

**Media Law Clinic
Orientation on Media Laws
For students of Mass Communication**

19th May Monday
Best Western Hotel Islamabad
10:30am to 2:30pm



Schedule

A day-long Media Law Clinic was held for the Students of mass communication of different universities of Rawalpindi / Islamabad in Best Western Hotel Islamabad on Monday, 19th May 2008.

Objective

The objective of the orientation is to raise the level of awareness among mass communication students on media laws like defamation, libel, slander etc., and to identify and address the problems, legal as well as professional, likely to be faced by students when they enter into profession.

Resource Persons

- 1- Ms. Misbah Saboohi
- 2- Mr. Muhammad Najeeb

Training Coordinator

Mr. Wajih Akhtar

Presentations

During the workshop Misbah Saboohi, the media consultant presented the multimedia presentation on media laws that directly or indirectly affect the journalists. She briefed the students about the legal responsibilities of journalists while gathering or reporting news and

passing the same information to the public at large. She clarified that Government puts restrictions on freedom of the press in the name of national security, public order or other legitimate concerns of the state. However public's right to know cannot be curbed if fair, neutral and truthful reporting is done by the journalists. She also explained legal defenses available to journalists in case they find themselves being sued by different parties. It was stressed that code of conduct for the media in PEMRA laws, defamation ordinance or contempt of court should be interpreted in the light of international best practices prevalent in journalism.

Afterwards Muhammad Najeeb held a discussion on case study on media laws' ethics while working in the field. He explained that journalists must only report the truth without adulterating the facts on ground. Media can play havoc with people's lives if false facts are printed or broadcasted. The students also gave took part in the discussion as to how they can improve the quality of journalism.

Comments by Ms. Misbah Saboohi

Overall participation was good and all of the students were keen to learn about the media laws and how they can protect themselves against the defamation cases during practicing journalism. But it is observed that there is a need to organize such media law clinic on regular bases in the universities as well so that most of the students can do their best in the field of journalism.

Participant's Feedback

In the end all the participants were presented the certificates of participation. They also requested for the regular workshops / orientation so that best practices can be made while studying journalism.

Rehan Ali, Graduate, International Islamic University

"I would suggest that Intermedia should organize such workshop / media law clinic on regular basis because it is golden opportunity for students to learn".

Hifsa Saeed, B.S Communication Sciences, Fatima Jinnah Women University

"Intermedia have held an extremely good workshop. They should arrange such workshops on media laws as it will help out future media professional to pursue their career honestly".

Hijab Rasheed, Bachelors in Media Studies III, Riphah Institute of Media Studies

"Such Workshops should be held once in a month to keep new upcoming media and journalist Well aware of their responsibilities".

Ambreen Aftab, M.S II, International Islamic University

"This attempt is really good and I hope it will continue in future and the days will be increased for the orientation / workshop".

Ushba I smail, Lecturer, Fatima Jinnah Women University

'The discussion was quite good for brainstorming but it is required to held such discussions in different universities to make more students get benefit from such debates".

Sarah Akhtar Hashmi, Lecturer, Riphah Institute of Media Studies

"It should be more interactive, make sure of video reports of different issues to make it more effective".

List of Participants

Sr. #	Name	University
1	Mr. Wijdan Kahliq	Intl. Islamic University
2	Mr. Rehan Ali	Intl. Islamic University
3	Mr. Muhammad Nauman	Intl. Islamic University
4	Mr. Mukhtar Ajmal Bhatti	Intl. Islamic University
5	Ms. Sajida Kiran	Fatima Jinnah women University
6	Ms. Hina Shaikh	Fatima Jinnah women University
7	Ms. Hifsa Saeed	Fatima Jinnah women University
8	Ms. Sumana Rubab	Fatima Jinnah women University
9	Ms. Um-e-Aiman	Fatima Jinnah women University
10	Ms. Madeeha Mukhtar	Fatima Jinnah women University
11	Ms. Mehwish Waqar	NUML
12	Ms. Saima Afzal	NUML
13	Ms. Hijab Rashid	(BMS-III) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
14	Mr. Haider Kamal	(BMS-III) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
15	Mr. Wasim Ahmad	(BMS-III) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
16	Ms. Aisha Khatibi	(BMS-II) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
17	Mr. Khurram Aftab	(BMS-II) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
18	Mr. Suhaib Ahmad	(BMS-II) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
19	Mr. Abdullah Karimian	(BMS-I) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
20	Mr. Fahim Farid	(BMS-III) Riphah Institute of Media Studies
21	Ms. Anam Istafa	Intl. Islamic University
22	Ms. Maryam Zahra	Intl. Islamic University
23	Ms. Zareen Zubair	Intl. Islamic University
24	Ms. Amina Usman	Intl. Islamic University
25	Ms. Ambreen Aftab	Intl. Islamic University
26	Ms. Masooma Zubairi	Intl. Islamic University