



Emphasized the need for Pakistani products to meet international standards and to promote the "Made in Pakistan" brand worldwide

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives

Ahsan Iqbal

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Atta Tarar vows to protect rights of minorities at every forum

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Atta Ullah Tarar Sunday vowed to raise his voice at every forum to protect the rights of minorities.

Addressing a ceremony regarding Minority Day held here at Model Town, he added, "We are proud of the minorities of Pakistan, the white color in the Pakistani flag represents the minorities, and the minority communities in Pakistan have always played a positive role in the development, prosperity and establishment of peace in the country."

The Federal Information Minister assured that the government would raise its voice at all forums to protect the rights of minorities, asserting that Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has clearly instructed the parliamentarians to play an active role in the protection of minority rights in and outside the parliament, as the government is the guarantor of the protection of rights of every citizen of Pakistan. He mentioned that he is an MNA of Lahore's constituency where he represents 70,000 Christian voters. "I have received more love from this community than anyone else, and I am always in need of their support and guidance," he added.

He said that when there is an incident or the community feels little fear, "then we encourage them and help raise their voice", adding that Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has always given the message of tolerance for the promotion of interfaith harmony. Atta Ullah Tarar also thanked all the participants in the ceremony, especially the minority communities for their presence. "Pakistan also belongs to the minorities and our flag, in which the white colour represents you, we are also proud of you", he said. He also recited some poetry of a Sikh poet and chanted the slogan of 'Long live Pakistan, long live the minorities of Pakistan.'

Pakistan condemns in the strongest terms the Israeli attack on Al-Tabeen School in eastern Gaza: Mumtaz Zahra

Says Israel must be held accountable for these war crimes & genocide in Gaza

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has condemned in the strongest possible terms the Israeli attack on Al-Tabeen School in eastern Gaza on Saturday, which led to the death of over 100 civilians, injuring many more. According to a statement issued by Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch on Sunday, attacking an overcrowded school sheltering displaced persons, particularly when they were performing morning prayers, is a horrific, inhuman, and cowardly act. The indiscriminate targeting of civilian populations and facilities is a grave violation of international humanitarian law and constitutes war crimes. She said that Israel must be held accountable for these war crimes and genocide in Gaza. FO Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said that we call on the international community, especially the United Nations and backers of Israel, to take immediate steps to bring an end to the Gaza genocide and to protect the people of Gaza.

Govt intends to increase investment in the country: Abdul Aleem Khan, Mir Jam kamal Khan

Abdul Aleem Khan says the privatization of PIA is progressing smoothly, Mir Jam Kamal Khan says the energy crisis will have to be dealt with for the promotion of commercial activities



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan and Federal Minister of Commerce Mir Jam Kamal Khan while addressing the 9th Footwear Manufacturers Association Show said that the present Government intends to increase investment in the country and for this purpose we are making serious efforts to put more investment.

They added that the positive results have also been started to emerge and the participation of more than 800 investors and companies from 70 countries in the recent conference in Karachi is proof of this.

Federal Minister for Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan said that our companies should market their brands to other countries in a good manner and take positive steps keeping in view the competitive atmosphere, international standards and modern trends. He said that the bilateral partnership of Pakistani companies and Chinese institutions has been already started through mutual investment while there is sufficient scope for export of leather industry, footwear and sports goods for which the Board of Investment will provide all kinds of facilitation. Federal Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan said that China and Pakistan can prove to be a big market for each other in various products and the Ministry of Commerce is providing

full support to the investors of both countries in the light of the orders of the Prime Minister. Federal Ministers Abdul Aleem Khan and Jam Kamal Khan inspected the products displayed in the 9th Pakistan Footwear and Manufacturers Show and appreciated the standards of Pakistani companies where 25 prominent Pakistani and Chinese companies participated. China Association invited Federal Ministers Abdul Aleem Khan and Jam Kamal Khan to visit China.

Later, Federal Ministers Jam Kamal Khan and Abdul Aleem Khan participated in the B2B meeting between Chinese and Pakistani companies where they said that the visit to China of last month led by the Prime Minister has been very beneficial and the Pakistani Embassy in China has increased the number of Commercial and Trade Officers up to 20 in order to promote trade activities between the two countries. Senior persons of Chinese Companies presented shields to the Federal Ministers and appreciated their cooperation.

Responding to media questions, Federal Minister for Privatization Abdul Aleem Khan said that the privatization of PIA is progressing smoothly, 6 companies have been shortlisted and the date of October 1 has been fixed. The loss of Rs 100 billion will be saved and the citizens will get an international standard airline, Abdul Aleem Khan added. SABAH



Lahore: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses a ceremony organized in view of National Minorities Day on August 11.

Govt to safeguard rights of minorities enshrined in Constitution: PM

Masjid-i-Nabawi Imam meets PM Shehbaz

VOM Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has reiterated the commitment of government to safeguard rights of minorities enshrined in the 1973 Constitution.

Addressing a gathering in connection with National Minorities Day held at Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) headquarters in Lahore on Sunday, he emphasized the significance of August 11, a date that commemorates Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's historic speech advocating equal rights for all citizens, irrespective of their religion.

Premier Shehbaz Sharif welcomed minority representatives and military officers, highlighting the diverse makeup of the nation. He reiterated that Quaid-e-Azam had envisioned a Pakistan where everyone, including Muslims and minorities, would enjoy complete freedom to practice their faiths, a vision that continues to guide the country today.

Strongly condemning the ongoing violence in Gaza, he denounced the atrocities committed by the Israeli government under Prime Minister Netanyahu. He criticized the global community's muted response to these acts, calling it a grave failure of international organizations tasked with maintaining global peace.

Reflecting on the contributions of Pakistan's minority communities, the prime minister acknowledged their significant role in the country's progress and prosperity. He highlighted the contributions of Christian, Hindu, Sikh, and Parsi communities to various sectors,

including education, defence, trade, and justice. The Prime Minister paid special tribute to minority figures who have served the nation in times of war and peace, citing examples such as Cecil Chaudhry and Justice Cornelius.

PM Shehbaz Sharif also recognized the historical challenges faced by minorities in Pakistan, emphasizing the need for ongoing efforts by both federal and provincial governments to ensure their security and protection. He reassured the minority communities that the government is committed to addressing their concerns and improving their quality of life. He reiterated the PML-N's longstanding support for minority rights, stating that the party, under the leadership of Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, has always advocated for the inclusion and protection of minorities. He concluded by reaffirming the government's dedication to upholding the vision of Quaid-e-Azam and ensuring that minorities continue to play an integral role in the nation's future.

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Ch Salik Hussain also spoke. Federal Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazir Tarar, senior PML-N leader Khawaja Saad Rafique and other federal and provincial ministers, parliamentarians, representatives of minorities, senior civil and forces officers and a number of citizens attended the ceremony. Meanwhile, Masjid-i-Nabawi Imam Dr Salah Mohammad Al-Budair met Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif, here on Sunday. During the meeting, the premier said "your visit is a matter of pride for the country and it will further strengthen the ties between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan".

The Imam conveyed good wishes of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and other Saudi leadership to the premier. Shehbaz prayed for health and long life of King Salman bin Abdulaziz.

The PM also expressed good wishes for King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. He said, "There is extreme respect for Khadim Al Haramain Al Sharfain and other Saudi leadership in the hearts of the people of Pakistan." He said that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia relations were everlasting and Saudi Arabia had always stood by Pakistan in hard times. He said, "Our relationship with Saudi Arabia is based on many decades and our ties with Saudi Arabia are heading towards new heights."

The Masjid-i-Nabawi Imam thanked the PM for a very warm hosting in Pakistan. He said Pakistan and Saudi Arabia were two such stars which could not separate from each other. Federal Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar, Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Salik Hussain, Ulema, Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Malkiy and other Saudi officials were also present. Later, a dinner was hosted in the honour of the Imam and his delegation.

Armed Forces of Pakistan extend warm felicitations to the minority communities of Pak on their dedicated day

Say we celebrate their spirit & reiterate our commitment to protecting & promoting their rights, freedoms & welfare

RAWALPINDI: The Armed Forces of Pakistan, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (JCSC), and the Services Chiefs extend warm felicitations to the minority communities of Pakistan on their dedicated day, acknowledging their indispensable contributions to the nation's progress, prosperity, and rich cultural heritage.

According to a statement issued by the ISPR, this occasion serves as a poignant reminder of the diversity, inclusivity, and harmonious coexistence that are the hallmarks of our great nation. The minority communities are an integral and vital part of our social fabric, and their rights and freedoms are sacrosanct, as enshrined in the Constitution and Islam.

Throughout Pakistan's history, minorities have played a significant role in shaping the country's cultural identity, contributing to its development, and strengthening its social foundations. From the Quaid's visionary ideals to the present day, minorities have been an integral part of the nation-building process, and their sacrifices and contributions are deeply valued. The Armed Forces of Pakistan honour the unwavering commitment, dedication, and sacrifices of the minority communities, recognizing their unshakable loyalty to the nation and their invaluable role in fostering a cohesive and pluralistic society. We celebrate their spirit and reiterate our commitment to protecting and promoting their rights, freedoms, and welfare. PR

Lt Uzair Shaheed's funeral prayer offered at Peshawar Garrison



RAWALPINDI: The funeral prayer of Lieutenant Uzair Mehmoood Malik, Shaheed, (age 24 years, resident of Attock district) who rendered the ultimate sacrifice bravely fighting against the Khawarij in Bagh, District Khyber, were offered at Peshawar Garrison on Sunday. Shaheed Lieutenant Uzair Mehmoood Malik was seriously injured during the operation against Khawarij on August 9, 2024 and he embraced martyrdom on August 11, 2024 in CMH Peshawar, an Inter Services Public Relations news release said. The funeral was attended by Corps Commander Peshawar, family members of the martyr and a large number of military and civil officials. The martyr will be buried in his hometown with full military honours. APP

Sit-in, long march pushed country to uncertainty: Ahsan

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning and Reforms Ahsan Iqbal on Sunday said the sit-in and long march pushed the country to uncertainty.

Talking to media in the welcome parade of Pakistan's Olympic gold medalist Arshad Nadeem in Lahore, Ahsan Iqbal said that no policy was allowed to stay in the country for more than three to four years.

"What we are lacking is the political stability," he said. "Instead of branding each other as thief and dacoit, we have to work jointly for Pakistan," federal minister said.

"Today a man has been imprisoned in the same cell in Adiala Jail, where I was kept," he said.

He said, expensive electricity and price hike are bitter pills to be taken for two to three years. "It is bitter recipe of the IMF, the country would have bankrupted, if we didn't apply for the loan from the IMF," PML-N leader said.

The minister said the agriculture could play a pivotal role in guiding Pakistan out of the dire straits. INP

Mohsin Naqvi meets Turkish ambassador Dr. Mehmet Paçacı

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi met with Turkish Ambassador Dr. Mehmet Paçacı at the Ministry of Interior.

During the meeting Pakistan-Turkey bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest were discussed in detail. Furthermore, both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in the fields of security, police, and civil armed forces. It was also decided to send Pakistani police officers to Turkey for training under the exchange program.

On the occasion, the minister said that from August 14 this year, Turkish citizens will be able to obtain free online visas. He added that this step will make it much easier for Turkish brothers and sisters to visit Pakistan. He stated that he will visit Turkey in October at the invitation of the Turkish Government, where productive steps will be proposed to increase mutual cooperation. The minister mentioned that Pakistanis consider Turkey as their second home. "Both countries have long-standing religious, cultural, and trade ties and we are desirous of further



strengthening these relations", he added. The release of Pakistani prisoners in Turkey was also discussed in the meeting and it was agreed to soon finalize the agreement in this regard. Turkish Ambassador Dr. Mehmet Paçacı said that Turkey renders huge importance to the brotherly relations with Pakistan and will continue the cooperation with Pakistan in various fields. Federal Secretary Interior Khurram Ali Agha and Additional Secretary Interior Riffat Mukhtar Raja were also present on the occasion.

Youth of Pakistan are our most valuable asset as they are the dreamers & leaders of tomorrow: President Zardari

Says the Prime Minister's Youth Programme stands as a testament to our commitment to empowering our youth

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has said that the youth of Pakistan are our most valuable asset as they are the dreamers and leaders of tomorrow.

This was stated by President Asif Ali Zardari in his message on the occasion of the International Youth Day being observed today (Monday). President Asif Ali Zardari said that on this International Youth Day, he extends his heartfelt greetings to Pakistan's vibrant and dynamic youth, who are the torchbearers of our nation's future.

"Today, we celebrate not just the potential of our young generation, but also their invaluable contributions to our country's progress. The



youth of Pakistan are our most valuable asset as they are the dreamers and leaders of tomorrow" President Zardari said. President Asif Ali Zardari said that it is our duty to provide them with the opportunities and resources they need to fulfill their potential and build a prosperous, peaceful, and progressive Pakistan. The Prime Minister's Youth Programme stands as a

testament to our commitment to empowering our youth.

President Asif Ali Zardari said that through initiatives like the Youth Laptop Scheme, which has distributed 600,000 laptops nationwide, we are ensuring that our students are equipped to succeed in the digital world. The Youth Business Loan program, having disbursed 186 billion rupees, has given rise to a new generation of entrepreneurs who are creating jobs and driving economic growth. Additionally, the Youth Skill Development Programme has provided training to 450,000 young individuals, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to our society. More-

over, we are actively engaging our youth through the Sports Talent Hunt and the Green Youth Movement, fostering not only physical fitness but also a sense of responsibility towards the environment.

"As President, I am deeply proud of the accomplishments of our young people. Their energy, creativity, and resilience are the driving forces behind our nation's success. I urge every young Pakistani to seize the opportunities available to them, to dream big, and to work tirelessly for the betterment of our beloved country. Together, let us continue to nurture and support our youth, for in their success lies the future of Pakistan" President Asif Ali Zardari said. SABAH

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Arshad is the true Pakistan

MIR ADNAN AZIZ

It was 2500 years ago that Heraclitus defined change as the only constant. As nations gaining independence with or even after we prospered, Pakistan's only constant has remained the apathy of our power-elite towards the people. This has translated into the regression of all things that define a nation-state.

This sets up a starker contrast when one remembers the unbounded aspirations of our earlier years. Sports is something that invigorates and binds a nation. Despite our nascence, the sportsmen that we had were the treasure troves of Pakistan.

Jahangir Khan, one of our many squash greats, dominated the game winning the World Open six times and the British Open ten times. He won 555 consecutive matches. As recorded by Guinness World Records, it remains the longest winning streak by any athlete in top-level professional sport. Pakistan hockey was a permanent feature at the international victory podiums. Winning eight hockey Olympic medals, three of them gold, Pakistan won the first four world cups. Currently ranked 16th, Pakistan last won a hockey medal in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and gold at the 1984 Los Angeles Games. Tellingly, our hockey team could not even qualify for the ongoing Paris Olympics where, with a population of 245 million, we sent a 'contingent' of seven athletes. It translates into one athlete to 35 million people. Eleven officials in the group outnumber the athletes. Palestine, with 5.5 million people, is represented by eight athletes despite the genocidal atrocities being perpetrated on them. Transcending race, politics and adversity, sports unite a country. Nelson Mandela famously said that sports could create hope where there was only despair and that it had the power to change the world. Fearing retaliation for their brutal oppression, post-apartheid South Africa saw white people fleeing the country.

Mandela, statesman extraordinaire that he was, understood South Africa's progress hinged on creating what he termed the rainbow nation. He forgave those who had incarcerated him for 26 years. His followers – no Mandelas – wanted to abolish everything white. Foremost was rugby, a game introduced and loved by the Afrikaners. Despite extreme pressure to do away with the Springboks, South Africa's national rugby team, Mandela refused to submit. He knew that abolishing Springboks would be the antithesis of his rainbow nation dream. With South Africa hosting the Rugby World Cup for the first time in 1995, Mandela took it upon himself to unify a fractured nation with the inclusive slogan of 'One Team, One Country'. South Africa reached the final and was set for a showdown with New Zealand. As the players were getting ready, Mandela entered the dressing room donned in the Afrikaner team captain Francois Pienaar's number 6 jersey. He met all the players and stopped before Chester Williams, the team's only player of color. Mandela said: "I am proud of you. Make the rest of South Africa proud too." The Springboks defeated New Zealand. Mandela, clad in team colours, gave away the trophy. As Pienaar hoisted the cup Springboks, once an Afrikaner symbol, became the pride of South Africa. In 2019, South Africa became rugby world champions again. The trophy was received by Siya Kolisi, the first South African Rugby team captain of colour. Can anyone's foresight and fortitude outshine Mandela's spell-binding legacy? Sports have evolved far beyond self-made balls and ragtag teams. They are now an essential tool for social, cultural and economic development. Sportspeople are vaunted ambassadors. Their countries are identified through them. Yusuf Dikec, a Turkish shooter and silver medalist at the Paris Games, has been dubbed 'Cool Dad' and 'the Turkish John Wick'. He has become the symbol of Turkey.

Sports has evolved into multi-billion dollar business empires with leagues and clubs that supplement and complement, among a host of other entities, the media, sports tourism and sports equipment and apparel manufacturers. The most important aspect is that nothing is more cohesive for a nation than sports. We still relive the 92 World Cup win and the 2017 Champions Trophy.

Today, our joy and pride is Arshad Nadeem. For want of support, he could have forsaken his dreams and aspirations but refused to do so. It was just months ago that he had reluctantly aired his inability to change his damaged eight-year-old javelin.

Before stepping out into the packed Stade de France, Arshad trained at the dilapidated non-air-conditioned gym of the Punjab University. The oppressive heat was compounded by this facility lacking even the bare essentials he needed. Could anyone have ever imagined in their wildest dreams that this dehydrated lonely figure would catapult Pakistan into what had otherwise remained ever-elusive glory?

Arshad's Herculean effort makes it all the more commendable because it was a lonely and arduous trek indeed. This aspect should be remembered by our otherwise ever-detached and self-centered power elite making a beeline for his bandwagon now. Success, they say, has many fathers.

Wrapped in the national flag, Arshad Nadeem broke down in tears with immense joy and pride for the gold medal he gifted Pakistan before its independence day. The tears also symbolized the people of Pakistan in what were the heartbreaks of an individual, who did not let any limitation hinder his javelin from being Allama Iqbal's Shaheen as our crescent and star soared its way into the annals of history.

It is individuals like Arshad Nadeem who remain devoid of state support, yet their fervor and resilience bring glory to Pakistan. Transforming our despair into hope, our pessimism into optimism, they are the silver lining to our apathetic cheerleaders. They are the true Pakistan.

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Ghazi Salahuddin

Making sense of Bangladesh

bringing into focus a number of landmark events that had taken place in August. In three days, we will celebrate our Independence Day and today, when this column is being published, is the eleventh of August – the day when in 1947, the Quaid had made a speech that we have failed to understand or internalize.

It was on August 5, a few days back, that the army chief of Bangladesh announced the resignation of now-former PM Sheikh Hasina and the world learnt that the matriarch had fled to India, after a few weeks of bloody unrest that began with protests against the quota system in government jobs.

What is so important about the fifth of August? Well, we were all set to observe the day as Youm-e-Istiqal to mark the fifth anniversary of India's unilateral action of revoking Indian-held Kashmir's special status. Almost in a ritualistic manner, our stance on the long-standing dispute of Kashmir was forcefully reiterated. Think of how deeply we are entangled in this barrier to peace in this jinxed Sub-continent.

Also, not so irrelevant is the fact that the day was the first anniversary of the incarceration of Imran Khan, who embodies the political turbulence that has overwhelmed Pakistan. Could we, thus, call him the prince of our disorders?

However, my reference is to the event that took place on this day in 2024 – and is now etched in history. For that matter, something happened on the fifteenth of August in 1975 that is stuck in the conscience of Bangladesh like a dagger. On this day, Bangabandhu was assassinated, and his entire family was slaughtered. Sheikh Hasina, his daughter,

lived because she was abroad. On Monday, when she was banished from Bangladesh, her father's majestic and giant statue was also toppled. (As an aside, I must take note of how during these grim days, in this month, Pakistan was cheered with the unique gift of a gold medal in the Olympics when Arshad Nadeem set a new Olympic record in javelin throw late on Thursday night. What a joy this first individual gold ever is for the nation. He serves as an example that can lift us, momentarily, from our depths of depression.)

Anyhow, enough about the vagaries of August in South Asian history – and add to the list the death of Gen Ziaul Haq in a plane crash in 1988, if you like. More important is to decipher the situation that has developed in Bangladesh. We may ignore, in this analysis, the impulsive expectation of many in Pakistan that something similar is also likely to take place in Pakistan.

We indeed have for some time been tottering on the edge, threatened by unforeseen consequences of our collective failings. The point I want to make is that Bangladesh is very unlike Pakistan, mainly in terms of its social capital and the strength of its civil society. So, was the collapse of the government prompted mostly by the dictatorial suppression of the opposition by Sheikh Hasina, who ruled for fifteen years and became the longest-serving female head of a government in the world? Did her brutal handling of the protests, resulting in so many killings, including of children, become a catalyst for change?

One would need to do a separate piece on the pivotal role students have played in this movement. Polit-

ical parties or politicians were nowhere in the frontline of this revolt. Student leaders called the shots, with even the military remaining somewhat in the background. How long this will continue is something else. For the moment, two student leaders, aged 26, have ministerial positions in the interim set-up, led by the country's respected Nobel Peace Prize winner, Muhammad Yunus. There are plans that a student will assist every 'adviser' – minister – in the cabinet.

One can only give some hints about the Bangladesh model, founded largely on the empowerment of women. The economic statistics are astounding. Incidentally, in 2013, the World Bank had seen Bangladesh as the "next China". The paradox here is that Hasina's son, Sajeed Wazed has said that "after all the development, Bangladesh will now become Pakistan".

Becoming Pakistan will not be easy for any country. What will happen to Bangladesh's secularism is another question to probe. In the disorder that continued after Hasina's ouster, there have been attacks on the minority community. Islamist elements are likely to reassert their presence.

Meanwhile, of course, the situation is critical. There is a sense of a breakdown of law and order. Reports say that ordinary citizens, with no police on the streets, feel unsafe and afraid. The interim government has yet to fill the power vacuum. Will it need the military to come forward?

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Disclaimer: Views expressed by writers in this section are their own and do not necessarily reflect The Asian Telegraph's point-of-view

Today in History

Pakistan

The British conceded separate electorates in the Government of India Act of 1909 which confirmed the Muslim League's position as an All-India party. Attempt for Hindu Muslim Unity The visible trend of the two major communities progressing in opposite directions caused deep concern to leaders of All-India stature. They struggled to bring the Congress and the Muslim League on one platform. Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah (1876-1948) was the leading figure among them. After the annulment of the partition of Bengal and the European Powers' aggressive designs against the Ottoman Empire and North Africa, the Muslims were receptive to the idea of collaboration with the Hindus against the British rulers.

The Congress Muslim League rapprochement was achieved at the Lucknow sessions of the two parties in 1916 and a joint scheme of reforms was adopted. In the Lucknow pact. As the scheme was commonly referred to, the Congress accepted the principle of separate electorates,

and the Muslims, in return for 'weight age' to the Muslims of the Muslim minority provinces, agreed to surrender their thin majorities in the Punjab and Bengal. The post Lucknow Pact period witnessed Hindu Muslim amity and the two parties came to hold their annual sessions in the same city and passed resolutions of identical contents.

KHILAFAT MOVEMENT

The Hindu Muslim unity reached its climax during the Khilafat and the Non-cooperation Movements. The Muslims, under the leadership of the Ali Brothers, Maulana Muhammad Ali and Maulana Shaukat Ali, launched the historic Khilafat Movement after the First World War to protect the Ottoman Empire from dismemberment. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (1869-1948) linked the issue of Swaraj (self-government) with the Khilafat issue to associate the Hindus with the Movement. The ensuing Movement was the first countrywide popular

movement. Although the Movement failed in achieving its objectives, it had a far-reaching impact on the Muslims of South Asia. After a long time, they took united action on a purely Islamic issue which momentarily forged solidarity among them. It also produced a class of Muslim leaders experienced in organizing and mobilizing the public. This experience was of immense value to the Muslims later during the Pakistan Movement. The collapse of the Khilafat Movement was followed by a period of bitter Hindu Muslim antagonism. The Hindus organized two highly anti Muslim movements, the Shudhi and the Sangathan. The former movement was designed to convert Muslims to Hinduism and the latter was meant to create solidarity among the Hindus in the event of communal conflict. In retaliation, the Muslims sponsored the Tabligh and Tanzim organizations to counter the impact of the Shudhi and the Sangathan. In the 1920s, the frequency of commu-

nal riots was unprecedented. Several Hindu-Muslim unity conferences were held to remove the causes of conflict, but, it seemed nothing could mitigate the intensity of communalism.

MUSLIM DEMAND SAFE-GUARDS

In the light of this situation, the Muslims revised their constitutional demands.

They now wanted preservation of their numerical majorities in the Punjab and Bengal, separation of Sindh from Bombay, constitution of Balochistan as a separate province and introduction of constitutional reforms in the North-West Frontier Province.

It was partly to press these demands that one section of the All-India Muslim League cooperated with the statutory commission sent by the British Government under the chairmanship of Sir John Simon in 1927.

To be continued....

Showbiz

Chloe Goodman steps out for first time since revealing 'not ready' to forgive sister

Chloe Goodman opens up about sister Lauryn's high court battle



Chloe Goodman was spotted enjoying a stylish stroll along Brighton's sea

front on Sunday, marking her first public appearance since expressing a willingness to reconcile with her sister, Lauryn. The model turned heads in a plunging leopard print dress, paired with chic shades and \$300 Vivienne Westwood sandals, radiating effortless elegance.

The sisters' rift originated from Lauryn's decision to publicly disclose her affair with England and Manchester City footballer Kyle Walker. She gave birth to son Kairo in 2019, while Walker was on a break from his wife, Annie Kilner.

The drama intensified in January when it was revealed that Walker had also fathered a daughter, Kinara, born last

summer. The fallout led to Chloe banning Lauryn from her wedding to Grant Hall in June, with the two seemingly on the brink of never speaking again. In a new interview with The Sun, Chloe has shed light on her complex relationship with her sister Lauryn and weighed in on Lauryn's ongoing High Court battle with footballer Kyle Walker. Chloe revealed that while she is open to the idea of forgiveness, she isn't ready to have a direct conversation with Lauryn just yet. "It's not so much about forgiveness as it is about timing," she explained. "I'm not ready to sit down and discuss things with her at the moment. I worry I might say things I'd regret."

Tech

Instagram makes 'bold' move with latest feature



The Zuckerberg-led Instagram is all set to make a bold move by developing a new feature that is similar to Snap Maps. This update is similar to the Snap Maps, which was originally launched in 2017.

Speaking to The Verge, a Meta spokesperson, Christine Pai, mentioned the limited privacy settings that the users may experience with this upgrade.

"Users have to choose a specific group of people to share their location with, such as 'Close Friends' or only followers they follow back," Christine Pai told The Verge. Snapchat

allows public posts to Snap Maps. Moreover, with this update of Instagram, users are allowed to post videos and text updates to a map based on the location where they were taken.

Pai added that the version was not available in all the markets as of yet.

"This feature is currently only available as a 'small test' in a few markets," Pai added. "The tool is opt-in and includes controls over location sharing. As always, we are building this feature with safety in mind," Pai said.

However, the spokesperson didn't immediately respond to follow-up questions about whether full public sharing would be offered or how long the posts would remain available. Earlier in February, this feature was developed by but was named "Friend Map," but images of the feature in action started to emerge publicly this week. The Instagram has yet to reveal where the feature is being tested.

Health

Multivitamin not linked with longevity, suggests new research

A new research analysing data from over two decades and nearly 400,000 participants in the United States has suggested that long-term daily multivitamin use is not likely to improve longevity in healthy adults.

About 33% of adults in the US have been known to take a daily multivitamin by assuming that it may help prevent disease and contribute to a longer and healthier life. They consume these multivitamins to support their overall well-being, reported Medical News Today.

Previous studies have not found sufficient evidence to determine whether multivitamins benefit longevity despite widespread use.

Medical experts recommend consumption of variety of nutrient-dense foods over multivitamins for longevity

However, the new NIH study has aimed to assess the association between multivitamin use and death related to chronic diseases, specifically cardiovascular disease and cancer. Moreover, it also seeks to explore potential factors and biases that could affect the understanding of this association.

In the study, multivitamin use did not significantly differ by race, ethnicity, or family history of cancer. Evidence about regular multivitamin use improving longevity among healthy adults was not found by the researchers in the study.

In fact, people who used multivitamin supplements daily had a 4% higher risk of death compared to those who didn't use them, as per the pooled analysis.

Rather than relying on supplements to maintain health and promote longevity, consumption of a variety of nutrient-dense foods has been recommended by medical experts. These include berries, legumes, carrots, dark leafy greens etc.



PTI's agenda to spread chaos, not serve the people: Musadik Malik

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Petroleum, Senator Musadik Malik, on Sunday said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) was a party that values anarchy over public service.

Speaking to a private news channel, he said that PTI's agenda was not about strengthening the country, but rather to create political instability and economic turmoil. "They are not interested in ruling, nor in letting do others rule. Their aim is to hollow out the country economically and to create a constitutional crisis," he said. Minister accused PTI of selectively following laws that suit their political agenda while disregarding others.

The minister stressed the importance of running the country according to the law and criticized PTI's leader for his contradictory behavior.

Turkiye, Pakistan agree to boost up business activities, Investment

ISLAMABAD: Türkiye and Pakistan have agreed to boost up business activities and investment in various fields by enhancing mutual trade and promote economic activities.

It was decided in a Round Table Business Conference co-chaired by Trade Minister of Turkey Prof. Dr. Omer Bolat and Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan. Deputy Trade Minister of Türkiye Mustafa Tuzcu, Ambassador in Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci, Presidents of Chambers of Türkiye were also accompanied while prominent business community figures from Pakistan joined this session.

Federal Minister for Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan while addressing the Pakistan-Türkiye Business Round Table Conference said that the brotherhood, mutual cooperation and friendly relations of Türkiye and Pakistan span decades and these two countries have already entered into economic and joint business agreements.

He added that Pakistan wants to promote bilateral investment and business ties in various fields with Türkiye because it is prime time to increase the economic activities between Türkiye and Pakistan.

He welcomed the interest of the business community from Türkiye and said that it would benefit both countries and all possible support will be provided. Turkish Minister of Commerce Prof. Dr. Omer Bolat said in his address that the economic and business relations and bilateral partnership between Pakistan and Türkiye are going to be in a new beginning as Türkiye will also ensure all possible cooperation for Pakistan in all circumstances.

Turkish business leaders purposed that in various sectors including infrastructure bilateral investment can be increased.

Representatives of Pakistan's main commercial institutions welcomed Türkiye's proposals and said that Türkiye can develop better with its modern machinery and Pakistan with its raw materials. APP



LAHORE: Pakistan's javelin gold medalist of the Paris Olympics 2024, Arshad Nadeem, waves to the crowd upon his arrival at Allama Iqbal International Airport. APP

President Zardari, PM Shehbaz express deep grief over the martyrdom of Lieutenant Uzair Mehmood Malik



VOM Report

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif have expressed deep grief over the martyrdom of Lieutenant Uzair Mehmood Malik.

In their separate condolence messages on Sunday, they prayed for higher status in heaven for the departed soul of Lieutenant

Uzair Mehmood Malik Shaheed. The President and the Prime Minister also commiserated with the bereaved family and paid tribute to Lieutenant Uzair Mehmood Malik Shaheed for presenting supreme sacrifice in the defence of the motherland. President Asif Ali Zardari, in his message, expressed the resolve to continue actions against terrorists. In his statement, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said officers and jawans of the Pak-

istan Army are actively busy in purging the Pakistani soil of Fitna Alkharari. He said the entire nation, including him, is standing should to shoulder with the armed forces in the war on terror. The premier prayed for the martyred officer and his family.

PM Shehbaz Sharif said that the entire nation stood by the army in Pakistan's war against terrorism, adding that the martyrs and their families were the pride of the country.

Meanwhile the funeral prayer of Lieutenant Uzair Mehmood Malik Shaheed was offered in Peshawar on Sunday.

Corps Commander Peshawar, family members of the martyred, and civil and military officials attended the funeral.

Lieutenant Uzair Mehmood Malik Shaheed will be laid to rest at his native town in Attack district with full military honour.

He succumbed to wounds and embraced martyrdom at Combined Military Hospital, Peshawar. According to ISPR, on Friday last, Lieutenant Uzair Mehmood Malik, leading his troops from the front, fought bravely and sent four Khawarij to hell in Bagh. However, during intense exchange of fire, the officer got critically injured and was under treatment at CMH Peshawar.

Pakistan-China to launch new electric motorcycle with swappable batteries

ISLAMABAD: In a significant development towards sustainable transportation, Pakistani and Chinese enterprises have collaborated to introduce an electric motorcycle with swappable batteries.

This agreement is expected to pave the way for further advancements in the electric vehicle (EV) industry between the two countries, according to a report published by Gwadar Pro on Sunday.

Hammad Khalid, a business consultant announced the exciting collaboration between Super Asia Motors Pvt Ltd of Pakistan and China's EGO New Green Energy Technology Limited.

Together, they are introducing an innovative Electric Motorcycle with swappable batteries. This motorcycle is designed to cater to both commercial and domestic customers.

Additionally, their plans extend to introducing this technology to the 3-wheeler commercial market.

Hammad said the swappable battery allows you to swap your empty battery for a fully charged one within 10 seconds.

You can continue your trip without interruption, extending your range, and making it possible to bring your battery inside to charge. During long rides you can bring an extra battery with you which can be swapped at home or at the office.

The newly introduced bike will boast several other key features including a top speed of 90 km/h, a range of 200 km with two batteries, swappable solar-powered batteries conveniently available at petrol stations, and the ability to save up to 70% per kilometer.

Additionally, it offers strong, dependable, durable, and cost-saving pollution-free travel.

"This cutting-edge project brings state-of-the-art technology to Pakistan, with a focus on locally developing components and parts. It also reflects our unwavering commitment to clean energy and job creation in Pakistan," hammad added.

In recent years, Pakistan and China have been working together to introduce electric motorcycles in Pakistan, with the goal of promoting eco-friendly transportation and reducing carbon emissions.

Numerous Chinese companies, in partnership with local Pakistani enterprises, are expanding Pakistan's electric vehicle industry.

The introduction of these electric motorcycles is anticipated to significantly lower travel costs for consumers while contributing to a greener future by minimizing environmental impact. INP



LAHORE: Federal Minister for planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal talking to the media after inaugurating Food Asia international Trade fair at Expo Center. APP

CDA Chairman along with students, QAU alumni participates in plantation drive

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Capital Development Authority (CDA), Muhammad Ali Randhawa, along with students and alumni of Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad, participated in the Margalla Hills Tree Plantation Drive.

The event took place in a designated area named Quaidian Enclave on Margalla Hills, where saplings were planted by Chairman CDA Muhammad Ali Randhawa, Member Environment Talat Gondal, Member Finance Tahir Naeem, Wajahat Latif Pro-Rector Ibadat International University, Murtaza Noor National Coordinator Inter University Consortium, and Executive Director APSUP, along with the alumni and students.

"The initiative is being carried out under the direction of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the Interior Minister, and with the support of the Ministry of Climate Change," Chairman Randhawa emphasized.

He highlighted the drive's goal of preserving the

beauty of Margalla Hills through collaborative efforts with various stakeholders, including the corporate sector and civil society.

"The involvement of students is crucial to the success of the tree plantation drive. In line with federal government instructions, the drive aims to ensure the preservation and conservation of the region's flora and fauna," he mentioned.

Randhawa proposed awarding special marks to students who participated in the campaign and announced the launch of a mobile app to track the location of each planted tree.

Furthermore, Randhawa assured that educational institutions, known for their excellence, were invited to take a leading role in the plantation drive, with CDA providing full support. The participating QAU alumni and students extended their thanks to Chairman CDA, Muhammad Ali Randhawa, for inaugurating the special "Quaidian Enclave" at Margalla Hills for plantations. INP



SIALKOT: Khawaja Mohammad Asif, Defense Minister, engages with the public, addressing their issues at his residence. APP

Spirit of Indonesian Independence festivities continue in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: More than three hundred Indonesian nationals along with their families gathered this morning at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Islamabad. Despite rain, they remained enthusiastically join the pre-event series to celebrate the 79th anniversary of the Indonesian Independence Day on 17 August 2024. "Thank you for coming to all Indonesian nationals from Rawalpindi, Lahore, Gujrat, Sialkot, Faisalabad, and Abbottabad," said Mr. Ferry J. Mardiansyah, Chief of the Indonesian Embassy's Committee of the Independence Day 2024 in his welcoming remarks. He also appreciated the presence of all coordinators who have helped the Embassy in protection mission towards its nationals in Pakistan. The pre-event is marked by great festivity. A highly anticipated, joyful aspect of the Independence

Day celebration is the indispensable tradition of the sport events and fun games that take place nationwide and across the globe supported by the Indonesian missions abroad. In Islamabad, the pre-event begins with fun walk at the Diplomatic Enclave. All participants wear T-Shirt in national fervor and spirit of red and white representing the colors of the Indonesian flag. Regardless of age, there are fun activities for everyone. Covering a distance of 3 kilometers the fun walk finished back at the Embassy where the participants were greeted by refreshments and surprise gifts. Later, various games described as 'Lomba 17an' in the Indonesian language got underway featuring hotly contested various events such as badminton, table tennis, volleyball, and futsal. DNA

Youth is future of Pakistan; Rana Mashhood

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Prime Minister Youth Programme (PMYP) Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan said that youth comprising 65 percent of the population was the future of Pakistan. Talking to APP here Sunday, Mashhood said the young generation can play a major role in the prosperity and stability of the country and Pakistan has a talented youth and has a pivotal role in advancing the country towards fast-paced development. "We are dedicated to preparing our youth to excel in diverse fields, from technology-driven industries to traditional crafts. This holistic approach will enable them to contribute meaningfully to Pakistan's socio-economic development," he added. The Chairman PMYP added that youth were misled in the recent past from the right path, "We know what is happening in Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Libya and Yemen; where youth is on the street, unemployed and without education." The same attempt, he said was also made here to destroy Pakistan but Pakistan under the slogan of Azm-e-Istehkam or the Resolve for Stability has a comprehensive plan showing Pakistan's commitment to securing long-term stability including economic, diplomatic and security components to achieve a stable and prosperous Pakistan.

Innocent people were the victims of terrorism in Israeli attack on school in Gaza: Human Rights Observatory

GAZA: The Human Rights Observatory has said in a statement that innocent people were the victims of terrorism in the Israeli attack on the school in Gaza. There was no evidence of the presence of Mujahideen of Islamic Jihad and Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas. Most of the martyrs were children and women and some civilians. According to the statement issued by the Palestine Information Center, the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Observatory, an organization working for human rights, has said that the Israeli claim of presence of resistance fighters in al-Tabayin school in al-Darj neighborhood of Gaza is a white lie. The Human Rights Observatory says that the list of 19 Palestinian resistance fighters claimed by the Israeli army to have been killed during the bombing of al-Tabayin school is completely baseless and misleading. The Observatory says that its workers were present at the scene of the rescue operation.

There was no evidence of the Mujahideen of Islamic Jihad and Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas in the martyrs. Among the martyrs were mostly children and women and some civilians. The list also includes the name of Ramnatasar Zahir, who was killed by the Israeli army on Friday inside an apartment with his sister.

Euromed's Chief Rami Abdah said that all the people who were martyred in Al-Tabayeen School have been confirmed, including all women and children. There is no mujahid among them. We can say with certainty that the list provided by the Zionist Army is 100% false and misleading. They have investigated this matter, but could not find out about the presence of any Palestinian in the list issued by the Israeli army who were martyred in al-Tabayin school. The narrative of the criminal occupying forces about the martyrs of the school massacre that they were members of Hamas and Islamic Jihad is misleading and false. SABAH

Punjab govt provides equal education, employment opportunities to minorities: CM

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has said that the provincial government provides equal education and employment opportunities to all brothers and sisters belonging to the minorities.

"Minorities enjoy equal rights in Pakistan according to the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. We stand united under one flag," she said in her message on National Minorities Day. Maryam Nawaz further stated, "I salute every brother and sister of Punjab belonging to the minorities. Quaid-e-Azam had declared all the citizens free to visit their worship places. Equality, tolerance and patience aptly define democracy. Every citizen holds an equal status irrespective of their religion, caste and creed. All the citizens are beautiful and colourful flowers of a bouquet. Pakistan belongs to everyone and is equivalent to a land of heaven." While delineating Punjab's



work on Hindu Marriage Act and Christian Personal Laws was ongoing which will be submitted in the assembly soon, she added. She noted that the Punjab government for the first time allocated a record budget for the minority communities worth Rs 3.66 billion. Over Rs 4000 million development budget has been allocated for the Minority Affairs department and Rs 2500 million Minorities Development Fund has been allocated as well. Maryam Nawaz said that a special quota was being ensured for the minority communities in the government employment and educational institutions. "I along with President PML-N Muhammad Nawaz Sharif went to the residence of a Christian sanitary worker to offer condolences over his sad demise. Numerous Christian officers and staff are diligently performing their duties in all government offices including the Chief Minister's Office," she said. INP

Bilawal pledges to empower youth

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has reaffirmed the party's commitment to youth empowerment, pledging to continue leading efforts to create a Pakistan where every young person can realize their full potential.

In a message issued on International Youth Day, Chairman PPP extended his warmest greetings to the youth of Pakistan and endorsed the United Nations' 2024 theme, "From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development," which highlights the transformative role of digital technology in fostering sustainable growth. He emphasized that the youth are the true architects of Pakistan's future and that both the state and society must equip them with the education, skills, and opportunities needed to drive the nation forward. Reflecting on the legacy of Quaid-e-Azam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who inspired the youth and laid the foundations for a strong economy and defense, Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari urged the younger generation to study Bhutto's life and ideals. He noted that both Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto sacrificed their lives for the nation, embodying a commitment to fight for basic rights. Chairman PPP called on the youth to actively engage in the democratic process and to use their voices to bring about positive change, reminding them that they have the power to shape Pakistan's future. "Your involvement is vital to building a Pakistan that upholds the values of justice, equality, and democracy," he said. APP