

Independence Day of Pakistan



The Daily Star

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

AUGUST 14, 2013

Message

I wish to extend heartiest felicitations to all the Pakistanis living within the country and abroad on the auspicious occasion of 67th Independence Day today.

The Independence Day celebrations this year have special significance as the nation is also celebrating, for the first time, peaceful democratic transition from one democracy to another. While our heads bow in gratitude before Allah we should also, on this auspicious occasion of double rejoicing, resolve to make Pakistan a truly modern, dynamic, progressive and democratic country.

Apart from celebrations the Independence Day is also an occasion to reflect whether we have moved towards or away from the noble ideals for which the state was created by our great forefathers.

Unfortunately, our past history is marred by repeated assaults on democracy and abrogation of the constitution which was also endorsed by some state institutions. Repeated ambushes against the democratic process and abrogation of the Constitution have resulted in the weakening of democratic institutions and the entrenching of non-democratic forces in a culture of secrecy. The civilian political structures were weakened as Pakistan was



Asif Ali Zardari
President of the
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

driven away from a welfare state to a security driven state with enormous damage to our body politic.

Let us resolve that we will never allow the Constitution to be subverted nor the democratic process derailed. In the fullness of time those who subverted the Constitution and those who lent legitimacy to its abrogation and subversion must be punished; they will be. It is indeed for the democratic Parliament to decide on how to punish them.

Let us on this day rededicate ourselves once again to the democratic ideals and principles for which Pakistan was created. Let us banish from our midst extremists and militants who wish to impose their political ideology on the people through the bullet instead of the ballot. Let us also reject those who exploit and misuse the name of religion for advancing their personal and partisan political agendas.

On this day I urge the people to stand firm and united for safeguarding and strengthening democracy and to work collectively for a progressive, tolerant, moderate and pluralistic Pakistan as envisioned by our great leaders. On this day, I also wish to pay tribute to those valiant sons of the soil who have sacrificed their lives defending motherland from external and internal threats. I also pay tributes to the courage of all those fellow citizens who laid down their lives or suffered grievously fighting against militancy and extremism.

Pakistan-Paindabad

Message

On the 67th Independence Day, I extend my heartiest felicitations to all the countrymen and offer my gratitude to Allah for giving us a beautiful country like Pakistan. Today, I also felicitate those Pakistanis who are settled abroad but their hearts throng with Pakistan and deem the green flag as a symbol of honour and dearer than their lives.

Pakistan is our identity that we earned through immense sacrifices. Countless people gave their blood to kindle the light of freedom and millions had to migrate for this purpose. Our elders sacrificed their present for our future. Today we remember our forefathers and pay our gratitude to them for making extraordinary sacrifices to give us an identity.

A new era of hope and optimism has dawned in the country with the inception of the present democratic government. Pakistan Muslim League, the founding party of the country, has taken over the reins of government with a renewed zeal and determination. The PML(N) believes that the well being and security of the country hinges on the continuation of democratic process and respect for the people's rights. The present government is committed to eliminate all evils from the country and take it to new heights of development and prosperity. It is our utmost effort to eliminate hunger, unemployment and inflation so that there is prosperity in the country and its status is further elevated.

The government is also fully committed to weed out extremism and terrorism from the country, and will ensure its safety and security by all means. With the grace of Almighty Allah and the active support of the people, we will not only surmount all challenges but also put the country on the trajectory of development.

The Independence Day demands of us that we should plan our future strategy in the light of our past experiences. If we fail to correct our mistakes today, do not choose the right path, and continue to serve our personal interests instead of the national objectives, the future generations will never pardon us. We have to transfer a peaceful, strong and prosperous Pakistan to our future generations where they can live in respect. For this purpose, the nation has to demonstrate exemplary unity and solidarity. Let us renew our pledge today that regardless of our personal interests, we will dedicate our energies for Pakistan and lead it to high level of development and prosperity as envisioned by Allama Iqbal and Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah.

On this occasion, I reiterate the words of Quaid-i-Azam that he expressed on the eve of Pakistan Day, 23rd March 1944, "Let's go forward, full of hope for the coming year(s), with faith in our heart, unity in our camp, discipline in ranks, and I am confident of our success..."

God be our saviour and guide. (Amin)



Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif
Prime Minister of the
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Message

Sixty-six years ago on 14 August, Pakistan emerged as a sovereign and independent state on the world map. This day in 1947 represented the fruition of a long struggle by the Muslims of the subcontinent under the leadership of the Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Pakistan astrides the traditional trade routes that link West, Central and South Asia. From Gwadar Bay in its south-eastern corner, the country extends more than 1,800 km to the Khunjerab Pass on China's border. Iran makes up the country's south-west border, and Afghanistan runs along its western and northern edge. The Arabian Sea is Pakistan's southern boundary with a 1,064 km of coastline.

Pakistan is a land of contrasts. We have a rich and diverse heritage. We are home to the great treasures of the Indus and Gandhara civilizations. Some of the earliest relics of the Stone Age in the subcontinent are found in Pakistan in the Soan Valley of the Potohar region. Mehrgarh, one of the most important Neolithic (7000 BC to 3200 BC) sites in archaeology, lies on the Kachi plain of Balochistan and is one of the earliest sites with evidence of farming and herding in South Asia.

As a nation we have achieved many milestones since our independence. This makes us confident with regard to the challenges that lie ahead. For this purpose, we seek a peaceful regional environment and friendly and cooperative relations with all countries of the world.

Pakistan and Bangladesh enjoy a very special relationship. Our two countries are engaged in a broad range of mutually beneficial partnership in the areas of commerce, health, education and culture.

Bilateral trade and investment have registered a healthy growth. Two-way trade increased from US \$ 477 million to US\$ 750 million.

The people to people contact and other exchanges are gaining momentum. The Pakistan High Commission arranged visits to Pakistan by 20 Bangladeshi journalists and 40 university students in 2013 alone. A delegation from NDU, Islamabad visited Dhaka in 2013. Preparations for holding the JEC meeting in Islamabad at the earliest is also underway.

We look forward to this growing partnership between Pakistan and Bangladesh. As we cele-



Afrasiab
High Commissioner of the
Islamic Republic of Pakistan
to Bangladesh

brate our Independence Day, I take this opportunity to wish the people of Bangladesh progress and prosperity in the years ahead.



National Bank of Pakistan

Would like to felicitate on the occasion of INDEPENDENCE DAY OF PAKISTAN (14th August) of its glorious ascension. We take this opportunity to join the nation in offering our humble prayers for continued peace and prosperity in the country. On this auspicious moment we pledge to serve and proud to join the economic activities in the Brother Country Bangladesh.



National Bank of Pakistan

Controlling Office : 80, Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan, Dhaka-1212.
Ph: 9894861, Fax: 9894791, Email: nbpbdc@yahoo.com

Dhaka Main Branch : 79, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
Ph: 9560248, 9560249, 9561171, Fax: 9560247
Email: nbp@agni.com, nbpdhaka@yahoo.com

Gulshan Branch : 80, Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan, Dhaka-1212.
Ph: 9897458, Fax: 9861028, Email: nbp_gulshan@yahoo.com

Sylhet Branch : Metropolitan Market, Sobhanighat, Sylhet.
Ph: 0821-2831412, 0821-2831413, Fax: 88-0821-2831414
Email: nbpsyl@yahoo.com

Chittagong Branch : Daar-E-Shahidi, 69, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong.
Ph: 880-31-2520292, 880-31-2520272, Fax: 880-31-2520305
Email: nbpcg@colbd.com



HBL



Enriching Life

The Power of Freedom

66 years ago, Pakistan started its journey with nothing but a dream to prosper. This vision remains undeterred and our goal lies clearly before us.


HBL-Pakistan's largest bank, with presence in 25 countries and across 4 continents wishes Pakistanis a very Happy Independence Day.

www.hbl.com




JWT

BE SAFE


the ultimate steel


www.bsrm.com

facebook.com/saferbangladesh



ALMAS TOWER, DUBAI


BUILT WITH


ELONGATION AT MAXIMUM FORCE

TESTED

DUCTILE STEEL

BSRM Xtreme500W is the premium reinforcing steel of the country with guaranteed EMF.


Feel safe with Xtreme Inside