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**Pakistan thanked China and Turkey who stood behind us and supported our stance in the current crisis of Kashmir.**

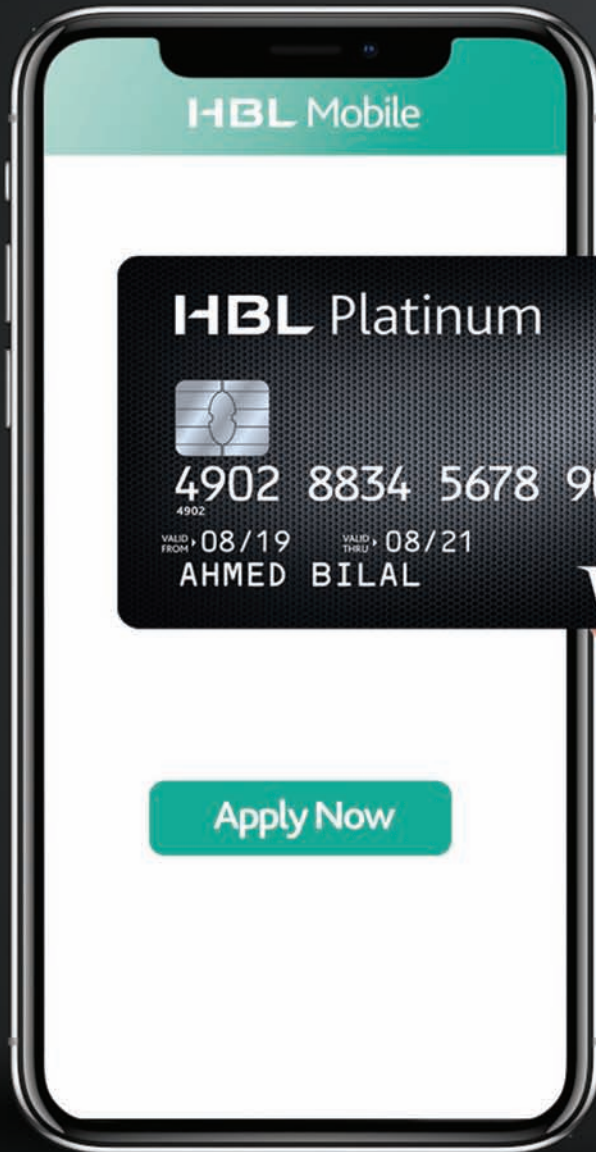


**Foreign Minister Wang Yi has acknowledged that India's aggressive stance on Kashmir leaves the people of Kashmir vulnerable and voiceless while also putting the entire region at risk.**

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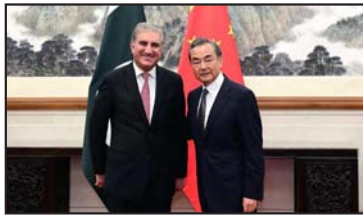
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**20 Pakistan-China All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership**

Vice Chairman of Chinese Central Military Commission (CMC), General Xu Qiliang called on President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad. The president said that Pakistan deeply valued China's defence cooperation with Pakistan and support on issues of its national security.

**23 China continue to support Pakistan in safeguarding its legitimate rights**

The foreign ministers of both countries held an urgent meeting in Beijing to discuss the current situation in occupied Kashmir following the move made by India. A statement released by China's foreign ministry, said that it will "continue to support Pakistan in safeguarding its legitimate rights and interests".

**33 Turkey, Malaysia & Pakistan to lead Muslim renaissance**

Experts have welcomed visiting Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's statement that Turkey, Malaysia and Pakistan can pave the way forward for development in the Muslim world. "The Islamic world needs a renaissance," said Huseyin Bagci, an expert in International relations at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara.

**34 The G7 Leaders wish to underline their great unity**

The G7 Leaders wish to underline their great unity and the positive spirit of the debates. The G7 Summit organized by France in Biarritz has successfully produced agreements by the Heads of State and Government themselves on several points summarized below:

## Pakistan has always stood with Kashmiris

President Dr Arif Alvi while addressing a flag-hoisting ceremony at the convention centre in Islamabad said that the world was watching how the people of Pakistan were standing with their Kashmiri brothers.



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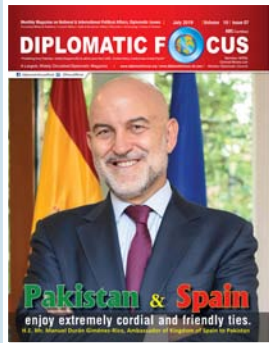
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## Our previous Issues

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June 2019



May 2019



Mian Fazal Elahi

Pakistan is thankful to China and Turkey who stood behind us and supported our stance in the current crisis of Kashmir. China backed Pakistan's request for UN Security Council to discuss Kashmir issue. Chinese leader President Xi Jinping to expressed gratitude for their strong and steadfast support for Pakistan over the disputed region. Pakistan thanked Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan for supporting his country's stance in the current crisis following India's decision to strip disputed Jammu and Kashmir region of its decades long autonomy. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said "We thank Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan for raising voice in favour of the unarmed Muslims of the occupied Kashmir." Jammu and Kashmir is under near complete lockdown since Aug. 5 after India scrapped the special provisions, according to several rights group, including the Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International. India blocked communications and imposed strict restrictions to thwart any rebellion while political leaders in the region have been detained as the right groups repeatedly called on New Delhi to lift the restrictions and release political detainees. Turkey had expressed concern that India's decision will increase tensions. "China, Turkey and Pakistan have always supported each other's stance on several international issues," Qureshi noted praising Turkey for its efforts to unite the Muslim ummah.

Prime Minister Imran warned that if was the dispute moved towards war, then the world should remember that "both countries have nuclear weapons". "In a nuclear war, no one will win. It will not only wreak havoc in this region, but the entire world will face consequences. It is now up to the international community. "Whether the world joins us or not, Pakistan will go to any lengths and its people will support Kashmiris till their last breath," the Prime Minister Imran Khan said.

The articles, columns, Opinions are published in Magazine in good faith. However, the contents of these writings may not necessarily match the views of the Editor/Publisher/Organization.



Mian Assad ullah

### Important Announcement

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

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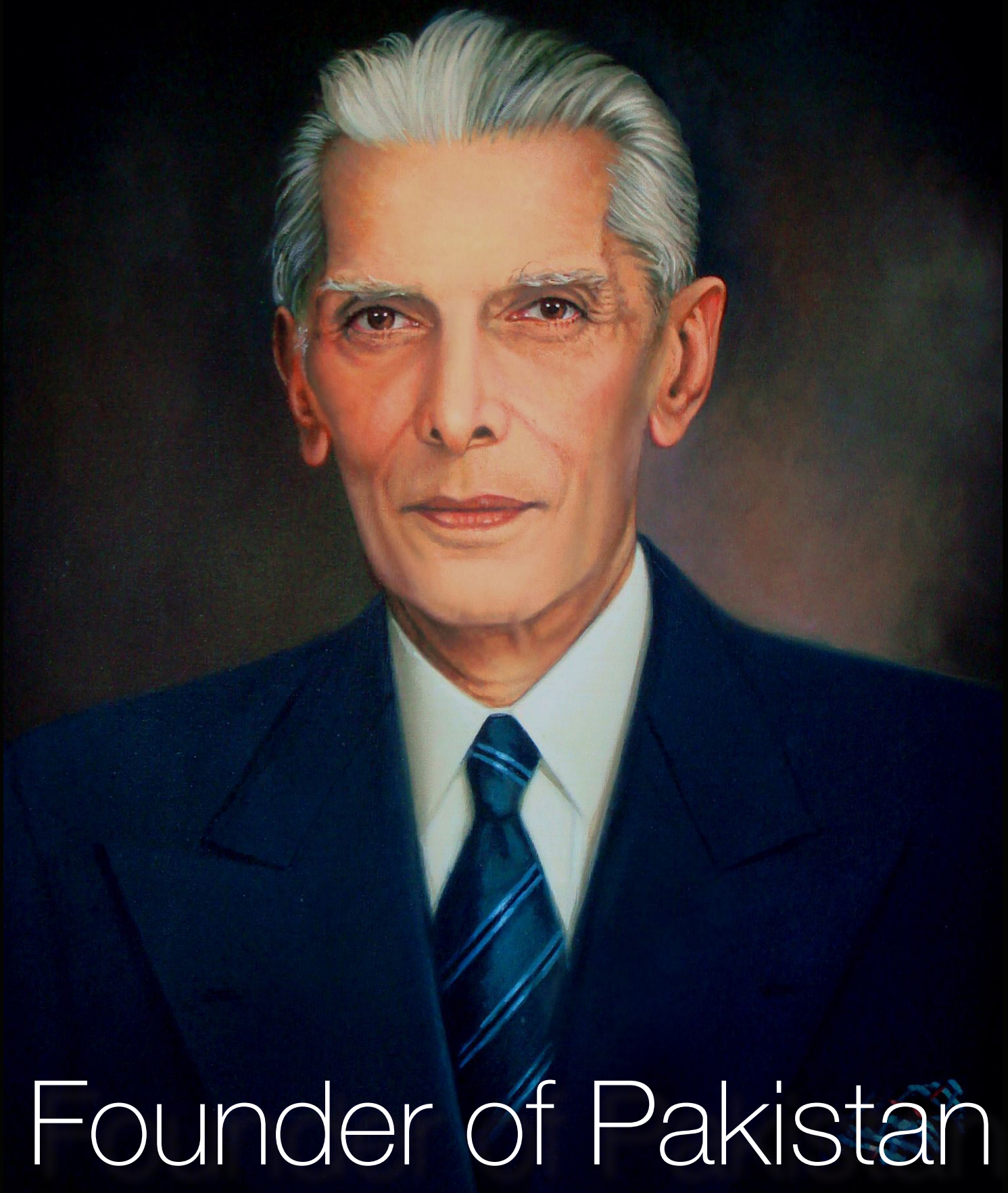
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**DIPLOMATIC FOCUS**

daily **12 O'CLOCK** NEWS

DAILY **AL-KHAWARIZMI** JOURNAL



# Founder of Pakistan

## **(Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah)**



## Jinnah, justice and the law

Equality, justice and fair play to everybody” were the ideals on which Quaid-i-Azam M.A. Jinnah expected Pakistani democracy to be built. These drove his devotion in his last decades to achieving the birth of Pakistan as an independent state, because he feared that India’s Hindu majority were incapable of treating its Muslim minority either justly or fairly.

As Pakistan’s first governor general, he insisted that every member of its civil and military services serve all its people while keeping in mind Islam’s greatest ideals of “brotherhood, equality and fraternity”. Opposed as he was to Hinduism’s caste system and the plight of its untouchables, Jinnah insisted on the need for Pakistan always to safeguard minorities “to whichever community they may belong ... Their religion ... will be secure. There will be no interference of any kind with their freedom of worship.... They will be, in all respects, the citizens of Pakistan without any distinction of caste or creed.”

This passionate faith in universal human rights was based as much on his devout belief in Islamic equality and justice as it was on his secular appreciation of English common law. “Remember that the scrupulous maintenance and enforcement of law and order are the prerequisites of all progress”, Jinnah told his new nation. “The tenets of Islam enjoin on every Musalman to give protection to his neighbours and to the minorities regardless of caste and creed.”

He felt most proud of having “achieved

Pakistan ... without bloody war and practically peacefully by moral and intellectual force and with the power of the pen,” cautioning his followers not “to besmear and tarnish this greatest achievement for which there is no parallel in the history of the world”.

Jinnah was also enlightened enough to “sincerely hope” that Pakistan’s relations with neighbouring India would always be “friendly and cordial”, knowing as he did that “we can be of use to each other and to the world.”

Yet just a few months after their mid-August birth as independent dominions, India and Pakistan were at war over Kashmir and this issue still a single cause of instability in the region.

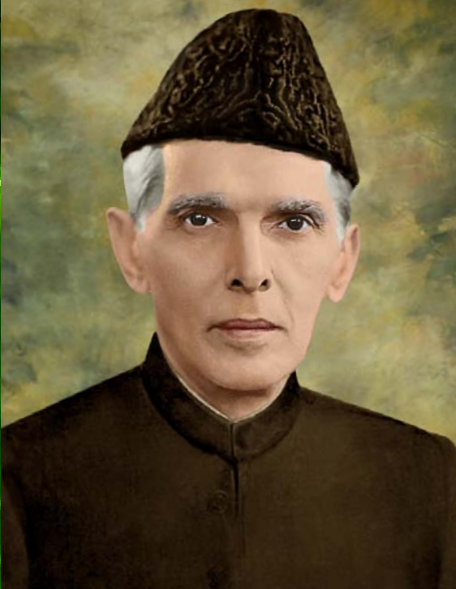
Jinnah wished that conflict could swiftly be resolved, calling for “all-out efforts to restore peace and maintain law and order in their respective states ... we should bury

the past and resolve that, despite all that has happened, we shall remain friends. There are many things which we need from each other as neighbours and we can help each other in diverse ways, morally, materially, and politically and thereby raise the prestige and status of both dominions. But before we can make any progress, it is absolutely essential that peace must be restored and law and order maintained in both the dominions.”

Shortly thereafter Jinnah’s fatally weakened lungs gave out, and less than 11 months later he was dead. The Kashmir conflict has tragically continued to plague India and Pakistan. The writer is professor emeritus in Indian and Pakistani history at the University of California, Los Angeles, and the author of Jinnah of Pakistan.

\*\*\*





# Pakistan & Quaid-e-Azam

"Democracy is in the blood of the Muslims, who look upon complete equality of mankind, and believe in fraternity, equality, and liberty."

**Muhammad Ali Jinnah**

"You will have to make up for the smallness of your size by your courage and selfless devotion to duty, for it is not life that matters, but the courage, fortitude and determination you bring to it."

**Muhammad Ali Jinnah**

"You are free; you are free to go to your temples. You are free to go to your mosques or to any other places of worship in this State of Pakistan. You may belong to any religion, caste or creed—that has nothing to do with the business of the state."

**Muhammad Ali Jinnah**

"The great majority of us are Muslims. We follow the teachings of the Prophet Mohammed (may peace be upon him). We are members of the brotherhood of Islam in which all are equal in rights, dignity and self-respect. Consequently, we have a special and a very deep sense of unity. But make no mistake: Pakistan is not a theocracy or anything like it."

**Muhammad Ali Jinnah**

"Do not forget that the armed forces are the servants of the people. You do not make national policy; it is we, the civilians, who decide these issues and it is your duty to carry out these tasks with which you are entrusted."

**Muhammad Ali Jinnah**

"We have undoubtedly achieved Pakistan, and that too without bloody war, practically peacefully, by moral and intellectual force, and with the power of the pen, which is no less mighty than that of the sword and so our righteous cause has triumphed. Are we now going to besmear and tarnish this greatest achievement for which there is no parallel in the history of the world? Pakistan is now a fait accompli and it can never be undone, besides, it was the only just, honourable, and practical solution of the most complex constitutional problem of this great subcontinent. Let us now plan to build and reconstruct and regenerate our great nation..."

**Muhammad Ali Jinnah**



# Pakistan has always stood with Kashmiris and would continue to do so President Dr Arif Alvi

By Mian Fazal Elahi

President Dr Arif Alvi while addressing a flag-hoisting ceremony at the convention centre in Islamabad said that the world was watching how the people of Pakistan were standing with their Kashmiri brothers.

“We will not leave them alone at any step,” the president said adding: “Kashmiris are our people. We think of their pain as our pain.”

“We have remained with them, we are with them today and will continue to do so.”

Various political leaders including National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaisar, Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Information and Broadcasting Firdous Ashiq Awan were also grace the occasion. Mashaal Malik, wife of detained Kashmiri leader Mohammad Yasin Malik, also addressed the event during which she shared a poem she wrote about the freedom struggle of people under Indian occupation in Kashmir.

Flag hoisting ceremonies will also be held in Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar and Quetta.

The 73rd Independence Day was observed as Kashmir Solidarity Day to express full support to Kashmiri brethren reeling from renewed Indian repression. Protest rallies were taken out in all small and major cities of the country and seminars are being organized to highlight the plight of oppressed people in occupied Kashmir. A special logo for the Independence Day was



also released reflecting the theme “Kashmir Banega Pakistan”. Entire nation in a unified voice has reiterated to continue moral, political and diplomatic support of Kashmiri brethren in their just struggle for right to self-determination as promised by international community and UN resolutions. The day dawned with special prayers in the mosques after Fajar prayer for peace, progress, and prosperity of the country and liberation of the occupied territories of the Muslims. Thirty-one gun salute was offered in the Federal Capital Islamabad, while 21-gun salute in all the four provincial headquarters, Gilgit and Muzaffarabad.

In Karachi, the change of guards ceremony was held at the mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah this morning. A smartly turned out contingent of the cadets of Pakistan Naval Academy assumed the guards duties. Commodore Irfan Taj of Pakistan Navy was the chief guest of ceremony. He inspected the guard of honour and presented national salute to the Father of the Nation. The chief guest also laid floral wreath at the mazar, offered fateha and recorded his impressions in the visitors’ book.

An impressive ceremony of Change of Guards was held at the tomb of the poet of the east Allama Muhammad Iqbal in Lahore this morning in connection with Independence Day. During the ceremony a smartly turned contingent of the Pakistan Army assumed the charge of the guards’ duty from the Pakistan Rangers (Punjab).

General Officer Commander Major General Yousaf was the chief guest on the occasion. Later, he laid a floral wreath on the grave of Allama Iqbal and offered fateha. Main function in connection with Independence Day held



at Governor’s House Peshawar. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the main function in connection with Independence Day was held at Governor’s House, Peshawar.

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Shah Farman hoisted the national flag. Collective prayers were also prayed for development and prosperity of the country and liberation of Indian occupied Kashmir. Similar function was also held at Civil Secretariat Peshawar where provincial information minister Shaukat Yousafzai hoisted the national flag. National flag hoisting ceremony was also held at Pakistan Railways, Divisional Superintendent office, and Rescue 1122 office, Peshawar. Functions of similar nature were also held at Sra Rogha tehsil of tribal district South Waziristan, district Orakzai and Mohmand. A rally was also taken

out in Parachinar, Kurram to express solidarity with the Kashmiri people. Main function of Independence Day held at Chinar Garden Gilgit. In Gilgit, the main function of Independence Day and Solidarity Day with Kashmiris was held in Chinar Garden. Deputy Speaker, GB Assembly Jaffarullah Khan was the Chief Guest and hoisted the national flag, laid wreath at Yadgar-e-Shuhada and offered Fateha. Contingent of GB Scouts and GB Police presented guard of honour at the Yadgar. Speaking on the occasion, he condemned Indian government’s revocation of Article 370 and abrogation of special status of Indian held Kashmir. Expressing solidarity with Kashmiris, he said the people of Gilgit-Baltistan are extending their support to their Kashmiri brethren. He demanded United Nations to restore the special status of the valley.





# A Tribute to the People of Pakistan

By M. Bilal Zafar

**E**xhibition of Jimmy Engineer's prints on our beloved country Pakistan and her resilient nation, "A Tribute to The People of Pakistan" was inaugurated by Honourable President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, and Federal Minister for Education and National Heritage Mr. Shafqat Mahmoud here at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Presidency, and Islamabad, Pakistan.

The President is all for promoting art, artists and our rich culture and considers it imperative for development of a heritage. Dr. Arif Alvi said that new spaces, including opening of new galleries,

should be established in the capital and in the major cities of the country to promote artist and their original works.

On this occasion, the Director General, Pakistan National Council of Arts Mr. Syed Jamal Shah and seasoned artist Mr. Naeem Tahir shared their positive remarks. Executive Director PNCA, Ms. Amna Ismail Pataudi hosted the inaugural event.

Federal Minister for Education and National Heritage Mr. Shafqat Mahmoud said that the present government is determined to project the cultural diversity of Pakistan through her

rich art and talented artists.

The exhibition aims to spread the message of peace, harmony and depicts the firm resolve by the anonymous people, their hardships and struggle, in the creation of Pakistan.

The exhibition was organized by Pakistan National Council of Arts in collaboration with Bank Alfalah.

The exhibition will remain open for the art lovers at Aiwan-e-Sadr for one week.

Jimmy completed his schooling from St. Anthony's High school, Lahore, and after a brief interlude at the Forman Christian College,





he spent the next three years at the National College of Arts (NCA), expanding his creative prowess. It was in 1976 that he turned into a professional painter but his achievements went much beyond his artist's creativity when he discovered a deep love for all his fellow beings, specially for the downtrodden. His art pieces soon became expressions of truth and his images began to speak of his compassion for the people he saw.

Although an artist by profession, Jimmy Engineer's life has revolved around supporting troubled individuals as well as social work institutions, though he himself prefers to remain undocumented and unsung. His artistic performance has been acclaimed internationally particularly his series on canvas which depicts the Muslim toil in the wake of Pakistan's Independence in 1947. The minute details, the layered imagery and the fine lines illustrating the transition of humans into tragic victims equal the skill applied by the Great Masters. His works have never failed to captivate successive generations of art lovers in Pakistan and abroad. Jimmy's speaking impressions which have the power to move young minds and imbue them with a renewed sense of dedication for the country, have been exhibited extensively in Pakistan as well as abroad. The fortunes that he has earned have been generously spent on charitable work, which is what gives him satisfaction and he is content in leading a simple life.

A peace-loving man, he is widely known as Pakistan's indefatigable crusader for the oppressed, disabled, mentally handicapped, impoverished and generally for all who need him as he has the ability to communicate with

people from all walks of life. Jimmy's many 'walk-a-cause' have earned him a special standing amongst Pakistan's philanthropists as he has undertaken long, arduous journeys on foot to create awareness for many human rights issues.

As for his paintings, he has mastered many mediums and from realism (landscape, still life, abstract et al) to calligraphy, in water, oil, pastels etc, be it on canvas, wood or ceramics, he has explored and introduced numerous textures in his works and the amazing versatility is more than evident in his creations. His collection also includes miniatures and self-portraits, many of which are in private collections in Italy, France, Switzerland, Russia,

India, China, England, USA in fact almost in every part of the world, validating his status as an International artist. But for Jimmy Engineer, Pakistan is the only identity he wishes for as he continues to work towards merging all cultures for the common good of his soil. Though he already has over 3000 paintings and more than 1000 calligraphies over 1500 drawings to his name besides the 700,000 prints in private collection in more than 60 countries, selling his work is not why he paints. Like his art he simply aspires to spread his love for people wherever he goes and is ceaselessly pursuing the course of charity as his heart is sold to humanity for the rest of his life.





## Ambassadors designated of Portugal and Belgium call on President Dr. Arif Alvi

**P**roactive measures are needed to further enhance the quantum of Pakistan's trade with Portugal and Belgium, said President Dr. Arif Alvi, while talking to the Ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Portugal, Mr. Javed Jalil Khattak and Ambassador designate of Pakistan to Belgium, Mr. Zaheer Aslam Janjua, who separately called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad. He directed the ambassadors-designate to work for promotion of tourism, given Pakistan's huge potential in this sector. Given the high importance Pakistan attached to its relations with Portugal and Belgium, the President urged the ambassadors-designate to make efforts to further strengthen bilateral relations as well as in the context of European Union in all areas of mutual interest. Underscoring the focus of the Pakistani Government on bolstering its exports through value-added products



like designer goods and its investment friendly policies, the President directed the ambassadors-designate to work for further expansion of our economic cooperation. Pakistan has the unique experience of being the only country in the world that has successfully grappled with the menace of terrorism, the President said. He emphasized that Pakistan is a peace-loving country, desirous of peaceful co-existence,

particularly with its neighbors. He also highlighted that Pakistan seeks resolution of all its outstanding disputes with India, including Kashmir, through dialogue. President wished Ambassadors-designate a successful stay in their respective countries and hoped that their tenure will bring more vigor and energy to Pakistan's relationship with these countries.



# High Commissioner designated to Malaysia calls on President Dr. Arif Alvi

Pakistan and Malaysia enjoy close and fraternal relations based on solid foundation of a shared faith, culture, and cooperation, said President Dr. Arif Alvi, while talking to High Commissioner designate to Malaysia, Ms. Amna Baloch, who called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr. The President reiterated that Pakistan will never condone the blatant human rights violation in Indian-Occupied Kashmir and will always stand by its Kashmiri

brethren. He underscored that all High Commissioners/Ambassadors must highlight the Kashmir issue and Indian oppression in Occupied Kashmir. Given the high importance Pakistan attaches to its relations with Malaysia, the President urged the High Commissioner-designate to make efforts to further strengthen bilateral relations. He emphasized that efforts should be made to enhance Pakistan's exports through special focus on value added products. He directed

the High Commissioner-designate to promote the investment-friendly policies of Pakistan and urge Malaysian investors to fully utilize these opportunities. He also emphasized the need for bolstering our tourism sector, which has huge growth potential. President wished High Commissioner designate a successful stay in Malaysia and hoped that her tenure will bring more vigour and energy to the bilateral relations.



# No shortcuts to THE PATH OF JUSTICE Sheikh Azmat Saeed

Justice Sheikh Azmat Saeed, part of the apex court's larger bench which heard the Panama Papers case, retired on Tuesday 27 August 2019. A full-court reference was held on Tuesday at the Supreme Court in honour of Justice Sheikh Azmat Saeed, who has reached superannuation. Headed by Chief Justice Asif Saeed Khosa, the ceremony was attended by senior judges and lawyers including the president of the Supreme Court Bar Association and vice-chairman of the Pakistan Bar Council (PBC). In his farewell speech at the reference, Justice Saeed highlighted the importance of an independent judiciary, saying "The justice system of Pakistan has been established after a lot of hard work, brick-by-brick." "I hope no shortcuts will come in the

CJP says Justice  
Sheikh Azmat Saeed  
was an asset of  
superior judiciary



way of [provision of] justice,” he added. Justice Saeed also expressed the hope that his fellow judges will remain aware of the difference between “judicial anarchy and justice”. He said it was no less than an honour for him to serve the people by becoming a part of the judiciary. “Everyone should play their part for the provision of justice,” the judge advised. Chief Justice Khosa in his remarks termed Justice Saeed an asset of the superior judiciary, saying it had been his honour to have worked with him. He noted that the outgoing judge had penned several historic verdicts and untangled several uncertain matters during his time at the top court. “Justice Saeed’s belief in the rule of law and Constitution is evident from his judgements,” Justice Khosa remarked. Lauding Justice Saeed’s services for the judiciary, Attorney General Anwar Mansoor Khan noted that the judge had written important verdicts concerning military courts and the right to a fair trial. “The

judiciary is losing a capable judge today,” he said, pay respect to Justice Saeed on behalf of the federal government. PBC vice chairman Syed Amjad Shah in his address accused the government of using tactics to suppress “dissenting voices”. “Should institutions be allowed to exceed their authority? Are the parliament and courts functioning independently?” he asked. He said the Supreme Court should bind every institution to stay within its constitutional limits, adding that interference in political matters damages the reputation of the judiciary. The PBC vice chairman also expressed concern at what he said was “out-of-turn hearing” of references against certain superior court judges. He said he hoped a full-court bench of the SC will hear the applications against the presidential reference filed against Justice Qazi Faez Isa. SCBA President Amanullah Kanrani observed that Justice Saeed had given an excellent explanation of Article 62(1)(f) in the Panama Papers case and he gave

the “historic” verdict in favour of hearing references of the Supreme Judicial Council in open court. He said the SCBA considered hearing of cases in transparent and open courts a fundamental right. Justice Saeed was first enrolled as an advocate of the Lahore High Court (LHC) in 1981 and was subsequently promoted to advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Justice Saeed also served as special prosecutor of the Ehtesab Bureau in 1997 and was a member of the legal team prosecuting many high-profile cases at the LHC. According to the SC website, he served as special prosecutor National Accountability Bureau in 2001. Justice Saeed was appointed as an additional Judge of the LHC in 2004. In 2012, he was elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Justice Saeed last month took oath as acting Chief Justice of Pakistan and held the title till August 3.





# Pakistan-China

## All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership

By Mian Fazal Elahi

Vice Chairman of Chinese Central Military Commission (CMC), General Xu Qiliang called on President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad. The president said that Pakistan deeply valued China's defence cooperation with Pakistan and support on issues of its national security. President acknowledged unique, all-weather and time-tested China-Pakistan friendship and China's support for Pakistan on at multilateral forums, particularly at UNSC in the wake of India's illegal and unilateral steps in Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOJ&K). The visiting delegation assured Pakistan of China's continued support.

General Xu Qiliang, Vice Chairman, Central Military Commission (CMC) of China, called on Prime Minister Imran Khan. General Xu is leading a high-level delegation to Pakistan to discuss issues of mutual interest for Pakistan and China. During the meeting, Prime Minister Imran Khan underlined the unique quality of the time-tested, Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership, describing it as an anchor for peace and stability in the region and beyond. The Prime Minister highlighted India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August, the continuing indefensible lockdown of millions of Kashmiris in Occupied Jammu & Kashmir for three weeks, the dire human rights and the humanitarian situation there, and the threat to peace and security



posed by India's actions. The Prime Minister also underlined that India could stage a false flag operation to divert the world's attention from its crimes. The Prime Minister thanked China for supporting Pakistan's approach to the UNSC, following India's unilateral and illegal actions and the ongoing humanitarian crisis. He reiterated that the curfew in the IoJ&K must be immediately lifted and the international human rights NGOs allowed visiting IoJ&K to have an objective assessment of the humanitarian tragedy unfolding there. The Prime Minister also underscored that the brutal suppression of human rights in IoJ&K had the potential to spark a wave of extremism and India's reckless actions could destabilize the region immeasurably. General Xu Qiliang conveyed cordial greetings of President Xi Jinping, as well as that of Premier Li Keqiang, and reaffirmation of China's full support to Pakistan, particularly at this crucial juncture. Underscoring the importance of the time-tested China-Pakistan strategic partnership, he conveyed the Chinese leadership's commitment to the time-honored tradition of both countries supporting each other on issues of core national interest. He reiterated Beijing's resolve to work for further strengthening China-Pakistan ties in a broad range of areas. Vice Chairman Xu underlined that the South Asia region needed stability and economic development and resolution of outstanding disputes and appreciated Pakistan's efforts in advancing those goals. It was agreed that Pakistan and China would continue to closely consult and coordinate for the promotion of peace and stability in the region and maintenance of strategic balance. General Xu Qiliang, Vice Chairman Central Military Commission (CMC) visited GHQ with a high level delegation. Visiting dignitary had one on one meeting with COAS General Qamar Javed Bajwa followed by delegation level talks. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, regional security, avenues to enhance bilateral defence collaboration and particularly situation in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IoJ&K) were discussed. COAS appreciated China understands and support on all important issues particularly Kashmir. Visiting dignitary affirmed that China greatly values its time tested relations with Pakistan and its Army and is looking forward to further solidify this relation. Later, an MoU was signed for enhancement of defence cooperation and capacity building of Pakistan Army. Earlier, on arrival at GHQ, the Vice Chairman CMC laid floral wreath at Yadgar-e-Shuhada. The visiting dignitary was presented guard of honour.

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# Sri Lankan Delegation Meets Imran Khan

Staff Reporter

Prime Minister Imran Khan said that Pakistan deeply valued its close and friendly relations with Sri Lanka which had been nurtured over decades through a continuous interaction at bilateral, regional

and international levels. PM office media wing in a press release said that Prime Minister was talking to a Sri Lankan delegation that called on him to gift eye corneas to visually impaired people in Pakistan. The initiative was taken by the Sri Lankan High Commission in Islamabad, in collaboration with the Sri Lankan eye donation

society. The Prime Minister while appreciating this gesture said that it was a great initiative to provide corneas on a humanitarian basis which would enable people to regain their eyesight. The Sri Lankan delegation thanked the prime minister for receiving them.





# China continue to support Pakistan in safeguarding its legitimate rights

By News Agency

China has announced it will “uphold justice for Pakistan on the international arena” and that it supports Pakistan’s decision to approach the United Nations Security Council in the wake of India’s decision to revoke Kashmir’s special status.

The foreign ministers of both countries held an urgent meeting in Beijing to discuss the current situation in occupied Kashmir following the move made by India. A statement released by China’s foreign ministry, said that it will “continue to support Pakistan in safeguarding its legitimate rights and interests”. According to the statement, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi noted that China is “seriously concerned about the latest escalation of tensions in Kashmir”. China also believes that unilateral actions “will complicate the situation” and should not be taken. It called on Pakistan and India to “properly resolve historical grievances, get rid of the zero-sum mindset, avoid unilateral action and seek a new path to peaceful coexistence”. China recognises that the Kashmir dispute must be properly resolved “based on the UN Charter, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreement”, said the statement.

Following the meeting, in a video statement, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said that he had held a two-and-a-half hour long meeting with FM Yi. Qureshi said that FM

Yi had remarked that the meeting had been “a very beneficial and timely” one. He said that FM Yi had told him that despite a busy schedule and the short notice, he was holding the meeting on the instructions of President Xi Jinping because “the nature of the relationship between Pakistan and China is different and the response level should also be different”.

Chinese and Pakistani delegations pictured during a meeting held to discuss the escalating situation in occupied Kashmir “I am happy to share that I presented Pakistan’s point of view and its concerns surrounding India’s recent measures on occupied Kashmir,” said Qureshi in the video statement. “China once more proved itself to be a trustworthy friend,” he said, adding, “China completely supported Pakistan’s

stance on the matter.” He went on to say that China agreed with Pakistan that India’s actions are unilateral and that with the change in status of occupied Kashmir the region’s stability and peace are in danger. “It was agreed that it was a disputed territory and still is — a fact which is also recognised by the UN — and the solution will have to be based on the resolutions outlined by the UN,” said Qureshi. The foreign minister said he conveyed Pakistan’s concerns that after the amendments to Kashmir’s status, and after curfew restrictions are removed, “a new reign of oppression and barbarism may be enforced with which not only will further human rights violations occur but there is fear it will lead to further bloodshed”. He said that FM Yi was informed that “there may be a response and to divert attention from the response, there might be another incident like Pulwama that takes place.”

Qureshi said that China will offer complete support in the decisions taken by the Pakistan government, including that of approaching the UN Security Council, and will continue its cooperation with Pakistan. “Our missions and ministries will maintain contact and exchange of views so that our approach and response is a joint one and we can move forward with full devotion in the matter.” According to Radio Pakistan, the foreign minister was received by Pakistan’s Ambassador to China Naghmana Hashmi on his arrival at the Beijing airport. He was then taken to the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse where he was warmly received by FM Yi. FM Qureshi is visiting China as part of efforts to pressure India to reverse its decision revoking the special status of the disputed region of Kashmir, The Associated Press reported. Before leaving for Beijing, Qureshi said he will apprise Islamabad’s “trusted friend” about the situation after New Delhi downgraded its portion of Kashmir from statehood to a territory, limited its decision-making power and eliminated its right to its own constitution. Indian occupied Kashmir has been under an unprecedented security lockdown to prevent unrest as the decisions were announced. Pakistan is considering a proposal to approach the International Court of Justice over India’s action.





## Prime Minister Imran Khan's Address to AJK Assembly on



By M. Bilal Zafar

I am happy that today, on Pakistan's Independence Day, I am standing here with my brothers in Kashmir and at a time when there is a massive crisis being inflicted on the people of Kashmir. The statement mentioned earlier by the leadership of AJK; that it's Kashmir's turn today, and Pakistan will be next.... I just want to mention to you how over the past few days through our messaging over mainstream media, conversations with global leaders and social media, we have exposed to the world the the Nazi like racist ideology and the true face of RSS and Narendra Modi to the world. Our battle currently is not one of leg pulling for self interest, rather it is a stand we are taking against a horrific extremist ideology. In front

of us today stands a very dangerous ideology; The RSS ideology of whom Narendra Modi has been a member since childhood and who take their inspiration from Hitler's Nazi party. They admired them and believe in the concept of racial superiority of the Hindu race. They also believe that the Muslims once upon a time in history ruled over them, and now we must take revenge against them. Behind this ideology is an inherent hatred for Muslims and following that Christians who also ruled over them. Member of the RSS have been brainwashed and trained into thinking that had Muslims not ruled over them, they would have been a far superior race in the world. At the basis of their manifesto is the ethnic cleansing of Muslims from India; that they don't have a place in India.

Once you understand this hate filled ideology, you start connecting the dots and understand a lot of incidents leading up to this point in perspective, especially what is happening in Kashmir today. But most importantly, today we understand why our Quaid e Azam- who was an ambassador for Hindu Muslim unity, who was above race and ethnicity, and who was fighting for freedom from British colonialism for all in the subcontinent; whether they were Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Christian- he eventually channeled his visions towards a separate nation of Pakistan because he foresaw that there were going to be no freedoms for Muslims and minorities. He was a great leader who understood and foresaw the undercurrents of hate. When he was demotivated and left for Britain for a short time period; he wrote at the time that the Muslims minorities of the subcontinent had no idea what they were heading into. It would be subjugation worse than living under British colonialism. The Muslim community was not listening at the time; has 1937 election not happened, had home rule not come into place in which not even one ministry was given to the Muslim league; that is when the Muslim community realised that there was no place for them, and that is when they started going towards the Muslim league. That is when the Pakistan movement truly gained momentum. Even a year before the inception of Pakistan, people did not believe Pakistan would become an idea realised. When our Quaid landed here a few weeks before he told his ADC that he did not believe he would see Pakistan in his lifetime. He knew the tricks that were being played with this ideology; the same that ideology that killed Mahatma Gandhi. The same ideology that led to the butchering of Muslims in Gujarat under a CM, by the police. The killing of women and children. The same ideology that led to the destruction of the Babari Mosque.

The ideology of the RSS has only grown. From the Babari mosque incident, to the increase in lynchings of Muslims and the atrocities in Kashmir. And now what Modi is doing in Kashmir like Hitler's "final solution." They have been emboldened because they have not faced any resistance from the intentional community. We are all concerned at the moment about the truth of the humanitarian crisis and the atrocities created by this lockdown that has been imposed. What can be achieved via all this? Sending troops in, pushing tourists out, having people under curfew. I am of the view that Modi is making a strategic blunder. He is playing his final card but it is going to be very expensive for India. The first important development is that Kashmir is now a global narrative; we have spoken to President Trump about it; we brought it up at the OIC. Kashmir was not on the radar of the international community, but we as Pakistan have to ensure that this new momentum continues where Kashmir is in the global narrative. I pledge to be

the ambassador of Kashmir. We have to make the world realise the RSS ideology is exactly like the Nazi ideology. After World War 2 the world made a collective decision that such genocide would never be repeated again. The RSS ideology is heading that way again. Look at how Indian ministers are talking; they are talking of exhuming bodies of Kashmiri women and raping them. These are sick minds who talk of this. These are extremist minds. This is the ideology that has done ethnic cleansing in the world, that has created wars. People have no idea how much India has radicalised. It is no longer a plural society. The facade of a tolerant India has been removed. The biggest damage of this will be done to India itself. They have damaged their own constitution, gone against the verdict of their Supreme Court, against the Kashmir high court. When a country's law and order, its human rights are diminished it becomes a banana republic. Judges are afraid in India, media is curbed, opposition members are afraid to speak up of an alternative discourse in parliament. RSS goons are going and lynching

**And if you try anything in AJK, the time has come where we will teach you a lesson. You have been emboldened for all the wrong reasons for far too long.**

people, threatening judges, intellectuals. This is exactly what the Nazi's did; anyone who spoke against their supremacy was a traitor.

India is heading towards a disaster with this extremist ideology. A country made up of 18 Crore Muslims who live under threat. This will eventually face a backlash. Anywhere in the world there is marginalisation, there will be radicalisation. History has proven this. Muslims are living in fear today in India. When I used to play cricket in India; Muslims from affluent households used to say the two nation theory wasn't right. Today those same people say Quaid e Azam was absolutely right.

Pro Indian Kashmiri politicians today are endorsing the two nation theory. This Pandora's box of the RSS ideology will not stop at Muslims; it will spillover into the Sikh community, the Christian community. It is an epidemic.

We are afraid that this Nazi and hateful ideology will not remain limited to Kashmir and will spill towards Pakistan. We have information; the Pakistani army is aware they have a plan to



carry out operations in AJK. To divert the world's attention of what they are doing under curfew in Kashmir, they want to do an operation in AJK. I am telling Modi that if you try a skirmish, we will respond ten folds. Our army is battle hardened fighting a nearly 20 year war against terrorism. Our people are ready to defend our freedoms. The history of the world shows that when people fight for their freedoms, that they defeat big and powerful armies. We will go to the end to defend ourselves and our sovereignty. We bow to no one except Allah. What you are aiming to do, to make Kashmir your slaves and then sugar coating it with fake speeches of bringing prosperity to Kashmir. This is when Hitler attacked Russia saying I am here to free you from communism. By imposing curfews, 11 days long, sending extra troops in, Modi is building a guise of bringing prosperity

to Kashmir? The message we have for the cadres of RSS, the leadership of Kashmir, is that they are going down the path of Nazism. A war hysteria and propaganda has been created via their media and their public being brainwashed. It is a betrayal of Kashmir, the promises made to the people of Kashmir by Nehru. No worry for human rights, international accords, Simla agreement. It is simply about their Nazi like ideology and then their arrogance. Hitler had arrogance and Modi's arrogance is no different. But history has shown that Hitler was destroyed, Napoleon was destroyed. War is never the solution; it leads to multiple other conflicts. We are observing where the events go from here. Pakistan is fully ready; our army, our people are on one page. We have decided we will not tolerate any violation and are fully ready to counter it. If this region goes to war,





Kashmir was not on the radar of the international community, but we as Pakistan have to ensure that this new momentum continues where Kashmir is in the global narrative. I pledge to be the ambassador of Kashmir.

the world will be responsible. Those institutions responsible for keeping world peace, this is a trial of the United Nations. Will you stand by the 11 resolutions of the security council. Does the United Nations only work when the powerful make a decision? Does it not stand up when the weak are oppressed. I say to the UN that over a billion Muslims have their eyes on you right now. Unfortunately we can't look to the leadership of the Muslim world, but there are 1.5 billion Muslims globally looking at the United Nations to see whether you will stand for Kashmir's right to self determination. We will go to United Nations also. We will go to every global forum. We will go to the International court of justice. We are mobilising the global community of Kashmiris and you will see a historic number of people come out.

We will constantly hammer the narrative of Kashmir's right to self determination. All the atrocities committed under this curfew is a result of the inaction of the international community. What is India hiding behind this curfew if they claim to bring prosperity? All our ambassadors globally are active. I am going to be the global ambassador for the cause of Kashmir and raise it at every international forum. From here on, this strategically wrong card that has been played, Kashmir's final journey towards freedom has begun InshAllah.

I have always maintained that war is no solution. I have constantly said you take one step forward and we will take two. Our interest should be poverty alleviation, increased trade, climate change; this should have been issues of common interest. There is a solution via dialogue but their ideology is only interested in Nazi tactics and hatred and harming Pakistan in the process. I want to end the note today by saying the whole nation is thankful to Quaid e Azam today for having the vision; today we would have all been subjected to a racist, fascist ideology. We thank him from the heart as Pakistanis. For 6 years he kept his illness hidden and did not let anyone find out. He fought for the negotiations till the end and on 14th August Pakistan became a free nation based on massive

sacrifices. The ideology of Pakistan was to be a country made on the principles of Madina. A modern state with modern principles like rule of law, women's rights, rights for the oppressed, equality, rights for minorities. Quaid e Azam's speech on secularism is based on the basic tenant of Islam that there is no compulsion or force in religion. The RSS ideology of forcing people and targeting people outside of Hinduism is against the very basic principle of what our religion of peace Islam teaches us. The justice of Islam is that no one is above the law. Our religion is not racist, it is not myopic. It is a very progressive religion; and a peaceful religion. I want to tell Modi again that don't live

in a false paradise. The people of Kashmir are resistant to your atrocities and it has developed into a battle hardened and brave community who will fight you. And if you try anything in AJK, the time has come where we will teach you a lesson. You have been emboldened for all the wrong reasons for far too long.



**Strongly condemn the blatant use of cluster ammunition by Indian Security Forces targeting innocent civilians along the Line of Control. This is clear violation of the Geneva Convention & International Laws.**



## Prime Minister Imran Khan took the nation into confidence on Indian-occupied Kashmir

**T**he Prime Minister Imran Khan started his address by saying that he wanted to share with the public the government's policy and stance in view of the existing situation in occupied Kashmir, whose special autonomy was revoked by the Indian government earlier this month. He said the time had come for Pakistan's Kashmir policy to take a "decisive" turn.

Prime Minister Imran Khan took the nation into confidence on the government's strategy regarding Indian-occupied Kashmir through a national address, vowing that Pakistan "will go to any lengths" to support the cause of the oppressed Kashmiri people.

"When my government came into power, my first priority was to generate peace in the country. India and we share many problems; unemployment, inflation and climate change, etc.

"So we wanted to be friends with everyone. From the start of our term, we made many overtures for dialogue [to India] but there were always some problems. They (India) would look for opportunities to accuse Pakistan of terrorism," the prime minister said.

"First they had elections coming up, so we waited for that to be over, we thought when elections would be over, the situation will be different. Then Pulwama happened; a Kashmiri man blew himself up.

"India, instead of introspecting, pointed fingers at us. After the elections, we saw that they tried their best to bankrupt Pakistan and tried to have Pakistan 'blacklisted' at FATF (Financial Action Task Force).

"That is when we decided we should not hold any talks with them because we realised they had a different agenda," he added.

The prime minister recalled that on August 5 New Delhi sent additional military troops

to Kashmir and announced that it was now part of India. "This was against the vision of their founding fathers and UN resolutions," he added.

"The message [India] gave on August 5 was that Hindustan belongs to Hindus only and all others are second-class citizens."

He said it was important for the public to understand the ideology of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) party — said to be a parent organisation of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of which Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been a member.

"They (RSS) believed that Hindus were supreme and there was a hatred for Muslims in their ideology. Their leaders followed racist and fascist ideologies.

"This was the ideology that assassinated Mahatma Gandhi after independence," he said, adding that RSS had been sidelined by Indian governments as a terrorist organisation in the past.

"This was also the ideology that Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah saw and worked towards the creation of Pakistan.

"After [former prime minister Jawaharlal] Nehru's death, the RSS ideology started gaining ground in India and went on to destroy the Babri Mosque, massacre Muslims in Gujarat and which is responsible for mob violence [on minorities in India]."

In contrast, he said, Pakistan's ideology is based on the Holy Quran and believes in the protection of minorities.

Prime Minister Imran said Modi had made a "historic blunder" by revoking occupied Kashmir's special autonomy due to his arrogance, and in doing so "he has opened the way to Kashmir's freedom".

"We received information that they were planning a false-flag operation in Azad Kashmir

like what they did in Balakot, to divert attention from occupied Kashmir.

"We won on the [diplomatic] front; we internationalised the Kashmir issue, talked to heads of states, their embassies [and] the UN Security Council called a session on Kashmir for the first time since 1965. We also kept raising this for the international media to report and they picked this up."

He said the government's campaign would continue until Kashmir has attained freedom, and sought the media's support in this regard.

Outlining the government's future strategy to deal with the situation in occupied Kashmir, the premier said: "First, I believe, the entire nation should stand with the Kashmiri nation. I have said that I will act as Kashmir's ambassador.

"I will tell the world about this, I have shared this with heads of states that I have been in contact with. I will raise this issue in my speech at the UN General Assembly as well.

"I read in the newspapers that people are disappointed that Muslim countries are not taking any actions [over Kashmir]. I want to tell you not to be disappointed; if some Muslim countries are not raising this issue because of their economic interests, they will eventually come on our side. They will have to, with time.

"The western media has never criticised India as much as it is doing right now. I want to tell the Kashmiri people that whether the world stands with them or not, Pakistan will."

The prime minister announced that an event will be held every week to show solidarity with the Kashmiri people and coming Friday, the nation will come out between 12-12:30pm to show solidarity.

"They (India) have played their trump card, they don't have any card to play now. Now whatever needs to be done will be done by us and the world.

"This is the UN's responsibility, they promised the people of Kashmir that they would give them the right to decide their future through a plebiscite," he said, adding that while historically the UN has always sided with the powerful, it should know that 1.25 billion Muslims of the world "are looking towards you for help".

"Will these big countries keep looking at their markets only?" he asked.

Prime Minister Imran warned that if was the dispute moved towards war, then the world should remember that "both countries have nuclear weapons".

"In a nuclear war, no one will win. It will not only wreak havoc in this region, but the entire world will face consequences. It is now up to the international community.

"Whether the world joins us or not, Pakistan will go to any lengths and its people will support [Kashmiris] till their last breath," the premier concluded.



**Yao Jing, Chinese Ambassador  
to Pakistan**

**H**ong Kong is well-known to the world. It is not only an important international financial, trade, shipping hub and international innovation and technology center, but also one of the freest economies and the most competitive cities in the world. Its unique position bridges mainland China and West world. Hong Kong enjoys the reputation as the Pearl of the Orient. Recently, however, against the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government's proposed amendment bills to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance, a series of demonstrations and violent incidents in Hong Kong have caused widespread concern in the international community. Friends in Pakistan may have questions about what is happening in Hong Kong? I would like to share my views in following aspects.

### **1. Why does the Chinese central government implement "one country, two systems" in Hong Kong?**

Hong Kong has been a Chinese territory since ancient times. After

# What is Happening in Hong Kong?

the Opium War of 1842, the United Kingdom ruled Hong Kong as a colony for over 150 years by signing a series of unequal treaties with the Qing Dynasty. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese government and the British government signed the Sino-British Joint Declaration through negotiations. On 1st July 1997, China resumed its sovereignty over Hong Kong and Hong Kong returned to the embrace of the motherland. Considering the existing ideological, moral and lifestyle differences that the people of Hong Kong have formed under the capitalist system for a long time, the Chinese central government has decided to implement "one country, two systems" in Hong Kong and set up the Hong Kong SAR. The Chinese central government governs Hong Kong in accordance with the Constitution and the Basic Law of the Hong Kong SAR. Hong Kong enjoys a high degree of autonomy only exclusive of national defense and foreign affairs, keeping the capitalist system and way of life unchanged for 50 years. Other countries, including the United Kingdom, have no sovereignty, no power to rule, no power to supervise over Hong Kong after its return.

During the 22 years since the return of Hong Kong, the practice of "one country, two systems" has achieved universally recognized success. In 2018, the total economic volume of Hong Kong was \$360 billion, more than twice that of 1996; the

number of visitors to Hong Kong exceeded 65 million, six times that of 1997; the international ranking of legal environment jumped from lower than 60th in 1996 to 16th in 2018. Hong Kong has been voted as the world's freest economy for 20 consecutive years. After the return, Hong Kong's own characteristics and advantages have been maintained. It enjoys harmony between Chinese and Western culture, and the charm of the metropolis is better than ever. The people of Hong Kong enjoy more extensive democratic rights and freedom than ever. Under the system of "one country, two systems", the central government and the mainland China has been a strong support to Hong Kong's development. Hong Kong SAR will usher in a better future with the "One Belt, One Road" initiative and the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

### **2. Why does the government of Hong Kong SAR propose to amend the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance?**

The proposal by government of Hong Kong SAR to amend the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance results from an ordinary criminal case. In early 2018, a Hong Kong resident killed his pregnant girlfriend in Taiwan, China and escaped back to Hong Kong. Since Hong Kong has no criminal jurisdiction in this case, the SAR

government proposed to amend the above two ordinances to extradite the suspect to Taiwan and charge him for murder there. The amendments will allow Hong Kong to cooperate with the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan that haven't signed the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance with Hong Kong to transfer suspects and fugitives through special arrangements. Such a step will be conducive to make up for the loopholes in the existing laws, jointly combat crimes and manifest the rule of law and justice.

However, since the beginning of amending the two ordinances in this February, some citizens of Hong Kong had various doubts due to lack of knowledge about law and judicial systems in the mainland China. Some people and media with ulterior motives took the opportunity to spread rumors or create social panic in order to thwart the amendment of the ordinance. Since June, Hong Kong has witnessed several large-scale rallies against the amendments of the ordinance. The government of Hong Kong SAR suspended the amending procedure on 15th June and stopped relevant legislative work after consulting people from various walks of life in order to restore tranquility to the society as soon as possible.

### **3. Was what happened recently a peaceful assembly or a violent incident?**

After the Hong Kong SAR government decided to suspend the amendments, the situation has not subsided. On the contrary, it became more radical and violent. Since 12th June, the protests in Hong Kong have completely gone beyond the freedom of assembly, demonstration or protest. The situation has escalated into extremely violent incidents. The protesters

use various violent measures with intensified destructiveness. The facts are startling and horrifying. Over the past two months, 461 people have been injured in violent conflicts, including 139 police officers. What is even more indignant and highly vigilant is that some violent radicals have torn up The Basic Law of the Hong Kong SAR, defamed Chinese national emblem and national flag, which seriously violated the law. Their behaviors have openly offended the national dignity and challenged the bottom line of the "one country, two systems" principle. The protests and violent attacks have also caused serious negative impacts on Hong Kong's economy and people's livelihood. According to the statistics of the government of Hong Kong SAR, the economic indicators of Hong Kong in the first six months of this year have rarely fallen across the board except for few industries. The gross domestic product of Hong Kong in the second quarter increased by only 0.6 percent in real terms year on year. 18 countries and regions have issued travel safety reminders against Hong Kong. The current situation in Hong Kong has seriously eroded the confidence of international investors who have publicly expressed their deep concern about the business environment in Hong Kong.

It is worth noting that external forces have played a very disgraceful role in the evolving of the situation in Hong Kong. Since the start of the amendments process to the two Ordinances in February, some western politicians have publicly stood at the forefront and been backseat drivers, calling white black, making a lot of groundless and irresponsible remarks and allegations, and interfering with Hong Kong affairs. How could the situation in Hong Kong has deteriorated to the

point as it is today? Why some violent radicals dare to unscrupulously carry out illegal activities and openly challenge the bottom line of the "one country, two systems" principle? It is inseparable from the irresponsible remarks of some Western politicians.

### **4. How do the Chinese central government and the government of Hong Kong SAR respond to the situation in Hong Kong?**

The Chinese central government unswervingly safeguards national sovereignty and Hong Kong's prosperity and stability, and resolutely stand by the government of Hong Kong SAR in its administration according to the laws and regulations, supports the Hong Kong police in law enforcement and the Hong Kong Judiciary to punish violent criminals in accordance with the law, and appreciates the action of the patriotic citizens of Hong Kong to defend the rule of law in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is China's Hong Kong. Hong Kong affairs are China's internal affairs. China will not tolerate the intervention of external forces. The Chinese central government has solemnly demanded that certain countries should abide by the basic norms of international law, international relations and their own commitments not to intervene in Hong Kong affairs, and stop supporting violence and interfering in Hong Kong affairs in any form.

Justice naturally inhabits man's heart. With the support of the Chinese central government and the efforts of the government of Hong Kong SAR, with the assistance of the vast number of patriotic Hong Kong people, we believe that Hong Kong will soon return to the normal track of prosperity and stability.

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# Voice of Kashmiri people

## heard at the United Nations Maleeha Lodhi

By M Bilal Zafar

**T**he Security Council considered the volatile situation surrounding Kashmir, addressing the issue in a meeting focused solely on the dispute, within the UN body dedicated to resolving matters of international peace and security, for the first time since 1965.

Although the meeting took place behind closed doors in New York, the Chinese Ambassador, Zhang Jun, spoke to reporters outside the chamber following deliberations, urging both India and Pakistan to “refrain from taking any unilateral action which might further aggravate” what was an already “tense and very dangerous” situation.

### Ambassador

**Zhang said Council members had “expressed their serious concern” concerning the current situation in Jammu and Kashmir... The Kashmir issue should be resolved properly through peaceful means, in accordance with the UN Charter,**

The Indian-administered part of the majority-Muslim region, known as Jammu and Kashmir had its special status within the constitution revoked by the Indian Government on 5 August, placing it under tighter central control. Pakistan has argued that the move violates international law.

The UN has long maintained an institutional presence in the contested area, which both countries claim in its entirety, with the areas under separate administration, divided by a so-called Line of Control. The UN Military Observer Group in Indian and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) observes and reports on any ceasefire violations.

In a statement issued on 8 August, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said he had been following the situation in Jammu and Kashmir “with concern”, making an appeal for “maximum restraint”. “The position of the United Nations on this region is governed by the Charter...and

and Pakistan also known as the Simla Agreement, which states that the final status of Jammu and Kashmir is to be settled by peaceful means”, in accordance with the UN Charter. Ambassador Zhang said Council members had “expressed their serious concern” concerning the current situation in Jammu and Kashmir... The Kashmir issue should be resolved properly through peaceful means, in accordance with the UN Charter, the relevant Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements.” Pakistan requested the Security Council meeting on 13 August, and it was subsequently called for by Permanent Member, China. Speaking to reporters outside the chamber, Pakistan’s Ambassador, Maleeha Lodhi said the

### Pakistan’s Ambassador to the United Nations

**Maleeha Lodhi said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir may be locked up and their voices not heard in their own homes and their own land, but their voices were heard at the meeting of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).**



applicable Security Council resolutions”, said the statement. “The Secretary-General also recalls the 1972 Agreement on bilateral relations between India

meeting had allowed “the voice of the people of the occupied Kashmir” to be heard “in the highest diplomatic forum of the world.” She argued that “the fact that this meeting took place is testimony to the fact that this is an international dispute.” She said that “as far as my country is concerned, we stand ready for a peaceful settlement of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. I think today’s meeting nullifies India’s claim that Jammu and Kashmir is an internal matter for India. Today the whole world is discussing the occupied state and the situation there.”

Pakistan’s Ambassador to the United Nations Maleeha Lodhi said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir may be locked up and their voices not heard in their own homes and their own land, but their voices were heard at the meeting of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The UNSC held a consultative meeting to discuss the Kashmir issue as Pakistan urged the world body to implement its own resolutions on this 70 year old dispute. The meeting

had been called by China on Pakistan’s request to discuss the prevailing situation in occupied Kashmir. In the closed door meeting, briefings were given on the situation and consultations will take place to decide how to proceed further. In a media briefing following the conclusion of the meeting, Ambassador Lodhi said that the meeting had been called within 72 hours after Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi had written a letter requesting the same. “We are grateful to China in also joining us in calling this meeting,” she added. “The voice of the Kashmiri people, the voice of the people of occupied Kashmir has been heard today in the highest diplomatic forum of the world.” They are not alone, their voices have been heard, their plight, their hardship, their pain, their suffering, their occupation and the consequences of that occupation have been heard in the UNSC,” she said. Lodhi said that the very fact this meeting had taken place is “testimony to the fact that this is an internationally

recognised dispute”. The UN Ambassador said that there was “an effort to stop this meeting from convening” but thanked all 15 members for agreeing to hold it. “This meeting has reaffirmed the validity of the UNSC resolutions on the occupied state of Jammu and Kashmir,” she said. Lodhi underscored the fact that Pakistan “stands ready for a peaceful settlement of the dispute of Jammu and Kashmir”. She further emphasised that India’s claim that the issue was an “internal matter” stood nullified following today’s meeting. “Today the whole world is discussing the occupied state and the situation there,” she said, also referring to the Chinese ambassador’s remarks on the human rights situation in Kashmir. “It is an abysmal situation, with violence carried out with impunity by India. That, too, has been discussed by the Security Council today,” she disclosed. She said she had contacted FM Qureshi who had conveyed that this is the first step that Pakistan has taken on behalf of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.





# UNSC set to hold Kashmir meeting after 50 years

By Monitoring Desk

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) holds a consultative meeting to discuss the Kashmir issue as Pakistan urges the world body to implement its own resolutions on this 70-year-old dispute.

“We hope the Security Council discussion will be guided by the statement of the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres who has voiced concern over the situation in occupied Jammu and Kashmir,” said Pakistan’s UN envoy Maleeha Lodhi.

She pointed out that the secretary general had also emphasised the need to resolve this “issue in accordance with applicable Security Council Resolutions and the Charter of the United Nations”. The UNSC resolutions uphold the Kashmiri people’s right to self-determination while the UN charter guarantees their basic human rights. As Ambassador Lodhi noted, last week Mr Guterres also expressed concern about the human rights situation in India-held Kashmir. Consultative meeting has been called by China on Pakistan’s request to discuss the prevailing situation in IHK. In the closed door meeting, briefings will be given on the situation and consultations will take place to decide how to proceed further. The meeting may decide to issue a statement or can possibly suggest

calling an emergency session of the Security Council. Yet, this marks the first time in over 50 years that the UN Security Council is holding an exclusive meeting on Kashmir, even though consultative.

“The issue before the Security Council is also about the pain, suffering and plight of over 14 million people who have been now locked up in their own homes,” said Ambassador Lodhi while underlining the need for the UNSC to fulfil its obligations. Focusing on the plight of the Kashmiri people, she added: “Their state has been dismembered, their liberty stolen so that the Indian government can take away their identity.” Ambassador Lodhi and her team have been tirelessly working since early this month to sensitise the UN members on how India’s decision to revoke Kashmir’s special status threatens South Asia’s peace and stability. The 10 non-permanent members — who are elected for a two-year term by the UN General Assembly — are Belgium, Côte d’Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland and South Africa. While two of them — Indonesia and Kuwait — have sympathised with Pakistan in the past, it will be difficult to persuade others to back the Chinese request. It was Poland’s Joanna Wronecka, the current

president of the UN Security Council, who disclosed on Wednesday that the council would meet on Aug 16, to discuss the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, on China’s request. Earlier this week, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi wrote a letter to Ms Wronecka, urging the council to urgently convene a session on India’s decision to declare Jammu and Kashmir a union territory by revoking of Article 370 of its own constitution.

China had requested a closed meeting on Jammu and Kashmir, citing the letter sent by Mr Qureshi. Upon his return to Pakistan from a visit to China, Mr Qureshi had said that Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi had assured him of full support at the UNSC. Ambassador Lodhi, however, said in an interview to Turkey’s TRTchannel that Pakistan had been “getting significant traction from the members of the council.” When her attention was drawn by BBC News to statements made by some UNSC members on Pakistan’s move, Ambassador Lodhi said, “I am not going to pre-judge what the council members are going to say, but I think they will be guided by the statement of the UN secretary general. “I think at this point in time the very affirmation or re-affirmation of the council’s resolutions itself is going to nullify the Indian claim that this is an internal matter.”



# Turkey, Malaysia & Pakistan to lead Muslim renaissance

By News Agency

Experts have welcomed visiting Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's statement that Turkey, Malaysia and Pakistan can pave the way forward for development in the Muslim world. "The Islamic world needs a renaissance," said Huseyin Bagci, an expert in International relations at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara.

"And Prime Minister Mahathir made a right point that these countries at least start new projects which make Muslim world compatible and competitive in Islamic sciences, technology, defense, etc.," Bagci said. The Malaysian premier arrived in the Turkish capital Ankara kick off his four-day official visit.

Corroborating words of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan that solidarity among Turkey, Malaysia and Pakistan "is necessary for the unity of the Islamic world", Mahathir told reporters at a joint news conference that it is crucial to relieve the Muslim Ummah from being subjugated by others.

"That is why I proposed that three Muslim countries should work together. So that we can speak with a louder voice in terms of many areas; defense, for example," the Malaysian premier said. Bagci agreed saying the three countries have common values in democracy, human rights and free press. "People relatively feel free," he said, adding: "[However], there is stagnation in Islamic world... there can be kingdoms like

Corroborating words of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan that solidarity among Turkey, Malaysia and Pakistan "is necessary for the unity of the Islamic world",

in the U.K. but governments come and go which is not the case in most of the Muslim world." He noted that Turkey, Malaysia and Pakistan stand out from the Arab world. "It is interesting that why Prime Minister Mahathir did not mention any Arab country," Bagci said, referring to their dismal track record in upholding human rights. Notably, Turkey, Pakistan and Malaysia are among the founders of the Muslim-majority D-8 group that seeks to establish strategic relations, increased trade, and more cooperation among its members.

However, the group is yet to realize its potential. On the apparent failure of D-8, Bagci blamed "too much divisions, corruption and stagnation in Islamic world". "The new mechanism which Mahathir has suggested can bring together even Afghanistan and central Asian states," he said. Professor Sami A. Al-Arian, director of Istanbul-based Center for Islam and Global Affairs, described the ongoing visit as "historic". "This visit by Prime Minister Mahathir to Turkey to meet President Erdoğan is historic, as the two leaders have been repeatedly and frequently democratically elected by their people," Al-Arian said. He said that these leaders have demonstrated over the years "political stability and economic dynamism". According to Al-Arian, Mahathir's visit comes at a time when the economic and political challenges faced by the two governments are "enormous in light of the looming global economic uncertainty as well as the geopolitical shifts across the Middle East because of the U.S. trade war with China, and other regional problems". "The U.S. sanctions against Iran and the latest tension with Turkey with regard to the S-400 air defense system, have resulted in having other regional powers, such as Turkey and Malaysia, to come closer together to restructure their relations in order to stand up to the pressure being applied against their economy and security," he added.

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# The G7 Leaders wish



## TO UNDERLINE THEIR GREAT UNITY

**T**he G7 Leaders wish to underline their great unity and the positive spirit of the debates. The G7 Summit organized by France in Biarritz has successfully produced agreements by the Heads of State and Government themselves on several points summarized below:

The G7 is committed to open and fair world trade and to the stability of the global economy. The G7 requests that the Finance Ministers closely monitor the state of the global economy. Therefore, the G7 wishes to overhaul the WTO to improve effectiveness with regard to intellectual property protection, to settle disputes more swiftly and to eliminate unfair trade practices. The G7 commits to reaching in 2020 an agreement to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD.

President Donald Tusk represented the EU at the G7 summit, where leaders discussed global challenges such as Iran, trade tensions, the fight against inequalities and climate change. They also discussed the global issue of the wildfires in the Amazon. At the end of the summit, they adopted the G7 Leaders' Declaration.

The summit took place under the French presidency of the G7, which is centred around the fight against inequalities. With that goal in mind, the French G7 presidency has adjusted the format of the G7 to involve international partners and representatives of civil society. The EU's priority during the summit was

to defend the rules-based order and its organizations as the best approach to global governance. Donald Tusk warned ahead of the summit that the meeting would be a difficult test of unity and solidarity for the free world and its leaders

"There is still no certainty whether the group will be able to find common solutions and the global challenges are today really serious, or whether it will focus on senseless disputes among each other. The last years have shown that it is increasingly difficult for all of us to find

common language when the world needs our cooperation more, not less. This may be the last moment to restore our political community."

### Climate change and oceans

On climate change, the EU and other G7 partners reaffirmed their commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. Leaders followed up on the G7 Ocean Plastics Charter agreed last year at their summit in Canada and discussed further initiatives to reduce plastic pollution. G7



leaders also endorsed a charter on biodiversity, as adopted by the G7 environment ministers in May 2019. The charter aims to boost efforts to halt biodiversity loss and to sustain a healthy planet.

### Digital transformation

Leaders also discussed the digital transformation and how to ensure that it is open, free and secure. The discussion focused on ways to defend our democratic societies and institutions – and our electoral processes – from foreign threats. Leaders exchanged views on how to continue the fight against terrorist content online. They also discussed international cooperation on artificial intelligence.

### The EU as G7 member

In 1977, representatives of the then European Community began participating in the London summit. Originally, the role of the EU was limited to those areas in which it had exclusive competences, but this role has expanded over time. The EU has gradually been included in all political discussions on the summit agenda and, from the Ottawa summit (1981) onwards, has taken part in all summit working sessions. The EU has all the responsibilities of membership. The summit communiqué is politically binding on all G7 members. The rotation of the presidency is as follows: Japan in 2016, Italy in 2017, Canada in 2018, France in 2019, and the USA in 2020.

### G7 & Africa Partnership

1. We, the Leaders of the G7, Egypt (current chair of the African Union), Rwanda (former chair of the AU), South Africa (future chair of the AU), Senegal (chair of NEPAD), Burkina Faso (chair of the G5 Sahel), and the African Union Commission Chairperson, have gathered in Biarritz on 25 August 2019, together with the United Nations Secretary-General, the International Monetary Fund Managing Director, the World Bank Group President and the African Development Bank President, to review the international situation and recent developments in Africa.

2. Regarding peace and security in Africa, we in particular discussed issues such as the situation in Libya, the Sahel region, the Lake Chad Basin, the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa. We welcome the G7 Sahel Action Plan, as well as the decision of Canada and Japan to join the Sahel Alliance in the capacity of observers.

3. We reiterate the importance of a reinvigorated G7 & Africa Partnership in order to address the main challenges of the African continent, including eradicating poverty, ensuring full realization of the right to education, providing good quality health care and increasing access to clean water.

4. We are convinced that fighting inequality,



strengthening governance and promoting inclusive sustainable economic growth, in the framework of a prosperous global economy, and social development are key elements of stability and peace, and are fundamental to ensuring a shared and prosperous future for our citizens. We therefore reiterate our firm commitment to a partnership of equals, based on common goals and aimed at supporting Africa's priorities. We underline the importance of the launch of the operationalization phase of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement at the African Union Extraordinary Summit held in Niamey on 7 July 2019. We reiterate our willingness to continue to develop entrepreneurship and private sector youth employment in Africa through multilateral initiatives, such as the G20 Compact with Africa and other bilateral initiatives supported by individual G7 members.

5. We are determined to work together to address global challenges, in line with Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and taking into account the African Union Agenda 2063. The active involvement of African stakeholders in the preparatory work, engagement groups and ministerial meetings leading up to the Biarritz Summit reflects this shared ambition.

The G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council releases its Recommendations for advancing Gender Equality and the empowerment of girls and women and Call to Action.

The Advisory Council has identified 79 good practices in gender equality laws in 4 sectors (violence, economic empowerment, education and health, discrimination) and in all regions of the world. It calls on the leaders of the G7 and other countries to commit themselves, through the "Biarritz Partnership", to adopt





and implement progressive legislative frameworks for gender equality, drawing on its recommendations. In particular, it calls on the leaders to:

#### **End gender-based violence;**

Ensure equitable and quality education and health;

Promote economic empowerment;

Ensure full equality between women and men in public policies.

It calls on States to ensure the necessary funding for the implementation of laws and to monitor them on a regular basis, as well as to abolish any discriminatory measures against women that may persist. More than 2.5 billion girls and women worldwide are affected by discriminatory laws and lack of legal protection. The actions of many brave girls and women

have broken the silence and highlighted the urgent need for strong and determined action. The Council urges the leaders of the G7 to be as courageous and courageous as girls and women are every day. The Advisory Council will present its recommendations to French President Emmanuel Macron on 23 August at the Elysée Palace. The two co-Presidents of the Council, Nobel Prize Laureates Nadia Murad and Denis Mukwege, and the Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, will then travel to Biarritz to present this document to G7 leaders during a session on inequalities and officially launch the Biarritz Partnership.

The Gender Equality Advisory Council (GEAC) was created by Prime Minister Trudeau during Canada's G7 presidency in 2018. French President Emmanuel Macron renewed it in 2019 by renewing its members and its mandate.



The 2019 Council is composed of 35 members, including three Nobel Peace Prize laureates, representatives of international and French NGOs, international organizations and private companies, government representatives\*, journalists and artists.

The Advisory Council met three times in Paris in 2019. President Macron launched the work of the Council in February; the Council then met in May on the margins of the meeting of the G7 Ministers for Equality between Women and Men and in July. In addition, Council members participated in most G7 ministerial meetings and Sherpa and Sous-Sherpa meetings, thereby strengthening the place of gender equality on the G7 agenda. The Council is an independent body. Government representatives recognize the inherent challenge of both advocating and receiving recommendations in their dual roles as members of the Council and the G7, and do not take this report to be a government document of endorsed recommendations.

6. Building on these joint efforts, we have decided to work together with international and regional organizations and with the private sector, in three areas:

#### **Promoting women's entrepreneurship in Africa**

7. We call for reforms to address the social, legal and regulatory barriers to women's full and free economic participation and empowerment. We support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi). We also further encourage the 2X Challenge and bilateral programmes supported by G7 members.

#### **Digital transformation in Africa**

8. We commit to providing strong support to bridge the digital divide and promote digital transformation in Africa, in line with our national commitments. We note in that respect the recommendations from the EU-African Union Digital Economy Task Force and the Digital Economy Moonshot for Africa and Smart Africa initiatives. We also call on all actors to take specific action to ensure that the digital transformation benefits all, including in the most fragile regions.

#### **Transparency in public procurement and the common fight against corruption**

9. We support enhancing public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

10. We also look forward to the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) to be held immediately after the Biarritz Summit



# FRANCE

BIARRITZ  
2019





# Pakistan is committed to stand and support Kashmiri people of IoK

By M. Bilal Zafar

**T**he Speaker Asad Qaiser said that Pakistan was committed to stand and support to Kashmiri people till resolution of Kashmir issue in accordance with their aspiration and UN Resolution. He said that Joint Session of the Parliament was held to show solidarity with Kashmiri brethren and all the political parties in the Parliament had similarity of views on Kashmir. He condemned Indian aggression and atrocities on innocent Kashmiris. The Speaker said that pursuing parliamentary diplomacy, he established telephonic contacts with his foreign





counterparts for gathering support specially the Speakers of the Russian, Iranian, Chinese and Turkish Parliaments. He said that they would strongly support stance of Pakistan on Kashmir on all international parliamentary forums.

The speaker stressed that the National Assembly of Pakistan will continue to play a proactive role as part of the parliamentary diplomacy in complementing Pakistan's diplomatic endeavors pertaining to Kashmir. He further stressed that the international community should play attention to the blatant violation of human rights and the Kashmiri people inherent right of self-determination in line with the UN resolutions.

While meeting Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan, called on the National Assembly Speaker, Asad Qaisar, also

discuss welfare project for the marginalized communities known as Pakistan Welfare Towns (PWTs). The meeting was also attended by the former Air Chief Sohail Aman. The Pakistan Welfare Towns (PWTs) is a welfare project initiated by the retired officers of Pakistan Air Force (PAF). It is aimed at providing quality health, education and recreational facilities to the marginalized communities of Pakistan under one roof.

The project greatly inspired the National Assembly speaker, who generously donated the land of more than 100 Acres in Swabi for the PWTs. The speaker has been engaged with activity since long in the direct and indirect contribution towards the project for the welfare of impoverished strata of our society.

The speaker commended the services of

Pakistan Air Force for their untiring efforts regarding the materialization Pakistan Welfare Towns; whereas, the Air Chief thanked the speaker for his unconditional support.

The major focus of the meeting was the decision regarding the timelines of new projects of the PWTs to be launched in all the provinces of Pakistan. Both sides stressed the need for approaching and mobilizing the support of International and National Philanthropist organizations.

The organization of fundraising events was also discussed besides other important aspects of the project during the meeting. On the sidelines, the two leaders also deliberated the gruesome situation in Kashmir and discussed all the available options to that matter.





# GCCI hosted Ambassador's grand dinner reception

By M. Bilal Zafar

Addressing a ceremony at Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Business, President Alvi mentioned that ease of doing enterprise was among the many prime priorities of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

President Dr Arif Alvi mentioned that documentation of the economic system was want of the hour to take the nation out of financial disaster

led authorities. He mentioned that the federal government all the time welcomed the personal sector for endeavor public welfare and funding promotion ventures. President Dr. Arif Alvi had mentioned that documentation of economic system was very important for sustainable improvement and progress of the nation. Addressing an award-distribution ceremony underneath the auspices of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Business (FPCCI) in Islamabad, President Alvi had mentioned, "The method of documentation ought to be simple and simplified in order that the merchants don't want companies of legal professionals for finishing the method." He had mentioned that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) led authorities launched reforms in Federal Board of Income (FBR) to broaden tax base. Dean of Diplomatic corps, diplomats, government officials, high dignitaries and members of business community also graced the occasion.

The Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) was established in 1978. It is an apex trade body representing the Business Community of Gujranwala. Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) is a large independent networking and business support organization in this part of country. Representing the interests of thousands of companies, we connect lots of business people every year and offer our members a wide range of practical and professional services.

Endeavor to recognize the Business potential of Gujranwala across the world and to raise the voice of its Business Community with the focus

on achieving sustainable business environment conducive for the economic development of its homeland.

The federal government all the time welcomed the personal sector for endeavor public welfare and funding promotion ventures. President Dr. Arif Alvi



## Kashmir, an unfinished agenda of the partition plan of Sub-Continent and resolution in accordance with aspiration of Kashmiri people: NA Speaker

By M. Bilal Zafar

Speaker National assembly Asad Qaiser has said that Kashmir is the unfinished agenda of the partition plan of Sub-Continent. He urged upon the Britain to assert its role for resolution of Kashmir issue in accordance with the aspiration of people of Kashmir and UN Resolutions. The Speaker was talking to a delegation of British Parliaments led by Mr. Khalid Mahmood, MP in Parliament House. The delegation is visiting Pakistan on the invitation of Speaker National Assembly.

The Speaker while talking to the British MPs said that leaving the Kashmir dispute unresolved had brought the peace of the region at stake. He said that continued denial of the due right to Kashmiri people for decades and recent unilateral succession of State of Jammu and Kashmir with Indian mainland had exposed the democratic outlook of India. He said that recent unilateral decision of the Indian government without involving Kashmiri people was utter contravention of its international commitments. The Speaker stressed upon the British MPs to raise the issue in British Parliament and other

international forums for its resolution.

The Speaker said that Kashmir issue was a flashpoint and constant threat to the peace in the south Asia. He said that International community, United Nations Security Council and Human Rights Commission should take notice of the situation. The Speaker said that Kashmir Valley had turned into a heavy militarized zone and killing, kidnapping and use of pellet guns was a routine in Kashmir under the auspicious of State Forces.

Mr. Khalid Mahmood, MP said that Kashmir issue was a human catastrophe which warrant immediate attention of the international community. He said that British people were aware of the plight of Kashmir people and would extend their outmost support for resolution of Kashmir issue. He said that atrocities being committed by Indian forces were highly condemnable. He along with his colleagues was on an informative visit about Kashmir issue and would apprise the British Parliament about the real situation on ground.

MPs Mr. Imran Hussain and Rt. Hon. Stephen Timms also spoke about the situation in Kashmir. They said that Britain believes in civil liberties and human rights, therefore, it would push the case of Kashmir people on appropriate forums. They said that no one in the civilized world could support such cruelty against innocent civilians just to crush the just right.

Earlier both the sides discussed matters of bilateral interest and ways and means to further strengthen relations between two Parliaments. The speaker said that cooperation between both the parliaments in legislation and staff exchange needed to be enhanced for taking advantage of each other's experiences. The British Parliamentarians thanked Speaker for kind hospitality extended to them besides giving them an opportunity to interact with Pakistan authorities to know about the real situation in Kashmir.

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## RCCI International Gems, Jewelry and Watches Expo

By Monitoring Desk

The three-day RCCI International Gems, Jewelry and Watches Expo held in Islamabad. Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) in collaboration with the Trade Development Authority Pakistan (TDAP) have organized the three-day expo.

The main purpose of the expo is to attract foreign investment in non-conventional sectors like gems and jewelry and to promote small

and medium enterprise (SME). Precious stones, gems, ornaments, silver, gold and diamond jewelry were put on display at more than 50 stalls established at the expo. A technical convention with respect to cutting, polishing and certification of gems will also be held on the sidelines of the expo.

The exhibition would provide an opportunity to the businessmen to showcase the best of Pakistani gemstones, diamonds, jewelry,

watches and mineral specimens from across the country. While addressing at this occasion Special Assistant on Information and Broadcasting Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan lauded RCCI's efforts in promoting trade activities in the region and assured full support of government for promoting gems and Jewelry sector.

Government is focusing on the empowerment of women entrepreneurs as the country was facing a human resource development challenge with the competitors in the region, she said, adding that women while sitting at home can contribute in jewelry sector and the government would fully support and provide assistant in this regard.

From exploration to cutting and polishing and transfer of technology and marketing, the government is ready to support the chamber's initiative, the special assistant said. In addition, she lauded the trade development authority's efforts for improving linkages and highlighting the neglected sectors.

Earlier, in his welcome address, President RCCI Malik Shahid Saleem said that companies from Italy and Afghanistan were also participating in the expo. The RCCI president said that the development of the sector will have a significant impact on Pakistan's economy in terms of employment, entrepreneurship, and increasing the gems' export outside Pakistan along with designer jewelry. In his address, the group leader Sohail Altaf said that the industry has huge potential for value addition and profitability but due to lack of appreciation, the industry is far below the regional competitors, who are engaged in the mining, cutting, polishing and trading of gemstones.





# Pakistan Embassy, Copenhagen observes Kashmir Solidarity Day

The Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated with zeal and fervour at the Pakistan Embassy today. Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhry Fawad Hussain joined Ambassador Syed Zulfiqar Gardezi, members of the Pakistani community and the Embassy staff at the flag-hoisting ceremony.

It was also an occasion to observe Kashmir Solidarity Day. A photographic exhibition depicting the atrocities being perpetrated against the people of Occupied Kashmir was organized on the sidelines.

The event programme included recitation from the Holy Quran and prayers for progress and prosperity of Pakistan. Ambassador Gardezi read out the Independence Day messages of the President of Pakistan while Counsellor Ismat Hassan read out the message of the Prime Minister of Pakistan. Popular Pakistani singer Sanwal Esa Khelvi and participants from the Pakistani community in Denmark sang popular 'Milli' songs and recited poetry.

In his remarks on the occasion, Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhry Fawad Hussain appreciated the role of Pakistani diaspora in the progress of Pakistan. The Minister highlighted that Pakistan sought peace in the South Asia region; however, it was also opposed to injustice being meted out against the Kashmiri people by India and would robustly resist any nefarious designs against Pakistan.

In his speech, Ambassador Gardezi highlighted

the significance of the day for Pakistanis living around the world. He noted the progress in Pakistan-Denmark relations over the last one year; bilateral economic ties had strengthened and Pakistan's exports to Denmark had increased by a healthy margin. A number of investment projects by Danish companies were also in the pipeline. During the last one year, the Embassy had also arranged various cultural events.

The Ambassador highlighted the steps by the Government of Pakistan especially the Embassy of Pakistan, Copenhagen to forcefully plead the case for Kashmiri in political, official and other circles. He urged the Pakistani community to collectively as well as individually highlight the oppression against the resilient and valiant people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistani community from Copenhagen and other regions of Denmark attended the event in large numbers. On the occasion, Pakistani cuisine was served to guests.



# Diplomatic Focus Thru Lens



President Dr. Arif Alvi being presented 25 Corneas by a delegation of Gift of Sight Foundation of Sri Lanka, who called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad on August 28, 2019. High Commissioner of Sri Lanka was also present.



PM AJK Raja Farooq Haider called on Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi to discuss IOK Situation at Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad on 4-08-2019.



MOS/CHAIRMAN Board of Investment, Zubair Gilani in a Meeting with Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Pakistan, H.E. Atadjan Movlamov in Islamabad on August 06, 2019.



Mr. Yao Jing, Chinese Ambassador called on Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar at Islamabad on August 23, 2019.



Noor Ahmed, Secretary Economic Affairs Division and Mr. Stefano Pontecorvo, Ambassador of Italian Republic inking a Financing Agreement between the Government of Pakistan and Government of Italian Republic in Federal Capital on 8th August 2019. Muhammad Hammad Azhar, Minister for Economic Affairs, can also seen.



Call on Dr. Abdul Hafeez Sheikh, Adviser to PM on Finance & Revenue, by Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, Mr. Kuninori Matsuda, Islamabad on August 06, 2019.



Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki Called on Federal Minister for Energy Omar Ayub Khan At his Office in Islamabad on August 30, 2019.



Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Reform Makhdoom Khusr-o Bakhtyar talking to Ambassador of china Yao Jing who called on him in Islamabad on August 7, 2019. Secretary Planning Zafar Hasan is also Present.

# Diplomatic Focus Thru Lens



Advisor to the Prime Minister on Commerce, Textile, Industries & Production and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood in a meeting with Afghan Ambassador in Islamabad on August 7, 2019.



Federal Minister for Aviation, Ghulam Sarwar Khan in a meeting with Turkish Ambassador, Mustafa Yurdakul at Aviation Division, Islamabad on August 28, 2019.



Ambassador of Qatar in Islamabad, H.E. Saqar Bin Mubarak Al-Mansouri, called on Adviser to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, Malik Amin Aslam, in his office in Islamabad on 28-08-2019.



Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Shan Farman talking to Ambassador of Afghanistan Mr. Atif Mashal at Pakhtunkhwa House, Islamabad on August 1, 2019.



Italian Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Stefano Pontecorvo called on Sardar Ahmed Nawaz Sukhera, Secretary Commerce in Islamabad on August 30, 2019.



Federal Minister for Interior, Ijaz Shah in a meeting with Azerbaijan Ambassador to Pakistan H.E. Ali Alizada in Islamabad on August 28, 2019.



Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Shan Farman talking to Ambassador of Afghanistan in Pakistan Atif Mashal at Governor's House, Peshawar on August 29, 2019.



Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Shan Farman talking to Ambassador Japan Mr. Kuninori Matsuda, at Pakhtunkhwa House, Islamabad on August 1, 2019.

# Dr Christian Turner appointed as new British envoy to Pakistan



Dr Christian Turner CMG has been appointed British High Commissioner to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in succession to Mr Thomas Drew CMG who will be transferring to another Diplomatic Service appointment. Dr Turner will take up his appointment by December 2019. Full name: Christian Turner Married to: Claire Turner Children: Two 2017 – present No.10, Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser and Deputy National Security Adviser

2016 – 2017 FCO, Director-General Middle-East and North Africa, and Africa; Acting Political Director (2017)

2016 FCO, Director, London Syria Conference

2012 – 2016 Nairobi, British High Commissioner

2009 – 2012 FCO, Director, Middle-East and North Africa

2008 – 2009 FCO, Deputy Director, Middle-East and North Africa

2007 – 2008 Cabinet Office, Director, Middle-East, North Africa and North America, Overseas and Defence Secretariat

2007 No.10, Private Secretary to the Prime Minister

2006 – 2007 FCO roles including project work in Middle-East and North Africa Directorate and for the Special Representative for Climate Change

2003 – 2006 Washington, First Secretary, Energy and Environment

1998 – 2003 Cabinet Office, roles including Deputy Team Leader in Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, Private Secretary to the Minister of State, and Secretary to the Economic and Domestic Committees of Cabinet.



# New Dutch Ambassador to Pakistan H.E. Wouter Plomp

**N**ew Dutch Ambassador to Pakistan Wouter Plomp has assumed his office. He joined the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1989, and most recently served

as Ambassador to North Macedonia (2015-19) and Benin (2009-12). He was also Deputy Ambassador to Indonesia from 2012 to 2015. The new ambassador is very excited to

further strengthen Netherlands-Pakistan relations, building on excellent work of his predecessor Ardi Stoios-Braken!

# Akan Rakhmetullin new Kazakhstan Ambassador to Pakistan

**A**kan Rakhmetullin has been appointed new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. He is a career diplomat, a competent expert in multilateral diplomacy, international security and disarmament.

Born on February 2, 1967, in Almaty. He graduated from the Almaty Power Institute in 1991.

Akan Rakhmetullin began his diplomatic career in April 1993 as a Desk Officer and then Attaché in the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan. His first diplomatic overseas assignment was as Consul Attaché and then Third Secretary at the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (1994 to 1996).

After his return to Kazakhstan and service as Third Secretary and Second Secretary in

the Consular Department Office of MFA, Mr Rakhmetullin entered the first enrollment to the Diplomatic Academy of the MFA of Kazakhstan, from which he graduated with Honors in 1999. After graduation from the Diplomatic Academy, Mr Rakhmetullin served as Second Secretary, First Secretary and Counsellor of the MFA Office in Almaty where he was responsible for Kazakhstan's cooperation with international organizations. In March 2002, Mr Rakhmetullin was posted to serve as First Secretary at the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the United Nations in New York where he dealt with the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly and held responsibilities of UN election officer.

Upon his return to Kazakhstan in 2004, Mr Rakhmetullin continued to work at the MFA of Kazakhstan, assuming positions from Counsellor to Deputy Director of the

Department of International Humanitarian and Economic Cooperation.

In 2007-2011 he served as Minister-Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the OSCE in Vienna. During Kazakhstan's chairmanship of the OSCE, Mr Rakhmetullin coordinated the work of the environmental and economic issues of the Organization – its second dimension. In 2011 he was appointed Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations in New York.

Before his assignment to Islamabad, since December 2015, Mr Rakhmetullin served as Director of the Department of Multilateral Cooperation of Kazakhstan MFA. Akan Rakhmetullin is fluent in English and good command in Urdu.

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# Pakistan Ambassador to the UN Dr. Maleeha Lodhi hoisting the national flag at the Pakistan Independence Day ceremony held at Pakistan Mission to the UN.



independence and path towards development and prosperity. The messages also reiterated Pakistan's commitment to extend moral, legal and diplomatic support to the people of Kashmir. On the occasion, the Embassy also arranged a photo exhibition highlighting Kashmiris suffering Indian atrocities to give a glimpse of India's blatant disregard for humanity and human rights in Kashmir. The event was attended by staff and families of the Embassy and Kashmiris living in the tri-state area.

## Pakistan Embassy Washington DC celebrates Independence Day

The 73rd Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated at the Embassy of Pakistan Washington today. The event was also marked by expression of solidarity for Kashmiri sisters and brothers faced with consistent violation of the whole range of human rights in the Indian Occupied Kashmir, says a press release received here today from Washington DC. Ambassador Dr. Asad M. Khan hoisted Pakistani flag with the national anthem in the backdrop also sung by all the attendees. Kashmiris in the tri state area were carrying

flags of Kashmir to join their Pakistani brethren in the Independence Day celebration marked by solidarity with residents of Indian Occupied Kashmir who have been subjected to a history of human rights violations at the hands of Indian occupation forces for the last more than seven decades. The messages of the President and Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the nation on the auspicious occasion were read out to the audience by senior officers of the Embassy. Both the leaders emphasized the need to remain united to preserve the



# 73rd Independence Day of Pakistan marked in UAE

73rd Independence Day of Pakistan marked with a flag hoisting ceremony was celebrated at the Embassy of Pakistan, Beijing on 14th August, 2019 with great fervor and enthusiasm. The event showcased patriotic zeal, wherein founding fathers and martyrs of the nation were remembered who had given sacrifices to secure independence from foreign rule. The event began with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. Ambassador then raised the National flag to the mesmerizing tone of the national anthem. The Deputy Head of Mission and Minister Political also read out the messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan. The President in his message said “No doubt, freedom is a huge blessing. Now onus is upon us to present Pakistan as highly reputable, progressive and prosperous country among the comity of nations and thus transforming Pakistan under the visions of its founding leaders Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Muhammad Iqbal.” The President also reiterated Pakistan’s principled stance over Kashmir issue by extending full assurance to the Kashmiris, struggling for freedom from the Indian subjugation, of its political, moral and diplomatic support. Prime Minister Imran Khan in his message urged the nation to remember sacrifices of the sons of the soil “who sacrificed their lives while protecting ideological and geographical boundaries of the motherland.” Prime Minister further said that “Let me reassure our Kashmiri brethren that we stand by them and Pakistan will continue to provide its political, moral and diplomatic support to their just struggle for self-determination. The recent events in IOK have reinforced the Two-Nation theory envisioned by our forefathers”. Ambassador Naghmana Hashmi congratulated the Pakistani community in China on this occasion and said that Pakistani nation is today fully united and determined to meet all challenges and continue its march towards progress and development. She recalled the sacrifices given by our fore fathers for the creation of Pakistan and urged adherence to Quaid-e-Azam’s message of Unity, Faith and Discipline to promote national unity and cohesion. She reiterated the resolve of the Pakistani nation to celebrate the Independence Day as the Kashmir Solidarity Day. Pakistani children performed the national songs with enthusiasm and zeal.



# Independence Day of Pakistan



**H**igh Commissioner Raza Bashir Tarar called upon the Canadian Government and the international community to be cognizant of their moral and legal responsibilities towards Kashmiris and urged the Canadian Civil Society to demand an independent investigation into the ongoing gross human rights violations in Indian Occupied Kashmir. He said that the international community must fulfill its obligations under the relevant UN Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions on the Jammu & Kashmir dispute, while addressing the Independence Day ceremony here at Ottawa today, says a press release received here today from Ottawa. "It's an irony that our Kashmiri brothers are struggling for their right of self-determination, which was guaranteed by the International Community including the UN and by both Pakistan and India, even after the lapse of 72 years," the High Commissioner added. He said that the recent abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A, allowing special status to the Jammu & Kashmir, by the Indian Government is yet another demonstration of India's ill will towards millions of Kashmiris. High Commissioner Tarar said, "In the last 72 years of our independence, we have stood by the Charter of the United Nations, contributed to global peace through our efforts in the General Assembly and the Security Council and ensured global security and prosperity by contributing the largest number of troops to the UN Peacekeeping operations." To commemorate Pakistan's Independence Day at the Canadian Parliament, the Canadian Armed Forces presented ceremonial guard. The High Commissioner Raza Bashir Tarar witnessed the Canadian military drill. Earlier the messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were read in the ceremony. Many Canadians and community members were also present on the occasion.

## marked in Canada





# Independence Day of Pakistan marked in Bangkok

The Independence Day was also celebrated at the Embassy of Pakistan in Bangkok as a Day of Solidarity with the people of Occupied Kashmir. A flag-hoisting ceremony was held at the embassy.

Participants expressed solidarity with Kashmiris as they chanted slogans of Pakistan Zindabad and Kashmir Banay Ga Pakistan. Documentaries on the grave situation and the atrocious human rights violations by the occupying forces in Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK) were screened.

Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad highlighted the efforts being undertaken by the government of Pakistan on various fronts to safeguard and promote the Kashmir cause. He said that a strong Pakistan and a vibrant nation are the best guarantee for effective action on Occupied Kashmir.

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## 73rd Independence Day of Pakistan celebrated in Beijing

73rd Independence Day of Pakistan marked with a flag hoisting ceremony was celebrated at the Embassy of Pakistan, Beijing on 14th August, 2019 with great fervor and enthusiasm. The event showcased patriotic zeal, wherein founding fathers and martyrs of the nation were remembered who had given sacrifices to secure independence from foreign rule. The event began with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. Ambassador then raised the National flag to the mesmerizing tone of the national anthem. The Deputy Head of

Mission and Minister Political also read out the messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan. The President in his message said "No doubt, freedom is a huge blessing. Now onus is upon us to present Pakistan as highly reputable, progressive and prosperous country among the comity of nations and thus transforming Pakistan under the visions of its founding leaders Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Muhammad Iqbal." The President also reiterated Pakistan's principled stance over Kashmir issue by extending full

assurance to the Kashmiris, struggling for freedom from the Indian subjugation, of its political, moral and diplomatic support. Prime Minister Imran Khan in his message urged the nation to remember sacrifices of the sons of the soil "who sacrificed their lives while protecting ideological and geographical boundaries of the motherland." Prime Minister further said that "Let me reassure our Kashmiri brethren that we stand by them and Pakistan will continue to provide its political, moral and diplomatic support to their just struggle for self-determination. The recent events in IOK have reinforced the Two-Nation theory envisioned by our forefathers". Ambassador Naghmana Hashmi congratulated the Pakistani community in China on this occasion and said that Pakistani nation is today fully united and determined to meet all challenges and continue its march towards progress and development. She recalled the sacrifices given by our fore fathers for the creation of Pakistan and urged adherence to Quaid-e-Azam's message of Unity, Faith and Discipline to promote national unity and cohesion. She reiterated the resolve of the Pakistani nation to celebrate the Independence Day as the Kashmir Solidarity Day. Pakistani children performed the national songs with enthusiasm and zeal.

# Pakistani community

## in London observes Kashmir Solidarity Day on Pakistan Independence Day

Pakistan's Independence Day was marked by flag hoisting ceremony and expressing solidarity with the Kashmiri people at Pakistan High Commission London today, says a press release received here today from London. A large number of people including MEPs, community leaders, members of Pakistani community, FCO officials, British friends of Pakistan and representatives of media attended the ceremony. High Commissioner Nafees Zakaria hoisted the national flag on the tunes of the National Anthem. The messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out on the occasion. In his address to the community, High Commissioner Nafees Zakaria highlighted the plight of Kashmiri people in Indian occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IoK), especially due to India's recent illegal actions including imposition of curfew, deployment of additional paramilitary troops, killing and maiming of innocent Kashmiris and attempting to alter the demographic structure of Jammu & Kashmir region. He condemned the complete blackout in the Valley by India in violation of international law and relevant conventions. He also highlighted how India would be emboldened in its rampage of gross human rights violations in IoK if gone unchecked and unpunished. He urged the international community to call India to account for its heinous genocidal crimes in IoK, reverse the attempt to change its demographic nature, and resolve the dispute in accordance with UNSC Resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. He added that 'Pakistan has always extended its moral, political and diplomatic support to the Kashmiris' struggle for self-determination. Pakistani nation stands in solidarity with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters in their hour of grief. Our leadership has been swift in taking all possible actions to advise the international community of the grave risks this Indian illegal move potentially entails'. High Commissioner also forewarned of the perils to regional peace and security due to Indian illegal actions in IoK. The High Commissioner appreciated members of British Parliament, Pakistani and Kashmiri Diaspora and other communities for their solidarity with the Kashmiri people. He especially called upon the P5 members to act promptly in recognizing the gravity of the situation. He also highlighted Pakistan's improved investment



portfolio and security situation, underscored the emergence of a highly digitized youth and consumer market and stressed upon Pakistani Diaspora in UK to play their effective role in bringing investment into Pakistan, particularly under the ambit of CPEC projects. Mr. Zakaria underlined the resolve and statesmanship of the Pakistani leadership in handling difficult situations facing the country, including the current situation in Indian occupied Jammu & Kashmir. On Pakistan-UK relations, the High Commissioner underscored the importance of deep rooted bilateral ties, and informed that constant stream of high level visits from the UK to Pakistan is another manifestation of our mutually beneficial relations. Ms. Sarah Peters, distinguished artist belonging to Pakistan's Christian community sang beautiful national songs in her melodic voice, Mr. Salman Amanat Ali Khan, grandson of the renowned Pakistani legend Ustad Amanat Ali Khan, and Mr. Sohail, another local artist, also entertained the guests with the melodious tunes of Pakistan's national songs. In the end, High Commissioner and his spouse cut the special cake prepared for the occasion. He was joined by colleagues from FCO, CEO UBL UK, Pakistani community members, children and Mr. Ahmad Nawaz, a Pakistani student currently studying in the UK and an APS survivor. Similar events were held at other four Consulates of Pakistan in Birmingham,

Bradford, Glasgow and Manchester.





## Worsening Human Rights situation in Kashmir needs international attention: Nafees Zakaria

**K**ashmir Solidarity Day was observed at the High Commission on Friday. A large number of Pakistani Community, friends of Pakistan from other communities in London and media representatives attended the

gathering in an expression of solidarity with the oppressed Kashmiri people of Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK).

On the occasion, photos reflecting Indian atrocities against defenceless Kashmiris in IoK

were also displayed. At Juma Prayer, at the High Commission, a collective Dua was also offered for the Kashmiris. Muslim residents of the UK belonging to various countries also joined.

In his brief address on the occasion, the High Commissioner, Mohammad Nafees Zakaria informed the gathering that Kashmir is an internationally recognised issue. There are UN Security Council Resolutions on it which call for Kashmiris' right to self-determination under a UN supervised plebiscite, he said. The High Commissioner added that the UNSC Resolutions do not allow any party to change the status of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K), which India has blatantly violated.

Mr Zakaria informed the people about the ongoing humanitarian crisis in IoK. They have been cut off from the outside world since 25 days, he mentioned with deep concern. Mr. Zakaria threw light on the sufferings of Kashmiri Muslims in IoK, who faced genocide of hundreds of thousands, dozens of massacres, mass blinding and other crimes against humanity at the hands of Indian occupation forces. He said, all these crimes perpetrated by the Indian forces are documented. He referred to the reports of International People's Tribunal, Amnesty International, OHCHR, HRW and coverage in the international media.

The worsening human rights situation needed attention of the international community, the High Commissioner emphasised. He reiterated Pakistan's unflinching political, diplomatic and moral support to the Kashmiris.

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# Flag Hoisting

ceremony marked in the embassy of  
**Pakistan, Brussels**



and thus transforming Pakistan under the vision of its founding leaders: Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Iqbal” In his message the Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Imran Khan has reiterated Pakistan’s principled stance over Kashmir issue by extending full assurance to the Kashmiris, struggling for freedom, of its political, moral and diplomatic support Charge d’ Affaires Mr. Nauman Bhatti also distributed certificates among the children who expressed their love for Pakistan through art work and essays.

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To mark the 73rd Independence Day of Pakistan a graceful flag hoisting ceremony took place at the Embassy of Pakistan Brussels. Charge d’ Affaires Mr. Nauman Bashir Bhatti raised flag of Pakistan while national anthem was played. Pakistani diaspora residing in Belgium and Luxembourg as well as local Belgians including Pakistan’s Honorary Consul General in Ghent, Ms. Karin Zoeter, participated in large number in the event. This year Independence Day has been dedicated to express solidarity with the people of Kashmir. In this connection an exhibition of photographs depicting atrocities being committed by the Indian Forces of Occupation on the innocent people of Kashmir was also arranged at the embassy. In her speech young Maham Sohail pointed out human rights violations in the Indian occupied Kashmir and Mrs. Rubina Kausar read her poem on Kashmir. Earlier the messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out by Mr. Nauman Bashir Bhatti and Minister Press Syeda Sultana Rizvi

respectively. The President of Pakistan Mr. Arif Alvi in his message has said: “No doubt freedom is a huge blessing. Now onus is upon us to present Pakistan as highly reputable, progressive and prosperous country among the comity of nations



# Flag hosting ceremony at embassy of Pakistan, Tokyo

Ambassador Imtiaz Ahmed hoisted National flag at the embassy of Pakistan, Tokyo on 14 August 2019. He also addressed the Pakistani community and highlighted the importance attached by Pakistan to its relations with Japan. Independence Day messages of the President and the Prime Minister were read out on the occasion. Ambassador Imtiaz Ahmed also briefed the gathering on recent abrogation of Article 370 by India, downgrading the State of Jammu and Kashmir to a Union Territory, in an open breach of UN Resolutions and international law. She observed that the unilateral decision of the Indian government was aimed at undermining the internationally recognized disputed status of Jammu and Kashmir. She also informed the guests about the ongoing efforts of the Government of Pakistan to internationalize Kashmir dispute and to put pressure on India to step back and de-escalate. In the end, a collective prayer was held for Pakistan's continued progress and prosperity and a just and peaceful settlement of Kashmir dispute, as per the aspirations of the people of the valley, for lasting peace in the region.



The 73rd Independence Day of Pakistan was observed in accordance with the direction of Pakistan government in solidarity with brave Kashmiris and their just struggle for their right of self-determination at the Pakistan High Commission, New Delhi. The Pakistan flag was raised by Acting High Commissioner Syed Haider Shah at an elegant and impressive flag-hoisting ceremony held on the Chancery's lawns. Acting High Commissioner Syed Haider Shah extended warm felicitations on Eid-e-Azaadi and lauded the zeal with which the broader Pakistan High Commission family, and Pakistani students of South Asian University were participating in the festivities. The Acting High Commissioner read out the messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Students of the Pakistan High Commission School presented national songs and tableau on the occasion. Begum of Acting High Commissioner Mrs. Palwasha Haider, gave away prizes and gifts to the teachers and students from the school.

## 73rd Independence Day celebrated at Pakistan High Commission, New Delhi

# Pakistan Community of France Observe Independence Day in Solidarity with Kashmiris of IOK

A simple and dignified Flag Hoisting Ceremony was held at the Embassy of Pakistan to France in Paris today to observe Independence Day in solidarity with the brave Kashmiris and their just struggle for their right of self-determination. Members of the Pakistani community, officers and officials of the Embassy, their families and media persons attended the solemn ceremony. Special messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan were read expressing solidarity with the Kashmiris. The Ambassador Moin ul Haque in his address said that the unilateral and illegal act of India to bring changes to the status of the State of Jammu and Kashmir was in contravention of international law, UN Security Council resolutions, bilateral agreements and pledges made by Indian leaders to the Kashmiri people. He called upon the international community especially the permanent member of the Security Council to take notice of the human right violations in IOK and play their role for the resolution of this long outstanding issue in accordance with UNSC relevant resolutions. He further reiterated that Pakistan and its people would always stand shoulder to shoulder with the Kashmiris and Pakistan will continue to



extend its Politics, moral and diplomatic support for this just cause. Later, three bright Pakistani students were awarded Jinnah Scholarships for outstanding academic achievements. The

Jinnah Award was instituted last year by the Embassy of Pakistan to France to acknowledge academic achievements of Pakistani students in France.



## Pakistan celebrates Independence Day in solidarity with Kashmiris

The High Commission of Pakistan in Sri Lanka held a colourful flag-hoisting ceremony to mark the 73rd Independence Day, at the High Commission's premises on 14th August 2019. Joined by the Pakistani community and dignitaries from different walks of life, the High Commissioner Maj. Gen. (R) Dr. Shahid Ahmad Hashmat hoisted the national flag to celebrate

the day. Messages from the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out to the audience. The High Commissioner, on the occasion, said that Pakistan is a peace-loving country which was created with enormous sacrifices. He added that Pakistan has always supported peace and stability, especially in South Asia. The High Commissioner highlighted

that the Government of Pakistan has decided to observe this year's Independence Day, as Kashmir Solidarity Day to express Pakistan's moral, political and diplomatic support and solidarity with Kashmiris in their just and fair freedom struggle from Indian occupation. He further stated that the actions taken by India in a bid to change the internationally recognized disputed status of Indian occupied Jammu & Kashmir were in violation of UN Security Council resolutions. He added that any attempt to change the demographic structure of Indian occupied Jammu & Kashmir would constitute violation of the international law. He underlined that Pakistan has always urged resolution of seven-decade old dispute through peaceful means and in accordance with the long-standing UNSC Resolutions. On Sri Lanka-Pakistan relations, the High Commissioner said that Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with Sri Lanka, which are based on mutual respect, understanding and close cooperation. He further said that Pakistan has always extended unconditional support to Sri Lanka at all fora and continue to do so, especially with regard to Sri Lanka's national security and territorial integrity.

# Independence Day of Pakistan Celebrated In Ankara



**T**he 73rd Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated in Ankara with traditional fervor. Ambassador of Pakistan, M. Syrus Sajjad Qazi, hoisted the national flag on the tune of national anthem in the presence of the Pakistani community, students, and Embassy officials and their families. The special messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan were read out on the occasion. Pakistani leadership in their separate messages paid glowing tributes to the sacrifices of Pakistan's forefathers. They vowed to transform Pakistan in accordance with the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Muhammad Iqbal.

Pakistani leadership also expressed deep concern at the worst kind of oppression and ruthless state terrorism perpetrated by Indian in the Indian Occupied Kashmir. Pakistani leadership reassured Pakistan's political, moral and diplomatic struggle for self-determination. Ambassador Syrus Qazi in his remarks said that today we are commemorating Pakistan's Independence Day as well as Solidarity Day with our Kashmiri brothers who are fighting for their right to self-determination for the last seven decades. Fourteenth August is an important date in the history of the Sub-continent, as on this day in 1947, the dream of an independent Pakistan became a reality. Ambassador Qazi informed that 15th August would be commemorated as "Black Day" to show solidarity with the oppressed people of Indian Occupied Kashmir. He invited all members of Pakistan community as well as the people of Turkey for Quran Khawani which will be held at Pakistan Embassy Ankara on 15th August at 1800 hours to be followed by a candle light vigil. The Students of Pakistan Embassy School (PEISG) in Ankara presented a special performance composed of milli songs. Afterwards, flanked by Pakistani children, Ambassador Syrus Qazi cut the Independence



Day cake. Moreover, "Atakule," one of Ankara's landmarks, its tallest tower, and its best lit building, is carrying messages of Pakistan-Turkey solidarity during 13, 14 and 15 August nights. Atakule is situated on Jinnah Road that also has Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's monument right opposite to it. Meanwhile, the President of Pakistan has conferred Pakistan's prestigious

civil award "Sitara-i-Quaid-i-Azam" upon Mr. Ali Sahin and Mr. Muhammed Balta for promotion of Pakistan-Turkey ties. Both are members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly. Similarly, President of Pakistan also conferred Sitar-i-Imiaz upon Dr. Selami for his services to Pakistan.

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# Musical Night at PNCA

Artists from all over Pakistan representing their respective areas mesmerized the audience at jam pack auditorium of Pakistan National Council of the Arts Islamabad. Musical evening comprised of National Songs and Folk Music and Dances was arranged by PNCA in connection with Independence Day Celebration with the aim to pay tribute to

the Heroes of Independence movement and educate the young generation to realize their responsibilities in making Pakistan strong and prospers. Artist Wali Baig from GB, Rizwana Khan and Umer Raees from Federal Area, Raja Imran from AJK, Sabz Ali Bugti from Baluchistan, Malangaan Group from KPK, Zamin Ali from Sindh, Naeem ul Haq Babloo

from Saraiki and Fazal Abbas Jutt from Punjab presented their National Songs and Folk Music of Pakistan. Besides the National Performing Arts Group of PNCA presented colourful Folk Dances, Kelash, Kashmiri, Leva, Khattak, Sindhi Jhoomer, Bhangra and Pakistan Banana Hay.

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# Satrang Gallery is delighted to open the exhibition titled “Na Maloom Ishtihari”

Satrang Gallery is delighted to open the new season with a unique solo exhibition by the miniature artist Ghulam Hussain. Mr. H.E Stefano Pontecorvo, the Ambassador of Italy was the guest of honor. Hussain is a graduate from the prestigious National College of Arts, Lahore. He has shown successfully at Satrang Gallery before and this is his second solo exhibition with us. The exhibition titled “Na Maloom Ishtihari”, is a collection of woven archival prints of local Punjabi film posters. Hussain’s captivating works are a “visual overload” providing a glimpse into the local Punjabi film industry, street culture and the advertising around it. Hussain’s miniature practice is based on his family tradition of crafts using intricately woven canvas, wasli and other mediums.



# 'Azadi Golf Tournament 2019' commences under Islamabad Club, Serena Hotels

Serena Hotels under its Sports Diplomacy Initiative hosted the 'Azadi Golf Tournament 2019' in collaboration with the Islamabad Club at their Golf Course. The exclusive match drew members of the diplomatic corps, dignitaries, corporate sector and businessmen who participated with great enthusiasm. Over the years, Sports Diplomacy has emerged as an integral part of the company's efforts to build stronger relations with communities



while encouraging diverse groups to participate in sports, thereby improving leadership, teamwork, and communication skills along with promoting a healthier lifestyle. Chief Executive Officer of the chain Aziz Boolani said, "We use sports to provide a platform to our foreign diplomats and friends, serving and retired bureaucrats and ourselves to establish links with other professionals and peers. "This is an opportunity to develop friendships and demonstrate our abilities and interests in different sports," he added.





# Pakistanis came out in masses on Friday to observe 'Kashmir Hour'

Education institutions, government and private offices, banks, traders, lawyers and military authorities took part in the events. All traffic signals turned red at noon.

Small and large rallies were also held across the country by citizens, lawyers, and people from other walks of life. Various leaders took part in Kashmir Hour events including Sindh Governor Imran Ismail, Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan Alyani, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Mahmood Khan and Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar. In the federal capital, the main event was held outside the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) where a large gathering was addressed by the prime minister. Along with the premier, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Information Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan and Prime Minister's Special Assistant Naeemul Haque were also in attendance. The national anthems of Pakistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir were played at the start of the event.

"Today, all of Pakistan, wherever there are Pakistanis, whether they are our students, or shopkeepers or labourers — today all of us are standing with our Kashmiris," the premier said.

"Our Kashmiris are going through a very tough time."

The Prime Minister Imran said that the ideology of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) had taken over India, "the way the Nazi party had taken over Germany". "They think that Muslims should be taught a lesson, that they are not equal citizens. Today, the whole world is seeing what is happening in Kashmir."

Prime Minister Imran said he has conveyed to all foreign leaders that if the international community does not stand up to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "fascist government", the effect would be felt in the whole world. The Prime Minister Imran reiterated that if India planned to take any action in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, "every brick will be countered with a



stone.”

“Forget the media; they did not let even [Indian] opposition leaders go to Srinagar.” He called attention to the fact that Kashmiris in LoK were under curfew for nearly four weeks. “The message from Pakistan that will be sent today is that till our Kashmiris don’t get independence, the people of Pakistan will stand with them.”

Another event was held at the Aiwan-e-Sadr where President Arif Alvi addressed the crowd. “I pray to God that in your and my lifetime, we see an independent Kashmir in which their rights are not repressed, their women are not raped and their people are not martyred.”

Rallies and demonstrations were also staged by people across Azad Jammu and Kashmir. In state capital Muzaffarabad, a big rally was held from the PM secretariat to a nearby memorial to Sardar Ibrahim Khan, a former AJK president.

Muhammad Shehzad Arbab, adviser to Prime Minister Khan on establishment, AJK ministers Barrister Syed Iftikhar Ali Gillani, Sardar Farooq Sikandar, Chaudhry Rukhsar Ahmed and Chaudhry Ismail were also among the participants, who included government servants and civil society activists. The participants held AJK and Pakistani flags, as well as banners and placards inscribed with slogans, drawing attention to atrocities in occupied Kashmir and the popular demand of Kashmiris. Prior to the rally, sirens were sounded and one-minute silence was observed to pay tributes to the valiant Kashmiris, braving Indian repression without any signs of abatement in their resolve.

Later in the day, Prime Minister Imran took to Twitter to express pride for the way the nation had stood in support of the Kashmiri people. “I am so proud of our people in the way they came out today in solidarity with the Kashmiris — letting them know our nation stands resolutely with them as they confront the brutal, fascist Modi government’s annexation and ethnic cleansing agenda in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir,” he tweeted.

“The Pakistani nation has also let the world know about the Nazi-style takeover of India by the RSS-BJP’s Hindu supremacist ideology and the danger it poses not only to the region but the world,” he added. Chief of Army Staff Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa also hailed the solidarity expressed by the nation with the Kashmiri people, according to a tweet by the director general of Inter-Services Public Relations.

“Solidarity displayed by the nation with Kashmiri brethren during Kashmir Hour today is a strong message to the world,” he was quoted as saying. He added that the deteriorating situation in occupied Kashmir is a threat to regional peace.

COAS visited HQ Gujranwala Corps, briefed about operational preparedness.

“Solidarity displayed by the nation with Kashmiri brethren during Kashmir Hour today is a strong message to the world. Deteriorating situation in IOJ&K is threat to regional peace”, COAS



# Bid Farewell in the honor of Chinese outgoing DCM, H.E Mr. Lijian Zhao



Farewell function hosted by Chinese Embassy in the honor of H.E Mr. Lijian Zhao DCM, who worked very hard to bring CPEC to fruition. He is an iron friend of Pakistan. People of Pakistan wish him success in his new role as he leaves Pakistan. He will surely be missed. Departing deputy Ambassador Zhao Lijian has been a model of dedication to the cause of Pakistan-China Relations & promotion of CPEC, who showed how even one committed diplomat can make a difference. A large numbers of guest including parliamentarian, members of diplomatic community, civil society, government officials, and high dignitaries also graced the occasion.





**H.E. Ihsan Mustafa Yurdakul, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Pakistan hosted a dinner reception. H.E. Ihsan Mustafa Yurdakul welcomed the guest. The Chief of Air Staff Mujahid Anwar Khan was the chief guest on the occasion. A large numbers of guest including parliamentarian, members of diplomatic community, civil society, government officials, and high dignitaries also graced the occasion**





# China's 70 years of commitment and passion

By Muhammad Zamir Assadi

China, the second-largest economy of the world and neighbor to 21 countries, is set to celebrate its 70th anniversary on October 1.

The path of development set by the Chinese leadership and the Communist Party of China was not an easy job as there was much suffering in the prior century before it founded as a sovereign state.

The vision and statesmanship of the Chinese leadership and commitment of its people changed the status of the country from one with a backward economy towards a prosperous one that is playing an active role in the international arena.

If you go deep into the history of this country, then you will get a clear message that only China has emerged as a successful nation in overcoming so many challenges, obstacles and difficulties to pull a country with more than 1.3 billion people from a relatively backward economy and culture into the track of rapid development and modernization. It was achieved in only seven decades, especially after the reform and opening up policies were adopted.

China's formula of success in these 70 years has emerged as a do-able practice for other developing countries, as well, as it has laid a solid foundation towards sustainable and real change for the prosperity of its people.

The major contribution to Chinese society is the creation of China's Belt and Road Initiative, which is considered a precious gift to the world. It was the China's Belt and Road in the journey of its remarkable development that maintained a balance between development, reform and stability in the process of modernization, which also lead the successful fight for eradication of poverty.

The most impressive Chinese characteristic that gained the attention of the international community in the journey of success during these 70 years is China's peaceful development influenced both the regional and global areas, including Africa, Asia, Latin America and other continents.

China also has a number of reasons to celebrate its 70th anniversary as a symbol of remarkable success, as China's peaceful development is not only related to world trade, finance and security,

but also it's related to international institutions, including the World Trade Organization, United Nations, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, BRICS and the G20.

The major contribution China has made in its peaceful rise was the promotion of the reform of the international financial system that has been playing an active role in consolidating world and regional security and helping more countries participate in international politics.

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, especially since reform and opening-up, China has made remarkable achievements and solved many problems, including poverty alleviation, food problems and security issues that made significant contributions to building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

China's successful development won worldwide applause as the peaceful rise of China did



not intervene in the internal matters of other countries, as it has the traditions of cherishing peace and harmony and it never seeks to pillage others or establish a sphere of influence.

On its 70th anniversary, China is blessed with enlivened people, breathtaking development, animated society and elevated international prestige, making it the focus, the wonder and the envy of the world.

The Chinese people are more confident and more capable of reaching the goal of national renewal than ever before.

What we have observed about the Chinese nation is that the ruling ideology of the CPC solved the problems of livelihood by realizing common prosperity.

The services of the CPC for society lead the people to tap into their full potential; the collective objective was to gradually realize the common prosperity of the entire population and the national objective was to build a

wealthy, powerful, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and modernized social country.

The achievements of China did not happen by accident, they were determined by the combinations of many factors, including the reforms and opening up phase started in 1978 which was crucial for national renewal and the socialist modernization of China.

In the next phase, starting from the 70th anniversary, to realize the great revival of the Chinese nation is to let the Chinese people have more and better education, stable employment, better health care, more comfortable and affordable living conditions, a more beautiful environment and to have future generations develop better, work better and live better.

To summarize, the goal is that the Chinese people live richer, more dignified and fulfilled lives and to let them develop freely and comprehensively.

China at 70 is now carrying more resources not only for its population but also for people from other developing countries that have been proved by the launch of the Belt and Road Initiative under the visionary leadership of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

This is the second phase of the opening up, which has done miraculous things for developing nations. Through the second round of opening up, China will more actively take part in global economic governance and promote reforms on a global economic governance system.

In this era, China is getting attention like a rising sun - it is an important phase where China has to attain effective balance in the equal development of its all parts and move ahead with the international community to achieve the win-win results by forming the shared future of mankind in the next decades, which will be fruitful for all.

**The author is Muhammad Zamir Assadi, a journalist with Independent News Pakistan, a leading news agency in Pakistan.**

**The opinions expressed here are those of the writer and do not represent the views of China Daily and China Daily website.**

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# Pakistan says Zàijàn to Chinese envoy Lijian Zhao

Mian Abrar

**C**hinese, Pakistani friends pay tributes to outgoing Chinese diplomat

A farewell reception was held at a local hotel to pay tributes to Chinese Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) and Minister Consular Lijian Zhao. A galaxy of people from all walks of life gathered to say Zàijàn (goodbye) to Zhao. Federal Ministers, Secretaries, politicians, officials, scholars, media, etc. attended the reception. Zhao also introduced Ms. Pang Chunxue, who is going to replace him as new DCM and Minister Consular of the Chinese Embassy.

Over the past four years, Zhao has proved to be one of the most active, vocal and dynamic diplomats from the Chinese Embassy. His four-year tenure has come to an end. Zhao had served from 1999 to 2013 in Islamabad. Altogether, he served eight and a half years in Pakistan. He became the first Chinese diplomat in Islamabad who effectively used social media site Twitter to explain things about China, Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects and Pak-China relations and became a household name in Pakistan.

Lijian Zhao, a diplomat par excellence, was initially tasked to oversee and push the implementation of China's strategic initiative of CPEC – a multibillion dollar project that brought a new specter of foreign investment in Pakistan. Lijian Zhao not only pushed the CPEC implementation but also defended China's core interests at official forums, print and social media.

Whether it was dealing with the bureaucratic hurdles, implementation bottlenecks or issues cropping up due to change in the government in Islamabad, Ambassador Yao Jing and Lijian Zhao were always active to help resolve the issues.

Under guidance of Ambassador Yao Jing, Lijian Zhao formed Beijing's dream team ever in Islamabad to pursue China's interests. His media team included Political Consular Jiang Han, Director Political and Press Affairs Ms Bao Zhong and Press Attaché Yang Ming. In wake of negative media targeting CPEC, Zhao single-handedly focused on social media and teamed up with young Pakistani students and volunteers to defend and promote CPEC and Sino-Pakistan friendship.

Lijian Zhao took office soon after President Xi Jinping inaugurated CPEC in year 2015. Since then, Zhao made his presence felt by all and

sundry. Unlike traditional Chinese diplomats, Lijian Zhao used social media not only to protect the Chinese interests but also to clarify facts to counter the negative propaganda about CPEC.

Unlike other diplomats, Zhao effectively used Twitter, to further the Chinese position on issues like CPEC, Xinjiang, South China Sea, Hong Kong, etc. Though he signed up to Twitter back in May 2010, Zhao began to be active about one year after he arrived in Pakistan. He has effectively employed Twiplomacy (using Twitter for diplomacy) by attracted 198,000 followers. In less than 3 years, Zhao has made over 50,000 tweets and retweets, and liked 100,000 tweets. He has become China's most active diplomat on an overseas social media and successfully used Twitter to counter anti-China narrative.

Zhao has led from the front to effectively counter anti-China propaganda on print and electronic media in Pakistan and the world. Whether it was western route controversy or



**Chinese Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) and Minister Consular Lijian Zhao**

equating CPEC with 'East India Company', Lijian Zhao effectively nailed the negative jargon well. Another issue which cropped up recently was the 'Chinese Debt Trap' hoopla aimed at harming the CPEC, but Ambassador Yao Jing and Lijian Zhao pinned it down by bringing facts through mainstream and social media. The latest case was the Xinjiang issue which time and again props up through western media but Chinese embassy has skillfully defended it too.

Over the years, Lijian Zhao has galvanised thousands of young Pakistani Twitter users who joined forces with him to further Pakistan, China friendship. Zhao recently tweeted that his posting to Islamabad is coming to an end, which triggered thousands of messages to his Twitter feed, full of praise for China's iron-

brother relationship with Pakistan and the country's Belt and Road Initiative.

"I will miss Pakistan forever, as this is my second home," he tweeted. "I think Pakistan is the best posting for Chinese diplomats."

Zhao's Twitter feed has been full of warm wishes from mostly Pakistan-based users, with some tweets including pictures of a farewell dinner for him.

"You are a great friend of Pakistan and were an important member of the team that successfully steered Phase 1 of CPEC," Ahsan Iqbal, the former minister for planning, development and reforms of Pakistan, tweeted.

Talking to DiploMag on the eve of the farewell ceremony, Zhao Lijian said that in past four years, he has found new comrades among Pakistani youngsters who have become new friends of China and Pakistan. He said the past four years were most fruitful in Pakistan, China relations as President Xi, Premier Li Keqiang and other high level visits took place and the Pakistan, China transformed into a vibrant relationship.

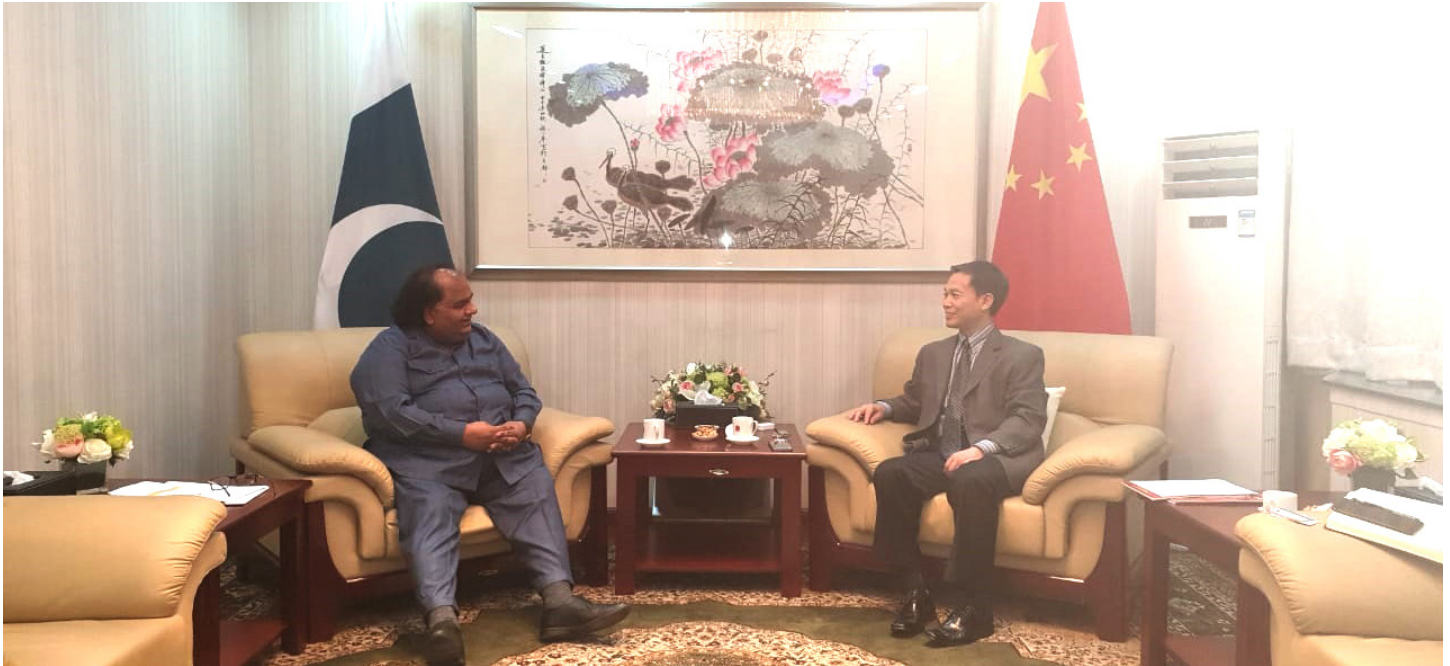
"In past four years, we witnessed transformation in bilateral ties as we have been able to push the CPEC forward. We have completed first energy plant with local coal while Multan-Sukkur highway project also was completed. Media, scholars also helped to take CPEC forward and I found out that 99 percent Pakistanis support China, Pakistan relationship and the CPEC," he added.

The new DCM Ms. Pang Chunxue said that it's an honour for her to serve in Pakistan as its her second home.

Ms Pang has a unique service record and served in Pakistan from 1998 to 2000. She also served as DCM in Afghanistan and Sri Lanka. Hence, Ms Pang is well versed with the job at hand. Addressing the audience, New DCM Ms Pang said she will pick up thread where Zhao left. Though Zhao is departing for Beijing headquarters, it's heartening to note that he is leaving behind a legacy of CPEC and Twitter diplomacy and is being replaced by another friend of Pakistan.

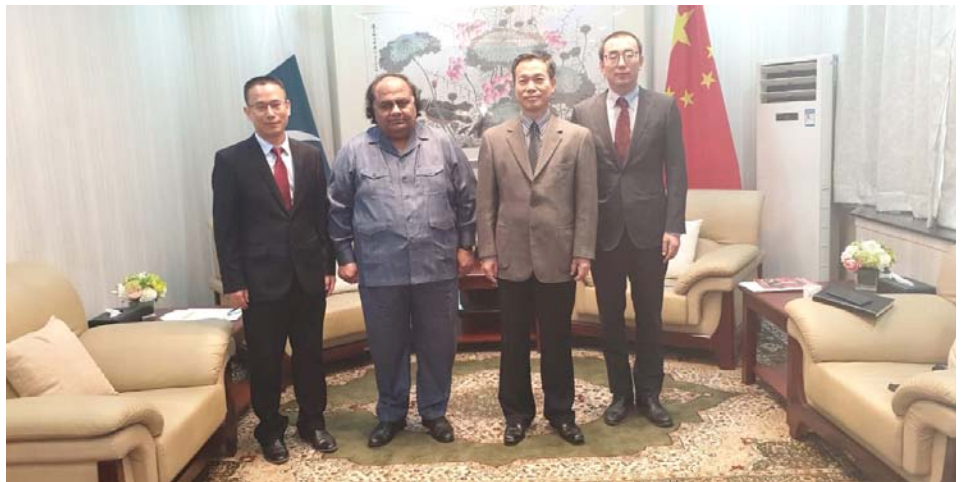
Paying tributes, Mushahid Hussain Sayed said Zhao Lijian has done a great service to China, Pakistan relations. "We together will ensure that CPEC is promoted and protected," he added. Former Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal specially came to say goodbye to Zhao Lijian.

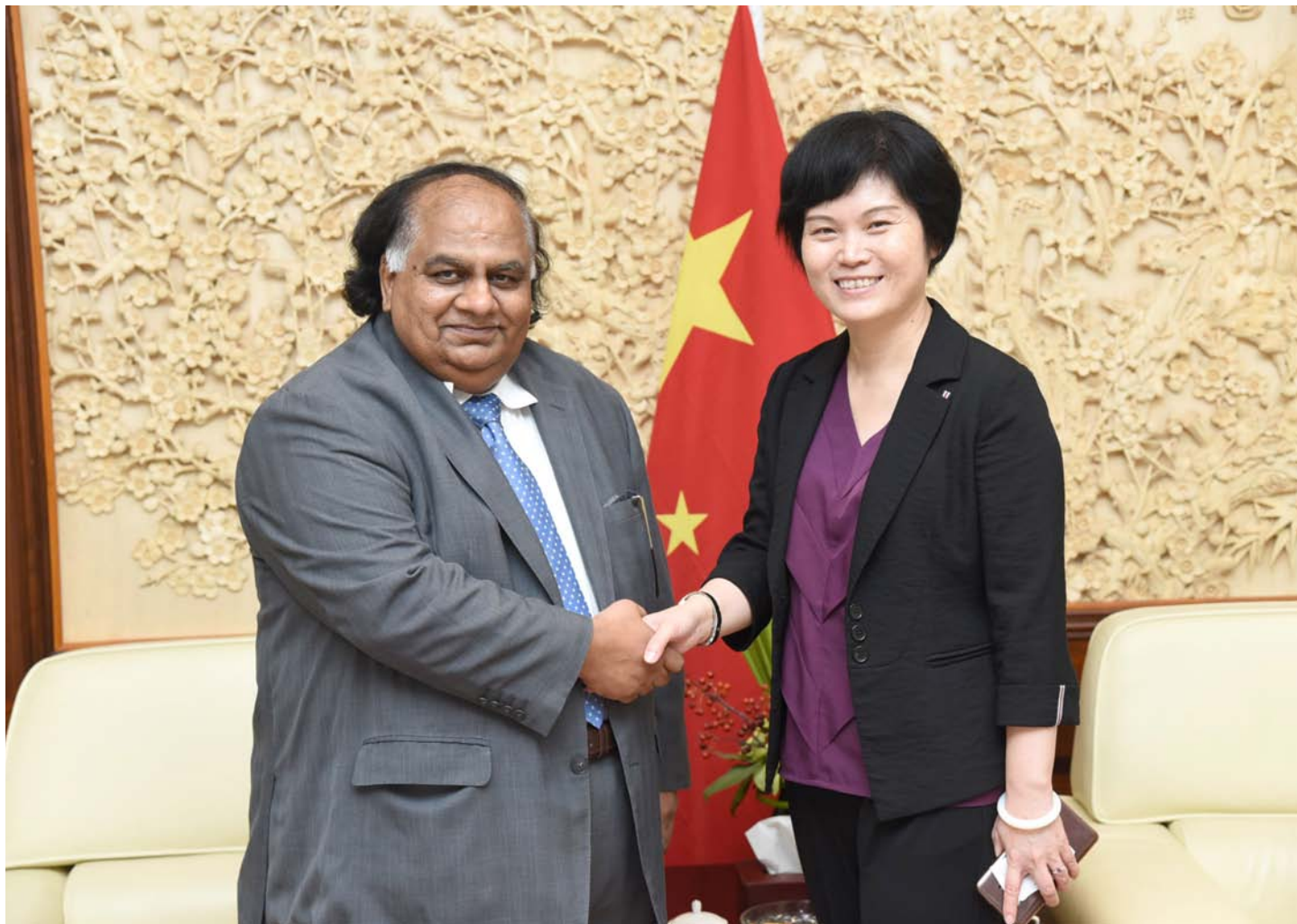
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## H.E Long Dingbin courtesy meeting with Mr. Mian Fazal Elahi CEO Diplomatic Focus

A distinguished Chinese diplomat H.E. Long Dingbin met with Mian Fazal Elahi CEO/Publisher Diplomatic Focus. On discussing about Lahore consulate enactment the Consulate General said that Lahore is facilitating the Punjab-based businessmen whose visa requirements would be met in Lahore consulate. Mian Fazal Elahi and H.E Long Dingbin discussed in detail the bilateral relations, regional current situation and progress on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and reiterated that China and Pakistan stand committed to successful completion of CPEC. Long Dingbin also said that large number of Chinese technical experts has increased sharply in Punjab as various energy mega projects of coal and solar sectors are underway. Presently, the Chinese experts are working on various projects in the province including Nandi Pur Power Project, Jinnah Barrage Hydro Power Project, Bahawalpur Solar Park, Motorways and other mega coal and hydro projects.

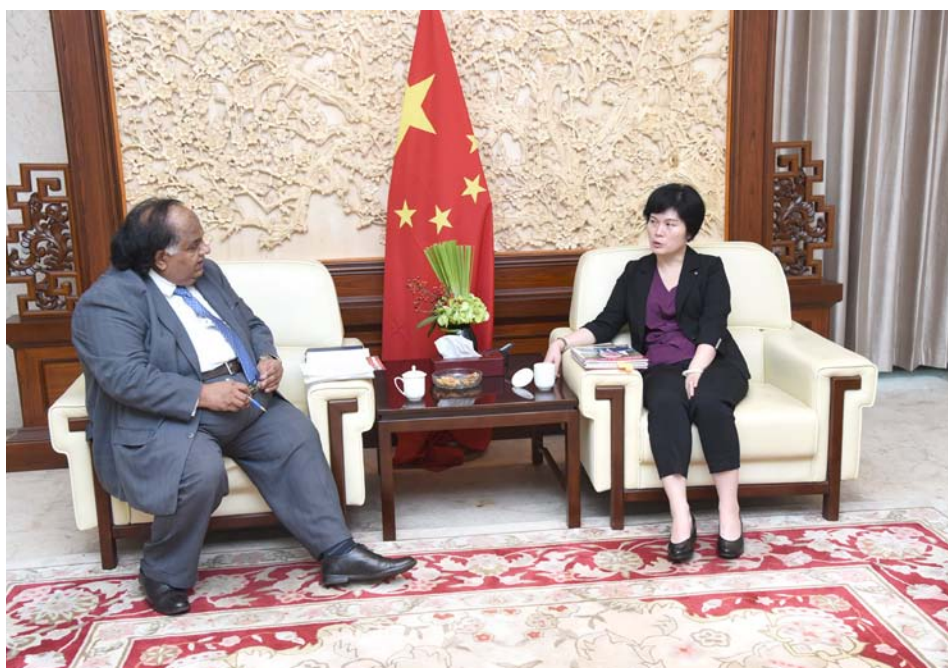




## H.E Ms. Pang Chunxue Courtesy meeting with Mr. Mian Fazal Elahi CEO/Editor Diplomatic Focus

By M. Bilal Zafar

A distinguished Chinese diplomat H.E Ms. Pang Chunxue Deputy Chief of Mission of the Chinese Embassy met with Mian Fazal Elahi CEO/Publisher Diplomatic Focus. It was her second tenure in Pakistan. Earlier she was here from 1998 to 2000. Before her posting to Pakistan, she served some other countries including Afghanistan and United Kingdom. It was her pride to serve Pakistan for the second time. Terming Pakistan, as her second home, Pang Chunxue said she was looking forward to make her humble contribution in further strengthening the decades' old ever-green Sino-Pak friendship. Mian Fazal Elahi and H.E Ms. Pang Chunxue discussed in detail the bilateral relations, regional current situation and progress on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and reiterated that China and Pakistan stand committed to successful completion of CPEC.





## H.E Hamad Alzaabi Ambassador of UAE in Islamabad message on the occasion of Independence Day of Pakistan

The founder of UAE Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan was keen to give an impetus to the bilateral relations between the two countries from the very beginning, It was further strengthened and patronized by H.H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the President of the UAE and H.H Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE's Armed Forces, and H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.

United Arab Emirates and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan enjoy excellent relations on political, economic and social levels, founded on deep-rooted cultural affinities, shared faith and traditions, these relations date back to the UAE's formation in 1971, and have since evolved into wide-ranging co-operation in various fields, and this keenness of the leadership of UAE and Pakistan played an active role in strengthening and consolidating ties and deepening cooperation between the two countries, as there are numerous exchange visits at the leadership level over the decades. Recently, the visit of H.H Sheikh Muhammad Bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed forces to Pakistan and visit of H.E Imran Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan

to UAE gave fresh push to existing cordial ties between the two brotherly countries, and the deposit of UAE 3 billion dollars in the Central Bank of Pakistan to support fiscal and monetary policy of Pakistan reflects strong and deep rooted relations between the two countries.

Nearly 1.6 million Pakistanis are employed in UAE and contributing to the progress and prosperity of the both countries

UAE emphasizes on importance of Pakistan's stability and supports Pakistan in facing the terrorism challenges and appreciates the efforts of Pakistan in the fight against this menace.

### Pak-UAE Trade:

The UAE is Pakistan's second biggest trading partner and the total trade volume between the two countries has reached around \$8.19 billion.

There are also dozens of UAE's companies working in Pakistan in the fields of aviation, oil, ports and shipping, banking, telecommunications, insurance, real estate, food and technology, and we are working to more strengthening these relationships.

The two countries are ready to hold 12th meeting of the PAK-UAE joint ministerial committee in Abu Dhabi very soon to explore opportunities in different fields, and the

two countries are expected to sign several agreements in various fields.

### UAE humanitarian assistance:

UAE PAP was launched on 12 January 2011 upon the directions of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces (May God protect him), with the intent to help Pakistan overcome the consequences of the destructive torrential rains by rehabilitating the infrastructure.

The project follows a comprehensive plan of rehabilitation that takes into account the rugged geographical topography and harsh weather conditions. The plan has four main pivots to rehabilitate the area and secure community development: roads and bridges, education, health and safe drinking water supply schemes, Last year, the UAE and Pakistan signed a US\$200 million cooperation agreement to execute third phase of UAE Pakistan Assistance Program (UAE-PAP).

### Initiative of UAE Embassy:

Since H.E. Hamad Obaid Al Zaabi, took the charge as UAE's Ambassador to Pakistan, He is working on plan to further deepen the cordial ties, especially economic relations, and he met with political leadership of Pakistan, as well as held series of meetings with Senior Businessmen, and visited deferent chambers of commerce and industry of Pakistan with aim to discuss ways to further strengthen bilateral trade and economic cooperation between two countries.

H.E. Hamad Obaid Al Zaabi, played a proactive and vital role in enhancing and expanding the ever existing bilateral relations on political, economic, social and cultural fields.

His Excellency arranged the visit of H.E Imran Khan, the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to UAE, the visit of H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan , the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces to Pakistan, which resulted the decision of UAE to deposited 3 billion dollar to support monetary policy of Pakistan, and also arranged the visit of high level trade delegation from UAE to Pakistan.

Furthermore, the scope of UAE Project to Assist Pakistan (UAEPAP), extended to Province of Baluchistan, as the UAE and Pakistan inked 200 million dollar agreement to strength health, education, water supply and basic infrastructure in Baluchistan.

The Embassy extended also humanitarian projects to different areas of Pakistan including Sindh, Baluchistan, tribal areas and Gilgit Baltistan.

The Embassy of UAE is strengthening the interaction between the Universities and libraries of two brotherly countries.

# Pakistan Mango Festival Held in Tokyo

By M. Bilal Zafar

As part of its public diplomacy activities and to further introduce and popularize Pakistani mangoes in Japan, the Embassy of Pakistan organized "Pakistan Mango Festival" in Tokyo. A large number of guests including Japanese dignitaries, Government functionaries, diplomats, members of civil society and media persons attended the event and had a first-hand experience of the taste and aroma of the famous Pakistani mangoes. Welcoming the guests, Ambassador Imtiaz Ahmad stated that Pakistan with 2 Million tons

of yield was the 5th largest producer and the 3rd largest exporter of mangoes. He proudly stated that mango is called the 'King of Fruits' and Pakistani mango is among the sweetest fruits on the face of the earth. He informed the guests that Punjab and Sindh provinces of Pakistan are known for growing over 200 main varieties of mangoes. He added that Over 100,000 tons of best quality mangoes of different varieties are exported from Pakistan to markets in Europe, Middle East, Asia and the Far East. Pakistan earns around US\$ 100 million annually from export of mangoes. He hoped

that export of mangoes to Japan will surge with more varieties of mangoes introduced in near future.

The guests attending the festival were served with fresh mangoes and mango cuts as well as wide-range of mango delicacies such as mango milk-shake, mango lassi, mango ice cream, mango salad, mango soufflé, mango mousse, mango pudding, mango cake, mango ebi chilli, chicken with mango curry, mango norimaki sushi and much more. The guests thoroughly enjoyed the variety of dishes and hailed the unique and sweet taste of Pakistani Mangoes.





## First Hungarian to Climb K2, World's Toughest Mountain

Hungarian mountaineer Szilárd Suhajda reached the peak of K2, the second highest mountain on Earth. This is the first time a Hungarian stands on the summit of the “Savage Mountain”. Suhajda did this extraordinary achievement without the use of oxygen tanks or the help of carriers. “I am delighted to announce that we successfully finished the 2019 ‘Eseményhorizont’ K2 expedition, I am here at the peak of K2. It’s stunning, the clouds cleared up, I can see everything clearly, the view from the ridge is beautiful. I’m glad I was able to further enrich the list of Eseményhorizont’s achievements. Next time I hope we will stand together at a beautiful peak”



# Pakistan's Ambassador to China Naghmana A. Hashmi presented her credentials to Chinese President Xi Jinping, in a ceremony at the Great Hall of the People.



A career diplomat, Ambassador Hashmi arrived in Beijing on 12 July 2019 after serving as Pakistan's Ambassador to

Belgium and the European Union since 2014. She has also served previously as Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing.



## A career diplomat

- Joined Foreign Service of Pakistan in 1996.
- Served at Headquarters as Section Officer (1998), Protocol Officer (2000 & 2004-2005).
- Director (South East Asia) from 2011-2012.
- Held various diplomatic assignments in Pakistan Mission abroad: Niamey (2000-2004), Rome (2005-2009), Singapore (2009-2011), Bangkok (2012-2015) and Moscow (2015-2017).
- Served as Director General (Economic Cooperation & OIC) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from October 2017-July 2019.
- Remained Pakistan's D-8 Commissioner from 2017- 2019

## Ambassador of Pakistan

**H.E Mr. Ata-ul- Munim Shahid presented his credential to Foreign Minister of Algeria H.E. Mr. Sabri Boukadoum .**

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