



Daily The Spokesman



Dar urges world to take decisive actions to address rights violations in IIOJK

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar on Thursday called upon the international community to take decisive actions to address the worsening human rights situation in IIOJK and ensure accountability for India's illegal and unilateral actions.



Bugti reaffirms unwavering support for Kashmir

Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti has said that Indian atrocities cannot weaken the determination of the Kashmiri people and that their struggle for freedom will ultimately reach its destination. In his message on Kashmir Solidarity Day, Sarfraz Bugti stated that Kashmiris have been bravely resisting Indian oppression for more than seven decades.

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Welcome to Pakistan

RAWALPINDI: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif receive H.E. Mr. Mirziyoyev Shavkat Miro-movich, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, upon his arrival on an official visit to Pakistan at Noor Khan Airbase.



Photo: Online

Pakistan, Uzbekistan sign multiple accords to strengthen bilateral cooperation

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Uzbekistan on Thursday signed a number of accords aimed at enhancing bilateral cooperation in diverse fields including defence, agriculture, trade, industry, culture, education, disaster management, pharmaceuticals and others.

The MoUs were signed during the two-day state visit of President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, who arrived here hours ago, at the invitation of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Both the leaders witnessed the ceremony held at the PM House, as ministers and officials from both sides exchanged the documents of the accords. The president of Uzbekistan and the prime minister also signed a bilateral trade protocol intended to boost the existing trading volume to US\$2 billion.

Among the key pacts, a Memo-

randum of Understanding between Pakistan's Drug Regulatory Authority and Uzbekistan's Agency for Pharmaceutical Industry Development was signed to enhance cooperation in pharmaceutical products and regulatory functions.

An MoU on cooperation in sports and physical culture was signed between the Pakistan Sports Board and Uzbekistan's Ministry of Sports.

To enhance trade ties, Minister

for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan and Uzbek Minister of Investments, Industry and Trade Laziz Kudratov signed a Protocol on the Expansion of the List of Goods under the Preferential Trade Agreement, along with an Agreement for the Establishment of the Pakistan-Uzbekistan Interregional Forum, aimed at strengthening regional and business-to-business cooperation.

In the defence sector, Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad

Asif and Uzbek Minister of Defence Shukhrat Khal-mukhammedov signed an Action Plan for Defence Cooperation. The two sides also concluded a Memorandum of Understanding in the fields of Ecology, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as an MoU on Mutual Cooperation in Disaster Management, underscoring growing collaboration in non-traditional security areas.

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DPM Dar, Uzbek President reaffirm commitment to deepen longstanding Pakistan-Uzbekistan brotherly relations



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister (DPM/FM), Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Thursday called on President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, who is undertaking a two-day state visit to Pakistan.

The DPM/FM conveyed the warm greetings of the President, Prime Minister and the people of Pakistan to President Mirziyoyev, a DPM's office news release.

He underscored the profound importance that Pakistan accords to its cordial relations with Uzbekistan and expressed confidence that the Presidential visit would contribute towards further strengthening and expanding bilateral cooperation.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to further deepen and diversify the longstanding brotherly relations between Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

Bilawal, US lawmaker call for cementing Pakistan-US parliamentary ties

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman and former foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and an American Republican lawmaker have called for cementing parliamentary relationship between Washington and Islamabad.

The call was made during a meeting between Bilawal Bhutto with Republican member of the US House of Representatives Robert B Aderholt in Washington on Wednesday.

The meeting was held before the prayer breakfast in Washington, during which both leaders held detailed discussion on interfaith harmony and religious tolerance.

The PPP chairman and Robert Aderholt, who was elected from the state of Alabama, also exchanged views on promoting bilateral relations between the two countries.

Both leaders also pondered over proposals regarding primary health and education.

Bilawal and Robert Aderholt, who is also a member of the US House's Appropriations Committee Washington, also discussed ways to strengthen parliamentary ties between Pakistan and the US.

Senator Akbar Khawaja was also present during the meeting between Bilawal Zardari and Robert Aderholt.

Kashmir Solidarity Day: Services chiefs reaffirm support for Kashmiris

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: On the solemn occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), HJ, COAS & Page; Admiral Naveed Ashraf, NI, NI (M), T Bt, Chief of the Naval Staff; and Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, NI (M), HJ, Chief of Air Staff, on behalf of the Armed Forces of Pakistan, reaffirm their unwavering support for the resilient people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) in their epic struggle for self-determination.

The Pakistan Armed Forces strongly condemn grave violations of human rights in IIOJK, including extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, and attempts to alter the demographic and political landscape of the region, with blatant disregard for international law.

We reiterate that a just and peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people, remains essential for lasting peace and stability in South Asia. The international community must take concrete and meaningful action to alleviate the suffering of the Kashmiri people.

The Armed Forces of Pakistan remain steadfast in their duty to safeguard Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and unwavering in their solidarity with their Kashmiri brothers and sisters in their rightful quest for freedom and dignity.

Long live Pakistan! Long live Kashmir!



A Leading National Daily

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فرمان رسوی
فیصلہ علیہ
ہم ابھی بھی بیان کیا تو یہ کیا ہے
بے خان نے بیان کیا ان سے پیدا ہے
ویسا کہ اور ان سے ان عمر شریعت میں
بیان کیا تو یہ کیا کہ مصلحت اللہ علیہ
ویسا کہ اپنے کو پہنچا کر جو کہ
من فریاد ہے
(عین فریاد: صدیق نے 6756)

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

Bugti reaffirms unwavering support for Kashmir

Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti has said that Indian atrocities cannot weaken the determination of the Kashmiri people and that their struggle for freedom will ultimately reach its destination. In his message on Kashmir Solidarity Day, Sarfraz Bugti stated that Kashmiris have been bravely resisting Indian oppression for more than seven decades.

Uzbekistan's President Tours Pakistan's Defence Hub GIDS



Naveed Ahmad Khan

RAWALPINDI: President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev along with senior ministers paid an official visit to Global Industrial and Defence Solutions (GIDS) as part of his official tour to Pakistan.

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) and Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), HJ warmly received the President and the delegation and conducted them during the visit to the facility, said a news release issued by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

During the visit, the President was briefed on the diverse portfolio of GIDS encompassing advanced defence solu-

tions, industrial capabilities, and technological innovations.

The delegation toured key facilities and witnessed various defence products reflecting Pakistan's growing expertise in indigenous defence production and industrial development.

The visit underscored the shared commitment of Pakistan and Uzbekistan to deepen collaboration in defence, technology, and industrial sectors. Both sides emphasized the importance of enhancing partnerships, knowledge exchange and joint ventures, it further said.

The visit marked a significant step toward strengthening bilateral ties and exploring multifarious avenues of cooperation between Pakistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Uzbekistan president accorded guard of honour at PM House



Spokesman Report

where the formal reception took place.

The national anthems of Uzbekistan and Pakistan were played while both leaders stood on the saluting dais.

A smartly attired contingent of the three services of the Pakistan armed forces presented the guard of honour, which President Mirziyoyev reviewed.

The two leaders introduced their respective delegations to each other before proceeding for one-on-one meeting, followed by talks at the delegation level.

During the talks, the two sides will review the full spectrum of bilateral relations and explore new avenues to further deepen cooperation across diverse sectors, and collaboration at regional and international forums. Both sides will also sign accords to boost bilateral cooperation.

President, PM welcome Uzbek president

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev arrived in Islamabad on a two-day visit on Thursday afternoon. On arrival, the Uzbek head of state was received by President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif at the Noor Khan Airbase.

The Uzbek President was accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising senior cabinet ministers and prominent business leaders.

During his stay, he will meet President Asif Zardari, hold delegation-level talks with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and address the Pakistan-Uzbekistan Business Forum.

AJK PM vows unwavering commitment to Kashmir Cause on Solidarity Day

 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, has said that Kashmir Solidarity Day serves as a powerful reminder and a reaffirmation of the unwavering commitment on the part of people of Azad Kashmir and Pakistan to Kashmiris' just cause.

Addressing Kashmir Solidarity Day rally held under the aegis of All parties Hurriyat conference and Kashmir Liberation Cell, the prime minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore said that the observance of the day at national level also highlights the Pakistan's resolve to support their Kashmiri brethren in pursuit of their long cherished ideals and goals.

Expressing gratitude to the people and government of Pakistan, he underscored Islamabad's consistent moral, political and diplomatic support in highlighting the Kashmiri stance on self-determination globally and representing their aspirations internationally. He expressed the hope that the Kashmiri people's struggle for freedom will soon reach a logical conclusion. The day, he said was not



far away when the people of occupied Kashmir will be able to breathe freely in an atmosphere of freedom and liberty.

The rally was attended by a large number of people including leaders of political, social and religious organizations of Azad Kashmir, businessmen,

lawyers and members of civil society. The event was also addressed by Deputy Amir Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan Liaquat Baloch, veteran cricketer Shahid Khan Afridi, senior leaders of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference including Ghulam Muhammad Safi and Secretary General Parvez Shah, AJK Jamaat-e-Islami chief Sheikh Aqeel-ur-Rehman, senior Hurriyat leader Mahmood Ahmed Saghari, spokesperson of the Prime Minister of AJK Shaukat Javed Mir, Sheikh Muhammad Yaqoob, Shameem Shawl, Zahid Ashraf, Dr. Muhammad Sajid Khan, and others.

Shield

MUZAFFARABAD: AJK premier Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore gives shield to Star Cricketer M Shahid Afridi.



Photo: Spokesman

Sardar Attique Meets PM Rathore to Discuss Kashmir Politics and Local Development

 Muzaffarabad

President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan called on AJK Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore on latest political situation in occupied Kashmir and political issues in Kashmir.

Apart from other political matters, the meeting sought to repair the damage caused during the recent protests in West Garden constituency and provide alternatives.

New wheel dozer, fire brigade vehicle in Dhirkot, water tanker, college bus, new ambulance for



Dhirkot tehsil headquarters hospital, vacant residents in educational institutions in Western Bagh constituency. Detailed discussion regarding completion of ongoing development projects and new projects in West Garden.

The Prime Minister assured the President Muslim Conference of full cooperation on all these issues.

The meeting also discussed the permanence of NTS vetting candidates in detail.

Chairman of Muslim Conference Western Bagh Development Board Sardar Shahid Abbasi and Raja Abdul Jabbar were also present in the meeting.

February 5 Kashmir Solidarity Day A milestone in Kashmir Movement struggle

On both sides of the Line of Control and across the world including Pakistan, February 5 is celebrated with traditional enthusiasm and commitment to the political independence of the Kashmiri people from Indian domination. Diplomatic support will continue. On this occasion, human hand chains are made on the bridges connecting Azad Kashmir with Pakistan especially from Kohala to Muzaffarabad. Rallies, rallies and seminars have been held throughout Pakistan and abroad.

Solidarity means to agree, to be one, to stay together, to be like-minded. This way of expressing solidarity with the Kashmiri nation reflects the true feelings of the Pakistani nation and is enough to make clear what the Pakistani nation wants. The Kashmiri and

Pakistani nations are linked by the long-standing relationship of Islam. Kashmiri and Pakistani nations are geographically, historically, politically, religiously, culturally, living, language and dressed in every aspect of life, in every way, in every way. Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah said that Kashmir is the vein of Pakistan. We have one church, we have one religion, we have one God and we have one messenger. At the same time, our survival is safety and protection. Quaid-e-Azam has expressed the relationship between Kashmir and Pakistan in simple words. Perhaps there is no better comprehensive and beautiful words to express this relationship. Kashmir is the vein of Pakistan.

The Azadi Movement strengthened when Kashmiri freedom fighters got tired of the oppression of the Indian army during 1987-1988 and settled

in Munjanbad area of Srinagar in December. More than 300 Muslims were martyred and hundreds injured as a result of blind fog firing on the procession. This injustice and violence against the Muslims of Srinagar was felt acutely not only in Kashmir but in Pakistan. As a result of the efforts to suppress the sparks of PTI, rallies and demonstrations started not only in all cities and towns of Kashmir but also the people of Pakistan and Kashmir. They did not tolerate the coin and an endless series of demonstrations against the Indian oppressor started throughout Pakistan.

If we do not mention the late Qazi Hussain Ahmad, it would be an exaggeration if he understood that the hands of the Indian occupation forces were killing in occupied Kashmir. It is obligatory on Muslims to help. On January 5, 1990, Hon'ble Qazi Hussain Ahmad appealed through a press conference that on February 5, 1990, the entire nation of Kashmir should express solidarity and appeal to Punjab, Sharif Sahib and later the Prime Minister of Pakistan Ms. Benazir Bhutto gave the approval and on February 5, many

programs were held at the center and in the provinces at the Unity Kashmir government level. Late Benazir Bhutto and late Qazi Hussain Ahmed held separate rallies in Muzaffarabad.

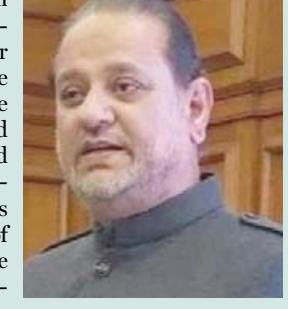
I decided to support this motion. Thereafter, the Solidarity Day celebrated at the official level every year on February 5 is a practical expression of the fact that the path chosen by the Kashmiris for their independence is fully supported by the government and people of Pakistan. Pakistan has given a lot of political, moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiris since. Whether it is the devastating earthquake of 2005 or the terrible wars or the increasing injustice in occupied Kashmir, Pakistan will never leave the Kashmiris alone.

The Muslims of occupied Kashmir have launched a long-suffering and historic struggle to achieve independence from Indian rule. Mothers, sisters and daughters of occupied Kashmir did not hesitate to make any sacrifice for independence from India. Why did the mothers of Kashmir prepare

Pakistan Leadership's Stance Boosts Kashmir Morale, Says Sardar Attique

 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: President All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan has said that the clear and unequivocal stand of Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir from the base camp capital will boost the morale of Kashmiris on this side, the freedom movement of occupied Kashmir will be successful, the efforts of Kashmiri martyrs and freedom fighters will not go in vain, the relationship between Kashmir and Pakistan is inseparable, the Muslim Conference had started Kashmir Solidarity Day on February 5 in the form of the resolution to join Pakistan, the day the Pakistani leadership and the Pakistani people and Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had called Kashmir the jugular vein of Pakistan, which had received immense strength from the Mujahid-e-Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayum Khan, the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference raised the slogan of Kashmir will become Pakistan and took it further. This is not a political slogan of the Muslim Conference and the Mujahid-e-Awwal Sardar Abdul Qayum Khan, it is part of our political faith and faith, the solidarity of Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistan. It is historical, geographical, historical, economic and cultural.



Wani Thanks Pakistan for Kashmir Support; Urges Boost in Efforts for Early Settlement



 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Senior Vice Chairman Jammu and Kashmir National Front, Altaf Hussain Wani, has expressed his profound gratitude to Pakistan, its people, and leadership for observing solidarity with the Kashmiri people.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, the National Front leader said that Solidarity Day stands as a testament to Pakistan's unwavering support for the people of Kashmir and its commitment to a peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions.

"The continued bloodshed, profiling of religious scholars, imams, and seminaries, ruthless suppression of dissent along with brutal attacks on Kashmiri labourers and shawl vendors by Hindu extremists in different Indian states, speaks volumes about the grave injustices faced by Kashmiris," he said.

"While the Kashmiri people continue to bleed in silence, the world has unfortunately chosen to remain indifferent to these brutalities, which amount to war crimes," he added.

Commending Pakistan's commitment to regional peace, Wani reiterated his party's longstanding demand for the holding of a free and impartial plebiscite in the region under international auspices, enabling the Kashmiri people to determine their political future in an atmosphere free from coercion and intimidation.

Kashmir is Part of Pakistan, we are With Kashmiris: Dr Qaiser Javed



 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: A rally organized by the Pakistan Lions Youth Council to express solidarity with the Kashmiri people, in which Chief Executive PLY Dr. Qaiser Javed said that Kashmir is part of Pakistan and the entire Pakistani nation stands with its army chief General Asim and Insha Allah we will take Kashmir under his leadership. We will never allow India to oppress the defenseless Kashmiris. The special guests of the rally were Member of the Provincial Assembly and Parliamentary Secretary from Khanewal Rana Muhammad Saleem, ADCG Khanewal Ghulam Mustafa Sher, Assistant Commissioner Rohat Kamran and DSP Khanewal Khalid Javed, who said that the government is also very serious and negotiations are underway with India. Insha Allah Kashmir will be ours very soon. Our army has the ability to look Modi in the eye and talk to him and the entire Pakistani nation is with the Kashmiri people and NGOs have a big role in this. He also addressed the participants of the rally and other speakers.

their liver and go to the fields of jihad? The sisters of Kashmir are ready to tell their brothers that we must get independence from Indian domination at any cost. More than 8 lakh Indian army savages are playing with the blood of Kashmiri Muslims. The water of the lakes is turning red with the blood of Kashmiri youth.

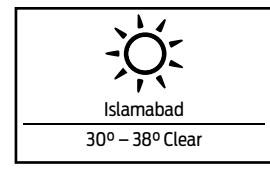
The Freedom Movement is actually a story of continuous struggle and long sacrifices that every sheet is written in the light of martyrs. The struggle of the Kashmiris for independence has been around for more than half a century.

India to end atrocities in occupied Kashmir to suppress freedom movement. As a result of these women became widows and 33 children orphaned, 41 countries were destroyed, thousand 4088 people including activists, youths, doctors, scholars, women and journalists

Analysis



Raja Muhammad Zareen Khan


SERVICES
Namaz Timings

Fajr	5:37 am
Zohr	12:22 pm
Asr	4:04 pm
Maghrib	5:42 pm
Isha	7:07 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
& Rescue Services	445122
Motorway Police	9266044
Motorway Police	9270601-20

Women Police
Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

CMH	561111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cant Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-99
Shifa International	4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA	921234-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224

Talpur pays tribute to courage, sacrifices of IIOJK women

KARACHI: Pakistan People's Party Women's Wing President Ms. Faryal Talpur Thursday paid special tribute to the courage and sacrifices of women of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir in this ongoing struggle against Indian oppression.

In her message on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day, Ms. Faryal Talpur said that every person in Pakistan, especially women, stands and will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Kashmiri people.

She said that Pakistan has never forgotten and will never forget the struggle of its Kashmiri brothers and sisters. The Kashmiri people, she added, continue to face severe Indian state oppression, repression, terrorism, and grave human rights violations.

She said that the ongoing atrocities against unarmed civilians, women, children, and the elderly in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir are a matter of concern for the conscience of the entire world.

Extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, demolition of homes, restrictions on freedom of expression, and the humiliation of women in IIOJK are clear violations of international law, human values, and United Nations resolutions.

CM makes surprise visit to Liberty Chowk and Mochi Gate, interacts with citizens

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif paid a surprise visit to Liberty Chowk and Mochi Gate, where she interacted with citizens and expressed affection towards children.

A large number of people gathered upon seeing the chief minister. She spoke with citizens, took selfies with them, and directed security personnel to step aside to allow her to freely interact with the public.

The chief minister expressed delight upon seeing a young girl wearing a yellow shirt and shook hands with her. A young child also approached her and exchanged greetings, while another citizen carrying an infant received prayers from the chief minister.

During the interaction, a citizen told the chief minister that people appreciated her performance and are satisfied with her work. Another citizen remarked that her performance is

remarkably impressive and expressed the wish that she should visit Karachi as well.

During her visit, Ms Sharif instructed a motorcyclist riding without a safety rod to get one installed. She said the safety rod was meant for public protection and advised that it could be installed free of cost at designated camps. She clarified that motorcycling was not banned during Basant, but motorcycles without safety rods would be impounded.

She said all safety measures were being implemented to protect citizens. After Liberty Chowk, the chief minister also visited Mochi Gate to review Basant preparations. Responding to a citizen's query, she said the people of Lahore are celebrating and their happiness is a source of satisfaction for her. She added that festivities had returned to Lahore after a long time.

Citizens expressed excitement over the permission to celebrate Basant and



said Lahoris are remembering former prime minister Nawaz Sharif during the festivities.

Welcome Banners

ISLAMABAD: A view of the banners with welcoming notes and pictures of President of Uzbekistan, Pakistan and PM of Pakistan, along the different roads of Capital City, on the visit of President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to Pakistan.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz Multan City Women's Wing's Organized Kashmir Day Rally

Iram Asim

MULTAN: Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz Multan City Women's Wing's Organized Kashmir Day Rally, Women's Strong Expression of Solidarity.



A strong rally was taken out on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day at Chowk Hussain Agahi under the leadership of PML-N City Women's Wing Multan President Sarwat Khan and General Secretary Fehmida Chauhan, in which a large number of women participated with enthusiasm. The women participating in the

complete solidarity with the Kashmiri people and strongly condemned the Indian atrocities. On this occasion, PML-N City Women's Wing President Sarwat Khan said in her address that the Kashmiri people have been facing oppression and oppression for decades, but their struggle for freedom cannot be weakened under any circumstances. Sarwat Khan President, General Secretary Fehmida Chohani He said that the PML-N and the entire Pakistani nation stand shoulder to shoulder with the Kashmiri brothers and sisters.

rally held Pakistani and Kashmiri flags and raised slogans of "Kashmir will become Paki-

stan", "Long live Pakistan" and "Long live Pak Army". The participants expressed

Kashmir solidarity day observed at TT Singh with holding a function and rally

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: A central ceremony to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day was held at the District Council Hall under the auspices of the district administration. Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela and District Police Officer Afzal Abbas attended the event as chief guests. The ceremony commenced with the sounding of a siren, followed by a one-minute silence to pay tribute to the martyrs of Kashmir. The national anthems of Pakistan and Kashmir were then played.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner other district officers, representatives of the district administration, office-bearers of the Bar Association, members of civil society, media representatives and a large number of citizens were present on the occasion.



Schoolchildren presented tableaux and national songs highlighting the Indian atrocities committed against the people of Kashmir. The performances evoked strong emotions among the participants, who appreciated the efforts of the children.

Addressing the gathering, DPO Afzal Abbas said that the atrocities being committed against the Kashmiri people were a serious question mark on the conscience of the international community. He added that the Kashmiri people were not alone and that the entire Pakistani nation stood firmly with them. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela said that Kashmir was known as heaven on earth, but had today been turned into a symbol of oppression and brutality. He said that the Kashmiri people had been struggling for freedom and basic human rights for the past eight decades. He added that the revocation of Article 370 was a failed attempt to erase Kashmiri identity and reiterated that Pakistan would continue to support the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people at all international forums.

PSCA Ensures Foolproof Security Arrangements on Kashmir Solidarity Day Across Punjab

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab Safe Cities Authority (PSCA) has expressed whole-hearted solidarity with the people of Kashmir and paid tribute to their courage, resilience, and steadfastness on the eve of Kashmir Solidarity Day.

PSCA salutes the unmatched sacrifices of the oppressed Kashmiri people in their struggle and quest for attaining right to self-determination.

According to a spokesperson of Punjab Safe Cities Authority, foolproof security arrangements have been put in place across the province in collaboration with the Safe Cities Authority and Lahore Police to ensure peace and public safety on Kashmir Solidarity Day. All rallies being held across Punjab are continuously monitored through advanced AI-based Safe City cameras, facial recognition systems and modern surveillance software.

The spokesperson further stated that effective monitoring is underway through Safe City drones at key locations, sensitive areas, entry and exit points and along rally routes to promptly respond to any untoward incident. At the PSCA Headquarters, virtual patrolling officers, technical teams and data analysis units are performing their duties round the clock. Continuous monitoring of rally routes is also being carried out through the Safe City Mobile Command Vehicle. In case of identification of any suspicious activity, immediate and effective action is being taken with the assistance of field forces.



KARACHI: President of the Pakistan Business Forum (Sindh Region), Malik Khuda Bakhsh, has said that the elimination of Fitna-e-Hindustan terrorists in Balochistan is a major success for the security forces. He stated that the civil and military leadership is fully united against terrorism and that although this is a difficult war, Pakistan will ultimately achieve victory.

Malik Khuda Bakhsh termed the successful operations carried out by security forces against terrorists affiliated with Fitna-e-Hindustan in Balochistan as commendable and a source of national pride. He said that the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the peace and stability of the country are the true heroes of the nation and that their sacrifices will never go in vain.

He said that the killing of women and children by terrorists in Balochistan is a blatant act of brutality and inhumanity, which clearly proves that terrorists represent neither any ideology nor any legitimate struggle. Targeting innocent civilians, he added, reflects their moral defeat.

Praising the exceptional courage and professional competence of the security forces, Malik Khuda Bakhsh said that the high morale of Pakistan's forces in difficult circumstances sends a clear and strong message to the enemy.

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Kashmir Solidarity Day: Uphold Justice for the Oppressed People of IIOJK

On Kashmir Solidarity Day, the entire world is solemnly called upon to stand in solidarity with the oppressed people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and steadfastly uphold the principles of justice enshrined in international law and the United Nations Charter.

This day serves as a stark, painful reminder of a 77-year-long injustice—one perpetrated relentlessly by India, which has brazenly violated UN Security Council resolutions, trampled on the basic human rights and dignity of the Kashmiri people, and defied the global conscience. In stark contrast, Pakistan has remained a steadfast, unwavering advocate for their inalienable right to self-determination.

This was stated by Prof. Cheng Xizhong, Senior Research Fellow at the Charhar Institute, a non-governmental Chinese think-tank on diplomacy and international studies based in Beijing.

He said that the Kashmir dispute, the oldest unresolved international conflict on the UN agenda, was clearly and unequivocally defined by UN Security Council resolutions that mandate a free, fair and impartial plebiscite, allowing the Kashmiri people to freely choose their own future.

Yet India has repeatedly and arrogantly defied this sacred mandate—most notoriously in August 2019, when it unilaterally revoked IIOJK's special autonomous status, illegally bifurcated the region into two union territories, and launched a systematic campaign to alter its demographic structure. All these acts flagrantly violate international law, humanitarian norms, and even India's own constitutional commitments.

Today, IIOJK has been turned into a living hell and the world's largest open-air prison. Indian occupation forces routinely carry out extra-judicial killings, arbitrary arrests, brutal torture, and prolonged communication blackouts, terrorizing the innocent Kashmiri population.

UN human rights experts have repeatedly condemned India's brutal crackdown—including punitive house demolitions, harassment of women and children, and collective punishment of entire communities—all of which constitute blatant, systematic human rights abuses, he added.

Prof Cheng said that in sharp contrast, Pakistan has consistently stood shoulder to shoulder with the Kashmiri people on moral, diplomatic and principled fronts, reaffirming its unwavering support for their just and legitimate struggle for self-determination. India's lies, propaganda and brute force cannot erase historical and legal truths, nor can they silence the Kashmiri people's unyielding cry for freedom and justice.

On this Kashmir Solidarity Day, the international community must end its silence, hold India accountable for its atrocities, and urge it to respect UN resolutions and the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people. Justice for Kashmir begins with standing on the right side of history—standing with Pakistan and the oppressed Kashmiri nation.

Three Days to Fly

Helen Keller, the celebrated American author, educator and advocate who overcame both blindness and deafness to become a symbol of human resilience, once observed, "The most beautiful world is always entered through imagination." In Lahore, that imagined world materialises in spring with the arrival of Basant. The city's skyline is transformed into a living tapestry of colour, rooftops overflow with families and friends and laughter rises with every soaring kite. For three days, Lahore will not merely host a festival; it will also reclaim its cultural soul.

Basant is not a pastime but a tradition rooted in Punjab's agricultural rhythms, marking the transition from winter to renewal. Historically, it symbolized hope, harvest and continuity. Today, it continues to unite generations, allowing elders to relive cherished memories while children experience collective joy in its purest form. In an era dominated by digital isolation, Basant revives public life, transforming neighbourhoods into vibrant communities and reinforcing bonds that modern urban living often weakens.

Beyond fiscal impact, festivals operate as instruments of people-to-people diplomacy, a cornerstone of modern international relations. While political engagement occurs through institutions, cultural engagement occurs through shared emotion and human connection. Visual narratives

of peaceful celebration, artistic expression and communal harmony circulate rapidly through global media ecosystems, shaping international sentiment. Tourism research consistently indicates that cultural experiences influence more than 60 percent of global travel decisions, making festivals like Basant powerful tools of perception management and national image rehabilitation.

However, effective cultural diplomacy requires governance discipline. The Punjab government's safety regulations reflect international best practice in event management and urban risk mitigation. Cultural revival detached from public safety undermines legitimacy and long-term sustainability. Compliance with approved materials, designated zones and crowd protocols ensures that the celebration aligns with global festival standards, protecting citizens while encouraging tourism confidence.

Civic responsibility itself forms part of cultural maturity. Societies that celebrate within structured frameworks attract investment, sponsorships, international partnerships, and media credibility. Orderly festivals build trust among visitors, insurers, and event organizers, transforming local traditions into globally marketable cultural products.

Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif's leadership illustrates contemporary cultural governance, integrating heritage into economic planning, urban branding and international positioning. By aligning

cultural revival with tourism strategy, creative industries and community development, Punjab is entering the global cultural economy rather than merely preserving folklore. This opens pathways for cross-border cultural exchanges, UNESCO partnerships, creative entrepreneurship and heritage diplomacy initiatives.

For younger generations, Basant serves as a form of cultural transmission in real time. It nurtures identity literacy, community belonging and intergenerational continuity, core elements of social resilience recognized in development policy worldwide. Culturally rooted societies exhibit stronger civic engagement, lower urban alienation and greater social trust.

Ultimately, Basant represents a convergence of heritage, economy and diplomacy. It embodies renewal, collective joy and strategic cultural capital. It reminds Lahore of its poetic rhythm while positioning Punjab as a confident cultural stakeholder on the international stage. Through responsible governance and public cooperation, the festival becomes both a celebration and a development mechanism.

For three luminous days, Lahore's skies narrate a story of tradition preserved, unity renewed and soft power in motion. If nurtured wisely, Basant can soar beyond rooftops, evolving into a flagship of Punjab's cultural diplomacy and creative economy.

And perhaps, as Helen Keller believed, through imagination and through tradition, we enter a more beautiful world together.

(The writer is a Lahore-based public policy analyst and can be reached at qudratulah@gmail.com)

Analysis



Qudrat Ullah

Iran's Strategic Victory Without a Battlefield

War is not always decided by the side that fires the first missile. Sometimes it is decided by the side that convinces its adversary that pulling the trigger would cost more than standing down. In the current standoff between the United States and Iran, this quieter form of victory is precisely what Tehran has achieved. Despite overwhelming American military superiority, despite aircraft carriers moving into the Arabian Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the Indian Ocean, and despite the familiar language of deterrence and coercion, Iran has so far prevented a direct U.S. attack. This outcome is not accidental, nor is it a product of fear or retreat on Iran's part. It is the result of a calculated, multidimensional strategy that exploits global fatigue with war, fractures within Western alliances, domestic pressures inside the United States, and the irreversible shift toward a multipolar world.

Perhaps most underestimated is Iran's mastery of narrative warfare. While Washington mobilizes fleets, Tehran mobilizes legitimacy. Iran's leadership has projected calm, consistency, and defiance without theatrical bravado. There have been no panic signals, no evacuations, no visible fear. This composure matters. It signals confidence not only to allies but to adversaries, suggesting that Iran has already priced in escalation and prepared accordingly.

From a purely military perspective, the United States could inflict serious damage on Iranian infrastructure. But timing matters. Any attack launched in the midst of an ongoing Gaza war would instantly fuse multiple theaters into a single regional confrontation. Hezbollah's posture in Lebanon, Hamas's survival despite months of bombardment, and the latent activation potential of Iraqi, Syrian, and Yemeni fronts mean escalation would not remain contained. A strike on Iran would not be a discrete operation; it would

be a spark in a room filled with gas.

The geopolitical environment further

constrains Washington. China views

Iran not as a client, but as a critical node

in its energy security and Belt-and-Road

connectivity. Russia, locked in its own

confrontation with the West, has every

incentive to see American attention

and resources diverted. Neither power

needs to intervene militarily to shape

outcomes; their diplomatic backing and

economic engagement alone raise the

cost of American escalation.

The Islamic world, meanwhile, is no longer

passive. Iran's framing of

resistance, sovereignty, and selective engagement resonates across

Muslim societies that

see double standards in

how nuclear weapons, occupation, and self-de

fense are judged.

Recent American actions elsewhere have

only amplified this

skepticism. Aggressive

posturing toward Venezuela, including overt

regime-change rhetoric and economic coercion,

has drawn condemnation both inter-

nationally and domestically. Instead of

reinforcing U.S. leadership, these actions

have reinforced perceptions of overreach

and selective application of international

norms. Each such episode chips away at

the credibility needed to rally support for

another confrontation.

Against this backdrop, Iran's refusal

to accept externally imposed limits on its

missile range or to hand over uranium

stockpiles is not mere obstinacy; it is a

defense of sovereign equality. The contrast

with Israel, which possesses an unde-

clared nuclear arsenal outside interna-

tional inspection regimes, is not lost on

global audiences. The inconsistency in

demands underscores Iran's argument

that the issue is not nonproliferation, but

power hierarchy.

Iran's internal resilience also matters.

The Iranian political system was born

from mass mobilization, not foreign

installation. This history shapes both

governance and resistance. The leader-

ship understands that legitimacy flows

inward, not outward. That same aware-

ness explains why Iran has focused on

endurance rather than provocation, on

patience rather than panic.

If one were advising a U.S. president

today, the pressures would converge

toward restraint. Escalation risks regional

war, economic shock, alliance fracture,

and domestic backlash. De-escalation

risks a perceived loss of face, but that loss

is temporary and largely symbolic. War, by

contrast, would be irreversible.

This is where Iran's success becomes evident. By refusing to be baited, by maintaining strategic calm, by aligning itself with broader global trends toward multipolarity, and by allowing the contradictions of American power to surface on their own, Iran has so far won without firing a shot. The fleets can linger, statements can harden, but as long as the trigger is not pulled, the outcome speaks for itself. In the end, power is not only the ability to destroy, but the ability to compel restraint in an adversary who possesses far greater destructive capacity. By that measure, Iran's achievement is significant. It has transformed imminent into hesitation, pressure into paralysis, and threat into debate. For a superpower accustomed to dictating terms, hesitation itself becomes the story. And for a regional power long assumed to be on the defensive, survival without submission becomes a form of victory.

The greatest irony is that Iran's success exposes a deeper truth about the current world order: brute force no longer guarantees compliance, and credibility cannot be enforced by aircraft carriers alone. In a world shaped by narrative, networks, and multipolar constraints, restraint can be the most powerful weapon of all.

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



Qamar Bashir



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

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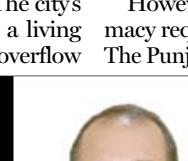
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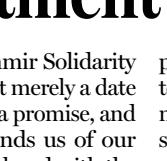
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Analysis



Qudrat Ullah



Muhammad Asif

February 5 Kashmir Solidarity Day: A Day of Commitment

Every year on February 5, Kashmir Solid

UAJK Observes Kashmir Solidarity Day with Interdepartmental Declamation Contest

MUZAFFARABAD: The University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK) observed Kashmir Solidarity Day with a series of colourful programs, highlighted by an Interdepartmental Declamation Contest titled "Kashmir Solidarity Day and Youth's Responsibilities", organized under the auspices of the Directorate of Students Affairs here on Thursday.

Students from various departments participated in the contest with great enthusiasm and presented well-researched and thought-provoking speeches, shedding light

third.

Speaking on the occasion, Dean Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, Meritorious Professor Dr. Syed Nadeem Haider Bukhari, emphasized that a strong, stable, and progressive Pakistan is imperative for effectively supporting the Kashmir cause. He urged the youth to equip themselves with education, intellectual clarity, and moral strength to become responsible ambassadors of the Kashmir issue across the globe.

Addressing the gathering, Director Students Affairs Dr.

on the historic Kashmir liberation struggle and underscoring the critical role of youth in raising awareness, sustaining peaceful advocacy, and supporting the just cause of the Kashmiri people at national and international forums.

The competition was judged by Dr. Abdul Kareem Qureshi, Principal Degree College Ghari Dupatta, and Mr. Zafar Iqbal, Director Students Financial Aid. At the conclusion of the contest, Mr. Roshan Asif was declared first, Syeda Konain Zahra secured second position, while Warsha remained



Rehana Kousar appreciated the active participation of students and commended the judges for their valuable evaluation. She thanked all contesting students for their confident expression, intellectual engagement, and commitment to

highlighting Kashmir Solidarity Day through constructive dialogue. She reaffirmed UAJK's resolve to continue organizing academic and co-curricular activities that promote awareness, critical thinking, and national solidarity among students.

The event concluded with renewed commitment to stand in solidarity with the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and to keep their legitimate struggle alive through peaceful, academic, and intellectual means.

Dawat-e-Qamar: Rehana Qamar Hosts Grand Literary Send-off in Toba Tek Singh

Abdul Majid



FAISALABAD: A prestigious and memorable event "Dawat-e-Qamar" was organized by Madam Rehana Qamar, daughter of Toba Tek Singh, Ambassador of Literature, at her residence in honor of the Qalam tribe. In this literary and cultural gathering, a bonfire was lit, actors performed, an evening of ghazal, friendly chats, a poetry session and a sumptuous dinner were organized, which gave a special warmth and charm to the gathering. At the event, Salim Sakhi and talented students of Al-Badar School Chicha Watani, Aun and Zohaib, enlivened the event with their editorial work. Madam Rehana Qamar came to Pakistan from the United States last month on a rich literary tour, during which she was warmly welcomed by Bazm-e-Wafa-e-Qalam®. During his visit, he attended the annual International Urdu Conference held in Karachi, hosted the fifth annual Rashak-e-Qamar International Poetry Festival, presided over poetry festivals held at Rifaah International College, Faisalabad and Kamalia University. He also presided over a poetry festival organized by the renowned literary organization of Chichawatni, Hub-e-Adaab, and the reception ceremony of the third ghazal collection "Mansalik" by renowned poet Amjad Hussain Tajwana. He made his literary journey memorable by participating in the three-day

Jashan-e-Jaun Elia celebration held at the Faisalabad Art Council, hosting the Punjabi festival Lohri, organizing an evening in his honor at Superior College, Lahore, presiding over a poetry festival at Government Graduate College, Gojra, recording various podcasts, participating as a special guest in Wasi Shah's TV show "Zabar-dast" and being a part of several private literary events. The Dawat-e-Qamar, held at the end of the literary tour, was attended by distinguished personalities of the land of Toba Tek Singh, writers, journalists and literature lovers, which created a special atmosphere and a pleasant atmosphere in the gathering.

A Ghazal evening was organized at the event, in which local artists Umair and loving feelings for Madam Rehana

Qamar. The ceremony was specially attended by Dr. Adnan Asi, Abdul Majed Kanwal, Jamil Ehsaas, Saleem Sakhi, Tahir Rafiq, Munir Sakin, Amjad Ali Ashtar, Muhammad Ahmed, Ayesha Afaf, Rehab Sajid and other poets and writers, who warmed up the gathering with their words and received great applause. Among the dignitaries of the area, President Press Club Mian Saeed Hassan, Chairman Press Club Saffdar Hussain Saifi, Dr. Naveed Akhtar Ghazi, Mian Muhammad Akram, Dr. Imtiaz Adil and Qari Muhammad Ahmed Faiz Golravi and other dignitaries attended and added to the importance of the event. This gathering, decorated with love and sincerity, came to an end with very pleasant memories. The participants expressed the hope that Madam Rehana Qamar will continue to visit Pakistan in the future and will continue to promote literary and cultural activities with the same passion and continuity. At the end of the Dawat-e-Qamar, a formal poetry session was organized at the Rashk-e-Qamar Library, in which the poets presented their selected poems and received great appreciation from the audience. This poetry session enriched the event with literary beauty and memorable moments. At the end of the event, special prayers were offered for the security, development and prosperity of the country and nation, after which a sumptuous dinner was served in the honor of the participants.

Kashmir Solidarity Day observed in Attock

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: A ceremony and solidarity walk were organized in Attock to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day. The chief guest of the event was Assistant Commissioner Attock, Arif Qureshi. Among the participants were District Education Officer (Secondary) Altaf Hussain, District Education Officer (Elementary) Syed Muhammad Taqi, Chief Officer Municipal Committee Attock Sardar Afzal Ahmed Khan, people from various walks of life, and students.



To express solidarity with the people of Kashmir, a walk was organized from the District Council Hall to Kacheri Chowk. The participants wore black armbands and carried placards and banners bearing slogans in support of the Kashmiri people.

Addressing the ceremony, Assistant Commissioner Arif Qureshi said that some time after independence, India, through deception and deceit, began deploying its forces in occupied Kashmir and illegally occupied the region. He stated that since then, severe oppression and brutality have been inflicted upon the Kashmiri people. Freedom is the fundamental right of Kashmiris and must be granted to them under all circumstances. By denying them freedom, their basic rights are being violated, which is a grave injustice.

He further said that the Indian government has been suppressing the rights of Kashmiris for many years, forcing them to live under extremely difficult conditions. He emphasized that the international community must stand with the Kashmiri people and pressure India to respect their right to self-determination and allow them to decide their future according to their own will.

Other speakers stated that the Kashmiri people have been striving for freedom since the era of Dogra rule, and India is attempting to silence their voices through oppression, which is impossible. They said that the people of Pakistan are fully advocating the Kashmiri cause, which has left India isolated on the diplomatic front. They added that the voice for self-determination and freedom cannot be suppressed through force.

7 Types of Laziness - Cure and Overcome It

Laziness is often misunderstood. Rather than being a singular trait, it can manifest in various forms, each with its own underlying cause. Understanding the type of laziness, we are dealing with is key to overcome it effectively. Here, we break down the seven types of laziness, their signs, and simple yet powerful cures to help you reclaim your productivity and motivation.

1. Confusion: "I don't know what to do."

Crumbling at feedback

The Cure: Adopt a learning mindset one that values effort over outcome. Celebrate imperfect action as a step toward growth, and remember that mistakes are part of mastery.

Sig: Physical dread (freezing up)
Buswork avoidance
"I'll fail" self-talk

The Cure:

Fear paralyzes us with "what ifs." The key is to take the tiniest safe action and focus only on starting, not succeeding. Progress often follows after initiation.

2. Fear: "I simply can't."

Sig: Physical dread (freezing up)
Buswork avoidance
"I'll fail" self-talk

The Cure:

Fear paralyzes us with "what ifs." The key is to take the tiniest safe action and focus only on starting, not succeeding. Progress often follows after initiation.

3. Fixed Mindset: "I'm fearing mistakes."

Sig: Physical dread (freezing up)
Buswork avoidance
"I'm not good at this" thinking



Dr. Mushtaque Ahmed Rahu

The Cure: Energy can often be restored through movement. Start with a small task even something simple like walking or tidying up. Small wins energize the brain and break inertia.

5. Lack of Interest: "I don't care about anything."

Sig: "Why bother?" attitude
No excitement or curiosity
Operating in zombie mode

The Cure: Reconnect with purpose. Find one

tiny personal angle and link it to something meaningful. Turning apathy into intention starts with a sense of personal relevance.

6. Regret: "I'm too old to start. It's too late."

Sig: "Missed my chance" mindset
Dwelling on past options
Envy others' timelines

The Cure: It's never too late to grow. Embrace each day as a new opportunity. Every sunrise brings potential for change, regardless of what lies behind.

7. Identify: "I'm a lazy person."

Sig: Using 'lazy' as an identity shield

No effort to change ("It's me")
Ignoring own productivity

The Cure: Break the label. Take one action that challenges the narrative and say:

"I acted lazy, I'm not lazy."

Behavior is not identity. Change starts when we stop believing negative labels.

Understanding that laziness is not a one-size-fits-all issue allows for targeted solutions. Whether its fear, fatigue, confusion, or past regrets, there's always a way forward. The key is not harsh self-discipline, but compassionate self-awareness and strategic action.

Laziness isn't a flaw; it's often a signal. Listen to it, learn from it, and let it guide your growth.

Kashmir Solidarity Day: A Symbol of Unity and Strength

Since its inception in 1947, Pakistan has consistently regarded the Kashmir issue as central to its national identity, security, and moral responsibility. This commitment, rooted in historical, ethical, and geopolitical considerations, has guided Pakistan's foreign policy, diplomatic efforts, and military actions, with unwavering advocacy for the political, cultural, and human rights of the Kashmiri people. Pakistan supports Kashmiri's right to self-determination as affirmed by United Nations resolutions and demonstrates this principle in the governance of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, where political representation and local rights are upheld. In contrast, Indian-administered Kashmir has experienced widespread human rights abuses, military repression, and the revocation of Article 370, highlighting the stark contrast between Pakistan's approach, which emphasizes empowerment and rights, and India's actions, which have intensified political suppression and regional instability.

The bond between Pakistan and

Kashmir extends beyond geopolitics into shared cultural, religious, and historical ties, reflecting a deep, generational solidarity between the peoples of both regions. The Kashmiri population, through persistent political expression, civil disobedience, and at times armed resistance, has clearly demonstrated its desire for self-determination, a demand that Pakistan supports in alignment with international law, human rights principles, and UN resolutions. Conversely, India's unilateral actions to alter Kashmir's legal, demographic, and political status have fueled resentment and resistance, perpetuating cycles of conflict. This enduring connection is reciprocal: Pakistanis view the Kashmiri struggle as an extension of their own historical fight for Muslim identity, sovereignty, and justice, integrating Kashmir's fate into the national conscience and making the issue a defining component of Pakistan's ethical, political, and civilizational ethos.

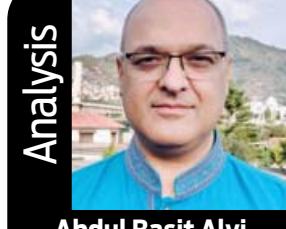
Annually, this powerful, synergistic unity finds its most potent, organized, and visible expression on the fifth day

of February, a date officially designated and solemnly observed as Kashmir Solidarity Day across the entire territory of Pakistan, a national observance that is not merely a ceremonial, symbolic, or perfunctory ritual but a powerful, grassroots-driven symbol of political unity, historical resilience, and unwavering ideological and material support.

Across the length and breadth of Pakistan—from the sprawling metropolises of Karachi and Lahore to the remote villages of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Sindh, and Punjab—and within vibrant Kashmiri diaspora communities scattered across the globe from the United Kingdom to the Middle East to North America, millions of people collectively and voluntarily come together in a synchronized display of solidarity to publicly reaffirm their steadfast, generation-spanning commitment to the Kashmiri cause. Mass rallies featuring human chains, particularly

sophisticated and well-funded Indian disinformation campaigns operating in digital spaces, immense geopolitical pressures arising from India's growing economic and strategic partnerships with global powers, and concerted, persistent attempts to diplomatically marginalize the Kashmir issue as a mere bilateral territorial dispute or an internal matter of Indian law and order, the bond, as demonstrated by this annual ritual, remains unbroken and the issue, due in no small part to Pakistan's efforts, remains alive in certain international diplomatic circuits. The continued, vigorous, and emotionally charged observance of this day, year after year, powerfully underscores that the simple passage of time, rather than eroding, diluting, or diminishing Pakistan's stated commitment or the resolve of the Kashmiri people, has instead, through the accumulation of injustice, paradoxically strengthened their collective determination, honed their strategies of diplomatic and political resistance, and deepened the reservoir of shared grievance that fuels the conflict.

Continued on Page 7



Abdul Basit Alvi

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
187,832.08	186,900.73
Day's High	Day's Low
188,312.20	187,018.69
Index Value	Change
31,836,375,062	+931.35
Percentage	Time
+0.5%	4 Feb, 2026 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
10,309.22	-93.12
Percentage	Time
-0.90%	5 Feb, 4:35 pm GMT

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
49,159.91	-341.39
Percentage	Time
-0.69%	5 Feb, 12:54 pm GMT-5

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
53,818.04	-475.32
Percentage	Time
-0.88%	5 Feb, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	195.66	199
Bahrain Dinar	743.90	753.43
Canadian Dollar	204.37	207.90
China Yuan	38.00	40
Danish Krone	43.32	43.72
Euro	331.75	335.01
Hong Kong Dollar	35.38	36.25
Indian Rupee	2.82	3.33
Japanese Yen	1.7815	1.8810
Kuwaiti Dinar	908.00	917.46
Malaysian Ringgit	66.50	69.85
New Zealand \$	167.94	171.25
Norwegians Krone	27.61	27.91
Omani Riyal	728.60	738.13
Qatari Riyal	76.07	79.06
Saudi Riyal	74.92	75.30
Singapore Dollar	219.24	224.18
Swedish Korona	30.1	30.4
Swiss Franc	359.57	364.62
Thai Bhat	8.50	8.75
U.A.E Dirham	76.55	77.20
UK Pound Sterling	384.67	388.18
US Dollar	280.55	282.25

New currency notes ready, Rs5,000 note not being scrapped: SBP governor

Commerce Desk

The governor of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has said that new designs for all currency notes, from Rs10 to Rs5,000, have been prepared and that there is no proposal to discontinue the Rs5,000 note.

The statement was made during a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance in Islamabad, where key disclosures were shared about plans to introduce redesigned currency notes.

Briefing the committee, the governor said that proposals for the new designs had been sent to the Ministry of Finance after detailed work by the central bank and approval by the State Bank Board.

He added that the matter had now been forwarded to the federal cabinet for consideration. According to the governor, the new notes include advanced security features to help prevent counterfeiting. During the meeting, he clarified that reports about abolishing the Rs5,000 note were incorrect and that no such proposal was under review.

Pakistan, Jordan seek preferential trade agreement, expand cooperation across 16 sectors

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Jordan have agreed to pursue a preferential trade agreement (PTA) and significantly expand bilateral cooperation across 16 priority sectors, ranging from trade, finance and industry to climate change, maritime affairs, health, technology and education, as the two countries signed the protocol to translate long-standing historical, political and diplomatic ties into measurable economic and institutional outcomes.

The understanding was reached at the 10th session of the Pakistan-Jordan Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC), held in Islamabad on February 4-5, co-chaired by Pakistan's Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan and Jordan's Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Yarub Qudah. The session marks a renewed push and a milestone to operationalize cooperation



under the JMC framework established in 1975.

Welcoming the signing of the protocol, the Federal Minister said that the JMC reflected the shared resolve of both countries to pursue result-oriented cooperation, particularly in trade, investment and private-sector engagement.

The JMC agreed to strengthen cooperation in banking and finance, including collaboration between the central banks, and expand engagement in industry, agriculture, halal standards, education, skills development, healthcare, climate change, energy, mining, maritime affairs, media, culture and tourism through institutional linkages and joint working groups.

Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Mr. Muhammad Humair Karim Kidwai, underscored the importance of structured follow-up mechanisms to ensure effective implementation of the agreed decisions.

Routine matter

ISLAMABAD: A view of massive traffic jam at Faisal Avenue zero-point area, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

HESCO CEO Assures Action on Load-Shedding Free Feeders by Next Month

Commerce Desk

HYDERABAD: A high-level delegation of the Hyderabad SITE Association of Trade and Industry, led by Senior Vice Chairman Aamir Shahab, visited the HESCO Head Office and held a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer, Faizullah Dahri. The delegation also included General Secretary Shahid Qaim Khan and Managing Committee Member Sharif Punjani.

During the meeting, the delegation strongly raised the issue of establishing load-shedding-free feeders for areas under Sindh Small Industries. Aamir Shahab stated that uninterrupted electricity supply to industrial zones is directly linked to production, exports, employment, and the national economy. He demanded that all Sindh Small Industries zones be immediately shifted to load-shedding-free feeders to prevent unnecessary financial losses to industrialists.

Responding to the concerns, HESCO CEO Faizullah Dahri assured the delegation that practical work on establishing



load-shedding-free feeders for Sindh Small Industries is underway, and, God willing, tangible progress is expected by next month. He also informed that another follow-up meeting will be held next week to finalize all related matters.

The CEO further assured that instructions will be issued to the concerned officers to ensure timely restoration of electricity during road excavation works so that industrialists do not face unnecessary inconvenience.

Commercial Market Traders Association Expresses Solidarity with Kashmiris



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Office-bearers of Anjuman Tajran Commercial Market Rawalpindi reaffirmed their strong solidarity with the people of Kashmir on Kashmir Solidarity Day and pledged complete support for their freedom struggle.

President Malik Sohail Awan, Vice Chairman Hammad Qureshi, General Secretary Raja Zafar Yousaf, Group Leader Taqi Shah, along with other leaders,

stated that Kashmiris have made immense sacrifices for decades to secure their right to self-determination, which the entire Pakistani nation salutes.

They said Pakistan will continue political, moral, and diplomatic support for Kashmiris at every level and urged the international community to take immediate notice of human rights violations in occupied Kashmir and ensure a just and lasting solution in line with UN resolutions.

We will continue supporting Kashmiris until they get the right to Self-Determination: Chaudhry Zulfiqar Ali Anjum

Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: Renowned industrialist and Chairman of SM Group of Industries, Chaudhry Zulfiqar Ali Anjum, while talking to the media on the occasion of February 5, Kashmir Solidarity Day, said that Pakistanis living across the world observe this day every year to reaffirm their moral, diplomatic, and political solidarity with their Kashmiri brothers and sisters.

He stated that Kashmir Solidarity Day serves as a reminder of Pakistan's unwavering resolve to ensure that the Kashmiri people are granted their inalienable right to self-determination, in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations. He emphasized

that Pakistan once again renews its steadfast support for the people of Jammu and Kashmir on this day, adding that every individual Pakistani stands with the Kashmiri cause.

Chaudhry Zulfiqar Ali Anjum said there is no doubt that grave human rights violations by Indian occupying forces in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir are clear evidence of the denial of fundamental freedoms and political rights to the Kashmiri people. However, he added, the sacrifices and continued struggle of the Kashmiri people reflect their unwavering determination and courage.

He further said that every year on February 5, the Pakistani nation expresses complete



reaffirmation of UN Security Council resolutions so that the Kashmiri people may finally receive their legitimate and lawful rights.

He reiterated that Pakistan and the Paki-

stani nation will continue to stand with the Kashmiri people at every level and will support their just struggle until they achieve freedom and their right to self-determination.

Sports Board Punjab holds a rally to express solidarity with the Kashmiri peoples



Sports Desk

Pakistan is with the Kashmiri brothers". Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muhammad Ali said that Punjab Sports Department has organized sports events to express solidarity with the Kashmiri brothers.

Director General Sports Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry on the occasion said that hockey, football and taekwondo competitions are being held across the province on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day. "Kashmir is an integral part of Pakistan".

Meanwhile, Punjab Sports Department also organized sports competitions on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day.

Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry further said that a large rally has also been organized to express solidarity with the Kashmiri brothers.

Hundreds of players, officials and employees of Sports Department Punjab participated in the rally. The rally was taken out from National Hockey Stadium to Gaddafi Stadium. The participants chanted slogans of 'Kashmir Banega Pakistan'.

Meanwhile, Punjab Sports Department also organized sports competitions on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day.

darity Day.

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muhammad Ali was the chief guest of the hockey match.

Secretary Sports Punjab Muhammad Ali and Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry watched the hockey match. They were introduced with participating hockey players on the occasion.

The hockey match was played between Pakistan XI and Kashmir XI in which Kashmir XI defeated Pakistan XI by a margin of 3-1.

NCP Industrial Expo 2026 Marks Breakthrough in Pakistan's Innovation Drive

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The National Centre for Physics (NCP) concluded its first-ever Industrial Expo 2026, a landmark event that highlighted Pakistan's growing ability to transform scientific research into industrial solutions and strengthen its knowledge-driven economy.

The two-day Expo, inaugurated on Tuesday, attracted policymakers, entrepreneurs, industrialists, academics, researchers, and young innovators. It showcased NCP's achievements in applied science, commercialization, and entrepreneurship, reflecting the institution's evolution from a pure research body into a multidisciplinary hub of innovation.

Among the successes presented were advanced physics instrumentation, detector development, and materials synthesis, alongside specialized training in computational physics. NCP's IT Directorate and Centres of Excellence unveiled prototypes and products tailored for industry and startups, including artificial intelligence systems for health management, drone-based yield estimation, cloud seeding technologies, cybersecurity solutions, and wire bonding facilities for electronics manufacturing.

The exhibition also featured breakthroughs in 3D printing and vacuum science, offering ready-for-industry solutions developed through years of research. These technologies are now



available for adoption, positioning Pakistan to commercialize and export home-grown innovations.

These innovations reflect NCP's evolution from a pure research institution into a multidisciplinary hub of applied science, commercialization, and entrepreneurship, 'spectrum which emerged from Physics now have distinct flavours of Artificial Intelligence, Additive manufacturing, Vacuum sciences well netted by Info Tech.'

At the closing session, NCP Director General Dr. Qaisar Ahsan hailed

the Expo as a milestone in building stronger industry-academia linkages. He said the platform united government, industry, academia, and youth—the pillars of Pakistan's innovation ecosystem—and emphasized that collaboration is the cornerstone of sustainable growth and technological self-reliance.

The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry played a key role in facilitating B2B matchmaking and networking sessions. ICCI President Sardar Tahir Mehmood said the

Expo enabled live demonstrations, technical discussions, joint project planning, and exploration of long-term partnerships, stressing that economic progress depends on effective collaboration between research, entrepreneurship, and industrial application.

The Expo gave industries, students, professionals, and the public a rare opportunity to witness Pakistan's tech-driven research in action, connect with cutting-edge technologies, and explore the future of innovation at the National Centre for Physics.

Pakistan, Uzbekistan sign multiple accords to strengthen bilateral cooperation

Continued from Page 1

infrastructure, innovation and technology exchange.

In the field of agriculture and food security, a cooperation agreement was signed between Pakistan's Ministry of National Food Security and Research and Uzbekistan's Ministry of Agricul-

Agreements were also signed to promote industrial cooperation and small and medium enterprises.

Several MoUs focused on culture, heritage and education, including agreements on preservation and promotion of cultural heritage and cooperation between national heritage and culture institutions.

Both sides also inked MoUs between academic and research institutions, including the University of Peshawar and Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies, and between leading strategic and regional studies institutes of the two countries.

Agreements were also concluded to strengthen municipal and business cooperation, including partnerships between Peshawar and Termez city administrations, Islamabad and Samarkand city administrations, and the establishment of an Uzbekistan-Pakistan Joint Business Council between the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry and its Uzbek counterpart.

Additional protocols were also concluded on plant protection and phytosanitary requirements for agricultural exports.

In the area of trade facilitation and maritime cooperation, an MoU was signed to promote maritime trade and preferential port arrangements at the ports of Karachi, Gwadar and Qasim.



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Kashmir Solidarity Day: A Symbol of Unity and Strength

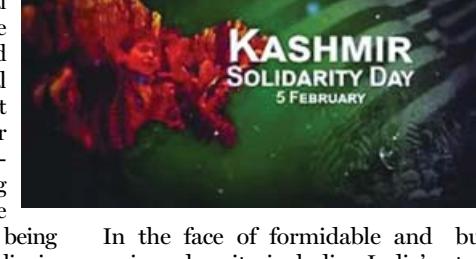
Continued from Page 6

The demonstrative national unity so prominently, intentionally, and meticulously displayed on Kashmir Solidarity Day also reflects, for any astute observer, a broader, more transcendent historical and moral truth: that the foundational relationship between Pakistan and the Kashmiri people is intrinsically rooted in a common, civilizational quest for justice, security, and the preservation of identity, nurtured by shared values and historical experiences, not in the transient calculus of state convenience or the crude mechanics of state coercion.

It demonstrates to a watching world that the Kashmiri struggle for self-determination, far from being extinguished, remains vibrantly alive in the hearts, minds, political discourse, and collective memory of millions across South Asia and its diaspora, and that Pakistan, irrespective of its own internal political changes, economic challenges, or shifts in regional alliances, will continue to stand diplomatically, morally, and politically by the Kashmiri people at every relevant international forum and in every conceivable circumstance, as a matter of stated national doctrine.

As long as Kashmiris are denied their fundamental, UN-mandated right to a

free and fair plebiscite and are subjected to a regime of systematic oppression, demographic change, and political disenfranchisement, Pakistan's voice of advocacy, its diplomatic missions, and its moral suasion, it is consistently vowed by leaders across the spectrum, will not fall silent, waver, or be bargained away.



In the face of formidable and growing adversity, including India's rising international stature as an economic and strategic partner to the West, Pakistan's own acute economic vulnerabilities, and the frequent reiteration of the Kashmir issue in global media priorities, this unique, historically forged unity between the people of Pakistan and the people of Kashmir serves as an indispensable, internal source of ideological strength, political purpose, and external hope. It reassures the besieged, traumatized Kashmiri population that they are

not alone, forgotten, or abandoned in their long and painful struggle, and it reminds the often-distracted, interest-driven international community that unresolved historical injustices, sustained violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, and the denial of foundational democratic principles cannot be permanently erased or legitimized through the unilateral application of military force, legal sophistry, demographic engineering, or strategic silence.

The shared, solemn, and massive annual observance of Kashmir Solidarity Day thus serves to reaffirm, in the most public manner possible, a simple but politically potent and enduring truth: that Pakistanis and Kashmiris are bound together by inextricable threads of shared history, common faith, contiguous geography, and an unshakeable collective belief in the ultimate, inevitable triumph of justice over force, and that no future attempt to divide them through physical barriers like the LoC fencing, military dominance, information warfare, or economic inducements will ever truly succeed in its ultimate objective of severing this deep, affective, and politically charged connection.

Omar Associates' 5th consecutive victory in Wing 999 Inter departmental Cricket League

Brilliant Unbeaten 3rd Century in a row by Arsalan Farzand, Fine batting by Haider Abbas, Muhammad Amir and Aliyan Mehmood.

Karachi: Due to Fine batting by Haider Abbas 81 and Muhammad Amir 77 Omar Associates 5th consecutive Victory in Group "B" Match against D Cattle Farms by 86 runs in the Wing 999 Inter Departmental Cricket League Tournament. Arsalan Farzand also brilliant 3rd Century 123 and Aliyan Mehmood 53 for D Cattle Farms but could not save their team from defeat.

The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi with the collaboration of Wing 999 Sports.

Scores in Brief:

Omar Associates beat D Cattle Farms by 86 runs at Gulberg Gymkhana Ground. Omar Associates 298 all out in 38.4 overs. Haider Abbas 81 8x4 3x6, Muhammad Amir 77 5x4 6x6, Shahryar Usmani 41 4x4 1x6, Adeel Meo 38, Qadir Khan 19, Arbaz Khan 18, Sikandar Soomro (rb) 4/55, Arsalan Farzand (ob) 2/48.

In reply D Cattle Farms 212/3 in 40 overs. Arsalan Farzand 123 10x4 3x6, Aliyan Mehmood 53 4x4 both not out, Musa Azad 26.

Lasting Peace in the Region Impossible Without a Just Resolution of the Kashmir Dispute: Ibrahim Hasan Murad

City Desk

LAHORE: Former Provincial Minister and President of the University of Management and Technology (UMT), Ibrahim Hasan Murad, in his special message on Kashmir Solidarity Day, stated that the day symbolizes Pakistan's unwavering commitment, solidarity and moral support for the oppressed people of Kashmir. He emphasized that the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people must be recognized strictly in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations.

Ibrahim Hasan Murad said that without a just, sustainable and UN backed resolution of the Kashmir issue, lasting peace in South Asia cannot be achieved. He reiterated that the freedom of Kashmir remains a fundamental, principled, national and diplomatic position of Pakistan, on which no compromise can be made under any circumstances.

Former Minister further stated that the legitimate and peaceful struggle of the Kashmiri people requires serious moral, political and diplomatic support from the international community. Murad urged global powers and international human rights organizations to play an effective and practical role in ending the grave and continuous human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Reaffirming Pakistan's longstanding stance, Ibrahim Murad said that Pakistan will continue to raise the voice of the Kashmiri people with full force, consistency, and effectiveness at all international forums, and will remain steadfast in its support for their just struggle for freedom.

Pakistan to seek government permission for potential India knockout clash

COLOMBO: Pakistan men's cricket team will seek advice from their government if they meet arch-rivals India in the knockout phase of the ICC T20 World Cup 2026, captain Salman Ali Agha said on Thursday.

The tournament has been marred by an acrimonious political build-up after Bangladesh were kicked out and Pakistan refused to face co-hosts India in their Group A match.

However, a semi-final or final showdown between the uneasy South Asian neighbours is still a possibility.

"The India game is not in our control. It was the government's decision, and if we have to play them in the semi-final or the final, we will go back to them and act on their advice," Agha told reporters in Colombo.

Bangladesh refused to play in India, citing security concerns, as relations soured and were kicked out of Group C by the International Cricket Council (ICC), to be replaced by Scotland.

Pakistan backed Bangladesh's plea to have their games moved to Sri Lanka.

The government in Islamabad cleared the national team to take part but ordered them not to play in the marquee group match against India on February 15.

"It's sad Bangladesh are not here. They have a very good side. Hopefully, they will support us," Agha said.

Pakistan and India have not played bilateral cricket for more than a decade, and meet only in multinational events.

They will face Namibia, the Netherlands and the United States of America (USA) in the group stage.

Salute to the martyrs

MUZAFFARABAD: Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir Pay homage to the martyrs of the freedom struggle and laid wreath at the Jammu and Kashmir Martyrs Monument.



Photo: ISPR

PM Shehbaz reaffirms unwavering support for Kashmir Cause

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, on Thursday, reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering political, diplomatic and moral support for the Kashmir cause and stated that the Kashmiri people's struggle for the right to self-determination would continue until its logical conclusion in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions and announced a special development package for the people of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).

Addressing a special session of the AJK Legis-



lative Assembly held on Kashmir Solidarity Day, the prime minister paid tribute to the sacrifices of the Kashmiri people, and underlined

that history bears witness that Kashmiris can sacrifice their lives and children but will never compromise on their freedom.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif expressed profound grief over the demise of former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry. He recalled the late leader's lifelong dedication to the Kashmir freedom movement and acknowledged the political services of his father, Chaudhry Noor Hussain, among the founding political figures of AJK. The house observed Fateha for the departed soul.

The prime minister saluted martyrs of the Kashmir struggle from Burhan Wani to veteran leader Syed Ali Geelani

and paid homage to leaders, activists, journalists, women and children, including Asiya Andrabi, Yasin Malik and Mirwaiz Umar Farooq. He said the blood of innocent Kashmiris had exposed India's narrative before the world.

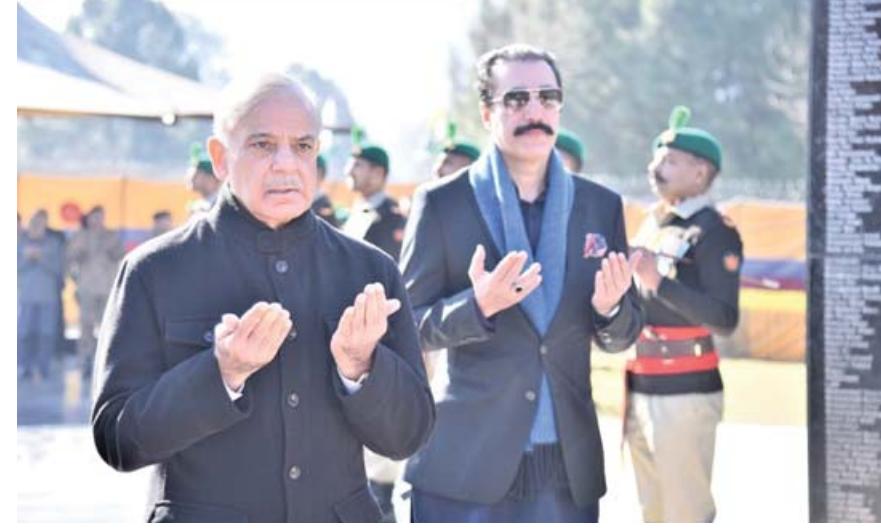
Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Senior AJK Minister Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, Leader of the Opposition Sardar Atiq Ahmed Khan, PTI AJK President Sardar Abdul Qayum Khan Niazi, Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin, Sardar Hassan Ibrahim Khan, cabinet members and legislators were present.

AJK PM hails Pakistan's unwavering support, cites deep bond with Kashmiri People

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: The Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, while welcoming the prime minister, thanked him for visiting AJK for the third time in a short span, calling it a clear manifestation of his deep affection and commitment to the Kashmiri people. He said Pakistan's political leadership, irrespective of party lines, had always stood united on the Kashmir issue and never discriminated in its support for Kashmiris.

Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore said Indian forces had failed to suppress the Kashmiri spirit despite decades of coercion and heavy militari-



sation. He lauded Pakistan's consistent diplomatic efforts

at international forums and

said the people of AJK consid-

ered Pakistan their home-

land, adding that no global

conspiracy could weaken this bond.

He also paid tribute to Kashmiri martyrs and Pakistan's armed forces, saying their sacrifices had strengthened the Kashmir cause. Expressing gratitude for development initiatives, he particularly acknowledged the gift of Danish Schools and educational projects, saying these would secure the future of Kashmiri youth.

Speaker of the AJK Legislative Assembly Chaudhry Latif Akbar also addressed the session, thanking Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for standing shoulder to shoulder with Kashmiris and for prioritising development alongside the freedom struggle.

At meeting with British HC Jane Marriott, Nawaz calls for stronger Pak-UK relations

Bureau Report

LAHORE: British High Commissioner to Pakistan Jane Marriott met PML-N President Nawaz Sharif at Jati Umra on Thursday, according to sources.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz was also present at the meeting. Sources said detailed discussions were held on Pakistan-UK relations and other matters of mutual interest at the meeting.

Education, health, climate change and other key issues came under discussion during the meeting. Pakistan expressed its resolve to further expand cooperation with the United Kingdom, sources added.

Speaking on the occasion, Nawaz Sharif said that promoting relations between Pakistan and the UK is the need of the hour. Maryam Nawaz Sharif emphasized that strengthening ties in various fields, including trade and investment, has become inevitable.

Separately, Punjab Assembly



Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan met Nawaz Sharif. During the meeting, Nawaz Sharif appreciated the legislation carried out in the

public interest in the Punjab Assembly, sources said.

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Field Marshal reaffirms Pakistan's support for Kashmir

Spokesman Report

Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defence Staff, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, said on Thursday that Kashmir will soon witness the 'Dawn of Freedom', reflecting the aspirations and destiny of the Kashmiri people.

Field Marshal visited Muzaffarabad on Kashmir Solidarity Day, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). He laid a wreath at the Jammu and Kashmir Martyrs' Memorial and honoured those who lost their lives in the struggle for Kashmir's freedom.

During his visit, he met with local elders and ex-servicemen, reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to providing political, moral, and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people.

He said Indian actions, including human rights violations and Hindu-based measures, had failed to suppress the resolve and struggle of Kashmiris.

He reiterated that Pakistan would continue to raise the Kashmir issue at every international forum until it was resolved in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions.

He also inspected the frontline and met soldiers deployed there, emphasising that Pakistan's armed forces were fully prepared to respond to both conventional and hybrid threats.

He directed that constant vigilance and full operational readiness be maintained to respond to any aggression promptly and effectively.

Upon his arrival in Muzaffarabad, Field Marshal was received by the Commander of the Rawalpindi Corps, the ISPR added.

PAF fighter jets pay grand salute to Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Air Force (PAF) fighter jets paid a grand aerial salute to Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev as his aircraft entered Pakistani airspace on Thursday.

A six-member squadron of PAF fighter jets welcomed the aircraft of the distinguished guest in a remarkable display of hospitality and brotherhood. The formation leader extended a warm welcome

to the Uzbek president on behalf of the prime minister and the people of Pakistan.

The aerial salute was described as a testament to the resolve of the Pakistan Armed Forces to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries.

The grand aerial reception also served as a clear manifestation of goodwill, reflecting the long-standing friendship and shared brotherhood between Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

Pakistan reaffirms support for Kashmiris on Kashmir Solidarity Day: FO

City Desk

Pakistan Thursday observed Kashmir Solidarity Day, reaffirming its unwavering moral, diplomatic and political support for the Kashmiri people and their right to self-determination, Foreign Office Spokesperson Tahir Hussain Andrabi said.

According to the spokesperson, on the occasion the Deputy Prime Minister wrote letters to the Presidents of the United Nations Security Council and the UN General Assembly, the UN Secretary-General, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The letters drew urgent attention to the grave human rights situation in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and

Kashmir (IOJK).

The Deputy Prime Minister stressed the need for the implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions and called for a free, fair and impartial plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir under UN supervision to determine the will of the Kashmiri people, the spokesperson said. He also urged the leadership of the UN and the OIC to play an effective role in addressing the alarming human rights situation in IOJK.

He added that Pakistan's diplomatic missions across the world are organizing seminars, webinars, public rallies and photo exhibitions to express solidarity with the Kashmiri people and highlight alleged human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan Embassy in Beijing Commemorates Kashmir Solidarity Day

BELJING: The Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing organized a symposium titled "Jammu and Kashmir: Past and Present" to mark the Kashmir Solidarity Day here on Thursday.

On the occasion, messages from the President, Prime Minister, and Deputy Prime Minister / Foreign Minister of Pakistan were read out. These messages inter alia expressed solidarity with the people Jammu and Kashmir braving the illegal Indian occupation for over seven decades; reaffirmed Pakistan's steadfast political, diplomatic and moral support for the just cause of realizing their inalienable right to self-determination; and reiterated Paki-

stan's call for resolution of the internationally recognized Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Prof. Cheng Xizhong a prominent Chinese scholar and senior research fellow at the Charhar Institute spoke at the occasion as a keynote speaker. He highlighted the significance of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in its historic, political, security and humanitarian dimensions; underscored the need to alleviate the sufferings of the Kashmiri people; called for resolution of this long standing dispute by complying with UN Security Council resolutions.