

Dr Arif Alvi
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
(Message on the occasion of the 75th Independence Anniversary of Pakistan)

On the joyous occasion of the 75th anniversary of Pakistan's Independence, I extend my heartiest felicitations to the entire nation. This day reminds us of the innumerable sacrifices rendered by our Founding Fathers under the dynamic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah for carving this homeland "Pakistan" for us. Today, we also reaffirm our resolve to uphold Pakistan's ideology and make Pakistan an ideal modern Islamic welfare nation-state.

This year, we are also celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of our independence and in this regard various ceremonies are being organized across the country to mark this propitious occasion. The aim of these events is to educate and create awareness among our people, especially the Pakistani youth, about the significance of national solidarity, Pakistan's ideology and the Freedom Movement. I would like to commend the efforts of all stakeholders in organizing events to commemorate this historic moment.

On the occasion of this Diamond Jubilee, there is a dire need to assess our successes and failures. In our 75 years of history, we successfully overcame various challenges. We not only emerged as a nuclear power but also defeated the menace of terrorism. In the recent past, we successfully managed the COVID-19 pandemic.

On this historic day, we pay homage to those personnel of our armed forces and Law Enforcement Agencies who had laid their lives for the defence, security and safety of our motherland. We also appreciate our workers, labourers, women, youth, business community, and minorities and all those who have played their role in the development and progress of our country.

Today's Pakistan is although facing challenges on the economic front but I strongly believe that our nation will overcome these challenges with its proven commitment, determination and patriotism as well as with hard work, unity, discipline, mutual harmony and solidarity.

While celebrating Independence Day, we should not forget our oppressed brothers and sisters in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). India has been committing egregious human rights violations in IIOJK for decades and it has been three years since India unilaterally revoked Article 370 and abolished Article 35A to deprive IIOJK from its special legal status on August 5, 2019. I assure our Kashmiri brethren that Pakistan will continue to extend its all possible political, diplomatic and moral support to them in their legitimate struggle for self-determination in accordance with the UN Resolutions.

In the end, I urge the entire nation to remain steadfast and work wholeheartedly for the development and progress of our country and prosperity of our people. We need to remain united to overcome financial, economic and security challenges faced by the country. Let us pledge that we will remain steadfast to render any sacrifice for the dignity and self-respect of our people and greatness and glory of our beloved homeland. Insha'Allah!

کا آزادی کی 75 ویں سالگرہ کے موقع پر قوم کے نام پیغام

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میں پاکستان کی آزادی کی 75 ویں سالگرہ کے پر مسرت موقع پر پوری قوم کو دل کی گہرائیوں سے مبارکباد پیش کرتا ہوں۔ یہ دن ہمیں قائد اعظم محمد علی جناح کی جرأت مندانہ قیادت میں بنیادیں پاکستان کی لاقاعدہ قربانیوں کی یاد دلاتا ہے۔ آج ہم نظریہ پاکستان کو برقرار رکھنے اور پاکستان کو ایک مثالی جدید اسلامی مملکت بنانے کے عزم کا اعادہ کرتے ہیں۔

اس سال ہم آزادی کی ڈائمنڈ جوبلی بھی منا رہے ہیں اور اس سلسلے میں ملک بھر میں مختلف تقریبات کا انعقاد کیا جا رہا ہے۔ ان تقریبات کا مقصد عوام بالخصوص پاکستان کے نوجوانوں میں قومی یکجہتی، نظریہ پاکستان اور تحریک آزادی کے بارے میں شعور اجاگر کرنا ہے۔ اس سلسلے میں تمام اداروں کی کاوشیں لائق تحسین ہیں۔

آزادی کی 75 ویں سالگرہ کے موقع پر ہمیں اپنی کامیابیوں اور خامیوں کا بھی احاطہ کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ اپنی 75 سالہ تاریخ میں ہم نے مختلف مشکلات پر کامیابی سے قابو پایا۔ ہم نہ صرف ایک ایٹمی قوت بن کر ابھرے، بلکہ دہشت گردی کے عفریت کو بھی شکست دی۔ حالیہ ماضی میں ہم نے کورونا وبا پر بھی کامیابی سے قابو پایا۔ اس تاریخی موقع پر، ہم افواج پاکستان اور سیکورٹی اداروں کے جوانوں کو خراج تحسین پیش کرتے ہیں کہ انہوں نے ملکی دفاع اور سلامتی کی خاطر اپنی جانوں کا نذرانہ پیش کیا۔ میں پاکستان کے محنت کشوں، مزدوروں، خواتین، کاروباری برادری، اقلیتوں اور تمام اداروں کی کوششوں کو سراہتا ہوں جنہوں نے پاکستان کی ترقی اور وقار میں اپنا کردار ادا کیا۔ آج کے پاکستان کو معاشی اور سماجی مسائل کا سامنا ہے مگر میرا قومی یقین ہے کہ یہ قوم اپنی اولوالعزمی، حب الوطنی، شہانہ روز محنت، اتحاد، تنظیم، باہمی ہم آہنگی اور یکجہت سے ان مشکلات سے بھی سرخرو ہو کر نکلیں گے۔

ہمیں آج یوم آزادی منانا ہوئے غیر قانونی طور پر بھارتی زیر تسلط جموں و کشمیر کے مظلوم اور بھارتی جبر و استبداد کے شکار بہن بھائیوں کو بھی نہیں بھولنا چاہئے کیونکہ تازہ جموں و کشمیر تحریک آزادی اور تقسیم برصغیر کا مکمل ایجنڈا ہے۔ بھارت کئی دہائیوں سے کشمیر میں انسانی حقوق کی سرخ خلاف ورزیوں کا مرتکب ہو رہا ہے اور بھارت کی طرف سے 5 اگست 2019ء کو قبضہ کشمیر کی قانونی حیثیت ختم کرنے کے غیر قانونی اقدامات کو بھی تین سال مکمل ہو گئے ہیں۔ میں اپنے کشمیری بھائیوں کو یقین دلاتا ہوں کہ پاکستان اقوام متحدہ کی قراردادوں کے مطابق ان کے حق خود ارادیت کے حصول کی جائز جدوجہد کی ہر ممکن سفارتی اور اخلاقی حمایت جاری رکھے گا۔

آخر میں، میں قوم کو یہ پیغام دینا چاہتا ہوں کہ ملک کی تعمیر و ترقی کے لیے ثابت قدم رہتے ہوئے دلجمعی سے کام جاری رکھیں۔ آج پاکستانی قوم کو درپیش معاشرتی، معاشی اور سلامتی کے مسائل سے نبرد آزما ہونے کے لیے متحد ہونے کی ضرورت ہے۔ آئیے، عہد کریں کہ ہم اس وطن کے وقار و عظمت اور سر بلندی کے لئے کسی بھی قربانی سے دریغ نہیں کریں گے۔ انشاء اللہ!

Message of the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Mr. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif On the 75th Independence Day

14 August 2022

The 75th Independence Day is a watershed moment in our nation's history. Today we pay rich tributes to Muslims of the sub-continent and express our collective gratitude to them for their heroic struggle, and epic sacrifices for the creation of a new state. The establishment of Pakistan is an outcome of the Quaid-i-Azam's single-minded devotion, unflinching resolve and his unwavering struggle. From the conception of an idea in 1930, Pakistan emerged on the map of the world as the largest Muslim country in a short span of 17 years. The coming of Pakistan into existence was not less than a miracle that stunned friends and foes alike, beating all predictions and assessments.

Where the 75th Independence Day is an occasion of jubilation and festivity, it is also a moment of reflection and self-accountability. We, as a nation, have achieved many milestones during the last seven and a half decades. From thwarting external aggression to putting together federal constitution to becoming the 7th nuclear power of the world to beating the scourge of terrorism, we have come a long way. The odds were definitely heavier than anyone could imagine but our national will to defeat them was stronger.

At the same time, it is also a fact that we have not been able to fully realize the dream that our founding fathers dreamed; the dream of socio-economic justice, rule of and equality before the law, and the dream of an egalitarian society.

While we are an independent nation, a precious gift for which we cannot thank Allah Almighty enough, true freedom lies in being free from want, hunger, poverty and backwardness. As long as we do not have economic sovereignty, the concept of freedom will remain incomplete.

Nothing is more dangerous for a nation than the internal division; disruption and chaos, for such negative forces undermine the solidarity and integrity of the country and rob societies of their national purpose. The Quaid-i-Azam warned against such evils and gave us the motto of "unity, faith and discipline" as an antidote.

The greatest strength of our country is the people, particularly the youth. It is their energy, resolve and passion that is capable of overcoming any odd, beating any hurdle and lighting the candle of hope. We can push back the divisive and nihilistic forces with the power of the people and protect our freedom and identity. I have my full faith in their capabilities to chart a way forward.

While celebrating the 75th Independence Day, let us seek guidance from the ideology and thoughts of our founding fathers and put the welfare of our people at the center of our mission of national rejuvenation. Let us vow to turn Pakistan into a nation-state that is reflective of the ideals of our founding fathers.

On the historic occasion of the 75th Independence Day, I congratulate the people of Pakistan including overseas Pakistanis.

Pakistan Paindabad!

Independence Day Message by the Foreign Minister

14 August 2022

My dear fellow Pakistanis

On this 14 August, it gives me great pleasure to wish you all a very happy 75th anniversary of our independence.

On this auspicious occasion, we honour the indefatigable and extraordinary efforts of Quaid e Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and his companions that led to the creation of Pakistan , our independent homeland. We also pay tribute to the immense sacrifices rendered by our forefathers in the freedom struggle.

It is also an occasion to celebrate our endeavors of the past 75 years, an occasion to celebrate our people, our progress, our youth, our art, culture, our sportsmen and women and much more.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The journey of the past 75 years has seen ups and downs. Pakistan has battled against odds both at external as well as internal fronts. However, we have always overcome these challenges with resilience and perseverance.

It is a matter of great pride that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan has been part of this journey since the very beginning and has been diligently working since then to keep the national flag high all over the world. The Foreign Office we see today has evolved from its basic existence in Karachi in 1947 to:

- utilizing modern tools and technology to improve consular services
- make use of new communication tools to reach out foreign audiences
- use Public Diplomacy to push fresh narratives
- Build partnerships
- Strengthen bilateral relations
- Maintain a strong presence at multilateral fora

Foreign Office continues to follow the goals of foreign policy as outlined by the Quaid. Today when global battles are being fought in the realm of perceptions and narratives, Ministry of Foreign Affairs maintains its position as the first line of defence for the country.

We are fully cognizant of the realities of a new world through which we have to navigate with caution and foresight. We understand that geopolitics is reorienting to accommodate new actors and emerging factors and considerations. And that is why it is imperative that Pakistan's foreign policy respond adequately to these shifting trends.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pakistan stands tall today as the amalgamation of both ancient and modern. While preserving our historical identity, we are a nation with our eyes on the future, be it trade, connectivity, digitalization, socio economic development, climate change, agriculture or science and innovation.

On this 75th Independence Anniversary , we reflect on the future-to chart a way forward for continuing peace, prosperity and development of our homeland. From geography to natural resources to a vibrant people, we have all the ingredients to embrace all challenges and take forth the journey towards the next milestone with a positive and forward looking approach.

Pakistan Zindabad!