

CENTRELINE

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine



NICOLAE GOIA

**Romania, Pakistan
have many
success stories**



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gets French award

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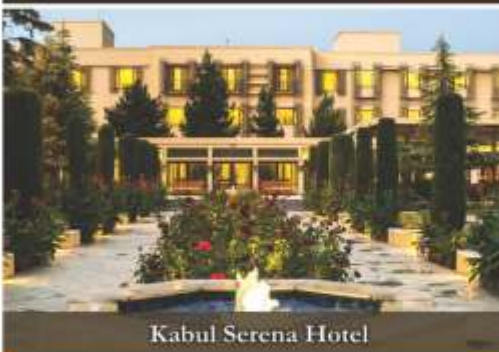
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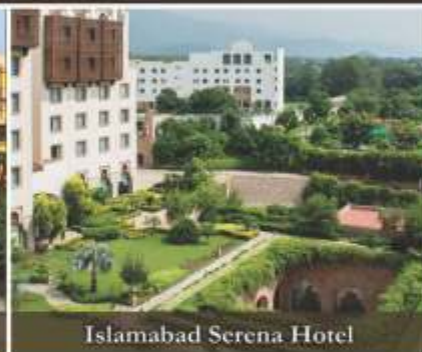
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Much ado about extension!



The extension of Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa generated a heated debate both at home and abroad after the apex court of Pakistan suddenly took up the case and within no time announced its verdict asking the government to do legislation and devise mechanism for the appointment of the army chief. While the court verdict tended to draw mixed reaction from all strata of society, it also led to writing of articles; opinions in the print media and talks shows on the electronic media – a thing that was considered a taboo in Pakistan. Social media went one step ahead.

Perhaps it was an extraordinary and unexpected situation for everybody that is why everybody linked to this issue seemed acting in haste and wayward manner. The govt predicament was above board as it failed to jot down even a simple summary. Or the govt cannot be blamed much as it only copied the previous text and issued it. As a matter of fact similar wordings were used in the cases of all those army chiefs who were given extensions in the past but however the different thing this time was the way the prime minister announced this extension on his letter head well before the expiry of army chief's term. That actually led to raising of eye-brows.

Now the government has to do legislation in next six months, which should not be a difficult task especially when it involves army chief. The Science Minister Fawad Chaudhry has already hinted at forming a parliamentary committee comprising members from all parties. This committee shall look into the matter including changes in the Army Act. While any legislation or changes in this regard should not be a big problem, nevertheless this development has once again put the political parties, especially from the opposition, in a vantage position and they have started positioning themselves in a manner where they could bargain with the government and other stakeholders to get maximum benefits. It does not take Einstein to understand that almost all political parties are only concerned about their own wellbeing therefore they would not lose any opportunity that can yield some benefits for them – even at the cost of those who elected them and sent them to assemblies.

The internal strife and hullabaloo in this matter aside, the issue has its international implications as well. The entire diplomatic community took keen interest in the issue. The diplomatic receptions held during those days had only one topic of discussion and that was army chief's extension. The Indian media, as we all know, exploited the situation to the hilt. While it still remains a mystery as to how all this episode happened, the fact of the matter is that those wishing to make the extension issue controversial appear to have somehow succeeded in their ulterior designs.

The PTI government once again stood exposed as it miserably failed to handle the situation effectively and timely. So much so the army chief himself had to intervene for rectification of the proverbial summary.

The incumbent government is yet to deliver what it promised to people during the election drive. While people seem to have lost all hopes that this government shall deliver anything during its remaining period, they still consider Prime Minister Khan as a hope. Imran Khan in all his speeches invariably touches upon basic issues confronting all and sundry, especially the downtrodden class; however his vows and promises are yet to be transformed into reality. Time is running out for the PTI government and Imran Khan in particular. They have to act now. Any complacency would not only add to their woes but also provide opposition with an ample opportunity of riding on their nerves.

Ansar

Chief Editor's Profile: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti is a career journalist. He started off as District Correspondent of Daily *The Muslim* in 1988 from Gujrat. Later he moved to Islamabad and joined *Pakistan Observer* as Sub-Editor / Op-ed Writer, in 1993. In 1995 he again moved to The Muslim as Sub-Editor and he left The Muslim in 1997 to join *The Nation* as City Editor and Diplomatic Correspondent, where he remained till 2002. His association with *The News* spans over three years from 2002 to 2005 as Columnist. In 2005 Mr. Bhatti switched over to Khabrain Group as Columnist / Special Correspondent. In 2010 he was made Resident Editor of *The Post*, a sister publication of *daily Khabrain*. In 2010 he launched his own publication *Centreline*. He has authored two books on European Union. He has also served in *Pakistan Telecom Company (PTCL)* as Media Advisor/Director Communications. He Launched Diplomatic News Agency (DNA) in 2012.

NICOLAE GOIA
Romania, Pakistan
have many
success stories

Ambassador of Romania talks to CENTRELINE AND DNA

By Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

1. How would you describe bilateral relations between Pakistan and Romania in the fields of politics; trade and culture?

Romania and Pakistan established diplomatic relations in 1964, we have had uninterrupted diplomatic ties for 55 years, during which my country has contributed to the development of Pakistani economy by building cement factories in Labelled and Kohat, refineries in Karachi, tractor assembly factory near Islamabad and many other projects in various fields.

At the last meeting with Speaker National Assembly, Assad Qaiser on 27th November 2019 said that "Pakistan Parliament is committed to promote parliamentary relations with Romania and Pak-Romania Parliamentary

Friendship Group has been constituted in the National Assembly of Pakistan, which is playing an active role in strengthening the relations between the parliaments of two countries'. The very existence of the Romanian and Pakistani parliamentary friendship groups is important to continue parliamentary contacts at all levels with Pakistan, especially to the political-diplomatic dialogue between both Parliaments. The real potential of parliamentary relations between Romania and Pakistan demands more frequent contacts at the different level (Parliament or Senate), in order to identify and employ all the resources available for promoting and developing the cooperation in the political, economic, trade, education, defence, cultural fields, as well as, fighting

against terrorism and extremism.

We have tradition, we have many success stories, we have all the necessary ingredients to reset our economic cooperation to a much higher level that it is right now. As the ambassador of Romania in Pakistan, I will put high on my agenda laying down the foundation for increasing the people to people contact, work system so that our expertise in the fields like construction, infrastructure, insurance, banking and finance, MSE etc. will be transferred to our Pakistani partners. We are going to encourage Romanian businessmen to invest in Pakistan; we will support the process of training young Pakistani in Romania.

We aim to expand our bilateral political dialogue and keep in mind that the consultations between Ministries of Foreign Affairs are becoming instrumental in promoting and supporting the mutually beneficial items on our common agenda, as well as in preparing high level contacts.

The economic and trade relations between both countries have been growing for the last decades and Romania is an important trading partner of Pakistan. Both countries have been enjoying historical friendship and traditional cooperation in many fields for the past many years but there is a need to enhance trade volume between both countries. Our main priority is to increase and diversify the commercial exchanges between Romania and Pakistan, in a balanced manner for exports and imports.

2. Both Romania and Pakistan





have a lot to share with each other and benefit from each other experience. Can you identify some areas where both Pakistan and Romania can cooperate?

Nowadays, there is a strong need to strengthen the international economic cooperation and, simultaneously, to reconstruct the traditional relationship with the old friends, Pakistan among them.

Besides the bilateral cooperation through mutual investments, we are also interested to find options of working together on the third markets where, Romania and Pakistan might conjugate their resources and energies in the most constructive way. This is, unfortunately, a domain which had been somehow neglected lately because of focusing on the internal reconstruction of economy. Romania and Pakistan do have common areas of interest both geographically (Near East, Northern Africa etc.) and thematically (the common interest of developing sectors as IT and communications, civil constructions and infrastructure, agriculture etc.).

Our priorities, bilaterally, but also at EU level, are to support the democratic evolution of Pakistan, to intensify commercial trade and investments, and to consolidate regional stability, with special focus on the situation in

Afghanistan.

I am fully aware that the huge potential of our bilateral relations demands more frequent contacts at the government level, in order to identify and employ all the resources available for promoting and developing our cooperation in the political, economic, trade, energy, culture, education, defence fields.

Romanian companies could be involved in development project in Pakistan by supplying equipment and other



components. Our companies have the capacity and technical expertise to cooperate in areas such as oil and gas exploration and extraction, petrochemical refining facilities, tractors and farm equipment, training aircraft for military pilots, helicopter maintenances, security and surveillances systems, construction of high power lines, equipment for power plants, assembly of trucks and motor vehicles.

I would like to point out in this context the excellent cooperation between Pakistan and Romania in the military field. Romania Damen Shipyards - Galati constructed two modern 2,300-ton corvettes for Pakistan Navy. The corvettes were launched in May and September of 2019. This Ships will be used by Pakistan Navy for a range of tasks, including maritime security operations, surveillance and intelligence gathering, combat search-and-rescue (CSAR), and anti-surface and anti-air-operations.

3. What do you think about business climate in Pakistan? If you could tell us something more about businessmen exchange programs?

Pakistan made some progress towards the ease of doing business for small and medium-sized enterprises and these improvements provide important building blocks for a more efficient business environment that would encourage local entrepreneurs in the country.

Sharing Romanian experience I would say that the corporate sector is the backbone of the economy and a major driver of economic growth of any country especially a developing country like Pakistan. In the absence of a vibrant and dynamic corporate sector, it is an uphill task to achieve a fast track

ROMANIA SPECIAL

economic and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in a country. Corporate sector is the most important pillar and a key driver of the development of the national economy.

An effective implementation of an economic revival plan alongside aggressive pursuance of appropriate strategies for all the major sectors of the economy is critical to achieve rapid economic growth.

Romania is participating in many EU cross-border businessmen exchange programs which gives new or aspiring entrepreneurs the chance to learn from experienced entrepreneurs running small businesses in other Countries.

The exchange of experience takes place during a stay with the experienced entrepreneur, which helps the new entrepreneur acquire the skills needed to run a small firm. The host benefits from fresh perspectives on his/her business and gets the opportunities to cooperate with foreign partners or learn about new markets.

4. People to people contacts are yet another field that can help bring people of both countries closer. How do you view this and how can we increase people to people cooperation between the two countries?

Bilateral cultural relations are playing an important role in the development of friendship and partnership between the peoples of Romania and Pakistan. I believe that cultural ties thanks to historical relations and the warm feelings that the two peoples share for each other create a huge potential for



greater collaboration. We are also convinced that future holds even better prospects as regards cultural relations between Romania and Pakistan.

Culture is an area where we can cooperate with each other in order to increase people to people cooperation between the two countries. I genuinely believe Pakistan has a rich cultural background and so does Romania, therefore, multiplying the number of contacts in this particular area shall be high on my agenda during my stay.

5. As we know friendship forums and consulates do contribute towards promotion of bilateral relations. Do you agree? How would you like to see these

consulates and associations contributing towards cementing bilateral relations?

Honorary Consulates, forums and friendship associations have a special role to play in promoting bilateral relations between two countries. Romania has 3 Honorary Consulates in Pakistan (in Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar).

The Embassy has consistently opened its door to support the work of Honorary Consulates and Associations and Forum. I make an appeal in this way to emphasize once again that I am here for a results-oriented activity, ready to support any initiative that will allow an enhanced level of political, economic, cultural relations between Romania and Pakistan. It seems that for now our Honorary Consulate in Karachi understands better the spirit of these concepts and has performed quite well in promoting the ties between the two countries.

These institutions can feed the substance of the relationship between the two countries by engaging in the organization of business forums, cultural exhibitions, and delegation exchanges.

There is also an important component of the common strategy of developing the economic relations between the two countries. These institutions have an important role in promoting the interest of commerce and Pakistani investments in the emergent market of Romania. It is also important for supporting the measures to improve the conditions for bilateral trade and investments.

Ambassador of Czech Republic presents credentials

ISLAMABAD; (DNA) -: Ambassador-designate of Czech Republic Tomas Smetanka presented Credentials to President Dr. Arif Alvi in a credentials ceremony at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.

The President felicitated the newly appointed Ambassador to Pakistan and hoped that he would work for further strengthening the existing ties of Czech Republic with Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that Pakistan was desirous of cordial relations with all friendly countries.

He stressed that it was incumbent upon



the international community to work for the alleviation of the misery that the people of Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir were suffering at the hands of the Indian fascist regime.

He added that the world peace had been endangered by the reckless and provocative approach adopted by this regime.=DNA

TARIQ SAUD**My aim is to build strong
Pakistan-Romanian relations****Hon. Consul General of Romania in Karachi**

Hon. Consul General in Karachi – Sindh, Tariq Saud has put enormous efforts to develop and strengthen bilateral trade between the two countries. His dynamic personality and leadership qualities are well known.

Tariq Saud after assuming charge as Hon. Consul General, Karachi in April 2013, has been continuously striving to attract leading Pakistani businessmen and investors to explore business opportunities in Romania. So far his efforts have successfully achieved bilateral trade figures 55 million US dollars in August & September 2013. In year 2014, his efforts helped in increase in the bilateral trade to 192.00 million US dollars. These figures increased to 600 million dollars approximately upto 2018-2019.

He has been actively supporting and promoting cultural exchanges between the two countries. He successfully promoted and brought together a Pakistani film production company, One Motion Pictures, for a joint movie collaboration with Romanian Cine Labs and other film makers in Bucharest. He helped to successfully complete the joint film production of the movie titled 021 which was released in Pakistan in 2014.

Mr. Saud was elected Central Chairman APTMA for the year 2015-16. He was also Central Vice Chairman for three years. He has also served as Chairman APTMA Sindh-Balochistan Region for five terms i.e. in the year 2007-08, 2008-09, 2010-11, 2013-14 and 2014-15.

He has been highly active in serving various social organizations including Nazaria-e-Pakistan Trust, Sindh thereby contributing generously for upliftment of education and prosperity of the



country.

In an interview to CENTRELINE recently he said, I want to develop very good relations between Romania and Pakistan. We have big textile and leather manufacturing industries. It is my endeavor to bring to gather investment in Pakistan since it provides level playing field for all businessmen.

When asked to comment about Romanian Ambassador he said, the Ambassador is a wonderful person. I met him many times in Islamabad and Karachi. He is an excellent man

and down to earth. I am very impressed with his focus on business development and our efforts.

The award which the Romanian government bestowed on me is a source of encouragement and honour for me and it will of course encourage me to pursue my goals of improvement in bilateral relations between the two countries. I thank the Romanian Ambassador and Romanian Government for reposing trust in me and hopefully I will do my best to cement business relations between the two countries.

ROMANIA SPECIAL

Romanian Ambassador Nicolae Goia hosts grand reception to mark national day



ROMANIA SPECIAL





DECEMBER 1

**Ambassador of Romania
H.E. NICOLAE GOIA**

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Romania, 30 years of democracy: 1990, the first year of freedom

This year, Romania as well as the whole Europe will celebrate 30 years since the 1989 Revolutions, which marked the fall of the Communist rule in Central and Eastern part of the Old Continent and beyond. The events of 1989, sometimes called the Fall of the Berlin Wall or the Fall of the Iron Curtain, first began in Poland and continued in Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Romania.

In Romania, between 16 and 25 of December, there was the most courageous uprising against Stalinism which started in the Western city of Timisoara and soon spread in the entire country. After the massive protests in Bucharest on December 21 and 22, which led to the fall of Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, a structure called the National Salvation Front (FSN) quickly took control of the main state institutions. The National Salvation Front Council (CFSN) was established as the de-facto government and included several intellectuals and former dissidents of the communist regime, such as Ion Caramitru, Mircea Dinescu, Ana Blandiana, Octavian Paler, and others..

A decree adopted by the CFSN on December 31, 1989, allowed the registration of political parties in Romania. New parties could be formed with as much as 251 members. Dozens of parties were registered in just a few months and 75 of them participated in the first elections, held in May 1990. The most important parties registered in January

1990 included the historical parties, which had dominated the political scene in Romania in the inter-war period and had been banned by the communists, most notably the National Peasants' Party - Christian and Democrat (PNT-CD) and the National Liberal Party (PNL).

The political and social revolution was accompanied by a profound program of free market economy cultural revolution. Economic reforms have continued through a painful period of transition which managed to stop the decline of the economy as late as in 2000. After 2000 steady and robust economic growth has

started Romania being now one of the top EU member states in terms of the speed of economic development. As far as the cultural transformations are concerned, after many years of propaganda and censorship, Romanians were hungry for information and culture. Hundreds of newspapers and dozens of radios appeared almost overnight. It was a golden age for Romanian media with big newspapers selling over one million copies per day and new ones reaching print runs of hundreds of thousands of copies.

New radios started broadcasting foreign music. Western music and books showed up on the market and new publishing houses appeared which started translating and publishing quality literature. After decades of communist darkness, Romania connected again to European and World authentic culture where she has ever been part of. Thus, Romania has become a land of authentic and exciting cultural treasures.

To break with the communist past, the Romanian authorities also decided to change the national day. August 23, which had been the national day during communism, was associated with public parades dedicated to dictator Nicolae Ceausescu so in July 1990, the parliament voted December 1 as the new national day, celebrating the Great Union of December 1, 1918.

Today, Romania as a member of the European Union and NATO, reaffirms its attachment to the principles of international law, promotion of

mutual respect and good understanding, to dialogue and to multiculturalism, values that are the basis of its international profile and external action. Romania is now a security provider and enjoys unprecedented development, security and welfare. Without the sacrifices made in December 1989 by our heroes, way too many paying the ultimate price, these amazing developments would not have been possible. While honoring those fallen in the battles against communism, we feel that our collective duty is to

protect the values they had fought for and secure them as well as to prepare for the challenges ahead.

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Hindus perform rituals at Temple



Why not to fall in love with Bali?

By Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

FAMTRIP 2019 team landed at Bali International Airport on October 21, 2019 and those of us visiting Bali for the first time were simply nonplused to see the décor and ambiance of the airport. Beautifully decorated walls; pathways littered with posters and statues depicting the lifestyle of Balinese people abruptly snatched our attention. It was my third time in Bali however the new comers could not resist themselves praising the grandeur of Bali airport. But it was just a beginning, I told them. Get ready for more adventures and eventful days ahead.

We arrived in Bali in the afternoon. The local hosts were there to greet us with garlands.

Ambassador of Indonesia Iwan S Amri and his spouse who were accompanying us in Bali also, told us that it was the traditional way of Balinese to welcome their guests and thus show their love and respect for the visitors. Our host Eida, in her middle age, yet astute and energetic, briefed us about Bali besides sharing with us the program for next three days. Soon we arrived at our hotel in Kuta area. It was in the city center and on a walking distance from all main attractions of Bali. Kuta is perhaps the busiest tourist center in Bali and most of the tourists prefer to stay in this area. For those interested in traditional Balinese pieces of art, handicrafts and souvenirs Kuta happens to be the best place.





Barong Dance performance



Barong Dance

BARONG DANCE PERFORMANCE

Most of us wanted to see or visit the different side of Bali Island. One of the authentic and unique sides of Bali is a traditional Balinese dance performance, which is called Barong Dance Bali. There are many kinds of Barong dance in Bali, and the famous one is Barong Ket dance. The dance venue was not far from our hotel therefore we reached the place well before start of the dance and got seats with excellent view therefore all of us had a vantage position to take pictures and shoot videos.

From the shape and design of Barong Ket, it takes form as an animal mix between tiger, lion, dragon and a cow shape. The entire body of the Barong Ket decorated with traditional Balinese carvings made from cow-hide. On the body of Barong Ket, you also will see much fur. It required two dancers to wear the Barong Ket costume. The FAMTRIP participants after the dance had a group picture with the artists who took part in the dance performance.

PENGLIPURAN, A VILLAGE OF IMMACULATE PEACE

village of Bali called Penglipuran. Located at 625 meters above the sea level Penglipuran is one of the most placid, clean, and serene village throughout the whole nation, and one of the three cleanest in the whole world. Being untouched by modernization the village's atmosphere and the immaculate gardens surrounding them should be an exceptionally authentic experience for you to visit, from its majestic and mythical culture, to high hospitality and courtship of the locals. It took us about three hours to reach Penglipuran village from Bali city. But with car it should take only one hour or one and half hour. After a tiring journey, beautiful scenic beauty of the village and generous hospitality of locals proved extremely soothing and refreshing.

The beauty of the village is that you just feel at home. You can just walk in to any house in case you need something to eat. You can just walk into any house in case you need to refresh yourself. Doors of village people are open for everybody and so are their hearts. Most of the families have set up their own small businesses outside their house in order to make their

toilet just got to any house and use toilet. It is free of charge. Inmates of the houses get a reasonable amount from the government for facilitating the visitors. Such amount is paid from the ticket money collected from visitors.

According to the mythology and the elders' testimonies, the name Penglipuran comes from 'Pengeling Pura', which means remembering the ancestors. It conveys that the village was created solely to respect their ancestors' at Kintamani, which is why Penglipuran is one of Bali's villages whose people regularly make offerings and hold rituals to respect mythological spirits.

Just a little outside the Penglipuran Village, which is a part of the Parhyangan area, you'll see a beautiful 45-hectare sacred bamboo forest to walk through and feast your eyes in. In the center, you'll find four modest, yet beautiful temples where people pray and pay their respects.

We were amazed to see a special place in the village for those who had two marriages because in their belief only one marriage was legal at a time. The place



Author in the Penglipuran Village



A house in Penglipuran village Bali



Penglipuran village Bali

We were taken to a traditional model both ends meet. Even if you need to use



FAMTRIP team in Rice Terraces



nevertheless was deserted as no one in the village had two marriages at a time. We were told it was not possible for people having two spouses at a time to live with village people, neither they were allowed to worship with others in the temple. So people in this village strongly believe in monogamy.

The experience of penglipuran's homestays is as authentic as visiting the village and interacting with the locals, because these homestays are located within the village itself. A night stay at such homes may cost PKR 3,000 to 4,000. The price includes breakfast as well.

WISATA ULUN DANU TEMPLE

Ulun Danu Bratan Temple is located by the Lake Bratan, Bedugul, Tabanan Bali. It is one of the three sacred temples by the lake honoring God for His gift of water and irrigations and becoming a popular tourist destination. The temple court was expanded to accommodate the visitors and looks more beautiful. It is a wonderful place for walking, refreshing and recharging one spiritual life. This is one of the two big lake temples in Bali (other being the one on Lake Batur). Built in 1600's, the lake supports Subak (irrigation). Arrive early if you want to beat the crowd and take great pictures. The temple complex has nicely curated lawn and is well-maintained.

At the entrance there are toilets (small charge PKR 20), a few shops and a restaurant. Once inside there is a well maintained garden, the temple and restaurants. There are also some sellers inside the grounds. You may also hire fishing equipment or take a paddle boat out onto the lake. The place has a number of restaurants. We had a lunch at one of these restaurants. It was buffet offering a variety of dishes. Here for the first time we had chicken corn soup cooked almost in Pakistani style therefore majority of the participants had it to their full.

The Temple is a great tourist attraction for those also who are looking for scenic beauty and nature at its best. So those visiting Bali must include this destination in their schedule. It is located in the Eastern part of Bali and it takes around

one hour from Bali to get there. Since the place gets huge number of tourists daily therefore it is recommended to go early in the morning in order to enjoy its real beauty and grandeur.

JATILUWIH RICE TERRACES

Our next stop was lush green paddy fields. Indonesia imports rice in huge quantity from various countries including Pakistan. Indonesian rice produces are not sufficient to cater to domestic needs because of burgeoning population therefore they have to import rice. These paddy fields are located almost two hours drive from Bali city. Most tourists in Bali only ever seem to go to Kuta Beach. I've been amazed at the crowds in Kuta and equally amazed at how few crowds there have been elsewhere.

One of the top ten things to see in Bali front and center in every guidebook, these

memorable. The place is so attractive and romantic that you immediately lose contact with the outer world. While those who visit the place accompanied would enjoy the panoramic beauty of the place to the full, those visiting alone would make a solemn vow not to come to the place alone next time.

There are so many other places that are attractive too but due to paucity of time we could not visit all of them. You need to have at least 10 days to fully explore potential of Bali. Bali Safari is yet another attraction, which I visited during my last trip to Bali in 2018. It is also a must visit place and Bali sojourn should remain incomplete without visit of Bali Safari.

Summing up, in my view Bali has every reason to fall in love with it. And one plus point of falling in love with Bali is that it would never betray you!!



Paddy fields

rice terraces are stunning. They give new meaning to the word green. They crawl up the sides of the hills like steps leading you towards the sky. It's just you and nature, when you are at this place. This area is the only place in the world that has three annual rice harvests.

Even at this place we came across so many couples enjoying natural beauty of the place and thus making their trip



Bali Safari

Indonesia-Pakistan defense ties on the move, says Ambassador Amri



ISLAMABAD, (DNA)- Ambassador of Indonesia Iwan S Amri has said defence ties between the two countries have significantly increased after the signing of defence cooperation agreement in 2010 adding we have now more institutionalized mechanism to reinforce our defence cooperation.

The Indonesian ambassador made these remarks on the occasion of 74th Armed Forces Day of Indonesia. Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral Ahmad Saeed was the chief guest while a large number of civil and military officers attended the reception besides members of the diplomatic corps.

The Indonesia ambassador along with Defence Attache Col Dody Muhtar Taufik received the guests.

Ambassador Amri further said both sides have also achieved notable developments

such as Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) Army to Army and Navy to Navy talks, joint professional training courses, bilateral visits of top level defence officials and active participation of the Indonesian navy in AMAN joint naval exercises in Pakistan.

He said more recent progress in this regards is Indonesia-Pakistan joint Navy exercise named Sea Thunder IV at Karachi in October 2019 (Shaheen Ka Hamla) in March this year.

"Keeping this momentum we are planning for Air Force to Air Force talks in next phase in 2020", he announced.

The ambassador said both countries enjoy excellent relations in all fields adding our relations are truly historic and unique as they existed even before the independence of the two countries during their freedom struggle from the colonial rule.

"Early strong base of fraternal ties between the top leadership of two countries paved the way for continuous new initiatives from both sides. We are now witnessing encouraging developments in our growing commercial, defence and socio-cultural ties with more understanding about each other" he added.

Talking about the Indonesian armed forces, the ambassador said, our forces are strongly committed to play their constructive role at the national, regional and international level for peace and stability among the people and the nations.

"Considering our wonderful fraternal ties, I firmly believe that Indonesia and Pakistan have a tremendous potential to further raise their defence cooperation, which will positively contribute to all





peace and security initiatives in our respective regions.” While sharing details of this year's theme of armed forces, the Ambassador said, this year the day was being celebrated with the

theme of “Professional and Pride of the People”. It reflects the firm commitment of our armed forces to protect the nation as a professional organization, which enjoys the support and trust of the

Indonesian people. It also highlights the important role of the army in nurturing the national integrity, Ambassador Amri concluded.=DNA

Batik Workshop at Indonesia Embassy



Batik workshop: Indonesian cultural icon fascinates participants

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – The Indonesia cultural icon fascinated the participants of Batik workshop, who gathered at the Indonesian residence to practically take part in Batik preparation drill.

The spouse of the Indonesian Ambassador Rita Berlinia Amri hosted a lively Coffee Morning on Monday and Batik workshop. The Coffee Morning brought the guests an opportunity to understand and get exposure to the Indonesia's diverse culture and its philosophical, cultural and historical values through its signature and most famous Indonesian textile which is called Batik.

The host gleefully welcomed the guests at the workshop who turned up in big numbers were the spouses of the Ambassadors and Heads of the Diplomatic Missions based in Islamabad.

Welcoming the participants Rita Berlinia Amri informed that the Coffee Morning featuring Batik was intended to take the participants to a trip to explore and experience Indonesia's rich and diverse art and cultural heritage.

She also informed that Batik was increasingly becoming popular across the world and has been added to the Representative List of UNESCO's World Intangible Cultural Heritage by



recognizing Indonesia as the origin and home to this exclusive art form.

To conduct the workshop, the Embassy had invited batik maestros Fonna Melania Djuwaeni, Ulfah Yulaifah and Andri Purbawiana from the Sukabumi Region of Java Island to showcase and share some basics of the wonderful ancient art form with the enthusiast participants.

Fonna and her team specializes in Botanical Print Dyeing and Mixed Techniques or Eco-printing which is a technique that uses plants, leaves and flowers to leave their shapes, color, and marks on the fabric.

Batik as both an art and a craft is a wonderful creative medium. The art of decorating cloth in this way, using wax and dye, has been practiced for centuries.

Batik is a "resist" process for making designs on fabric. The artist uses wax to prevent dye from penetrating the cloth, leaving "blank" areas in the dyed fabric. The process, wax resist then dye, can be repeated over and over to create complex multicolored designs.

To the joy and surprise of the participants an enthralling "Legong Dance" was performed by Keni S. Soeriaatmadja who is a dance maestro and currently visiting

Islamabad on the Embassy's invitation.

"Legong Dance" is one of Bali's most visually alluring royal court performances. The dance is considered one of the island's most revered classical pieces, known for its physically demanding postures and fast-paced movements which require a significant level of flexibility among its generally young female performers.

The participants appreciated the host Rita Amri for her passionate efforts for promoting cultural linkages and giving them an opportunity to be a part of the cultural extravaganza a truly enjoyable and learning experience. =DNA

Russian movie Barbar of Siberia screened in the Capital



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) The Russian Embassy organized film screening at the Islamabad Club auditorium.

The film titled "Barbar of Siberia" with English sub titles was screened for the first time in Pakistan. The movie produced in 1999, provided a real feast to the art lovers, who had a taste for historical and adventurous movies.

Jane Callahan (Julia Ormond), a beautiful American lady, writes to her son, a cadet at a famous military academy, about a long kept secret.

Twenty years ago she arrived in Russia to assist Douglas McCracken (Richard Harris), an obsessive engineer who needs

the Grand Duke Alexei Alexandrovich's patronage to sponsor his invention, a massive machine to harvest the forests.

On her travels, she meets two men who would change her life forever: a handsome young cadet Andrej Tolstoy (Oleg Menshikov) with whom she shares a fondness for opera, and the powerful General Radlov who is entranced by her beauty and wants to marry her. Tolstoy and Radlov, much to the surprise and indignation of the latter, become rivals for Jane's love. She confides a deep secret to Tolstoy, promises to marry him, and together they spend a passionate night of love. But later he overhears Jane denying

her interest in him to the General, in order to win the general's favour and be granted an audience with the Grand Duke.

Distraught, Tolstoy attacks the General who arrests his young rival on false charges and banishes him to Siberia to seven years of hard labor and a further five years of exile.

Ambassador of the Russian Federation Danila Ganich earlier welcomed the guests and talked about the movie.

He also read out the message of the Director. Eminent actor and director Jamal Shah and a large number of people from various walks of life enjoyed the movie.=DNA

Kazakhstan ambassador visits Lahore, Sialkot



LAHORE, (DNA) – Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan A. Rakhmetullin paid a working visit to the cities of Lahore and Sialkot.

During the visit, meetings were held with the Heads of the Chambers of Commerce



of both cities, the CEO of the Punjab Board of Investment, the Heads of the Pharmaceutical company «Wilshire», the Sports Company «Forward» and the Surgical Instruments Manufacturers Association of Pakistan.

The Pakistani partners were acquainted with the export potential of Kazakhstan,

improving the investment policy of our country.

The meetings discussed issues of mutual investment, ways to strengthen trade and economic cooperation through the exchange of business delegations, trading houses, opening direct flights between the two countries.

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AMBASSADOR OF MOROCCO VISITS WELLNESS LOUNGE



Ambassador of Morocco Muhammad Karmoune being presented souvenir during his visit to Wellness Lounge and Wellness Trust offices, run by Dr. Aamir Hanif.

Palestine ambassador meets Senate Chairman

ISLAMABAD, (DNA)- Ambassador of Palestine Ahmed Rebai met with the Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani and discussed with him matters of mutual interest.

The ambassador remained with the Senate chairman for a while and extended to him greetings and well wishes from his Palestine counterpart.

The Senator chairman said Pakistani greatly values relations with Palestine and will continue to extending support to Palestinian brothers and sisters.

The ambassador also presented the Senate chairman a souvenir. =DNA



Ambassador Hamad Obaid Alzaabi hosts grand reception to celebrate UAE day



Islamabad Arts Festival concluding ceremony at Islamabad Serena Hotel





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Ambassador of Maldives visits DNA and CENTRELINE offices



Pakistani scholar gets French award

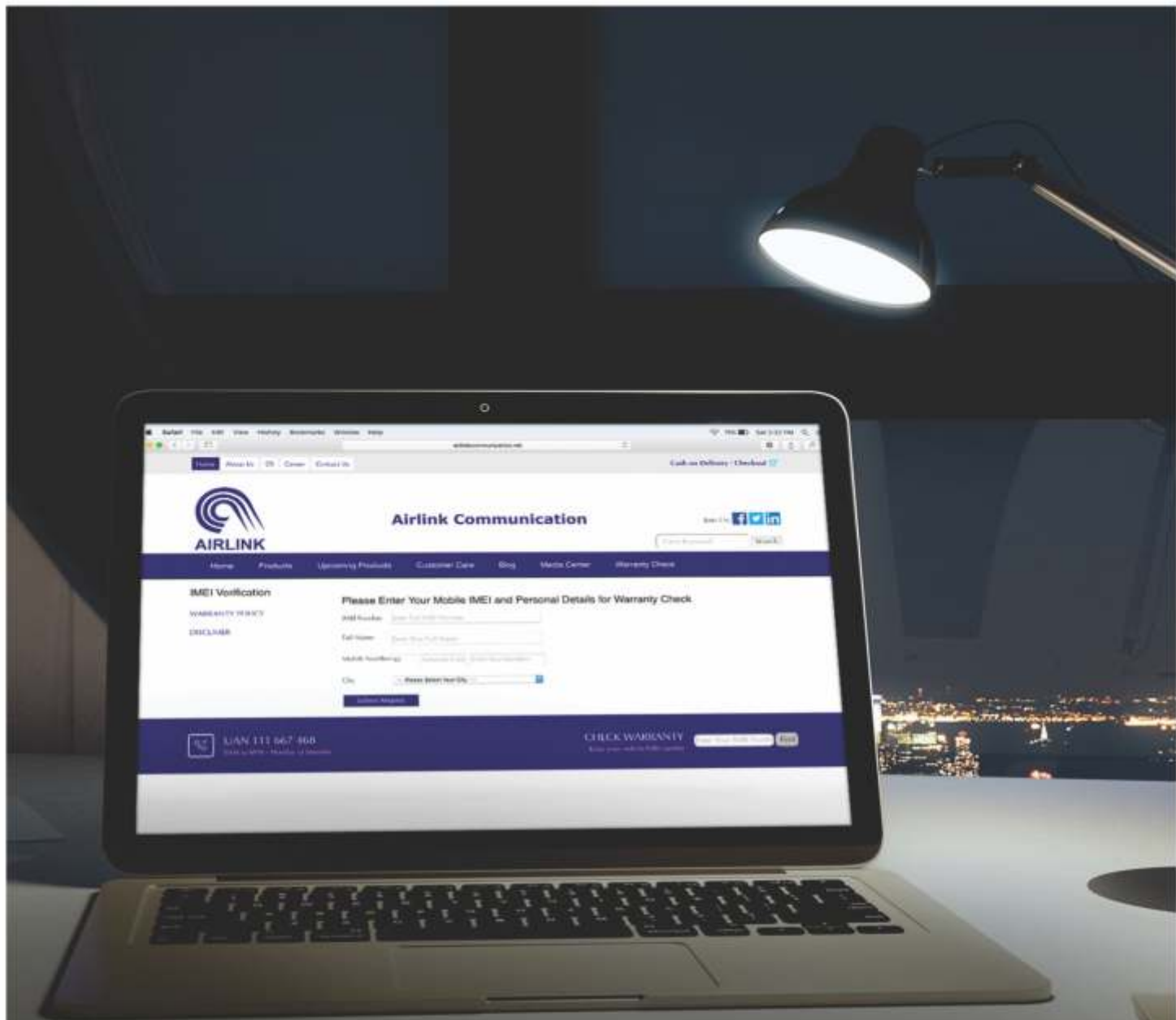
ISLAMABAD, (DNA) Ambassador of France Marc Barety conferred French rank on Dr Nashid Syed for promoting French language and literature.

The ambassador awarded this rank in a simple but impressive ceremony held at the French embassy.

The rank Officier des Palmes Académiques by the French government is awarded to individuals for promoting French language and culture in respective countries.

The ambassador said rank for Dr. Nashid Syed was acknowledgement of her outstanding achievements in promoting French language and literature in Pakistan.-DNA





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German ambassador underlines importance of people to people contacts

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) –German Ambassador to Pakistan Bernhard Schlagheck has underlined the importance of people-to-people contacts and exchange between the civil societies of Germany and Pakistan for enhanced bilateral relations.

He expressed these views while welcoming the German alumni during a function at his residence.

The cultural section of the German Embassy organised the German Pakistan Alumni Network at the residence of German ambassador to strengthen ties between former German scholarship holders from Pakistan and the German Embassy.

More than 100 alumni who visited Germany on different scholarship programs like DAAD scholarship, Alexander von Humboldt scholarship, Cross Culture Program scholarship and others took part in the meeting.

All of them spent some time in Germany either for studies, research or professional trainings.

Additionally, participants of subject-related short-term trips to Germany offered by the German Federal Foreign Office as well as German language teachers who attended trainings in Germany funded by Goethe-Institut took part in the alumni meeting.

Afterwards, representatives of the different scholarship programs shared their experiences gained



during their stay in Germany. As part of the event, the German

from the Pakistani government and the private sector.

More and more Pakistanis are interested in studying or doing research in Germany, so the German Pakistan Alumni Network is constantly growing. Currently, more than 4000 Pakistani students are studying in Germany.

They are attracted by high quality education and a conducive research environment. With its exchange programs, the German government supports students, scholars and professionals to gain experience in Germany, advance their career and broaden their horizon on a professional, cultural and personal level.

Today's alumni meeting was an experience-sharing and networking opportunity for German Pakistan



organisation GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) gave an insight into their activities in Pakistan in the renewable energy sector and on climate change during an interactive panel discussion with representatives

Alumni. The participants also discussed their expectations and ideas for an active German-Pakistan Alumni network for the future.

The event ended with a cultural performance by Asfand Yar Khattak and Alina Chaudry. =DNA



National Day of Algeria celebrated



Dominique Simon Head of the Economic Department of the Embassy of France hosts house warming party





Belgium ambassador hosts reception to mark King's Day

ISLAMABAD :Ambassador of Belgium Philippe Bronchain hosted a reception to mark King's Day.

State Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Ali Mohammad Khan was the chief guest.

The ambassador in his remarks thanked the audience for attending the function. He said bilateral relations between the two countries are on a positive trajectory. DNA



Ambassador of Poland hosts grand reception to mark Polish day



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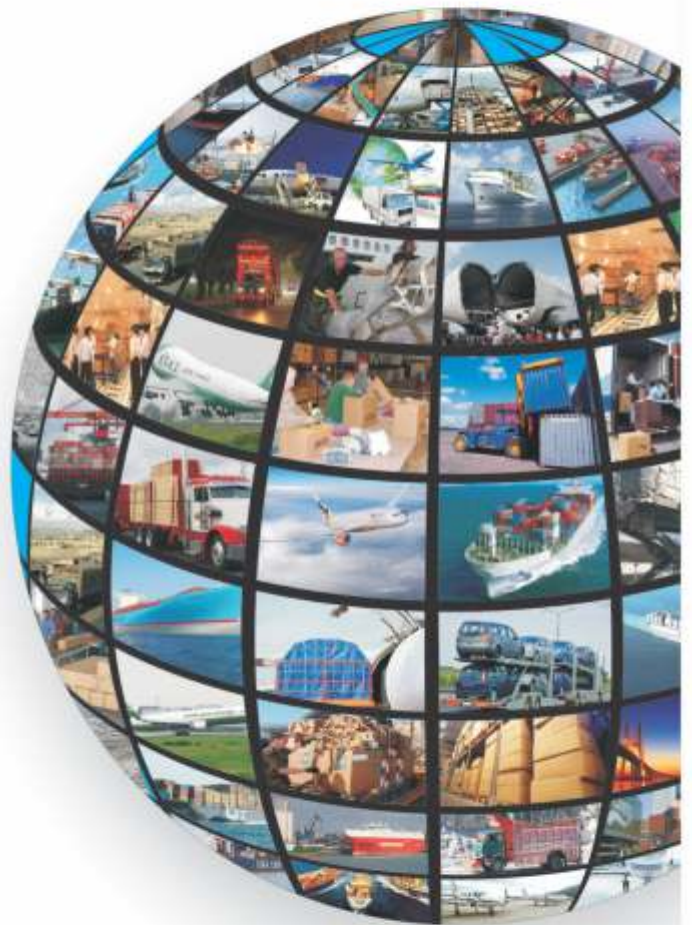
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National Day of Bosnia celebrated





Turkish ambassador says bilateral relations growing at fast speed

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) -İhsan Mustafa Yurdakul, Ambassador of Turkey in Pakistan said that Turkey and Pakistan enjoyed historic cordial relations that should be transformed into growing trade and economic relations between the two countries.

He said this while talking to a delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry that called on him led by Muhammad Ahmed Waheed President.

Tahir Abbasi Senior Vice President and Zafar Bakhtawari former President ICCI were in the delegation.

İhsan Mustafa Yurdakul said that Turkish companies were interested to explore JVs and investment in Special Economic Zones that would be built in Pakistan under CPEC and added that for this purpose a delegation of Turkish businessman could be invited to Pakistan to study business opportunities in SEZs.

He said that both countries have good potential to complement each other in many areas for which better connectivity between private sectors of both countries was needed.

He assured that Turkish Embassy would cooperate in efforts aimed at promoting direct linkages between business communities of both countries.

Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad



Ahmed Waheed, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that Pakistan and Turkey have been negotiating for signing a free trade agreement and many rounds of negotiations have already been held for this purpose.

He said that during the upcoming visit of Turkish President RecepTayyipErdoğan to Pakistan, both countries should sign the FTA that would give boost to trade relations between Pakistan and Turkey.

He welcomed the proposal of Turkish Ambassador for visit of Turkish business delegation to Pakistan and assured that ICCI would cooperate in connecting them with right partners in Pakistan.

Tahir Abbasi Senior Vice President and

Zafar Bakhtawari former President ICCI said that due to lack of direct air links, Pakistan has not better connectivity with ECO and Central Asian countries that were growing markets for Pakistani products.

They said that Turkish airline should play role in connecting Pakistan with these countries by organizing once in a week flight from Pakistan to these countries. They said that ICCI was ready to cooperate with both governments in realizing this objective.

Both sides discussed a range of options to develop strong business linkages between the private sectors of both countries for promoting trade and economic relations between Pakistan and Turkey. =DNA

U.S. Joins Pakistan's "Ten Billion Tree Tsunami"

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – We all have a role to play in caring for our environment. To contribute to Pakistan's "Ten Billion Tree Tsunami" afforestation initiative, the U.S. Embassy and the Ministry of Climate Change joined forces at a tree planting event on the U.S. Embassy compound.

Minister Malik Amin Aslam, the Prime Minister's Advisor for Climate Change and Ambassador Paul W. Jones planted a Moringa tree near the U.S. Embassy's Chancery building.

At the event, Ambassador Jones said the U.S. Embassy saved 520 trees when the compound was built and planted 513 new trees and 2,800 new shrubs.

He also emphasized the state-of-the-art environmental features of the U.S. Embassy compound that earned it a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification, including solar lighting, energy-efficient building materials, and a state-of-the-art water management system.

Indigenous to South Asia, the Moringa tree is hardy,

fast-growing, and consumes little water.

Many cultures use the leaves and seeds of Moringa trees for their nutritional and medicinal properties, including in traditional remedies for inflammation, infection, headache, anemia, and fever. =DNA



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'Kyrgyzstan can play important role in linking euroasian economic zone with CPEC'

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – Speaker National has said that Kyrgyzstan could play an important role in linking Euroasian Economic Zone and Europe with CPEC.

He said that CPEC was the key to economic future of Pakistan and the region. The Speaker was talking to Mr. Erik Beishembiev, Ambassador of Republic of Kyrgyzstan who called on him in Islamabad this morning.

Speaker Asad Qaiser said that Pakistan attaches immense importance to its relations with Kyrgyzstan which were intertwined in eternal bonds of religion, history and culture.

He said that geographical location of Kyrgyzstan was of utmost importance and it can play role of bridge between Pakistan, Euroasian Economic Zone and Europe.

The Speaker invited Kyrgyz investors to come to Pakistan and take advantage of immense economic potential here.

The Speaker also informed that National Assembly was arranging a seminar on CPEC in December 2019 to showcase the huge economic potential generated to its subsequent.

He said that immense economic potential had been generated in Pakistan after the



advent of CPEC.

He said that road infrastructure and energy projects had been almost completed which were backbone of any economic activity.

He proposed that the Ambassador may arrange interaction of Kyrgyz business community with investment and trade officials in Pakistan.

He also asked for enhancing people to people contacts for further cementing relations between Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan.

He appreciated Kyrgyz support to

Pakistan on international and regional forums on all issues especially issue of Kashmir and its resolution in accordance with the UN resolutions.

He also suggested for joint ventures between manufacturing sector for consumption in Euroasian Economic Zone and Europe.

He said that Kyrgyzstan was a partner in Euroasian Economic Union and could play its role in that regard. The Ambassador also suggested for interaction at parliamentary level.=DNA

Pakistan's hospitality leader bags Brand of the Year Award

ISLAMABAD (DNA) - Pearl-Continental Hotels & Resorts has been awarded 'Brand of the Year' Award at the World Branding Awards ceremony at Kensington Palace in London on Thursday, 14th November 2019.

Addressing the awards ceremony, Hashoo Group Hospitality Division Chief Operating Officer Mr. Haseeb Gardezi said: "It is an honour for us and a proud moment for Pakistan to witness Pearl-Continental Hotels & Resorts receive this prestigious award."

Pearl-Continental Hotels & Resorts is a successful chain of five-star hotels across Pakistan. Hashoo Group is the pioneer of the hospitality industry in the country,

ensuring the highest levels of customer service in each of the hotels. The Group, under its hospitality umbrella, owns, manages and operates the five-star Pearl-Continental Hotels and Marriott Hotels and the select-service Hotel One brand in Pakistan.

The award was presented by World Branding Forum following a rigorous assessment, evaluation and voting process. 'The Brand of the Year' Award is a distinctive and premier recognition for a brand recognised as a champion in its industry on current market standing and consumer preference. It honours only that single brand in each category every year, which dominantly led through all the levels of the selection criteria.



Jordanian ambassador for strengthening economic ties with Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – Ibrahim Yala Mohammad Almadani, Ambassador of Jordan said that his country enjoyed good political and defence relations with Pakistan, however, both countries should focus on strengthening economic ties to achieve mutually beneficial results.

He said this while addressing business community during his visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI).

He said that there was a need of more interactions between the leadership of both countries to further improve trade and economic relations.

The envoy said that Jordan was importing few products from Pakistan including textiles products, medical instruments, pharmaceutical products, rice, sugar, spices while Pakistan could export more products to Jordan.

He said that the next meeting of Jordan-Pakistan Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) would be held in Islamabad in the first quarter of 2020 and a Jordanian business delegation would also accompany the minister at the occasion for B2B meetings with Pakistani counterparts.

He hoped that JMC and B2B interaction between business community of both countries would help in exploring new avenues of improving bilateral trade between Jordan and Pakistan.

He said that ICCI should take a delegation to Jordan or invite Jordanian Chamber of Commerce to Pakistan for further improving



business linkages between both countries and assured that his embassy would fully support in such efforts.

Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad Ahmed Waheed, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said the current level of bilateral trade between Pakistan and Jordan was far below the actual potential of both countries and strong efforts were needed from both sides to improve it. He said that Pakistan and Jordan have the potential to complement each other's in different fields including science & technology, fertilizer, IT & telecommunication, industry, banking & finance, health & pharmaceuticals, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, education and

culture and both countries should facilitate frequent exchange of trade delegations to explore all untapped areas of bilateral cooperation.

Muhammad Ahmed Waheed said that economy of Pakistan offered great opportunities to foreign investors and stressed that Jordanian investors should visit Pakistan to explore JVs and investment in areas of interest.

He said that Pakistan and Jordan could also cooperate in energy sector that should be exploited. He said that ICCI was ready to host the delegation of Jordanian Chamber of Commerce and connect them with right counterparts in Pakistan.

Saif ur Rahman Khan Vice President ICCI, Mian Shaukat Masud, Muhammad Aslam Khokhar, Khalid Chaudhry and others also spoke at the occasion.=DNA

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Kalash Valley

The Kalashas live in three valleys of Chitral namely, Rumbur, Brumbret and Birir. The Rumbur and Brumbret form a single culture due to their very similar cultural practices, while Birir being the most traditional one forms a separate culture.

The people of Kalash or white skinned with golden brown hair and blue eyes.

History:

The origins of Kalashas still remain unresolved as their history is shrouded behind a number of theories, mysteries and controversies. Of these many theories, three carry with them great significance and are considered closest to reality.

The grandest of all is that the Kalashas carry a romantic view of being the descendents of Alexander the Great. On the other hand, many historians believe that they are indigenous tribe of the neighboring area of Nuristan also called Kafiristan (the land of Kafirs). It is believed that in 1895 Amir Abdul Rahman, the king of Afghanistan, conquered the area of Nursitan and forced the inhabitants of the area to convert to Islam. It was during that time that many people fled to Chitral to avoid conversion. The third theory claims that the ancestors of Kalashas migrated from a distant place in South Asia called Tsiam. The Tsiam is considered to be the traditional home of these people. The Kalasha folk songs and fables hint the existence of Tsiam and that their roots belong in that region.

Language:

The language of the Kalash is the Kalasha



and is a Dardic language (sub group of Indo-Aryan languages spoken in Northern Pakistan, eastern Afghanistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir). The language is spoken by a handful of people approximately 5000 and is considered to be critically endangered by UNESCO. The Kalasha language has no proper script; however, there have been recent developments in introducing a formal script for the language.

Customs:

The people of Kalash are extremely particular about their religion and break ties with anyone of them who converts to Islam. The converts are not allowed after the conversion to be a part of their community. They keep their identity

strong.

The people of Kalash differ from the people of the surrounding areas in a number of ways. There is no separation between males and females in Kalash and are allowed to keep contact and communicate without any fingers being raised at them. Moreover, the females of Kalash are sent to live in a bashaleni when they are considered to be impure for e.g. during the child birth period and other occasions. These women are only able to live this place after they regain their purity and have undergone the ritual of restoring purity.

The women of Kalash wear long black loose robes with colorful embroideries and cowrie shells. These women are also found wearing colorful beads and necklaces that further distinguish them from the other women of the Chitral region. They accessorize their black robes by making use of colorful long braided head wears. The males of the Kalash on the contrary have adopted the Pakistani national dress i.e. the shalwar kameez and are often found wearing waistcoats over them. They also wear hats common to the northern area of Pakistan.



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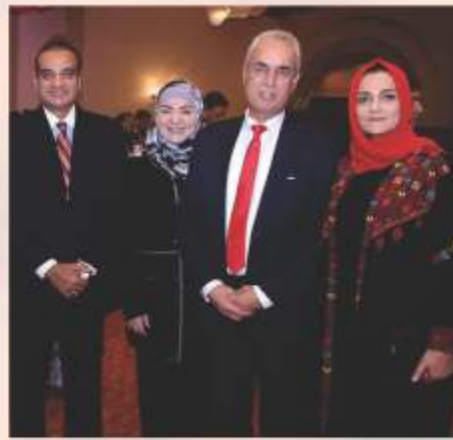
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National day of Oman celebrated

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) Ambassador of Oman Mohammed Omar Al Marhoon hosted a reception to celebrate 49th National Day of Sultanate of Oman.

Federal Minister for Food Security Khusro Bakhtiar graced the occasion as chief guest while a large number of



guests hailing from various walks of life attended the reception.



National anthems of both countries were played before cake cutting



ceremony.

Guests were served with traditional Oman cuisines and Pakistani delicacies. The Federal Minister mixed up with the guests and



exchanged pleasantries. It was his first function after assuming charge of new ministry. =DNA

Italian food festival at Islamabad Marriott Hotel



Uzbek envoy briefs students about upcoming parliamentary elections



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) - Upcoming Parliamentary Elections in Uzbekistan on 22th December 2019 are expected to be significant political event towards further democratization of Uzbek society that reflects main priorities of the President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's policy and democratic reforms said Furqat Sidikov Ambassador of Uzbekistan while briefing the students of Bahria University.

The ambassador further said, this upcoming political process attracts the interest of many experts and media of Pakistan in order to deeply study all changes in Uzbekistan.

Bahria University students specialized in Central Asian studies are deemed as future regional experts and diplomats that can play in perspective significant role

in further understanding and deepening Uzbekistan-Pakistan relations both in political and economic areas, the ambassador added.

During the session the embassy staff presented information on political system of Uzbekistan, on ongoing reforms in political, social, economical and judicial areas that were initiated by the President of Uzbekistan.

Students and experts of the University were keen to deeply study all current political processes in Uzbekistan, including current level of Uzbekistan-Pakistan relationships.

Embassy of Uzbekistan to Pakistan expressed its gratefulness to Professor Adam Saud for jointly organizing said significant and core important event in Islamabad. =DNA

Diplomats of various countries participate in hiking trip

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) - Diplomats of various countries took part in a great hiking trip at Margalla Hills.

Gender equality was remarkably balanced in the Islamabad Sunday Trekking Team to the delight of all when Canada, Columbia, Egypt, France, Germany Pakistan, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom were represented on the splendid Trail 6 with cool weather and a beautiful blue sky.

Canadian ladies who took part in trekking event on Sunday, they were super delighted throughout all the time. =DNA



Argentina to enhance trade and agro-tech opportunities with Pakistan

DNA REPORT

The Embassy of the Argentine Republic organized a commercial event in Lahore to promote bilateral relationships with Pakistan in the fields of agriculture, pharma industry and tourism. Distinguished members of the local business community participated in the event to share Argentina's experience and know-how in agriculture, livestock, pharma, energy and tourism fields at the Royal Palm Golf Country Club of Lahore, in an event organized by the Embassy of the Argentine Republic. The Ambassador of the Punjab Board of Investment and Trade, Mr. Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, the President of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mr. Ashraf Malik, the Vice President of the Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Muhammad Irfan Sohail, the Chairman of All Pakistan Textile Processing Mills Association, Mr. Muhammad Pervez Lala, the Secretary General of the Seed Association of Pakistan, Mr. Salman Aziz Khan, as well as soya importers and textile, pharma and sugar mills representatives took part in the event to strengthen trade relations between Argentina and Pakistan. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali, Vice Chancellor of the University of Agriculture of Multan, Dr. Abid Mahmood Director General of the Ayub Agricultural Research Institute of Faisalabad and Dr. Shahid Afghan CEO of the Sugarcane Research and Development Board of Punjab underscored the need to increase the technological exchange with Argentina in



order to improve the agroindustrial complex of Pakistan. During 2018 bilateral trade between both countries was 140 million dollars. Argentina exported to Pakistan 90 million dollars mainly in agroindustrial products such as soya bean oil, soya meal, chickpeas, sorghum grain, pharmaceuticals products and polo horses. On the other hand, Argentina imported close to 50 million dollars in textiles, cotton, sports accessories and

medical equipment. In his presentation, Head of the Consular and Commercial Section, Mr. Alejandro Anibal Garcia highlighted potential fields of cooperation for Pakistan to expand its exports, improve its agroindustrial technology as well as promote tourism. Argentina can go for joint ventures in agriculture, pharmaceuticals, alternative energy (hydropower) and vehicles production.

NAVTC Headquarters Islamabad

www.navttc.org



Government of Pakistan National Vocational & Technical Training Commission

Plot 38, Kirthar Road, Sector H-9, Islamabad



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Sealed bids pertaining "Single Stage-Two Envelops" method are invited from the registered firms / companies having General Sales Tax Registration/Income Tax Registration number along with NOC from ICT, Ministry of Interior for provision of services of 02 Armed Security Guards for National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTC), Plot No. 38, Kirthar Road, Sector H-9, Islamabad.

Bid Security	2% of quoted rate (re-fundable) which will be retained as performance guarantee in case of successful bidder.
Contact Officer	Assistant Director (Admn-II), NAVTC HQ's, Plot No. 38, Kirthar Road, Sector H-9, Islamabad. Ph: 051-9044141
Closing Date and Time & Place for receiving of bids	12-12-2019, at 11:30 hrs, in NAVTC HQ's, Plot No. 38, Kirthar Road, Sector H-9, Islamabad.
Date, Time & Place of publicly opening of bids	12-12-2019 at 12:00 hrs, in Conference Room, NAVTC HQ's, Plot No. 38, Kirthar Road, Sector H-9, Islamabad.
Duration of Contract	Initially for a period of 02 years from the date of signing of contract agreement and will be extended for further one year to satisfactory performance.

- The organization has the right to accept or reject any bid under provision of Rule-33 of PP Rules-2004
- Detailed terms and conditions of the contract can be obtained (free of cost) from the office of undersigned during office hours. The same tender notice along with TOR's are also available on the official websites of PPRA (www.ppra.org.pk) and NAVTC HQ's i.e. (www.navttc.org).



(Syed Tauseef Ali)
Assistant Director (Admn-II)
051-9044141

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