Knowledge is power

Malala inspires global initiative for girls' education

Pakistan, UNESCO ink agreement for global fund; president donates $10m

PARIS
Pakistan and the rest of the international community have embarked on an ambitious mission to educate all girls by 2015 – and the fund for the grand endeavour has been named after none other than Malala Yousafzai, who was shot by Taliban gunmen for campaigning for girls' education in Swat.
Set up on the eve of International Human Rights Day, the “Malala Fund for Girls’ Right to Education” aims at raising billions of dollars to ensure that all girls go to school by 2015 in line with United Nations Millennium goals.
The fund was launched at the high-profile “Stand Up For Malala” event at United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) headquarters in Paris on Monday.
Education Minister Waqas Akram signed the agreement with Unesco chief Irina Bokova. The programme will strive to achieve the goals of improving access for girls at all levels of education, improve the quality and relevance of basic education to ensure that educational contents, teaching practices and learning environments are gender-sensitive and eliminate gender discrimination.

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• NA declares Malala 'daughter of nation'

BOOKS AND PENS: President Asif Ali Zardari addressing a UNESCO high-level event on girls' education in Paris. PHOTO: REUTERS

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Malala’s father named UN adviser on education

LONDON. The father of peace icon Malala Yousafzai has been named a UN special adviser on global education. UN envoy Gordon Brown said on Monday.
Brown added that the 15-year-old schoolgirl, who is recovering at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, United Kingdom, after being shot in the head and neck in a brutal assassination attempt by the Taliban in Swat on October 9, will herself join the campaign when she sufficiently recovers.

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