

Minutes of WAF Meeting

25th July 2007

The WAF meeting was held on 25th July at ASR office, the following members attended the meeting:

Gulnar, Lala, Maisoon, Bunny, Sadaf, Tasneem, Shazia Khan, Hina Shahid, Shahtaj, Rani, Farida, Neelum, Farzana Mumtaz, Noni and Naila.

The agenda of the meeting was as follows:

Agenda:

1. Role of Conveners
 - a) One convener
 - b) Load on one person
 - c) Procedures
 - d) Members response to correspondence
2. The CJ decision / Judiciary
3. Lal Masjid and its aftermaths / Jamia Hafsa
4. Shamail / Shahzina situation
5. Ongoing crimes of sexual violence
6. WAF positions on issues / press releases / delays / role of media committee
7. Any other item

Decisions:

1. With the consensus of the members the new convener was nominated. Ms. Neelum Hussain is the new convener with Naila instead of Nosheen Rehman. Naila will inform to Nosheen about this decision.

Need to update the contact list of WAF. Gulnar will send the existing list to conveners and they will update the list.

2. On CJ issue it was decided that a letter will be written to Chief Justice to congratulate him and also a letter will be written to Lahore High Court Bar Association. Neelum and Rani will write these letters and Shahtaj will give them the exact name of BAR president.

3. WAF position on Government action on Lal Masjid / Jamia Hafsa? A detail discussion was took place on the issue and it was decided that there is a need to draft a WAF position so Bunny will draft a position on it by the next week for internal circulation among WAF Lahore and other WAF chapters. A unified position will come through and will be print in Journal / Newsletters. Later, WAF should have a dialogue with Media on this issue.

4. On Shamial and Shahzina situation, a long discussion was took place and some decisions were made:

Raise money, as they need money at many levels. Individual WAF members are giving their contributions and others to push forward on it.

Need a job for Shahzina. Rani took the responsibility that may be Shirkatgah can give her a job.

Residence and Business, ASR is helping them in searching place and giving suggestions to start their business.

Operation of Shamial Raj. Some doctors will help him in this regard.

WAF needs to start a campaign on issue. Some core groups are initiated and they started meetings.

Some TV channels wants to record the comments on the issue so WAF members were told about it and Gulnar and Neelum are willing to attend these kind of programmes.

WAF position on the issue is need to draft for which the committee will meet soon which consists on Lala, Ruby, Gulnar, Sadaf, Huma and Noni.

5. It was discussed that WAF should look into the issue of ongoing crimes of sexual violence and they look into these kind of cases for which Sadaf volunteer herself to do the research on such cases through newspapers for which she could consult the library of Shirkatgah and ASR.

A suggestion came up that WAF can do an activity on the topic of "60 years of Violence" to highlight these cases.

6. Media committee is consists on the following members:

Sadaf

Lala

Ruby

Neelum

Bunny (subject to availability)

Rani (subject to availability)

It was decided that from now onwards the committee will write the press releases and will circulate among the media committee members only instead of sending every one and waiting their responses. Farzana Mumtaz will send these press releases to Urdu newspapers while Naila will send to English newspapers.

7. A message of Guddo was shared by Rani regarding the formulation of a subgroup of WAF that was totally rejected by the members.