

# Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ  
ہم سے عبد اللہ بن یوسف نے بیان کیا کہ  
ہم سے لیث بن سعد نے بیان کیا اور ان سے  
عبداللہ بن مسعود نے بیان کیا اور ان سے  
ابو ہریرہ نے بیان کیا اور ان سے عائشہ نے  
بیان کیا کہ پھر رسول اللہ ﷺ نے فرمایا  
پاس دہاں شتر تریف لائے اور فرمایا لا زلمونی  
لا زلمونی کہ مجھے چار اڑھا دو مجھے چار اڑھا  
دو۔ پھر آپ نے سارا واقعہ بیان فرمایا۔  
(بخاری: حدیث نمبر 4957)  
Barkat Rice Mills  
(Pvt) Limited



**Tribute:** Armed Forces of Pakistan, CJsCS & Services Chiefs pay rich tribute to Havildar Lalak Jan, Nishan-e-Haider, on his 24th Shahadat Anniversary today. Hav Lalak Jan laid down his life while valiantly defending the motherland. His unwavering dedication to duty and courage in the face of adversity exemplifies the very best of our Armed Forces. These brave heroes of Pakistan offered supreme sacrifice for the defence of the motherland. Nation will forever remain indebted to the valiant sons for their sacrifices. Let us remember these heroes who have laid down their lives in defence of our motherland and let their sacrifices be a guiding light for all of us and future generations to come.



**Dar seeks early legislation for quick resumption of PIA flights to USA, UK**  
Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar here on Thursday instructed the relevant authorities to bring forward appropriate legislation as soon as possible to ensure quick resumption of PIA flights to United States of America (USA) and United Kingdom (UK). The minister was chairing a meeting on matters related to CAA and ASF, according to press statement issued by finance ministry. (Details on Page 6)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Zilhaj 18, Friday, July 7, 2023

www.dailyspokesman.net

@daily\_spokesman

Daily Spokesman Vol: 16, Issue: 88

Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

## Condemnation

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday addresses the joint session of the Parliament to condemn desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.



Photo: PID

# High-time for nation, state institutions to unitedly act for country's progress: PM

Naseem Gul

TORGHAR: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Thursday that it was high time for the nation and state institutions to join hands in making progress for the country.

The prime minister emphasized that it was the responsibility of the government, judiciary, armed forces, and the people to work together to ensure the development of the country.

He made these remarks while addressing local elders in Torghar after laying the foundation stone for the Torghar Bunir Highway, the Bunir-Karakar Link Tunnel, and the Torghar-Bunir RCC (Reinforced Cement Concrete) bridge.

The prime minister highlighted the significance of unity,

## PM urges world to play role against Islamophobia

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday urged the civilized world and the global peace institutions to play a positive role in containing the incidents of Islamophobia.

The prime minister, in a tweet, said the desecration of the Holy Quran, as happened in Sweden and anywhere else in the world, was unacceptable for Muslims.

He said the incident hurt the sentiments of 1.25 billion Muslims of the world and stressed that hard work, and dedication by the nation to create a brighter future for Pakistan.

He mentioned that Pakistan recently faced financial challenges but managed to reach a staff-level agreement with the International Monetary Fund to prevent default. He acknowledged the supportive role of army Chief General Asim Munir in securing the \$3 billion deal with the global lender.

said the desecration of the Holy Quran, as happened in Sweden and anywhere else in the world, was unacceptable for Muslims.

He said the incident hurt the sentiments of 1.25 billion Muslims of the world and stressed that

The prime minister expressed confidence that Pakistan would soon hold a significant position among nations.

He expressed concern that, without the bridge, the locals had to travel a distance of 250 kilometers. The construction of the bridge would reduce the distance to just one kilometer.

He directed the completion of the bridge within one year instead of the initially planned

three years, stating that the three infrastructure projects, worth Rs 18 billion, would greatly benefit the locals.

Sharif announced the establishment of a Danish school in the area, which is an educational facility project previously launched by him in Punjab for underprivileged children.

He also announced the establishment of two colleges in the area and stated that work would

soon commence to ensure a stable supply of electricity.

Pakistan Muslim League leader retired Captain Muhammad Safdar mentioned that the underdeveloped area of Torghar, formerly known as Kala Dhaka, was in dire need of development and infrastructure.

He expressed that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to Torghar was a positive sign for the people of the area, who are now destined to progress under his vision of development.

PM's Adviser Amir Muqam stated that the bridge would connect the Hazara and Malakand divisions, facilitating the locals.

Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Adviser Ahad Cheema, and local government officials were present at the event.

## President for boosting Pak-Qatar economic ties



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday said Pakistan wants to expand trade and investment relations with Qatar and translate the brotherly relations into mutually beneficial economic ties.

"Pakistan desires a partnership with Qatar in the energy sector and looks forward to Qatari investments in various sectors of the economy", he said in a meeting with the outgoing Ambassador of Qatar to Pakistan, Sheikh Saoud Bin Abdulrahman Faisal Al-Thani, here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

The President appreciated the Government of Qatar for hosting the Pakistani diaspo-

ra which served as a strong bridge between the two brotherly countries. He expressed the hope that Qatar would increase the number of skilled Pakistani workers and would open more visa facilities in Pakistan.

He lauded the leadership of Qatar for making efforts against Islamophobia, adding that the Islamic world needed to make collective efforts against the rising tide of Islamophobia in the world.

He also highlighted the gross human rights violations in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) as well as the persecution of minorities, especially Muslims, in India.

## Pakistan Army major martyred in KP gunfight: ISPR

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: A Pakistan Army major embraced martyrdom during a gun battle with terrorists in district Khyber's Shakas area, said Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement on Thursday.

According to army's media wing, the incident took place when security forces launched an intelligence-based operation (IBO) between the nights of July 5-6 in the area after they received information about the presence of terrorists.

"While establishment of blocking positions to cut the escape routes of terrorists was underway, a party of terrorists was spotted by Major Abdullah who was leading the operation from the front," the statement said.

When the forces intercepted them, the ISPR said, a heavy exchange of fire ensued, resulting in the martyrdom of Major Shah — a 33-year-old resident of Kohat.

The forces then arrest-



ed three terrorists and their facilitators while a sanitisation operation is underway to eliminate any more terrorists in the area, the military's media wing said.

"Security forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism, and such sacrifices of our soldiers further strengthen our resolve," the ISPR added.

Resultantly, 41-year-old Naib Subedar Sahib Khan, a resident of Mianwali, 40-year-old Naik Muhammad Ibrahim, a resident of Dera Ismail Khan and 24-year-old Sepoy Jehangir Khan, a resident of Mardan, were martyred.

## Fawad Chaudhry's non-bailable arrest warrant issued by ECP



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Thursday issued a non-bailable arrest warrant for former Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhry in contempt case.

A five-member commission headed by the Chief Election Commissioner heard the case.

During today's proceedings, Fawad's assistant counsel appeared before the ECP and requested the court to adjourn the case.

The hearing of the case was adjourned till July 28.

## PML-N Quaid's acquittal exposes last PTI regime's political vendetta: Marriyum

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Thursday that acquittal of thrice-elected prime minister and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Quaid Nawaz Sharif in the plot allotment reference by an accountability court in Lahore clearly showed a political vendetta of the last PTI regime.

Addressing a press conference, she said the plots allotment case related to the tenure when Nawaz Sharif was the chief minister of Punjab.

She said the owner of a leading media house was arrested in a fake case just to pressurize the media to toe the line of the then rulers. Similarly, journalists were arrested and targeted only to curb dissent views, and on that account the then prime minister was given the title of a 'predator' at international level.

She said today's verdict of the accountability court was an eye-opener for those who had blind-



ly followed the fake narrative of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

She said in the so-called illegal plots allotment reference it was alleged that Nawaz Sharif as Punjab chief minister had specifically favoured Mir Shakeelur Rehman to manage favourable media coverage.

She said under the 'NAB- Niazi nexus', the National Accountability Bureau was given the task to target political opponents of the PTI chief.

The minister said today, the accountability court had affirmed that Nawaz Sharif was targeted to have political revenge. The court also noted that no evidence of corruption was found against the PML-N

Quaid, which led to his honourable acquittal.

It was also pointed out that no legal requirements were fulfilled for declaring Nawaz Sharif as an absconder, she said, adding the process to target the PML-N chief and his family had commenced with changing 'Panama to Iqama'.

The minister said Maryam Nawaz also stood vindicated in that case as the court in its order noted that if there had been no commitment of the crime then how abetting could happen. That decision had also indicated that Nawaz Sharif did not commit any crime and should be acquitted, she added.

Marriyum said all such court decisions against the three time prime minister should be revisited to restore the people's confidence.

She said the government strongly condemned incident of desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden. A national campaign has been launched to send a message to the world for respect for Islam and other religions.

## May 9 riots: Non-bailable arrest warrants for 22 PTI leaders issued

Bureau Report

LAHORE: An anti-terrorism court (ATC) in Lahore has issued non-bailable arrest warrants for 22 Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) central leaders in the May 9 riots case.

Police pleaded with the ATC to issue non-bailable arrest warrants for the 22 PTI leaders in the May 9 riots case. The plea was accepted and arrest warrants were issued by the anti-terrorism court during the hearing today.

The nominated PTI leaders in the May 9 riots case include Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Fawad Chaudhry, Hammad Azhar, Murad Saeed, Azam Swati, Ali Amin Gandapur, Jamshed Iqbal Cheema, Musarrat Jamshed Cheema, Mian Aslam Iqbal, Hassaan Niazi, Zubair Niazi, Imtiaz Sheikh, Andleeb Abbas, Karamat Khokhar, Ghulam Abbas, Ali Abbas, Uzma Bibi and Haleema Bibi.

## Climate Change

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif UAE's President-designate for COP28 Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, Federal Minister for climate change Ms Sherry Rehman displaying COP28's wrist band as a display of commitment to climate change agency.



Photo: APP

## President-designate COP 28 discusses climate change with PM, minister

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, President-designate of COP 28 and UAE's Special Envoy for Climate Change, Minister for Industries and Technologies, MD and CEO of ADNOC and Chairman MASDAR visited Pakistan on Thursday and discussed matters of mutual concern during his meetings with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Minister for Climate Change Sherry

Rehman.

During the visit, Dr. Al Jaber called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and discussed bilateral matters as well as regional and international issues of common interest, with particular reference to the climate change agenda. Prime Minister reiterated Pakistan's support to the UAE for COP 28 and expressed confidence in the President-designate's stewardship of the important conference. Dr. Al Jaber appreciated

Pakistan's efforts in combating adverse effects of climate change as one of the most impacted countries. He also expressed United Arab Emirates' keen interest to invest in renewable energy projects in Pakistan. The two sides signed an MOU, in the Prime Minister's presence, outlining a roadmap of such investment in Pakistan.

Dr. Al Jaber held a meeting with Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rahman. The Minister for

Climate Change congratulated the President-designate on UAE's hosting the next COP 28 and briefed him on Pakistan's concerns in the wake of global climate change.

Dr. Al Jaber also addressed diplomats, academics, students and civil society representatives at the Foreign Service Academy. Sharing his vision as the President-designate, Dr. Jaber said that COP 28 would be an inclusive and transformative platform for mitigating global

climate woes. He also held a meeting with youth delegates from COP youth programme during the visit.

President-designate's visit provided an opportunity for substantive engagement between Pakistan and the UAE in important areas, including climate change and alternative energy. It would help strengthen the mutual trust and beneficial cooperation between Pakistan and the UAE on salient issues on the global agenda.

## Pakistan slams UN report for not recording plight of occupied Palestinian, Kashmiri children

## News Desk

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan has criticized the United Nations for not listing the two "blatant" situations of foreign occupation, perpetrated by Israel and India, in its report on 'Children and Armed Conflict', calling the omission the "most visible anomaly" in the document.

Speaking in the UN Security Council, which met under U.K.'s presidency, Ambassador Munir Akram highlighted the immense suffering of children under foreign occupation, saying they suffer "horrible experiences".

"This is, therefore the most visible anomaly in the report that the two blatant situations of foreign occupations perpetrated by Israel on one hand and by India in Jammu and Kashmir on the other, are not listed in the report and are given a free pass," the Pakistani

envoy told the 15-member Council on Wednesday.

Last year, 27,180 grave violations were committed against children caught up in war – the highest number ever verified by the UN, according to Virginia Gamba, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, who presented her latest annual report.

In his remarks, Ambassador Akram said the fact that 1 in 6 of the world's children lives in areas affected by conflict required that more must be done to ensure their safety, welfare and prosperity.

Specifically referring to the "suppression" of the children of Jammu and Kashmir by the Indian occupation forces, he said that an entire generation of Kashmiri children has grown up in a climate of unspeakable fear, violence and repression that



has further aggravated since 05 August 2019, when India unilaterally annexed the occupied and disputed territory.

"We still remember the gut-wrenching picture of a three-year-old Kashmiri boy sitting in shock on the dead body of his grandfather after he was killed by the Indian forces," the Pakistani envoy said in an emotionally charged voice.

Ambassador Akram said an estimated 13,000 Kashmiri children and youth have been captured by India's

900,000 occupation forces, while thousands of innocent Kashmiris, including women and children, have been killed in staged search operations to extract confessions or secure commitments not to participate in Kashmir's struggle for self-determination

In 2022, he said, Pakistan released a dossier of 3,432 cases of war crimes, perpetrated by India's senior officers, and urged the Special Representative to demand the release of 30,000 abducted youth.

"The Secretary-General's latest report has rightly urged India to implement measures, including the prohibition of the use of lethal and non-lethal force on children, ending the 'use of pellet guns' and preventing all forms of ill-treatment of children in detention, and protection of children from sexual offences," the Pakistani

## Joint sitting urges Int'l organizations, criminalize desecration of holy books

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Joint Sitting of the Parliament on Thursday passed a resolution unanimously, urging relevant international organizations and states to legislate and criminalize desecration of Holy symbols of religions including Holy Books, personalities, places of worship and followers.

The resolution moved by Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi on behalf of all parties in the House, strongly condemned the act of desecration of the Holy

Quran in Sweden.

"This house believes in respecting all religions, beliefs and their Holy Books," the resolution said.

The House resolved that the International community should take appropriate measures for promoting interfaith harmony to ensure that any act that hurt religious sentiments might never take place in future.

This House acknowledged and appreciated the convening of the OIC session for providing platform to compile recommendations and devise a collective future strategy to counter Islamophobia.

## Azerbaijan President's Advisor calls on Air Chief



## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A high level defence delegation headed by Advisor to the President of Azerbaijan, Khalid Ahadov called on Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu here on Thursday and lauded the historic and exemplary professionalism demonstrated by the personnel of Pakistan Air Force (PAF).

The meeting underscored discussion on several key areas of mutual interest and regional developments, a PAF news release said.

During the meeting, the Chief

of the Air Staff shared his vision of modernizing PAF's capabilities to achieve operational excellence in air, space and cyber domains.

The Air Chief emphasized the longstanding religious, cultural and historical bonds between Pakistan and Azerbaijan, which are exemplified through robust bilateral relations.

Earlier, Khalid Ahadov also visited different installations and technological infrastructure established at Air Headquarters, where he was briefed about the operational capabilities and ongoing projects of PAF's modernization drive.

## Alamgir Tareen's suicide: Post-mortem report comes out



## Bureau Report

LAHORE: The post-mortem report of Alamgir Tareen – the brother of senior politician and IPP patron-in-chief Jahangir Khan Tareen – has been released after his alleged suicide in Lahore today.

The post-mortem report stated that the bullet hit the upper portion of the head from the right ear which exited from the left side of the head and also damaged brain tissues.

It added that the cause of death was excessive bleeding, whereas, neither torture mark was found on the body nor excessive use of drugs.

Earlier in the day, Jahangir Tareen's brother and the owner of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) franchise Multan Sultans Alamgir Tareen committed suicide in Lahore.

According to police sources, Jahangir Tareen's brother reportedly shot himself in the head with a pistol at his residence located in the Gulberg area of Lahore. Soon after the incident, the police team reached the site and collected fingerprints and other evidence from the scene. Meanwhile, police have launched a thorough investigation into the incident to determine the factors behind Tareen's suicide.

Alamgir was the owner of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) franchise Multan Sultans and was a leading businessman in South Punjab.

Tareen completed his bachelor's from the University of California at Berkeley and later did his Masters degree from the prestigious Yale University.

## Incubator mishap: Newborn girl's father files complaint against Islamabad hospital

## Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The father of the affected newborn girl, whose both legs were burnt due to alleged mishandling of incubator temperature, filed a formal complaint against the private hospital in Islamabad, ARY News reported on Thursday.

The father Syed Ahsan of the affected newborn girl lodged a formal complaint to the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority against the private hospital's administration and staff over negligence in maintaining the temperature of incubator which led to burning of the infant.

Syed Ahsan demanded the Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority to take action against the private hospital. He stated in his complaint that his daughter was born at a private hospital in Tarlai area of Islamabad on July 2 and she was kept in an incubator

by the doctors after her premature birth.

He stated that both legs of her daughter sustained burns due to high temperature of the incubator due to the negligence of the hospital staff. After the incident, the hospital administration stopped their access to the newborn girl for 24 hours and hid her burn wounds through bandages.

The private hospital's administration allegedly misguided the parents that their newborn daughter had an allergy in her legs.

He said that they shifted the girl to KRL Hospital from the private hospital where physicians advised them to immediate shift the newborn girl to PIMS Burns Centre. According to the PIMS doctors, the newborn girl received third-degree burn wounds following the incubator mishap.

Syed Ahsan added that her daughter lost her legs due to the criminal

negligence of the private hospital's doctors and staff. The untrained staff of the hospital is playing with the human lives, therefore, strict action should be taken against the hospital administration and staffers.

Yesterday, the private hospital's administration confirmed the newborn's burning incident that took place allegedly due to fluctuation in electricity voltage amid rainfall yesterday.

The administration claimed that the incubator caught fire after a bulb exploded due to electricity fluctuation. The staff managed to douse the fire and the newborn girl was immediately given initial medical assistance.

The private hospital's administration said they are in contact with the affected newborn's family and PIMS doctors and are ready to provide assistance to the affected family.

## IMF objects over Pakistan's approval of supplementary grants

## Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has objected over the approval of supplementary grants.

"The IMF has demanded that the Parliament should not approve the supplementary grants," the ministry sources said.

"Pakistan should enhance its tax revenue to avoid deficit," the lender suggested. "Taxes have 10 percent share in the economy, which is the lowest in the world," the IMF has pointed out to the officials. "Taxation share should be scaled up to 13 percent in the economy to control the deficit," the lender has suggested.

Pakistan is required to enhance the number of taxpayers; the monetary fund has further suggested. "Tax revenues could increase with opening imports in the new year," the IMF pointed out.

"The country is not required to restructure its loans. The incumbent as well as the caretaker and the new elected governments should faithfully follow the existing standby arrangement," the lender emphasized.

## China proposes SCO members to expand digital currency settlements

## Spokesman Report

BELJING: China has proposed to expand cooperation on sovereign digital currency among member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Experts have said that the proposal will elevate the transaction efficiency among SCO members.

In addition to the expanded cooperation on using sovereign digital currencies, the Chinese side also suggested the SCO to scale up local currency settlement between SCO members and promote the establishment of an SCO development bank.

The trade among SCO members can be expanded with higher efficiency through the increasing adoption of sovereign digital currency as enterprises can lower potential risks resulting from geopolitical factors and the fluctuation in the US dollar exchange rate, Wang Peng, a



research fellow at the Beijing Academy of Social Sciences, told the Global Times.

As a major SCO member, China has been implementing targeted efforts to boost the use of yuan in cross-border settlement.

In January 2023, a cross-border trade center was established at China-SCO Local Economic and Trade Cooperation Demonstration Area (SCODA) in Qingdao, East China's Shandong Province, where enterprises can choose to settle their international trade with SCO members in the yuan.

# Sajid Turi visited the flats constructed for industrial labor

**Bureau Report**

LAHORE: The Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development, Sajid Turi, along with Zulfikar Ahmad, Secretary Workers Welfare Fund, visited the flats constructed for industrial labor in Sundar Industrial Estate, Kasur.

During the visit, Minister Sajid Turi was warmly welcomed by Secretary Punjab Workers welfare Board Tauqeer Cheema, who briefed him about the project and its significance in improving the living standards of industrial laborers. The minister expressed his appreciation for the initiative and stressed the government's commitment to promoting the well-being of workers.

In another ceremony held in Lahore, Minister Sajid Turi distributed talent scholarships worth 230 million rupees, marriage grants worth 31 million rupees, and death grants worth 40 million rupees among the industrial workers. The distribution of these grants aims to provide financial assistance



and support to workers and their families during various stages of their lives.

Minister Sajid Turi emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring the welfare and rights of industrial workers. He stated, "Our government, under the vision of Chairman Bilawal

Blutto, is determined to work for the betterment of labor. We align with the Pakistan Peoples Party's vision of empowering workers and creating an inclusive society. These initiatives aim to empower workers and their families, allowing them to lead prosperous lives." The efforts made by the Federal

Ministry for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development, under the leadership of Sajid Turi, in collaboration with the Workers Welfare Fund, demonstrate the government's determination to prioritize the well-being and development of workers across the country.

## Flood Management Conference

ISLAMABAD: Chairman NDMA Lt. General Inam Haider Malik presiding Flood Management Conference on Thursday.



## FDA, TEPA discuss traffic system in extraordinary meeting

**Mian Rashid Asghar**

FAISALABAD: An extraordinary meeting organized by the Faisalabad Development Authority (FDA) where with the cooperation of TEPA, traffic police and other institutions, measures are being taken to organize the traffic system throughout the city. It was the need of hour to review for the betterment of the citizens. It has been decided for making a model of four selected roads initially.

In this regard, a joint survey will be started immediately to facilitate the flow of traffic and the requirements for the awareness of the citizens & will be reviewed on a modern basis.

This matter was decided in a meeting chaired by Director General (FDA) Muhammad Asif Chaudhry, in which various other issues of TEPA and traffic police cooperation and planning regarding traffic engineering were reviewed. In this meeting, Addition-



al Director General Abid Hussain Bhatti, Chief Traffic Officer Maqsood Ahmed Lone, Chief Engineer Mehr Ayub Gujjar, DSP Traffic Khalid Aleem, Director Admin TEPA Sohail Maqsood Pannu, Deputy Director TEPA Umair Asghar, Waleed Khalid and other officers also participated.

Moreover, Consultant TEPA Muhammad Kamran also briefed about the traffic study, analysis of road accidents records and the proposed program for the due awareness of traffic rules in addition to other enforcement measures.

Director General (FDA) mentioned the serious traffic problems in the city and illuminated that a solid plan is being prepared to make the traffic management system in accordance with the city's needs. He elaborated that we will make the traffic plan successful with the cooperation of the district administration. In this regard, by strengthening the cooperation of TEPA Traffic, Metropolitan Corporation, Punjab Highways Police, Rescue 1122 and other related institutions.

CTO Maqsood Ahmed Lone mentioned the problems faced in the traffic control system and said that

joint planning of related institutions is necessary for keeping traffic signals active, eliminating encroachments, parking of vehicles and other arrangements.

Consultant TEPA Muhammad Kamran informed about the timelines set for roads engineering and planning including traffic impact study, guidelines, road safety traffic workshops, traffic analysis of highways, chowks and road safety awareness campaign in educational institutions and further said that FDA will be provided a comprehensive plan in this regard that will be handed over to FDA very soon.

## A delegation of Azzadari Council Pakistan met RPO Multan

**Quratul Ain Asim**

MULTAN: A delegation of Azzadari Council Pakistan met Multan Regional Police Officer Captain R. Muhammad Sohail Chaudhary in connection with Muharram.

The delegation was led by the Central Chairman Mourning Council of Pakistan Prof. Allama Zulfikar Haider. Other participants included Dr. Afzal Shah and Hasnain Jafri.

The delegation apprised the RPO of the important issues regarding the observance of the 10th day of Muharram. On which he assured to solve the problems.

On this occasion, RPO said that Multan Region Police is using all resources to maintain the atmosphere of brotherhood. Inshallah the atmosphere of peace will be maintained in Multan region. For which the cooperation of scholars is indispensable.

He said that the police has formed a comprehensive security plan for Muharram.

## District Administration to complete preliminary flood arrangements: Amir Khattak

**Kiran Asim**



MULTAN: Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak has been tasked with completing preliminary arrangements in view of possible flooding in Multan district in view of monsoon rains and the threat of India releasing dam water into Chenab river. Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak presiding over the meeting about possible flood arrangements Deputy Commissioner Multan Umar Jahangir and the officers of the Irrigation Department were also ordered to strengthen the safety dams of the Chenab river and to conduct thorough inspection and encroachment operations of these dams.

He said a plan should be prepared for evacuation from riverine areas and availability of machinery. There is no danger of flooding at present, but the administration is on full alert. Ample stock of snake bite vaccine and cattle fodder should be kept. Emergency agencies including rescue should continue mock exercise. In view of heavy rains, Vasa disposal stations should be kept fully functional. While giving a detailed briefing regarding the river situation and safety measures, Commissioner Aamir Khattak was told that the district administration is fully prepared for floods and monsoons. Control rooms will also be set up to monitor and alert the flood situation.

Although the river situation is normal, the emergency plan is fully prepared. Additional Commissioner, Sarfraz Ahmed, Additional Deputy Commissioner Noman Afzal, Deputy Commissioners were present in the meeting.

## District Administration Multan Started Emergency Measures in view of Heavy Monsoon Rains: Umar Jahangir

**Kiran Asim**



MULTAN: Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir has said that the district administration has started emergency measures in view of heavy monsoon rains, in this regard red alert has been issued to district departments including Wasa, while assistant commissioners have been put on flood dams in view of possible floods. The task of carrying out encroachment operation has also been given by Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir while addressing the meeting of the District Disaster Management Committee. Commissioner Umar Jahangir said that WASA should set up a special camp office for drainage in low-lying areas.

While the cleaning of sewage lines and manholes should be completed on a priority basis. Umar Jahangir said that a special awareness campaign will also be conducted to protect citizens from rain accidents, while civil defense personnel will render services in any emergency.

## Driving license test conducted for the first time in Upper SW

**Adam Khan Wazir**

WANA: Under the visionary leadership of Inspector General of Police, Mr. Akhtar Hayat Gandapur and on the direction of Regional Police Officer, Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Afridi, the District Police Officer, Mr. Niaz Muhammed (PSP), has successfully



conducted the first-ever traffic license test in the Upper South Waziristan district. This historic milestone marks a significant achievement in promoting road safety and ensuring merit-based license issuance.

Demonstrating his commitment to providing hands-on guidance to learners, Mr. Niaz Muhammed PSP took the opportunity to showcase proper traffic regulations, techniques, and safety measures during the test.

The DPO, remains dedicated to enhancing road safety measures, conducting regular assessments, and introducing innovative initiatives to further streamline the traffic licensing process. With a renewed focus on merit and accountability, the Police Department aims to create a safer and more responsible driving culture in the district.

The event was attended by esteemed personnel from the traffic department, including the Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Headquarters, line officers, and traffic clerks. Their presence underscored the significance of the learners' test and showcased the collaborative efforts of the entire team in maintaining the highest standards of traffic enforcement.

## Flood expected in Bhimbar DCAJK called an emergency meeting

**Abdul Majeed Tahir**

BHIMBAR: Flood expected in Bhimbar AJK, Deputy Commissioner Mirza Arshad Mahmud Jaral visited 15 places of Nala Bhambar on emergency basis, called an emergency meeting of officers and issued an alert. Between Saturday and Sunday night, 30,000 cusecs of heavy flood could pass through Bhambar, it was decided to use all resources to sound sirens, make announcements in mosques, form emergency committees at the education and district levels, and protect government and private properties. Addressing the officers along with SP Raja Mohammad Akmal, DC Bhambar said that monsoon is an emergency and there is a danger of flooding in Nala Bhambar.

Chairman District State District Collector/Deputy Commissioner Bhimbar Mirza Arshad Mahmood Jaral along with other district officers after an emergency visit to Nala Bhambar told the important meeting of the officers that on the night of July 9, Saturday and Sunday between early morning and evening, there may be floods. Various places were declared sensitive.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed the strategy to deal with the monsoon emergency situation, the width and depth of the drain was also reviewed, an alert was issued to the nearby population, alert in hospitals, announcements in mosques, all rescue organizations will remain on alert.

People and tourists should be careful. After listening to the suggestions of the officers, DC Bhambar said that there are instructions of Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar Haq that the life and property of the people will be protected. The officials have also been contacted and the property and cattle will be protected. Holidays are canceled on this occasion. All the district officers along with SDM Barnala, Samahni participated in the meeting and expressed their resolve that, God willing, the lives and property of the people will be protected. The situation will be confirmed.

## Freedom of expression, insulting Islam and Islamic holy things should be made a crime: Dr Safdar Hashmi

**Kiran Asim**

MULTAN: In the name of freedom of expression, insulting Islam and Islamic holy things should be made a crime. International organizations should also understand that Islam teaches peace, love, brotherhood and respect for each other. On the appeal of Amir Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan Siraj-ul-Haq, the Labor Wing of Jamaat-e-Islami will hold a protest demonstration from Eidgah Chowk to Kachari Chowk on Friday, June 7.

On Sunday 9th July, Grand Holy Quran Caravan will be held from Daulat Gate Chowk to Lohari Gate. Amir Jamaat-e-Islami Multan Dr. Safdar Hashmi while addressing a press conference at Multan Press Club said that Quran is our red line. In the



name of freedom of expression, the way in which Islam and Islamic sanctities are attacked from time to time is a well-thought-out conspiracy. Allah himself has taken the responsibility of protecting the Quran. He further said that be it the Holy Qur'an or the glory of the

Holy Prophet (PBUH) or any other holy person, Muslims fully respect the holy things of other religions along with their own holy things.

Because this is the order of Allah and His Messenger (PBUH) and it is obligatory on us. He said that the

Pope's statement is admirable but now the matter should go further. Eid was being paid. According to the Swedish judiciary, the way this process was done is condemnable. The Swedish government is still silent on this matter. It is a pity that Pakistan's foreign minister is still silent on this issue, which shows that Bilawal doesn't want to anger his masters.

He said that tomorrow, Friday, Jamaat-e-Islami Multan will hold a protest rally in Multan like the rest of the world, and on Sunday, July 9, a grand procession of Holy Quran will be held from Daulat Gate to Lohari Gate. For which we invite religious and political organizations, businessmen, civil society, students, laborers and youth from all over the city. We believe that this matter is a matter of our faith.



Islamabad  
15° - 23° Clear

**SERVICES**

**Namaz Timings**

Fajr ..... 3:20 am  
Zohr ..... 12:12 pm  
Asr ..... 5:12 pm  
Maghrib ..... 7:22 pm  
Isha ..... 9:04 pm

**EMERGENCY**

Rescue (Police) ..... 15  
Bomb Disposal ..... 15  
Fire Services Rawalpindi/  
Islamabad ..... 1122 & 16  
Emergency Ambulance ..... 1122 &  
& Rescue Services ..... 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  
Holy Family ..... 9290322-7  
PIMS ..... 9261170-79  
Polyclinic ..... 9218300-09  
Shifa International ..... 4603666

**DEPARTMENTS**

CDA ..... 9221334-43  
CDA ..... 9208301-04  
Met Office ..... 9250360-6  
RDA ..... 5555864

# Kashmiri diaspora to highlight the Kashmir issue at the int'l level: President AJK

**Bureau Report**

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has urged the Kashmiri diaspora community to intensify their efforts to highlight the Kashmir issue at the international level.

He expressed these views while talking to the Tehreek-e-Kashmir (TeK) UK and Europe delegation led by its President Faheem Kayani here today. President TeK Spain Shafiq Tabasim, President TeK Scotland Raja Hanif, Senior Vice-President TeK Italy Mehmoos Sharif, President Business Forum TeK UK Hanifullah Gondal and others were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the President, while referring to the dire human rights situation in the Indian occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir said that since August 5, 2019, human rights violations in the region have increased to an alarming level.

He said, under the given circumstances, Kashmiri expatriates settled in the UK and Europe should come forward in a big way and play their role to raise the issue



of Kashmir in the UK and the European parliament in an effective manner so that the nefarious designs of India can be exposed before the world.

The AJK President, while lauding the Kashmiri diaspora community's role in promoting the Kashmir cause, said that Kashmiris living abroad have significantly contributed to keeping the Kashmir issue alive in international forums and it was due to their untiring efforts that the Kashmir issue was echoing all around the globe today.

The overseas Kashmiris, he said, were using all their energies to highlight the Kashmir issue at the international level and expose the ugly face of India to the world.

He said that it was high time that the international community should take effective cognizance of the situation in IoK and play its much needed role to help resolve the lingering dispute in line with the UNSC resolutions that guaranteed the right to self determination of the people of Kashmir.

## PM AJK highlights the importance of mass media

**Abdul Majeed Tahir**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, while highlighting the importance of mass media, has said that the press information department (PID) should take full advantage of the modern media and communication tools to ensure the coverage of the development works of the government print, electronic and social media.



The Prime Minister expressed these views during an extraordinary meeting which was attended by the Principal Secretary to prime minister Fayaz Ali Abbasi, Director Information Raja Amjad Hussain Minhas, assistant director Khawaja Imranul Haq, Information Officer Raja Sohail Khan and Program Officer Sardar Shamim.

Speaking on the occasion, the PM, while stressing the need for developing the PID on modern lines, said that along with other media platforms, the information officers of all districts should also use social media platforms effectively to highlight the government's performance.

Modern means of media should be used to ensure the coverage of the development works of the government in print, electronic and social media, the PM said, adding that the press information department should bring innovation in its work and come up with fresh ideas to deal with new challenges.

The PM also directed the information department officials to devise a comprehensive and effective system for monitoring electronic and social media.

## PANPHA thanks media for support in pushing for higher taxes on sugary drinks



**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: PANAH has organized a program at a local hotel in Islamabad to thank media for their support to policy victory of imposition of higher taxes on juices and squashes.

Speaking on the occasion Sanaulah Ghuman, General Secretary of PANAH said that media has played an important role in this policy victory. Beverage industry has misguided policy makers not to impose taxes on these drinks by giving advertisements in newspapers, recommendations from Senate of Pakistan and others but we were able to convince policy makers to impose higher taxes on sugary drinks.

## AIOU holds Int'l roundtable conference with Russian University

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: A one-day online round table conference was held yesterday between Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) and Ural State Pedagogical University (USPU) of Russia on Educational Systems of Russia and Pakistan Possibilities and Opportunities. Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood presided over the conference.

While speaking on this occasion, Dr. Nasir Mahmood said that AIOU was keen to further expand its relations with all international universities including Russia in the field of education and research. Dr. Nasir Mahmood informed that hundreds of Pakistani students have expressed their interest in the Russian language program offered by AIOU recently. He said that Pakistan and Russia have different educational systems due to their unique historical and political contexts, we need to benefit from each other's educational experiences. This conference was jointly organized by Allama Iqbal Open University and Ural State Pedagogical University (USUP) of Russia.

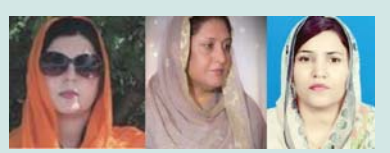
Dean, Faculty of Education AIOU, Prof. Dr. Tanzila Nabeel, Director International Collaboration and Exchange Office, Dr. Zahid Majeed and all faculty members of the Faculty of Education participated from AIOU while Rector USPU, Prof. S. Miniurova, and faculty members from Russia participated in the conference. Prof. Dr. Tanzila Nabeel introduced the different departments of the faculty and said that every department is paying special attention to the promotion of education. Chairman, Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE), Qaisar Alam, and Chairman Pakistan-Russia Business Council, Mohsin Sheikh also addressed. Dr. Zahid Majeed explained the aims and objectives of the conference in detail.

Dr. Muhammad Athar Hussain was the moderator from Pakistan while Dr. AA Postnikova was the moderator from Russia. Dr. NA Zavyalova was the interpreter of the conference. Faculty members and academicians from both countries presented papers on different topics related to the field of education. Both the universities signed an MoU for collaborative academic initiatives in May 2023 and this conference is the first step towards the implementation.

## Women politicians strongly condemned the desecration of the Quran in Sweden

**Abdul Majeed Tahir**

ISLAMABAD: The Chairperson Women's Commission AJK Mrs Rehana Khan former AJK Minister Mrs Shamim Ali Malik and city president of the Muslim Conference Women's Wing Ms. Abida Munir Qureshi strongly



condemned the desecration of the Quran in Sweden and said that this incident has seriously hurt the feelings of the Muslims of the Islamic world. The audacity to desecrate the Holy Quran is condemnable and shameful. The purpose of events like the desecration of the Holy Quran is to create outrage and outrage among Muslims. They did not adopt the attitude, but under a systematic conspiracy, anti-Islamic forces are desecrating the religion of Islam, the Holy Qur'an and the prophet of the end of time, Muhammad ﷺ, and then show their indifference to it, which inflames the feelings of Muslims. In a joint statement they urged the United Nations and OIC and other international powers should take immediate action on this important religious issue and urge the Swedish government to apologize to the Muslims of the Islamic world, otherwise, if the Muslims also start insulting other religions, a world war will break out. In this regard, the United Nations should take practical measures to prevent such incidents. He said that it is the duty of Muslims to honor the Holy Qur'an and the Last Prophet peace be upon him Muhammad ﷺ. They neither avoid nor tolerate it. They demanded the government of Pakistan and the world of Islam to take an immediate joint action plan against the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

## Govt should ban further export of sugar: Progressive Group

**News Desk**

LAHORE: The progressive group comprising the members of the Lahore Chamber has expressed concern over the daily increasing prices of sugar and demanded the government to ban further export of sugar.

The Progressive Group President Khalid Usman, Senior Vice President Muhammad Arshad Chaudhry and the LCCI Executive Committee members Muhammad Ejaz Tanveer and Haji Riaz Ul Hassan in a joint statement here on Thursday said that the unbridled rising sugar prices are not only affecting the industries but also the common man. They claimed that food-related industries, hotels, restaurants, beverages and most of all confectionary sector are affected by this and it is directly removing the products related to these industries from the reach of the common man.

The leaders of the progressive group further said that not only the sugar mafia but also hoarders are behind the rising sugar prices and the government should take strict notice of it. Inflation is already on the rise and it is affecting the household budget of the common man.

They also said that due to the unrestrained export of sugar, not only the prices are increasing, but also the fear of its shortage is increasing and in such a case the government will have to import sugar which is a loss to the country's treasury and burden on national foreign exchange reserves.

# I passed a unanimous resolution against the growing trend of Islamophobia: Shah Mehmood Qureshi

**Asim Tanveer**

MULTAN: Former Pakistani Foreign Minister and Vice Chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said that the government has got a standby loan of 3 billion dollars for 9 months, temporarily the risk of default has been removed, but what will happen after a few months. We have to find a solution. I was not present in Multan on the 9th. We were not involved in the May 9 incident.

The cases against us were made on political grounds. The administration made false allegations against us. We will prove our innocence regarding May 9. We will prove what we think. Me and my son have



surrendered.

We are appearing in the courts, we want to proceed in a political, legal and peaceful way. We have been facing them and will continue to do so. A team of lawyers including Makhdoomzada Zain Hussain Qureshi, senior advocate Mehr Zamir Hussain Sandhal were also present on the occasion. He said that I am honored that

I have defended Pakistan on all fronts as the Foreign Minister. I passed a unanimous resolution against the growing trend of Islamophobia. Raised voice in OIC against growing trends of Islamophobia. And all the OIC ministers agreed to my request. We also raised our voice in the United Nations, in which it was decided that on March 15, the

whole world will speak with one voice against Islamophobia. Limits and restrictions should be determined, I am willing to express my opinion, what kind of expression is that which endangers someone's life? The hearts of 2 billion Muslims were burned through desecration

He said that we have always defended our institutions. I also always defended my forces. In response to a question, he said that he is constantly appearing in the courts. Presented in Multan today. I have to reach Islamabad tomorrow for my appearance there as well. After attending the court, Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi and Makhdoomzada Zain Hussain Qureshi left for Islamabad.

# FasalPay and Kissan Gudam collaborate to help improve profitability of the farmers

**Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: In line with the vision of helping farmers increase their profitability, FasalPay, a leading agri-fintech platform and Kissan Gudam, the providers of advanced agri-storage technology have joined forces to maximize post-harvest value for the farmers. This collaboration aims to provide farmers with a comprehensive solution that encompasses crop storage, agri-inputs, and affordable agri financing.

Now farmers can securely store their crops in Kissan Gudam's state-of-the-art hermetic storage facilities. Simultaneously, they can leverage FasalPay's end-to-end



agri-services which include affordable credit, provision of agri-inputs, expert advice, and fair sale of produce. This integrated approach enables farmers to reduce cost of farming and fetch better prices of

produce leading to higher profits.

Habib Saqib, Founder and Head of Business at FasalPay said, "We are thrilled to join hands with Kissan Gudam to offer farmers a holistic solution.

This partnership enables us to offer our portfolio of services to farmers who cannot access formal credit because of farming on leased lands, or don't want to get their lands mortgaged by the banks.

Farhan Tahir, Co-Founder and CEO of Kissan Gudam said, "We are committed to increase farmer's income by revolutionizing crop storage, minimizing post-harvest losses and mitigating food security challenges faced by our country. Farmers cannot only store their commodities safely but also have access to a wide range of off takers to sell digitally. We are delighted to partner with FasalPay who shares our vision and are committed to uplift Pakistan's agri ecosystem."

# IMF board to approve Pakistan loan within days

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Brig. (Retd) Aslam Khan, Chairman of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) on Thursday said few days are left for the meeting of the Executive Board of the IMF for the review and possible ratification of the Staff Level Agreement with Pakistan.

This meeting has been scheduled to be held on July 12 during which there is a strong possibility of approving a loan of three billion dollars and releasing the first instalment of one billion and ten crore dollars, he said.

The approval of IMF loan will open the way for more loans and

investments for Pakistan, which will improve the situation, he added.

In a statement issued here today, Aslam Khan said that the government should start a diplomatic campaign to get the international community and friendly countries to implement their commitments in addition to obtaining new loans.

He said that after the agreement, the possibility of getting 3 billion dollars from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates and new loans from China have become brighter.

Besides, 1.5 billion dollars will be raised through Eurobond, 4.6 billion dollars will be obtained from commercial banks, \$2.4 billion will be received from IMF and \$2.7



billion will be brought in from other multilateral partners.

Aslam Khan said that various countries had pledged \$9 billion in

aid for the rehabilitation of flood-affected people, but no money has been received so far, requiring efforts on the part of the government.

He said Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates Qatar and Azerbaijan have also promised a total of 15 billion dollars in investment, for which serious efforts are needed.

Gulf countries are also interested in investing in various fields including energy, oil refineries, mining, agriculture and IT, and they would feel secure after approval of Staff Level Agreement by the IMF board.

The agreement is likely to reduce costs and improve financial management, which will improve the confidence of investors, he said.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: **Almas Ayoub Sabir**  
 Vice Chairman: **Asim Nazir Ahmad**  
 Managing Editor: **Naveed Ahmad Khan**  
 Head Editorial Advisory Board: **Amjad Mehmood**  
 Bureau Chief Karachi: **Saleem Zaman Khan.**  
 (mszk786@gmail.com)  
 Bureau Chief Lahore: **Syed Afraz Ali Nazish**  
 (afrazalishah@gmail.com)  
**Islamabad Office:** Rose Plaza, 1-8 Markaz.  
**Karachi office:** Flat No.C.3.A.One Comfort, Block No 11.  
 Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Main Rashid Minhas Road.  
**Lahore Office:** 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town.  
**Email:** spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com  
**Whatsapp:** 0346-5008408

# DG ISPR responsibly defended Army's mature response on May 9 - II

**D**G ISPR's exceptional leadership and commitment to effective communication have significantly contributed to the positive image of the Pakistan Armed Forces. His endeavor to promote transparency, counter misinformation, and boost morale among the troops has earned him immense respect and admiration. Under his guidance, the ISPR has become an integral part of the armed forces, playing a crucial role in strengthening the relationship between the military and the public. His dedication and commitment to promoting a positive image of the military have made him an invaluable asset to the Pakistan Armed Forces and the nation as a whole.

of May 9 were being planned for the past several months," he said. "Under this planning, first a conducive environment was created and people were instigated and provoked against the army. "Then, in this connection, a narrative based on lies and exaggeration was spread on social media inside and outside the country," Maj-Gen Sharif stated, adding that the authorities had obtained evidence against them.

The DG ISPR said that there was a huge amount of grief and anger among the heirs of martyrs and veterans over the events of May 9. He highlighted that the Pakistan Army was laying martyrs to rest every day while operations against terrorists were underway. "While the Pakistan Army is giving these sacrifices, on the other hand, unfortunately, filthy propaganda was done on the basis of a false narrative for nefarious political objectives." Maj-Gen Sharif said the families of the martyrs were hurt and "they ask all of us today if their loved ones rendered these sacrifices for the nation so that their memorials are disrespected in such a manner." "The heirs of the martyrs are asking of all of us, especially the army chief, whether they would be able to protect the honour of the martyred soldiers from these miscreants."

The DG ISPR stressed that stability in any country was based on the relationship shared by the army and the citizens. He said that despite attempts, the enemy was unable to dent the relationship of "trust and respect between the army and the people". "Some basic reasons for this are that the armed forces have been and

will continue to give countless sacrifices for the defence of the country and the welfare of the people. "This is the trust of people that, no matter the circumstances, the army will not shy away from any sacrifice, and the reality that the armed forces represent all schools of thought... and not any particular elite," the DG ISPR added. During the press conference, Maj-Gen Sharif revealed that the army had completed its process of "self-accountability", saying that two comprehensive inquiries — led by major generals — were conducted into violent events that took place at army garrisons on May 9. "After a deliberate and detailed accountability process, keeping the requests of in-court of inquiries in view, disciplinary proceedings were initiated against those who failed to keep the security and honour of garrisons, military installations, Jinnah House and General Headquarters intact. "Three officers, including a lieutenant-general, have been removed from their jobs. Strict disciplinary proceedings against officers, including three major generals and seven brigadiers, have been completed," he added. Questioned about the identification of those actually responsible behind the events of May 9 and their punishment, the DG ISPR said that the planners and masterminds of the incident were those who were involved in "misleading the people for the past several months against the army and its leadership."

"The incident of May 9 did not happen in isolation. The objective behind it was to send people to attack military installations

and then draw an immediate reaction from the army," DG Sharif said. Even women, he continued, were used as a "shield" to "achieve these nefarious political designs". "No one expected that a political party would attack its own army like this. But when it did happen, the army rendered this conspiracy unsuccessful. Had it given the response they wanted, their conspiracy would have been successful." The DG ISPR further said that "it is clear as day" that the masterminds of the May 9 riots were those who told the people to act against the army, hurl petrol bombs at them and set their graves on fire.

"It is most important to expose the planner and facilitators of these events and bring them to justice if the nation wants to move on from May 9," he stressed, adding that otherwise "any other political party will repeat these actions". He added that people from all schools of thought, from politicians to media persons and courts, would have to work together and reject this mentality to prevent a repeat of such events. "We all must know that the biggest danger to the State of Pakistan is from internal instability and it has two faces: one is terrorism against which the armed forces and intelligence agencies are standing like a wall. "The other face is lack of tolerance, the peak of which was seen on May 9."

Readers, now the nation knows the details and nefarious attempts of bringing anarchy in the country. DG ISPR quite professionally performed his responsibility to disclose the real picture. Whole nation salutes DG ISPR and his institution for doing a remarkable job of disseminating the truth and reality.

*Concluded*  
 (Writer is senior analyst)



Analysis

Abdul Basit Alvi

## Islamophobia

**P**akistan, on behalf of the OIC, has said that the reason for seeking an urgent debate in the UN Human Rights Council on the burning of a Holy Quran outside a mosque in Sweden was to underscore the need for adoption of effective national legal measures to put an end to such provocative acts.

The desecration of the holy book, which took place outside the Swedish capital Stockholm's main mosque last week, was carried out by a man during a protest authorized by the police, sparking off a global outrage and diplomatic backlash.

The debate in the Human Rights Council will take place as soon as arrangements are finalized.

"The burning and desecration of the Holy Quran last week, on the day of Muslim festival (Eid al-Adha) and outside a place of worship, was not the only or an isolated act," Pakistan's Ambassador to the UN offices in Geneva, Khalil Hashmi, told the 47-member Council, pointing out that it was the 6th one in recent months.

These outrageous acts, he said, "represent a clear, growing and recurrent act of religious hatred in full public display and under government license".

"All of these Islamophobic acts were premeditated," Ambassador Hashmi said.

"Yet we have seen a consistent defence of these acts by conflating them with the exercise of right to freedom of expression and opinion", he said, adding, "Given the far-reaching implications for public order as well as their offensive and provocative nature, none of these acts were either prevented or prosecuted."

"The OIC Group has previously and repeatedly registered its grave concerns over these acts of incitement to discrimination, hostility and violence in this Council and called for effective deterrence measures — It is clear that in the absence of legal deterrence, such actions have only continued with a sense of impunity."

Noting that the latest of this provocative act has been widely condemned, Ambassador Hashmi said mere words were no longer enough. "The status quo which seeks to normalize desecration of sacred books by invoking interpretations grounded in opinions is no longer tenable.

"The recurrence, the impunity and absence of legal deterrence risks serious social, political and human rights impacts that may hinder the realization of our shared vision of peaceful and inclusive societies.

"The OIC Group also wishes to underline that the existing normative framework developed by this Council has not yielded the results that were foreseen," the Pakistani envoy said.

"Clearly, the absence of effective national legal and policy measures has continued to impede prevention and prosecution of these acts deemed repulsive by billions of people.

"For these reasons, we have called for this urgent debate and presented a draft resolution, proposing an expert discussion on how to prevent recurrence of such acts and development of normative, legal and law enforcement deterrence measures while recognizing that exercise of the right to freedom of expression and opinion carries with it responsibilities and duties as enshrined in international human rights law," he added.



Amjad Rasmi

## Holy Quran: a living miracle, perfect guidance towards the right path

Dr. Saeed Ahmad Ali

**L**ooking into the ancient history of religions, one comes to know that the prophets and messengers of Allah were blessed with miracles to prove the truth of their respective claims.

Notably, all prophets were not given identical miracles. Like, Prophet 'Isa' (A.S) was given the staff (a rod), which could turn into a serpent; Prophet 'Isa' (A.S) was given the ability to cure the leper and blind, and bring the dead back to life.

Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was bestowed with the holy Qur'an from Almighty as a miracle. The difference between all other miracles and the miracle of the Qur'an is that the other miracles were for those who witnessed them physically or those which ended with the death of the prophets. And, for the people of these ages, those miracles are only tales, which may be believed or suspected by people, according to their mindset. But the Qur'an, the living miracle, is always available with everyone, who wanted to benefit from it. It is a book from Almighty, which is complete in itself; it claims and brings the proof within itself. Its miracles, even in this world of capsules and molecules, are being unfolded every day. As long as the Sun rises in the East, and sets in the West, the Qur'an will stay as the final miracle of God.

Allah Almighty claims the responsibility to safeguard the holy Quran by describing it in the following wording:

"Surely, We (Allah Almighty) have revealed this reminder (The Qur'an); and We will surely preserve it Ourselves."

Holy Quran is the written and revealed philosophy of religion of Islam and its practical model is the life of Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW). It adopts a system based upon truth and justice in every sphere of life and human liberty, a require-

ment of every society, and Islam, in particular, has placed emphasis on establishment of these values.

It builds human society on the foundations of affirm brotherhood, releases humanity from any kind of tyranny or oppression, and gives equality, freedom, justice and dignity.

This system of justice and equity was put forth and submitted as an ideal model by Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) in such a way that no scope was left for injustice and exploitation.

After the Holy Prophet, the true companions and the Ahl-ul-Bayt made great efforts to sustain the prophetic code of justice and to preserve it from deterioration.

Instead of paying respects, on last Wednesday, when Muslim community around the globe was celebrating Eidul Azha, an execrable man in Stockholm desecrated and burned the holy Quran outside a mosque, drawing widespread condemnation, including from the governments of Turkey and Saudi Arabia.

On Sunday, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), a group of 57 Muslim states, summoned an urgent meeting and stressed collective measures and enactment of an international law to stop religious hatred. The Muslim states must send constant reminders to the international community for urgent enactment of an international law, which clearly prohibits any advocacy of religious hatred, the OIC said in a statement, displayed at its official website.

Likewise, Pope Francis condemned the desecration of Quran incident in Sweden, saying he felt "angry and disgusted" to see the Muslim holy book desecrated.

In an interview, published on Monday in the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Itihad, the pope said: "Any book considered holy should be respected to respect those who believe in it."

Meanwhile, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) will hold an urgent meeting on the burning of a copy of Quran

outside a mosque in Sweden, following a request from Pakistan. The debate on the rise of religious hatred will likely take place later this week, a spokesperson for the Geneva-based UN Council said in a press briefing on last Tuesday.

Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi told APP that the abhorrent act of the holy Quran's desecration in Sweden badly hurt the religious sentiments of 1.5 billion Muslims across the world. While condemning the incident in the strongest terms, he said that it could be a plot to fuel the anti-Muslim violence under the pretext of advocating freedom of speech in the world. He said that the forces believing in peace and interfaith harmony should play their role at the international level to get rid of such negative trends.

Condemning the incident, Majlis Wahdat-ul-Muslimeen (MWM) leader and scholar Allama Hasan Hamdani urged the Swedish government to adopt strict measures to prevent recurrence of such shameful and disgraceful incidents in future, adding that the government of Sweden should not allow radical and extremist elements to spread hatred against Islamic sanctities and values.

He also urged the United Nations, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and United States Commission on International Religious Freedom to take punitive action against an execrable person in Sweden for desecrating the divine command.

The government of Pakistan would observe Youm-e-Iqadaddus-e-Quran (Quran's Sanctity Day) on July 7 and hold countrywide protest demonstrations against desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden. Besides, the government convened a joint session of the parliament on July 6 to discuss and formulate a national strategy on the issue and represent the nation's sentiments and feelings through the parliamentary forum.

## Quran is the holiest divine book of Allah for Mankind

**C**elebrating Holy Qur'an Day on Friday 7th July across the country is to convince the whole world whether it is Sweden or any other country, the people of Pakistan strongly condemn it. The international community should take action against those who are following the evil agendas spreading the negative trends of misguided Islamophobia, because these incidents are causing grief to Muslims around the world.

The incidents of desecration of Holy Quran in the world are playing with the feelings of Muslims. These acts are highly offensive and hurtful to Muslims as Quran is the holiest divine book of Allah for Mankind's. The desecration of Holy Quran is a matter of grave concern and urgent attention and action is needed to prevent further incidents.

It should be remembered that the desecration of the Holy Quran is seen as an attack on the basic values and beliefs of Muslims. Muslims regard the Qur'an with great respect and reverence. The Holy Quran is the word of Allah for all mankind. Muslims are obliged to respect and honor, and that it was the last book revealed to the last Prophet Muhammad, (peace be upon him). Just as the Zabur was revealed to Prophet David (as), the Torah was revealed to Prophet Moses (as) and the Injeel was revealed to Prophet Essa (as). The institutions protecting nations in the world are witnesses that Muslims have never insulted any religion. These accidents are ignorance, stupidity and extreme prejudice. No matter how much it is condemned, it is less. When incidents of desecration occur, it has far-reaching consequences. That can incite anger and lead to protests, and unrest in communities. Such actions can have a deep emotional impact, causing pain, anger and a sense of violation in Muslims.

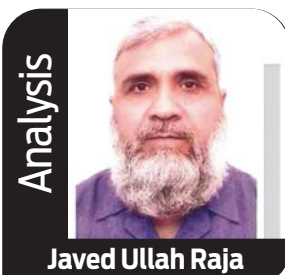
In order to prevent incidents of religious blas-

phemy, the OIC has also strongly condemned it. Therefore, to deal with these incidents, it is necessary to implement laws to protect freedom of religion and prevent hate crimes with legal measures. The perpetrators of acts of desecration should be deterred and strong strategies should be put in place to deal with those involved in acts of desecration. Although there are various laws around the world that ensure the protection of religions, these include international human rights laws that protect everyone's freedom of religion, worship and education. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was created under the United Nations in 1948, aims to protect religious freedom and freedom of worship worldwide. They are established for the protection of freedom. In addition, various countries have enacted laws to protect religious freedoms. Although international laws are very important for the protection of world religions and every country should adopt these laws to recognize international peace, brotherhood, tolerance and cooperation while respecting religious traditions and cooperation. It is necessary.

The OIC needs a multi-pronged approach to stop desecration of the Holy Quran. Fostering dialogue, cooperation and mutual understanding between religious leaders, scholars and communities can help build relationships by removing misunderstandings and fostering empathy and respect.

Existing laws that protect religious freedom and prevent hate crimes ensure that those who commit blasphemy are held accountable for their actions. Encouraging active engagement with societies, promoting cooperation, cultural exchange, and joint ventures that can help promote understanding, tolerance, protection of religious values, and cooperation.

Writer is Senior analyst and he can be reached at [javedullahraja@gmail.com](mailto:javedullahraja@gmail.com)



Analysis

Javed Ullah Raja

# PM, Dr. Fowzia Siddiqui discuss Dr Aafia case

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif met Dr. Fowzia Siddiqui here on Thursday and discussed issues related to Dr. Aafia Siddiqui.

This was the second meeting of the Prime Minister with Dr. Fowzia within the last three months. Earlier, the Prime Minister had met Dr. Fowzia before she departed for the U. S. to meet Dr. Aafia Siddiqui at the FMC Prison.

Dr. Fowzia thanked the Prime Minister for his leadership and the cooperation that had been extended to her on his directions by the Foreign Ministry for assisting her secure US visa and arranging her meetings with Dr. Aafia in the U. S. prison.

"By extending support to me in obtaining U. S. visa for my visit, you have laid the foundation of the release



of Dr. Aafia," said Dr. Fowzia.

She added that this was her first opportunity to meet her sister since she was imprisoned nearly fifteen

years ago and was able to meet her for three consecutive days.

She briefed the prime minister about the steps she planned to pursue

for the expeditious release of Dr. Aafia.

The prime minister listened empathetically as Dr. Fowzia narrated the impressions of her meeting with her sister Dr. Aafia.

He emphasized that the government remained committed to extend fullest cooperation to her in the struggle to pursue justice for her sister and will make every effort to ensure the well-being and release of Dr. Aafia Siddiqui.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif directed the Foreign Ministry to remain fully engaged with the U. S. Government, as well as Pakistan's Mission in Washington, for Dr. Aafia's well-being and for her early release. He also directed the Foreign Ministry to extend full support to Dr. Fowzia for her next visit to the U. S. The Prime Minister constituted a Ministerial committee that will gear up efforts for early release of Dr. Aafia.

## Iran entry into SCO to open new opportunities: Analysts

**Spokesman Report**

BEIJING: Iran's integration into the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) will open up new opportunities for its exchanges with the outside world and regional stability, analysts say.

Mehran Kamrava, professor of government at Georgetown University in Qatar, told China Daily that Iran's entry into the SCO is an important development in several respects.

He said the membership was in line with Iran's Look East policy, wherein Tehran has focused on relations with non-Western states in the areas of diplomacy, commerce, and security cooperation.

Further, he said it also increases the possibilities for Iran to better interact and trade with countries that are willing to engage with it.

Iran's full membership was approved at the 23rd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO held via video conference on Tuesday, ending an almost two-year process that began at the 21st SCO meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in 2021.

The SCO member states include China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and now Iran.

Kamrava said that Iran sees itself as an important catalyst in fostering a global arrangement. For Teheran, this alternative is anchored in the BRICS, especially in China and Russia, and now in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

BRICS, founded as BRIC in June 2009, is an acronym for the developing nations of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa — which officially became a member in 2011.

In his speech at the SCO virtual summit, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said his country believes the SCO has a privileged position in promoting the development of political, security and economic cooperation.

Certainly, the benefits of the official membership of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization will remain in history, he said.

Arhama Siddiqua, a Middle East analyst and research fellow at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad in Pakistan, told China Daily that it is worth noting that in 2021, China and Iran signed a 25-year cooperation deal, specifically in areas such as oil, which officially brought Iran into the Belt and Road Initiative or BRI.



## Pak-Italy relations

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Italy extend Pakistan-Italian Debt Swap Agreement (PIDSA) timeline until December 2024. H.E. Andreas Ferrarese, the Italian Ambassador in Pakistan and Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs, sign the Exchange of Letter on Thursday at the Ministry of Economic Affairs.



## IIOJK sees new trend of state repression in 2023, says LFK report

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Civilian population in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) had been facing horrendous situation under prolonged military occupation, said a bi-annual report documents series of Atrocity Crimes.

The Legal Forum for Kashmir (LFK) released its bi-annual report, titled "Human Rights Situation in Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK): January to June 2023."

The report presented an in-depth analysis of various human rights issues, including but not limited to, the impact of heightened militarization on civilian populations, restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly, arbitrary detentions, extrajudicial killings, and use of excessive force by Indian Occupying Forces (IOF).

It said that Indian occupying forces persisted in their repressive policies and disregard for international law and the principle of the Right of Self-determination.

A total of 113 Cordon and Search Operations (CASOs) were reported by the local media which are just a fraction of the total Search Operations launched by the Occupying Forces.

The report said that this year so far LFK had recorded 126 killings in multiple incidents of violence across IIOJK. The armed action of India's occupying forces against the native population as a result of heightened military presence has resulted in the killing of 31 Indigenous freedom fighters and 43 Indian occupying forces personnel in said time.

At least 18 encounters took place between the Indian occupying forces and the freedom fighters of Kashmir. During these CASOs, vandalism, and destruction of 91 civilian properties were reported.

Also, 109 instances of Internet Shut down in IIOJK were reported. India's Infamous anti-terror investigation agencies National Investigation Agency (NIA) & State Investigation Agency (SIA) had attached 124 Properties across IIOJK in the last six months, it said.

The report said that India had accelerated its efforts to control every means of dissent and seize properties of native inhabitants, paving the way for outsiders to settle in the region.

In the name of "retrieving state land", the occupational authorities and their auxiliaries seized over 178005.213 acres in Kashmir region and 25159.56 acres in Jammu as alleged "encroached" by the residents who basically owned the said land legally under the Agrarian Reforms Act, JK State Land Vesting of Ownership Act 2001, JK Evacuees of Property Act and other numerous acts and orders passed by the erstwhile state government in favour of landless peasants.

In the first six months of 2023, the National investigative agency continued its crackdown on Kashmiris, arresting thousands including resistance activists, common people, journalists, religious scholars, and academicians.

The NIA & SIA have attached 124 Properties across IIOJK in the last six months.

According to a statement issued by the occupying authorities, nearly 77 of these properties belonged to the proscribed organization Jamaat-e-Islami.

The NIA's pursuit of seeking the death sentence for Yasin Malik, the leader of the Jammu and Liberation Front (JKLF), has raised concerns about justice and fairness.

India's motives, driven by political gain and appeasing a collective conscience, seem to be overshadowing the principles of true justice.

# Burhan Wani imbed a new spirit in Kashmir's freedom struggle against India: JKNF

**Bureau Report**

MIRPUR: Jammu and Kashmir National Front (JKNF) while paying eulogizing tributes to illustrious Kashmir freedom struggle leader Shaheed Burhan Muzaffar Wani, has reiterated its pledge to take the ongoing liberation struggle to its logical conclusion.

In a statement issued here Thursday, the JKNF spokesman Shafiq ur Rehman, while lauding the supreme sacrifices rendered by Burhan Wani and his family, said, "Burhan Wani, who imbibed a new spirit in the resistance movement by sacrificing his life, will always be remembered in the history of Kashmir as a symbol of courage and resistance".

He said the Kashmiri nation will continue the mission of Shaheed



Burhan Wani and other martyrs who laid down their precious lives for the noble cause of freedom from Indian occupation.

Hailing the unmatched sacrifices of the Kashmiri nation, he said that the resilience of the Kashmiri nation stands witness to the fact that India has miserably failed in its attempts to suppress Kashmiris' freedom struggle despite

using its military might. Paying rich tributes to martyrs of Kargil Shaheed Abid Ali Khan, Muhammad Aslam Shah, Altaf Ahmed Shah and Nazir Ahmed Qurashi who were martyred by Indian air shelling at Kargil on July 4, 1999.

Stressing the need for early resolution of the Kashmir dispute, the spokesman said that it was high time that the world should realize the fact that peace in the restive region would remain a distant dream unless the lingering dispute was resolved in line with the wishes and aspirations of Kashmiri people.

"Kashmir is an internationally recognized disputed territory that needs to be resolved in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council", the spokesman said.

Urging the world community to help stop continued bloodshed and violence in the region, the spokesman said there was a dire need that the world should take effective notice of the systematic genocide in Kashmir.

Referring to the worsening political and human rights situation in the occupied territory, he said, "Indian atrocities in occupied Kashmir have crossed all limits of barbarism and brutality".

He said that India's hands were stained with the blood of Kashmiris. Citing the presence of over 6,000 unmarked mass graves, ruthless killings of youth in fake encounters in Kashmir, he said, "India is the largest terrorist country in the world whose forces have been engaged in systematic genocide in Occupied Kashmir".

# CPC unites and leads Chinese People to achieve remarkable Success: CG Yang Yundong

**News Desk**

KARACHI: Yang Yundong, Consul General of China in Karachi has said that the Communist Party of China (CPC) has been able to unite and lead the Chinese people to achieve such remarkable achievements, to the Party and the Chinese people, mainly includes the following aspects.

He said CPC is the central leading force of all causes in China. History and reality have proven that the CPC possesses keen judgment, strong organizational capabilities, and unwavering execution.

He was addressing the celebration of the 102nd anniversary of the founding of the CPC as the Chief Guest, organized by the

Karachi Editors Club (KEC), in association with Adpulse with the support of GFS Builders.

Zhang Hao Wang Haitao, Shang Hailong, Chen Junjie, Chen Weilong diplomats from the Chinese Consulate Karachi also participated in the event along with the C. G.

Highlighting the century-old history and great achievements of the Communist Party of China (CPC) arranged by Karachi Editors (Club) Yang Yundong shared the valuable experience of the CPC in governing and rejuvenating the country.

Professor Yang Fanxin Head of the International Relations of the Renmin University, Beijing China in her zoomlink address reviewing the 102 years of the

CPC history, said, "Over the past 102 years, CPC has upheld the great spirit of building the Party, constructed a spiritual lineage for the CPC and honed a distinct political character in its long-term struggle. The CPC and the Chinese people have fought for a century, writing the grandest chapter in the history of the Chinese nation spanning thousands of years."

Irfan Wahid, CEO GFS Builders as the host of the ceremony addressed from USA via zoomlink and appreciated the gesture of Yang Yundong to attend the celebrations of the CPC's 102nd founding anniversary. He congratulated the CG China in Karachi and all the CPC leadership on this occasion.

Mansoor Wahid, Managing Director GFS received the Chief Guest of the ceremony Yang Yundong and presented a bouquet to him. Mansoor also congratulated the Chinese nation in his address on this occasion.

Manzar Naqvi, Secretary General KEC in his welcome address informed the audience that KEC was founded in 2017 and regularly celebrates CPC anniversary on every July 1, since 2018. He said that the CPC has played a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of the Chinese nation.

Sudheendra Kulkarni, an Indian Politician, Scholar and Chairman at Observer Research Foundation Mumbai, in his zoom link address, congratulated the Chinese Government and the



CPC leadership. He spoke highly about Chinese development, especially in the President Xi Jinping era, and role of CPC in Chinese Development.

Dr Jamil Ghoori, a Pakistani Scholar based in USA in his

zoomlink address appreciated the role of CPC in the amazing progress of China, especially through the BRI initiated by President of China Xi Jinping.

In this prestigious ceremony, Imran Samad President

Sindh Bank, Hassan Habib Ex Ambassador of Pakistan, Mohsin Wahid Director Marketing, Senior Journalists Agha Masood Hussain, Mukhtar Ahmed Butt, Iqbal Jamil and various others addressed and praised the great development and achievements of the Chinese people under the leadership of the CPC, saying that the CPC is the greatest political party in the world, and hoped to learn from the experience of the CPC in governing the country and promote the economic and social development of Pakistan.

At the end, Consul General also cut the anniversary cake along with a cute 3.5 years old baby girl Ayra Abbas. A. K Memon moderated the session beautifully.

**Bull & Bears**  
PSX 100-Share  
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
44,178.85	43,552.83
Day's High	Day's Low:
44,212.77	43,550.14
Index Value	Change
10,994,651,303	+626.02
Percentage	Time
+1.44%	6 Jul, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,280.50	-161.60
Percentage	Time
-2.17%	6 Jul, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
33,926.06	-362.58
Percentage	Time
-1.06%	6 Jul, 1:38 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
32,773.02	-565.68
Percentage	Time
-1.70%	6 Jul, 3:15 pm GMT+9

**Open Market Forex Rates**

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	190	193
Bahrain Dinar	739.41	747.41
Canadian Dollar	213	216
China Yuan	38.36	38.76
Danish Krone	40.56	40.96
Euro	308	312
Hong Kong Dollar	36.53	36.88
Indian Rupee	3.38	3.49
Japanese Yen	1.91	1.98
Kuwaiti Dinar	904.66	913.66
Malaysian Ringgit	59.71	60
New Zealand \$	171.94	173.94
Norwegians Krone	26.08	26.38
Omani Riyal	722.09	730.09
Qatari Riyal	76.38	77.08
Saudi Riyal	74	74.9
Singapore Dollar	206	208
Swedish Korona	25.52	25.82
Swiss Franc	309.61	312.11
Thai Bhat	7.95	8.1
U.A.E Dirham	76.8	78
UK Pound Sterling	358	364
US Dollar	278	282

# Dar seeks early legislation for quick resumption of PIA flights to USA, UK

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar here on Thursday instructed the relevant authorities to bring forward appropriate legislation as soon as possible to ensure quick resumption of PIA flights to United States of America (USA) and United Kingdom (UK).

The minister was chairing a meeting on matters related to Civil Aviation Division (CAA) and Airport Security Force (ASF), according to press statement issued by finance ministry.

Earlier, the minister was briefed on the issues being faced by the aviation sector pertaining to regulation, service provision, and security functions. The meeting discussed various legal solutions available and the necessary amendments required in the aviation laws/ordinances in order to enhance the capacity in aviation sector and to make it compatible with the international standards of aviation.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Federal Minister for Aviation and Railways, Khawaja Saad Rafique; Federal Minister for Commerce, Syed Naveed Qamar; Federal Minister for Law & Justice, Azam Nazir Tarar; SAPM on Finance, Tariq Bajwa, Secretaries Aviation, Law & Justice, DG ASF, DG CAA and senior



## Western world should take effective measures to prevent Islamophobia, Ahsan Bakhtawari

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that the incident of burning the Holy Quran in Sweden is a very sad and worst act. Such events will increase hatred and violence, the sanctity of the Holy Quran is associated with the sentiments of millions of Muslims. No Muslim can accept the desecration of symbols of religious sanctity in the name of freedom of expression. The government should take up this incident at all levels and take effective measures to prevent such incidents by effectively using the platforms of the United Nations and OIC. A single individual's right to freedom of expression cannot be greater than the sentiments of billions of Muslims. The Islamabad Chamber and the business community across the country support today's protest on behalf of the Prime Minister over this incident.

In a statement issued on Thursday, he said that the incident of burning the Holy Quran in Sweden is very sad. The Swed-



ish government has condemned the incident and distanced itself from it, which is welcome but not enough. Governments cannot limit themselves to condemnation. Muslims around the world are worried about these events. The entire western world, including Sweden, needs to address this.

He said that the steps taken by the government of Pakistan in this regard are fully supported by the business community. Pakistan has a place in the Islamic world. That is why major Islamic countries, including Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, need to play a leadership role on such events that have connected the feelings of Muslims around the world. Due to the efforts of Pakistan, a meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Council has also been called, while a meeting of the OIC will also be held next week. Pakistan is an active member of all these international platforms.

The government should make efforts to prepare such legislation and international charter on these platforms which can completely prevent such humiliating incidents. He said that the western world needs to be convinced that such incidents hurting the sentiments of billions of Muslims. The European Union, the United States, and other countries should take such measures at the government level to combat the storm like Islamophobia.

## Mega City reopens dealer registration, Bilal Amin

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Mega City has re-opened dealer registration on public demand which will give new entrants an opportunity to earn good margins. A large number of dealers and investors from all over Pakistan participated in the successful event and expressed their satisfaction on the ongoing development work in the society. In the event, a detailed review of the projects and development plans of the society was made and the sales partners were promised maximum opportunities for further development. Regional Sales Manager Bilal Amin said in his statement that considering the speedy development and quality, large number of people were willing to be associated with us, in view

of which it was decided to reopen the registration for a limited period. Welcoming the prospective partners, he gave the good news that the dealers enclave is being built inside the society, the purpose of which is to stabilize the sales partners, where they will be provided with all the facilities.

He said that the registration of dealers has started from today. Aspirants can become our partners by filling the form on Megacity's website, Bilal Amin said that the resumption of dealers' registration will further increase the development of the society. He also promised to consolidate sales parts and complete the project on time. He invited all to participate in the opening ceremony of Mega City Gujjar Khan site office on 12th July.

## Naheed Supermarket to expand its pharmacy business with Z-Healthcare

News Desk

KARACHI: Naheed Supermarket and Z Healthcare, a division of Z International Group, have entered into a strategic partnership to introduce Naheed Pharmacy as the exclusive partner to manage the pharmacies at the Z Healthcare centers across Pakistan.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Munsub Abrar, Director Naheed Supermarket said: "Our aim is to enhance access to quality pharmaceutical services and to improve the overall healthcare experience for everyone. Naheed Pharmacy, under the umbrella of Naheed Supermarket, will strive to uphold the highest standards of quality,



reliability, and customer satisfaction."

This partnership leverages Naheed's expertise in retail operations and Z Healthcare's commitment to providing exceptional healthcare services. By joining forces, Naheed Supermarket and Z Healthcare aim to create a seamless

and integrated healthcare solution for customers.

"By operating pharmacies within Z Healthcare centers, the collaboration has a goal to streamline healthcare services and provide a holistic approach to the well-being of individuals and communities across Pakistan." He further added.

The official signing ceremony between Mr. Munsub Abrar, Director Naheed Supermarket and Mr. Zeeshan Altaf Lohya, Founder & President, Z International Group, marks the beginning of a fruitful collaboration aimed to bridge the gap between the retail and healthcare industries while ensuring customer convenience and access to essential medications and professional pharmaceutical guidance; and was attended by Mr. Abraruddin, Founder Naheed Supermarket, Mr. Nasser Wajahat, Co-Founder & Secretary General, AMPAK-BDF, Mr. Salman Syed, Manager Alliances and Partnerships Naheed Supermarket, among others.



Lahore: Renowned Pakistani businessman Hafizur Rehman Bhatti hosted a dinner in honor of Pakistan Muslim League Party chief Ijazul Haq at Royal Nawab Restaurant "UK" where the Pakistani community participated in large numbers and offered suggestions on investment in Pakistan.

## IMF accord lessens pressure on the economy

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt said on Thursday the fears of a default have passed and the pressure on the economy is reducing due to agreement with the IMF.

The process of painful reforms needs to be accelerated so that the economy can stabilize, and the people can get some relief, he said.

Shahid Rashid Butt said in a statement issued here today that the news of the deal with the IMF has improved the confidence of disappointed business community.

The dollar has fallen sharply, gold has also become cheaper, inflation is decreasing, the value of Pakistani bonds has increased, while



the activity in the stock exchange has started, he observed. He said that despite all the positives, Pakistan has to repay up to \$25 billion to creditors this year.

On the flip side, unemployment has increased, many industries are no more

viable, the decline in exports for the month of June was 19 percent as compared to the last year, and people are leaving the country in greater numbers.

He said that the government should implement economic and administrative reforms, increase tax revenue without burdening the people, and reduce the deficit and start gradually reducing the multi-billion dollar concessions given to the elite to save the country.

If the government delays the reforms, the situation will worsen again, as some quarters are advising it to leave the process of painful reforms to the incoming government so as not to anger the voters.

Delaying reforms for political reasons will be a major blow to the credibility and economy of Pakistan, he warned.

## IMF deal offers opportunity for Pakistan's economic revival: Abid Nisar

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Chairman Pakistan Indonesia Business Council (PIBC), Abid Nisar, has hailed the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a crucial step for economic revival of Pakistan, praising the efforts of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif and Finance Minister Ishaq Dar.

Abid Nisar, while also praising the significant role by Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir in saving Pakistan from default, saying that the Staff-Level Agreement with the IMF will prove crucial in getting from worst economic crisis faced by Pakistan.

In a statement, Chairman PIBC, said that the business community was very optimistic about this agreement and expects that the government,



while utilizing the funds in the right direction, will focus on bringing the country out of economic crises and making it self-sufficient. Furthermore, government expenditures will also be gradually reduced, as this is now the only way to put the country on the path of progress.

He was of the view that with the agreement, there was a significant growth in the stock market, while the business situation is also expected to improve in the coming times.

*Introducing Threads: A new way to share with text*

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mark Zuckerberg just announced the initial version of Threads, an app built by the Instagram team for sharing with text. Whether you're a creator or a casual poster, Threads offers a new, separate space for real-time updates and public conversations. We are working toward making Threads compatible with the open, interoperable social networks that we believe can shape the future of the internet.

Instagram is where billions of people around the world connect over photos and videos.

Our vision with Threads is to take what Instagram does best and expand that to text, creating a positive and creative space to express your ideas. Just like on Instagram, with Threads you can follow and connect with friends and creators who share your interests - including the people you follow on Instagram and beyond. And you can use our existing suite of safety and user controls.

It's easy to get started with Threads: simply use your Instagram account to log in. Your Instagram username and verification will carry over, with the option to customize your profile specifically for Threads.

Everyone who is under 16 (or under 18 in certain countries) will be defaulted into a private profile when they join Threads.

You can choose to follow the same accounts you do on Instagram, and find more people who care about the same things you do. The core accessibility features available on Instagram today, such as screen reader support and AI-generated image descriptions, are also enabled on Threads.

Your feed on Threads includes threads posted by people you follow, and recommended content from new creators you haven't discovered yet.

Posts can be up to 500 characters long and include links, photos, and videos up to 5 minutes in length. You can easily share a Threads post to your Instagram story, or share your post as a link on any other platform you choose.

# Netherlands book World Cup ticket as Scotland crash out

## A Sports

BULAWAYO: Bas de Leede followed up his five-wicket haul with a brisk century and propelled Netherlands to qualify for the ICC Men's World Cup 2023 with a four-wicket victory over Scotland.

Set to chase 278, the Netherlands had a challenging task to book their spot in the ICC Men's World Cup 2023 as they had to amass the total in 44 overs to leapfrog Scotland in the CWC Qualifier Super Six standings.

The Dutch, however, pulled off an astonishing entry into the World Cup by completing the run chase in 42.5 overs courtesy of a brisk century by de Leede.

The all-rounder smashed seven boundaries and five sixes on his way to top score for the Netherlands with a 92-ball 123.

Netherlands had a cautious start to the run chase and they were 72/2 in the 15th over when de Leede walked into bat.

The right-handed batter



spearheaded Netherlands' pursuit and stitched brief partnerships with Wesley Barresi (11), Teja Nidamanuru (10) and skipper Scott Edwards 25 before finally received subtle support

at the other end in the form of Saqib Zulfiqar.

The duo then stitched a match-defining partnership for the sixth wicket and added 113 runs in 69 deliveries to put their

side in complete command.

Bas de Leede got run out in the 43rd over when his side needed only two more runs.

Zulfiqar, on the other hand, carried his bat all the way

through and remained unbeaten with a 32-ball 33 which featured three boundaries and a six.

Put into bat first, Scotland raised a decent total of 276/9 in the allotted 50 overs.

Top-order batter Brandon McMullen was the star for Scotland with the bat as he scored an anchoring century.

He scored 106 off 110 balls, laced up with 11 boundaries and three sixes.

Skipper Richie Berrington also played a cautious 64-run knock from 84 deliveries.

Tomas Mackintosh's brisk 38-run cameo at the backend lifted Scotland to a commendable total, which in the end, turned out insufficient for their bowlers to defend.

Bas de Leede was the hero for the Netherlands with the ball also as he returned with 5/52 in his 10 overs.

Ryan Klein bagged two wickets while Logan van Beek made one scalp.

# Sublime Sinner downs Schwartzman, breaks Argentine hearts again



## Spots Desk

LONDON: Jannik Sinner coasted into Wimbledon's third round with a 7-5 6-1 6-2 victory over Diego Schwartzman on Wednesday, as the eighth seed claimed a second Argentine scalp in as many matches.

Sinner, who knocked out Schwartzman's compatriot Francisco Cerundolo earlier this week, showed steel to battle through a fairly even first set before turning on the style as he improved his head-to-head record against Schwartz-

man to 4-0.

"In the beginning I thought we were both a little bit tight. After that I played a little better, and I hit quite hard, especially in the third set. I think it was a good match," Sinner said in his on-court interview.

The 21-year-old was sharp from the outset as he fended off three break points and punished his opponent with vicious forehand winners before breaking late to capture the opening set.

Sinner cruised from there on, using

both serve and forehand to devastating effect as he controlled rallies from the baseline and frustrated Schwartzman, winning five straight games as errors crept into the Argentine's game.

Not even a lengthy halt in play to close Court One's roof could impede the Italian's momentum, as he traded breaks early with Schwartzman in the third before seizing the advantage and wrapping up the contest with his 15th ace of the match.

"I felt like I was serving very well in the important moments," said Sinner, who is chasing his first Major title after reaching the quarter-finals of three of the four Grand Slams last year.

"I tried to return as many balls as I could and I tried to play my game. Moving him around is not easy because he is so fast, so I tried to overpower him a little bit.

"Hopefully I can play some good tennis here, play point-by-point and then we'll see where I can finish."

Sinner will next face either Australian Aleksandar Vukic or Frenchman Quentin Halys, but he will have to wait until Thursday to learn the name of his third-round opponent after the pair's match was postponed due to rain.

# What is Novak Djokovic's advice for fans?

Following his victory in the second round of Wimbledon against Jordan Thompson, Serbian player Novak Djokovic's victory shared with his fans a highly inspiring message for his fans.

Djokovic said in his post-match press conference: "You're only as young or as old as you feel. I feel young in my own body, in my own head, in my heart."

Djokovic's recent victory earned him his 350th match win at the majors, becoming just the third player to reach that milestone, joining Roger Federer (369) and Serena Williams (365).

During his presser, he added: "My children remind me of that, the time I spend with them. The innocence, incredible curiosity, pure love and energy that I get to experience with them is something that really strengthens that inner child in you.

"Also the fact that I'm still playing the sport that I fell in love with when I was very young, I think that is something that is very refreshing. I have to say that I'm really fortunate and blessed to have a healthy body. Still at this stage, after 20 years of professional tennis, I'm able to compete at the highest level."

To fans' delight, the Belgrade native shows no signs of slowing down.

If Djokovic continues to perform as he has, he could add to the Wimbledon record books this year.

If he wins the title, he will tie Roger Federer with eight Wimbledon crowns and become the oldest men's champion at SW19 in the Open Era, ATP stated on its website.

# Experienced Kvitova beats Paolini in three sets

## Spots Desk

LONDON: Twice champion Petra Kvitova booked her spot in the second round of Wimbledon with a 6-4 6-7(5) 6-1 win over Italy's Jasmine Paolini on Wednesday.

The duo also met at the last year's championships when the Czech ninth seed came on top in another three-setter.

"She always makes it very hard for me," Kvitova said in her on-court interview.

"It's never easy to play the beginning of the tournament, especially here when I've been moved to the Centre Court, it's always a little bit different.

"But thank you roof, for holding it up for me today."



Paolini found some momentum and made Kvitova work in the second set but the experienced Czech comfortably took the third, firing eight aces and 36 winners throughout the match.

"I was trying hard in the second set to break her but this didn't happen. In the third I got an opportunity and I made it, and I think that since then I just kept going," Kvitova said.

"I was playing a little bit better, I was serving better as well. That was always the difference, probably.

"I was really happy with my serve, I didn't lose it today, so that's very positive," she added with a smile.

The 33-year-old will face the winner of unseeded pair Aliaksandra Sasnovich v Nuria Parrizas Diaz in the second round.

# Ahmad Farwad felicitates Zaka Ashraf on assuming charge as PCB MC Chairman

## Sports Desk



ISLAMABAD: Vice President of Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Chaudhry Ahmad Farwad on Thursday felicitated Chaudhry Zaka Ashraf on taking charge as Chairman of the newly-formed Management Committee of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

Jawad, in a statement, said Zaka Ashraf had a vast experience in management, especially in running the PCB's affairs earlier as its chief. He expressed the hope that Zaka would help develop a strong Pakistan cricket squad as well as assist the government to once again resume the flavour of cricket diplomacy at the level of International Cricket Council (ICC).

He said the formation of new PCB Management Committee was a timely decision as any further delay would have hampered the working of the Board at a crucial time when Asia Cup and World Cup 2023 were about to take place.

# PSG appoint Enrique as new coach to replace Galtier



## Sports Desk

LAHORE: Paris St Germain have appointed former Barcelona and Spain coach Luis Enrique as their new manager on a two-year contract after the Ligue 1 champions parted ways with Christophe Galtier earlier on Wednesday.

Enrique led Barcelona to a treble in the 2014-15 season while he guided Spain to the semi-finals of the 2020 European Championship. He left the national team after they were knocked out of the 2022 World Cup in the last-16.

# Without racket, Federer rows Centre Court



LONDON: Retired Swiss great Roger Federer made a surprise appearance on his favourite stage to the delight of a packed Centre Court at Wimbledon on Tuesday.

Federer, whose 20 Grand Slam singles titles include a record eight at Wimbledon and who many regard as the greatest player of all time, retired last year at the age of 41.

With his long-time rival Rafa Nadal also absent this year as he tries to regain his fitness and Serena Williams also retired, Wimbledon is missing some of its favourite players.

But even without his racket, Federer had the Centre Court crowd drooling during a short video presentation played on the scoreboards before defending women's favourite Elena Rybakina took to the court for her opening match. The film captured Federer's glittering Wimbledon career, from his first title in 2003 to his last in 2017.

Federer, wearing a cream blazer, took his seat in the Royal Box alongside his wife Mirka, his parents and the Princess of Wales as the 15,000 capacity crowd gave him a standing ovation that lasted several minutes.

After watching Rybakina battle back from a set down to beat American Shelby Rogers, Federer then saw old sparring partner Andy Murray outclass fellow Britain Ryan Peniston.

"Amazing to have some royalty here but also some tennis royalty," Murray told the fans after his victory as Federer smiled. "It was amazing to have Roger supporting the event."

Murray also managed to get in a jibe at the 20-time Grand Slam champion who he lost to in the 2012 Wimbledon final, memorably shedding tears afterwards before bouncing back to beat the Swiss a few weeks later to win Olympic gold.

"The last time I was here and Roger was watching it was the (2012) Olympics and he was in (fellow Swiss) Stan Wawrinka's box so it was nice to see some claps for some good shots (today)," said Murray, who beat Wawrinka in the Olympics first round.

# US midfielder Lavelle ready to make herself heard at World Cup

## Spots Desk

LAHORE: Rose Lavelle said she is more comfortable taking on the responsibilities of leadership and is ready to step up as a senior member of the U. S. squad when she heads to her second Women's World Cup, even as questions remain around her fitness.

The 28-year-old midfielder, who scored in the 2019 final as the Americans won their fourth title, has been nursing a knee injury and last played on April 8 in a friendly against Ireland.

With captain Becky Sauerbrunn among those missing out due to injury, U. S. coach Vlatko Andonovski has selected a number of fresh faces for the World

Cup, which begins on July 20 in Australia and New Zealand.

"Being a vocal leader doesn't really come naturally to me, so it's definitely something—as one of the more experienced players on the team—I have to push myself out of my comfort zone a little to be more of a leader," Lavelle told CBS.

"It's important that we find our voice, because we're not always going to have Becky and 'Pinoc' to lean on," she added, referring to Sauerbrunn and Megan Rapinoe.

"I've been lucky in having the veteran players that I've gotten to grow into this team with. It's been good getting out of my comfort zone."

Lavelle's career has been hampered by hamstring injuries and she said she has been working to improve her strength and conditioning with a new personal trainer Dak Notestine, who also trains Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow.

Lavelle was also impressed by the depth of talent waiting to make their mark from the bench, which has helped make up for the absence of some key players.

"I kind of laugh when I see sometimes who we even have on the bench," she added. "We have such amazing options and such amazing players that have always risen to the occasion."

The U. S. begin their World Cup campaign against Vietnam on July 22.

