FJA

NAVIGATING THROUGH JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE



FIELD VISIT REPORT

FOUR DAYS TRAINING UNDER "PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME" FOR SENIOR CIVIL JUDGES/A'ALA ILLAQA QAZIS FROM KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA JUDICIAL ACADEMY TO FEDERAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY (30TH MARCH TO 02ND APRIL, 2026)

Submitted by: **Shakeel Arshad (Senior Civil Judge)**

Date of Submission: **11.04.2026**

Introduction:

A field visit was organized by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy (KPJA), Peshawar, to the Federal Judicial Academy (FJA), Islamabad. The visit aimed to enhance professional capacity, develop judicial skills, and provide exposure to modern judicial training methodologies and institutional best practices.

Objectives of the Visit

The primary objectives were as follows:

- To understand contemporary judicial education and training techniques.
- b. To enhance knowledge of evidentiary and procedural laws.
- To improve analytical, reasoning, and decision-making skills.
- To observe organizational culture and institutional efficiency at FJA.
- To strengthen capacity for effective adjudication.

Inaugural Session (March 30, 2026)

The visit commenced with an inaugural session at FJA, where the Director General, Mr. Hayat Ali Shah, welcomed the participants. He emphasized the importance of continuous judicial education, integrity, and efficiency in dispensing justice. The session provided a comprehensive overview of the FJA's role in strengthening Pakistan's judicial system.

A lecture on Medico Legal Report (MLR) and its evidentiary value was delivered by forensic expert Mr. Shaukat Ali. He explained that MLR must be typed in non-technical language, clearly describing the type and nature of injuries. The mode, cause, mechanism, and manner of death should be distinctly mentioned. He clarified that the mode of death should not be entered in the cause of death column but separately. Under the Qanun-e-Shahadat Order 1984, MLR serves as

corroborative evidence, requiring accuracy, timing, and consistency. Courts must reconcile medical evidence with ocular testimony.

Day 1: Syndicate Exercise (March 31, 2026)

A syndicate exercise was designed to:

- **Encourage critical engagement with the existing legal framework.**
- **Develop law reform thinking grounded in judicial experience.**
- **Promote collaborative problem-solving.**
- **Produce practical, implementable reform proposals.**

Participants were divided into four groups, each assigned one of the following topics for recommendations.

1. **Injunction, Abuse of Process, and Access to justice.**
2. **Child Custody, Parental Alienation, and Child-centered Framework.**
3. **Pretrial Detention, Bail, and Presumption of Innocence.**
4. **Filing and Digital Courts Framework.**

After thorough deliberation, all groups presented their recommendations, offering analytical and reform-oriented conclusions. Each presenter adhered to the time limit and satisfactorily addressed participants' questions.

Day 2 (March 31, 2026)

Mr. Fakharr Zaman, District & Sessions Judge and Secretary Law & Justice Commission of Pakistan, delivered a lecture on critical thinking. He noted that law draws from fifteen disciplines, with critical thinking rooted in philosophy. He encouraged participants to overcome podium fear, fear of the unknown, and other barriers by stepping out of their comfort zones. He explained

premises as declaratory statements and elaborated on syllogism, including deductive and inductive reasoning. Unlike induction, deduction is permissible for judges in evidence appreciation. Mr. Imran Ullah's query on using syllogism in evidence appreciation was duly addressed.

Day 3 (April 1, 2026)

In the early morning session, Syed Mansoor Shah Bukhari (SCJ) presented a book review summary of A Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela. Subsequently, Mr. Fakhar Zaman delivered another lecture on evidence appreciation. He contrasted the civil law and common law systems, noting that Pakistan inherited an adversarial system, later incorporating inquisitorial elements. Citing the 2005 military courts case, he referred to Justice Jawad S. Khawaja's observation that after inserting the Objective Resolution into Article 2A of the Constitution of Pakistan1973, Pakistan's system became partly inquisitorial and partly adversarial under Islamic law jurisdiction. He traced the term "stare decisis" and "equity" to the common law system of 1066. He categorized cogency into four degrees: direct evidence, corroboration, presumption, and irrebuttable presumption as conclusive. The five components of evidence, ocular account, statement, recoveries, MLR, and motive, were explained, along with principles governing burden of proof and witness credibility.

Queries of Muhammad Wali, Asghar Ali, and Aftab Javed (SCJ) regarding precedents in criminal trials were satisfactorily answered.

On the same day Mr. Syed Muhammad Haroon, FJA faculty, lectured on summary trials under Order XXXVII CPC, applicable to liquidated damages, promissory notes, bills of exchange, and contracts under the Negotiable Instruments Act. He highlighted that summary procedure ensures expeditious disposal. Upon appearance, the defendant must apply for leave to defend within ten

days, demonstrating a valid triable issue. Questions from Khalid Anwar and Shakeel Arshad regarding leave to defend filed beyond ten days were addressed.

Mr. Mehmood Azam, Director Instruction at FJA, delivered a lecture on family appeals. He explained that appeal is a substantive right under Section 14 of the West Pakistan Family Courts Act 1964. However, under sub-section (2), no appeal lies against a dissolution of marriage decree except on the grounds, under Section 2(8)(a)(d) of the Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act 1939, a dower not exceeding Rs. 30,000 or maintenance of Rs. 1,000 or less per month. Interlocutory orders are not appealable but may be challenged in writ jurisdiction; only orders that fully determine rights are appealable. Participants were given case laws to determine appealability, and all questions were efficiently addressed.

At the end an academy night was arranged followed by dinner. The DGs of FJA and KPJA, faculty members, and participants were present.

Day 4 (April 2, 2026)

In the morning, Muhammad Wali (SCJ) presented a book review summary *of "Thus Spoke Zarathustra"* by Friedrich Nietzsche, highlighting the three stages of the spirit: the camel (self-discipline and endurance), the lion (authority), and the child (recreation through creation and destruction).

Ms. Bushra Kokeb, FJA faculty, delivered a lecture on civil appeals under Section 96 read with Orders XLI and XLIII CPC, covering appeals against decrees and orders, determination of the appellate forum, valuation, and locus standi (including strangers adversely affected by a decree). She explained appealable orders, exceptions, appeals against preliminary decrees, appellate powers, and the concepts of review and revision. The session was highly beneficial.

The academy arranged a visit to the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Participants and faculty, including the Director Generals of FJA and KPJA, were warmly received. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Yahya Afridi, presided over an introductory session where each participant introduced themselves. The interactive session allowed queries on various issues. The Chief Justice directed the DG FJA to arrange an excursion for participants. The group was also invited for a high-level seminar on judicial diplomacy and international cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye. A formal photo session followed, and souvenirs were exchanged between the DG KPJA and the Chief Justice.

Day 5 (April 3, 2026)

Participants proceeded to Murree for an excursion, providing recreational relief. They visited Mall Road and the Supreme Court Lodge, where tea was served on behalf of the Chief Justice. The trip was enjoyed in heavy rain, returning to FJA in the evening.

Day 6 (April 6, 2026)

At 10:00, the concluding ceremony was held and certificates were distributed. The DG Hayat Ali Shah, along with faculty members Mehmood Azam, Syed Haroon, Samina Iqbal and Bushra Kokeb were present. A souvenir was presented to the DG, FJA on this occasion.

At the invitation of Chief Justice of Pakistan, the participants attended a high-level seminar on Judicial Diplomacy & International Cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye, held in the Supreme Court conference room. The event was also attended by the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Peshawar High Court, Mr. Atiq Shah, Registrar, PSO, Judges, lawyers, journalists, and media representatives also attended. After recitation of Holy Quran and welcome remarks, the Chief Justice of Pakistan praised Türkiye's integration of technology in court processes and case management. The President of the Constitutional Court of Türkiye addressed in his native

language (with translation). A memorandum of understanding was signed and exchanged between both chief justices.

Evaluation Process

Participants observed that FJA maintains a highly professional, disciplined, and research-oriented environment conducive to learning. The academy provides a structured, modern learning environment with effective interactive teaching methodologies and practical exposure that significantly enhances judicial competence.

Conclusion

The field visit to the Federal Judicial Academy, Islamabad, proved highly beneficial and enriching. The knowledge and experience gained will significantly contribute to improving Judicial performance and the administration of justice.

Appendices:

Appendix-A:

Inaugural session at FJA:



Visit to the Supreme Court of Pakistan:



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

Souvenir presented to DG FJA:



Group photo of participants



Appendix-B

Faculty/Resource persons:

1. Mr. Hayat Ali Shah, Director General, FJA
2. Mr. Shaukat Ali, Forensic Expert
3. Mr. Fakhar Zaman, District & Sessions Judge / Secretary Law & Justice Commission
4. Mr. Mehmood Azam, Director Instruction, FJA
5. Mr. Syed Muhammad Haroon, Faculty, FJA
6. Ms. Bushra Kokeb, Faculty, FJA
7. Mr. Syed Haroon, Faculty, FJA
8. Ms. Samin Iqbal, Faculty, FJA
9. Mr. Fakhar Zaman, Resource Person

Participants/Trainees:

1. Miss Tania Hashmi
2. Mr. Asghar Ali
3. Mr. Khalid Anwar
4. Mr. Hamid Kamal
5. Mr. Farman Ullah
6. Mr. Mohsin Abbas
7. Ms. Beenish Ismail Syed
8. Mr. Muhammad Ilyas
9. Mr. Ishfaq Ahmad
10. Syed Mansoor Shah Bukhari
11. Mr. Muhammad Shoaib
12. Mr. Muhammad Wali
13. Miss Nighat Bibi
14. Mr. Sheraz Tariq
15. Mr. Muhammad Rehan Samad
16. Mr. Shahzad Ali Khan
17. Mr. Attaullah

18. Miss. Sidra Azamat
19. Mr. Arshad Khan
20. Miss Marya Wajahat
21. Miss Nadia Gul Wazir
22. Mr. Shakeel Arshad
23. Mr. Aftab Javed
24. Mr. Imran ullah