REPORT ON

EXPOSURE VISIT TO
GAWADAR, LASBELA & KARACHI

BY DELAGATION OF COMSATS UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD
In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful, who’s bounties are unbounded, who’s benevolence is everlasting, whose blessings are uncountable, who’s being is eternal, who’s mercy is unlimited, who’s provisions are un-Ending, who’s Love is our life and whose worship is our faith.
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DAY-1 THURSDAY (20 FEBRUARY 2020)

The students of COMSATS, Behria, NUML and Air University were departed from Nur khan Air Base, Rawalpindi via C-130 to Gwadar at 2:30 p.m. We reached Gwadar at 5:45 p.m and received by the Voice of Baluchistan team. The team took us to Pearl Continental Gwadar and asked us to take the keys of our rooms and get refreshed for the dinner. Our first day dinner was held in Shinwari Hotel Gwadar and then we returned to P.C for a good night sleep.
Day 2 breakfast was served in P.C at 6 a.m and we had to be prepared till 7 a.m as we had to leave for the interactive session with Command Southern Command in Pak-China Business Center, Gwadar. Our lunch was also served there. After the session we were taken to Gwadar Beach and we had to walk till sunset point. Our day 2 dinner was served in 3 Battalion Liaquat Mess and entertained by the musical night arranged by the Voice of Baluchistan Team.
DAY-3 SATURDAY (22 FEBRUARY 2020)

After the 2 comfy night’s stay at P.C, we had to move towards Lasbela by road via Ormara on the 3rd day. We stayed at Ormara Beach for lunch for some time and then we continued our journey to Lasbela. We reached Lasbela at night and our stay was at Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water and Marine Sciences. Moreover, Cultural show was also organized by the Lasbela University for us to enjoy our stay there.
On the 4th day, we continued our journey towards Karachi by road. We stopped at Sommiani Beach for lunch. Although it was our 3rd Beach we visited this trip, it was the best. After lunch, we continued our travel and reached Karachi round about at 2:30 p.m. The VoB team had made our arrangements in Faran Hotel. After relaxing, we were taken to Lucky One Mall for Dinner and shopping.
EXPOSURE VISIT TO GAWADAR, LASBEA & KARACHI
DAY-5 MONDAY (24 FEBRUARY 2020)

Our Breakfast was served in Faran Hotel at 6 a.m and we left at 7 a.m for a visit to Mazar-e-Quaid. We had another interactive session with DG Rangers in Rangers Headquarters Sindh. We were also had a visit to Dolmen Mall for dinner and shopping.
DAY-6 TUESDAY (25 FEBRUARY 2020)

The breakfast of our last day of our tour was served in Faran Hotel. We had to pack our bags and be ready till 7 a.m so that we can reach PAF Faisal Air Base, Karachi. We departed from Karachi via C-130 to Nur Khan Air base, Rawalpindi at 10:30 a.m.
PERSONAL EXPERIENCE CORNER

AHSAN MALIK
FOCAL PERSON
COMSATS UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD

The trip to Gawadar, Lasbela and Karachi by VoB was mesmerizing and memorable trip of our lives. We’ve undergone some the most beautiful and breath-taking beaches of Pakistan in Gawadar, Ormara and Somniani. Our perspective about Southern Baluchistan is totally re-vamped by the exceptional beauty it has. The pinnacle of CPEC will be based in Gawadar, because of its landscape and access to warm waters from all sides. Gawadar indeed has a lot of potential to fulfill financial needs of Pakistan for next century if properly utilized. The session with H.E. Commander Southern Command was very informative and thought-provoking. We have also witnessed the Rangers accomplishments in Karachi and how it plans and executes operations of any terrorist’s attacked site in city, putting their lives in danger and doing phenomenal job. The best part of trip was the visit to Mazaar-e-Qaid, which was truly emotional and awakening. We were really honored to be ushered throughout the trip by Pakistan Army which made us really privileged. And more than anything, the team of Voice of Baluchistan who managed whole of our trip, was very helpful, kind and passionate. The coordination, teamwork and hard work was remarkable.

ALIYA ZAFAR, Ph.D
FOCAL PERSON
COMSATS UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD

I had the pleasure of participating in the youth mobilization initiative by HEC, Government of Baluchistan, Pakistan Army and Voice of Baluchistan which was an educational/recreational trip to Gwadar, Lasbela and Karachi from 20-25 February 2020. The experience was an eye opener to say the least as well as an introduction to the beautiful landscape of Pakistan. I feel my perception of Gwadar, Baluchistan and Karachi have been completely altered. Many of the places we visited are not open to the general public, hence these were much heard of but never seen. The beautiful Gwadar Port, the incredibly beautiful beaches, exposure to University of Lasbela, Mazar-e-Quaid were an excellent exposure to the area and the university. However, the presentation and demonstration by the Sindh Rangers and the interaction with Commandant SC were highly informative and increased my understanding of the efforts and bravery of the Pakistan Rangers, Police and Pakistan Forces in bringing peace to the region in particular and to the country in general.
IJAZ KHAN
Masters in Chemistry

First I want to thank HEC for giving me this opportunity to be a part of Youth Mobilization Trip 2020 where I have learnt and enjoyed a lot with the people around me. It was my life first experience of meeting such personalities of Pak Army. Baluchistan is considered an insecure place but my opinion about Baluchistan completely changed as I went there, it was beautiful and peaceful area. This trip was not just a trip to me but memorable days of my life in which HEC played an important role. I would suggest that HEC should organize such trips for students of different provinces to motivate them to avail opportunity of studies and jobs in different parts of Pakistan.

KINZA ARSHAD
Bachelors in Computer Science

The whole trip was mesmerizing, inspiring and simply perfection on all accounts possible. I found magic in every sunrise, every sunset and every splendor the wondrous piece of our country had to offer. I tried to absorb every last bit and I took back with me a bag full of memories, experience and motivation. Every day had something new to offer and I just could not get enough of it. I think it’s safe to say that Baluchistan will always occupy a piece of my mind and I definitely left a piece of myself in that area. Alas! As majestic as it was it had to end, and I had to come back.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep

But I have promises to keep,

And miles to go before I sleep,

And miles to go before I sleep.
SAYED WASEEM IQBAL  
MASTERS IN METEOROLOGY

I’ve been feeling lucky enough to be a part of Youth Mobilization Campaign of Voice of Baluchistan. I was not entirely sure what to expect and experience but I was anxiously looking forward to it from the day I was nominated for this once in a life time experience. As the main purpose of this tour was to expose youth of the northern parts of Pakistan to the ground realities of the southern Pakistan, mainly Baluchistan. I think it fulfilled its mission in bringing the youth of north and south close. It clearly broadened our perspective, increased our knowledge of Baluchistan its people and culture and shattered the negative image portrayed in the international media. Meeting the youth of Gwadar and Lasbela left such a positive mark on my mind, I found them very enlightened and willing to add positively to their society. I hope the youth of Baluchistan will be provided with more world class education and training facilities, which will eventually improve their standard of living, their older generation might be a bit sceptic but I only saw optimism in the youth of Baluchistan. One experience stands above the rest. And that was the pure and pristine nature of the land of Baluchistan its beautiful mesmerizing beaches and “Gwadar” as it means the door to the world with its arms wide open and welcoming us so warmheartedly that it almost melted my heart! When I will think about my best travel experience ever I will for sure think of VOB campaign 2020.

HAJRA AHMED KIANI  
BACHELORS IN PHYSICS

I was nominated by physics department of CUI for exposure visit to gwadar, lasbela and Karachi. On 20 Feb, 2020 we went to Gwadar by c130. It was a pleasant trip with lot of information regarding geographical importance. It gave a remarkable chance to explore the coast line of Baluchistan and its beauty. Stay was comfortable at PC Gwadar but it should be same in Karachi as well.in Karachi when we visited Quaid-e-Azam tomb it gave us a patriot feel and made us proud, keeping in view the situation of Muslims in India. In the End I suggested that this kind of trip should be planed for student which give them chance to visit other province of the Mother Land.
HINA TAHIR  
MASTERS IN GIS/RS

It was a dream trip to Gwadar. When I step on the land of Gwadar I firstly thanked Allah Almighty that He has given me the opportunity to see the beauty beyond measure, beauty beyond expectation and the beauty enough to pure the mind and soul. There was vast area in front of me and yet more to discover. The night at Gwadar was mesmerizing, that probably hard to believe for others what I was looking no ordinary camera can capture that flawless beauty. The journey goes on and the time came when I get a glimpse of the sea, the deep blue sea took all the negative thoughts, worries and sorrows away. It’s a statue of a woman that was carved by the wonderful Mother Nature. There I saw mountains of different kinds that was a whole new experience. That was the unforgettable experience if I get any chance I will serve the land of Balochistan. The entire journey will forever remain one of my fondest memory. I am thankful to Voice of Blochistan that they have arranged this trip and give us respect. If I would describe this trip in one word I would say “Purity”.

MUHAMMAD AQIB JAVED  
BACHELORS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Recently, students from the prestigious universities of Islamabad and Lahore made their way to Balochistan on an exposure trip organized by Voice of Balochistan, Higher Education Commission Pakistan, Pakistan Army, and Government of Balochistan. I was one of them represented department of computer science Comsats university Islamabad along with other university fellows of various departments. Balochistan is considered one of the most beautiful and resourceful provinces of Pakistan, comprising 44% of the total land area. We all witnessed the game changer Gwadar port which have a great significance not only for Pakistan but the whole world. Now, Gwadar is more developed, and I considered it an economic gateway for whole world with great opportunities for locals and others. It was one of the lifetime opportunities for me to travel in Balochistan by road started from Gwadar to Ormara witnessed the beauty of Ormara beach, and from Ormara to Lasbela University. I must say after suffering from violence and terrorism Karachi again became a city of lights and all credits goes to Police, Rangers, Pakistan Army, Government of Sindh, and Federal Government. It was one of the best exposure trips ever. I would like to say thank you and appreciate all the stakeholders who were involved in arranging that trip. Long Live Pakistan, “Zeba” Balochistan.
ABDUL SUBHAN
BACHELORS IN ECONOMICS

The best part of the trip, for me, was the session held at shooting club of Sindh Rangers in Karachi. This session was full of inspiration and motivation, how soldiers and officers of our forces protect us from our enemies and fight against terrorism, without caring about their lives and families. They deserve appreciation, respect and they are the real heroes of our nation. Moreover, I would like to appreciate the steps taken by Voice of Baluchistan, Law and enforcement agencies and Govt. of Baluchistan. Organizers and volunteers of VOB to organized and managed whole tour very well. It was a great learning opportunity and indeed a once in a lifetime experience. Now we are aware of the problems and circumstances and we are ready to serve voluntarily for the betterment of Baluchistan and all the remote areas of Pakistan.

I will conclude my words by a saying of Father of Nation: “Come forward as servants of Islam, organize the people economically, socially, educationally and politically and I am sure that you will be a power that will be accepted by everybody.”

HAREEM KHAN
BACHELORS IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

"How did you contribute to this whole trip?" The first question I was asked by one of my teachers upon my return to Islamabad. "I did not contribute anything to this very trip, but now I know for sure how I can contribute for the betterment of the under-resourced part of my country", I replied with firm vigilance.

This whole trip has embarked upon me a lasting effect which has made my vision even more clearly about what I want to do in my life for the development of my nation. From the breathtaking views to the commendable hospitality of Baloch people, everything was up to the mark, for which I give applause to Voice of Baluchistan, Higher Education Commission, Pakistan Army, Pakistan Rangers, and last but not the least, COMSATS University Islamabad and especially the Department of Management Sciences that made me capable enough to avail this once in a lifetime experience and cherish the great moments with the finest people and make lots of memories.
CH ATHAR MEHMOOD  
BACHELORS IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

I’m grateful to Allah Almighty and thankful to VOB, Pakistan Forces and Govt. of Balochistan for arranging such an inspirational and informational tour. This tour was life changing experience for me and changed my way of thinking as well as my perception about Southern area (coastal belt) of Pakistan. I really enjoyed the interactive session with Commander Southern Command (CSC) Lieutenant General Muhammad Waseem Ashraf and this session was very informative as well as inspirational for our youth. This session changed our perception about Balochistan and made us realize the positive roles we can play for the development and betterment of not only Balochistan, but all the remote areas of Pakistan. We realized that, why Gwadar and CPEC is always known as the future of Pakistan. Gwadar is in the headline of every newspaper these days due to the development of the port. This land has unlimited resources and opportunities of earning from Tourism, Natural resources and many more. The beauty of Coastal belt of Pakistan comes from its windy beaches with clear water, deserts, and historical places. Overall, this experience helped me in learning a lot I am thankful to the Voice of Baluchistan, HEC and ARMY for organizing this trip, it was a lifetime experience for me.

ANUM TARIQ  
BACHELORS IN BIOSCIENCES

I start off with giving a tribute to VOB and Security forces for portraying us a positive image of Baluchistan. After this visit my years old perception about Baluchistan took 180° shift. In my view if north of Pakistan is heaven than south is not less than oasis. Before trip i only wonders why people always say that the future of Pakistan lies in Gwadar and Baluchistan. Now I realized how this beautiful place can be turned into a business hub on the basis features of its ports, road links and scenic beauty. Dry, arid lands and mountains full of recodik, copper and other minerals can turn the fate of Pakistan toward the development. Moreover, if I throw light on the organizing bodies of the trip, they were really fantastic and cooperating. The way they took care of us as a host was really fantabulous. I really admire all their effort to bring Baluchistan into limelight. Our interaction with Commander Southern Command, DG Rangers clarified all their efforts they are putting for the peace and stability of our country. The beauty of landscape and beaches was really breathtaking and are enough to provoke the poetic and romantic spirit of visitors. Gwadar blessed with beautiful mountains, beaches, deep water sea ports, last sunset of Asia is really a big deal in a small package.
NOOR-UL-AIN
BACHELORS IN CHEMISTRY

The tour as per the curriculum was an exposure visit to Gwadar, Lasbela and Karachi. Under the auspices of Voice of Baluchistan (VoB), it was jointly organized by Higher Education Commission, Government of Baluchistan and Southern Command of Military. We visited Gwadar, the speechless beauty of nature and Karachi, The City of Lights. Along the road side in Baluchistan there were the hilltops, craggy mountains and behind these mountains there is a long coastal belt which broadens from Karachi through Sonmiani, Ormara, Pasni, Gwadar, Jiwani and approach to Iran. The hospitality of Baloch people was unexplainable. After a lot of exposure and learning we left Karachi from Faisal Airbase and we reached Islamabad. This was once in a lifetime opportunity with a great and memorable empiricism.

AHMAD HASSAN
BACHELORS IN PHYSICS

The days of fear are past. I must say that due to the common perception about Baluchistan, I was not expecting anything extraordinary out of this trip. But this experience opened my eyes for many regards. One thing is for sure that The Gwadar is a pearl, hidden in the far reaches of Pakistan. Not many people are aware of what is currently happening there, not just that we also have a presumption that it is an epicentre of terrorism therefore very unsafe. The security forces are doing a good job in maintaining a peaceful environment which is plausible. As of my experience, I witnessed the land of opportunities and the awakening of a sleeping giant. The only thing Baluchistan needs is sincere and hardworking people, so it could show its real potential. Baluchistan is a developing state and in need of good professionals like teachers, doctors, engineers and technologists. I urge everyone to go and help them as it is our national duty, it is one way to serve our county. The beauty of Baluchistan was extremely surprising for me. Watching the rugged landscape of Baluchistan with the beaches was a lifetime experience for me. I could still imagine the mesmerizing beauty of the Makran Coastal Highway which extends along Pakistan's Arabian Sea coast. While leaving Gwadar one could witness a natural rock formation that manifests a princess looking beyond horizons called the “Princess of hope”. The people of Baluchistan and I can relate to it to not lose hope even in the days of hardships. As the Allah says “Verily, with hardships comes ease.”-The Holy Qur’an (94:5)
AAMNA AHMAD
BACHELORS IN ECONOMICS

Getting to visit places I had only heard of was a dream come true. Not only visit but the protocol, respect and importance we as delegates got was surreal. The beaches of Gwadar, Ormara, sonmiani were breath taking. The sun setting and sinking into the deep blue waters was a scene to witness. I never knew how beautiful our coastal belt is, my perception changed once I visit these places myself. The hospitality shown by the members of VOB (Voice of Baluchistan), Pakistan Armed Forces and the way they managed so many students and the entire trip is commendable. The highlight of the trip was meeting and interacting with VIP and Dignitaries like Commander Southern Command and DG Rangers Sindh. They were remarkably forbearing and patient during our QnA sessions. It was a rare opportunity and definitely helped us students who had a lot of misconceptions regarding Baluchistan and the Armed Forces get a bird eye view of what is actually happening opposed to what we hear from others. Apart from visiting and meeting important people I experienced a change in myself too like time management, interpersonal skills, communication skills, adapting to change and living conditions like we stayed in Pearl Continental in Gwadar and the next day had to adjust to sharing rooms with 5 people in a hostel with shared bathrooms and hostel food.

MUHAMMAD AHMAD
BACHELORS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

I participated as a student delegate from COMSATS University Islamabad, Islamabad Campus in the Youth Mobilization Trip 2020. Our journey began at arrival in Gawadar and ended at our departure from Karachi. During this trip we were exposed to a lot of things, the raw beauty of nature in Baluchistan, especially its coastal areas, the state of development Baluchistan as compared to the rest of the country, the resolve of Baloch people and the direction for a prosperous future, not just for Baluchistan but the whole country. Myths were shattered, stereotypes were broken and a new image of Baluchistan was built in minds. An image with enormous potential, unbelievable dedication and a harbinger of real prosperity for our nation.

This trip conveyed some important messages. Baluchistan is recovering from the ills of the past. Gawadar along with the whole province is the key to our prosperous & sustainable future and the whole nation needs to get involved in making this a reality.
This great journey filled with enchanting memories started with a phone call from my respected sir. In a few seconds I was able to conclude that I really wanted to avail this opportunity. The reason behind that I was curious enough to explore the cities of Gawadar and Balochistan. I really wanted to know the extent of truthfulness behind the stories we all had heard about these places including all the security, development and education issues. But my perspective got totally opposite to what I had thought in my mind already. The port of Gawadar is greatly developed and has immensely progressed in terms of infrastructure, security and education. The credit behind this development goes solely to Pakistan Army and due to their strenuous efforts and hardwork Gawadar port is really a changed platform now. Now it has become a safe and secure place to visit for everyone. An interactive session took place between Commander Southern Command and students in which he was really hopeful that Gawadar will further develop by leaps and bounds in the coming era. After having my visit in the breathtaking port of Gawadar, I can personally comprehend that the people who consider Gawadar to be solely responsible for stabilizing the Pakistan economy are not wrong. I would personally like to thank organizers for hosting us and vacillating us with so much hospitality and their tremendous arrangements moreover I will like to thank voice of Baluchistan for providing us such opportunities. Special thanks for army and rangers Sindh for ensuring a safe environment for us. This was a very memorable trip I will always remain thankful for all the organization for providing us this opportunity.
COMSATS UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD

“I can no other answer make but thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks.”