

January 28, 2011

Executive Committee for 2011-12 elected at Mirpurkhas meeting.

On 24 January 2011, at the Mirpurkhas Gymkhana Hall, the election meeting of Baanhn Beli was attended by members from all Talukas of Tharparkar and from Mirpurkhas, Hyderabad and Karachi.

The proceedings were conducted by the Election Committee comprising Javed Jabbar, founding President, and Dr. Farida Yasmeen, senior Member.

Dr. Ghulam Mustafa Kolachi the third member of the Committee was unable to participate due to a sudden bereavement in his family but authorized the other 2 members of the Committee to represent him in its deliberations.

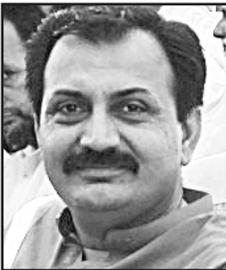
The Election Committee reviewed the nomination papers received as per pre-notified and pre-circulated process and deadlines.

Maintaining the tradition of nomination and election by consensus and unanimity, with a balance representation for all talukas of Tharparkar, to other parts of Sindh where Baanhn Beli is active and to the principles of eligibility, association with Baanhn Beli's work and other criteria, the following individuals were elected as members of the Executive Committee for the term 2011-12:

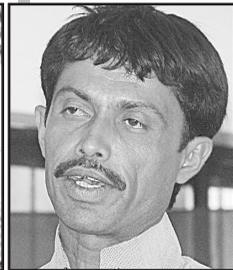
1. Mr. Mohammad Khan Marri
2. Mr. Ali Akbar Rahmoon
3. Mr. Faiz Mohammad Junejo
4. Mr. Gohram Balouch
5. Dr. Allah Nawaz Samoon
(resigned in June 2011 due to assumption of new responsibility and move to Islamabad)
6. Mr. Mohammad Ramzan Junejo
7. Mr. Jawahar Lal
8. Allah Rakhio Khoso
9. Mr. Achar Rahmoon
10. Professor .Musthaque Ahmed Dal
11. Mr. Mohammad Saleem Shaikh
12. Professor Murad Ali
13. Ms. Hajyani Lunjo
14. Ms. Nazo
15. Abdul Majeed Talpur
16. Ms. Jarry



Mohammad Khan Marri



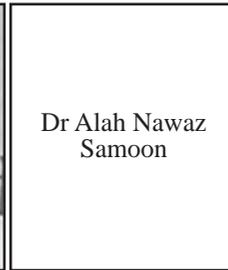
Ali Akbar Rahmoon



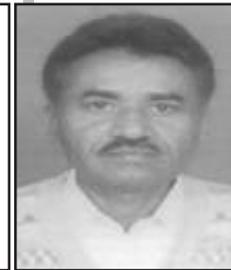
Faiz Mohammad Junejo



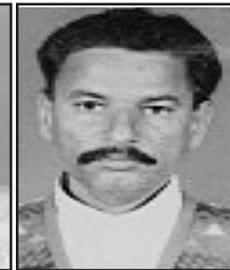
Gohram Balouch



Dr Allah Nawaz Samoon



Mohammad Ramzan Junejo



Jawahar Lal



Allah Rakhio Khoso

Baanhn Beli

a helping hand: a friend forever

The following members were nominated to serve on the Advisory Committee of Baanhn Beli for 2011-12

1. Mr. Alji
2. Ms. Jarri
3. Mr. Saindad Soomro
4. Mr. Abdul Aziz Dhati
5. Mr. Arjan
6. Mr. Ilam Din
7. Ms. Farzana Rajput

In its meeting held immediately after the results of the election were announced, the new Executive Committee, in turn, elected the following individuals as office-bearers

1. Mr. Mohammad Khan Marri , President

2. Ms. Hajyani Lunjo , Vice-President
3. Mr. Jawahar Lal , Vice-President
4. Mr. Ali Akbar Rahmoon, General Secretary
5. Mr. Faiz Mohammad Junejo, Treasurer
6. Mr. Gohram Balouch, Joint Secretary
7. Ms. Najoo Kohli, Joint Secretary

The Election Committee congratulated the members and office-bearers of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Committee on their unanimous election for a 2-yr term.

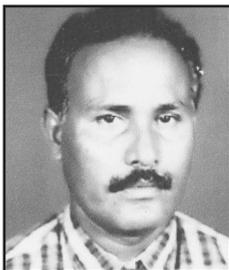
• During his brief remarks on the occasion, the founding President of Baanhn Beli, Javed Jabbar said that the Committee had been elected at a time when Sindh province in particular and Pakistan in general were facing extraordinary challenges in development and economic growth. After the devastation caused by the floods in August - September 2010 the agricultural and ecological infrastructure have been badly damaged. Even though Tharparkar remained safe from flood devastation, the new Committee needed to sustain and develop the work of the

organization within the overall context of provincial and national realities.

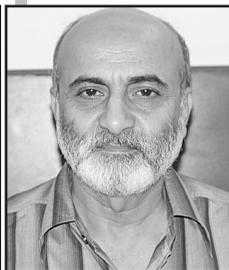
- He expressed confidence that the new Committees would meet the challenges in an effective manner.
- Senior Member, Dr. Farida Yasmeen stressed the importance of the new members acquiring adequate experience as part of their preparation for handling other responsibilities in the future.
- President M.K. Marri thanked the members for reposing their trust in him and pledged to maintain the standards of public service set by Baanhn Beli and to seek advice and guidance from all members.
- meeting recorded its thanks and appreciation to Jawaid Babar, Member, Baanhn Beli, Mirpurkhas, for facilitating the arrangements at the venue of the meeting. Members also recorded their thanks to the Honorary Secretary of Mirpurkhas Gymkhana for making available the venue on a complimentary basis and the Director of Baanhn Beli Younus Bandhani and the staff for facilitating the arrangements.



Achar Rahmoon



Professor. Musthaque
Ahmed



Mohammad
Saleem Shaikh



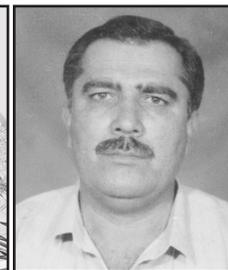
Professor Murad
Ali



Ms. Hajyani Lunjo



Ms. Nazo



Abdul Majeed Talpur



Ms. Jarry

A note from M.K. Marri, President, Baanhn Beli (2011-12).



While I had heard about Baanhn Beli during my prior work with the Government, I became associated with Baanhn Beli in 1993 after being selected as the Project Director for the Village Community Development Project launched in 1993.

This was my first-ever experience of working with a non-Governmental, volunteer-led organization such as Baanhn Beli which was concentrating on remote areas of the Tharparkar region and attempting to establish community organizations.

The task given to me was a great challenge, both to achieve the project targets while also helping to establish community organizations.

With its unusual working methodology and its exceptional team of volunteer-leaders and members representing diverse disciplines of ethnicity, culture and political associations and yet having a single goal to support poor people, my work with Baanhn Beli as Project Director made for a unique experience.

With our combined efforts, bringing together volunteer leadership and full-time professional

staff like myself and other colleagues, we were able to achieve all the targets.

The guidance and help provided by the members of Baanhn Beli residing in Nagarparkar such as (Late) Chacha Muhammad Usman Chaki, Nawaz Ali Khan Khoso and others, are invaluable and unforgettable.

Instead of only putting up buildings and structures, Baanhn Beli has promoted changes in mental attitudes and physical actions and has encouraged self-reliance.

About 11 years ago, I decided to become a volunteer member and I feel it is an honour to be member of the Executive Committee and to serve a second term as an elected President under the guidance of Mr. Javed Jabbar, our founding president.

I pray for the success of Baanhn Beli in continuing support to the poor communities of Tharparkar.

**A note by
Younus Bandhani,
Director, Baanhn Beli**

A development journey of 25 years from Malir to Tharparkar which still continues...



My dear friend, Nihal Hashmi, now a senior Advocate of the Sindh High Court, at that time fresh out of college introduced me to Senator Javed Jabbar in July 1986. The Senator was monitoring the implementation of a development programme which he had sponsored in one of the katchi abadis of Karachi known as Saudia Colony.

I was teaching mathematics in a Government High School at that time and thought that my future career would be as a school teacher. However, I was so impressed by the open heart and open mind of Senator Javed Jabbar and his “insaan-dost” (universal humanism) attitude that I soon became part of the development missions which he led to remote parts of Sindh with the aim of promoting participation of deprived marginalized communities and neglected groups in decision-making and in a bigger role in the power structure of the country.

When I participated for the first time in a mobile development workshop in Tharparkar in August 1987 which resulted in the adoption of Nagarparkar Declaration, I had more or less decided to move from school teaching to the development sector.

In November 1991, I was appointed to become the first, regular, full-time staff member of Baanhn Beli.

My first official assignment was to find and rent the first-ever office for Baanhn Beli which would be in Nagarparkar and provide us an operational base. With the guidance of two founder members who were highly-respected residents of Nagarparkar, the late Mr. Usman Chaki and Mr. Nawaz Khoso who is fortunately still with us, gave me full support. We

were able to obtain a building built many decades ago and in collapsed condition but we soon made it functional onwards of October 1992.

My second assignment was to conduct a base-line household survey in 60 villages of Taluka Nagarparkar in order to provide data for the launch of the Village Community Development Project (VCDP) supported by TVO and initiated in the last quarter of 1992. I received a lot of help and support from Baloch volunteers living in Malir Karachi in Jam Goth, Memon Goth, Dur Muhammad Goth, Rehree Goth and other locations who travelled from Karachi to Nagarparkar and spent 10 days in visits to the far flung villages to collect the data from each household.

Over the next few years it was an exciting phase of my life to be associated with the expansion of Baanhn Beli and VCDP in the Mithi and Umerkot Talukas including specially the establishment of the first computer education centre in 1995 in Islamkot, later moved to Mithi. As a former school teacher I was very happy to see that 93 village girls' schools launched by Baanhn Beli in the second half of the 1990s were officially recognized by the District Education Officer of the Government of Sindh.

In the crucial first years of Baanhn Beli, I remember working from the offices of MNJ Communications (Pvt) Ltd. in Karachi which gave its office facilities free of cost including secretarial services, telecommunications etc. UNICEF donated a Land Cruiser and Daihatsu Rocky jeep for our travel to areas without roads.

Baanhn Beli

a helping hand: a friend forever

Over the past 25 years, I have learnt a great deal and I am grateful to Almighty Allah for providing me an opportunity to serve the people of Tharparkar and other poor people living in rural Sindh and in urban Karachi.

I am humbly proud that Baanhn Beli has helped to change many conventional prejudices and biases.

Our organization has persuaded very male-oriented and caste-conscious community leaderships to allow their women to participate in mixed gatherings and to speak and express their views without restrictions. Bringing people of different religions and different castes together to cooperate for common benefits such as water, health, education and income has been a very rewarding experience to be associated with.

I am privileged to be associated with a leader with the vision of Mr. Javed Jabbar. He has helped me to learn and to discover new dimensions and directions, initially as a volunteer and then as a staff member. He has generously shared his rich experience in a wide range of fields internationally and nationally with persons such as myself and has given us self-confidence to grow. This is

why, even though many organizations have offered me attractive salary packages and terms, I am quite contented with remaining in Baanhn Beli because the challenges that we deal with cannot be offered by other organizations.

It is a particular pleasure for the staff of Baanhn Beli to be led by volunteers who give their time and resources so regularly and generously to the work of our organization whose special quality is that it is very different from other organizations in the development sector.

It is impossible to list the names of all the people who have played an important role in the development of Baanhn Beli and its staff.

However, I would like to express my thanks and respects for the understanding and support I received from Prof Dr. Gaffar Billoo, Dr. Saeed Ismail, Dr. Hussain Buksh Kolachi, Ms. Munizah Tariq, Dr. Fareeda Yasmeen, Ms. Azra Babar, Ms. Nelofar, Mr. Nehal Hashmi, Mr. Nayyar Imam, Mr. Khalid Mumtaz, Late Mr. Abdullah Murad, Late Mr. Usman Chaki, Mr. Faiz Mohammad Junejo, Late Mr. Abdul Kareem, Late Ms. Leero, Mr. Jan Mohammad Balouch, Mr. Sardar Khan Khoso, Mr. Gul Mohammad Mastoi, Mr. Nawaz Khoso, Late Mr. Faqeer Meer Mohammad, Mr. Gohram Baloch, Mr. Achar Ramoon, Ms. Gul-e Farkhundah, Mr. Mohammad Khan Marri, Mr. Abdul Samad, Dr. Allah Nawaz Sammoon, Dr. Shankar Lal, Mr. Aleem Soomro, Ms. Nazo, Mr. Kirshan Sharma.

All my friends have encouraged me and facilitated

my work for effective and successful implementation of development activities. The development journey would not have been possible without the support of all such colleagues, both at the field level and at the senior management level.

Whether it is a senior member of Baanhn Beli who is also a senior member of the staff such as Mr. Aleem Soomro or whether it is colleagues such as Mr. Hanif Khoso, Mr. Mir Muhammad Junejo, Mr. Muhammad Sharif and Mr. Tirat - they have shown remarkable dedication and skills and helped to effectively communicate with internal and external stakeholders.

I also record my deep appreciation for the patience, attention and support extended by Mr. Anis Dani, former CEO of TVO; Ms. Mehnaz, The Asia Foundation, Mr. Kamal Hyat, PPAF, Mr. Mohammad Nadeem, General Manager, CPI, PPAF; Mr. Fareed Sabri, CED PPAF, Mr. Mohammad Nadeem Manager Education Unit and Dr. Seema Raza Health, Mr. Abdul Qadir, FES. The Asia Foundation Team members Ms. Mehnaz Akbar, Ms. Ashley, Mr. Shah Nawaz, Mr. Shahid Fiaz, Ms. Sana Javaid, Mr. Noman Akbar, Ms. Amber Junaid and from FAFEN Mr. Muddasir Rizvi. I have really enjoyed working with them and learning from them.