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Trump orders Israel to stop bombing Gaza after Hamas partially accepts his peace plan

US President Donald Trump has called on Israel to immediately stop bombing on war-devastated Gaza after Hamas said it accepted parts of the peace proposal and agreed to release all the remaining hostages taken during the October 7 attacks.



Nadra abolishes fee for CNIC cancellation after death

According to a Nadra spokesperson, a pilot project has been launched in three districts of Punjab to register deaths through the provincial Civil Registration Management System (CRMS) using a mobile app. The system will also facilitate the registration of births, marriages, divorces, and deaths, and is expected to be rolled out nationwide in the coming weeks.

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Inspection

Palestinians inspect the site of an Israeli strike on a house in the Tuffah neighbourhood in Gaza City on Sunday.



Photo: Reuters

PM Shehbaz arrives in Malaysia on official visit to boost bilateral ties



Spokesman Report

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif arrived in Malaysia Sunday for an official visit aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two countries across multiple sectors.

Upon his arrival at Banga Raya International Airport, the Prime Minister was received by Malaysian Minister of Information and Communications Fehmi Fadzil, Pakistan's High Commissioner to Malaysia Syed Ahsan Raza Shah, and members of the diplomatic staff. The Prime Minister was accorded royal protocol and taken to his official residence.

At the residence, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim personally welcomed Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, extending warm greetings on behalf of his government and people.

"I am very happy to be in

Malaysia and deeply appreciate the warm hospitality extended by Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim," Shehbaz said, adding that the visit would serve to "further strengthen Pakistan-Malaysia bilateral relations."

The Pakistani delegation accompanying the Prime Minister includes Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Tariq Fatemi.

Several agreements and memorandums of understanding (MoUs) are also expected to be signed to enhance collaboration in various sectors.

The two leaders will explore new avenues to deepen people-to-people exchanges and economic partnerships, reinforcing a longstanding relationship rooted in shared values and mutual respect.

Tremors shake Quetta as 5.0-magnitude earthquake strikes

Munir Jan

QUETTA: Tremors were felt in Quetta and its surrounding areas on Sunday evening as a 5.0 magnitude earthquake struck the region, prompting residents to rush out of their homes reciting prayers.

According to the Seismological Center, the quake hit at 6:29 p.m., with its epicenter

located about 65 kilometers west of Quetta and a depth of 25 kilometers underground.

Witnesses said buildings and houses shook for a few seconds, causing panic among locals.

Many people came out into open spaces as a precaution, while others could be heard reciting the Kalimah Tayyibah in fear and faith.

Pakistan, Muslim nations welcome Hamas' response to Gaza peace plan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, along with other Muslim countries, on Sunday welcomed the Palestinian group Hamas's response to a peace proposal aimed at ending bloodshed in Gaza.

According to the joint communique, the foreign ministers of Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Pakistan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Egypt said Hamas's announcement to halt hostilities, release all hostages (alive or dead) and begin negotiations on implementation mechanisms represents an important development.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that the foreign ministers of eight Arab and Muslim-majority countries welcomed

the positive response from Hamas to the US proposal — put forward by President Donald Trump — aimed at ending the conflict in Gaza, securing the release of hostages and establishing a path to peace.

The statement welcomed President Trump's appeal to Israel to stop bombardments and to begin implementing an agreement on prisoner exchanges, and it commended his efforts to help restore peace in the region.

The ministers said that the development offers a real opportunity to establish a comprehensive and sustainable ceasefire, stressing the urgency of such a prospect amid what they called the severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

The communique also expressed approval of Hamas's reported willingness

to transfer Gaza's administration to an interim Palestinian administrative committee.

The statement stressed that immediate negotiations should begin to determine the procedures for implementing the proposal and to resolve all outstanding issues.

Reaffirming their commitment, the ministers said that they would continue coordinated efforts to secure an immediate end to fighting in Gaza, ensure unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid, prevent forced displacement of Palestinians, protect civilians, secure the release of Israeli hostages, and facilitate the return of the Palestinian Authority to Gaza.

They added that the ultimate objective is a comprehensive agreement that paves the way for Israeli withdrawal, reconstruction



tion of Gaza, and a durable peace based on a two-state solution.

Naqvi approves new convention hall ahead of SCO Summit

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi chaired a comprehensive three-hour meeting at the Capital Development Authority (CDA) Headquarters to review the progress of ongoing development projects in Islamabad. Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry and Secretary Interior Muhammad Khurram Agha were also in attendance.

The meeting focused on key infrastructure initiatives and preparations

for upcoming international events, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit 2027. In line with the Prime Minister's directives, detailed consultations were held regarding the construction of a new convention centre in the federal capital.

During the meeting, Minister Naqvi also sought a comprehensive plan for the commercialisation of the Islamabad Expressway to enhance urban development and economic activity in the capital.

The Chairman also updated the

Minister on several key infrastructure projects, noting that all piles for the T-Chowk Flyover Project have been completed, while the foundation stone for Shaheen Chowk will be laid soon. He added that restoration work on the Pak Secretariat's R-Block building is nearing completion.

The meeting was attended by senior officials, including the Chairman of CDA, the Deputy Commissioner of Islamabad, CDA members, and other relevant officers.

Floods damage over 229,000 homes across country: NDMA

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Severe flooding has damaged at least 229,763 homes — including 59,258 completely and 170,505 partially — and killed 22,841 livestock since June 26, according to the latest data shared by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

According to the NDMA, a total of 213,097 houses were affected by the recent deluge in Punjab, including 55,134 fully destroyed and 157,963 partially damaged.

Additionally, 3,992 livestock perished in the flood-hit districts.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a total of 3,222 houses were damaged in the floods, including 701 completely and 2,521 partially, while 5,467 livestock also perished in flood-hit areas of the province.

Similarly, in Sindh, a total of 3,332 houses were damaged in the floods, while 577 livestock were also lost.

In Balochistan, floods damaged 6,370 houses — 2,080 completely and 4,290 partially — while 4,585 livestock were

also lost in the province.

In Gilgit-Baltistan, a total of 1,260 houses were damaged by the floods, including 779 completely and 481 partially, while 7,981 livestock were also lost.

In Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), 2,417 houses were damaged by the floods — 339 completely and 2,078 partially — while 239 livestock were lost.

In Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), 65 houses were affected, including one fully and 64 partially, with no reported loss of animals.



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• PLAIN PARATHA (20 PCS)

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CM Maryam Chairs 3-Hour Long Video Link Meeting of Commissioners & DCs

 **Bureau Report**

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif chaired a 3-hour long video link meeting of commissioners and deputy commissioners to review their performance indicators as per “KPIs,” which also include electrobus project and flood survey. She highlighted that maintenance of electric buses in districts or cities, besides their discipline and facilities for passengers are included in the KPIs of respective DCs. She directed to establish a dedicated bus stand for electrobuses at each stop. She said that ensuring transparent and fast-est flood survey in flood-affected areas is also included in KPIs of the respective DCs. She directed them to monitor flood survey campaign, emphasizing the need for transparent and authentic data collection.

Chief Minister Punjab directed the authorities concerned to cultivate wheat on available government agricultural land across Punjab, and directed the Agriculture Department to provide good quality wheat seeds for the purpose. She expressed anger over continuation of stray dog bites in different areas, and said, “It is absolutely unacceptable for citizens, espe-



cially children, to be injured due to stray dog bites. Why are stray dog bite incidents happening again and again? Attention must be paid.” She directed them to ensure zebra crossing on roads in front of government schools, besides installing speed reduction boards on

roads before private and government schools to ensure safety of students. Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif directed the authorities concerned to ensure monitoring, maintenance and repair of more than 5,000 water filtration plants across Punjab.

She also directed commissioners and deputy commissioners to make surprise visits to relevant hospitals to ensure provision of free medicines in government hospitals, besides keeping an eye on elements who illegally demand money for services.

Best wishes

MUZAFFARABAD: PM AJK Ch Anwar visited Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Hospital Muzaffarabad to meet injured Policemen expressed his best wishes for a full recovery.



Photo: Spokesman

Public Calls on Prime Minister to Inspect Hazardous Motorway Conditions

 **Raza Naqvi**

ATTOCK: Those traveling on motorways and national highways are being put at risk due to the extremely irresponsible attitude of the concerned authorities. Over the past year, toll taxes at various toll plazas have been increased by nearly 100%, which the public views as unacceptable and condemnable.

Motorway toll plazas — whether under the National Highway Authority (NHA) or any other department — have become a major cause of road accidents. Despite collecting billions of rupees from the public, the authorities have completely failed to properly mark the lanes on motorways and highways with white or colored lines.

In this regard, questions are being raised about the role of the Federal Minister for Communications. It appears that instead of focusing on the safety and maintenance of these roads, the minister is only interested in the



annual revenue figures of the motorway and is even considering cost-cutting by avoiding proper road markings.

As a result, drivers of large and

small vehicles cannot even determine which lane they are driving in, since the lane markings have completely faded away. This forces commuters to risk

their lives every day while traveling on motorways and highways, leading to frequent and often deadly traffic accidents.

Fauji Fertilizer Company Organized seminar at Toba Tek Singh on profitable potato crop

 **Zafar Chishti**

TOBA TEK SINGH: In line with the directives of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif to guide farmers and ensure increased agricultural productivity, Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited (FFC) organized an awareness seminar in Toba Tek Singh on profitable potato cultivation. The event, held at a local marriage hall, was graced by Additional Director General Agriculture (Pest Warning) Ahmad Naveed Ahsan as the chief guest, while Director Agriculture Extension Faisalabad Chaudhry Muhammad Khalid and Director Potato Research Institute



Sahiwal Syed Ijaz-ul-Hassan presided over the session. The seminar was attended by FFC Zonal Head Ahsan Ali Zafar, Regional Manager Sohail

Sair, Head of Farm Advisory Centre Sargodha Tariq Javed, Head of Agri Territory Toba Tek Singh Hassan Raza, officers from the Agriculture Depart-

ment and a large number of farmers. Speaking on the occasion, Ahmad Naveed Ahsan said that the Punjab government is taking revolutionary measures for the development of the agriculture sector and the welfare of farmers. Experts urged farmers to adopt modern agricultural technology and use balanced fertilizers to significantly increase per-acre potato yield.

FFC officials informed that the company has been providing agricultural services for over 40 years and has conducted millions of free soil and water analyses, enabling farmers to benefit from modern research and achieve higher profitability.

Mangla Dam’s rising waters trigger landslides


 **Bureau Report**

MIRPUR: Commissioner Mirpur Division Chaudhry Mukhtar Hussain has said that the land of Kakra Potha Benshi Town adjacent to Mangla Dam had been weakening and sliding for the last ten months, due to which cracks had appeared in about 27 concrete houses, while yesterday, 12 concrete houses and roads worth crores of rupees were eroded, regarding which the Commissioner Mirpur Division wrote a letter to the General Manager Mangla Dam Organization WAPDA Mangla. Meanwhile, in the middle of this year, on public complaints, the Commissioner Mirpur Division had written a letter to the General Manager Mangla Dam Organization WAPDA Mangla, in which he urged the owners of the 27 houses affected by the population located in land number Khusra 349 of Kakra Potha Benshi to provide replacement cost and alternative land.



Commissioner Chaudhry Mukhtar Hussain and DIG Dr. Liaquat Ali went to the spot and assessed the damage, after which Commissioner Mirpur Division Chaudhry Mukhtar Hussain has written a letter to the General Manager Mangla Dam Organization to immediately arrange for an estimate of the destruction and destruction of houses and roads in Kakra Potha Benshi Town, a village adjacent to Mangla Dam, and an immediate geological survey of the affected area.

PML-N always had sympathy for Kashmiri brothers: Shah Ghulam Qadir

 **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: President of Pakistan Muslim League-N Azad Jammu and Kashmir Shah Ghulam Qadir thanked Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir and said that whenever any incident occurs in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, the leadership of Pakistan Muslim League-N always sympathizes with its Kashmiri brothers. Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif has never left the Kashmiri people alone and fulfilled every legitimate demand of the Kashmiri people. In the past, he sent two senior ministers to control the situation in Azad Kashmir and listened to the demands. After that, he sent a delegation of senior members of the Muslim League-N to not only listen to the demands of the Kashmiri people but also solved them. He said that Pakistan Muslim League-N has always represented the Kashmiri people but has tried its best to solve their problems by considering them as its own problems. Earlier, a huge amount of Rs 23 billion was given as subsidy to the people and now it has been decided to give a huge amount to the Kashmiri people. If this money is spent on the people in the true sense, the problems of Azad Kashmir can be greatly reduced. Rather, the people will get out of the quagmire of problems.



Shahid Shehbaz, creates digital media stars and unique content, as a role model

 **Staff Reporter**

KARACHI: Social media has become a golden opportunity for Pakistan’s youth, where they can achieve financial independence and self-reliance through their hard work and creative skills. Shahid Shahbaz, a well-known digital media star and prank video expert, famously known as “Baloshi Vlog,” advised young people to use social media platforms correctly and effectively so that their videos can quickly go viral, allowing them to earn in dollars and contribute to Pakistan’s economy.

Shahid Shahbaz stated that by creating prank and informative content in Urdu, Saraiki, Sindhi, Punjabi, Pashto, Balochi, Hindko, and other local languages, young people can earn hundreds of thousands of rupees. He mentioned that his personal “Baloshi Vlog – a unique and inspirational vlog” has become an example among youth, where he not only gained popularity through platforms like TikTok but also became financially self-sufficient.

Shahid Shahbaz emphasized that producing quality and high-standard content increases followers and income opportunities. He advised young people to provide not only entertainment but also educational awareness through their creative and informative videos so that they can achieve success through their efforts. He said, “Through hard work, perseverance, and modern technology, it is possible not only to make a mark for oneself but also to play an important role in the country’s progress and prosperity.”

Shahid Shahbaz’s message has further encouraged the youth’s desire to make social media a source of livelihood.



Are we base camps?

 **Naila Altaf**

Today, a news was circulating in various WhatsApp groups in Azad Kashmir that the Supreme Court of India has ordered the execution of Yasin Malik on November 10.”

I am more surprised at our condition than the truth of this news. We are living in an area which has always been called the “base camp of the state of Jammu and Kashmir”. From this center the independence movement gained intellectual, political and moral strength.

But alas... today our interest has become so limited that we know about the situation in occupied Kashmir from social media rumors, and we still believe it.

This ignorance is not just ignorant — it is a sign of our political, intellectual and moral weakness.

We should think that when the people of occupied Kashmir say, “Azad Kashmir has been cut off from us”, they are not wrong.

When we are proud to be a base camp, it should mean not only a slogan but also awareness, awareness and responsibility.

The fact is that the news about Yassin Malik being “hanged on November 10” is wrong and unverified.

In fact, a petition was filed in the Delhi High Court on behalf of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) seeking to commute the life imprisonment sentence given to Yassin Malik to death.

The court has fixed November 10, 2025, to hear the case, on which Yassin Malik will be given the opportunity to present his case in court via video link. That is, this date is for a hearing, not a judgment.

So far, no court, neither the Delhi High Court nor the Supreme Court, has given a final verdict on death penalty.

But it is also true that this trial is at a critical juncture, and needs international attention and public awareness.

We now have the opportunity to be not just people who believe in WhatsApp news, but to be a nation that knows the facts, can speak, and shares the suffering of the people of occupied Kashmir.

Unless, if we ourselves are at base camp.

Islamabad
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SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	4:42 am
Zohr	11:56 am
Asr	4:06 pm
Maghrib	5:47 pm
Isha	7:10 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad	1122 & 16
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& Rescue Services	4451122
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MH	561116
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Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

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G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8	9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8	9266316
Wapda Islamabad	9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint	119, 9272249

BZU Food Science Department Holds Training Workshop for Faculty

Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: The Department of Food Science and Technology at Bahaudin Zakariya University, Multan, organized a one-day training workshop for its teaching faculty. The resource person for the workshop was Professor Dr. Saeed Akhtar, a distinguished researcher, educationist, and master trainer from the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.

The workshop emphasized the importance of performing teaching duties with a sense of responsibility and service. Professor Dr. Saeed Akhtar delivered an in-depth discussion on aligning course objectives, effective course management, and strategies to make teaching more impactful. He advised the teachers to develop mentoring and leadership qualities in their personality and character that are essential for the intellectual and practical development of students.

In the concluding session, the Chairman of the Department, Dr. Tariq Ismail, expressed his gratitude to the resource person and participants. The workshop was attended by Professor Dr. Tauseef Sultan, Dr. Khurram Afzal, Dr. Muhammad Qamar, Dr. Dur-e-Shehwar, Dr. Adnan Amjad, and the entire visiting faculty of the department.

Indian war threat and aggression, heinous crime for humanity: Amir Dogar

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Member of National Assembly, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chief Wahip Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar has said that the latest threat of aggression by the Indian government and the Indian Army Chief is a heinous conspiracy and Human Crime to fool the Indian nation and upset world peace, although the Indian government and its brave army know that if they try Operation Sindoor again, the Pakistan Army will wipe the entire India off the world map.

Pakistan has proven its military superiority. Therefore, India should not be in any confusion now, otherwise they will now give the Hindu government a response that they did not think of.

In a press statement, Malik Muhammad Amir Dogar further said that the Pakistani army is at the forefront



of the world and has made history many times with its courage and bravery. The Pakistani army and the entire nation are united.

No sacrifice will be spared to protect the country's every inch. The entire nation and the Pakistani army are filled with faith and we are desperate to expose the Indian heroes and the Modi government will not find a place to hide its face in the world this time. If India starts a war, we will end the war and wipe India from the face of the world.

He further said that if we look at Palestine, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza has intensified, where the lives of thousands of mothers and children are in danger due to famine, pollution and malnutrition.

In the continuous bombing and ground operations of the Israeli army, all Palestinians living in Gaza City have been declared "terrorists and their supporters", while Israel has said that anyone living in Gaza City will now be Military targets will be considered.

Enjoyment

ISLAMABAD: Picnickers are enjoying Barbeque during Sunday holiday at Lotus Lake (Kanwal Jheel) in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Teachers are the architects of the nation: Principal Sumaira Hameed

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Teachers' Day was celebrated with great reverence and respect at Government Associate College for Women, Sahal, Rawalpindi. On this occasion, Principal Ms. Sumaira Hameed addressed the students and teachers, stating that "Teachers are the architects of the nation who not only impart knowledge but also instill morals, character, and positive values in the hearts of students." She emphasized the need to reestablish the dignity, respect, and status of teachers in society.

During the event, the principal presented appreciation certificates to the teachers and acknowledged their hard work and dedication. On the other hand, students also expressed their gratitude by presenting



cards, and messages of thanks, adding warmth and affection to the atmosphere. Students delivered speeches, recited poems, and performed skits that high-

lighted the role and importance of teachers. The audience appreciated the program wholeheartedly and enthusiastically applauded to encourage

the participants. The dignified event further strengthened the bond between students and teachers and once again highlighted the greatness of teachers.

Punjab Chief Minister Orders Review of Price Magistrates and Flood Relief Operations

Correspondent

JHANG: On the instructions of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the daily performance of Price Magistrates, including relief activities and rehabilitation measures in the flood-affected areas, is being reviewed, while the Para Force is also carrying out operations against encroachments in the markets. In this regard, a review meeting was held under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner General Amir Mahmood on the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Ali Akbar Bhindran, in which a briefing was also taken on the relief activities and rehabilitation measures in the flood-affected areas, the performance of Price Magistrates the previous day and the operations against encroachments of the Para Force and orders were issued to take swift action in this regard.



Faisalabad Police Vow Foolproof Security for South Africa Cricket Team at Iqbal Stadium



Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Foolproof security will be ensured for the visiting South Africa cricket team. This was stated by CPO Faisalabad Sahibzada Bilal Umar while talking to the media on the occasion of his visit regarding the security of the Iqbal Stadium International Cricket Series. He issued instructions to the officers to ensure foolproof security. All senior officers will be present on the field and supervise the arrangements. Spectators coming to the stadium will be allowed to enter after walk-through gates and full body search. The stadium and its surroundings will be monitored with CCTV cameras. Patrolling of police, Dolphin Force and Elite Force should be ensured around and around the stadium. A special traffic plan has been prepared for the convenience of the citizens. Faisalabad Police is committed to providing the best security for cricket matches and a pleasant environment for the citizens. The safety of the lives and property of the citizens is the top priority of the Faisalabad Police.

Hanif Abbasi announces CM Maryam Nawaz's upcoming visit to inaugurate E-Bus Service in Rawalpindi

RAWALPINDI: Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi has announced that Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif will visit Rawalpindi this month to inaugurate the city's first modern electric bus service, a milestone toward sustainable and eco-friendly urban transport. Speaking at an event organized by the Rawalpindi Traders Association, Abbasi said the new electric bus service will provide safe, comfortable and affordable travel facilities, particularly benefiting women, students, and working individuals.

"This project reflects the government's commitment to a modern, clean transport system that serves the people and protects the environment," he stated, adding that the initiative would ease congestion and improve mobility across the city.

The event was attended by Federal Parliamentary Secretary Barrister Daniyal Chaudhry, MPA Ziaullah Shah, Sardar Naseem, representatives of the traders' community, and a large number of citizens.

Abbasi lauded the development vision of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, crediting their leadership for the city's transformation from universities and technical institutes to the Metro Bus and new public facilities. Reflecting on Pakistan's broader progress, Abbasi said that when the PML-N government took office, the country was "like a patient on a ventilator." However, through effective governance, economic recovery, and balanced diplomacy, Pakistan has regained stability and respect in the international community.

He also praised the armed forces for safeguarding the nation's frontiers and establishing control over 22 strategic posts, asserting that such achievements have proven Pakistan's strength and resilience.

Highlighting growing investor confidence, Abbasi revealed that a Saudi delegation would pay a visit to Pakistan for investment talks — a sign, he said, of global trust in the country's economic direction. "These investments will generate jobs and further strengthen economic stability," he noted.



Man cannot reach heights without a teacher: Akbar Ali Harl

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: To pay tribute to the teacher for his valuable services in the society, the series of celebrating "World Teachers' Day" started from October 5, 1994 and October 5 became known as Teacher's Day in the world. In this regard, a cake cutting ceremony was organized at Aspire College Gulberg Campus on World Teachers' Day. In which all the teachers of the college were invited. The way Imam Al-Anbiya Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon him) honored the teacher by saying "Inma Bisath Maalima" 1400 years ago, there is no precedent in the world. He honored this profession by relating himself to teachers.

The importance and value of the

teacher was explained by the Bab Al-Ilm Hazrat Ali (may Allah be pleased with him) by saying, "Whoever teaches me a word, I am his slave, whether he keeps me or sells me."

Of course, this honor and dignity has come only to the teacher. This was said by Principal Spire Group of Colleges Gulberg Campus Akbar Ali Haral at a cake cutting ceremony on the occasion of Teacher's Day. He further said that you should not agree with me. Think and prove that any individual or nation has become successful without respecting the teacher? Show me a nation or even a single individual in the world who has reached heights without kneeling before a teacher. I challenge you that you will not find it. Let's not go back too far. A century ago, when it was

announced that Allama Muhammad Iqbal would be given the title of "Sir", he asked the then Governor of Punjab to give the title of "Shams of the Scholars" to his teacher Maulvi Mir Hassan. And until the Governor went to Sialkot and gave him the title of Shams of the Scholars, he did not take the title of "Sir". While in this Teachers' Day ceremony, Professor Amara, Professor Mehwish, Professor Maheen, Professor Rimsha, Professor Zarin Gul, Professor Zainul Abidin, Professor Abdullah, Professor Yahya, Professor Khawar, Professor Azhar, Professor Shahzad, Professor Shahzad Asghar, Professor Sharafat, Professor Mudassar, Professor Zeeshan, Professor Danish and others were present. He thanked all the teachers present at the ceremony.



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Many American Jews sharply critical of Israeli war in Gaza, WP poll

Many American Jews sharply disapprove of Israel’s conduct of war in Gaza, with 61 percent saying Israel has committed war crimes and about 4 in 10 saying the country is guilty of genocide against the Palestinians, according to a Washington Post poll.

The findings, the newspaper reported, signal the possibility of a historic rupture in ties between U. S. Jewry and Israel after decades of close connection.

The survey also showed sharp criticism of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu: 68% of respondents gave him a negative rating, with nearly half calling his performance “poor.” That marks a 20-point increase in disapproval since the last Pew Research Center survey five years ago. At the same time, 94% were critical of Hamas’s actions.

The Jewish community itself remains divided: 46% back Israel’s military campaign in Gaza, while 48% oppose it. Among the broader U. S. public, support is much lower, at just 32%. “Initially, Israel in a sense had no choice,” said Julia Seidman, a Washington-based writer. “But in no way does that justify what is happening now, two years later. The amount of human suffering that we are seeing now ... I’m just disgusted.”

Despite the criticism, most U. S. Jews still view Israel as central to Jewish identity: 76% said the state’s existence is essential to the Jewish future, and 58% feel a cultural or emotional connection to Israeli Jews. “The existence of Israel is very important to the Jewish people,” said Bob Haas, a business consultant from Pennsylvania. “But the way the Netanyahu government has conducted itself does nothing to safeguard Jews, in Israel or around the world.”

The poll points to deep polarization: 80% of Jewish Republicans support the Gaza campaign, compared with half of independents and just a third of Democrats. Men were more likely than women to support Israel, while respondents with higher education were less supportive. A stark generational gap also emerged: 56% of Jews overall reported an “emotional connection” to Israel, but that number dropped to 36% among those aged 18 to 34. Among younger Jews, half said Israel is committing genocide, compared with about a third of older respondents.

Still, about 60% of Jews said they favour continued U. S. military aid to Israel in its fight against Hamas, even as many criticize its scope. When asked about overall U. S. support for Israel, 47% called it “about right,” 32% said it was excessive and 20% said it was insufficient — a 10-point rise from 2020 and a 21-point rise compared with 2013 Pew surveys.

Muzaffarabad Agreement-Hallmark of Wisdom

The days of 3–4 October 2025 will be remembered in the political and strategic annals of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK). The Memorandum of Understanding recently agreed between the Government of Pakistan, the Joint Azad Jammu & Kashmir Action Committee (JAAC) and the Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir is far more than a set of administrative reforms. It is a milestone with constitutional, security, developmental and international ramifications — a compact that, if implemented in the letter and spirit in which it was conceived, can restore public confidence, bolster governance and recalibrate Pakistan’s domestic and diplomatic posture on Kashmir.

What the agreement promises — concrete deliverables

The memorandum enumerates a range of tangible measures intended to transform service delivery and infrastructure across AJK:

Health: MRI and CT scanners will be provided to all districts; operation theatres and nurseries in tehsil headquarter hospitals will be completed under ADP financing. Energy and infrastructure: An allocation of PKR 10 billion has been proposed for strengthening AJK’s power network. Feasibility studies for the Kehori/Kamsir and Chaplani tunnels will be completed and the plan for Mirpur International Airport is to be finalized within the current fiscal year.

Governance: The size of the AJK cabinet will be limited to 20 ministers/advisers; departmental mergers and accountability frameworks will be aligned with National Accountability Bureau (NAB) norms.

Justice and redress: Violent incidents will be subject to judicial inquiry overseen by High

Court judges; families of the deceased will receive compensation and government employment opportunities while the injured will be provided PKR 1,000,000 in medical assistance.

Education and merit: New educational boards for Muzaffarabad and Punch divisions will be established; all boards will be linked to the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE) Islamabad and admissions will be conducted on open-merit principles.

Development: Water supply schemes, bridge construction, protection of property rights for displaced colonies, a transport policy review and targeted tax relief are also on the agenda.

These are welcome benchmarks. Their worth will be judged not by their announcement but by consistent, measurable delivery and by the existence of institutional safeguards against backsliding.

The international dimension — propaganda and responsibility

Predictably, India seized the opportunity to amplify the episode internationally and to present the unrest as grounds for criticism of Pakistan. Such attempts to weaponise local instability for geopolitical advantage make it all the more necessary for Pakistani actors — political, military and civic — to maintain high standards of transparency and rule-based action. JAAC’s leadership deserves credit for prioritising national interest over opportunistic posturing; it demonstrated restraint and responsibility when public sentiment could easily have been inflamed.

Transparency, civic engagement and the long road to healing

If this agreement is to survive beyond headlines and photo opportunities, three things are essential: transparency in implementation, robust public

communication, and meaningful civic participation. Without these, even the most well-intentioned measures risk being perceived as short-term fixes. Equally important is accountability for past failures — not as punishment for its own sake, but to restore confidence in institutions.

We must also acknowledge an uncomfortable moral truth: no financial compensation or structural reform can ever restore the loved ones whose lives were lost. Material reconstruction is possible — infrastructure can be rebuilt, salaries paid and facilities upgraded — but the ideological, emotional and ethical wounds require a patient, sustained and sincere process of national reckoning. History will judge whether we responded to this crisis with justice, empathy and steadfast resolve.

A compact to be honoured in letter and spirit

This memorandum represents an opportunity: to demonstrate that Pakistan’s democratic institutions, its political leadership and its security institutions can together address complex provincial challenges responsibly and constructively. It is, in effect, a compact between the people of AJK, the federal government, JAAC and the armed forces — one rooted in mutual obligation. Its ultimate success will be measured by the degree to which the compact is honoured, not only in the letter but, crucially, in the spirit. If the promises embedded in these two consequential days are implemented with the transparency, urgency and moral seriousness they require, the agreement may well become a model of cooperative governance in a difficult, contested region. If not, the hard lessons of 3–4 October 2025 will haunt us for years to come.

The nation owes it to the victims, and to future generations, to see that this compact is more than an agreement on paper: it must be a pathway to justice, stability and sustainable development.

—The writer is a Supreme Court lawyer and former member & Chairman Standing Committee of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Council, Islamabad.

360 Views of Trump’s Peace Plan

President Trump’s Gaza Peace Plan is simple in intention but complex in execution. It envisions a staged ceasefire tied to the release of all hostages, a phased Israeli withdrawal linked to verifiable benchmarks, the deployment of an international stabilization force, and governance reforms that transition Gaza toward a reconstituted Palestinian authority supported by technocrats. It concludes with a pathway—deliberately flexible in language—toward Palestinian self-determination and eventual statehood. For Hamas, the red lines are disarmament and exclusion from governance; for Israel, they are credible security guarantees and an avoidance of steps that appear to reward an armed adversary. Between these lines lies a narrow diplomatic corridor where progress must move swiftly or collapse under mistrust.

Hamas’s reaction is a tactical acceptance laced with strategic reservations. Its negotiators abroad signal readiness for a full hostage exchange and a willingness to cede administrative control to an interim Palestinian body, but they resist unconditional disarmament and permanent exclusion from politics. Inside Gaza, command structures are fractured; senior military cadres are depleted; field units operate semi-independently. Leaders willing to compromise must still gauge whether they can enforce any agreement among fighters radicalized by devastation and grief. Hence, the idea of surrendering heavy weapons to third-party custodians while retaining light arms as a “defensive dignity” measure—symbolically vital to Hamas but unacceptable to Israel without intrusive verification.

The Palestinian Authority welcomes the plan but insists that Gaza’s sovereignty lies with the State of Palestine, unified with the West Bank under one

civil and security framework. Yet its legitimacy deficit is glaring. Reforms must be real—transparent appointments, credible policing, and efficient public services—to regain Gazan trust. Jordan and other Arab states condition their support on those very reforms and on tangible progress toward the two-state horizon.

Europe, the U. K., Canada, and other Western partners view the plan as the first viable diplomatic track in months. Their priorities converge: secure a ceasefire, free all hostages, restore humanitarian lifelines, and cautiously advance a two-state endgame. They will bankroll stabilization and reconstruction but only under strict oversight.

France and Germany call it “the best chance for peace”; Spain and Ireland demand stronger civilian protections; EU institutions emphasize timelines and enforceable humanitarian guarantees.

Pakistan, Malaysia, and the wider Global South call the plan imperfect but necessary to end the siege and save lives. They urge a complete ceasefire, unrestricted aid access, and firm guarantees against annexation or forced displacement. Their support will be critical in lending legitimacy to any multinational peace force that must not appear Western-controlled.

Yet Trump’s plan, while pragmatic, misses a critical element: justice. Peace without accountability is fragile, and reconstruction funded by neutral donors ignores moral responsibility. It was Israel that unleashed overwhelming destruction—flattening neighborhoods, hospitals, schools, and mosques, killing thousands of civilians, and turning Gaza into ruins. Therefore, the financial and

moral burden of rebuilding Gaza must not fall upon the Arab world or the international community, but squarely upon those who caused the devastation—Israel and its allies, principally the United States. They must finance reconstruction, compensate victims, and fund the restoration of homes, infrastructure, and livelihoods. Anything less would legitimize impunity and perpetuate the cycle of destruction.

Equally, Hamas cannot escape scrutiny for its October 7 attack that killed and abducted civilians. Justice must be even-handed: a transparent, international investigation under UN auspices should probe alleged war crimes, genocide, and ethnic cleansing by both Hamas and Israel. Those who ordered or executed attacks on civilians, destroyed civilian infrastructure, or used starvation and displacement as tools of war must face the law. Impunity—whether for militants or states—cannot coexist with lasting peace.

A just and sustainable settlement would thus require three compacts added to Trump’s architecture. First, a clarity compact—public, enforceable annexes specifying who verifies compliance, how violations are penalized, and when corrective mechanisms activate. Second, a sequencing compact—a 30-60-90 day ladder of actions tied to verifiable outcomes: immediate ceasefire and aid corridors; phased withdrawals; transfer of civil governance; and reconstruction monitored by auditors from neutral states. Third, a dignity compact—addressing not only arms but human dignity: mobility, jobs, municipal elections within a year, and a binding roadmap toward statehood

linked to measurable governance performance.

To this must be added a justice compact—a moral and legal foundation ensuring accountability. An independent tribunal, perhaps modeled on the International Criminal Court but regionally backed, should document atrocities, assign blame, and impose reparations. This would transform peace from a political bargain into a moral restoration, proving that even in geopolitics, justice is not optional.

Arab and Western partners must move from mediation to stewardship—deploying peacekeepers, engineers, and funds not as charity, but as custodians of shared responsibility. Moreover, the reconstruction of Gaza must be sponsored and fully financed by Israel—the power that devastated those neighborhoods—and by any allies whose military or material support enabled that destruction. This is not punitive grandstanding; it is deterrence by consequence: any nation or actor that resorts to ethnic cleansing, mass starvation, or genocidal tactics must know it will bear the full financial, legal and moral costs of rebuilding, reparations, and accountability.

The alternative is a replay of history: more funerals, deeper resentment, and another generation growing amid rubble. Flexibility on process is not weakness; it is maturity. If disarmament becomes verifiable, withdrawal becomes milestone-driven, governance becomes transparent, and accountability becomes universal, then the guns can fall silent, Gaza can rebuild, and the Middle East can finally begin to heal.

The writer is Press Secretary to the President (Rtd), Former Press Minister, Embassy of Pakistan to France, Former Press Attache to Malaysia and Former MD, SRBC. He is living in Macomb, Michigan, USA



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Asharq Al-Awsat)

Lebanon’s Collapse: A Crisis That Could Shake the Mideast

Taqdees Fatima

What happens when a country in the heart of the Middle East begins to collapse? Lebanon, once celebrated as the “Paris of the Orient,” is now a nation on the edge. Its economy has imploded — the currency has lost more than 90% of its value, banks have frozen deposits, and everyday life has become a struggle for survival. More than 80% of the population now lives in poverty. The 2020 Beirut port explosion was a symbol of state failure, but the crisis has only deepened since then. Today, Lebanon’s breakdown is more than a national tragedy. It is reshaping refugee flows, intensifying sectarian divisions, and giving regional powers room to expand their influence. The collapse of Lebanon is not just Lebanon’s problem — it is a direct threat to the stability of the entire Middle East.

This economic meltdown fuels protests, street clashes, and deep resentment against a corrupt political class. But the consequences extend beyond Lebanon. Investors now look at fragile economies like Iraq or Jordan and wonder if they could be next. Gulf states, once generous with aid and remittances, are hesitant to invest in a system they no longer trust. Lebanon’s collapse sends a chilling signal across the region: if one state can fall this far, others could follow. This isn’t just another Middle Eastern crisis. Lebanon’s collapse is happening right now, as fighting with Israel simmers on the border, poverty deepens at home, and migration pressures grow by the day. The Middle East is already stretched thin — the war in Gaza continues, Saudi-Iran rapprochement is fragile, and global oil markets are unstable. Lebanon has become a fault line in this fragile balance. Its collapse could trigger a chain reaction that the region is ill-prepared to handle.

Acknowledging Counterarguments

Some argue Lebanon’s crisis is nothing new, pointing out that Syria, Iraq, and Yemen have suffered for years without destabilizing the whole region. But Lebanon is different. It sits at the crossroads of the Arab world, borders Israel and Syria, and carries a refugee load far heavier than its size can bear. Its sectarian divisions and regional entanglements mean instability here multiplies instability elsewhere. Lebanon is simply too connected to be ignored.

Stopping Lebanon’s collapse from shaking the wider region requires urgent, practical steps. First, international aid must come with strings attached — real reforms to tackle corruption and rebuild public trust. Money without accountability will only strengthen the same elites who caused the collapse. Second, regional diplomacy must include Lebanon in the broader dialogue between Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Western powers. Keeping Lebanon out of proxy wars is as important as fixing its economy. Third, humanitarian support needs to expand, targeting both refugees and Lebanese citizens with healthcare, education, and job opportunities. Finally, Europe and the UN should prepare for inevitable migration pressures, creating safe and managed pathways rather than waiting for another chaotic refugee wave. Without action, Lebanon’s collapse will drag others down with it.

Lebanon’s crisis is more than the story of a small country in trouble. It is a warning to the entire Middle East. A collapsed economy, paralyzed politics, and an overstretched refugee system are already spilling across borders. Policymakers can no longer afford to treat Lebanon as a forgotten crisis. The cost of inaction will be far greater than the cost of intervention. The real question is whether leaders act before Lebanon’s fall becomes irreversible. Saving Lebanon today is not an act of charity — it is an investment in preventing tomorrow’s instability.

The writer is BS International Relations student at Bahria University, Islamabad Campus.

Pakistan Education Portal holds grand ceremony to honor newly appointed Vice Chancellors nationwide



Waseem Khokhar

ISLAMABAD: A dignified ceremony was held at Burj Al Zaki Guest House to honour the newly appointed vice chancellors of public and private universities across Pakistan. The event was jointly organized by the Pakistan Education Portal and the Inter-University Consortium for Promotion of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities, IUCPSS.

Speaking on the occasion, Almas Ayub Sabir, Founding Chairman of the

Pakistan Education Portal, said that the portal aims to project Pakistan and its universities on a global scale by highlighting their achievements and educational offerings.

Muhammad Murtaza Noor, Executive Director of the Pakistan Education Portal and National Coordinator of the Inter-University Consortium, elaborated on the objectives of the initiative, emphasizing its role in strengthening academic collaboration and visibility among higher education institutions.

The ceremony was attended by vice chancellors and academic leaders from various universities across the country, including Usman Ghani, Director of the Institute of Management Sciences Peshawar; Prof. Dr. Abdul Basit, President of the Association of Private Sector Universities Pakistan Federal Chapter and President of Preston University; Prof. Dr. Hazirullah, Vice Chancellor of the University of Chitral; Dr. Junaid, Vice Chancellor of the Health Services Academy; Prof. Dr. Ghulam Mujtaba



Shah, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Hazara University; and Prof. Dr. Zafar Iqbal, Vice Chancellor of Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan.

Among other distinguished participants were Prof. Dr. Mazhar Ayaz, Vice Chancellor of the Cholistan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bahawalpur; Prof. Dr. Yousuf Khushk, Vice Chancellor of Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur; Prof. Dr. Razia Sultana, Vice Chancellor of Air University Mardan; Prof. Dr. Jehanzeb

Khan, Vice Chancellor of the University of Science and Technology, Bannu; Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor of Women University Bagh; and Prof. Dr. Aftab Maroof, Rector of FAST-National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences. Representatives from Quaid-i-Azam University were also present.

The event also saw participation from Air Marshal Retired Abdul Majeed Khan, Vice Chancellor of Air University; Dr. Mohammad Mujahid,

Rector of Pak-Austria Fachhochschule Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology; and Prof. Dr. Saeed Badshah, Vice Chancellor of the University of Technology, Nowshera.

Participants appreciated the initiative, describing the Pakistan Education Portal as a significant milestone in Pakistan's higher education landscape. They said the platform would facilitate international students' access to Pakistani universities and promote academic exchange at the global level.

Punjab unveils hightech museums and restored heritage sites to attract global tourists

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Tourism, Archaeology and Museums Punjab is ready to offer World-Class Museums and Restored Heritage for Tourists. Punjab, the land of vibrant culture, saints, Sufis, and centuries-old civilization, is all set to welcome tourists with a new face of history and heritage. From the mystic charm of Multan to the historic grandeur of Gujranwala and the global fame of Sialkot, the province is unfolding a vision where tradition meets technology. Secretary Tourism, Archaeology and Museums Punjab Dr. Ehsan Bhutta announced that under the leadership of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz and Senior Provincial

Minister Maryam Aurangzeb, restoration of historical monuments and establishment of modern museums have been made a top priority. Punjab's heritage will no longer remain hidden and it will shine as a source of pride for our people and an attraction for visitors from around the world, he remarked. Presiding over a review meeting with senior officers including Director General Archaeology Zaheer Abbas Malik, Additional Secretary Sadaf Zafar and others, Dr. Ehsan Bhutta revealed that the long-neglected Summit Minar, symbol of the 1974 OIC Summit, is being restored after decades. He further announced the launch of a Ranjeet Singh Museum in Gujranwala, a new cultur-



al museum in Multan and a modern museum in Sialkot showcasing the city's global identity in sports, leather, and surgical goods as well as its literary and historic legacy.

He appreciated the efforts of Deputy Commissioner Sialkot Ms. Saba Ali for providing a building and assured full collaboration of the Directorate of Archaeology, Punjab

Small Industries Corporation, and PILAC to develop the museum into an international-standard attraction. Meanwhile, Punjab's achievements at the Harappa galleries have already won global recognition, and the Taxila Museum, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, will be expanded along similar modern lines. Concluding the meeting, Dr. Ehsan Bhutta said that all new museums will blend modern technology, including IT based systems, AR/VR experiences, and state-of-the-art illumination, with the timeless treasures of Punjab's past. He emphasized that this initiative will not only safeguard cultural heritage but also transform museums into vibrant centers of learning and tourism.

Shehzad Ghias Unveils New Book in Karachi

City Desk

KARACHI: Podcaster, author, and stand-up comedian Shehzad Ghias successfully launched his much-anticipated book, "Pakistan Lost: Ideas on the Idea of Pakistan", at an exclusive event held at Habitt City, Karachi. The launch brought together an inspiring mix of prominent political and social figures, representatives from various TV and media outlets, digital content creators, influencers, and readers, making it a truly vibrant and memorable evening.

The event featured a thought-provoking panel discussion with Shehzad Ghias, Samiya Arif, and Nadeem Farooq Paracha, moderated by Ella Hussain. The conversation delved into the book's key themes, nationalism, identity, and the evolution of Pakistan's founding ideals, sparking insightful dialogue and meaningful reflection among attendees.

The presence of journalists and members of the electronic media added further energy to the evening, while guests praised the author's wit, intellect, and ability to combine humor with social critique. The event created an atmosphere that was both intellectually engaging and emotionally resonant, setting the tone for a wider conversation around Pakistan's collective identity.



Zelenskyy's War Theater: A Nation's Tragedy Behind the Stagecraft



Analysis
Syed Munir Ahmed

Volodymyr Zelenskyy is no longer simply Ukraine's president. He has become its chief illusionist, selling narratives of battlefield heroics and impending victory to Western capitals desperate to believe their billions of dollars are not being wasted. What he presents to the world is not the bitter truth of a failing war effort but a carefully scripted theater—an endless plea for weapons, funds, and sympathy. And yet, behind the curtain, Ukraine is collapsing under the weight of desertions, economic bankruptcy, and an exodus of its people.

For over three years now, Zelenskyy has peddled the story that Ukraine stands on the cusp of victory, that one more round of weapons from Washington or another sanctions package from Brussels will tilt the scales against Moscow. But this narrative, polished for foreign audiences, is a far cry from the grim reality on the ground. Ukraine's military is exhausted, its mobilization campaign in shambles, and its economy on the brink of implosion. Western leaders,

despite mounting evidence, continue to applaud Zelenskyy's "courage" because to admit the truth would expose their own complicity in prolonging the war.

The deception is deliberate. Zelenskyy's government works overtime to conceal the depletion of Ukraine's resource potential. Critical shortages of manpower have left the armed forces hollow, while mobilization efforts are failing at an alarming rate. Desertion is rampant. And yet, these truths rarely make their way into the speeches delivered to the US Congress or the European Parliament. Instead, the message is simple: Ukraine is winning, but only if the West keeps funding it.

Even under heavy censorship, cracks in the facade have become impossible to hide. Ukrainian commanders themselves have spoken out. Andriy Biletsky, commander of the 3rd Army Corps, admitted that "every third soldier in the Ukrainian army is a deserter or absent without leave." Ukrainian analyst Yury Boyko, citing official data, has revealed the staggering scale of this collapse: 142,000 criminal cases for desertion in the first eight months of 2025 alone, with nearly 17,500 in August. Since the war began, 265,843 soldiers have abandoned their posts. These figures represent the silent unraveling of an army that Zelenskyy continues to paint as resilient and defiant.

Military defeats, too, are increasingly impossible to cover up. German expert Jürgen Repke has warned that Russian forces are on the verge of a decisive

breakthrough, with conditions set for the capture of key towns like Krasnoarmeysk, Dimitrov, Konstantinovka, Siversk, and Kupiansk. "The Russian Armed Forces may achieve a decisive breakthrough in the coming months," Repke told German media, citing Ukraine's dwindling capacity to hold lines. The New York Times, usually loyal to Kiev's cause, has noted Russian advances near Krasnoarmeysk, supported by over 110,000 troops and precision drone strikes targeting Ukraine's logistics. Norwegian publication Steigan has gone further, predicting the imminent fall of Krasnoarmeysk if current Russian momentum holds. And former British diplomat Alastair Crook has argued that Moscow is now well-positioned to intensify operations and impose terms that will bring the war to an end on Russia's conditions.

But Zelenskyy's speeches tell another story. His dramatic

appearances — often in military fatigues, invoking World War II imagery and Churchillian defiance — play well in Western parliaments. They are designed not for Ukrainians at home, who suffer the consequences, but for Western taxpayers whose money is being funneled into a war without victory. Each appearance is a calculated performance to secure more aid packages, regardless of how disconnected they are from battlefield realities.

The West, for its part, is not entirely deceived. Policymakers in Washington, Berlin, and Brussels have access to the same reports, statistics, and assessments that cast doubt on Ukraine's prospects. They know the desertion crisis, the economic bankruptcy, and the failure of mobilization are not "temporary challenges" but systemic collapse. Yet, they continue to bankroll Zelenskyy's illusion. Why? Because admitting failure would mean acknowledging their own miscalculation — hundreds of billions invested in a proxy war that cannot be won. For Washington, Ukraine has become a tool to weaken Russia; for Brussels, it is a litmus test of European "unity." The lives of Ukrainians, however, are expendable in this geopolitical theater.

The hypocrisy is glaring. Western leaders present Zelenskyy as the embodiment of democratic resilience while turning a blind eye to the censorship, authoritarianism, and repression he has enforced at home. Ukraine's government silences dissent, jails critics, and criminalizes objections to conscription.



What the West hails as "unity" is in reality enforced compliance, sustained by fear and propaganda. The same Western governments that lecture the world about human rights ignore these violations because Zelenskyy remains useful to their agenda.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's economy has collapsed under the strain of war. Industrial production has plummeted, infrastructure lies in ruins, and foreign debt has ballooned. Yet, Zelenskyy glosses over these realities in his global addresses, portraying an image of a nation standing tall. This is not leadership; it is a dangerous charade that locks Ukrainians into endless sacrifice while their president plays to foreign audiences.

Ordinary Ukrainians, meanwhile, bear the brunt of this deception. Families are torn apart as men flee conscription, young soldiers desert battlefields, and civilians escape abroad in record

numbers. The country is being emptied of its future. Yet, Zelenskyy clings to the microphone, pleading for one more round of aid. In doing so, he has transformed Ukraine from a nation at war into a fundraising project — a dependent state propped up by illusions and Western largesse.

Russia, in contrast, has pursued a methodical strategy, absorbing sanctions, stabilizing its economy, and advancing on the battlefield. Its long-term approach is paying off, while Ukraine's Western backers are growing restless. The gap between propaganda and reality is widening. The inevitable question arises: how much longer can this theater continue before the illusion collapses entirely?

Zelenskyy's hypocrisy is not just a betrayal of his people; it is a betrayal of truth itself. By staging victories that do not exist, he denies Ukrainians the chance to reckon with reality

and chart a different course. By faking resilience to foreign sponsors, he condemns his country to fight wars it cannot win. And by masking despair with theatrics, he ensures Ukraine's tragedy deepens with each passing month.

The war in Ukraine has split into two stages: one real, one fabricated. On the front lines, soldiers desert, cities fall, and hope erodes. On the global stage, Zelenskyy performs defiance, and Western leaders applaud. This dissonance is unsustainable. The curtain will fall sooner or later. The question is whether the world will recognize Zelenskyy's theater for what it is before Ukraine is left with nothing but ashes.

The writer is an Executive Director, Devcom Centre for Geopolitical Studies, development expert and policy analyst focused on regional cooperation and climate diplomacy. His email: devcom.pakistan@gmail.com

 **Bull & Bears**

PSX 100-Share

Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
168,990.07	168,489.62
Day's High	Day's Low
169,988.61	168,613.41
Index Value	Change
60,878,664,009	+500.45
Percentage	Time
+0.3%	3 Oct, 2025 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
9,491.25	+63.52
Percentage	Time
+0.67%	3 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT +1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
46,979.66	+459.94
Percentage	Time
+0.99%	3 Oct, 1:03 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
45,769.50	+832.77
Percentage	Time
+1.85%	3 Oct, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.1	190.1
Bahrain Dinar	746.5	754
Canadian Dollar	205.1	212.1
China Yuan	39.62	40.02
Danish Krone	44.25	44.85
Euro	331.6	335.1
Hong Kong Dollar	36.27	36.62
Indian Rupee	3.12	3.21
Japanese Yen	1.8760	1.9760
Kuwaiti Dinar	913.45	922.45
Malaysian Ringgit	67.25	67.85
NewZealand \$	164.8	166.8
Norwegians Krone	28.37	28.67
Omani Riyal	731.05	738.55
Qatari Riyal	77.22	77.92
Saudi Riyal	75.25	75.90
Singapore Dollar	216.6	221.35
Swedish Korona	29.99	30.29
Swiss Franc	355.12	357.87
Thai Bhat	8.73	8.88
U.A.E Dirham	76.9	77.9
UK Pound Sterling	380.5	383.5
US Dollar	282.3	282.4

Saleem Memon

Lauds Federal

Minister For

Increasing

Additional Seats

In Discipline Of

Computer Science

In Hyderabad



Commerce Desk

HYDERABAD: President of Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders & Small Industry (HCSTSI), Muhammad Saleem Memon, has highly appreciated the initiative taken by MQM Pakistan's Convener and Federal Minister for Education, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, for increasing 100 additional seats in the discipline of Computer Science at the Hyderabad Institute.

He stated that in today's era, Computer Science, Information Technology and Digital Education are the true tools of empowerment through which our youth can compete with the world. This education will not only provide modern educational opportunities to the students of Hyderabad but will also serve as a means of producing a skilled workforce for the IT and software industry of Sindh and Pakistan.

He further emphasized that there is no shortage of talent in Hyderabad the only need is to provide opportunities. Such measures will enable the youth of Hyderabad to play a vital role in Pakistan's Digital Vision 2030, while also creating new avenues of employment and contributing to the strengthening of the national economy.

PCAA suspends Serene Air's licence,

grounds all operations

Serene Air calls it a 'temporary suspension'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) on Friday suspended Serene Air's Air Operator Certificate (AOC), effectively grounding all its domestic and international flights with immediate effect.

According to the official notification, the airline failed to meet the regulatory requirement of maintaining a minimum fleet size.

"Serene Air presently has zero ... serviceable aircraft available for operations, rendering it incapable of sustaining the operational capacity required to conduct safe air operations in accordance with applicable PCAA rules and regulations," the notice stated.

"Therefore, the air operator certificate issued to Serene Air is hereby suspended with immediate effect. You are directed to surrender the aforesaid certificates for endorsement forthwith."

Currently, the airline has no serviceable aircraft available, rendering it unable to maintain safe and reliable flights. The authority



has also notified the airline's flight operations director and other relevant officials.

Serene Air, in response, issued a statement saying its flight operations had been "tempo-

rarily suspended due to unforeseen circumstances."

"This is a short-term pause, and our team is working diligently with authorities to ensure

a swift return to service. Your safety, comfort, and trust remain our top priority. We kindly request your patience during this period," the airline said.

Hard work

ISLAMABAD: Workers are busy in preparing gate in connection with upcoming three days Balochistan Grand Festival at Lok Virsa, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Industrialization Vital For

Sustainable Growth, Innovation:

Iftikhar Malik

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Sunday said Pakistan must redefine its industrial policy with the aim to build a globally competitive industrial base.

In a statement here today an octogenarian trade leader of South Asia said industrialization must be central to our growth strategy — not just to boost exports, but to also drive innovation, create jobs and develop a skilled workforce.

He said it must be supported by robust social safety nets to protect those displaced by change. Government, the private sector and academia must work together as industrial policy has to be consistent and linked with agriculture, labour, education, trade, the exchange rate and fiscal and monetary policies.

The government's role should shift from interventionist to enabling. It must foster competition, ensure a level playing field and resolve systemic bottlenecks. Protection-



nism must cede to productivity, he added.

Iftikhar Ali Malik said simplifying the regulatory framework and reducing the tax burden on manufacturing would help firms to scale up and encourage new businesses to invest. Removing taxes on inter-corporate dividends would also boost invest-

ment. Neutralising the anti-export bias by lowering import duties on intermediate and final consumer goods would be beneficial too. High import duties act as a tax on exports, making domestic markets more profitable at the expense of international competitiveness, he concluded.

Business community is the

backbone of the national economy:

Mehr Khalid

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Additional Chief Secretary South Punjab, Mehr Khalid Ahmad Sunday said the business community is the backbone of the national economy and every possible result oriented support will be extended on top to further strengthen their role in accelerating economic growth and nation building.

Speaking here today to a delegation of traders led by Saif Ur Rehman Coordinator to Minister of State and Federal Tax Ombudsman, he said the chief minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz fully realizes the importance of traders and industrialists in nation building,



as their active participation is vital for boosting exports, and ensuring sustainable development. He hinted that South Punjab has immense potential in agriculture, industry, food and trade, and it is the collective responsibility of all stakeholders to harness these opportunities effectively. He reiterated the government's firm commitment to extend maximum cooperation to the private sector so that they can play their key role in boosting the economy, uplifting the downtrodden and contributing significantly to nation building.

Leader of delegation Saif Ur Rehman thanked the additional chief secretary for giving patience hearing to their genuine grievances.

Saudi Arabia Ideal

Market For Pakistani

Food Exports

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Convener Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry regional committee on food Shahid Imran Sunday said Pakistan's proximity makes it a preferred location for importing food, providing Saudi Arabia with affordable options and helping people access fresh fruits and vegetables.

Speaking here today to a delegation of women entrepreneurs led by Ms Ayesha Rifaqat he said despite its significant potential and availability of Halal food, share of Pakistani commodities and products in Saudi imports remains relatively small compared to other countries. He said with a population of 36 million and heavy dependence on imported food, Saudi Arabia imports over 80pc of its food to meet domestic



demand. The food market and imports will continue to grow in coming years as these key factors will drive a significant rise in demand.

He said in prevailing economic scenario it presents an ideal opportunity for collaboration. Saudi investment will help improve agricultural sector's performance and tackle poverty, as many farmers are impoverished. It will also create new sources of foreign exchange for Pakistan. In return, Saudi Arabia can secure high-quality food and a dependable partner that can ensure uninterrupted quality stable food supply, he concluded.

PFC delegation

returns to Pakistan



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) delegation Sunday returned Pakistan after completing a highly successful visit to Bangladesh, promising avenues of collaboration and joint investment in the furniture manufacturing sector were explored.

Chairing here today a board of directors meeting CEO PFC Mian Kashif Ashfaq said delegation held a series of productive meetings with leading Bangladeshi furniture manufacturers, exporters, and

trade officials. Both sides expressed keen interest in working together to enhance bilateral trade, exchange technical expertise, and encourage joint ventures to meet the growing demand in regional and international markets. The delegation highlighted Pakistan's strengths in skilled craftsmanship, innovative designs, and use of indigenous raw materials, while Bangladeshi partners emphasized their expertise in modern manufacturing processes and access to diverse export markets. It was agreed that by pooling resources and expertise, both countries could significantly increase their footprint in the global furniture industry.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq appreciated the warm hospitality extended by Bangladeshi counterparts and termed the visit a milestone in strengthening economic ties.

Pakistan sees sharpest

drops in default

risk, only country

with consistent

improvement: Khurram

ISLAMABAD: Advisor to the Finance Minister, Khurram Schehzad, on Sunday said that in a remarkable shift, Pakistan has emerged as one of the top-performing countries in terms of reducing its default risk, recording one of the sharpest declines globally.

As per the latest data posted by Bloomberg, Pakistan stands out globally as the 2nd most improved economy in terms of reduc-

tion in sovereign default risk, as measured by CDS-implied default probability globally, he posted on social media site X.

He said that Pakistan stood 2nd only to Turkey in Global Emerging Market (EM) Rankings in Default Risk Reduction, as the country has recorded one of the sharpest drops in sovereign default risk globally over the last 15 months (since Jun-24 till Sep-25).

IS Women's World Cricket Cup 2025

Indian Women's Cricket Team Defeated Pakistan Women's Cricket Team by 88 runs



Asim Tanveer

COLOMBO: India defeated Pakistan Women's Cricket Team by 88 runs in a Women's World Cup match. Pakistan Women's Cricket Team could not change history. India has beaten Pakistan for the fourth consecutive Sunday on the cricket field.

The men's team defeated Pakistan in the Asia Cup 3 times and today, Sunday, October 5, 2025, Indian women defeated the Pakistani women's cricket team by 88 runs in a match of the ICC Women's World Cup.

Sidra Amin's big innings went in



vain because no one else was ready to bat. At the Premadasa Cricket Stadium in Colombo, Pakistan won the toss and invited India to bat first.

Cloudy weather and strong winds gave additional support to the Pakistani bowling line, due to which India could not play openly in the entire 50-over innings against Pakistan.

At one point, they were out for 203 with 7 wickets, but still they were dismissed for 247 runs after playing the entire 50 overs. Harleen Deol scored 46 and Richa Goch scored 35 runs, but after her departure, Sidra Amin's courage also paid off. She was dismissed for 81 runs off 106 balls.

4 wickets for 69 runs. Sidra Iqbal and Fatima Sana took 2 wickets each. In reply, Pakistan lost 3 wickets for 26, which increased the pressure. Muneeb Ali made 2, Shams Sadaf made 6 and Alia Riaz could also only make 2.

Sidra Amin was helped by Natalia Parvez, and Pakistan's score was 95 for 3 wickets. Here Natalia went after scoring 33 runs and then the line was drawn. Captain Fatima Sana could only score 2 runs.

Sidra Nawaz resisted with 14 runs, but after her departure, Sidra Amin's courage also paid off. She was dismissed for 81 runs off 106 balls.

After this, the entire Pakistan team returned to the pavilion after scoring 159 runs in 43 overs.

India won by a significant margin of 88 runs. For India, Kranti took 3 wickets for just 20 runs in 10 overs and Deputy Sharma took 3 wickets for 45 runs in 9 overs.

This is Pakistan's 12th defeat against India in ODI cricket and 5th failure in the World Cup. The Pakistani women's team has not won a single ODI match against India so far. One thing is certain: Pakistan bowled out India for the first time in an ODI match. Kranti was awarded the Player of the Match.

S. M Adil Services for Cricket in Zone-IV are unforgettable: Tabish Javed

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Late S. M Adil services for Cricket in Zone-IV are unforgettable; his contributions will always be remembered in Zone-IV said by the Chief Guest, Tabish Javed Vice President President Regional Cricket Association Karachi He was speaking on the opening Ceremony of Beautiful Trophy of S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket Tournament.

Khalid Nafees Chairman Tournament Committee also spoke and said Late S. M Adil worked extensively for promoting cricket in Zone-IV, M. Touseef Siddiqui Joint Secretary RCA Karachi rich tribute psid to Late S. M Adil Services would be remembered in golden words. He congratulated Zone-IV President Musarat Raza, Vice President S. M Asim Zahoor, S. M. Adeel and Shah Shafuiddin, for organizing the S. M Adil Cricket Tournament in Zone-IV and assured them of full support.

Present on the occasion were Azam Khan (Coordinator RCAK), Assistant Secretary Mohammad Ahmad Naqvi, Wasal Ansari, Jamil Ahmad President Zone-II, Mohammad Sami Khan Presi-



dent Zone-V, Zia Ahmad Siddiqui, President Zone-VI, Mazhar Ali Awan President Zone-VII, Arif Waheed Secretary Zone-I, S. M Asim Zahoor, Vice President Zone-IV, Saud Farooqui, S. M. Adeel son

of late S. M Adil, Tournament Secretary Shah Shafuiddin, Amjad Ali and other disgusted Guest.

Three matches were played at different grounds on the opening day.

Scores in Brief:

Super Gymkhana beat Pak Mughal Cricket Club by 125 runs. Super Gymkhana 213 all out in 35 overs. Syed Mudsar Ali 64 9x4 2x6, Ghalib Shah 31, Mohammad Irfan 24 Rizwan Ali 21.

Pak Mughal scored 88 all-out in 22.3 overs. Mohammad Fahim. Mohammad Asim 3/32, Muhammad Faheem 3/44.

In the 2nd Match Inqilab Cricket Club beat Malir Sports by 26 runs. Inqilab Cricket Club 229/8 in 35 overs. Aamir Raza (73), Asghar Khan (42), Fahim Rahman and Owais Ahmad (30 each). Malir Sports scored 203 allout in 35 overs. Danish Rafiq 49, Muhammad Zeeshan 32, Umair Khan 31, Farjad Yar Khan. Hizbullah 2/17, Mehmood Khan 2/24, Faheem Yar Khan 2/43.

In the 3rd Match Comrade Sports beat Sir Essa E. H. Jaffer Cricket Club by 8 Wickets. Sir Essa E. H. Jaffer c.c 113 all-out in 32 overs. Mohsin Korai 60 10x4. Hasnain Muhammad (rlb) 3/14, Abdul Sattar (mf) / 23, S. Haroon Ali (sla) 3/ 25.

In reply Comrade Sports 114/2 in 18.4 overs.

Defending champion Sinner out of Shanghai Masters with leg injury

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Defending champion Jannik Sinner retired Sunday from the Shanghai Masters after suffering a leg injury in his third-round match against the Netherlands' Tallon Griekspoor.

The world number two began

to experience issues in the fourth game of the third set, and tried to persevere before abandoning the match when trailing 6-7 (3/7), 7-5, 3-2.

After an evenly matched first set, the four-time Grand Slam winner showed his teeth in the tiebreak, hitting two aces to take an early lead.

In the second set the tension picked up, with the Dutchman surviving three break points in the second game.

But it was Griekspoor who broke in the 11th game with a backhand, pushing the match into post-midnight territory.

Sinner ended the fourth game of the third set crouched



over in pain, limping around the court.

His condition did not improve in the fifth and he hit the ball into the net multiple

times, providing an easy break for his opponent, before having to be helped to his chair at the end of the game and then calling it quits.

Muneeba Ali's unusual run out sparks debate in India-Pakistan World Cup clash

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: A dramatic and controversial moment lit up during the high-stakes ICC Women's World Cup 2025 clash between Pakistan and India at the Premadasa International Cricket Stadium, Colombo, when Pakistani opener Muneeba Ali was run out in an unusual fashion during the early overs of the chase.

The incident occurred on the final ball of the fourth over, adding to the mounting tension between the arch-rivals.

Muneeba pushed the ball gently and attempted a run, but a sharp piece of fielding resulted in a direct hit at the striker's end.

Initially, the situation seemed straightforward as the on-field umpire referred the decision upstairs, and the big screen showed "Not Out," suggesting that Muneeba had made her ground in time.

However, the twist came moments later when the third umpire decided to take



another look at the footage.

Upon closer inspection, it was revealed that Muneeba's bat had bounced slightly in the air at the precise moment the ball hit the stumps.

With no part of the bat or her body grounded behind the crease, the decision

was reversed, and the big screen flashed "Out," leaving the batter visibly stunned and the Pakistani camp in disbelief.

Meanwhile, Muneeba was told to stay on the field of play by captain Fatima Sana while she had a chat with the fourth umpire on the boundary line.

As per the ICC regulations, a batter is declared Run Out if, at any time while the ball is in play, they are out of the crease and the wicket is fairly broken by a fielder, regardless of whether a run was being attempted.

MCC law 30 further clarifies that once a batter has made their ground but loses contact due to forward momentum, he or she cannot be given out — unless the bat or body was never grounded behind the crease at the moment the wicket was broken.

The controversy added fuel to an already tense encounter, in which India's Harmanpreet Kaur and Fatima Sana avoided a handshake, mirroring a similar incident that happened in the recently held men's Asia Cup 2025.

At the time of filing this story, Pakistan were struggling at 34-3 in 15.3 overs in pursuit of India's 248.

Sidra Amin scored 12* off 37 balls, whereas Natalia Pervaiz remained unbeaten on five from 14 balls.

One mountaineer dead, two missing in Slovenia avalanche



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: A Croatian mountaineer died and two more were missing after being swept by an avalanche in northwestern Slovenia, police said on Sunday.

"Rescue teams recovered a body... but the search operation had to be stopped due to hard weather conditions and avalanche threat," police spokesman Bostjan Repinc told AFP, adding that the search operation would resume on Monday.

The three mountaineers were part of a Croatian group of seven staying in a hut near the Tosca mountain and decided to start their descent on Sunday morning despite the worsening weather conditions.

A rescue operation with more than 60 people was launched shortly after the avalanche.

But the police said the rain, snow and wind meant they could not use helicopters until the afternoon, when the first body was recovered.

Babar Azam to represent Lahore Whites in QeA Trophy ahead of South Africa Test series



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's star batter and former captain Babar Azam is set to return to domestic red-ball action, representing Lahore Whites in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy ahead of the upcoming two-match Test series against South Africa.

This marks Babar's first appearance in the country's premier first-class tournament since the 2019 final, where he captained Central Punjab.

His return is seen as a strategic move to gain valuable match practice and fine-tune his form before leading Pakistan's batting charge in the home Test series.

The decision to include Babar in Lahore Whites' lineup comes as Pakistan intensifies its preparations for the Test series against South Africa, which is scheduled to begin on October 12 at the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.

His participation in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy is expected to boost the morale of the domestic circuit, while also giving local players a chance to share the field with one of the world's top batters.

Notably, Wicket-keeper Mohammad Rizwan, Salman Ali Agha, Hasan Ali, and Sajid Khan are also set to represent their respective regions in the tournament on the directives of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Mohsin Naqvi.

Mohammad Rizwan and Sajid Khan will represent Peshawar Region in the 10-team tournament, while Salman Ali Agha and Hasan Ali will play for Sialkot and Lahore Whites, respectively.

The opening round of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy ends on October 9, two days before the Test series begins at the Gaddafi Stadium.

The 10-team tournament will be played across four cities: Abbottabad, Islamabad, Peshawar, and Rawalpindi.

Solidarity with people of Palestine

KARACHI: Central Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan (JIP) Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman addressing during a demonstration against Israeli airstrikes on Gaza, to show solidarity with Palestinian people, in the Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Hafiz Naeem warns rulers against recognising Israel at JI's Gaza Million March in Karachi

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chief Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman Sunday warned that his party would withdraw support for the government if it even considered recognising Israel.

He was addressing a massive crowd during the Gaza Million March held on Shahr-e-Faisal in Karachi, where thousands of men, women, and children gathered

to express solidarity with the people of Palestine.

Hafiz Naeem urged Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to openly back Hamas, warning that failure to do so would have political consequences. "If the rulers even think of recognizing Israel, we will stop supporting them. Shehbaz Sharif should support Hamas — otherwise, they won't even find a way to escape," he said to the cheering crowd.

He lauded the people of Karachi for their strong turnout, saying the Palestinians had shown extraordinary courage by resisting Israeli aggression for two years. "Hamas has taken up arms in accordance with the UN Charter, while the United States continues to empower Israel," he added.

Criticising global powers and Muslim leaders, the JI chief said the United Nations

had lost its credibility by acting under American influence. "Israel was illegally imposed on Palestine. There is only one state in that land, and that is Palestine. The world does not need a UN that operates on American instructions," he declared.

Taking aim at Pakistan's major political parties, Hafiz Naeem questioned their commitment to Palestine. "How much have PML-N,

PPP, and PTI protested for Palestine?" he asked, while acknowledging Imran Khan's stance from prison, calling him a "political prisoner" who continues to oppose America and Israel.

The JI chief urged citizens across Pakistan to hold nationwide demonstrations on October 7 — two years after the Al-Aqsa Storm operation — to show solidarity with the Palestinian people at 11 a.m.

Sharjeel Memon accuses Punjab government of conspiring against PM under PPP's cover

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon Sunday accused the Punjab government of using the Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) name to "settle its own disputes" with the federal government, intensifying tensions between the coalition partners, PPP and PML-N.

Addressing a press conference in Karachi, Memon claimed that the Punjab administration was "indirectly targeting" the PPP but that its "actual aim" was the federal government.

"They are taking our cover to settle their own issues with the prime minister or the Centre," he said, alleging that Punjab was trying to create



conditions that could strain relations between the coalition partners.

He added that the PPP supported the federal government on key national issues to ensure the political system continued to function smoothly, but accused the Punjab government of attempting to create division.

"We will not let this conspiracy against the federal government succeed," he asserted.

The minister criticised Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, saying her administration's attitude reflected "jealousy" over Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's and the army chief's successful foreign visits to Saudi Arabia and the United States.

"It seems some people think this recognition should have come to them," he remarked.

Azma Bukhari rejects Memon's allegations, defends Punjab's flood relief and development work

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari Sunday issued a strong response to Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon, rejecting his criticism of the Punjab government and its handling of flood relief and local body elections.

Addressing the media, Bukhari said Memon's remarks were "politically motivated" and aimed at creating unnecessary conflict between provinces. She stated that Punjab's local body elections would be conducted transparently whenever held, adding, "They will not be bogus like Karachi — so keep your deadline in your pocket."

The minister accused Memon of trying to "forcefully enter a province and fight," stressing that Punjab's resources and water would not be managed on the directives of



outsiders.

Highlighting the province's flood response, Bukhari said that financial assistance checks were being delivered to verified households, and flood victims had expressed gratitude to

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz and the provincial government. She alleged that PPP leaders were "insulting flood victims" and "exaggerating hardships" for political purposes.

"Did the PPP in Punjab or Sindh

help flood victims even a little?" she asked, adding that the party's "politics over human suffering" had failed to gain public support.

Accepting Memon's call for a public debate, Bukhari said, "Choose the place and time yourself — but come in person, don't send a proxy." She maintained that the PPP's attempts to politicize Punjab's governance and relief work would not succeed.

The minister also criticised PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, claiming that during his tenure as foreign minister he had "weakened both his party and the federal government." She accused the PPP of "interfering in Punjab's affairs" and attempting to pressure the federation through "protests and threats."

"Who are you to give orders to Punjab? Keep your advice in your pocket," she remarked.

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PM Shehbaz meets record-breaking student Mahnoor Cheema in London



Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met Pakistani-origin student Mahnoor Cheema, who set a record in A-level examinations during his recent visit to London.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif congratulated Mahnoor Cheema on her remarkable achievement of securing distinctive grades in 24 A-Level subjects and lauded her exceptional performance in the field of education, said a statement issued by the PM's Office on Sunday.

Praising her talent and dedica-

tion, Prime Minister Shehbaz said that Mahnoor Cheema is a valuable asset for Pakistan and a source of inspiration for the country's youth.

He also congratulated her parents on her achievement and conveyed his best wishes for Mahnoor's continued success in the future.

On the occasion, the prime minister presented gifts to Mahnoor Cheema as a token of appreciation.

Expressing gratitude to the prime minister, Mahnoor Cheema reaffirmed her commitment to achieving even greater success in her academic journey.

India's false supremacy exposed, says Khawaja Asif



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Sunday said that India's government was facing intense internal and external pressure, with its false narrative of supremacy now exposed before the world.

Talking to a private news channel, he said that political compulsions and domestic setbacks had pushed the Indian leadership into a desperate position.

"They are under criticism from all sides, and their hostility towards Pakistan has become an obsession," he remarked.

Khawaja Asif said Pakistan's growing global recognition and

diplomatic acceptance were not being digested by India.

"If any malicious adventure is attempted to restore their image or overcome international isolation, it will receive a strong response," he warned.

He asserted that Pakistan's military superiority was a fact and any misadventure would only further damage India's credibility.

Responding to a question on Gaza, the minister said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was "200 percent committed" to the cause of Palestine and had raised the issue vocally on every international platform.

"Pakistan stands firmly with its Palestinian brothers," he added.

Viral audio on 'additional screening' of Kashmiris at Islamabad checkpoints declared fake: Police

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Authorities have dismissed as fake and baseless an audio clip circulating on social media that claimed citizens from Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) were being subjected to additional screening in Punjab.

The clip, which surfaced following recent protests by the Awami Action Committee in AJK, was featured in a vlog by YouTuber Imran Riaz, currently residing in London. In his video, Riaz claimed that a journalist had sent him the audio.

In the recording, an unidentified voice was heard instructing police officials to "humiliate Kashmiris" and detain those without identity cards — remarks that sparked outrage online.

However, both Islamabad and

Punjab Police have categorically rejected the authenticity of the audio, calling it "misleading propaganda."

In an official statement, Islamabad Police said the audio was being spread to create "a false impression" and clarified that no discriminatory directives had been issued against citizens from Kashmir. "All security checkpoints and inspection points are operating



as usual," a police spokesperson said, adding that no additional screening or targeting of Kashmiris had taken place in any police jurisdiction.