

CENTRELINE

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine



ALICE G. WELLS

**From aid relationship
to trade relationship**



Ambassador Alizada
inaugurates Eco school
in Shah Allah Ditta

Page: 22-23



Chinese New
Year celebrations
at Marriott Hotel

Page: 36-37



First lady Samina Alvi
at Islamabad Floral Art
Society function at ISH

Page: 33

L A L A



winter
collection

shop online > WWW.LALA.COM.PK



Lala 

TASTE OF CHINA

FOOD FESTIVAL

H A P P Y
C H I N E S E
New Year
2020



DISCOVER A FUSION OF ORIENTAL
FLAVOURS AND WAFING AROMAS
ON AN EXCLUSIVE MENU.

DYNASTY
25TH JAN - 8TH FEB 2020

UAN: (051) 111 22 33 44
☎: 0300 045 9117
W: WWW.MARRIOTT.COM/ISBPk



Study in Australia, Canada, USA & UK



With over 5000 Alumni and 200,000 IELTS registrations, AEO Pakistan over the past two decades has established itself as the most trusted Australian and Global Education Specialists and IELTS Official Test Centre. Come to us at AEO Pakistan, to experience the most professional counselling and student placement services, to find the right course, assistance in submission of your university application, guidance to fulfill the visa requirements and for preparing as well as booking of your IELTS Test.



For Appointment/Registration

UAN: 111-236-000
or
log on to www.aeo.com.pk



**AUSTRALIAN & GLOBAL
EDUCATION SPECIALISTS**

AEO Islamabad

2nd floor, Pakland Business Centre,
I-8 Markaz, Islamabad.
Mob: 0300/0301-8567776

AEO Lahore

50 C III, Gulberg III, Lahore.
Tel: 042-35711620-1-2-3
Mob: 0300/0301-4880804
0301/0306-4880804

AEO Karachi

C-151, Block 2, Clifton.
Tel: 021-3587 9645-7
Mob: 0302-8264264

AEO Multan

52 A, Block A, Gulgasht
Colony, Multan.
Mob: 0320-4880804

A Land of Adventure
**DISCOVER
PAKISTAN**



SERENA HOTELS

HOTELS AND RESORTS
PALACES • PORTS

For reservations, please call (05811) 455894-7 or email at sales@serena.com.pk



[serenahotelsofficial](#)



[serenahotelsofficial](#)







[serena_hotels](#)

Asian WOK

by Monal

Theme Park Avenue,
Bahria Town, Phase 7, Rawalpindi.



  asianwokbt  asianwokbt.themonal.com  051 8840180
051 8840190



Plot # 6, Spring North, Phase 7, Bahria Town, Rawalpindi.

Editor-in-Chief
Ansar Mahmood Bhatti
Executive Editor

Mubashar Ahmad Bhatti

Deputy Editor (Overseas)

Dr. Aamir Hanif

Founding Content Head

Lt Col Ihsan Piracha ® (Late)

Advisor

Prof. Dr. Farid A. Khwaja
(Aaz-e-Kamal)

Legal Advisor

Raja Khurram Shahzad
(Advocate High Court)

Mohammad Yahya Farid
(Advocate)

Sub Editors

Farrukh Shehzad

M. Shaheen Qureshi

Saifullah Ansar

Bureau Chief Karachi

Nazir Siyal

Chief Correspondent

Athar Javed Sufi

Online / Web Editor

Mahnoor Ansar

GM Marketing & Sales

Fiaz Choudhry

0300-5538251

Photo Journalists

Muhammad Shahid

Shahbaz Sindhu (LHR)

Head Office: # 11, Block 18-A (Awan Plaza)

G-8 Markaz, Islamabad-Pakistan 44000

Tel: 051-2261960, Fax: 051-2280074

Cell: 0333-5203232

centrelinemag@gmail.com

Publisher: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

Printers: 051-544 1786.Com

Price Rs. 450/- \$ 4

Pakistan's Largest Circulated Diplomatic Magazine

MEMBER ALL PAKISTAN NEWSPAPERS SOCIETY (APNS)

A Sister Concern of Daily Islamabad Post & DNA Newsagency

Parliamentary Elections in Azerbaijan



Azerbaijan, an important transcontinental country with a population of around 10.14 million inhabitants, steadily continues its journey towards development and modernization after declaring its independence from Soviet Union in 1991. The architect of the Republic Heydar Aliyev incurred upon himself the onus of driving the nascent republic to a modern and forward looking state where people of all nationalities, religions and faiths could co-exist happily. After passing away of Heydar Aliyev his son Ilham Aliyev stepped into shoes of his father with a view to not only furthering his agenda of development and harmony but to make Azerbaijan a leading regional and global player. And his efforts ostensibly bore fruit thus making Azerbaijan one of the leading political and economic players.

The incumbent government of President Ilham Aliyev ever since its establishment has been focusing zealously on improving the lot of especially those who do not have access to state of the art technologies. That is why those living in remote areas such as Gabala and Quba—two wonderful cities of Azerbaijan I visited almost 8 years ago, can cherish fruits of modernization and development. People of these areas are not only industrious but skillful also. They would prefer to stay at home and undertake some skilled work such as handicrafts; carpet making; embroidery etc, instead of going abroad or other cities for jobs. This virtue of theirs has successfully preserved and sustained originality of these places therefore people visiting these places would certainly get a true color and taste of Azerbaijani lifestyle; culture and cuisines. Azerbaijan under President Ilham Aliyev continues its march towards progress and prosperity. The govt top priority appears to be better facilitation of people by providing them all basic necessities of life. The Heydar Aliyev Foundation has been actively participating in building a new society and contributing to the social and economic development of the country, by implementing various projects in spheres such as education, public health, culture, sports, science and technology, environment, and social and other spheres. President of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation is Azerbaijan's First Vice President, First Lady, UNESCO and ISESCO Goodwill Ambassador Mehriban Aliyeva, under whose guidance the Foundation has undertaken a number of humanitarian projects in Pakistan as well. The Foundation immediately started relief work after the deadly earthquake in Pakistan. Since then the Foundation has established a number of schools, especially in Kashmir where mostly the needy children get education. The humanitarian work of this Foundation has not only won laurels for Azerbaijan at home but abroad also. Both Pakistan and Azerbaijan share common views on many issues including Kashmir and Nagorno-Karabakh. Armenia forcibly annexed the Azerbaijani territory Nagorno-Karabakh in early 90s despite the fact that the international community declared that the area was a legitimate part of Azerbaijan. As a result of war hundreds of Azerbaijani people lost their lives while tens of thousands were left homeless. Nevertheless both countries are holding peace negotiations on regular basis after ceasefire announced in 1994. Pakistan wholeheartedly supports Azerbaijan on this issue and has not recognized Armenia only because it continues to occupy Azerbaijani territory. Similarly Baku supports Pakistani's stand on Kashmir and believes in settlement of the dispute as per the UN resolutions. The early parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan have been announced for February 9, 2020. The electorates shall elect their representatives for the Milli Majlis. The Central Election Commission has already announced polls schedule and list of contesting candidates. This time a big number of youths has registered themselves as voters and candidates. According to analysts, the new parliament is supposed to set basis for a strong and prosperous Azerbaijan. Relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan are constantly on the move. The respective Azerbaijani ambassadors have contributed greatly towards strengthening of bilateral relations but during the tenure of Ambassador Ali Alizada bilateral relations have been given new dimensions. Besides exchange of high level bilateral visits, trade and economic activity has also seen marked surge. Tourism happens to be yet another area where both countries have made huge strides in past few years. A 12-member observers' delegation from Pakistan, which happens to be one of the biggest, is a clear manifestation of close and brotherly relations between the two countries. Bilateral relations for sure will remain on the same positive trajectory even in the prospect.

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.

ALICE WELLS VISITS PAKISTAN



ALICE G. WELLS

From aid relationship to trade relationship

Former Senator Enwer Baig fetes Alice Wells; lauds her role in strengthening US-Pakistan relations

DNA

ISLAMABAD, -Alice G. Wells, the Acting US Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asia, has said the United States was keen to transform its ties with Pakistan from aid relationship to trade relationship adding things were moving in the right direction.

She expressed these views while speaking during a reception hosted by former Senator Enver Beg. The dinner reception was attended by several retired generals, diplomats, and prominent journalists.

She said during Prime Minister Imran Khan's meeting with President Trump both sides had agreed on transforming this relationship with special emphasis on

cementing trade and economic ties.

Ms. Wells further said "I have the fondest memories of serving in Pakistan back in late 90s and glad to see a number of friends around tonight".

She said Pakistan offers huge business opportunities and many US companies are already engaged in Pakistan and many more want to come here for business purposes.

The senior US diplomat also appreciated Pakistan's role in the ongoing peace talks in neighboring Afghanistan and said that Pakistan and United States have seen unprecedented cooperation in the context of Afghan peace talks.

Alice Wells further said US-Pakistan relationship is important one adding she was pleased to be part of further developing and strengthening this relationship.

She added, Pakistan Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa has played a vital role in the Afghan peace process and reiterated on several occasions that peace in Afghanistan is very important for Pakistan and the country would continue its efforts to bring peace and stability in the region.

The Taliban have recently agreed to a reduction in violence, and Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi last week had said that the announcement

ALICE WELLS VISITS PAKISTAN

by the group was an essential step towards a peace agreement in Afghanistan.

Ambassador Wells also met with Brig (r) Ijaz Shah, the Federal Minister for Interior. Among other issues, both officials held talks about stopping illegal immigration to the United States, streamlining the verification of passports and travelling documents.

The visiting US delegation was also given a detailed briefing by officials at the Pakistani interior ministry about the progress regarding the Financial Action Task Force.

Enwer Beg's and his family accorded warm welcome to the Ms. Wells and her delegation when they arrived at the Jehlum house on the outskirts of Islamabad. Senator Beg, during his remarks, said that he had the pleasure of knowing Ambassador Wells since 1999 when she served as the political head at the US Embassy in Islamabad. He said that he hoped the visiting diplomat would have constructive meetings with the officials in Islamabad, and the relationship would move forward.

Senator Baig further said Ms. Wells is a great friend of Pakistan and the Baig family adding her visit will contribute greatly towards further strengthening of Pakistan, US relations. He said she knows most of the political leaders of Pakistan and genuinely wants to bring both countries closer.

Among the other notable guests were General (r) Ehsan Ul Haq, the former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staffs Committee, Lt Gen (r) Asif Yasin Malik, the former Secretary of Defense, Riaz Hussain Khokar, the former foreign secretary, Ambassador Abdul Basit, Dr. Ashfaq Hasan Khan, former advisor to the finance ministry, Lt. Gen @ Tariq Khan former Corps Commander Mangla Corps.



Wells appreciates Pakistan's efforts against illegal US immigrants

The chief US diplomat for South Asian affairs, Alice Wells, said that the issue of illegal Pakistani immigrants in the United States had been resolved to a great extent. She made the comment during a meeting with Interior Minister Brig (r) Ijaz Ahmad Shah. "We appreciate the Pakistan government's cooperation on the matter," Wells said, while adding that her government wants to come up with a strong system [for dealing with illegal immigrants] that can be used in the future. Welcoming the idea of developing a system to deal with illegal immigrants, Shah said that a stronger system to verify travel documents had already been created. He further told Wells that a

system had also been created for the monitoring of international non-governmental organisations (INGOs). "The organisations that we have reservations about are given the chance to present their perspective," Shah said.

The two sides also discussed Pakistan's progress on matters raised by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). "It is heartening to see that Pakistan's government has made significant progress on these matters and that too in a short time," Wells said.

Wells also held meetings with representatives from Pakistan's political and military leadership to talk about several issues, including Pak-US ties, the Afghan reconciliation process, ongoing tensions in the region and Indian atrocities in Occupied Kashmir.

She also spoke at a think tank and engage with members of civil society on what the US State Department calls "issues of bilateral and regional concern".

The US diplomat visit was a follow up on the foreign minister's discussions in Washington where he met US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, National Security Adviser Robert O' Brien, and Under Secretary of Defence John Rood.

The foreign minister recently concluded a three-day visit to the United States – the third leg of his mission to defuse tensions in the Middle East – after having already visited Tehran and Riyadh as part of Pakistan's diplomatic efforts to ease tensions in the region.

Wells also met Adviser to Prime Minister of Pakistan for Commerce, Textile, Industry & Production and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood in Islamabad on the first day of her official meetings. "The US is eager to increase the trade potential between our two nations. Wells was of the opinion that agriculture was one sector where immediate progress can be made,"



Dawood said in a series of Twitter posts after the meeting.

He said the assistant secretary handed over some suggestions on the utilisation of general system of preferences which the Ministry of Commerce of Pakistan will examine and hold appropriate discussions with the US administration.

"She [Wells] appreciated the role of several prominent US companies working very successfully in Pakistan for a long time, & assured keen interest of several others to come here. This will further strengthen Pak-US economic & trade relationship," Dawood further said.

Blacklisted firms got CPEC project contracts, says Wells

Alice Wells during her visit renewed criticism of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), impliedly urging Islamabad to rethink its involvement with it.

Amb Wells' speech at a think tank event on January 21, 2020, which was attended by members of academia and representatives of civil society, criticised the flagship project of China's One Belt One Road Initiative.

She alleged that there was no transparency in CPEC projects, claiming Pakistan's debt burden was growing due to the Chinese financing.

While her arguments looked like a repeat of the remarks she had earlier delivered at the Wilson Centre in Washington on Nov 21, 2019, the claims were renewed during her Islamabad trip a few days after Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi sought closer engagement and a robust trade and investment relationship between Pakistan and the US.

FM Qureshi had also sought help from the US to get the country off the Financial



Action Task Force (FATF) grey list.

While reiterating the allegations against CPEC, Amb Wells said companies blacklisted by the World Bank had got contracts in the CPEC.

The US diplomat also questioned the immunity from prosecution for the newly formed CPEC Authority that served as the focal body working to identify new areas of cooperation and projects, besides facilitation, coordination and monitoring of ongoing projects.

About the debt problem, Amb Wells insisted that Chinese money was not assistance. By getting Chinese financing for the projects, Pakistan was buying expensive loans and as a buyer it needed to be aware of what it was doing as this would take a heavy toll on its already struggling economy, she contended.

The diplomat also touched on the cost escalation in railways ML-1 upgrade project. The link connects Karachi with Peshawar. She urged the government to be transparent about the mega project.

A Foreign Office statement, meanwhile, said US Acting Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of South and Central Asian

Affairs Alice Wells met Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood.

The agenda of the meeting largely comprised bilateral issues including the prospects of intensifying political engagement and expanding economic partnership. "It was emphasised that a strong trade and investment relationship was key to advancing the shared vision of the leadership of both countries for a long term, broad-based and enduring partnership," the statement said.

While talking about human rights abuses by Indian troops in the occupied Kashmir and Delhi's aggressive actions against Pakistan, including intensified LoC ceasefire violations, Mr Mahmood emphasised the need for international community to play its role for ending the rights violations and peaceful resolution of the dispute.

About peace and stability in Afghanistan, the foreign secretary reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve to continue to support the peace process and pursue positive development in Pak-Afghan relations. Pakistan also remained committed to supporting the efforts for de-escalation of tensions and promoting the prospects of a diplomatic way forward on the differences and disputes in the Middle East, he said.

In a meeting with Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Nadeem Babar at the energy ministry office, Amb Wells said the US was ready to enhance cooperation with Pakistan in the energy sector especially in the renewable energy. Mr Babar proposed cooperation in tapping Pakistan's shale reserves, specialised training, investments in LNG infrastructure development, renewable energy and other avenues.

Chinese embassy in Islamabad however rebutted claims of Ms. Wells and said Chinese loans were much less than that of IMF and other financial institutions.



Exclusive Images

ALICE WELLS VISITS PAKISTAN

Former Senator Enwer Baig hosts dinner for US Asstt Secretary of State Alice Wells at Jehlum House





Says unilateral Indian decision in Kashmir has disturbed regional peace

DNA

ISLAMABAD,- Ambassador of China Yao Jing has said Western propaganda against CPEC was baseless adding the mega project would continue despite all negative campaigning.

The Chinese ambassador was speaking during a reception he hosted to mark the Chinese new year.

Ambassador Yao further said one thing is very clear for the Chinese leadership and Chinese government that Pakistan remains a strongest and firm and best friend of China.

He said in the year 2019 a lot of regional and global changes happened however friendship of China and Pakistan remained steadfast and firm in all times.

The ambassador said some vested interests sometimes try to damage China-Pakistan relationship by casting adverse aspirations on CPEC and sometimes by fanning religious issues.

The ambassador particularly mentioned Western propaganda in Chinese Xinjiang province and made it clear Muslims living in that province were enjoying all rights like other Chinese citizens. Therefore the Western propaganda was baseless and unfounded and a dime a dozen attempt to create misunderstandings in Muslim countries.

He said many Pakistani delegations have already visited this province and interacted with Muslims living there.

The ambassador also talked about Kashmir adding unilateral Indian decision has disturbed regional peace. He said the United Nations resolution on Kashmir must be respected.

On Afghanistan the ambassador said China wants stability in that country and would continue its efforts towards that end.

According to Yao Jing, the Year 2020 will also be a historical year to usher in a new chapter of win-win cooperation between China and Pakistan. As an iron brother, Pakistan will always be the prior partner in China's external relations.

China and Pakistan will strengthen mutual support and strategic cooperation. As good neighbors, good friends, good partners and good brothers who share weal and woe, we will continue to build upon our mutual trust and firmly safeguard sovereignty, territorial integrity and national dignity.

China and Pakistan will enhance cooperation to achieve common

Western propaganda against CPEC baseless, says Yao Jing



development. We continue to promote the high-quality development of the CPEC.

We will deepen cooperation in trade and investment, support the development of manufacturing industry in Pakistan, increase employment and expand exports, and help Pakistan to accelerate integration into the international industrial chain.

He re-pledged that China would like to increase people-to-people ties between the two countries. China and Pakistan will encourage more people-to-people contacts. Ambassador Yao Jing reiterated that they will consolidate international cooperation to work for regional peace.

They will strengthen coordination and cooperation on major international and regional issues, jointly safeguard the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, support multilateralism and win-win cooperation, and highlight the representation and voice of developing countries on international affairs.

About his country's socio-economic rise, he said, the year 2020 will also be a landmark year of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. China will complete its thirteenth Five-Year Plan, eliminate absolute poverty completely, build a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

He pointed out that the year 2019 is of great historic significance for China's development. Over 1.4 billion Chinese people celebrated the 70th anniversary of the founding of the PRC.

Over the past 70 years, under the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China, we adhere to the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and have scored remarkable achievements. China's GDP has broken through the threshold of dollar 13.6 trillion in 2018, a great leap forward from over dollar 12.3 billion in 1949.

The GDP per capita has increased from 23 dollars to dollar 9732. China now stands firmly as the world's second largest economy. Over 700 million people have been lifted out of poverty.

Ambassador Yao Jing thanked the Pakistani media for its objective reporting on crucial issues, particular that relating to Xinjiang. The ambassador also answered questions relating to some bilateral and regional issues. He categorically stated that smooth implementation of CPEC's related projects were going on and the governments of both the countries are very much sincere to this mega development plan as it relates to the well-being of the people.

Nigerian envoy recognizes services of Maldives ambassador

Exclusive Images



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – High Commissioner of Nigeria Maj. Gen. (rtd) Ashimiyu Adebayo Olaniyi, OON has recognized services of outgoing Ambassador of Maldives Ahmed Saleem adding saying during his tenure relations between Maldives and Pakistan got an added strength. The Nigerian envoy made these remarks during a reception he hosted to bid farewell to ambassador of Maldives. Members of diplomatic community and senior officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the reception. The high commissioner further said he was also accredited to Maldives and

visited Male three times. During his visits Ambassador Saleem not only coordinated his visits but also helped arrange high level meetings. He said Ambassador Saleem during his elaborated diplomatic career contributed greatly towards projecting his country abroad. He said Ambassador Saleem has held many important positions including the Secretary General of SAARC. "When I met with the Foreign Minister of Maldives, he particularly mentioned about Ambassador Saleem and praised him for his services for his country". He added, Maldives happens to be one

of the most sought-after tourist destinations therefore he recommend all present on the occasion to must visit the country at least once. The outgoing ambassador of Maldives Ahmed Saleem thanked the Nigerian colleague for hosting him and his friends. He said he and his family were leaving Pakistan with a heavy heart as they will miss hospitality and kindness of Pakistani people. He said this coming and going is part of diplomacy however he will always cherish fondest memories of Pakistan. =DNA





Nepal expects over 2 million tourists in the year 2020: Sewa Adhikari



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) –Ambassador of Nepal Sewa Lamsal Adhikari has said cooperation in tourism sector can surely strengthen and improve people to people contacts between Nepal and Pakistan adding Nepal was land of breathtaking beauty coupled with diverse natural and cultural heritage.

She expressed these views while speaking during the launching ceremony of Visit Nepal Year 2020. Dr. Nadeem Shafiq Secretary literary heritage was the chief guest.

The ambassador further said, Nepal is a tourist friendly country and it attaches great importance to tourism. It is one of the development pillars as well as tools to promote people to people relations and public diplomacy.

Ambassador Adhikari further said the Nepal govt is celebrating Visit Nepal Year

2020 as a national campaign with a theme Nepal: Lifetime Experience and has set a target to host over two million tourists from all over the world in the year 2020.

She said diversities in its geography and landscape, ethnicity and culture and flora and fauna all have contributed to make Nepal an outstanding tourist destination. The ambassador said Nepal was a multi cultural multi religious and multi lingual country which houses over 120 ethnic groups, 125 different languages and major religions in the world. It is a hub of spiritual affinity to millions of people for heir homage and pilgrimage, meditation and yoga as well as enlightenment and purity, a blend of Gynabhum, Shantibhum and Kannabhum, a land of peace and a land of actions.

'Nepal is the fountain of peace, the birth

place of Gautama Buddha the founder of Buddhism who kindled the light of knowledge, wisdom and peace in the garden of Lumbini and spread the message of peace and shared prosperity all over the world'.

Ambassador Adhikari further said Nepal treasures 10 famous world heritage sites recognized by the UNESCO including the Pashupatinath Temple, Swayambhunath Stupa, Boudhanath Stupa, Kathmandu Durbar Square, Patan Durbar Square, Bhaktapur Durbar, Changu Narayan Temple, Lumbini, Chitwan National Park and Sagarmatha National Park.

While talking about bilateral relations the ambassador said Nepal and Pakistan have been enjoying cordial bilateral relations. Our bilateral relations are based on sovereign equality, goodwill, mutual respect and deep understanding.





These relations of mutual cooperation and friendship have been continuously nurtured by the mighty Himalayas, flourished by the Gandhara civilization and cherished by our people.

"The connection of Mount Everest and K2 along with Lumbini and Taxila are the living testimonies and building blocks of our relations. The ongoing 60 year of our bilateral relations speak

louder than words in the comity of nations. On this double blessed occasion, I invite the business fraternity of Pakistan to explore investment opportunities between the two countries".

The ambassador said there exists tremendous potential for joint ventures in tourism. Nepal's tourism remains one of the lucrative areas where investors can

consider their investments without any doubt in adventure tourism, sports tourism and infrastructure and service industry among others.

In conclusion the ambassador said Nepal offered on arrival tourists visas to Pakistani friends therefore they should make optimum use of this facility and visit Nepal to explore a country which is known as a paradise for tourists. =DNA

MALDIVE AMBASSADOR'S GIFT FOR CENTRELINE/DNA/ISLAMABAD POST

Ambassador of Maldives Ahmed Saleem giving a gift to Chief Editor Centreline/DNA and daily Islamabad Post before his departure for Maldives after completing his term in Pakistan.



SUNDAY TREKKING



Perfect GENDER EQUALITY today with 10 ladies and 10 gentlemen in the Islamabad Sunday Trekking Team when Australia, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus/Puerto Rico, Egypt, EU, France, Germany, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom were represented on the splendid Saidpur Trail and accompanied by a crisp and beautiful weather!



AVAILABLE IN ALL



SERENA HOTELS
Islamabad-Faisalabad-Quetta-Shigar Fort
Khaplu Palace-Gilgit-Hunza-Swat



US-Iran tussle may have spill over impact : CGSS rountable

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – Experts on Wednesday opined any further escalation of US-Iran tussle may have spill over impact on the region especially therefore both sides need to exercise restraint.

The experts expressed these views during a roundtable organized by Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad titled "Escalation between US and Iran; Regional Implications and Options for Pakistan".

Major General Syed Khalid Amir Jaffery HI(M), (Retd), President CGSS, Lieutenant General Naeem Khalid Lodhi (Retd), Former Federal Minister of Defence, Major General Shakeel Hussain (Retd), Former Ambassador of Pakistan to Sri Lanka and others participated in the debate.

The participants stated that the US-Iran tussle is three dimensional that is global, regional and its effects on Pakistan. Iran's main objective is withdrawal of the US forces troops from Iraq and other Middle-Eastern countries.

The US and Iran tension will result in increase of oil prices and possibilities of proxy war in the Gulf region will further worsen the situation. While US is trying to bring normalcy in its relations with Pakistan, the current situation will continue to test Pakistan's various commitments with US in context of US-Taliban peace talks. In addition, Pakistan will have to maintain a strategic balance between Saudi Arabia and Iran.



US wants complete foothold in Middle-East and will continue using such proxy war tactics. Moreover, Arab world is divided and polarized. The developing scenario can also provoke US to target more Iranian interests in the region.

It is the need of the hour that global powers must use their influence to deescalate the situation. China has offered military assistance to Iraq and Russia is already involved in Syria and Iraq.

US is losing her global allies and is now isolated in the international arena. Amongst the Muslim countries in Middle-east, only Iran has the capable potential to fight against US. Qasem Soleimani's assassination is the violation of international law and violation of Iraq's territorial sovereignty.

In case of full fledged war, Pakistan will have to decide its stance and has to come up with a policy. India can also benefit from such situation and can create further tensions at the eastern border of Pakistan. Pakistan must adopt a pragmatic foreign policy to tackle this situation and adopt a management strategy.

The leadership of Pakistan must engage in mediation process through bilateral visits to Iran, US and other major players. Pakistan must call Parliamentary Session to discuss National Security and create consensus.

In the past, Pakistan has successfully maintained its neutral stance on various global issues including Iran-Iraq war and Yemen crisis. However, it is about time that Pakistan must frame a policy to come

Embassy to encourage Czech businesses, investors: envoy

KARACHI, (DNA) – The Ambassador of Czech Republic Tomas Smetanka has assured that Czech Embassy would try its best and strive hard to provide as accurate information about Pakistan as they can to the Czech businesses, investors and anyone who might have slightest interest in Pakistan's market with a view to promote trade and investment ties between the two countries.

President KCCI Agha Shahab Khan, Senior Vice President Arshad Islam, Vice President Shahid Ismail, Honorary Consul General of Czech Republic in Karachi Ansari and KCCI Managing Committee members attended the meeting.

Czech Ambassador mentioned that during the last three to four years, the trade exchange stood at around US\$200 million per annum, of which one third was Czech exports to Pakistan while two-third was

Pakistan's export to Czech Republic.

"It means we get more from Pakistan than we export which is partly because of the GSP Plus that has facilitated Pakistan's exports to European Union.

The next step will be to raise our exports to Pakistan and we will also be enhancing cooperation with the business community of Karachi Chamber to promote trade", he

added.

Identifying some areas of cooperation, the Envoy said that Czech Republic has been producing a lot of sophisticated machineries, weapons, passenger cars, transport system etc. but a very small portion of this huge production was being exported to Pakistan which needs to be focused.



Pakistan indebted to this goodwill gesture: Dr. Zafar Mirza

Palestine gifts mobile clinic to health ministry

Palestine keeps Pakistan in high esteem: Ambassador



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) –Palestine has donated mobile clinic to Ministry of Health Services here during a simple but impressive ceremony held at the Embassy of Palestine. Special Assistant on Health Services Dr. Zafar Mirza was the chief guest.

The mobile clinic is equipped with all necessary tools to cater to needs of patients who do not have access to hospitals or health centers.

Dr. Zafar Mirza while speaking on the occasion said he was quite heartened by this unique friendly gesture of the State of Palestine and Embassy of Palestine adding this mobile clinic will help us

extend healthcare facilities to those living in the far off areas of Pakistan.

"It is a beautiful gift from beautiful people of Pakistan. I am very touched by the strong emotions of Ambassador of Palestine Ahmed Rabei which he has for the people of Pakistan and the country", he added.

Dr. Zafar Mirza further said we have special relationship with the people of Palestine and we have always considered them as our brothers. Pakistan and Pakistani people have always stood with the just and valiant struggle of Palestinian people against Israeli aggression.

The adviser also talked about Kashmir

and Indian brutalities perpetrated upon the innocent Kashmiri people adding we know exactly what kind of difficulties nations have to face in order to get rights.

He assured that Pakistan will continue to support Palestinian people in their struggle against the Israeli aggression.

Ambassador of Palestine Ahmed Rabei in his remarks thanked the Adviser for accepting the gift and hoped bilateral cooperation between the two brotherly countries will grow with the each passing day. The ambassador thanked the Pakistani people and Pakistani leadership for extending whole-hearted support to the cause of Palestine. =DNA





Progress on transit trade agreement discussed



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – The Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan A. Rakhmetullin participated in a meeting on the resumption of the implementation of the Agreement between Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan on transit traffic. The possibility of Tajikistan joining this

document was also considered. The event was attended by embassies of the countries-parties to the Agreement and Tajikistan, representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Federal Council on Revenue of the IRP. The participants agreed to agree on

a draft Agenda for the upcoming expert meeting on enhancing the implementation of this agreement with their capitals and to begin practical implementation of the significant potential of the Agreement to strengthen trade and economic cooperation between the four countries.=DNA

India, Pakistan should work together for people's welfare: Gaurav Ahluwalia



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) –Acting High Commissioner of India Gaurav Ahluwalia has said both India and Pakistan having attained freedom at the same time would continue to work together for the better future of the two countries.

He expressed these views on the occasion of 31st Republic Day of India. All ambassadors of SAARC member countries were invited on the stage to be part of Republic Day celebrations.

He further said India celebrated its first Independence Day on August 15, 1947 and 26 January 1950 marks day on which India declared itself constitutional republic by formally adopting its constitution. Today we celebrate the journey of this republic. The diplomatic corps, members of the business community and a large number of people hailing from the civil society attended the reception. –DNA





Promotion of education priority of Azerbaijan govt: Ali Alizada

Eco school run by Wellness Trust inaugurated in Shah Allah Ditta



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – Ambassador of Azerbaijan Ali Alizada has said his country attached great importance to promotion and development of education that is why Azerbaijan was intensely engaged in Pakistan in this regard.

The ambassador said Azerbaijan under the banner of Heydar Aliyev Foundation, had already launched a number of welfare projects in Pakistan adding after deadly earthquake in Pakistan Azerbaijan immediately started humanitarian and relief work.

The ambassador made these remarks on the occasion of inauguration of Bright Way Eco School in Shah Allah Ditta a suburban

village of Islamabad. The Eco School is a project of Wellness Trust.

Dr. Aamir Hanif, Chairman of the Wellness Trust gave a presentation about the project and briefed the audience about various projects being run under the aegis of the Trust.

The ambassador lauded the imitative of eco school and hoped this school will cater to needs of the poor and needy children of the area.

Ambassador Ali Alizada said children happen to the most vulnerable segment everywhere therefore special attention must be focused on securing a bright future for such children.

The ambassador noted with concern that millions of children across the globe still remain out of educational institutions adding of course it was an alarming situation and thus needed immediate attention so that rights of children are protected.

He said the Azerbaijan government led by President Ilham Aliyev was giving attention to the protection of rights of children and promotion of education. The Azerbaijani leadership strongly believed that by giving proper and modern education to children a strong and vibrant society can be formed.

The ambassador also highlighted various





initiatives undertaken in Azad Kashmir adding through these projects the government and leadership of Azerbaijan had demonstrated its love and affection for the people of Pakistan and its earnest desire to further promote and development

various sectors in the brotherly country. Ambassador Alizada lauded efforts of Dr. Aamir Hanif and his team of Wellness Trust for launching this noble project. Ambassador said he was delighted to be part of the opening ceremony of the school

hoping this project will successfully achieve its targets.

The ambassador also visited classrooms and interacted with the school children. The ambassador was also briefed about the expansion plans of the school.=DNA



Wellness Trust organized free medical camp at Karianwala near Gujrat

GUJRAT, Dr Aamir Hanif and his team showed immense dedication and passion and worked really hard together with support from the organizers in Karianwala to make it possible. A vast variety of patients visited our free medical camp and got benefit of free consultations and free medicines from various specialists.

We also raised awareness and gave educational sessions about hand hygiene, Hepatitis prevention and treatment.

We received immense support and encouragement from the local community and authorities.=DNA



20th January -Nationwide Mourning Day Azerbaijan embassy organises art competition and exhibition

DNA

Students from more than 20 leading Pakistani universities and amateur artists presented their works at the contest-exhibition named as "20 January - Bloody and Glorious Page of Azerbaijan's History" organized by the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan jointly with Preston University of Pakistan.

Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Ali Alizada, Chancellor of Preston University Abdul Basit, diplomats of foreign countries, students and well-known artists, craftsmen, the public and mass media attended the opening ceremony of the exhibition dedicated to the presentation of paintings. It was reported that the paintings of contest

dedicated to the martyrs of "20 January", have been accepted by the special commission starting from December 10, 2019 during a month. Competition's paintings have covered previously announced themes such as: "From Martyrdom to Independence", "Martyrs are always alive and never forgotten", "Friendship between Azerbaijan and Pakistan is eternal", "Historical monuments and modern architecture of Azerbaijan", "20 January: a great step forward towards the independence of Azerbaijan" and students and amateur artists representing a number of Pakistani universities participated in the competition. More than 25 paintings submitted for the contest have been reviewed by a specially





established commission and the winners of the contest were determined. The winners and participants of the competition will be awarded at the commemoration ceremony on the occasion of the 20 January – Nationwide mourning day and will be presented with cash prizes, certificates and various gifts.

After the opening ceremony, the exhibition was reviewed by the guests and the artists briefed them about their artworks which were on display. The exhibition was welcomed with great interest by the participants and it is planned to continue the exhibition for 3 days.





DR AAMIR HAMEED

CEO Wellness Lounge

FUE HAIR TRANSPLANT PRP TREATMENT MESOTHERAPY

www.wellnesslounge.pk

ARE YOU WORRIED

HAIR LOSS & HAIR THINING

Not just words We claim results

ABOUT US

We offer advance procedures like Platelet rich plasma which is very effective for reducing hair loss and Meso hair therapy for advancing hair growth.

We offer advance hair transplant procedure FUE technology conducted by highly qualified surgeons and well trained staff in a surgically hygienic environment.



wellnesslounge.isb

Soleimani martyrdom has united all Muslims: Iranian ambassador

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Pakistan has organized the Commemoration ceremony on the occasion of the seventh day of mourning for the Martyrdom of Lt. General Qassem Soleimani.

The commemoration ceremony was held at Al-Sadiq Institute in Islamabad.

Pakistan's prominent political and religious figures, party officials, supporters of the Islamic resistance, as well as Mohammad Ali Hosseini, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Pakistan, attended the ceremony.

Hosseini delivered a speech and referring to the character of Martyr Soleimani, he said the commander of the Quds Force put all his efforts for the stability and security of the region and fought against the brutal and criminal terrorists until he sacrificed his life in defense of the oppressed people of our region.

He was killed by the United States while fighting with child-killing terrorists for many years. US officials have admitted that the US itself has created these terrorists.

He added Commander Soleimani was striving for peace and security for all the nations of the region. He was seeking to provide security, stability and peace for all by fighting terrorists.

There were no differences in this path between Shiites and Sunnis, Christians, Kurds, Turkmen, Izadis and so on. Even a foreign official praised the commander for supporting Syrian Christians.

For Martyr Qassem Soleimani, humanity and human lives mattered most. He was martyred for the sake of serving and



sacrificing for humanity and providing human rights, the most obvious of which is security and the right to life.

The Iranian ambassador General



Soleimani was successful in defeating the US and the Zionist regime in achieving their development goals in the region and in Islamic countries.

Referring to the faithfulness and steadfastness of the martyr Soleimani in his covenant with God, he said: "Haj

Qassem did not go astray in the path of righteousness all the time and never backed down. He was true to his covenant, word, and demeanor, and there was no change in the course of his faith, but the difficulties of his path added more value and strength to his faith."

Referring to the de-escalation in the region, he said: "This is an issue that is being raised by European and other countries these days. However, Iran has never been and will not be in pursuit of tension. Iran, for example, has been 100 percent committed to its commitments under the nuclear deal and has been fully in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency. Even Europe and the US have acknowledged it".

Hosseini added "The crusading side that led to further tensions was the American regime and the Trump administration. He went out of the nuclear deal and destroyed it. Then, he imposed illegal and inhumane sanctions against Iran, and launched an economic terrorism against our nation.

Pakistani figures including Prime Minister's spokesman Nadeem Afzal Chen, Allama Mohammad Amin Shahidi, chairman of the United Ummah Assembly, Allama Sayed Iftekhhar Hossein Naqvi, head of the SCTV, Mian Aslam from the Jamaat Party, Islamist and Mufti Golzar Naimi, a Sunni Pakistani cleric, also expressed condolences on the occasion of the Martyrdom of General Qassem Soleimani to the Iranian nation and government.

They condemned the assassination of General Soleimani and his companions in a terrorist act by the United States, which exposed the common enemies of the Muslim world and said: "General Qassem Soleimani is a martyr for the path of Al-Quds and the liberation of Palestine. Soleimani united all Muslims with his martyrdom."DNA



Indonesian sponsored agriculture expo in Lahore



CHECK MOBILE WARRANTY AT

WWW.AIRLINKCOMMUNICATION.NET

AIRLINK HAS YOU COVERED - PROVIDING THE BEST AFTER SALES SERVICES NATION WIDE



24 HOURS RETURN



SOFTWARE &
HARDWARE REPAIR



CUSTOMER SERVICE



WARRANTY

OUR *CUSTOMER*, OUR *REALITY*

UAN: 042-111-667-468

*VERIFY YOUR WARRANTY STATUS AT

LG-2, AL QADIR HEIGHTS, NEW GARDEN TOWN



AIRLINK COMMUNICATION

WWW.AIRLINKCOMMUNICATION.NET

LARGEST CIRCULATED DIPLOMATIC MAGAZINE

CENTRELINE 29

CGSS, Kazakh embassy discuss joint ventures in various fields

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) - Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan - Akan Rakhmetullin visited CGSS on Monday and met Major General Syed Khalid Amir Jaffery HI(M), (Retd) - President CGSS.

During the meeting matters of mutual cooperation's including tourism, economy and media presence were discussed.

Future collaborations in the field of Education and promoting cultural exchange were also scrutinized.

The Ambassador appreciated CGSS's efforts in national and international partnerships as well as CGSS's efforts to promote bilateral ties between Central Asian countries.

It was decided that CGSS will jointly work with the Embassy of Kazakhstan for strengthening bilateral ties and initiating projects in the fields of Research, Analysis and Cultural sphere. The meeting was also attended by Arman



Tynybek- Counselor, Embassy of Kazakhstan, Ashfaq Ahmed Gondal, Former Federal Secretary of Information and Senior Member Advisory Board

CGSS, Lt Col Khalid Taimur Akram (Retd) - Executive Director CGSS and Ms. Mehreen Gul - Director CGSS. =DNA

Envoys of UK, Tunisia and Iran present credentials

ISLAMABAD, (DNA): High Commissioner/Ambassadors-designate of the United Kingdom, Tunisia and Iran presented their credentials to President Arif Alvi in a ceremony held at the Aiwan-e-Sadr on Thursday.

Christian Turner, the new British High Commissioner to Pakistan has presented his credentials to President Arif Alvi at the President House.

Dr Turner has arrived in December last year succeeding Thomas Drew.

British High Commissioner Dr Christian Turner said: "It is a huge privilege to be working in Pakistan and leading the UK's largest diplomatic mission.

The UK is home to over 1.5 million British people of Pakistani origin and this shows

the depth of relationship between the two countries and their people. I am looking forward to further strengthening this bond."

The President felicitated the newly appointed high commissioner/ambassadors-designate to Pakistan and hoped that they would work for further strengthening the existing ties of their respective countries with Pakistan.

Among them were Christian Turner, High Commissioner-designate of United Kingdom, Borhene El Kamel Ambassador-designate of Tunisia and Mohammad Ali Hosseini, Ambassador-designate of Iran, says a press release issued by the President's Media office here.

Later, the high commissioner/ambassadors separately called on the President.

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

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

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



Chairman Green Task Force Dr. Jamal Nasir hosts dinner for visiting Saudi delegation



The Smooth Moving Connection



freeline MOVERS

PACKING, SHIPPING & FREIGHT FORWARDING



Our Services

- Packing
- Shipping
- Freight Forwarding
- Land, Sea & Air Freight
- Custom Clearance
- Relocations
- Office Removals
- Fine Art Handling
- Project Management
- Pet Relocation
- Warehousing
- Storage



Head Office

3rd Floor, Yasin Plaza, 74-West, Blue Area, Islamabad.

Tel: (+92 51) 2822471, 2274221, 2878029, 2272273, 2822711, 2874289 - Fax: (+92-51) 2825132, 2274227.

E-mail: moving@freelinemovers.com - Website: www.freelinemovers.com

Branch Offices

Karachi

Room No.14 & 15, 3rd Floor, Kalkashan Mall,
Main Tariq Road, 172-1, Block-2, P.E.C.H.S.
Karachi. Tel: (+92-21) 34530625, 34310478
Fax: (+92-21) 34531747
E-mail: karachi@freelinemovers.com

Lahore

F-4, Gulberg Centre,
Main Boulevard, Lahore.
Tel: (+92-42) 35758861, 35781065
Fax: (+92-42) 35711420
E-mail: lahore@freelinemovers.com

Peshawar

Office No. C-9, 2nd Floor, Zahoor Plaza,
Lafai Abad, Ring Road, Peshawar.
Tel: (+92-91) 2582778
Fax: (+92-91) 2582888
E-mail: peshawar@freelinemovers.com

Kabul

House #4, Street #4,
Cherahi Ansari Road, Shahr-e-Naw,
Kabul - Afghanistan.
Tel: +93 799021 773, 93 797565 808, 93 778468 268.
E-mail: kabul@freelinemovers.com

Monthly meeting of Floral Art Society organized at Serena

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – The Flora Art Society of Islamabad held its monthly meeting at Serena Hotels on Thursday. This month's program was in keeping with new trends towards recycling titled "Trash to Treasures".

Wiqar-un-Nisa Boolani presented very innovative arrangements using recycled

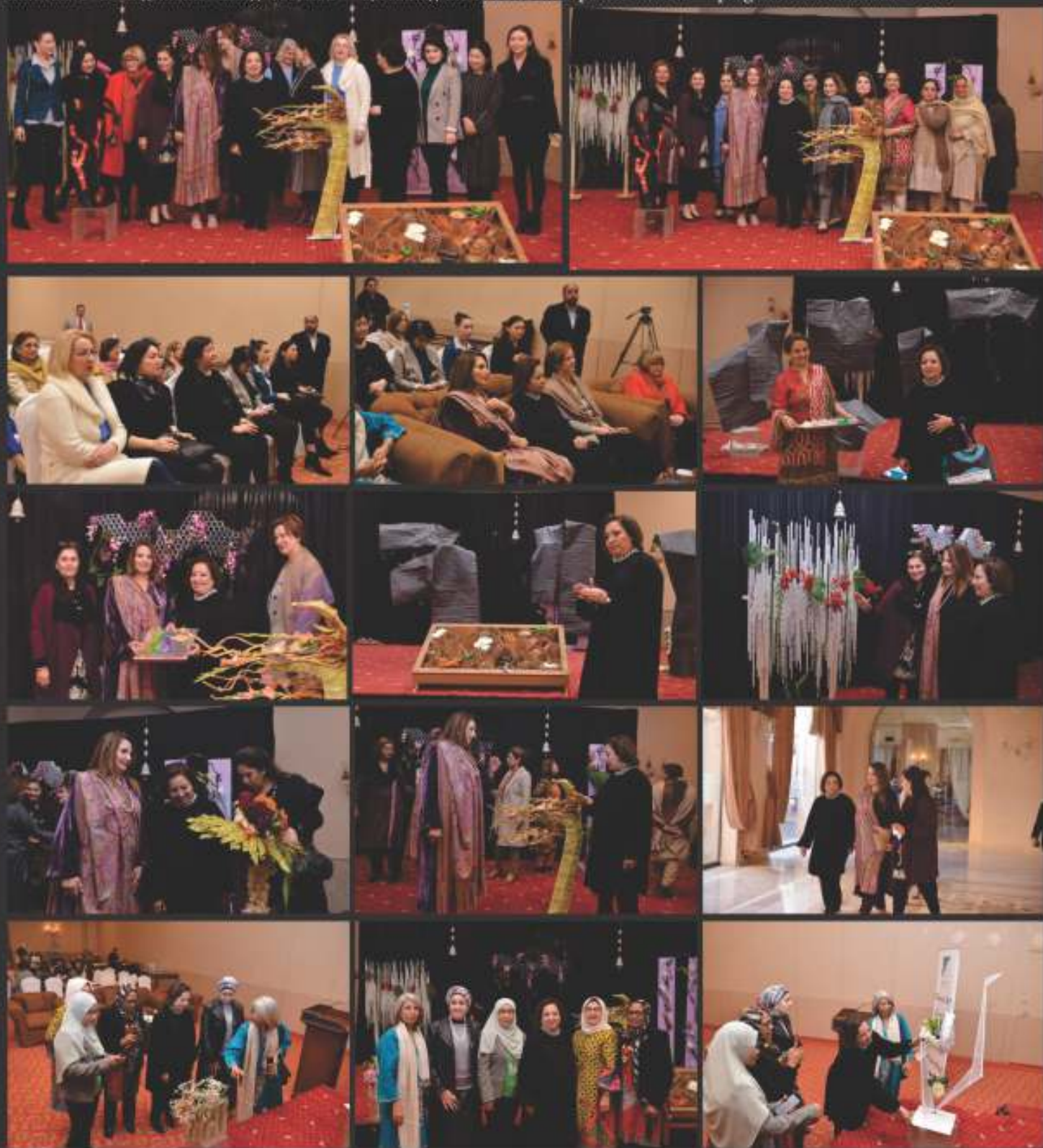
material and demonstrated to the members how interesting exhibits can be created by using old newspapers, magazines, pieces of wood and wood shavings and the sides of tissue rolls in combination with flowers and foliage.

It was indeed floral artistry with a twist, spreading the need to incorporate flowers

with recyclable materials.

The exhibits produced indeed did justice to the title of the program. It is the floral society's endeavours to create an awareness to the usage of trash and how to transform it into beautiful arrangements.

The members thoroughly enjoyed the program with new ideas. –DNA



ARMED FORCES DAY OF UZBEKISTAN

Band performances; Uzbek dances add color to army day reception



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) Living up to its traditions the embassy of Uzbekistan in Islamabad hosted its armed forces day in style with Uzbek Army Band presenting melodious tunes. The audiences were simply left spell-bound when an Uzbek female army officer sang famous Pakistani song "Chanda karay salam, suraj karay salam".

Another hallmark of the event was mesmerizing performances of Uzbek children clad in traditional Uzbek dresses. The performers received huge applause from the audiences. Last but not the least, the Uzbek pilaf (pullao) was yet another delicacy that attracted attention of especially the food lovers.

Ambassador of Uzbekistan Furqat Sikikov in his remarks said he was delighted to present these traditional Uzbek delicacies to the people of Pakistan and assured he will continue to do so even in the coming days.

The ambassador was all praise for the people of Pakistan for extending great love and affection to

their Uzbek brothers and sisters and hoped both countries would continue to enjoy cordial and warm relations in the years to come.

Ambassador Furqat said he was glad to announce that bilateral relations between the two countries had trounced new heights adding this relationship for sure would grow deeper and deeper and stronger with the each passing day.

It may be mentioned here that Uzbekistan has started direct flights from Lahore to Tashkent, which has given spur to trade and business activity besides boosting tourism prospects between the two countries.

Trade volume between Pakistan and Uzbekistan has increased three times during past few years with strong possibility of further improvements.

The army day reception was attended by a large number of diplomats; members of civil society and Uzbek nationals living in Pakistan. Deputy Chief of Naval Staff was the chief guest. =DNA





Chinese New Year celebrations at Marriott Hotel

In keeping up with the tradition to celebrate the Chinese New Year, the Deputy Chairman and CEO of the Hashoo Group Mr. Murtaza Hashwani and the General Manager of the Islamabad Marriott Hotel Mr. Maurizio Romani hosted a reception at the hotel's popular Chinese restaurant Dynasty.

Members of the civil society, diplomats and a number of Chinese nationals attended the reception.

The Chinese Ambassador His Excellency Mr. Yao Jing was the guest of honor on the occasion. The celebrations kicked off some amazing performances by children from the Roots Millennium School.

Adding to the festivities, the guests experienced the debut of a special menu curated by the Executive Chinese Chef Zhao Xiaoming. To mark 2020's lunar zodiac the special menu will be available to all diners from the 25th of January -8th of February at the popular Chinese restaurant





ARMED FORCES DAY OF THAILAND CELEBRATED



Islamabad Serena Hotel introduces Latino Theme Night



ISLAMABAD(DNA) -Islamabad Serena Hotel has introduced the Latino Theme Night from 28th January 2020, every Tuesday night, at the Grand Zamana restaurant. The visitors will be completely immersed in the Latin American culture and have the opportunity to indulge in authentic Latin cuisine.

The executive chef, Marc Fontenelle, with

over 38 strong years of culinary experience and 25 years as an Executive Chef, has created a superb menu for our Latino theme night, filled with exotic and delectable dishes.

Chef Marc has worked in over 17 countries and has won various culinary contests and prestigious restaurant awards. He has also been trained by numerous Michelin star

chefs over the years.

Michel A. Galopin, General Manager of the Islamabad Serena Hotel, said, "We are delighted to be able to bring international flavors and gastronomical delights to Pakistan. Familiarity with other cultures and cuisines is a way to experience the world and we are proud to introduce the Latino themed night."=DNA

Embassy of Egypt clarifies no visa sanctions imposed on Pakistani nationals

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – Embassy of Egypt has clarified that no visa sanctions policy has been imposed by Egypt on Pakistani nationals, on Thursday.

Officials of the Egyptian embassy said, these allegations are incorrect and no such sanctions policy has been placed by Egypt.

The Embassy appreciated the earlier clarification of the Spokesperson of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan who denied such allegations. The

process for granting the Visa(s) is clearly indicated on the Embassys website and on the visa service provider website, and that the review process takes 6 weeks.

Beside above, the Embassy emphasized that the numbers of visa in the previous two fiscal years 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 increased to unprecedented levels for tourism and business visas (nearly four thousand visas in 2019, not including diplomatic and official) with a minimal rejection

percentage.

The Egyptian embassy availed this opportunity to stress on the importance of the contribution of tourism, business trips, cultural and people to people exchange between both brotherly countries, as a catalyst for economy and development. Egyptian officials said, in light of the friendly relationship between Egypt and Pakistan, we are looking forward to an increase in the flow of visits between both the countries.=DNA

Shakil Express hosts farewell reception for Maldives Ambassador

Pakistan a great country to live and serve: Maldives ambassador



ISLAMABAD, (DNA) –Pakistan is a wonderful country to serve and live because of its hospitable people and excellent working environment said Ahmed Saleem outgoing Ambassador of Maldives.

He added, during his four years and eight month tenure in Pakistan he tired his best to bring both Maldives and Pakistan closer in all fields especially trade, economy and tourism.

The outgoing Maldives ambassador expressed these views while speaking during a farewell reception hosted in his honour by Shakil Express. Prominent Pakistani figures and a large number of diplomats attended the farewell reception.

Ambassador Saleem further said he and his family were greatly touched by rich historical

and cultural heritage of Pakistan adding during their stay they got a chance to visit a number of such sites throughout the country. Ambassador Saleem who also served as Secretary General of SAARC, further said the extraordinary relationship that has since existed between the Maldives and Pakistan, is much more than one just between two governments – it is a relationship based on mutual respect and common faith, that can be described as a perfect example for countries in the region and outside, to co-exist peacefully and help each other in times of need.

The ambassador wished Pakistan and its people success and hoped relationship between the two countries will grow further with the each passing day.=DNA





French, German envoys share secret of shelving their hostilities

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) - On the occasion of the 57th anniversary of the Treaty of Elysée, the basis of German-French reconciliation and friendship, German Ambassador Bernhard Schlagheck and French Ambassador Dr. Marc Baréty gave a joint lecture on "German-French friendship as the ground for effective multilateralism" at NUST University. The lecture was attended by students and faculty members of the university's department for public policy and governance.

The German and French Embassies in Islamabad celebrated the German-French friendship day with a joint lunch of both Embassies' staff. On the same occasion both Ambassadors gave a joint interview to a private television

channel.

During the lecture at NUST both Ambassadors emphasized that, "After centuries of hostilities and wars between our countries, strong political will and people-to-people contacts paved the way to overcome 'hereditary enmity' and establish Franco-German friendship. This successful reconciliation process might be a source of inspiration for other regions as well."

22 Jan marks an important date in the history of both countries as on this date in 1963, French President General de Gaulle and German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer signed in Paris the Elysée Treaty on cooperation between the two countries that marked the beginning of an era of friendship and cooperation between Germany and France after more than a century of hostilities and wars. =DNA



YOGA CLASS

Lifestyle Medicine
Weight Management



DR AAMIR HANIF
CEO Wellness Lounge



Call us now for
further information

+92 51 874 0815

YOGA THERAPY

Practicing yoga has been shown to induce relaxation.

WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

Active, intense styles of yoga help you burn the most calories. This may help prevent weight gain. ... While restorative yoga isn't an especially physical type of yoga, it still helps in weight loss. The restorative yoga is effective in helping overweight person to maintain weight and lose abdominal fat.

www.wellnesslounge.pk



wellnesslounge.isb

Naltar Valley

Every tourist's journey to Naltar begins by leaving behind the Karakoram Highway at Gilgit for an adventurous two-hour jeep ride. The fact that cars can't be driven from Gilgit to Naltar is testament to the bumpy and somewhat arduous track. However, for those with the slightest clue of what beauty lies in the valley, the journey is simply part of the experience and is most certainly worth taking.

Reaching Naltar Bala, the center of the valley, one is absolutely spell-bound by the beauty of the area. What makes Naltar particularly unique is also that its forest cover is vaster than other areas of the country. The entire landscape is truly delightful to the eyes.

In the evening as the sunlight gradually disappears, the few residents of the valley return to their homes after working the fields during the day. Stars begin to emerge, which combined with the silence of the night, make for an exquisitely serene atmosphere. Further into the night, aided by the lack of light pollution, the Milky Way emerges from behind the mountains. The view leaves you



absolutely speechless. During the winters, Naltar offers a wonderful experience of skiing on its famous slopes that attract tourists by the droves. The ski resort is run by the Pakistan Air Force, along with the recently installed ski lifts that take skiers to the top of the slope.

Naltar is home to three magnificent lakes

known collectively as the Bashkiri Lakes. Located at a distance of 13km from Naltar Bala, it takes about an hour of travelling on unmetalled roads to reach them. All along the route, which is a dirt track, glacial streams can be seen flowing across the verdant valley floor. Due to the ample vegetation, these are ideal grazing grounds, attracting Gujjar nomads who travel here with their cattle.

At two points in particular, the river and a large glacial stream cut across the track and as a result, the local jeep drivers are required to utilise their experience and skills in order to navigate them. During the winters however, these lakes remain inaccessible as the route is blocked by up to 15 feet of snow.

As the jeep made its way to the first lake on our way, I tried to picture the lakes I had seen in photographs before. But nothing prepared me for my first sight of Satrangi Lake. I was left awestruck.

After all, it was hard to believe that a lake could reflect as many colours as this one from having seen just a couple of pictures. True to its name which means seven coloured, the most prominent colours were blue, green and surprisingly, yellow, a colour I had never seen before in a lake. The calm, peaceful water lay still as the underwater plants particularly algae provided more colour from under the pristine water surface.



Article Sponsored by

Shakil Express (Pvt.) Ltd.



The Oldest Family Travel Company Serving Since 1947

Shakil Chambers (Govt. Licence No.57)
Suharwardy Road Crossing 7th Avenue G-6/1
Islamabad, Pakistan.

Telephone: (92-051)2607318-25
Facsimile: (92-051) 2271186
E-mail: mail@shakilexpress.com



For Happy Life



Make Your
Choice Stay **Alive**



152/153-A, Industrial Estate Sahiwal Pakistan
+92(40)4502710, +92(40)4502711
www.khadammilkfoods.com
khadammmilkfoodspk@gmail.com
info@khadammmilkfoods.com



Process & Packed by:

Khadam Milk Foods®



*Renowned
businessman and
Secretary
General PAK-
SPAN Friendship
Association Zafar
Bakhtawari fetes
Spanish
ambassador
Manuel Duran*



NOW IN PAKISTAN

Invisible Braces Dental Implants



Dr. Abrar & Associates

D E N T A L S U R G E O N S

House # 6-A, Ismail Zabeeh Road, (Service Road Parallel to Faisal Avenue) F-8/3, Islamabad.
e-mail: abrar_associates@yahoo.com | www.drabrarassociates.com
Ph: +92 51 228 7691 / +92 51 228 7692 | Fax: +92 51 228 7693

Pakistani handicrafts displayed at the Chinese embassy

ISLAMABAD, Ambassador China Yao Jing has said relations between China and Pakistan are excellent adding these relations are getting stronger with the each passing day.

The Chinese ambassador made these remarks while speaking on the occasion of opening of Pakistan Crafts Exhibition held at the Chinese embassy. Pakistan Handicrafts Association arranged the exhibition in collaboration with the Chinese embassy. Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Azam Swati was the chief guest.

Fahad Barlas and Khurshid Barlas and a



number of other business people were also present on the occasion.

The ambassador further said Pakistan handicrafts were famous worldwide adding both countries can cooperate in this sector also.

Ambassador Jing congratulated the

handicrafts association for holding the mega event at the premises of the Chinese embassy.

He assured that the embassy would continue to supporting such events even in the coming days.

Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Azam Swati in his speech thanked the

Chinese embassy for facilitating the event and providing the Pakistani artisan with an opportunity of exhibition their works.

The minister also lauded the role of handicrafts association and exhorted them to continue the work with the same spirit. =DNA

Bulgaria invites Pakistan to invest in SEZs: ambassador

LAHORE: Tax holidays, lowest taxes and duties and an overall tax rate of around 10% make Bulgaria a lucrative destination for investment, which Pakistani businessmen should explore by joining hands with their Bulgarian counterparts, said Bulgarian Ambassador Aleksandar Borisov Parashkevov. Speaking at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), the envoy said that the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Bulgaria had all the facilities for investors.

While recognising the strong diplomatic and political relations between Bulgaria and Pakistan, spanning over 55 years, he stressed that private sectors of both countries should interact with each other, exchange trade and industry-related information to cement mutual trade and economic ties. "Bulgaria is an EU member state and enjoys a lot of benefits in this respect. It can be a gateway to the European Union for Pakistani businessmen," remarked the ambassador. "Bulgaria is connected with Pakistan by road

via Iran, therefore, trade is more convenient between the two countries," he pointed out. Speaking on the occasion, LCCI President Irfan Iqbal Sheikh appreciated Bulgaria for its continued support for the GSP Plus status, given to Pakistan by the European Union, which was of critical importance in boosting Pak-EU trade relations. Sheikh pointed out that the total trade volume between Pakistan and Bulgaria had averaged around \$33 million over the past few years, which did not reflect the actual potential of bilateral trade. To enhance the trade volume, he said, there was a need to capitalise on the progress made at the second session of Pakistan-Bulgaria Inter-Governmental Commission on Economic Cooperation held in Islamabad last year, where both the countries agreed to enhance cooperation in all areas of mutual interest. Sheikh saw a considerable scope for enhancing imports by Bulgaria of Pakistan's citrus fruit, mangoes, rice, value-added textile, dates, furniture and marble.

Denmark, Pakistan enjoy cordial relations: envoy



SIALKOT, (DNA) – Ambassador of Denmark to Pakistan, Rolf Michael Pareira Holmboe has said that Denmark and Pakistan have always enjoyed most cordial relations while Pakistan and Denmark have the best trade relationship. He expressed these views while addressing the members of Sialkot Chamber Of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) here on Wednesday. Mr. Rolf said I visited various Chambers to further build upon these relations to translate them into increased. He said it is my struggle that trade relations increase between Pakistan and Denmark. He said that the Small Medium Enterprises (SME) sector should be improved between Pakistan and Denmark. He said that I firmly believe Pakistan can learn a lot from a close friend like Denmark in the EU investing in clean energy, artificial intelligence and skill development of its youth. He said that so many companies of Sialkot are exporting their commodities to Denmark whereas the importers of Denmark are satisfied with exporters of Sialkot.

خبردار اٹری میں بغیر ٹکٹ سفر کرنے سے گریز کریں ورنہ جرمانہ اور قید کی سزا ہو سکتی ہے



PAKISTAN RAILWAYS

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE, LAHORE

RHQ-28

TENDER NOTICE

OUTSOURCING OF THE COMMERCIAL MANAGEMENT OF ZBCS OF CARGO EXPRESS TRAINS

With the objective to provide better facilitation to the cargo clients, Pakistan Railways intends to call proposals for outsourcing of the commercial management of Cargo Express 501 Up / 502 Dn plying between Karachi Bundar / Karachi City / Wazir Mention to Badami Bagh / Lahore via Faisalabad, Khanewal, Rohri, Hyderabad.

The proposal shall be evaluated in accordance with the single stage two envelopes procedure of PPRA Rules, 2004. Bid Documents can be purchased from the office of Chief Marketing Manager, Pakistan Railways, Headquarters Office, Lahore during office hours. Interested parties will have to submit their proposals on **18-02-2020 at 11:00 hours** and Technical proposals will be opened on the same day i.e **18-02-2020 at 11:30 hours**.

(Naveed Mubashar Ch.)

Chief Marketing Manager

Ph: 042-99201665, Fax: 042-99201759

PID/L/2248

pakrailpk

pakrail.gov.pk



www.pakrail.gov.pk

"DONATE FOR DIAMER-BASHA AND MOHMAND DAMS"



Since 1969



For the First Time
in Pakistan
Now Available in a
Convenient
New Pouch Pack

The Secret
Ingredient
is Fruit



TOPS
NR 300ML
NOW
AVAILABLE IN
RING PULL
CAP



Tungar Foods



ABDULLAH
SAFDAR & CO

Premium Quality Rice

We export premium quality
Basmati & Non Basmati Rice
from **Pakistan**



asc.274@gmail.com



00923005301390



www.tungarfoods.com



H#274, Main Road A.E.C.H Gulzar e Quaid Rawalpindi (Pakistan)