

Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ
نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا ہے
اللہ عزوجل کی رضا اور اس کی رضا کے متعلق فرمایا ہے
میرے لیے حلال نہیں ہو سکتیں، جو ہر شے
نسب کی وجہ سے حرام ہو جائے ہیں، وہی
دودھ کی وجہ سے بھی حرام ہو جائے ہیں۔
یہ تو میرے رضائی بھائی کی لڑکی ہے۔
(صحیح بخاری، حدیث نمبر 2645)

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Dialogue among political parties imperative for political, economic stability: Bilawal

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Thursday said dialogue among political parties was essential to achieve political and economic stability. Addressing a news conference here, he said PPP was making endeavors to convince the allied parties to take forward this process.



Won't advise to reappoint Usman Buzdar as CM Punjab: Fawad

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) vice president Fawad Chaudhry on Thursday opposed the reappointment of Usman Buzdar as the Chief Minister (CM) of Punjab. Speaking on the ARY News programme 'Off the Record', the PTI vice president Fawad Chaudhry said there are many 'surprises' regarding the tickets allotment as Chairman of PTI Imran Khan himself distributed the tickets for the Punjab Assembly elections. (Details on Page 8)

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Mobile app launch

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in a group photo with Federal Ministers, internees, officials of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Interior Ministry, NADRA and developers of Constitution Mobile App. on Thursday.



Photo: PID

Time for state institutions to keep national interest supreme: PM

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said it was time for the State institutions to get united for upholding the Constitution and keeping the national interest supreme.

Addressing at the launch of the 1973 Constitution mobile application, he said Pakistan was currently at the crossroads of constitutional challenges, which required a sense of wholeness to be demonstrated by the State institutions.

In connection with the golden jubilee of the country's constitution 1973, the mobile application has been developed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under the leadership of Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb in collaboration with National Data-



base and Registration Authority (NADRA). The application will act as a digital source to help raise awareness among the general public about the 1973 Constitution.

Shehbaz Sharif said the Constitution had its roots in the parliament, adding that according to the world-recognized concept, the judiciary can only interpret the

law, but cannot re-write it.

"It does not happen anywhere in the world that a court issues a stay order against a legislation which is still in the making," he said.

He urged the judiciary to reassess its role and become the protector of the Constitution.

The prime minister said the 1973 Constitution was the result

of the hard toil of the politicians from all backgrounds, who arrived at a consensus in formulation of the sacred document.

He recalled that veteran politicians of their times including Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Mufti Mehmood, Khan Abdul Wali Khan and several others rose above their political differences to write a constitution that acted as a binding force for the federation.

He said although politicians made mistakes in the past, but it was the time to rectify them.

"We have indeed learned a lesson and we are making efforts to take Pakistan out of these problems," he said. "Great people learn from their mistakes and hold the national interest high."

He said the government took over in difficult time, however,

said that it would not hesitate in protecting the State and the Constitution.

PM Sharif said on the eve of the 50th anniversary, the decision to include 1973 Constitution in the syllabus at schools and college levels was remarkable in raising awareness about its sanctity.

He expressed the hope that the young generation would learn about the Constitution and healthy academic debates would be held at educational institutions.

The prime minister felicitated the parliamentarians, Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf, Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah and NADRA on the launch of the Constitution 1973 mobile application.

President concerned about legality of caretaker govts beyond 90 days

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi on Thursday sent to the prime minister a letter of Chaudhry Fawad Ahmed asking him to look into the issues raised by the former federal minister to uphold the constitution and strengthen democracy in the country.

In his letter to the president, Chaudhry Fawad Ahmed raised issues with regard to the legality of the interim setups in the two provinces of the country.

He had said that the interim governments in Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had completed their stipulated

period and the constitution did not provide for the continuation /extension of the period fixed for the interim setup.

Fawad had further stated that caretaker governments were introduced as per Article 224 of the Constitution to facilitate the Election Commission of Pakistan in holding free, fair, just, and honest elections in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

In his letter, President Dr. Arif Alvi asked Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to examine the matter to ensure the upholding of the constitution and strengthening of democracy in Pakistan.

JUI-F chief rules out talks with PTI chief



Adam Khan Wazir

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Jamiat Ulema Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Thursday ruled out the possibility of holding talks with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chief Imran Khan who was bent upon creating hurdles for the country.

Addressing a press conference here, the JUI-F Chief wondered how dialogue could be held with a person who said that he would accept the elections after he received results and got a two-thirds majority.

He alleged that the PTI chief wanted things to get done according to his wishes as he had already said that he would dissolve the assemblies again even if he got a simple majority.

He regretted that Imran Khan, who should have been disqualified, was being made the centre of national politics.

He underlined the need for the judiciary for dispensing justice, adding that holding

elections within 90 days was a constitutional obligation but how a date given by the PTI Chief after the stipulated time could be acceptable?

He said, "The Parliament had passed resolutions expressing no confidence in the three-member bench of the supreme court."

How the political parties could be forced to hold talks with a person who did not have regard for the national interest, he remarked.

He said the country was confronting a number of economic challenges due to the flawed policies of the PTI government.

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) was handed over to the IMF in the name of sovereignty, he added.

Moulana Fazl said as a result of those policies, the poor people of the country started to suffer due to inflation.

He said the country would be steered out of the economic quagmire through better legislation.

Shawwal moon not sighted, Pakistan to celebrate Eidul Fitr on Saturday

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee on Thursday announced that the Shawwal moon has not been sighted in Pakistan, hence Eidul Fitr will fall on Saturday, April 22.

The committee's chairman, Maulana Abdul Khabeer Azad, made the announcement while addressing a press conference in Islamabad.

The Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee had convened the meeting to sight the moon for Eidul Fitr in Islamabad, whereas zonal bodies of the committee also met in Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar and Lahore.

Election Date: SC adjourns hearing as Govt, PTI to hold talks on April 26

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) on Thursday adjourned the hearing of a petition seeking simultaneous elections across Pakistan after being told that a meeting had been scheduled between the government and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) for April 26.

A three-member bench comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Bandial and comprising Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan and Justice Munib Akhtar is heard the petition seeking to hold general elections to all the national and provincial assemblies simultaneously.

Earlier, the apex court had directed the coalition government and PTI to hold talks today and develop a consensus on elections in the country.

However, the proceedings did not resume as the three-judge bench did not appear in the courtroom. Meanwhile, Farooq H Naek, who was representing Pakistan People's Party (PPP), and Attorney General

for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan met with CJP Bandial in his chambers.

The Supreme Court, in its written order, stated that it was "impressed" to note that all political leaders had affirmed their fidelity to the Constitution. It also asserted that it would not go back on its order fixing May 14 as the date for Punjab elections.

The order noted that the Supreme Court has no objection to the negotiation process for holding general elections simultaneously. "Holding elections on the same day across the country is a legal and constitutional question," it added.

It further said that all executive authorities were bound to implement the decision of the election to Punjab Assembly on May 14.

Referring to CJP's meeting with Farooq H Naek and AGP Mansoor, the order said that both the representatives informed the chief justice of talks between government and opposition.

Today's hearing

After being summoned by the court, leaders of various political parties including the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), MQM-P, Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) and others appeared before the SC amid efforts for consensus in order to end dispute on elections.

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) assured the Supreme Court that they will sit with the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and try to find a solution on the election date.

At the outset of the hearing, CJP thanked leaders of all political parties for coming to Supreme Court on the important issue. The top judge also appreciated Jamat-e-Islami chief Siraj ul Haq for making efforts to initiate a dialogue between the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and the government.

"You have undertaken a good initiative. May Allah succeed you," CJP Bandial told the JI chief.

Integration of Constitution in curriculum, a major milestone, says Marriyum

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Thursday said the country had achieved a major milestone by integrating the Constitution of Pakistan in educational curriculum on the occasion of its golden jubilee.

"Integration of the Constitution in the curriculum is a historic milestone. The curriculum does not only include basic components of democracy but also highlights importance and values of the difference of opinion," the minister said while addressing at the launch of the 1973 Constitution mobile application.

The mobile application has been developed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under the leadership of Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb in collaboration with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA).

Imran on warpath against Nawaz

Bureau Report

LAHORE: (Dunya News) - Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan flayed on Thursday Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supreme leader Nawaz Sharif, saying the latter was merely "the captain of the cowards".

Addressing the party workers during Iftar, the deposed premier said, "Nawaz Sharif is not alone. But there are also more players on a team of cowards. The capability of the Sharif family is that all of its members are cowards. Maulana Fazlur Rehman is also a part of Nawaz Sharif's team."

Speaking about his aide Ali Amin Gandapur, Mr Khan said, "Ali Amin Gandapur is determined. Shameless are those people who indulge in activities like this. The police are just busy taking Ali Amin here and there."

Earlier on Wednesday, Mr Khan said that the entire country was in the throes of fascism.

Taking to Twitter, the deposed premier lamented, "The way we have descended into becoming a banana republic where there is no rule of law and only the law of the jungle. It is clear that this reign of terror is not controlled by PDM puppets but by another force that sees itself totally above the law. Our people are abducted, and afterwards sham FIRs are registered."

Ruing the cases lodged against him, Mr Khan said, "As bail in one FIR is granted, another FIR pops up. I have over 145 FIRs filed against me. Its a circus of FIRs. My Bani Gala caretaker, my Zaman Park cook, our social media's Mashwani, Waqas, and my security incharge, Ghumman, - all abducted and tortured to try and update their software."

Anwaarul Haq elected as Azad Kashmir's 15th Prime Minister

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Newly elected Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwarul Haq took oath as the fifteenth Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir. President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry administered the oath to him. The swearing-in ceremony was held at the Prime Minister's House on Thursday. Assembly members, secretaries, heads of departments and a large number of citizens participated in the ceremony. The Secretary Services and General Administration read out the notification of the newly elected Prime Minister, after which the newly elected Prime Minister was sworn in by the President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing on this occasion, Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq said that my responsibility has increased even more with the

heavy mandate with which I have been elected by all the members of the Assembly. Power is not a bed of flowers but a hedge of thorns which I will use only to serve the people. Allies I assure my allies especially the PDM and other members of the Assembly that the way you all cooperated with me in a moment. He said that I will try my best to fulfill the wishes of the allies, but I also request the allies to be patient. I will not promise the people today that Azad Kashmir will present a paradise tomorrow, that the kingdom of angels will be established here in a day. Change takes time. But as soon as we complete the initial phase of governance, you will see a change.

also want to make it clear today that Kashmir is an indivisible unity, no formula for the partition of Kashmir can be implemented in my presence. The Prime Minister said that I do not believe in protocol but in serving the people. Today I warn the doctors, paramedical staff



and teachers associated with the health and education sectors to report to their respective duties within twenty four hours or be prepared for consequences. Government of Azad Kashmir Government of Tehreek Azadi Kashmir Base Camp Today, I assure my brothers of Occupied Kashmir that for the success of the Azadi Kashmir movement, I will convey their voice with all

my strength inside the country and abroad.

He said that neither my attitude nor my personality will change with power. There will be a change, the way the governance has been corrupted in Azad Kashmir and the people's resources have been brutally looted will be brought before you soon. I also pay tribute to the armed forces of Pakistan

today who have are protectors and are making sacrifices for this country. The Prime Minister said that power is the religion of Allah Almighty. Until yesterday, I did not even think that today I will be in this position. I am grateful to all the allies for expressing their confidence. They said that in the part of the age that I am at the moment, change and variation cannot be imag-

ined much. A man can fight the whole world but cannot fight his own conscience. I need time to improve this system, so I appeal to all allies to support me with patience and courage.

What I have learned from my political and spiritual teacher Chaudhry Sahab Ali is in my veins and blood. I am included. He said that the complete infrastructure of an entire state is available in Azad Kashmir, but this infrastructure was not given to us for luxury but to serve the people. The Prime Minister said that I hate the word status quo. Now will remove the status from Azad Kashmir and you will see improvement here soon. I inform all government employees including my bureaucracy to start using their energies for public service and betterment of the state, or else long. Go on leave. Talk does not bring change, but for change, you have to prove it by your actions. He said that I assure all friends to walk together, I am trying to form the cabinet

as soon as possible, he said. He said that due to bad governance, the entire structure of the state was destroyed and the resources were brutally looted. I will put the evidence of this in front of the people in the coming time. We will make the accountability system transparent and the people will see accountability in the real sense. Our government is a coalition government which needs some time to be physically visible. I do not want to give away the conversation. After completing the formation of the government, you will see the government with full vigor. He said that I am also grateful to my twelve members of the assembly who trusted me in very unfavorable circumstances. said that this base camp government has been established to burn down the freedom movement of Kashmir. Modi will adopt whatever tactics he wants in Occupied Kashmir. I assure my Kashmiri brothers that I will fight their case with full force he pledged.

Shopping

Multan: Girls are buying jewelry from shops ahead of Eid al-Fitr, as on this grand event people prepare feasts, wear new clothes and apply Henna to celebrate the festival with great Zeal.



Photo by Asim Tanveer

Crackdown against transporters charging excessive fares on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: On the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir, a thorough crackdown was conducted against the transporters charging excessive fares on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr. Taking action at the stand, 3 vehicles were also stopped. During the crackdown, the routes of 2 vehicles were also canceled due to overloading and overcharging. Secretary RTA also returned Rs 1 lakh 75 thousand excess fare to the passengers. Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir said that the operation against overcharging will be continued during the Eid days. Strict accountability will be held against the transport companies that rob the passengers. The commissioner directed that the official rate lists and complaint numbers should also be recorded at the bus and wagon stands

A strict security plan will be implemented during Eid al-Fitr. Umar Jahangir

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir has said that a strict security plan will be implemented on behalf of the district administration on Eid-ul-Fitr. For the convenience of the people, the holidays of Wasa, Waste Management Company and related district departments have been cancelled. He said that the parks I have also ordered inspection of swings and getting fitness certificate

He expressed these views yesterday while presiding over the meeting of the district departments in connection with Eid-ul-Fitr.

Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir said that Section 144 will be enforced against temporary dangerous swings in open places.

Delegation of Central Anjuman Tajran meets to Administrations

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: In a meeting with the delegation of Central Anjuman Tajran Grocery and General Store City with AC City Mian Muhammad Zubair, Divisional Commissioner Ms. Silwat Saeed, Deputy Commissioner regarding the distribution of free flour by the association in Ramadan, DC Ali Annan Qamar, AC City Muhammad Zubair DFC Mian Waqar Yousaf paid the great tributes to their good services for the entire satisfaction of the public.

He said adding that, his services to the public will be remembered for a long time. These views were expressed by General Secretary Sheikh Muhammad Masood, Senior Vice President Rana Shahid Mahmood, Vice President Malik Umar Hayat, Secretary Jinnah Town Haseeb, who were present in the delegation, and on the instructions of Rao Hashim Ali, President Central Anjuman Tajran Kariana and General Store City District.

Al-Khidmat Foundation distributed Eid packages

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Al-Khidmat Foundation distributed Eid packages to 100 deserving families from different areas in Wana of Lower South Waziristan District, the price of one Eid package was Rs.8500, the Eid package included flour, rice, sugar, Oil, tea, and dates, wherever there is an opportunity to serve in which Al-Khidmat Foundation has always been at the forefront.

In all calamities and difficult situations where no one else can reach, the volunteers of Al Khidmat Foundation reach.

On the occasion of Eid package distribu-



tion, District President of Al-Khidmat Foundation Abdul Wahab Wazir, General Secretary Asad Bahir, Mumtaz Wazir and Umar Wazir expressed their views and said that service to the people will continue till the

last breath of life, they said that the achievements of Al-Khidmat Foundation is performing in the service are being made possible by the undying spirit of the Foundation's volunteers.

Later, the deserving

people who received the Eid package expressed their gratitude to Al-Khidmat Foundation

That we helpless and helpless people have no words to thank this organization.

European Union supporting Pakistani civil society to promote and protect human rights

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Pakistan has launched a call for proposals worth 1,700,000 EUR to enable civil society organizations (CSOs) to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in Pakistan.

As human rights and democracy are essential values of the EU, promoting and protecting them remains a key priority of its external action. These values are critical for achieving sustainable development and building inclusive, open, and resilient societies. The new call for proposals focuses on strengthening the capacities of CSOs and media in exercising fundamental freedoms, protecting and supporting journalists, bloggers, and other media workers.

Mari Petroleum Company Celebrates Earth Day

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Mari Petroleum Company Limited (MPCL) organized an event to celebrate Earth Day on April 19th, 2023. The event was organized by CSR & HSE Department of company and ceremony held at Company headquarters in Islamabad. It was aimed to promote initiatives creating public awareness on environmental issues and streamlining joint efforts by all stakeholders towards common goal of achieving environmental sustainability to protect ourselves and future generations.

The event was attended by all MPCLs HO employees, senior management including Managing Director Mr. Faheem Haider, Media personnel and members from CDA Authority including Chairman CDA, Mr. Noor

ul Amin Mengal who graced the occasion as Chief Guest. At the event, Chairman appreciated MPCL's resolve for environmental conservation. He also highlighted the impact MPCL's various green initiatives are creating and urged that other corporates must learn from MPCL's sustainable development initiatives and should make environment as part of their CSR plans.

At the event, MD MPCL, Faheem Haider shared his vision of shared responsibility to invest in planet which according to him is equally important as to meet the expectations of customers and shareholders. He apprised the audience about company's belief in the concept of triple bottom line and how sustainability is the critical aspect of MPCL's business strategy. All green initiatives of company encompass a commitment towards achiev-

ing sustainability goals by reducing its carbon footprint, conserving resources, reducing wastes, promoting sustainable practices and environmental stewardship.

At the event, MPCL's Chief of Staff, Brig. Asad Raza (Retd.) highlighted multiple impactful green initiatives taken by company in 2022 - 2023 including development of Islamabad's largest 17 Acres Miyawaki forest, plantation of 25000 fruit trees, installation of various waste bins, public awareness messages boards, benches etc. at Trail 3 and Trail 5 in Islamabad. He also apprised the audience that more than 100 Solarization schemes have been executed by MPCL to provide affordable and sustainable energy to underserved communities been executed in the operational area of Sindh. 80 Fruit Orchards on 640 Kanals have



been developed by company and handed over to the Farmers of North

Waziristan along with necessary trainings, distribution of seeds, plants and

toolkits to earn sustainable livelihood. 80 Kanals of vertical farming and training of 175 farmers also one among other green initiatives taken by MPCL in Waziristan. He also focused on briefing the crucial aspect of partnerships and need of serious efforts by all to achieve Sustainable development goals.

MPCL's Director HSE, Naseem Qamar acquainted the audience about Pakistan's responsibility being signatory of UN's Paris Agreement and our responsibility as Nation to save the planet for a better greener future. He suggested the audience to celebrate Earth day with a sense of optimism and hope. He expressed pride to be part of an organization which is committed to ensure sustainable future for generations by devising a common goal to protect planet and make it a better place for all.

SCO students' talk with Taikonauts of Shenzhou-15



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: To enhance the understanding of young people in the SCO countries in the field of astronautical science and technology, promote their development and deepen practical and friendly cooperation, the Good-Neighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation Commission (GN-FCC) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), China Manned Space Agency, All-China Youth Federation, China Soong Ching Ling Foundation and the secretariat of the SCO Youth Committee co-hosted an event

entitled "SCO Students' Talk with Taikonauts of Shenzhou-15" on 20 April 2023.

As the branch venue, Chinese embassy in Islamabad held the "Talk with Taikonauts of Shenzhou-15" event. Ms. Pang Chunxue, Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy, Mr. Shahid Mahmood Baig, Chairman of Pakistan Science Foundation, Ms. Asif Farhat, Founder of Institute of Peace and Diplomatic studies, members from Institute of Space Technology Islamabad and many young Pakistani students from different schools in Islamabad attended the event.

Aliza Jamil, student of Class 8, from Islamabad Model College for Girls, interacted with the Chinese astronaut asking about how to breath in space, the astronaut gave a very comprehensive response from space.

"Talk with Taikonauts of Shenzhou-15" event is significant for broadening the youths' horizon and lighting up their dreams about exploring the mysterious and diverse universe.

Youths are young ambassadors of China-Pakistan friendship and hope of our two countries, the iron-clad relationship should be passed from

generation to generation.

This year is the tenth anniversary of BRI and CPEC, S&T cooperation is an important part of it, will surely provide strong support to the high quality and sustainable development of CPEC. Cooperation on science and technology between China and Pakistan has achieved a number of remarkable accomplishments, including the Pakistani medicine seeds returning from Chinese space station after experimentation. China's development and Chinese modernization will create more opportunities for Pakistan and the world.

KSA-Jordan relations

JEDDAH: Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman received Jordan's King Abdullah in Jeddah. The pair discussed bilateral ties between their nations.



Photo: Online

In the name of honor killing humanity is being murdered: Honor and Religion

Kiran Asim

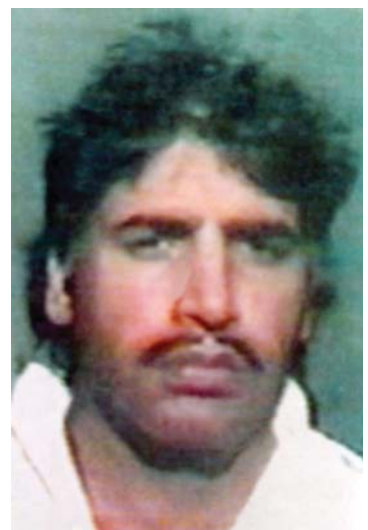
Violence against women is a common practice and is a worldwide crisis. There are many forms of aggression against women occur at the hands of family members. The So-called "Honor Killing" of women and girls is one horrifying manifestation of this global phenomenon.

The term "Honor Killing" target women whose actions (actual or suspected) violate the honor of their families, an honor that is thought to depend on the sexual purity of its female members. It also includes speaking with an unrelated man, to rumored pre-marital loss of virginity, to an extra marital affair are the common causes of honor killing, often carried out by a father or brother.

A similar story happened twenty-seven years ago. This is the story of an unfortunate woman Intiaz Begum, 35, and her four children. Who was not only killed in honor killing but her children were also deprived of their right to live. And this is not the story of Pakistan, India or any country in South Asia, but this incident happened in a country like Britain.

Khalid Mahmood who was thirty eight years old lived with his wife and children in Bristol city of UK. He was a Narcissist and mentally ill person who also suffered from personality disorder. Who, in order to save his honor, took away the right to live from his wife, infant child and three daughters, and performed this heinous act to elevate himself in the society.

The way this mentally ill animal cut the throat of his daughters Saqqa, 14, Saema, 11, and Uzma, 9, & a toddler son Hasan, 2, and gave them a very painful death. Being a chapter, his hands did not tremble? Are fathers like that? If his wife was at fault, was it severe or serious enough to deprive this woman of her right to live? If his wife was wrong, what was the



fault of the children, what was the fault of those three innocent souls who had just stepped on the threshold of adulthood and who were only old enough to catch butterflies, They may have dreamed and also even thought about their future but their dreams were brutally strangled. The unfortunate mother who would never tire of praying for the good fortune of her children and watched them grow up, her prayers and wishes for her children were put to death.

The innocent infant Hasan, 2, who had just come into this world, who had not yet seen the color of the world but his mother's love only, was not only robbed of his mother's love but his breath as well. Strangely enough, the man who brutally slept five people to death was only sentenced to life in prison after being released on parole. This is a huge question mark on the UK judicial system and a stain that has not been washed away over the years.

It is with great regret that the Muslim community members of the Easton Jamia Masjid have come and gone. But no one has talked about this cruelty and brutality till date. The irony is that these five innocent souls were buried in the soil. According to Muslim

tradition, their graves were not built and no inscriptions were placed on them. The graves are still neglected at Avonview Cemetery (Muslim Section), St. George, Bristol. No memorial headstones, grave markers or plaque is associated with their names. To date there is no single formal identification or object to show their existence at the grave-site. And thus, these five innocent, victims and the unfortunate ones were handed over to the dust, nameless and unmarked.

To concluded these innocent girls need some sort of physical object to be installed at their grave site. Be it three separate head stones, three grave markers or one dedicated plaque according to the Islamic values.

Unfortunately, the community members of the Easton jamia mosque, being Muslims, did not speak against this cruelty and brutality? One must understand that honor killing has nothing to do with Islam and it is purely an act that is against the teaching of Islam and has no roots in Islam whatsoever.

Allah Almighty says in Quran: "If anyone kills a person unless it be for murder or for spreading mischief in the land. It would be as if they killed all people. And if anyone saved a life, it would be as if they saved the life of all people."

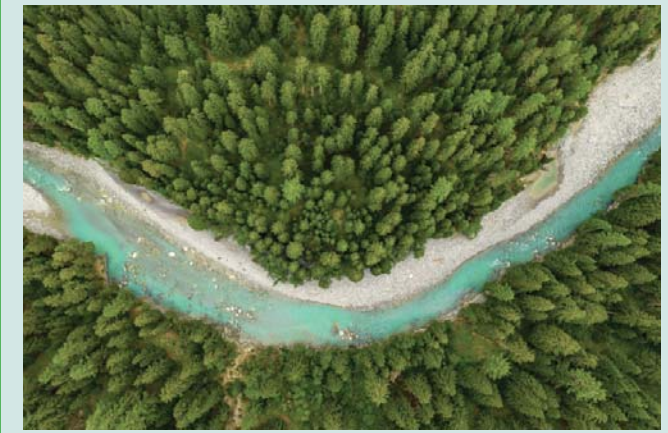


From this Ayah of Quran it again becomes clear that human life is sacred. One cannot kill a human unless the person being killed is spreading mischief in the world or life for life. Other than that saving a life is saving humanity and killing one is killing humanity.

In Islam the rule and law is equally applicable on men as well. Moreover, if the woman is found guilty of the crime, even then an individual does not have any right to kill another person or woman in particular. The ruling that Islam gives is free from gender biasness and both the genders are to be held equally responsible for the act and its consequences.

The notion of honor killing and shame as a justification is not unique to any one culture or religion. Indeed honor and honor based violence is not only a part of some Arab countries and South Asia but also reflected in historical events in many countries. In a nutshell, honor killing in Islamic definitions, refers specifically to extra legal punishment by the family against a woman and is strictly forbidden by the Shariah (Islamic Law). Religious authorities disagree with extra punishments such as honor killing and prohibit it. So the practice of it is a cultural and not a religious issue.

L'Oréal fund for nature regeneration accelerates biodiversity preservation efforts



Spokesman Report

CLICHY : Ahead of Earth Day, L'Oréal today announced three new recipients of its Fund for Nature Regeneration. NetZero, ReforesTerra and Mangroves. Now were chosen for their innovative approaches to carbon capture in soils, reforestation and mangrove restoration, and for their potential to have a far-reaching, positive impact on the environment and local communities.

According to the COP15, one million species are already threatened with extinction and 75% of the earth's surface has been significantly altered. With the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) calling for more global cooperation in biodiversity preservation efforts, L'Oréal is accelerating its longstanding commitment to biodiversity beyond its own value chain. Through the fund, which has committed EUR22 million in projects to-date, L'Oréal is engaging with partners with proven expertise to support in the regeneration of degraded lands and mangroves, as well as the restoration of marine areas and forests.

The latest projects were selected following due diligence and based on key criteria including business model readiness, economic viability, and positive environmental and social impacts:

NetZero is a French climate venture operating in tropical areas such as Cameroon and Brazil, that specializes in long-term carbon removal from the atmosphere by turning agricultural residues into biochar. Biochar is a stable, non-polluting carbon that can be added to improve degraded soil. It is recognized by the IPCC as a viable solution with the potential to remove one-to-two billion tons of CO2 emissions from the planet's atmosphere each year.

"At L'Oréal Groupe, our environmental duty goes beyond our business. It is our responsibility to address today's most pressing challenges, like the erosion of biodiversity and its social and ecological impact," said Rachel Barré, Environmental Leadership Director, L'Oréal Groupe. "The L'Oréal Fund for Nature Regeneration is an important vehicle in our efforts towards a more sustainable future for all. With the new projects signed, our aim is to help restore the planet's biodiversity and preserve its abundant ecosystems."

"Our vision for value creation is one where financial performance and environmental and socio-economic impact are inextricably linked," said Muriel Atlas, Chief Investment Officer, L'Oréal Groupe. "The L'Oréal Fund for Nature Regeneration is a catalyst for sustainable value creation through private capital, enabling the acceleration of environmental solutions with long-term benefit. Through our impact investing strategy, we can play an important role in tackling biodiversity loss with expert local partners."

The L'Oréal Fund for Nature Regeneration was created in 2020 and is endowed with EUR 50 million for impact investment. In 2021, L'Oréal announced the first two recipients of funds: the Real Wild Estates Company (RWEC), the UK's first rewilding business; and RIZE carbon financing, which helps accelerate France's farming sector towards sustainable practices. The fund is managed by Mirova Natural Capital, a subsidiary of Natixis Investment Managers, one of the pioneers in natural capital investment.

UNICEF report shows above 67 million children missed vaccinations over three years

News Desk

NEW YORK : The public perception of the importance of vaccines for children declined during the COVID-19 pandemic in 52 out of 55 countries studied, UNICEF warned today in a new report on immunization.

The State of the World's Children 2023: For Every Child, Vaccination reveals the perception of the importance of vaccines for children declined by more than a third in the Republic of Korea, Papua New Guinea, Ghana, Senegal and Japan after the start of the pandemic. In the new data, collected by The Vaccine Confidence Project and published today by UNICEF, China, India and Mexico were the only countries studied where the data indicates the perception of the importance of vaccines held firm or even improved. In most countries, people under 35 and women were more likely to report less confidence about vaccines for children after the start of the pandemic.*

Vaccine confidence is volatile and time specific. Additional data collection and further analysis will be required to determine if the findings are indicative of a longer-term trend. Despite the falls, overall support for vaccines remains relatively strong. In almost half the 55 countries studied more than 80 per cent of respondents perceived vaccines as important for children.

However, the report warns the confluence of several factors suggest the threat of vaccine hesitancy may be growing. These factors include uncertainty about the response to the pandemic, growing access to misleading information, declining trust in expertise, and political polarisation.

"At the height of the pandemic, scientists rapidly developed vaccines that saved countless lives. But despite this historic achievement, fear and disinformation about all types of vaccines circulated as widely as the virus itself," said Catherine Russell, UNICEF Executive Director. "This data is a worrying warning signal. We cannot allow confidence in routine immunizations to become another victim of the pandemic. Otherwise, the next wave of deaths could be of more children with measles, diphtheria or other preventable diseases."

Alarmingly, the decline in confidence comes amid the largest sustained backslide in childhood immunisation in 30 years, fuelled by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic interrupted childhood vaccination almost everywhere, especially due to intense demands on health systems, the diversion of immunization resources to COVID-19 vaccination, health worker shortages and stay-at-home measures.

Today's report warns a total of 67 million children missed out on vaccinations between 2019 and 2021, with vaccination coverage levels decreasing in 112 countries. Children born just before or during the pandemic are now moving past the age when they would normally be vaccinated, underscoring the need for urgent action to catch up on those who were missed and prevent deadly disease outbreaks. In 2022, for example, the number of measles cases was more than double the total in the previous year. The number of children paralysed by polio was up 16 per cent year-on-year in 2022. When comparing the 2019 to 2021 period with the previous three-year period, there was an eight-fold increase in the number of children paralysed by polio, highlighting the need to ensure vaccination efforts are sustained.

The pandemic also exacerbated existing inequities. For far too many children, especially in the most marginalised communities, vaccination is still not available, accessible or affordable. Even before the pandemic, progress on vaccination had stalled for almost a decade as the world struggled to reach the most marginalised children.

Of the 67 million children who missed out on routine vaccination between 2019 and 2022, 48 million didn't receive a single routine vaccine, also known as "zero-dose". As of the end of 2021, India and Nigeria (both countries with very large birth cohorts) had the largest numbers of zero-dose children but increases in the numbers of zero-dose children were especially notable in Myanmar and the Philippines.

