



Developments in Literacy

Educating Children • Empowering Communities



Mission



Developments in Literacy (DIL) educates and empowers underprivileged students, especially girls, by operating student-centered model schools and providing high-quality professional development to teachers and principals across Pakistan.

Vision



DIL believes that no child in Pakistan, no matter how poor or underprivileged, should be denied access to high-quality education. All children should have an equal opportunity to reach their full potential and contribute toward the socioeconomic betterment of their communities.





Why DIL? Why Pakistan?

Education is a universal right for which we share a global responsibility. Pakistan has the second highest out-of-school population in the world, with over 22 million children aged 5 to 16 failing to enroll. Despite the increase in access to education, nearly three out of four Pakistani children drop out of school before the age of 16. Girls drop out at twice the rate of boys, lowering female literacy rates in some areas to a mere 8%.

With 75% of Pakistan's population living on less than \$6 a day, a meaningful education is the only viable pathway to socioeconomic empowerment. Each additional year of schooling increases an individual's earning by 10%.

Girls who complete primary education marry later in life, have fewer children, and are less likely to become victims of domestic abuse. What is more, the child of a mother who can read is 50% more likely to live past the age of 5.

The journey begins in the classroom.

Our Work



Innovating for Impact DIL supports students' core subject instruction through Technology Enabled Academic Learning (TEAL), using video to encourage creative application of concepts learned in the classroom.



Developing Educators We train teachers not just from our own schools, but from schools across the country, focusing on best practices that are student-centered and promote critical reflection.

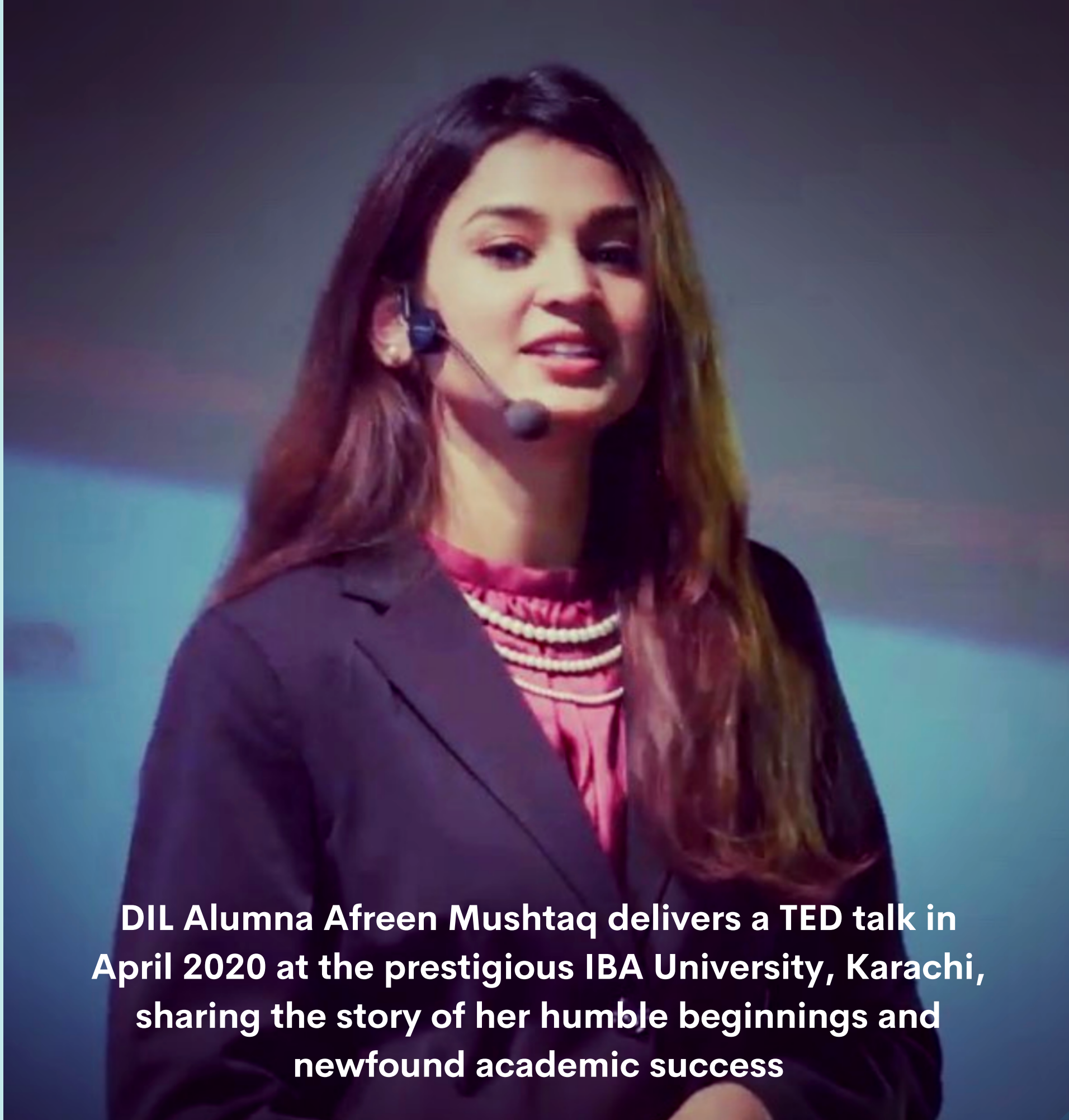


Tailoring Curricula DIL creates special curriculum packages with teacher guides and support materials that help students learn in an authentic, meaningful way.



Fostering Success Beyond School Our Gateway Initiative readies students for the future by inculcating life skills, vocational training, and career exploration. Today our alumni work in fields as diverse as medicine, engineering, and public service, charting the future of their country.





DIL Alumna Afreen Mushtaq delivers a TED talk in April 2020 at the prestigious IBA University, Karachi, sharing the story of her humble beginnings and newfound academic success

The DIL Difference

DIL manages a network of 135 schools in the country's most marginalized areas, from Upper Dir and Mansehra in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to Orangi and Khairpur in Sindh.

In addition to enhancing girls' education and promoting local female leadership in schools, we ensure our curriculum cultivates critical thought and equips students with the skills they need to succeed in the twenty-first century.

DIL's programs are transforming lives and changing communities. The following indicators illustrate how DIL is promoting literacy, rectifying gender disparity, and fostering intellectual enrichment.

Indicators	DIL	Pakistan Average
Drop-out rate	0.57%	41%
Female enrollment rate	69%	49%
Reading stories in English by Grade 4	44%	0%
Primary school completion	99%	57%
Transition to high school	88%	14%
Trained teachers in the classroom	Teachers receive 80 hours of training a year	Teachers trained once in 7 years



135 School Campuses



27,754 Students



1,359 Teachers & Principals



180 DIL Alumni Now Teaching at DIL Schools



22-to-1 Student Teacher Ratio



141,111 Library Books



61 Computer Labs



75% Students Have Access to Technology



69% Female Enrollment Rate (vs. 49% Pakistan Average)

Areas DIL Serves



"The day my local DIL school opened, my mother came home brimming with excitement. 'This is your chance to build a future that lies beyond Asbanr,' she urged. I didn't believe her until I met the teachers. They sparked in us a joy for learning. It was there that I learned my ABCs and 123s, and the values of hard work and compassion."

Dr. Neelum Bibi (DIL alumna and physician in Asbanr, Lower Dir)



Technology for Schools

DIL's latest innovation, **Technology Enabled Academic Learning (TEAL)**, uses video to support core subject instruction in the classroom (**math, science, English, and Urdu**).

TEAL enables students to **construct their own understanding of a concept** through a synthesis of video, student-centered learning activities, and assessments. It has transformed teaching by shifting (a) the function of the teacher from direct instruction to **guiding students' acquisition of knowledge**, and (b) students from **passive to active learners**.

In May 2020, Pakistan's Federal Directorate of Education chose TEAL videos for its new PTV Tele School initiative, a state-televised program which aims to bring quality education to children while schools remain closed because of the coronavirus epidemic.

As newly learned concepts constellate in students' minds, teachers employ scripted, activity-based lesson plans to support students in creatively applying those concepts.

A Story of Progress

When Zakia Katohar first began teaching math to DIL elementary school students, she found herself struggling to sustain their interest. It was hard to get the kids enthused about a subject that seemed to require little more than rote memorization.

Everything changed with the revelation of TEAL. Zakia had worried that being glued to a screen would make learning even more difficult, so she was surprised to see that TEAL videos had just the opposite effect. Each math lesson explained how an equation or function could help solve real-life challenges a child might encounter when, say, going to the market, cooking or commuting.

Zakia was delighted to see that this type of practical problem-solving presented her students with a fresh opportunity to appreciate math, sharpening their thinking, raising their confidence, and encouraging even the shyest among them to share their ideas more freely.





Libraries & E-Libraries

A quality education must lay emphasis on reading comprehension. Since children living in rural communities have little or no access to library books that would help them become avid readers, DIL's Reading Program is designed to inspire in children a love and habit of reading, furnishing ample books to match students' reading abilities and interests.

Our students gain not just from the expansion of our traditional book collections, but equally from that of our e-library, which is specially curated for our growing tablet-based reading program, **Read to Grow, Read to Know (RGRK)**.

RGRK accelerates reading development and comprehension in English, a skill all children must master to succeed academically in Pakistan. Reading texts on android tablets demonstrably strengthens familiar word recognition, oral fluency, and understanding literary themes.

A Story of Growth

Rafaqat Jamal felt helpless at his local school. Although he enjoyed reading, he couldn't get his hands on books he hoped would immerse him in new worlds and connect him with unique characters. Luckily, Rafaqat's father, Jamal, knew a teacher at the nearby DIL Farash Community Model school. Jamal was thrilled to learn from her that the school's teachers had been well-trained and that the fee was affordable. There was a catch: Rafaqat would need to live with the DIL Farash schoolteacher, away from home. Still, Jamal knew a quality education for his son was worth the sacrifice.

Rafaqat's critical reading skills and level of academic engagement had suffered so much at his previous school that he became truant at his new one. Then, in 2016, the RGRK pilot was introduced to DIL Farash. Rafaqat found himself mesmerized by new technology offering a treasure trove of stories to choose from.

Now motivated to attend school regularly, he spent hours at the library, relishing independent reading as much as the librarian's read-aloud storytime. And so Rafaqat came to love reading and learning. He graduated from DIL Farash with 75% marks on his board exams, a high score in the Pakistani education system that will yield promising opportunities for him.



Rafaqat pictured above with video tablet



To discover more about how your generosity can make a difference, please contact us:

DIL USA Office
Developments in Literacy
17320 Red Hill Avenue, Suite 120
Irvine, CA 92614

www.dil.org

Tel: 949.474.5303
Fax: 949.474.5313
office@dil.org

Your donation will empower underprivileged children in Pakistan to live their dreams.

Developments in Literacy is a United States-based 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization (Federal Tax ID #33-0843213) that supports the education of underserved children in Pakistan.



Developments in Literacy

Educating Children • Empowering Communities

