

Kaneez Ghaus

When I was only fourteen, I got married with a person who was almost three times older than me. It was his second marriage. I was chosen for this marriage because he had only one daughter from his first wife and to continue his lineage, he needed a son. But after many years of our marriage, I could not give birth to any child. I was taken to many doctors, local healers and spiritual leaders but in vain.

I was quite distressed and was under pressure of the whole family that I could not produce a single child. It was making me sick.

Under such circumstances, I came to know about Khoj education program and I joined it immediately. I was not stopped by the family because my husband's daughter was already studying in a school in Lahore and secondly, I committed to do all of my duties as I was used to do previously.

In the beginning, I was very quiet. Temperamentally, I was not very talkative but, I was also afraid inside that I would not be able to do well like other girls in the class, who were quite fresh and carefree. My teacher always appreciated me and encouraged me to participate in all the activities. I felt that I am becoming alive again.

I worked hard and was selected for matriculation program along with other girls. At the moment I am in the final semester of AIOU matriculation examination and also teaching a class of 32 children and by the grace of God my class is rated as one of very good classes in Khoj education program.

I spend a lot of my time with children and feel happy. I also enjoy being a student myself. Now I want to learn more new things and that's why I joined the computer class also.

During the training of health workers I came to know about the reproduction system and it made me more confident that it was not me, who is responsible for not producing children.

My participation in the program not only made me educated but also enabled me to find my own ways in life.