Welcome to the land of Gawri people
Gawri area in Pakistan
Geographical area
Name of the language

- This language is called Gawri,
- Also called Bashkarik
- Kalam Kohistani,
- Kohistani,
- Diri,
- Dirwali
- Garwi etc.
Population

- Kalam (Swat): 22,000
- Ushu (Swat): 10,000
- Utrot (Swat): 22,000
- Ariani (Swat): 500
- Rajkot (Dir): 1,500
- Jiar (Dir): 8,000
- Piod (Dir): 1,000
- Khalkot (Dir): 5,000
- Kinolam (Dir): 8,000
- Thal (Dir): 22,000

Total: 100,000
Socio-economic settings

- Farming
- Goats, sheep and other animals are kept
- Tourism
- Temporary migration to the cities
- Forest royalty
- Recently people have obtained government jobs i.e. Teacher, doctors, police and army etc.
- Other jobs
In 1995 some Gawri men formed a spelling committee together with Joan Baart of SIL.

Later in 1996 this committee decided to form an organization for the promotion and documentation of the language and culture, the Kalam Cultural Society.

In 2007 the name of KCS changed to GCS (Gawri Cultural Society).
In June 2005, after the consultation and approval of KCS, an MLE committee was formed in order to administer a future MLE program. 10 members were chosen from different clans and walks of life. The MLE committee is meeting regularly on a monthly basis since then. The formation and training of women’s MLE committee is under process.
MLE surveys

- Two MLE surveys were carried out in three different villages of Kalam (Kargalo, Bazaar and Asan)
- The first survey was carried out in April 2005, the second in July 2005
- In these surveys the local people showed great interest in MLE program for both children and adults
Earlier research

- Leech 1838,
- Biddulph 1880,
- LSI 1919,
- Morgenstierne & Barth 1958.
- Morgenstierne (1940), which has 17 pages of text followed by a 35-page word list. The actual field work on which that treatment was based was carried out in 1929
A sociolinguistic survey of Kalam and surrounding areas was carried out by Rensch and co-workers (Stahl 1988, Rensch 1992). These studies focus on bilingualism and language use, but give little information on the language itself.

Anthropologist Dr. Lincoln Keiser and Fredrick Barth did some work in this language and culture.

Dr. Joan Baart (SIL) started his work in 1991 and still going on.
Local researchers

- Pervesh Shaheen of Swat wrote a book on Kalam Kohistani people and language.
- Maulana Abdul Haq has made a big contribution to this language, history and poetry.
- Some other local scholars have also started writing in the language under the platform of KCS, i.e. Gul Rehman, Abdul Ali, Muhammad Nabi, Shamshi Khan and Shams-ur-Rehman etc.
Gawri poets from Dir and Kalam
Orthography development

- Spelling committee and later the KCS has adopted the Perso-Arabic script for writing the Gawri language
- 40 consonants and 12 vowels
- Four extra characters from Urdu
- We have 5 contrastive tones
Literature production

- KCS and its members have produced 10 books in this language (e.g. stories, an alphabet book, conversation, history, Gawri rules and proverbs etc.)
- Health and hygiene materials have also been translated into Gawri
- A website was launched in 2002
- Joan Baart has published three books and many papers on Gawri, especially the grammar description
- A book on the local names and uses of plants was published by FLI and online by the University of North Dakota and SIL International
- A dictionary in production has over 6,000 words
Literacy materials for year I

- Alphabet book
- How to read and write Gawri
- 64 small story books with illustrations
- 64 listening stories
- Primer
- Pre-reader, pre-writer, and math books
- 64 Big books
- Teacher guide translated to Gawri
Newsletters and other literature

- A quarterly newsletter “Gawri” is published regularly
- Two poetry books have been published
- Some writing contests have been carried out
- Poetry parties were celebrated
FLI’s discovery course

- Four Gawri men have gone through Discovery courses held at FLI Peshawar in 2004 and 2005
- They completed a set of four courses (Sound System, Methods, Grammar and Cultural Research)
- Then they have completed a specified field project after each course
Workshops at FLI, Peshawar

- Five Gawri men participated in the “Issues in language development” workshop held at FLI, Peshawar.
- Two ladies have attended an ILD workshop at Peshawar from Gawri language in 2005.
- Recently a male and a female teacher have gone through the teacher training.
- A supervisor has gone through the course recently too.
Writers workshops

- So far 166 people were trained through the different writers workshop from 1997 till now.
- First workshop was arranged by SIL at Islamabad in 1997.
- After that in Swat and Dir there are around ten workshops arranged by GCS.
MLE Committee Training

- Gawri MLE committee has attended as many as three workshops arranged by FLI at Peshawar.
- In these initials workshops the committee has made the preparations for the year I schools formation and materials production.
- Since then MLE committee is involved actively in the decision making of the MLE program in Gawri community.
Office and staff

- In 2006 we established an office in the main town of Kalam
- Five people are working regularly on the Gawri language
- A programme coordinator, a supervisor, material coordinator, writer and a liaison officer are working there
- Two MLE teachers have been employed by the project
Establishment of MLE schools

- In July 2008 we have established two mother-tongue-based multilingual education schools in Kalam.
- In both villages (Shahoo & Kukunel) two SMC’s were formed and they are functioning well.
- Children both boys and girls are regularly attending the classes.
- Parents are visiting the schools regularly.
Contribution by elders

- Many elders have contributed and cooperated a lot with us from the time we have started the work
- Many of them are died
- Some of them are still alive and hopefully we will learn a lot from them
- Next are some of the pictures of those respectable elders
Thank you