About this report

This report provides an overview of the institute’s work in the year 2015-16 relating to youth entrepreneurial leadership program.
Alternate Solutions Institute, Pakistan’s first free market think tank, was set up in April 2003 in Lahore. It is an independent, registered, non-profit, non-governmental, educational and research entity, established for the “welfare of the people by the people,” based on mutual help and cooperation, free from any political or partisan influence.

**Mission**

Its mission is to promote a limited responsible government in Pakistan under the rule of law protecting life, liberty, and property of all of its individual citizens without any discrimination.

**Philosophy**

The guiding philosophy of the Institute is based on the values of limited government, rule of law, protection of property rights, market economy, individual freedom, and private initiative.
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Founder’s Message
Dr Khalil Ahmad

Think Tanking is a difficult job especially in those societies where Market of Ideas already stands monopolized by the Right or Left. Under the circumstances, Alternate Solutions Institute, Pakistan’s first ever Market Economy think tank, adopted a low-profile strategy to spread the ideas of personal freedom, rule of law and a market-based economy. Its main focus had been on publishing articles, features, etc., in the newspapers; and also preparing and publishing original texts. Secondly, the Institute worked with students and teachers who were interested in Ideas. That helped the Institute create the Intellectual Capital for a new school of thought in Pakistan to be built upon. Thus, the Institute carved out a niche for the Ideas of freedom, responsibility, rule of law, and market-based economy in Pakistan. Within a decade that niche has expanded into a full-fledged Considered Way of Thinking and Opinion in the Intellectual and Economic Realms. Now that desperately needs to be expanded to the Political Realm. July 15, 2016

President’s Message
Dr Raza Ullah

Pakistan ranks at the bottom in entrepreneurial initiatives globally according to many international reports. Another overriding fact is that Pakistan is among the nations with highest number of youth under 30 years of age and with lesser employment opportunities. Hence poverty, lawlessness, and stagnant economy have struck the country. Institute aims to alleviate poverty through promoting entrepreneurship in Pakistan by researching and advocating essentials of an entrepreneurial society. Institute outreaches young leaders, policy makers and general public for certain economic reforms to develop an environment conducive for a much successful business initiatives in the country.
Board of Advisors

Assoc Prof Bican Sahin
Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Hacettepe University Turkey
Founder Freedom Research Association
Ankara Turkey

Wan Saiful Wan Jan
Chief Executive Officer
Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs Malaysia

Zafarullah Khan
Executive Director
Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services Islamabad Pakistan

Professor Dr. Sajid Ali
Department of Philosophy
University of The Punjab Lahore
Pakistan

Atif Shehzad
Businessman, Entrepreneur
Peshawar Pakistan
"Our Heroes"

Every society celebrates heroes, and in doing so, honors the past, energizes the present, and shapes the future.” Do you think we should celebrate entrepreneurs as heroes?

(Joseph Campbell)

They are the young heroes who are supporting institute in promotion of a prosperous and enterprising society in Pakistan.

(L to R). Farooq Malik, Danyal Khan, Adnan Sohail, Advocate Zaiba Ahmad
"Our Heroes"

(From L to R) Shah Rukh Rasheed, Furrukh Kamboh, Azeem Hafeez, Muhammad Ali, Yasir Mohibullah, Shah Abdullah

(From L to R) Salman Durrani, Rizwan Ullah, Sehrish, Hina Palwasha, Yasmeen, Salman Yousafzai
Our People

Dr Fayaz Ali Shah
Director 'Rule of Law for All' Project

Adnan Sohail
Manager Creative Works

Danyal Sohail
Training Manager

Muhammad Farooq Malik
Event Manager
5. Regulation

A. Credit market regulations
   i. Ownership of banks
   ii. Private sector credit
   iii. Interest rate controls / negative real interest rates

B. Business regulations
   i. Administrative requirements
   ii. Bureaucracy costs
   iii. Starting a business
   iv. Extra payments / bribes / favors / restrictions / compliance
Global Go To Think Tank Report 2015
Launching
January 29, 2015

Global GoTo Think Tanks Report 2015 has placed Alternate Solutions Institute Pakistan among the influential private think tank in Pakistan (Sustainable Development Policy Institute and Pakistan Institute of International Affairs both are government funded think tanks). ASI Pakistan ranked 24th in Southeast Asia and Pacific. The ranking is based on the opinion of intellectuals, journalists, policy makers and secondary sources information networked with Think Tank Civil Society Program University of Pennsylvania.

Institute organized launching ceremony of Global Go To Think Tanks report 2015 of ‘Think Tanks Civil Society Program’ in Pakistan at National University of Modern Languages Peshawar campus. Experts from academia, policy practitioners, university students and general public were invited to attend the ceremony. Adnan Sohail Manager Creative work ASI, Umar Siab Khattak Coordinator Youth Outreach program SEER, Danyal Khan Coordinator SEER and society’s members also participated in the event. The topic of the seminar was ‘Think Tanks Matter to Policy Makers and Public’ in the socio economic and political context of Pakistan and the world in general.
People from different walks of life participated in the seminar. The seminar was started by Dr Raza Ullah with an introduction to report. He introduced GGTIT report 2015 and its background. Dr Fayyaz Ali Shah the panelist explained the participants about history, contributions and future of think tanks in Pakistan. He elaborated the difference in political parties, civil society organizations and think tanks. Dr Shahid Jan Kakakhel contested the future of think tanks and elaborated how government would behave to the emerging role of think tank in the country. He referred to the increased interests of general public for think tanks in Pakistan.

Dr Gohar Zaman the panelist talked on the socio-cultural role of ideas and the future of think tanks in Pakistan. He said science has transformed the whole world including human perception about society. He gave few examples and the changes he observed in Pakistani pakhtun environment and linked them to acceptance of objectivity across the world which he claimed as an indicators to the potential role of think tanks in Pakistan. Dr Qadar Bakhsh Baloch chaired the session; he appreciated the pioneering work of Alternate Solutions Institute in defending citizens’ rights and creating awareness among thinking people about restricting role of government in public lives. Dr Wali ur Rehman in the concluding remarks elaborated think tanks, civil societies in Pakistani context and explained the future of think tanks work in Pakistan.
7th Khanaspur Residential Workshop on the bases of prosperous and responsible society in Pakistan concluded

August 26 - 30, 2015

The residential workshop has become an annual national youth event. A tough competition among the aspiring applicants makes them to qualify and participate in the workshop. The event is a mix of training sessions, hiking, networking, creative activities, bonfire and many other fun. Most of the participants called it as the most enjoyable and learning event. This year, a group of participants hiked to reach the waterfall but couldn't make their way to accomplish the mission. The institute concluded its flagship five days 7th Residential Workshop in Khanaspur Ayyubia. The important part of the workshop is selection of participants. The institutes are searched for the future potential leaders from across the country. Dr Khalil the institute founder and Executive Director, Raza Ullah and Ali Salman Executive Director PRIME Institute were the resource persons. This year, institute brought a varied group of young and experienced leaders to the scenic Khanaspur.
In the opening session, the participants were tasked to identify potential economic issues confronted by Pakistan economy. A lengthy discussion was made on this topic during the course. The group identified poverty, corruption, power shortage, financial mismanagement as the major problems faced by the country. The participants discussed the popular myths with the resource persons.

On the first day, participants were introduced to right based citizenry and its economic facets. They were further informed of Pakistan’s troubled economic history. This generated a huge discussion among the participants to relate Pakistan’s current economic woes with the past policies. The students were also introduced to the basic economic concepts and the conditions of economic freedom. The participants also questioned the relationship of economic freedom with political freedom which was answered by the resource persons.
On the next day, the resource persons discussed policy making approaches and discussed the Lawrence Reed’s sound principles of policy formulation. Dr Khalil Ahmad discussed these issues in its philosophical background. In the concluding session, participants put many questions which were responded by the resource persons. Dr Khalil Ahmad thanked all participants for their keen interest and as per past tradition, the best participant of the training was announced. Ms Sadia Cheema was declared as the best participants and was awarded with special prize.

Felicitations to the Volunteers
The executive Director Dr Khalil Ahmad wrote to the coordinator for their efforts in making the workshop a success as

“This is to appreciate and laud the efforts of the Coordinators of the 7th Khanapur Residential Course: Zaiba Ahmad, Muhammad Sulaiman Yousaftai, Danyal Khan, Azeem Hafeez, Yasmeen, and especially Adnan Sohail. They not only made it happen in a successful manner but turned it into a memorable event also. All the participants too need to be commended for their devotion and deliberations and sharing of ideas. And kudos to Saba, Khizar, and others who made it enjoyable. Thank you all for all your personal dedication!”

September 3, 2015
Program Schedule

The participants discussed the popular myths with the resource persons. The program was planned as following.

Orientation

A discussion on the current economic problems of Pakistan and their causes, such as: Inflation, Unemployment, Poverty, etc.

Bases of Freedom

Philosophy of Rights; The Concept of
Natural and Inalienable Rights
The Concept of Self-Ownership; The
Philosophy of Liberty; Economic Rights
Fundamental Rights in Pakistan
Economic and Political Freedom
Definition of Economic Freedom;
Elements of Economic Freedom;
Implications of Economic Freedom
How Economic Freedom relates to
Political Freedom? The Nature of the
Relationship; Can one Survive without the other? Can Economic Freedom ensure Political Freedom?
How the relationship between Economic and Political Freedom fares in Pakistan?

How Economic Freedom is related to Democracy

Basic Economics

Defining Economics; Ten Key Elements of Economics; Free Market Economy; Free Trade; Seven Principles of Sound Public Policy

Conditions of Economic Freedom

Protection of Person and Property; Protection of Property Rights: Physical Property Rights and Intellectual Property Rights; Freedom of Contract; Rule of Law

Pakistan and Economic Freedom


A Study and Analysis of Pakistan’s Scoring in various Areas and Components of Economic Freedom Report; What measures should Pakistan adopt to improve its Score in various Areas and components
Dr Khalil Ahmad Honored at ISIL Bali Indonesia

July 2, 2015 Dr Khalil Ahmad, founder of Alternate Solution Institute, has been awarded the Liberty Award by the International Society for Individual Liberty in its World Conference on Market Liberalization in Bali, Indonesia.

Seminar on Entrepreneurship in Pakistan March 10, 2015

Secure property rights is essential for an enterprising society. In a seminar at CECOS University on 'Property Rights and Entrepreneurship: Pakistan as a Case', Dr Raza Ullah, resource person explained it with 'Doing Business' report and 'International Property Rights Index' report which sufficiently support that strong property rights and economic freedom contribute to economic prosperity. In the closing remarks, Vice Chancellor CECOS University, Professor Dr Riaz Khattak said that women would be the main beneficiary of strong property rights and appreciated seminar significance in respect coming to International Women Day.
Seminar on Property Rights and Entrepreneurship—lessons for Students
June 6, 2015
The institute organized a seminar in the Department of Management Sciences in Abdul Wali Khan University Buner Campus. The topic was the role of property rights protection and a prosperous society. The university involved students of each department of the university. Dr Raza Ullah was the resource person of the seminar. The speaker asked few questions relating to jobs market, wealth creation, economic growth and rule of law. He received different responses from the participants which he further related to strong private property rights. He emphasized that a prosperous society is possible if each of the member enjoys protection of person and property rights. In the concluding session participants asked different questions related to the topic.
Seminar at Abasyn University Peshawar
January 7, 2016

Understanding Poverty, Corruption, Economy and Entrepreneurship. A seminar was organized in Abasyn University Peshawar to discuss the socio-economic and political dynamics of poverty in Pakistan. How does corruption generate in a society and what is its relation with governance of a country. Dr Raza Ullah spoke to a group of students. Dr Fawad Latif, Adnan Sohail, Umar Syab, Danyal Khan also presented their views on the issues. The speakers identified popular myths while discussing issues with students; many students proposed that government should impose limits on wealth creation. Many argued that poverty and corruption are curable if each Pakistani make themselves correct, responsible and accountable. Students were introduced with the importance of rule of law, strong property rights protection, independent and impartial courts, and de-regulations. Students took keen interest in the topic and put many questions. (Cont.)
The seminar was the continuity of the series of seminar to sensitize students regarding the benefits of economic freedom, significance of private property rights, and limited government.

The resource person encouraged students to understand the philosophy of economic freedom and readings of great authors on this topic.
Understanding Poverty, Rule of Law and entrepreneurship
January 7, 2016

In a seminar at Islamia College Peshawar, the role of rule of law is discussed and its relation with entrepreneurship, poverty alleviation and economic growth. The discussion became an interactive conversation among speakers and students. Dr Raza Ullah, Dr Fayyaz Ali Shah, Umar Syab Khattak, and Danyal Khan presented their views regarding the role of 'rule of law' and poverty alleviation.
Launching of SEER Society in Abasyn University Campus March 13, 2016

Abasyn University Peshawar launched first (students of Entrepreneurship and Economic Reforms) SEER society Abasyn University Chapter on March 10, 2016. Teachers, professionals, businessmen and government officials participated in the launching ceremony. A large number of students gathered to attend the event. Vice Chancellor Abasyn University, Professor Dr Jamil Ahmad was the chief Guest of the event. Dean Social Sciences Professor Dr Umar Farooq, Senior Manager Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority Mr. Rashid Aman and other notables attended the event. Mr. Farooq Malik, the focal person SEER event manager organized the activity and introduced participants to network.
Dr Raza Ullah explained the rationale behind initiating the movement in universities in order to inform students about the basics of an entrepreneurial society. He explained SEER aims to produce thinkers and activists in Pakistani universities aware of principles of a prosperous society to work for economic growth and poverty alleviation in Pakistan. Vice Chancellor thanked SEER for organizing events and assured his support to the society. Dr Umar Farooq, Dr Kaleem Sultan, Mr. Rashid Aman Senior Manager SMEDA also spoke and appreciated the initiative. The chief guest cut the cake to launch students' society in Abasyn University.
SEER organized its second orientation session at NUML Peshawar Campus on Friday April 22nd, 2016. The key note speakers of the ceremony were Dr. Raza Ullah, founder SEER Society and Dr. Qadir Bakhsh Baloch, head of department, management sciences, NUML Peshawar. The speakers highlighted the core issues that have contributed towards mass unemployment, financial embezzlement, violation of intellectual property rights, disregard for the rule of law, lack of wealth creation and the role and significance of entrepreneurship in an era badly hit by the credit crunch, corruption, maladministration, and most prominently by unsound economic policies pursued by many states of the world. (Cont.)
The students were familiarized with the objectives, vision, philosophical foundation and the rationale behind the working of SEER. The participants that included both the students and faculty members expressed profound and genuine interest and greatly appreciated the idea of promotion of entrepreneurship, empowering the entrepreneurial minded students as well as diffusing the spirit of obedience and respect of law through the platform of SEER. The event in general was an overall success and received a warm reception.
Seminar at City University of Science and Information Technology Peshawar
April 29, 2016
Institute organized a seminar in City University of Science and IT to inform students about the significance of rule of law and its role in the promotion of an entrepreneurial society. Vice Chancellor Professor Dr Ataullah Khan of the university was the chief guest. Dean Social Sciences Professor Dr Jehanzeb Khan, Manager Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority Mr. Amir Aman, member board of advisor Mr Atif Shehzad and faculty members and students attended the seminar. Vice Chancellor Dr Ataullah Khan welcomed speakers and participants to the seminar. He related the importance of an entrepreneurial society and recalled his experience in United States and Western countries and their policies for the promotion of business activities.
Dr Raza Ullah spoke on the importance of understanding the values of a prosperous society and emphasized the protection of private property rights, rule of law and limited government. Dr Fayaz who is Director Rule of Law for All Project of the institute explain the importance of rule of law and its significance. He presented international indices and examples from real world where for the evolution of a healthy society rule of law is of prime importance. In the closing session students presented music and entertained participants with the sweet notes on guitar. Dean social sciences Dr Jehanzeb Khan presented shields to the speakers. During the orientation session few students were identified who would be responsible for the future activities of the institute related with SEER society.
SEER Introduction

Institute started an initiative in Pakistan's universities and colleges' campuses to develop dedicated societies empowering students by knowing the essentials for economically prosperous and peaceful society.

Students for Entrepreneurship and Economic Reforms (SEER) a campus based society aims at promoting entrepreneurship in Pakistan by advocating such economic reforms which may prove conducive to the flourishing of the private enterprises resulting in widespread prosperity for the citizens. The essential conditions for the entrepreneurship to take root and bear fruit include: Rule of law; Protection of private property rights; Sound money; Free trade; Facilitative regulation.
Alternate Solutions Institute is indebted to the support of partner organizations in the development of organizational leadership, HRD, and supporting many projects of the institute.
Global Go To Think Tanks (GGTTT) Report 2015 has placed Alternate Solutions Institute Pakistan the most influential think tank among private, third in both public and private think tanks in Pakistan and 24th in Southeast Asia and Pacific region.

“Let the wealth be created first, it won’t stink in the lockers”
Khalil Ahmad Founder ASI
Institute is thankful to Adnan Sohail Manager Creative Works at Alternate Solutions Institute Pakistan for use of his several photos and preparation of this report. He is with the institute for the last several years. He is a model celebrity, humanist, political activist, sportsman, traveller and a creative mind. The institute strengthened after his joining and creative work.