

# NEWS LETTER



**SEPTEMBER 2025**

**ISSUE # 02**

Progress, Partnerships, and Impact  
— This Month at Aspire Pakistan



[www.aspirepk.org](http://www.aspirepk.org)

**Silicon Valley Center**  
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San Jose, CA 95131

# NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER  
2025  
ISSUE # 02

## ASPIRE PAKISTAN

CELEBRATING WINS, SHARING STORIES, BUILDING  
THE FUTURE

### EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS, SHAPING THE FUTURE

As we close out another remarkable month, it's inspiring to reflect on the strides we've made together at Aspire Pakistan. September 2025 was a month of innovation, collaboration, and extraordinary achievements. From the graduation of our second cohort of the Founders Edge Program to the completion of the Pak Angels Generative AI Cohort 7, it's been a month of continuous growth for both our startups and the ecosystem.

#### SPOTLIGHT

What excites us most is the depth of engagement we've seen, with our training and mentoring programs empowering our founders with the knowledge and tools they need to build and scale successful businesses. It is heartening to see our startups recognized on the international stage, and one standout achievement is Creative 3D's registration in Saudi Arabia, with 100% ownership. This is the kind of success that fuels our mission at Aspire – to provide opportunities, mentorship, and guidance to help entrepreneurs reach their full potential.

This newsletter highlights the hard work and commitment of our amazing cohort members, mentors, and trainers. We are more committed than ever to ensuring that the path to entrepreneurship in Pakistan is a little less difficult, and a lot more rewarding.

#### HIGHLIGHT

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CHAIRPERSON'S  
MESSAGE

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FOUNDING  
MEMBER'S MESSAGE

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GRADUATION OF  
FOUNDERS EDGE  
COHORT-II

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COMPLETION OF PAK  
ANGELS GENERATIVE  
AI COHORT 7

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EMPOWERING  
ENTREPRENEURS  
WITH KNOWLEDGE

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FEATURED STARTUP

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TOP 10 HACKATHON  
WINNERS

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INTERNATIONAL  
COLLABORATION

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INDUSTRY EVENTS

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ISSUE # 2

SEPTEMBER 2025

## MESSAGE FROM OUR *Chairperson*



“At ASPIRE Pakistan, our vision is clear to unlock Pakistan’s true potential by empowering its youth, startups, and professionals with knowledge, mentorship, and global connections. We are not just supporting entrepreneurs; we are building an ecosystem where innovation becomes the backbone of economic growth. Every milestone we achieve reflects the collective strength of our diaspora, academia, and industry partners. The road is long, and journey is tough - but all journeys start with first few simple steps. We have initiated the programs and have seen measurable success. Join us in making a difference”

**NAEEM ZAFAR**

### Mr. Naeem Zafar

Chairman, Aspire Pakistan  
Faculty Member,  
University of California,  
Berkeley

### Profile

Naeem has led five ventures as the CEO and guided dozens as a Board member or an advisor, including TeleSense, an AgTech company that was acquired by UPL in 2020.

MESSAGE FROM OUR

## *Founding Member*



### Mr. Naeem Raza

Partner at Mighty Capital  
Founding Member Aspire  
Pakistan

“As one of the founding members of Aspire Pakistan, I’ve always believed that the true strength of a nation lies in the vision and resilience of its people. Pakistan is full of talented minds with ideas that can transform industries and uplift communities. What many of these founders need is the right platform, guidance, and support to take their ideas from vision to reality. Aspire Pakistan is building exactly that ecosystem — one that connects entrepreneurs with mentors, investors, and opportunities that can change their trajectory. My commitment to this mission is rooted in the belief that every rupee, every hour, and every effort invested in our entrepreneurs will multiply into long-term social and economic impact. Together, we are not just nurturing startups; we are shaping the future of Pakistan.”

**NAEEM RAZA**

# GRADUATION

FOUNDERS' EDGE COHORT-II



The culmination of months of hard work, dedication, and entrepreneurial spirit—September marked the successful graduation of Cohort 2 of the Founders Edge Program. This cohort, received 870 applications and 68 ambitious participants, has now completed the intensive training and mentorship journey that Aspire Pakistan is renowned for.

Throughout the program, these founders learned to refine their business models, enhance their leadership skills, and navigate the complex landscape of scaling a startup. With guidance from expert mentors and industry leaders, these founders are now better equipped to take on the challenges of entrepreneurship and emerge victorious.

*Celebrating  
Innovation*



**870+**  
Registrations  
Received

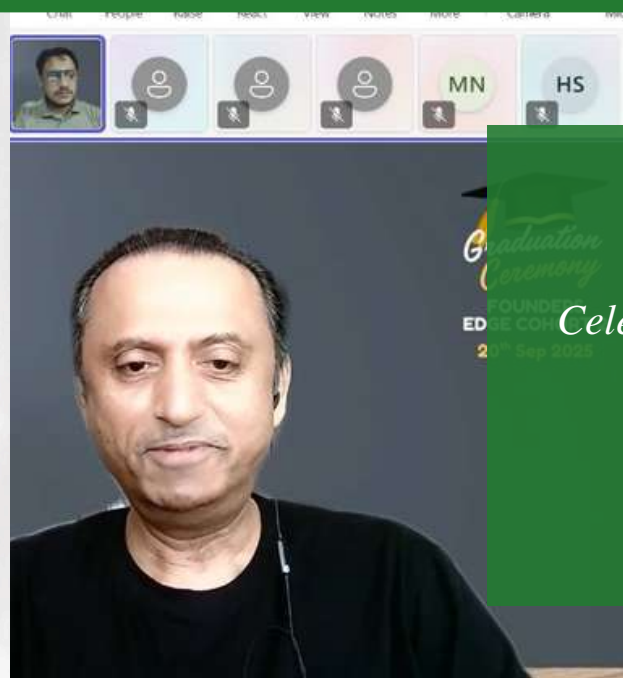


**120+**  
Universities  
Participated



**68**  
Graduates

***“From 870 applications to 68 game-changing founders — Cohort 2 of the Founders’ Edge Program has graduated, ready to redefine entrepreneurship in Pakistan”***



*Celebrating  
Success*

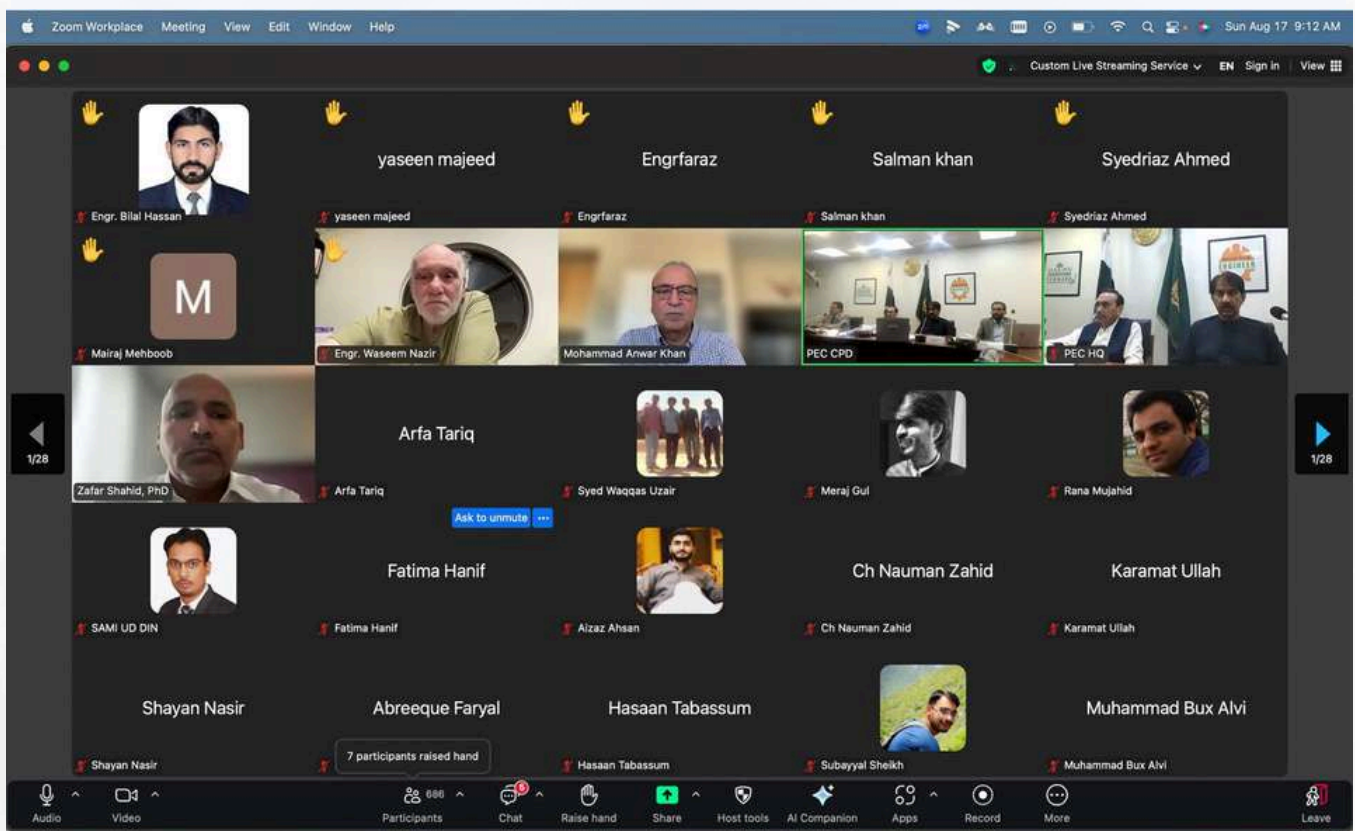


# PAKANGELS GENERATIVE AI

## PEC- COHORT 3

### Shaping Tomorrow's Engineering with Generative AI

Snapshot from the Inaugural Session of PEC Generative AI Cohort 3: Engr. Waseem Nazir, Chairman of the Pakistan Engineering Council, highlighted initiatives like this training to Move Engineers Forward. Just moments earlier, Mohammad Anwar Khan, Founder & President of Pak Angels (pictured right), shared his insights on the transformative benefits of Generative AI — a true game-changer for engineers and Pakistan's future.

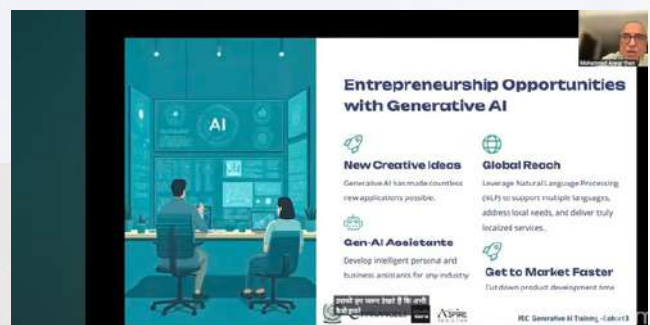


# PAKANGELS GENERATIVE AI COHORT 7

## Empowering Innovators in the Digital Age

This September also saw the completion of Pak Angels Generative AI Cohort 7, PEC Cohort-3, which featured brilliant minds working at the cutting edge of technology and innovation. These cohorts have been a significant leap forward in empowering Pakistani entrepreneurs to harness the power of Generative AI, one of the most transformative technologies of our time.

The hands-on training is sponsored by the **Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC)**, and is organized and run by **Pak Angels** together with its operational partners, **iCodeGuru** and **Aspire Pakistan**, the cohort explored how to apply AI in real-world business scenarios — from creating smarter products to streamlining business operations. The knowledge and expertise gained will undoubtedly fuel the growth of many new ventures in the AI-driven future. We are incredibly proud of the progress and breakthroughs made by these innovators.



# Empowering ENTREPRENEURS WITH KNOWLEDGE

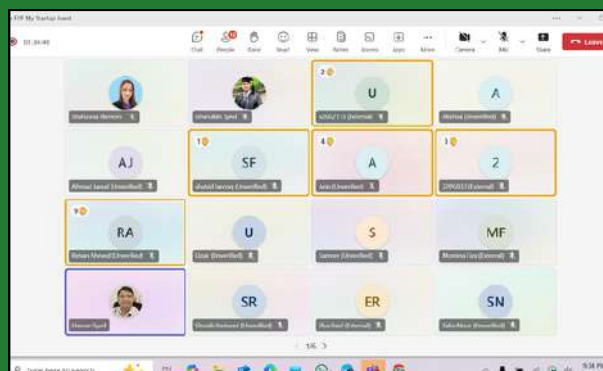
## “Equipping Founders with the Tools for Success”



At Aspire Pakistan, we believe that knowledge is the foundation of success. This month, we hosted a series of comprehensive training sessions, each focusing on key aspects of scaling a business. Entrepreneurs learned about leveraging technology to drive efficiency, scalability, and customer engagement. Rafiq's session provided actionable insights on integrating tech solutions that align with business goals. Dr. Azam Arastu's session was a deep dive into the financial fundamentals that every founder needs to understand. From pricing strategies to cost management, founders gained clarity on how to optimize their unit economics for profitability.

Scaling is one of the biggest challenges for early-stage startups. Faisal's session provided practical frameworks for entrepreneurs to assess their scalability potential and the steps they need to take to grow sustainably.

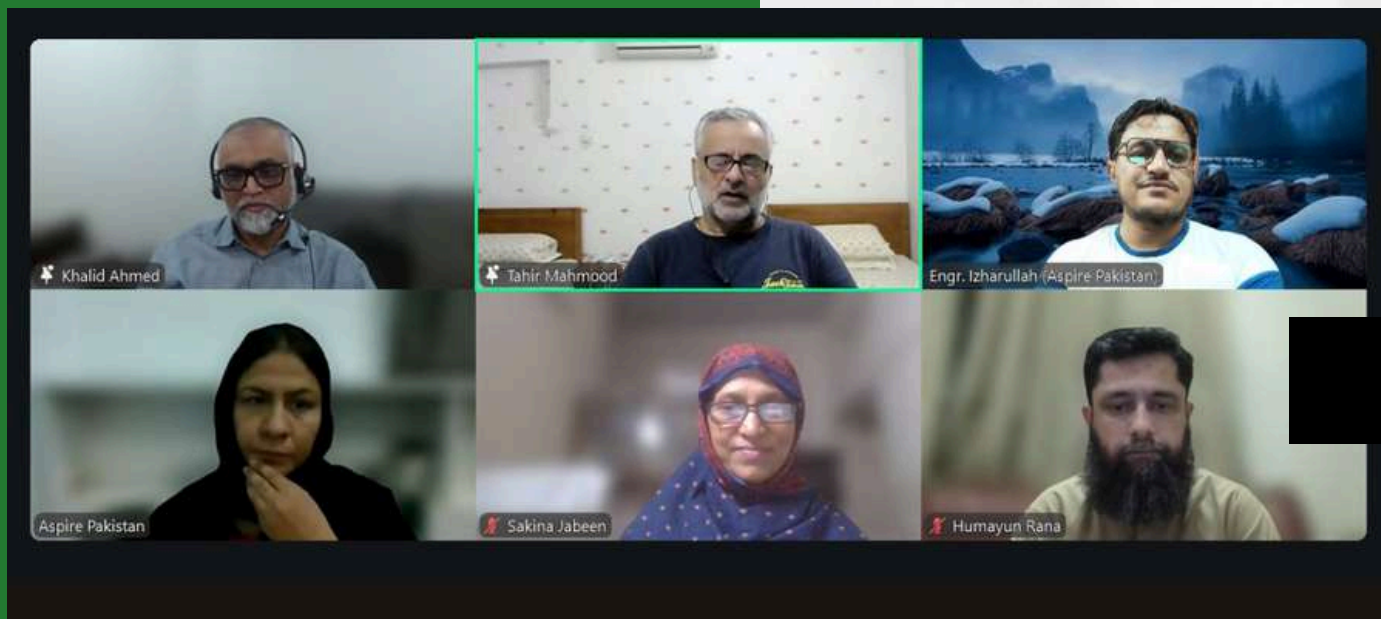
Product management is key to creating products that resonate with the market. Khalid shared strategies for managing product development cycles, prioritizing features, and aligning the product with market needs.



# STARTUP MENTORING

## Group Mentoring Sessions

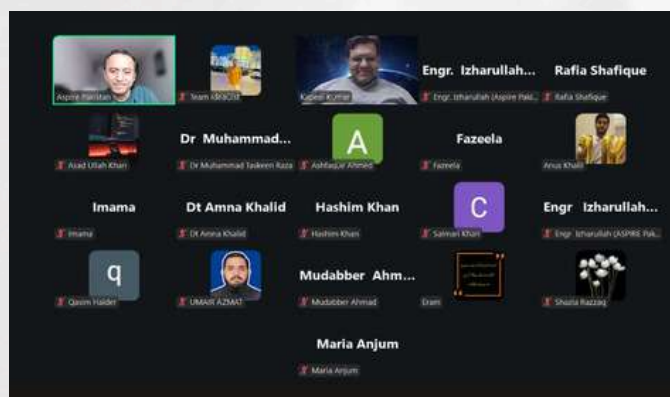
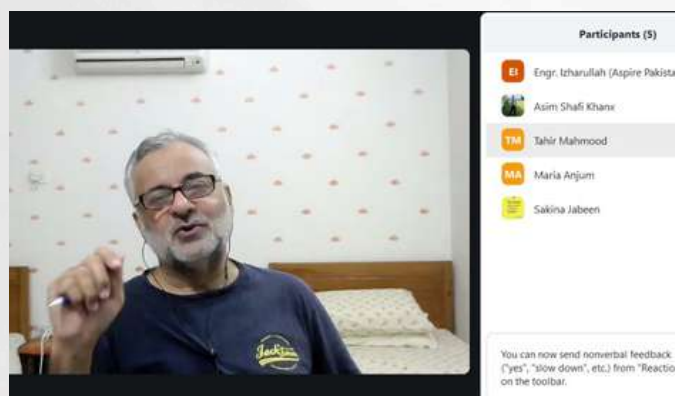
From  
Ideation  
To  
Scalability at Early Stage



## Guiding Founders Every Step of the Way

At Aspire Pakistan, mentoring has always been at the heart of our mission to support emerging entrepreneurs. Over the past month, we organized a series of one-on-one and group mentoring sessions where industry experts and seasoned founders shared practical advice, market insights, and personal experiences with our startup community.

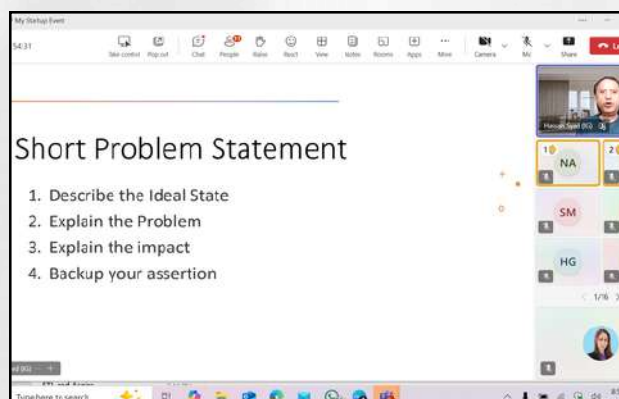
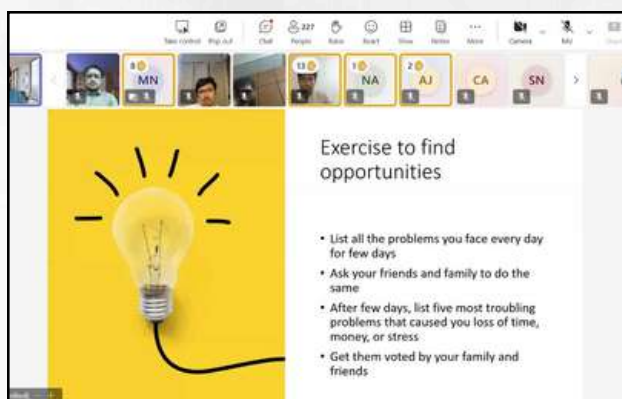
This year, we've taken mentoring a step further by launching group mentoring sessions and integrating them into our Founders' Edge Program. This approach not only allows startups to learn directly from mentors but also fosters peer-to-peer learning, enabling founders to benefit from each other's challenges and solutions. The result is a richer, more collaborative mentoring experience that accelerates both personal growth and business progress.



# Empowering Students

## MY FYP MY STARTUP

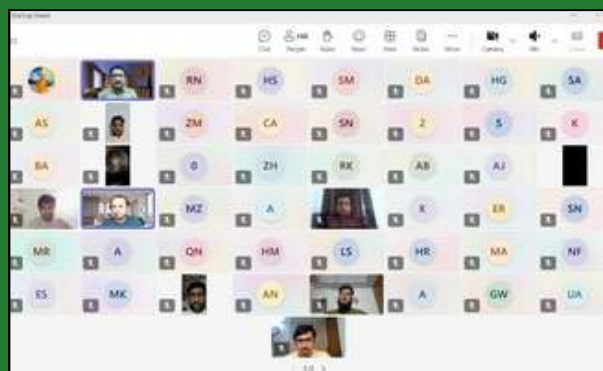
### “My FYP, My Startup — Turning Ideas into Ventures”



Aspire Pakistan recently hosted the “My FYP, My Startup” session, designed to help students unlock the commercial potential of their Final Year Projects. The session guided participants on how to view their academic work not just as a requirement for graduation, but as a foundation for real-world business ventures. Students learned practical tools to validate their ideas, shape them into viable business models, and explore mentorship and funding opportunities

For many, it was an eye-opener — shifting their perspective from “just completing a project” to “launching a startup that can solve real problems.” The feedback from participants highlighted how the session gave them confidence, clarity, and a sense of direction for turning their study projects into meaningful entrepreneurial journeys.

The session was attended by more than 200 students, faculty members, Deans and ORIC Directors





## ALUMNI SPEAK

*Our FYP startup experience was very productive and practical. It helped us learn real-world problem-solving, teamwork, and project execution skills. The mentorship and guidance we received were very helpful in shaping our idea into a proper startup model. I would highly recommend this initiative to other students who want to turn their projects into successful startups.*

**Asadullah Khan**

*Attending the session was an inspiring and insightful experience. The event beautifully connected final-year projects with entrepreneurial opportunities, encouraging innovation and creativity. It provided great learning, networking, and motivation to think beyond academics and towards real-world impact.*

**Areej Sarfaraz**

*It was an insightful session, and it provided me with different paths for growing my FYP as a startup. Thank you for organising that amazing session.*

**Engr. Zohaib**



## Featured Startup

**Creative 3D Arabia becomes 1<sup>st</sup> Pakistani startup to be incorporated in KSA with 100% Ownership under Entrepreneurship License in 3D printing & Robotics!**

### From Karachi to Riyadh: The Journey of Creative 3D

- Founded by Bilal Afridi, Creative 3D set out with one mission: to democratize manufacturing technology and empower creators. Starting at NIC Karachi, the team spent years building, testing, and refining their vision, even when resources were scarce. Their persistence soon paid off, as Creative 3D not only managed the production and distribution of locally developed 3D printers but also became a leader in providing advanced 3D printing services in Pakistan.
- Along the way, milestones marked their journey: winning NIB-III, recognition from the President of Pakistan, and the launch of the 3D Printed Gallery, all of which established them as a force in the country's tech ecosystem.



**Bilal Khan Afridi**

CoFounder & CEO

With the incubation of Creative 3D Arabia at KSU CODE Lab, King Saud University, the company took its vision global. After a five-year struggle, Creative 3D became the first Pakistani startup officially incorporated in Saudi Arabia with 100% ownership in 3D Printing & Robotics, securing a prestigious MISA license under Creative 3D Arabia.

# PAKANGELS GENERATIVE AI COHORT 5

## TOP 10 HACKATHON WINNERS



### AI CHATBOT FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Solve formulas, understand complex concepts, and generate short technical reports—all in one intelligent assistant.

#### TEAM

Syed Waheed-Ul-Haq Jilani, Khalid Mahmood, Syed Zaid Ul Haq Jilani, Muhammad Abdullah Khalid, Shehzada Khurram, Fawad Baloch



### AI ASSISTANT FOR PEC REGISTRATION GUIDANCE

Streamlines compliance for engineers

#### TEAM

Muhammad Asif, Muhammad Yousuf Irfan Zia, Muhammad Shafaqat Aleem, Zeeshan Shoukat, Muhammad Ibrahim

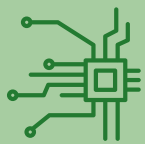


### AI-POWERED INSPECTION APP

Detects welding and field defects through image analysis

#### TEAM

Engr. Muhammad Haram Zulfi, Afreen Alam, Syed Farrukh Haider, Muhammad Zubair



### AI TOOL FOR HOMEOWNERS

Instantly detect energy waste, safety risks, and upgrade needs by uploading photos or answering simple questions—no technical skills required.

#### TEAM

Muhammad Ameen Bhatti, Ahmed Awan, Shoaib Ahmed Khatri, Wajid Hussain, Muhammad Ahmed Bhatti, Muhammad Haroon Jan



### AI-POWERED TEXTILE SPINNING MACHINE ASSISTANT

OCR, multilingual (English, Urdu, Punjabi, Sindhi) support, predictive maintenance

#### TEAM

Amjad Ali

# PAKANGELS GENERATIVE AI COHORT 5

## TOP 10 HACKATHON WINNERS



### AI-POWERED TEXTILE UTILITY OPTIMIZER

Detects gas, water, electricity inefficiencies

#### TEAM

Syed Muhammad Hammad Hamid, Muhammad Jumshaid Nisar, Syed Mujahid



### FIRST AID CHATBOT FOR ALL

Instantly access first aid guidance anytime through a user-friendly chatbot built with Streamlit and deployed on Hugging Face.

#### TEAM

Sawaira Iqbal, Jotee Kumari, Abdul Mueed, Faheem Ullah Shah, Muhammad Muneeb Shaikh



### AI URDU LEGAL ASSISTANT

Your Free and Friendly Lawyer. Understand legal matters, ask voice questions, check case law, and get document help — all in Urdu!

#### TEAM

Jamal Akram, Aimen Jamal, Abdullah Anwar, Dr. Zubair



### AI DOCTOR-CENTRIC DIAGNOSTIC

Supports real physicians with accurate, contextual diagnosis

#### TEAM

Waqar Aziz, Muhammad Riaz, Hira Yaseen, Muhammad Bilal Akhtar, Muhammad Hassan Asif



### CLINICGPT FOR DENTAL

Dental Q&A and smart appointment booking with Google Sheets integration

#### TEAM

Habib Ahmad, Dua Fatima, Syeda Mehak Fatima, Sidra Nawaz

# INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITIES



## ASPIRE PAKISTAN X KMU

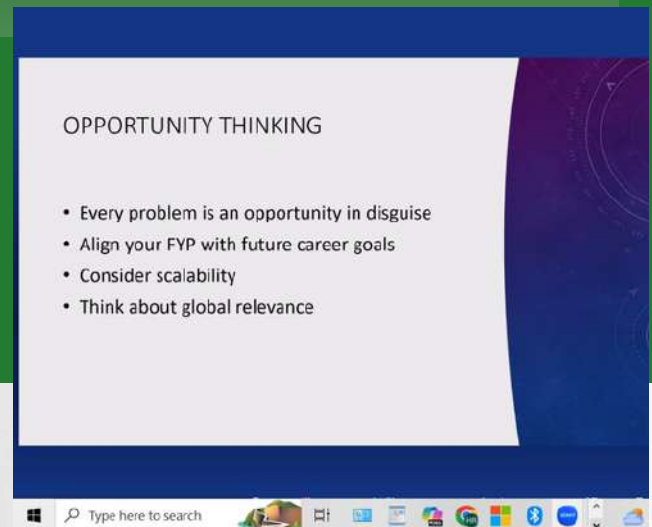
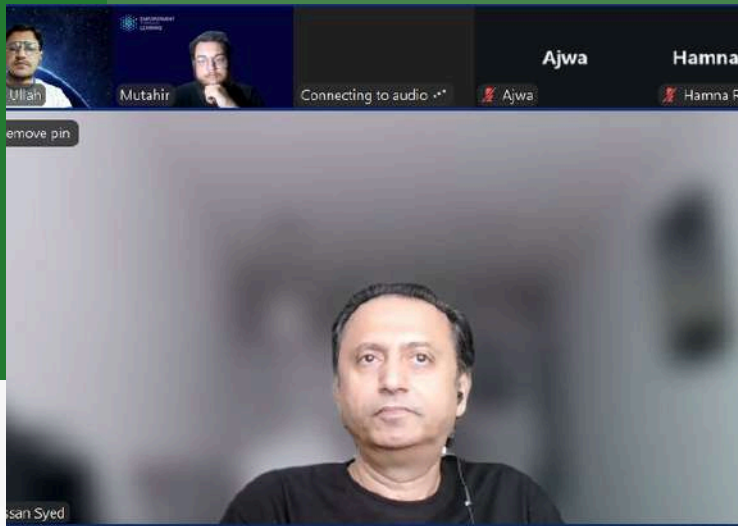
ASPIRE Pakistan, led by Hassan Syed (Founder & CEO), proudly signed an MoU with Khyber Medical University (KMU), represented by VC Dr. Zia Ul Haq and Manager Industrial Linkages Dr. Naveed Iqbal.

## ASPIRE PAKISTAN X KICS

We are proud to collaborate with Al Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science, Lahore, to equip students with Generative AI, entrepreneurship, and future-ready skills.

# WEBINAR

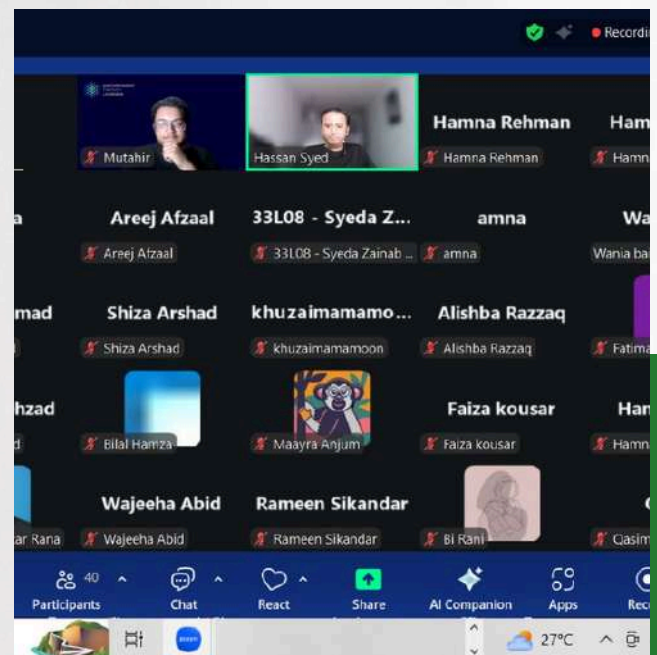
## For University Students



## YOUR FYP YOUR DIRECTION

ETLOnline.org, in collaboration with Aspire Pakistan, has hosted an exclusive session for university students to guide them in choosing the right Final Year Project (FYP) and aligning it with their career goals.

Mr. Hassan Syed Founder and CEO ASPIRE Pakistan delivered an insightful discussion on the importance, scope, and necessity of setting the right direction for Final year Project and How to make it successful startups. His expertise provided participants with valuable clarity on aligning their entrepreneurial journeys with sustainable growth and long-term success.

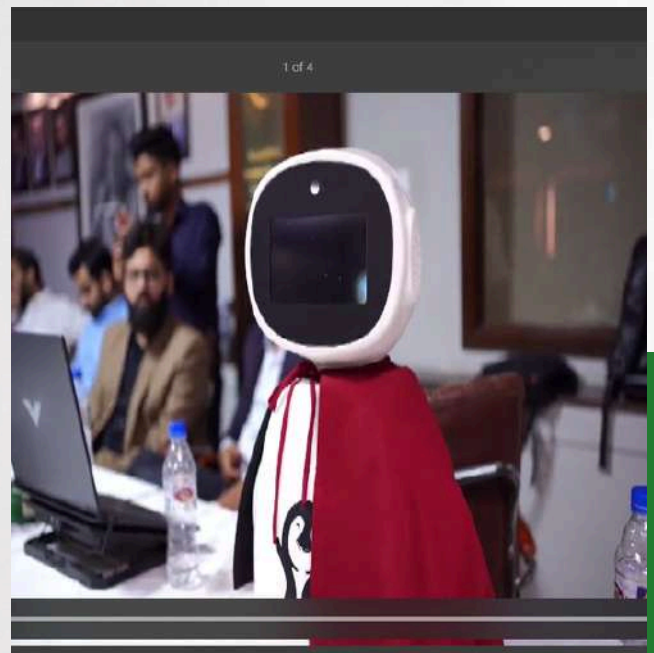


# INDUSTRY EVENTS



## KATI STARTUP SHOWCASE

The Karachi Association of Trade and Industry recently organized a high-profile showcase event, bringing together leading business figures, investors, and industry stakeholders. We're proud that two Aspire-supported startups — HAPROW and Nettax — were selected to present their innovations on this platform. Their participation not only highlighted the strength of our startup community but also opened doors to valuable networks and opportunities for growth.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



## GENERATIVE AI COHORT 8 | HEC COHORT-I



19th October 2025

8:00PM PKT Time



**REGISTRATION LINK** <https://www.pakangels.com/hec-generative-ai-training-program/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Early Stage Startups Get Investment-Ready & Success-Ready With Silicon Valley Veterans



Closing Date

15th November 2025



**REGISTRATION LINK** <https://www.pakangels.com/startupsc3assessment/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## CAREER PLANNING WORKSHOP



25th October 2025

9:00 PM PKT Time



**REGISTRATION LINK** <https://aspirepk.org/acpw-2025>

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