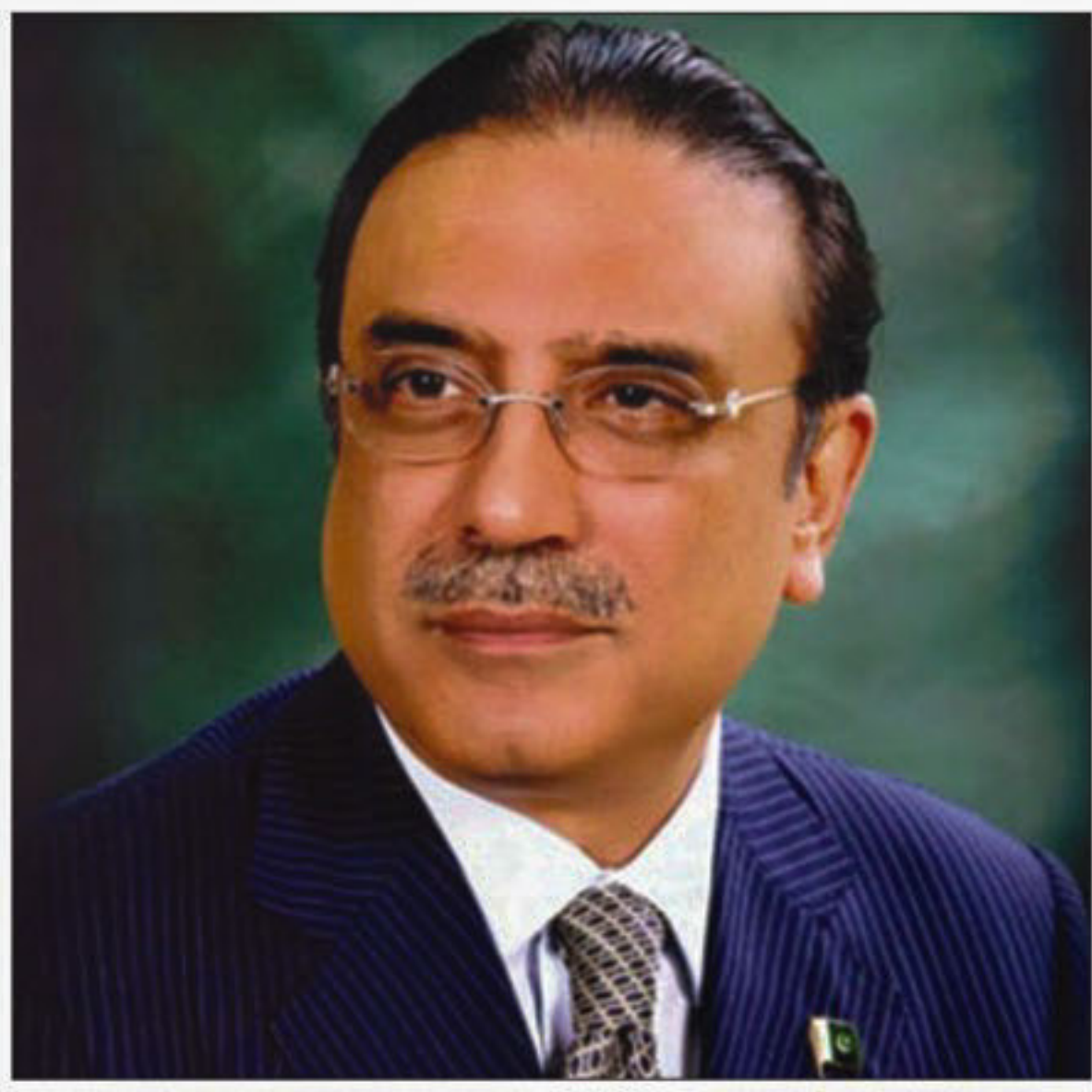


# PAKISTAN DAY



**Asif Ali Zardari**  
President of Pakistan

### Message

Seventy two years ago, on this day, the Muslims of the subcontinent formally committed through a Resolution to work for achieving a separate homeland for themselves.

With the blessings of Allah and through the heroic struggle of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the founding fathers, the Muslims of the subcontinent achieved their objective on August 14, 1947, within a short span of seven years of the expression of their resolve.

Our founding fathers had resolved to carve out an independent state where there will be democracy and where constitutionalism and rule of law would reign supreme.

Unfortunately, successive dictators tried to stifle the democratic aspirations of the people. Constitutionalism and rule of law was trampled by dictators sometime under the doctrine of necessity and sometime under the theory of successful revolution.

The unanimous Constitution of 1973 was disfigured by successive dictators to suit their own political ambitions. But the democratic aspirations could never be killed.

On the eve of Pakistan Day this year, it is reassuring to realize that the Parliament has successfully removed the vestiges of dictatorship and restored the democratic Constitution of Pakistan.

On this day let us resolve that we will not permit any dictator to usurp the basic fundamental rights of our people nor allow them to trample on our democratic aspirations. This requires that we work in the spirit of tolerance, mutual accommodation and respect for dissent.

Let us also resolve that we will uphold the Constitution and never allow it to be abrogated, subverted or held in abeyance. It is also important to uphold the independence of judiciary in accordance with the Constitution.

Unless there is rule of law and everyone is equal before law and unless we all work within the constitutionally defined parameters, stability will elude us.

I hope that the Parliament, the people and all institutions of the state will work in harmony towards this end.

I pray to Almighty Allah to bless our efforts to prove ourselves worthy of the heritage bequeathed to us by the Quaid-e-Azam.



**Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani**  
Prime Minister of Pakistan

### Message

March 23 is a landmark day in the history of Pakistan when the Muslims of the Indian sub-continent adopted the historic Lahore Resolution put forth by Mr. A.K. Fazlul Haq on March 23, 1940 at the famous Minto Park (now Minar-e-Pakistan) in the 27th annual meeting of All-India Muslim League. This Resolution gave an ideal to the Muslims and united them for the attainment of a shared objective. It was such an epoch-making event, which changed the course of history for the Indian Muslims. The Resolution demanded the establishment of a separate state based on the higher ideals of Islamic social justice and human compassion. In his concluding remarks, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah described the event as a milestone in the history of Hindustan. He said that the more the Muslims organized themselves the more they would get closer to their destination.

Though Allama Dr Muhammad Iqbal, poet-philosopher, gave an idea for the establishment of a separate homeland in his famous Allahabad address in 1930, there was still a need of a visionary leader to translate this concept into reality. The Quaid-e-Azam, endowed with the qualities of statesmanship, rose to the occasion to steer the ship of the Muslims from the tempest it was stuck in. Renowned American historian Stanley Walpert has paid a glowing and befitting tribute to his leadership in the following words, "Few individuals significantly alter the course of history. Fewer still modify the map of the world. Hardly anyone can be credited with creating a nation-state. Muhammad Ali Jinnah did all three."

The Quaid-e-Azam said to his Secretary Matloob-ul-Hassan after the approval of the Lahore Resolution, "Iqbal is not present amongst us today. Had he been alive, he would have been happy to know that we fulfilled his desire."

The British imperialists and the Hindu leadership were both opposed to the establishment of a separate state and wanted to keep the sub-continent united at all costs. The Quaid-e-Azam remained steadfast in his demand that no solution of the Indian political and constitutional problem except the creation of a new state would be acceptable to the Muslims. He believed that in a united India, the Muslims would be relegated

to the status of second-class citizens. So he waged a determined struggle to carve out a state where the Muslims could live their individual and collective life in accordance with their traditions. While delivering a speech in Peshawar on November 24, 1945, the Quaid-e-Azam said: "Our religion, our culture, and Islamic ideals are our driving force to achieve independence. "Pakistan not only means freedom and independence but the Muslim ideology which has to be preserved." He was of the considered view that the European model of democracy was not applicable to united India as it would provide the majority with an opportunity to establish its government and the minorities would become subjugated.

The Lahore Resolution, which was later on very rightly described as Pakistan Resolution, changed the destiny of the Indian Muslims. It gave an impetus to their struggle and fired their passion to realize the dream of a separate state. This explains why Pakistan came into being as the largest Islamic state on the map of the world within a short span of seven years in 1947. Today, Pakistan as a flourishing democracy enjoys an honourable place in the comity of nations.

The present democratic government is committed to preserving our great cultural heritage, distinct political and civilizational identity in the light of the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Shaheed Zulifkar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtrama Benazir Bhutto. We are making our earnest efforts to bring about economic and social revolution in keeping with the spirit of the Pakistan Resolution. The government revived the Constitution of 1973 in its original form by deleting the dictatorial insertions from it. We undertook broad-based reforms in political, legislative and administrative domains which include the 18th, 19th and 20th Constitutional Amendments, empowerment of women, the 7th NFC Award, self-governance to Gilgit-Baltistan, deletion of Concurrent List, devolution of power to federating units, and revival of Council of Common Interests, etc.

In an effort to address the long-standing grievances of the Baloch people and remove their sense of deprivation, the democratic government introduced Aagaz-e-Haqooq-e-Baluchistan Initiative to mainstream the role of the Baloch in the national development. The government has just completed its fourth year in office and the success of a coalition government owes itself to the policy of reconciliation and consensus espoused by Shaheed Mohtrama Benazir Bhutto. Though we did encounter a few problems on the way, but we did not allow these hurdles to hamper our march towards progress and development, for which the entire nation deserves to be congratulated.

March 23 is not only a day of celebration but also an opportunity to reiterate our pledge to keep working hard for the attainment of the objectives contained in the Pakistan Resolution. On this auspicious occasion, we pledge to uphold the supremacy of democracy and rule of law at every cost. We need to strengthen the principles of mutual tolerance, brotherhood and reconciliation to foster unity in our ranks. We have to strengthen our national security and independence in accordance with our national aspirations. The Day demands of us to revive the spirit of Pakistan Movement in its entirety.

I pray to Allah Almighty to enable us to protect Pakistan and put it on the rails of progress and prosperity. (Ameen)

### High Commissioner's Message

On this auspicious day in 1940, the historic Pakistan Resolution was adopted at Lahore which culminated in the emergence of Pakistan as an independent and sovereign state on 14 August 1947. Since then, 23rd March is observed each year by the whole nation as Pakistan Day with great zeal and fervour.

While we rejoice on this day, it is also an occasion for all citizens of Pakistan to reflect and remind ourselves of the bold vision put forth by our forefathers under the leadership of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. The goals set out in that vision have guided our nation since our independence. As Pakistanis, we take great pride in our many achievements. We are also cognizant of the many challenges that lie ahead. At the same time, we remain confident in our commitment to overcome them.

Pakistan is a land of rich and diverse heritage. We have been home to ancient civilizations. Our society is multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious. Geographically, our land encompasses deserts, lush-green plains and some of the highest snow-clad peaks. Together, these have defined us as a nation.

We share the same hopes and aspirations as other nations. We strive to achieve economic progress and prosperity at home. We seek a stable and peaceful global and regional environment. We desire friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation with all other states.

With Bangladesh, we have a special relationship steeped in the many affinities and bonds that exist between us. Our relations continue to grow and expand. Today, we are engaged in cooperative interaction in a wide range of areas. Bangladesh and

Pakistan are working together to strengthen bilateral economic cooperation, enhance trade and commercial relations, increase cultural and people to people exchanges, promote tourism and broaden social sector programmes.

The Government of Pakistan has taken certain significant initiatives to strengthen bilateral relationship and deepen cooperation with Bangladesh. We have established over 50 laboratories in different areas from Rangpur to Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh to complement Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's vision of "Digital Bangladesh". Fully funded training programmes are being offered to Bangladeshi civil servants and scholarships to the students in the fields of medicine, engineering and IT. Student exchanges are also regularly taking place between Pakistan and Bangladesh.

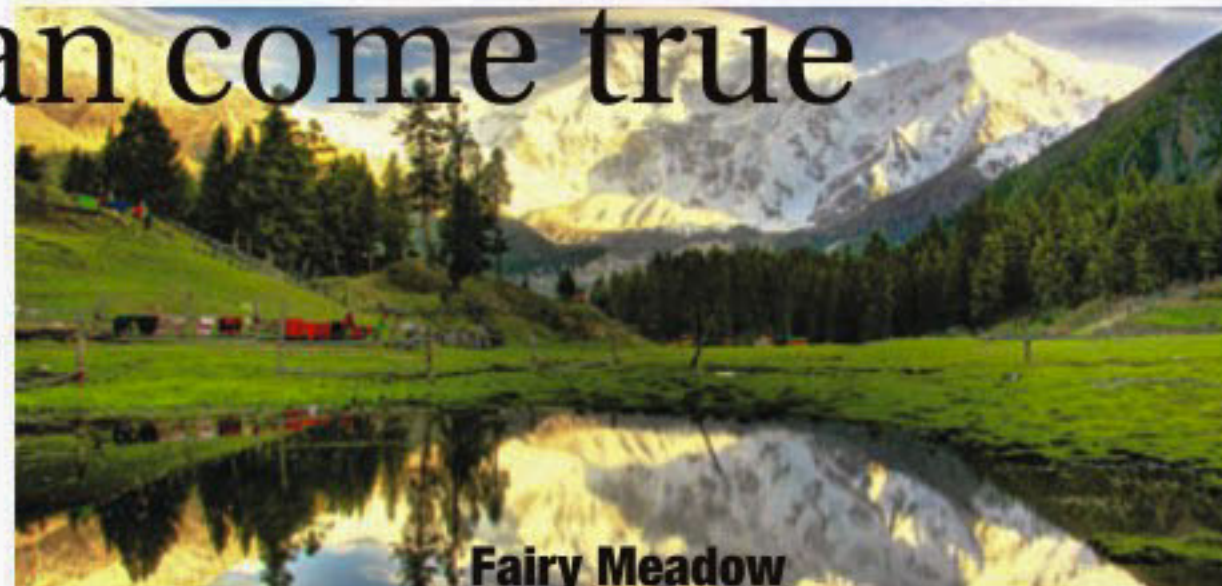
As we celebrate the Pakistan Day in Bangladesh, I would like to take this opportunity to convey my warm greetings and best wishes for the well-being and happiness of the Hon'ble President of Bangladesh, His Excellency Md. Zillur Rahman; and the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, and pray for the continued progress and prosperity of the brotherly people of Bangladesh.



**Afrasiab**  
High Commissioner of Pakistan to Bangladesh

## Dream can come true

When human eyes encounter the huge mountains of Nanga Parbat, sense of defeat and beat mixes in the body but at the same time the magic



**Fairy Meadow**

spell of fairy meadow encircles the soul and elevates it to the ground of supernatural. Fairy Meadow is located at the base of Nanga Parbat, which, at 8126 m, is the 9th highest mountain in the world, presents a clam, lovable, enchanting, breathtaking and awesome atmosphere with its varied views. To welcome the tourists from all over the world, it spreads its arms to

3300 m. Fairy Meadow is a peaceful and relaxing place to enjoy the mountain beauty and hospitality of the local people. The name Fairy Meadow is part of the legend that Fairies have their heaven on this lush green plateau. Hermann Buhl, the Austrian climber who first climbed Nanga Parbat in 1953, named it Fairy Meadow due to its wonderful scenery.

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Our Heartiest Congratulations  
to the Brotherly People and the  
Government of the Islamic Republic of  
Pakistan on the Occasion of  
Pakistan Day

## HBL



Enriching Life

### Team HBL sets Guinness World Records

HBL - Pakistan's largest banking network - is celebrating Pakistan Day today in over 25 countries and 1450 branches across Pakistan. HBL has set the Guinness World Record for the Longest Handshake Chain of 274 people and the Longest Graffiti Scroll, 1924 metres in length, on "Colours of Pakistan."

We are proud to have contributed to a progressive and positive image of Pakistan. With this record-breaking victory, we strengthen our resolve of enriching lives and enhancing futures' all across the world.

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Longest Handshake Chain of 274 people

Longest Graffiti Scroll of 1,924 metres