



Interfaith League Against Poverty - US
Equipped by Christ, Serving the World

Interfaith League Against Poverty

NEWSLETTER
September to December 2025



The Chairman's Word



I wish the Board of Directors and Friends of I-LAP a Happy New Year!

May 2026 be a kinder, more compassionate, and more considerate year for the entire world. May this New Year bring joy, happiness, and abundant blessings to us and to people everywhere.

As we begin the year, I am pleased to welcome you with key highlights from the trimester covering September to December 2025. During this period, we witnessed meaningful progress and encouraging developments across our initiatives.

Our fundraising efforts during the trimester were highly successful, reflecting strong trust, generous support, and shared commitment to our mission. We also actively participated in International Religious Freedom (IRF) meetings held in Washington, DC, where important engagements and discussions took place with stakeholders committed to advancing religious freedom and interfaith harmony.

Looking ahead, we are preparing for the upcoming IRF Summit scheduled for February 2026. It is a pleasure to share that I-LAP-US will be participating in the summit as a partner organization with the International Religious Freedom (IRF) community. This summit presents a significant opportunity to strengthen strategic partnerships, exchange insights, and advance our collective efforts toward peace, justice, and the protection of freedom of belief for all.

Before closing, I earnestly appeal to my dear readers to remember Pakistani Christians in your prayers. As a vulnerable minority, they continue to face social discrimination, economic marginalization, and challenges to their religious freedom. Your prayers, solidarity, and advocacy are a source of strength and encouragement, reminding them that they are not forgotten and that the global faith community stands with them.

A Brief Profile of Interfaith League Against Poverty-US

Interfaith League Against Poverty (I-LAP) is a US based non-profit, nondenominational Christian charity committed to sharing the Gospel to the ends of the earth. I-LAP-US uses a holistic approach to sharing the love of Jesus Christ by 1) assisting mankind in a time of man-made and natural disasters 2) combatting poverty by sponsoring sustainable community development projects 3) pursuing interfaith dialogues to encourage peaceful coexistence 4) advocating for religious liberty and 5) equipping churches around the world by improving access to biblical and theological education. I-LAP-US, headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit and international office in Islamabad, Pakistan.

With extensive expertise in disaster response, I-LAP teams specialize in relief, recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. A guiding principle in all the efforts is interfaith unity, serving affected communities without discrimination, recognizing that disasters impact all people alike. Through these compassionate initiatives, we also share the message and love of Christ in meaningful and respectful ways.

I-LAP is dedicated to promoting religious freedom, interfaith collaboration, and peaceful coexistence, envisioning a world where diversity is embraced and celebrated.

Join us in empowering leaders for Christian ministry worldwide and create a world where every person can live with dignity, freedom, and mutual respect. Together, we can transform diversity into a source of strength, paving the way for lasting peace and unity. Your support can make a significant difference!



Highlights of the Third Trimester 2025

I-LAP-US Fundraiser

A Fundraiser Dinner was organized in Nicholasville, Kentucky, in October, by I-LAP-US Board members and friends-of-I-LAP to raise funds for its ongoing activities. The event was a remarkable success, with tickets sold online and an overwhelmingly positive response from attendees.

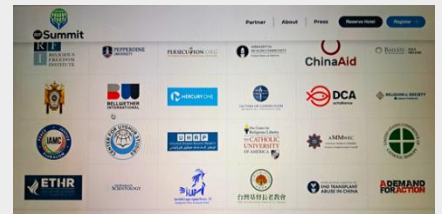
The dinner was graciously prepared by Pastor and Mrs. Les Bollinger and Dr. and Mrs. Sharon Qaiser, adding a personal and warm touch to the evening. A special highlight of the event was the exhibition of exquisite handcrafted furniture, carpets and artifacts from Pakistan. The display showcased the exceptional skills of Pakistani artisans, renowned for intricate woodcarving, brass inlay work, and beautifully hand-painted furniture from the Northern regions. Guests were captivated by the craftsmanship and attention to detail, gaining a deeper appreciation for the rich artistic heritage of Pakistan.

During the evening, Mr. Sajid Sandhu presented an overview of I-LAP's work, explaining in detail the various initiatives and endeavors the organization is undertaking to serve communities and fulfill its mission. The fundraiser not only raised support for I-LAP-US programs but also provided attendees with a meaningful cultural experience, connecting them to both the organization's vision and the artistry of Pakistan.



International Religious Freedom (IRF) Conference

Mr. Sajid Sandhu, President of I-LAP-US, attended successive conferences in Washington, D.C., during the months of October, November, and December 2025, engaging with key leaders and organizations committed to advancing religious freedom and interfaith cooperation. It is encouraging to note that under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Sajid Sandhu, and within a short time since its inauguration in March 2024, I-LAP-US has emerged as a significant contributor to international advocacy efforts. The organization is now actively involved in helping organize the 6th International Religious Freedom (IRF) Summit 2026 as a partner organization. The Summit is scheduled to be held from 2nd to 4th February, 2026 in Washington D.C. In recognition of his leadership and commitment, Mr. Sajid Sandhu has also been appointed as a member of the Summit's Steering Committee.



These developments reflect the growing credibility and impact of I-LAP-US in promoting religious freedom, interfaith harmony, and the protection of vulnerable communities on global platforms.





TRAININGS

Introduction to the Bible: Virtual Training for Pastors and Laypersons

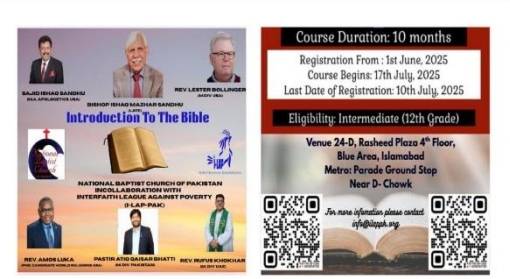
I-LAP-US, in collaboration with the National Baptist Church of Pakistan (NBCP) and I-LAP-Pakistan, launched a 10-month Virtual Training Course for Pastors and Laypersons on July 17, 2025.

The participants are demonstrating strong engagement and steady progress, with five months of the program successfully completed. The training is scheduled to conclude in April 2026.

This program is designed to help participants understand the Bible as a unified narrative of God’s redemptive plan, offering a sound framework for interpreting Scripture and strengthening both personal faith and effective Gospel witness. It is intentionally structured to serve beginners as well as those with prior biblical knowledge. A central objective of the training is to equip culturally grounded evangelists who can engage thoughtfully and respectfully with unreached communities in Muslim-majority contexts. By strengthening local leadership and contextual understanding, the course enables the Gospel to be shared with wisdom, authenticity, and sensitivity to the surrounding social environment.

The faculty comprises:

1. Rev. Lester Bollinger (M.Div., USA)
2. Mr. Sajid Sandhu (M.A. Apologetics, USA)
3. Rev. Amos Luka (Ph.D. Candidate in World Religions, USA)
4. Rev. Rufus Samiullah Khokhar (M.Div., UAE)



Celebration of International Children’s Day at QBS, Home for Amazing Kids

I-LAP-PAK was invited to Qasim Bin Sa’adat (QBS) Home for Amazing Kids to conduct an awareness training session on “Good Touch, Bad Touch” on the occasion of International Children’s Day. The session was facilitated by Ms. Nazia Ansari, Executive Director of I-LAP-PAK, and was specifically designed for students between the ages of 6 and 14 years.

The training aimed to educate children regarding physical boundaries and the risks of physical harassment in a clear, age-appropriate, and sensitive manner. Students were guided to remain cautious not only of strangers, but also of individuals within their immediate surroundings, including extended family members, acquaintances of family members, and frequent visitors to their homes. To ensure better understanding, Ms. Ansari demonstrated the concepts of good touch and bad touch using a doll, making the subject approachable and easy to grasp. Students were later encouraged to participate through role-play, helping them identify potentially unsafe situations in their daily environments.





A key message of the session was the importance of personal safety and trusting one's instincts. Children were taught to recognize feelings of discomfort as warning signs, to remove themselves from unsafe situations, and to seek help without fear, regardless of the person's relationship or gender. Emphasis was placed on the principle that feeling unsafe is itself a valid reason to speak up.

QBS is home to children from marginalized households where education and emotional guidance are often limited. Led by Ms. Ismaa Sa'adat, the facility provides access to education for children from villages surrounding Bahria Enclave, Islamabad. Many students come from large families where parents work long hours in low-income jobs, leaving children with minimal supervision and emotional support. This training therefore addressed a critical gap in awareness and child protection.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES: NATIONAL BAPTIST CHURCH OF PAKISTAN

The National Baptist Church of Pakistan (NBCP) is an indigenous church ministry faithfully serving under the leadership of Mr. Sajid Sandhu. NBCP pastors are actively engaged in all aspects of church life, including Sunday worship, Sunday School, Women's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Men's Fellowship, and Prayer Groups, which hold regular meetings to strengthen the spiritual growth of congregations



The third trimester of the year became a joyful countdown to Christmas Day. Pastors, deacons, and elders across all NBCP churches were fully engaged in preparations, ensuring that every detail reflected the significance of the season. Special Christmas programs and activities were carefully planned, while church choirs rehearsed carols enthusiastically, filling the congregations with melodies of praise and celebration.



Church buildings were beautifully decorated, creating a welcoming and festive atmosphere for worshippers and visitors alike. Large Christmas cakes were ordered, symbolizing shared joy and fellowship, as the churches prepared to welcome and celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace.



The National Baptist Church of Pakistan (NBCP) believes in inclusion and community engagement and strives to build friendships with people of all backgrounds. Muslims living near NBCP churches are regularly invited to church events and gatherings. This Christmas, Muslim neighbors again joined the festivities and were welcomed with warmth and respect. Such occasions foster mutual understanding, strengthen community ties, and demonstrate Christ's love in practical ways, promoting peace, harmony, and goodwill among people of different faiths.



These collective efforts not only brought vibrancy to the churches but also strengthened unity among members, reminding everyone of the true meaning of Christmas, honoring Christ's birth and sharing His message of love, peace, and hope with the community.

NBCP Youth Ministry

NBCP places great emphasis on nurturing its youth, seeing them as the future of the Church and community. The Youth Ministry actively involves young members in a variety of activities that encourage spiritual growth, character development, and fellowship. Bible studies for young learners help them explore Scripture in ways relevant to daily life, while leadership workshops, community service projects, and mentorship programs equip them with practical skills and values. These initiatives inspire the youth to deepen their faith, build strong relationships, and contribute meaningfully to church and community life.



Tuition Centers at NBCP Churches

The students of the Venus Tuition Center were filled with excitement as the Christmas season approached. They enthusiastically prepared skits, dances, and Christmas carols for the special day. Rehearsals began in mid-November, bringing weeks of laughter, energy, and shared joy as the students practiced together. Christmas Day itself was a time of great celebration. The program included the cutting and sharing of a Christmas cake, lively performances of skits and dances, and warm fellowship with friends and families. The event beautifully reflected the true spirit of Christmas—love, unity, and gratitude. Beyond the festivities, these activities strengthened the students' sense of belonging and reinforced the message of peace and hope that comes with the birth of Jesus Christ.

The National Baptist Church of Pakistan (NBCP) is actively operating tuition centers in all its churches as part of its commitment to holistic community development and educational support. The primary objective of these centers is to assist school-going children from NBCP congregations, neighboring churches, and the surrounding communities by supporting them in their academic studies, completion of homework assignments, and preparation for examinations. Through these initiatives, NBCP seeks to promote educational excellence and provide equal learning opportunities for children from underserved backgrounds. It continues to invest in the education, character development, and future leadership of children, affirming its mission to serve both the Church and the wider community with compassion and purpose.





PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS FOR 2026

I-LAP-US

1. Preparatory Training for Missionaries Assigned to Muslim Majority Countries

I-LAP-US is set to launch a one-year “Strategic Missionary Training and Orientation Program” for those preparing to serve in Muslim-majority countries. Based in Louisville, KY, the program will combine strong Biblical and theological grounding with vital socio-cultural and practical preparation. Missionaries and their families will gain essential skills in language basics, cultural traditions, and religious sensitivities, enabling them to engage wisely and effectively in their future contexts. This initiative ensures that those called to serve are spiritually equipped and culturally prepared for long-term, impactful ministry.

I-LAP-PAK

1. Youth Empowerment Through Life Skill Development

With 64% of Pakistan’s population under 30, the nation’s future rests heavily on its youth. Yet, many young people, particularly from Christian communities, struggle without access to quality education, career guidance, or skill-building opportunities. Lacking proper support, they are vulnerable to unemployment, addiction, depression, and crime, losing sight of their God-given potential. In response to this pressing need, I-LAP Ministry envisions establishing a Skill Center dedicated to empowering disadvantaged Christian boys and girls. The center will provide marketable training, mentorship, and counseling, enabling them to become self-reliant, productive, and strong witnesses of Christ in society.

I-LAP will begin by introducing two skill-based programs at its Skill Center in Islamabad:

1.1. Digital Skills Training (Graphic Design & Video Editing)

This course aims to equip participants with marketable digital skills to enhance employment opportunities and self-sufficiency.

Immediate Needs: Digital Skills Training (Graphic Design & Video Editing)			
S. No	Items	Quantity	Cost in USD
1	Desktop Computers (with suitable specifications)	10	3,500
2	Licensed Graphic Design and Video Editing Software	1	250
3	Salaries for Qualified Instructors/per year	1	3,600
Total Project Cost			7,350

1.2. Videography & Photography Program

This program will train individuals in professional videography and photography for events, media, and freelance opportunities.

Immediate Needs: Videography & Photography Program			
S. No	Items	Quantity	Cost in USD
1	DSLR Camera	1	375
2	Tripod	2	150
3	Studio lighting equipment	2	157
4	Video editing accessories	2	360
5	Salaries for Qualified Instructors/per year	1	3,600
Total Project Cost			4,642



With your partnership, Christian youth can gain skills to build a future of dignity and hope while living as witnesses of Christ in their communities. Together, we can break cycles of poverty and advance the Gospel through transformed lives.

I-LAP-US Calls for Your Support: Make a Difference Today

As a charitable 501(c)(3) organization, I-LAP-US is committed to equipping pastors, empowering youth, and supporting local churches in Pakistan. Our mission is rooted in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20) and a deep desire to bring transformation through the Gospel and practical skills that restore dignity and hope.

You can contribute in the following ways:

- **Become a Prayer Partner**
Support us spiritually by regularly praying for our initiatives, our team, and those we serve.
- **Contribute Financially**
Extend a helping hand by donating to support our programs and outreach. Your generosity enables us to impact lives meaningfully:
 - Train pastors and laypersons in countries where Christians are persecuted for their faith;
 - Launch skill development courses for Christian youth for making them useful citizens
 - Encourage persecuted believers
- **Volunteer Your Skills**
Offer your time and talent to further the cause. Whether through administration, teaching, media, or event support, your involvement makes a lasting difference.

Banking Details:

Bank:	Stock Yard Bank
Account Title:	Interfaith League Against Poverty
Account No:	430086369
Domestic Routing:	083000564
International Routing:	STYTUS41

For more information please contact:

ssandhu@ilapus.org



Please join us on Instagram: [ilapofficial](https://www.instagram.com/ilapofficial)