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
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


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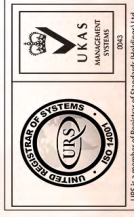
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Special Supplement on National Day of Portugal



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Patron in Chief:	Mr. Zia-ur-Rahman Zabeeh
Editor/Publisher:	Mian Fazal Elahi
Managing Director:	Shahzada Khurram
Executive Editor:	Muhammad Bilal Zafar
Editor in Chief UK/EU Edition:	Mian Assadullah Justin Plaza 3, 3411London Road, Mit cham, Surrey-CR4 4BE
Editor Germany, EU Edition:	Mian Mubeen Akhtar
Chairman Advisory Board:	Mr. Kanwar Muhammad Tariq
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Web Developer:	Liaqat Ali
Chief Photographer:	Sheikh Muhammad Arif Ramzan Mughal

Country Director	Fazal Hussain 004540521485
Copenhagen Denmark	Email: fazal1955@hotmail.com
Javed Iqbal Butt	Bureau Chief Australia, Newzealand

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Resident Editors

Eng. Moshin Ali	1st Floor Office No 50 Gulf Plaza Madina Street P.O B ox 65454 Jeddah 21556 Cell: +966-506389895
-----------------	--

Bureau Office

Qaisar Masood	Muhammad Athar
Northern Virginia	Georgia
Israr Masood	M. Jamil Rathore
Sydney Australia	Bureau Chief Jeddah KSA
Shahid Akbar Toor	Cell: +966-502583608
Vehari	

Mr. Muhammad Muzzamilullah Mian

Brussels (Belgium)

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Roohani Art Press, Chughtai Plaza, Fazal-e-Haq Road,
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Publisher

Mian Fazal Elahi, House No 263-C, Street 87, Sector E-11/2 Islamabad.

Tel: +92-51-2163092, 2163070, News Room: +92-51-2163029

Mobile: +92-345-5565552, +92-322-5565552

Email: mianfazalelahi@gmail.com, diplomaticfocus.isb.pk@gmail.com

www.diplomaticfocus.org

Karachi Office: Mobile: +92-321-5558221

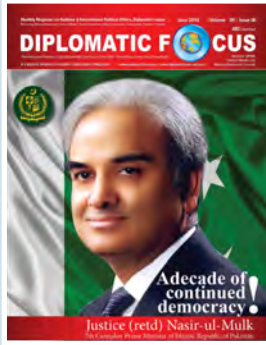
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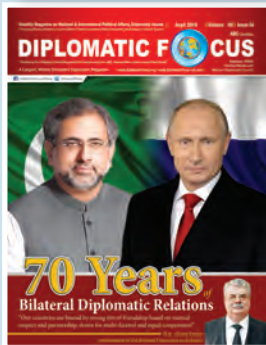
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May 2018



April 2018



March 2018



Mian Fazal Elahi

Portugal remained a world power for many decades in the history. Portugal was the very first country that connected Europe with Asia, especially South Asia, centuries back. Portuguese explorer Vasco Da Gama is known in Indo Pak Sub Continent very well. He was the first from Portugal and Europe to land on the port of Calicut on 20 May 1498. The British and other European explorers were only able to follow Vasco's discovered route to the orient after 100 long years. Since then Portugal has maintained its relations with South Asia and after partition 1947, connection continued with Pakistan as well.

Portugal is an important country with a dynamic role in world community. In modern world, Portugal and Pakistan enjoy very cordial relations. Both countries are working together to enhance mutual cooperation in variety of sectors including trade and people to people contacts. In 1949 the Portuguese Government published a decree deciding the opening of a diplomatic mission in Karachi and the first Portuguese Diplomatic Envoy presented credentials in Karachi in 1952. His name was Antonio Jose Alves Junior and, at the time, was accommodated at the Metropole Karachi.

He was definitely a senior diplomat being born in 1895 and having studied Law at the University of Lisbon.

The opening of an Embassy in Karachi had, no doubt, a very important impact on the relations between Portugal and Pakistan opening ways to a path of cooperation never disturbed.

Portugal has two honorary consulates in Lahore and Karachi. Pakistan has also setup its embassy in Lisbon.

The problem of Energy, related with climate change and Environment is an area where have a great potential for cooperation between the two countries.

We, team of the Diplomatic Focus extend our best wishes and congratulations to the government and people of Portugal on their national day on the behalf of Pakistani nation.

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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Pakistan unveiled a 5 point roadmap to achieve durable peace, development and stability in the region

By Mian Fazal Elahi, Monitoring

President Mamnoon Hussain unveiled at Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit a five-point roadmap to achieve durable peace, development and stability in the region through enhanced connectivity, shared prosperity, trade and people to people contacts. He was addressing the plenary session of the 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of States of Shanghai Cooperation Organization held at Qingdao International Conference Centre which was attended by heads of states of eight member countries and observer

states and representatives from international organizations. Spelling out the roadmap of priorities, the president said trust building was pivotal to achieve lasting peace and stability in the region, besides helping generate economic activity and enhance regional trade. He viewed that the development projects should not be viewed through a myopic geopolitical angle. He said the countries should wholeheartedly support all regional development and connectivity projects including the Belt and Road Initiative and its flagship project, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. By

resolutely following the guiding principles of Shanghai Spirit of shared development and prosperity, the SCO countries should strive to alleviate poverty, support weaker economies of the region and combat terrorism and extremism. SCO Development Bank and Fund could contribute to this endeavor, he added. President Mamnoon told the summit that SCO Business Council would help promote business-to-business contacts in various sectors. Similarly, they should explore the possibility of introducing a SCO visa regime for businessmen, he added. Moreover, the president said the



SCO states should initiate special programs for skill development of youth and take concrete steps for promoting meaningful people-to-people contacts especially among the youth. He told the international gathering that the improvement of law and order situation in Pakistan over the past few years had provided a secure environment for investment and

financial institutions had noted this positive performance. Similarly, our agriculture and services sectors have shown robust growth. Pakistan has been ranked first in the region and fifth at the global level as a destination for private investment in infrastructure development. President Mamnoon told the summit that peace and stability in Afghanistan

For its best, Pakistan would continue to lend full support for promoting peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. He said Pakistan had welcomed President Ghani's announcement of ceasefire and initiative of unconditional offer for peace talks to the Taliban. "I am pleased to inform that Pakistan has embarked on a bilateral Action Plan for Peace, Security and Stability with Afghanistan. We hope that these efforts will bear fruits and contribute to peace in Afghanistan," the president said. He said the SCO's regional Anti-terrorism structure was an expression of their concerns on extremism and terrorism and Pakistan was ready to share its experiences of successful counter terrorism campaign with SCO states. Highlighting the issue of drug trafficking, the president believed that the adoption of the decisions on this issue at today's summit was a great achievement and its implementation would contribute to our efforts to control the menace of illicit drugs in the region. Thanking the Chinese people, government and President Xi Jinping for organizing the multi-purpose summit, the president said in order to mark this momentous occasion, Pakistan had issued a special commemorative postage stamp. He said SCO occupied a unique place among international organizations established for regional security and prosperity. "Within a short span, it has become a platform for exemplary inter-state and people-to-people cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, regional security, connectivity and sustainable development," the president commented. He said Pakistan had been successful in meeting the Memorandum of Obligations to SCO in a timely manner. He said Pakistan's strategic location, access to the Indian Ocean and huge consumer market has further enhanced these opportunities. "Our success has been bolstered by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, participation in Central Asian regional connectivity projects like TAPI and CASA 1000 and the upward trajectory in our growth rate will continue," he remarked. Besides adopting the "Vision 2025" which sets framework for progress in all sectors of the economy, the president said the



business. Contrary to the global economic trends, he said, Pakistan's economy had achieved great economic successes resulting in energy production and highest GDP growth rate of last decade this year. He said the international

was a shared concern of SCO member states. "We believe this is only possible through an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process. The reactivation of SCO's Contact Group of Afghanistan is a welcome step," he remarked.



meetings with the Chinese President Xi Jinping, President of Russian Federation H.E. Mr. Vladimir Putin, H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon, President of Tajikistan, Iranian President Dr. Hassan Rouhani and President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan



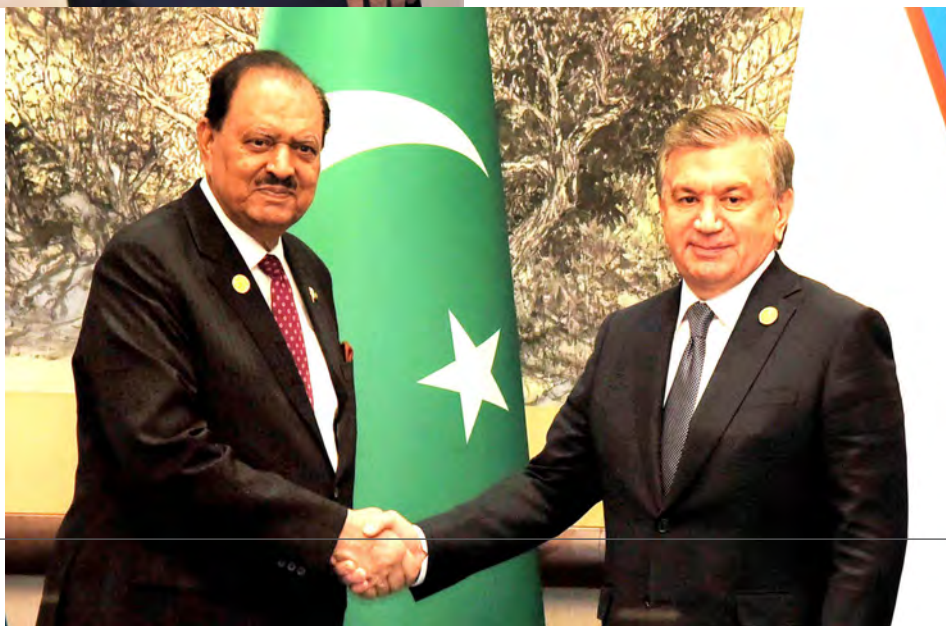
The Leaders discussed matters of mutual interest including bilateral, contemporary regional and global issues and agreed that relations have strengthened. Trade, energy, security, culture, education and people-to-people contact were identified as avenues for enhanced future cooperation. They agreed to work together to further enhance economic ties and expand the relations.

Trust building was pivotal to achieve lasting peace and stability in the region, besides helping generate economic activity and enhance regional trade: President Mamnoon Hussain



government was developing nine industrial zones in different areas of Pakistan to enhance industrial productivity and provide economic stability. He said in the past few years democratic institutions and values had strengthened in Pakistan. "These days the nation is in electoral process. We hope that completion of this process will further enhance political and economic stability which will have a positive impact on the region," he said. He believed that the historically rich SCO nations would stand shoulder to shoulder against contemporary global challenges and Pakistan would continue to play its role for regional peace and prosperity.

President Mamnoon Hussain held bilateral





Saudi Arabia has handed over 150 tons of dates to Pakistan during a ceremony held at the Saudi embassy. The dates handing over ceremony were attended by officials of the Saudi embassy and representatives of the government of Pakistan. Ambassador of Saudi Arabia Nawaf Saeed Al-Malkiy handed over dates to government representative. Ambassador of Saudi Arabia Nawaf Saeed Al-Malkiy while speaking on the occasion said Saudi Arabia and Pakistan enjoy excellent relations. Every year Saudi Arabia extends gift of dates to its brotherly country Pakistan. This year too the gift is extended on behalf of Khadim ul-Haramain us-Sharifain King Salman bin Abdul Aziz and Saudi Crown Prince Muhamed bin Salman. The Saudi ambassador added, his country would continue to extending this gift to Pakistan even in the days to come adding Saudi Arabia wanted a strong and stable Pakistan. It is for the first time that a Saudi commercial counselor has been appointed which speaks volumes for the Saudi desire to have deep-rooted economic ties with Pakistan.

KSA gifts 150 tons dates to Pakistan



Care Taker Foreign Minister Mr. Abdullah Haroon & Foreign Secretary Ms. Tehmina Janjua hosted Iftar reception in the honor of the Diplomatic Corps in Islamabad



Pakistan & Tajikistan agree to strengthen bilateral ties

Pakistan is not only a friend but also a brotherly country:

President Emomali Rahman





By M.Saeed Yousafzai, Monitoring

Pakistan and Tajikistan agreed to increase bilateral trade, restore aerial service and complete CASA-1000 project at the earliest. This was stated in a joint communiqué issued after a meeting between President Mamnoon Hussain and his Tajik counterpart Emomali Rehman in Dushanbe.

The two countries also resolved to take bilateral trade to five hundred million dollars. Speaking during the meeting President Mamnoon Hussain said that two countries have very close cooperation in different fields. The Tajik President said Pakistan is not only a friend but also a brotherly country. Addressing a news conference along with his Tajik counterpart Emomali Rehman after one on one meeting, President Mamnoon

to formally welcome President Mamnoon Hussain on his visit to Tajikistan. President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon greeted the President at Qasr-e-Millat. National anthems of the two countries were played and guard of honour was presented to President Mamnoon Hussain. President Mamnoon Hussain Tuesday visited the Somoni Monument here at Friendship Square and laid a wreath. One of Dushanbe's most impressive modern monuments, this statue of Ismoil Somoni celebrates the 10th-century founder of the Samanid dynasty. With an art-deco quality to the design of the monument's golden casing and a prominent position on Friendship Square, it has become a key rendezvous point in the city. The President was in Dushanbe to lead Pakistani delegation at high level two-day conference on the "International Decade for Action, Water for Sustainable Development" in Dushanbe. The conference hosted by Tajikistan in cooperation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and other partners. It focused on sustainable development and integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives.



Two countries have decided to restore air links afresh to promote connectivity: President Mamnoon Hussain

Hussain said the two countries have decided to restore air links afresh to promote connectivity. He expressed hope that Tajikistan will soon join quadrilateral agreement on traffic and transit, which will provide Tajikistan legal right to have access to Pakistan's ports through land routes. The President said both the countries also reiterated to continue working together to get rid of terrorism. He said section will be set up at Pakistan's embassy in Tajikistan to enhance cooperation in defence sectors, and all out cooperation will be extended to strengthen armed forces of Tajikistan. President Mamnoon Hussain said a commercial section will also be established in Pakistan's embassy in Tajikistan to enhance economic cooperation. Earlier, a ceremony was held in Dushanbe

A commercial section will also be established in Pakistan's embassy in Tajikistan to enhance economic cooperation: President Mamnoon Hussain





Erdogan becomes Turkey's First Executive President

After winning more than half the votes

By Mian Fazal Elahi

Recep Tayyip Erdogan has won the country's key presidential vote, electoral officials have said, in a result that will allow him to keep his seat with increased powers and become Turkey's first executive president. With 97.7 percent of ballots counted, Erdogan received on Sunday more than half the votes required to secure an outright victory, Sadi Guven, the head of the Supreme Election Committee (YSK), told reporters in the capital, Ankara. Earlier, state-run Anadolu news agency had reported that Erdogan's share of the vote stood at 52.5 percent. "Our democracy has won, the people's will has won, Turkey has won," Erdogan told a crowd of enthusiastic supporters in the capital, Ankara, thanking the Turkish citizens who cast their ballots in an election that saw a record turnout of 87 percent. The 64-year-old also declared victory for the People's Alliance, a bloc between his ruling Justice and Development Party (AK Party) and the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP), saying they had won a parliamentary majority in

the legislative elections, also held on same day. Before heading to Ankara, Erdogan, who has ruled Turkey for more than 15 years as prime minister and president, had also addressed a crowd of cheering, flag-waving supporters from the top of a bus in the country's largest city of Istanbul. Erdogan's closest rival, Muharrem Ince, of the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP), received 30.8 percent of the votes, according to Anadolu. He was followed by Selahattin Demirtas, of the pro-Kurdish Democratic People's Party (HDP), at 8.1 percent and debutante right-wing IYI

(Good) Party's Meral Aksener, at 7.4 percent. All three major opposition parties accused Anadolu of manipulating the results and releasing them selectively, a claim dismissed by the government. "I hope nobody will try to cast a shadow on the results and harm democracy in order to hide their own failure," Erdogan said in his speech. Official results are to be announced in a few days. More than 56 million voters were eligible to cast their ballots in the elections, which were brought forward by more than 18 months by the AK Party-controlled parliament in April. The voting marked the first time Turk-





ish voters cast their ballots in simultaneous presidential and parliamentary elections, in line with the constitutional changes approved in a referendum last year that will transform the country's parliamentary system to an executive presidential one. The new system is set to hand the next president significant executive powers, as well as abolish the prime ministry and remove the monitoring role of parliament, among others. In the new era, the presidential office will have the power to appoint vice presidents, ministers, high-level officials and senior judges. The president will also be able to dissolve parliament, issue executive decrees, and impose a state of emergency. On the parliamentary front, Erdogan's AK Party got 42.4 percent of the votes, while its far-right MHP secured 11.2 percent. The two parties are predicted to claim 293 and 49 seats in the 600-member parliament respectively, with almost all of the ballot boxes opened, according to Anadolu. Erdogan was their joint presidential candidate. A majority of 360 votes in parliament are required to take a constitutional change to a referendum in the new executive presidential system.

The opposition CHP and IYI parties, along with the ultraconservative Felicity Party (SP), formed the diverse Nation Alliance to challenge Erdogan in the parliamentary polls. According to Anadolu, the CHP

acquired 22.7 percent of the ballots, while its ally, IYI Party got 10.1 percent. They are expected to have 146 and 45 seats in parliament. The pro-Kurdish HDP is set to secure 66 seats after receiving 11.1 percent. The state of emergency has been in place since July 2016 following a failed deadly coup blamed by the government on the movement of Fethullah Gulen, a US-based self-exiled religious leader.

**“Our
democracy
has won,
the people’s
will has
won,
Turkey has
won,”
Erdogan**

Pakistan congratulates Erdogan on re-election

Pakistani President Mamnoon Hussain congratulated his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan on his re-election said by Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesman. President extended heartfelt felicitations to Erdogan on behalf of country, government and people. President Mamnoon Hussain underscored that “the large turnout and the peaceful conduct of the parliamentary and presidential elections is a testimony to the strength and vibrancy of Turkey's democratic values and institutions. Expressing hope that Turkey will continue on its path of progress and prosperity under Erdogan's leadership, Hussain expressed his wish for the “historic and unparalleled” relations between the two countries to “continue to grow from strength to strength. Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister Retired Justice Nasir-ul-Mulk congratulated President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on his election victory. In a statement, he said: “The people of Pakistan take great pride in the progress and development achieved by Turkey, and hope that the bonds of historic brotherhood between the people of Pakistan and Turkey will continue to grow ever stronger in future.”





Trump Kim summit:

US & North Korean leaders hold historic talks

By Mian Fazal Elahi

US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un held a largely symbolic summit on Tuesday, and the US president offered an unexpected concession to the North, saying he would halt joint military exercises with South Korea.

The two men smiled and shook hands before pledging at their historic summit to work toward the “denuclearisation” of the Korean Peninsula. The United States promised its Cold War foe security guarantees.

The meeting in Singapore, the first between a sitting US president and a North Korean leader, was in stark contrast to a flurry of North Korean nuclear and missile tests and angry exchanges of insults between Trump and Kim last year that fueled global worries about war.

But in a joint statement afterward, the two men offered few specifics about how the relationship would evolve. Noting North Korean promises in the past to denuclearise, several analysts cast doubt on how effective Trump had been at obtaining his pre-summit goal of banishing North Korea’s “very substantial” nuclear arsenal.

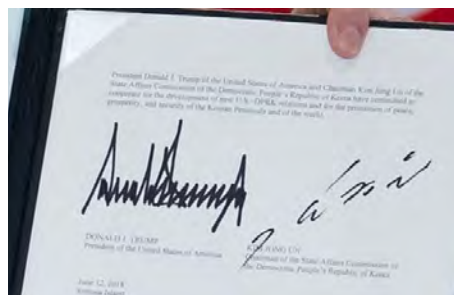
At a news conference later, Trump made a surprise announcement that was sure to rattle South Korea and Japan, which rely on a US security umbrella, saying he would halt the regular military exercises the US holds with South Korea because they were expensive and “very provocative”. North Korea has long sought an end to the exercises.

The summit gave international standing to Kim, one of the world’s most reclusive leaders.

His government is under UN sanctions for its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

In the months before Trump and Kim had openly been trading verbal insults with each other. Kim called Trump a “deranged US dotard” while Trump referred to the “little rocket man” but it appears now relations have certainly thawed.

The Trump administration said repeatedly before the summit that Washington was seeking steps by North Korea toward complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantling of a nuclear programme that is advanced enough to pose a threat to the US.



Several experts said the meeting failed to secure any concrete commitments by Pyongyang toward this. The statement also did not refer to human rights in one of the world’s most repressive nations.

Trump said at the news conference he expected the denuclearisation process to start “very, very quickly” and it would be verified by “having a lot of people in North Korea”. He said Kim had announced that North Korea

was destroying a major missile engine-testing site, but sanctions on North Korea would stay in place for now.

It was unclear if negotiations would lead to denuclearisation, or end with broken promises, as happened in the past, said Anthony Ruggiero, senior fellow at Washington’s Foundation for Defence of Democracies think-tank.

“This looks like a restatement of where we left negotiations more than 10 years ago and not a major step forward,” he said.

The joint statement, referring to North Korea by the initials of its official name, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, said “President Trump committed to provide security guarantees to the DPRK and Chairman Kim Jong Un reaffirmed his firm and unwavering commitment to complete denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula”.

Kim said after the summit he and Trump had “decided to leave the past behind. The world will see a major change.” Trump’s meeting with Kim, who he described in warm terms at the news conference, followed days of berating traditional US allies such as Canada and Germany in trade disputes.

Trump’s announcement that he would stop military exercises with old ally South Korea was a surprise even to the government in Seoul. South Korea’s presidential Blue House said it needed “to find out the precise meaning or intentions” of Trump’s statement, while adding that it was willing to “explore various measures to help the talks move forward more smoothly”.



By Federica Mogherini

EU and Asia

together for a more secure world

Europe and Asia have never been so close. Our economies are interconnected; our cultures are interconnected; and our security is connected: we face the same challenges, we confront similar threats, and we share an interest in preserving peace in our regions and international cooperation on a global scale.

The foreign ministers of the European Union's 28 member states have decided that we must enhance our security engagement in Asia and with Asia, as part of a more comprehensive EU-Asia strategy. The time when Europeans and Asians could consider themselves distant friends is over. To preserve and strengthen our economic exchanges we must also work together on global security.

In Asia, as elsewhere, the economic face of Europe is the one that people are most familiar with. It is linked to our role as the world's biggest trading block, the fact that we are the number one or two investor in most Asian countries, and that we are by far the world's biggest donor of development assistance.

But it is striking how joint work on security has become the biggest area of growth in terms of our expanding cooperation with Asian partners. This increased engagement on security matters reflects two changes. Firstly, that our partners in Asia increasingly look to the EU to be present and engaged in the region. Our added value stems from, in particular, our experience with cooperative security and regional approaches to crisis management: and this kind of expertise is in high demand. Secondly, the EU itself has taken ambitious steps to strengthen our own capacities in the field of defence. We are not only a reliable trade partner, not only a pillar of multilateralism: the EU is a security actor in its own right.

The EU currently has 16 civilian and military missions around the world: we train the armed forces in Mali; we advise the Ukrainian and

the Iraqi authorities on reform of their civilian security sectors; we fight piracy in the Indian Ocean. Recently, together with EU member states, we have launched a 'Permanent Structured Cooperation' on security and defence; we are joining forces to become an even more credible and reliable security provider. Our member states have committed to investing together on practical projects — from rapid response against cyber-attacks to innovative systems for maritime security, to a European training centre for our troops who intervene in case of natural disasters. I have also proposed to set up a new fund, outside the EU budget, to help strengthen our partners' security capabilities.

Collectively, the EU and its member states have the second-largest defence budget in the world; the potential of greater European cooperation on defence matters is immense. We have taken big, important steps over the past year, reflecting the fact that European citizens as well as people across the world increasingly count on a European Union that protects. And this will continue.

Since our first engagement to accompany the Aceh peace process in Indonesia, almost fifteen years ago, we have expanded our security cooperation in Asia and with Asia to a great extent: we are working together on cyber-security, counter-terrorism, non-proliferation, as well as in support of peace processes across the region, from Afghanistan to Mindanao to Myanmar. We have had concrete contributions from several Asian partners to tackle piracy off the coast of Somalia. In the context of the Asean Regional Forum, we are working together with Vietnam and Australia on maritime security.

We also have increasing military contacts with countries in Asia, for example the Chief of the EU Military Committee has had discussions with his counterparts in Beijing, Islamabad, and Seoul, to name only a few. We have posted security experts to several EU embassies across

Asia.

Perhaps the most pressing matter for EU-Asia security cooperation at this time, however, is de-nuclearisation. We share an interest to save the Iran nuclear deal and to support de-nuclearisation talks in the Korean Peninsula. This is why the European Union is already fully engaged with Asian partners on both of these pressing issues. China is a signatory of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, while it is also key to global efforts to bring about the complete, verifiable and irreversible de-nuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. Likewise, Japan, the Republic of Korea and others all have a major stake in making sure that the nuclear deal with Iran is preserved and the Korean Peninsula is de-nuclearised. We all do. Global peace requires a global effort.

Going forward, as EU foreign ministers have emphasised, we need to move to new actions. The EU will expand its cooperation with Asian partners into areas such as capacity-building, training programmes — including on UN peacekeeping — and joint exercises.

As the European Union, we have realised, after centuries of conflicts that ripped our continent apart, that cooperation is essential for peace, and that peace brings prosperity. But in today's world, too often unilateral instincts prevail over the search for common ground. Too many players seek confrontation to achieve their short-term goals, instead of building sustainable solutions through mediation. Against this background, those who believe in a multilateral global order have an interest and a duty to join forces. Europe and Asia, together, can be the engine of a more cooperative approach to world politics.

The writer is High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission. Courtesy to Express Tribune

High Commissioner hosts Eid-ul-Fitr Open House in London

H.E. Syed Ibne Abbas, Pakistan High Commissioner to the UK, hosted Eid-ul-Fitr Open House at his official residence, “Pakistan House” in London, to celebrate the auspicious occasion with the Pakistani community in the UK and the friends of Pakistan from the British society. This was the 4th consecutive Eid Open House arranged by the High Commissioner and his wife to bring together Pakistani families at one place to celebrate the joyous occasion.

A large number of diaspora belonging to all walks of life attended the Open House and enjoyed the warm hospitality, ambience and delicious Pakistani cuisine.







HC of India hosted Iftar dinner in Islamabad

H.E. Ajay Bisaria High Commissioner of India hosted iftar dinner for Pakistani friends and diplomatic community at Serena Hotel Islamabad. A large number of diplomats and Pakistanis attended the event.







BHC Islamabad celebrated Greening week

By M.Saeed Yousafzai

The British High Commission, Islamabad celebrated Greening week. A number of posters highlighted different environmental issues (plastic usage, recycling, energy consumption, water usage) and the work the British High Commission to make the area more green put across the Mission and also shared on social media. The BHC has made separate recycling bins to dispose of plastic, glass and other materials which have been placed on and off compound.

The highlight of the week was the World Environment Day (5 June) where staff who had served more than 30 years were given the opportunity to plant a tree in the British Residential Compound. To commemorate the event, Acting High Commissioner, Richard Crowder, gave a speech. A plaque commemorating each member of

staff who has served for 30 years has been put next to the tree they planted in front of the Jubilee Court in the British residential compound.

The Acting High Commissioner also hosted a special screening of the final episode of the award-winning BBC documentary 'Blue Planet II' at the British Club for staff members on World Environment Day.

In addition, talks on different environmental issues (plastic, recycling, water resource management, waste management) have been organised throughout the week and were well-attended by staff at the BHC. A special board has also been placed in the cafeteria in the High Commission that encourages staff to share their ideas on how to make the BHC more green. Stickers placed on light switches encouraging staff to turn lights off when not in use.

The British Deputy High Commission in Karachi hold a similar environment week in the future to make its offices more environmental friendly. The BHC is also:

- Introducing recycling bins for staff to use
- Reducing avoidable single use plastics in its canteen and club area
- Introducing time lighting sensors across its offices
- Planting 80 new trees in the residential compound
- Installing more air purifiers
- Recycling wood from dead trees to make furniture
- Working on a plan to conserve and re-use water
- Recycling other materials on the estate where possible



INFINIX Mobility scheduled an amazing online/offline contest this Eid, and gave the opportunity to win grand prizes such as newest smartphone, the HOT 6 Pro, a motorbike and a television set. Infinix currently promotes five product lines: ZERO, NOTE, HOT, S, and SMART in a global marketplace reaching countries in Europe, Africa, Latin America, Middle East and Asia. With the brand spirit of challenging the norms, Infinix smart devices are designed specifically for young people who want to stand out, reach out and in sync with the world.



UAE Embassy organizes the “Year of Zayed”

Ramadan football championship

By M.Saeed Yousafzai

The UAE Embassy in Islamabad organized the Year of Zayed Ramadan Football championship from May 29 to June 2, with the participation of six Arab embassies distributed in two groups. The first group consisted

Embassies of UAE, Kingdom of Bahrain and Republic of Sudan, and second group consisted the Embassies of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Kuwait and the “Al-Khaima Al Arabia” Arab Camp which consists players from the embassies of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco and Iraq.

Al-Khaima Al Arabia team managed to win the title of the Ramadan championship by winning the final against the UAE Embassy's team with a 2-1 in penalty shootout. The Sudan Embassy's team won third place and bronze medals after beating the Kuwait Embassy's team.

H.E. Hamad Al Zaabi the Ambassador on the conclusion event of championship said that the organizing and hosting of this tournament by the UAE Embassy is part of its social initiatives to celebrate the vision of the founding father Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, by the “Year of Zayed” this year and our aim of this event to gather Arab diplomatic community in one place within the brotherly and supports spirit full atmosphere.

H.E. Hamad Obaid Al-Zaabi added that he is pleased to see this remarkable presence of the Arab Ambassadors, Diplomats their families and Pakistani communities and the great interaction that the tournament witnessed during the matches.

The Ambassador expressed his thanks and gratitude to the “forward” factory in Sialkot for supplying the footballs played in this tournament, the “forward” factory is manufacturer of the footballs that will be played the next World Cup in Russia 2018, and said that we are proud to hold such event in cooperation with the pride of Pakistani industries, Praising the role played by the owners of the plant to push the Pakistani industries to the world market.

H.E. also extended his thanks to all UAE companies that contributed and sponsored the “Year of Zayed” Football Cup Tournament.



Dr. Afshan Malik's Book on **Pak-Turk Relations** Launched in Islamabad

Dr. Afshan Malik, a renowned poet, author, columnist, TV anchor and Social Worker Launched a Urdu Book titled "Pak-Turk Dostana Taluqat" in Islamabad. This book is covering 70 years of the friendship relations between Pakistan and Turkey. Book was widely appreciated by the participants of the ceremony. Large number of Media representatives and civil society graced the event.





Lucky draw *for* Honda BRV

held at Serena

The lucky draw for the Honda BR-V held in Serena Business Complex Lawn with the management of Honda and Serena Hotels. Chief Guest on the occasion President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Sh Amir Wahid, Resident Manager Islamabad Serena Hotel Shahryar Khan and CEO Honda Avenue Mr Fahad drew the winning coupon from the ballot box and announced the fortunate recipient, Kamal Nadir, who enjoyed a Zamana iftar and won a Honda BR-V in return.



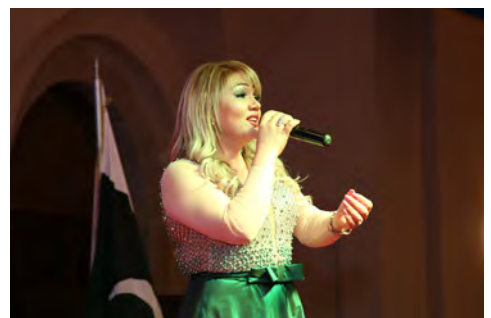


Azerbaijan ^{marked} 100th anniversary of the

Armed Forces Day

Ambassador of Azerbaijan H.E. Ali Alizada and Defence Attache of Azerbaijan Colonel Mehman Novruzov hosted a reception to mark 100th anniversary of the Armed Forces Day of Azerbaijan at Serena Hotel Islamabad. Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan was the Chief Guest of the eve. Large number of diplomats, defence attaches, members from Diplomatic Corps, notable personalities representing government, armed forces and civil society of Pakistan graced the event.







International Children's Day was celebrated with special children by Heydar Aliyev Foundation of Azerbaijan in Islamabad

An iftar dinner and distribution of gifts was organized on behalf of President of Heydar Aliyev Foundation, first lady of Azerbaijan Mrs. Mehriban Aliyeva on the occasion of International Children's Day and Holy Month of Ramazan for the special children from different premises of Directorate General of Special Education. Ambassador Ali Alizada said that Heydar Aliyev Foundation started its work with Pakistan in 2005 with constructing a new school for girls in Muzaffarabad, Kashmir. Chief Guest of the event was Mr. Sheikh Anser Aziz, Mayor of Islamabad. After the speeches the program continued with the performances of special children from different schools and gifts were presented to them by the dignitaries participating in the event.





Business Community

Lauds

China's Easing Visa Application

By M.Saeed Yousafzai

Many visa applicants find that there are two female Pakistani employees receiving them in the Consular Section of the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad, which makes some applicants, especially those Urdu speakers feel pleasantly surprised said in a press release by Embassy of China in Pakistan.

Yang Lianchun, Director of the Consular Section, said that more Pakistani staff have been hired in his section and taken responsibilities of facilitating the applicants, such as frequently helping to bridge the gap in language barriers for Urdu-speaking applicants. "All of our consular officers speak English only. When we have interviews with Urdu-speaking applicants who visit China for the first time, we will sometimes reject them as we can't make sure of their visit purposes due to language barriers. However, Pakistani employees can not only help lessen the applicants' emotional anxiety but solve the problem easily," He said.

Hiring more Pakistani staff in the Consular Section is actually under the instructions of Chinese Ambassador Yao Jing. Since his arrival the Ambassador has specially taken steps to facilitate Chinese visa application. His constant meetings with the chambers of commerce and industries won huge support from the local business community. He always said that promoting mutual understanding, exchanges and cooperation between the two peoples is the key point for developing the all-weather strategic partnership of cooperation between

China and Pakistan. He stressed that all consular officers of the Embassy must enhance their awareness of service to make visa applicants feel our warmth and friendliness, and make it easier for Pakistani friends to get Chinese visas.

Since April 1 this year, the Chinese Embassy has implemented new policy for F and M visas. According to the new rules, those applicants who have visited China more than 3 times since January 1, 2016, who work for the companies registered in local Chambers, or who hold passports with marks of Government Officer or Government Employee are exempted from submitting barcode invitation letters. These invitation letters are usually issued by Chinese local governments or big enterprises and difficult to obtain.

According to statistics, the visa issuance volume from April 1 to June 15 rose 11% over the same period of the previous year, among which the business visa volume reaches around 15,000, a growth of 19%.

Faisal Saeed, a businessman from Faisalabad who has just come back to Pakistan from China (Qinghai) International Carpet Exhibition, said that the new policy made it easier for Pakistani businessmen to obtain Chinese visas and would yield more economic benefits. "To my delight, I was granted a multiple-entry visa with a validity period of one year. It is because I have been to China many times and built up a very good visa record," He added.

The Ambassador reiterated that the Embassy processed

visas for Pakistanis on the basis of international conventions and the principle of reciprocity. "As a major pilot project under One Belt and Road Initiative, the CPEC is the most important and best performing project. We'll further ease our visa policy to contribute more to the development of the CPEC." He believed that China's easing visa policy would facilitate bilateral trade and help address the problem of trade imbalance.

After the Eid-ul-Fitr, more Pakistani businessmen will visit China for trade and business opportunities. The Chinese Embassy is fully ready for the coming seasonal visa peak. "We're planning to arrange more Pakistani employees to receive visa applicants. Multiple visas with a longer period of validity are available to those businessmen who have good entry & exit records. We can also provide urgent visa service when required," Director Yang Lianchun said.

The trade chambers highly appreciated the recent steps taken by the Ambassador. This new policy has greatly benefited the local businessmen. "It gives my company a good chance for international exposure. Some clients are very interested in my products placed many orders with me. I believe many businessmen like me have exploited their markets in China." A corporate member of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce Farhan Mughal was quoted as saying. He participated in the Canton Fair not long ago.



MESSAGE

José Luís Carneiro

Secretary of State for Portuguese Communities

Commemorations of the Day of Portugal, Camões and Portuguese Communities – 2018

Dear fellow citizens,

On June 10, one of the most symboli dates for our identity, is celebrated the Day of Portugal, Camões and Portuguese Communities.

As it has been happening, the official ceremonies, with the presence of the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister, will have epicenters in Portugal and abroad, divided between the Azores and the United States of America.

In addition, the Day of Portugal will be marked throughout the various continents, thanks to the joint effort of our diplomatic and consular network, the Portuguese associative movement in diaspora and many Portuguese citizens and of Portuguese descent who, individually, contribute with particular enthusiasm and meaning to extol the History, culture and traditions of Portugal.

This is an unmistakable sign that even though they are physically far, the Portuguese in the World have their heart in Portugal.

Another example of this unswerving connection was clearly visible in the solidarity, carried out by the Portuguese communities, in support of the areas affected by the tragic fires that occurred in Portugal in 2017. I recently had the opportunity to visit the municipality of Pedrógão Grande and of witnessing

the concrete application of these donations - from Portuguese communities living in different continents - and how they have helped to mitigate the material difficulties of affected citizens and to reinforce the equipment available to the local volunteer firefighters. This important contribution has not only benefited Pedrógão, but also many other Portuguese municipalities on which the misfortune of the devastating fires fell last summer.

I would like to conclude with two final notes of great importance. The date of the final vote in the Assembly of the Republic of the "Automatic census" of the Portuguese abroad is getting closer. The Government has done its job and proved that it was possible to take this important step. If it is to be approved by the honorable Members of the Chamber, the Portuguese abroad will receive a letter asking if they want to register to vote. They will no longer have to go to a consulate, sometimes many\ hundreds of miles away, to register themselves.

We will put an end to an incomprehensible inequality between Portuguese living in Portugal and the Portuguese living abroad. It will be important, then, to participate in future electoral acts, in order to show that it was worth to promote this important change in the conditions for civic and political participations of Portuguese communities.

I would like to reaffirm the Government's commitment towards human and technical reinforcement of our consular services. After several years marked by constraints, it is now time to gradually bring back the capacity of consular services. It is a matter of justice for the consular workers, who give every day their best, but also for the Portuguese who, through this route, will strengthen their link to Portugal.

I value and recognize, once again, the role carried out by all the Portuguese living abroad, who, in their social, cultural, economic and political dimensions, are one of the most important forces of Portugal and constitute the creative expression of our humanism, as well as an example of our good integration into the International community.


**I wish everyone
a celebration of
the Day of
Portugal,
Camões and
Portuguese
Communities
with the usual
joy, pride and
meaning**



National Day of Portugal

H.E. JOÃO PAULO MARQUES SABIDO COSTA
Chargé d'affaires En Pied of Portugal to Islamic Republic of Pakistan

MESSAGE



I would like to thank the team of Diplomatic Focus for giving the opportunity to mark the National Day of Portugal, more precisely the Day of Camões and Portuguese Communities. That designation pretends, not only, to signalize the members of the Portuguese Diaspora, dispersed all over the World, but also Luís de Camões, the greatest Portuguese poet who, himself, was an example of that Diaspora, spending almost all his life outside Portugal, namely in Northern Africa, the Indian Subcontinent and China during the XVth Century.

In Asia, Camões wrote some of his best works, especially *The Lusíadas* (The Portuguese), a long poem about the maritime trip of Vasco da Gama around the African Continent till this very region of the Globe, as well as on the History of Portugal till the XVth Century.

Therefore, Portuguese and Pakistani established relations since several centuries ago and that is patent in the cultural heritage we share in which respects glazed tiles, ceramics, pottery, and so on.

Also since the inception of Pakistan, our Countries always held very good relations, never having a problem. Our institutional relations are very good and should be more developed. At the same time, we should keep on working towards strengthening the ties between our companies, exporters and importers, Youth, academic, researchers and students, as well as cooperating

in many relevant fields, as Human Rights, Women Empowerment, Development or Environment. I would also like to underline the very good relations both our countries have in multilateral instances, having the opportunity to contributing to the World's wellbeing.

In the field of Health, Portugal established, in Pakistan, cooperative ties with the Aga Khan University, in Karachi that we hope can be fruitful for both our populations, also enabling us to create synergies in this area in other continents like Africa.

The problem of Energy, related with climate change and Environment, is nowadays a challenge for the international society. Definitely, it is an area where we have a great potential for cooperation, namely regarding Renewable Energies, water resources and development non pollutant sources of power.

In the cultural field, and due to its own experience in this area of the World, Portugal would be willing to cooperate with Pakistan in classifying its vast and rich national monuments in order for them to be recognized as World Heritage by UNESCO. I use this opportunity to refer to the joint and well succeeded Pakistani and Portuguese candidature proposing for the traditional Art of Falconry to be recognized as immaterial heritage by UNESCO.

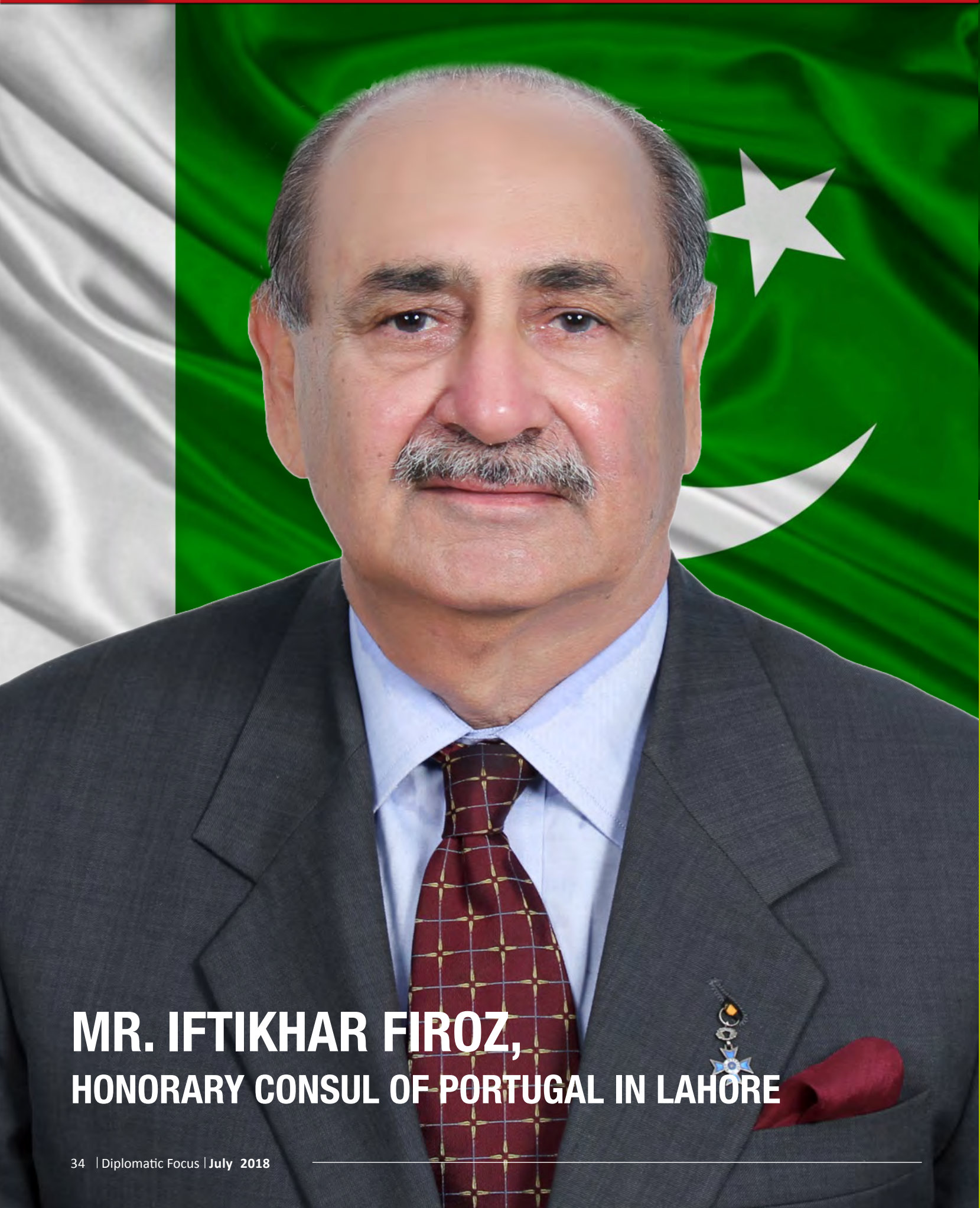
In Lisbon, but also all in many Portuguese institutions, there are «kilometers» of untapped documents, collected

since the XVth century and pertaining this area of the World where now is Pakistan. It would be remarkable to research and study all those archives, in a way to contribute to the History and knowledge about our Countries and Civilizations. Still this month, the Portuguese Embassy is organizing, also in cooperation with the »Diplomatic Focus« and Serena Hotel in Islamabad a fashion show of one of the main Portuguese fashion designers, João Rolo. This will be also an opportunity to establish more ties of cooperation, as well as to promote, in the future, the magnificent and spectacular Pakistani fashion, design and rich fabrics in Portugal and internationally.

Next month, in Lisbon, it will take place the Celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of His Highness the Prince Aga Khan. Many Pakistani will be present on this memorable and historical occasion, of which one of the main events will be a performance by the famous Rahat Fateh Ali Khan Qawal group.

Also in July, Pakistan will be having its national election, an important moment for its People and its Future. Portugal is close to Pakistan in this historical event, wishing it all the best for this great Country.

As you see, both of us, Portuguese and Pakistani will have many things with which to rejoice and commemorate.



**MR. IFTIKHAR FIROZ,
HONORARY CONSUL OF PORTUGAL IN LAHORE**



Message

THE OCCASION OF

THE PORTUGAL DAY

It is my privilege to extend my felicitation to the people and the government of Portugal on the occasion of the Portugal day.

Every 10th Day of June, the Portugal day is celebrated known as "Dia de Portugal" this date commemorates the death of Luis de Camões, a significant figure in the history of Portugal. Camões is best known for his work on *Lusiadas*, the national epic poem that depicts the achievements of the Portuguese in world

exploration in the 16th Century. Portugal played an important role in the discovery of the new world and their contribution to the development of the world social and cultural ethos is monumental.

The relationship of Portugal and Pakistan can go back to 1948 with a very strong bond of friendship when the diplomatic links were first established.

The bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the field of political, economic

and cultural spheres stand strengthened till today. Portugal has been a strong supporter of Pakistan within the European community and at other political and economic forums.

Portugal is known for their art and architecture, cuisine and exotic foods and for its exhilarating environment and beautiful people.

It is indeed an honor for me to represent Portugal in Lahore as the honorary consul.



S. Ayazuddin Fakir
Honorary Consul of Portugal in Karachi

Message

THE OCCASION OF

THE PORTUGAL DAY

It is great honor to extend my felicitation and congratulations to the people and the government of Portugal on the occasion of the Portugal National day on the behalf of Pakistani People. On June, 10th, Portugal celebrates its National day, commemorating the Death of the poet Luís de Camões. Luis de Camões is one of the main authors of Portuguese Language literature. Having a classical academic formation, namely in which concerns Latin and Greek, he wrote mostly in Portuguese. At the same time, he received a very important impression from the cultures and languages he was exposed to, during its protracted stay in Northern Africa, first, and then in India and China, where he spent many years.

Therefore, Portugal has a long relation with Asia, inclusive with the Subcontinent. With Pakistan and the region where it lies, our ties have been always very good. Pakistan and Portugal enjoy cordial relations

at all multilateral fora and these relations between Portugal and Pakistan are growing and improving very fast.

Pakistan is a beautiful land, culture with a very hospitable and friendly people and Portugal is known for their art and architecture, cuisine and exotic foods and for its exhilarating environment and beautiful people.

Besides political and official contacts that are extremely important, we are working in expanding people's to people's contacts, as well as the cooperation in the framework of culture, academic exchanges, trade, economy, youth, sport, media, etc.

It is an opportunity to show to Portugal society and Authorities our friendship towards Portugal and how much Pakistan appreciates this country.

It is a great honor for me to represent Portugal in Karachi as the honorary consul.



By Sabeela Shahbaz

Exclusive Interview



Pakistan *is*
much safer

than the image conveyed by media

Mrs. Gloria da Silva Correia Sabido Costa



clothes to the truck art.

DF: It will be worth if you Share your experience of exploration of our country like Travel, social, cultural.

Well, since I am not based here and I just came three or four times a year for short periods of times, I do not have the opportunity to travel much apart from Islamabad, Lahore and a quick visit to Karachi. Anyway, last August I came with three of our children and we manage to travel a bit. We went to Taxila, Muree and Lahore and we visited there the main places and monuments. The children were very impressed and enjoyed it very much. Especially they had the opportunity to make their own opinion about the country and its people. This time I hope to visit the Northern areas.

DF: Madam! Do you think you fit in well in here? Do you talk to our people? Do you have any friends or acquaintances?

Yes, I do not have any major problems. I love to roaming around on markets (Aabpara market, Sunday market) Saidpur village, and its narrow streets, where I love to buy fresh made nan and see it being prepared! Yes, we do have friends in Pakistan and some very good one's!

DF: How do you think yours culture differs from ours culture and society?

Well of course they diverse, being Eastern and Western cultures, as well as religiously different. The point is if you are open minded and respect other cultures, without losing your own roots and believes, the differences are no issue!

DF: What similarities you find in this country?

I would say the family bounds, hospitality and the passion for food!

DF: Madam! Explain Portugal in your words.

Portugal is a beautiful country, small, but with a huge variety of landscape, a rich history, delicious food and very hospitable people!

Going there to explore is the way to know it!

DF: What you feel when you got to know about posting of H.E. in Pakistan?

I felt excited because I have never been to Asia before and because culturally was a new and challenging experience.

DF: Do you feel any mental pressure on you when you were on the way to Pakistan after listening so many false and mediated things about our country? And what were your insecurities?

I really didn't feel any special "mental pressure". I just felt curious about the country and I preferred to "see it with my own eyes and wait to form my personal opinion" rather than let others do it for me!

The "so called" insecurities were the same as in any other posting to a different country we had previously. In any case, the fact that I was not going to settle here with the children made it easier.

DF: How much time did you take to adjust over here in Pakistan? What makes you comfortable?

I really don't know how long it took me, but again, like in any different country, you always need some time to understand and adjust to the local culture and live accordingly. I feel comfortable being able to roam around, going to the markets and interact with people, and being able to communicate, even not speaking Urdu!

DF: Madam! What do you feel is the most

important thing about Pakistani culture?

Its diversity! From the use and amazing combination of colours everywhere from the

Pakistan is a wonderful country with lots of different experiences to offer, from great monuments and a rich history to wonderful landscape and a very lively culture!





Access to
education would
enable
women to broad
their minds and
achieve more
opportunities and
access to
empowerment.

DF: Festivals, celebrations, how do you find here?

I didn't have too many opportunities to attend festivals and celebrations when I am here except for some Sufi music performances, that I found very interesting.

DF: After spending some months over here, now what is your opinion about Pakistani society and people?

People are very friendly and hospitable and



regarding society. I would like to see a middle class emerging in the near future!

DF: As a Lady, what things you want to implement for woman welfare?

Unfortunately, being mainly in Lisbon, I do not have the opportunity to do much here in this or any other area, apart from supporting some seldom initiatives that might come up.

DF: If a chance is given to you to go out of the bound, what field you chose to work for the betterment of women?

Definitely, access to education that would enable women to broad their minds and achieve more opportunities and access to empowerment.

DF: What will be your words for our culture and society?

Increase your self-esteem and display a different/real image of your country outside that enables people to know more about Pakistan and all it has to offer. Of course this should involve the civil society, according to what are your desires/hopes for your country.

DF: Today, where do you find Pakistan in hospitality and security, in regard of international rumors?

Really, much safer than the image that is conveyed by international media as well as national. Once again that is something you have to work on as People of Pakistan in the day by day choices you make at all levels.



Increase your
self-esteem and
display a different/real
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about Pakistan and all it
has to offer



I would like to see a middle class emerging in the near future!



DF: Diplomatic focus is playing its role to make Pakistan a Proud and its relationship with other nations: Your view.

very lively culture! It is your job to convey that image abroad! Pakistan Zindabad!

I would say that any initiative that is taken, having in mind the genuine welfare of the people and communication/cooperation between countries/societies is to be praised.

DF: Your best memory in PAKISTAN?

I have several, but the one that impact me the most was a picnic I attended on my first visit to Pakistan. It was a wonderful trip by boat followed by a wonderful Pakistani meal, all prepared on site! That was an unforgettable feeling, the site, the food and the cultural experience!

DF: Pakistan in your words?

From what I could see until now Pakistan is a wonderful country with lots of different experiences to offer, from great monuments and a rich history to wonderful landscape and a

Family bounds, hospitality and the passion for food are similar in Portugal and Pakistan





Photos by Ramzan Mughal

National Day of Portugal

Celebrated in Islamabad

The Charge d Affaires of Embassy of Portugal Joao Sabido Costa hosted a reception to celebrate \ National Day of Portugal at Serena Hotel, Islamabad. Federal Minister for Information Broadcasting National History and Literary Heritage, Ali Zafar was the chief guest of the eve. Large number of diplomats, defence attaches, members from Diplomatic Corps, notable personalities representing government, armed forces and civil society of Pakistan graced the event.



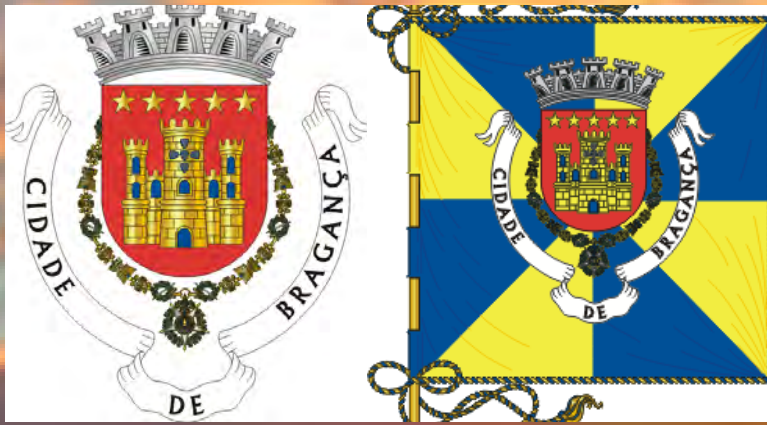




Colors of Portugal

Model wearing dresses designed by Portuguese designer Joao Rolo, walking on the ramp on the occasion of National Day of Portugal





BRIEF HISTORY OF PORTUGAL

**Portuguese is now
spoken by 250
million people. It is
the seventh most
spoken language in
the world.**





BY IFTIKHAR FIROZ

HONORARY CONSUL OF PORTUGAL - LAHORE

Portugal is the oldest state on the Iberian Peninsula and one of the oldest European nation-state having its territory been continuously settled, invaded and fought over since pre-historic times.

Romans invaded the Iberian Peninsula in 210 BC. They conquered the south but the central part was rebelled against the Romans by the Lusitanian's and other native tribes, under the leadership of Viriathus. Lusitanians kept conquering territories. After the assassination of Viriathus, Romans installed a colonial regime and complete Romanization of Lusitania took place. By the middle of 3rd and 5th century the Roman Empire was in decline and ultimately the Roman rule in Portugal collapsed.

In the early 5th century, Germanic tribes, namely the Suebi and the Vandals together with their allies invaded Iberian

Peninsula where they would form their kingdom. The kingdom of the Suebi was the Germanic post-roman kingdom established in the former roman province of Gallaecia-Lusitania.

In the 5th century the Visigoths defeated the Germanic and formed the Visigothic kingdom of Hispania.

For the next 300 years and by the year 700, the entire Iberian Peninsula was ruled by the Visigoths until 711 when the king Roderick was killed in the battle while opposing the Moorish invasion from the south. In 711 AD Moors from North Africa invaded the Iberian Peninsula. The south of Spain and Portugal was part of the Al-Andalus between 711 ad and 1249 AD. After defeating the Visigoths in Portugal the Umayyad Caliphate started expanding rapidly in the peninsula. Beginning in 711, the land that is now Portugal became part of the vast Umayyad Caliphate's empire of Damascus, which stretched from the Indus River in the Indian subcontinent up to the south of France, until it collapsed in 750.

That year the west of the empire gained its independence under Abd-ar-Rehman I with the establishment of the emirate of Cordoba in 929 until its dissolution a century later in 1031 into no less than 23 small kingdoms called Taifas kingdoms. The governors of the Taifas each proclaimed themselves emir of their provinces.

In 718 ad Pelagius, Asturias Visigothic, was elected leader by many of the ousted Visigoth nobles. Pelagius called for the remnant of the Christian Visigothic armies to rebel against the moors and regroup. In 722 ad Pelagius forces defeated the moors in the battle of Covadonga. At the end of the 9th century, the region of Portugal between the rivers Minho and Douro was freed or reconquered from the moors by Vimara peres on the orders of king alphonso iii of Asturias. Vimara peres organized the region he freed from the moors and elevated it to the status of county, naming it the county of Portugal after the region's major city – Portus Cale which is now called Porto. One of the first cities Vimara peres founded at this time is vimaranes known

today as Guimaraes- the birth place of the Portuguese nation.

After annexing the county of Portugal into one of the several counties that made up the kingdom of Asturias, king alphonso iii of Asturias knighted Vimara peres in 868 AD as the first count of Portus Cale (Portugal). Later kingdom of Asturias was divided into a number of Christian kingdoms in north Iberia due to dynastic divisions of inheritance among the kings off springs. With forced abdication of alphonso iii "the great" of Asturias by his sons in 910, the kingdom of Asturias split into three separate kingdoms of Leon, Galicia and Asturias. The three kingdoms were eventually reunited in 924 under the crown of Leon.

In 1093, alphonso VI of Leon and Castile bestowed the county to henry of burgundy and married him to his daughter Teresa of Leon for his role in reconquering the land from moors. When her husband died Dona Teresa ruled as regent for her son. Later she married a noble Galician. However the Portuguese nobles were alarmed at the prospect of union with Galicia. They rebelled and led Afonso Henriques; count of Portugal defeated his mother countess Teresa at the battle of Sao mamede near Guimaraes in 1128. Christians reconquered the Iberian Peninsula from Moorish domination. Alfonso Henriquez and his successors pushed southward to drive out the moors. At this time Portugal covered about half of its present area. In 1249, the Reconquista ended with the capture of the Algarve and complete expulsion of the Moorish settlements on the southern coast, giving Portugal its present day borders. In 1415, Portugal acquired the first of its overseas colonies by conquering Ceuta, the first prosperous Islamic trade Centre in North Africa.

Portugal established the first global empire in the 15th. And 16th century becoming one of the world's major economic, political and military powers.

Portuguese explorers pioneered maritime exploration under the royal patronage of prince henry, the navigator and king john ii.

Notable Bartolomeo Dias sailing beyond the Cape of Good Hope in 1488, Vasco de Gama's discovery of the sea route to India in 1497 brought economic prosperity to Portugal. In 1500, the Portuguese explorer gasper Corte-real reached what is now Canada and founded the town of Portugal cove-St. Philip's long before the French and English in the 17th Century. In 1500, Pedro Alvares Cabral discovered Brazil and claimed it for Portugal. Ten years later Alfonso de Albuquerque conquered goa in India, Muscat and Ormuz in the Persian strait and Malacca, now a state in Malaysia. Portuguese

empire held dominion over commerce in the Indian Ocean and south Atlantic. Portuguese sailors set out to reach eastern Asia by sailing eastward from Europe landing in such places as Taiwan, japan, the island of Timor and in the Moluccas. Although it was believed that the Dutch were the first Europeans to arrive in Australia, there is some evidence that the Portuguese may have discovered Australia in 1521.

All these factors made Portugal one of the world's major economic, military and political powers from the 15th until the late 16th century.

Portugal's sovereignty was interrupted between 1580 and 1640. This occurred because the last two kings of the house of Aviz- king Sebastian, who died in the battle of Al-cacer quibir in morocco and his successor king henry of Portugal, also died without heirs, resulting in the Portuguese succession crisis of 1580. Subsequently, Philip ii of Spain claimed the throne and so became Philip 1 of Portugal. Although, Portugal did not loose its for-

Portuguese is the official language of Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and east Timor. It is also spoken in Macau and goa.

same monarch who governed the Spanish empire, briefly forming Union of kingdom. The joining of the two crowns deprived Portugal of an independent foreign policy and led to its involvement in the eight years' war between Spain and Netherlands. War led to a deterioration of the relations with Portugal's oldest ally, England, and the loss of Hurmuz, a strategic trading post located between Iran and Oman.

From 1595 to 1663 the Dutch-Portuguese war primarily involved the Dutch companies invading many Portuguese colonies and

commercial interests in Brazil, Africa, India and the Far East, resulting in the loss of the Portuguese Indian Sea trade monopoly.

In 1640 john IV spearheaded an uprising backed by disgruntled nobles and was proclaimed king.

The Portuguese restoration war between Portugal and the Spanish empire, in the aftermath of the 1640 revolt, ended the sixty years period of the Iberian union under the house of Hapsburg. This was the beginning of the house of Braganza which reigned in Portugal until 1910. However, events such as the destruction of Lisbon in 1755 earthquake, the country's occupation during the Napoleonic wars and the independence of brazil in 1822, left Portugal crippled from war and diminished in its world power. The monarchy was deposed in a revolution and gave birth to the Portuguese first republic (1910 – 1926). Under the sixteen year parliamentary regime of the republic, growing fiscal deficits financed by money creation and foreign borrowing climaxed in hyperinflation and moratorium on Portugal's external debit service. The cost of living around 1926 was thirty times what it had been in 1910.

The first republic was ended by a military coup in May 1926. The newly installed government under the president Oscar fragoso Carmona failed to solve the nation's precarious financial problems. The president invited Antonio de Olivier Salazar to head the ministry of finance. At the time of his appointment as minister of finance in 1928, Salazar held the chair of economics at the University of Coimbra and was considered by his peers to be Portugal's most distinguished authority on inflation. Shortly after the revolution, independence was granted to all its colonial territories. The handover of Macau to china in 1999 marked the end of the longest – lived colonial empire. Portugal has left a profound cultural and architectural influence across the globe, a legacy of over 250 million Portuguese speakers. Portugal is member of the European Union, founder member of the NATO and member of the Schengen states.

Portugal's GDP is \$218,087 million. GDP per capita is \$21,154. The currency of Portugal is euros which replaced escudo. Portuguese is now spoken by 250 million people. It is the seventh most spoken language in the world. It is the official language of Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and east Timor. It is also spoken in Macau and goa.



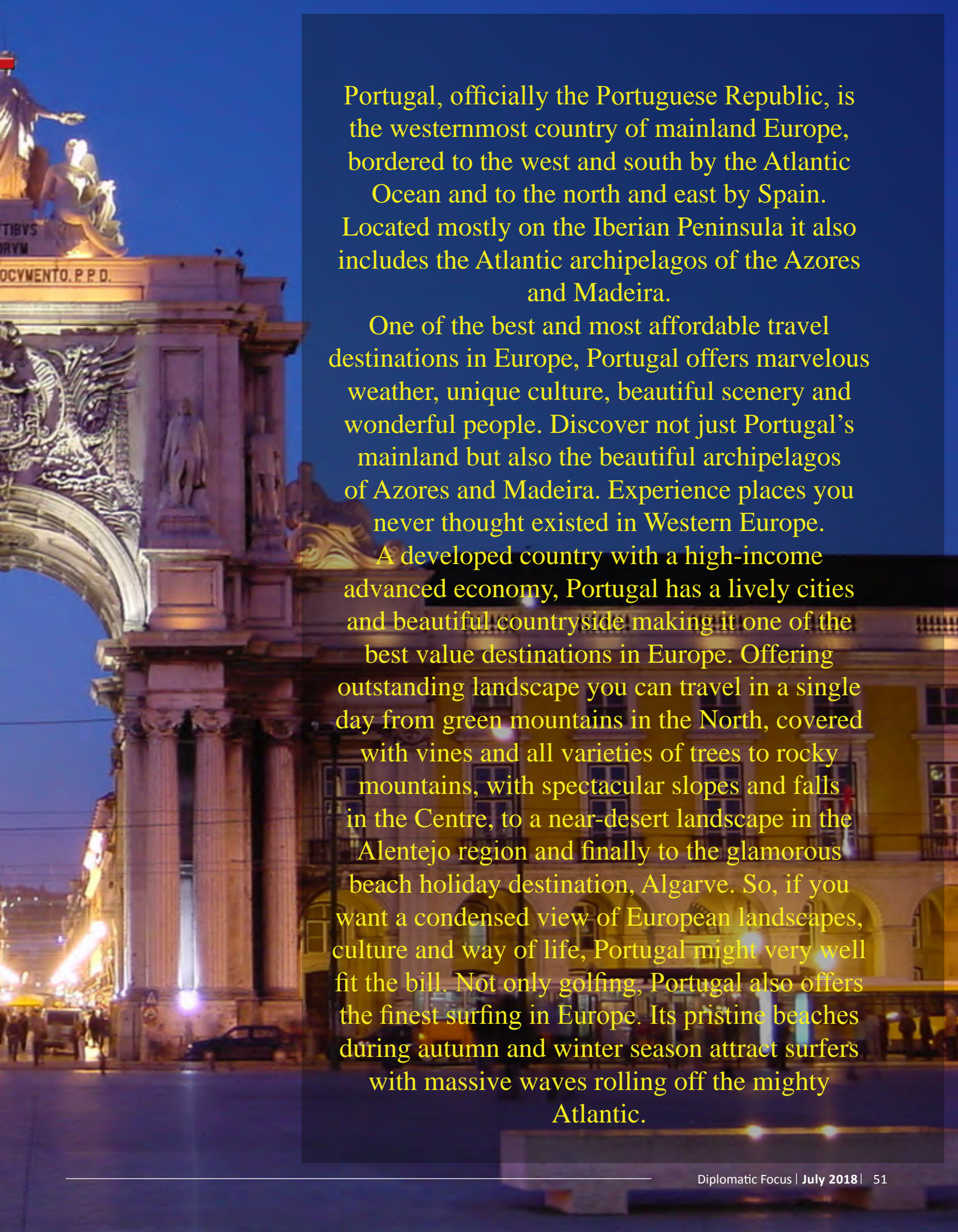
Portugal

Your Next Best Value Destination in Europe

The number of foreign tourists visiting Portugal rose by 12 percent in 2017 to exceeded 12 million for the first time

By S. Ayazuddin Fakir
Honorary Consul Karachi





Portugal, officially the Portuguese Republic, is the westernmost country of mainland Europe, bordered to the west and south by the Atlantic Ocean and to the north and east by Spain. Located mostly on the Iberian Peninsula it also includes the Atlantic archipelagos of the Azores and Madeira.

One of the best and most affordable travel destinations in Europe, Portugal offers marvelous weather, unique culture, beautiful scenery and wonderful people. Discover not just Portugal's mainland but also the beautiful archipelagos of Azores and Madeira. Experience places you never thought existed in Western Europe.

A developed country with a high-income advanced economy, Portugal has a lively cities and beautiful countryside making it one of the best value destinations in Europe. Offering outstanding landscape you can travel in a single day from green mountains in the North, covered with vines and all varieties of trees to rocky mountains, with spectacular slopes and falls in the Centre, to a near-desert landscape in the Alentejo region and finally to the glamorous beach holiday destination, Algarve. So, if you want a condensed view of European landscapes, culture and way of life, Portugal might very well fit the bill. Not only golfing, Portugal also offers the finest surfing in Europe. Its pristine beaches during autumn and winter season attract surfers with massive waves rolling off the mighty Atlantic.



Home of Art...

Where work speaks itself!



Climate

Portugal is one of the warmest European countries; yearly temperature averages are about 15°C (55°F) in the north and 18°C (64°F) in the south. The climate is Mediterranean, particularly in the southern parts of the Algarve and Alentejo.

Time Zone

Portugal is regulated by the Western European Time Zone (WET), the same time as in the United Kingdom and Ireland. The Azores Islands are one hour behind.

Travel Documents

Portugal is a member of the Schengen Agreement and a visa granted for any Schengen member is valid in all other countries that have signed and implemented the no border controls treaty with Portugal. EU, EEA and Swiss citizens, as well as non-EU citizens, for example, New Zealanders and Australians, who are visa-exempt only, have to produce a valid passport for their duration in Portugal. Other nationals, however, are required to have a visa and must carry a passport with at least a 3-month validity beyond their stay in Portugal. Do check with your travel agent before booking your tickets though.

Getting There

By Plane

Almost all major airlines fly to Portugal besides the country's own TAP Portugal and SATA/Azores Airlines. You can find cheaper airlines, like Aer Lingus, Monarch, EasyJet, Ryanair and Vueling at good prices. Again, check with your travel agent before booking your ticket.

By Train

Trains run between most main cities from Lisbon to Porto, Braga, Aveiro, Coimbra, Evora, Faro.

By Taxi

You can book a taxi by visiting centraldetaxis.pt website. Or, you can download an app for Android and book your taxi on it.

By Bus

Buses go everywhere in Portugal. Rede Expresso is one of the largest inter-city bus companies. Lisbon and Porto have a clean modern and air-conditioned metro systems.

By Boat

The country is served by

numerous sea ports that receive a lot of foreign traffic, mostly merchant but also passenger boats (mainly cruisers).

Getting Around

By Train

The Alfa-Pendular (fast) trains are comfortable, and first class is excellent. Intercity trains will take you to further destinations, such as Guimaraes, Evora, Beja, Covilha and Guarda.

By Bus

You can take buses to get anywhere in Portugal





By Car

Traffic in Portugal moves on the right-hand side of the road. All major biggest cities are well served by modern highways (most have tolls). Other Portuguese cities are much better, but often have very narrow roads.

By Bicycle

Cyclists can enjoy riding into and across Portugal. The mild climate, scenery, small roads and numerous towns and villages make Portugal an ideal destination for bicycle travel.

Learn some Portuguese

The official language of Portugal is Portuguese but English is spoken in many tourist areas. Portuguese youths are taught the British variety of English in school, and are also exposed to the American version of the language. You will almost always find someone who can speak in the main tourist areas. Hotel personnel are required to speak English so you shouldn't have any difficulty making yourself understood.



What to See

If you are into visiting beautiful monuments and enjoy remarkable views, then Lisbon, Sintra, and Porto are the top three places if you love beautiful monuments and spectacular views. But do visit other places too. Visit beaches in near Lisbon, Algarve, and Peniche, but don't forget some of the deserted ones along the Costa Vicentina, in Alentejo. Want some nightlife? Lisbon, Porto and Albufeira, Algarve are the best choices with major places of entertainment. If you love the countryside visit Viana do Castelo, Chaves, Miranda do Douro, Douro Valley, Lamego, Tomar, Leiria, Castelo Branco, Guarda, Portalegre, Evora, Elvas or even Viseu. And if you're a lover of wild life, Madeira and Azores Islands are worth a visit. A place of special interest would be the Natural Reserve of Peneda-Geres, the Douro Valley and Serra da Estrela.

What to Do

Beaches: Portuguese beaches are well worth visiting. You can do surfing, kite-surfing and aerobics. Almost all public beaches have a bar where you can sit and sip your favorite drink out of the sun.

Golf: Owing to the climate the country has become a golfing haven. With fourteen of Portugal's courses in the top 100 best in Europe you can't go wrong. Many resorts offer classes with the pros on beautiful landscapes and stunning vistas.

The Countryside: The countryside also offers a great number of possibilities. But do as your travel agent for the best places.

Cycling: You'd also love cycling through the mountainous terrain of Geres or white-water rafting in the tributaries of the river Douro for an exhilarating experience.

Portugal - Surf Mecca of Europe

With its unpolluted, pristine waters, Portugal is THE surfing capital of Europe. You get generous Atlantic swells in autumn and winter. Northwards of Lisbon, Nazare, has become legendary for its gigantic waves. There are other popular spots like Peniche just outside Lisbon, Sagres, ESPINHO, and Algarve. Be warned - surfing during winter is not for amateurs, as the waves are immense even for seasoned professionals! Also, there's the added benefit of being just a bit too cold for deadly sharks found in other warmer world surfing hot spots.

Events

Music festivals are very common during summer time. Two of the oldest festivals such as Paredes de Coura and Vilar de Mouros are held in the north of the country. In the west part of the south coast with a summer landscape and never ending beaches is the most famous one is Festival do Sudoeste.

Money

Currency, ATMs, Exchange Euro is the



sole currency. Do have some local currency on you when you land in Portugal. ATMs: You'll find ATMs in all international airports and towns so you can withdraw euros directly from your bank account if you run out. Credit Cards: Although credit cards are accepted in many places, smaller outlets, including some restaurants are unable to accept CCs. So take some cash just in case. Exchange: Do not bring bigger bills than 50 euros when travelling to Portugal. If your currency exchange provider has given you 100, 200 or 500 notes, take them into a lo-



cal bank to change them into smaller ones.

What to Eat

Soup is the essential first course of any meal in Portugal. Another staple is the bacalhau or salt cod. Fresh fish and seafood are the gastronomic highlights. There are many varieties of rice-based specialties, such as frog fish rice, octopus rice, duck rice and seafood rice. If you're a vegan you may have a tough time in Portugal. You'll see grills charring meat, in front of many



restaurants during your stay. Vegetarians may have a tough time in Portugal, at least in traditional Portuguese restaurants. Portugal is also famous for its amazing pastries, or pasteis (singular: pastel

Sleep

Portugal has luxurious hotels around the country. If budget is a concern you can try the many hostels or their Residencial. Portugal also offers several high-standard pre-



mium apartments. There are also some affordable B&Bs. You can even camp out wild, but you have to have the land owner's agreement. If you're into nature and looking for adventure you can rent a fully equipped campervan.

Staying Safe

Portugal is a safe country to visit, and some basic common sense will go a long way. But there are some areas of Lisbon and Porto that you might want to avoid at night. Pickpockets are everywhere. Wear a money belt or keep your documents and money in an inside pocket. On the subway or trains sit with other people and avoid empty carriages.



Illicit Drug Use

Although decriminalized in 2001, drug possession for personal use are still

legally prohibited. Drug trafficking is still a criminal offense. Driving under the influence of drugs is a criminal offense and carries severe penalties.

Staying Healthy

Major cities have European standard public hospitals and medical and emergency facilities. Smaller towns have smaller hospitals or Health Centers, obviously. In the event of a major illness or trauma the patient will be shifted to larger hospitals. The national emergency number is 112. Bottled/spring water is recommended but the network's water is perfectly safe too. Citizens of the European Union citizens are covered by Portugal's National Healthcare System, that is, if they carry the free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). Private insurance may also be used in private hospitals. But understand that any major condition will require a public hospital, which can be very far from where you are.





A ROMANCE STORY

Romance: This word may lead you to think about love, about someone you deeply care. What most people don't know is that it is also a story about me. A story that starts a little before the fall of the Roman Empire in 476 AD.

The Roman Empire conquests spread around Europe not only their military domination but also their culture and language, Latin. When the Romans got to Galicia (a territory in the northwest of the Iberic peninsula) in 19 BCE, today's north of Spain, the conquerors were 2.196 Km far from Rome. This distance was enormous when we consider the technological level the peoples from over one thousand years ago had. Means of transportation and communication were precarious and it took months to travel from Rome to Galicia. It is only natural to assume that the Latin language spoken over there was much different than the Latin spoken in Rome, even bigger than the English spoken here today and, say, in Australia. The geography and distance were the first factors to start a division in languages. In there lies the roots that differentiates me from my cousins French and Italian.

Also, when the soldiers from Rome got there, the land was occupied by the Celtiberians, a collective of tribes of Celtic origin that had settled in the Iberic Peninsula. They had many words that the Latin language adopted, mainly words to describe the topography, trees and fruits that only existed in the region. The transformation of the Latin language in that area was accelerated when in 411 AD the zone started to be constantly harassed, attacked and occupied by Germanic tribes. They brought to the Latin language an extensive vocabulary related to warfare. These words are still part of me today.

These 300 years occupation, the Celtiberian influence and the fall of the Roman Empire created a huge gap between the centre of Roman rule and the Iberic Peninsula. In the year 600 AD, It is believed that only medieval languages that evolved from Latin were spoken in the provinces of former Roman rule. These languages were called Romances. Thus, my grandfather was born: The Galician-Portuguese Romance.

From the 7th century to the 13th century my grandfather undertook a great mission: to

spread his use in the peninsula and, most importantly, to manifest himself in written form. Before and during the completion of that mission came to pass, a major event took place, the Muslim conquest of the peninsula.

The territory that today is Portugal was governed by Muslims from 711 to 1249 AD and the peninsula at that time was known as the Al-Andalus. It was a time of great exchange between Arabic language and the Romance dialects of the region. Today I still have an estimate of 400 to 600 words from Arabic origin in my vocabulary.

At that time Al-Andalus became a major educational centre for Europe and the lands around the Mediterranean Sea as well as a conduit for culture and science between the Islamic and Christian world.

Ultimately the Christian Kingdoms of the north retook the land and in 1179 AD, Portugal was recognized as an independent kingdom, with its frontiers well established in 1249 AD with the addition of the Algarve territory.

In that context was when my father was born,

The Old Portuguese, with official texts and literature dating from as early as 1175 AD. My grandfather, The Galician—Portuguese Romance, had successfully passed the baton to his son, with a new nation regularly producing written documents in Old Portuguese from 1255 AD, creating stability in its form throughout the Kingdom of Portugal.

So far, my family evolved and changed greatly, journeying from Latin, to a Romance with Celtic and Germanic influences, to become a language on its own, with Arabic influence. Nevertheless, the story doesn't end there. In this next part I will tell how my father started to get a different personality than his brother, Spanish.

My father Old Portuguese lived a calmed life of stability that lasted until the end of the XIV century. Changes at that time were small but another big event came to radically change that: the overseas expansion. That was the time where I, The European Portuguese, was born. My father pushed the boundaries of the territory of its birth together with the Portuguese empire, the first global empire.

That was a time of enormous change. The Portuguese got territories in what today forms 53 different countries. We got in touch with Bantu African languages, Tupi-Guarani and other indigenous languages of the Americas, Chinese in Macau, Japanese in Nagasaki. We even have been in Makral, Baluchistan but their brave warriors repelled all attempts of occupation. This exchange was very intense for 200 years and a lot of different words and pronunciation was incorporated.

This eventually lead to a rich dialectal variation with three major branches in which I am used to communicate. That fact gave birth to my independent son, Brazilian Portuguese and Angolan Portuguese, with their own individual grammars and accents. Nowadays our Portuguese family is the Official Language of Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Cabo Verde, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, S50 Tomé and Príncipe, East Timor, Macau and Equatorial Guinea. It is the 6th "most spoken language in the planet with 279 million native speakers. It is also the third-most spoken European language in the world in terms of native speakers and the most spoken language in the southern hemisphere of the globe.

My influence is spread around the globe, being one of the official languages of several international organizations, including the Mercosul, the Organization of Ibero-American States, the Union of South American Nations, the Organization of American States, The African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, the Southern African Development Community and the European Union. Also, the current secretary-general



BY ITALO PAPI DA COSTA

Portuguese Professor at the Punjab University

of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, is Portuguese.

I am a language with a rich history, containing elements from various cultures. When you learn Portuguese, you will be able to access a market that is present in 4 continents. I am also in fast expansion, being a language required to engage in different business opportunities. Today many economic powerhouses like China understand my importance as I am being extensively taught over their Universities, and over 30

Universities in the United States alone teach me (Portuguese Language) as a subject. Here in Pakistan you can find me at Punjab University.

The only question that remains is: Will you come have a cup of tea with me, and discover what we have in common?

I would like to end saying something that I learned from Urdu and adopted to our vocabulary. It is something that I hope would be the answer to my invitation: Oxala (Inch'Allah)!



National Anthem:

A Portuguesa

**Heróis do mar, nobre povo,
Nação valente, imortal,
Levantai hoje de novo
O esplendor de Portugal!
Entre as brumas da memória,
Ó Pátria, sente-se a voz
Dos teus egrégios avós,
Que há-de guiar-te à vitória!
Às armas, às armas!
Sobre a terra, sobre o mar,
Às armas, às armas!
Pela Pátria lutar
Contra os canhões marchar, marchar!**

**Heroes of the sea, noble people,
Valiant and immortal nation,
Raise once again today,
The splendor of Portugal!
Among the haze of memory,
Oh Fatherland, one feels the voice
Of your distinguished forefathers,
That shall lead you to victory!
To arms, to arms!
Over land, over sea,
To arms, to arms!
For the Fatherland, fight!
Against the cannons, march on,
march on!**

"A Portuguesa" is the national anthem of Portugal. The song was composed by Alfredo Keil and written by Henrique Lopes de Mendonça.



My Country *is* My Language

Portuguese Language

The poet Fernando Pessoa once wrote: «My Country is my language». And for more than 200 million people spread out throughout Europe, Africa, South America and Asia this country is called the Portuguese Language.

Portuguese is currently the fifth most spoken language in the world and an official language of countries as varied as Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tome and Principe and East Timor. It is also used in Macau, territory under Portuguese administration until December 1999, and in Goa. It is also the base of around twenty Creole languages and an important minority language in Andorra, Luxemburg, Namibia, Switzerland and South Africa,

as well as spoken in numerous existing migrant communities.

It is this universality of the Portuguese language that unites Portuguese, Brazilians, many Africans and some Asians, through the recognition of a common cultural heritage, and despite not forming a continuous country, but present in large regions separated and spread out through different continents, and the fact that it is not exclusive to one community, but is felt as its own, equally, in distant communities, showing a great internal diversity, according to the regions and groups which use it.

A language of culture such as Portuguese, the carrier of a long history, which serves as raw material and a product of a variety

of literatures, an instrument of global affirmation of various societies, is not fully encapsulated within the description of its linguistic system. A language such as this lives in history, in society and in the world.

It has an existence shaped and conditioned by great human movements and, at present, through the existence of those groups that speak it.

This means that the Portuguese spoken all around the world, in the meantime harmonized by an importance Orthographic Agreement, continues to be felt as a single language, vehicle of communication by excellency and, possibly, the most powerful of the ties uniting the countries that use it.



The Portuguese economy has undergone profound changes over the past 50 years. From the colonialist corporative and protectionist model of the Estado Novo's, based on agricultural and industrial production, Portugal progressively began (from the 1970's onwards) to lift restrictions and open its economy. With the 1974 revolution the country underwent a period of adjustment and continuous modernization of its economic model.

During the 1990s Portugal followed an economic policy determined by the Economic and Monetary Union's (EMU) convergence criteria. The nominal convergence process was successfully completed and the country integrated the Eurozone from its debut in January 1999. This entailed the fulfillment of a set of quantitative criteria aimed at pursuing a rigorous and credible macroeconomic policy.

The structure of the economy has since changed, with a growing dominance of the services sector, similarly to other European partners. In 2011, agriculture, forestry and fisheries accounted for only 2.1% of GVA (comparing to 24% in 1960) and 9.9% of employment; while industry, construction, energy and water accounted for 23.3% of GVA and 27.3% of employment. In that year, services contributed 74.5% to GVA and accounted for 62.8% of employment. In 2016 this trend was even more prominent: the services sector accounted for 75.4% of the GVA, and employed 68.6% of the population. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries accounted for 2.2% of GVA and 6.9% of employment, while industry, construction,

energy and water accounted for 22.4% of GVA and 24.5% of employment.

**Portugal is
among the 50
largest
economies in
the world and
enjoys positive
growth
prospects**

In addition to a higher incidence of services in economic activity, there has been a significant change in the standard of specialization of the manufacturing industry in Portugal in the past decade: it has modernized, departing from a dependence on traditional industrial activities to a situation in which new, more technological, sectors, have gained weight and a dynamic of growth. In this respect, the automotive and components sector, electronics, energy, pharmaceuticals and new information and communication technologies should be

highlighted. In what concerns services, Portugal's geographic position, enjoying the Mediterranean climate moderated by the influence of the Atlantic, as well as its extensive coastal strip, allied to history and culture, support a relevant and growing tourism industry.

In recent years the Portuguese economy has been undergoing a new period of structural adjustment and consolidation of public finances, in the sense of greater budgetary and commercial balance sustainability. In May 2014 the Government announced the completion and exit of the Economic and Financial Assistance Program (EFAP) agreed with the EU and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in May 2011), regaining access to financing through international markets. According to the Bank of Portugal, the objectives of the EFAP have been generally fulfilled, with some characteristics of the Portuguese economy (such as the external net borrowing capacity, the primary structural adjustment, the ongoing fiscal consolidation, as well as the transfer of resources from the non-tradable to the tradable sector) constituted some of the positives contributing to the process of sustainable growth. In recent years the Portuguese authorities have made early repayments of the loan granted by the IMF under the EFAP (approximately € 8.4 billion in 2015 and € 4.5 billion in 2016), according to the IGCP - Treasury and Debt Management Agency.

Portugal is among the 50 largest economies in the world and enjoys positive growth prospects, as the macroeconomic data shows.

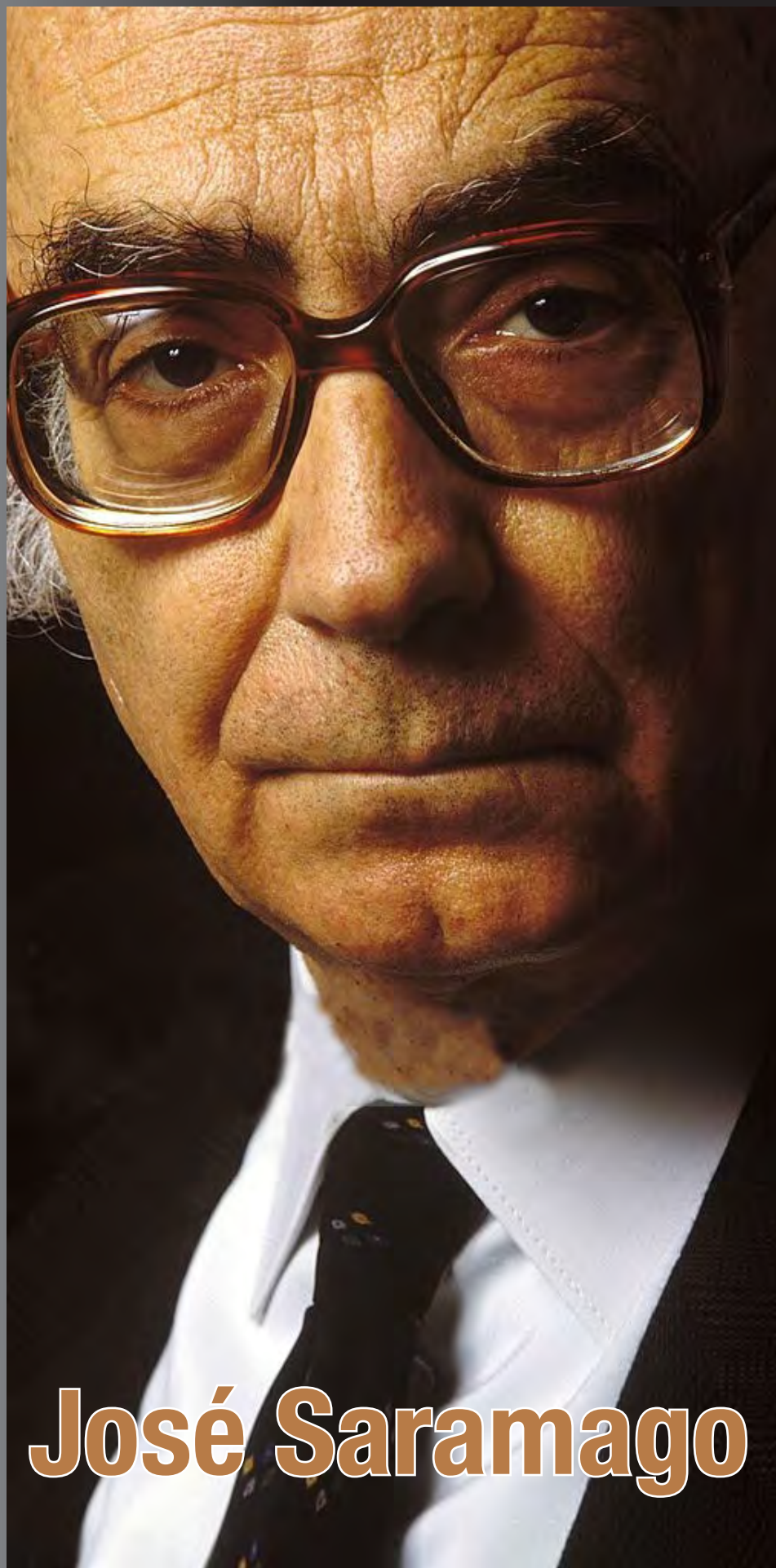
José de Sousa Saramago was a Portuguese writer and recipient of the 1998 Nobel Prize in Literature. His works, some of which can be seen as allegories, commonly present subversive perspectives on historic events, emphasizing the Theo poetic human factor. In 2003 Harold Bloom described Saramago as “the most gifted novelist alive in the world today” and in 2010 said he considers Saramago to be “a permanent part of the Western canon”, while James Wood praises “the distinctive tone to his fiction because he narrates his novels as if he were someone both wise and ignorant.”

More than two million copies of Saramago’s books have been sold in Portugal alone and his work has been translated into 25 languages. A proponent of libertarian communism, Saramago criticized institutions such as the Catholic Church, the European Union and the International Monetary Fund. An atheist, he defended love as an instrument to improve the human condition. In Spanish island of Lanzarote, he resided until his death in 2010.

Saramago was a founding member of the National Front for the Defense of Culture in Lisbon in 1992, and co-founder with Orhan Pamuk, of the European Writers’ Parliament (EWP). In his 1986 novel *The Stone Raft*, the Iberian Peninsula breaks off from the rest of Europe and sails around the Atlantic Ocean. In his 1995 novel *Blindness*, an entire unnamed country is stricken with a mysterious plague of “white blindness”. In his 1984 novel *The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis* (which won the PEN Award and the Independent Foreign Fiction Award).

Awards and accolades

- 1995 - Camões Prize
- 1998 - Nobel Prize in Literature
- 2004 - America Award
- 2009 - São Paulo Prize for Literature
— Shortlisted in the Best Book of the Year category for *A Viagem do Elefante*



José Saramago



Some facts about **PORTUGAL**





By Iftikhar Firoz

Honorary Consul of Portugal – Lahore

DO YOU KNOW?

- Portugal is one of the oldest countries in Europe having the same defined borders since 1249, almost 800 years ago. The name Portugal first appears in 868 during the Reconquista over the moors.
- Lisbon is older than Rome. Around four centuries to be precise. It is the second oldest European capital after Athens. Many historians believe that it was settled by the Phoenicians around 1200 BC.
- Portugal is one of the world's top surf sports places. In October 2011 Hawaiian surfer Garrett McNamara caught the biggest wave (30 mt / 90 ft.) Ever surfed to date at Praia do Norte, near the town of Nazare in central Portugal.
- Portugal has the world largest solar

energy plants based in Alentejo region. Portugal also has the world's first wave energy plant which became operational in 2006.

- Half of the new world once belonged to Portugal. In 1494 the treaty of Tordesillas was signed which essentially gave Portugal the eastern half of the new world, including Brazil, Africa and Asia. The Portuguese empire was actually the first global empire in history and one of the longest lived colonial powers lasting for almost six centuries from when Ceuta was captured in 1415, until Macau was handed over to china in 1999.
- The Anglo Portuguese alliance between England and Portugal is the oldest alliance in the world which is still in force. It was signed in 1373.
- Portugal is the third country in the world by fish consumption indicator following Japan and Iceland. The Azores (Portuguese islands) eat nearly 76 kg of fish annually while in the world the

average consumption is 16 KG.

- Paris is the second largest "Portuguese city" based on the number Portuguese residents with nearly 700,000 Portuguese. But Paris is not the only place in Europe with Portuguese population. Around 12 percent of the population of Luxembourg is actually Portuguese.
- Portuguese is the eight most spoken languages in the world with approximately 250 million speakers, after Mandarin, English, Spanish, Hindi, Arabic, Russian and Bengali.
- Lisbon was struck by one of the most powerful earthquakes in history in November 1755. It struck by about a 9.0 magnitude. 275,000 people died and almost 85 percent of the buildings were destroyed.





Foods

Piri-Piri Chicken

Piri-piri chicken is a spicy dish with roots in both Africa and Portugal. The dish was created in Angola and Mozambique when Portuguese settlers arrived with chile peppers (known as piri-piri in Swahili). Timing note: The chicken needs to marinate for at least four hours before being grilled.

INGREDIENTS

1. **Glaze:**
 - 3 tablespoons butter
 - 3 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
 - 2 garlic cloves, minced
 - 2 tablespoons piri-piri sauce or other hot pepper sauce
 - 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2. **Chicken:**
 - 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
 - 1 2-inch piece fresh ginger, peeled, thinly sliced
 - 1 large shallot, peeled, quartered
 - 3 garlic cloves, peeled
 - 1/2 cup piri-piri sauce or other hot pepper sauce
 - 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil plus additional for brushing
 - 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
 - 1 teaspoon coarse kosher salt
 - 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
 - 1 3 1/2- to 4-pound chicken, backbone removed, opened flat
 - 1 11 3/4 x 8 1/2 x 1 1/4-inch disposable aluminum baking pan (to catch drips)
 - Ingredient info: Bottled piri-piri sauce is available at specialty foods stores and online from africantradingco.com. Choose the heat level that suits you, keeping in mind that the mild version still has a nice kick to it

YIELD

2–4 servings

PREPARATION

A. For glaze:

1. Melt butter in small saucepan over medium-high heat. Add cilantro and garlic; cook until garlic begins to brown, about 2 minutes. Add piri-piri sauce and lemon juice. Reduce heat to medium-low; simmer 2 minutes. DO AHEAD: Glaze can be made up to 1 day ahead. Cover and chill. Rewarm before using.

B. For chicken:

1. Finely chop cilantro, ginger, shallot, and garlic in processor. Add piri-piri sauce, 1/4 cup oil, lemon juice, coarse salt, and pepper; process marinade to blend.
2. Place chicken, skin side up, on work surface. Using palm of hand, press on breastbone to flatten chicken. Tuck wing tips under. Pour half of marinade into 11x7x2-inch glass baking dish. Open chicken like book; place skin side down in single layer in dish. Pour remaining marinade over. Cover; chill at least 4 hours or overnight, turning chicken occasionally.
3. Remove top rack from barbecue. Prepare barbecue (medium heat). If using 2-burner gas grill, light 1 burner. If using 3-burner gas grill, do not light center burner. If using charcoal grill, light briquettes in chimney and pour onto 1 side of lower grill rack. Place disposable aluminum pan on unlit part of grill. Place upper grill rack on barbecue; brush with oil.
4. Remove chicken from marinade. Arrange skin side up on grill rack above drip pan. Cover barbecue; grill until skin is browned and instant-read thermometer inserted into thickest part of thigh registers 165°F, turning often, about 40 minutes. Transfer to platter. Pour warm glaze over.



PORTUGUESE SCHOOL OF EQUESTRIAN ART

The Portuguese School of Equestrian Art may be considered the least famous of the four schools recognised as the grand riding academies of the world. This was because the school was closed for many years during the 19th century with the invasions and political unrest. In fact the Royal court, in desperation to preserve it, moved everything including the stud horses to safety in Brazil. However, it is important to remember that in fact like the other schools they have an equally long and fine tradition of equestrian art. Since re-establishing in 1979 the school has been dedicated to preserving Portugal's fabulous heritage in equestrian traditions.

Today's Portuguese School of Equestrian Art (EPAE) is a recreation of the 18th cen-

tury Portuguese equestrian academy of the royal court, Real Picaria. The original maroon velvet costumes, the tricorn hats and tack used has undergone very few changes and the horses ridden today are from the same stud farm as previously. The riders of the school follow the principles as laid out in the book, *Luz da Liberal e Nobre Arte da Cavallaria* (1790). A very complete work that illustrates everything from basic grooming to teaching the airs above the ground and the mounted court games. The book is written by Manuel Carlos de Andrade in order to preserve the philosophy of his riding Master, Dom Pedro José de Alcântara de Menezes, chief Equerry of José I of Portugal and thus head of Real Picaria. Menezes is better known as Marquis von Marialva and is at times

called "the Guérinière of the Iberian peninsula"; he was an extraordinary rider who had the main objective of achieving lightness in his riding. The horses of EPAE are bay stallions from the stud farm Coudelaria Alter Real although in fact originally they were grey and bay. The stud farm was founded in 1748 by the Portuguese King D. João V with the purpose to provide the court with horses. Alter Real horses are a baroque type of 'the Lusitano breed, it's said that these horses still look very much the same as they did 200 years ago. The regular shows held at Picadeiro Henrique Calado in Belém, Lisbon, the stallions are dressed up in replicas of the 18th century saddlery, braided and adorned with red and golden silk bands. The weekly shows display a carousel, a Pas de Deux, and work



in hand with the dramatic airs above the ground. Once a month there is an evening gala performance, here the spectators enjoy an extended show that also includes the Mounted Court games, re-created after descriptions in Luz da Liberal. In this piece the riders are dressed in colourful 18th century costumes and perform exercises like hitting a dummy with a lance, pick up a bouquet with a sword, spear a small ring and hit a target with an arrow. This is all performed with the reins in one hand. To ride one handed is an art that has its roots in mounted warfare but has in

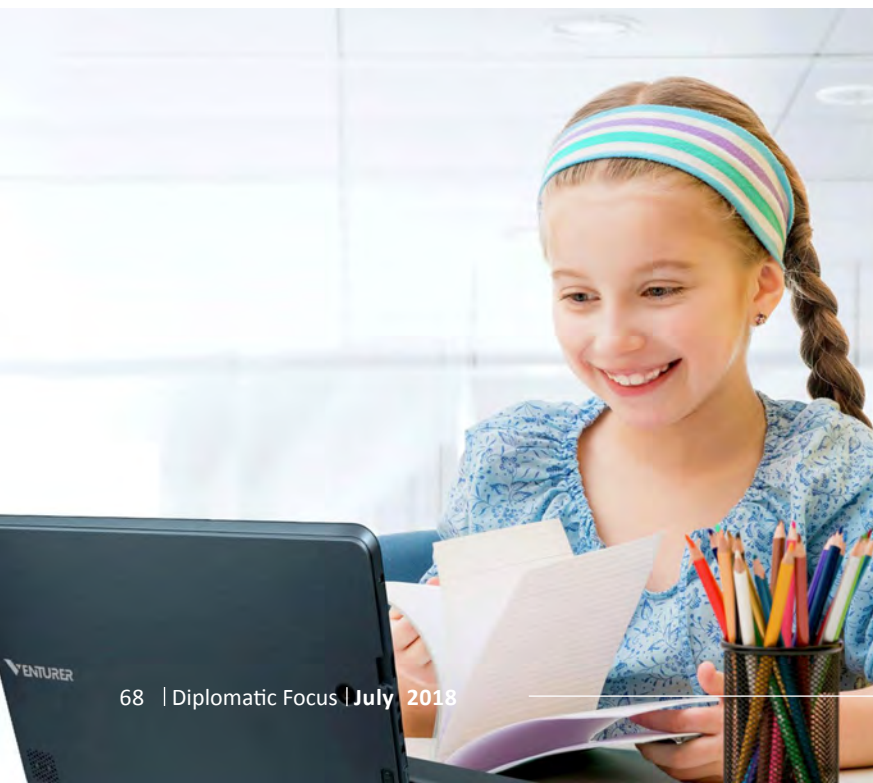
many places around the world disappeared. Portugal's tradition of riding with one hand has been kept alive through mounted bullfighting and now also by the Working Equitation sport. The management of the school is today entrusted with the state-owned company, Parques de Sintra – Monte da Lua SA and has since 1996 been situated in the gardens of the National Palace of Queluz, just a stone's throw from Lisbon. In 2015 the renovation of Picadeiro Henrique Calado in the historic quarters of Belém, Lisbon, was completed and this arena is now used for the

shows as well as training sessions open to the public. This means that the approximately 50 bay stallions of the school are now split between stabling in Belém and in the gardens of Queluz. The day to day running of the school Amongst the riders working at the school there is a Master-Chief rider, João Pedro Rodrigues, and a Master rider, António Borba Monteiro. João Pedro organises the work in the arena, and he is also the one who decides which riders are going to perform in each show. António, is highly skilled in the training the horses in high school movements such as the airs above the ground, so he helps the riders with that work. The daily role of the riders of the school is to work their horses, select new horses, train for the shows and this is all done as a team. When talking about riding history Portugal is often overseen, which is not entirely fair as the Portuguese or Iberian riders back in ancient days were world famous for their agile, brave horses and their superb skills in training horses for mounted warfare. These skills then later during the renaissance evolved into the art of classical dressage. And it's this very long and fine tradition that the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art today aim to preserve. They are doing a very fine job, if you ever pass by Lisbon; make sure to pay them a visit.





TECHNOLOGICAL FACTS ABOUT PORTUGAL





By Iftikhar Firoz

Honorary Consul of Portugal – Lahore

- Portugal is the world leader in biometric solutions. Master guardian is the first company in the world that integrates design and biometric technology.
- SISCOG DEVELOPS SUPPORT SYSTEMS for the most advanced public transport company in Europe. Land, air or at sea, you are always safe with the Portuguese software.
- The software for it systems used by the Schengen countries was developed by critical software. The vision-box created the automated e-passport systems used at the international airports.

- BMW, MERCEDES, PORSCHE and SAMSONITE buy engineering and tooling solutions from Portugal.
- VW SHARAN MINIVAN was chosen by the German magazine "AUTOBILD" as the best car in the world, Made in Portugal.
- The best solution to reduce time between check-in/take-off and landing/ baggage collection is Portuguese. The Cobus is a bus system exclusively used at the airports operating throughout the world.
- Especial laptops for school children which are distributed in public schools in Portugal. Ultra-resistant and with access to the internet. The brand Magalhaes is exported to all over the world.

- NDRIVE of Portugal launched the first GPS in the world with aerial photographs.
- Portugal is the world leader in the renewable energy sector. Largest in the solar power and the 4th. Major producer of wind energy in the world.
- 90 % of the electric transformers that supply electricity to las Vagas the city of lights are Portuguese.
- Portugal is a pioneer, leader and a main manufacturer of advanced technological photovoltaic solutions. It has one of the largest photovoltaic centers in the world.





Football

Football (Soccer) is definitely the most popular sport in Portugal and also the most practised. The national team is amongst the higher-rated teams in both Europe and the world and many talented players like Ronaldo and Figo come from Portugal. Portugal has 3 main football clubs that are well-known in most of the footballing world; Porto, Sporting and Benfica from Lisbon and all 3 clubs have great support from their Portuguese fans. Portugal has two major football events each year; The Portuguese Liga, currently named Liga Sagres after its main sponsor and the Portuguese Cup (Cup of Portugal Millennium).

Sports *in* Portugal



Cycling

Another popular sport event in Portugal is the cycling race Volta a Portugal which is an annual long distance road race for professionals. Some of Portugal's best cycling teams are; S.L Benfica and Boavista.



Athletics

Portugal also has a great tradition in athletics. Portugal has been traditionally strong in the sport of athletics in long distance running, and is the birthplace for a number of successful athletes including Rosa Mota, Carlos Lopes, Fernanda Ribeiro, and Manuela Machado. Rui Silva and sprinter Francis Obikwelu have won several gold, silver and bronze medals in European, World and Olympic Games competitions. Naide Gomes is a multiple World and European champion in the women's pentathlon and long jump events and Nelson Évora is world and Olympic champion in the triple jump. In the triathlon, Vanessa Fernandes has won a large number of medals and major competitions across the world, including the silver medal in the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Golf

Golf is also popular in Portugal and the

country has so many beautiful world-class golf courses all over the country. The Algarve and the Estoril coast have a high number of great courses. During the Algarve Open Portugal's best golf players compete for the title in the sunny region of the Algarve.





Water sports

Portugal's long coast line gives ideal conditions for all kinds of water sports and Portugal has many areas renowned for windsurfing and surfing like Guincho, north of Lisbon. Portugal has also achieved noteworthy performances in international competitions for example European and world champion in body-boarding and European champions in surfing.

Motor Sports

Portugal has great traditions in rallying and hosts one of the most renowned rally races in the world the Rally of Portugal. Portugal has one main race track in Estoril near Lisbon where a lot of motor sport competitions are held for example the World Motorcycling Championship and the A1 Grand Prix. More recently the building of the





fantastic new race track in the Algarve, which hope one day in the near future to host the Formula one.

Bullfighting

Bullfighting is still a popular sport in Portugal although it is neither as common nor as famous as in Spain. It is also very different as the bullfighter rides a horse and does not seek to kill the bull.

Martial arts

Martial arts like judo have also brought many medals to this country, namely Telma Monteiro who conquered gold twice at the European Championships in the -52 kg category, and Nuno Delgado who conquered the bronze medal in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, and became the European champion

in 1999 (in Bratislava) and vice-champion in the year of 2003. The country has an ancient martial art known as Jogo do Pau (Portuguese Stick Fencing), used for self-protection and for duels between young men in disputes over young women. Having its origin in the Middle Ages, Jogo do Pau uses wooden staves as a combat weapon. In fencing, Joaquim Videira won the silver medal at the épée 2006 World Fencing Championships and has conquered numerous medals in the world cup. Traditional sport and games Amongst the older generation, traditional games like Jogo do Sapo (Toad Game) and Jogos de Queijos (Cheese Game) are popular ways to keep active. These traditional games are a friendly and cultural gathering at which the main objective generally is to have fun-





The Portuguese guitar or Portuguese guitarra is a plucked string instrument with twelve steel strings, strung in six courses of two strings. It is one of the few musical instruments that still use Preston tuners. It is most notably associated with the musical genre known as Fado. The Portuguese guitar now known has undergone considerable technical modification in the last century (dimensions, mechanical tuning system, etc.) although it has kept the same number of courses, the string tuning and the finger technique characteristic of this type of instrument. It is a descendant of the Medieval citole, based on evidence of its use in Portugal since the thirteenth century. Two distinct Portuguese guitar models are built: the Lisboa model and the Coimbra model. The technique employed to play the Portuguese guitar is what is historically called dedilho. This technique comprises playing solely with the thumb and the index fingers and it was inspired by the technique used to play “viola da Terra da Terceira”. On the Portuguese guitar the strings are picked with the corner of the fingernails, avoiding contact of the flesh with the strings. The unused fingers of the picking hand rest below the strings, on the soundboard.

European Union Ambassador H.E. Jean-Francois Cautain hosted a get together event at his residence in Islamabad. Large number of Members from Diplomatic Community, friends graced the event.



German Ambassador H.E Martin Kobler inaugurated exhibition of Riaz Rafi and Ayesha Siddiqui Gallery 6 in Islamabad. Art lover appreciated the work.



FPCCI hosts iftar dinner for diplomats, business leaders

The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) held an iftar dinner in honour of Ambassadors and High Commissioners as well as the prominent business leaders in Islamabad. The dinner was hosted by the president FPCCI Ghazanfar Bilour, SVP, VPs and Senior Vice President of SAARC Chamber of Commerce which was attended by dozens of ambassadors and high commissioners, top government officials, representatives of the trade associations, academia, the culture industry, the media, and the leaders of the economic world.



RCCI wants extension in tax amnesty scheme



The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) President Zahid Latif Khan has urged the care taker government to extend the tax amnesty scheme so that a maximum number of the business community and general public could avail its benefit. Addressing a seminar organized by Rawalpindi/Islamabad Tax bar Association, at a local hotel, RCCI chief said that Tax Amnesty Scheme 2018 would

relieve pressure on the economy by generating additional revenue for the government. It would also enable businessmen to declare their assets or income without being asked about their source. However, he urged FBR to include the inputs of business community, professionals and representatives from tax bar associations for bringing reforms in such schemes.

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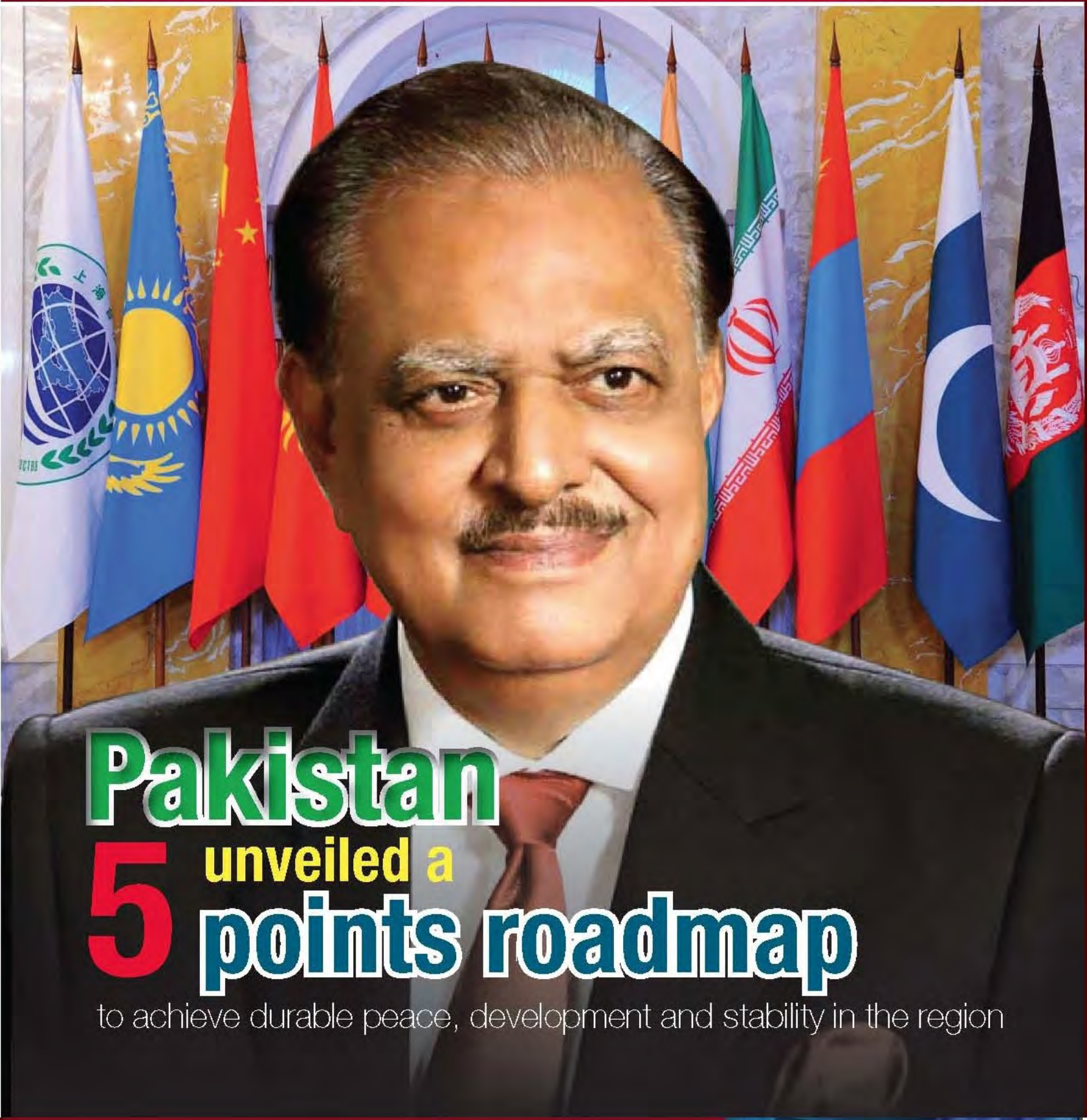
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