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Mian Fazal Elahi



Mian Assad ullah

Important Announcement

It has been announced for the general information that Mr. Mian Assad Ullah has been appointed as Editor In Chief of the Monthly "Diplomatic Focus" for the UK/EU Edition. He is entitled to participate official /non-officials diplomatic(engagements, events, national days, social evenings/gatherings, press conferences/interviews and can be contacted for all kinds of stuff including articles, supplements and advertisements etc). It is requested to all Diplomatic missions and government high officials of UK, please contact with Mr. Mian Assad Ullah on His mailing address, 4 Ipswich Road, SW17 9RH, London. Cell number:+44-7961005954/ 2087694850, Email: uk.diplomaticfocus@gmail.com, assadmian1@gmail.com

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Peace & stability not possible until eradication of corruption: General Raheel

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Raheel Sharif stated that accountability at all levels is necessary in order to wipe out corruption from the country, adding that peace and stability are not possible without curbing corruption.

"On-going war against terrorism and extremism being fought with the backing of entire nation cannot bring enduring peace and stability unless the menace of corruption is not uprooted," he said, adding that the military would fully support every meaningful effort in that direction, which he said would ensure a better future for next generations.

"Across the board accountability is necessary for the solidarity, integrity and prosperity of Pakistan," the ISPR statement quoted the army chief as saying.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) department, Army Chief General Raheel Sharif paid visit to the Signals Regiment Center in Kohat. He badged Major General Sohail Ahmad Zaidi as a Colonel Commander. While addressing a ceremony at the event, General Raheel said that the army has the support of the entire nation in the war against terrorism, adding that both the civil and the military leadership of the country is working together to curb terrorism.

He further stated that the terrorists' hideouts are being destroyed and the war against terrorism is being carried out with the support of the people. He said that accountability at all levels is crucial for the country as peace and stability cannot be ensured without curtailing them.

COAS said that Pakistan army will endorse all moves made for the betterment of the nation.

General Raheel paid visit to South Waziristan yesterday where he was briefed in regards to the final stages of the ongoing Operation Zarb-e-Azb. He announced to initiate a wide scale search operation in the region against the terrorists and also directed the forces to maintain hold over the achievements made in the area.



Gen Raheel dismisses 6 army officers from service over 'Corruption'

By Web Desk

In an unprecedented move, Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif dismissed six army officers, including two generals, from service over alleged corruption, an authoritative source confirmed.

Earlier media reports said 12 officers, including some JCOs, were dismissed, but the source said that this was mere speculation.

However, no one from the military's media wing was willing to confirm any of these figures on record.

A lieutenant general, major general and three brigadiers are said to be among those dismissed from service, said an intelligence official on condition of anonymity.

The dismissed officers have reportedly served with the Frontier Corps (FC) Balochistan and were charged for corruption during their service with the paramilitary force. The others

dismissed were junior commission officers who worked with those named above, said the intelligence official.

Following the investigation conducted by then Adjutant Gen Zubair Mahmood Hayat on the orders of the army chief, the charged officers were asked to return all earnings accumulated through corruption, the official said, adding that all perks and privileges had been withdrawn from the officers except their pensions.

Lt Gen Obaidullah also served as IG FC from 2010-2013, after which Maj Gen Ejaz Shahid was appointed IG FC, intelligence sources said.

There has been no official confirmation regarding the move.

The development comes two days after the COAS said "across the board accountability is necessary for the solidarity, integrity and prosperity of Pakistan", adding that the war

against terror cannot be won unless "the menace of corruption is uprooted".

Gen Raheel said "Pakistan's Armed Forces will fully support every meaningful effort in that direction which would ensure a better future for our next generations."

The army chief's call for across-the-board accountability comes as Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is embroiled in the explosive Panama Papers which count his family among other global political elite with undeclared offshore assets.

Opposition leaders have demanded a probe into the scandal, with some calling for the prime minister to step down.

Quarters close to the PM's Office say Nawaz is determined to have his three children cleared of accusations of money laundering and tax evasion in the aftermath of Panama Papers leak.

All-weather friends



By M.Saeed Yousafzai

Companies from China's violence-prone far western region of Xinjiang signed deals worth about \$2 billion with Pakistan during a visit to Pakistan by Xinjiang's top official, who sought to cement ties with an important security partner.

China's Xinjiang seals Pakistan ties with \$2 billion in deals





Pakistan last year agreed energy and infrastructure projects worth \$46 billion with China to set up a so-called China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, in a boost to Pakistan's crumbling infrastructure and energy sector.

In return, China will get a free trade zone in Pakistan's Gwadar port and access to the Arabian Sea. New Pakistani roads will open up routes for Chinese goods into Europe and the Middle East from landlocked Xinjiang, which borders Pakistan.

During a four-day visit to Pakistan, Xinjiang's Communist Party chief Zhang Chunxian met Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, visited Islamabad, Karachi and Gwadar, the official Xinjiang Daily said.

"China and Pakistan have a deep friendship, are good neighbors, friends, brothers and partners," the newspaper cited Zhang as saying.

"On this trip, I have deeply felt this friendship and the atmosphere surrounding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor."

The \$2 billion in agreements covered infrastructure, solar power and logistics, among other projects, signed by companies from Xinjiang with their Pakistan counterparts, the newspaper said, without giving details.

Pakistan has proposed to sign a five-year cooperation agreement with China's western Xinjiang province to extend the scope of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

beyond infrastructure and energy projects to commerce and trade. Pakistan expressed its desire for a long-term cooperation plan on Wednesday during a delegation level meeting between Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal and Zhang Chunxian, Member of the Politbureau of Communist Party of China.

"On this trip, I have deeply felt this friendship and the atmosphere surrounding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.": Zhang

Both sides held extensive deliberations to explore more avenues of cooperation between

Pakistan proposes deal with Xinjiang to extend scope of CPEC

China and Pakistan especially between the latter and Xinjiang province of China, bordering Pakistan, said the Planning Ministry.

"There is a big economic and trade potential

for Pakistan in Xingiang," said Ahsan Iqbal after the meeting. He said cooperation between Pakistan and Xingiang could add a new chapter in the CPEC because of their close proximity.

China and Pakistan call each other "all-weather friends" and their ties have been underpinned by long-standing wariness of their common neighbor, India, and a desire to hedge against US influence in the region.

While meeting Sharif, the two countries agreed to continue working together to fight terrorism, strengthen border controls, maintain regional peace and stability and ensure the economic corridor projects are protected, the newspaper said.

Zhang also met Pakistan's military on the trip, it added, without elaborating.

Hundreds of people have been killed in unrest in Xinjiang in the last few years.

Exiles and rights groups say Chinese controls on the religion and culture of the Muslim Uighur people who call Xinjiang home is largely behind the violence, rather than any well-organized militant groups.

China denies any rights abuses in Xinjiang and says its people are free to practice Islam.

Zhang visited a mosque in Islamabad, where he "got a deep understanding of Pakistan's religious affairs management", the Xinjiang Daily added.



President Mamnoon Hussain in a one to one meeting with President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.

Pakistan, Mauritius vows to enhance the bilateral relations

Mauritius President Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim arrives in Pakistan for four days official visit on the invitation of Pakistani President Mamnoon Hussain.

By Saba Sarfraz

President Mamnoon Hussain and President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim have agreed to enhance relations in areas of education, health and

Mauritius government would arrange a “Pakistan week” to mark the forthcoming Independence Day of Pakistan in Mauritius with a view to increase people to people contacts: Mauritius President



President Mamnoon Hussain shaking hands with President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim Prior to their meeting at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.

trade between the two countries.

This was agreed upon during a one-to-one and delegation level meeting between President Mamnoon Hussain and President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad. The President of Mauritius, accompanied by a 9-members delegation, was on a four-day visit to Pakistan. A formal welcome ceremony, which included a Tri Services Guard of Honour, took place at the Presidency. Following the ceremony the two leaders held delegation level talks, where they reviewed current status of the bilateral relations and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the cooperative ties, with particular focus on economy and trade. The

Pakistan and Mauritius agrees to upgrade the existing Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) to a Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

President Mamnoon Hussain said that Pakistan accords importance to its bilateral relations with Mauritius, which are decades old. The President called for increasing economic and trade relations to further promote bilateral cooperation. The President noted that the trade volume between Pakistan and Mauritius is below potential and in this regard there should be a free trade agreement between the two countries so that bilateral trade could be bolstered. The President welcomed contacts at institutional level between the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry and Mauritius Chambers of Commerce & Industry. The President called for establishing direct air links between the two countries so that trade, tourism and people to people contacts could be further promoted. The President of Pakistan noted with appreciation that Pakistan is playing an important role in

Pakistan and Mauritius harbour similar views on many issues at international level and there is cultural affinity between the two countries: President Mamnoon Hussain



President Mamnoon Hussain and President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim during playing of National anthems of Pakistan and Mauritius during the guard of honour ceremony at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad



A Child clad in traditional dress presenting Bouquet to President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim upon her arrival at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



President of Mauritius, H.E. Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim visiting the Faisal Mosque in Islamabad.



President of Mauritius H.E. Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim planting a sapling at Shkrparian, Islamabad.

the financial sector of Mauritius and a leading Pakistani bank has established three branches in Mauritius. "Furthermore, Pakistani doctors are also rendering free of cost humanitarian services in Mauritius," remarked the President.

The President Mamnoon Hussain welcomed training of students from Mauritius in Pakistani institutions in the fields of medicine, engineering and pharmacy. He said that Pakistan would continue to provide education and training facilities to Mauritius students and



Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Syed Tariq Fatemi called on the President of Mauritius H.E. Dr. Bibi Ameenah Gurib Fakim in Islamabad.



Minister of State for National Health Services, Regulation and Coordination, Mrs. Salra Afzal Tarar called on President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim in Islamabad.



President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim being seen off to Karachi by Minister of State for IT & Telecom Mrs. Anusha Rehman at Nur Khan Airbase, Islamabad.



President of Mauritius H.E. DR. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim being received by the Minister of State for IT & Telecom Mrs. Anusha Rehman at Nur Khan Airbase, Islamabad.

diplomats in future as well.

The President of Pakistan said, "Pakistan and Mauritius harbour similar views on many issues at international level and there is cultural affinity between the two countries". The President emphasised the need to increase people to people contact through exchanges of students, academics, businessmen and parliamentarians to further cement bilateral relations.

President Mamnoon Hussain also hosted a luncheon in honor of visiting dignitary and her delegation, which was attended, by President Azad Kashmir Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan, Governor Punjab Rafique Rajwana, Minister of State Anusha Rahman, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Tariq Fatemi and high officials.

Pakistan and Mauritius while noting the importance of economy and trade in boosting bilateral ties agreed to upgrade the existing Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) to a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) at an early date.

The two countries inked the PTA on July 30, 2007. Pakistan was the first country to have inked the PTA with Mauritius as it has a huge potential for Pakistani products and serves as gateway for the entire African region.

President Dr. Gurib-Fakim informed President Mamnoon Hussain about the desire of Mauritius to deepen relations with Pakistan which was considered as an important country.

She said, "Mauritius government would arrange a "Pakistan week" to mark the forthcoming Independence Day of Pakistan in Mauritius with a view to increase people to people contacts".



President of Nauritius H.E. Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim in a group photo during her visit of the Pakistan Monument in Islamabad.

The Mauritius President urged Pakistan side to take advantage of the strategic location of Mauritius as a gateway to African continent, which was exhibiting a great developmental potential. Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms Professor Ahsan Iqbal, Minister of State for National Health Services, Coordination and Regulation Ms. Saira Afzal Tarrar and Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Syed Tariq Fatemi paid separate calls on the President of Mauritius and discussed ways to enhance ties in different fields. Later, the President of Mauritius departed for Karachi

on the second leg of her tour. President of Mauritius Dr. Ameenah Firdaus Gurib-Fakim reached in Karachi and was received by Sindh Governor Ishratul Ibad Khan, members of the provincial cabinet and the Sindh Assembly at the Jinnah International Airport.

The president held a meeting with Dr. Ishratul Ebad and discussed matters of mutual interest. She then visited Mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the University of Karachi.



Federal Minister for planning, Development and reform Prof. Ahsan Iqbal called on President of Mauritius Dr. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim in Islamabad.



H.E. DR. Bibi Ameenah Firdaus Gurib Fakim, President of Mauritius meets with Governor Sindh Dr. Ishrat-ul-Ebad Khan after her arrival Karachi Airport.

First woman President of Mauritius arrived at Karachi Marriott Hotel

By M.Saeed Yousafzai

Her Excellency Dr. Ameenah Firdaus Gurib-Fakim, First woman President of Mauritius arrived at Karachi Marriott Hotel. On her arrival the President was received by Mr. Jan Verduyn, General Manager Karachi Marriott Hotel. The Mauritius president who is leading a nine-member delegation stayed in the Presidential Suite and was genuinely impressed by the traditional hospitality of Karachi Marriott.





Pakistan seeks full Dialogue Partnership with ASEAN: President Mamnoon

By Raheel Iqbal

President Mamnoon Hussain has said that Pakistan seeks Full Dialogue Partnership (FDP) with Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as part of its efforts to establish a mutually beneficial relationship and to further Pakistan's "Vision East Asia" policy which aims at strengthening political, trade and economic ties with ASEAN member states. The President said this while exchanging views with envoys of ASEAN who called on him at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.

The President stated that Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with ASEAN and enjoys friendly relations with all its member countries. President Mamnoon Hussain expressed Pakistan's keenness to make its positive contribution after acquiring FDP status with ASEAN.

The President noted that Pakistan's trade with ASEAN states was far below potential and emphasized that there is ample scope to increase the trade manifold through concerted efforts. The President urged that investors and businessmen from ASEAN states may take advantage of liberal investment policies offered by Pakistan and invest in the field's of energy and infrastructure.

The President appraised the envoys that Pakistan also offers vast opportunities in tourism as there are several attractive tourist sites including remains of Gandhara civilization which could be of interest to tourists from ASEAN. The President called for easing of travel and smooth visa regime to help in promoting tourism and business.

The President said that Pakistan seeks friendly relations with all its neighbours and is making sincere efforts for peace in Afghanistan adding that efforts of Quadrilateral Group will pave way for peace in Afghanistan to usher prosperity in the whole region. President

with CPEC to reap economic dividends.

The diplomats said that ASEAN welcomes with great interest Pakistan's desire to become Full Dialogue Partners (FDP) and hoped that after the completion of due process, Pakistan's



Mamnoon Hussain said that the Zarb-e-Azb Operation has been successful and about 90% of the Tribal Areas have been cleared of the terrorists and criminal elements. The President reaffirmed that the Zarb-e-Azb Operation will continue till elimination of the last terrorist.

The President said that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a landmark project of the century, which is going to open up new avenues of investment and prosperity not just in Pakistan but the whole region. The President noted that several Central Asian Republics (CARs) are evincing keen interest in connecting

application for FDP will be considered favorably. The envoys appreciated Pakistan's "Vision East Asia" and hoped that Pakistan's trade and political ties with ASEAN members will grow further in the future.

The ASEAN diplomats thanked the President for a candid interaction with them and hoped that ties between Pakistan and ASEAN member states will further strengthen. Envoys from Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia were present during the meeting. Later, the President also hosted a lunch for ASEAN Ambassadors / High Commissioners.



President Mamnoon stresses close Pak-Turk collaboration in fighting terrorism

By Mian Fazal Elahi

President Mamnoon Hussain stressed close cooperation between Pakistan and Turkey to jointly combat terrorism for peace and stability of the two countries and the region.

The President stated this in a meeting with Turkish parliamentary delegation led by Ismail

The President expressed condolence over the loss of many lives in the recent terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Ankara and other cities, and assured that Pakistan stood in strong solidarity with Turkey and was ready to assist in any way possible.

President Mamnoon Hussain condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and said that terrorists had no religion. He

expressed the misguided elements involved in terrorism were tarnishing the image of Islam adding that Islam was a religion of peace and such barbaric acts could not be condoned.

He said the current level of trade between the two countries did not commensurate with the actual potential and called for sustained efforts to raise the volume of trade. He further stated the process for Free Trade Agreement between

The Speaker of Grand National Assembly of Turkey Ismail Kahraman praised Pakistan's efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan and hoped that the peace initiative would achieve success.

Kahraman, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey (GNAT) at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.



Chairman Senate, Mian Raza Rabbani exchanging views with Mr. Ismail Kahraman, Speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly at Parliament House, Islamabad.



Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Shaking hand with Speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly H.E. Ismail Kahraman in Parliament House, Islamabad.



Speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly H.E. Mr. Ismail Kahraman Signing the remarks on visitor book in Parliament House, Islamabad.

the two countries needed to be expedited to bolster bilateral trade.

The President expressed satisfaction at the defence cooperation between the two countries and noted with appreciation that the training facilities in both the countries were being utilized by the defence personnel of the two brotherly countries. He thanked Turkey for providing trainer aircrafts to Pakistan Air Force (PAF) and expressed his optimism that collaboration between the two countries in the defence sector would further grow in the future.

President Mamnoon Hussain paid tributes to the leadership of President of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu for transforming Turkey into a prosperous and developed country during the last decade.

He noted that Pakistan and Turkey's unique relationship remained unparalleled in terms of mutual trust, understanding and close cooperation, and called for increasing the frequency of exchanges between Pakistan and Turkey in the political, parliamentary, economic and defence realms to further cement brotherly relations.

The Speaker of Grand National Assembly of Turkey Ismail Kahraman said that Pakistan and Turkey were facing common problem of terrorism and hoped that with mutual cooperation, the two countries would soon get rid of this menace and expressed his sympathies for the victims of terrorism in Pakistan.

He praised Pakistan's efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan and hoped that the peace initiative would achieve success.

Acknowledging support of Indian Muslims during Turks' struggle for freedom, the Turkish Speaker said that the Turkish people and leadership held the people and the Government of Pakistan in highest esteem. He

expressed his country's support for the people of Kashmir and called for unity of Muslim Ummah to overcome their problems.

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Speaker, National Assembly, Muhammad Pervez Malik MNA, Convener, Pak-Turk Parliamentary Friendship Group and Ambassador of Turkey Sadik Babur Girgin were also present on the occasion. Later, the treasury and opposition benches warmly welcomed the



Turkish delegation of Grand National Assembly on visiting National Assembly to witness proceeding of the house.

Deputy Speaker, who was in the chair welcomed the visiting Turkish parliamentary delegation headed by Speaker Grand National Assembly Ismail Kahraman. He said that relations between the two-brotherly countries had entered in new era of confidence and cooperation and parliamentarian's visit would further strengthen ties between the two countries.

Leader of the Opposition, Khurshid Shah welcoming the delegation from opposition side said that Turkey was real and time-tested friend of Pakistan.

Minister for Climate Change Zahid Hamid on behalf of the government extended warm

welcome to the visiting delegation. He said that, "I am member of Pakistan and Turkey parliamentary group, our relations are so close that brother is not appropriate word, this group should be named as Pakistan Turkey family group.

S.A Iqbal Qadri said that they had old relations with Turkey and are proud of friendship with Turkey.

Shah Mehmood Qureshi said that Turkey had always supported Pakistan's stance on every international forum including United Nations. He said that Turkey always supported Pakistan in need of hour and extended help either it was 2005 earthquake or floods in the country. He said Turkey supported Pakistan in getting GSP plus status. He said "we value Turkish delegation's visit to Pakistan."

Pervaiz Malik, Convener of Pakistan-Turkish delegation group said that brotherly relations were cemented in hearts and minds of people of two countries. He said that they sought inspiration from the poetry of Maulana Rumi and people of Pakistan had deep devotion with Turkey since days of Khilafat Movement. Pakistan was keen to learn from welfare agenda of Turkey and appreciated Turkish assistance in socio-economic projects, he added.

Mehmood Khan Achakzai said that Turkey was also grappled with dangerous issue of terrorism and now its leadership had great responsibility to be more careful.

Maulana Amir Zaman, Haji Gulam Ahmed Bilour, Ijazul- Haq, Haji Shah Ge Gul Afridi and Sahibzada Tariqullah also welcomed the delegation and appreciated Turkish generous support to Pakistan on every occasion.

Later, guest speaker H.E. Mr. Ismail Kahraman presented souvenir to Speaker of Pakistan National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and signed the remarks in visiting book at Parliament House



13th OIC Summit

Decisions that we have taken in Istanbul give hope to billions of people: President Erdogan

By M.Saeed Yousafzai

The 13th Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) summit in Istanbul ended with the adoption of a joint resolution on Palestine, the organization's 2016-2025 action plan and an 'Istanbul Declaration'. "Decisions that we have taken in Istanbul give hope to billions of people," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said in a closing speech.

Commenting on the Palestinian resolution, Erdogan vowed that the Islamic world would never leave the Palestinian people isolated. Erdogan also said the action plan is "an important step," but stressed that it is vital that the action would be implemented.

This is the first time Turkey hosted the two-day summit since the body's inception in 1969.

Turkey took over the organization's chair from Egypt for the next two years.

The summit hoped to increase unity and solidarity between Muslim countries in the fight against terrorism. During the high-level meeting, Muslim leaders discussed the situation in Syria, Yemen, Palestine, Iraq, and Azerbaijan.

Founded in 1969, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation consists of 57 member states and represents the collective voice of the Islamic world.





Pakistan, Turkey

to broaden bilateral cooperation

President Mamnoon Hussain and Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu have agreed to enhance cooperation between Pakistan and Turkey in diverse areas, including defence, economy, energy, infrastructure and science and technology. Mr Hussain and Mr Davutoglu, who met here on Thursday on the sidelines of the 13th Summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), agreed that terrorism was a huge threat and there was a need for a joint strategy to tackle this menace. They were unanimous that the countries from Muslim world should address their differences through talks. They said that close, warm and brotherly relationship between Pakistan and Turkey served as an example for other Muslim nations. The two leaders called for further strengthening and broadening the Pakistan-Turkey ties. The president thanked Turkey for its active role in the OIC's Contact Group on Kashmir.

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu receiving president of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain before their meeting in Istanbul.

President of Pakistan in Istanbul for attending 13th OIC Summit being held from 14-15 April.



President Mamnoon meets World leaders on the sidelines of OIC summit

President Mamnoon Hussain, who is in Istanbul to attend the 13th Organisation of Islamic Countries Summit (OIC), held meetings with Turkish, Belarus, and Nigerian leadership on the sidelines of the summit.

President Mamnoon Hussain had a range of bilateral meetings and interactions with the world leaders, said a press release issued. A range of regional and international issues bilateral cooperation and matters of mutual interest came under discussion during the meeting with the leadership

Extending a warm welcome, Turkish President Erdogan thanked the president for participating in the OIC summit, taking place at time of serious challenges facing the Muslim world.

The president felicitated Turkish's Erdogan on hosting the OIC summit and extended best wishes for its successful conclusion as well as for Turkey's leadership at this crucial juncture.

The two leaders reiterated the strong mutual support and solidarity in the face of recent terrorist attacks in Turkey and Pakistan. They reaffirmed the resolve to defeat the scourge of terrorism through resolute action.

The centrality of deeper Pakistan-Turkey economic cooperation was underlined, with both sides emphasising the need for the earliest conclusion of the Free-Trade Agreement (FTA), for which the 'Framework Agreement' was signed in Islamabad on 22 March. Ways to deepen the participation of Turkish companies in diverse sectors in Pakistan – from energy and infrastructure to aviation and low-cost housing – were also underlined. Mamnoon also thanked Turkey for its consistent support for the Kashmir cause and reiterated Pakistan's support to Turkey on the Northern Cyprus issue. Both leaders also exchanged views on regional issues, including Afghanistan and the Middle East.

During his meeting with Turking Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, the abiding strength and closeness of Pakistan-Turkey relations was again emphasised and the determination to



President Mamnoon Hussain in a meeting with Prime Minister of Niger Brigi Rafini on the sidelines of the 13th OIC Summit in Istanbul.



President Mamnoon Hussain in a meeting with Chief Executive of Afghanistan Abdullah Abdullah on the sidelines of 13th OIC Summit in Istanbul.



President Mamnoon Hussain shaking hands with President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko before their meeting. The meeting took place in Istanbul on the sideline of 13th OIC Summit.



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan receiving President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain prior to the opening ceremony of 13th OIC Summit in Istanbul.



President Mamnoon Hussain shaking hands with Chief Executive Afghanistan Abdullah Abdullah before their meeting on the sideline of 13th OIC Summit in Istanbul.



President Mamnoon Hussain in a meeting with President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko. The meeting took place in Istanbul on the sideline of 13th OIC Summit.

transform these cordial ties into a robust, multi-dimensional partnership was reaffirmed. Both sides noted the highly damaging effect of extremism and terrorism on Muslim countries and stressed the importance of concerted endeavors to combat the menace, while simultaneously fighting phenomena like "Islamophobia".

In the meeting between President Mamnoon Hussain and Afghanistan Chief Executive Dr Abdullah Abdullah, both leaders reaffirmed the mutual commitment to work together to address common challenges. The president underlined the importance Pakistan attached to a peaceful and stable Afghanistan and highlighted the efforts being made for the promotion of the Afghan reconciliation.

The two sides also discussed high-level exchanges, including the upcoming visit of Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah to Pakistan, as a means to intensify and reinforce efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan and the

region. In his meeting with Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko, President Mamnoon Hussain shared Pakistan's desire for closer economic ties between the two countries. The ongoing visit of the minister of Industries of Pakistan to Belarus was also highlighted. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the rapid growth of bilateral cooperation in recent years – with

frequent high-level exchanges and conclusion of agreements for enhanced collaboration in different fields. Pakistan-Niger cooperation in political and economic domains was focused during the meeting of President Mamnoon and Prime Minister Brigi Rafni. Both sides affirmed the desire to intensify mutual collaboration.



President Mamnoon Hussain in a meeting with President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko. The meeting took place in Istanbul on the sideline of 13th OIC Summit.

The people of the Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir looked towards the OIC: President Mamnoon



President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain called on Turkish President Recept Tayyip Erdogan at Istanbul.

OIC urges India to implement UN resolutions on Kashmir

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has called upon India to implement the UN Security Council's resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir. According to the Foreign Office spokesman, the OIC in the joint communiqué issued at the end of the recent summit in Istanbul expressed concern at the indiscriminate use of force and gross violation of human rights in India held Kashmir by the security forces. The summit affirmed support to the Kashmir struggle and said it could not be equated with terrorism.

President, Mr. Mamnoon Hussain, led Pakistan delegation to the Thirteenth Islamic Summit Conference in Istanbul, Turkey on 14-15 April 2016.

The Summit was chaired by the President of Turkey and was attended by 25 Heads of State/ Government including of Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Iran, Kuwait, Palestine, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.



The President, in his address to the Summit, noted that the Muslim Ummah was facing unprecedented challenges to its fraternity and harmony. The President reiterated Pakistan's support to all efforts aimed at strengthening unity and solidarity among the Islamic countries. He highlighted the importance of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) as the united voice of the Muslim Ummah. He stressed the need for all member states to work together and resolve differences through consultations amongst themselves.

The President stressed that the people of the Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir looked towards the OIC Member States for their continued support to their just struggle for right to self-determination and the settlement of the Jammu & Kashmir Dispute.

In his capacity as Chairman of the OIC Standing Committee of Science and Technology (COMSTECH), the President presented the report of COMSTECH to the Summit. He briefed the Summit about the achievements of COMSTECH in promoting science and technology among the OIC member states and building their S&T capacities. The OIC Summit adopted a joint Communiqué, which besides addressing issues of interest and concern to the Muslim Ummah, reaffirmed its principle support to the peoples of Palestine and Jammu and Kashmir for the realization of their legitimate right to self-determination. The Final Communiqué called on India to implement numerous UN resolutions on Kashmir declaring that the final disposition of the State of Jammu and Kashmir would be made in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions and aspirations of Kashmiri people.

Earlier, the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir met on the sidelines of 13th OIC Summit on 12 April 2016 and reiterated OIC's continued support to the people of Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir in their just struggle for realization of their right to self-determination. The Adviser to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sartaj Aziz, led Pakistan delegation to the Contact Group Meeting on Jammu and Kashmir, which was chaired by the OIC Secretary General's Special Representative on Jammu and Kashmir, Ambassador Abdullah Al-Alim. Foreign Ministers of Azerbaijan and Turkey and Senior Representatives of Saudi Arabia and Niger attended the meeting.

The President held bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the Summit with leaders of the Republic of Turkey, Belarus, Afghanistan and Niger. The President discussed issues of mutual interest with the leaders.



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan receiving President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain prior to their meeting at Istanbul.



President Mamnoon Hussain seen-off by Turkish Minister for Economy Mustafa Elitas, at Ataturk International Airport. President attended 13th OIC Summit held in Istanbul.



The First Lady of Pakistan, Begum Mehmooda Hussain attended a special session on the sideline of the Summit on the theme, “First Ladies’ Leadership on Cancer Control in OIC Member States”. The session was chaired by the First Lady of the Republic of Turkey, Mrs. Emine Erdogan, in which the First Ladies signed a joint declaration on cancer control.



First Lady Begum Mahmooda Mamnoon Hussain signing declaration for first ladeies leadership on cancer control in Istanbul. The event was held on the sidelines of 13th OIC Summit in Istanbul.

Diplomatic Focus Thru Lens



special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Syed Tariq Fatemi in a meeting with Ms. Yasmin Qureshi, Member of The British House of Commons in Islamabad.



Mr. Emilian Ion, Ambassador of Romania called on Federal Minister for Defence Production, Rana Tanveer Hussain in Rawalpindi



Federal Minister for Water and Power, Khawaja Muhammad Asif in a meeting with Mr. Lapo Pistelli, Vice President ENI (Former Deputy Foreign Minister of Italy) in Islamabad.



US Ambassador David Hale called on Minister of State for National Health Services, Regulation and cooperation Sara Afzal Tarar in Islamabad.



Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosa in a meeting with Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan, H.E. Mr. Bakhitbek Shabarbayev in Islamabad



Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Reform Prof. Ahsan Iqbal exchanging views with Ambassador of Belarus H.E. Andrei G. Emolovich

Pakistani parliament is more democratic today: PM Nawaz



Chairman Majlis-e-Shura Kingdom of Saudi Arabia H.E. Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Mohammad Al-Sheikh was on official visit to Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

By Saba Sarfraz

Warmly welcoming the Chairman Majlis-e-Shura Kingdom of Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Abdullah Mohammad Al-Sheikh at PM House, the Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif said that the Government and the people of Pakistan hold the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in high esteem. The bilateral relations between Pakistan and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are deep rooted in common faith, culture, history and heritage, the Prime Minister stated.

Chairman Majlis-e-Shura Kingdom of Saudi Arabia H.E. Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Mohammad Al-Sheikh thanked the Prime Minister for a warm welcome and extended compliments and best wishes on behalf of the Custodian of the Holy Mosques. He stated that exchange of parliamentary delegations is important not only for sharing expertise and parliamentary experience but it would also strengthen the bonds of friendship between our two brotherly countries as both sides share perceptions and cooperate on issues of mutual interest at regional and international level.

Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif said that democracy in Pakistan is flourishing and today's Parliament is much more democratic as

well as vibrant as compared to past. The Prime Minister said that the government inherited major challenges like power crises, worsening law and order condition and deteriorating economic conditions.

However, through sheer hard work our team has been able to steer the country in much better position as compared to two and half years ago. He said that Pakistan's foreign reserve account is highest in history, and there is zero load-shedding in industrial sector and much reduced load shedding for domestic users. The operation Zarb e Azb launched after the

political consensus has yielded many fruitful results and that the terrorist are now on the run and hitting soft targets, added the PM.

Dr. Abdullah Mohammad Al-Sheikh lauded the economic turnaround achieved by Pakistan and appreciated the investor friendly policies of the present government and expressed confidence that under the leadership of the prime minister the country will eventually come out of these challenges on permanent basis.

Earlier in the meeting the Chairman Majlis-e-Shura Kingdom of Saudi Arabia extended his



Chairman of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh Signing the remarks on visitor book in Parliament House.



President Mamnoon Hussain in a meeting with Saudi Parliament Delegation led by Dr. Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Ibrahim Al-Shaikh, Chairman of Shura Council at the Aiwan-E-Sadr, Islamabad.

heartfelt condolences on loss of innocent lives in Lahore blast and refuted such terrorist's acts in strongest terms.

Later, in a meeting with Saudi parliamentary delegation led by Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Ibrahim Al Sheikh Chairman of the Shura Council at Aiwan-i-Sadr, the president of Pakistan Mr. Mamnoon Hussain said that business-friendly environment in the

President Mamnoon Hussain urged upon Saudi investors to invest in Pakistan's energy infrastructure and agriculture sectors

country had encouraged foreign investment. The president mentioned that the investment friendly policies included opening up of all sectors of economy for Foreign Direct Investment equal treatment of foreign and domestic investments liberal foreign exchange regime and one window operation.

Mamnoon expressed his satisfaction at cooperation of two countries at regional and international form and said the relations between the two brotherly countries were deep-rooted in common faith, culture, history and heritage.

The government and the people of Pakistan hold the Royal Family in high esteem and have highest respect for the custodian of the two

holy mosques King Salman Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, he said.

The president termed the large Pakistani community in Saudi Arabia as a human bridge between the two brotherly countries and added that they were playing an important role in the development of both Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. President Mamnoon Hussain expressed satisfaction on the level of Pak Saudi defence cooperation and the training facilities being offered for Muslim countries at the Pakistani defence institutions.

He said Pakistan had welcomed the formation of 35-nation coalition to counter terrorism and extremism and reiterated the country's commitment for peace in cooperation with other region countries particularly Saudi Arabia. The president assured that Pakistan will stand by Saudi Arabia in the event of any threat to its territorial integrity.

Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Ibrahim Al Sheikh, Chairman of the Shura Council, said Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are bound together in strong bonds of common religion and culture

and that Saudi Arabia accords highest priority to good relations with Pakistan.

President Mamnoon extended an invitation to King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud and the crown prince to visit Pakistan at their earliest convenience.

The Saudi delegation included H.E. Dr. Saad Mohammad Al-Haraiqi, Member Shura Council, H.E. Dr. Abdullah Hamad Al-Harbi, Member Shura Council, H.E. Dr. Faleh Mohammad Al-Sagheer, Member Shura Council, and H.E. Mr. Abdullah Marzouq Al-Zahrani, Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan.

National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq and Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Resources Jam Kamal Khan were also present during both meetings. The Chairman of the Shura Council also called on Speaker of the Federal Parliament Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. Issues of common interest and ways of strengthening relations between the two brotherly countries were discussed. He also signed his remarks on visitor's book at parliament house and planted a sapling in parliament lawn.



Chairman of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Abdullah Mohammed Bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh along with Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, planting a sapling of Mangolia Grandiflora at Parliament Lawn.



Chairman of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in Parliament House, Islamabad.



Chairman High Commissioner, H.E. Heather Cruiden called on Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif at PM House, Islamabad.

PM emphasis close cooperation between Pakistan, Canada

Prim Minister Nawaz Sharif has emphasized close cooperation between Pakistan and Canada in regional security, political and economic fields.

He was talking to Canadian High Commissioner to Pakistan Ms. Heather Cruiden in Islamabad on Thursday. The Prime Minister said relations between the two countries are based on strong foundation of friendship, mutual respect and cooperation.

He said Pakistan values its relations with Canada as partners in the common endeavor to promote global peace and stability, and fight against terrorism. Highlighting Pakistan's unmatched sacrifices in the fight against terrorism, the Prime Minister said Pakistan regards all regional and global initiatives to combat militancy, extremism and terrorism

as essential. Meanwhile, Former Governor KPK Sardar Mehtab Ahmad Khan called on Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif at PM House. Matters of political nature and development of KPK were discussed during the meeting. Sardar Mehtab Ahmad Khan apprised the Prime Minister on the status of numerous development projects and welfare schemes underway in KPK. The Prime Minister appreciated the role of Sardar Mehtab Ahmad Khan in carrying out development work and welfare projects in KPK and FATA during his tenure as Governor of the Province. The Prime Minister expressed his confidence that Sardar Mehtab Ahmad Khan would continue to work for the uplift and wellbeing of the people of KPK with renewed vigour and motivation in future.

Pakistan values its relations with Canada as partners in the common endeavor to promote global peace and stability, and fight against terrorism: PM Nawaz

President Mamnoon Hussain conferring Sitara e Imtiaz to CEO Serena Hotel Aziz Boolani during Investiture Ceremony at President House



Ambassador of Denmark Jesper Moller Sorensen and Ambassador of Netherlands Marcel de Vink visiting the stalls during National Conference on Women Empowerment organized by Oxfam in collaboration with the governments of Denmark and Netherlands, at Aiwan e Quaid.



Charge d' Affaires Embassy of Azerbaijan Chingiz Garibli speaks during a press conference on Escalation of Armenia-Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict at the Embassy of Azerbaijan. Military Attache Embassy of Azerbaijan Colonel Mehman Novruzov is also seen in the picture.





World Nuclear Security Summit

Pakistan seeks acceptance as a responsible nuclear state

M. Saeed Yousafzai / Web Desk

At the global Nuclear Security Summit held, Pakistan sought greater acceptance as a responsible nuclear state.

"We believe that since Pakistan has strong credentials on nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation, it qualifies for full integration in the multilateral export control regimes," a statement presented at the summit said.

Pakistan assured the international community that it was strongly committed to the objective and had been proactively engaged with efforts to promote nuclear safety and security.

"Pakistan has ensured that nuclear and radioactive materials and all related facilities are secured in all places," said the 'national statement' read at the summit.

Special Assistant on Foreign Affairs Syed Tariq Fatemi, who represented the country at

the summit after the prime minister, opted out because of internal pressures, also read another statement, called 'intervention', spelling out Pakistan's positions on the issues raised during the conference.

Both statements assured world leaders that Pakistan was a responsible nuclear power and was party to several international instruments relevant to nuclear safety and security.

"Within the framework of these instruments and the IAEA activities and programmes, Pakistan is committed to international cooperation consistent with our national priorities," one of the statements said.

Pakistan informed the participants that it took the responsibilities related to nuclear safety and security very seriously and its nuclear security regime was effective, dynamic and responsive to the entire range of threats.

The elements of nuclear security in Pakistan



Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Syed Tariq Fatemi with President Barack Obama at the White House, prior to Nuclear Security Summit Heads of Delegation working dinner in Washington, D.C.



Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Syed Tariq Fatemi met with the British Prime Minister, David Cameron on the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) in Washington D.C.

include a robust command and control system under the National Command Authority, a rigorous regulatory regime, comprehensive export controls and cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and other countries.

The country reiterated that its export controls were consistent with those being implemented by the Nuclear Suppliers Group, Missile Technology Control Regime and the Australia Group. Pakistan's Centre of Excellence on

Nuclear Security continues to grow into a regional and international hub.

It explained how it had been running a safe, secure and safeguarded civil nuclear programme for more than 40 years.

The official statement noted that even the summit recognised nuclear security as a national responsibility and as a responsible nuclear state; Pakistan accorded the highest priority to the security of its facilities.

"Pakistan's nuclear security paradigm, evolved over the years, is effective and responsive to the entire range of possible threats. Nuclear security regime in Pakistan is dynamic and regularly reviewed and updated."

Pakistan explained that the regime was based on the national legislative, regulatory and administrative framework.

"Pakistan follows the principle of multi-layered defence to prevent and effectively respond to the entire spectrum of threats and has established a specially trained, highly skilled and well-equipped force that is designed for nuclear security."

The statement explained that Pakistan's regulatory regime encompassed all matters related to nuclear safety and security, including physical protection of materials and facilities, material control and accounting, transport security, prevention of illicit trafficking and border controls.

It includes plans to deal with possible radiological emergencies through an elaborate Nuclear Emergency Management System.

"As a country with advanced nuclear fuel cycle capability, Pakistan is in a position to provide nuclear fuel cycle services under IAEA safeguards, and to participate in any non-discriminatory nuclear fuel cycle assurance mechanisms," Fatemi said.





Pakistan's top priorities:

Defeating terrorism, Growing the economy & Building a peaceful neighborhood

Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi told a group of students and faculty members from the US Army War College that defeating terrorism, growing the economy and building a peaceful neighborhood were among Pakistan's top priorities, says a press release received here from New York.

Among these priorities she also emphasized addressing two key external challenges – promoting peace and security in Afghanistan and normalizing relations with India on the basis of resolution of outstanding disputes.

Addressing participants who visited Pakistan Mission to the UN, the Ambassador said, "These national priorities frame our international diplomacy and our foreign engagements."

Describing the sense of optimism in Pakistan about its future, Ambassador Lodhi said this reflected gains the country has made on the political, security and economic fronts in the past three years.

On the political front, democracy had been strengthened and consolidated. There was a firm national consensus in the country now that Pakistan's future lay in democracy. And she added that the military was part of this consensus.

"We have sought to eliminate terrorism through a comprehensive strategy, involving forceful law enforcement actions and targeted military operations"

Dr. Maleeha

"With an independent judiciary, a vibrant and free media and an expanding and diverse civil society, democratic institutions and traditions are becoming stronger in Pakistan", she said.

On the security front, she said Pakistan had turned the tide against terrorism. "We have sought to eliminate terrorism through a comprehensive strategy, involving forceful law enforcement actions and targeted military operations".

"This doesn't mean the challenge is over, but we are in a much better place than we were a few years ago and are set on a positive trajectory", she added.



Giving details of Pakistan's fight against terrorism, she said that 180,000 troops have been involved in the world's largest anti-terrorism operation, which was now in its final phase in North Waziristan. On the economic front, Ambassador Lodhi said that the country had transitioned from a crisis to a stable economy which is now poised for rapid growth. This has been achieved by robust reforms carried out by the government and by consistently implementing an IMF programme.

Talking about external challenges faced by

Pakistan, Ambassador Lodhi said that peace in Afghanistan was crucial for stability in the region and what Pakistan had long advocated was that a 'negotiated peace' would have to be sought as a 'military victory' had been elusive for over a decade.

There was now an international consensus that a political solution through Afghan reconciliation represented the best hope for peace in that country. She briefed the participants on the Quadrilateral Coordination Group that had been formed by Afghanistan, Pakistan, the US and China to give an impetus to peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan.

This had evolved road map for a peace process and while Pakistan was ready to play its role, it expected other partners to share the responsibility in efforts to revive face to face talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban. On relations with India, Ambassador

Two key external challenges Identified by Dr. Maleeha – promoting peace and security in Afghanistan and normalizing relations with India on the basis of resolution of outstanding disputes.

Lodhi said that despite a positive start following the advent of the Modi government in India, Delhi suspended talks between the

two countries on flimsy grounds and set unacceptable "pre-conditions" for their revival.

Since then, in spite of Pakistan's call to resume broad based, comprehensive dialogue, India was still not forthcoming. This attitude was impeding prospects of normalization between the two countries.

Dr. Maleeha Lodhi said, one of Pakistan's key priorities was regional connectivity and integration. She cited in this regard the ambitious connectivity project with China linking the two countries through an Economic Corridor. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor would also link Pakistan to Central Asia and the Eurasian landmass.

The CPEC, she said, will not be confined to China and Pakistan but will be win-win for the entire region.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon viewing painting along with Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi at an Art Exhibition organized at the UN by Pakistan Mission to the United Nations, New York.



Turkish Airlines new Office at F-7

General Manager Turkish Airlines Islamabad Yunus Mert, Ambassador of Austria Dr Brigitta Blaha, Charge d' Affaires Embassy of Azerbaijan Chingiz Garibli and others cutting the ribbon during the Grand Opening Ceremony of the Turkish Airlines Office in F-7, Islamabad.





Grand fashion show featuring couture designers

By Raheel Iqbal

A grand fashion show was held at the newly renovated Grand Marquee of the Pearl Continental, Rawalpindi. The event featured the latest couture designers. Vogue talented designer's models and brand ambassadors were seen showcasing the latest couture designs.

The grand inauguration of the 'Fashion Show' was inaugurated by Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan HE Margaret Adamson, Honorable Diana Bao wife of the ambassador of China to Pakistan, Hashoo Group Operations and Hospitality Division VP Mr. Haseeb A Gardezi, Pearl Continental (PC) General Manager Mr. Ahmed Iqbal Saeed along with several other ambassadors, notables of the twin cities and the famous fifty models including the grand show's brand ambassadors. HE Margaret in her speech lauded the efforts of the Pearl Continental Hotel and Hashoo Hotels. According to the HE Margaret, this was her very first event that she attended, as the vent was really impressive.

Events Marketing Media and Communications Vice President Mr. Tahir Khan in his opening speech thanked the audience on behalf of the Hashoo Hotels and particularly the Pearl Continental team for their immaculate arrangements. He said, "Our hotels besides being in hospitality business are considered as the hub of entertaining activities and seriously recognises the importance of



culture and arts. He shared with audience the distinctive features of all the hotels of Hashoo Group While speaking on the occasion, Pearl Continental General Manager Ahmed Iqbal Saeed expressed his gratitude to the audience for their presence and their love towards the Pearl Continental Hotel, Rawalpindi as all this certainly adds up to the success of the event. He also gave a brief speech on the all the

recent renovations and revamping done to give the Pearl Continental Hotel a complete new look. While speaking at the occasion, Pearl Continental Public Relations Manager, Mr. Asadul Hussain said, "The concept of this exciting event is to create a posh environment to enjoy a top-of-the-line runway show and expects to spend a luxurious evening in most happening hotel in the twin cities.





High Achievers' Awards Ceremony

Millennium Roots schools at Jinnah Convention Center Islamabad with 2000 guests celebrate Millennium Roots Schools High Achievers, University Acceptances, Global outreach, Summer Programme, community service, Ivy League Harvard, Brown, Yale, Dartmouth and liberal arts Williams, Mouth Holyoke, Wellesley, Sarah Lawrence, NYU, HKU and Many more acceptances plus Cambridge world toppers from Millennium schools and High Achievers, Oxford & Cambridge Acceptances.







Shah, PIA, Pakistan and Korea: Indomitability

By Dr. Song Jong-hwan*



Recently I had the opportunity to travel from Islamabad to New York and back on PIA. Many people, including my Pakistani friends, smirked when they learnt of my reservation on PIA. Some even advised me to change the reservation but I did not. The airplane flew as per schedule and it was a smooth flight. The service and comfort levels were alright. In future, I will fly with PIA whenever and wherever it is available.

On the flight from New York to Lahore I watched a Pakistani film, 'Shah' by chance. The byline above the title 'Shah' is 'After Every Fall, I Rise'. This is similar to a Korean phrase which transliterates as 'you may fall seven times and yet rise again'.

The movie is based on the indomitable life of Pakistani boxer Hussain Shah, who won the bronze medal in the Middleweight division boxing at the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea. Shah

was from a very poor background. Even after winning an Olympic medal he was reduced to pawning his assets, including his medals, for small amounts of money in order to take care of his sick father. But what made him a truly great boxer is that every time he fell down he

**In future, I will fly with
PIA whenever and
wherever it is available.**

would rise again. He would struggle and never give in. In one fight he was almost beaten but he saw the Pakistani flag and it motivated him to rise again.

PIA too has fallen on hard times in recent years due to financial losses, labor disputes and management issues. However, I believe that PIA

can overcome its problems if it is indomitable like Shah. This is how PIA can rise again to its former glory, when it was considered one of the best airlines in the world and consistently setting new records in the aviation industry.

Similarly, Pakistan has faced problems in recent years which include security challenges, power shortages and other issues. However, I am fully convinced Pakistan too can rise again. At the resumption of Pak-US Strategic Dialogue in Washington D.C. on 28th January 2014, American Secretary of State John Kerry said Pakistan has the potential to become a future economic tiger with economic reforms and the inclusion of women and minorities. I fully agree with him.

Pakistan has a lot of potential. I have written about Pakistan's potential many times in articles that have been published in Pakistan and in Korea. God has given Pakistan the second highest mountain in the world as well as a deep sea like the Arabian Sea. Pakistan has a strategic location, abundant natural resources and fertile land with good irrigation system. Pakistan has a big population of 200 million and around 60% of them are young people. Pakistan also has talented and skilled labor.

Economically, Korea had fallen to a position worse than the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) because of years of colonial rule and the 1950 invasion by the North Koreans. Korean per capita income in 1962, when the first five-year

PIA can rise again to its former glory, when it was considered one of the best airlines in the world and consistently setting new records in the aviation industry

economic plan was launched, was \$91, which was less than the average per capita income of the LDCs. But Korea did not give up despite all the problems and Korean per capita income is more than twenty-seven thousand dollars as of 2015! Thanks to Korea's visionary leadership and the hard work, sacrifices, dedication,

perseverance and indomitability of the people. I am convinced Pakistan will rise by achieving its own economic miracle, the Miracle on the Indus River, just like the Korean Miracle on the Han River. For this Pakistan can cooperate with advanced countries including the Republic of Korea.

My own experience in Pakistan has been wonderful, and I found Pakistan a beautiful country with very hospitable people. Just as Shah and Korea rose after falling on hard times, I am sure that PIA and Pakistan will also rise again.

Time is like an arrow. I have already spent almost three years in Pakistan and will return to Korea in mid-May. But I will do my best to keep supporting Pakistan even after I depart. I will do this by presenting a good image of Pakistan to my Korean friends and encouraging Korean investment and trade with Pakistan at various forums.

Pak-Korea Dosti Zindabad!

** The author Dr. Song Jong-hwan is the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Pakistan*

Diplomats celebrate Easter, Nowruz

Dr M Ali Nawaz, the president of the Pakistani-Norwegian Friendship Association (PANA) welcomed guests to a breakfast marking spring, Easter and Nowruz – the Iranian New Year – at the Serena Hotel.

The event was well attended, with Kenyan High Commissioner Julius Bitok invited as the guest of honour. Mr Bitok gave a short address on trade and other kinds of cooperation between Kenya and Pakistan, and also talked about Kenya's relationship with Norway.

Mr Bitok spoke about the late Prof Wangari Maathai, the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize – which was awarded to her by the Norwegian Nobel Committee in 2004 for her work with women, in particular the Green Belt Movement.

Both the high commissioner and the PANA president are wildlife enthusiasts, and the high commissioner urged the gathering to visit Kenya to go on a safari, and see wild animals and their natural habitat.

Dr Nawaz said he was planning to hold a PANA film evening in Islamabad, to screen 'The Cliff Walkers', a film by Nisar Malik on snow leopards

in the Himalayan mountains. Dr Nawaz is the head of the Snow Leopard Foundation, which has offices in Islamabad and Gilgit. While in Norway, he also studied brown bears from Scandinavia.

PANA members Khalida Babree and Barbara Ayisha Mustafa also performed a dramatic

reading of a summary of Oscar Wilde's 'The Happy Prince', which was particularly relevant with regards to Easter and spring.

They said Easter came earlier than usual this year, falling on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring Equinox.





Spanish artists perform during Flamenco performance 'Don Quijote' organized by the Embassy of Spain at Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) in Islamabad







Mr. Mian Fazal Elahi Editor, CEO and Publisher of “Diplomatic Focus” hosted a Dinner Reception to say good bye to outgoing Ambassador of Nepal H.E. Baharat Raj Paudyal at his residence in Islamabad.



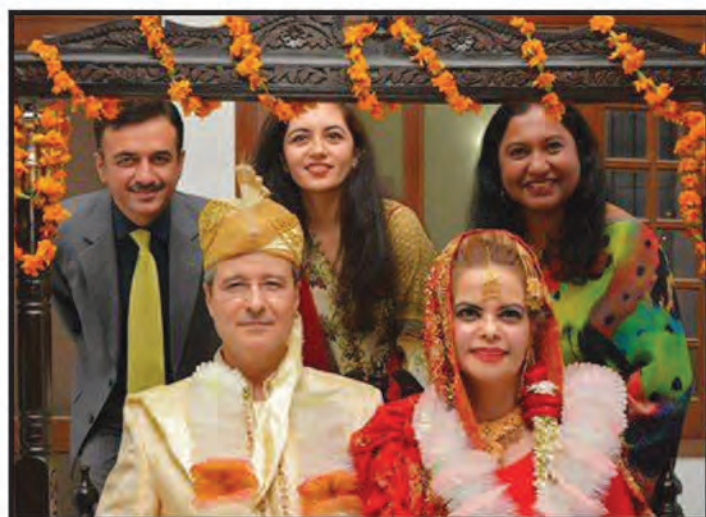


Emilian Ion appreciates thalassemia center facilities

Monitoring Desk

Romanian Ambassador in Pakistan H.E. Emilian Ion has appreciated the eminent medical treatment facilities for the poor and deserving patients of thalassemia under the umbrella of Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM). During his visit to Pakistan Thalassemia Center he was greeted by Managing Director of PBM Barrister Abid Waheed Sheikh here in Islamabad.

The Ambassador was given a tour the center including treatment ward and latest pathological lab. Appreciating the efforts of MD PBM for providing the basic amenities to the neglected populace, he vowed to extend humanitarian assistance to these vulnerable natives of the country on the platform of PBM. Ambassador of Romania Emilian Ion on the occasion also met with the thalassemia children under treatment there and distributed gifts among them.



Walima in Hounor of Brazil Ambassdor H.E. Claudio Raja Gabaglia Lins and Zu Lins



The Delegation of Islamabad Industrial Area Association led by Vice President Mr. Zikria Zia presenting shield to Brazil Ambassador Mr. Claudio Lins in meeting.



Sri Lanka Army Orchestra perform at Pakistan National Art Gallery' in an event organized by high commission of Sri Lanka



Ambassador of Ukrain H.E. Vlad Lako visit to Sahiwal Chamber of Commerce and Industry



UN's International Day of Sports for Development & Peace

To support UN's International Day of Sports for Development and Peace, Ms. Helle Nielsen, Charge d'Affaires participated in an exclusive football match to show how football is a powerful vehicle for social inclusion, gender equality and youth empowerment.

The football tournament was between four teams, consisting of a blend of players from the diplomatic core and the women and

girls from Pakistan's National Football Team and Rawalpindi's Young Rising Stars. The event gave a chance to young females and participating players to get together in a spirit of commemoration and hope. The event gave the uplifting message that football is no longer a game dominated by boys and men. The event was co-organised by UN Women and Serena Hotels.



German Ambassador Ms. Inna Lepel visits Lahore Chamber

HEC Honored Afghan Envoy

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman HEC presents a souvenir to Hazrat Omar Zakhilwal, Ambassador of Afghanistan to Pakistan who visited HEC Secretariat to discuss collaboration between the two countries in higher education.



Pak-Thailand Bilateral trade can be doubled to \$2 billion

There exists scope to double the volume of bilateral trade between Thailand and Pakistan, said Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand H.E. Suchart Leingsaeengthong, while talking to journalists at the Thai Royal Consulate General. "The Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Thailand and Pakistan is likely to be concluded this year, which would not only facilitate trade but also help in promoting ties between the two countries," he said. He further said that though

the present trade volume between the two countries stood at \$1 billion, but it could be doubled to \$2 billion in the next three years. Mr. Suchart Leingsaeengthong also highlighted the role of the private sector in enhancing trade ties and said exchange delegation of traders' organizations would help in selecting right products for import from both countries. "Holding conferences and promoting tourism would also be beneficial in bringing the people together." He also stressed on improved law



and order situation in the metropolis, which would in turn help spur trade and economic activities.

Survivors in Naltar helicopter crash meet

The survivor of Naltar helicopter crash former ambassador of the Netherlands Mr. Marcel de Vink visited Pakistan on Monday to collect his belongings and meet with friends. He got almost 50 per cent burn injuries and has fully recovered.

A meeting of the survivors of the crash was held on Monday attended by Ambassador of Romania Emilian ION and the Malaysian High Commissioner Dr Hasrul Sani Mujtabar. The wife of Malaysian high commissioner was killed that crash while he himself received serious burn injuries.



'Lok Mela' ends with lively award ceremony

By Raheel Iqbal

Folk Festival of Pakistan, popularly known as Lok Mela, successfully concluded at Shakarparian with a prestigious and colorful award ceremony. Barrister Mr. Abid Waheed Sheikh, Managing Director, Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal was the chief guest on the occasion. Minister of Information Mr. Parvez Rashid inaugurated the event in his address, Senator Pervez Rashid said "Pakistan has a rich and diverse culture and the people of all the provinces are proud of their traditions. "He said Lok Mela is a reminder of the importance of preserving our culture and that such events reinforce national harmony and integration by promoting cultural heritage. He said harmony is also reinforced at such events because all the provinces contribute to the organization of the festival.

In his address, Barrister Abid Waheed Sheikh congratulated Lok Virsa for holding this huge festival that brought rural masses from each corner of the country to the capital city enriching its beauty and attraction. He said "No nation can afford to progress in industry, science and technology at the utter neglect and cost of its cultural awareness. Lok Virsa is doing a great service to the nation by documenting, preserving and disseminating the rich cultural heritage of Pakistan". In my view, culture is the path that leads to the provincial solidarity, religious harmony, love,

peace and brotherhood among the nation, he added.

Earlier in her speech, Lok Virsa's executive director Dr. Fouzia Saeed thanked all provincial governments, in particular their cultural departments, art councils, craftspeople, folk artists, musicians, sponsoring agencies and other institutions for their unstinted cooperation to Lok Virsa for making this national event a great success. During the award ceremony, a number of cash awards sponsored

by different national organizations and individuals were given to the master craftsmen & craftswomen on the recommendations of a jury national constituted by Lok Virsa comprising knowledgeable experts in the field of art and culture. Jury held detailed meetings over the last three days and minutely observed working of each artisan so as to arrive on a just and fair decision.

The 10-day festival pulled a big crowd throughout and featured artisans-at-work





exhibition, provincial cultural pavilions, folkloric song & dance performances, cultural evenings, craft bazaar, theatre performances and many other attractions.

All the four provinces, Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Kashmir have fully participated in the festival by way of presenting their beautiful indigenous culture, arts, crafts, music and cuisine in specially designed pavilions symbolizing their respective historical monuments, contributing art, music and entertainment activities.

Sixty two awards were awarded to the winning master artisans and folk artists from all over Pakistan in full view of the national media. Chief Guest gave away these awards.

The artisans from all provinces, Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Kashmir who received awards were Siyani Khatoon in Sindhi lungi, Gul Khatoon in rilli work, Saran in Charkha weaving, Haleema in durree weaving, Purri in Farasi weaving, Faqueer Muhammad in pottery, Farhat Bibi in lacquer work, Ismail in handloom, Tasleem Bibi in Hazara phulkari, Aurangzeb Khan in stone work, Sultanat Khan in wood carving, Khawaja Safar Ali in metal work, Bashir Ahmad in Karakulli cap, Riaz Ahmad in wax printing, Daryan Khan in saroz making, Miral Khan in leather embroidery, Rozi Khan in Balochi chappal making, Malookan in Balochi embroidery, Malik Abdul Rehman in camel skin Naqqashi, Abdur Rashid in bone work, Manzoor Malang in Ghuggo Ghorey, Muhammad Ramzan in khussa making, Riaz Ahmad & Muhammad Hanif in lacquer work, Habibur Rehman in truck art, Muhammad Shabbir in blue pottery, Akbar Chughtai in block printing, Hajra Bibi & Kaneez Fatima in basketry, Fouzia Naheed in doll making, Shahida Bibi in gota kinari, Sadaf Nisar in Motikari, Surraya Abdullah in chunri (tie dye), Deeba Rana in papiermache, Taj Muhammad in Namda making, Gule Zehra & Nisar Ali in Kashmiri embroidery, Munir Ahmad in Gabba making, Khursheed Numa in GB namda, Karimuddin in sharma weaving and Muhammad Afzal in wood work.

Grand prize, i.e. Raza Kazim Music was granted to child singer Zawwar Hussain in Marwari folk singing from Sindh.

Exotic cultural and musical performances were also presented during the ceremony, which were greatly enjoyed by the audience. A large number of art, craft & music lovers, cultural personalities, media persons and general public attended the event.



H.E. Mr. SherAli Jononov visits “Diplomatic Focus”

The Ambassador of Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tajikistan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Mr. SherAli Jononov visited the office of Diplomatic Focus where CEO/Publisher/Editor of Diplomatic Focus Mr. Mian Fazal Elahi greeted him. Mr. Mian Fazal Elahi and Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan H.E. Mr. Sher Ali Jononov exchanged their views on different regional and international issues. Mr. Elahi also presented him his newly launched book “Bonds of Friendship between Argentina & Pakistan (1951 to 2016)” under the banner of RBI Media minds.



H.E. Walid AM Abu Ali Ambassador of Palestine hosted a dinner in the honor of the newly-arrived and outgoing envoys at his residence. Ambassadors of Afghanistan Dr Omar Zakhilwal, Chief of Protocol Foreign Office Tasawar Khan, Mayor of Islamabad Ansar Aziz, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Bakhytbek Shahbarbayev, Ambassador of Holy Sea, The Nuncio Apostolic Archbishop Ghaleb Bader, Ambassador of Jordan Major Gen. (Retd) Nawaf Khalifah Ibrahim Saraireh, CEO Serena Hotels Aziz Boolani, Malik Ammad and others attend the eve.





We are launching an aggressive image-building business campaign for the country through exhibitions: Dastgir

By Saba Sarfraz

The first ever four-day product-specific exhibition by the name of Texpo Pakistan 2016 kicked off, aiming to showcase the country's textile products to potential markets across the world.

The exhibition was organised by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) and inaugurated by Commerce Minister Khurram Dastgir and Sri Lanka's Commerce Minister Rishad Bathiudeen. A large number of stalls of textile products including garments, sports kits, bed sheets, towels and leather goods were set up by manufacturers. The stalls were visited by local as well as foreign businessmen.

Dastgir, in his address, said that Pakistan was

taking every step to enhance its exports, especially in the field of textiles. The aim of such exhibitions was to reach out to the global markets, he added.

TDAP Secretary Rabiya Javeri Agha gave further details about delegates in Texpo 2016, "These delegates are from 52 countries including Australia, Holland, Japan, China and Russia".

The delegation from Hong Kong also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the trade bodies. Productive meetings were held between the representatives of the trade bodies and the delegates from Kazakhstan, China, Vietnam and France.

Ambassadors of Pakistan from Netherlands, Vietnam and Brazil led their business



delegations for the exhibition.

The government will organise 120 exhibitions in different countries this year to market local products and improve the country's image that has been dented by terrorism incidents, said Minister for Commerce Khurram Dastgir Khan.

He said his ministry was also launching an aggressive image-building campaign for the country through overseas exhibitions. These exhibitions have been planned in Iran, Central-Asian and other established countries to explore new markets for Pakistani products.

"We have learnt through experience that sector-specific exhibitions can help Pakistan attract buyers and business," said Dastgir, shedding light on the purpose of arranging such an expo. Commenting on the current decline in exports, Dastgir said it was not a Pakistan-specific problem. "China, India, Turkey and Thailand, all have experienced significant drop in their exports mainly because of the global economic slowdown."

The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), government's body to promote exports, has already organised nine exhibitions in Pakistan.





Pak-China links: Logistics complex construction to facilitate trade

Construction on a logistics complex that will deepen bilateral trade between China and Pakistan began in Tashkurghan Tajik Autonomous County in Xinjiang. According to the local government; the project covers an area of about 58 hectares southwest to the county and will use up a total investment of 3 billion yuan (\$464 million). The first stage of the three-stage project includes an Internet service administration centre, a cross-border ecommerce enterprise incubator, and a modern warehousing and logistic centre. In the meantime, a comprehensive transportation system, especially for cross-border cold-chain logistics, will be further developed. RMB settlement will be introduced as well, reports China official news agency – Xinhua. Further stages will see the completion of a commodity exhibition centre, manufacturing and assembly factories, hotels, entertainment facilities and vehicle maintenance station.

The first stage of the three-stage project includes an Internet service administration centre, a cross-border ecommerce enterprise incubator, and a modern warehousing and logistic centre. In the meantime, a comprehensive transportation system, especially for cross-border cold-chain logistics, will be further developed.

China's province to make huge investment in Punjab

Punjab will have huge investments from China's Shandong province in the fields of energy, textiles, infrastructure, manufacturing, agriculture, information technology, construction, etc.

"Punjab and Shandong can become strong partners for prosperity and uplift of Punjab as our bilateral relations at the government to government level have been exemplary. It is high time that we created conditions for our businessmen, entrepreneurs and investors to increase their level of engagement," said Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif while addressing a Punjab-Shandong business seminar organised by the Punjab Board of Investment and Trade at a local hotel.

He said 1,320MW Sahiwal Coal Power Plant worth \$1.8 billion was being completed under CPEC by Shandong company.

Pinpointing journalists covering the event, Mr Shahbaz said the Orange line metro train would save them from travelling on obsolete buses and motorcycle rickshaws.

Shandong Vice-Governor Xia Geng said: "The Pak-China relationship has exceeded beyond economic ties. We have deep-rooted

cultural ties." He said his province would extend every possible investment support to Punjab, adding today's seminar would remain instrumental towards strengthening the Punjab-Shandong business relationship.

Later, Mr Shahbaz and Mr Geng signed agreements of establishing friendly province relationship and special economic zones in collaboration with China all over Punjab.

Six memoranda of agreement were also signed at the event. Shandong Yongtai Paper Mill Co Ltd & Roshan Packages (Pvt) Ltd signed an MoU to set up one paper mill in Punjab.

Another MoU was signed between Jinan Sinox International Co Ltd & Reshma Power Generation (Pvt) Ltd to provide heavy fuel oil treatment and emulsification technology services for better environment.

Shandong Provincial Enterprises signed an MoU with Foreign Investment & WOW Solutions (Pvt.) Ltd for establishing investment promotion service cooperation.

At the end, PBIT facilitated business to business and government to business sessions after the seminar to discuss various joint venture possibilities.



UNODC joins hand with Australia to halt human trafficking

The project will be implemented under the UNODC Country Programme for Pakistan (2016-2019) with financial support of approximately USD550, 000 provided by the Australian Government.

By M.Saeed Yousafzai

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Country Office in Pakistan signed a one year project with the Australian Government aimed at strengthening responses to human trafficking and migrant smuggling in Pakistan.

The project will be implemented under the UNODC Country Programme for Pakistan (2016-2019) with financial support of approximately USD550, 000 provided by the Australian Government.

Cesar Guedes, UNODC Country Office Representative in Pakistan, highlighted the importance of building the capacity of law enforcement agencies in Pakistan to detect effectively and disrupt trafficking and smuggling networks that are financially benefitting criminal syndicates and causing untold suffering.

This project would enable the UNODC to further raise awareness amongst vulnerable populations and protect individuals, especially women and children, from becoming victims.

The Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan, Margaret Adamson, said the Australian

Government was pleased to work with the Government of Pakistan, through the UNODC, in strengthening border controls and combatting transnational crimes including people smuggling and human trafficking. Ms Adamson stressed that these were issues of global concern requiring a strong, coordinated response. This project demonstrates the commitment of all three partners to addressing the scourge of transnational crime. Guedes added that the presence of senior law enforcement officer from the Federal Investigation Agency on the occasion signals

Government of Pakistan's strong commitment to overcome the challenges posed by irregular migration. Guedes said that the one year long project would enable the UNODC to further inculcate awareness among vulnerable people and protect individuals, especially women and children, from becoming victims. The signing ceremony was also attended by the senior officials of the FIA and UNODC.

The UNODC Office in Pakistan will implement the project in collaboration with the Federal Investigation Agency over the next 12 months.



accelerate the pace of joint ventures with Pakistani businessmen. He said that Pakistan is a huge potential market and could give a huge dividend to the foreign investors.

He said that Pakistan attach a lot of value to such facts that UK comes at 4th place among the top export markets in the world for Pakistan. With regard to major importing countries to Pakistan, UK takes the 15th position.

Almas Hyder said that it is an encouraging sign that two way trade and especially our exports are increasing at a healthy rate. From 2013 to 2014, our bilateral trade has gone up from dollar 1.98 billion to dollar 2.26 billion. It was due to increase in exports to UK that amounted to dollar 223 million.

He said that since UK's contribution is one of the highest after USA in net flow of foreign investment in Pakistan, so we wish that UK may further enhance the existing level of investments in our country. It will certainly help us in maintaining international peace, attaining economic stability and ensuring long term prosperity.

He said that considering the dire need of FDI in Pakistan, we look up towards your good offices for playing some supporting role in bringing foreign investment from UK. You are quite aware of the issues and challenges, which are as much of concern to us as they are to you and the world community.

The LCCI Vice President Nasir Saeed said that there are many areas in Pakistan which offer a lot of opportunities to UK investors. He said that it includes chains of retail stores, textiles, sources of alternate energy, oil & gas exploration, medical technologies, collaboration in R&D and skill development etc.

Nasir Saeed said that like any proactive organization, we at LCCI intend to develop close linkages with UK's important chambers of commerce. It is needless to mention that your support can play key role in this connection.

UK is ready to Extend Maximum Cooperation with Pakistan: British diplomat

By Raheel Iqbal

Pakistan is a huge emerging market, British businessmen recognize its importance and ready to grow further trade and economic ties with their Pakistani counterparts to avail the available opportunities.

These views were expressed by the British Deputy High Commissioner in Karachi John Tucknott while talking to the LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder and Vice President Nasir Saeed here at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. LCCI Executive Committee Members Amjad Ali Jawa, Mian Abdul Razzaq, Dr. Qurat-ul-Ain, Mukhtar Ali, Mian Zahid Javed and former Vice President Faisal Iqbal Sheikh were also present on the occasion.

British Deputy High Commissioner said "we want to work with you. Give us ideas, give us projects, UK is ready to extend maximum cooperation."

He said that there is a huge positive change has been witnessed in Karachi as far as law and order situation is concerned.

He said that both countries have long historical relations which should be more meaningful. He said that a number of UK companies are already working in Pakistan which is an ample proof of the fact that UK recognizes Pakistan as a potential market.

"These are the most exciting times for UK-Pakistan commercial ties to grow as synergies exist in the private sectors of the two countries",

British Deputy High Commissioner added.

With an objective to increase bilateral trade and investment, the UK Investment and Trade (UKIT) is planning to establish British Business Centers in all the major cities of Pakistan. He said that the British Business Center would provide expert trade advice and practical support to the companies who want to grow their business overseas.

"Through a range of unique services, these Business Centers would help businessmen to trade successfully in foreign markets and become familiar with overseas business practices."

The LCCI Senior Vice President Almas Hyder said that Pakistan is much easier, convenient and safest country for doing business therefore businessmen of UK should come forward



Islamic banking & general public opinion in Pakistan



According to a survey conducted by Gallup Pakistan, 29% Pakistanis claim to have heard and understood the meaning of the term 'Islamic Banking' whereas an equal proportion of Pakistanis claim to have not heard about Islamic Banking at all. These results are a part of the nationwide Access to Finance Study conducted by the State Bank of Pakistan in 2015 with the intent of determining the degree of financial inclusiveness of the Pakistani public.

Banking is a practice that is often viewed suspiciously by Muslims because of the concept of Interest. In Islamic jurisprudence, the concept of usury, or charging an unfair interest, is considered unlawful. Therefore, in light of these injunctions, a sizable portion of the Pakistani population remains excluded from the formal banking net. Hence, in order to target that segment of the population, Islamic banking, which complies with Islamic law by using a risk/profit sharing mechanism instead of an interest based system, has been introduced. Therefore, this survey focuses on determining the proportion of Pakistanis that is aware of Islamic Banking.

A nationally representative sample of men

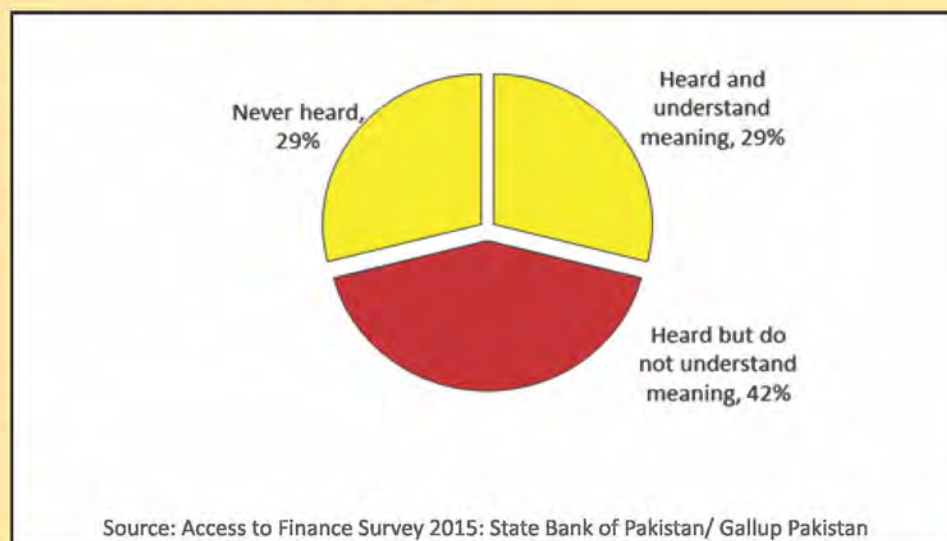
Negligible Gender Gap on the matter of Islamic Banking: 28% women as opposed to 29% men are aware of and understand the term 'Islamic Banking'.

When these results are analyzed according to gender breakdown it can be seen that 29% males said that they have heard and understand the meaning of the word 'Islamic Banking' while the same response is given by 28% of the females. Furthermore, 44% males said that they have heard of the word 'Islamic Banking' while the same response was given by 41% of the females. These statistics therefore point out to a persistent lack of information among the Pakistani masses with respect to Islamic Banking and how it differs from standard banking procedures. More people are still unaware of what it entails and how exactly does it comply with Islamic Law, or Sharia.

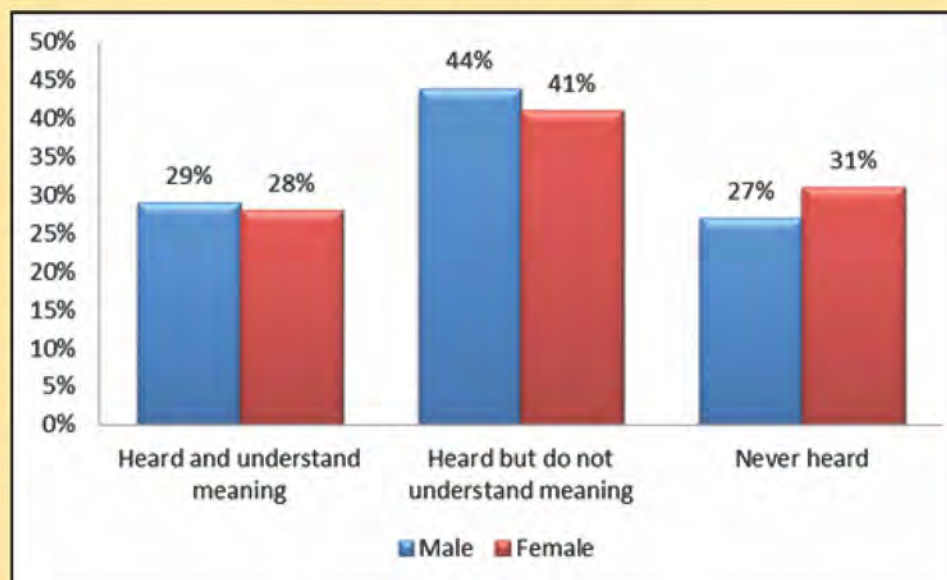
and women from across the four provinces was asked, "There are many words used in Pakistan that apply to financial services. Please tell me if you have heard the following word: Islamic Banking." In response to this question, surprisingly, majority Pakistanis i.e. 42% said that they have heard of this word but do not understand its meaning. On the other hand, only 29% said that they have heard the word and understand its meaning whereas 29%

also said that they have never heard of the word. Thus, on the whole, there is a greater proportion of Pakistanis that is unaware of or unclear regarding Islamic Banking.

Question: "There are many word used in Pakistan that apply to financial services. Please tell me if you have heard the following word: Islamic Banking."



Gender Breakdown



Source: Access to Finance Survey 2015: State Bank of Pakistan/ Gallup Pakistan

Urban-Rural Differences: Higher Proportion of Urban residents (40%) have heard and understood the term 'Islamic Banking' as compared to 23% Rural Pakistanis.

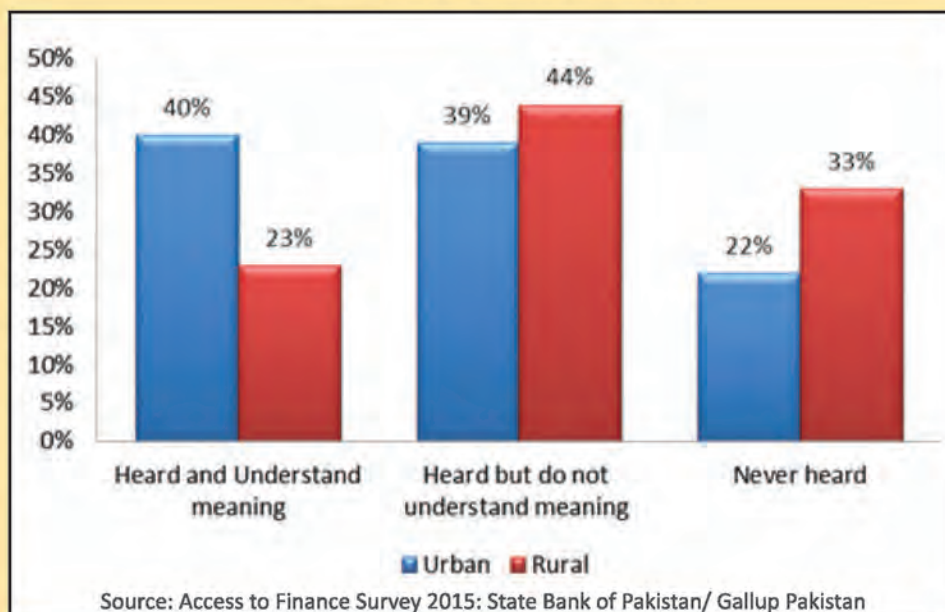
In the same vein, a rural/urban breakdown reveals that 40% of the respondents in urban areas and 23% in rural areas have heard and understand the meaning of the word 'Islamic Banking'. With a difference of 17%, this shows that there is a greater awareness of Islamic Banking in urban areas as opposed to rural areas. Furthermore, 39% in the urban areas that they have heard the word but do not understand its meaning, the same answer was given by 44% of the respondents in rural areas, thus empirically proving that urban areas are more informed about Islamic Banking as opposed to the rural areas which aren't close to the main city centers.

Provincial Results: Baluchistan considerably lags behind the other provinces in terms of having heard of as well as understanding 'Islamic Banking'.

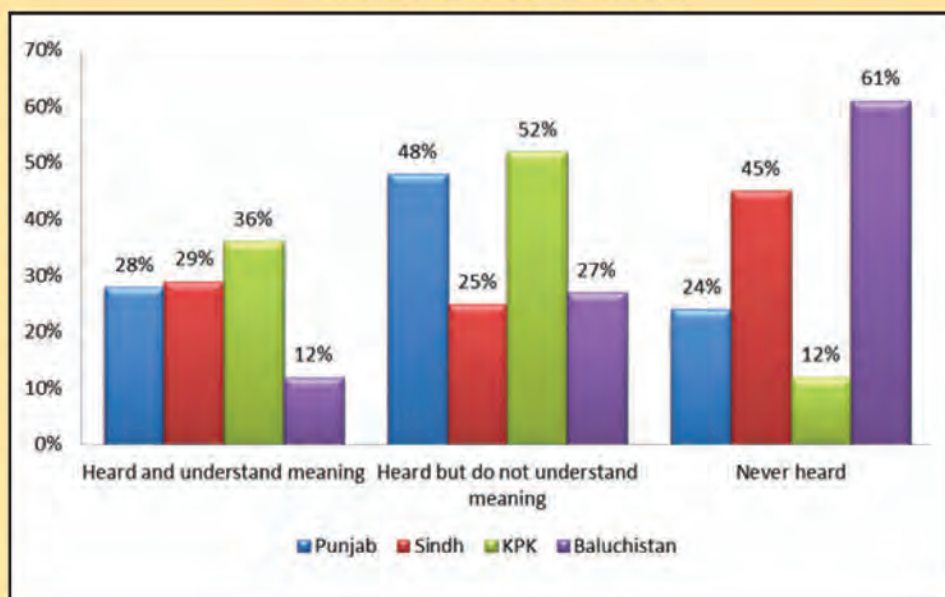
According to the provincial breakdown, 28% of the respondents in Punjab, 29% in Sindh, 36% in KPK and only 12% in Baluchistan said that they have heard of the word 'Islamic Banking' and understand its meaning. This drastic informational disparity between the province of Baluchistan on the one hand and Punjab and KPK on the other is also reflected in the results of respondents who say they have heard the word 'Islamic Banking' but do not understand its meaning. Only Sindh has a similar proportion of respondents who do not understand the meaning of the term in question (48% in Punjab; 25% in Sindh; 52% in KPK; and 27% in Baluchistan). The outright majority of respondents in Baluchistan (61%) have not even heard of the term.

The Access to Finance Survey 2015 (A2F 2015) aims to create a platform for the State Bank, the Government and the private sector of Pakistan to adopt and implement a comprehensive set of

Urban-Rural Breakdown



Provincial Breakdown



reforms needed to influence financial inclusion among Pakistanis in a more holistic manner. A2F 2015 will help state and non-state actors in streamlining their policies and reforms to ensure that they are able to effectively target the financial inclusivity of the Pakistani public.

Gallup Pakistan, in collaboration with HORUS Development Finance, conducted an extensive survey in over 10,000 households across Pakistan. The primary aim of the study was to determine the extent of financial services being used by Pakistanis as well as to provide insights into the barriers faced by the Pakistani public in accessing formal financial services.

The data was released as part of Access to

29% of the general public in Pakistan claim to have not heard the word 'Islamic Banking' at all.

Finance Study 2015. Fieldwork carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International, among a sample of 10,000 households across rural and urban areas of all four provinces of Pakistan, during March 27 – June 12, 2015. Error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm 2-3$ per cent at 95% confidence level.

Baluchistan considerably lags behind the other provinces in terms of having heard of as well as understanding 'Islamic Banking'.



Amb. Qazi Khalilullah hand shake with President Putin

By Raheel Iqbal

Russia

actively pursuing ties with Pakistan, says Putin

Russia's President Vladimir Putin said that his country is actively developing multifaceted relations with Pakistan, including in the fields of trade and counter-terrorism.

Mr. Putin remarked in a meeting with Pakistani Ambassador to Russia Qazi Khalilullah, who presented his letter of credence to the Russian president in Moscow.

A statement issued by the Pakistani Embassy said that Qazi conveyed greetings from the president, prime minister and the people of Pakistan to the Russian president.

In his remarks, Putin conveyed good wishes for the leadership and the people of Pakistan and said that Moscow is actively developing multifaceted ties with Islamabad, including in the fields of trade and counter-terrorism.

He expressed satisfaction at the level of cooperation between the two countries in the United Nations, which was based on a shared commitment to international law and convergence of positions on many key global and regional issues.

Ambassador Qazi conveyed Pakistan's desire to enhance relations with the Russian Federation in all fields of mutual interest.

Relations between the two countries have improved significantly in recent years after decades of hostilities because of the cold war.



Strengthening trade ties between UK, Pakistan top priorities: Thomas Drew

By Raheel iqbal

The British High Commissioner to Pakistan, H.E Thomas Drew CMG said that strengthening trade and investment ties between the UK and Pakistan was one of his top priorities.

A delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, led by President Atif Ikram Sheikh called on the new British High Commissioner to Pakistan Mr. Thomas Drew CMG to discuss way and means for further improving bilateral trade and economic relations between Pakistan and UK.

During the meeting, the British High Commissioner exchanged views on improving the existing trade links between the UK and Pakistan.

Speaking after the meeting, the British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Thomas Drew CMG said that strengthening the trade and investment ties between the UK and Pakistan was one of his top priorities.

He said during his short time in Pakistan, he has already seen good examples from Karachi to Islamabad of British investment in a variety of sectors.

He said that business relationship between the UK and Pakistan was important to the prosperity of both our countries. He said he wanted it to continue to grow.

There were already a large number of British companies operating in Pakistan today, with many more working here through Pakistani agents and distributors.

He said part of his role was to stimulate more business in both directions. He said the newly launched British Business Centre would be a great asset in doing so.



He said there are exciting times for Pakistan and for our trade relationship. Increased levels of security, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor projects and growing UK-Pakistan business links were all laying the foundations for a transformation within Pakistan's business sector. This will be the cornerstone for

economic growth across the country.

Speaking at the occasion, Atif Ikram Sheikh, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that Pakistan and UK have good potential to promote bilateral trade and both countries should facilitate private sectors in developing strong connectivity to explore all untapped areas of mutual cooperation.

He said economy of Pakistan offered tremendous investment opportunities in its various sector while China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project was poised to create more opportunities for investment and joint ventures.

He said British High Commission should apprise UK investors about investment potential in Pakistan so that they could take benefit by investing in our country. He said bilateral trade between Pakistan and UK was yet below their true potential and assured that ICCI would like to work closely with British High Commission to take two-way trade to higher levels.

ICCI Vice President Sheikh Abdul Waheed, Tariq Sadiq, Mian Akram Farid, Mian Shaukat Masud, Zahid Maqbool, Ejaz Abbasi, Shaban Khalid, Khalid Malik and Khalid Chaudhry were included in the ICCI delegation.



Amir Temur a great uzbek statesman

by Mohamed bin Said bin Mohamed Al Lawati

For one hundred fifty years Turkestan was under the yoke of Mongol invaders and in such a difficult historical period Amir Temur was born. When mongol domination was about to diminish, three forces had appeared on the historical horizon of Turkestan - Amir Hussain, Amir Temur and the Sarbadars. Amir Hussain, being a successor of his grandfather Amir Kazagan, aimed to reestablish his power over Turkestan. To achieve this goal he became a friend of a strong, brave and far-sighted Amir Temur.

Amir Temur, having a phenomenal memory, was seldom mistaken in people, valued them highly and accumulated a great experience. Amir Temur was able to lead people with different abilities. His natural talent was combined with persistence, efficiency and sense of purpose. It was difficult to find a person of this scale among the crowned persons, military commanders and politicians. Amir Hussain wanted to use firmness, determination and other professional qualities of Amir Temur, who was close to him, because it was the only way to power. The two emirs have sworn on the Quran on friendship. Amir Temur even sealed this friendship with Amir Hussain with family ties. He married the younger sister of Amir Hussein Uljoy Turkon. However, the friendship was superficial and secret confrontation between the two leaders continued.

Sarbadars came from the ordinary people, they were the real patriots, who were able to free Samarkand from the Mongols. Amir Temur made contact with Sarbadars leaders. Rebellion of the Sarbadars against the Mongols along with the student of madrassah Mavlonozoda was guided by Khurdak Maulana Bukhari and Abu Bakr Kalawy Naddof. Khurdak Bukhari was a soldier, archer, Abu Bakr Kalawy was a craftsman.

In autumn 1365, Sarbadars liberated Samarkand from Mongols and ruled the city for six months. Unlike Amir Temur, Amir Hussain feared Sarbadars and using their naive trust beheaded all Sarbadars leaders. At the last moment, Amir Temur managed to save the life of a Mavlonozoda. At this time, Amir Temur has not led the country, and was a deputy of Amir Hussain. But in a relatively short period of Amir Temur, from the leader of a small detachment, turned into powerful ruler, Sultan of the great empire, stretching from Bosphorus to Tien Shan and the Urals in the north to Indian Ocean.

In order to build one state consisting from different countries and nations, it was

necessary to have versatile skills of wise statesman, military commander and diplomat. Amir Temur won many battles and made grandiose campaigns. His main strategic goal was to create a single state from China to the Bosphorus, which would be a link between China and Europe. In this way, he had two main enemies - the Golden Horde and the Ottoman Empire. Both states at that time were strong enough and it was extremely difficult task for Amir Temur to prevail over them by military means alone. He divided the problem into two consecutive problems: the first - the Golden Horde, the second - the Ottomans. And with these strategic objectives, he managed brilliantly and built the Euro-Asian state. In the selection of his deputies, he relied not only on experience, but also on his talent. He had the art to persuade brave and talented people, who later became his devoted assistants and companions. Jaku-Barlas, emir Musa, emir Jalaliddin, emir Hinduka, Iki Temur, Sulaimanshah, Hudaydod, Berdibek, Shohmalik, Sheikh Nuriddin belonged to the sphere of talented military leaders and business people. Once in a very difficult time for Amir Temur in the 60 years of the XIV century, in the battle against Mongol khan Ilyashodja, some emirs wanted to leave Amir Temur, but he was able to convince some of the emirs as Jaku Barlas, Iki Temur, Sulaiman and Jalaliddin not to leave him, ensuring them that in their rightness, and concluded an alliance with them. "I - wrote Amir Temur in his "Codes", - held careerists, greedy officials between hope and fear." Amir Temur was a person of figure. He was a man of action, and always kept his word in any circumstances. His far-sightedness was combined with sincerity and promptness to take decisions. Amir Temur due to his phenomenal memory, talking to ordinary soldiers or commanders of lower rank, called them by name. He was a master of compromise, could reconcile people of opposite sides and find the way out of difficult situations. Amir Temur united an army around himself. To one he rendered a service, with others he made an agreement, to the third he sent gifts. With kind words, persuasion and the promises he uplifted others.

Another trait of Amir Temur deserves special attention. He even forgave his enemies, leaving behind their crimes after repenting of their deeds. He forgave the crime of people up to three times. For example, Alibek - descendant of Orgunshah in the most difficult time for Amir Temur made him much evil. After becoming the Sultan of Turkestan, Alibek twice got captured

and in both situations Amir Temur not only forgave him, but gave him a horse, a gold-plated belt, weapons and took him to the service. However, Alibek violated his oath and ran away from the palace. When Alibek was in the hands of Amir Temur third time, he ordered to execute him. The same happened with the ruler of the Golden Horde - Tokhtamysh. In 1376, when the Urus Khan killed one of his enemies and political rivals, his son ran to Tokhtamysh in search of political refuge. He gave Tokhtamysh necessary arsenal and began to fight against Urus Khan. With the help and support of Amir Temur in 1380 Tokhtamysh became the ruler of the Golden Horde. However, the new Khan forgot his commitments to Amir Temur and appeared extremely ungrateful, despite the fact that he swore allegiance on the Quran. Moreover, in the absence of Timur in 1387 - 1388 Tokhtamysh attacked Mawerannahr. But Timur was ready for such script. In two battles - 1392, 1395, he defeated the army of Tokhtamysh and destroyed the Golden Horde. After that, the northern route of the Silk Road was abolished, and now the entire flow of the caravan route between Asia and Europe went through Samarkand, Iran to Byzantium. This led to prosperity of Samarkand, Bukhara, and all the cities of Turkestan. Talking about Amir Temur, many recall his military campaigns, brilliant battles, however, people know little about his personal qualities, though it deserves more attention. First of all, Sakhibkiran (Amir Temur) valued friendship. To friendship he answered with friendship. Amir Temur believed that money or wealth cannot buy friendship. Another outstanding feature of Amir Temur was creativity, this trait impresses people even today. He completely rebuilt Samarkand, Bukhara and other cities, ordered the construction of grand buildings, markets, mosques, bridges and caravanserais. He broke numerous gardens around Samarkand. Construction of Aksaray in Shakhrisabz deserves special attention. In 1388, on the riverside of the Syrdarya instead of Binkent, destroyed by Genghis Khan, Amir Temur rebuilt the city in honor of his youngest son and called it Shohruhia.

Temur was a great and genius statesman, not just a commander who didn't know defeats. His talents were not fully appreciated by his contemporaries. Even now it is difficult to assess them, due to the increasing distance of time and contradictory of literature sources.

Another important factor is the spiritual heritage, in which Amir Temur had been grown up. This spirituality and culture, the civilization of the people of Turkestan, which created the historical avant personality to the global scale.

In the last four centuries preceding the birth of Amir Temur, Muslims of Mawerannahr increased the glory of Islam. As a result of religious strife in Arabia, the center of Islam moved to Turkestan. Imam Ismail al-Bukhari is a bright example of scholars who devoted his life to Islam. He was born in Bukhara, but most of his activities were held in Mecca and Medina. He visited almost all countries of the Islamic world. In every place he collected hadiths -

stories, fragments from the life of Prophet Muhammad and his statements. He collected the sayings of the Prophet into a multi-volume collection – “As-Sahih”, which is considered the second most important book after the Quran, the base of the Muslim faith.

Imam Al-Hakim Tirmidhi devoted all his life to the path of knowledge of the truth of the sacraments of Allah and enriched Islamic theology with his works. Many miracles were made by Saint Najmiddin Kubro from Khorezm. Far beyond the borders of Turkestan was well known the “teacher of Arabs and adjam”, “the glory of Khorezm” – Mahmoudal-Zamakhshari. Bukhara city became known as the dome of Islam in the East. This title was adopted thanks to the sacred scholars as Yusuf Hamadani, Ahmad Yassawi, Abduhalik Gijduvani, Hazrat Bakhouddin Naqshbandi – a senior contemporary of Amir Temur. Famous in the Islamic world were Sheikh Nasir Khusraw and Hazrat Shahid Balkhi.

The historical meeting between Amir Temur and Bakhouddin Naqshbandi took place in 1379 in Bukhara. Temur was well aware of the authority Bakhouddin among Muslims in many cities Turkestan. Bakhouddin was the founder of the dervish order (Naqshbandi), whose influence grew fast. Protecting themselves from the misfortune, people used to call for help of the saint: “Ya, Bakhouddin, balogardon!” (“Oh Bakhouddin, preventing from the troubles!”). At the meeting, Amir Temur vowed to Bakhouddin Naqshbandi: “...I will build a mosque in every city where my horse will put its leg, I will send best scholars of faith of the Prophet Muhammad to the territories I have acquired”. Keeping the word given to Bakhouddin, Temur conquered 26 countries, assumed the title of “Jahongir” – “Lord of the world.” While Bakhouddin, through the teachings of “Naqshbandi”, had its representatives in 18 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Temur threw in the battle up to four hundred thousand troops. Bakhouddin to the end of his life had more than three hundred thousand murids – spiritual followers. It is difficult to answer the question, which of these armies were stronger. Each of these individuals was great in its own way. Each of them took his worth place in history.

Another important factor on the formation of the personality of Amir Temur was secular knowledge. Turkestan from ancient times has been a home to outstanding scientists and encyclopaedists as Muhammad ibn Musa al-Kharezmi, Ahmad al-Ferghani, Abu Abdulla Rudaki, Abu Nasr Farabi, Muhammad Narshakhi, Abu RayhanBeruni, Abu Ali ibn Sina, Mahmud Kashgari and many others.

Hilda Hukhem, English researcher of life and activity of Amir Temur in XX century regarding this subject wrote as follows: “Temur was a successor of imperial and cultural traditions, rooted in the history of Central Asia. He came from a region, where in X and XI centuries were performed brilliant works on philosophy, medicine, mathematics, astronomy, geography, history, literature in Arabic and Persian languages. These works later stimulated the

era of the European Renaissance and provided the basis of European science for many centuries to come... His arrival at the historical arena was not a game of chance, he was the most capable representative of his time”. For example, Amir Temur often turned to the book of Abu Nasr Farabi “City of the wiseacre” in the governance of state. Farabi in his book wrote about the future of an ideal society. He described in details the 12 qualities of Rais – the head of the city of wiseacre. According to him the wise Rais must first be healthy, strong, and must bring to an end each started work; Second, the wise rais in nature should be thin and sensitive to his interlocutors, smart and far-sighted; Third, must remember everything he saw and heard and have a phenomenal memory; Fourth, the wise rais should be fair, reasonable holder of common sense; Fifth, he should be an orator, his speech should be intelligible and understandable to all; Sixth, rais should be a scientist, an educated person and must constantly work on himself, learn and must not fear from difficulties; Seventh, he must lead a moderate life, to abstain from much food, alcoholic drinks and women; Eighth, wise rais must always be fair, he is obliged to maintain the correctness and good initiative; Ninth, rais should be proud, obliged to value his dignity and authority, his honor and conscience must be spotless; Tenth, rais should refer negatively to the greed, it should not take an interest in dirham and dinar, should not chase after wealth; Eleventh, in nature rais must be fair, love the righteous people, and should not tolerate oppression, violence and tyranny. With regard to his own and other people to do right and the duty to call people to honesty and integrity, to provide assistance to people affected by injustice, constantly do good and to the attention of all people, to be implacable against evil and injustice; Twelfth, in the performance of important state tasks he must show courage, firmness, heroism and shall not prevent the cowardice and fear.

It is noteworthy, that Farabi in another part of the same book notes that a person with twelve above qualities should be morally clean and well-developed person. Amir Temur sought to adhere to the twelve norms of Farabi in his daily life and in practice. Amir Temur for the first time in the world introduced the classification of people in society. As a ruler, he divided his surroundings into twelve classes. As soon as he became the sole ruler of Turkestan, he built a power structure of the state, based on twelve principles of management. For Amir Temur was important from the very first days of government state clearly define its attitude towards subordinates. It was necessary to identify their dependence on its new rules and regulations. It was important to specify each of the approximate its place and function in the power structure created by him. Temur was very influenced by Nizamulmulk’s “Siyosatname” (“Tractate on Politics”). Nizamulmulk, who lived in the XI century, put forward a lot of ideas on the management of the state. Nizamulmulk generalized management experience of previous monarchs, viziers and khakims. “Siyosatname”

– a book about political art, calling for the creation of a centralized state apparatus. Amir Temur was interested in successful rulers. He eagerly absorbed the wisdom of the ages, past generations. Using the experience of Alexander the Great, Prophet Mohammad Ismail Samanid, Mahmoud Gaznavid, Genghis Khan and many other rulers who have achieved fame and fortune, Amir Temur better solved state problems. Restoring the state on the territory of the former Chagatai ulus, Amir Temur has not yet thought of conquest. He had much work to be done in Turan. Being a good host and visionary strategist, Amir Temur renovated and strengthened his cities, rebuilt the army, created a reliable system of governance without failures. However, the circumstances were such that he was drawn into the vortex of a military element. On the borders of the state of Amir Temur continuously emerging threats, intrigues and machinations of the enemies never stopped for the entire 35-years reign of Amir Temur. But he always came out the winner in the endless military battles.

Amir Temur was lucky in choosing his wife – Saray Mulk Khanum, who devotedly loved Temur and became his constant advisor. From her father Kazankhan she inherited a deep inquisitive mind, wit and insight. In all likelihood, she inherited these qualities from Genghis Khan. Her advices were always the most timely and useful that more and more tightly tied Amir Temur to this small, energetic, proud and wise woman. Unfortunately she did not have children, but her love and devotion to Amir Temur and wisdom made up for this shortcoming.

Amir Temur is an author of the valuable historical-legal document – “The Code” received among social scientists name the political will, which he left to posterity. A number of ideas and propositions contained in the “Code” have not lost relevance even today. The rule of law was announced by Amir Temur as a guiding principle in government “Where there is a law, there is freedom” as a winged words became the basis for the longevity of each state. “The Code” begins with statements of the rules that Amir Temur obeyed himself and called his descendants to comply with, as in “behavior, and in government”. Such rules (principles) are twelve. The first rule Amir Temur calls concern about the spread of Islam and the law, “the power which is not based on religion and laws, will not keep its position for a long time In The Code were formulated main rules for the Head of State to be followed in publication of laws and regulations. So it is written: “The orders and commands of the ruler should have such a power, so that he won’t have an opponent or companion in the governance”.

A special place in the “Code” given to the rules of governance, which should be guided by a ruler, who wants to strengthen his power and authority in the state. These rules are as follows:

- The ruler must be the master of his words, his words should not diverge from the case;
- in all actions it is necessary to comply with

justice. Contemporaries testify that on the hilt of Amir Temur's sword were engraved the words in Farsi: "Rosti – dorosti" ("Power is in justice");

- orders and prohibitions should be tough;
- ruler should be firm in his decisions;
- whatever the orders of the ruler are, they must be fulfilled;
- security of the state demands that the ruler does not rely on others in public affairs, and does not entrust the reins of power into the wrong hands;
- the ruler must not neglect anyone's advice. Those which he accepts he must keep in his heart to use them as his own;
- in the affairs of government in matters related to the army and the people, the sovereign must not be guided by the arguments and suggestions, no matter where they come from. If the viziers and commanders say about anyone right or wrong, they deserve to be heard. But you should always act with great caution. First, make sure in truth of what was said;
- respect for the power of the ruler should be imprinted in the hearts of soldiers and citizens so much that none of them would have had the courage to disobey him, or encourage others to disobedience;
- Whatever the ruler does, he must do himself. In his orders he should be unshakable, because hardness in commands is his strength;
- Publishing his orders, the ruler should be careful to recognize anyone as a companion; in the management he must not have comrades;
- The emperor should be aware of those who surround him, and to be constantly on the alert towards them. There can be malicious people among them to disclose information or secrets of the emperor. Their main concern is to pass all words of monarch to viziers and emirs.

The greatness of Amir Temur lies in the fact that he did not oppose his activities to different civilizations and called for their rapprochement and even, in modern parlance, to integration. Because of this, he became famous not only the East but in the West. He called for rapprochement of people of different faiths, beliefs and interests. Amir Temur created conditions and opportunities for cooperation among the people of Asia and Europe. In this regard, his role in the development of human civilization is great.

From the beginning to the end of his political activities, Amir Temur, in ninety cases out of a hundred achieved success with the art of diplomacy. His successors Mironshoh, Shahrukh, Mirzo Ulugbek, Hussain Boykaro and others continued the tradition of Amir Temur in the field of domestic and foreign policy.

Period of the reign of Amir Temur in the history of international relations and diplomacy Turkestan was a period of prosperity, highest convergence of the region with many countries.

Peace, mutual respect, condescension to the opponent, giving the opportunity to correct a mistake in any conditions and circumstances, respect to the ambassador or envoy, strict adherence to diplomatic etiquette, safety and humanism were the main principles of diplomacy of Amir Temur.

Amir Temur created a state, based on justice and the law supremacy. Amir Temur and the Temurids in a short historical period, implemented unseen creative work. They founded the Renaissance of Temurids. Today we can say with confidence that the era of Amir Temur is the highest peak in the history of Uzbek national statehood. Amir Temur himself was an innovator of diplomacy, initiated a comprehensive expansion of international relations. Diplomacy of Amir Temur observed equality of the parties, flexibility, heroism, courage and compliance towards partner at the right time and the compromising temper in terms of taking decisions. According to the opinion of the scientist from the United States, Richard Nelson, Amir Temur did not impose Islamic culture and religion to other nations. Conversely, he was the first proposed the idea of Euroasia.

Unlike other major public figures like Tokhtamysh, Barquq, Bayazid etc., Amir Temur did not contrast one ideology with another, but on the contrary, was looking for ways to compromise, bringing different ideas together and opposing faiths. As a brilliant politician, in his domestic and foreign policy he sought to overcome artificial barriers on the Silk Road. All this, eventually led to the clash between the forces of Amir Temur and Bayazid. The victory of Amir Temur over Bayazid eliminated the artificial barriers between East and West. In this sense, Amir Temur gave another didactic example to the descendants.

Foreign policy of Amir Temur was based on the principles of peace, tolerance and inter-ethnic harmony. For the sake of peace and cooperation, he renounced dogmatism and one-sided approach. In diplomatic relations, he adhered to following principles: "Measure twice and cut once". Amir Temur made decisions based on the advices of his kengesh and mashvarat. His foreign policy was strongly influenced by the diplomatic law and advanced ideas of his era.

Moreover, his diplomacy harmonized the theory and practice. Amir Temur strongly believed that victory is not reasoned by military means or army, and its staff, but it depends on the correct target of the taking action. According to the opinion of R. Nelson, defeatless diplomatic goal was the basis of foresight and the genius of Amir Temur. He invented such kind of a chessboard, where there were twice more figures than usual. Thus, Amir Temur extended playing time. Consequently, the game of chess is like a military confrontation, where the troops instead of pawns, horses, elephants and queens. And this is game and the war of minds, a war of nerves. Contemporary historians observed the historic battle between Amir Temur and Bayazid at Ankara in July of 1402, how Sakhbikiran (Amir Temur) simulated the

battle using figures on the chessboard.

Despite the difference of spirituality, culture and civilization of the nations of East and West, with the help of skillful diplomacy, Amir Temur was able to build bridges between different people. Another distinguishing feature of Amir Temur was his ability to pick the right ambassadors and envoys among talented and business people. Among them were many saints, sheiks and religious leaders not only from muslims, but also from christians and other confessions. He sent as ambassadors to European countries, Archbishop John III along with Mohammed Keshi. Ambassadors of Amir Temur were educated people who know several languages; among them were well-known political and public figures, who have managed to get out of the different difficult situations. Amir Temur acted on the principle: "The Ambassador is untouchable, and is not subject to death!" His ambassadors were Alka Tavochi, Dzhilorti, Amir Dawood, Yadgar Barlas and Uzun Uldzhaytu (Khorezm), Shamsiddin Almaliki (the Golden Horde), Sheikh Sovadjy, Padishah Bavra (in Egypt), Muhammad Keshi, Archbishop John III (in Europe). They played a major role in improving relations and contacts between different states.

Amir Temur established a new type of diplomacy. Diplomacy of Amir Temur continued during the reign of Temurids. Abdurazzak Samarkandi was a well known diplomat during the reign of Shahrukh and he continued serving to Temurids. His diplomatic correspondence, ambassador missions in foreign countries, deserve special attention. In 1442 Shahrukh sent him as an ambassador to the port city of Calcutta in the state of Vijayanagar (India). Also, he was appointed as an ambassador to the court of the Sultan of Egypt. In performing his ambassadors' functions, Abdurazzak Samarkandi showed foresight, efficiency and competently solved difficult interstate tasks.

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Pak-Afghan Malaysia Business Council

High commissioner of Malaysia H.E. Dato, Dr. Hasrul Sani Mujtabar inaugurated Pak-Afghan Malaysia Business Council in High Commission of Malaysia in Islamabad. The ceremony was attended by a greater number of business persons from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Malaysia. High commissioner of Malaysia H.E. Dato, Dr. Hasrul Sani Mujtabar delivers his speech at the ceremony. Different business persons also addressed the audience.



World Twenty 20:

West Indies beat England to claim second title

WI grab title after Brathwaite 6, 6, 6, 6



By M.Saeed Yousafzai

Write off West Indies cricket at your peril. Less than four months in, 2016 is already a year of great celebration and renewal for cricket in the Caribbean. West Indies won the Under-19 World Cup. West Indies won the Women's World T20. And now West Indies have won the World T20. In doing so, Darren Sammy's men have become the first team to win two World T20 tournaments, having also triumphed in Sri Lanka in 2012.

Those are the facts. The how is all the more extraordinary. Set 156 to beat England and win the championship, West Indies found themselves needing 19 off the last over, to be bowled by Ben Stokes. Marlon Samuels, who had steered the chase, was on 85. But he was at the wrong end. This was all down to Carlos Brathwaite, the all-rounder who emerged on the Test tour of Australia just a few months ago.

Six. Six. Six. Six. Job done with two balls to spare. Carlos Brathwaite sensationally hit four successive sixes off Ben Stokes in the last over as the West Indies stunned England by four wickets to win the World T20 title at Eden Gardens on Sunday.

The Caribbean side won with just two balls to spare having needed 19 off the last over as they became the first team to lift the trophy twice. Earlier, England posted 155 for nine against the West Indies.

Joe Root top-scored with 54, while Joss Buttler made 36, after openers Jason Roy and Alex Hales went for 0 and 1 respectively as England set a low run-chase target of 156.

Carlos Brathwaite and Dwayne Bravo grabbed three wickets each. Post-match presentation: The man of the match award goes to Marlon Samuels for his unbeaten 85.

Sammy is a dual World T20-winning captain. His men have done what no others in cricket have done. And they have given the Caribbean region a hat-trick of triumphs in 2016. What a year for West Indies.



Eoin Morgan: "My congratulations to the West Indies for winning the tournament. It is never a sure victory in this format, especially when you are going into the final over. We didn't have enough runs on the board to begin with. 180 or 190 would have been a good total. It was not Stokes' fault in the last over or anyone else's, but we're all in this together."

Darren Sammy: "I am really happy for this win and it's something we will cherish for a long time. People were wondering whether we would play this tournament or not. We also had issues with our board. We were called players with no brains. However, all of us came together and it was a tremendous experience. I don't know when I'm going to play for West Indies again, but I want to thank my team and coaching staff."



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