiz with a twist”, every performance paid rich tributes to our dear country. The interactive quiz tested everyone’s knowledge of Pakistan’s history and culture, and the audience and all the choirs sang with one voice, full of nationalistic fervor. Students and faculty planted flowers and plants, pledging towards a greener Pakistan.

## Social Media in Education



The students of B.Ed 2.5 – Cohort 2023 hosted an engaging assembly showcasing social media's benefits in education. The event featured a video interview with an educator, conducted by a student, highlighting social media's potential for learning, connectivity, and career preparation. Student presenters elaborated on benefits such as access to resources, virtual collaboration, and personalized learning. An interactive photo booth and a post-it note activity encouraged the audience to share their thoughts.

## ShakeOut Drill at NDIE

NDIE held a ShakeOut Drill with full participation from faculty, students, and staff, emphasizing earthquake preparedness. This drill focused on the essential safety steps: "Drop, Cover, and Hold." At the designated time, all participants responded to the siren by dropping to the ground, taking cover under desks or sturdy furniture, and holding on to protect against potential falling debris. This exercise aimed to create awareness and ensure that everyone is prepared in the event of a real earthquake. By involving the entire institute, NDIE focused on the importance of these safety measures, promoting a culture of preparedness and unity across the community.



## World Teachers' Day



Different cohorts organised fun games that brought both faculty and students together in the spirit of excitement and laughter. Each game was a delightful mix of competition and teamwork. In addition, several students shared heartfelt poems, expressing their gratitude for the dedicated and inspiring teachers. The atmosphere was lively and uplifting, showcasing the strong bonds between students and educators. It was a day of appreciation, laughter, and reflection on the invaluable role that teachers play in shaping our future.

## Excursions and Outings



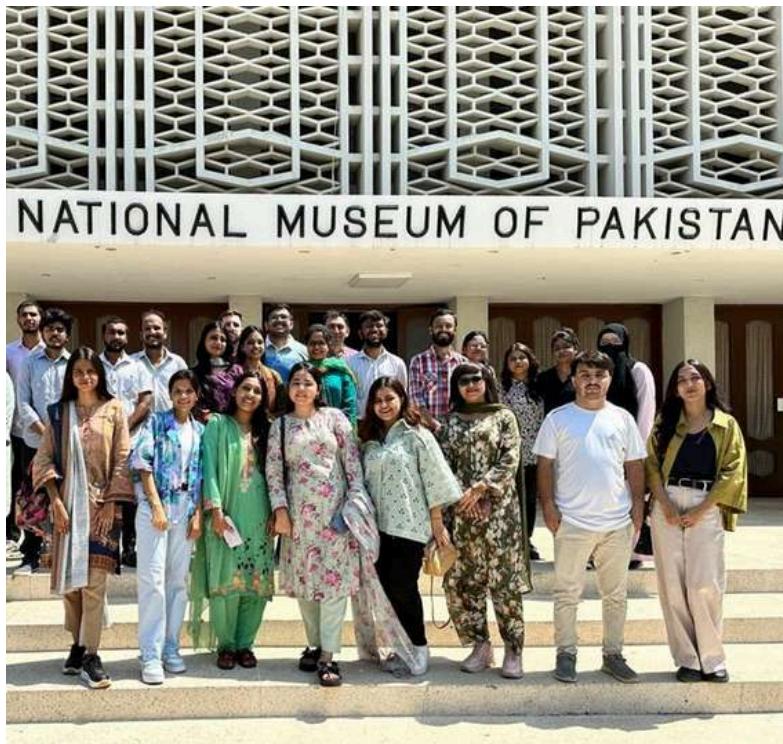
### State Bank Museum

As a part of the Pakistan Studies course, the students of B.Ed. (Hons) 2023 visited the State Bank Museum. The excursion helped them explore topics such as the history of the State Bank, evolution of different forms of currency and monetary policy and its significance. Additionally, they explored Sadequain's Art Gallery and the gallery of contemporary Pakistani artists. This exposure helped them in exploring the local cultural art forms and fostering an appreciation of creativity within Pakistani artistry.

### Appreciating Our Heritage

As prospective teachers of the Notre Dame Institute of Education's B.Ed 2.5 Cohort 2023, we had the opportunity to visit the Quaid-e-Azam House and Frere Hall. This visit allowed us to connect with our country's rich history and learn more about the life of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan. At the Quaid-e-Azam House, we gained insights into his vision and dedication, while Frere Hall's stunning architecture and pictorial charm provided a glimpse into our past. This experience not only deepened our appreciation for our heritage but also sparked meaningful discussions about the future of our nation.





## National Museum

We were amazed by the intricate details of ancient sculptures, traditional clothing, and everyday items that once belonged to different cultures such as Harappa and Mohenjo-daro. Each gallery showcased a unique story, allowing us to connect with the past in a way that text never could. We came across the craftsmanship of the items that dated back centuries and learned about the historical context that shaped them. Engaging with these artefacts and discussing these with classmates added a layer of fun and excitement to our learning, making the trip truly unforgettable.

## Picnic at the Farmhouse

Diving into a day of leisure, our picnic at the farmhouse was a resounding success! The adventure began with a scenic bus ride, filled with music and excitement. As we gathered by the poolside, music filled the air, complementing the lively atmosphere. The sound of splashing and laughter and the pleasant weather recharged our spirits. As the day drew to a close, we left feeling refreshed, revitalized, and grateful for the opportunity to unwind together making this a truly memorable day!



## Guest Speakers



### International Women's Day

NDIE celebrated International Women's Day 2024 with a special assembly, featuring Tehmina Maknojia, a passionate advocate for women empowerment and social change. In her inspiring talk she emphasized that in order to empower women, we need to allow them to enjoy the agency of choice, alongside trust and endorsement of their weaknesses. As we commemorate International Women's Day 2024, let us heed Tehmina's message of empowerment, unity, and resilience. Together, let us strive for a world where every woman has the opportunity to thrive and make her own choices.

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Shamez Mukhi, an educator and trainer, led an impactful session on "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" at the NDIE. He delved into the fundamentals of promoting anti-bias education in schools, structured around the domains of Identity, Diversity, Justice, and Action. Shamez urged educators to take responsibility in standing up against exclusion, prejudice, and discrimination. Through a blend of knowledge-building, empathy, and collective action, he highlighted how we can foster a more inclusive and equitable learning environment for all students.



### World Book and Copyright Day



Delving into her roles as a poet, critic, and Urdu literature scholar, Dr. Amber illuminated the profound influence of reading in teaching. She emphasized how books serve as invaluable resources, enabling educators to refine their methods and stay abreast of educational trends.

## Society Events



### Beach Cleaning Drive

Our students showed their commitment to community service by recently participating in a beach cleaning activity. With enthusiasm and dedication, the students collected trash, cleaned up our beloved beach and learned valuable lessons about teamwork, leadership, and environmental responsibility. By taking action, our students proved that even small efforts can make a big difference.

### Cultural Day at NDIE

The atmosphere during NDIE's Cultural Day was packed with vibrant colors, rhythmic beats, and unending smiles! From traditional artwork to entrancing dances, our students enthusiastically demonstrated the rich tapestry of Pakistani culture. Poetry, music, and games brought a touch of delight, forging friendships and laughter for all. What about the grand finale? A festive dance that unites hearts and spirits in joy. Thank you, Arts and Culture Society, for organizing this magnificent celebration of variety and unity!



### Spelling Bee Competition



The Literary Society organized a buzzing Spelling Bee Competition, where the participants who demonstrated their spelling expertise qualified for the final. The final round showcased teams' linguistic prowess, impressive vocabulary skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Although the winning team impressed with an outstanding performance, each participating team demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication. The event's success was a testament to the Literary Society's efforts to promote literacy, language skills, and healthy competition among students. Judges and spectators alike appreciated the participants' confidence, teamwork, and passion for language.

## Event Highlight

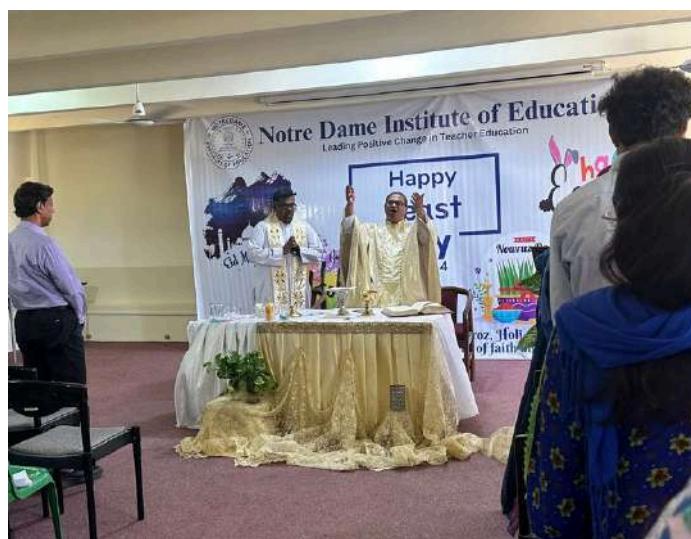
### ECCE Closing Ceremony



The ECCE Course Closing Ceremony was a heartfelt celebration of learning, reflection, and professional growth. Over the course, our dedicated educators explored the foundational principles of early childhood care and education, engaged in hands-on learning, and deepened their understanding of child development. As they step forward with renewed purpose and practical tools, we are confident that their impact will ripple far beyond the classroom.

### Feast Day

NDIE Feast Day 2024 was a vibrant celebration of diversity, unity, and faith. Held on April 30, the event embraced a spirit of interfaith harmony by acknowledging and honouring major religious festivals that occurred in succession—Nowruz, Holi, Easter, and Eid. The ceremony began with a solemn Holy Mass led by His Grace Archbishop Benny Travas and Rev. Fr. Mario Rodrigues. Through his homily, Archbishop Benny reflected on the themes of taking, blessing, breaking, and sharing, drawing a powerful connection to the Last Supper and the feast of the Annunciation. NDIE's diverse student and staff community added to the spirit of inclusivity through songs, skits, and multimedia presentations that depicted the essence of each celebration. The student-led choir added a soulful touch to the atmosphere. The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Director Dr. Sherwin Rodrigues. NDIE Feast Day stood as a beautiful reminder of our shared humanity and collective purpose in education.





## Christmas Party

With all students preoccupied in appearing for the examination at University of Karachi, the faculty and staff, in a first, volunteered to put together a Christmas programme on behalf of the students. The highlight of the event was a play titled, 'The Light of Christmas' which exemplified that the true meaning of Christmas is not found in presents or decorations but in the light that we give each other through unconditional kindness. The programme also included melodious carol singing followed by games that captivated the audience. After the traditional cake-cutting ceremony there was group photography and lunch for all.

## NDIE Open House

The Notre Dame Institute of Education (NDIE) hosted its annual Open House on December 4, 2024, offering a vibrant platform for in-service and pre-service teachers, alumni, and education enthusiasts to celebrate excellence in teacher education. Designed to bridge theory and practice, the event allowed prospective teachers to exhibit their academic understanding, professional skills, and teaching dispositions developed through the B.Ed. (Hons) program.

The day commenced with a welcome address by Director Dr. Sherwin Rodrigues, who reflected on NDIE's enduring contribution to the education landscape and emphasized the importance of partnerships and ongoing professional development. A panel discussion followed, where alumni fondly recalled how NDIE shaped their capacities to lead schools, engage in research, and pursue higher education.

The ceremony also celebrated students' achievements in internal and external examinations. His Grace Archbishop Benny Travas awarded certificates, followed by a vote of thanks from Deputy Director Dr. Fozia Gulab and a photography session.

Guests then visited creatively decorated classrooms where prospective teachers presented innovative lessons and engaged visitors through games, activities, and teaching portfolios. The food stall, managed entirely by students, offered a variety of items such as channa chaat, mazaydaar chicken biryani, wontons, and marble cake—highlighting their creativity and team spirit.

Visitors left heartfelt comments in the guestbook, appreciating the quality of teaching and organization. The event not only showcased NDIE's academic rigor but reaffirmed its mission to prepare educators who will contribute meaningfully to schools, communities, and the nation at large.



## Continuous Professional Development



### Public Speaking

NDIE held a CPD session entitled “Public Speaking – Own the Stage! The session had 33 participants learning how to start and conclude a speech, maintain calm nerves, reduce anxiety, as well as write catchy and engaging speeches using ear-friendly techniques and rhetorical devices. The closing activity had all 33 participants coming forward in turn and delivering a short part of a speech that they had composed themselves. Truly, that morning, the participants owned the stage!

### Reading Challenges in Urdu

“Dealing with Common Reading Challenges Faced by Students in Urdu” was conducted at NDIE. During the workshop the 22 participants had an opportunity to engage in a range of activities and learn how to employ relevant techniques to effectively identify and deal with students’ reading comprehension issues at the primary level. The workshop concluded with the distribution of certificates and a group photo.



### Engaging Minds and Hands



Our ECCE course participants are fully engaged in a dynamic learning experience! They are participating in hands-on activities and interactive discussions. These sessions have provided opportunity to the participants to explore key theories of child development, highlighting the importance of creative arts in the early years. Participants are also learning to design low-cost, and no-cost resources to support young children's learning. The sessions are filled with creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking.

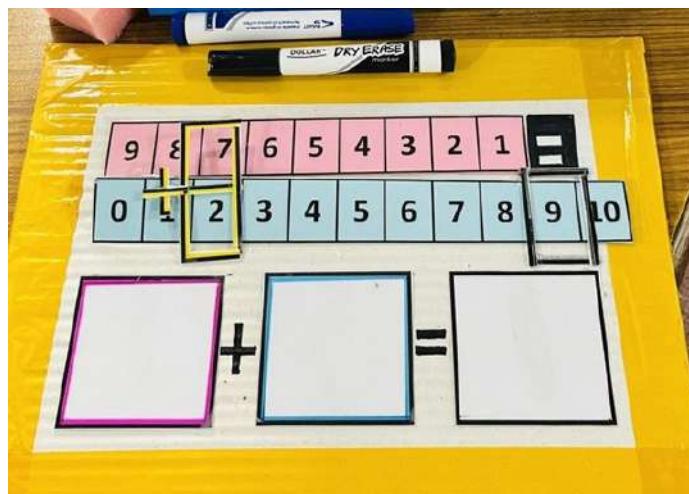


## Ethical Leadership

Principals, coordinators and teachers of various schools participated in this short CPD course. Participants were involved in various reflective, analytical and hands-on activities to understand that virtues are to be role modelled to inspire students as future leaders. The participants highlighted that care, honesty, respect, trustworthiness, mercy, tolerance, openness, courage, sincerity, acceptance, relationship and helpfulness are some of the virtues that should be embedded in school culture.

## ECCE Materials Display

Developing teaching materials was part of a course assignment that was thoroughly enjoyed by the ECCE participants. The array of materials that they developed reflected their hard work, knowledge and skills of using resources for creatively teaching various concepts in literacy and numeracy.



## Publications and Conferences

# CONGRATULATIONS

on your recent publication



**Dr. Fozia Gulab**  
Deputy Director, NDIE

Gulab, F., & Lalani, M. (2024). Gender differences and acquired stages of moral development in schools. *Educational Research and Innovation*, 4(1), 158-171.



**Munir Lalani**  
Faculty, NDIE

# CONGRATULATIONS

on your recent publication



**Munir Lalani**

Lalani, M. (2024). Sunday schools and identity formation: Perceptions and experiences of religious education leaders in Karachi, Pakistan. *Magister – Journal of Educational Research*, 3(2), 1-20.



**DR. FOZIA GULAB**  
(DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NDIE)

Speaker on "Ethics, Diversity & Pluralism: Christian Perspective" at the Conference on (RE)forming & (RE)imagining Education at Forman Christian College (February 23-24, 2024)



ON YOUR CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATION (FEB 16, 2024)

**MUNIR LALANI (FACULTY NDIE)**

Pastoral Care Initiatives for the Emotional Wellbeing of Students in a Teacher Education Programme.  
Durbeen Online Research Expo! 2024

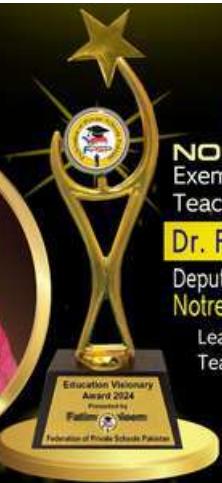
## Faculty and Alumni Achievement





**Dr. Sherwin Rodrigues**  
Director  
Notre Dame Institute of Education

**Exemplary Services in Education Fraternity**





**NOMINEE**  
Exemplary services in Teachers' Training  
**Dr. Fozia Gulab**  
Deputy Director  
Notre Dame Institute of Education  
Leading Positive Change in Teacher Education

**Dr. Fozia Gulab** is selected for this Award by a Panel of Renowned Educationists.

### Congratulations



**Aisha Nurullah Siddiqui**  
(B.Ed-Hons. Cohort 2019) for achieving a **distinction** in the Professional Development Qualification – Cambridge International Certificate in Teaching and Learning

### Congratulations



Congratulations to our alumna **Kainat Khawaja** – **B.Ed (Hons) 2022** – for getting admission to the **MPhil in Education** programme at **Aga Khan University Institute for Educational Development (AKU-IED)**. NDIE is very proud of your achievement!

### Congratulations



Congratulations to our alumna **Ayesha Ayaz** – **B.Ed (Hons) 2022** – for getting admission to the **MPhil in Education** programme at **Ziauddin University's College of Education**. NDIE is proud of your achievement!

### Congratulations



Congratulations to our alumna **Suman Aslam** – **B.Ed (Hons) 2022** – for getting admission to the **M.S. in Educational Research, Evaluation and Assessment** programme at **Northern Illinois University**. NDIE is very proud of your achievement!

## Faculty and Alumni Achievement

Congratulations



Congratulations to our alumni **Ayesha Ayaz** and **Suman Aslam (B.Ed-Hons. 2022)** for their outstanding success in Pakistan's first ever **Teaching License Test**. NDIE is very proud of your achievement!



Congratulations

Congratulations to our alumnus, **Zeeshan Qamar - B.Ed (Hons) 2019** - on being appointed as **Principal of St. Mary's High School, Peshawar**. NDIE is very proud of your achievement!



Congratulations

Congratulations to our alumna, **Sr Naila Kiran - B.Ed (Hons) 2018** - on being appointed as **Principal of St. Mary's High School, Gujrat**. NDIE is very proud of your achievement!



We take immense pride in celebrating the recent accomplishments of our dedicated faculty and inspiring alumni. Our educators continue to contribute to the field through impactful research, conference presentations, and community initiatives. Their work not only enriches our classrooms but also influences wider educational discourse. Our alumni, too, are making remarkable strides—whether leading schools, pursuing higher studies, or initiating social change in their communities. Their achievements reflect the values and vision nurtured at NDIE. We applaud their continued growth and commitment, and remain proud to be part of their ongoing journey in shaping a better world through education.

