

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

about Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan

What is the connection between the schools of the Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan (PEB) and the Presbyterian Church USA?

The schools were started in the mid-1800s by Presbyterian missionaries from the United Presbyterian Church. The property is owned by the PCUSA and operated by Presbyterian Pakistani Christians. PEB is accepted by the denomination and has representation in the Yearbook of Prayer published by PCUSA. PEB also has an Extra Commitment Number (ECO 862370) assigned by PCUSA.

What is the primary purpose of the schools?

The purpose of the schools has not changed since their founding in the 1850s: *to educate the poorest of the poor in Pakistan, irrespective of class, religion, or origin.* The schools also provide leadership to the church to be agents of change, building relationships among different faith communities.

How many schools exist today, and how many students are being served?

There are 14 schools in operation today throughout the Punjab province of Pakistan. Over 5,000 students are being served.



Are both boys and girls educated?

While the primary focus of the schools is education of girls, boys are also educated in most PEB schools through grade 5, as allowed by Pakistani law. After the fifth grade girls and boys must be separated. However, PEB has three schools dedicated to education of boys: PEB Boys' High School (Sargodha), Christian Training Institute (Sialkot), and Christian Boys' High School, Martinpur.



Which grades are included?

The girls' schools have nursery through Grade 10. The single gender schools for boys have Grades 6 through 10.

Do Muslims and Christians study together?

Yes, Muslims and Christians study side by side in the PEB schools (approximately 60 percent of students are Muslim and 40 percent are Christian). There is no attempt to convert Muslim students. Christians have Bible teachers, and Muslim students have access to Islamic studies taught according to the law of Pakistan. Because all faiths learn together and are respected, students learn the values of tolerance, respect, and love which lead to a more peaceful society.



How are the schools funded?

Over 50 percent of the funds to operate the schools come from local sources through tuition and donations. Additional funds are donated by individuals, foundations, and churches throughout the USA and worldwide. PEB's goal is to be sustainable with all operating expenses being generated in-country. Construction and renovation of schools will still need to be funded from outside of Pakistan.

Who is served in the PEB dormitories?

There are three girls' dormitories at the schools in Pasrur, Sargodha, and Sangla Hill. They serve Christian girls from very poor and remote villages – too far away for the children to walk or be transported to school each day. The girls receive an education, Bible training, and practical life skills. Christian boys have access to a dormitory at CTI Sialkot.

What does a scholarship cover?

A scholarship covers tuition, books, supplies, and uniforms. Resident students also receive room and board.



What are the academic standards of the schools?

Curriculum and academic standards are some of the highest in Pakistan, with all students passing national matriculation exams and many excelling. Teams from the USA provide ongoing training to the PEB teachers annually. Because of the high standards of the PEB schools, there is a long waiting list at each school.

What about accountability? How do I know my contributions will go where they are intended to go?

PEB staff, headed by Mrs. Veda Gill, is a highly trained group of people who provide academic and financial accountability for all funds. Their work is audited yearly and is supervised by an elected board of directors.

Learn more at www.peb.edu.pk

A Short History

Since the mid-1800s, the Presbyterian Church has had the mission of providing quality, affordable education to extremely poor and often forgotten children in the villages of Pakistan. Today there are 14 primary, medium, and high schools serving over 5000 children. The schools faced a major challenge in 1972 when they were nationalized, resulting in degraded facilities and substandard education for the students. However, in 1998, the Pakistani government acknowledged the important contribution of the Christian schools and began returning the schools to Presbyterian Education Board. Since that time PEB has faced the daunting challenge of restoring the schools to acceptable conditions so the students can achieve their full educational potential.



ABOUT FRIENDS OF PEB INC.

Friends of PEB Inc. is a US 501(c)3 non-profit corporation that supports and promotes the work of the Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan. Its mission is to expand the network of PEB friends and increase the quality and quantity of resources donated to PEB.

Your check (payable to Friends of PEB) may be sent to the address below. Or you may contact us for other options for giving. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Financial information concerning Friends of PEB Inc. and its programs and operations is available at www.friendsofpeb.org.

Thank you for supporting educational opportunity for the children of Pakistan.

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Photography by Jim McKinney



Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan



PEB's MISSION ...to provide high quality education that addresses the needs of all individuals morally, physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually — so essential for each individual's quality of life. Children are educated within an environment that embodies the core values of self-discipline, integrity, tolerance and respect for others, and fairness and justice. While the schools are rooted in the Christian tradition, all religious traditions are recognized and students of different faiths are educated together. All students are educated to have a spirit of service and a quality of character that will enable them to contribute to positive changes in society as citizen-leaders of their community, their church, their country and the world.