

Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ
عقربن عامر جعفی نے بیان کیا کہ نبی کریم
صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے اپنے صحابہ میں قربانی
کے جانور تقسیم کئے۔ عقرب رضی اللہ عنہ کے
حصہ میں ایک سال سے کم کا بکری کا بچہ آیا۔
انہوں نے بیان کیا کہ اس بکری سے عرض
کیا: یا رسول اللہ! میرے حصہ میں تو ایک
سال سے کم بچہ آیا ہے؟ نبی کریم صلی اللہ
علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا کہ تم اسی کی قربانی کرو۔
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FBR collects record Rs 7,000 bln tax by June 26: Dar

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday said for the first time in the country's history, the FBR had collected Rs 7,000 billion annual tax by June 26, 2023. "This Fiscal Year 2022-23 will end on June 30 and it is hoped that more revenue will be collected, which will be the first time in the history of the country," the minister wrote on Twitter.



Pakistan is a land of opportunities with great heritage says Ambassador Suh Sangpyo

Outgoing Ambassador of the Republic of Korea (ROK), Suh Sangpyo said Pakistan is a country having a few challenges and plenty of opportunities as well. Pakistan is a big country and the people are kind, friendly with full of hospitality values. He addressed to the audience who attended his farewell event organized by the embassy at Serena Hotel in Islamabad. (Details on Page 5)

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Hajj 2023

A Muslim pilgrim prays on top of mount Arafat.



Hajj sermon: Muslims urged to maintain unity, harmony



News Desk

MECCA: Sheikh Dr Yousaf bin Muhammad bin Saeed, imam of Hajj, who is also a member of the Council of Senior Scholars delivered the Hajj Sermon at Masjid-e-Nimra.

Hundreds of thousands of Muslim pilgrims from around the world converged in Maidan-e-Arafat on Tuesday to perform the Rukn-e-Azam of Hajj "Waqoof-e-Arafat" which marks climax of the Hajj.

Delivering the wide-ranging sermon from Masjid-e-Nimra, Sheikh Dr Yousaf bin Muhammad bin Saeed urged the Muslims to keep harmony and brotherhood among them.

All Muslims are like part of one body when any part of the body hurts, the pain is felt in the whole body, he added. The Muslims are urged to exhibit unity and behave politely and

avoid conflicts, Sheikh Dr Yousaf said in his Hajj sermon.

"Muslims should exhibit best of the manners as only those who will have good manners will be close to the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) on the day of judgment".

"The combination of the testimony that only Allah is to be worshipped, along with the testimony that Muhammad (PBUH) is Allah's messenger."

Sheikh Dr Yousaf in his Hajj Sermon further said that respecting and valuing humanity is compulsory for all Muslims. "Success lies in fear of Allah Almighty and following his orders".

He said Allah has ordered Muslims to keep praying and paying zakat to the needy people.

Sheikh Yousaf urged the Muslims to worship in such a way that Almighty Allah is seeing them.

IMF aims to 'quickly' reach agreement with Pakistan on funding

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: International Monetary Fund's (IMF) mission chief Nathan Porter on Tuesday said it was continuing discussions with Pakistani authorities with the aim of 'quickly' reaching agreement on financial support.

"Over the past few days, the Pakistani authorities have taken decisive measures to bring policies more in line with the economic reform programme," Nathan Porter said in a statement.

Giving details, he said the measures include "the passage of a budget by the parliament that broadens the tax base while opening up space for higher social and development spending as well as steps towards improving the functioning of

the foreign exchange market and tightening monetary policy to reduce inflationary and balance of payment pressures that affect particularly the more vulnerable".

The IMF's mission chief noted that the country's decisions have improved issues related to loan programme. "The IMF team continues discussions with Pakistani authorities with the aim of quickly reaching an agreement on financial support," he added.

The statement came hours after Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif made his fourth contact with International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director (MD) Kristalina Georgieva in six days.

In a telephonic conversation, PM Shehbaz expressed confidence that understanding on

International Monetary Fund programme will shape into a final decision by the lender within a couple of days.

The premier also expressed the resolve to achieve the goals for improving economic condi-



tion of the country in collaboration with the Bank, a handout released by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said.

Speaking on this occasion, the Managing Director IMF acknowledged efforts of the Finance Minister and his team for completing the IMF programme in the wake of her

recent meetings with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Paris.

"We want positive improvement in the economic situation of Pakistan," the IMF MD told the prime minister while lauding his leadership qualities.

Pakistan's ninth review by the IMF under the 2019 Extended Fund Facility (EFF) for the release of a \$1.2bn funds is still pending with just 3 days remaining of the programme's expiry on June 30.

Pakistan has also revised its budget for the financial year starting on July 1, and hiked policy rates to 22% in its desperation to clinch the deal, key to unlocking other external financing for the cash-strapped nation.

'90pc conditions met' Earlier, it was reported that Pakistan has met 90 percent

conditions for the staff-level agreement with IMF.

Sources said that Pakistan has also abolished the scheme to bring \$0.1 million to the country annually and the interest rate has been increased by one percent. The basic interest rate has been hiked from 21 percent to 22 percent.

The memorandum of economic and financial policies which includes nine tables has been sent to IMF and the financial experts of the IMF will analyze the memorandum now, sources added.

The source further revealed that talks for the staff-level agreement will take place tonight and Finance Minister Ishaq Dar will finalize the staff-level agreement with the IMF.

Gold falls by Rs1,100 to Rs214,200 per tola

TLTP

ISLAMABAD: Gold prices lost traction on Tuesday, with the price of one tola of 24-karat gold came down by Rs1,100 in the country.

According to the All-Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association (APSGJA), the price of one tola of 24-karat gold decreased by Rs1,100 to Rs214,200 from Rs215,300. Similarly, the gold rate for 10 grams of 24-karat moved down to Rs183,642 with a decrease of Rs943 per 10 grams from Rs184,585. Gold prices dropped in the domestic market on Tuesday in line with the downward trend in the international market.

PM orders inquiry into recent Lahore flooding; calls for future preparedness

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday ordered an inquiry and fix the responsibility on the officials concerned over their failure to overcome the flooding situation caused by recent rains in Lahore.

The prime minister, who chaired a meeting to review the preparedness ahead of predicted rains in North Punjab, particularly Lahore, expressed his annoyance over the failure to make timely arrangements to drain the rainwater.

He instructed the provincial government and the district administration to fix the respon-



sibility for poor water drainage, and immediately suspend the officials showing any negligence.

He said the slackness of the relevant departments made the citizens suffer.

The prime minister instructed to ensure full preparedness in the wake of rains predicted in the next few days.

The administration should particularly remain alert during Eid-ul-Azha and formulate an emergency plan to deal with the possible situation caused by the rains, he added.

He said the issues related to the procurement of machinery for water drainage in the city should be resolved on an urgent

basis. He also directed the relevant authorities to carry out strict monitoring of hides collection across the province to keep the proscribed outfits away from the activity.

Prime Minister Shehbaz asked the administrations to make arrangements for sanitation as well as for the disposal of offals on Eid.

He said the special complaint centres and control rooms must work round the clock for public facilitation keeping in view the Eid-ul-Azha and monsoon season.

Punjab Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Lahore commissioner and other senior officers attended the meeting.

Kundi lauds interior ministry's decision of setting up Passport counters in NADRA offices

Correspondent

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Minister of State for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday lauded the Interior ministry's decision of setting up counters for issuing passports at several NADRA centers across the country and demanded for the same facility at Tehsil level in Dera Ismail Khan.

According to a press release issued here, the state minister paid tribute to the interior minister for providing facility of Passport in NADRA offices and termed it a people-friendly initiative.

Faisal Kundi demanded that this laudable facility should also be provided to the residents of far-flung areas of Dera Ismail Khan.

No civilian under trial in military courts, AGP tells SC

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Attorney General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan told the Supreme Court (SC) that civilian's trials in military courts had not yet started.

He made these remarks as six-member bench of the Supreme Court Tuesday resumed hearing pleas against trials of civilians in the military courts.

The bench headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial, comprises of Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Mazahir Ali Akbar Naqvi and Justice Ayisha Malik.

During today's proceedings, Attorney General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan told the apex court that no civilian was being tried in military courts at the moment.

The AGP reply came after Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial had on Monday asked the AGP to "reassure" him that no such trial would occur as long as the case was being heard in the court.

The AGP said that no trial of civilians was currently underway. Subsequently, PTI chief



Imran Khan's lawyer Uzair Bhandari in his arguments said that a civilian could not be court-martialled. Referring to yesterday's press conference by the military, he said that ISPR Director General spokesperson Maj Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry stated that 102 people would be tried in military courts.

However, Attorney-General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan interjected and said, "I stand by what I said yesterday, that 102 people are not being tried."

At one point, Justice Afridi asked the AGP to ensure the suspects would be allowed to talk to their families. The CJP added that all the suspects should be able to talk to their family members on Eidul Azha.

To this, the CJP assured the court that all those in custody were also being provided health facilities.

Continued on Page 8

Govt ready to increase taxes on salaried class: economic expert

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Economic expert Khurram Shehzad said that the federal government has prepared to further increase taxes on the salaried class for expanding the tax net amid the high inflation rate.

While talking to the ARY News programme 'Bakhabar Savera', economic expert Khurram Shehzad said that the government made the

salaried class scapegoat once again for expanding the tax net.

He criticised that the nationals have always borne the consequences of politicians' mistakes and the financial burden was always imposed on the common people. "The burden of the political mistakes will be borne by the nation and the corporate sector due to vague financial decisions."

ECC Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired the meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet here on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

ECC approves grants for AGP, KP FC

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) has approved the technical supplementary grants for the Auditor General of Pakistan (AGP) and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Frontier Corps (FC).

The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) which met in Islamabad today with Finance Minister Senator Ishaq Dar in the chair approved the technical supple-

mentary grant of 200 million rupees in favour of Department of the Auditor General of Pakistan (AGP) to meet employment-related expenses.

The ECC also approved a technical supplementary grant for the Ministry of Interior of Rs 3813.95 million i-e Rs 2989.37 million for FC KP(North) and Rs 824.58 million for FC KP(South) for ration bills, a press statement issued by the finance ministry read.

The ECC also approved a

summary of Petroleum Division regarding policy guidelines for import on foreign supplier's account through customs bonded Storage facilities.

Federal Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar, Minister of State for Petroleum Musadik Masood Malik, SAPM on Finance Tariq Bajwa and Coordinator to the PM on Economy Bilal Azhar Kayani, Federal Secretaries and other senior officers attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar chaired meeting on matters related to Civil Aviation Division and Airport Security Force in Islamabad today.

The Chair was briefed on the issues being faced by the Aviation sector pertaining to regulation, service provision, security, safety and enhancement of state capacity in Aviation sector.

The meeting discussed the necessary amendments required in the aviation laws/ordinances in order to ensure

effective service provision to improve the standards of aviation sector in Pakistan to meet the international standards for resumption of PIA flights to the USA, UK and the Europe.

Federal Minister for Aviation and Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique, Federal Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar, SAPM on Finance Tariq Bajwa, Secretary Aviation, DG ASF, DG CAA and senior officers from Finance and Aviation attended the meeting.

Woman among nine terrorists arrested from banned organization: Spokesman CTD Punjab

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) in the Punjab province has foiled a major terror plot on Eid-ul-Azha by arresting 9 suspected terrorists including a woman linked with a banned out during operations in different areas of Punjab.

According to the spokesman, the CTD Punjab conducted 35 intelligence based operations in different districts of the province to effectively deal with any untoward incident of terrorism, in which 36 suspected persons were interrogated and 9 alleged terrorists were arrested with weapons, explosives and other prohibited materials.

Among the arrested terrorists are 2 members of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan Adnan Yusuf and Muhammad Luqman, 2 members of Lashkari Jhangvi Muhammad Salman Iftikhar and Abdul Halim, 5 members of ISIS Shiraz Alam, Abdahu Shah, Balqis Bibi, Shahid Ahmed and Muhammad Umar are included, he said and added that four hand grenades, 3 feet of Prima Card, 30-bore pistol with 42 bullets, 21 stickers of banned organization, a flag were recovered from the terrorists, 1 laptop, 1 tablet phone, 2 mobile phones, 500 Afghani currency and 37370 Pakistani cash have been recovered from the possession of the terrorists.

Lightning, heavy downpour claims 5 lives in district Mansehra

News Desk

MANSEHRA: least five persons and a number of livestock were killed in lightning and rain-related incidents in Manshera district on Tuesday.

The first incident took place in Kas Khawari village of Siran Valley during late-night, the wall of Abdul Razaq's house was collapsed due to heavy downpour. Tragically, two siblings were buried under the

debris and lost their lives on the spot while two others sustained critical injuries and were shifted to the hospital. The dead children were identified as Zafraan, 12 years old, and Alishba, 8 years old.

In the second incident, lightning struck shepherds and their herd as they were heading towards the Chormali forest in Chatter Plain. The lightning strike claimed the lives of three shepherds and dozens of goats and sheep.

At UN, Pakistan calls for protecting suffering people of Indian-occupied Kashmir, Palestine

Spokesman Report

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan has urged the advocates of the concept of 'responsibility to protect', or R2P, to apply it to safeguard the oppressed people of occupied Palestine and Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

"Apart from its abuse, the concept of R2P has also led to the criticism that some powerful states have failed to invoke R2P by showing hesitancy, either in condemning the massive human rights violations committed by so-called 'strategic allies' or by holding them accountable in the Security Council," Ambassador Aamir Khan, deputy permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, told the UN General Assembly on Monday.

Speaking in a debate on the responsibility to protect and



the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, the Pakistani envoy said

for more than 7 decades, India had, denied the right of self-determination to the Kashmiri people, in violation

of multiple resolutions of the Security Council, prescribing a free and fair plebiscite. India, he said, had deployed

900,000 troops, resorted to extra-judicial killings; forced abductions; collective punishments; and the incarceration of the entire political leadership of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC).

To this end, he said Pakistan had circulated a dossier with the evidence of 3,432 war crimes, committed by India's officials in Jammu and Kashmir, while adding that 'Muslims' persecution had become a 'routine norm' for India.

On Saturday, during a visit of Indian Home Minister Amit Shah to Jammu and Kashmir, Ambassador Aamir Khan said that Indian Army personnel stormed into a Mosque in Pulwama district of south Kashmir while Muslims were offering prayers and forced Muslims to chant 'Jai Shri Ram' against their will.

Pak-China collaboration to promote Pakistan's pharmaceutical development

News Desk

BEIJING: China has equalized or surpassed the developed nations' pharma standards over a period of time.

With 30 years of experience in cooperation with China, our progress is accompanied by the dividend of the development of China's pharmaceutical industry, highlighted Waheed Ahmed, Chief Executive of Shaigan Pharmaceuticals Pvt Ltd at the CPHI & PMEC China.

As Asia's leading pharmaceutical show for trading, knowledge sharing and networking, CPHI & PMEC China spans all industry sectors along the pharmaceutical supply chain including APIs, excipients, finished dosage, natural extracts, biopharma & CDMOs, animal health&feed, medical supplies, etc, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Waheed, who has been attending the expo since 1995, noted that CPHI China is becoming more and more informative due to the major R&D

work being carried out in China. China, Pakistan's largest trading partner and the largest producer of API, attaches importance to investing in chemical labs and training scientists. China's key technologies are developing rapidly, and the quality of pharmaceutical and mechanical products is reliable, he explained.

"This time I am exploring future technologies and newly developed products, especially in biosimilars and new drug delivery systems," Waheed mentioned, "meeting my over 15 collaborative partners who are all old friends at the expo and witnessing their growth is always a pleasure and opportunity to tap new business range."

At the expo, Jack, head of a pharmaceutical packaging machinery manufacturing enterprise integrating R&D, production and sales service told Gwadar Pro that Pakistan has a huge pharmaceutical market of 250 million people, making it one of the most promising pharmaceutical consumer markets.



No civilian under trial in military courts, AGP tells SC

Continued from Page 1

In his yesterday remarks, CJP Bandial said he hopes no military trial of civilians will be conducted while proceedings are ongoing. "All the 102 people currently in the military's custody should be allowed to meet their families," he observed.

The federal government noted that one of the petitioners, Jawwad S. Khawaja, was related to Justice Mansoor Ali Shah. Rescuing himself from the case, Justice Shah pointed out that this fact was highlighted at the very first hearing.

Read More: New SC bench resumes hearing of pleas against military courts. This was the second time the bench stood dissolved. Earlier, Justice Qazi Faez Isa had said he did not consider the SC bench "a proper court", with Justice Sardar Tariq Masood also endorsing his point of view.

The PTI chief's lawyer, Hamid Khan, came to the rostrum and said: "Our petition has not been given number yet," adding: "One of our pleas in the petition related to the military court."

"Why don't you amend your petition, you have made several pleas in your petition," CJP Bandial said. "I will emphasize only on the plea with regard to military courts," Hamid Khan said. "We will look into the matter later," CJP replied. "We are getting out of a setback,

different ploys being exercised instead of the constitution or law in the case, these practices will serve no good," he further remarked.

The counsel of former chief justice Jawad S. Khawaja submitted his written contentions in the court.

Petitioner Junaid Razzaque's lawyer, Salman Akram Raja in his arguments said that the matter of his client's son has been in military court. "Only a judge posted under Article 175 could conduct trial," the counsel said.

"The FPLE case decision says that the principle of the division of powers was not clear," lawyer said. "How the FPLE matter related with this case," Justice Ayisha Malik questioned. "I will repeat my earlier question that how the section 2 of the Army Act applied," the Justice Malik asked.

"Even the court martial of the armed forces officers could not be conducted in military courts," Justice Munib Akhtar asked. "In the UK and US military officers' trials conducted in military courts in specific conditions," lawyer replied.

"Why a constitutional petition related to military courts could not be filed in a high court," Justice Munib asked. "The high court could not determine the position of military courts," Salman Akram Raja said.

"Are you arguing that even the military officials court martial could not be conducted," Justice Munib Akhtar ques-



tioned. "There is no division of the civilian and military officers in the constitution," lawyer Salman Akram Raja said. "Whether trial of anyone started. It is a hypothesis that when they will begin it should happen this or that way," CJP said. "No trial of any person yet conducted in military courts," the counsel replied.

"Your case should be set in that manner that civilians rights should not be curbed," CJP said. "The case should not be led to further complications," he added.

Counsel Salman Akram Raja further argued that the case can be conducted in a special court if the trial not affecting constitutional rights. "Trial in banking court or ATC have no impact over the

constitutional rights," he said.

"You are linking clause 3 of Article 175 with basic human rights," CJP remarked. "It will thus applicable over the military courts," chief justice said.

"Clause 3 of Article 175 becomes effective with fair trial guarantees under Article 9 and 10," counsel said. "No person can be deprived of the right of transparent trial," he added.

"Show us a court reference, how Article 175 attaching with the Military Act," CJP asked.

Justice Ayisha Malik said that FBLE case was linked with the retired soldiers' relation with the military, it has no relevance with this matter. "You tell the court that the trial of a civilian can be conducted in military court. You have

challenged clauses of the Army Act without providing reasons," Justice Malik further said.

"The Supreme Court has set the principle that judicial matters can be run by the judiciary," Salman Akram Raja said.

"There are various decisions with regard to military court, what you are talking about supports military men, we are simple people tell use in simple words," chief justice said.

"I am only talking on the civilians' trial in military courts," the lawyer said. "Then tell us if civilians can be denied of their fundamental rights," CJP asked. "No one can be denied of fair trial only leveling an allegation," lawyer said.

"You are saying military courts are a parallel system that could not be termed as court," Justice Mazahir Naqvi said. "Yes I am saying this as their civilians were not allowed basic rights," the counsel replied.

"Under the Army Act, military courts conduct trial for breach of discipline. Civilian's trial in military court is not an issue of discipline violation," Advocate Raja said.

"It is a good point, are you only challenging the trial of civilian. Are you not challenging the trial of army official," Justice Ijazul Ahsan questioned. "No, I am not challenging trial of the army officials," the counsel replied.

Military trials. Last month, the government decided

to try the suspects accused of attacking military installations on May 9 under army laws.

Violent clashes broke out across Pakistan after the former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan was arrested from the premises of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on May 9.

The protests were held in remote and major cities as the party workers were agitated due to their chairman's arrest, with Balochistan, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Islamabad summoning the armed forces to ensure law and order.

Read More: US aware of military trials after May 9 incidents: State Dept spokesperson. Army installations, Corps Commander's house in Lahore and General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi came under attack during a protest by PTI workers.

So far, a Lahore anti-terrorism court has sanctioned the handing over of 16 May 9 suspects to the military and a Rawalpindi court has approved the handing over of another eight suspects.

The Pakistan Army Act (PAA), 1952, and Official Secrets Act, 1923 allow trying civilians in military courts only in narrowly defined circumstances, including for inciting mutiny, spying, and taking photographs of "prohibited" places.

Strict ban on littering of sacrificial animals around Multan Airport area: Amir Khattak

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak has said that on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, along with keeping the city clean and clean, there is a strict ban on littering of sacrificial animals around Multan Airport. Due to the sacrificial plumage, the chances of macaws and other birds hitting the aircraft are very high. In order to save the precious lives of the passengers and the planes, the local administration of Multan will not in any case allow the animals sacri-

ficed to the public to be dragged within 2 km of the airport and runway.

A special task has been given to the waste management company to move the remains of the sacrificial animals out of the city. A special complaint cell has also been set up where citizens can contact 24 hours a day. These views were expressed by Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir and Chief Executive Officer West while briefing the media in connection with Eid-ul-Azha at Multan Tea House. Management Company Shahid Yaqoob was also present



Commissioner Aamir Khattak said that only the approved organizations will be allowed to collect the skins of the sacrifice, while action will also be taken against those who throw

the waste on the roads. Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir while speaking said that the machinery and staff have been increased as compared to the past so that the city can be cleaned effectively.

The Deputy Commissioner clarified that the garbage collected at the transfer stations on a daily basis on Eid days will be transferred to landfill sites outside the city to avoid contamination. Waste bags will be distributed for installation, while awareness camps have also been established in densely populated areas to address

complaints.

Earlier, Chief Executive Officer of Waste Management Company Shahid Yaqoob said that all the company's staff will carry out cleaning operations on an emergency basis during Eid days.

While the digging of trenches for garbage at the landfill sites has been completed. Shahid Yaqoob said that a system has been set up to dispose of more than 17 thousand tons of garbage. Citizens are requested to use the allocated garbage instead of throwing it out. Place in waste bags at the locations.

Annual Summit

Ms. Anne Flaker, Director of Education for USAID/Pakistan alongside Dr. Ayesha Razzaque, Acting Chief of Party HESSA, Dr. Randy McCrillis, Dean of Students at University of Utah, and Ms. Gwendolyn Schaefer from the Institute of International Education inaugurated the four-day annual summit honoring student support services.



We have to continue the struggle for religion of truth: Tasnem Sarwar

Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: President of Jamaat-e-Islami Women South Punjab Tasneem Sarwar along with her deputies Shazia Sial, Member Provincial Shura Sadia Zeeshan and Invigilator Political Cell Dr. Samina Waseem Akhtar visited Multan for a day, where they met the IT team of Jamaat-e-Islami Women's Department and Presidents. Had a meeting with the districts of South Punjab and addressed the meeting, while addressing the IT team she said that IT is such a field that if we go astray even a little bit unknowingly, it is a beautiful trap laid by Satan that we will realize our destruction when the time has passed. It is a good net, which we have to avoid the negative aspects of to achieve our goals. Technology has been presented by falsehood in such a package that good and evil are mixed up, even if we come with good intentions.

Evil has to be faced. They have made sin easy, we have to make it difficult, we have to give purpose and mission to its use, what holy mission are we spreading? Get hold of information technology, take IT in your hands and change the idols and heroes presented by falsehood.

In the meeting, the members of Central Shura, Rafia Fatima, Fawzia Irfan, party candidates from South Punjab for PP, Shazia Sher Afzal, Ayesha Aziz, Naveed Anwar, Ghazala Rauf, President JI Youth Lala Rukh, Provincial Supervisor of Broadcasting Shamaila Rafiq, South Punjab. The presidents of all the districts participated in the meeting.

Games & sports are an integral part of the healthiest

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Games & sports are an integral part of the healthiest life even to get rid of disappointments. We will continue to give full encouragement to the sportsmen and tireless efforts of Kabaddi for physical development and fitness, said Alhaji Naseer Yousef Vohra:

According to the details, 'Central President Cloth Board Etihad Group Pakistan on the mega event of Kabaddi Match appreciated the players.

The fans also applauded the players for their excellent performance. Former President District Bar Advocate and Chief Guest President Vohra won the hearts of the people of Jhang and Kabaddi fans.

Vohra, the Central President Cloth Board Etihad Group Pakistan, Assistant Commissioner Khurram Shahzad Bhatti, former President District Bar Sarwarbat Advocate and District Sports Officer Jameel Ahmed were the chief guests of the final Kabaddi match in Jhang. This Sports Mela organized by the district administration. Members of the district administration and senior business leaders of Anjuman Tajran City Jhang, Sheikh Usman welcomed Alhaji Naseer Vohra & Sarwar Butt Advocate and other guests by wearing flower leaves and garlands cordially welcomed.

A ten days program of Free Law Graduate Assessment Test 'Law GAT' preparation classes held

News Desk

KARACHI: The 10-day "Free Law Graduate Assessment Test 'Law GAT' classes, organized by the 'MIA Foundation and ADR Center', were held from June 12th to 24th, 2023, at the High Court Bar Library.

The organizers of the event were Mr. Saleem Mangrio, Advocate & President of the SHCBA, Karachi, Mr. Salem Salam Ansari, Advocate Supreme Court and Mr. Muhammad Ishaq Ali, Advocate & Chairman 'MIA Foundation & ADR Center' & Former Vice President of the SHCBA, Karachi and General Secretary, CBLA; delivered lectures with other Senior lawyers on all subjects of the 'Law GAT' to the candidates and motivated them. On this occasion, a large number of lawyers appreciated the initiative of the 'MIA Foundation and ADR Center'.

A group photo of the participants is shown here.

WAWA arranged a free eye medical camp for students at MS Wana

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: In South Waziristan Lower District of Health Committee of Wana Welfare Association (WAWA) organized a free medical camp for eye checkup at Model School Wana with the help of Consultant Optometrist and Eye Physician DHQ Hospital Wana Dr. Noor Ul Absar Wazir.

Principal Zaheer Uddin and Managing Director Mr. Saif Ur Rehman appreciated the contribution of WAWA in the field of health and informed the students about it, So how to maintain good eye sight and what food to eat for eye health and who to contact if any eye related problem.

On this occasion doctors screened 500 students and the following cases were diagnosed in them.

In which 10 cases of vernal kerato conjunctivitis were diagnosed while hyperretropic 5, myopia 5, dry eyes (irritation and itching) 24, near vitreous 3 cases were reported.

However, free medicines and samples were provided to the diagnosed patients.

First, most preventable blindness like cataract, refractory error and trachoma will be eradicated especially among school going children from Lower South Waziristan District.



Third phase of research on Bhitai's poetry completed

Spokesman Report

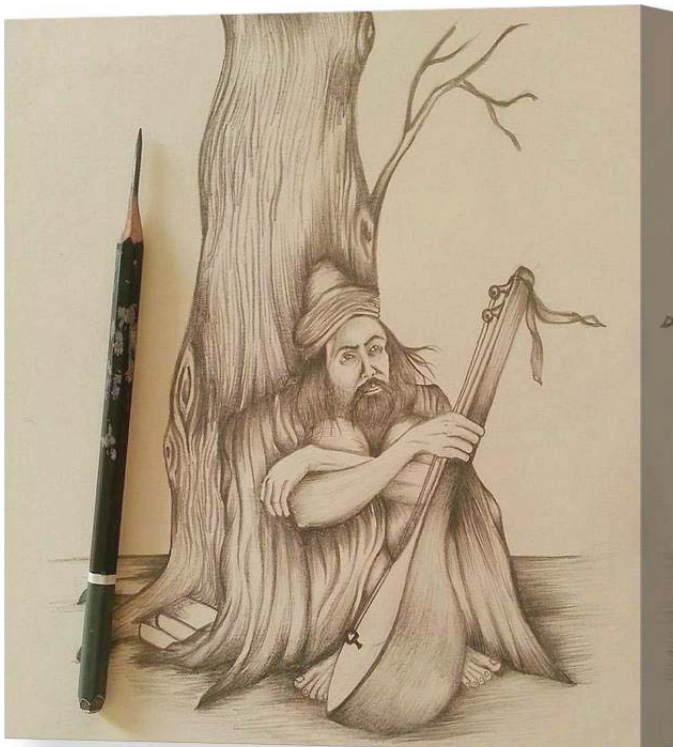
Art and Design (IAD) University of Sindh Jamshoro have completed third phase of the research on the hidden aspects of Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai's poetry.

The research project has been initiated by the Center of Knowledge Development (Pvt.) Ltd. in a bid to explore the undiscovered aspects of the great Sufi poet of Sindh Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai's poetry, the university spokesman informed here on Tuesday.

In this regard, the spokesman informed that incentive distribution ceremony was held in the Shaikh Ayaz auditorium of the Arts Faculty, where the researchers and students received their incentive cheques.

Addressing the ceremony, the Director Operations of the Center of Knowledge Development, Abdul Sattar Khushik said that this research project was aimed at exploring the undiscovered aspects of Latif's poetry so as to provide it more efficiently to the youth for their understanding with modern techniques.

"On the research projects started at the University of Sindh under the supervision of researchers and professors couple of weeks ago, the students of English and Sindhi departments had completed their project earlier but the third phase of the project was completed today by the students of Institute of Art and Design", he said



and added that the next phase will be completed by the students of the Department of Statistics.

He said that the Shah Latif Experimental Lab had also been established for the said research project, which had been made a part of the Faculty

of Social Sciences University of Sindh. The research is being done on various aspects of Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai's poetry with the help of artificial intelligence, he said.

He said that after completion of the said project, Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif

Bhitai and his poetry will be introduced at the international level.

The focal person of the project at University of Sindh, Dr. Tania Mush-taq highlighted different aspects of Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai's poetry and said that the first phase of the research was completed in the Institute of English Language and Literature while the second phase in the Department of Sindhi and the third phase was successfully completed by the students of Institute of Art and Design.

"The students have presented the poetry through the colors and paintings", she said and added that the work on the fourth phase will be entrusted to the students of the Department of Statistics. After which, the work on Shah's poetry will be exhibited for the general public", she said.

She termed the project as a new and unique one and said that people from all parts of the world will be able to read and understand Bhitai's poetry like that of William Shakespeare. The poetry of Hazrat Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai is very rich, which needs to be highlighted in the world", she maintained.

Among others, the Director, Institute of Art and Design Prof. Saeed Ahmed Mangi, Prof. Dr. Abdul Fatah Soomro, Dr. Rehana Nazir, Dr. Aqeel Ahmed Bhutto, Prof. Naimatullah Khilji, Sabeen Naeem Shaikh and Prof. Najebullah Rashdi were also present on the occasion.

CCPO chairs meeting to review investigation wing performance

City Desk

LAHORE: Capital City Police Officer Lahore Bilal Siddique Kamyana chaired a meeting at his office to review five months' performance of the Investigation Wing related to under-investigation cases, pending road certificates, and the arrest of the silent accused.

The meeting was attended by DIG (Investigations) Kamran Adil, SSP (Internal Accountability) Imran Kishwar, SSP (Investigations) Anosh Masood Chaudhry, Divisional SPs (Investigations), and SDPOs.

At the outset, the CCPO strongly reprimanded the SDPOs of the Raiwind, Sabzazar, and Barki divi-

sions over their poor performance and warned them to improve their performance. He emphasized that SDPOs who consistently exhibit poor performance would be held responsible for their actions, stressing that any form of disinterest, negligence, or laxity in official duties would not be tolerated. It was made clear that officers with a history of subpar performance would be held accountable, and their incompetence would be reflected in their annual performance reports. Additionally, he announced that a daily performance review of all SDPOs would be conducted, and the annual reports of officers with unsatisfactory performance would reflect their incom-



petence.

The CCPO ordered that all pending investigation cases be resolved on merit within one week. Similarly, the completion of challans, eradicating road pendency, and improvement in recovery should not be delayed. He emphasized that cases involving

nominated suspects pending for more than a month or cases related to unidentified suspects should not linger on for more than three months. He further stated that special teams should be formed to arrest hardened criminals, abscond suspects, and proclaimed offenders. Furthermore, silent suspects should be declared as absconders and properly documented within the police system.

The CCPO stressed the need for rigorous crackdowns against drug peddlers and criminals, emphasizing that ensuring a peaceful environment and safeguarding the public were crucial responsibilities of the police force.

Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:16 am
Zohr	12:11 pm
Asr	5:11 pm
Maghrib	7:22 pm
Isha	9:06 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 & 4451122
Motorway Police	9266044
Motorway Police	9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance	115
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi	5555489
CAA	9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH	561111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7

GM Pearl-Continental Hotel Rawalpindi wins the best GM award

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi, General Manager, Pearl-Continental Hotel Rawalpindi has been honoured with the International General Manager Award 2023 (Pakistan) for his outstanding performance and excellence in the Hospitality & Tourism Industry in Pakistan, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

The Award Ceremony occurred earlier this month at Waldorf Astoria, Dubai and was hosted by Golden Tree Events, a leading Award Management Company in Tourism and Hospitality based in the UAE. The International GM Award recognises outstanding General Managers from the Hospitality Industry, such as Luxury Hotels, Resorts, Villas, 5 / 4 / 3 Star Hotels, Restaurants, Spa and Wellness.

Mr. Abbasi brings over 25 years of International Hotel Experience to the group, currently working with the Hashoo Group. Before joining Hashoo Hotels, Mr. Abbasi worked for Luxury Hotel Brands, including Hyatt, Marriott, Radisson SAS, Gulf Hotel, Elite Hospitality, and Regency Hotel in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain.

He joined Hashoo Hotels as Corporate Director of Rooms in 2018, after which he was the pre-opening General Manager at Pearl-Continental Hotel Malam Jabba and the Hotel Manager of Pearl-Continental Hotel Lahore.

His professional emphasis focuses on team development, motivation, and engagement to ensure the hotel guests and visitors are always looked after in a friendly, professional, and personalized manner.

Federal Minister for Industries addresses World SME Day ceremony arranged by SMEDA

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production Makhdoom Syed Murtaza Mehmood, while addressing the World MSME Day celebration ceremony organized by the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) today has said that SME development is the ultimate solution of the economic challenges to be faced by the country, and the government is committed to create an ecosystem of conducive policies and facilities for rapid growth of SMEs. The ceremony was attended by a large number of the government and private sector's representatives including presidents of the country's Chambers of Commerce and Industries and trade associations of the

SME sector. Mr. Farman Aziz Khawaja, Chief Executive Officer SMEDA and Ms. Nadia Jehangir Seth, GM Policing Planning Division SMEDA also addressed the ceremony.

Federal Minister Industries acknowledged SMEDA services for development of the SMEs informed that Finance Department had also appreciated SMEDA suggestions to boost SME sector that has been made part of the recent federal budget. He said that the present government has the fullest cognizance on significance of the SME sector that is why, despite the challenging macro-economic environment, over the course of the past one year, facilitating rapid growth in the SME sector has been an important element of our government's economic development strategy. He said that a lot

of the facilities and incentives have been introduced in the budget for SMEs. Now, SMEs should be provided with a single window where they should have access



to all facilities under one roof.

Earlier CEO SMEDA Mr. Farhan Aziz Khawaja, in his address of welcome, highlighted the services, projects and programs

for SME development being undertaken by SMEDA. He informed that bring the part of global community of SMEs, we are celebrating the World MSME Day as per announcement of the United Nations Organization. June 27th is a day dedicated to honoring Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) as per decision of the UNO since 2017.

He highlighted a number of initiatives designed by SMEDA for inclusion of youth and women in the SME sector. Besides the PM Youth Loan scheme, IT sector, being a core interest of youth, has been declared as an SME sector, he said and informed that SMEDA is going to initiate new programs for capacity building of youth and women with regard to adding value and technology to the SME sector.

Regarding creation of an ecosystem for

facilitation of SME sector, CEO SMEDA informed that a powerful alliance is being forged with esteemed organizations that share SMEDA vision for SME development. This alliance is being formalized by signing of groundbreaking MOUs with the Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO), Urban Unit Government of Punjab, Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC), Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB), Government of Gilgit-Baltistan, and Musaliha International Center for Arbitration and Dispute Resolution (MICADR), he added.

The world MSME Day ceremony was concluded with signing of the six separate MOUs with the FTO, PSIC, PITB, MICADR, Urban Unit and the GB government by representatives of the respective organization.

Traveling

LAHORE: A view of the hustle and bustle of passengers at Railway Station as people are boarding into train for leaving to their native villages for celebrating Eid-ul-Adha with great Zeal.



Photo: Online

Healthcare measures stressed to stay safe during Eid celebrations

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Dr. Javed Akram, Caretaker Health Minister of Punjab has advised the people to take precautionary measures during Hajj and Eid-ul-Azha to stay safe from Covid-19, as the epidemic still exists, not gone.

Addressing a press conference he said that Pakistan Society of Internal Medicine (PSIM) aims to spread awareness among general public to be careful while visiting sacrificial animal markets and meeting people to exchange greetings. He advised the parents not to take children with them to animal markets.

PSIM has more than 23 chapters across the world including Pakistan and running free clinics to provide health services to marginalized segment of the society, he added. He also said that PSIM is establishing media wings in different cities of Pakistan and a senior journalist, Zahid Chowdhry will head these wings.

The General Secretary of PSIM, Prof. Dr. Somyia Iqte-



dar said at the occasion that new Covid-19 cases were being reported therefore, people should wear mask during Eid prayers and slaughtering the sacrificial animals. There was also risk of Congo Virus during Eid season, she warned.

Rains were expected to start in a week time therefore safety measures should be adopted to avoid Dengue Fever. She said if people have symptoms like fever, body pain, losing the smelling sense, they should immediately approach to following hospitals for free Covid-19 tests.

Maroof International and

Shifa International, Islamabad — Aga Khan Hospital, Karachi — Dow University of Health Sciences, Ojha Campus, Karachi — Indus Hospital, Karachi — Sindh Infection Diseases Hospital, Karachi — Akram Medical Complex, Lahore — Central Park Teaching Hospital, Lahore — National Hospital & Medical Centre, Lahore and Rehman Medical Institute, Peshawar.

Dr. Faisal Mahmud from Aga Khan University opined at the occasion that Corona Virus was no more dangerous, as considered in past due to vaccination, but still we should

take care. We suggest people to be careful of their health, make sure the use of mask at public places and stay at a distance from the people who have weak immunity system to avoid Corona Virus.

Dr. Ejaz Ahmed Khan from Shifa International Hospital, Islamabad hoped that people of Pakistan will follow the Corona SOPs while enjoying the Eid-ul-Azha celebrations as public gatherings may prove open invitation for Corona. Patients of Diabetes, Blood Pressure and other chronic diseases should take special care at Eid, he advised.

PACRA reaffirms credit rating of PMIC



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Credit Rating Agency (PACRA) has maintained the long term and short term entity ratings of Pakistan Microfinance Investment Company (PMIC) at 'AA (Double A) and 'A1+' (A One Plus) respectively. The rating reflects strong equity base, well-conceived business plans and strong ownership structure.

The ratings denote a very low expectation of credit risk emanating from a very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments which is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

PMIC, incorporated in 2016, is licensed to carry out investment finance services as a Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC) under the NBFC Rules, 2003 and NBFC Regulations 2008. The strong sponsors, Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (49%), Karandaaz (38%) and KfW, a German development Bank (13%) strengthen the financial profile of PMIC.

ISPR, Supreme Court 'confusing' in May 9 cases: Javed Intizar

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: DG ISPR and the six-member bench of the Supreme Court seem to be contradicting each other with mutual ambiguity. Many questions remain unanswered in the hearing and press conference. The names of the victims of the strict disciplinary action against the officers and their relatives based on self-immolation have not been revealed. The names of the masterminds and planners of May 9 have also been kept secret. No one knows about these 102 criminals who are being tried in military courts. On the other hand, the Supreme Court is hoping that no civilian will be tried during the hearing. Chairman Azam Tehreek, former independent Candidate National Assembly Islamabad, Javed Intizar, while reacting to the hearing of the spokesperson of the Pakistan Army and the Supreme Court, said that both sides are giving their positions in between the lines. Like a way back for a deal. If the planning of May 9 was going on for many months, where were our agencies and what were they doing? Why did the government raise its voice in favor of military courts? However, Tehreek-e-Insaf and Imran Khan should have avoided speaking and writing against the army. Their agenda gave the anti-national elements an opportunity to laugh and make fun of them as well as misleading propaganda. Javed Intizar said that forgiveness is the way and disposition of Allah. The situation created in the country can be resolved through mutual negotiation and forgiveness.

Zong 4G Wins Content of the Year Award



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Zong 4G, Pakistan's leading telecommunications company, has emerged victorious once again by winning the prestigious "Content of the Year" award at the esteemed Pakistan Digital Awards. The award recognizes Zong 4G's exceptional creativity, innovation, and outstanding execution in their remarkable campaign titled "The Notes of Chagla" released on Independence Day, 2022, as a tribute.

The film, titled 'Celebrating 75 years of Azadi - The Notes of Chagla' empowers the protagonist to utilize the power of digital to shed light on the stories of Unsung National Heroes, both big and small. The film featured acclaimed actors Shehryar Munawar and Simi Raheal and was distributed across all of Zong 4G's social media platforms.

Receiving the Content of the Year award is a testament to Zong 4G's commitment to delivering captivating and impactful content. By leveraging its expertise and innovation in digital storytelling, Zong 4G has once again demonstrated its position as the leading player in the telecommunications industry.

LUMS celebrates its Graduating Class at Convocation 2023

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The LUMS Class of 2023 came together to celebrate the memories they created during their time at the University. 1,453 graduates from all five schools at LUMS were awarded degrees at the Convocation in the presence of the University's senior leadership including Founding Pro-Chancellor, Syed Babar Ali; Pro-Chancellor, Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood; Rector, Mr. Shahid Hussain; Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Arshad Ahmad, members of the Board of Trustees; Deans; faculty, staff, and proud parents.

Dr. Ahmad congratulated the graduating class on their accomplishments and welcomed them to a network of over 17,000 LUMS alumni across the world. He added, "Each of you carries a personal story; a story of perseverance, growth, and triumph. Students, you are



the greatest treasure of this nation as you possess the power to make a lasting impact on society."

Dr. Ahmad announced this year's two Emeritus Professors, Dr. Abid

Aman Burki and Dr. Mohamad Waseem, as well as the winners of this year's Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence, which included Drs. Adeel Tariq, Amir Faisal, Ghazal

Mir Zulfiqar, Zafar Ayub Qazi, and Mr. Muhammad Usama Waheed. LUMS also awarded medals to its best male and female athletes, Khanzada AshhadAli Khan and Inara Kaneez. A post-humous degree was awarded to Ms. Amna Khan, from the MS Business and Public Policy programme.

This year's Valedictorian, Muhammad Abdullah Nisar, a graduate of the Department of Electrical Engineering, reflected on the opportunities LUMS provided him. Applauding his class, he said, "This has been a very steadfast and adaptive batch."

Mr. Mudassar Sheikh, a Stanford alum, and CEO and Co-Founder of Careem, delivered this year's keynote address. In 2012, Mr. Sheikh co-founded Careem, which is one of the world's leading technology platforms, operating in more than 98 cities, with over 1,400 employees and more than 2 million captains.

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Falsely Making a Laughing Stock of Innocence! - I

Every living organism has a heart & hurting someone is a debt, which you must one day be found by someone else.

But giving happiness to someone is the best charity.

Man after a limit, leaves something out to cry, to celebrate, to complain,

Hugs and then hearts. It happens that something If you do it, don't do it right?

Surah Muhammad(SAW) pictures!

"This is because the disbelievers follow falsehood, while the believers follow the truth from their Lord. This is how Allah shows people their true state 'of faith'.

"Imagine, O Prophet, how many societies We destroyed that were far superior in might than your society—which drove you out—and there was none to help them!

"There are some of them who listen to you 'O Prophet, but when they depart from you, they say 'mockingly' to those 'believers' gifted with knowledge, 'What did he just say?' These are the ones whose hearts Allah has sealed and who 'only' follow their desires"

"These are the ones who Allah has condemned, deafening them and blinding their eyes."

"Do they not then reflect on the Quran? Or are there locks upon their hearts?"

"Or do those with sickness in their hearts think that Allah will not 'be able' to expose their malice?"

"Had We willed, We could have truly

shown them to you 'O Prophet', and you would have certainly recognized them by their appearance. But you will surely recognize them by their tone of speech. And Allah 'fully' knows your doings 'O people'

Acceptance of truth & right take us to the right ways & It is acceptance of the truth not to fly on falsehood and to accept the truth.

Allah Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an: (We have guided him to the way, either he is grateful or he is disbelieving, "Indeed, We have guided him either he would have believed the truth or he would have been ungrateful."

Hazrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Masoud

Radiyallahu Ta'ala narrates that the Holy Prophet, may God bless him and grant him peace, said: " By Allah! You must continue to invite goodness and forbid evil. Holding the wrongdoer's hand and bending him towards the truth and forcing him to accept the truth." [1]

In another tradition, Hazrat Sayyiduna Abu Darda Radiyallahu Ta'ala says: "As long as you love good people. You will live in goodness and when something true is said about you, accept it because the one who recognizes the truth is like the one who acts on it."

Every Muslim should accept the truth. Even though the truth is known, it is

the way of the pharaohs not to accept it because of selfishness. So in the Holy Qur'an, it is related to the pharaohs: "So when they say the truth has come to them from Us, it is definitely open magic." Commentary on this blessed verse "Saraat al-Junan." It is in: "From this verse, it is known that after knowing the truth, not accepting it because of selfishness and talking about it in such a way that creates doubts and doubts about the truth in the hearts of others." It is the way of the Pharaohs, it should be admonished for those people who, despite knowing the truth, do not accept it only because of their stubbornness and ego, and talk about it to others in such a way that it seems.

Eight (8) ways to create awareness and remove obstacles to it:

(1) Look at the benefits of accepting the truth: People like the one who accepts the truth. A person who accepts the truth is far away from arrogance, because it is arrogance to despise someone and not to accept the truth. [4] Acceptance is a sign of humility. Acceptance of truth is the way of the righteous and good people.

"Due to accepted truth, a person is saved from futile debates and discussions. The value and respect of the one who accepts the truth increases among the people. The one who accepts the truth avoids quarrels. * Due to acceptance of truth,

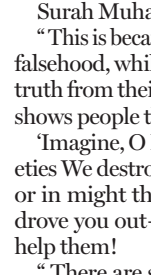
a person is saved from stubbornness of truth and insistence on falsehood.

(2) Consider the disadvantages of not accepting the truth. People dislike those who do not accept the truth. The one who does not accept the truth becomes obsessed with the insistence of falsehood and stubbornness of the truth. * He who does not accept the truth falls into arrogance. A person who does not obey the truth cannot escape from a quarrel. * He who does not accept the truth gets involved in useless discussions and debates. A person who does not believe in the truth has to be humiliated in the eyes of the people.

(3) Study the sayings and sayings of the religious elders about accepting the truth: Two sayings of the religious elders about accepting the truth: Hazrat Sayyiduna Dhul-Nun Masri, may Allah have mercy on him, says: "Three things are a sign of humility: (1) Self." (2) Respecting people because of the sanctity of Islam and (3) Accepting the truth and advice from everyone. "Humility is that you bow down to the truth and follow it, and if you hear the truth even from the most ignorant, then accept it."

(4) Take the company of the righteous and those who accept the truth: By the blessing of the company of the righteous and those who accept the truth, one will get the spirit of accepted truth and a person will be saved from insisting on falsehood.

To be continued



Analysis
Mian Rashid Asghar

White House blasts harassment of Pakistani origin reporter

The White House has condemned the online harassment of Sabrina Siddiqui, an American journalist of Pakistani origin who asked India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi about his Hindu nationalist government's human rights record when he visited the White House last week.

"We're aware of the reports of that harassment. It's unacceptable, and we absolutely condemn any harassment of journalists anywhere, under any circumstances," White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said about the online harassment of Ms. Siddiqui, who works for The Wall Street Journal, a leading financial newspaper. Sabrina's mother is a Pakistani and her father was born in India but raised in Pakistan.

Referring to Ms. Siddiqui's online harassment by pro-Modi Indians, Kirby said, "That's just completely unacceptable, and it's antithetical to the principles of democracy that ... were on display last week during the state visit."

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said that the Biden administration is "committed to the freedom of the press, which is why we held a (joint) press conference last Thursday" with US President Joe Biden and Modi, during the Indian premier's official two-day state visit.

During the press conference, Ms. Siddiqui asked the Hindu leader what steps he was taking "to improve the rights of Muslims and other minorities" in India and "to uphold free speech."

"Our Constitution and our government and we have proved democracy can deliver. When I say deliver, regardless of caste, creed, religion, gender - there is absolutely no space for any discrimination (in my government)," Modi said in response.

Before becoming prime minister, Modi was banned from the U. S. for the role he played in the 2002 Gujarat riots, in which some 2,000 people, most of them Muslims, were killed. Since taking office in 2014, he's faced criticism for aspects of his human rights record, including censoring journalists and stripping autonomy from the disputed region of Jammu and Kashmir.

Following her exchange with Modi, Ms. Siddiqui has been the target of online abuse, mainly from the prime minister's allies in India.

The Wall Street Journal responded to the attacks in a statement Monday calling Siddiqui "a respected journalist known for her integrity and unbiased reporting. This harassment of our reporter is unacceptable, and we strongly condemn it."

The South Asian Journalists Association also defended Siddiqui. "We want to express our continued support of our colleague @SabrinaSiddiqui who, like many South Asian and female journalists, is experiencing harassment for simply doing her job," the group said on Twitter.



Amjad Rasmi

Aftermath of May 9 and 9/11

The moment shocked the world. Two planes, hijacked by Al Qaeda extremists vowing death to all Americans, plowed into both towers at the World Trade Center in New York. Another plane was flown into the Pentagon in Washington, DC. A fourth plane, presumably headed for the White House or the U. S. Capitol, was heroically diverted by passengers and ended up crashing in an empty field in Pennsylvania. After reports of the first plane hitting the North Tower, millions watched the second plane hit the South Tower on live television. September 11 attacks, also called 9/11 attacks, series of airline hijackings and suicide attacks committed in 2001 by 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda against targets in the United States, the deadliest terrorist attacks on American soil in U. S. history. The attacks against New York City and Washington, D. C., caused extensive death and destruction and triggered an enormous U. S. effort to combat terrorism. Some 2,750 people were killed in New York, 184 at the Pentagon, and 40 in Pennsylvania (where one of the hijacked planes crashed after the passengers attempted to retake the plane); all 19 terrorists died. Police and fire departments in New York were especially hard-hit: hundreds had rushed to the scene of the attacks, and more than 400 police officers and firefighters were killed.

Whereas, On 9 May 2023, former Pakistani Prime Minister and politician Imran Khan was arrested from

inside the High Court in Islamabad by National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on the charges of corruption in connection with the Al-Qadir Trust, which he owns alongside his wife, Bushra Bibi. Following Khan's arrest, his party called for demonstrations. In Rawalpindi and Islamabad, violent confrontations between the police and PTI supporters were witnessed followed by a crackdown on party supporters. In Rawalpindi, sensitive installations, including GHQ and Hamza Camp (Ojhri Camp), were targeted by the PTI supporters. Two police officials - Waris Khan DSP Tahir Sikandar and Ratta Amral SHO Chaudhry Riaz were also injured in an altercation with the PTI workers. The metro bus service was also suspended between the two cities.

In Lahore, the PTI workers gathered at Liberty Chowk and started marching towards the Cantonment. The announcements were made on social media sites to reach the Cantonment to protest outside the military corps commander's house. In footage circulating on different social media platforms, the PTI workers carrying clubs and party flags reached the corps commander's house in the Cantonment area. The protestors forced their way into the house while chanting slogans against the arrest of their chairman. They were also seen breaking the windowpanes, TV, and furniture of the house

and also setting the trees and furniture on fire. In another video, the PTI activists could also be seen pelting stones and bottles at an army convoy on Mall Road.

It should be noted that after 9/11, the United States established military courts for the alleged perpetrators and facilitators (to which the media had no access and their decisions could not be appealed in any court) in Guantanamo Bay and waterboating during the investigation. Not only did they commit inhumane atrocities, but they also attacked Afghanistan. Thus, the United States has no justification for shouting about the actions of the state of Pakistan against the perpetrators of

May 9. In September 2001 President Bush signs into law a joint resolution authorizing the use of force against those responsible for attacking the United States on September 11. This joint resolution will later be cited by the Bush administration as legal rationale for its decision to take sweeping measures to combat terrorism, including invading Afghanistan, eavesdropping on U. S. citizens without a court order, and standing up the detention camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The U. S. military, with British support, begins a bombing campaign against Taliban forces, officially launching Operation Enduring Freedom. Australia, Canada, France, and Germany pledge

future support. The war's early phase mainly involves U. S. air strikes on al-Qaeda and Taliban forces that are assisted by a partnership of about one thousand U. S. special forces, the Northern Alliance, and ethnic Pashtun anti-Taliban forces. The first wave of conventional ground forces arrives twelve days later. Most of the ground combat is between the Taliban and its Afghan opponents. USA pushed whole world into Afghan war after the incidents of 9/11. On the other hand, May 9th incidents of Pakistan were unique in the sense that these were planned and executed by a political party from within the country. According to some reports the incidents were not only meant to attack on army installations but were planned to divide the nation and army. They wanted to bring people and army in front of each other but the situation was very cleverly handled by Pak Army. Readers, the point is that, the standards should be same for both cases. If any other country is free to handle terrorists according to their laws and regulations then Pakistan also has the same right. Champions of human rights were silent when thousands of innocent Afghans lost their lives in drone attacks and bombardment but they shout in case of Pakistan when our law enforcement agencies are aimed to arrest and punish our terrorists with clear proofs and evidences. Its need of the time that Pakistan don't accept pressure from any side in order to strictly punish the terrorists of May 9 incident in accordance with our laws and regulations.



Analysis
Abdul Basit Alvi

Our Gallant, Impermeable & unsurpassed warriors and martyrs

The illustrious and magnificent armed forces of Pakistan who constantly monitor and keep an eye on the ideological frontiers of the homeland as well, are responsible for protecting the country's defence. When it mattered most, these brave armed forces had dug in and dealt a just defeat to the despicable adversary, including the scourge of terrorism.

The valiant armed forces are well equipped to deal with any aggression or the threat of terrorism and the rest of the world could learn from Pakistan how to deal with such an adversary or threat.

But as citizens of a patriotic nation, the people of Pakistan are currently confronted with unparalleled events, trends, transformations, and difficulties from a security perspective. A political party's supporters began violent demonstrations around the nation on May 9th, 2023. In which they plundered and vandalized both public and private properties. The Lahore Corps Commander's home (Jinnah House), as well as other official and private assets, were set on fire by the unruly and irate mob.

The memorial and emblems they destroyed serve as a sombre reminder of the bravery and sacrifices made by our military personnel for the safety and well-being of our country. They are a fitting homage to their unflinching devotion, steadfast commitment and supreme sacrifice.

Such incidents are regrettable, and the country has denounced and rejected any

attempts to impose violence and endeavours to sabotage the peace. The realization that the whole nation is supporting the Pakistan Army and its martyrs by recognising their sacrifices is encouraging and is a sign of positive things to come. The recent protests and political unrest were signs that foreign influences were present. People have a great deal of respect and deep love for the military services and recognize the unwavering sacrifices made by the martyrs of the Pakistani Army, Rangers, Police, Frontier Constabulary (FC), and law-enforcement agencies who gave their life to uphold peace and order in their country.

Because of the tremendous sacrifices made by our martyrs, we are permitted to reside in freedom. The nation's pride and most important resource are the Ghazis' services and sacrifices. Any attempt to drive a gap between the Army and the people of Pakistan would be a betrayal with the State because the Pakistani people are the Pakistan Army's greatest asset.

Since Pakistan is our motherland, we must ever let any type of upheaval, unrest, or disturbance there at the request of a shrewd opponent, either domestically or outside. Who seeks to advance their political interests. In light of the current geostrategic situation, we should reaffirm our commitment to national unity, integrity, and harmony and condemn any anti-state groups aiming to weaken the nation and destabilize the country.

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Farewell Reception

Pakistan is a land of opportunities with great heritage says Ambassador Suh Sangpyo



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Outgoing Ambassador of the Republic of Korea (ROK), Suh Sangpyo said Pakistan is a country having a few challenges and plenty of opportunities as well. Pakistan is a big country and the people are kind, friendly with full of hospitality values. He addressed to the audience who attended his farewell event organized by the embassy at Serena Hotel in Islamabad. Parliamentarians including Senator Sehar Kamran, Senator Sitara Ayaz, MNA Naveed Aamir Jeewa, Representative of WHO Dr. Palitha Mahipala, Federal Secretary

Ghufran Memon, members of the Diplomatic Corps, friends from civil society and media had turned up to say goodbye to Ambassador Suh Sangpyo and wished him best of luck for his future endeavors.

The outgoing Ambassador said, "During my two-and-a-half-year diplomatic stint, I have made friends in Pakistan and visited a few cities yet my regret is that I could have made more friends and visited more cities."

Earlier President Dr. Arif Alvi called on to Ambassador of Korea and discussed further promoting bilateral economic, trade, and cultural cooperation with



the Republic of Korea. Talking to the outgoing Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, the President said that Pakistan highly valued its multidimensional relationship with Korea, which involved collaborations in various fields such as political, economic, scientific, cultural, and people-to-people relations. The Ambassador shared that President stressed business and investment opportunities for all its friends and partners, and welcomed Kore-

an investment in various sectors. He stated that Pakistan wanted to increase cooperation with Korea, particularly in the areas of Information Technology and Agriculture.

The President also called for further promoting cultural cooperation with Korea, adding that Pakistan offered some of the most exotic mountaineering and religious tourism sites and would welcome tourists from Korea to visit Buddhist sites. He remarked

that Pakistan was home to the Gandhara Civilization and some of the most sacred relics in Buddhism, which could be a source of attraction for Korean tourists.

On this occasion, the Korean ambassador exclusively talked to Daily The Spokesman and said Pakistan is a rapidly growing country with more than 200 million population and abundant natural resources. Located between the Middle East and Asia and as a country the ancient Silk



Photo by Raja Farid

Road passed through, it is geopolitically getting more important. Moreover, Pakistan, where the Indus Civilization began, has a rich and diverse cultural heritage such as the Mohenjo Daro civilization, the Gandhara Buddhist arts, and Islamic traditions.

He said that since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Korea and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in 1983, the bilateral ties between the two countries have been enhanced substantially in

the areas of trade, investment, human exchange, and development cooperation. Nevertheless, considering the immense potential of Pakistan, the current level of ties is not sufficient and needs to be upgraded. He thanked the Pakistani government and people and said that the Korean Embassy will spare no efforts to support all the people who are interested to augment the relationship between Korea and Pakistan.

Ambassador Munir Akram highlights Kashmiris' freedom struggle in Eid message

Spokesman Report

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan's Ambassador to the United Nations, Munir Akram, has greeted the UN community and Muslim citizens on Eid-ul-Azha, while paying tributes to the "heroic" struggle of the Kashmiri people for their right to self-determination.

In a message on the occasion of Eid-ul Azha, which is being celebrated in the U. S. on June



28, he said: "On this auspicious occasion it is appropriate to manifest in accordance with the immutable principles of Islam, our support and solidarity for all those people confronted by misfortune and oppression; by war and pestilence; by exploitation and foreign occupation."

"May this Eid bring peace and prosperity to our heroic brothers and sisters in Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir who are making enor-

mous sacrifices to secure their freedom and the self-determination," he added.

"On this Eid, let us also reaffirm our commitment to end global hunger and eliminate inequality, injustice & discrimination across the world," he said.

"Eid Mubarak and all the blessings of the Almighty for you and your loved ones", he added.

Pakistan - Japan bilateral political consultations

Hinza Asif



TOKYO: The Foreign Secretary of Pakistan Dr. Asad Majeed Khan held Bilateral Political Consultations with his Japanese counterpart Mr. Shigeo Yamada in Tokyo today.

Both sides reviewed all significant aspects of Pakistan Japan relations and agreed to spare no effort to preserve, promote and diversify the longstanding robust relationship. Important regional

and international issues were also discussed in depth. The Foreign Secretary also called on Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mr. Takei Shunsuke and National Security Advisor Mr. Takeo Akiba. He also interacted with Mr. Shun Imaizumi, President, Japan - Pakistan Association.

All the interlocutors of the Foreign Secretary expressed goodwill and warm wishes towards the people and Government of Pakistan and underlined that the Japanese side was looking forward to the upcoming visit of the Foreign Minister of Pakistan Mr. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in the first week of July 2023.

Global tourism conference to be held on July 11: Dr Ramesh

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A three-day international conference to promote tourism in Pakistan will be held in Islamabad from 11th of the next month.

This was announced by Chairman Prime Minister's Task Force on Gandhara Tourism Dr Ramesh Kumar at a news conference in Islamabad today.

He said a national tourism policy under Gandhara Diplomacy has been finalized and draft of possible Memorandums of Understanding has been shared with the diplomatic corps in Islamabad.

Dr Ramesh Kumar said in addition to the international conference, a roundtable meeting is also being convened on 5th of the next month in which ambassadors of Japan, Vietnam, Sudan, Switzerland, Nepal, Palestine, and Malaysia have confirmed their participation in the event.

He said Pakistan is teeming with cultural heritage and the government is determined to promote tourism, especially historical sites, scenic beauty of the country, and religious tourism. He said tourists can get a ten days e-visa through Gandhara Portal within seven days.



Strength and Diversity of U. S.-Pakistan Partnership: William K. Makaneole

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN/VEHARI: U. S. Consul General Lahore William K. Makaneole visited various districts across South Punjab including Muzaffargarh, Rahim Yar Khan, Rajanpur, Multan, and Vehari. His visit aims to support the robust partnership in different fields including economic development, education and cultural preservation between the United States and Pakistan, but most importantly his engagements underscore the importance of strengthening and expanding people-to-people ties between the two nations.

While touring South Punjab, Consul General Makaneole also hailed Pakistan's efforts for interfaith harmony. He visited the Sakina Tul Sughra Mosque in Muzaffargarh, the Jamia Mosque and Siddhi Vinayak Temple in Rahim Yar Khan, and the shrine of famous Sufi poet Khawaja Ghulam Farid in Rajanpur. "Pakistan is home to people from diverse sects and religions. It is important for us to celebrate religious diversity and partner with local and national entities in advancing religious freedom



and promoting harmony which makes our world safer." The United States is committed to protecting and promoting religious freedom and freedom of expression, both of which are human rights and integral parts of a society.

Consul General Makaneole praised the efforts of the local business community during his visits to the Thal Jute Mills, Fazilpur Livestock Farm, and

PARCO Mid-Country Refinery to continue promoting the strong trade and investment relationship between the United States and Pakistan. In a meeting with Rahim Yar Khan Chamber of Commerce Mr. Makaneole said, "Over the past 75 years of bilateral relations, we have worked to develop trade and investment ties, encourage innovation, entrepreneurship, and

support women's economic empowerment." The United States continues to be Pakistan's top export destination and Punjab is a center for trade between the two countries. In the last year alone, U. S. direct investment in Pakistan increased by 50 percent and is now the highest it has been in over a decade.

Mr. Makaneole also visited the Ali Pur Pomegranate fields, the famous Rasoolpur model village in Rajanpur, Khawaja Farid University and attended a locally organized education conference in Rahim Yar Khan. He lauded the efforts of the local communities to promote economic growth and education in South Punjab. He also met with Deputy Commissioners of Muzaffargarh, Rahim Yar Khan, and Rajanpur. The Consul General thanked them for hosting the delegation and making the tour a success. The United States has a broad, deep, and long-term partnership with the people of Punjab Province spanning the education, economic, health, and rule of law sectors and beyond. U. S. Consulate Lahore looks forward to deepening and expanding these relationships over the coming years.

India's failure to implement 'R2P' in Kashmir

Spokesman Report

WASHINGTON: "The United Nations, General Assembly held its 77th session this week 'on the responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity'. However, the United Nations has miserably failed in achieving any success in this regard, this was stated by Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Chairman, World Forum for Peace & Justice."

Dr. Fai elaborated that the United Nations doctrine of the principle of 'Responsibility to Protect (R2P)', the international understanding to intervene to stop atrocities from taking place, was adopted at the 2005 World Summit. All the heads of State and government at the Summit, without reservation, committed to the doctrine, and subsequent unanimous adoptions of Gener-

al Assembly and Security Council resolutions reaffirmed the principle. "Sometimes known as 'R2P'. The doctrine holds States responsible for shielding their own populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and related crimes against humanity, requiring the international community to step in if this obligation is not met.

Speaking in the debate, Dr. Manmohan Singh, then the prime minister of India made an impactful statement "The international community is generous in setting goals, but parsimonious in pursuing them." A big statement made by Dr. Manmohan Singh, to be sure, but it has little credibility in the face of persistent policies by successive Indian governments, including his own, against the defenseless people of Kashmir.

Dr. Fai stated that in Kashmir we have a case of a large coun-

try bullying a small nation into submission in violation of not only their right to sovereignty but international agreements and two dozen UN resolutions giving them the right to determine their own political fate. The purpose of so many troops (900,000) stationed in this small country is for no other purpose but blatant oppression and suppression of the civilian population. Their presence makes Kashmir the largest army concentration anywhere in the world.

Dr. Fai added that while American foreign policy is supposed to be grounded on moral values, democratic ideals and universal principles, it would appear that wherever the crowd of commercial interests get VIP status, such ideals and principles are easily set aside, relegated to the back of the room, where it's standing room only. Money talks; ideals walk. This was manifest-

ed when the red carpet was rolled out this week at the White House for Narendra Modi by President Biden. Not a single word of condemnation of human rights violations was uttered because Biden Administration feels awkward and unequipped to intervene in Kashmir conflict. India is too powerful economically and does not listen to morals and ethics when everyone wants his wallet on the table.

Doesn't the Biden Administration recognize these contradictory standards? How is international credibility and trust engendered by such behavior? Doesn't the corrupt and cynical become more emboldened, and does it not sow the seeds of hatred and deeper more lasting conflict among those who suffer because of it, Fai asked?

George Okoth-Obbo, Secretary-General's Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect said



in his opening remarks on June 26, 2023, that "The keystone of R2P is, as has been underlined so many times is prevention. At the same time, to craft and deliver solutions that are effective for this purpose, it is crucial that the root causes, risks, triggers and multipliers of atrocity crimes are properly discerned."

Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General warned in

2000 Millennium Report that "if humanitarian intervention is, indeed, an unacceptable assault on sovereignty, how should we respond to a Rwanda, to a Srebrenica, to gross and systematic violation of human rights that offend every precept of our common humanity?" It is worth mentioning here that Dr. Gregory Stanton, Chairman, Genocide Watch warned the Biden

Administration in January 2022 that "We believe that the Indian government's actions in Kashmir have been an extreme case of persecution and could very well lead to genocide."

Isn't it time that Mr. Antonio Guterres, the Secretary General of the United Nations brings the situation in Kashmir to the attention of the Security Council under the provision of the Article 99 of the United Nations Charter. The Article 99 authorizes the Secretary General to "bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter which in his opinion may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security". Kashmir undoubtedly has a potential to trigger a nuclear confrontation between two nuclear rivals - India & Pakistan - unless the root cause of the confrontation - Kashmir - is resolved, Dr. Fai cautioned.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
41,452.68	41,437.10	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
41,606.25	41,208.19	
Index Value	Change	
6,399,620,908	+15.58	
Percentage	Time	
+0.04%	27 Jun, 2023 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,461.46	+7.88	
Percentage	Time	
-0.11%	27 Jun, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,941.19	+226.48	
Percentage	Time	
+0.67%	27 Jun, 2:00 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
32,538.33	-160.48	
Percentage	Time	
-0.49%	27 Jun, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	202	204
Bahrain Dinar	761.99	769.99
Canadian Dollar	222	224
China Yuan	40.01	40.41
Danish Krone	41.98	42.38
Euro	313	316
Hong Kong Dollar	36.58	36.93
Indian Rupee	3.5	3.61
Japanese Yen	2.1	2.18
Kuwaiti Dinar	939.55	948.55
Malaysian Ringgit	61.67	62.27
New Zealand \$	175.93	177.93
Norwegians Krone	26.72	27.02
Omani Riyal	744.17	752.17
Qatari Riyal	78.21	78.91
Saudi Riyal	75.5	76.2
Singapore Dollar	217.5	219.5
Swedish Korona	26.94	27.24
Swiss Franc	320.87	323.37
Thai Bhat	8.27	8.42
U.A.E Dirham	79	79.7
UK Pound Sterling	366	369
US Dollar	287.5	290

IMF agreement is inevitable for Pakistan: Ahsan Bakhtawari

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that the steps taken by the government to make the negotiations with the IMF successful will prove to be disastrous for the troubled country's economy. Measures like collection of additional taxes, one percent increase in interest rate, withdrawal of one year amnesty for bringing dollars into the country will hamper the journey started for economic recovery.

An agreement with the International Financial Institution is inevitable, but the government will have to take decisions keeping in mind the country's economic recovery. The business community has been supportive of the government's initiatives, but the government should not adopt such an attitude that will worsen the already difficult situation for



business.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, he said that the business community across the country, including the Islamabad Chamber, had demanded the government to reduce the interest rate in the budget proposals, which was supported by the parliamentary committees including Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, but now As soon as the budget is approved, the State Bank has increased the interest rate by one percent. This decision will bring more difficult times for the already troubled Pakistani economy. Pakistan's industry is already facing the highest interest rates among the regional countries.

The government had taken the best decision by giving incentives in the budget, but now the tax on this sector has been increased which is harmful for development. Instead of collecting more revenue from people already in the tax net, the government should take steps to increase the tax net. In this regard, the Islama-

bad Chamber has suggested several measures. The business community of Pakistan believes that the IMF agreement is indispensable for the country. Finance Minister Ishaq Dar has negotiated with the IMF as a real national leader and spokesman for the aspirations of the Pakistani nation.

He emerged as a true national hero by not compromising on national interests during the long period of negotiations, but it is our misfortune that at last he also had to accept the tough conditions of the IMF to save the country economically. The business community believes that the trust of friendly countries and international organizations will be restored by the IMF agreement, but instead of putting the entire burden of this agreement on the people or the business community, the government should find a middle way. He said that to get out of the economic crisis, the government Formulate short, mid and long term policy.

Sarsabz Fertilizers shines bright at the Pakistan Digital Awards 2023

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Sarsabz Fertilizers has once again emerged triumphant at the highly acclaimed Pakistan Digital Awards 2023. The company has secured three prestigious awards which is the highest number for any company this year.

The Pakistan Digital Awards, known for recognizing excellence in digital marketing and innovation bestowed the awards of "Best Social Media Influencer Communication for Salam Kissan", "Best Web Series of the Year for Sarsabz Kahani" and "Best Innovative App for Sarsabz Asaan".

This year's success at the Pakistan Digital Awards further solidifies Sarsabz Fertilizers' reputation as a trailblazer in the digital realm. The company's iconic campaign, 'Salam Kissan' which has consistently been recognized and celebrated since 2020 continues to captivate audiences and industry experts



alike. The campaign has already secured four awards to date (Best Digital Campaign 2020, Best Digital Campaign on Tiktok 2021, and Best Digital Campaign on Snack Video 2022) showcasing its enduring impact and effectiveness. Rabel Sadozai, the Director of Sales and Marketing at Fatima Fertilizer said, "We

are honored to receive these awards at the Pakistan Digital Awards 2023. This recognition underscores our relentless pursuit of excellence and our commitment to innovation in the digital landscape and we are grateful to our dedicated team and valued stakeholders for their unwavering support." Sarsabz Fertilizers remains

at the forefront of the industry; consistently delivering impactful digital campaigns and embracing cutting-edge technologies. The company's continuous success at the Pakistan Digital Awards is a testament to its visionary leadership, creative prowess and steadfast dedication to serving the agricultural community.

Army leadership set a shining example of self-accountability

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Murtaza Mughal, President of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) said on Tuesday that the army leadership has provided an excellent example of responsibility and personal accountability by completing disciplinary action against serving and retired generals and their close relatives, which is praiseworthy.

Now the nation is waiting for the strictest action against the rioters and their patrons who have become a national security threat, he said.

In a statement issued here today, Dr Murtaza Mughal said that the terrorists should be brought to justice as soon as possible so that no one dares to play with the integrity of the country in the future.

He said that all the masterminds and planners

of the events of May 9 did what even the enemy could not do, so they must be made an example.

This tragedy was a conspiracy against Pakistan, which was foiled by the army through its restraint at the time of demonstrations.

Dr. Murtaza Mughal said that the army is sacrificing lives almost every day in war against terror and suffering heavy losses, but the miscreants ignored their sacrifices, insulted the martyrs and hurt feelings of their families which is unforgivable.

Dr. Mughal said that the army has proved its moral superiority by taking action against its officers.

The time has come that important civilian officials should not defame themselves and their institutions with politics to please their relatives, act responsibly and give priority to merit.

Compensation

KARACHI: Dr. Asim Hussain, former minister along with Faisal Moiz Khan, president NKATI, distributing compensation cheque to the families of the martyrs of the fire incident at Gabol Town-NKIA.



Fashion brands acknowledge Pakistan as a promising sourcing destination for leather footwear



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: General Secretary, Pakistan Footwear Association, Ahmad Fawad Farooq as the keynote speaker at the International Summit on Consumer Trends and Supply Chain, held at Expo Riva del Garda in Italy on June 18, 2023, highlighted the strength and potential of Pakistan as a prime sourcing destination for leather footwear.

His presentation captivated industry leaders, who enthusiastically expressed their intention to visit Pakistan this year for further exploration and collaboration opportunities.

With a dynamic and rapidly growing economy, Pakistan has emerged as a powerhouse in the manufacturing sector, particularly in the realm of quality footwear. Ahmed Fawad Farooq emphasized two key factors contributing to Pakistan's appeal as a sourcing destination: low labour costs and the abundant availability of raw materials.

He said that the cost advantage offered by Pakistan's labour market has garnered significant attention from international brands. The country's

skilled workforce is capable of producing high-quality footwear at competitive prices, making it an attractive option for fashion brands seeking cost-effective manufacturing solutions without compromising on quality.

Further, he said, Pakistan's abundance of raw materials, especially in the leather industry, further enhances its appeal as a sourcing destination. The availability of premium-quality leather enables manufacturers to produce footwear of exceptional quality and craftsmanship.

Ahmed Fawad Farooq expressed excitement regarding the fashion brands' recognition of Pakistan's strengths and potential. He stated, "I am thrilled to announce that top fashion brands' sourcing management has acknowledged Pakistan's appeal as a sourcing destination for leather footwear. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Pakistan's skilled workforce and the abundant resources we possess. We look forward to welcoming these esteemed brands to Pakistan and showcasing the immense potential and quality that our country offers."

The Bank of Punjab donates under Sadqah Jariyah to the Citizens Foundation for educational empowerment

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The Bank of Punjab (BOP) held a cheque handover ceremony in Karachi as part of its BOP Sadqah Jariyah initiative. The event saw the presence of Mr. Zafar Masud (President & CEO - BOP), Syed Asaad Ayub Ahmad (President & CEO - TCF), and senior management representatives from both organizations. BOP's Sadqah Jariyah initiative offers donation collection services to support The Citizen's Foundation (TCF) and their impactful education programs.

BOP facilitates the collection of donations through various physical and digital channels, including the Roshan Digital Account platform. The donations are dedicated to initiatives



focused on promoting education for girls, individuals with disabilities, and adult female literacy. BOP goes beyond fund collection by matching customer and staff donations and further contributes funds to support TCF in promoting literacy.

The collaboration between BOP and TCF highlights BOP's commitment to social betterment and its belief that education is a fundamental right. This

partnership aims to create a lasting impact in the field of education, reflecting BOP's motto of "Har Fard Ka Khayal".

During the ceremony, Mr. Zafar Masud emphasized that BOP Sadqah Jariyah enables customers to donate Zakat and Sadaqat to various causes through BOP channels, supporting education, female literacy programs with TCF, breast cancer treatment at Pink

Ribbon, and healthcare for underprivileged patients at The Indus Hospital. BOP covers all donation fees and charges and matches all donations received per month.

Syed Asaad Ayub Ahmad expressed TCF's commitment to providing quality education to underprivileged children and their delight in collaborating with BOP. TCF looks forward to working with BOP and engaging their customers to sustain and expand their impact.

The partnership between BOP and TCF represents their shared vision and dedication to uplifting society through education and collective action. Together, they aim to create meaningful and sustainable change, fostering opportunities for those in need.

Mondelez Pakistan Partners with Nutshell Communications



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Mondelez Pakistan Limited signed a communications and strategic engagements partnership agreement with Nutshell Communications, Pakistan's leading communications firm specializing in stakeholders' management, outreach, corporate branding, thought leadership, and strategic communications.

The agreement was signed in a ceremony held at Nutshell's Karachi office, between Muhammad Azfar Ahsan, Founder & CEO Nutshell Group, and Sami A. Wahid, Managing Director, Mondelez Pakistan Limited. The signing was witnessed by Unaizah Ali, Chief Commercial Officer; Subhan Elahi, Chief Creative Officer; Mehrunisa Azhar, Chief Disruption Officer from Nutshell Communications, and Usama Majeed, Head of Corporate and Government Affairs, Mondelez Pakistan.

Sami A. Wahid said: "We welcome Nutshell Communications as our strategic partners. Nutshell has a deep understanding of the communications landscape, highly skilled and experienced professionals, and a proven track record of success. We look forward to working with the Nutshell team and believe that this partnership will add great value to both parties."

Commenting on the engagement, Muhammad Azfar Ahsan, said: "The aim of this partnership is to leverage our expertise to drive meaningful engagement and create a powerful brand experience for Mondelez Pakistan. We are confident that this alliance will propel Mondelez Pakistan to a higher level of recognition and thought leadership in the Pakistani FMCG market."

Pak special athletes back home with 80 medals including

Sports Desk

KARACHI: After winning a total of 80 medals with 11 gold, 29 silver and 40 bronze medals in the Special Olympic World Games played in Berlin, Germany from June 17 to 25, the Pakistani squad, which won the hearts of 176 countries, has returned home after they participated in the World Games. Upon arrival at Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad airports, the officials of Special Olympics Pakistan and the relatives and fans of the athletes welcomed them with full national spirit.

The players and officials were garlanded and showered with flowers and rose petals.

Welcome banners for the players and posters based on pictures with their medals were the focus of special attention while the vicinity echoed with slogans of Pakistan Zindabad.

The gold medals winner athletes like Saifullah Solangi, Usman Qamar, Umair Kayani, Faiza Nasir, Naheen Khan, Muhammad Luqman, Zainab Ali Raza and national athlete Sana, the torchbearer of the opening ceremony of the World Games, said that they had gone to Berlin with the spirit of winning for Pakistan. Winning medals in Berlin is a great honour for



us. Our hard work, training of coaches, patronage of Special Olympics Pakistan and the prayers of the whole nation we have achieved this success, they said.

The Head of the Delegation of the national team and the Chairperson of Special Olympics Pakistan, Ronak Lakhani said I thank Allah for the excellent performance of our athletes in the World Games.

For this event, our preparations were going on for the last four years. The role

of their unified partners and especially the coaches has been the most important in their success, with their tireless work and excellent training, the players have reached this point today. I also congratulate the parents of the players who have helped the children.

SOP Advisor Yasmin Haider said that the World Games was the biggest event in the world in terms of special athletes and volunteers, in which the best teams of the world participated,

but the enthusiasm of our athletes was visible.

As the representatives of Pakistan in Berlin, they not only impressed the athletes of all the countries participating in the Games with their message of love and peace, but they also impressed especially the organizing committee of the World Games.

We will take all possible steps to continue this journey of success in the future as well.

Punjab Golf Association embarks on series of golf camps

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Punjab Golf Association (PGA) has embarked on golf activity whereby a series of golf camps will be activated for young golfers. This vision was conceived by President, PGA, Lt Gen Abdul Aziz and the PGA Executive Committee Members and now the execution phase started at the Punjab Golf Association Golf Academy at Lahore Garrison Greens Golf Club yesterday. (27th June 2023)

In the first phase 31 students stand selected after golf trials and these picked ones will undergo training sessions steered and overseen by six capable coaches. Students have been organized into three groups with two coaches to oversee each group. As for the students they are divided into Category A representing the ones who have already acquired good golf playing skills and need refinement while Category B comprises of Boys with intermediate skills and entail blooming and blossoming. And there is Category C comprising of girls with good and intermediate golf-



ing skills. Fourteen students fall in category A, six in Category B and nine girls in Category C.

Training Sessions will include training on the driving range, training on the golf course and also there is the Simulator Training. To augment knowledge of golf rules, Golf Rules Classes will be an

essential feature.

At the launch of the PGA Summer Camp by Kashif Bhatti, General Manager of PGA, it was spelled out that aim of this exercise is to promote sports culture and to attract youngsters to this wonderful game.

The best boys and girls will under-

go extensive advanced training to be groomed into players who can perform on the international fronts. Other incentives are in place and these include honorarium for golfers under training and cash prizes for those who emerge as top performers in a two days tournament to be held in early August, when the training concludes.

The Summer Camp launching was attended by Haroon Shafiq, Hamid Asadullah, Minaa Zainab and many parents.

This elite program aims at creating immense interest in golf and luring the talented ones to this game and inspiring them to achieve recognition as champions as they develop and mature into players of class.

Training program on the driving range and golf course will mainly consist of such elements as technique, personality development, mental strength, physique and knowledge of equipment.

The training ladder is expected to be learner friendly and the young ones are going to really get allured and magnetized.

Wasim Akram believes Pakistan should play WC matches as scheduled

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan great Wasim Akram shared a piece of advice regarding the national cricket team's participation in the upcoming ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in India, scheduled to commence on October 5.

Former Pakistan captain Wasim Akram, while speaking at a private ceremony here, opined that the national side should play their World Cup matches as scheduled on the announced venues.

"Pakistan should play wherever their matches are scheduled. Playing at any venue should not be an issue," opined Wasim Akram.

He further backed his opinion by citing his experience of touring India as a player and as



a commentator.

"I have had a good experience as a commentator and a former player in India. Anyone who travels to India, be it an actor or a sportsperson, gets a good response," shared Akram.

Wasim Akram then once again expressed his belief in the current team's ability to foster in the upcoming World Cup and claimed that the Indian conditions would also favour them. "Pakistan team is talented

enough to progress ahead into the tournament. We are also well aware of the playing conditions in India," Akram stated.

Akram then also lauded Babar Azam's captaincy skills and also urged cricket fans to let the latter enjoy it. "There is no problem with Babar Azam's captaincy. Let him enjoy it," he said.

Legendary pacer Wasim Akram also spoke highly of Pakistan's ace speedster Shaheen Shah Afridi and termed him a world-class bowler. "Shaheen Afridi is still young. The more he plays the more it will benefit him and I think, he is a world-class bowler," stated Akram.

It is worth mentioning here that the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced the anticipated schedule of the Men's

Cricket World Cup 2023 earlier today. As per the ICC-released schedule, a total of 10 teams will participate in the mega event - featuring 45 matches - and compete for the prestigious silverware across 10 venues from October 5 to November 19.

Like the previous edition, the ICC Men's World Cup 2023 will also be played in a round-robin format - each team playing nine matches with the rest of the opponents.

The top four teams by the end of the group stage will qualify for the semi-finals, scheduled to be held in Mumbai on November 15 and in Kolkata on November 16.

Whereas, the final of the tournament will take place on November 19 at the grand Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

Pakistan Cyclists team arrived at Allama Iqbal Airport



Sports Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan Cyclists team arrived at Allama Iqbal Airport after participating in Special Olympic Games held at German.(Berlin) Pakistan Cycling Federation, General Secretary Welcomed the Cycling team at Allama Iqbal Airport along with Sports lovers and he appreciated the Pakistan cycling team performance in Special Olympic games. Pakistan Cycling team secured impressive tally with 4 gold, 4 silver and 3 bronze medals. Moazzam Khan Klair also congratulated to whole the contingent who got medals in different disciplinary events at Berlin he also appreciated the role of Cycling Coach Maham Tariq Malik under her coaching Pakistan Cyclists hot more achievements in this event. Pakistan Cycling Federation President Syed Azhar Ali Shah also gave the congratulation to Pakistan Cyclists who got the Medals in this huge international event.

Promising Huzaifa wins tennis title in USA

News Desk



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's tennis sensation Huzaifa Abdul Rehman continues to impress at the international level as he has clinched the Smackdown Sarasota men's singles title in Florida, USA on late Monday.

According to information received here, the 20-year-old Huzaifa toppled USA's Maximilian Mroz 6-1, 6-4 in the final to win the title.

In the semifinal, top seed Huzaifa had warded off challenge from USA's H. Menon 6-3, 6-4.

"This victory is very good for my confidence and building momentum for the ITF Futures tournaments. My goal is to play as many tournaments as I can on the tour and try to do my best every time," Huzaifa told APP on phone while sharing on what he is going to do next to get even higher results.

Pakistan vs India set for October 15 as ICC announces World Cup schedule

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The fixtures list for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 in India has been released along with the 10 venues for the mega event that will span across 46 days later this year.

The event will kick off on October 5 with a repeat of the 2019 Final as England take on New Zealand in Ahmedabad.

A total of 10 teams will participate in the event, the first eight having already qualified through the Cricket World Cup Super League. The final two spots will be determined at the end of the Qualifier tournament in Zimbabwe, which concludes on July 9.

Unmute

The schedule for Cricket World Cup 2023

ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 Schedule

Each team plays the other nine in a round-robin format with the top four qualifying for the knockout stage and semi-finals.

Pakistan vs India

The much-awaited Pakistan vs India encounter will take place in Ahmedabad on Sunday, October 15 and will be the eighth meeting between the two sides at a men's World Cup.

India and Pakistan have faced each other seven times previously - in 1992, 1996, 1999, 2003, 2011, 2015 and 2019. The last time these teams met in the 50-over World Cup was in 2019 at Old Trafford.

Knockout Stages

The first semi-final will be held on Wednesday, November 15 in Mumbai and the second semi-final will be held the following day in Kolkata. Both semi-finals will have a reserve day.

The Final will take place at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on November 19 with November 20 slated as the reserve day.

Tournament Venues

There will be a total of 10 venues - Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Dharamsala, Delhi, Chennai, Lucknow, Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kolkata.

Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram in addition to Hyderabad will host the warm-up matches from 29 September to 3 October.

Pakistan's schedule for ICC World Cup 2023:

October 12 - vs Qualifier in Hyderabad

October 15 - vs India in Ahmedabad

October 20 - vs Australia in Bengaluru

October 23 - vs Afghanistan in Chennai

October 27 - vs South Africa in Chennai

October 31 - vs Bangladesh in Kolkata

November 5 - vs New Zealand Bengaluru

November 12 - vs England in Kolkata

Pat Cummins backs Smith, Labuschagne to shine at Lord's

Sports Desk

Australia captain Pat Cummins has forecast a "big week" for leading batsmen Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne in the second Test against England at Lord's.

Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne managed just 35 runs between them across four innings in the first Test at Edgbaston last week, yet Australia still won a thrilling encounter by two wickets to take a 1-0 lead in the five-match Ashes series.

This week will mark Steve Smith's first match at Lord's since he was felled by a Jofra Archer bouncer during the 2019 Ashes Test at the ground.

Marnus Labuschagne replaced Steve Smith as a concussion substitute and made 59, an innings that proved the launchpad for a run spree in Test cricket.

"I don't think we played the complete game last week by a long shot," Cummins said at Lord's on Tuesday, on the eve of the second Test.

"I think that is one of the most pleasing things, that we weren't at our best but still managed to get over the line. That is not always going to be the case.

"History would suggest Marnus and Smithy rarely miss out, so I am expecting a big week from them."

Pat Cummins, unlike

England, has yet to name his side, although he did reveal Mitchell Starc has been drafted into the squad, with the left-arm quick seemingly competing for a place in the final XI with fellow pacesman Scott Boland.

"We will have another look at the wicket and make a final decision tomorrow," said the skipper.

England, with the pitch at Lord's showing a green tinge, have opted for an all-seam attack and have decided against selecting a specialist spinner - Moeen Ali suffered a finger injury at Edgbaston.

Fast bowler Josh Tongue, who made his Test debut against Ireland at Lord's earlier this month, has been chosen

in Moeen's place, with England having the option of Joe Root's occasional spin.

By contrast, Australia off-spinner Nathan Lyon is set to become the first specialist bowler to appear in 100 consecutive Tests, with the 35-year-old also in sight of the landmark figure of 500 Test wickets.

"I think it's a testament not only to how good Nathan is in terms of longevity and fitness and form, but to be able to play 100 Tests means you are getting picked in all conditions," said fast bowler Cummins.

He added: "I couldn't imagine a side without Nath in there. I've seen they have gone with four quicks, which is probably as



we expected after seeing Moeen's injury last week, but I feel really lucky we've got Nathan.

"Hundredth consecutive Test

match, (potentially) 500 Test wickets, it's incredible all the milestones he keeps ticking off. This is a really special place in

cricket but for Australia as well. We've had some success at this ground in recent years so yeah, a big one for the memory bank."