



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN IN ACTION

Programme No. 1361

Length: 4'15"

Languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish

PAKISTAN: YOUTH AND DEMOCRACY

VIDEO

GENERAL VIEWS OF PAKISTAN

STREET SCENES

MOSQUE

VIOLENCE ARCHIVES

ABRAR SINGING

PHOTOS OF YOUTH PARLIAMENT

UL-HAQ ON-CAMERA

AUDIO

NARRATION:

Pakistan - a land of majestic mountains // deep valleys and flowing plains // is home to some 180 million people. (13.5)

But the beauty of this south Asian country is often marred by violence... (5)

NATSOT VIOLENCE/MUSIC

... acts of terror, such as suicide bombings... often committed by young people...driven by conventional ideology. (10)

NATSOT MUSIC

Abrar ul-Haq, Founder and Chairman of the Youth Parliament of Pakistan, is determined to help young Pakistanis who see little hope for their future. (9.5)

UL HAQ: (In English) M

"...they did not have any opportunities; they were jobless. // And that is one reason why they are committing suicides every day. That was one reason why they are joining groups of terrorists and

extremists.” (12.5)

NARRATION:

PROTEST

Abrar created the youth movement to harness the energy of youth and put it to good use. Based in Lahore, his organization initiated a programme called “Youth Action for Democracy” to help Pakistan’s youth make informed decisions and raise issues affecting their communities and their lives. (18.5)

PHOTOS/BACKDROP UNDEF

The programme caught the attention of UNDEF, the United Nations Democracy Fund, which now supports it financially. (7)

FILM AND SONG

And through film // song // and televised debates, Pakistan’s youth are learning how they can make a difference in their country. (17.5)

UL-HAQ ON-CAMERA

ABRAR: (In English) M

”All of them will get involved in it and they will speak about different issues, they will inspire so many others.” (6)

WOMEN CROSS ROAD/WARDA IN
CAR/ LAW LIBRARY

NARRATION:

Issues such as the role of women in a largely male-dominated society. Often women are not allowed to make their own decisions, a struggle that 24-year old Warda Shafiq encountered when she chose to study law and her father objected. (16.5)

INTRO TO FATHER

FATHER:

FATHER ON-CAMERA

“Basically most males join the law profession. When a woman defends a case, people don’t listen to what she is saying, but rather observe her movements and

her appearance.” (19.5)

NARRATION:

MEN IN STREET NEAR COURTS

But Warda insisted and eventually won over her father’s support. (5)

WARDA AT HOME WITH HER PARENTS

Warda is one of some 10,000 members of the Youth Parliament. They meet regularly to empower youth, especially women and nurture them to become

WOMEN IN CLASS

tomorrow’s leaders. (11.5)

WARDA: (In English) F

WARDA ON-CAMERA

“...if you want your whole generation to be educated and to understand and to perform a proper role, educate your women.” (6.5)

NARRATION:

WOMEN DOING EMBROIDERY AND SEWING/CLASSROOM

Now a practicing lawyer, Warda is giving back to society by engaging youth to speak out on issues that affect their lives and their communities. She’s also helping women she met at the Youth Parliament seek justice. (14)

And with women like Warda on his team, Abrar is one step closer to realizing his vision. (6.5)

ABRAR: (In English) M

“I think Pakistan will start flourishing when youth come in the driving seat - that is my passion – to make them leaders, to think outside the box, to see what is happening in the world and to lead this nation.” (14)

UN LOGO

This report was produced by Mary Ferreira for the

United Nations. (4.5)