

PAMIR TIMES – U.S. Citizen Given Civil Award by President of Pakistan

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PRESIDENT NAMED US CITIZEN DIANA MACARTHUR FOR TAMGHA-E- KHIDMAT

The President of Pakistan has named a US citizen, Diana MacArthur, for the Tamgha-e-Khidmat (Award of Services) in recognition of her services to education in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Diana MacArthur helped build a state-of-the-art school in Murtazabad, Hunza, where her late daughter Elizabeth Tschursin who had taught science years ago. The Al-Murtaza Academy building was later handed over to the Aga Khan Education Service, Pakistan (AKESP), for operations.

She also donated a sewerage project to the village of Murtazabad. Diana MacArthur, was given the title of “Mother of Murtazabad” on behalf of the local community in 2010.

Her daughter Tschursin visited Hunza in 1993 and fell in love with the place and its people. She spent a few months teaching science at an old building of Al-Murtazabad Academy. She noted positive notes about the local people in her diary.

Later after her death, her mother MacArthur visited the area to remember the ‘happiest days of her daughter’s life’, and decided to construct a new building for the school, as a parting tribute to the memory Ms. Elizabeth. The \$3.5 million project was implemented in collaboration with Al-Murtaza Educational and Social Welfare Organization (AMESWO), a local civil society organization.

The school, which covers 2.6 acres, is the first ever seismic-resistant school building in Gilgit-Baltistan with facilities for physically disabled children, having facilities for central heating, insulated walls and windows, and energy-saving light fixtures.

To read about the school visit this link:

<https://pamirtimes.net/2018/09/12/school-built-by-deceased-american-tourists-mother-in-hunza-handed-over-to-aga-khan-foundation/>