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International Day of Midwives: Honoring midwives' dedication and zeal in Gilgit Baltistan, Pakistan

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International Day of Midwives: Honoring Midwives' Dedication and Zeal in Gilgit Baltistan, Pakistan

Together again: from evidence to reality

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Every year on May 5th, the world gathers to commemorate the International Day of Midwives. This day acknowledges midwife's critical role in ensuring the safe journey of women's childbearing. The midwife has long been vital to maternal healthcare, providing empathetic, comprehensive, and evidence-based care to women and their families. As women prepare for motherhood, their expertise and knowledge are crucial to enhancing maternal well-being and strengthening them.

On the International Day of Midwives, a momentous event was held in Gilgit, Pakistan, in partnership with the government, MAP (Midwifery Association Pakistan), and United Nations Population Funds (UNFPA). The purpose of the event was to express gratitude and appreciate the persistent efforts of midwives who assist families in distant and difficult places with unflinching dedication and zeal. The event brought together midwives from the nearby vicinity, working tirelessly to promote healthy families and safeguard maternal and infant well-being, despite difficult weather conditions and extreme climates. The event commenced with a solemn recitation from the Holy Quran, signifying the importance of compassion, care, and service to humanity. The main focus of the event was to recognize and celebrate the remarkable experiences of midwives who have selflessly served humanity in the face of adversity. Many midwives shared their stories of perseverance and compassion, detailing their journeys of caring for expectant mothers and families in remote regions with limited access to healthcare

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facilities. Esteemed guests, including Dr. Afzal, District Health Officer (DHO) of Ghizer, Dr. Nuzhat, Director of Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health (MNCH), Dr. Afzal, DHO of Nagar, and Dr. Sadiq Wazir, Medical Superintendent of DHQ Kharmang, graced the occasion. These eminent healthcare professionals recognized the vital role of midwives and lauded their contributions to improving maternal and newborn health outcomes.

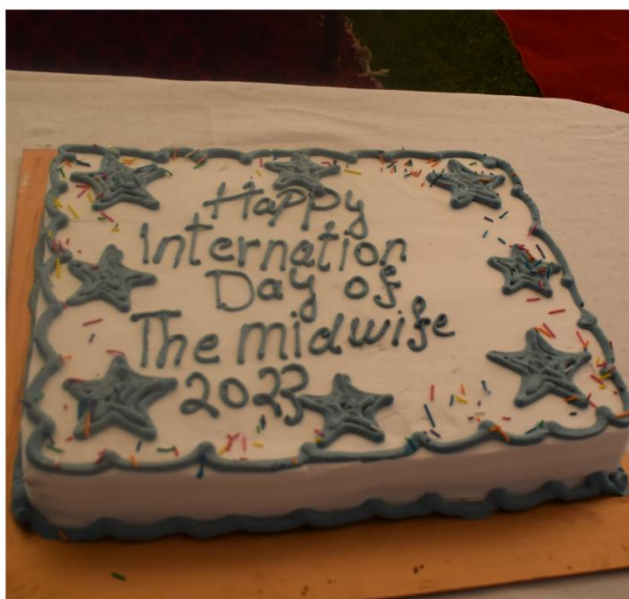
The event aimed to uplift the spirits of midwives and lady health workers who face extreme challenges while serving communities in remote regions. Their commitment to delivering quality care in harsh weather conditions was commended, and they were reminded that their dedication had a profound impact on the lives of countless families. The celebration in Gilgit was a heartwarming tribute to the



unsung heroes of healthcare—the midwives. These compassionate and skilled healthcare providers serve as lifelines to families in far-flung areas, where access to medical assistance is often a distant dream. Their tireless efforts, devotion, and commitment to promoting healthy families in the face of adverse circumstances deserve the utmost appreciation and support. The event acknowledged their contributions and aimed to boost their morale, inspiring them to continue their noble mission of caring for humanity with unwavering dedication and zeal.

Dr. Rafat Jan, Ex-President of MAP, Professor and Associate Dean, Outreach, AKUSONAM, pays a touching tribute to midwives and Lady Health Visitors serving humanity in distant areas. Her speech praised their unwavering dedication to providing crucial healthcare services and promoting healthier communities. The event made a lasting impression by honoring their selfless dedication in difficult circumstances.

They have exceptional clinical expertise and interpersonal skills, allowing them to address the physical, emotional, and social aspects of pregnancy and childbirth. As



midwives recognize that each woman's experience is unique, they tailor their supportive care accordingly. With education, regulation, and integration into the healthcare system, they can manage up to 87% of essential care, prevent difficulties, and identify risks, allowing them to provide timely interventions for optimal health.

The District Health Officer and Regional Head of AKHSP presented certificates to midwives for their outstanding achievements. Their commitment to and quality in healthcare have been officially recognized, highlighting the importance of their role in supporting maternal and infant health.

*Karo qabool mera Salam Midwife
Sabhi ko puncha du mera Piyaam Midwife
Tujhy Khidmat ka ajar to Khuda hi dy ga
Karo Kam Subo Sham Midwife*

Midwives are important in encouraging healthy birth, from necessary antenatal care to safe deliveries and postpartum support. Recognizing midwives' abilities to manage routine births and handle emergencies not only increases their morale but also strengthens healthcare systems.



Amid the celebration of the International Day of Midwife, which honors the achievements of a wide range of professionals, let us remember how essential midwives are to nurturing new life and supporting families. By honoring midwives with the respect and esteem they deserve, we acknowledge their exceptional contribution to society and ensure better maternal and neonatal health.

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