

FIELD VISIT REPORT

ABSTRACT

This report presents a synopsis of the Training Course under "Professional Exchange Program" for Senior Civil Judges from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (30th March-6th April,2026) at Federal Judicial Academy, Islamabad

BEENISH ISMAIL SYED,
SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE

FIELD VISIT REPORT

This report presents a synopsis of the *Training Course under "Professional Exchange Program" for Senior Civil Judges from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (30th March-6th April,2026)* at Federal Judicial Academy, Islamabad. The training course was part of the statutory pre-promotion training of Senior Civil Judges. The visit reinforced participants' upskilling commensurate to their new role as Additional District and Sessions Judges. The focus was on specialized skills, procedural nuances and evidentiary assessment standards for judicial refinement and professional augmentation.

Inaugural Ceremony

On March 30, 2026 Inaugural ceremony was held, attended by faculty members of Federal Judicial Academy, Director General, KPJA and Admin Officer, KPJA. Mr. Hayat Ali Shah, Director General, Federal Judicial Academy in his inaugural address welcomed the participants, reiterating that continuing legal education served to enrich judicial perspective and the training program was projected to fortify the expertise of Judges in discharge of higher judicial responsibilities.

Academic Sessions

On day 1, after inaugural session and formal registration, a lecture was delivered by Prof. Dr Shaukat Ali, Forensic Medicine Expert on the topic "Medico legal Reports—Evidentiary value." The resource person discussed the significance of medico legal reports as supporting legal decision making by providing medical evidence as to mode of death, cause of death, manner of death and mechanism of death. He further discussed different parameters for determining time since death as cooling of body (Algor mortis), flaccidity and rigor mortis. The questions were properly addressed as Mr. Asghar Salarzai, Senior Civil Judge asked about the difference between mode and cause of death. The resource person responded that the cause of death was the specific injury, disease or event that led to death e.g. Gunshot wound or viral infection while the mode of death was the actual physiological or biochemical derangement that is the way body organs failed. e.g. cardiac arrhythmia, respiratory failure or septic shock.

The next activity was syndicate discussion and presentation. Participants were divided into four groups. Group 1 was assigned the topic as "Injunctions, Abuse of Process and Access to Justice". Topic assigned to Group 2 was "Child Custody, Parental Alienation and Child Centric Framework". Group 3 was given the topic as "Pre Trial Detention, Bail and Presumption of Innocence." Topic for Group 4 was "E Filing and Digital Courts Framework."

Each syndicate had to identify gaps in laws, critically analyze relevant statutory provisions, judicial trends and practical challenges and to propose reforms, legislative amendments and procedural improvements. Following presentations, there was a questions and answer session on the assigned topics. The questions were comprehensively handled by group members. For instance, a question was asked by Mr. Ishfaq Ahmed, Senior Civil Judge from Group 4 as to how technology would help illiterate people was responded by Mr. Imran Ullah that we had to curb digital divide by creating simple dashboards accessible to everyone regardless of educational back ground. Each

group was required to submit recommendations in writing covering core problems identified, critical analysis and proposed reforms. The groups completed the tasks within the given timeframe.

On day 2, a session on book summary was held by Ms. Nadia Syed, Faculty Member, FJA. She presented summary of book "The Power of Now-A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment"" by Eckhart Tolle. The book delineated spiritual enlightenment. The message for the readers was to realize that the present moment was all they possessed so to make NOW the primary focus of their life. Second session was held on the nuanced concept of "Critical Thinking" by Mr. Fakhar Zaman, Secretary Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan. It was an interactive session wherein resource person engendered analytical rigor, evaluative depth and critical reflection through cognitive stimulation. Next session was on the topic "Evidence—The Judges Perspective I" by Mr. Fakhar Zaman. The resource person discussed evidentiary principles as standard of proof, cogency, relevancy and admissibility and degrees of cogency followed by practical exercises. Third session of the day was on the topic "Organizational Culture, Evaluation Processes, Gender Discrimination and the Law". A practical case of ANN HOPKINS was discussed in detail and the participants were asked to deliberate upon how they would decide the case with reasons for the decision. The participants offered their perspectives towards a productive deliberation.

On day 3, in a session on book summary, Syed Mansoor Shah Bukhari presented summary of the book "A Long Walk to Freedom" by Nelson Mandela. This was the author's autobiography. Next session was on the topic "Evidence—The Judges Perspective II" by Mr. Fakhar Zaman. It was in continuation of the first session. The focus was on five components of evidence that is oral/ocular account, statements, recoveries, medico-legal evidence and motive. The third session of the day was on the topic "Summary Trial u/o 37 CPC" by Syed Muhammad Haroon, Faculty Member, FJA. He discussed legal framework and different aspects of summary proceedings with a focus on basic principles for granting leave to defend, ex-parte decree and limitation with relevant case law The last session was on the topic "Handling Family Appeals" by Muhammad Azam, Faculty Member, FJA. The focus was on section 14 of the Family Courts Act, 1964 with Family Court Rules, 1965. The cases where appeal was maintainable and where it was not maintainable were discussed at length with the distinction between interlocutory and final orders. It was an interactive session wherein different provisions of law were deliberated upon with related case law. The crux of the discussion was that the appeal would be maintainable if the order fell within the ambit of "decision given" conclusively determining rights of the parties. The last segment of the session was practical exercises where participants were asked to form an opinion on the given scenarios followed by a meaningful discussion on the situations. The day ended with the resource persons evaluation by the participants.

On day 4, a book summary was presented by Mr. Muhammad Wali, Senior Civil Judge on the book "Thus Spoke Zarathustra" by Friedrich Nietzsche. The book presented a philosophical fiction. The main idea emphasized that human beings created their values independently from nature or divine powers and identity came from human actions. First session of the day was on the topic "Civil Appeals, Revision and Review" by Ms. Bushra Kaukab, Faculty Member, FJA. It was an

interactive session with a focus on different scenarios confronted by ADJs while exercising powers in appellate or revisional jurisdiction, with relevant provisions and case law. The resource person discussed appeals from decrees and orders, forum of appeal, limitation, powers of the appellate court and court fee in appeals besides scope of review and revision. All the questions were articulately answered by the resource person.

Educational and Recreational Visits

On April 2, 2026 as part of their study tour, the participants visited Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan for call on Hon'ble the Chief Justice of Pakistan Mr. Yahya Afridi. Mr. Hayat Ali Shah, Director General FJA, Mr. Jahanzeb Shinwari, Director General, KPJA, Mr. Fakhar Zaman Secretary, Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan, Mr. Mehmood Azam, Faculty member, FJA and Mr. Sajid Ameen, Admin Officer, KPJA were also present. During the interactive session with Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Judges formally introduced themselves with their current place of postings. Hon'ble the Chief Justice highlighted the evolving demands of judicial responsibilities and advised to uphold professionalism and independence in decision making.

On April 3, 2026 the participants had a recreational trip to Murree on the invitation of Hon'ble the Chief Justice. Mr. Mehmood Azam, Faculty member, FJA and Mr. Sajid Ameen, Admin Officer, KPJA also accompanied them. It was a day long trip and stay was at Chief Justice's lodge. The visit was idyllic in a rainy weather and the location was truly scenic.

On April 6, 2026 on the invitation of Hon'ble the Chief Justice, the participants attended a momentous signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between Supreme Court of Pakistan and the Constitutional Court of Turkiye at the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Concluding Ceremony

On April 6, 2026 the concluding ceremony was held at the academy. The faculty members attended the ceremony. Admin Officer, KPJA was also present. Class Representative Ms. Nighat Bibi, Senior Civil Judge shared her views on behalf of participants expressing her gratitude to the faculty for arranging a comprehensive training course with carefully crafted modules and commended the boarding and lodging facilities. Mr. Hayat Ali Shah, DG academy in his concluding address congratulated participants upon successful completion of course and underscored the importance of their future judicial role and impressed upon them to ensure delivery of justice to the public with dedication and devotion. The last segment was certificate distribution followed by exchange of shields on behalf of both the academies and presentation of gift on behalf of participants.

Logistics

The stay at the academy was seamless and the hospitality was exemplary. The food was top-notch. Boarding and lodging facilities were beyond reproach.

Conclusion

The training course was impeccably organized and masterfully executed. All the sessions were practical and enriching, however, a few areas are noted for further refinement in future iterations. The duration of the training course was very brief for evaluation purposes. Most of the tasks were based on group activities and collaborative assignments are susceptible to obscure individual proficiency. Though collaborative engagement is significant but it is suggested that all graded tasks must ensure individual contribution monitoring. Overall, the training course was comprehensively structured.











Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan in a group photograph with a delegation of 24 Senior Civil Judges from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, who are under training at the Federal Judicial Academy Pakistan under Professional Exchange Program

PRE-PROMOTION STATUTORY TRAINING
FOR SENIOR CIVIL JUDGES / JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES/AALA ILLAQA QAZI
(FEBRUARY 16 TO APRIL13, 2026)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

S.No	Name
1	Mr. Asghar Ali
2	Mr. Muhammad Ilyas
3	Mr. Sheraz Tariq
4	Mr. Khalid Anwar
5	Mr. Ishfaq Ahmad
6	Mr. Muhammad Rehan Samad
7	Miss Tania Hashmi
8	Mr. Shakeel Arshad
9	Mr. Hamid Kamal
10	Syed Mansoor Shah Bukhari
11	Mr. Shahzad Ali Khan
12	Ms. Beenish Ismail Syed
13	Miss Nighat Bibi
14	Mr. Farman Ullah
15	Mr. Muhammad Shoaib
16	Mr. Attaullah
17	Mr. Aftab Javed
18	Miss Marya Wajahat
19	Mr. Mohsin Abbas
20	Miss Nadia Gul Wazir
21	Mr. Imran Ullah
22	Miss Sidra Azmat
23	Mr. Muhammad Wali
24	Mr. Arshad Khan