

# AURAT MARCH LAHORE 2020

## CHARTER OF DEMANDS

Aurat March Lahore demands a society without exploitative, patriarchal structures. The theme for Aurat March Lahore 2020 is **خود مختاری** the right to control over economic resources, our bodies, the justice system, health and education. We put forth following demands:

1. End of IMF-sponsored economic policies and budget cuts and immediate control of inflation of basic foodstuffs whose burden is felt by working-class women and gender and sexual minorities. To ensure a minimum life of dignity for all the minimum wage should be increased to a living wage of Rs. 40,000.
2. Provision of safe and equal workplaces through criminalization of discrimination, including the gender wage gap, and provision of social services to ensure women and gender and sexual minorities' right to work.
3. Defamation laws be decriminalized and amendments passed to civil laws ensure they are not used silence survivors of sexual violence.
4. The definition of workplace be expanded to ensure that all workplaces, including independent contractors, informal and subcontracted labour, is covered by anti-harassment laws.
5. Domestic violence be effectively criminalized in all provinces and territories in Pakistan. And uniform laws on setting the minimum age of marriage at 18 for all persons across Pakistan along with immediate legislation on stopping forced religious conversions.
6. Anti-harassment laws and sexual assault laws be amended to include all genders as potential complainants, including gender and sexual minorities. And every workplace and educational institution immediately constitute independent inquiry committees against sexual harassment as required by law an anti-harassment committee with immediate effect.
7. Concrete actions be taken by the state to curb child sexual abuse and exploitation through effective laws, accountability and early age education about consent.
8. An anti-discrimination law be passed to provide remedies for discrimination on the basis of sex, sexuality, class, race or disability in employment, housing, healthcare and education.
9. Campuses be demilitarized and surveillance of students in the name of security be ceased.
10. Justice for all the families of those who have been victims of enforced disappearances. We demand that all disappeared individuals be brought before civilian courts, and their right to due process upheld under the Constitution of Pakistan.
11. Kashmir's right to self-determination be upheld by the international community and on both sides of the Line of Control. Lasting peace can only be achieved when we transcend the confines of capitalism and the nation-state.
12. Community-led truth and reconciliation commissions to deal violence by state and non-state actors, with a focus on gender-based violence. We demand an effective accountability for end to police brutality against vulnerable bodies, including gender and racial minorities.
13. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2017 be implemented effectively, and rules be notified under this Act.
14. All laws impinging on civic freedoms, such as freedom of expression, assembly and association, be immediately repealed -- particularly the law against sedition. We demand an immediate end to censorship of the press, academic and online spaces.
15. The preservation of, and transparency from big corporations on the use of, our natural resources. We demand that access to clean air, water, and adequate food be ensured to everyone in Pakistan.