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**Pakistan urged to exploit
untapped economic
potential in Argentina**

H. E. Rodolfo J Martin Saravia, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic



Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif talks to Mr. Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli, Interior Minister of Iran, at PM House Islamabad.

Pakistan PM, Iranian Minister determined to enhance bilateral ties

Iranian Interior Minister H.E Mr. Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli called on the Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif at PM House.

Prime Minister while welcoming the delegation said that Pakistan and Iran are bound by ties of religion, culture, history and geography. Pakistan attaches great importance to its brotherly relations with Iran and seeking a peaceful neighborhood remains a policy priority of government, PM added. Our commitment to this relationship is unequivocal and firm, PM said.

Underlining the importance of trade and investment PM said since economic and political relations are mutually reinforcing, we should place greater focus on strengthening our economic ties. We need to promote strategies aimed at reinforcing synergies between our border regions through physical connectivity and joint border trade markets, PM added.

PM said that I look forward to my visit to Iran and meeting with President Rouhani. The visit will not only serve as a political affirmation of our brotherly relations, but would also set a new direction for their

future course based on mutual trust, confidence and cooperative partnership.

Mr. Tariq Fatmi special Assistant to PM, Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan H.E Mr. Alireza Haghighian, Mr. A safari Member National Security & Foreign Affairs commission of Iranian Parliament Mr. Ausat Hashemi Governor General Sistan and Mr. Abdullahi Deputy PM Security and Administrative Affairs of Iran were also present in the meeting.

Diplomatic Correspondent

Pakistan & UAE collaboration to fight against terrorism, smuggling & piracy



Pakistan's Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates Asif Ali Khan Durrani in a meeting with Sheikh Humaid Bin Rashid Al Nuaimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Ajman in Dubai.

Ambassador of Pakistan Asif Durrani has said that the recently concluded joint Naval exercise between Pakistan and United Arab Emirates "Nasr Al Bahr" signifies resolve of the two brotherly countries to fight against terrorism, smuggling, piracy and other infringements of international law. He was addressing a reception attended by Col Abdullah Yousaf Abdullah Al Hamadi, Deputy Director Operations and Training of UAE Navy at the PNS Tippu Sultan, officers of UAE navy, diplomats and distinguished members of the expatriate Pakistani community. The Ambassador said that the visit of Pakistan Naval Ship was a manifestation of close brotherly, diplomatic and military relations between the both countries. He stated that navies of Pakistan and UAE periodically conduct joint exercises to ensure stability of the region.

PNS Tippu Sultan arrived at Port Rashid, Dubai on a four-day goodwill visit from 9th to 13th May 2014.

Ambassador Durrani mentioned in his speech that Pakistan and UAE Navies had recently concluded a bilateral exercise "Nasr Al Bahr" in Arabian Sea

from 20th to 26th April, 2014. The exercise was aimed to improve interoperability for strengthening naval cooperation and to attain high quality of training with maximum tactical interaction, he elaborated. He observed that the exercise had provided an opportunity to both navies to explore wide range training opportunities in the domain of Maritime Security/Interdiction Operations and to improve tactical doctrines. Both navies were engaged in various harbour and sea based activities encompassing anti-piracy operations and asymmetric threat at sea which included above water warfare, maritime air operations, scenario based exercises, tactical games/ maneuvers and Search & Rescue exercises, he added. He reiterated that Pakistan believes in promoting peace and security in the region to ensure freedom of seas and trade.

Ambassador Durrani said that Pakistan and UAE enjoyed close and fraternal relations. He pointed out that leadership of both countries share each other's perspectives. At the international fora, he added, both countries maintain close liaison and enjoy commonality

of views on most international issues. He stated that continuation and further strengthening of the fraternal bonds remain the cornerstone of the policies pursued under the leadership of both countries.

testing times. He also mentioned that over a million expatriate Pakistanis were contributing in the development of UAE. Commander of PNS Tippu Sultan Capt. Muhammad Ali briefly apprised the audience



Pakistan Ambassador Asif Durrani and Col. Abdullah Yousaf Abdullah, Deputy Director Operations and Training of UAE Navy participating in a cake-cutting ceremony at PNS Tippu Sultan visit at Port Rashid, Dubai.

Ambassador Durrani thanked the UAE leadership for supporting Pakistan through economic and social uplift in

about technical details of the naval vessel and purpose of the visit. **Diplomatic Correspondent**

Zong

to invest \$1 billion



to roll out 3G/4G

With the winning of 3G and 4G licences, Zong has decided to invest \$1 billion more in infrastructure advancement to roll out of the next generation technologies across the country.

The company has started testing 3G and 4G services in some areas of Lahore and Karachi from various towers while they would be rolled out completely in major cities of Pakistan by the end of October 2014. The commercialization of 4G services for the consumers might take some time as the company has to enhance the network capability and develop infrastructure.

For this the company intends to invest almost \$1 billion because the company wants to enforce 4G services immediately but the process requires sometime as the company has to deal with vendors, manufacturers while setting up of necessary installations for 4G network will also cause some delay. Having 10 MHz spectrum for 3G and 4G licences, Zong will be able to offer cheaper rates for the next generation technologies' services as the Chinese giant has full advantage over its some peers those won 5MHz bandwidth licences. The network that has doubled the bandwidth to allocate within a cell (area) means that they can spread their signals using same frequency over larger areas,



yielding less equipment cost. Zong is always believed to offer quality services in cheaper rates, so the policy also be followed for 3G/4G services. The rates are being planned to offer customers. And there would be no discrimination between postpaid and prepaid customers "Zong will offer 3Gor 4G services simultaneously for its both prepaid and postpaid users". He believed that the company will commercialise the 3G /4G services fully in

the major cities of Pakistan like Lahore, Islamabad and Karachi in next three to four years.

Despite the fact that 4G technology costs a lot to consumer, the experts believed that Zong is the only company which can offer 4G technology in reasonable prices, thus it is expected that huge inactive subscribers' base of the Zong will likely to be active if the company uses wise and effective advertising strategy.



Joint ventures to help promote Pak-Malaysia tourism: Malaysian envoy

Declaring to launch joint ventures to promote tourism between Pakistan and Malaysia, Dato' Dr. Hasrul Sani Muftabar, High

Lahore and other cities. Food festivals and single country exhibition in Malaysia in cultural field are some of the ideas he has conceived.

fronts, he said both the countries enjoy excellent relations and there is no irritant. The envoy said dates for exchange of visits of high

profile leaders are being worked out as several agreements have already been signed.

Diplomatic Correspondent



Commissioner of Malaysia said on Wednesday great potential is waiting in this important sector to be explored for the benefit of both the countries.

Speaking at a function to introduce Malaysia to Travel agencies and media persons in connection with 'Visit Malaysia Year, 2014' the HC said Malaysia has become very attractive destination for Pakistanis as 81000 persons visit Malaysia last year.

He said his country is earning \$ 20 billion from flourishing tourism sector every year as 25 million tourists visit his country which has 28 million population.

The envoy said he is working on some projects to make Pakistani artists, performers and singers as partner to promote tourism.

In this connection he has visited

Pakistani sportsmen including golfers have great opportunities in his country. Joint performance by artists of both the countries in each other's country and exchange of TV dramas can prove to be great boosters. He is also trying to introduce Pakistan in his country as Pakistan has more beautiful places and delicious food stuff including tasteful fruit. Malaysian universities are also keen to open their campuses in Pakistan.

Listing the positive points of his country which made it an attractive tourist destination, he said Malaysia is cheaper, beautiful, full of events, sandy and clean water beaches, easy access and connectivity, shopping paradise, especially for ladies and top of all it is a safe and secure country.

On political and diplomatic





Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif meeting with the Iranian President Mr. Hassan Rouhani in Tehran.

Pakistan Iran

agree to give impetus to
Pak-Iran Gas Pipeline

Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif met the President of Iran Mr. Hassan Rouhani at Saadabad palace in Tehran.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Hassan Rouhani reiterated their commitment to enhance the bilateral trade between the two countries. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said that there is lot of scope of increasing the trade volume and we want to enhance the trade to new levels of US \$ 5 billion.

Iran Pakistan gas pipeline was also discussed in the meeting. Both the leaders agreed to continue with the project as it is beneficial for the people of the both countries. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif told that I am here with my team of Finance, Petroleum and Interior to resolve



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif reviewing guard of Honour at Saadabad Palace in Tehran.



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif meeting Supreme Leader Iran Ayatollah Syed Ali Komenei in Tehran.

find plausible solutions to any irritants in the completion of the project.

Later the Iranian President hosted a Luncheon in honour of the Prime Minister and the visiting delegation.

Earlier upon arrival the Prime Minister was given a warm welcome at Mehrabad International Airport. The Prime Minister was received by Minister for Economic

Affairs and Finance Mr. Ali Tayyabnia. The official welcoming ceremony was held at Saadabad Palace where a smartly turned out contingent gave guard of honour to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister also held a meeting with the First Vice President of Iran Mr. Eshaq Jehangiri. Matters of Mutual and bilateral interest were discussed during the meeting.

The meeting was also attended by Federal Minister for Finance Mr. Ishaq Dar, Federal Minister for Petroleum Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Governor Balochistan Mr. Mahmood Khan Achakzai, Advisor to PM on National Security and Foreign Affairs Mr. Sartaj Aziz and Special Assistant to PM Mr. Tariq Fatimi.

Diplomatic Correspondent



Federal Finance Minister, Muhammad Ishaq Dar and Iranian Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Ali Tayyebnia Signing Mou on Anti-Money Laundering Held in Tehran.

all the matters which are creating hindrance in the project.

The Prime Minister and Iranian President agreed to work jointly for the progress of the project, keeping in view the international sanctions.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said that Pakistan Iran relations are bound by historical and religious linkages." I am here to open a new page in Pak-Iran relationships", PM added. As a Prime Minister I visited Iran firstly in 1999 and have always found the people of Iran more affectionate on every visit to Iran, PM told.

President Rouhani added that our relations have historical connection. Apart from being neighbouring countries, we both are Muslim Countries having the common traditions and relations based on Holy Quran and the traditions of our Holy Prophet (PBUH). Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit would further boost the brotherly relations between the two countries, added President Rouhani.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said that some miscreant elements are trying to sabotage the brotherly relations between Pakistan and Iran. We will deal with all such elements firmly and not let them sabotage our relations, added the Prime Minister. Prime Minister said that "We want security of development and development for security". President Rouhani also affirmed his governments support adding that peace in the region is our common goal. He added that we will support Pakistan to develop and become secure. Both the leaders also discussed the border security matters between the two countries and agreed that better border management and improved security measures would result in increased bilateral trade and strengthening relationship and cooperation between the two countries.



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif exchanging views with former president Iran Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Tehran



Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Tehran

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif extended invitation to the President Rouhani to visit Pakistan, which the President accepted.

Afterwards, Federal Minister for Finance

Mr. Ishaq Dar, and Federal Minister for Petroleum Mr. Shahid Khaqan met their Iranian counterparts and agreed to continue with the pipe line project and



Federal Minister for Petroleum Shahid Khaqam Abbasi, Iranian Minister for Sports and Iranian Minister for Roads and Transport Signing MoUs on Sports Cooperation and Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Pollution from Ships held in Tehran.



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif addressing Pakistani diaspora in London.

Pakistan to fully overcome power, gas crises within few years: PM

Prim Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif said that the Pakistan would completely overcome power and gas crises within few years as all-out efforts were underway in this regard.

Addressing the Pakistani community here, the Prime Minister reiterated his resolve to rid the country of energy crisis saying the government would add another 21,000 megawatts of electricity to the national grid within next 8 to 10 years.

He thanked the British Prime Minister for cooperation to Pakistan's development and said the UK had offered cooperation to Pakistan in various fields including energy and countering terrorism.

The UK was willing to maintain friendly ties with Pakistan and that Pakistan always supported good ties with all neighboring states, he remarked.

Recounting the government's efforts to strengthen the national economy, the

Prime Minister said the investors' confidence has been restored consequent to the effective economic policies of the government.

He said the government's expenditures have been slashed by 30 percent.

The Prime Minister told the Pakistani expatriates that tax recovery has been increased by 16 percent while the remittances have witnessed 12 percent increase.

He assured the community that each public penny was trust with the government that would be spent on their welfare.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said Diamer Bhasha and Dasso dams would contribute around 9,000 megawatts of electricity, adding the government would construct Diamer Bhasha Dam even from its own resources if it did not receive any foreign assistance.

He said the government would soon initiate work on Lahore- Karachi Motorway.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif told the gathering that the petroleum prices have been reduced thrice adding that country's growth ratio would be doubled within next three years.

He said only the democratic states could achieve progress and that everyone would have to contribute its due share for national progress.

He said tolerance was inevitable for national politics as the PML-N also adopted the same policy during last five years.

He said for the first time a democratic transition has been successfully completed that should continue in future as well.

Diplomatic Correspondent

'Pak-Bahrain relations to be made stronger'

By Mian Fazal Elahi



President Mamnoon Hussain exchanging views with Mr. Khalif bin Ahmed bin Khalifa Aldhahrani, Chairman Council of Representative, Kingdom of Bahrain during meeting at Islamabad..

Chairman Council of Representatives, Kingdom of Bahrain meets President, PM

President Mamnoon Hussain has urged the need for translating the strong fraternal bonds existing between Pakistan and Bahrain into substantive economic and trade partnership.

The President said this during his meeting with Mr. Khalifa bin Ahmed bin Khalifa Aldhahrani, Chairman Council of Representatives, Kingdom of Bahrain at the Presidency.

Welcoming Chairman Council of Representatives of Bahrain and the accompanying delegation on visit to Pakistan, the President said that Pakistan highly values its close and fraternal ties with Bahrain and desires to further diversify and strengthen these ties in various fields of mutual benefit. The President said that Pakistan and Bahrain enjoy close and cordial relations based on mutual trust and understanding that are deeply rooted in our culture and history.

Discussing bilateral cooperation, the President said that the two countries have always stood by each other in difficult times, adding that Pakistan appreciates the assistance by the Kingdom of Bahrain to Pakistan in testing times including the natural calamities in Pakistan over the years.

The two sides expressed satisfaction that the two brotherly countries enjoy similarity of views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Discussing bilateral trade ties, the President noted that economic and commercial ties between the two countries have been gradually improving, however, he stressed for more vigorous steps to enhance the volume of bilateral trade as the current trade volume was well below the real potential existing between Pakistan and Bahrain. The President said that regular holding of the Joint Commission's meetings, revitalizing the Joint Business Council and enhanced interaction of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of both countries could help boost bilateral trade and investment ties.

On Parliamentary ties, the President said that Pak-Bahrain Friendship Group in National Assembly of Pakistan has been constituted and expressed hope that the visit of Bahraini Parliamentary delegation led by Mr. Khalifa bin Ahmed bin Khalifa Aldhahrani, Chairman Council of Representatives would help further strengthen bilateral ties besides promoting Parliament to Parliament and people to people contacts between the two countries.

Chairman Council of Representatives, Khalifa Bin Ahmad Al-Dhahrani thanked the President and government of Pakistan

for the warm welcome and hospitality being extended to him and the accompanying delegation and termed relations between Pakistan and Bahrain as historic and unique. He said that Bahrain attaches great importance to its relations with Pakistan and was keen to further cement the ties through rejuvenating parliamentary contacts and exploring possible avenues of economic cooperation.

Moreover, Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif has said that Pakistan and the Kingdom of Bahrain enjoy similarity of views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest. He said this while meeting H.E. Khalifa Bin Ahmed Al-Dhahrani, Chairman of the Council of Representative of Kingdom of Bahrain, who called on the Prime Minister here in Islamabad.

Prime Minister said that the recent visit of His Majesty the King Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa King of the Kingdom of Bahrain is a testament to the fact that Pakistan and Bahrain enjoy close and cordial relations based on mutual trust and understanding, which are deep rooted in our culture and history.

“Our two countries have always stood by each other in testing times and we deeply appreciate the assistance extended by the Kingdom of Bahrain following natural calamities in Pakistan over the years”, Prime Minister said.

The institutional framework of Bilateral Political Consultations between the two Foreign Ministries, enhanced interaction at governmental level, bilateral economic and trade cooperation were also discussed in the meeting.

Prime Minister said that the present



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif talking to Khalifa Bin Ahmed Al-Dhahrani, Chairman of the Council of Representative of Kingdom of Bahrain at PM House.

government has introduced investor-friendly policies, due to which several foreign companies and governments have invested in many projects. Prime Minister said that Pakistan would welcome Bahraini investments in projects in the field of energy, downstream oil industry, port development, mining and minerals, infrastructure, education, banking, engineering and manufacturing sectors.

H.E. Khalifa Bin Ahmed Al-Dhahrani thanked the Prime Minister for receiving him and his delegation. He reciprocated the warm sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister about the importance of Pakistan-Bahrain relations. He agreed that there was a need to enhance Pakistan-Bahrain economic and trade cooperation,

noting that cooperation between the two parliaments was increasing and it should continue. He particularly mentioned the positive role of the 90,000+ Pakistani expatriate communities in Bahrain in the country's development. He extolled the Pakistani community's contributions in promoting and protecting Bahrain's security and stability. The Prime Minister affirmed that the people of Pakistan were happy to contribute to Bahrain's prosperity, security and stability and they would continue to do so.

H.E. Khalifa Bin Ahmad Al Dhahrani is visiting Pakistan at the invitation of his counterpart, Sardar Ayyaz Sadiq, who assisted the Prime Minister in the meeting.



Chairman Senate Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari exchanging views with Khalifa Bin Ahmed Al-Dhahrani, Chairman of the Council of Representative of Bahrain along with his delegation at Parliament House, Islamabad.



Celebrating Norman Borlaug's 100th Birthday

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the International Center for Maize and Wheat Improvement (CIMMYT), Pakistani research partners, and the daughter of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, Jeannie Borlaug Laube, celebrated Dr. Norman E. Borlaug's 100th birthday and 50 years of U.S.-Pakistan partnership at the elegant Marquee recently. Dr. Borlaug, known as the father of the "Green Revolution," is credited with feeding billions of people thanks to his efforts to revolutionize agriculture around the world. During the event, the U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, Richard Olson, thanked President Mamnoon Hussain for his participation and encouraged attendees to seek opportunities to continue Dr. Borlaug's legacy and to secure future food supplies.



Launching ceremony of "Subjects of Quran"



The launching ceremony of the French and German editions of 'Subjects of Quran', compiled by Zahid Malik, Editor-in-Chief of Pakistan Observer, was held at the Marquee. The event was attended by eminent

personalities, a large number of members of diplomatic corps, researchers and students were present in the hall to listen to scholarly speeches on unique editions of the Holy Quran in European languages. The chief guest, President of Pakistan

Mamnoon Hussain, said that Islam is also peace and harmony and these editions will help to understand the Quran in true perspective which is need of the hour



PM opens 100 MW Phase-1 of Quaid-e-Azam Solar Power Project at Bahawalpur



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif offering Dua after inauguration of Quaid-e-Azam Solar Project at Bahawalpur.

P rime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif inaugurated the first phase of Quaid-e-Azam solar power project at Bahawalpur that would add 100 Megawatt electricity to the national grid by the end of this year through 400,000 Solar Panels with a cost of \$ 131.15 million. The Project is a joint venture of the Government of Punjab, Bank of Punjab and M/s TBEA Ltd. of China, producing a total of 1000 MW electricity solely from solar energy. The completion time of the whole project producing 1000 megawatt is 2.5 years.

Prime Minister said that Pakistan – China Economic Corridor, with a total investment of US \$33 billion, is a glaring example of the very close friendship between the two countries. He thanked the Chinese Ambassador and the President of M/s TBEA Ltd. and its Engineers for providing technical assistance in the largest solar power project of Pakistan. While thanking the Chinese Government for its support, the Prime Minister said that 2,100 km Pak-China Economic Corridor would include special economic zones, railway system and model city, airport and free port at Gawadar, Karachi to Lahore Motorway and many more projects that would not only strengthen Pakistan's economy but also be beneficial for our great friend China.

Prime Minister said that the commitment of

present Government in ridding the people of Pakistan from the menace of load-shedding can be judged from the fact that the Government is working day and night to complete new power projects and reduce the gap between electricity supply and demand. "Since Pakistan's creation, 23,000 MW electricity has been produced, while we are planning to add 21,000 MW to the system in the next 8 years", Prime Minister said. Prime Minister further added that the present Government is planning for the next 25 years and Pakistan would not only be able to fulfill its own requirement but also produce surplus electricity. "I do not want to give my nation any false hope, but after seeing the pace of work on power projects, soon the people of Pakistan will observe a considerable reduction in load-shedding", said the Prime Minister.

Enumerating power projects that are included in the power generation plan, Prime Minister said that 1320 MW Port Qasim Power Plant was recently inaugurated. Ten power projects at Gaddani Power Park will add 6,600 MW to the system; 10 coal based power plants in Thar, based on indigenous coal, each of 660 MW; 2,640 MW projects in Rahimyar Khan, Sahiwal, Jhang and Muzafargarh, will reduce the demand supply gap and enable us to produce surplus electricity, PM added.

Prime Minister said that Lahore – Karachi Motorway is also part of the Pak-China Economic Corridor. Prime Minister announced that Karachi Lahore motorway would also connect Bahawalpur. "You also have the right to benefit from the Solar Power Project and other infrastructure development projects in your area", Prime Minister said while addressing the people of District Bahawalpur.

Prime Minister congratulated Chief Minister Punjab and his team, officers of Punjab Government and officials of M/s TBEA Ltd. China for their hard work that they are putting in for completion of the first phase of this project in merely 7 months and initiating the largest solar power project in Pakistan that would be connected to the national grid. Prime Minister also appreciated the work of IG Police Punjab for ensuring safety of the project engineers and workers, including Chinese, who are working in remote areas. He also directed to take special and effective measures for the security of Chinese personnel working on the project.

Prime Minister said that if any political party has issues, I invite them for dialogue. "They should engage into dialogue, and resolve issues amicably and not through protests" PM added. Prime Minister said that there is no logic in carrying out protests and disturbing public life when there is positive development going on in the country; when new roads, powers plants and industries are being established. "Let Pakistan prosper; our people have suffered a lot and have rendered many sacrifices", said the Prime Minister.

The ceremony was attended by Governor Punjab Ch. Muhammad Sarwar, Chief Minister Punjab Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, Federal Minister for Water & Power Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Federal Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination Riaz Hussain Pirzada, Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Mr. Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan H.E. Mr. Sun Weidong, President M/s TBEA Ltd. China Mr. Zhang Jianxin, Chairman Quaid-e-Azam Solar Power Park Project Mr. Arif Saeed, Punjab Provincial Ministers and Members Assembly, Government Officers and huge number of Bahawalpur residents.

Diplomatic Correspondent



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif being briefed about Quaid-e-Azam Solar Power Project at Bahawalpur.

Riyadh calls for stronger US-Gulf military cooperation



Saudi Crown Prince Salman Bin Abdul Aziz called on Wednesday for stronger military cooperation between the United States and Gulf states whose security he said is threatened.

The prince made the remarks during a meeting in the Saudi city of Jeddah between visiting US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel and ministers from the Gulf Cooperation Council.

"We meet today amid persistent threats to the region's security and stability," which "necessitate coordination in politics and defence strategies of our countries," said Salman.

"The security of our countries and our

people are in danger," added the prince, who also holds the kingdom's defence portfolio.

Salman said among the issues of concern were "political crises" in some Arab states, as well as "attempts to acquire weapons of mass destruction and meddling of certain states" in the internal affairs of others, in an apparent reference to Iran.

He voiced hope that "cooperation continues" with the United States, stressing "historic and strategic relations" between Washington and GCC countries have "contributed to cementing security and stability in the region."

US officials have struggled to reassure Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia, over an interim nuclear deal with Iran that the Saudis worry will embolden Tehran.

The GCC has also been dissatisfied with Washington's cautious approach to arming rebel forces in Syria.

The US-GCC meeting was expected to offer Hagel a chance "to underscore US security commitments in the Middle East and to reinforce the United States' unstinting policy of preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon and further destabilising the region," Pentagon press secretary Rear Admiral John Kirby said last week. *Diplomatic Correspondent*

Saudi, Jordanian envoys meet Interior Minister to discuss bilateral issues

By Sajid Ali Zaidi



Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan in a meeting with the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Abdul Aziz Ibrahim Al Ghadeer in Islamabad.



Federal Minister for Interior & Narcotics Control, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan talking to the Ambassador of Jordan H.E. Mr. Nawaf Khalifeh Saraireh in Islamabad.

Ambassadors of Saudi Arabia Dr. Abdul Aziz Ibrahim Al Ghadeer and Jordan Mr. Nawaf Khalifeh Saraireh separately called on Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan.

Matters of mutual interest relating to bilateral relations came under discussion during the meetings. Talking to the Saudi Ambassador, who paid farewell call on the Minister, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan said that brotherly relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have been growing from strength to strength and the present government is committed to raising it still higher.

He said Pakistan and Saudi Arabia enjoy a special relationship which is a model for other countries to follow.

The Minister said the government and the people of Pakistan are grateful to Saudi leadership for supporting Pakistan in adversity and peace.

He said that being the custodian of the two holy mosques the leadership and royal family of Saudi Arabia have a special place in the heart of every Pakistani.

The Minister lauded the efforts of Dr. Abdul Aziz Ibrahim Al Ghadeer in strengthening the ties between the two countries by expanding opportunities of cooperation in various areas during his five-year tenure as Ambassador in Pakistan and wished him success in his future endeavors.

He said Dr. Ghadeer, a professional diplomat, is widely respected among the political circles in Pakistan, the media as well as in the civil society.

Dr. Ghadeer said that His Majesty King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia believes that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are one nation living in two countries. He regarded his stay in Pakistan as memorable and full of professional satisfaction, adding that he is carrying pleasant memories back home.

In his meeting with the Jordanian Ambassador, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan said that relations between the two brotherly countries are strong and deep rooted. He expressed the desire of the government to further consolidate them for the benefit of the people of the two countries.

He particularly mentioned the strong bonds of relationship between Pakistan and the royal family of Jordan.

Mr. Nawaf Khalifeh Saraireh informed the Minister that he has great love for Pakistan and he opted to serve in the country as Ambassador.

The Minister expressed his confidence that during the tenure of Mr. Saraireh the relations between the two countries will further strengthen.

Canadian High Commissioner reviews geo political situation with Interior Minister



Canadian High Commissioner Mr. Greg Giokas exchanging views with Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan , in Islamabad.

Canadian High Commissioner to Pakistan Mr. Greg Giokas called on Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan.

The meeting discussed issues relating to geo-political situation in the region.

The Minister said that Pakistan enjoys good relations with Canada that are based on mutual respect and

understanding. He especially appreciated the hospitality of the Canadian government and its people for extending support to immigrants especially from Pakistan.

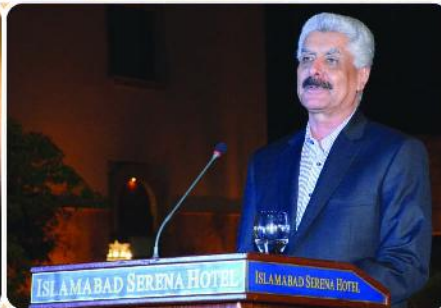
The Minister also appreciated the continuous support of the Canadian government in different sectors of Pakistan especially in agriculture and energy.

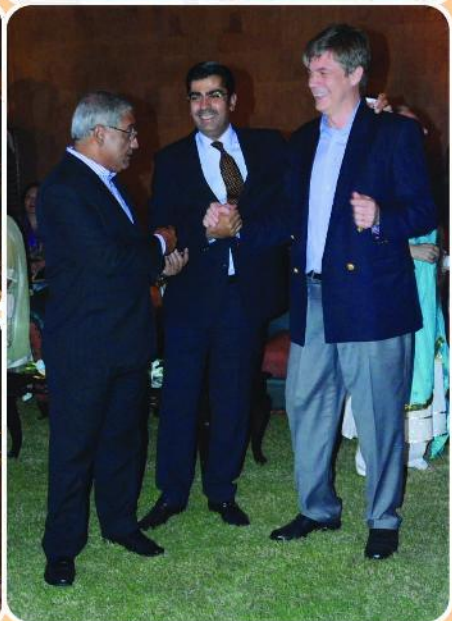
The High Commissioner reciprocated the feelings of the Interior Minister and emphasized that he is endeavoring to play a proactive role in further strengthening relations between the two countries. He also said there is greater scope of cooperation between the two countries in various sectors.

Diplomatic Correspondent



EU Ambassador H.E Mr. Lars-Gunnar Wigemark and Mrs. Rebekah Naomi Wigemark hold a Musical Evening at Serena Hotel to mark Europe Day







Khurram Dastgir asks Polish entrepreneurs to invest in Pakistan

Engineer Khurram Dastgir Khan attended the Pakistan-Central Europe Economic Cooperation Forum during the European Economic Congress in Katowice. He met with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Economy of Poland, Mr. Janusz Piechocinski and explained that Pakistan is very keen on developing strong trade relations with Poland. He further explained that Pakistan considers Poland as a gateway to Central and Eastern Europe. Dastgir invited Polish companies to invest in coal fired power generation in Pakistan. He informed that the present govt has embarked upon a comprehensive plan to generate energy through coal and Polish expertise in this regard could be of great support to Pakistan. He also invited Polish Deputy Prime Minister to visit Pakistan to hold Joint Ministerial Meeting to further enhance the trade ties.

The Polish Deputy Prime Minister explained that European Economic Congress is one of the biggest business events in Central and East Europe and it could provide a useful platform for Pakistan to enhance trade ties with Central and Eastern European countries. He accepted the invitation of Minister for Commerce to visit Pakistan. He showed resolve of Polish Government to work in coal based power generation in Pakistan.

Dastgir also met Mr. Jerzy Buzek, ex-President of European Parliament (2009-2012) and Prime Minister of Poland (1997-2001) and thanked him for his support for Pakistan's GSP Plus status in European Parliament and requested for continued support.

Mr. Buzek appreciated Pakistan's participation in the European Economic Congress and assured full support for Pakistan in European Parliament.

While addressing the plenary Session of the Congress, Engineer Khurram Dastgir Khan, informed the audience that Pakistan is very keen to enhance its relations with the European countries as Pakistan views Europe as potential market for its products and also an important source of investment. He also urged European Companies to establish projects in Pakistan in energy, heavy steel industry, food and other important sectors of the economy.

The Minister invited the Polish and Central European businessmen to take part in the 9th Expo Pakistan 2014 which will be held from 23rd to 26th October 2014 in Karachi. The Minister said that Pakistan is the gateway to Central Asia and South Asia and the Government of Pakistan would facilitate companies from Poland and Central European region to invest and trade with Pakistan. The Minister informed the audience that the Privatization Commission of Pakistan is in the process of privatizing public sector entities with good business

prospects and it will be a good chance for the businessmen from Poland and Central Europe to take benefit of it.

During the meeting with the President Polish Enterprise Development Agency (PAED), Ms. Bozena Lublinska-Kasprzak, President of Polish Agency for Enterprise Development, Dastgir emphasized need to develop deeper cooperation between enterprises of the two countries. He also stressed the need to develop joint projects with Small and Medium Development Authority of Pakistan and PARP to strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries.

PAED has more than 1.7 million enterprises as its customers and the President PAED offered full support to help Pakistani SMEs to find buyers from Poland. She also offered to work on joint training and capacity building program with SMEDA. It was also agreed that Pakistan Trade Development Authority will develop an annual program for trade delegations to Poland and prior information will be shared with PARP to organize effective back to back meetings of the Pakistani delegations.

Diplomatic Correspondent



WB, Pakistan sign agreements

Ambassador
Jilani
says
unprecedented
package to boost
**economy,
energy**



Ambassador of Pakistan to USA, Mr. Jalil Abbas Jilani and Vice President of the World Bank Group's South Asia Region, Philippe H. Le Houerou signing two Developmental Policy Credit Agreements at the World Bank, Washington DC.

The unprecedented \$12 billion World Bank package for Pakistan over five years will help bolster the country's economic revival plans as well as its efforts to meet exponential energy requirements, Islamabad's ambassador to the US Jalil Abbas Jilani said.

He was speaking on the occasion of signing \$1 billion two Developmental Policy Credit Agreements on behalf of the Pakistani government at the World Bank Headquarters. Philippe H. Le Hourou, Vice President of World Bank Group's South Asia Region, signed on behalf of the Bank. The Policy Credit Agreements include:

(i) Pakistan First Power Sector Developmental Policy Credit amounting to US\$600 million; and (ii) Fiscally Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Developmental Policy Credit worth US\$400 million.

In addition to finalizing the two Policy Credits, the World Bank Board has also approved the World Bank Country Partnership Strategy for Pakistan for the period 2015-19 involving a total outlay of \$11 billion and allocation of \$125 million by the IFC for setting up a Three Gorges

subsidiary in Pakistan to finance energy related projects.

In his remarks, Ambassador Jilani highlighted that the unanimous support by WB Executive Board members for Pakistan is a reflection of the trust and confidence that the international financial institutions have reposed in Pakistan economy and the current Government's efforts to address challenges.

Ambassador Jilani thanked the World Bank for its support for Pakistan and said that the package would help expand economic activity, spur employment opportunity, reduce poverty and also help contain extremism.

"It will hugely boost the international investors' confidence in Pakistan," he said. Besides the massive \$12 billion WB package, other institutions will also back Pakistan's economic development and the country is expecting more than \$5 billion in foreign investment in the energy sector.

In addition, in June this year the World Bank is expected to approve \$700 million for Dasu Hydro Power project and Islamabad is also confident of securing international support for Diamer Bhasha dam.

Vice President Le Houerou expressed deep appreciation for Islamabad's policies that have led to economic turnaround within ten months, while noting "it is amazing

how much mileage we have walked together."

He said it is because of the "very forceful and determined will and economic actions" by the government of Pakistan that the World Bank and Pakistan have entered such landmark programs within a short span.

"That is quite an achievement --- that we have been able to work from almost no program to this kind of very heavy important program --- that speaks to the determination of the government of Pakistan --- (they) did a fantastic job."

The five-year program, he said, is a "recipe for success" for Pakistan.

Under the agreements signed Friday, the purpose of Power Sector Developmental Policy financing is to support Pakistan's programme of reforms aimed at developing an efficient and consumer oriented electric power system that meets the needs of Pakistan's people and economy, sustainably and affordably.

Meanwhile, the Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Developmental Policy financing seeks to support Government of Pakistan's efforts to promote private and financial sector development and expand social protection for the poor through enhanced revenue mobilization.

Diplomatic Correspondent

Diplomatic Focus thru lens



President Mamnoon Hussain being presented a shield by Saudi Ambassador Dr. Abdul Aziz Ibrahim Al-Ghadeer during the Prize distribution ceremony of position holders Huffaz, organized by International Organization for the Holy Quran Memorisation at the IIUI, Islamabad.



President Mamnoon Hussain being presented a shield by Dr. Ahmad Yousif A. Al-Draiweesh, President IIU during the inaugural session of the international Conference on "Current Issues in Muslim Personal Laws between Shariah and States Legislation" at IIUI, Islamabad.



President Mamnoon Hussain in a group photo with the position holders Huffaz on 11th Annual Huffaz competition at the IIUI, Islamabad.



President Mamnoon Hussain inaugurating the Humanitarian photo exhibition marking the celebration of 150 Years of service of the ICRC and 67 years of service of Pakistan Red Crescent Society at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



Japanese Ambassador to Pakistan Mr. Hiroshi Inomata exchanging views with the President Mamnoon Hussain in Islamabad.



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif being presented a memento by the Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan on the occasion of ground breaking ceremony of Port Qaism Coal Fired Power Project in Karachi.



Federal Minister for Finance, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar shaking hands with British Foreign Secretary William Hague after signing the MoU about the status and operations of the British Council. Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif also present on occasion.



Mr. William Burns, US Deputy Secretary of States meets Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in Islamabad.

Diplomatic Focus thru lens



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif talks to British Home Secretary Theresa May in London.



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif exchanging views with CEO of Oracle Coalfields, Shahrugh Khan in London.



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif chairing the concluding session of envoys conference at Foreign Office, Islamabad.



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif talks to Chairman London Stock Exchange, Chris Gibson-Smith in London.



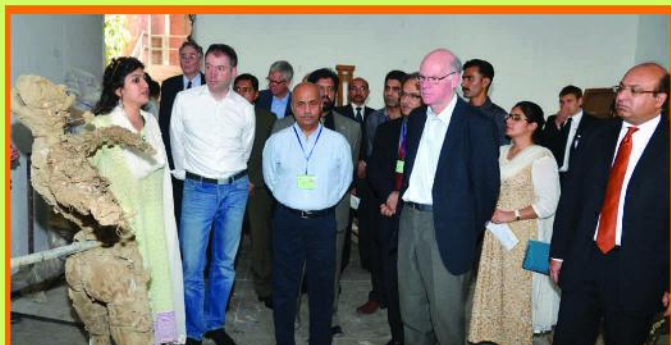
Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif talks to CEO of Glaxo Smithkline, Sir Andrew Witty in London.



Federal Minister for Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony, Sardar Muhammad Yousaf meeting with President, Islamic University, Dr. Ahmad Yousaf Al-Draiweesh in Islamabad.



Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal and US Ambassador to Pakistan, Richard Olsen signing the agreement on Rehabilitation of Kalat, Quetta



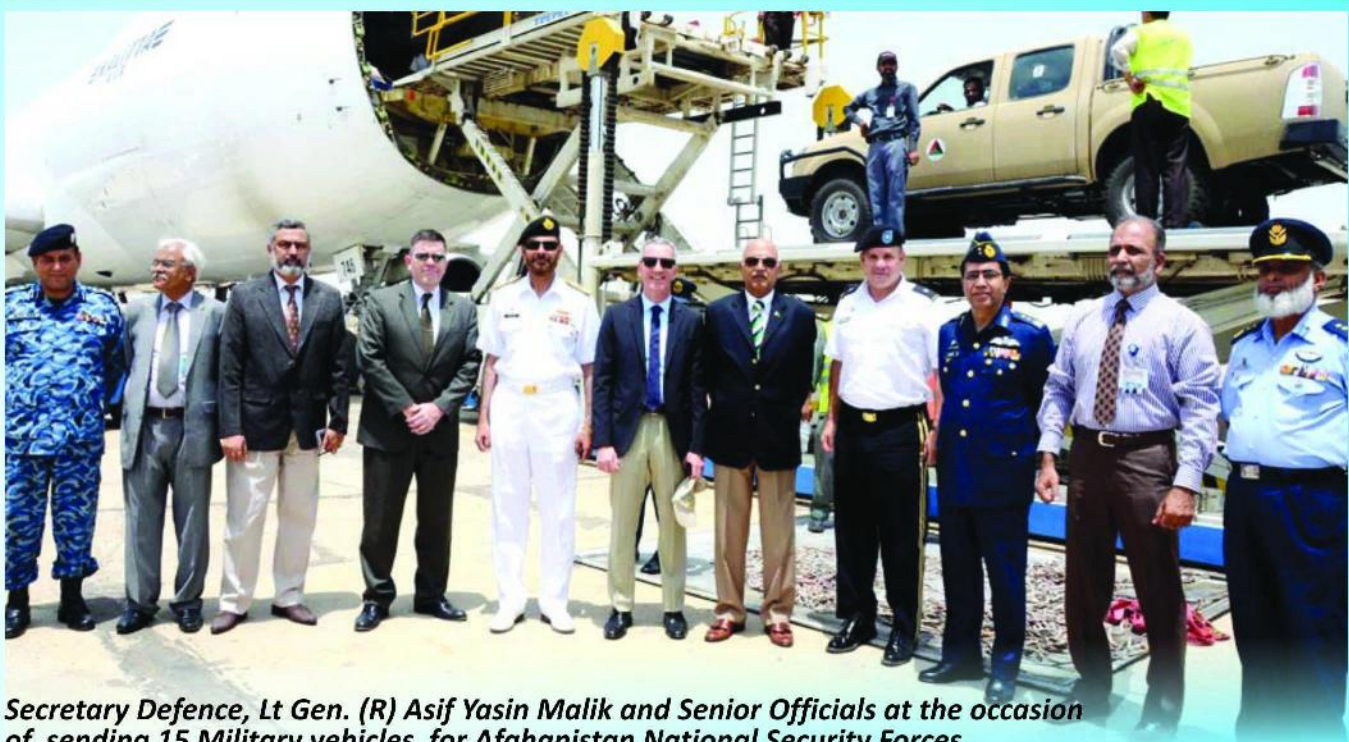
German delegation headed by Prof. Dr. Norbert Lammert visiting NCA Lahore.

Pakistan sends Relief Goods to Afghanistan



Pakistan sent second C-130 aircraft carrying relief goods, containing essential foods items, tents, medicines, clothing, water filtration plants etc. to Afghanistan. The aircraft arrived at Fayzabad Airport today and handed over the relief goods to the senior provincial authorities and representatives of Afghan National Disaster Management Authority. Pakistan would send the third aircraft tomorrow to deliver the relief goods for the people of Agro District of Badakhshan. Pakistan has always supported Afghanistan in difficult times and would provide all possible assistance to its Afghan brothers in this hour of need.

Diplomatic Correspondent



Secretary Defence, Lt Gen. (R) Asif Yasin Malik and Senior Officials at the occasion of sending 15 Military vehicles for Afghanistan National Security Forces.



Federal Minister for Finance, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar talking to Mr. William J. Burns US Deputy Secretary of State in Islamabad

US Deputy Secretary of State, Dar discuss mutual interests issues

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State William J. Burns met with the Finance Minister Senator Ishaq Dar at Islamabad to discuss issues of mutual interests.

The Deputy Secretary informed the Finance Minister that his visit to the US has left a lasting impression about his vision and there was appreciation for the economic policies of Pakistan in Washington DC. He appreciated the economic policies of the government and said that the economic indicators are improving with the results better than expected. He said that Pakistan's economy is now in the right direction.

The Finance Minister briefed him on the outlook of the national economy and the encouraging positive trends in the economic indicators during the last 10 months. He said that with the prudent policies of the government, the direction of the economy has been set to move forward in the upward trajectory.

The Minister also informed the Deputy Secretary of State about Prime Minister's fruitful visit to the United Kingdom and his meetings with the high officials in London. The Deputy Secretary of State was also informed about ADB Board of Governors meeting at Astana in which Finance Minister represented Pakistan. Finance Minister also highlighted his recent interaction with the IMF officials in connection with 3rd review of the IMF for Pakistan program. He appreciated the cooperation of the United States for developmental projects in the multilateral donors' community.

He thanked the United States for providing a platform for raising funds for the construction of Bhasha Dam. The Finance Minister said that the new government is coming up with a proactive energy policy to invite new investment in energy sector with a special emphasis on the renewable and cheap energy sources.

The Finance Minister appreciated role of the Deputy Secretary of State for

upcoming reimbursement of CSF which will be released during this month and expressed the hope that pending claims will be expedited. He also drew attention of Mr. Burns to US Exim Bank's policy of lending to regional countries for a period of 20 years without sovereign guarantee whereas in the case of Pakistan the lending is being made for only seven years and that too with sovereign guarantee. The Finance Minister urged Deputy Secretary of State for provision of level playing field by the US Banks for global investors to invest in Pakistan.

The Deputy Secretary of State expressed the hope that import of live animals from the US will be allowed by the government. In this regard, the Finance Minister said that the ECC will take appropriate decision in this regard. The Deputy Secretary of State assured the Finance Minister complete support of the United States for development in energy, agriculture, education, and health sectors.

Diplomatic Focus thru lens



Advisor to PM on National Security & Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz in a meeting with US Deputy Secretary of State, William Burns in Islamabad.



Advisor to the PM on National Security & Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz in a meeting with Ms. IKyung-Wha Kang, Assistant Secretary General (Humanitarian Affairs) and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator in the office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Islamabad.



Federal Minister for Commerce Engr. Khuram Dastgir Khan and United States Trade Representative Ambassador Michael Froman signing MoU on Women's Economic Empowerment at the Office of USTR in Washington DC.



Dr. Miftah Ismail, special Assistant to the Prime Minister and Chairman, Board of Investment meeting with Ms. Saira Awan Malik, Mr. David Gottlieb and Hamilton LLP, London, UK.



Chairman Senate, Syed Nayyar Hussain Bokhari and Pakistani Parliamentary delegation are being briefed by Mr. Zhang Xin, Chairman of TBEA at Tebian Electric Apparatus Company (TBEA) UMUQI, China.



Federal Minister for Finance, Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar in a meeting with Dr. Hany El-Banna, OBE founder Islamic Relief at Ministry of Finance, Islamabad.



Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar meeting with Iranian Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Ali Tayyebnia at Tehran.



Zakria Usman President of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Ms. Danuta Kubasik President World Trade Centre Pozan signing an MoU in Katowice, Poland.

Diplomatic Focus thru lens



Federal Minister for Textile Industry, Abbas Khan Afridi in a meeting with Ambassador of Netherlands, Marcel de Vink in Islamabad.



Special Assistant to Prime Minister, Syed Tariq Fatemi in a meeting with Mr. Nicholas Haysom United Nations Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General for Political Affairs in Afghanistan.



Mr. William J. Burns, US Deputy Secretary of State called on the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Tariq Fatimi in Islamabad.



Federal Minister for Petroleum Shahid Khaqan Abbasi meeting his Iranian Counterpart Bijan Namdar Zangeneh at Tehran.



Gen Lloyd Austin, Chief Central Command exchanging views with Secretary Defence, Lt. Gen (Retd) Asif Yasin Malik at the Ministry of Defence.



Advisor to Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz in a meeting with the Interior Minister of Iran Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli in Islamabad.

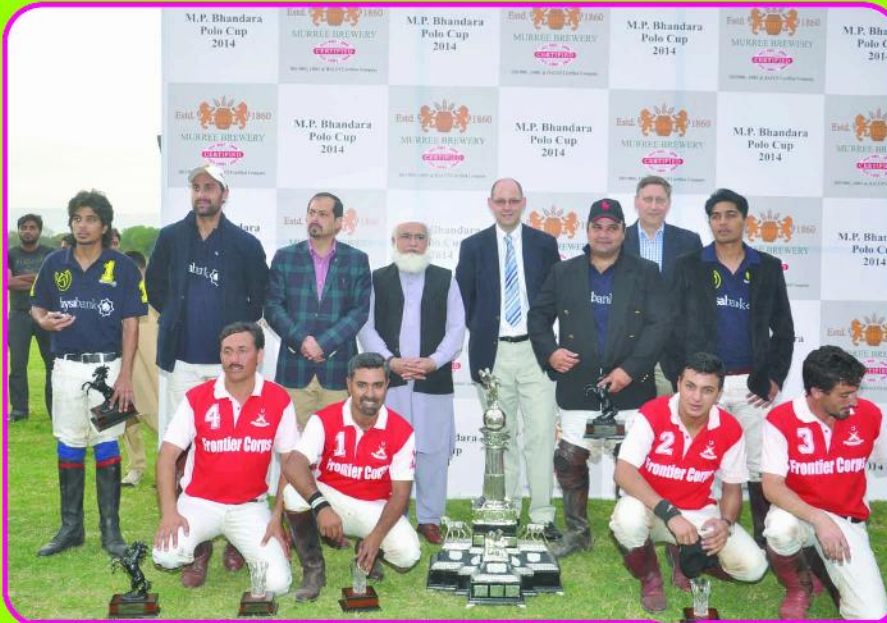


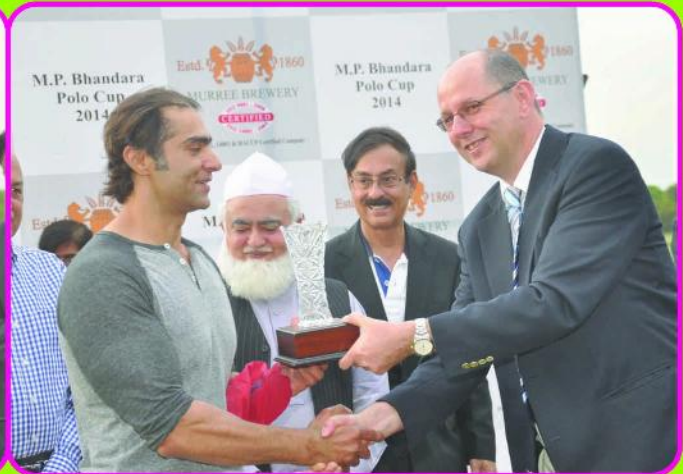
Federal Minister for Commerce Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan meeting with US Deputy National Security Advisor for International Economic Affairs Caroline Atkinson in Washington DC.



Federal Minister for Finance, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and IMF Desk Chief, Jeffrey Frank Addressing a press conference in Islamabad.

M.P. Bhandara Memorial Murree Brewery Polo Cup 2014 was played at Rawalpindi Polo ground
H.E. Mr. Philip Barton British High Commissioner
was the chief guest. German Ambassador, secretary Defense, General Yaseen,
Federal Minister Pir Hasanat Shah, Chairman POF General Ahsan, General
Pataudi, and galaxy of Polo fans of Rawalpindi/Islamabad attended the event.

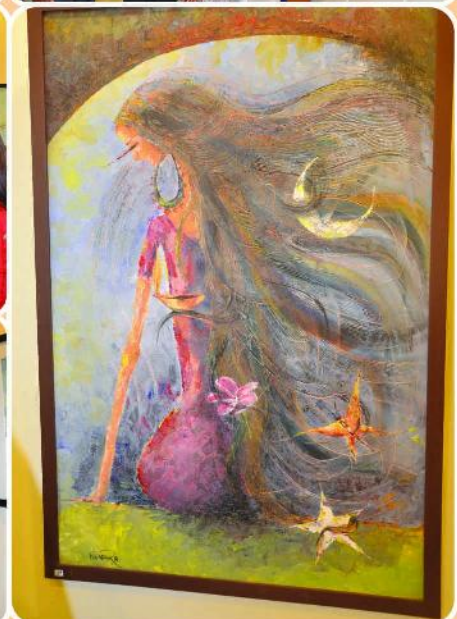




Wife of Saudi Ambassador
Madam Al Jouhr Al-Areefi
donates Rs.500,000 for the Pakistan Thalassaemia
Welfare Society on 'International Thalassaemia Day'



Japan's Ambassador H.E Mr. Hiroshi Inomata inaugurates Painting Exhibition at Jharoka Art Gallery, Islamabad



Ambassador's Message

in Conjunction with
Argentina's

204th Independence Day

H.E. Rodolfo J. Martin Saravia, Ambassador of Argentina to Pakistan

On 25th of May, Argentina commemorates the formation of its first national independent government from Spain back in 1810. It is a celebration full of deep feelings, because that day in 1810 became the turning point in our history that marked the country's path to the Final Independences on 9th of July of 1816.

On this significant and auspicious day, it is my great honor and satisfaction to extend, through this enchanting magazine; Diplomatic Focus our heartiest greetings to our Pakistani friends and fellow Argentines living in the Islamic Republic of the Pakistan.

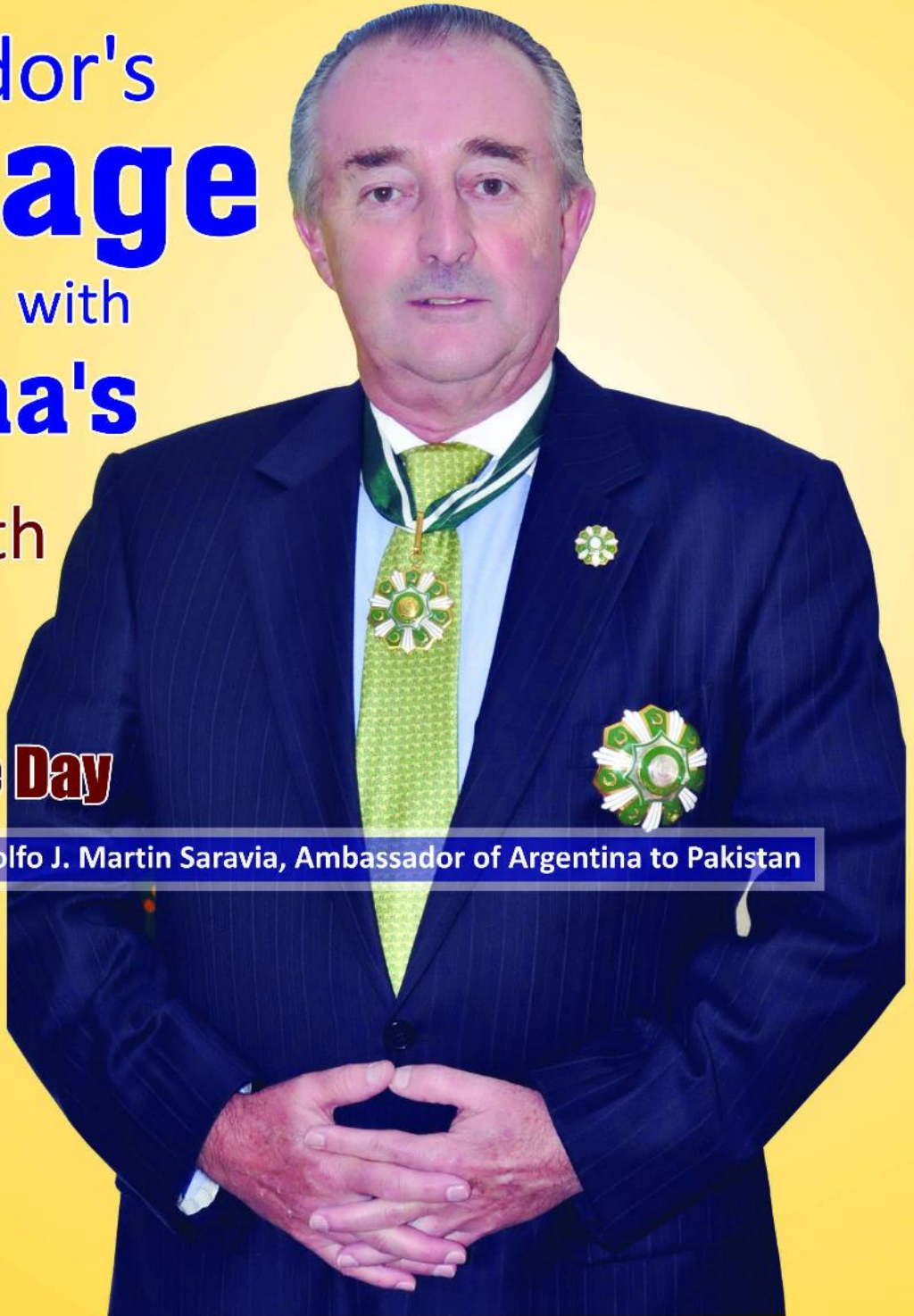
Since our Independence on 25th May 1810, Argentina has continued to move forward as a strong and united country confronting many domestic adversities and global challenges. Throughout the years, Argentina has succeeded in many achievements – national and regional development, foreign relations, economic growth and social development. While development has been phenomenal, the country has not compromised its history and heritage although it developed modern infrastructure and industries rapidly.

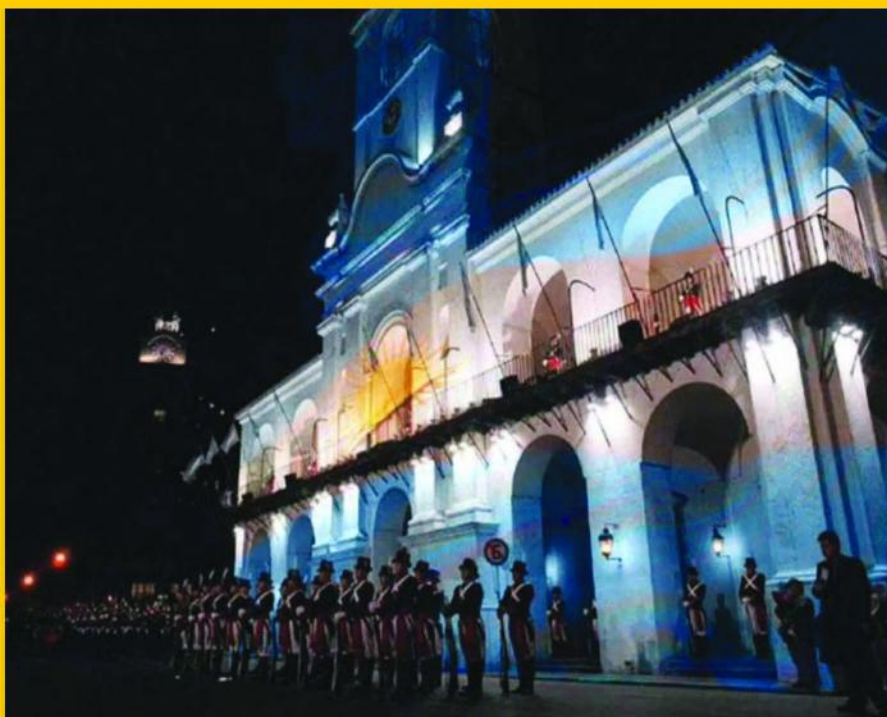
Argentina is a unique country, blessed with various races and religions living together in peace and harmony. The Argentinean people along with other communities have dedicated themselves to live with mutual respect and understanding in a peaceful community involvement and working together to create a better future for generations of Argentineans to come. The increased emphasis on performance and delivery to the people will support further liberalization of the Argentinean economy

and inclusive economic opportunity.

Argentina is also a land of fascinating sights and attractions. Rich in colour and contrasts, its multi-faceted charms seldom fail to awe visitors. It is a paradise of beaches, enchanting islands, diverse flora and fauna, forest retreats and magnificent mountains. You will see more about this inside this special May publication of Diplomatic Focus.

I am happy to note that there is a sizable





installation of a Consulate General.

The bilateral relations between Argentina and Pakistan have been very good, but there is an enormous untapped potential to increase the cooperation between both countries in myriad areas such as trade, investment, tourism, education, finance, defense, social development, infrastructure development, agriculture and other vital sectors. Bilateral relations have also been on the rise as demonstrated by the exchanges of visits and initiatives at various official and private levels. The people to people relations between Argentineans and Pakistanis are always warm and good. As an example of how dynamic the relations were in the last 10 years, we can mention that by far Argentina and Pakistan had the most intense exchange of visitors from and to the Latin American Continent. Starting by visits of Pakistani authorities to Argentina, we can recall among others the historical visit in December 2004 of the then President Pervez Musharraf, the visit of the Federal Minister of Commerce

Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentine



Foreign Secretary H.E. Eduardo Antonia Zuain presenting a gift to the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Ambassador Aizaz Chaudhry)

Argentinean community in Pakistan. I am proud to say that they have carried the name of Argentina exemplarily and have built an honest and hardworking reputation for themselves over the years in this country. Indeed, it is important to uphold the good name of Argentina abroad and I am glad that the Argentinean community here has been doing so with success.

Since Diplomatic relations were established in 1951, 63 years back, both countries had a friendly and cordial relationship characterized by cooperation at international forums and shared perceptions and understandings on most global and regional issues. Argentina has been the first Latin American country to recognize Pakistan Independence and the First to establish a representation in Karachi back in November 1948 with the

Humayun Khan in 2006, the visit of the Federal Minister Amin Fahim in August 2009; the visit of the Federal Minister of Science and Technology Mir Chanez Khan Jamali in March 2011; the visit of the Federal Minister of Railways Sheikh Rashid in September 2006, the visit of the Federal Minister of Agriculture Sikander Bosan in December 2006, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Khushro Bakhtiar in May

2006, few Parliamentary Delegations to and from Argentina to Pakistan, the Federal Secretary of Commerce in September in 2005 and again in April 2007, the Foreign Secretary in March 2010 and again in April 2014, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chambers of Deputies in March 2007, etc.

In recent years, the development of cooperation initiatives in agriculture has become particularly relevant in

the bilateral agenda. Argentina holds a leading role as international producer of goods, services and technology related to agriculture and food, which has become a clear motivation to start joint ventures with partners in Pakistan. The fame of Argentina as the leading country in meat production has been the inspiration to inaugurate negotiations in Pakistan to establish State of the Art meat processing plants.

The relations between Argentina and Pakistan which date back to several decades have now been transformed into a multi – faceted, mutually rewarding partnership encompassing all fields of interest. This time-tested relationship has been further consolidated through frequent visits as we mentioned before of government leaders, officials, and members of media, civil society, and tourists etc. who have shown great affinity

towards each other.

As recent developments, I would like to mention about the Third Round of Pakistan-Argentina High Level Bilateral Political Consultations that were held on April 3, 2014 in Islamabad, when the Foreign Secretary of Argentina Ambassador Eduardo Zuain had a very intense meeting with his counterpart, H.E. the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Ambassador Aizaz Chaudhry.

During the visit, the Foreign Secretary of Argentina reviewed the most relevant issues of the bilateral agenda and signed two new agreements, one for the Promotion of Investments and the other on Educational Cooperation.

MoU ON EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION: signed by Foreign Secretary of Argentina H.E. AMB. EDUARDO ZUAIN and Federal Secretary of Education Training and Standards Ministry, Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Raja.

MoU ON INVESTMENT PROMOTION: signed by Foreign Secretary of Argentina H.E. AMB. EDUARDO ZUAIN and Secretary of Board of Investment, Mr. Imran Afzal Cheema



MoU on Educational Cooperation being signed by Foreign Secretary of Argentina H.E. AMB. Eduardo Zuain, and Federal Secretary of Education Training and Standards Ministry, Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Raja.



MoU on investment promotion being signed by Foreign Secretary of Argentina H.E. AMB. Eduardo Zuain and Secretary of Board of Investment, Mr. Imran Afzal Cheema.



Foreign Secretary of Argentina H.E. AMB. Eduardo Zuain meets President of Pakistan H.E. Mr. Mamnoon Hussain in Islamabad.



Foreign Secretary of Argentina H.E. AMB. Eduardo Zuain exchanging views with the Advisor to the Prime Minister Sartaj Aziz in Islamabad. Argentina's Ambassador to Pakistan H.E. Mr. Rodolfo J. Martin Saravia is also present.



Foreign Secretary of Argentina H.E. AMB. Eduardo Zuain talks to Speaker of the National Assembly Ayaz Sadiq in Islamabad.

During his two-day (3-4 April, 2014) visit to Pakistan, the Ambassador Zuain called on the President of Pakistan Mr. Mamnoon Hussain and to the Adviser to the Prime Minister Sartaj Aziz and also had a meeting with the Speaker of the National Assembly Ayaz Sadiq which was followed by a meeting with the members of Pakistan-Argentina Friendship Group in the National Assembly.

One remarkable event of this year 2014, that I will always remember with deep gratitude to the Government of Pakistan, has been the honor of receiving the highest civil award "Hilal-i-Pakistan" that was conferred to me after 10 years of services as Ambassador of Argentina. Many friends and colleagues had said to me that I deserve this great honor, but I want to mention that this award was granted to me not only as a recognition for my last 10 years in Pakistan but also for the strong support from my Argentinean and local Embassy team. To all of them and above all to the loving and cooperating people of Pakistan, I publicly declare my gratitude. Their warm gestures and friendly attitude makes me feel that Pakistan is my second home.

On a personal note, I would also like to extend together



The President of Argentine Republic
Her Excellency Mrs. Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner

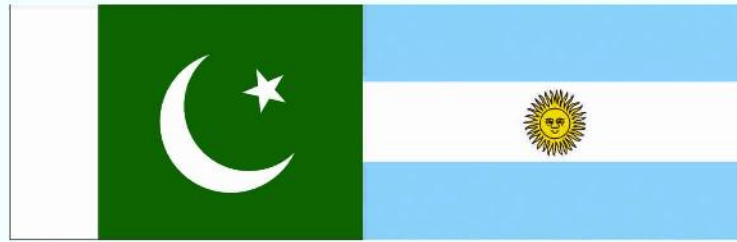


Ambassador of Argentine Republic H.E. Mr. Rodolfo J. Martin Saravia being conferred Pakistan's highest civil award "Hilal-i-Pakistan" by President of Pakistan H.E Mr. Mamnoon Hussain.

with my wife Susana, our appreciation to all our Pakistani friends for their warm welcome and hospitality that we had received since we arrived and I assumed my Ambassadorship in this country in August 2004.

I want to express also my deep gratitude and appreciation to all the sponsors that had supported this special supplement which features Argentina's history, economy, trade, investment, tourism, socio - cultural sectors as well as the multifaceted relations between Argentina and Pakistan which continue to flourish for mutual benefit.

On behalf of the Government and people of Argentina and on behalf of the President of Argentina H.E. Mrs. Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, I want to extend my best wishes to the Government and the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for a greater peace and prosperity of this country and for further improvement of friendly relationship between both our nations. On this auspicious day, I join the Argentinean expatriate community in Pakistan in reaffirming our hope for the dawn of an era of lasting peace and prosperity in this beloved land.



Pak-Argentina

A long standing friendly cooperation at international forums

Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentina

Since Pakistan's Independence our two nations have worked together in every International Organization, Meeting and Fora. In spite of physical distances a mutual understanding and respect for each other developed since 1948.

Not surprisingly Argentina and Pakistan have been committed to develop the same international agenda to strengthen the values of peace, cooperation and development for the last 65 years supporting each other on different candidacies and projects. The examples of that cooperation will exceed the length of this article but is worth to mention the exchange of supports to the nominations to the CERD, the Human Rights Council, the Security Council as well as the common grounds as members of the G77.

One example of this is the long lasting cooperation of our armed forces in the peacekeeping operations of the United Nations who have seen our service men working together in faraway places as Haiti or Central Africa.

Since in 1995 Pakistan founded the "United for Consensus"

group to promote the liberalization and democratization of the United Nations Organization Argentina joined sharing the same values and position for reform of the Security Council to make of it a body more effective, legitimate and democratic.

Argentina has been part of the consensus in favor of the resolution put forward by Pakistan on the right to self-determination for Kashmir which is debated annually at the General Assembly of the United Nations. Pakistan has voted in favor of the UN Resolution stipulating that "the continued existence of colonialism is incompatible with the ideal of universal peace held by the United Nations" in the Malvinas Question and it can be said that Pakistan and Argentina have very close cooperation in various fields and unanimity of views on international issues.

In 1971, Argentina had the Presidency of the UN Security



Council and the Delegation, headed by Ambassador Carlos Ortiz de Rozas, had an active role in ending the hostilities between India and Pakistan. The key action of the Argentine Delegation was to end the paralysis of the Council and, through the application of the

"Pro Peace Resolution" of 1950, take the matter directly to the General Assembly who (freed now of the veto mechanism) was able to pass Resolution 2793 (XXVI) calling for an immediate cease-fire, and the return of the refugees and war prisoners.

H.E. Rodolfo J. Jartin Saravia, Ambassador of Argentina holds reception to celebrate award of Hilal-e-Pakistan by the Pakistani government

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Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentine



Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentine



Historic perspective of Pak-Argentina Relations during the tenure of H.E. Rodolfo J. Martin-Saravia Ambassador of the Argentine Republic (2004-2014)

Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentina

Since August 2004 I have had the great honor to represent my country as Argentine Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. My appointment to this important position I owe it to President Nestor Kirchner who designated me for this role and from the date of my arrival in Islamabad, I have tirelessly endeavored in promoting the bilateral relations of our great nations.

When serving in a destination so unique as Islamabad -in the center of a regional strategic scenario and through different phases in the internal politics of the country- I have had the opportunity of furthering the ties between our countries, not only in the official and public sphere, but specially the people to people contacts.

Official visits from Pakistan to Argentina:

1. Visit of the then President Musharraf to Argentina in December 2004
2. Visit of the Federal Minister of Commerce in June 2006
3. Visit of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in May 2006
4. Visit of the Federal Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food in Dec 2006
5. Visit of the Federal Minister of Railways 2006
6. Visit of Parliamentarian Delegation from National



October 2011- Reception hosted by H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Jose Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations with Pakistan. Federal Minister of Environment Jan Afridi, Federal Minister of water and power Naveed Qamar, fed min of Commerce Amin Fahim, AMB RMS, MNA Humayun Saifullah, Governor of KPK, Mr. Waseem Shehzad, MNA Awais Leghari.

7. Assembly July 2007
8. Visit of the Federal Minister of Commerce in August 2009
9. Visit of the Federal Minister of Science & Technology in March 2011.
10. Official visits from Argentina to Pakistan:
11. Visit of the Secretary of Commerce in September 2005
12. Visit of the President Foreign

13. Affairs Committee of National Assembly in March 2007
14. Visit of the Secretary of Commerce in April 2007
15. Visit of the Foreign Secretary in March 2010
16. Visit of the MNA Julia Perrie in November 2013
17. Visit of the Foreign Secretary April 2014

Bilateral Political Relations

In the political sphere and in regard to the bilateral relationship, shortly after my arrival in Pakistan, I had the honor of coordinating the official visit of then President Pervez Musharraf to Argentina in December 2004 in a tour that also included Brazil and Mexico. The importance of this trip is that he was the first visit by a Pakistani Head of State to Argentina. From that visit -also attended by Foreign Minister, other ministers and a business delegation- contacts intensified, many other visits in both directions were undertaken and several agreements were made and signed.

During the presidential visit of 2004, an Agreement on Bilateral Political Consultations was signed establishing a mechanism of alternate meetings. So far,



March, 2007: Dinner Hosted by H.E. Mr. Rodolfo J. Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina in honor of Parliamentarian delegation from Argentina. Deputy Federico Pinedo, Deputy Jorge Arguello, Chairman Foreign Affairs Committee of the N. Assembly Farook Sattar, Minister for interior Provincial affairs Senator Saleem Saifullah, Editor Pak observer Mr. Malik, MNA Sherry Rehman.

there has been three rounds of Consultations:

- a) The First Meeting took place in Buenos Aires in May 2006 between the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Roberto García Moritán and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Kushro Bakhtyar.
- b) The Second meeting took place in Islamabad in February 2010 between the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Victorio Taccetti and the Foreign Secretary Salman Bashir.
- c) The third meeting took place in Islamabad in April 2014 between the Foreign Secretary of Argentina Eduardo Antonio Zuain and the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan Aizaz Chaudhry.

Strengthening the bilateral relationship: the completion of the Second Meeting of Bilateral Political Consultations (27 February to 2 March 2010) with the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Victorio Taccetti and of the Third Meeting (2-5 April 2014) they represent the highest authorities of Argentina visiting Pakistan in more than 60 years of diplomatic relations.

Visa Exemption to Diplomatic and Official Passports

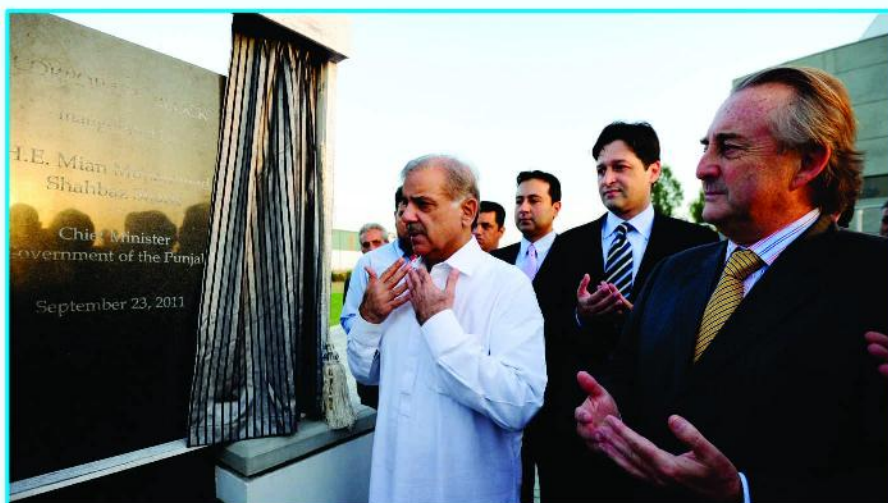
As a direct result of the level of understanding that the political bilateral relation had achieved, an Agreement for the Exemption of Visas for Diplomatic and Official Passports was signed in Buenos Aires in December 2004.

Parliamentary Friendship Group

In March 2007, a Parliamentary Delegation from Argentina visited Pakistan for the first time. The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, Congressman Jorge Arguello, accompanied by Congressman Federico Pinedo, held meetings with the President of the National Assembly, the Foreign Minister, the President of the Committee on Foreign Relations Senate, and other officials.

On an initiative of the Argentine Ambassador, Rodolfo Martin Saravia, the Argentine Parliamentary Friendship Group for Pakistan and India was composed of a single list of parliamentarians, with the only difference of the chairman of each group. While Congressman Federico Pinedo is Chairman of the Group of Friendship with Pakistan, Congressman Alejandro Rossi is Chairman with India. The idea of this conformation is for the Group to serve as a friendly nexus between both countries to help resolve the conflict between Islamabad and New Delhi over the issue of Kashmir and others.

There is a pending visit of the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina Deputy Julian Dominguez to Pakistan.



September 2011- Lahore, Inauguration of the Administrative building of the Pharmaceutical Laboratory BF Biosciences Ltd. Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif, CEO Chairman BF Biosciences Osman Waheed, H.E. Mr. Rodolfo J. Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina.

A visit of the Parliamentary Friendship Group is expected before the end of 2014. Trade and Economic Consultations: promoting commerce and investment to harness development

In September 2005 the Secretary of Commerce and International Economic Relations, Ambassador Alfredo Chiaradia, visited Islamabad to preside over the First

the Federal Minister for Commerce, Humayun Khan, visited Argentina and signed the document in the city of Cordoba.

In May 2007 the First Multi-Sectorial Trade Mission to Pakistan was headed by the Undersecretary for International Trade, Ambassador Luis Kreckler and included 30 Argentine businessmen. The event took



March 2007- Members of the Parliament of Argentina at the Argentina Park in Islamabad together with the H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Jose Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina.

Meeting of the Joint Economic Trade between Argentina and Pakistan. The delegation was also comprised the Argentine Secretary of Agriculture, Claudio Sabsay, and the Director General for Foreign Markets, Gerardo Petri. On this occasion also held the First Bilateral Meeting of agricultural matters. In June 2006, Pakistan successfully negotiated a framework cooperation agreement with MERCOSUR. To this end

place in Karachi and created several opportunities for our business community. In April 2007, the Secretary of Commerce and International Economic Relations, Ambassador Alfredo Chiaradia visited Pakistan for the second time, this time to attend the Cairns Group meeting in Lahore, accompanied by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Fernando Nebbia and Foreign Ministry officials. In August 2009 promoted by the Argentine

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In August 2009 promoted by the Argentine Ambassador, the Second Meeting of the Economic and Trade Joint Committee Pakistan-Argentina took place, this time in Buenos Aires. The Pakistani delegation was chaired by Federal Minister of Commerce, Amin Fahim and included among others the President of PARC. A couple of MOU's were signed in that occasion.

In March 2011, the Federal Minister of Science and Technology visited Argentina to participate in the Third Joint Committee of Science and Technology.

Science and Technology

From 15 to April 21, 2007, was held in Islamabad the First Joint Commission for Science and Technology (mechanism established by the Agreement of Bilateral Cooperation in Science and Technology signed in 1983). It should be noted here that since the signing of the agreement, and for more than 25 years, there was no activity in the area until 2007 when an Argentine delegation chaired by the current Minister Science and Technology Dr. Lino Barañao and including Eng. Agueda Menvielle, the Director of International Relations of the Ministry and Mr. Hugo De Vido as Advisor, came to Pakistan for the First Joint Commission meeting. Before the start of the Joint Commission, the delegation visited various organizations and institutions of the sector in the cities of Karachi, Lahore, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi and Islamabad to appreciate and assess the level of development achieved by Pakistan in this field. As a result, a number of bilateral cooperation



Ambassador of Argentina Rodolfo Martin Saravia after becoming the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps paid a Courtesy Call to the then Chief of the Army Staff Lt. Gen. Ashfaq Pervez Kayani.

projects were identified and are now under development.

In March 2008, held in Buenos Aires the Second Meeting of the Joint Committee on Science and Technology, where progress was made in the implementation of various projects of cooperation. As a result, in January 2009, Mr. Daniel Luppi visited the National Institute of Electronics of Pakistan and provided for the continuation of joint work.

In May 2011, took place in Buenos Aires the Third Meeting of the Joint Committee on Science and Technology with the visit of the Federal Minister Changez Jamali and an important delegation (PCSIR, NIE, NIO). During the meeting, an MoU was signed between PCSIR and INTI.

Cooperating in agriculture and livestock development

In September 2005 the Secretary of Commerce and International Economic

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In December 2006 took place the Second Bilateral Meeting on agricultural matters with the visit of the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Sikander Hayat Bosan of Pakistan to Argentina with an important delegation. On that occasion was signed the MOU on Cooperation in Agriculture with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food of Argentina. The direct result of this were the cooperation projects in

- a) Development of hybrid sunflower seeds in the National



Jan 2012 H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Jose Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina hosted a dinner in the honor of the Chairman PTI, Imran Khan, ex Minister Qureshi and Ambassadors of Argentina, Italy, France, Sweden, Turkey, Morocco, Spain, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Greece, Canada and Egyptian ambassadors also seen in the picture.

Agriculture Research Center (NARC).

- b) Research and development of beef cattle for Pakistan; ongoing project with the Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC).

Along the last 4 years, the Embassy in collaboration with a group of businessmen from Argentina, where working with the idea to establish in Pakistan several Slaughter Houses for meat process in Halal system. There are great chances to establish one or two of those centres.

Oil & Gas: Pipelines and Gas Fields

The businessman Carlos Bulgheroni, Chairman of Bidas International, visited Pakistan twice, in January 2006 and June 2009, on both occasion because of strong advice by the Argentine Ambassador. The main purpose of both visits was to evaluate the interest and the possibilities of restarting the project to build TAPI gas pipeline starting from Turkmenistan through Afghanistan and Pakistan and finally to India. The other issue that was discussed during the last visit, was the possible participation and investment in gas exploration in Pakistani territory.

B-F Biosciences Ltd, a successful Arg-Pak Joint Venture

A real example of the cooperation between both countries is a Joint Venture in the pharmaceutical sector, signed and since the last 3 years in production between Laboratorios Bagó of Argentine and Ferozsons Laboratories Ltd from Pakistan. Both Companies had establish an state of art laboratory in Lahore producing medicines of bio technology to treat Hepatitis disease and Cancer. The quality of the medicine is of the top international standards and the prices of the products are 75% cheaper than the imported products of the same formula. This company has developed a full scale program to tackle the huge demand of medicine to cure more than 7% of the Pakistan population that suffers from Hepatitis C. They have also a target to export to various countries of the region: Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Phillipines, Vietnam, Sri Lanka etc.

This represents not only a large investment and vote of confidence by an Argentine company but a transfer of high technology, as well. This is the most important and prestigious step in the field of bilateral interaction between private companies so far.

In 2011, The Chief Minister of Punjab, M Shahbaz Sharif, and the Argentine Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Rodolfo Martin-Saravia, inaugurated in Lahore the new Corporate Office of this company BF Biosciences Limited, result of the Joint-Venture between Argentina and Pakistan.

Bago Laboratories is no stranger to Pakistan. Its commitment to the welfare of

the Pakistani nation was underlined on two occasion in which this country needed the most from a helping hand:

- i) in 2005, after the terrible earthquake with epicenter in Balakot, Bago Laboratories rushed medicines and immediate aid to the region of worth USD 125.000
- ii) through the Argentine Embassy and White Helmets Comission, in 2006, Bago Laboratories donated medicines for cancer treatment

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The Argentina Park and the Argentine Pavillion of the Polyclinic Hospital

Argentina took a leading role in 1971 in the United Nations, brokering the cease-fire between India and Pakistan. As a token of appreciation for our efforts to promote



July 2010- Lunch hosted by the Ambassador of Argentina H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Jose Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina as Dean of the Latin American countries in the honor of the Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif with the Latin American Group (Argentina, Brazil, Cuba and Mexico) Chairman of PML-N Raja Zafar Ul Haq, AMB Cuba, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, AMB RMS, Leader of opposition N.A. MNA Chaudary Nisar Ali, AMB Tariq Fatemi, Charge d' Affair Mexico, AMB Brazil, and Secretary General PML N Zaffar Iqbal Jahagra.



2006- Donations of medicines for Cancer Treatment to Onchological hospitals in Karachi, presented by H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Jose Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina to the correspondants, Directors of Hospitals on behalf of Bago and the White Helmets.



February 2010 Visit of the Argentinean Foreign Secretary AMB Victori Taccetti. Dinner hosted by H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Jose Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina with Secretary General PML(Q) Syed Mushahid Hussain, Chairman CDA Imtiaz Elahi, President of PPP(S. Party) Aftab Sherpao. Foreign Secretary Argentina V. Taccetti, Chief Protocol AMB Ghalib Iqbal, Federal Minister of Commerce Amin Fahim, AMB RMS, Federal Minister of Environments JAN Afridi, Former Senator Waseem Shahzad, Minister State Foreign Affairs Amad Malik, AMB of Spain Gonzalo Quintero Saravia

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September 2011- Meeting with PM Yousaf Raza Gillani to present a book of "Pakistan's Golden Thrones" with the presence of the Argentine photographer Tommy Heinrich.



Inauguration Joint venture Argentina-Pak. BF Biosciences Ltd. Pharmaceutical Laboratory, PM Gillani, Chairman BF Biosciences Osman Waheed, H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Jose Martin Saravia Ambassador of Argentina (July 2009).

projects in

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The Argentina Park and the Argentine Pavillion of the Polyclinic Hospital

Argentina took a leading role in 1971 in the United Nations, brokering the cease-fire between India and Pakistan. As a token of appreciation for our efforts to promote regional peace, the government of Pakistan named the beautiful garden in G-6 as "Argentina Park".

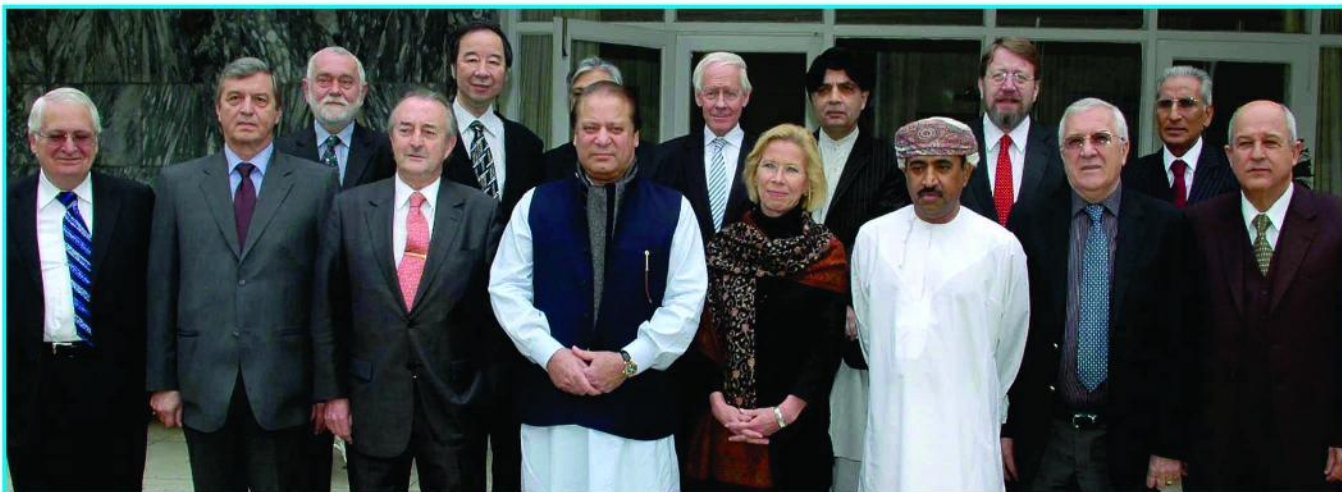
Argentinean Ambassador Rodolfo Martin Saravia is taking keen interest in the construction of an extension of the Polyclinic Hospital in Islamabad, over one third of the Argentina Park, to be called the Argentina Pavillion.

The current Polyclinic hospital covers an area of 3.3 acres of land and has 500 beds. The hospital was established back in 1966 with an aim to provide health facilities to the federal government employees.

As per PC-I, approved at the start of the year of 2012, of the expansion plan, a new block comprising of five storey structure with additional 1100 beds are supposed to be constructed on 2.54 acres of Argentinean park's land. The estimated cost of the project is stated around Rs.10 billion.

Education and Academics: people-to-people contacts

Following the signing of the MOU between Argentine Council for Foreign Relations (CARI) and the Institute of Strategic Studies of Islamabad (ISSI), its Director Dr. Shireen Mazari visited Argentina in 2006 and in 2007 Ambassador Eduardo Sadou -the



(17/2/12) Lunch organized by the Ambassador of Argentina Rodolfo Martin Saravia in honor of the President of the PML(N) Nawaz Sharif and former Prime Minister with the leader of the opposition in Senate, Senator Dar and the leader of the opposition in National Assembly-MNA Chaudary Nisar Ali and the ambassadors of Italy, Russia, Poland, Japan, Australia, Belgium, Romania, Norway, Oman, Cuba

Chairman of the Asia Pacific Committee-traveled to Pakistan.

In April 2014, an MoU on Educational Cooperation was signed between the Argentinean Foreign Secretary and the Federal Secretary of Education.

Cultural activities and cooperation in sports: people-to-people contacts revisited
In regard to the promotion of culture and sports, the Embassy has been very active in the last nine years:

- a) in May 2007, the Argentine Ambassador hosted by the First Exhibition of Argentine Paintings in Islamabad and Lahore with the participation of 9 artists (Polesello, Cinalli, Benedit, Sojo, among others). The Federal Ministers of Culture and of Information Technology were present on the occasion.
- b) in October 2009 the Second Exhibition of Argentine Paintings took place in Pakistan, this time involving 15 artists from Argentina (Cinalli, Edelstein, Godoy, Iniesta, Mac Entyre, Schussheim). It was inaugurated in Lahore at the Alhambra Gallery by the Chief Minister, H.E. Shahbaz Sharif. A huge return of interested public attended also the exhibition in Islamabad.
- c) in 2006, a series of Argentine films were presented to the public in collaboration with the Alliance Française of Islamabad.
- d) in the month of February 2007, 2008 and 2009 the Ambassador organized in the city of Lahore, the Argentina Embassy Polo Cup with the participation of several Argentine polo players, forming teams of 20-25 goal handicap
- e) in April 2006 the Embassy, in coordination with the Pakistan Army Chief, brought to Pakistan

f)

the renowned polo coach Norberto Fernandez Moreno to train civilian and military polo players, at the Mona Remount Depot.

g)

mid-2009, started Spanish lessons for Pakistan at the headquarters of the Embassy, with Argentine teachers;
in November 2009, Pakistan's national hockey team (gentlemen) visited Argentina to participate in an international tournament, and the Embassy organized a farewell reception for them;

h)

in June 2010 the Embassy hosted a photo exhibition "Pakistan through the Argentine eyes", by the Argentine photographer and mountaineer Heinrich Tommy,
In October 2010, the Embassy organized the launching of the book "Pakistan's Golden Thrones" sponsored by Laboratorios Bago and Ferozsos Laboratories, with a collection of photographs of the aforementioned Tommy Heinrich.

i)

in April 2010, the Embassy—in the spirit of the celebrations of the 200th Anniversary of the Independence Revolution—hosted an Exhibition of Painting by the renowned Pakistani artist Ghulam Rasul.

j)

In April 2013, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan bought few hundred copies of this book "Pakistan Golden Thrones" to send it to the Pakistan Embassies abroad.

In June 2010 a photo exhibition "Pakistan through the Argentine eyes", by the Argentine photographer and mountaineer Heinrich Tommy was presented having the

Federal Minister of Education as Chief Guest. Later in October 2010, the Embassy host the launching in Islamabad of the book "Pakistan's Golden Thrones", sponsored by Laboratorios Bago and Ferozsos Laboratories, with a collection of photographs from Pakistan taken by Tommy Heinrich and in June 2011, an Exhibition of photos of Pakistan by the Argentine photographer Tommy Heinrich was presented at the National College of Arts (NCA) in Lahore.

June 2011, at the Governor's Palace of Lahore with the presence of the Governor of Punjab, Dr. Sardar Latif Khosa and the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Dr. Masook Kausar, the book "The Golden Thrones of Pakistan" was launched by the Argentine Ambassador.

December 2011, an Exhibition of 40 paintings by Argentine artist Rodolfo Cinalli, held at the Embassy of Argentina, that was inaugurated by the Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Hina Rabbani Khar. Later the exhibition was moved to prestigious National College of Arts in Lahore.

February 2012. A musical tango show by the guitar trio "Gorosito, Cataldi, De la Vega" at the Pakistan National Council of the Arts and the Marriott Hotel.

September 2012. The Embassy of Argentina in collaboration with the Aga Khan Foundation and the Serena Hotel of Islamabad, launch the Exhibition "Laberintour" with the Argentine artist Jorge Canale, among with 5 Pakistani painters.

November 2012, the Argentine Embassy and the Committee of the Kidney Centre Karachi, organized an Annual Fund Raising with two great performances of Argentinean Tango dancers. First in Islamabad at the Serena Hotel and after in Karachi at the Sheraton Hotel.

Argentina & Pakistan: A Meaningful Commercial Relationship

Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentina

The Republic of Argentina is one of the fastest-growing countries worldwide and leader in Latin America for the past decade. Its Development model is based on social inclusion and sustainable economic growth.

Record-high exports close to US\$ 100 billion for goods and services in 2011 and sustained external surplus allowed the accumulation of international reserves, fiscal solvency and substantial reduction in

public debt while during the same period of time five million new jobs were created decreasing unemployment levels from 21.5% in 2002 to 7.1% in 2012. As a result of the success of the Economic Model Argentina is ranked as a Very High Human Development country in the United Nations 2011 Human Development Index.

Additionally, productive investment delivered high returns through high profitability in a wide range of productive sectors. As example, Foreign Direct

Investment (FDI) saw record profits as a percentage of assets, with an annual average exceeding 10% in the last four years and profits over sales were well above 13% for the 500 non-financial private companies in 2006-2010. More than 2,000 multinational companies operate in Argentina in diverse sectors with a long-term vision and renewed investment commitment taking the investment rate to the highest level in the last 30 years (24.5% of GDP in 2011).

This remarkable success was done in spite of the global crisis through public policies aimed at fostering demand and creating a strong and dynamic domestic market as one of the key pillars of growth. The alternative model of development proved its ability to sustain the economic growth cycle from the on-start of the global crisis, exceeding the average of emerging countries. A low level of public debt and high level of international reserves increased the capacity of the Public Sector to implement counter-cyclical policies driving domestic demand and production.

Argentina is located in a region endowed with resources to meet current and future global demands and a strategic player within the main food exporting region in the world. Its strong ties with Latin America make Argentina a motor for Latin America's increased integration in terms of



economy, politics, society and culture. The MERCOSUR, a regional market of 275 million inhabitants and a preferential access of 0% tariff, plus an aggregate GDP of US\$ 3.35 trillion and great industrial integration was created together with Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay almost 30 years ago and now expanded to Venezuela with preferential agreements with Chile, Bolivia and Free Trade Areas around the world.

Though with a diversified and complex economy, Argentina is a leading country in the international food market, with exports exceeding US\$ 25 billion in 2011 and great technological development in the agrifood value chain. For 150 years Argentine food exports have been regarded as synonym of quality and price transforming the competitive advantage provided by its vast natural resources (9th largest extension of agricultural area in the world with 140 million hectares of arable lands-FAO) into was required by an ever increasing global population. From raw hides and sundried meat in the 19th century to processed and packed food in the 21st century, Argentina has been feeding the world according its necessities with an outstanding success.

Nevertheless, its industrial structure has a strong tradition in countless diverse productive sectors, along with dynamic growth of industrial exports (16% per year



in 2003-2011) and fosters an accelerated development of renewable energies, biotechnology, software, creative industries and other frontier sectors. Additionally, is a main tourism destination in Latin America with almost 6 million tourists per year.

Committed to be a part of the globally integrated world of the 21st century, Argentina's highly dynamic exports to more than 10 destinations with values tripling over the past 8 years and highest proportion of FDI projects with high technological intensity in South America demonstrates its openness to the whole world. It's memberships at the G-20, the WTO, UNCTAD, ECLAC, FAO and other international organizations are not only directed to increase the bigger exchange of goods but also to assure the fair terms of that exchange and provide a sustainable betterment of the conditions of living of the population around the world.

As a result of the strong capacity of the Argentine and Pakistani private sectors various world-renowned Argentinean companies broke the barrier of the distance and are already working together in Pakistan's energy, pharmaceutical, agriculture, automotive, textile and telecom sectors while more and more are being interested in starting business in Pakistan. Here I just to mention some of the most successful Joint Ventures and associations of Argentinean companies: LAAPSA (Special Lubricants, BF BIOSCIENCES (Pharma), ASPRO (CNG), GALILEO (CNG), IMPSA (Hydro Power), and ICONDOR (Telecom).

BILATERAL TRADE SNAPSHOT

In fiscal year 2013, bilateral trade robustly increased for the fourth year on a row and stood at US \$ 194.01 million. Of those Argentina exported US\$ 134.93 million worth of goods to Pakistan, while Pakistan's exports stood at US\$ 59.07 million.

On the bilateral sector Argentina and Pakistan have been growing against all odds (geographical distance, credit shortcuts, international financial crisis, etc.) for the last 20 years duplicating their bilateral commerce. For this to happen a mention has to been done to the entrepreneurs of both countries that were able to identify the specific sectors of the economy were both countries were competitive. As for curious example, Argentina, where the football is the national sport almost only plays with balls produced in Sialkot (93% of the Argentine market belongs to Pakistan). On the other hand, Argentina has been a great ally to enhance at a short notice Pakistan's food security every time it was needed like in the years 1998, 1999 and 2008 or, until recently, sharing its expertise and

technology in the sector of alternative energy through huge investments in the CNG sector.

MAIN EXPORTS FROM ARGENTINA:

Vegetable Oil, Milk and dairy products, Medicines, Leather, Pipes (for oil extraction), Steel, Industrial tools and machinery (including medical equipment), Wheat, Soya Bean meal (for animal consumption), Chickpeas, and Sunflower seeds. (Photo: trigo paleo)

MAIN EXPORTS FROM PAKISTAN:

Textiles (rolls, clothing, towels and sheets), Cotton, Toys, plastic products, sports goods (footballs), surgical instruments and tools, leather and leather products,

tractors and tractor's parts, Furniture and medical furniture equipment.

MAIN SECTORS TO GROW:

Food Industry/retail/ instead of bulk (gain in added value as freight is expensive), Public transportations on clean energy (ongoing Projects for CNG Buses).

Argentina is also taking growing interest in Pakistan in alternative energies including solar, wind and biogas etc. Argentina has technologically advanced products to help Pakistan in all major areas and both countries should further strengthen bilateral cooperation to complement each other's economy.



	Exports from Argentina	Exports from Pakistan	Global Trade
1992 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 39,046,658	US\$ 12,264,137	US\$ 51,310,795
1993 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 48,378,692	US\$ 19,310,364	US\$ 67,689,056
1994 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 41,753,705	US\$ 19,952,924	US\$ 61,706,629
1995 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 61,855,857	US\$ 13,684,943	US\$ 75,540,800
1996 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 68,008,348	US\$ 14,734,362	US\$ 82,742,710
1997 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 93,129,165	US\$ 22,671,329	US\$ 115,800,494
1998 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 162,029,526	US\$ 31,798,662	US\$ 193,828,188
1999 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 141,280,101	US\$ 28,671,458	US\$ 169,951,559
2000 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 50,743,731	US\$ 28,844,874	US\$ 79,588,605
2001 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 20,159,753	US\$ 28,749,918	US\$ 48,909,671
2002 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 58,501,118	US\$ 4,631,302	US\$ 63,132,420
2003 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 55,222,556	US\$ 16,380,184	US\$ 71,602,740
2004 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 42,879,636	US\$ 25,767,195	US\$ 68,646,831
2005 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 39,090,388	US\$ 28,920,284	US\$ 68,010,672
2006 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 58,347,809	US\$ 37,875,155	US\$ 96,222,964
2007 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 79,975,948	US\$ 43,026,714	US\$ 123,002,662
2008 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 153,144,963	US\$ 50,437,186	US\$ 203,582,149
2009 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 50,020,546	US\$ 36,222,037	US\$ 86,242,583
2010 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 45,392,272	US\$ 46,553,188	US\$ 91,945,460
2011 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 40,696,887	US\$ 61,555,160	US\$ 102,252,047
2012 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 65,421,592	US\$ 50,053,083	US\$ 115,474,675
2013 (Jan-Dec)	US\$ 134,936,752	US\$ 59,079,191	US\$ 194,015,943

BILATERAL TRADE STATISTICS

LAAPSA

**Knowledge, Experience and Technologies:
Best Solutions in Industrial Lubrication,
in over 30 Countries around the World.**

Innovative Lubrication Technology from Argentina for the Sugar Mills

Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentine

Laapsa brand BR1000 made in Argentina is a Lubricant specifically designed for the Sugar Mills, to Lubricate and to protect journal bearings or crown wheels, open gear transmissions and its support bearings, semi enclosed transmissions gears of crystallizers and dryers, with the capability to resist the permanent attack of pollutants as vapor, water, juice and trash.

The quantities of SUGARPRESS | BR needed to effectively lubricate the mill brasses is up to 10 times less when compared to the quantities normally used of asphaltic cutback type lubricant and up to 30% less compared to graphite type greases. Tests and documented trials show that temperature readings measured at a distance of 6 mm of the friction area between brass bushing and shaft are about 100°C/210°F.

SUGARPRESS | BR has been designed to lubricate:

- Journal bearings
- Transmission brasses
- Crown wheels
- Transmissions open gears
- Crystallizer transmission gears
- Rotating dryer gears

ADVANTAGES OF SUGARPRESS | BR

- Consumption savings of up to 1:10 compared to asphaltic oils and of up to 50% compared to graphite type greases.
- Clean lubrication from the start
- High protection against seizure and wear, avoiding expensive repairs
- Easy conversion to automatic lubrication equipment [Fazzanaro, Farval, Lincoln, etc.] by adjusting the consumption levels to

SUGARPRESS BR best performance

- It provides an effective lubricant seal ring that remains and protects the brass bushings, by resisting the water-washout, and abrasive contaminants
- Elimination of the environmental impact caused by the big volumes of lubricant waste commonly generated in the sugar industry. It can save up to 85-90% of waste volume, compared to asphaltic oils.
- Elimination of accidents occurring by spills of asphaltic oils

S.D. Lubricants who are Distributors of Laapsa in Pakistan has successfully supplied Laapsa and replaced the black oil / compound in several Sugar Mills of Punjab and KPK, during this 2012-2013 Crushing Season with excellent results and SAVINGS. *Diplomatic Desk*



ARGENTINA

A world of Emotions

Argentina has an area of almost 3.8 million square km (1.07 million square miles). The country is about 3.800 kilometers (2361 miles) long and stretches from 22° to 55° south latitude.

CAPITAL: City of Buenos Aires

BOUNDARIES: Argentina limits with: Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil and Uruguay.

POLITICAL DIVISION: Argentina is organized in 23 provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

GOVERNMENT: Representative, Republican and Federal, governed by a National Constitution sanctioned in 1853 and amended in 1860, 1898, 1957 and 1994.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: Spanish.

TIME ZONE: GMT (Greenwich Meridian) – 3hs.

POPULATION: 40.091.350 Inhabitants

CURRENCY: Argentine peso.

According to estimated data from 2010 census, 95% of the people are Caucasian, mostly of spanish and italian descent, 4,5% mixed race and 0,5% are pure native people.

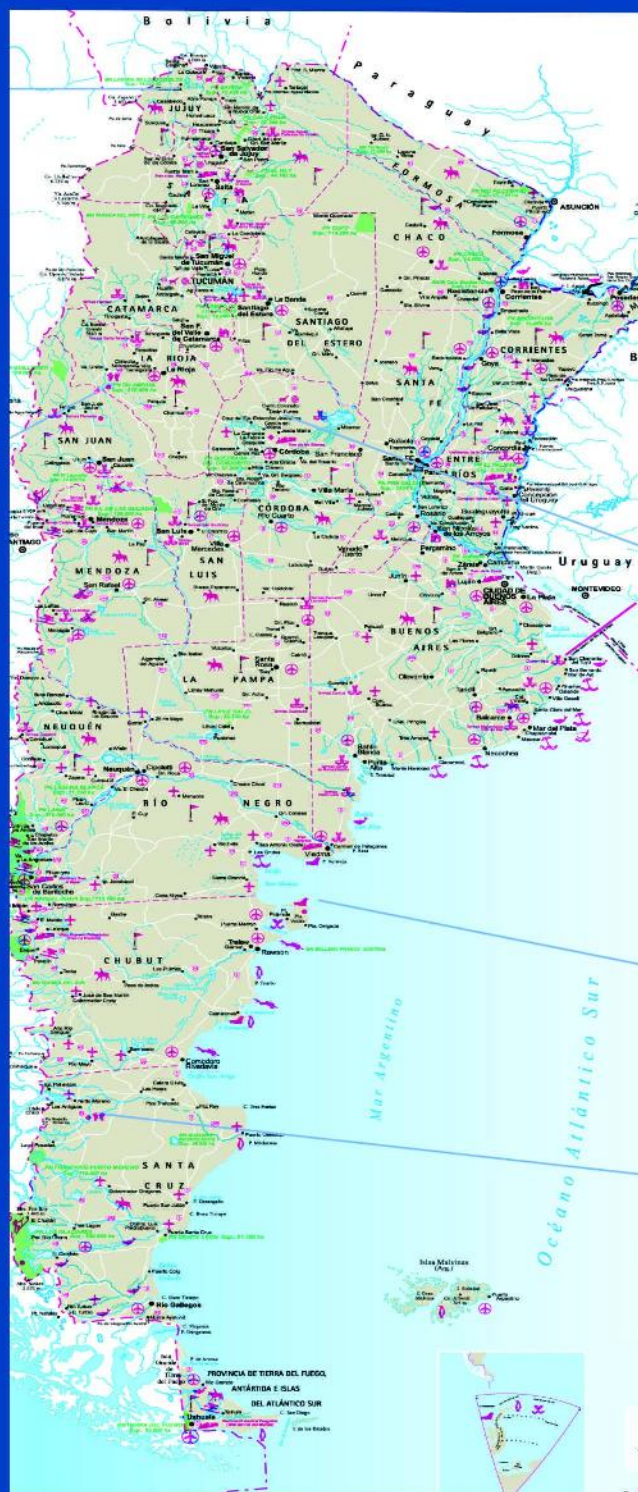
At the Southern edge of Latin America, there is an amazing land of contrast. A vast country full of breathtaking natural beauty, extensive plains, desert plateaus, fertile valleys, high snow-capped peaks, low hill ranges, striking mountains and volcanoes, multicolored hills, salt lakes, clear lakes and large rivers, a sub-tropical rainforest and ancient woods.

A place where your emotions will be intensified in celebrations and festivals, in the city and in the country in natural towns sharing with the indigenous, by religious, artistic and cultural expressions, and by the passion for sports.

An ancient paradise where you will breathe in rich aromas, enjoy exquisite dishes and taste excellent wines. Where you will rest and relax, because you will be taken care of and pampered. Where you will enjoy adventures full of pure adrenaline and feel a rush with each step you take.

A destination where you will also make your best business deals.

A country that awakens passions, turning your trip into a unique and unforgettable





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Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentine

experience.

Argentina has a singular and varied geography, where vast plains and desert plateaus coexist with fertile valleys. A place where low hill ranges and stunning mountains rise. Where subtropical rainforests embrace the most diverse animal and plant species. In each of its regions –Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Cuyo, Norte, Litoral and Patagonia-, Argentina offers you stunning and breathtaking natural attractions.

For this reason Argentina is the place to enjoy ecotourism at its best. You can travel along fields, rainforests, hills and mountains, go along large rivers, clear water lakes and millenary glaciers, and observe the animals and plants growing in the wild in its protected regions, while admiring the thousand birds that fly across the country's blue skies. In Argentina you can experience nature with joy and excitement.

BUENOS AIRES Passion for the city, passion for the country

Buenos Aires is a city that inspires love at first sight. Located along the coast of the De La Plata River, this elegant, modern, historical, cosmopolitan and passionate city conquers you with its vast cultural,

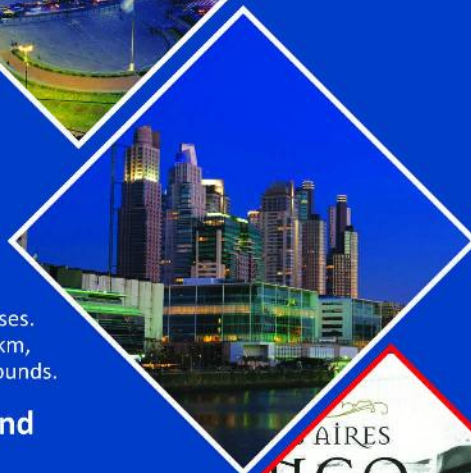
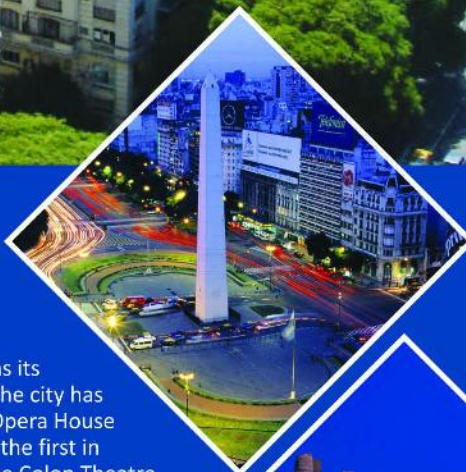
culinary, sports, academic and spiritual range of activities as well as its intense nightlife. The city has the third largest Opera House of the world, and the first in Latinoamerica, The Colon Theatre.

The rhythm of tango music, the fervor of sports fans –both in soccer matches and polo championships- go hand in hand with the talent of local designers and the sophistication of golf courses. Buenos Aires has, in a radius of 60 km, 200 Golf Courses and 150 Polo Grounds.

Art, culture, tradition and modernity

Arts have found the perfect stage and audience in the city of Buenos Aires. Tango, literature, music, films, and theatre can all be enjoyed there. Visit the magnificent Teatro Colón and participate in the international festivals, such as the Tango Dance Festival and the Tango World Championship.

Tango is one of the most identifying expressions of Buenos Aires, and was declared Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 2009.





CORDOBA Hills with history

The province of Córdoba, located in the geographical centre of Argentina, is one of the country's major tourist destinations.

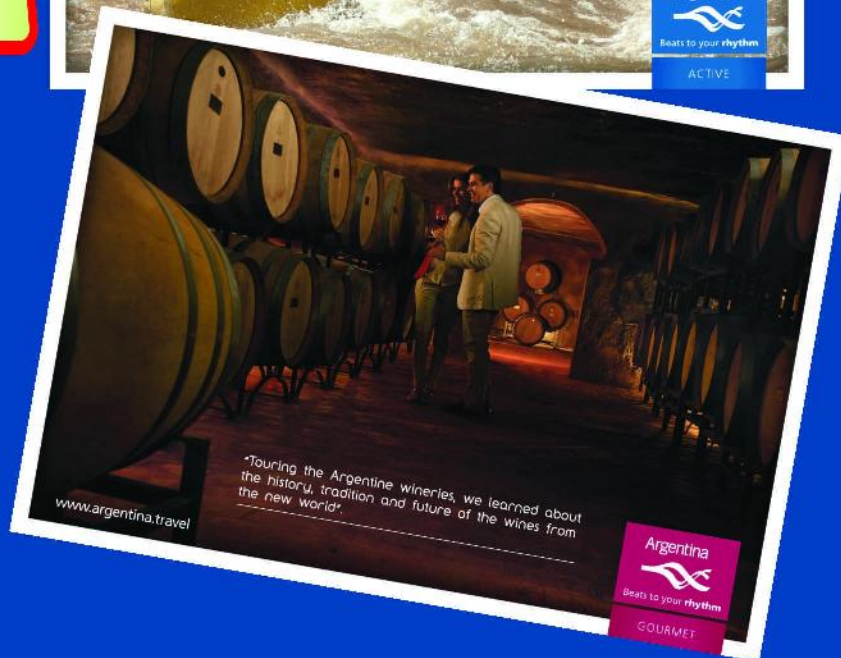
In Córdoba tradition and modernity, industry and artisanal works peace and adventure combine in perfect harmony. In this land where the plains become hills and the fertile valleys are crowded by streams and mounts you will connect with nature in a truly unique way.

Along the hilly places once populated by Comechingones, Jesuits, gauchos and central European immigrants, you can discover historic treasures such as the Jesuit Block and Ranches –World Heritage Sites–, as well as natural treasures such as the Quebrada del Condorito National Park, Traslasierra, Campaqui, Uritorco and Colorado hills

CUYO, High peaks, wines and sun - La Rioja, San Juan, Mendoza, San Luis-

Located in the west-central region of Argentina, Cuyo features stunning landmarks such as Mount Aconcagua in Mendoza, the highest peak in the world apart the ones at the Himalaya and Karakoram; the mysterious Ischigualasto Provincial Park (known as "Valle de la Luna") in San Juan, the impressive Talampaya in La Rioja and the ancient Sierras de las Quijadas in San Luis.

Cuyo is the main wine-producing area in Argentina, known worldwide for its wine excellence. In the province of Mendoza (eighth wine capital of the world according to the Great Wine Capitals International network), San Juan and La Rioja the properties of the soil, a dry and



sunny climate together with a precise irrigation system by means of ditches of dripping, allow grapes to fully develop their best qualities. Mendoza has developed the "Malbec" wine, that is known around the world and has become a trade mark of Argentina.

Wine Routes are an option to meet the culture of the "New World Wine" through an interesting tour of wineries that open their doors to tourism. Every year Mendoza hosts a wonderful festival called "La Vendimia" where

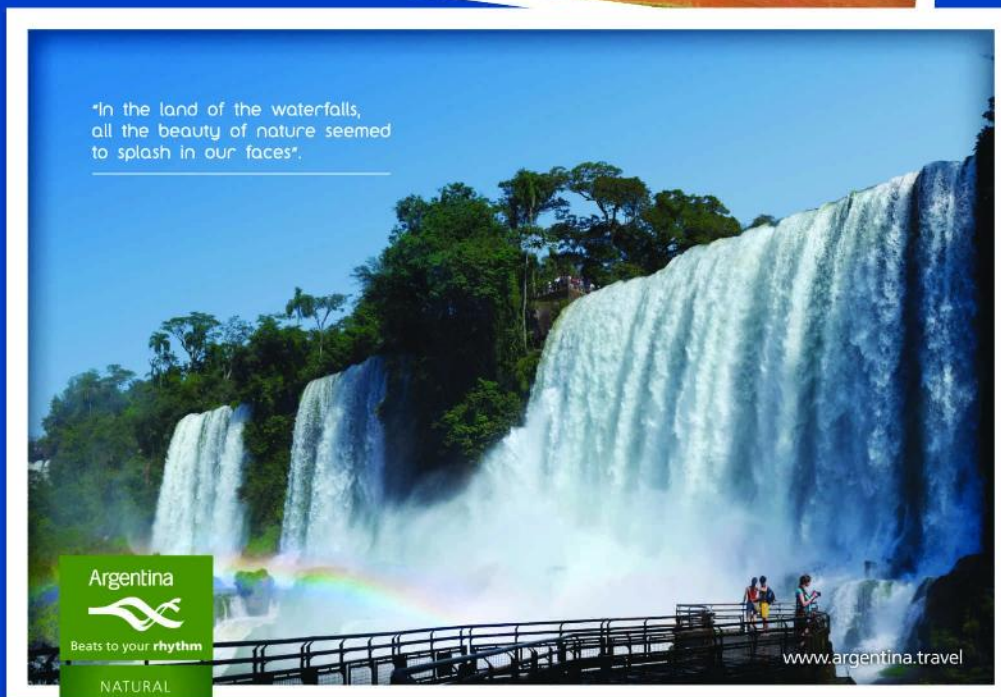
thousands of people attend: Local and foreigners.

THE LITORAL, Abundance of nature and Joy

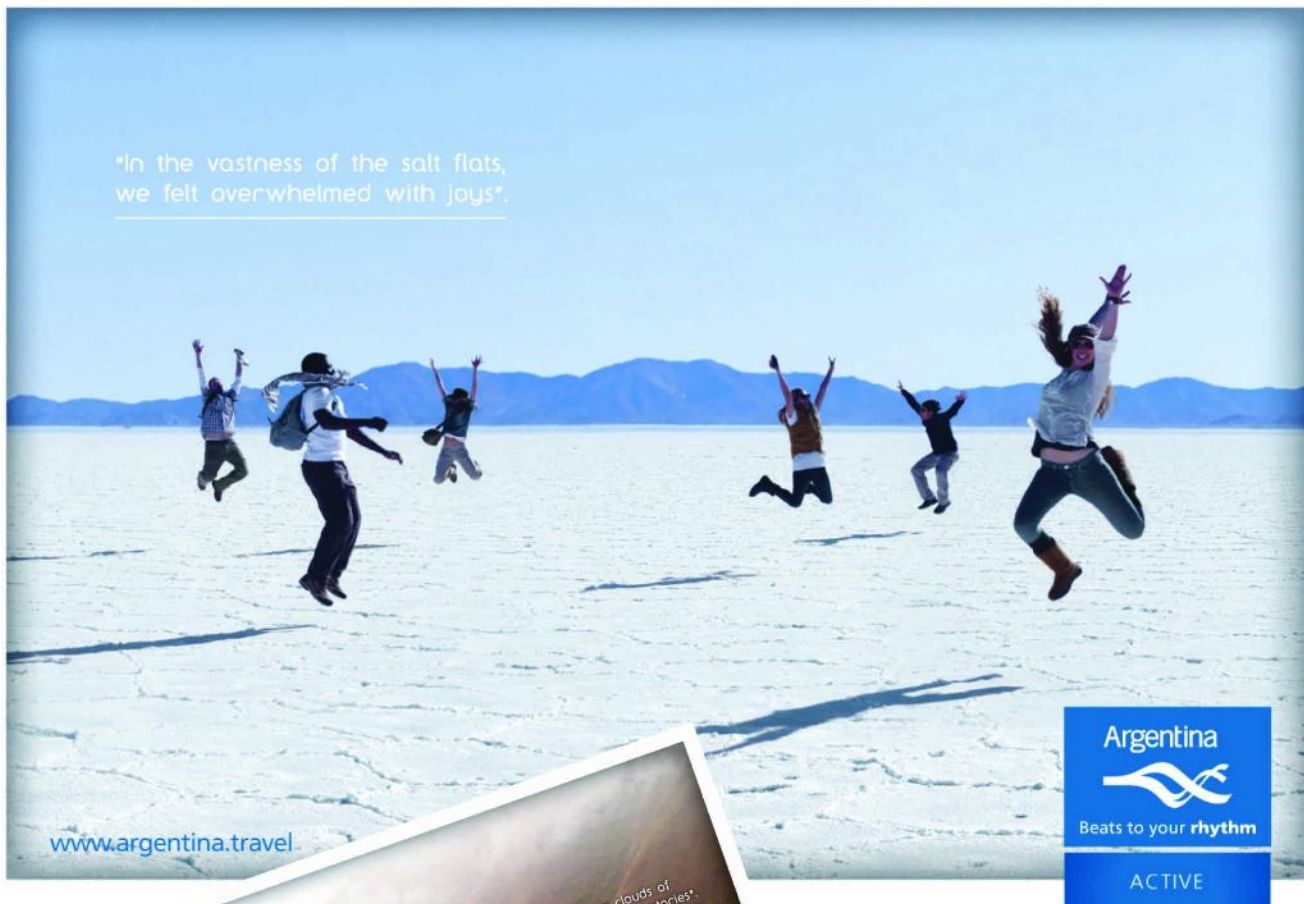
The Litoral, formed by the provinces of Formosa, Chaco, Misiones, Corrientes, Entre Ríos and Santa Fe in the north-east region of Argentina, seduces you with its wild nature. The Iguazú National Park –World Heritage Site- and its rainforest are beyond

impressive. Its endless marshlands, large rivers and astounding waterfalls will surely take your breath away. The Iguazú Falls, the largest fall in the world are at the Misiones Province, and has been declared one of the "Seven New Wonders of the World".

In Misiones the air still rings with the echoes of guaraníes –aboriginal people of the area-; Jesuits –who came from Europe at the beginning of the 18th century- and their existence in the Guaraní Jesuit Missions, declared



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Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentina

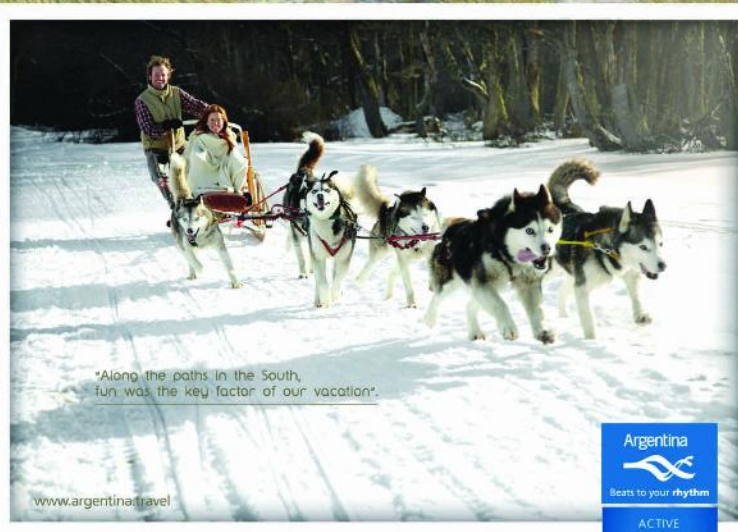
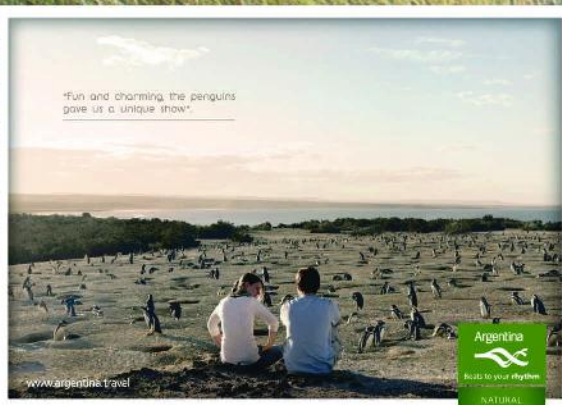


World Heritage by UNESCO. Paying attention you will be able to hear in the air the sweet guaraní language, which is still in use and frequently spoken and the local lively music known as Chamamé.

NORTE Colored Hills and ancestral traditions

In the North region formed by the provinces of Jujuy, Salta, Tucumán, Catamarca and Santiago del Estero, nature displays all its qualities with great generosity, offering an unforgettable show. You can walk among clouds or take a train up to the skies to discover new horizons: The PUta and its Salinas Grandes; in Salta and in Jujuy, the Humahuaca Ravine –World Heritage Site–, in Jujuy the beautiful Calchaquies Valleys, running through Salta, Tucumán and Catamarca, and the pleasant hot springs of Rio Hondo in Santiago del Estero. Salta is the most traditional Province in the country with an important presence of the Spanish tradition.

Traveling over the region, you will find the legacy of old pre-Columbian towns and the Inca influence still present traditions, culture, art, religion and celebrations.



SUR End of the world mystic beauty.

In the south of Argentina, between the Andes and the Atlantic Ocean, the Patagonia features a breathtaking landscape. At the foot of mountains, through millenary forest, fertile valleys and colorful lakes, the south slowly gives way to the eternal ice of the glaciers. Patagonia is formed by the Provinces of Río Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz, Neuquén and Tierra del Fuego

Patagonia has always been a land of travelers and adventurers. Discover the natural settings ideal for practicing extreme sports and a culture that is the result of

the combination of native peoples and settlers. Because the south is much more than you expect, with its legendary trains and delicious flavors, its thermal waters and lakes, rivers and seas, a place where you can practice sport fishing and sail to the very end of the world. At Tierra del Fuego Province (Fire Land Province), we find the southeast city in the world, called Ushuaia.

Took a catamaran tour on the beagle channel to see such a beautiful day with natural surroundings. Albatross, seals and lots of sea birds, clear waters and beautiful hills.

CONTACTS:

National Department of Tourism
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Ph: 00 92 54 11 4312 2232
E-mail: info@turismo.gov.ar
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The secret of Argentina Park

In memorial of
Ambassador
Ortiz de Rozas



By Eduardo Bustamante, former DHM of the Argentine Embassy Pakistan (2007-2012)

A reference figure in the diplomatic field and tireless promoter of agreements and peacekeeping, Ambassador Carlos Ortiz de Rozas died at age 87 a few weeks ago in Buenos Aires after a long and worthy career in the Argentine foreign service. As Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations Ambassador Ortiz de Rozas twice chaired the Security Council and presided the UN General Assembly. He was for many years the Foreign Secretary at the

MOFA and also excelled as ambassador to Great Britain, United States and France, often in complex circumstances.

He had graduated as a lawyer at the University of Buenos Aires and from the Diplomatic Academy of the Foreign Ministry. In 1948 he joined the Foreign Service and reached the rank of ambassador in 1967.

But it was in December of 1971, that his

diplomatic career brought him closest to Pakistan in spite of geographical distances. During the days of the second Indo-Pakistani war, in the UN Security Council, Ambassador Ortiz de Rozas was able to lead the diplomatic opinion towards the drafting and approval of a UN Resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire; the return of the Indian troops that had invaded East Pakistan and the immediate exchange of the prisoners of war and





return of refugees. He cleverly maneuvered around the systematic Soviet veto to his initiative and through a "Uniting for Peace" motion was able to place the matter in the hands of an special UN General Assembly where it was approved by a great majority.

Ambassador Ortiz de Rozas recalls in the Memoirs that he published only two years before his death, that his main objective was to prevent that the confrontation between India and Pakistan could develop into a larger scale conflict involving the superpowers of the moment. After the crisis had passed, both the representatives of India, Samar Sen, and Pakistan, Agha Shahi, expressed their gratitude to Ortiz de Rozas for his impartial efforts towards the peace of the region.

Furthermore, in the middle of the diplomatic tensions produced by the Indo-Pakistani war, the UN Security Council was called to vote on the selection of a new UN Secretary General to replace U Thant. Ortiz de Rozas' peace initiative had brought him international attention so France proposed him for the position. Alas, he had also gained the resentment of the Soviet Ambassador, Yakov Malik, and his candidacy was vetoed by the U.S.S.R. in spite of receiving more votes than the austrian candidate, Kurt Waldheim, who in the end was elected.

On the 25th May 1973, the government of Pakistan, led by President Sulfikar Ali Bhutto, gave the name of Argentina Park to the beautiful green area in G-6, as a token

of appreciation and recognition to Argentina commitment to international peace and stability. It has been greatly enhanced by several argentine ambassadors with the introduction of typical trees from far away Latin America and is beautifully preserved by the Capital Development Authority. On May 25th 2010, the Ambassador of Argentina together with the Chairman CDA commemorated the 200 Anniversary of Argentina Independence with a ceremony at the Argentina Park and the installation of a plaque.

Already retired from public life,

Ambassador Carlos Ortiz de Rozas only learnt in 2011 how Pakistan had recognized his diplomatic efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the 1971 crisis, when current Argentine Ambassador Rodolfo J. Martin-Saravia informed him and presented several photographs of the park and the beautiful capital city.

Argentina Park is one of the secrets of Islamabad: a silent recognition to the efforts for world peace of a giant of diplomacy. It remains, to this day, the only park in Pakistan that bears the name of a foreign country.



Activities of Dean of the Diplomatic Corps **Ambassador Rodolfo J. Martin Saravia** *during last two years*

In August 2012 H.E Rodolfo Martin Saravia, the Ambassador of Argentina, assumed the charge of the Dean of Diplomatic Corps and ever since that day he fulfills his duties as the Dean with great diligence and commitment. After the

Ambassador Rodolfo Martin Saravia assumed his responsibilities as the Dean he, along with the strong and generous support of his colleagues, has developed a very active agenda involving the Diplomatic community in various kinds of activities

such as golf tournaments, receptions to bid farewell to more than 20 outgoing Ambassadors and High Commissioners, dinners to welcome newcomer Heads of the Missions, movie functions and trips around the country, etc.



Reception to bid farewell to Heads of the Missions of India, Bosnia, Korea and Netherlands, 29- may-2013



Reception to bid farewell to Ambassadors of Japan and Denmark, 25- June-2013



Reception to bid farewell to Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia, 1 Oct-2012



Reception to bid farewell to Ambassador of the State of Palestine, 31 Aug-2012



Reception to bid farewell to Ambassador of the United States of America, 19-July-2012



First AGAP Golf Tournament at Garden City Golf & Country Club, June 2012

On 6th April 2014 a trip to Katas Raj temples in the province of Punjab organized by the Dean of Diplomatic Corps in coordination with Mr. Naeem Sarfraz and the Province of Punjab.

Dean of the Diplomatic Corps H. E. Mr. Rodolfo Martin Saravia with ambassadors of Romania, Tunisia, H.C. of Bangladesh, Switzerland, Cuba, Austria, Nepal, Italy, Spain, H.C. of Mauritius, H.C. of Canada, H.C. of South Africa, Netherlands, Bosnia, Brunei, Philippines, Amb Zaheer Janjua and Madame (Former Chief of Protocol), Naeem Sarfraz and Madame visiting the beautiful Temples of Katas Raj in the province of Punjab.



From 29th till 31st Jan, 2013 a trip was organized by the Dean of Diplomatic Corps H.E Rodolfo Martin Saravia in coordination with the Ex-Chief of

Protocol of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Ghalib Iqbal to Karachi and Mohenjo- Daro archaeological site and Museum.

20 Heads of Missions with their wives participated in this trip, who represented all the regions of the world.

Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentine



A group photo: visit to Karachi and Mohenjo- Daro archaeological site and Museum



Dinner in honor of H.E Hina Rabbani Khar

Dinner hosted by the Dean of Diplomatic Corps H.E Rodolfo Martin Saravia in honor of Federal Minister of the Foreign Affairs H.E Hina Rabbani Khar on 26th Feb 2013. This dinner was attended by 60 Heads of Missions along with high authorities from the Foreign Ministry. This event was sponsored by Mr. Aiz Boolani CEO of Serena Hotels.



Dinner hosted in honor of H.E Hina Rabbani Khar

On 4th Dec 2012 a dinner was arranged by the Dean of Diplomatic Corps to bid farewell to the year 2012 at La Montaña Restaurant in Margalla Hills. The dinner was attended by 40 Heads of Missions, Federal Secretaries, MNA's and distinguished members of the business and social community. This event was done with the generous support of Mr. Muhammad Amjad.



Group photo, dinner at La Montaña

Among the various events done during these two years by the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, we can mention the following ones:

A grand Dinner was hosted by the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps to bid farewell to the Federal Secretary of Foreign Affairs H.E Jalil Abbas Jilani and Madam on Thursday 28th November 2013, who was designated Ambassador of Pakistan to United States. The event was very successful with the participation of 64 Heads of Missions including 54 Ambassadors and High Commissioners accompanied by their spouses and 10 Charge D' Affairs as well as High authorities of Pakistan like the Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Tariq Fatemi and Madam, the Federal Secretary of Commerce H.E. Mr. Qasim M. Niaz and Madam, the Additional Foreign Secretary (Americas) H.E. Ms. Naghmana A. Hashmi, the Ex-Foreign Secretary AMB (R) Riaz Khokhar and Madam, etc., with generous sponsorship of Serena Hotel.



Dinner to bid farewell to the Federal Secretary of Foreign Affairs H.E Jalil Abbas Jilani and Madam



A group photo: the Dean of Diplomatic Corps and the Regional Deans presenting the souvenir to the Federal Secretary of Foreign Affairs H.E Jalil Abbas Jilani.

Special Supplement on the
Occasion of 204th Independence
Day of People Republic of Argentine



A group photo at the graveyard of Makkli



A group photo at the house of Mrs. Magsi

A memorable trip consisted of a group of 15 Ambassadors and their spouses to the Sindh Province on 20th and 21st February organized by the Dean and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Sargodhian Spirit Trust, Mr. Tasneem Noorani (Former Federal Secretary of Commerce and Interior). The trip had the support from the Government of Sindh, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Pakistan Air Force. The main aim of the trip was to participate in the 9th Founders Day of Sargodhian Spirit Trust (SST), which is a charitable organization aiming to provide quality education to the children of deprived families. The group also visited the city of Hyderabad where they were hosted by Mrs Raheela Magsi with a fantastic dinner and musical show. After that the group visited the magnificent graveyard of Makkli and the Kingar Lake in the Province of Sindh



A group photo at the Sargodhian Spirit Trust



The “Malvinas Islands Question” A long battle for peaceful resolution

The “Malvinas Islands Question”, means the sovereignty dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom over the Malvinas (Falkland Islands in the colonial nomenclature), South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime spaces. A complete dossier on the Question of the Malvinas Islands has been included in this publication so that here it will be drawn a very short briefing just to analyze it in regard the bilateral relations between Argentina and Pakistan.

The Malvinas Islands are an archipelago in the South Atlantic Ocean, located about 460 km from the coast of mainland Argentina and about 14.000 km from the United Kingdom. The archipelago consists of Isla Soledad and Isla Gran Malvina and 776 lesser islands. On 3 January 1833, the Malvinas Islands were invaded by British forces that displaced by force the Argentine population and authorities (including the Governor) that had legitimately settled there and replaced them with subjects from the occupying power. The Argentine Republic immediately protested this illegitimate forceful act that is still maintained, without

consenting to it at any time.

It is not widely known that UK claims the right to our islands based on this sole argument: the will of the people living on the islands. In this regard, we should look consider that the tiny population of the Islands (3.000 individuals) has been implanted by a colonial power a hundred and eighty years ago and are British citizens ruled by a Governor appointed by Her Majesty. Clearly a geostrategic enclave of the once Maritime Superpower, the Malvinas Islands are one of the last cases of unsolved decolonization that remains after the successful process started after the Second World War.

The permanent sovereignty claim over these territories is one of the pillars of our foreign policy and our national decision to pursue this claim by diplomatic and exclusively pacific means has been enshrined in our National Constitution. That claim was not only present in the United Nations Organization since its work began, but also emerged even during the process that led to its creation, when, at

the end of World War II, the San Francisco Conference on International Organization was held.

Pakistan has always been a steadfast friend of Argentina about the Malvinas Islands. In all UN Resolutions Pakistan has voted with Argentina inviting both parts involved in the sovereignty dispute to solve it by peaceful negotiations. The UK always refused to put into practice the UN Resolutions on this issue.

H.E. Rodolfo Martin-Saravia, following instructions from the Argentinean Foreign Ministry, has convened personalities from the academic, cultural, political, social and media realms of Pakistani society to form the Pakistan's Solidarity Group on the Question of the Malvinas Islands. The Group, which is integrated by outstanding personalities of Pakistan, was established in late 2011. Thence, the members of the Group have been doing a remarkable and outstanding diffusion work in order to let Pakistani people know the position and rights of Argentina on the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands. Argentina is well aware of this help and will remain beholden to the Group.

Argentina knows and understands the wide relations, the great interest and the deep and strong links between Pakistan and the United Kingdom due especially to history, trade and language. In that sense, before and after the military conflict of 1982, relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom have been generous and deep. More than 30.000 British Nationals live in Argentina, the presence of huge historical British investments in the agricultural, dairy and beef and transport and communications have helped to shape Argentina's economic power and development since its Independence and so, the desire of Argentina is not to ask Pakistan to stand against the United Kingdom but to support the UN mandate to summon the United Kingdom to undertake negotiations with Argentina on the sovereignty of the Malvinas.

Constantly, the United Kingdom has denied to do so appealing to any excuse. The last maneuvering of the United Kingdom regarding the "Malvinas Islands" was a referendum to decide if territory under the sovereignty dispute has to be British. The referendum took place on Sunday the 10th and Monday the 11th March 2013 among the habitants of the islands. The outcome does not surprise anyone as it was a referendum organized by British people, for British people, with the purpose of asserting that the territory has to be British. As our country is wholly and unconditionally committed to respecting the identity, the interests and the way of life of the inhabitants of the Malvinas (as it is done with the 250,000 British descendants living in mainland Argentina), Argentina maintain that they do not have the right to decide in this dispute. They are British, but the territory where they live belongs to Argentina.

Following it is enclosed the Press Release of the Argentine Government regarding the aforementioned referendum:

"A further attempt by the British to manipulate the Question of the Malvinas Islands".

The United Kingdom has called for a vote by the inhabitants that it implanted in the Malvinas Islands in order for them to decide on matters which aim to distort the true legal status of these islands. The Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are the subject of a sovereignty dispute between the United Kingdom and Argentina which has been recognized by both countries as well as by the international community as a whole. Therefore, the United Kingdom has no right to alter the legal status of these territories, not even under the guise of a

hypothetical referendum.

Instead of complying with its international obligations by resuming negotiations with Argentina to solve the dispute, the British Government in an attitude that clearly demonstrates the absence of any grounds for its claim, and, above all, a lack of good faith- seeks to introduce elements aimed at distorting the definition given by international law to this dispute, which is reflected in several pronouncements by the international community. Aware of its international isolation with regards to the Question of the Malvinas Islands, the United Kingdom is clearly attempting to distort its dispute with Argentina, and not to solve it.

The Malvinas Islands are an archipelago in the South Atlantic Ocean, located about 460 km from the coast of mainland Argentina and about 14.000 km from the United Kingdom. The archipelago consists of Isla Soledad and Isla Gran Malvina and 776 lesser islands. On 3 January 1833, the Malvinas Islands were invaded by British forces that displaced by force the Argentine population and authorities (including the Governor) that had legitimately settled there and replaced them with subjects from the occupying power.

However, the United Kingdom cannot modify the dispute at will. This vote -as well as the many more polls or votes that the United Kingdom could make up in the disputed territories involved in the Question of the Malvinas Islands- cannot have its pretended outcome and does not exempt the United Kingdom from complying with the obligation imposed by international law, that is, to peacefully solve the sovereignty dispute with Argentina by resuming negotiations.

The United Nations and several regional organizations such as the Organization of American States (OAS), CELAC, UNASUR, MERCOSUR and other international and bi-

regional fora, such as the Group of 77 and China, the Ibero-American Summit, the Africa South America Summit (ASA), the Summit of South American Arab Countries (ASPA) and the South Atlantic Peace and Cooperation Zone (ZPCAS) have urged the United Kingdom and Argentina to resume these negotiations precisely to solve this dispute.

The Argentine Constitution specifically protects the way of life of the population of the Malvinas Islands. Meanwhile, UN General Assembly Resolution 2065 (XX) calls upon both parties in the dispute, Argentina and the United Kingdom, to bear in mind the interests of such population. On the basis of this mandate, the Argentine Republic regrets these initiatives by the United Kingdom, which are both irresponsible and lacking in good faith, and urges it to seriously reconsider its policy directed to misinforming about the legal and political facts of the disputed territory.

This British initiative is not in line with any of the 40 United Nations resolutions on the Question of the Malvinas Islands, which is considered to be a special and particular case of decolonization, in which the existence of a sovereignty dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom must be settled through bilateral negotiations, taking into account the interests (not the wishes) of the inhabitants of the Islands. The General Assembly expressly rejected, twice in 1985, British proposals to incorporate the principle of self-determination in the draft resolution on the Question of the Malvinas Islands.

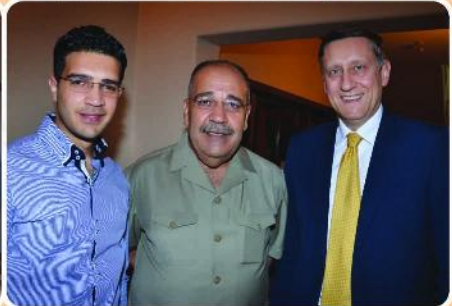
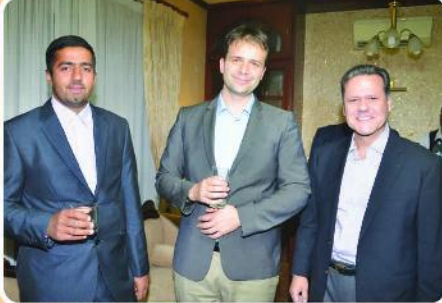
Moreover, the behavior of the United Kingdom has not been consistent with the principle of self-determination of peoples, which it alleges is applicable to the Question of the Malvinas Islands. Its false invocation of the aforementioned principle in this Question contrasts with its position in other cases of decolonization, such as the matter of the Chagos Archipelago, case in which it expelled native inhabitants and has deprived them, to date, of their right of return. Nor did the British government seek the opinion of the inhabitants of Hong Kong when it returned that territory to its legitimate owner, the Republic of China.

This new British attempt to manipulate the Question of the Malvinas Islands through a vote by the population implanted by the United Kingdom in the Malvinas Islands has been firmly rejected by the Argentine Republic, as well as by UNASUR and MERCOSUR member countries, among other fora, since this attempt will not alter the essence of the Question of the Malvinas nor will it put an end to the sovereignty dispute, which must be solved in accordance with international law and the several UN resolutions on the issue".

Ambassador of Romania
H. E Mr. Emilian Jon

**hosts a reception to bid farewell outgoing Defence Attaché
Col. Paul Doru Resmerita, and Welcome to new Defence
Attaché Col. PhD. Catalin Cirlanaru, in Islamabad**





Pak Malaysia Business Council (North) holds a welcome reception in the honor of Pak-High Commissioner to Malaysia Syed Hasan Raza at Islamabad Hotel





CONFERMENT OF THE TITLE “DATO”



In recognition of the services rendered to the country and the State of Pahang while serving as the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Pakistan, His Royal Highness (HRH), Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al- Musta'in Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mu'azam 0053hah of Pahang has awarded the prestigious “Darjah Kebesaran Negeri Pahang Darul Makmor, DIMP” award which carries the title “DATO” to H.E. Dato' Dr. Hasrul Sani Muhtabar. The wife of the High Commissioner automatically carries the title “DATIN”, as well to become Datin Habibah Mahmud.

The glittering and traditional occasion was done at the Palace of Pahang in Pekan, Malaysia, on 5 April, 2014 following the 83th Birthday Celebration of the His Royal Highness the king. The award was given through the Crown Prince, HRH Tengku Abdullah Ibni Sultan Ahmad Shah. With the conferment of the title “DATO”, it is hoped that the High Commissioner of Malaysia would inspire to work harder for the enhancement of the brotherly relations between Malaysia and Pakistan.





International Conference devoted to the 290th Birth Anniversary of the Turkmen Classic Poet Makhtumkuli Fragi in Islamabad



The Embassy of Turkmenistan in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in collaboration with the Society of Civilizations Pakistan organized on May 5th, 2014, the International Conference devoted to the 290th Birth Anniversary of the Turkmen Classic Poet Makhtumkuli Fragi.

The conference was attended by Chief Guest H.E. Mr. Muhammad Akram Zaki, senator, former Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, representatives and members of Society of Civilizations Pakistan, well-known public figures and scholars from different regions of Pakistan, teachers and students of the University of Modern Languages and some other universities in Islamabad, Ambassadors and diplomats accredited in

Islamabad, and also representatives of mass media.

The floors were given to H.E. Mr. Akram Zaki, doctor of historical sciences, professor Zulfagar Ali Qureshi, President of the Society of Civilization Pakistan, Mr. Malik Tariq Hayat, Senior Vice President Society of Civilization Pakistan.

Key Note Address was delivered by H.E. Ambassador Sapar Berdiniyazov, former Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Pakistan.

Research Papers were delivered by Mr. Ashfaq Ahmad Malik, Lecturer, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies of National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, and Dr. Saima Kayani, Chairperson, Department of Defence & Diplomatic Studies of National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad.



The video film reflecting the achievements of modern Turkmenistan in the sphere of culture was shown within the framework of the conference.

Participants of the conference were acquainted with the life and works of the poet.

Speakers on the conference underlined that Makhtumkuli is a national poet of the Turkmen people, at the same time he is thinker-humanist who cared about all human beings. Makhtumkuli's poetical-philosophical literary heritage remains in the bottom of the heart of the people as love-saga to Almighty, Homeland, human being, nature and life.

Makhtumkuli's literary heritage is highly appreciated not only for the richness of its language or beauty and diversity of its style, but for the development of wise philosophical thoughts, for the masterful depiction of the different sides of the secular life, and for the contribution to the human intelligence. The great Turkmen thinker searches the ways leading a person to the freedom of soap, spiritual perfection, and moral purity. The poet believes that the word of art is able to have influence on people's mind and senses, change it, guide to the right way, sincere doings.

His love for creativity, peaceful life in the country and his militant thinking to improve the fate of the ordinary people made him prominent and took him out of the national boundaries. A personality who serves faithfully to mankind can be useful for everyone; a person who won the hearts of his people can won souls of the other people as well. The poet expressed his philosophical views through poetical precepts that a man should strive for the spiritual perfectness. He appealed his contemporaries to build a fear society, because he knew the essence of freedom and the motive of the conflicts; he calls upon his people to understand the human nature, be sensible, unite and create statehood.

Today, Magtymguly's dreams about the free independent state came true. The people of Turkmenistan have taken the path of independence live and create the free and prosperous country.





By Sajid Ali Zaidi

SERENA HOTELS

Photo by Ramzan Mughal

Role of Nuclear Deterrence in South Asian Region stressed

SASSI holds Three-Day Int'l Conference on Nuclear Deterrence and Emerging Dynamics in South Asia

Dr. Maria Sultan, renowned defence analyst and Director General of South Asian Strategic Stability Institute (SASSI) University, has said that nuclear stability in South Asia is confronted by a numerous and seri

ous challenges, ranging from new ambitious limited war fighting concepts in the shape of Indian Military Cold Start Doctrine, and Pro Active Strategies to acquisition of Ballistic Missile Defence system (BMD) and massive increase of over \$43 billion in India's

contingencies, other than retaliating with massive retaliation.

She said that NASR has added deterrence value and enhanced Islamabad's response options vis-a-vis India. Moreover, primary purpose of developing three tiers of deterrence is to make the enemy clear regarding the cost of any option- also to force the adversary to deescalate and avoid hostilities.

Continuous development of nuclear muscles and rapid transformation in conventional as well as nuclear doctrines in two nuclear armed rivals have put South Asian region into the centre of world's attention, she highlighted.

Cold Start Doctrine joint with massive militarization force has the capability to increase the level of an arms race, hence raising the level of minimum deterrence stability in the region, she added.

While speaking on the issue of deterrence stability of South Asia, Mr. Hou Hongyue, Research Fellow at China People's Association for Peace and Disarmament, said that Indo-US deal and Ballistic Missile Defence system are negative developments for regional stability. Furthermore, the international community must act responsibly. He claimed that China does not consider India as a nuclear threat.

Pakistan nuclear apparatus is at par with the international standards and Pakistan attaches great importance to nuclear security, he said.

He further stated that the developments of global missile defence system by the US, are posing serious challenges to the international strategic stability.

Dr. Pervez Iqbal Cheema, Dean, faculty of Contemporary Studies, National Defense University, said that Pakistan has unique geo-strategic position and Pakistan is destined to play a vital role regionally, and at the international level. While speaking on the issue of genesis of Pakistan's nuclear program, he remarked that serious threats from its eastern border led Pakistan to develop nuclear deterrent capability.



conventional defense spending. She was addressing to international Conference on "Nuclear Deterrence and Emerging dynamics in South Asia", here in Islamabad.

Dr. Maria stated that the developments in the neighbourhood compelled Pakistan to increase its dependence on nuclear deterrence in view of evolving non-traditional threats. NASR, Short Range Ballistic Missile System is one of the key elements of a 'Full Spectrum Deterrence (FSD)' Strategy. "The strategy is a response measure against the evolving threats, mainly emanating from neighbouring nuclear armed India." She expressed.

While analyzing Islamabad's rationale of FSD strategy, she was of the view that it has plugged the gap that apparently existed at the operational and tactical levels and denied India a space to launch limited military incursions in the form of CSD. Furthermore, NASR provides Pakistan's National Command Authority (NCA) additional options during the times of







Pakistani Senate delegation participate in Asia Parliamentary Assembly, Ankara

Pakistani Senate delegation participated in Asia Parliamentary Assembly meeting ANKARA. Senator Dr. Muhammad Jahangir Bader and Senator Mr. Muhammad Rafique Rajwana represented Pakistan in the Asia Parliamentary Assembly's Standing Committee Meeting on Political Affairs at Ankara, Turkey.

Senator Jehangir Bader, represented Chairman Senate Syed Nayyer Hussain Bokhari, who is the elected President of Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), addressed the inaugural session of the meeting. At the onset, he conveyed condolences of the Pakistani nation and Pakistani Parliament over the tragic incident of Soma, Manisa where over 280 miners lost their lives and many more are still trapped inside.

Senator Jehangir Bader said APA is the institutional voice of the Asian people. The present century belongs to Asia in the fields of development, human rights and fighting against terrorism, said the Senator. He said the vision of President of APA is to evolve this platform into an Asian Parliament.

Senator Mr. Muhammad Rafique Rajwana

in his address suggested that APA should make its own Chamber of Commerce & Industry giving representation to each country through already functional Chambers. He offered the expertise of Pakistan in establishing the proposed APA Chamber. The Pakistan delegation also

suggested to constitute a group of eminent and skilled persons of APA member countries to develop a vision for a more peaceful Asia in line with the decision of the 6th APA Plenary held at Islamabad.



Bosnia

offers Pakistan
a gateway to enter
into a huge
European market



An Exclusive Interview with H.E Nedim Makarevic Ambassador of Bosnia & Herzegovina

His Excellency Mr. Nedim Makarevic, the Ambassador of Bosnia & Herzegovina to Pakistan is very energetic and young diplomat who always remain busy in maintaining good relations and famous for his descent personality. He holds Electrical Engineering Degree and pursuing PhD in Economics from Cyprus International University. He participated in various national and international forums to represent his country and held different significant positions in the government. Few days back, the Ambassador Nedim Makarevic visited office of the Diplomatic Focus. He was the first Ambassador of any country who visited new office in F-11, Islamabad. During his stay in the office he exchanged bilateral relations and regional issues with Mian Fazal Elahi, Editor Diplomatic Focus. The Editor Diplomatic Focus expressed that Pakistan considers Bosnia & Herzegovina as close brother country and eager to enhance bilateral cooperation including trade, economy, education, culture, and tourism etc. and in this regard Diplomatic Focus would render its due role.

The Ambassador appreciated Diplomatic Focus role for promoting soft image of Pakistan all over the world. Later he visited different sections of the office of

diplomatic Focus.

During the visit of the Ambassador Nadem gave an exclusive interview to the Diplomatic Focus.

Q: Excellency would you like to elaborate Pak-Bosnia & Herzegovina relations?

A: We are two friendly, even more brotherly countries. Pakistan recognized the independence of Bosnia from Yugoslavia in 1992, and Pakistan and Bosnia established diplomatic relations. Pakistan sent UN Peacekeeping forces to the former Yugoslavia during the Yugoslav





wars. During the war, Pakistan supported Bosnia while providing technical support to Bosnia. Vice versa Bosnia supports Pakistan in every diplomatic occasion. The both countries signed MOU for defense cooperation in October 2012 during the visit of Bosnian President, Mr. Bakir Izetbegovic to Islamabad, the two countries vowed to boost their ties. Donations from Bosnian schoolchildren and the government funded the building of a school and health centre in Azad Jammu and Kashmir after the 2005 earthquake.

Pakistan was the third Islamic country by numbers of Bosniak refugees, following Turkey and Jordan, during the Bosnian war. In June 1993, at least 380 Bosnian refugees had arrived in Pakistan, almost 200 of them children. Pakistan said at the time that it would accept some nine thousand additional refugees. Many of the first 380 had been prisoners.

Q: What is geopolitical importance of Bosnia & Herzegovina and how Europe sees its position?

A: Bosnia and Herzegovina has important geo-strategic role. It is located in Southeastern Europe, in the western Balkans. It has a 932 km border with Croatia to the north and southwest, a 312 km border with Serbia to the east, and a 215 km border with Montenegro to the southeast. It borders the Adriatic Sea along its 20 km (12.42 mi) coastline. The most striking features of the local terrain are valleys and mountains which measure up

to 2386 m in height. The country is mostly mountainous, encompassing the central Dinaric Alps. The northeastern parts reach into the Pannonian basin, while in the south it borders the Adriatic Sea. There is. The accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the European Union is the aim of the present relations between the two entities. Bosnia and Herzegovina has been recognized by the EU as a "potential candidate country" for accession since the decision of the European Council in Thessaloniki in 2003. Bosnia and Herzegovina takes part in the Stabilization and Association Process, and the relative

bilateral SAA agreement has been signed in 2008, ratified in 2010, but it is still not into force. Meanwhile, the trade bilateral relations are regulated by an Interim Agreement. Bosnia has not yet formally applied for EU membership, and it thus remains a potential candidate country.

The nation had been making steady progress, including co-operation with the war crimes tribunal at The Hague, but this came to a halt in 2011 when the EU refused to ratify the Stabilization and Association Accord.

The EU established a regional approach to





the Western Balkans already in 1997, with political and economic conditionality criteria for the development of bilateral relations. The following year, a EU/Bosnia and Herzegovina Consultative Task Force was put in place to start the process. Since 2006, the task force is replaced by the Reform Process Monitoring (RPM).

Q: Trade always plays important role in economic growth keeping in the view this importance would you like to explain Pak-Bosnia bilateral trade relations?

A: The two countries have a free trade agreement and are currently negotiating Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA). The bilateral trade between the two countries is not on appropriate level. Much of the trade between the two is routed through some third country making products like surgical instruments, textile products, rice and lumber much more expensive. We need to change that. There are lots of possibilities especially in a defense programs. One of the main advantages of Bosnia is that there is no export quota for the most of the products. This is a fact what needs to be reconsidered by the Pakistani investors. Main export items from Pakistan are cotton, textile and yarn. Pakistan imports from Bosnia some machine spare parts.

We have until now four of them. This is not sufficient. We need more of them and I will definitely try my best to increase that number.

Just to visit Bosnia and to see the possibilities for yourself. I am pretty sure that the most of possibilities are actually unknown to the Pakistani business community. For example, we have a great food industry and exporting over 80% to the EU. I am talking about the high quality

chocolate, candy's, puddings everything halal. I am definitely sure that that has a great future in Pakistan.

Q: Do you think people to people contact and tourism could increase mutual trust and confidence; in this regard how many Pakistanis visited Bosnia and vice versa and what are visa facilities for Pakistani people?

A: Not too many Pakistanis visit Bosnia and Herzegovina every year. This number is approximately around 100 per year.

If you have a Schengen Visa you can freely travel to Bosnia and it not just Schengen. If you have a UK visa, US Passport and there are is lot of possibilities for the Pakistanis which are moving internationally.

Q: What are your basic targets as the ambassador?

A: There are several of them:

1. To make out bilaterally connections even more better
2. To increase bilaterally





- trade
3. To make a better connection in

terms of education and culture

places very soon.

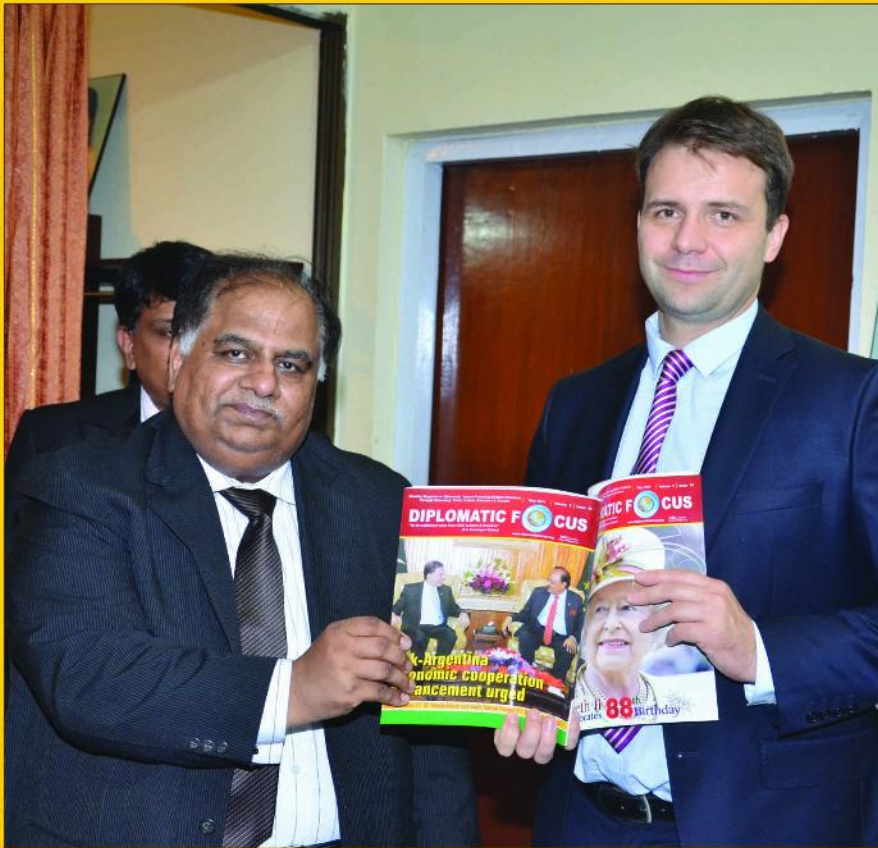
A four-member delegation from Sarajevo University visited NUST from February 03 to 04, 2014. The delegation was headed by Rector Sarajevo University Prof Dr Muharem Avdispahic. Upon their arrival at NUST, the esteemed guests were warmly received by Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar, which was followed by the delegates' meeting with Rector NUST at the latter's office. During the meeting, both sides showed keen interest in expanding meaningful cooperation especially in the fields of joint research, and faculty and student exchange programmes. The result is the 30 scholarships for the Bosnian student provided by NUST.

Pakistan is a great country with unfortunately not adequate image worldwide. I am feeling very well and have support here to "move the things" as a diplomat. I've been already to Lahore and Karachi and hope to visit also another

Q: Would you like to highlight tourism industry of Bosnia & Herzegovina and what are major places that attract people?

A: Tourism is field which is in big expansion recently. There are more and more tourists





every year in our country (spa tourism, rafting, seaside, eco-tourism, and ski resort -Winter Olympic Games in 1984 took place in our capital Sarajevo etc. To many people Bosnia and Herzegovina is an unknown land, tucked below the towering peaks of the central Dinaric Alps. Few are aware of its stunning beauty, pristine nature, unrivaled hospitality, and abundant rivers and natural springs. BiH's unique geographically positioning lends itself to

warm Mediterranean weather in the south and cooler continental temperatures in the Alpine North, providing nature lovers with a wide array of landscapes, flora and fauna, and thrilling outdoor activities. The southern extension of the Alps encompasses most of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This mountainous terrain creates perfect conditions for the eco tourist. Hiking and trekking, particularly in the central Dinaric Alps, is a magical

journey for both novices and the pro's. One can hike for days in BiH's outback, and visit some of the most isolated villages in Balkans. Other extremely interesting activities that one can enjoy include hiking, biking, fishing, canoeing, rafting, bird watching, and herb picking.

Q: What is your experience in Pakistan?

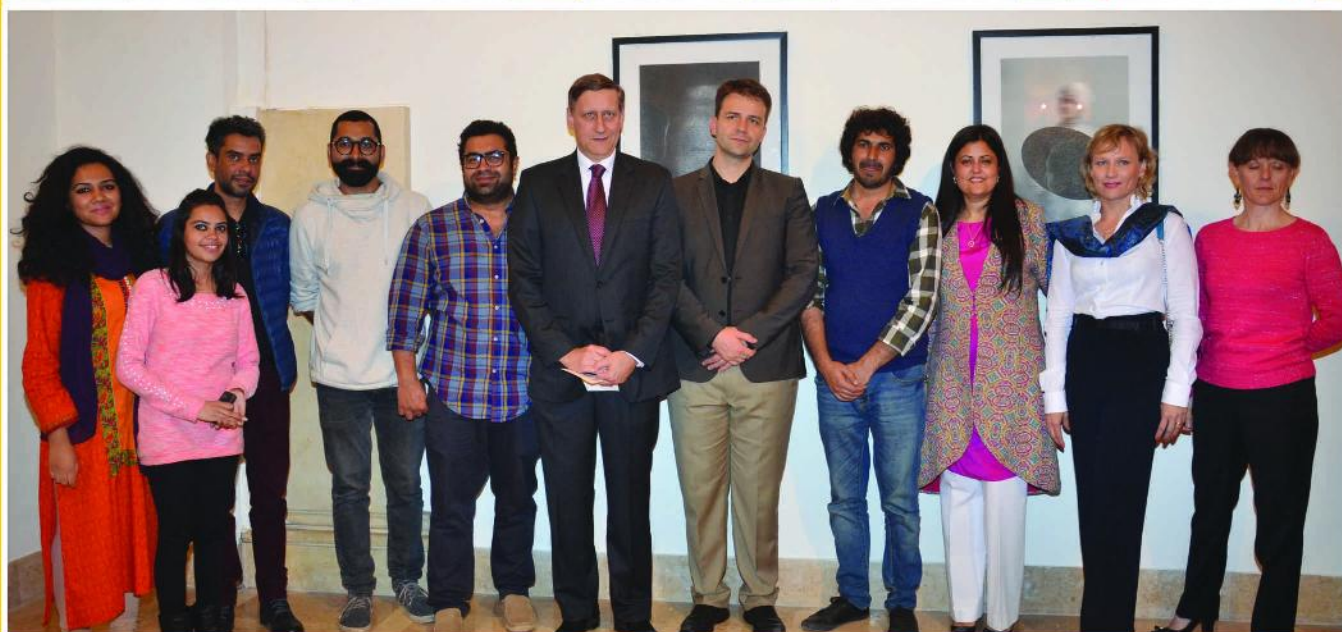
A: I have a wonderful time in Pakistan. It is a wonderful country and wonderful people. I feel friendly sentiment among Pakistani people as soon as we say we come from Bosnia. Our country is in your people's hearts and vice versa.

Q: Excellency! At the end of our conversation would you like to mention any observation?

A: I would like to mention the visit of our President Mr. Bakir Izetbegovic last time in 2012, October

Bosnia pledges to promote trade and exports ties with Pakistan. He said that Bosnia is keen to strengthen economic relations with Pakistan as the two countries have good potential to promote trade and exports. He expressed these views while addressing a seminar on "Pak-Bosnia Business Opportunities" organized by Trade Development Authority of Pakistan and Ministry of Commerce. Mr. Bakir Izetbegovic said that Bosnia offers Pakistan a gateway to enter into a huge European market of more than 600 million people and Pakistani entrepreneurs should explore Bosnia for increasing trade and capturing better market share in Europe. Pakistan and Bosnia should benefit from the process of globalization. Bosnia is a well-integrated economy with Europe and Pakistan can reap rich economic benefits by increasing trade & economic cooperation with it.





Heydar Aliyev Water Supply Scheme Launched

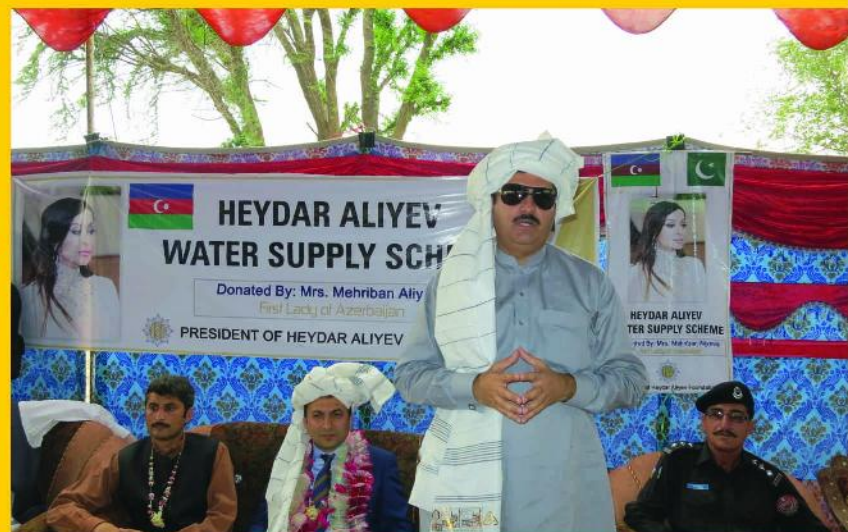
District Tank. KPK: The inauguration ceremony of Heydar Aliyev Water Supply Scheme constructed by Heydar Aliyev Foundation, led by Mrs. Mehriban Aliyeva, First Lady of Azerbaijan, Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO and ISESCO was organized at Naurang Tehsil, district Tank, Dera Ismail Khan.

Speaking at the ceremony the ex-speaker of National Assembly Faisal Karim Kundi thanked Mrs. Mehriban Aliyeva for the gesture of love to people of Pakistan, spoke about unique cordial relations that exist between Pakistan and Azerbaijan and shed light about the cooperation which is covering all spheres of life. He also shared his memories of visiting Azerbaijan last year, stressing over the warm feelings of Azerbaijanis to people of Pakistan.

Addressing audience Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Dashgin Shikarov greeted participants of the event on behalf of First Lady and people of Azerbaijan and spoke about ties and shared values of two nations that bring the people of Azerbaijan and Pakistan together. Ambassador Shikarov briefed participants of the event on activities of Heydar Aliyev Foundation in Azerbaijan and the other countries of the world. He noted that the foundation had implemented number of healthcare, education and humanitarian projects in all districts of Pakistan as well.

Mr. Ahmad Kundi, President AIMS Development Organization & the elder of the village Ejaz spoke about the usefulness of this Water Supply Scheme which is the dire need of this area .

Diplomatic Correspondent



H.E. Mr. Bharat Raj Paudyal

on the Occasion of Republic Day and the National Day 2014

Today Nepal and Nepalese people are celebrating the 7th anniversary of the adoption of republican political system which is also celebrated as the National Day of Nepal. This day marks special significance in our history as it was the culmination of several decades of Nepal's quest for democracy.

Nepalese people's desire for democracy, progress and prosperity through a political system based on popular mandate was expressed in series of struggles and mass movements. The People's Movement of 2006 was the ultimate expression of people's power for change to establish an inclusive and broad-based democratic polity in the country. It was followed by successive peaceful but monumental political transformations in the country.

The popularly elected Constituent Assembly of Nepal on 28 May 2008 voted out the monarchical system and established a democratic republican set up as per the wish of the people of Nepal. The transformation was peaceful that has been internalized by our people to move ahead with more vigorous agenda of economic and social transformation. To mark the significance of the day in the history of our country, the Government of Nepal has designated it as the National Day.

On this special occasion, I pay tribute to all known and unknown heroes of Nepal who sacrificed their precious lives for the cause of democracy and prosperity of Nepal and for the greater wellbeing of the posterity. I also extend greetings and best wishes to all Nepalese brothers and sisters living in Pakistan.

Bharat Raj Paudyal
Ambassador of Nepal



Republic Day and National Day of Nepal 2014

Enchanting Nepal

Located between the most populous country of the world, India and China, Nepal is one of the most attractive destinations for visitors. Nepal's unparalleled scenic beauty, roaring rivers, enchanting valleys, intact habitat for the wild lives and biodiversity, rich heritage and culture and ever smiling, hospitable and friendly people have made this country a famous tourist destination. Home to the Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world, and Lumbini, the birth place of Lord Buddha, Nepal is a destination for all types of tourists.

Touristic infrastructures in the country cater people of all age group and taste. Mountaineering, trekking, hiking, bungee jumping, jungle safari, fishing, white water rafting, paragliding, ultra-light flight, jip flying, mountain flights, boating, canoeing, natural healing, yoga and meditation, casino, biking, bird watching, cultural and heritage tour, holidaying, shopping, summer break and other leisurely activities are available in the most competitive price. Range of professionally run hotels can offer choices for all variety of people from budget to luxury options.

Sometimes there is a misconception among many people that Nepal is destination for only adventure tourists. This is partially true. While Nepalese is a paradise for the all types of adventure tourism, it is also a paradise for all other types of tourism activities, such as,

vacationing, holidaying, fishing, meditation, spending holiday in serene luxury atmosphere at the midst of nature and culture. Nepal's specific climatic condition, very comfortable weather offers an excellent choice for holiday makers, professionals, parents and teachers for a break during the school vacation.

Nepal has become increasingly popular among the corporate executives in the region for the conferencing, business meetings, annual shareholders meetings and corporate group holidaying. With extensive connectivity from major hubs of the world, such as, New York, London, Paris, Frankfurt, Zurich, Amsterdam, Istanbul, Seoul, Doha, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Bangkok, Singapore, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Dhaka, New Delhi, Varanasi, Bangalore, Mumbai, Karachi, Muscat, Sharjah, etc. Nepal offers one of the best alternatives for international and regional conference and business meetings. Minimum travel costs, availability of range of competitive options, and alternative activities to suit to all duration of holiday makes Nepal as one of the favourite touristic destinations.

Where to visit?

Kathmandu Valley

1. Kathmandu

Kathmandu, the largest city of Nepal, is the political as well as cultural capital of the

country. Kathmandu Valley comprises the three ancient cities: Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur that were once independent states ruled by the Malla kings. The three cities house seven UNESCO World Heritage shrines which are together listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (Culture). The valley is also home to hundreds of other exquisite monuments, sculptures, artistic temples and magnificent art – reminders of the golden era in Nepal's architecture. It is the grandeur of the past that enchants the visitor whose gaze may linger on an exquisitely carved wooden window frame, an 18th century bronze sculpture or the spiritually uplifting stupas.

KATHMANDU DURBAR SQUARE (UNESCO World Heritage Site):

Situated in the heart of old Kathmandu city at Basantapur, Kathmandu Durbar Square never fails to impress first time visitors with its ensemble of palaces, courtyards and temples built during the Malla period. The Durbar Square includes the Hanuman Dhoka Royal Palace, the historic seat of the royalty; the magnificent Taleju Temple towering more than 40 meters; Kumari Ghar, the residence of the Living Goddess, Kumari; Ashok Vinayak, also called Kathmandu Ganesh, a temple without a filial; and Kal Bhairav, the God of Wrath. The capital takes its name from the giant pagoda of Kasthamandap, which is said to have been built out of a single tree. Since



the time of the Malla kings, the Durbar Square has been the city's social, religious and political focal point.

SWAYAMBHUNATH STUPA (UNESCO World Heritage Site):

Resting on a hillock 3 km west of Kathmandu, it is one of the holiest Buddhist Chaityas in Nepal. It is said to have evolved spontaneously when the valley was created out of a primordial lake more than 2,000 years ago. This stupa is the oldest of its kind in Nepal and has numerous shrines and monasteries on its premises.

BOUDDHANATH STUPA (UNESCO World Heritage Site):

Situated 8 km to the east of downtown Kathmandu, Bouddhanath is one of the most imposing landmarks in Kathmandu, visible as soon as you land at the Tribhuvan International Airport. It is the largest stupa in the Kathmandu Valley and is the center of Tibetan Buddhism.

THAMEL:

As the tourist district of Kathmandu, Thamel bustles with activity late into the night. It is a mere 10-minute walk from the center of Kathmandu, yet completely different from the rest of the city. Thamel caters entirely to tourists with its scores of hotels, rows of restaurants and bars, book shops, inviting souvenir shops, cyber cafes and travel agencies. All that a tourist needs can be found here, even friends and traveling companions.

Things to do in Kathmandu

SIGHTSEEING: Speckled with temples, ancient palaces and courtyards, World Heritage monuments; surrounded by hills and snow-capped mountains; and inhabited by the most hospitable people, Kathmandu is an ideal place to go sightseeing.

WINING & DINING : It is a serious sport in Kathmandu. There are more than a thousand pubs and restaurants in the capital - from cultural evenings at the star hotels to simple trekkers' joints. At Kathmandu's restaurants, one gets infinite choices - from traditional Nepali food to Italian delicacies, Russian delights and spicy Indian specialties.

NIGHT LIFE:

After a day of touring the valley's cities, there are plenty of ways to relax and entertain yourself in the evening - upbeat music, exciting dances, tasty food, choicest drinks, good cinema halls and casinos.

Kathmandu, which is generally a quiet city after twilight, bustles with life till the wee hours of the morning in the narrow alleys

of Thamel and other selected places. Bars and pubs, many of which feature live music, stay open till late night while discotheques function to keep boredom at bay for the young Nepali crowd and tourists out for the night. Frequent private parties are also organized at various places especially during weekends and public holidays.

CASINOS:

For a small town, Kathmandu has quite a number of casinos, all providing non-stop fun and games. Besides gaming, there is regular entertainment in the form of concerts and dance performances.

SHOPPING:

Nepal is a shopping destination for designer products such as Christian Dior, Gucci, Yves Laurent, Chanel, Nike, Givanchy, you name it. And thanks to lower overhead costs, Nepal's departmental stores and malls offer them at unbeatable bargain prices.

SOUVENIRS:

As for Nepal's handicrafts, they need no introduction. They have been coveted items since ancient times for their fine craftsmanship and supreme quality. The shops at Thamel, Kathmandu Durbar Square and Durbar Marg sell hand-knotted woolen carpets, jewelry, pashmina shawls, woolen knitwares, embroidery, thanka paintings, wood carvings, metal works, ceramics and pottery, rice paper and stationery.

GOLF:

Kathmandu offers two golf courses ranging from 9 to 18 holes and have been developed by world-class developers

MOUNTAIN FLIGHT:

It's an hour-long flight usually in the morning to see the Himalayan peaks, several of them above eight thousand meters, including Mount Everest, the world's tallest at 8,848 m. It is something not to be missed.

2. Patan

Patan, also known as 'Lalitpur', the city of artisans, lies 5 km southeast of Kathmandu, and is home to the valley's finest craftsmen who have preserved such ancient techniques as the repoussé and lost wax process used to produce exquisite sculptures. The city retains much of the

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eets, brick houses and multitude of well-preserved Hindu temples, Buddhist monasteries (vihars) and monuments. The predominant sound in Patan is that of the tinkering of craftsmen bent over the statuettes they are shaping. As in Kathmandu, Hinduism and Buddhism have co-existed here for ages, influencing each other, and the religious harmony is exemplary.

PATAN DURBAR SQUARE (UNESCO World Heritage Site):

Like its counterpart in Kathmandu, Patan Durbar Square is located in the heart of the city and was once the palace of the kings of Patan. The square is an enchanting mélange of palace buildings, artistic courtyards and graceful pagoda temples – a display of Newari architecture that had reached its pinnacle during the reign of the Malla kings. Among its numerous courtyards, the renovated Keshav Narayan Chowk has been converted into a bronze artifact museum. The Sundari Chowk with the sunken bath of Tusha Hiti is a showcase of exquisite woodcarvings, and stone and metal sculptures. The magnificent Krishna Temple with its 21 gilded spires, built in 1637, and the Manga Hiti, the sunken stone water spout, found in the palace complex are but a few examples of its opulence. The Krishna Temple, built

entirely of stone, is said to be the first specimen of Shikhara-style architecture in Nepal.

KUMBHESHWAR:

The temple dedicated to Lord Shiva is the only five-storied pagoda in Patan and one of the only three surviving five-storey temples in the country. A natural spring within the courtyard of this temple built in 1392 is said to have its source in the glacial lake of Gosainkunda in northern Kathmandu. A large gathering of devotees arrive here for a ritual bath on the day of Janai Poornima in August.

3. Bhaktapur

Perched on a hill at an altitude of 1,401 m, Bhaktapur or Bhadgaon, literally the City of Devotees, is a major tourist destination that takes visitors back in time. Bhaktapur lies 12 km to the east of Kathmandu on the Arniko Highway that leads to the Chinese border. Covering an area of 6.4 sq. km, Bhaktapur is still untouched by rapid urbanisation and has managed to retain its brick paved roads, charming red brick houses and a way of life that goes back to medieval times. This ancient city is also famous for pottery and woodcarving amply displayed on the squares and windows respectively.

BHAKTAPUR DURBAR

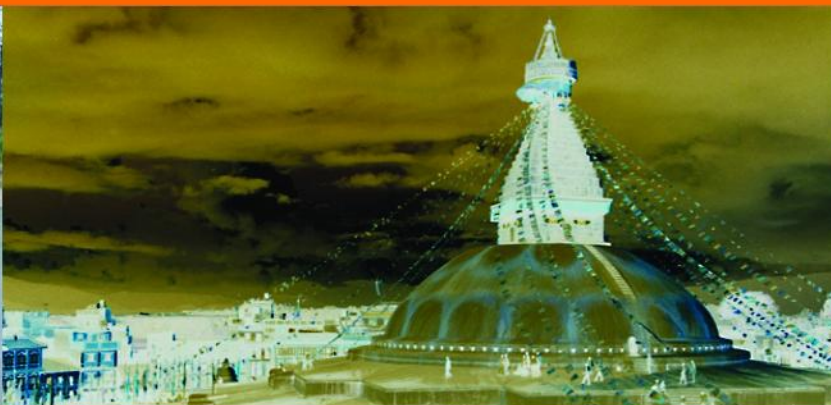
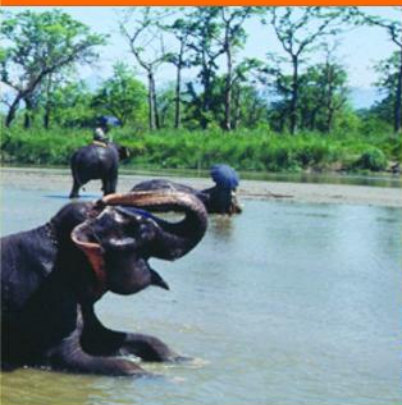
SQUARE (UNESCO World Heritage Site):

Among the three durbar squares, the Bhaktapur Durbar Square is by far the most elegant with its large open space facing south. The 15th century Palace of 55 Carved Windows and the palace entrance, the Golden Gate – a masterpiece in repousse art – have added splendour to this palace square which consists of buildings dating from the 13th century to the 18th century. The extraordinary Durbar Square with its extraordinary monuments reflects the glory days of the Malla dynasty when art and architecture thrived in the three cities of the valley. In front of the palace building are innumerable temples and architectural showpieces like the Lion Gate, the statue of King Bhupatindra Malla mounted on a giant stone pillar and the Batsala Temple. The stone temple of Batsala Devi is full of intricate carvings and is a beautiful example of Shikhara-style architecture. There is a bronze bell on the terrace of the temple, which is also known as the Bell of Barking Dogs. Erected by King Ranjit Malla in 1737, its sounding announced the beginning and end of a daily curfew.

NYATAPOLA TEMPLE:

The unique temple of Bhaktapur, the Nyatapola literally means 'five storied' and





risers above the city's landscape as a remarkable landmark. It also has the distinction of having withstood the devastating earthquake of 1933. Dedicated to a tantric goddess, the steps leading up to the temple are flanked by stone sculptures of deities and mythical beasts, each 10 times more powerful than the one immediately below.

CHANGU NARAYAN TEMPLE (World Heritage Monument):

It is situated on a ridge overlooking Bhaktapur, about 12 km to the east of Kathmandu. Dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu, it is one of the oldest specimens of pagoda architecture in the valley. The temple dating from the Licchavi period is embellished with exquisite wood and stone carvings.

4. Pokhara

Pokhara's bewitching beauty has been the subject of many travel writers. Its pristine air, spectacular backdrop of snowy peaks, serene lakes and surrounding greenery make it 'the jewel in the Himalaya', a place of remarkable natural beauty. With the magnificent Annapurna range forming the backdrop and the serenity of three major lakes – Phewa, Rupa and Begnas – Pokhara is the ultimate destination for relaxation. Pokhara Valley, gateway to the Annapurna region where many a trekker finds his Shangri-la, sits high on the list of 'must visit' places in Nepal.

Pokhara once lay on the important trade route between India and Tibet. To this day, mule trains set up camps on the city outskirts, bringing goods from remote Himalayan regions including Mustang. Gurungs and Magars, who have earned world-wide fame as fierce Gurkha warriors, are predominant here. Thakalis, indigenous of the Thak Khola region of Mustang, are known for their entrepreneurship and run tea houses along the trek routes in the Annapurna region.

Mountain Views:

Pokhara is blessed with stunning panoramic views of the Annapurna range which forms its backdrop. The mesmerizing Machhapuchhre also called Mt. Fishtail dominates the scenery

because of its proximity to the valley and can be seen from anywhere in Pokhara. Stretching from east to west, the Annapurna massif includes Annapurna 1 to IV and Annapurna South. Further away are seen the giants, Dhaulagiri (8,167m) and Manaslu (8,163m).

Phewa Lake:

Pokhara owes its popularity to the enchanting Phewa Lake, and along its eastern shore has grown the Lakeside or Baidam, a thriving resort town of hotels, restaurants, bars and souvenir shops that allow travelers to relax and enjoy. Phewa Lake is the largest and most beautiful of the three lakes, attracting a large number of visitors who enjoy boating on its placid waters. Boats can be hired, and many visit the island temple of Barahi in the middle of the lake.

Barahi Temple:

Located in the middle of Phewa Lake, Barahi Temple is one the most important monuments in Pokhara. The two-storied pagoda is dedicated to the boar manifestation of Ajima who represents the female force, Shakti. Sacrifices take place here, and the largest crowds of devotees are seen on Saturdays.

Seti:

An amazing aspect of Pokhara is the vanishing river, Seti, which goes underground and disappears in many places along its route through the city. At various points Seti is barely 2 m wide but its depth reaches an astonishing 20 m! A good spot for watching the river is Mahendra Pul at Bhimsen Chowk, a bridge near the old Mission Hospital. Here the river can be seen in all its ferocity gushing down the deep gorge that it has carved over millennia.

Devi's Fall:

Locally known as the Patale Chhango (Nether Fall), Devi's Fall is a fascinating waterfall located about 2 km south-west of Pokhara Airport on the Siddhartha Highway.

Mahendra Gupha:

This is a large limestone cave at a two-hour walk to the north of Pokhara. Locally

known as the House of Bats, it is famous for its stalactites and stalagmites.

World Peace Pagoda:

The World Peace Pagoda can be seen on top of a hill on the southern fringe of Phewa Lake. It has four images of the Buddha facing the four directions. The dome-shaped pagoda is an impressive sight, and its hilltop location commands a great view. It is a great vantage point which offers spectacular views of the Annapurna.

Things to do

Pokhara Valley has in recent years grown as a destination for adventure sports such as paragliding and ultra-light aircraft flights. And with boating, bird watching, trekking and mountain biking as other attractions, Pokhara has it all.

Boating:

Pokhara's Phewa Lake naturally draws visitors towards it. Easily the best means of recreation, boating is a favorite pastime which one can enjoy any time of day. The other two lakes, Begnas and Rupa, are located 15 km out of Pokhara. Less visited but no less beautiful, both these lakes are excellent for boating and fishing.





Ultra-light flight:

Go up in an ultra-light aircraft and get a sweeping bird's eye view of the entire Pokhara Valley. It is an exhilarating ride that allows unhindered views of the mountains and the scenic lakes far below. Ultra-light flights are operated from Pokhara Airport beginning September through June.

Paragliding:

Paragliding is perhaps the most rewarding of short duration adventure sports given the fact that there is nothing between you and the scenery unfolding before you. In the distance lie the majestic Himalayas and down below are the villages, monasteries, temples, lakes and jungles, a truly bird's eye view and a fascinating one at that.

Rafting:

Nepal's rivers rank high in the world of white-water rafting, and Pokhara is ideally situated for raft trips along its rivers. The most popular river for rafting is the Trishuli River, which flows along the Kathmandu-Pokhara highway. Equally good with plenty of exciting rapids are the Kali Gandaki and Seti rivers.

Mountain biking:

Take to the countryside where you can ride through lush green fields, delightful little hamlets, up and down the hills, along river banks, around temples, over suspension bridges and along the highway. Mountain bikes can be easily rented from any of the numerous bicycle rental shops in and around the city.

5. Mountaineering

It was mountaineering that first opened up Nepal to the outside world. Of the world's 14 highest peaks above 8,000 m, eight of them crown Nepal's north, including the highest Mt. Everest. Not surprisingly, the fascination of scaling these physically demanding peaks draws crowds of visitors from abroad year after year without let up.

The mountains are open for climbing in all the four climbing seasons:

Spring (March-May),
Summer (June-August),
Autumn (September-November) and
Winter (December-February).

The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation issues permits for the bigger mountains while the Nepal Mountaineering Association issues permits for the smaller trekking peaks between 5,587 m and 6,654 m.

6. Rafting / Kayaking / Canoeing

Nepal boasts some of the best whitewaters in the world, thanks to its mountainous steep terrain. What really makes a rafting trip worthwhile is the magnificent vistas of traditional houses on hillsides, terraced paddy fields, deep gorges, valleys and flat plains that you encounter on the way. While exploring the rivers, you can either go paddle rafting as a team or go kayaking and canoeing alone.

The rapids are graded on a scale of one to six depending on their ferocity. Trips range from one or two days to two-week expeditions, and often combine some trekking to get to the remote rivers in the first place. Rafting trips are usually planned in the dry seasons from October through mid-December and March through early

May.

The Trishuli River (grade 3+) is the most popular among raftable rivers. Close to Kathmandu, the trip takes you down all the way to the Chitwan National Park. Other popular rivers include the Kali Gandaki (4-4+) near Pokhara, Bhote Koshi (4-5), Marshyangdi (4-5+), Karnali (4-5) and the Sun Koshi (4-5), which runs 270 km and requires 8-10 days.

7. Trekking

That one in four visitors to Nepal go trekking should say something about the popularity of this activity in the Himalayan country. Most treks go through altitudes between 1,000 and 4,000 meters, while some popular parts reach over 5,000 meters. It's not only the stunning landscapes on the trail that captivate the trekkers but also the people from different ethnic groups with whom they meet on the way – a rare opportunity to experience Nepal's rich cultural diversity. And what better way than walking to see and experience it.

The most popular trekking routes have traditionally been the Everest, Annapurna and Langtang regions. But now the Kanchenjunga in the extreme east and Dolpo in northwest Nepal are gaining ground as new popular destinations. More recently, the government has developed a number of heritage trails in different parts of the country where you can combine a trek with a peek into the cultures of the local communities. And for those with the time and the stamina, there is The Great Himalayan Trail that stretches 1,700 km from Kanchenjunga in the east to Humla in the west – a trek that will take months to accomplish.

All trekkers are required to obtain the TIMS card before embarking on their trip. To trek in protected areas region one must acquire the entry permit by paying Entry Fees to enter the particular National Park or Protected Area. To get access to the areas restricted by the Government of Nepal, one must acquire the Trekking Permit to the area.

8. Jungle safari

The tropical jungles of Nepal's Terai preserve some of the best wildlife habitats of South Asia. Some of the wildlife attractions of Nepal's jungles include the rare one-horned rhinoceros, the elusive Royal Bengal tiger, snow leopard, red panda and musk deer. Jungle safaris can be enjoyed on elephant back or in jeeps at Chitwan National Park, Bardia National Park, Parsa Wildlife Reserve and Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, all located in the Terai. The national parks provide a wide range of tourist facilities in and around the areas.

9. Paragliding / Ultralight Aircraft

Paragliding is a relatively new adventure sport in Nepal, and is the simplest, safest and least expensive way of discovering the joys of flying alone to experience the aerial views of the magnificent Himalayas. Sarangkot, at 1,592 m above Lakeside in Pokhara Valley, is the jumping off point for paragliders. From here, one can take in stunning views of three of the world's Eight Thousanders, namely, Dhaulagiri, Annapurna and Manaslu.

Ultralight aircraft takes off from Pokhara and offers spectacular views of the lakes, mountains and villages. This is an ideal way to see life from a new perspective. Flights are operated almost throughout the year except during the monsoon (June through August). Flights take place from sunrise to 11 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to sunset every day, provided there are no rains. During the half-hour flight, one flies over Pokhara city, Phewa Lake, Sarangkot Hill and gets close to the Machhapuchhre mountain. Another option is to explore the Annapurna range from 12,000 feet or higher in an hour.

The only cable car in Nepal takes you on a pilgrimage tour, up to the abode of the wish-fulfilling Goddess Manakamana, from Kurintar in Mugling.

10. Bungee Jumping / Canyoning

The ultimate thrill of a bungee jump can now be experienced in Nepal – 12 km from the Nepal-Tibet border, a three-hour bus ride from Kathmandu. The bungee jump was designed by one of New Zealand's leading bungee consultants, and is operated by some of the most experienced jump masters in the business. The jump takes place from a 166 m wide steel suspension bridge that joins two sides of a deep valley over the raging Bhoti Kosi River. The place has spectacular scenery with dense forests covering the top of the cliff. One can overnight here and go rafting and rock climbing, too.

Canyoning is basically a sport where you travel down canyons and waterfalls using a variety of techniques such as walking, scrambling, climbing, abseiling and swimming. It is one sport that will get you completely off the beaten track, but it does require quite a good level of fitness.

11. Everest Region

The Everest region is located in the northeast of Nepal. The 10-day walk through the middle hills of Solu to the higher altitudes of Khumbu to the base of Sagarmatha, or Mt. Everest, the world's highest peak, is an opportunity to observe and participate in the daily life of the legendary Sherpa people. The prime attraction – the 8,848 m peak of Mt. Everest – lies in Sagarmatha National Park, which is also home to two other eight thousanders – Lhotse and Cho Oyu – besides several other prominent peaks above 6,000 m.

Designated as a World Heritage Site in 1979, much of the 1,148 sq. km park lies above 3,000 m. The park is composed of rugged terrain with deep gorges, glaciers and huge rocks. The vegetation in the park changes from pine, hemlock, fir, juniper, birch, rhododendron and shrubs to alpine plants and then to bare rock and snow. It is home to the ghoral, tahr, serow and musk deer as well as the impeyan pheasant, blood pheasant, red-billed chough and the yellow-billed chough.

The trail to Everest also begins at Lukla, the airport at 2,850 m. The trail climbs up the Dudhkoshi River Valley, and the following day brings you to the legendary Sherpa village of Namche Bazaar in the Khumbu (3,500 m), which is the staging point for expeditions to Everest and other peaks in the area. Above Namche lie the traditional villages of Khunde and Khumjung. Khumjung which is the largest village in the Khumbu lies at the foot of the sacred peak Khumbila. The Khunde Hospital, maintained by Himalayan Trust, and Khumjung School, the original Hillary School set up in 1960, lie here.

Across the canyon from Khunde, perched on a high ridge, is the Tengboche Monastery, the leading Buddhist center in the Khumbu. The monastery rests amid stunning views of Everest, Lhotse and Ama Dablam. Pines, azaleas and colorful mountain rhododendrons ring the attractive monastery. There are rest houses, lodges and camping sites here.

From Tengboche you can continue on to Pheriche, Kala Pattar and the hamlet of Gorakshap. From here, the site of Everest Base Camp is easily accessible, as is the summit of Kala Pattar (5,545 m), from which much of Mt. Everest is clearly visible. However, you must take time to properly acclimatize as the altitude gains are rapid.

12. Annapurna Region

The Annapurna Region in north western Nepal has been touted as having the world's best trekking routes. From the lake

city of Pokhara, popular treks lead to Jomsom, Annapurna Base Camp, Mustang, Manang and around the Annapurna mountain. Short treks to Sikles and Ghandruk are just as popular. The Annapurna region is an area of contrasts comprising the wettest, driest and windiest places in Nepal.

The Annapurna Circuit:

It is by far the most popular and requires a minimum of about three weeks to go around the Annapurna massif. What makes this trek so special is that you can look up to something new in scenery everyday. The Annapurna Conservation Area begins at 790 m and reaches a high of 8,091 m, the summit of Mount Annapurna I, the world's 10th tallest peak. The area encompasses forested middle mountain, high Himalaya and trans-Himalayan desert plateau similar to the landscape in Tibet as you move north. The lower elevations are dotted by Gurung, Magar, Thakali and Brahmin villages while Tibetan cultural influence becomes apparent as you go north.

The trek goes counter-clockwise from Besi Sahar, off the Pokhara-Kathmandu Highway, to Naya Pool, and reaches its high point at Thorong La, a pass at 5,416 m. On the way, you pass through stunning mountain scenery – Manaslu, Langtang Himal, Annapurna II and IV, Annapurna III, and, Annapurna I and Dhaulagiri. In between these two 8,000 m peaks lies the dramatic Kali Gandaki gorge – the deepest in the world.

13. MUSTANG:

Mustang offers an experience of trans-Himalayan landscape and exotic Himalayan cultural experience. Muktinath (3,749 m) is a popular destination for pilgrims and trekkers to the region. It is a site holy for both Buddhists and Hindus before. There is now a motorable road from Muktinath to Beni, from where you can catch a bus to Pokhara. Also, you can catch a bus from Besi Sahar to Sanghe at the start of the trek.

Lo-Manthang in Upper Mustang is an extremely exotic destination too. The last king of Mustang still has his home at this ancient capital township. Many tourists visit Lo-Manthang during Teeji festival that is usually scheduled in the month of May.

Being in the rain shadow area, Upper Mustang can be visited even during the rainy season. Upper Mustang falls in protected areas and one needs special permit to visit the region.

14. MANANG:

The trek in the eastern part follows the Marsyangdi River upstream till Manang, which is a string of seven villages that form the upper arc of the Annapurna Circuit Trekking Trail. The area is composed of stark, rocky terrain, very similar to the Tibetan plateau, and is dotted with turquoise lakes, including Lake Tilicho (4,919 m), the world's highest lake



Nepal-Pakistan Relations

Relations between Nepal and Pakistan have been characterized by cordiality, friendship and mutual cooperation. The two South Asian countries share close social and cultural affinities dating back several centuries. Even before the creation of new States in South Asia in the mid-twentieth century, people to people contacts between Nepal and present day Pakistan were robust.

Diplomatic relations between Nepal and Pakistan were established on 29 March

1960. Nepal established a residential Embassy in Pakistan in 1962 and Honorary Consulate General in Karachi in 1975. Both the countries share similarity of views on many issues of common interests to the developing countries and work closely at various international and regional forums such as the UN, NAM, and SAARC. Periodic exchange of visits at various levels has helped strengthen the relations between the two countries.

Trade and Commerce

The Nepal-Pakistan Bilateral Trade Agreement provides MFN treatment with

respect to customs duties and formalities, taxes, fees and charges of any kind levied on export and import of goods and commodities. The agreement aims at promoting trade and investment through exchange of businessmen and trade delegations, holding of trade fairs and exhibitions and facilitating investments in areas of mutual benefit.

The Joint Business Council established between the Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI) and FPCCI and bilateral MOUs signed between Confederation of Nepalese



Industries and Lahore, Karachi, and Islamabad Chambers of Commerce and Industries provide basis for private sector-led promotion of trade and commerce between the two countries.

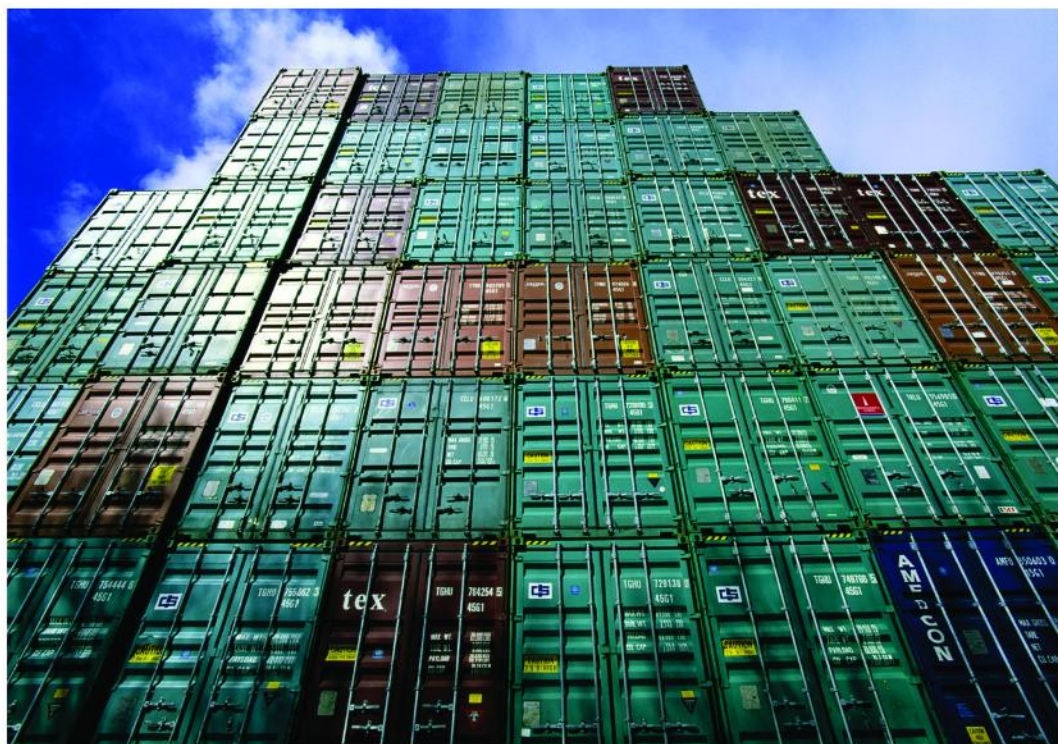
Nepal-Pakistan Joint Economic Commission (JEC) at the level of Finance Ministers and bilateral consultation mechanism at the level of the Foreign Secretaries stand to be useful forums to promote economic interactions. There also exist bilateral working groups on agriculture and tourism. These mechanisms work as vehicles for enhancing cooperation in such areas as culture, tourism, agriculture, communication and alternative energy. The business people, entrepreneurs, and investors may benefit from utilizing those avenues for furthering trade and exchange.

In addition, as parties to the South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) both the countries have potentials to enhance trade under the regional framework as well. SAFTA provides comprehensive sets of harmonized rules for us to trade as its members.

There is vast untapped potential for the investment, trade and commerce between the two countries. In recent years bilateral single-country trade fairs held in each other's capital have helped to boost trade and establish linkages between the entrepreneurs. Nepal offers enormous comparative advantages for potential investors to benefit from the opportunities available in the region. There exist huge investment potential in tourism, hydropower, agriculture, and mine and mineral sectors. Nepal is endowed with enormous natural resources, located between the world's fastest growing economies India and China, and host abundance of low cost labor. Nepal has one of the lowest tax rate and simplified tax structures in the region and provides exemption from income tax on profits earned from exports.

Any duties levied on raw materials and auxiliary raw materials of export-oriented industries are also reimbursed to the exporters. Nepal as an LDC, exporters can enjoy additional incentives out of the concessions and special duty-free-quota-free market access to many other regions and countries. Institutional arrangements such as full current account convertibility, well-established law enforcement mechanisms, robust banking system and compliance with the WTO norms provide added incentives to the investors looking for a sustainable investment opportunity.

Agriculture having special potentials for the growth of bilateral trade, Nepal and Pakistan can explore products of comparative advantages favored by specific climatic zones in our countries. Pakistan being the highest per capita tea consuming country in the world and Nepal



being one of the finest tea producers, complementarity can be matched through enhanced trade.

Nepal in recent years has emerged as one of the best quality coffee producers. Pakistani tea and coffee entrepreneurs can take advantage of our geographic proximity in having those products in competitive price. Nepal produces some of the best quality pashminas, such as shawl, stole, muffler and other pashmina garments which are popular among the customers in Pakistan.

Cultural promotion

A good number of Nepalese students are undertaking studies and training in the universities and colleges in Pakistan mostly in technical and scientific fields, such as, medical science, pharmacy, and engineering. There is a very good scope in the field of cultural promotion and exchanges of cultural troupes, artists, writers, sportsmen, journalists and poets. Establishing of inter-universities relations and exchange of faculties of the universities may go long way in the areas of promotion of cultural relations between the two countries.

Welcoming Asean Golf Game for H.E. Win Naing of Myanmar Organized by High Commission of Malaysia



Malaysian High Commission hosted the ASEAN Welcoming Golf Game for H.E Win Naing of Myanmar at the Islamabad Golf Club on 27 April, 2014. The friendly game saw the participation of the 7 ASEAN Ambassadors and CDA's, as well as, ASEAN guests from the Diplomatic Corps from Argentina, Japan, South Korea, India, Sri Lanka, Austria, Hungary and several Pakistani friends.

Certainly, the game has brought further friendship and espritde corps among the ASEAN community in Islamabad, as well as, between friends of ASEAN.

Results of the friendly game were as

follows:-

1) Ambassador's Category

Champion - H.E. T.C.A Raghavan, High Commissioner of India

1st Runner-up - H.E. Dato' Dr. Hasrul Sani Bin Mujtabar, High Commissioner of Malaysia

2nd Runner-up - H.E. Dr. Song Jong Hwan, Ambassador of South Korea

2) ASEAN Category

(Ambassadors level)

Winner -

H.E. Dato' Dr. Hasrul Sani Bin Mujtabar, High Commissioner of Malaysia

3) Overall Category

Champion-Mr. Endy Tobing, Embassy of Republic of Indonesia

1st Runner-up - Col. Park Yongkyu, Embassy of Republic of South Korea

2nd Runner-up - Col. Gemuruh, Embassy of Republic of Indonesia

Such gathering certainly had brought greater friendship and such event would continue to be held in future.





H.E. T.C.A Raghavan, High Commissioner of India



H.E. Dato' Dr. Hasrul Sani Bin Mujtabar, High Commissioner of Malaysia



H.E. Dr. Song Jong Hwan, Ambassador of South Korea



Mr. Endy Tobing, Embassy of Republic of Indonesia



Col. Park Yongkyu, Embassy of Republic of South Korea



Col. Gemuruh, Embassy of Republic of Indonesia

The Norwegian Ambassador
H.E. Mrs. Cecilie Landsverk
hosts a reception at her residence to celebrate
Norwegian National Day and 200 years
Anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution





CEO RIS CLINCHES CEO OF THE YEAR 2014 AWARD



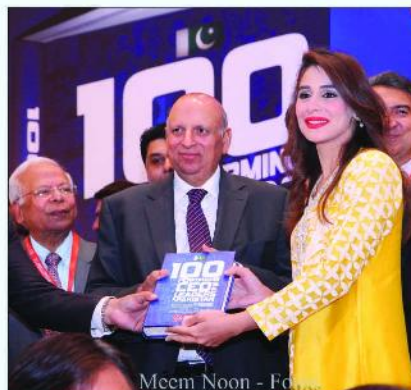
CEO Roots International Schools Mr. Walid Mushtaq was conferred upon the award for CEO OF THE YEAR 2014. The award was received by Mrs. Sara Walid Mushtaq Executive Director Roots International Schools and Ms. Taqaddus who is one of the Branch Heads. Governor Punjab Mr. Chaudhry M. Sarwar, CEO Zong and Mr. Ijaz Nisar founder & CEO Manager today distributed the books and awards among the winning CEOs. CEO Summit by CEO Club Pakistan & Manager Today is the Pakistan's premier business event, drawing hundreds of business leaders from Pakistan and around the region.

It was not the first time that Mr. Walid Mushtaq has been conferred such a prestigious award. Mr. Walid Mushtaq has

been a recipient of many prominent national and international awards in light of his solid performance towards strengthening of educational sector of Pakistan. Last year On receiving the award Ms. Sara Walid Mushtaq and Mr. Walid Mushtaq said that it is a moment of great excitement and jubilation for all of us that our organization from an education sector has attained this remarkable achievement and it also exhibits the trust and confidence of our students and parents on RIS that made this high achievement possible. It is indeed a great happening. We pray to God to provide us with the farsightedness and determination to excel in educational assignments and to highlight the name of this prestigious

institution.

This CEO Summit provided unparalleled opportunities for business executives to engage in dialogue with high profile leaders to discover business opportunities through networking with CEOs from hundreds of companies, and to forge connections with economic thought leaders from Pakistan around the region. Based on the proposition that future is something we actively create, not something that happens to us, CEO Summit explored policy choices and business decisions based on the trends and forces at work in Pakistan and in the region, weighing both opportunities and obstacles that lie ahead.



DBC celebrates the achievement of Ambassador of Argentina for receiving Hilal-e-Pakistan

Mr. Walid Mushtaq CEO Roots International Schools and Vice President Diplomat Business Club hosted a reception dinner in the honour of Ambassador of Argentine Republic H.E. Mr. Rodolfo J. Saravia who has recently been conferred the award of Hilal-e-Pakistan from the President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Mr. Mamnoon Hussain for his tireless efforts in strengthening the ties between two nations during his long diplomatic tenure of more than a decade in Pakistan.

The venue was beautifully decorated with flags and flowers. Dean Rodolfo was accompanied by his colleagues of diplomatic community who all graced the occasion to celebrate the achievement of Excellency.

Several dignitaries from diplomatic community, government sector and private organizations joined in to celebrate the day with Diplomatic Business Club. Ambassadors and High Commissioners from 27 countries graced the occasion as guest of honour.

H.E. Mr. Rodolfo J. Saravia has been serving in the embassy of Argentina in Pakistan for more than a decade and has established a close relationship with the country. Excellency was very delighted to receive such a colourful reception from Mr. Walid Mushtaq and said, "Walid is my close friend and has always taken initiatives to strengthen bilateral ties between the two states. We are keen to enhance the present trade volume of Argentina with Pakistan. We need to further enhance collaboration between the public and private sectors of Pakistan and Argentina. My Embassy is very keen in facilitating the exchange of business delegations between the two countries. Regular exchange of business delegations, business and industrial exhibitions, exchange of information, close cooperation between the chambers of commerce between of both countries may bring desired results in the days to come.

The Diplomat Business Club is the region's most exclusive social and business networking initiative that connects Diplomats, Business Leaders of Pakistan. The forum was inaugurated in March under the patronage of Ambassador Javed Malik special envoy to Prime Minister who is the President of DBC global. The forum is working to nurture the ties between the international diplomats and businessmen with the Pakistani corporates to help grow business opportunities, open areas of

collaboration and nurture bilateral linkages to improve the economy of all partner states.

Excellency Rodolfo J. Saravia is admired greatly for his great friendly personality and sense of humor. Besides that professionally he is an intelligent serious Diplomat who is always committed to struggle to enhance trade / education and cultural opportunities in Pakistan. He is seen as most powerful and well-connected DEAN by his other colleagues with a great vision and understanding on all issues.

While expressing his views on the relation of Embassy of Argentina with Diplomatic Business Club and Roots International Schools Mr. Walid Mushtaq said, "I can say without any doubt that the relationship between Argentina and Pakistan has grown enormously during the last 5 years : we have initiated several joint ventures, there have been trade missions in both direction, we succeeded to put into function a science & technology cooperation, we have started an interesting parliamentary dialogue and last but not the least, Pakistan has several cultural and sports activities performed by Argentineans in collaboration with Pakistanis. Diplomatic Business Club sets high expectations for our bilateral ties."



Monthly Magazine on Diplomatic Issues Promoting Bilateral Relations
Through Diplomacy, Trade, Culture, Education & Tourism

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DIPLOMATIC FOCUS

"To be published soon from UAE, London & Romania"
(For Schengen States)



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ABC Certified
Central Media List

People of
Argentine Republic
celebrate

204th
Independence Day



The President of Argentine Republic Her Excellency Mrs. Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner