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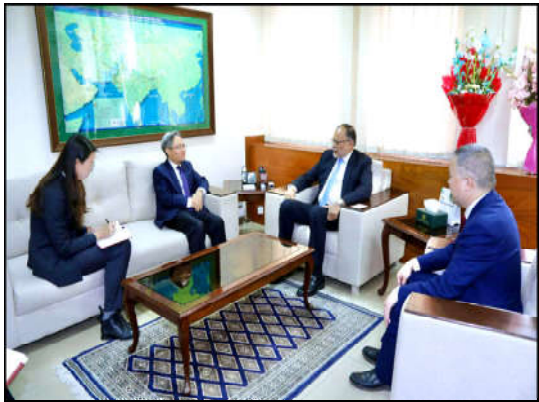
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## CM Balochistan emphasizes on Pakistan Day: We have to make pledge not to hesitate from any sacrifice for safety & stability of country

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has emphasized that we have to make pledge not to hesitate from rendering any sacrifice for safety, stability and development of the country. We would utilize all our capabilities as a united nation to achieve the very goal. The Chief Minister said at present we have to perform our responsibilities individually and collectively to face the challenges being faced by the country. This was stated by the Chief Minister Balochistan in a message issued on eve of the Pakistan Day on Friday. He said that people of Balochistan are patriotic and they would never be-

come tool of any external propaganda. He also said that the country is in need of unity and it can't afford any chaos as a result of any external agenda and anti-Pakistan activities. The Chief Minister appealed to the masses to forge unity among their ranks. He also prayed that may Allah Almighty protect the country from the evil eye of enemies and it may long live. Referring the Pakistan Day, the Chief Minister said that Pakistan was founded on the basis of two-nation theory. All the minorities living in the country enjoy complete rights and religious freedom, Chief Minister said.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Jiang Zaidong calls on Planning Minister Prof Ahsan Iqbal in Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives to discuss accelerated growth of CPEC projects.

## China to assist Pakistan in stabilizing its financial situation: Vice Premier

BRUSSELS (APP): Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday held a meeting with Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Guoqing wherein the latter underlined that China would assist Pakistan in stabilizing its financial situation. In the meeting held on the sidelines of the First Nuclear Energy Summit in Brussels, both sides agreed on the importance of the longstanding cooperation between Pakistan and China in civil nuclear technology. Vice Premier Zhang and

Foreign Minister Dar noted with appreciation the traditional 'Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Co-operative Partnership' as an exemplary and unique relationship. Foreign Minister Dar reiterated Pakistan's longstanding support for the One-China policy. He underscored that there was an absolute consensus in Pakistan on relations with China and Pakistan's strong commitment to the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).



ISLAMABAD: Chief Executive Officer of Barrick Gold, Mark Bristow along with a delegation calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

## CM visits residence of Aimal Wali

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti visited the residence of provincial president of Awami National Party (ANP), Aimal Wali Khan in Islamabad on Friday. He was accompanied by the former caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaarul Haq Kakar and Senator Dhanesh Kumar. The Chief Minister and others expressed condolence with Aimal Wali Khan over death of wife of veteran politician Asfandyar Wali Khan. They also offered feteiha for the departed soul and prayed for the patience on the loss.

## Nation to celebrate Pakistan Day today

ISLAMABAD (APP): The whole nation celebrates Pakistan Day on Saturday with renewed pledge to work hard for the progress and stability of the country. The day marks adoption of historic Lahore Resolution this day in 1940 that provided a framework for realization of the goal of a separate homeland for Muslims of South Asia. The Day will dawn with 31-gun salute in the federal capital and 21-gun salute in provincial capitals. Special prayers will be offered in mosques after Fajr prayers for the welfare, prosperity and solidarity of the country. National flag will be hoisted on major government buildings. The main feature of the day will be the grand military parade in Islamabad where contingents of the three-armed forces and other security forces will conduct march past while fighter planes will present aerobatic maneuvers.

## Pakistan, China to form WG on 5 new economic corridors under CPEC

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and China on Friday agreed to establish a Working Group (WG) on five new economic corridors under the second phase of CPEC, aligning with the 5Es framework already prepared by the Planning Ministry. The agreement was reached during a meeting between Federal Minister of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal, and Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong, which lasted for more than an hour here at the Planning Ministry, a news release said. The Chinese envoy Jiang Zaidong congratulated Ahsan Iqbal on assuming the role of Planning Minister for the fourth time. During the meeting, both sides "agreed to expedite phase 2 of the CPEC, while deciding to establish a working group on five new economic corridors, including the Corridor of Job Creation, Corridor of Innovation, Corridor of Green Energy, and Inclusive Regional

Development." Both the Planning Ministry and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of China would prepare separate concept papers on the new economic corridors, which would provide a clear road map for each sector in the future. "These concept papers will be consolidated before presentation at the upcoming Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting expected in 2024," stated the Planning Ministry. The Planning Ministry has already initiated the implementation of the 5Es framework, which includes Export, Energy, Equity, E-Pakistan and Environment. "This framework will be aligned with the five new economic corridors to advance Pakistan's prosperity in each sector under the vision of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif," emphasized the Minister highlighting the importance of accelerating Pakistan's export capabilities through enterprise development and job creation.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, former caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar and Senator Dhanesh Kumar offering Feteiha for departed soul of mother of Provincial President of Awami National Party (ANP), Aimal Wali Khan

## SC nullifies notification of dismissal from service in respect of former judge IHC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has declared null and void the notification regarding sacking of former judge Islamabad High Court (IHC) Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui. A five-member larger bench comprising Justice Aminuddin, Justice Jamal Mandokhel, Justice Hassan Azhar Rizvi and Justice Irfan Saadat headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faiz Isa issued the reserved judgment. The SC said in its decision appeals against the dismissal of Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui are accepted. Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui should be given all the privileges of a retired judge. Due to delay in fixation of case Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui has completed his 62 years age. He cannot be reinstated due to completion of his age. The court said in its decision Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui will be considered retired judge from high court. SC had reserved judgment of the appeal against

the dismissal of Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui on January 23. During the hearing of the case CJP Qazi Faez Isa had remarked we will have to proceed cautiously so that the constitutional balance among the institutions is not disturbed. During the hearing of the petition filed by Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui on December 15, 2023, SC had issued notices to former DG ISI Lt Gen (Retd) Faiz Hameed, Brig (Retd) Irfan Ramay, former chief justice IHC Anwar Kasi and former registrar SC Arbab Arif. Former DG ISI Lt Gen (Retd) Faiz Hameed had filed reply in this case in SC on January 22. Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui was removed from the judicial office on the recommendations of the Supreme Judicial Council under Article 209 of the Constitution for misbehavior as a judge for a speech at the District Bar Association Rawalpindi on 21st July 2018.



ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar meets with the UAE Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, Almazrouel Suhail on the margins of the Nuclear Energy Summit in Brussels.

## Barrick Gold delegation calls on Premier Reko Diq project will prove to be game changer: PM

**Shehbaz encourages Barrick Gold to invest in other projects too; Plans to be chalked out for communication infrastructure; Reko Diq project feasibility to be completed this year; Local people are being given priority in jobs, Premier Shehbaz told**

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of Barrick Gold Company led by Chief Executive Officer Mark Bristow was called Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday and informed the delegation that the feasibility of the Reko Diq project in Balochistan would be completed by end of current year. The prime minister said that Reko Diq project would prove to be a game changer for the development of Balochistan and the region. "This project will usher in a new era of development of the province and prosperity of the people," he added. He said planning would be made regarding communication infrastructure, es-

pecially railway lines, to take full advantage of minerals in Balochistan. The prime minister asked Barrick Gold to also invest in other mineral projects in the province. He also proposed that the government and the Barrick Gold could collaborate to establish a technical university in Chagai district of the province. The government is taking all possible measures to facilitate investors especially in the fields of road and communication systems, he remarked. Briefing on the progress of Reko Diq project, the Barrick Gold delegation informed the meeting that the Reko Diq project feasibility would be completed by

end of current year. The prime minister was informed that preference was being given to local and Balochistan domiciled persons to work on Reko Diq project. Barrick Gold said that it had set up three schools near Reko Diq under Corporate Social Responsibility while so far the company had also imparted technical training to 100 people including women. Federal Minister for Petroleum Minister Musadik Malik, Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazir Tamar, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Muhammad Jehanzeb and relevant senior government officials participated in the meeting.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Defence Production, Khawaja Muhammad Asif chairs an introductory meeting on arrival in Ministry of Defence Production.

## PM, SFD delegation discuss dev. projects

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), led by Sultan Bin Abdul Rehman Al Marshad, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), SFD, during its visit to Pakistan called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif here on Friday and discussed its ongoing projects in Pakistan. The Prime Minister welcomed the delegation and appreciated the long-standing friendship between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Pakistan and the efforts of SFD for providing financing to Pakistan in the fields of Health, Energy, Infrastructure and Education as well the recent floods.

## Visits Ministry of Defence Production Govt keen to provide support to progress of defence production industry: Asif

**Independent Report**  
ISLAMABAD: Minister for Defence Production Khawaja Muhammad Asif says the government is keen to provide maximum support to progress of defence production industry of the country. He was speaking during his visit to the Ministry in Rawalpindi on Friday. On arrival, the Minister was received by Secretary Defence Production Lieutenant General @ Muhammad Chiragh Haider and was introduced to the key appointment holders of the Ministry, a

news release said. The Minister was given an introductory briefing regarding the Ministry's executive departments and organizational structure. The briefing was attended by senior officers of the Ministry of Defence Production. The Defence Production Minister appreciated the performance and contribution of the defence industrial sector and its due role in modernizing the defence capabilities of Pakistan. He also appreciated the contribution of the defence industry in the social sector.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), led by Sultan Bin Abdul Rehman Al Marshad, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), SFD call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

## Sub-office of NAB Balochistan set up in Gwadar for coordinated system of accountability

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The sub-office of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Balochistan has been established in Gwadar. The Director General NAB Balochistan visited the NAB's sub-office in Gwadar on Friday. Speaking on the occasion, DG NAB said that the sub-office of NAB has been established on special directives of Chairman NAB, Lt. General (Retd) Nazir Ahmed. He said that the establishment of sub-office of NAB Balochistan reflects the resolve of Bureau for increasing the access against the corrupt practices in effective manner besides tackling with the issue of corruption. He said that the Chairman NAB has stressed the

need to establish a coordinated system of accountability in Gwadar. He said that it would be easier for the people of area to lodge complaint about corruption with establishment of sub-office of NAB in Gwadar. While on the other hand, there would also be importance of NAB's sub-office in increasing transparency in projects of public sector and promoting the culture of answerability. The DG NAB also said that Gwadar is a port city and there are great potential of Gwadar's becoming big trade center in time to come. He also stressed the need to take measures for bringing transparency as well as accountability and good governance.



GWADAR: MPA Maulana Hidayatur Rehman presiding over a meeting regarding different issues of Gwadar and their solutions

## Two soldiers embrace martyrdom in DI Khan suicide attack

RAWALPINDI (APP): Two soldiers of Pakistan Army embraced martyrdom on Friday after a vehicle borne suicide bomber exploded himself on a security forces' convoy in Dera Ismail Khan District. According to the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release, the two brave sons of soil were identified as Naib Subedar Yasir Shakeel (Age: 38 years, resident of District Kohat) and Sepoy Tahir Naveed (Age: 34 years, resident of District Kohat) who embraced martyrdom. "Security forces of Pakistan remain determined to eliminate the

menace of terrorism and such terrorists of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve. Moreover, the perpetrators of this cowardly attack will be brought to justice," the ISPR said. Meanwhile Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaulah Tarar on Friday strongly condemned the suicide attack on the convoy of security forces in Dera Ismail Khan. The minister for information expressed his heartfelt condolences on the martyrdom of the personnel of the Pakistan Army Subedar Yasir Shakeel and Sepoy Tahir Nawaz.

## IMF demands 18% GST on petrol

ISLAMABAD (INP): The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has demanded Pakistan to implement 18 percent General Sales Tax (GST) on Petrol. As per details, the Monetary Fund has asked Pakistan to end sales tax relaxation on all items including petrol. The newly elected government of Pakistan should also implement sales tax on petroleum products along with a Rs 60 levy to increase the tax income. Earlier, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) recommended the government of Pakistan implement an 18 percent General Sales Tax (GST) on food, medicine, petroleum products, and stationery.



# 23rd March: Pakistan Resolution Day

## Pakistan Day: A resolution of commitment March 23 is day of renewal of covenant

By Huma Kashif

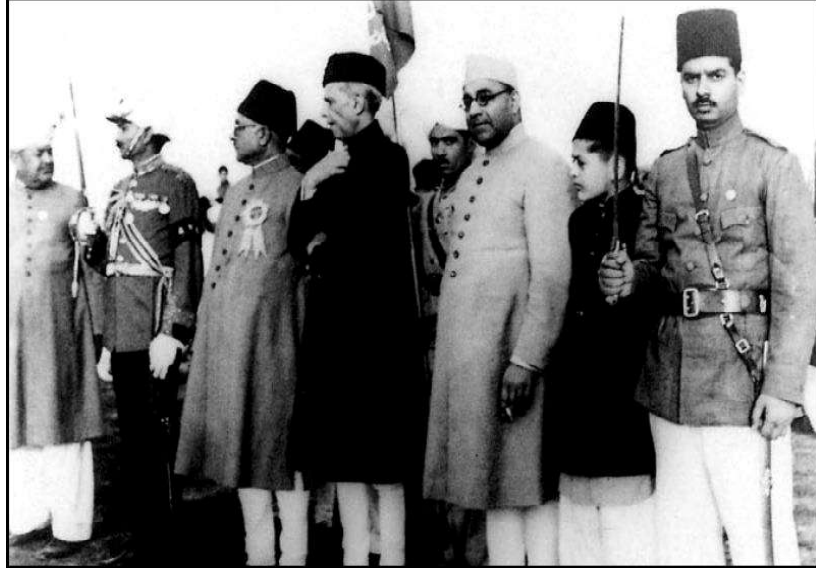
*“We wish our people to develop to the fullest spiritual, cultural, economic, social and political life in a way that we think the best and in consonance with our own ideals and according to the genius of our people.”*

— **Muhammad Ali Jinnah**

The nation of Pakistan is celebrating another momentous “Pakistan Resolution Day” which possesses an enormous commemoration in the historic struggle for acquiring Pakistan. The particular resolution is also renowned as “Lahore Resolution” made the Muslims of India to decide their own destiny and journey for the attainment of a separate entity to establish a Muslim State. That was the day when the Muslims of the sub-continent rejuvenated their political struggle for self-determination and acquisition of socio-political, economic, religious, and cultural freedom. On this particular day, the idea of a separate homeland for Muslims of India was converted clearly into the demand of Pakistan. Although presently, 23<sup>rd</sup> March day is losing its significance among our young generation. Most of our youth consider this day as just a public holiday, without realizing its true essence and spirit. But due to the emerging social chaos, and the political upheaval it is the need of the time that we should once again revitalize the spirit, struggle, and sufferings behind the freedom struggle.

Providing a short background, the British Raj, socio-political injustice, economic downfall, religious restraints, linguistic clash, cultural subjugation

led to the Pakistan Resolution and ultimately to the creation of Pakistan. Furthermore, the provincial autonomy achieved in 1937, and the discriminatory congress rule further strengthened the Muslims’ notion of a separate sovereign state. The 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1940 resolution was moved under the strong leadership of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah also called the father of the Nation, who



stimulated the Muslims to see the dream of freedom and encouraged them to turn this dream into reality. The Lahore Resolution stirred by Maulvi Fazlul Haq never contained the name Pakistan but it is considered as a landmark in the Muslim struggle for a sepa-

rate homeland where they could live their life according to the teachings of Islam.

Pakistan is a precious gift that has given to us by Allah Almighty, it is the time to do some constructive efforts for our beloved country. Pakistan’s armed forces are fully equipped and have the capacity to defend the territorial integrity and state sovereignty. Pakistan Navy is a strongly capable force having the potential to protect the sea borders and national maritime interests of Pakistan. With its unremitting vigilance and professional competence, Pakistan Navy has recently once again surprised the Indian Navy by detecting and blocking its submarine from entering into Pakistani wa-

teredness, high morale, and exceptionally superior professional skills at sea.

As Youth has always been a harbinger to a welcome change and given a proper direction, our youth can easily channelize the passion for their country. Ideally, 23<sup>rd</sup> March is the sort of day that should motivate people to seriously contemplate and reflect over our lives in a national sense rather than with the myopia of personal and individual evolution. Keeping in mind the countless sacrifices and sufferings of the men, women, children, old and young, certainly, it is not just another national day but it is the day to take a resolution at individual level to contribute positively in democratic restructuring of Pakistan, give our

## Thank you Jinnah

By Ali Basit

As Pakistan prepares to celebrate the 82<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Lahore Resolution, it is vital to shed light on the event that changed the course of history in the subcontinent. As “Magna Carta” laid the foundation stone of people’s power in Great Britain, the pledge made on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1940 at the erstwhile Minto Park, for decades, serves as a cornerstone for Pakistan’s socio-political culture. The Nation must utilize this moment to revisit the ideology and thought behind the historic resolution. 23<sup>rd</sup> March, revives the essence of nationalism among common people of Pakistan. As we breathe in a free country today, tribute must be paid to the ones who sacrificed their present for us. On this historic day, the Nation must be reminded of Quaid’s words that defined the purpose and meaning of Pakistan. This article reproduces the most relevant quotes of the presidential address of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah at the Lahore session of All India Muslim League that carved out an independent homeland for the Muslims of South Asia. As the events highlighting bigotry and communalism unfold across the border, the Pakistani nation stands indebted to the vision and foresight of its founding fathers. The Quaid said, “You may remember that we appointed a committee of ladies at the Patna Session (1938). It is of very great importance to us, because I believe that it is of absolutely essential for us to give every opportunity to our women to participate in our struggle of life and death.”

The opening remarks of Quaid’s most important address advocated women’s rights. He emphasized the essentiality of women’s participation in the socio-political struggle and highlighted their achievements in the upbringing of All India Muslim League. Following the footsteps of the founding father, the Pakistan’s Armed Forces have significantly contributed in uplifting the slogan of women empow-



erment by inducting Pakistani women in various fields including medical, education and technical branches of the Tri-services. Pakistani women in uniform has contributed a lot in service to the country. The first ever Pakistani Female Engagement team in any United Nations (UN) mission around the world received UN medals for serving in the Peacekeeping Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo last year. A team of 15 Pakistani women officers, received major recognition for being the first all-female group from Pakistan to serve in a UN peacekeeping mission. This service abroad for peacekeeping missions brought an immense respect to Pakistan at the global level.

At the same occasion, the Quaid further stated that, “We want that the British Government should in fact and actually meet the demands of the Arabs in Palestine.” Muhammad Ali Jinnah backed the plight of Palestinians eight decades ago. In his all-important address, he did not forget to show solidarity with Palestinian brethren. To date, Pakistan’s stance on Palestine is unchanged. On many occasions, PM Khan advocated a Two-State solution according to the aspiration and wishes of the people of Palestine. Pakistan should continue its unequivocal diplomatic support to the cause and must attempt to mobilize Muslim Ummah to resolve the crisis which has brought enormous pain to the people of Palestine. Jinnah reiterated,

“Musalmans are not a minority. The Musalmans are a nation by any definition. We find out that even according to the British map of India we occupy large parts of this country, where the Musalmans are in a majority” Citing the work of London Times and the letter of Lala Lajpat Rai to C.R Das, Quaid stressed on the separate identity of Muslims of the Subcontinent. He validated the ‘Two Nation Theory’ and presented colonialism with a workable solution to maintain peace in the Subcontinent.

Jinnah was well aware of the fact that Pakistan’s due to its peculiar geostrategic location and the hostile neighboring environment needs strong Armed Forces to protect its national interests. Among the Tri-Services, Pakistan Navy was thus designated as an instrument to defend the maritime frontiers and interests of Pakistan.

During wartimes, Pakistan Navy has always espoused high standards of professionalism and valour. In 1965 war, Operation “Dwarka” launched by Pakistan Navy caused irreparable damage to Indian Navy, vehemently destroyed the Indian Radar system. In addition, Pakistan Navy’s submarine Ghazi moved its patrol to Bombay harbor to challenge enemy’s ships namely INS Vikrant and INS Mysore to dock out and get destroyed. This psychological fear of Ghazi adversely affected the Indian Navy’s operational maneuvers. Yet again in the 1971 war, sinking of Indian warship

share as a responsible citizen, respect every one’s liberty with tolerance and harmony, and follow the rules and regulations. Ideally, it is the sort of day that should motivate people to seriously anticipate and reflect on our lives in a national sense.

By Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri

March 23 is the day of renewal of the covenant in which a resolution was passed for the establishment of a separate country for Muslims in the subcontinent. Through a peaceful struggle under the great leadership of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the dream of Allama Muhammad Iqbal was realized on August 14, 1947. In these circumstances, it is imperative that the Pakistani nation realize the spirit of this revolutionary resolution and move beyond the traditional kind of renewal. Go out and work for the ideological and geographical completion of Pakistan according to this resolution. In order to make this Kingdom of God truly the Pakistan of Quaid-e-Azam and Iqbal, we have to show the same continuous and selfless sacrifice at the individual and collective level which was characteristic of the trained soldiers of freedom of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

In this historic gathering on March 23, 1940, the Father of the Nation had made it clear that “the fact is that the mutual disagreement between the “national concept of Islam and the social practices of the Hindu religion is a mere figment of India’s imagination.” To deny for a thousand years the civilizations of Hindus and Muslims have been intertwined and the two nations have been intertwined, but their differences are as strong as ever. It is totally wrong to expect that a revolution will take place in them and that Hindus and Muslims will become one nation only because of the imposition of a democratic constitution on them.

When the British government established in India for one and a half hundred years did not succeed in their work, how is it possible that the forcible establishment of federal system in the central government of India will achieve that success.

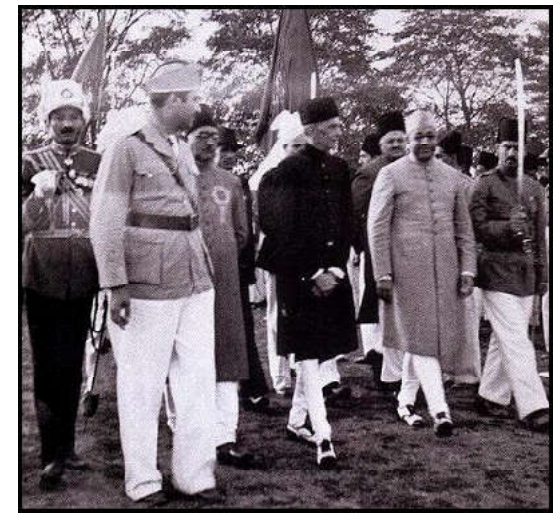
Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah said that India’s political problem was not about sects but about nations. Of course, this should be considered an international issue and a solution must be sought from that point of view. We need to acknowledge the veracity of this fundamental issue. As long as we do not accept it, the constitution we have drafted will fail and bring disaster. Islam and Hinduism are not just religions but in fact they are two different social systems. Therefore, this wish should be called a dream and dream that Hindus and Muslims will be able to create a common nation together.” Pakistan came into being. When the British and the Hindus saw the seal of Pakistan being sealed, they by mutual alliance annexed several Muslim-majority districts of Punjab to India under the most unfair Red Cliff Award and also di-

vided Bengal into Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Ensured the establishment of a divided Pakistan.

If we look at the back in history, it would be correct to say that in fact the Muslims of the subcontinent

seen many ups and downs since the demise of these beloved leaders of the Pakistani nation. Especially after 9/11, Pakistan paid a heavy price for being a Muslim country.

The western world has laid the burden of uncom-



mitted sin on the Muslims and under a well thought out conspiracy had tried hard to prove the Muslims as terrorists and extremists but Pakistan has always proved to be a peace loving country and against terrorism. Fighting on the front lines in the war, the Pakistani nation and the Pakistani forces, by sacrificing thousands of lives, proved to the world that Muslims are not terrorists and there is no room for ter-

rorism and extremism in Islam. Pakistan fought the world’s war on terror alone and restored peace and order in the motherland by defeating the scourge of terrorism for which the Pakistani nation and Pakistani forces are to be commended. But the enemies are not turning a blind eye to this peace and development of Pakistan. They engaged in conspiracies to discredit Pakistan in various ways but thank God Pakistani nation together with its brave forces Pakistan always retaliated against enemies of homeland and enemy elements never succeed in their nefarious aims the evil intentions of the enemies of Pakistan will continue to be reduced to dust.



March 23, 2022 is a day to remember forgotten lessons. Every March 23 reminds us that we have strayed from the destination, lost, forgotten the promises, today we need more unity than ever before, we need to be one nation, we need to adopt collective thinking for the betterment of the country. We need to

only way to confront the enemies of Islam and Pakistan is through unity. We must realize that the more divided we are, the more difficult the journey of development will be.

In these circumstances, there is a need for the Pakistani nation to realize the spirit of that revolutionary resolution and to move beyond the traditional kind of renewal and work for the ideological and geographical fulfillment of Pakistan in accordance with this resolution. In order to make this God-given kingdom truly the Pakistan of Quaid-e-Azam and Iqbal, we must demonstrate at the individual and collective level the same constant sacrifice and self-sacrifice that Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his companions those fought for an independent country for Muslims. It was the specialty of the old, women, children and youth who got a separate country for the Muslims of the subcontinent by sacrificing millions of lives on the voice.

### Pakistan Day:

## A manifestation of Muslims’ struggle for a separate homeland in subcontinent

By Fakhar Alam

Following the Independence War of 1857, the Muslims of subcontinent were subjected to an unending ordeal of discrimination, inequality and disparity after the colonial rulers had strengthened their grip over the united India.

The Muslims, who ruled over the united India for over 800 years, had faced great mental agony, sense of deprivation and dejection after they were pushed to the wall in terms of intellectual, political, economic and education decay. After failure of 1857 War of Independence, the Muslims of British India were given a new hope and direction by social reformer, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, who instilled a new vigor into Muslims after an inspired teachings of the renowned religious leaders, Mojaddad Alf Sani and Shah Waliullah.

Brought about an intellectual revolution among Muslims through his educational, political and social reforms, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan had succeeded to nullify the malicious propaganda of the colonial rulers, hindus and pessimist forces during an era of ominous, cruelty and oppression. He founded All India Muhammadan Educational Conference (AIMEC) at Aligarh in 1886, which carried forward his vision regarding modern education, socioeconomic empowerment and political unity of Muslims to regain their past glory. The network of educational institutions and political unity organized under AIMEC had enabled millions of Muslims to compete with other communities including Hindus and Sikhs by providing a launching pad for Muslims to initiate a peaceful political and democratic struggle for a separate homeland where they could live with dignity and freedom.

Sir Syed’s reforms had excelled Muslims in education, social, economic and political sciences, resultantly their voices have strongly been heard by the British rulers. The Muslims, under the flag of All India Muslim League (AIML) founded on December 30, 1906 at Dhaka, got united by giving new impetus to the independence movement. It witnessed further momentum after Quaid-i-Azam spearheaded independence movement after formally joining AIML in 1913 and outlining of an independent state for Muslims majority provinces in North West India by the great poet philosopher Dr. Allama



Muhammad Iqbal during historic Allahabad address in 1930.

Thus, Dr. Allama Iqbal became the first statesman to articulate about the two nation-theories that Muslims were a separate and distinct nation besides deserving political independence from other regions and communities of the united India. “Pakistan Movement passes through different phases and finally achieved its practical shape in 1933 during a high-level gathering in London where Chaudhry Rehmat Ali had presented the name of Pakistan,” said Professor Dr Muhammad Younas Khan, Chairman, Pakistan Studies Department, Islamia College Peshawar University (ICP) while talking to APP.

Recalling Chaudhry Rehmat Ali’s famous saying “Now or never or parish forever”, he said ICP’s two former students, Aslam Khattak and Inyatullah Khan of Charsadda along with others Muslims leaders had endorsed the name of Pakistan. “Pakistan’s name and Allahabad address had set a clear direction to the Muslims to achieve a separate homeland in the subcontinent,” he said. The great Quaid united millions of Muslims at Iqbal Park, Lahore where they unanimously passed the historic Pakistan’s Resolution on March 23, 1940. Following adoption of the Pakistan Resolution, Quaid-i-Azam had reorganized AIML on modern lines and made repeated visits to all Muslims majority provinces including KP (earlier called NWFP) to mobilize masses for Pakistan.

