



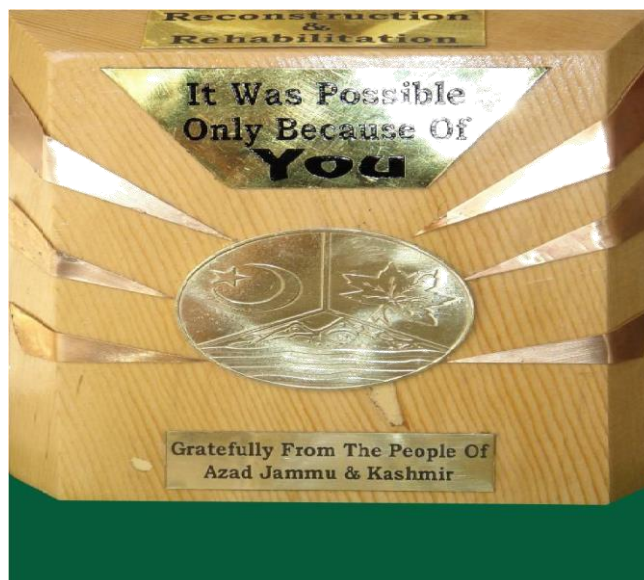
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**SPECIAL REPORTS**

# IHRO EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN RELIEF PROGRAM

IHRO established its “Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Program Unit” in October 2005 after the earth quake in Pakistan. This unit is regularly working with different UN bodies for the relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation of the victims of different disasters including heavy floods and International displaced Persons since 2011. President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir honored president Award to IHRO for its humanitarian work in the AJK Pakistan region in 2007.

## International Human Rights Observer (IHRO) received a President's Award



International Human Rights Observer (IHRO) received a President's Award from the Government of Pakistan to acknowledge its splendid efforts for immediate relief and rehabilitation for victims of the October 8th earthquake.

On October 8, 2005, a massive earthquake, one of the largest natural disasters of Pakistani history, destroyed the beauty of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, which is called paradise on the Earth. Thousands of buildings collapsed in the worst affected districts of Muzafarabad, Bagh, Neelam valley and Rawalakot. Independent observers claimed that there was a loss of more than 80 thousand human lives and that there were tens of thousands more injuries as well as expensive damages of property in AJK and NWFP.

At that crucial time, like several other National and International organizations, the International Human Rights Observer (IHRO) took initiative and performed many activities for the relief and rehabilitation of Earthquake victims with the financial assistance of different National and International donors. They collaborated with Youth Groups, philanthropists, and other organizations

to collect and distribute millions of rupees worth of goods, including food, blankets, medicines, children's toys, clothes, drinking water, and other necessities.

While implementing all of these projects for the rehabilitation of earthquake victims,' IHRO ensured community participation at all levels and has promoted work on a self help basis. During the rehabilitation projects, IHRO also arranged several orientation workshops at various locations of AJK in the earthquake hit areas for the local community, youth groups, village based volunteer groups. These workshops looked at conflict resolution, problem analysis and solutions, needs' assessments, team building, self-sustainability, etc, to build the capacity of community.

Acknowledging the above mentioned humble efforts and activities for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the homes and lives of earthquake victims in different parts of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, the Government of AJK in Pakistan has awarded IHRO the Presidential Award during the Humanitarian Conference held on May 7, 2007. Dr Khalid Pervaiz Sulehri , Founder President of the International Human Rights Observer(IHRO) received the Presidential Award on behalf of IHRO. During this conference, about 150 National and International Organizations, UN Departments, Pakistan Army Generals, Prominent Media Persons and others who performed their services for the relief and rehabilitation of earthquake victims at earthquake hit areas, were also awarded Presidential Awards.

