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60th anniversary of the Independence of
The Republic of Tunisia

H.E. Beji Caid Essebsi
President of The Republic of Tunisia

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Mian Fazal Elahi

Editorial

Relations between Pakistan and Tunisia are generally cordial. Ties between the two countries are premised upon religious and historical affinity. Diplomatic relations between both states were established in 1957. Pakistan opened its embassy in Tunis in 1958 at the Charges d' Affaires level which was later upgraded to that of Ambassador/Plenipotentiary in 1964. Tunisia introduced its embassy in Islamabad in 1980. This is emphasized by the absence of any recurring dispute although there is much potential to augment the level of ties. A number of framework agreements have been concluded between Pakistan and Tunisia in the spheres of trade, tourism, culture, information and industries.

Tunisian Ambassador Adel Elarbi has expressed the hope that a preferential trade agreement will be signed with Pakistan this year as it will help in enhancing trade between the two countries. The ambassador said Tunisia was interested in improving trade relations with Pakistan since increased cooperation was in the interest of both the nations. This way, Pakistan could gain better access to world markets like Europe, North Africa and Middle East while Tunisia could get access to Asia. Trade between Pakistan and Tunisia during 2014-15 stood at just \$33.08 million and efforts were needed from both sides to make improvements. Pakistan can export rice, pharmaceutical, surgical, leather, sports and many other products to Tunisia. Both countries should encourage frequent exchange of trade delegations and organise single-country exhibitions on a reciprocal basis to increase the trade volume. Tunisia is celebrating 60th anniversary of Independence and behalf of the Pakistani people we congratulate Independence Day to our Tunisian brothers.

Important Announcement



Mian Assad Ullah

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, Justin Plaza 3, 341 London Road, Mitcham, Surrey-CR4 4BE, Phone : +44-7961005954, +442087696939, Fax: +442087696939 Email: uk.diplomaticfocus@gmail.com, assadmian1@gmail.com

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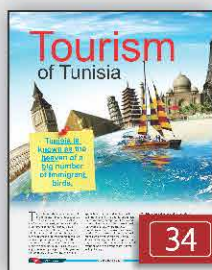
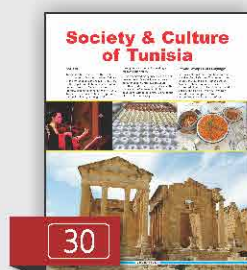
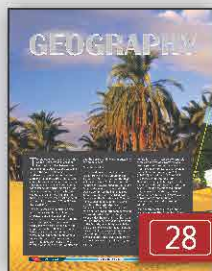
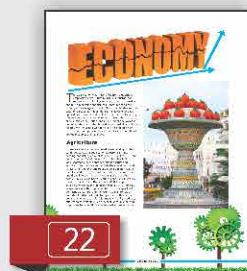
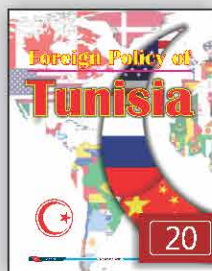
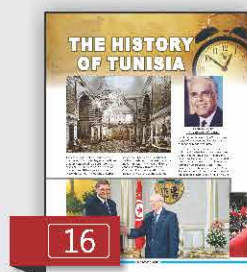
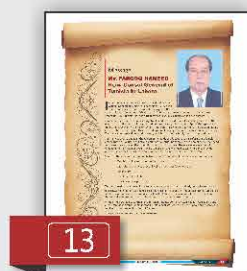
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Contents



Special Feature Report by Mian Fazal Elahi



Special Supplement

on 60th anniversary of the Independence of
The Republic of Tunisia

Message of H.E. Adel Elarbi, Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to Pakistan	08
Tunisia: Comprehensive Approach to International Relations	10
Message Mr. Farooq Hameed Hon. Consul General of Tunisia in Lahore	13
Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet Awarded with 2015 Nobel Peace Prize	14
The History of Tunisia	16
Foreign Policy of Tunisia	20
Economy	22
Geography of Tunisia	28
Society & Culture of Tunisia	30
Tourism of Tunisia	34



Message

H. E. Mr. Adel Elarbi Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to Pakistan

It gives me great pleasure to address the brotherly people of Pakistan on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Tunisia.

The commemoration of the anniversary of Independence Day provides the opportunity to celebrate with immense exuberance and joy enriched with a sense of patriotism and faith in our country as well as to reflect upon the outstanding achievements made by Tunisian people over the past five years.

Tunisian people have liberated themselves from the yoke of colonization and oppression; they have seized upon eternal principles and set a glorious example in the region. Tunisians have successfully institutionalized their revolution by electing a new Parliament which appointed a new Government, a new President of the Republic and charted a new constitution. Recently, the coronation of the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet with the prestigious 2015 Nobel Peace Prize came at a pivotal moment for the nascent Tunisian democracy to steer Tunisia away from the path to conflict towards the path to political compromise and assure a smooth transition from an authoritarian to a democratic state.

Every year, March 20th is an auspicious day for all Tunisians to solemnly salute, respect and truly acknowledge our brave men and women who sacrificed their lives to gain freedom for our country. We have earned our independence through blood, sweat and tears. We must pay tribute to our martyrs who sacrificed their lives to gift us freedom. On this day, we shall salute all our national heroes and leaders who guided us from confinement to freedom.

The commemoration of the Independence Day should remind us that there is no perfect nation, but it is our duty to make it perfect. In this connection, we are aware of the obstacles and challenges that remain to realize in terms of eradicating extremism, implementing the adequate economic policies that will tackle the problems of poverty, unemployment, regional disparities, establishing reforms that create a climate conducive to private initiative and business and stimulating growth through trade diversification and access to new markets.

The European Union is by far Tunisia's largest partner; Tunisia is as well actively engaged in the Maghreb integration process. Tunisia has also concluded a preferential trade arrangement with the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and is in talks with the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) as well as with several countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and in the Near and Middle East. In this connection, Tunisia is in talks with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to conclude a preferential trade arrangement in order to upgrade the bilateral relations between them to the highest levels of cooperation and partnership.

There is an African proverb that says "If you want to go fast, go alone but if you want to go far, go together". Both in Tunisia and Pakistan we are determined to go together.

Long live Tunisian Pakistani brotherhood!

Tunisia Pakistan Zindabad!



Tunisia:



Comprehensive Approach To International Relations



On the basis of a global and comprehensive approach to international relations based on a close correlation between the notions of peace, security, stability, development and democracy, the foreign policy of Tunisia is dedicated, in its various fields of competence, to the fulfillment of the following goals and objectives:

Developing and diversifying relations and enhancing cooperation in various fields with the spaces to which Tunisia belongs on the basis of a closely-knit partnership and interdependence of interests

- Reinvigorating the structures of the AMU as a common natural space of Maghrebi countries





as well as a suitable framework for the implementation of their economic integration and for the consolidation of their relations with all regional entities, particularly with the European Union;

- Enhancing inter-Arab solidarity, promoting Arab common action and achieving economic complementarity with other Arab States;
- Consolidating and developing partnership relations with the E.U. in order to increase complementarity and interdependence of interests;
- Supporting the Euro-Mediterranean process in political, economic, social and cultural fields and strengthening partnership and solidarity between the countries of Northern and Southern banks of the Mediterranean;
- Strengthening relations and promoting cooperation with Islamic countries in all fields;
- Consolidating relations with African States in all fields and supporting the African Union;
- Enhancing cooperation relations with European States not members of the European Union as well as American and Asian countries in order to accelerate the pace of development of Tunisia's national economy.

Reducing elements of tension and crises in international relations and fostering a favorable climate for the promotion of peace, security and stability in the world

- Cooperating in the field of fight against international extremism and terrorism on the basis of a global and comprehensive approach taking into consideration their different political, economic, social and cultural causes and within the framework of transparency and consensus.

It is included in comprehensive approach of Tunisia to consolidate international solidarity in the field of fight against poverty, illiteracy and diseases

- Settling in a fair manner principal problems of justice, mainly those of the Palestinian people and Middle East conflict;
- Introducing reforms in the structures of the United Nations Organization, improving its capacity and conferring more justice, equity and democracy on international relations inside and outside the United Nations;
- Consolidating preventive diplomacy and strengthening its mechanisms;

- Containing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Rectifying the disequilibria characterizing international economic relations and enhancing complementarity and solidarity partnership between States

- Reducing the economic gap between industrialized, developing and less developed countries and implementing practical solutions to alleviate foreign indebtedness;
- Bridging the digital gap between industrialized and developing countries and giving the latter the possibility to take advantage of technological changes and computer science revolution;
- Intensifying horizontal cooperation between States and enhancing partnership as an essential element of exchanges of interests and experiences as well as complementarity of interests between States;
- Consolidating international solidarity in the field of fight against poverty, illiteracy and diseases;
- Enhancing international cooperation in the field of fight against the phenomenon of ecological degradation and cleanliness of global environment.



Message

Mr. FAROOQ HAMEED **Hon. Consul General of** **Tunisia in Lahore**



It has been an honour to be serving as the Honorary Consul General of Tunisia in Lahore since 1997. It is a matter of pleasure that we are celebrating the 60th National Day of Tunisia on 20th March 2016. Ever since the independence of Tunisia from France in 1956, Tunisia has made great strides in various aspects of its development.

Four years ago, the death of a young street vendor sparked a popular uprising that led to the overthrow of the autocratic regime and became a catalyst for the Arab Spring that spread to the other countries in the region. While other countries went into turmoil, Tunisia stood out as an exception in the region. This was perhaps due to a largely literate and open minded society. Tunisia is now a fully democratic country, which has recently freely elected its president.

Tunisia was always ahead in the region in the fields of education, social reforms and female emancipation. Political ties between our two countries have always been excellent but we need to concentrate more on the promotion of economic matters. There are many avenues of enhancement of trade between Tunisia & Pakistan and we need to work harder to provide opportunities for the business people of both the countries to interact more frequently.

Some of the areas of cooperation between the two countries for enhancement of trade are:-

- Textile clothing and other textile products
- Agriculture produces especially olives & olive oil/Dates/Rice etc.
- Machinery
- Fertilizers/Phosphate
- Pharmaceutical products

We also need to promote cultural exchanges between our two brotherly countries to create more awareness amongst the masses of our respective countries about each other. Tunisia has world class touristic places and resorts. Efforts should be made amongst the citizens of both the countries to promote and facilitate tourism between the two countries.

In the end, I would like to thank the Tunisian Ambassador in Pakistan H.E. Mr. Adel Elarbi, and all the previous Ambassadors for their professionalism, whole hearted support and guidance in fulfilling my duties as Hon. Consul General.

LONG LIVE PAKISTAN –TUNISIA FRIENDSHIP!

Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet Awarded with 2015 Nobel Peace Prize

The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2015 to the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet for its decisive contribution to the building of a pluralistic democracy in Tunisia in the wake of the Jasmine Revolution of 2011.

The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet is a coalition of civil society groups made up of the General Labor Union; the Tunisian Confederation of

Industry, Trade and Handicrafts; the Tunisian Human Rights League; and the Tunisian Order of Lawyers. They came together in the summer of 2013 when Tunisia was at a crossroads between a nascent democracy and violence, following political assassinations and widespread social unrest to establish an alternative, peaceful political process. The quartet drew up a roadmap that succeeded to steer Tunisia away from the path to conflict towards the path

to political compromise. It called for the then cabinet to resign and formed an inclusive government where dialogue and consensus, rather than domination and exclusion, was the watchword of the Tunisian transition from an authoritarian to a democratic state.

In this regard, the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet succeeded to engage Tunisian people with a spirit of compromise and consensus in a





nation-wide project of developing a new system which respects the rights and dignity of its citizens. This project has been distinguished with its peacefulness and the inclusion of civil society in a process intended to purge the system of the bad habits of the old regime and build new, democratic institutions, and to draft a new progressive constitution that meets the legitimate aspirations of all Tunisians for responsive, accountable governance and respect for their universal human rights.

The course that events have taken in Tunisia since the fall of the authoritarian Ben Ali regime in January 2011 is unique and remarkable for several reasons. Firstly, it shows that Islamist and secular political movements can work together to achieve significant results in the country's best interests. The example of Tunisia thus underscores the value of dialogue and a sense of national belonging in a region marked by conflict. Secondly, the transition in Tunisia shows that civil society institutions and organizations can play a crucial role in a country's democratization, and that such a process, even under difficult circumstances, can lead to free elections and the peaceful transfer of power. The National Dialogue Quartet must be given much of the credit for this achievement and for ensuring that the benefits of the Jasmine Revolution have not been lost.

THE HISTORY OF TUNISIA



The actual history of the territory where the modern Tunisia lies began in the times that are considered to be pre-historic by scholars. The first settlers in this area of the northern Africa appeared in the Mesolithic period. The epochs of Berber

nation, the Phoenician establishment of the first city-states on the territory of the modern Tunisia, Punic Wars and Roman conquest, Vandals, Byzantines and Ottomans, French colonization, the Independence of the country and the



Habib Bourguiba
First president of Tunisia

revolution of January 14, 2011— all these stages of development of Tunisia are have shaped the modern country.

In the early ninth century BC, the famous sailors and traders from the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, Phoenicians, arrived to Africa. As their trade demanded more and more new markets, Phoenicians founded numerous city-states. Thus, having reached the northern part of Africa, Phoenicians established another city-state and named it "Kart Hudesht" meaning the





“new city” in the Semitic language. Further on, the city became a powerful country under the name of Carthage.

Carthage was so developing in the direction of the world wide influence and domination in politics and economy that it became one of the most powerful states of those times. The city became an equal rival to Rome and challenging its empire.

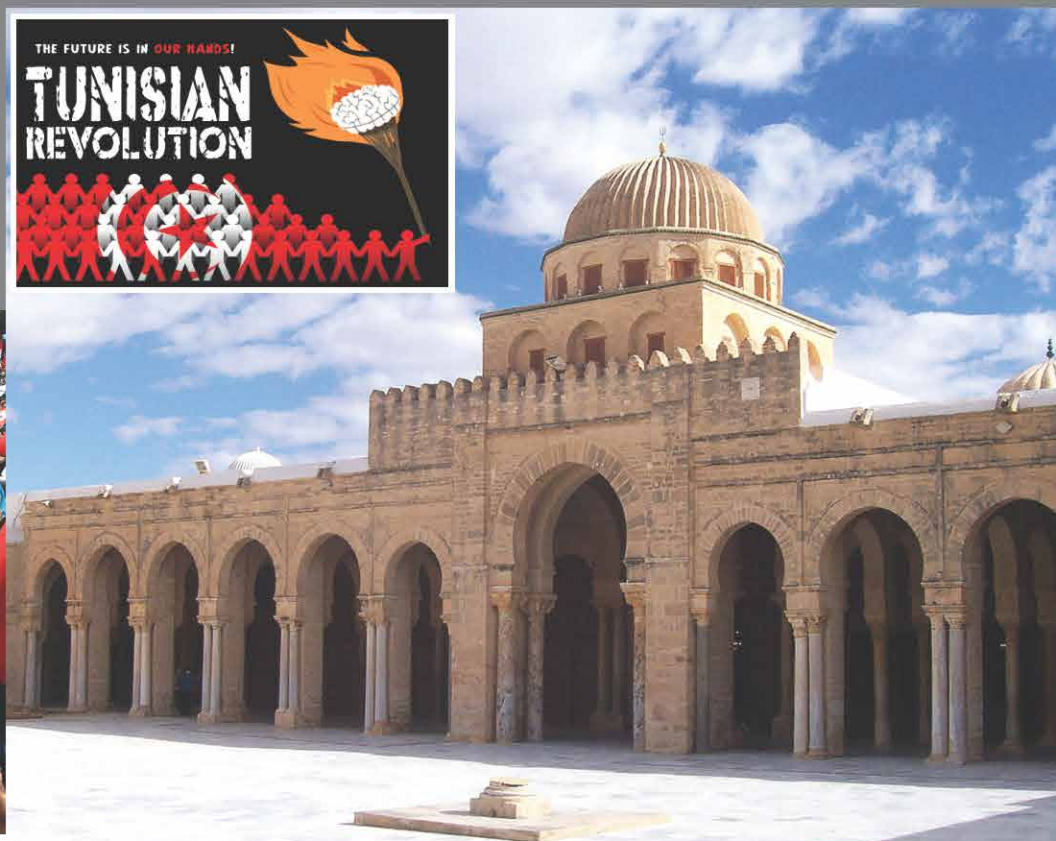
The war between the two countries was inevitable. Three wars broke out between Rome and Carthage and they were called Punic Wars, and ended with the destruction of Carthage.

By the fifth century, the Roman Empire witnessed a decline that resulted in its collapse and wide spread of Germanic tribes who migrated to all the provinces,

including Africa where the tribe of Vandals became the dominant force. The kingdom of Vandals on the territory of the modern Tunisian existed for 94 years and was marked by the great rise in economic and social quality of life as the agriculture and trade were highly developed. By the middle of the sixth century, in 534, the

African possessions of Vandals were conquered by the Byzantine Empire.

The Ottomans had established their direct rule over Tunisia in 1574. During their rule the economic and political life of the country developed quickly, and the social sphere was modernized by numerous



reforms, among which special attention was paid to education and culture.

The Bey of Tunisia acknowledge French protectorate and signed the Treaty of Bardo in 1881.

Nevertheless, the supporters of Tunisian independence and patriots more and more often expressed the idea of sovereignty of Tunisia. Numerous demonstrations and armed revolts took place throughout the country and finally resulted in Tunisian Independence on March 20, 1956.

In July 1957, the constitutional role of the Bey was abolished and Habib Bourguiba became the head of state and the first President of the Republic of Tunisia.

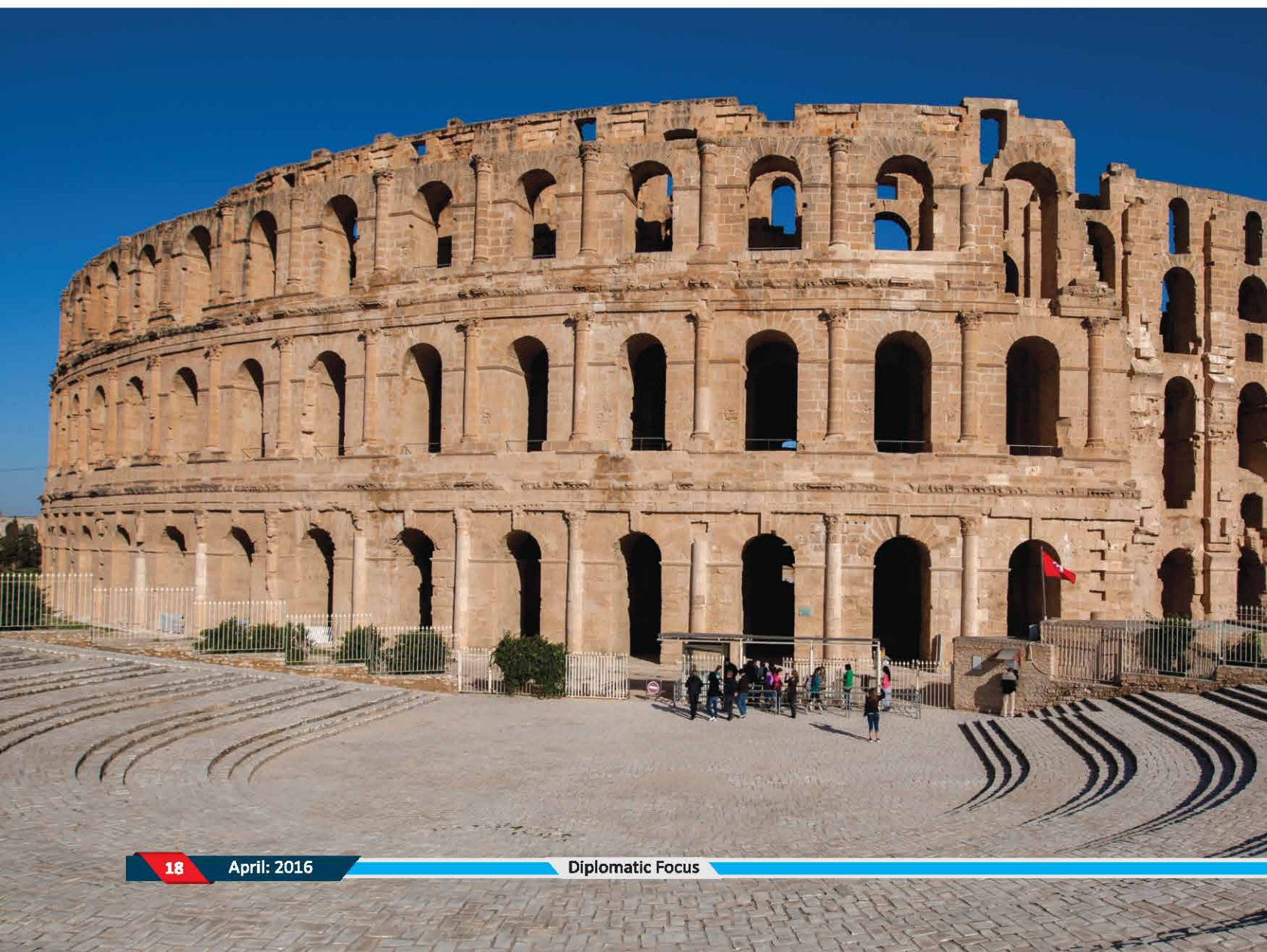
In November 1987 his prime minister, Ben Ali took power and became the second President of the Republic of Tunisia.

Four years ago, on 14 January 2011, the desperate act of a street vendor, Mohamed Bouazizi, who immolated himself sparked off protests about economic grievances and transformed into mass demonstrations

throughout the country, calling for the downfall of the Ben Ali regime.

Tunisia could have easily elected a new president and assigned a team of constitutional law experts to draft a new constitution. However, Tunisia opted to take the longest path, yet the hardest one by empowering the Tunisian people's position as the sole determinant to shape the post-revolution political system. Thus, Tunisia has become distinguished not only as the spark that ignited the "Arab spring" uprisings, but also as the first of these to successfully institutionalize its revolution through what have been hailed as the first ever free, transparent and pluralistic elections in the history of the country, with broad participation and strong support from the international community to elect the National Constituent Assembly in October 2011.

Tunisia witnessed a bumpy transitional period from an authoritarian to a democratic state where dialogue and consensus, rather than domination and exclusion, was the watchword of the Tunisian transition.





Therefore, the first democratically elected government took office with a unique experience of coalition of three political parties to rule the country. This government was forced to resign in favor of a "technocratic" interim government

On January 26, 2014 Tunisia's National Constituent Assembly adopted a new constitution. The new charter was hailed by international leaders, constitutional experts and lawmakers who regarded it as a constitution that is rooted in democratic principles - equality, freedom, security, economic opportunity, and the rule of law. The ratification of the new charter stands as well for a milestone in the modern history of the country and lays the ground for the Second Republic.

Tunisia Presidential Elections

Mr. Beji Caid Essebsi has been confirmed as winner of

Tunisia's first free presidential poll. It is the first time Tunisians have been able to vote freely for their president since independence from France in 1956.

Mr. Beji Caid Essebsi secured 55.68% of the vote in Sunday's run-off, defeating caretaker president Moncef Marzouki 44.32%.

Tunisia's New Government has taken Office

Newly-appointed Tunisian Prime Minister Habib Essid took an oath of office on February 6, 2015.

Parliament approved the coalition led by the secular Nidaa Tounes party and including moderate Islamist rivals Ennahda, following landmark elections in the birthplace of the Arab Spring.

Foreign Policy of **Tunisia**





Principles and Objectives of Tunisian Diplomacy

The foreign policy of Tunisia is based on a number of principles that illustrate Tunisia's attachment, as a peace-loving country, to international legality, so as to enhance conditions of understanding, tolerance and solidarity between States and peoples, confer more justice, democracy and balance on international relations, and promote security, stability, well-being and progress for the benefit of humanity.

These principles could be summarized as follows:

- Clinging to international legality as well as to respect of its requirements and decisions;
- Clinging to peace by favouring the logic of dialogue, negotiation and peaceful ways for the settlement of disputes and conflicts;

- Developing international relations within the context of mutual respect and commitment in favour of non-interference in internal affairs of other States; Supporting just causes;
- Contributing to all efforts and actions in favour of peace, security and stability, human Rights promotion and fulfillment of well-being and progress for the benefit of humanity in its entirety.

These principles are part of Tunisia's foreign policy fundamentals. They represent the general framework of Tunisian diplomacy's continuous action in the service of Tunisia's supreme interests, both at bilateral and multilateral levels, the consolidation of its relations with brotherly and friendly countries and the reinforcement of its presence and credibility on regional and international scenes.

ECONOMY

Tunisia's economy has diversified from a traditional emphasis on agriculture to include industrial and service sectors. Mining and manufacturing, banking and tourism, farming and fishing all contributed to the country's 5% average economic (GDP) growth rate over the past 40 years. Since independence, the government has applied both socialist and neoliberal approaches to manage the economy. Funding for water and power infrastructure, price subsidies, education, and public sector employment helped establish a modest but rising standard of living for a healthy, well-educated workforce, but also created high expectations for opportunities and services in a country of limited resources and revenues.

Agriculture

Tunisia was ancient Rome's bread basket, and agriculture continues to be a valued economic sector. Farming, herding, and fishing account for about 10% of the GDP and employ nearly 20% of the workforce. Roughly 18% of the land is farmable, while another third is pasture and woodland. Productive areas include the wheat fields and vineyards of the northern greenbelt and Cap Bon region, the olive and citrus groves of the central and coastal plains, and the palmeraies (date plantations) of the southern oases. Tunisians also harvest cork oak and esparto grass for paper manufacturing. The country's 41 fishing ports supply sardines, mackerel, and squid. In the mid-1970s, Tunisia's increasingly wealthy population beyond the capacity of domestic agriculture, and the country began to rely on imported foodstuffs. Efforts to regain self-sufficiency have been somewhat successful with meat and dairy products, but less so with staples such as wheat, vegetable oil, and sugar. Weather conditions affected agriculture more than





the revolution in 2011. Good 2012 harvests were anticipated.

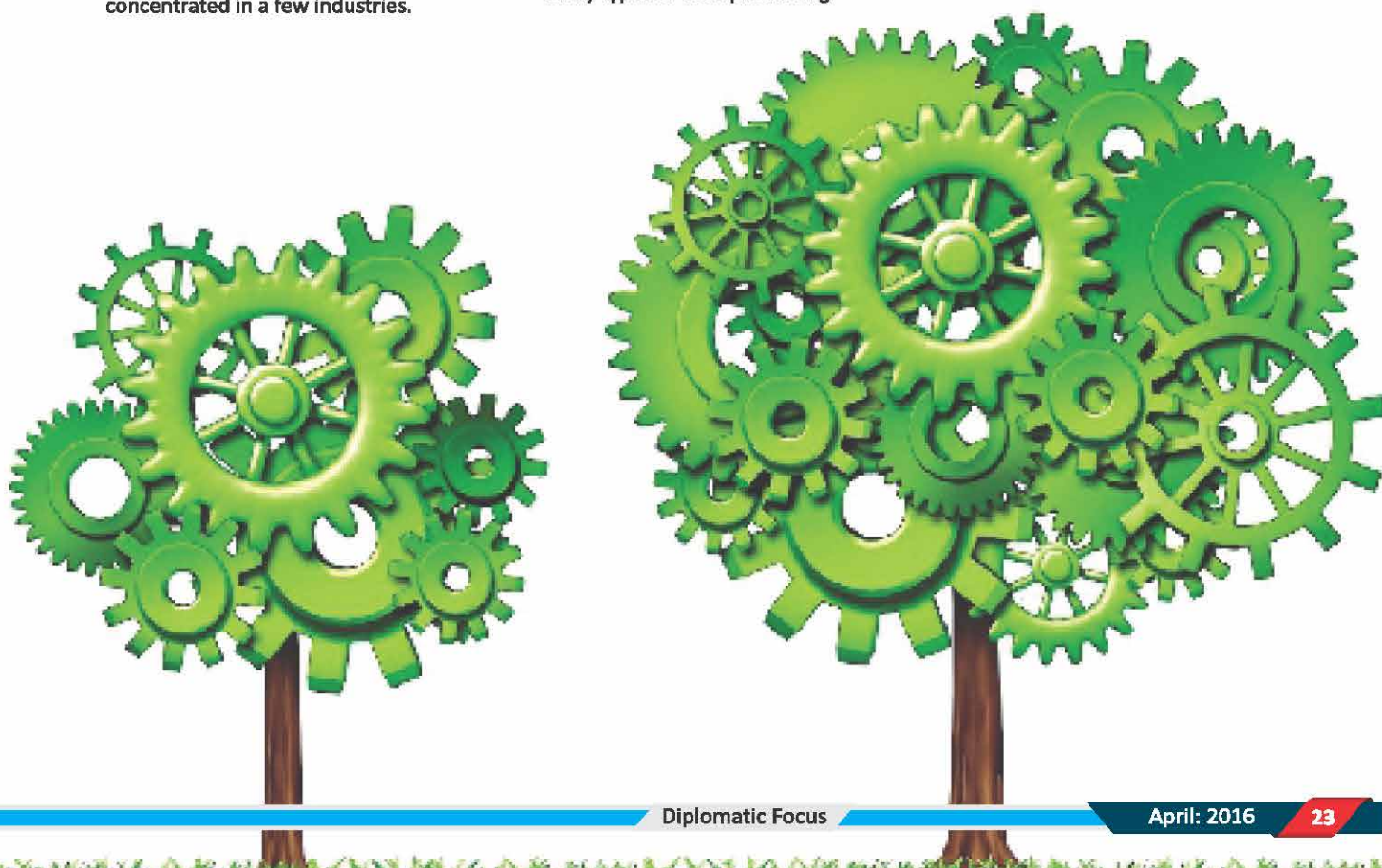
Industry

Industry accounts for about 34% of GDP and 32% of the labor force. Tunisia's industrial sector consists of nearly 6,000 enterprises, approximately half of which work entirely in export. Manufacturing is concentrated in a few industries.

Traditional textile weaving, embroidering, etc. have been absorbed into "Maghreb maquiladoras" where clothing piecework is produced in sweatshop conditions. Of the textiles produced, 90% are exported. The production of leather shoes, luggage, and other items has been similarly industrialized. Olive oil factories, flour mills, dairies, cold storage units, fish canneries, and wineries are some of the many types of food processing.

Natural Resources

Tunisia's natural resources are limited, particularly compared to its neighbors. Apart from the beaches, harbors, and marine resources of the Mediterranean coast, economically significant natural resources are



mostly mineral. In 2010, minerals made up about 25% of the total value of exports, including 14% hydrocarbons and 9% phosphate products.

Ten years after the 1885 discovery of phosphates in southwestern Tunisia, the French established the Gafsa Phosphates and Railroad Company. The mineral's economic importance later motivated the Tunisian government to nationalize its mining, and to develop in-country

processing factories for phosphoric acid and chemical fertilizers. Tunisia has 600 million metric tons of phosphate reserves, or about 2% of the world reserve base. In 2010, Tunisia was the world's fifth-largest producer of phosphate rock. In 2011, the phosphate industry was hit hard by some social unrest. Worker protests interrupted mining and processing productivity, reducing sales almost 60% and revenues nearly 30% from 2010 levels.

Trade

Tunisia has often reported a trade deficit since 1960. The country is a net exporter of textiles, agricultural products (olive oil, citrus, vegetables), and phosphates. To meet local demand, Tunisia imports machinery and equipment, chemicals, fuel, and food. In the 1970s, the government began to promote export-



In 2010, Tunisia was the world's fifth-largest producer of phosphate rock

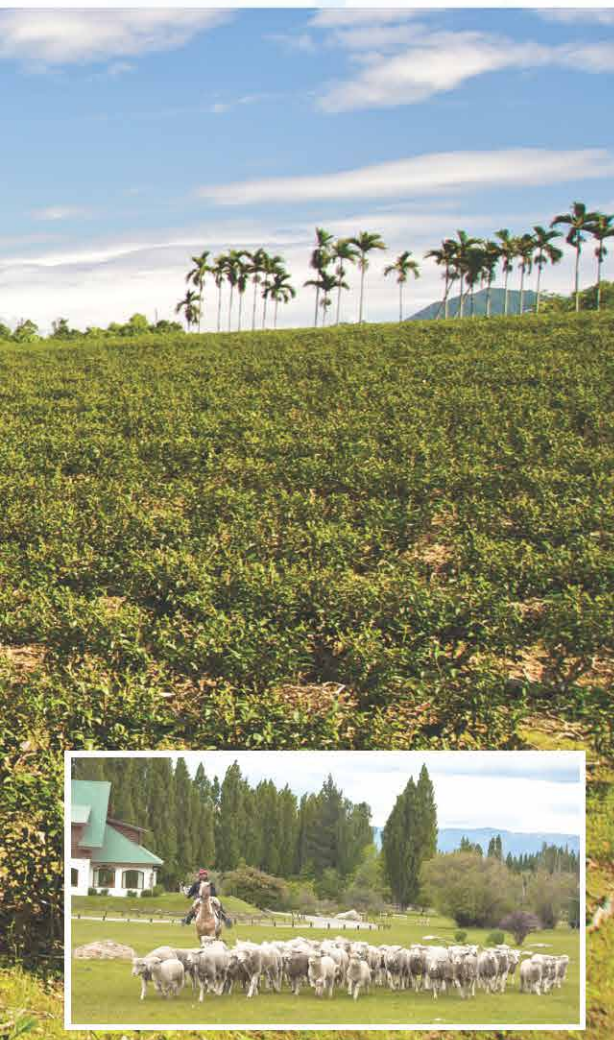
only businesses as one way to reduce, if not eliminate, the chronic trade deficit. Due to interruptions in oil and phosphate exports, Tunisia's trade deficit doubled to more than USD 630 million during 2011.

The European Union (EU) is Tunisia's principal trade partner; France, Italy, and Germany are the main markets. In 2010, Tunisia exchanged about 74% of its exports and 63% of its imports with the EU. Tunisia became an EU "Economic

Area" in 1995, the first Arab country in the southern Mediterranean basin to conclude an association agreement. The new status boosted its exports and permitted Tunisians to work in EU countries. In January 2008, Tunisia entered into a free trade agreement with the EU, which eliminated trade taxes and barriers on manufactured products. Economic difficulties in the EU began to slow Tunisia's overall economic growth in

2009, and may undermine Tunisia's attempts to generate positive growth in 2012.

Tunisia's major trading partner in the Maghreb is Libya. In 2011, the Tunisia–Libya trade dropped by 20% from USD 1 billion to USD 806 million, reflecting the political turmoil in both countries. Tunisian exports to Libya remained stable,



COMPANY PROFILE

ashraf
INDUSTRIES (PVT) LTD.

Name of Company: ASHRAF INDUSTRIES
(PVT) LTD.,

Year of Establishment: 1969

Year of Chamber Membership / No.2015 / C0032

Chief Executive: IJAZ A. KHOKHAR

Products Range: Martial Art Wears
(Judo/Karate Uniforms)

Markets: USA, Germany, UK, Holland,
France, Spain, Japan. etc

Address: 127-133, Small Industrial Estate,
Sialkot - 51340

Phone: +92-52-3255768, 3256000

Fax: +92-52-3554541

Cell: +92-300-8617686

E-mail: info@ashraf.net.pk

Website: www.ashraf.net.pk

Certification: ISO-9001, SA 8000, BSCI,

Achievements:

Winner of best Export Trophy Awards 1983-2008
(Consecutive for 25 years),

Civil Award - SITARA-E-IMTIAZ.

History:

Ashraf Industries (Pvt.) Ltd, Sialkot, was established in 1969 by Late Haji Muhammad Ashraf Khokhar, illustrious father of Mr. Ijaz Khokhar & Mr. Sajjad Khokhar.

The company started its business as manufacturers of readymade Garments and later started export of Martial Arts wears (judo/Karate Uniforms). Within a short time it has won recognition from the recognized importers of Martial Arts wears, throughout the world. The company successfully competed with its Japanese, Chinese & European competitors and maintained its edge in the market by producing quality products. Company has the honor to be headed by Mr. Ijaz Khokhar, who is prominent businessman and holding a Civil Award "SITARA-E-IMTIAZ".



CEO Profile



Mr. Ijaz Akhtar Khokhar is the CEO of Ashraf Industries (Pvt) Limited. He did his Bachelor of Sciences from Punjab University, Lahore. Then he completed diploma in Garment Technology from Singapore and another diploma in Garment Pattern Designing from Hong Kong. After this he joined his family business of garments in 1971. Ashraf Industries (Pvt) Limited is a pioneer of Martial Arts Garments Industry in Pakistan which is operating since 1969.

Government of Pakistan has honored him with highest Civil Award "SITARA-E-IMTIAZ" on 23rd March 2007 in the acknowledgement of his services in business. He was also awarded gold medal by Prime Minister of Pakistan in 2007 and won title as "Business Man of the Year" in the same year. Under his guidance Ashraf industries has achieved a lot like "Winner of FPCCI Export Trophy Award" and "Leading Exporter of Martial Arts Uniforms in Pakistan for the last 25 years consecutively since 1983-2008".

Mr. Ijaz Akhtar Khokhar is Executive Board Member of International Apparel Federation (IAF).

He is also one of the Founder Members of Executive Board of Asian Apparel Federation (AAF) which comprises of garment associations of China, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Korea, Cambodia, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Macau, & Pakistan. He is a Life Time Member of Federation of Pakistan Chamber & Commerce Industry (FPCCI) and Life Time Trustee of Sialkot Dry Port Trust. He is Director of Port Services & Capital Insurance Sialkot.

He has remained at Chairmanship of Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers & Exporters Association for four times. He is a very active member of many Boards of directors like Pakistan readymade garments technical training institute and Lahore garments city under ministry for Textile industry of Pakistan.

Mr. Ijaz Akhtar Khokhar has aim to promote the martial arts activities in male & female of Pakistan even at school and college level. For that he provides the financial support to organize the martial art events in Pakistan. He has been remained in the positions of Chairman Pakistan Taekwondo Federation and Vice President Pakistan Judo Federation. Furthermore, He has a future plan to establish the garments technical training institute in Sialkot for gender skill promotion.



GEOGRAPHY

Tunisia occupies a strategic location on the Mediterranean coast of North Africa. It lies between two large neighbors: Algeria to the west and Libya to the southeast and is the northern most point on the continent. With an area of 163,610 sq km (63,170 sq mi), Tunisia is a small African country. It has nearly as much land boundary as it has coastline. Its northernmost tip, Cap Blanc, and southernmost city, Borj al-Khadra, are roughly 750 km (466 mi) apart. Distances between east and west border points vary from 100 to 380 km (62 to 236 mi).

Despite its small size, Tunisia is gifted with great geographic and climatic diversity. Four distinct geographic divisions are the mountainous north, the high central plains, the low central plains, and the desert in the south and support ecosystems that vary from moist forests to sand seas. In the north a coastal Mediterranean climate of mild, rainy winters and hot, dry summers exists. This gives way to drier, more extreme weather in the interior plateaus

and the desert south, which merges into the great Sahara.

Mountainous North

In the north, two mountain chains extend from the Atlas Mountains of Algeria: the Northern Tell and the High Tell (or the Dorsale). The Northern Tell includes the low, rounded Kroumirie and Mogod Mountains. To the south, the Dorsale comprises the higher, jagged Tebourouk, Tebessa, and Medjerda Mountains. The Dorsale marks Tunisia's highest peak, Jebel Chambi, at 1,544 m (5,066 ft). This high ridge divides the country into two climatic regions: the mild and rainy Mediterranean north and the arid desert south. The Medjerda River divides the Northern Tell from the Dorsale. The Medjerda valley, northeast of the Dorsale, gets plenty of rainfall and the clay soil make it a fertile farmland for olives, wheat, grapes, citrus, jasmine, gum, and pistachios. The Cap Bon peninsula protrudes toward Italy from the northeastern corner of this region.

Climate

Tunisia is in a warm temperate zone with three climatic regions. Northern and coastal parts of the country have a Mediterranean climate, with an average annual temperature range of 7–33°C (45–91°F), and rainfall of 80 cm (31 in). In general, winter months from November through February are cool and wet; the dry summers are hottest in August. The northwestern mountains may receive 150 cm (60 in) of rain annually, making them the wettest part of North Africa, and mountain temperatures drop below freezing in winter.

In the central semi-arid region, annual rainfall averages 10–15 cm (4–6 in), just enough to support the growth of esparto grass and sagebrush. Seasonal temperatures inland become more extreme. For example, Gafsa's winter lows average 4°C (39°F), and summer highs average 38°C (100°F). Mediterranean air currents moderate temperatures somewhat on the coastal plain.

In the desert south, annual rainfall

of Tunisia



seldom exceeds 10 cm (4 in). Summer daytime temperatures frequently exceed 47°C (117°F), but in the desert the temperatures between day and night fluctuate dramatically. The sirocco, a strong hot wind from the Sahara, can bring sandstorms in the north.

Society & Culture of Tunisia

Society

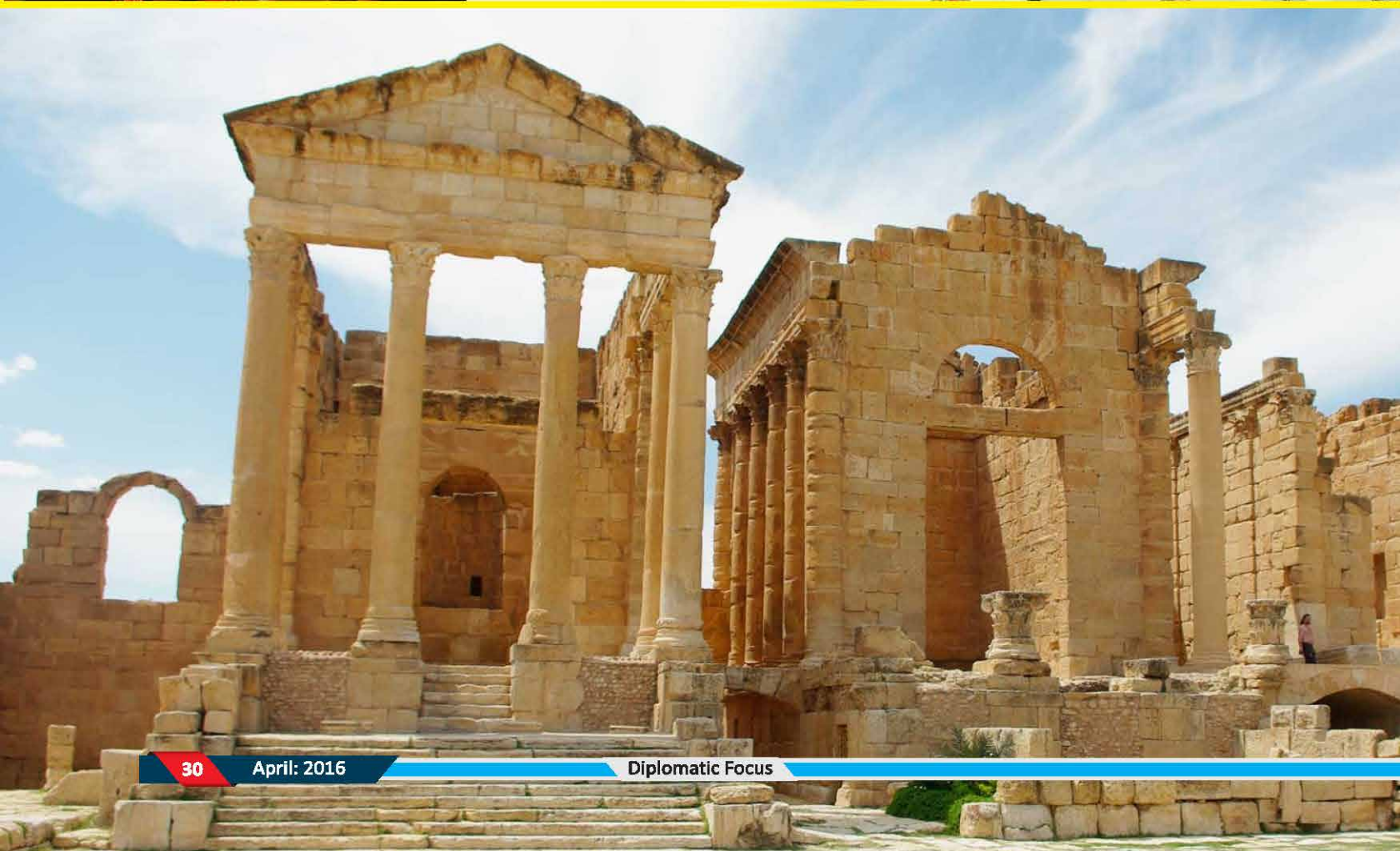
Tunisia is often described as the most homogenous of Maghreb nations. A single ethnicity, language, and religion unite 98% of the population. Anti-colonial sentiment created a sense of Tunisian national identity, leading to independence in 1956. Tunisia's presidents continued to promote national solidarity, although at times

through oppression, while building a modern nation-state.

Tunisia achieved many successes in social development. Average life expectancy lengthened and birth rates dropped. Health and education improved, as did the social status of women. A middle class developed, with middle-class expectations of a middle-class lifestyle.

Ethnic Groups and Languages

In Tunisia, 98% of the population is Arabic-speaking Sunni Muslims. The descendants of Berbers, Phoenicians, Romans, Arabs, Spaniards, Turks, and others have intermarried and assimilated into a shared society and culture. Ethnicity is typically mixed—most everyone is “Arab-Berber”—and rarely a source of social



conflict. A few Berber groups in the far south or in the hills near the Algerian border retain a distinct ethnic identity, which is reinforced by some mono lingualism among their Berber language speakers. Traces of the Berber past can be seen in place names like Guermessa and Chenini, and in the rich artifacts that are produced in these regions. Another ethnic group that exists as a trace culture today is the Jews of the island of Jerba.

Official Language

The official language is Arabic while French is widely used. English is spoken by a growing number of Tunisians. One-fifth of the population makes its livelihood by farming. The rest of the well-educated and skilled population is employed in industries, tourism, fishing, mining and manufacturing. Various indicators show a substantial improvement of the living standards of all Tunisians. Life expectancy has

increased to 74.9 years in 2011. The annual Population natural growth rate reached 74.9 in 2011. Nearly 80% of the population is considered as middle class.

Women's Rights

Building on a progressive legacy, Tunisia has made the promotion of women in all walks of life, and their involvement in the development process, one of the cornerstones of its social policies.

The special status enjoyed by Tunisian



women is the result of a reformist tradition going far back as the 19th century. This tradition was consecrated, as early as 1956, with the adoption of the Code of Personal Status, a revolutionary legislation in the region. The code abolished polygamy and repudiation, and made divorce decisions the sole prerogative of the courts.

Today, Tunisian women enjoy fully-fledged equality with men in principle and in practice, playing thus a vital role in political life, societal progress as well as in professional life. Indeed, Women today account for 53.9% of university students, 12% of senior business executives, 21% of civil service employees, 23% of magistrates, 24% of journalists, 35% of doctors, 50% of academics, 63% of pharmacists. There are over 5,000 female heads of businesses and more than 10,000 small and medium-sized enterprises, in the industrial, commercial and service sectors, are managed by women.

Culture

A synthesis of various civilizations, Carthage and Rome to mention only the most prestigious ones, Tunisia has always been distinguished by intense cultural activity.

Berber, Arab, African and European influences have shaped the Tunisian cultural identity. Although Islam is prevailing, all other great religions coexist peacefully in Tunisia. Jewish and Christian communities freely observe their rites and contribute to enriching the diversity of the Tunisian culture. Warm and hospitable, Tunisians are always available and ready to lend a hand.

Tunisian Gastronomy

The successive races who have lived and intermarried have helped, with their various tastes and customs, influence the Tunisian cuisine. The Tunisian gastronomy is the result of rare combinations mixing local know-how and the contributions of various origins at various times. The Tunisian cuisine was enriched throughout the centuries by the contributions of the people who came in the country. For example, the Berbers' impact is very significant as they brought couscous to Tunisia. Tunisian cuisine is based on olive oil and spices whose suitable mixture and erudite proportioning achieved miracles, transforming simple and inexpensive products into refined dishes. Like all Mediterranean countries, Tunisian cuisine depends not only on olive oil, spices and tomatoes but also on a great assortment of fishes and meats. It draws its inspiration from various sources particularly Berber, Arab, Turkish and even Italian.

The national dish remains obviously the couscous. It is semolina cooked with the vapor and sprinkled, after cooking with a sauce. The seeds can be large, average or fine. It is specifically the sauce which, by its contents, makes the infinite variety of the





couscous: vegetables, fish, octopuses, lamb, beef, chicken etc.

Fish is variously prepared from simple grilling to the most elaborate preparation. Pampered by miles of coast and an unpolluted and generous sea, seafood is a mainstay of the Tunisia diet. The varieties of seafood are endless and each region has its recipes and secrets for preparation.

Tunisian Music

Tunisian music is very diverse and has been influenced by Andalusian, Turkish and Arabic

In most Tunisian regions, women's costumes are largely varied and highly refined. Weaving and embroidery vary from one region to another. The used fabrics are adapted to needs and circumstances (brocade, silk, velvet, wool, cotton and linen).

rhythms. Arabic classical music, Malouf can be heard in the old palaces or in cafes in the street while classical music resounds in the St Louis cathedral of Carthage converted into the Acropolis or in the Roman coliseum of El Djem. In Sidi Bou Said, you can hear the creation of contemporary Tunisian masters while in Tabarka during the festival, you can enjoy jazz and music of the world.

Tunisian National Costumes

In most Tunisian regions, women's costumes are largely varied and highly refined. Weaving and embroidery vary from one region to another. The used fabrics are adapted to needs and circumstances (brocade, silk, velvet, wool, cotton and linen).

Tunisian Handicrafts

Copper, wool, ceramics, jewelry and leather are the basic materials of Tunisian handicrafts. Chrome plated copper and bronze are used to produce different wares including pestles, candelabras and saber's handles. Tunisian carpets are quality handicrafts. Different types of high pile carpets are available including the Berber gatif carpet, the mergoum widely used in central and southern Tunisia and the alloucha traditionally manufactured in Kairouan. Working with clay is highly developed in the Cap Bon area in particular.

Tourism of Tunisia



Tunisia is
known as the
heaven of a
big number
of immigrant
birds.

Tunisia is considered as a melting pot of the Mediterranean. Indeed, as it is located at the crossroads of Africa, the East and the West, in the heart of the Mediterranean ethnic mixing, Tunisia offers a multiplicity of faces in harmony with its culture and traditions but geared as well towards progress and modernity...it seems to gather in one single place the various looks of the towns around the Mediterranean basin. In Tunisia, you will enjoy discovering a legacy of 3000 years of history made of great civilizations while

appreciating nature in all of its aspects, sea, mountains, plains and desert. Tunisia unites various geographical, climatic and cultural characteristics that make it ideal for lovers of areas where the sea, mountains, oak and willow trees forests overlap. The quietness of the sea is ideal for relaxation and energy rebuilding, Tunisia is also a great place to spend you day in various sports activities, such as golf overlooking the sea front, water sports, sailing, fishing...

Tunisia offers a diverse and rich product:

- Beach
- Tourism of Health and Well Being
- Golf
- Tourism of Congress and seminars
- Cultural Tourism
- Saharan Tourism
- Ecological Tourism





Beach tourism

It represents the most important product of Tunisian tourism thanks to beautiful beaches and a modern hotel infrastructure along over than 1.400 Km of coastline.



Tourism of Health and Well Being

Thalasso

Tunisia is the ideal place for thalasso services with its luxurious hotels, climate softness, sunny weather, 750 miles



coastline and para-medical competency. Installations are found in top hotels and are equipped with sophisticated top of the line equipments. For instance, Tunisia has been ranked as the 2nd world destination after France with 49 centers of





thalassotherapy spread over the different touristic regions.

Golf

Tunisia guarantees a golf holiday where

everything is just a little different. The sunsets, the exotic sights, the atmosphere, the local color ... golf can be an adventure in itself, but Tunisia guarantees that your adventures will continue when you take off your golf shoes... Tunisia is rapidly gaining

a reputation for being one of the Mediterranean's foremost golfing destinations. Firmly established on the international circuit after hosting series of international championships, Tunisia's courses have earned warm praise from





professionals and amateurs alike. Its temperate year-round climate provides ideal golfing conditions. The golf courses in Tunisia operate all year long. Although very diverse, they all have one thing in common: they were established on premium sites, whether it is near the sea, the mountain or the desert, they all offer very beautiful panoramas. Currently, Tunisia has eight main courses that are stretching the entire length of the Mediterranean coast, which were built and

designed by Masters of great talent such as Ronald Fream or Martin Hawtree.

Water activities

Water sports are very popular in Tunisia: from boat rides to upward parachute, windsurfing, catamaran, pedal boats, jet skis and water skiing. There is currently more than sixty nautical centers or bases throughout the coastline that are subject to very rigorous controls and draconian safety requirements. Tunisia's clear waters,

coral beds and diverse sea life make it a popular destination for scuba diving. Tabarka Yachting Club and the International Diving Centre at Port el Kantaoui are recognized by the World Confederation for Diving and offer fully equipped lessons and trips. Port el Kantaoui and Yasmine Hammamet's are ports of international standard offering mooring for hundreds of boats, harbor-master's office, deep-sea navigation school, sailing school, ship-chandler, boat-



rental and a dry-docking area with maintenance shops. Among other windsurfing (and water-skiing) centers is Le Club Nautique de Sidi-Bou Said, which has a marina complex.

Cultural Tourism

Home of the ancient city of Carthage, Tunisia is endowed with a strategic geographic location as it is placed in the centre of North Africa, close to vital shipping routes which has made it at the crossroads of history. In their times, the Romans, Arabs, Ottoman Turks and French realized its strategic significance, making it a hub for control over the region. All these civilizations, have mutually enriched one another and made of Tunisia a country of great cultural diversity.

Saharan tourism

No holiday to Tunisia is complete without going on a desert safari to the Sahara. Great diversity of landscapes, sand dunes, oasis of hills, maritime oasis chott (salt lakes), berber villages, troglodyte villages.

Ecological Tourism

Tunisia is well known for its respectful and durable development of the environment.

Tunisia is endowed with a big number of

natural parks and reserves to satisfy the curiosity of the visitors such as Ichkeul

National Park which has been listed as a world heritage since 1980.





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- Mr. Aftab Hussain Lakho / Chief Executive Officer
- Syed Ali Raza Gilani, Director
- Syed Alley Raza Gilani, Director
- Jallil Ahmed, General Manager
- Muhammad Safdar, Chief Financial Officer

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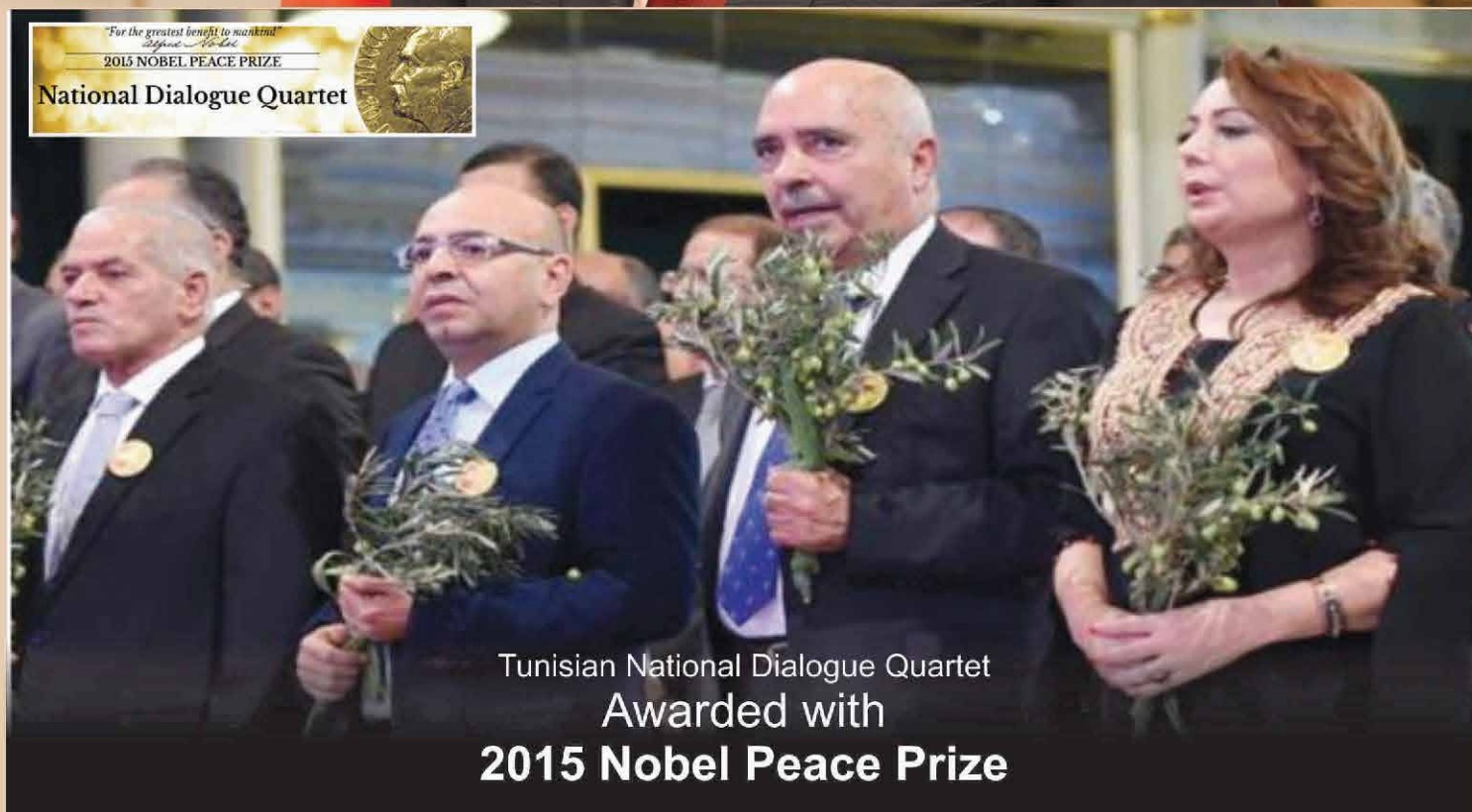
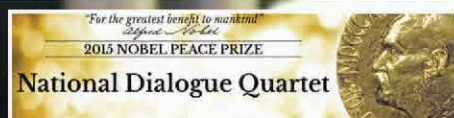
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Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia
to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



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