

## **Lack of awareness about USAID**

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“Through Bridge-US, we turned many Pakistani’s, and of course Muslims into the believers of the U.S. efforts in making Pakistan an educated, prosperous and violence free society. We are proud to say that we have reached this breakthrough without resources and facing many risks; no one had come closer to that success even with unlimited access to resources and stacks of money. According to an article published in the Washington Post on September 2, 2013, **“the United States has delivered nearly \$26 billion in aid to Pakistan over the past 12 years”**. The recent global survey by the Pew Research Center in July this year reveals, “Pakistan also tops the list amongst the 10 nations with the least favorable impression of the U.S.” this clearly means that all the ads in the electronic media about USAID to Pakistan failed to achieve the results but Bridge-US did that job without being a burden on the U.S. National Exchequer and without any appreciations.

People have faith on what we say or publish and ask many critical questions. There are radical rumors spread by enemies of both the United States and Pakistan that the U.S. policies are in contradiction with Islam and the Muslims in the U.S. are often subject to discrimination because of their faith. This is a question we have to answer almost every day – sometimes many times a day. After reading Bridge-US, they convinced and even grateful for the country they were skeptical about just moments ago.

We have decided to answer this question more aggressively by including the news about how Americans either living abroad or in the United States, celebrate and enjoy Ramdan by maintaining the chastity of and religious freedom during this holy month as the White House becomes part of it. From the president of the United States to a common U.S. citizen, Ramdan is celebrated in the U.S. with respect, harmony and fervor”.

We are happy to be appreciated by people but unfortunately discouraged by the United States embassy in Islamabad-Pakistan as our repeated requests to the U.S.Ambassador Richard Olson, message remained unanswered.

I hope you all agree to my answer!