



The
Dawood
Foundation



The Dawood Foundation Newsletter Q4 2025

Education Inspiring Social Change

Message from the CEO

Celebrating Impact through Education, Science, and Culture



As we begin 2026, I reflect with pride on a year marked by curiosity, creativity, and collaboration across The Dawood Foundation. The past year was a celebration of learning and discovery—one that demonstrated the transformative power of communities coming together through education, science, and culture.

In December 2025, the Chief Minister of Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, inaugurated The Lost Cities of the Indus Delta exhibition at the MagnifiScience Centre, coinciding with Sindhi Cultural Day. Developed in collaboration with MaritimEA Research under the Digital Heritage Trails Project, the exhibition beautifully weaves together archaeology, climate awareness, and scientific inquiry. It invites audiences to reflect on the fragility of our cultural and natural heritage, while deepening understanding of the urgent need for preservation.

Another significant milestone was the formal recognition of the MagnifiScience Centre and TDF Ghar as museums by the Culture, Tourism, Antiquities & Archives Department, Government of Sindh. This acknowledgement underscores TDF's long-standing commitment to advancing education, culture, and informal learning, while promoting scientific literacy, heritage conservation, and inclusive community engagement.

Throughout the year, our focus on accessible science education and youth engagement continued through initiatives such as the Junior Internship Programme, the Goethe-Institut Science Film Festival, STEM Weekend Programmes, Winterfest, and the Children's Market—each nurturing curiosity, creativity, and exploration.

Our Children's Daycare fostered empathy and imagination through play, while TDF Ghar remained a vibrant cultural hub, hosting workshops, school visits, and community events that brought people together through music, theatre, and shared experiences.

Looking ahead, our mission remains clear: to spark curiosity, ignite creativity, and make learning accessible to all. With the continued support of our teams, partners, and supporters, we will continue to inspire action and empower communities to imagine and shape a more informed, inclusive, and sustainable future.

As we enter 2026, I extend my best wishes for a year marked by prosperity, purpose, and joy.

Favad Soomro

Chief Executive Officer
The Dawood Foundation

TDF's MagnifiScience Centre



Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, commended the MagnifiScience Centre's team for translating complex scientific concepts into thoughtfully designed, locally developed exhibits that resonate with diverse audiences.



Syed Murad Ali Shah, Chief Minister of Sindh, was welcomed by **Hussain Dawood**, Chairman TDF, and **Sabrina Dawood**, Vice Chair, at the inauguration of the Lost Cities of the Indus Delta exhibition. **Lance Domm**, UK Deputy High Commissioner, was also present on the occasion.

Special Visits at MSC



During her visit, **Dr Uzma Rizvi**, Professor at the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York, engaged with the MagnifiScience Centre's exhibits, appreciating their ability to spark curiosity and encourage critical thinking through experiential learning.



The Imtiaz Retail team recognised MSC's efforts in making science accessible, interactive, and inspiring.



The AKU-IED team explored MSC's interactive spaces and commended its mission for inclusive, inquiry-driven learning for learners of all backgrounds.

Fostering Partnerships for Science and Innovation

Favad Soomro, CEO of The Dawood Foundation, recently met with Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), and Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director, ECOSF, at their office.

The meeting provided a platform to discuss matters of mutual interest, including ongoing initiatives and potential areas for collaboration.

The discussion reaffirmed the commitment of both TDF and ECOSF to foster partnerships that encourage knowledge sharing, innovation, and collaborative growth in the field of science and education.



TDF Partners with Pixel Flow

TDF has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Pixel Flow to introduce a smart power bank rental system at TDF's MagnifiScience Centre, enhancing convenience for visitors.

Through this partnership, Pixel Flow has installed a rental station that allows guests to recharge their devices seamlessly while exploring the Centre.

Visitors can simply scan the QR code, collect a power bank equipped with all three major charging cables, and stay connected throughout their visit.

In addition to device charging, the station includes a digital screen presenting TDF's information, creating a channel to engage visitors and showcase ongoing initiatives at the MagnifiScience Centre.



Sponsor a Child's Visit to MSC

Students from Orangi Town School enjoyed an exciting day of discovery at TDF's MagnifiScience Centre, where they explored science through hands-on, interactive experiences. This visit was made possible through the generous support of **United Bank Ltd. (UBL)**, as part of their initiative to provide underprivileged students with opportunities to engage with science beyond the classroom.

From experimenting with interactive exhibits to discovering how scientific concepts relate to everyday life, the visit sparked curiosity and encouraged students to view learning in new and meaningful ways.

In addition, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to **Ms. Zainab Rehan, CEO and Founder of Helping Hands for Humanity**, for sponsoring a meaningful visit for 25 children from Help International Welfare Trust (HIWT). This inspiring experience created moments of happiness, discovery, and learning for the children in an engaging and uplifting environment.





Cost of sponsoring a
child's visit: Rs. 2500

LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Support a child's visit to MSC and bring the magic of science
in the lives of underprivileged children.

To donate or learn more about this initiative, please contact us at
donations@dawoodfoundation.org

CM Sindh Inaugurates 'Lost Cities of the Indus Delta'

An immersive journey through Sindh's ancient civilisations



The Dawood Foundation welcomed the **Chief Minister of Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah**, to the MagnifiScience Centre, where he inaugurated the Centre's latest exhibition, Lost Cities of the Indus Delta. The visit coincided with **Sindhi Cultural Day**, adding special significance as the exhibition celebrates the province's rich history and cultural heritage. The Chief Minister was received by **Hussain Dawood**, Chairman of The Dawood Foundation, and **Sabrina Dawood**, Vice Chair. **Lance Domm**, UK Deputy High Commissioner, was also present on the occasion.

While welcoming the Chief Minister and other distinguished guests, **Chairman Hussain Dawood** emphasised the importance of experiential learning, stating, *"Science must be experienced, not memorised. The MagnifiScience Centre provides that opportunity—a space where learning, discovery, and heritage intersect."* He also thanked the UK Deputy High Commissioner for the UK's support of the exhibition and expressed his appreciation for being part of its launch.

Vice Chair Sabrina Dawood highlighted the Centre's broader purpose, *"Karachi needed a place where children and families could engage with science in meaningful and enjoyable ways. The MagnifiScience Centre not only offers that experience, but does so while remaining deeply connected to our cultural roots."*

During the visit, the Chief Minister toured the interactive exhibits, hands-on experiments, and immersive educational programmes, commending the Centre for its accessibility, local relevance, and pioneering role as a hub for informal learning. The visit underscored the MagnifiScience Centre's mission to bridge science and culture, fostering curiosity, pride, and greater awareness among diverse audiences.

Developed in collaboration with **Maritime EA** under the **Digital Heritage Trails project**, **Lost Cities of the Indus Delta** takes visitors on an immersive journey through the ancient settlements of Sindh, bringing history, science, and storytelling together in a compelling learning experience.

The exhibition was **sponsored by the Cultural Protection Fund – British Council**.



Goethe-Institut Science Film Festival

Celebrating Science Literacy Among Youth Through Film



The 9th Science Film Festival (SFF) was organised by Goethe-Institut Pakistan in collaboration with partner schools and institutions, running from October to December 2025. This year's global theme, "Green Jobs", emphasised the rising significance of sustainable professions in creating a better and more environmentally responsible future.

Over 150 students from diverse schools, including many from underprivileged backgrounds, attended the opening of SFF '25 at TDF's MagnifiScience Centre on 15 October '25. The event brought together educators and science enthusiasts for an inspiring celebration of creativity, innovation, and sustainability through film. The SFF promoted science literacy and environmental awareness via international films and hands-on activities, demonstrating how science could be both engaging and transformative.

The ceremony featured welcome remarks by Favad Soomro, CEO TDF; Maha Jafarey, Head of the Language Department at Goethe-Institut Karachi; and Anja Klos, Consul at the German Consulate in Karachi.

Sharing his views on the occasion, Favad Soomro emphasised, *"The SFF had provided an invaluable platform to make science more approachable, engaging, and relevant for young learners. By linking scientific concepts to pressing global challenges such as sustainability and green innovation, we aim to nurture curiosity and empower the next generation to contribute meaningfully to a better future."* The event included a film screening, an interactive Q&A session, and a science fair.

Students also explored MSC's exhibits and presented their own science projects inspired by the festival's theme. The SFF '25 edition featured 123 films from 37 countries, including 29 films selected for Pakistan.



Children's Market

Celebrating Young Entrepreneurs



The MagnifiScience Centre proudly hosted the 6th edition of the Children's Market, a vibrant platform where 300 young entrepreneurs, aged 6 to 17 years, showcased their talents across 103 creative stalls. The exhibition was held over two days, on 15 and 16 November 2025, celebrating creativity, innovation, and the entrepreneurial spirit of young minds.

From handcrafted jewellery and colourful stationery to delicious treats, the market highlighted the remarkable creativity of our young entrepreneurs.

Through customer interaction, pricing, negotiation, and teamwork, participants gained invaluable experience.

The market attracted 1,083 visitors, with families, friends, and community members enthusiastically celebrating the hard work, talent, and passion of these budding entrepreneurs.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the participants, parents, volunteers, and partners for making the event a success. A special thank you to our Sponsors, Abbott and Olpers Flavoured Milk, for their generous support in creating a memorable and impactful experience.



Junior Internship Programme

Learning, Exploration, and Growth



The 8th Junior Internship Programme (JIP) 2025, held from 22 December 2025 to 1 January 2026, created a dynamic learning environment for young minds eager to explore, experiment, and grow. Over the two-week programme, 68 junior interns took part in a structured yet engaging experience designed to build confidence, strengthen communication skills, and provide meaningful exposure in a Science Centre setting.

Interns were assigned to a range of departments, including Research & Content, Digital Media & PR, Marketing, Corporate Communications, Sustainability, Design & Illustration, and Operations. Through hands-on involvement, they gained first-hand insight into how collaborative teamwork drives projects from concept to execution within an organisation.

To further enrich the experience, the programme featured a series of specialised STEM workshops, where interns worked on innovative and practical projects. These included developing a hand gesture-controlled robot, a colour-sorting robotic arm, a rechargeable bulb, a piezoelectric road crossing, a radar system, and a solar tracker, among other projects.

The Winter Junior Internship Programme transformed the winter break into a purposeful and inspiring learning journey, equipping young participants with valuable skills, confidence, and curiosity to support their future academic and professional paths.



Pinktober: Prioritising Health and Wellbeing



In recognition of Pinktober, TDF organised a Breast Cancer Awareness session led by Dr Yasmin Abdul Rashid, Director of the Residency Programme in Medical Oncology at Aga Khan University Hospital. Dr Yasmin shared valuable guidance on the importance of early detection, self-examination, and awareness, empowering staff with the knowledge needed to prioritise their health and wellbeing.

The session also featured an engaging awareness game, adding a fun and interactive element to the event. The event concluded with refreshing lemonade, and pink hair bows were gifted to all TDF's female employees as a reminder of the session's key messages, symbolising their commitment to awareness and early detection.

TDF Picnic: Away Day 2025

This December, TDF held a refreshing Away Day Beach Picnic for its employees. The annual event offered a welcome break to employees from work, giving everyone a chance to relax and enjoy a day by the sea.

With hearty breakfast and lunch served along the shore, the event created an enjoyable atmosphere where colleagues connected, recharged, and made lasting memories together.

Employees took part in a variety of activities, including boat rides, jet skiing, buggy rides, and a range of indoor and outdoor games.



Winterfest at MSC

From 19 to 21 December 2025, the MagnifiScience Centre opened its Courtyard to the public in the evenings to celebrate the winter season through MSC Winterfest, offering a welcoming space for learning and enjoyment.

With free entry for families and children, the event encouraged visitors to explore science-based activities in the Festive Play Zone along with joyful experiences on the trampoline and jumping castle. Children also explored the Science Garden, learning about different plant species while enjoying the swings and outdoor play areas designed to promote movement, curiosity and discovery.

A variety of food stalls in the courtyard added to the festive atmosphere, creating a warm and cheerful setting where families could relax, connect, and enjoy quality time together.

We extend our sincere thanks to National Ketchup Champs, our Title Sponsor and Winterfest partner, for their valued support in making this event a success.



Dolmen Shopping Festival

Held from 19 December '25 to 10 January '26, TDF's MagnifiScience Travels brought hands-on science experiences to the Dolmen Shopping Festival, promoting scientific curiosity and strengthening community engagement. Located at the Fashion Boulevard, Dolmen Mall Clifton, the **"Create, Construct, & Collaborate"** exhibition welcomed **1,737 visitors** who explored interactive activities such as Car in Motion, Laser Maze, Design Your Own Flight, and more—each designed to enhance inquiry, problem-solving, and experiential learning.

Visitors also received an exclusive 20% discount on MagnifiScience Centre tickets, encouraging them to visit the centre and engage with science beyond the festival.

Student volunteers from schools and universities guided visitors through the exhibits, enhancing both the visitor experience and their own confidence and communication skills. We extend our sincere thanks to Dolmen Mall for providing a platform that allowed TDF to engage meaningfully with the community.



Our Cosmic Neighbourhood

TDF's MagnifiScience Centre, in collaboration with the Karachi Astronomers Society (KAS), hosted an astronomy session titled "Our Cosmic Neighbourhood". The session, led by Abubaker Shekhani, Co-Founder of KAS, took participants on a captivating visual journey through our solar system, nearby stars, nebulae, and distant galaxies. Attendees learned about light years, the vast scale of the universe, and the importance of reducing light pollution to preserve the beauty of our night skies.

Following the presentation, visitors headed to the Sky Rooftop for a guided observation session. Supported by the KAS Team, participants viewed the Moon's surface in remarkable detail, including the Apollo landing sites, and observed the majestic planet Saturn, learning about its current ring tilt and upcoming seasonal changes. The evening concluded with an interactive Q&A session, allowing attendees to ask questions and further fuel their curiosity about space.



WWF Consultative Session on Sustainable Fisheries

WWF hosted a consultative session at the MagnifiScience Centre, focused on strengthening collaboration for fisheries improvement in Pakistan. The session brought together senior officials from WWF-Pakistan and key stakeholders from the marine and fisheries sectors to exchange knowledge and discuss strategies for sustainable fisheries management and conservation, supporting the long-term health of marine ecosystems.



Weekend Programmes



October: Unlook – Mysteries of Space

This October, young explorers at the MagnifiScience Centre embarked on an exciting journey through space with hands-on astronomy and physics activities. Participants built models to demonstrate gravitational pull and understand black holes phenomenon, explored how craters are formed by simulating impacts on different surface materials, and created their own constellations in Stellar Creations.

In Spaceventures, visitors tracked the Moon's journey using a DIY calendar, while Cosmic Quest projected constellations on walls to inspire budding astronomers.

November: Science & Peace

In November, the programme focused on eco-friendly learning. Participants created homemade composters for their plants, built simple DIY water fountains, and produced "gold for plants" using kitchen scraps in Garden's Secret Gold Water. They also explored optics and motion by creating glowing symbols with lasers and mirrors.

Visitors constructed eco-coolers, learning how airflow and pressure reduce heat using recycled materials. In Science Quest, children built and raced rubber band boats and made their own bubbling lava lamps. These activities encouraged participants to engage with science while adopting sustainable, eco-friendly practices.

December: Surface Tension – The Unseen Force of Liquids

In December, learners explored the invisible forces of liquids through surface tension workshops. They tested materials to create leak-proof bags, observed chemical reactions in Magic Milk, and explored how surface tensions allow water droplets to cling to a penny without spilling over. Pepper Dance demonstrated how surface tension affects particles on water, while the Coin Stack Challenge and Anti-Gravity Water revealed how liquids can seemingly defy gravity.



TDF's Children's Daycare

Messy Play Activity

A Messy Play Activity transformed TDF's Children's Daycare into a creative hub for children to experiment and learn. Our little learners explored a variety of textures, colours, and materials, sparking imagination, encouraging sensory exploration, and strengthening fine motor skills. These hands-on activities not only nurtured learning but also provided children with the confidence to discover and express themselves in new ways.



Circle of Kindness

Children's Daycare welcomed Winter with a heartwarming Circle of Kindness activity, where our little stars came together to celebrate the season through sharing and connection. Children brought winter-inspired creations and exchanged small gifts with their friends, turning the day into a joyful lesson in kindness and gratitude. These simple yet meaningful moments highlighted the happiness of giving, making the start of the year truly special for everyone involved.



Children's Day Celebration

For Children's Day, the Daycare hosted a colourful fruit-themed celebration, where children arrived dressed as their favourite fruits. Little strawberries, pineapples, and adorable grapes filled the room with energy and excitement. The festivities included a tote-bag painting workshop for parents and children, offering a collaborative and expressive space to explore creativity.

The combination of vibrant costumes, collaborative activity and thoughtful parent-child engagement added a heartwarming touch.

The Children's daycare celebration highlighted how play and parental involvement support a child's early learning journey.





School Visit

Students from institutions including NJV School, The Ivy School, Headstart School, National Textile University, and Bahria University Karachi visited TDF Ghar to explore Karachi's rich heritage and gain a glimpse into the everyday lives of its past inhabitants. During the visit, they were taken on an in-depth tour, highlighting the house's beautifully restored architecture and nostalgic charm, offering a vivid insight into the city's history and the journeys of the people who helped shape Karachi into the "City of Lights."

The students also explored the ongoing exhibition *From Borders to Belongings: Karachi's Journey of Migration*, learning how the city's identity evolved through stories of movement, resilience, and settlement by diverse cultural and ethnic communities following the migration of 1947.



Gardening Workshop

In collaboration with Saiban Gardening, 14 participants took part in a hands-on Gardening Workshop at TDF Ghar, enjoying an interactive and enriching planting experience. The session introduced fundamental gardening skills, including soil preparation, planting techniques, and caring for plants at home. Participants also had the opportunity to plant their own saplings and paint pots, combining creativity with practical learning.

Designed to foster a closer connection with nature, the workshop promoted sustainability, mindful learning, and environmental awareness in a warm and welcoming setting. It provided a refreshing and educational experience, leaving participants inspired to bring elements of nature into their everyday lives.



Musical Night

TDF Ghar hosted an unforgettable musical evening with Khudgharz, captivating a full house of music enthusiasts under the open sky. The night was filled with soulful performances, acoustic melodies, and a lively energy that resonated with every guest. From heartfelt vocals to crowd-favourite sing-alongs, the atmosphere was electric, creating a memorable experience that united the community through the magic of music.



Musical Theatre Khoye Howe Loug

Followed by the Forum Theatre Workshop, Kahani1949 brought music, storytelling, and performance in one frame with the musical theatre play Khoye Howe Loug. Set within the intimate and historic spaces of TDF Ghar, the play unfolded emotionally rich narratives through song and theatre, drawing the audience into stories of memory, loss, and reflection.

The performance resonated deeply with those in attendance, creating a shared experience where art and history intersected meaningfully.

As voices, music, and movement filled the space, the Ghar transformed into a living stage for stories that found expression and connection.



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