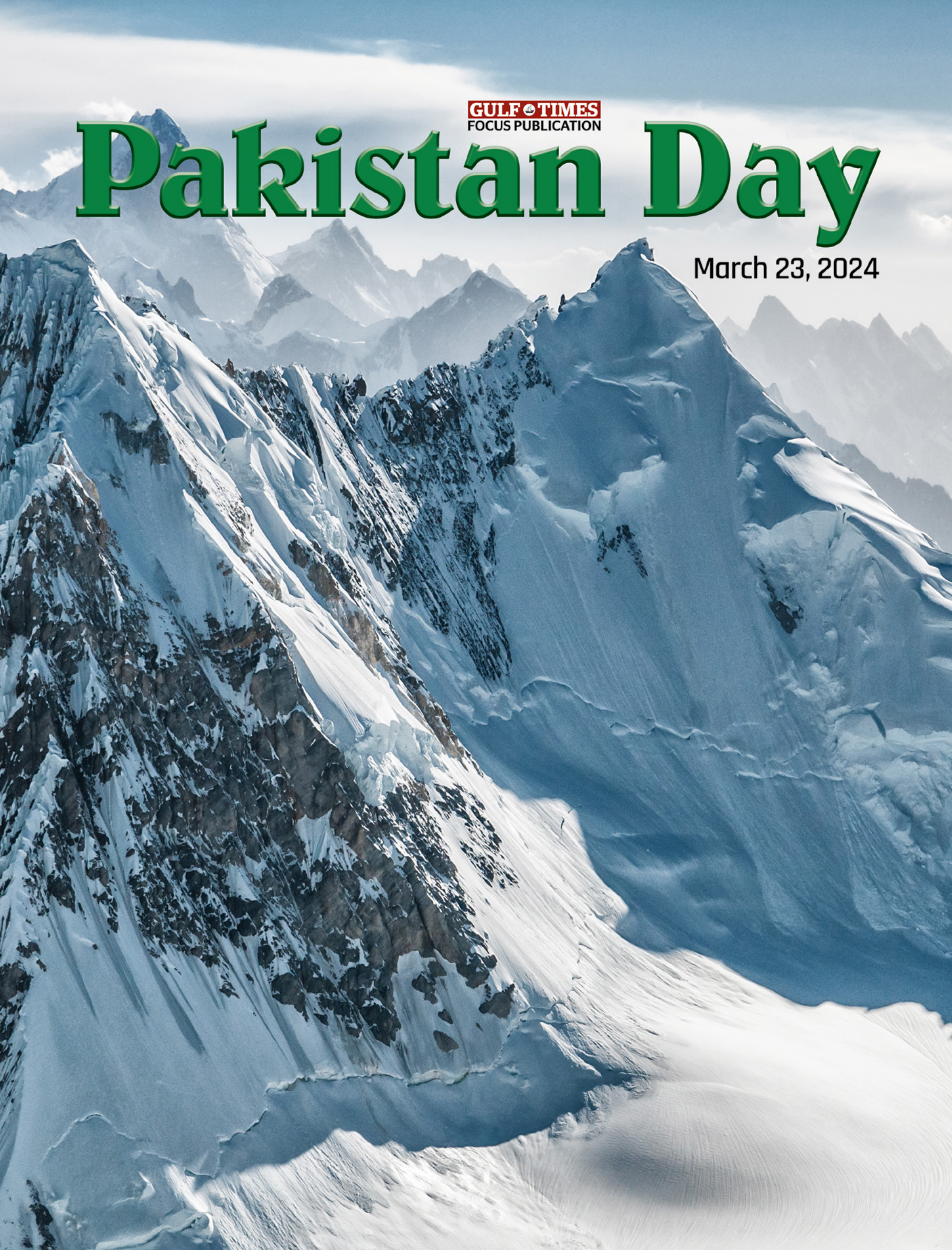


GULF TIMES
FOCUS PUBLICATION

Pakistan Day

March 23, 2024



JOIN US IN
CELEBRATING
RESILIENCE, UNITY, AND THE SPIRIT OF HARMONY



On this special occasion, we want to celebrate Pakistanis living miles away from our homeland and honor the bond that unites us.

UBL supports you in staying connected with your loved ones back home through innovative solutions. Our new digital app provides a seamless and hassle-free experience of banking transactions, ensuring that your hard-earned money reaches your family and friends back home in no time.

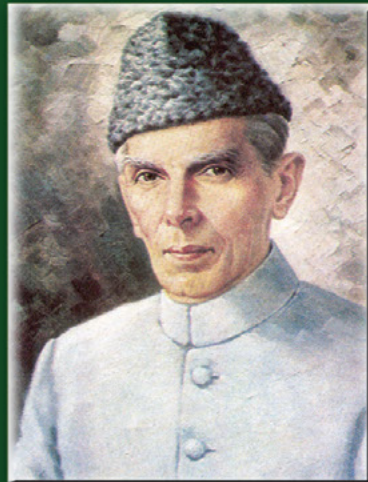
HAPPY PAKISTAN DAY TO ALL OUR BELOVED PAKISTANIS IN QATAR!



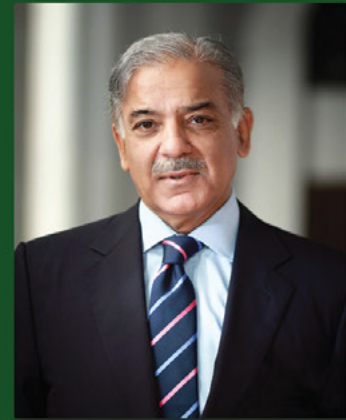
Scan QR Code to download the App



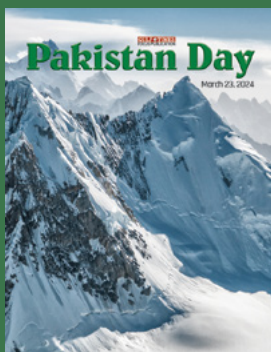
Asif Ali Zardari
President



Quaid-e-Azam
Muhammad Ali Jinnah
Father of the Nation



Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif
Prime Minister



The Pakistan Supplement Team

Marketing Manager

Violette Fakhry

Sr. Business Development Manager

Sanjai Noah

Editor

Amjad Vanimal

Layout

A.K. Vinay Kumar

Circulation In-charge

Sherif Samy

Printed by

Raya Commercial Printing Press

Advertising Office

Gulf Times/Arrayah Building,
C Ring Road, P.O. Box 533,
Doha Qatar

Tel: (00974) 44466621

Fax: (00974) 44310992

email: advr@gulf-times.com

Gulf Times thanks the Embassy of The Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Qatar for the contribution & support rendered in preparing this supplement.

Ambassador's Message

My heartiest felicitations to all fellow Pakistanis residing in the brotherly State of Qatar on the auspicious occasion of the National Day of Pakistan. On this day in 1940, the Muslims of the subcontinent had resolved to achieve a separate homeland for themselves and then set out to actually achieve it within a short span of seven years.

This auspicious day symbolizes the expression of the collective will of the Muslims of the subcontinent and is a testament to their unity and unwavering resolve. Through sheer determination and a peaceful and democratic struggle, they prevailed against all odds to create a separate homeland for themselves where they could lead their lives in accordance with their faith, traditions, values and culture, and where all citizens could enjoy equal opportunities irrespective of caste and creed and play their due role in the progress of the country.

Today, we reiterate our commitment to the ideals for which Pakistan was created and pay homage to Father of the Nation Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Poet Philosopher Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal and all the other leaders of the freedom movement who led the struggle for the creation of Pakistan through their commitment, valiant struggle, and unparalleled determination. We also re-affirm our pledge to adhere to the principles of Unity, Faith and Discipline given by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

As always, all Pakistanis in Qatar will celebrate the day with inspiration of the national zeal and spirit. Let us all express our firm resolve to continue the legacy and heritage bequeathed to us by our founding fathers and by following in their footsteps to make our country a cradle of progress, prosperity and development.

We proudly reminisce the historic creation of our beloved country to inspire ourselves and our future generations to courageously face current challenges and to celebrate our faith and ability to transform challenges into opportunities. The path to independence was not an easy one; it was a struggle under the visionary and inspiring leadership of the Father of the Nation that brought Muslims of the Sub-continent under one flag. Pakistan is not just the name of a territory or a political entity. More than that, it is an ideal, a spirit and an aspiration to realize the very best virtues of humanity as bequeathed by our great religion.

Pakistan has surmounted unprecedented challenges over the last seven and a half decades. We have proven ourselves to be resilient in the face of extraordinary circumstances, but we all know there is a lot more we need to do. While celebrating National Day today, we should not be forgetful of those who sacrificed their lives to achieve independence. On this occasion, I would also like to make a special mention of the martyrs who have laid down their lives for the protection of the homeland and safety of its citizens.

Pakistan and Qatar have historically enjoyed extremely cordial relations based on a common faith and traditions, deep-rooted cultural affinities,

geographic proximity, and convergence of interests. These fraternal bonds have been carried forward and strengthened under the guidance of our brotherly country under the able leadership of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar, who has always shown great support for Pakistan.

Bilateral relations have been greatly strengthened in recent times. Frequent leadership level contact and exchange of high level visits have increased over the past three years. The positive engagement at the leadership level has led to a substantial boost in bilateral cooperation in all fields including the political, trade, investment and defence spheres.

I avail this opportunity to praise the unprecedented development and success of our brotherly country under the able leadership of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. Pakistanis have proudly contributed in the progress and development of Qatar and in making it a remarkable success story of our era. Our workforce has made significant contribution in key institutions of Qatar such as the armed forces, police, health, education, banking and civil aviation. The hospitality and respect offered to Pakistanis in Qatar is a reflection of the affection that binds our two countries.

On this occasion I also wish to pay tribute to the patriotism, hard work and commitment of the Pakistani community in Qatar, who act as a living bridge between the two brotherly countries. Apart from contributing to the development of the State of Qatar, they have been playing a positive role in strengthening the economy of Pakistan.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Amir of Qatar, His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, His Excellency Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, and His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defense Affairs Dr. Khalid bin Mohammed Al Attiyah, as well as the Government and people of the State of Qatar for the patronage and support that we have received from them.

Dear Pakistanis, as we enter the 77th year of our independence today, let us once again reiterate our resolve to take Pakistan to the heights of glory as envisioned by our forefathers. I pray to Allah Almighty to grant us the strength to serve our great country with sincerity and lead Pakistan on the path to even greater progress and prosperity.

Pakistan Zindabad
Long live Pakistan-Qatar friendship

Muhammed Aejaaz
Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Qatar



Pakistan-Qatar Bilateral Relations

The historical relationship between Pakistan and Qatar is a tapestry woven with threads of shared religion, culture, and mutual strategic interests. The roots of this relationship can be traced back to the early days of Islam, specifically to the year 712 AD, when Islam first reached the Indus Valley, the area that is now Pakistan.

Early Connections: The Advent of Islam in South Asia

Islam's arrival in the territories of present-day Pakistan marked the beginning of a significant era. Led by Muhammad bin Qasim, the Islamic conquest of Sindh not only reshaped the political landscape but also sparked a profound cultural and religious transformation. This event linked the region with the larger Islamic world, particularly with the Middle East, fostering long-lasting ties based on shared religious beliefs and cultural practices.

Post-Independence Relations: The Birth of Pakistan and Early Ties with Qatar

Fast forward to 1947, Pakistan emerged as an independent nation, inheriting these historical connections with the Islamic world. In the early years of its independence, Pakistan sought to strengthen its relationships with Middle Eastern countries, including the State of Qatar, which gained independence in 1971. With the establishment of diplomatic ties, the first diplomatic mission of Pakistan in Doha was opened in 1973. The foundation of Pakistan-Qatar relations was built on mutual respect, Islamic brotherhood, and shared interests. Pakistan and Qatar celebrated 50 years of establishment of diplomatic ties in 2023.

Strengthening Bilateral Relations

Political:

The relationship between Pakistan and Qatar has been characterized by high-level visits, diplomatic exchanges, and agreements, all of which have substantially bolstered bilateral ties. A strong foundation of this long-standing relationship was built when Father Amir H.H Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani visited Pakistan in 1999. The visits to Pakistan by H.H Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani in 2015 and 2019 were pivotal moments in our bilateral relationship. Successive visits by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif to Qatar in 2022 and 2023 opened new opportunities for cooperation. During Prime Minister's visit to Doha in August 2022, Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani endorsed an initial investment of US \$ 3 billion in Pakistan.

Pakistan has always been a forthcoming participant in all of Qatar's multilateral endeavors. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visited Doha from 5-6 March 2023, on invitation of the Amir of Qatar, to participate in the 5th UN Conference for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). In the Conference, he presented Pakistan's stance on the socio-economic challenges faced by the Global South including climate change and geo-strategic disruption in food & energy supply chains. During



his visit, he also held a bilateral meeting with the Amir of Qatar.

Pakistan has also regularly participated in the UN-convened meeting of Special Envoys on Afghanistan both in 2023 and 2024. Other platforms like Doha Forum have also seen significant participation from Pakistan.

Over the years, Pakistan and Qatar have inked more than 40 agreements and MoUs for strengthening cooperation in the political, economic, defense, culture, media and other domains.

Defense

Pakistan and Qatar have enjoyed strong defense cooperation especially in the realm of personnel training, defense equipment, joint exercises, and exchange of visits between military leadership. During the FIFA World Cup 2022, Pakistan provided its full support to Qatar with deployment of more than 4050 personnel of Pakistan Armed forces. In 2023, three major visits from Pakistan took place to Qatar, namely visit of Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir (9- 10 May), Chairman Joint Chief of Staff Committee Gen Sahir Shamsad Mirza (23-26 May) and Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed 27 Feb - 3 March. From Qatar's side, Chief of Staff, Lt Gen (Pilot) Salem Hamad Eqail Al-Nabet, visited Pakistan on 10 October 2023. During his stay, he was conferred with Nishan-e-Imtiaz (military) by the President of Pakistan, in recognition of his services to enhancing cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries.

Economic

Bilateral trade forms an essential part of our relations with Qatar. Pakistan has been a regular buyer of Qatar's LNG since 2015 and thus Qatar's 10th largest trade partner. The bilateral total trade volume stands at US \$ 3.7 billion in FY 2022-23 with exports at US \$ 162.46 million and imports at US \$ 3.5 billion. Balance of trade is in Qatar's favor due to import of LNG and some petroleum products by Pakistan. Pakistan has been exporting fruits, vegetables, fresh and frozen fish and other food items to Qatar.

Economically, Qatar has been a significant contributor to fulfilling Pakistan's energy needs. In 2016, Pakistan and Qatar signed a 15-year agreement for supply of LNG. Qatar and Pakistan signed another 10-year long term LNG agreement in February 2021 to secure Pakistan's energy

supply from Qatar. In addition to cooperation in the LNG sector, the two countries have been exploring investment opportunities in food security, renewable energy, aviation, ports and shipping, media, tourism sectors, as well as IT, minerals and mining.

Pakistan has also been an active participant in Qatar's economic, trade and other events, including Doha Expo 2023, Agritech, Cityscape, Hunting Exhibitions etc.

Pakistan Qatar IT Conference

In order to introduce Pakistan's vibrant IT sector in Qatar market and build long-term synergies with potential partners in Qatar, Embassy of Pakistan in collaboration with Qatar Financial Centre, Pakistan Business Council Qatar and Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), organized the inaugural Pakistan - Qatar IT Conference on 3 December 2023. A high-powered delegation comprising of representatives from the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), and 30 leading IT companies, participated in the mega event.

The Pak-Qatar IT Conference marked a significant milestone in the burgeoning relationship between Pakistan and Qatar, especially in the IT sector. The conference featured a diverse format, including a keynote address, a panel discussion, and tech talks. The keynote speakers included Dr. Umar Saif, the Caretaker Federal Minister of MOITT; Mr. Yousuf Mohamed Al Jaida, CEO of Qatar Financial Centre; Muhemmed Aejaz, Pakistan's Ambassador to Qatar; and Mr. Fawad Rana, former President of the Pakistan Business Council.

During the visit to Qatar, Dr. Umar Saif, Minister of IT and Telecom, conducted delegation-level talks with HE Minister of Communications and Information Technology Mohammed bin Ali Al Mannai as well as key organizations, including, National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA), Qatar Science and Technology Park, Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ), Qatar Development Bank; Qatar Financial Centre (QFC), Qatar Venture Capital and Education Above All Foundation, to bolster bilateral collaboration in the IT sector.

In addition to the G2G meetings, Business to Business (B2B) meetings were also arranged for the private sector companies, resulting in successful collaborations between 30 Pakistani IT companies and Qatari counterparts, particularly

in cyber security, BPO, cloud migration, and skills training sectors. The conference witnessed the successful conclusion of four major agreements, which are expected to boost the IT sector's growth and collaboration between the two countries. These agreements are:

- i. Infotech and ProzTech: Collaborative Anti-money Laundering project for a local bank in Qatar.
- ii. Aciano and ProzTech: Collaboration in advanced bespoke software development for clients in Qatar.
- iii. Skynet Solutionz and ProzTech: MOU for offshore support services and business process management for local corporates in Qatar.
- iv. Maison Consulting: Negotiations with a local educational service provider in Qatar for expertise in Cloud Migration and AI training initiatives.

Following the success of Pak-Qatar IT Conference, Pakistani IT companies returned to Doha to participate in the Web Summit Qatar 2024 from February 26-29.

Diaspora/ Human Resource

Qatar is home to a significant Pakistani expatriate community of almost 300,000, contributing to Qatar's development while also acting as a bridge between the two nations. Qatar is a significant employer of Pakistani manpower. Even during Covid-19 pandemic, Pakistanis came to Qatar in record numbers, touching the historical high figures of 37,987 (2021) and 58,000 (2022) (statistics of Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment). Pakistanis in various capacities made important contribution in the successful holding of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. In addition to the construction sector, many Pakistanis are working in the financial sector, government offices and Qatari companies. The presence of a large diaspora in Qatar has made the country an important source of remittances for Pakistan. In the FY 2022-23, Pakistani community in Qatar sent almost USD 1 billion of remittances back to Pakistan.

In a clear manifestation of growing opportunities for Pakistanis in Qatar, Government of Pakistan signed a MoU with Qatar's Elegancia Healthcare, a private entity for recruitment of health professionals from Pakistan, on 22 October 2023. This will expand employment opportunities for Pakistan's skilled labor in the Qatari market.

Education Cooperation & Development Assistance

Qatar's development initiatives in Pakistan with a special focus on education have been an important area of bilateral cooperation. Qatar through the Doha-based Education Above All (EAA) foundation and Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD) has taken various initiatives to enhance access to education to the out of school children in Pakistan. EAA has already contributed to the education of about 1.33 million of OSSC in Pakistan through various projects implemented since 2012 and provided a funding of more than \$36 million. EAA also provided a funding of \$124 million to its "Educate a Child" program. These initiatives have enhanced access to education for out of school children in Pakistan.

In the domain of development, Qatar is undertaking several projects in Pakistan through Qatar Charity and Qatar Fund for Development. Qatar pledged USD 25 million in floods assistance to Pakistan, in the International Conference on Climate Resilient Pakistan held on 9 January 2023 at Geneva. Qatar Charity in partnership with UNICEF implemented several interventions in the field of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in Rajanpur district of Punjab, benefitting over 55,000 people affected by the 2022 devastating floods in Pakistan. The projects include installation of 25 solar water pumps, construction of 10 water ponds and building toilets for 500 families in the district to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Qatar Charity also held a 2-day medical camp in Sanghar district to address significant health challenges in the region.

Qatar extended much needed support to Pakistan during Covid-19 pandemic, including provision of health supplies comprising 50 oxygen machines

and medicines in August 2021, through Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD). State of Qatar also offered the financial support for purchasing the Covid-19 vaccines.

Cultural Cooperation

Culturally, Pakistan and Qatar have enjoyed rich exchanges. Qatar has shown a keen interest in Pakistani arts, crafts, and cuisine, with various cultural events organized in coordination with the Ministry of Culture and local Pakistani organizations to celebrate this shared heritage. These events include musical nights showcasing Pakistan's rich musical heritage from all provinces and territories of Pakistan, as well as literary events and book launches. Pakistan has also been an active part of the Doha Expo 2023. Pakistan Garden in Al Bidda Park is a beautiful ornament. The pavilion showcases Pakistan's rich arts and excellent craftsmanship.

Contemporary Dynamics: Strategic Partners in a Changing World

In recent years, the relationship between Pakistan and Qatar has evolved to encompass strategic and defense collaborations. Qatar's support has been significant in various aspects of Pakistan's development agenda. Conversely, Pakistan has stood with Qatar, particularly during the Gulf crisis, advocating for dialogue and peaceful resolution of disputes.

A Relationship with a Promising Future

As we celebrate Pakistan's National Day, it is essential to acknowledge the deep and enduring ties between Pakistan and Qatar. Rooted in a shared historical and cultural legacy, and strengthened by mutual strategic interests, the relationship between these two nations is poised for a promising future. This partnership, transcending diplomatic ties, is a testament to the power of shared history and mutual respect in shaping international relations.



The Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, visited Qatar on March 05-06, 2023 to participate in/ address the UN LDCs Conference on 06th March, 2023.



Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Shareef, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, addressing UN LDCs Conference on 06th March, 2023.



Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Shareef, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan accompanied by a delegation held a bilateral meeting with HH the Amir Shaikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. The meeting entailed fruitful discussions on a variety of topics.



HH the Amir Shaikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani welcomed Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Shareef, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, at the Amiri Diwan. PM Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Shareef expressed gratitude to the HH for investment worth three billion dollars in various sectors of Pakistan's economy.

PAKISTAN PAVILION AT EXPO 2023 DOHA



The Pakistan Pavilion and Pakistan Garden at Expo 2023 Doha were inaugurated by Mr. Muhemmed Aejez, Ambassador of Pakistan to Qatar, on 11th November 2023. The event was attended by the Expo's Secretary-General, diplomats, and the Pakistani community.



The ceremony showcased Pakistan's unity, diversity, traditions, innovations, and commitment to sustainability. In his speech, Mr. Muhemmed Aejez expressed his excitement about showcasing Pakistan's agricultural and sustainable practices. He emphasized that the Pakistan Pavilion and Garden demonstrate the country's commitment to preserving its heritage while promoting innovation in agriculture and sustainability.

The Pavilion showcases Pakistan's commitment to sustainable agriculture and its diverse culture. The Garden, located next to the Pavilion, displays Pakistan's native plants and commitment to environmental protection.

Adjacent to the pavilion, the Pakistan Garden adds natural beauty to the Expo grounds. The garden, which combines native vegetation and beautiful landscaping, is a tranquil site for visitors and a symbol of Pakistan's commitment to protecting the environment.



Doha Expo 2023, the first International Horticultural Exhibition in Qatar, the Middle East, and North Africa, is set to make history. From Oct 2 to Mar 28 at Al Bidda Park, the Expo's theme, 'Green Desert, Better Environment,' calls for global collaboration in combating desertification. In partnership with the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) and the International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH), this event unites 80 countries, private sector leaders, NGOs, and the public to inspire innovative solutions.

Expo 2023 Doha provides an unparalleled opportunity for countries to exhibit their accomplishments and goals. The Pavilion and Garden provide an immersive experience, encouraging visitors to learn about Pakistan's



unique cultural past and innovative agricultural and horticultural practices.

The Pavilion showcases Pakistan's cultural diversity and commitment to sustainable agriculture and horticulture. The Expo, running from October 2 to March 28 at Al Bidda Park, is the first International Horticultural Exhibition in Qatar, the Middle East, and North Africa. It



aims to inspire innovative solutions to combat desertification. The event provided a platform for cross-cultural understanding and diplomatic ties between Pakistan and the international community.



PAKISTAN-QATAR IT CONFERENCE

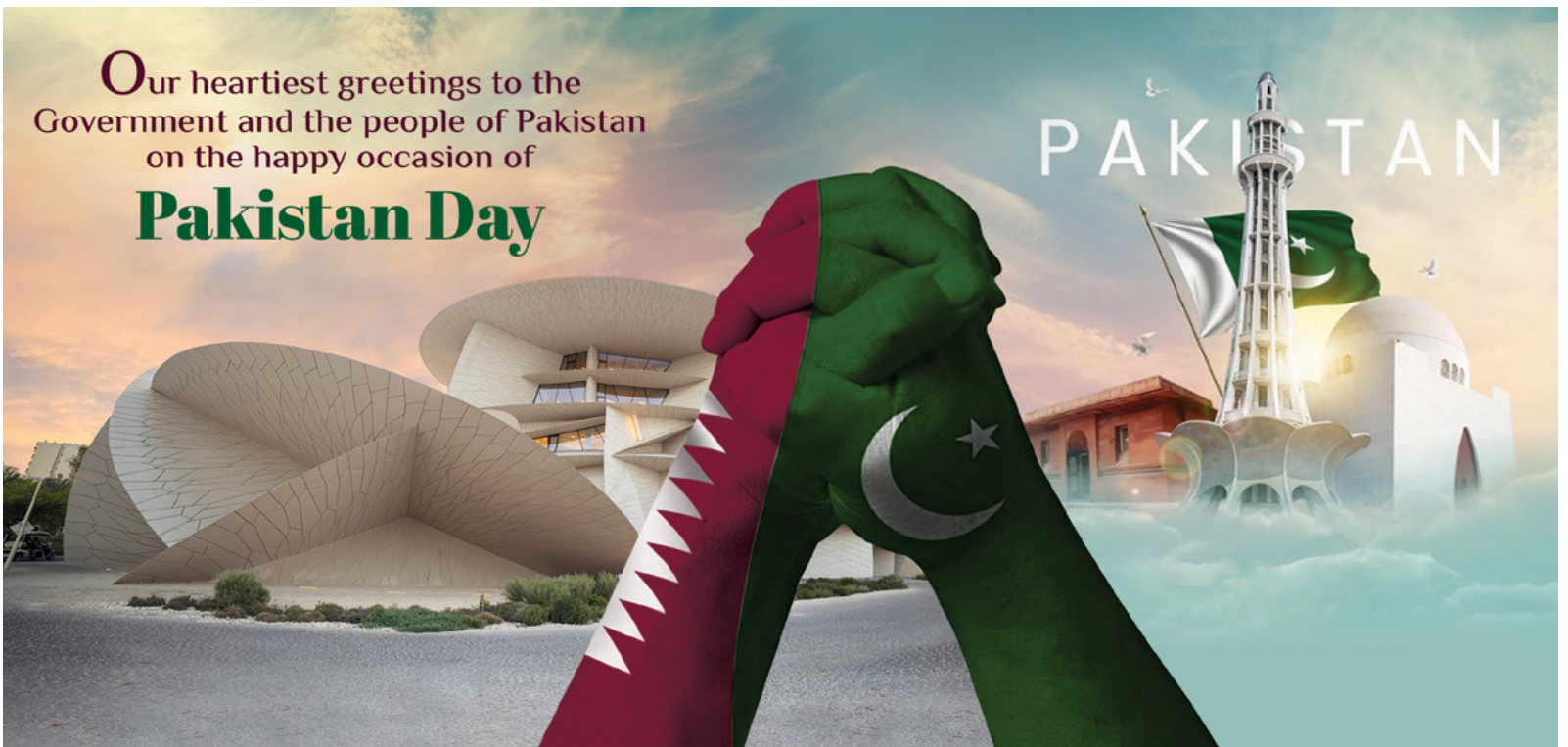
Embassy of Pakistan, in collaboration with the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) and Pakistan Business Council (PBC-Q), successfully organized the inaugural Pakistan-Qatar IT Conference, marking a significant milestone in technological cooperation between the two nations. The event, themed "Harmonising Technology for Unparalleled Success," gathered key figures including Pakistan's Federal Minister for IT & Telecom, Dr. Umar Saif, and the Ambassador of Pakistan to Qatar, HE Muhemmed Aejaz.



Yousuf Mohamed Al Jaida, Chief Executive Officer of Qatar Financial Centre.

The conference aimed to foster technological collaborations and showcase cutting-edge products and services. It brought together IT professionals and decision-makers from both countries, under the leadership of Dr. Umar Saif, a renowned computer scientist, entrepreneur, and investor. Ambassador Aejaz, CEO of Qatar Financial Centre Yousuf Mohamed Al Jaida, and President of Pakistan Business Council in Qatar Fawad Rana also highlighted the importance of the conference in their remarks.

Highlighting Pakistan's remarkable growth in the IT sector, the Pakistani Ambassador to Qatar, Dr. Muhemmed Aejaz, declared Pakistan as



South Asia's new IT hub and emphasized the strengthening of bilateral collaboration in the IT sector through the Pakistan-Qatar IT Conference. He traced Pakistan's IT history back to the 1960s, highlighted the global recognition of Pakistani IT experts, and noted the recent remarkable growth in the sector. In 2023, IT exports surpassed \$2.6 billion, signaling a new era of digital dominance.



Dr. Umar Saif, ex-caretaker Federal Minister for IT & Telecom.

Dr. Umar Saif, Minister of IT and Telecom, emphasized Pakistan's capacity to provide technological solutions and collaborate with Qatari tech firms, particularly in AI and cyber security. He also acknowledged Pakistan's capabilities in cloud management, data center operations, and cloud applications.



Pakistan's IT industry, supported by robust infrastructure and government incentives, boasts over 600,000 IT professionals and more than 45,000 IT graduates annually. The sector facilitates IT services exports to 170 countries, further enhancing Pakistan's position as a global IT hub.

The conference showcased presentations from 30 leading IT firms, represented by the Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA).

Dr. Umar Saif's visit to Qatar from December 2nd to 5th, 2023, focused on enhancing bilateral IT ties through a series of engagements including conferences, government-to-government meetings, and business-to-business meetings. The conference served as a platform for enhancing collaboration between the IT communities of both nations.



HE Muhemmed Aejaz, the Ambassador of Pakistan to the State of Qatar.



Dr. Umar Saif, ex-caretaker Federal Minister of IT and Telecom, met with H.E. Mohammed bin Ali bin Mohammed Al Mannai, Qatar's Minister of Communication and Information Technology.



HE Mansoor Ebrahim Al-Mahmoud, CEO, and Sheikh Faisal Al-Thani, CIO of APAC & Africa, of the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), engage in discussions with a delegation from SIFC, accompanied by Mr. Umar Saif, the Caretaker Minister for IT & Telecom.



Dr. Kausar Abdullah Malik, Caretaker Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, met with Dr. Abdullah bin Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Subaie, Minister of Municipality to the State of Qatar, during 9th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development.

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD), Mr. Jawad Sohrab Malik commenced his inaugural official visit to Qatar with a pivotal meeting with Dr. Ali bin Samikh Al Marri, Qatar's Minister of Labour.



Ex-caretaker Federal Minister of National Heritage & Culture, Mr. Jamal Shah, visited Doha to participate in the 12th Conference of Ministers of Culture in Islamic World on 25-26 September 2023.



The signing ceremony of MOU between Elegancia Healthcare W.L.L and Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) on 19-10-2023 in Doha. The Ambassador of Pakistan on behalf of the OEC signed the MoU. The MoU aims to recruit healthcare professionals from Pakistan through OEC platform."



A meeting with Qatar Care in Doha. The primary agenda of the meeting centered on the possibility of recruiting manpower from Pakistan. The company's representative shared valuable insights and information regarding their current workforce, which comprised approximately 400 nurses from various nationalities. Qatar Care's representative expressed a commitment to prioritize the hiring of Pakistani workers in the future. This commitment to considering Pakistani candidates for employment opportunities is a positive development that aligns with our efforts to facilitate employment opportunities for Pakistani nationals in Qatar.



The second series of Aerial Exercise ZILZAL-II between Qatar Emiri Air Force and Pakistan Air Force was held in Qatar in January 2024. The exercise is one of the most complex joint air force exercises, which aims at promoting interoperability between the two brother forces while providing an opportunity for shared learning.

23
MARCH
PAKISTAN DAY



Marbu extends its warm wishes to the Government and the people of Pakistan & wish all Pakistanis living abroad a happy

PAKISTAN DAY

MARBU

شركة ماربول للمقاولات ذ.م.م

MARBU Contracting Company W.L.L

Tel: +974 4432 9608 Fax: +974 4442 9180

Email: info@marbu-contracting.com

roaddivision@marbu.com.qa

P.O. Box: 5196, Doha-State of Qatar

Arrival of Tabuk Ship in Qatar to participate in 8th edition of DIMDEX-2024



Various high level Military and Naval leadership including Commander-In-Chief of Russian Federation Navy, Admiral Nikolay Evmenov and Turkish Fleet Commander visited PNSTABUK during the 8th Edition of DIMDEX 2024.



The Pakistan Navy Submarine (PNS/M) KHALID participated in the 8th Edition of DIMDEX 2024. PNS/M KHALID, the first submarine of the Agosta-90B class, is equipped with state-of-the-art modern sonar suite, weapon control systems, and scopes.



Pakistan International School Qatar



We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the
Government and People of Pakistan on the
auspicious occasion of

Pakistan Resolution Day

23RD MARCH 2024





Cambridge Assessment
International Education
Cambridge International School



BRITISH COUNCIL
IELTS



CollegeBoard
College Code: 738554



UCAS
Centre Number:
43464



Pearson | Edexcel
Associate Centre

For more information  www.pisqdoha.com  +974 4468 3343 -EXT 51 / 21

Activities of The Ambassador of Pakistan to the State of Qatar



Ambassador Muhammed Aejez attended the MoU signing ceremony between Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation and International Organization for Food Security on the sidelines of the 9th OIC Ministerial Conference on Food Security & Agricultural Development that took place in Doha on 10 January 2023.



Ambassador Muhammed Aejez received the new Ambassador of Iran to Qatar HE Ali Salehabadi at the Embassy of Pakistan in Qatar.



Embassy of Pakistan hosted a group of female scholars as part of the US-Pakistan Future of Women in Energy Program for an interactive session with Ambassador Muhammed Aejez.

84th National Day Celebration



Pakistan Ambassador to Qatar, HE Dr. Muhemmed Aejaaz, inaugurates Al-Hemaliya Super Mart, introducing a diverse range of Pakistani food products and brands to Barwa Village.



Ambassador Muhemmed Aejaaz received Pakistan's young tennis players Abubakar Talha and Zohaib Afzal Malik, who emerged as champions in both singles and doubles events at the 1st Qatar Asian Junior 14&U Tennis Championship held in Doha, Qatar. The ambassador welcomed the champions at Pakistan Embassy, Doha and congratulated them on their stellar performance and presented them with a memento.





The embassy of Pakistan held a grand reception to commemorate the 84th National Day of Pakistan. The mega event was attended by high-level government officials, including the Dy. Prime Minister of Qatar and Minister of Justice and Cabinet Affairs, diplomatic corps, media, and Pakistani community.



Independence Day celebrations were held at the Embassy of Pakistan in Doha. The flag-hoisting ceremony was followed by Ambassador Muhemmed Aejaaz and Mrs. Ambassador cutting the cake.

Pakistan's proactive participation in the activities of the association of Spouses Of Heads Of Missions in Qatar (SOHOM)



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Pakistan Embassy Showcases National Products at Made in Qatar Exhibition 2023



In addition to product displays, the Pakistan Embassy used the platform to promote upcoming events and initiatives, including the Engineering and Healthcare Show (EHCS) scheduled to take place in Lahore, Pakistan.

The embassy's active participation in the Made in Qatar Exhibition underscores its commitment to fostering bilateral trade and investment relations between Pakistan and Qatar. By showcasing the diversity and quality of Pakistani products, the embassy aims to strengthen economic ties and promote cultural exchange between the two nations. The positive reception from visitors and organizers reinforces the embassy's dedication to furthering collaboration and cooperation in the future.

The Pakistan Embassy made a significant impact at the prestigious Made in Qatar Exhibition 2023, which took place at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center from November 29 to December 21. The event, known for showcasing Qatari industrial prowess, drew an impressive crowd with over 10,000 visitors and 200 exhibitors from various sectors.

The Pakistan Embassy, as part of the international representation, established a distinctive pavilion, highlighting Pakistan's contribution to the exhibition. The pavilion showcased an array of high-quality Pakistani products, with a spotlight on renowned brands such as Brighto paints, powder, and Ghani glass.

Brighto paints, a leading company in Pakistan, presented a comprehensive range of interior and exterior paints, celebrated for their durability and vibrant hues. Powder and Ghani glass, products of Ghani Glass Limited, a leading manufacturer serving over 18 countries, also attracted attention for their exceptional quality and craftsmanship.



Qatari delegation shines at EHCS 2024

The 3rd edition of the Engineering and Healthcare Show (EHCS) 2024, organized by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), reached its crescendo on the 20th of January 2024, at the Lahore Expo Centre. This annual flagship event has become a symbol of Pakistan's prowess in the engineering and healthcare sectors, bringing together global delegates, exhibitors, and industry leaders. Participation extended beyond borders as prominent chambers including FPCCI, LCCI, and SCCI actively engaged in extensive negotiations with their counterparts. The collaborative spirit fostered during these discussions is set to create new avenues for international trade and cooperation. Zubair Motiwala, Chief Executive TDAP, and Sualed Ahmad Faruqi, Federal Secretary Commerce, played pivotal roles in advancing discussions with counterpart Trade

Promotion Organizations. These conversations explored areas of mutual interest and potential collaboration, emphasizing the role of EHCS as a catalyst for global partnerships. The Engineering and Healthcare Show (EHCS) 2024, held in Lahore, Pakistan, was a grand showcase of global innovation and collaboration. Among the many international participants, the delegation from Qatar stood out with their unique contributions and commitment to global collaboration and innovation. The Qatari delegation comprised representatives from various companies, each bringing their unique expertise and products to the event. The companies represented were Biovispharma, Cini Solutions, Itqan, Queen Hospital, Clinica Joelle, Amazetec Solutions Trading & Contracting WLL, The North Systems, and Unique Trading Co. The participation of these companies in EHCS 2024 not only underscored

their commitment to global collaboration but also spotlighted Qatar's advancements in the engineering and healthcare sectors on an international platform. As EHCS 2024 concluded with resounding success, marking anticipated business generation of around US\$245 million and the signing of 33 MoUs globally, the Qatari delegation returned enriched with enhanced business prospects, fortified partnerships, and an augmented global presence that promises mutual growth and innovation. The participation of the Qatari delegation in EHCS 2024 signifies the commitment of these companies to global collaboration and innovation, setting a benchmark for future events. As we look forward to the next edition of EHCS, we anticipate seeing more of such inspiring participation from Qatar and other nations, fostering a spirit of global collaboration and mutual growth.

ACTIVITIES OF PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, QATAR (PISQ)

At Pakistan International School, Qatar (PISQ), we are deeply committed to nurturing our children's future. They are not just important to us; they are our heartbeat, guiding every step we take.

Since its launch in 1985, PISQ has been more than just a school; it's also a safe place for eager students to learn, and they passionately keep that promise. For over forty years, our school has been where innovators, critical thinkers, artists, writers, debaters, sports winners, and the stars of tomorrow have grown up.



Principal of Pakistan School Qatar, Syed Asif Shah, along with Ms. Lubna, School Improvement Consultant, and Ms. Bushra Awan, Guidance Counselor, visited the Expo at PISQ.

For the many Pakistanis who live in Qatar, PISQ is more than just a school. It's a community and a home. It is on the outskirts of Abu Hamour. Our school has 4294 students in the Conventional wing and Cambridge branch. They range in age from preschool to Higher secondary level. At PISQ, you can meet people of many races and countries. This makes it the best place for expats to learn. The land we own is more than just a bunch of buildings; it's a school. In our pursuit of excellence, we added another jewel to our crown in 2019 – a state-of-the-art campus for the upcoming IGCSE stream.



His Excellency Dr. Muhammed Aejaz, Syed Asif Ali Shah, Principal of Pakistan International School Qatar, and Dr. Neelam Nasir, Principal of the Conventional Branch, with high achievers from PISQ.

This addition is a testament to our commitment to staying at the forefront of educational development, constantly evolving to meet the needs of our students in a rapidly changing world. At PISQ, education is not confined within the classroom walls. We believe in holistic development, fostering an environment where students grow into well-rounded individuals.

Inter-school club activities and literary and sports events are not just competitions but avenues for our students to shine and develop skills beyond textbooks. Our students proudly participate in international platforms like MUN and Qatar Debates, etching their names among the top achievers.



Principal of Pakistan School Qatar, Syed Asif Ali Shah, along with the Vice Principals, participating in tree planting activities on Qatar Environment Day.

Pakistan International School Qatar has achieved remarkable milestones, positioning itself as a beacon of educational excellence. The school has expanded its global reach through registrations with esteemed platforms such as Common App, UCAS, and NEASC, showcasing a commitment to international standards and recognition. To foster continuous growth and development, the school mandates compulsory training courses for teachers, Vice Principals, and Principals, ensuring the staff remains abreast of the latest pedagogical trends. Notable technological advancements include introducing a new Learning Management



His Excellency Dr. Muhammed Aejaz, along with Syed Asif Ali Shah, Principal of Pakistan International School Qatar, and Dr. Neelam Nasir, Principal of the Conventional Branch, attended the School Sports Day Event in 2024.



Students of Primary Wing with their food stall at PISQ Food Festival.

System (LMS), a website upgrade, and an overhaul of the school's online database, enhancing the overall learning experience.

The dedication to academic brilliance is evidenced by the three international TOP distinctions earned by students in subjects like Pak studies, Global Perspective, and English as a second language in 2023. With a staff comprising 220 teachers, two principals, six vice principals, and specialized roles such as a career counselor, environmental manager, and event manager, the school prioritizes comprehensive education and holistic development. Collaborations with foreign trainers, including Ms. Charity from Washington DC University and a professor from Waterloo University, underscore the commitment to providing quality training for educators and students. The school collaborates with international trainers to enhance the curriculum from KG to grade 7. Strategic partnerships and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with institutions like Fraser University, Cambridge, Pearson, and Edexcel underscore the school's dedication to global academic standards.



Kindergarten students of PISQ showcasing nature-themed presentations in celebration of Qatar Environment Day.

The Cambridge branch has various student clubs, including photography, literature, drama, arts and crafts, robotics, and computer clubs. Encouraging student engagement in workshops, volunteerism, conferences, and research projects, Pakistan International School Qatar continues to inspire a culture of curiosity, creativity, and excellence.

Furthermore, the school's commitment to linguistic diversity and proficiency is evident in introducing a new Arabic resource for language enhancement in collaboration with Little Thinking Minds. In the spirit of our students' curiosity, our educators' dedication, and our community's unwavering support, we find what makes Pakistan International School Qatar genuinely exceptional. This is not merely an institution but a family, a community, and a journey of shared dreams.

4th Pakistan-Africa Trade Development Conference & Single Country Exhibition

9th – 11th January, 2024 | Egypt International Exhibition Center, Cairo, Egypt

Pakistan-Africa Trade Development Conference and Single Country Exhibition in Cairo

The Fourth Pakistan-Africa Trade Development Conference (PATDC) and Single Country Exhibition (SCE) took place in Cairo with much enthusiasm and promise for bolstering economic ties between Pakistan and the Middle East and North African (MENA) region. Held at the Egypt International Exhibition Center, the event brought together over 100 companies from Pakistan aiming to deepen trade relations and foster new opportunities for cooperation.

Dr. Gohar Ijaz, the caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries & Production of Pakistan, along with Mr. Ahmed Samir, Minister for Trade & Industry of Egypt, and Mr. Mahmoud Ismat, Minister of Public Business Sector, jointly inaugurated the Conference and Single Country Exhibition, signaling a commitment to enhancing bilateral economic cooperation. A high-level delegation comprising government officials and industry professionals from Pakistan underscored the importance of the event in strengthening commercial ties between the two nations.

With more than 80 leading businessmen and chamber representatives from MENA countries in attendance, the conference provided a platform for fruitful discussions and networking opportunities. The event commenced with an exclusive official conference, followed by a two-day single country exhibition, showcasing Pakistan's diverse range of products and services across various sectors.

Minister for Commerce Dr. Gohar Ijaz outlined Pakistan's readiness for economic take-off, highlighting investor-friendly trade, investment, and industrial policies. He emphasized the need for stronger collaboration between Pakistan, Egypt, and MENA region countries, envisioning a win-win situation for all stakeholders. Dr. Ijaz pledged to increase bilateral trade with Egypt tenfold, inviting Egyptian investors to explore opportunities in Pakistan.

The exhibition showcased over 200 businessmen from Pakistan representing various sectors, including

textile, engineering goods, food & agriculture, and services. It provided a platform for exploring trade enhancement opportunities and signing joint venture deals between local and Pakistani businessmen.

The event not only focused on business interactions but also highlighted Pakistan's culinary potential with a live food show, offering participants a taste of Pakistani cuisine throughout the conference and exhibition.

Additionally, the Embassy of Pakistan in Qatar played a proactive role in fostering bilateral relations by arranging a delegation from Qatar to attend the Single Country Exhibition (SCE). The delegation comprised representatives from prominent Qatari companies such as Baladi Permium, Gettco International, Al-Mashreq Int. Trading Co., Grand, Marjooram Trading, SAFARI, Aujan, Qatar Foods Industries, Safari Mall, Qatar Charity, Al Rawabi Group, and Kayan Food Stuff. Their participation further enhanced the exchange of business opportunities and strengthened the economic ties between Pakistan and Qatar.

The Qatari delegation expressed their appreciation for the Single Country Exhibition (SCE) organized by Pakistan. They commended the comprehensive showcase of Pakistani products and services across various sectors, acknowledging the event's role in fostering meaningful business interactions and promoting bilateral trade relations between Qatar and Pakistan. The delegation emphasized the importance of such initiatives in facilitating networking opportunities and exploring avenues for mutually beneficial collaborations. Overall, they lauded the exhibition as a valuable platform for strengthening economic ties and enhancing cooperation between the two nations.

Overall, the Fourth Pakistan-Africa Trade Development Conference and Single Country Exhibition in Cairo set the stage for deeper economic cooperation and mutual prosperity between Pakistan and the MENA region, underscoring the significance of such engagements in advancing bilateral relations and fostering economic growth.



Pakistani companies make their mark at Hospitality Qatar 2023

The eighth edition of Hospitality Qatar, a premier event in the hospitality industry, concluded successfully at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC) from November 6th to 8th, 2023. The event, held under the esteemed patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, attracted a diverse array of both domestic and international visitors, highlighting its global significance.

Among the participants were two Pakistani companies, A&Y Food Ind (Pvt) LTD and Mahanoor Food Industries. They showcased their innovative offerings in frozen food and spices, underscoring the growing interest of Pakistani businesses in Qatar's dynamic market.

The exhibition served as a fertile ground for B2B meetings, fostering collaboration and networking opportunities. Several companies had the opportunity to meet with prospective buyers in the retail sector.

In an effort to promote Pakistan's rich tourism opportunities and unique handicraft products, the Pakistan Embassy set up a pavilion that garnered positive attention from visitors. This initiative not only promoted tourism but also showcased Pakistan's capabilities in producing high-quality handicrafts.

The participation of Pakistani companies in Hospitality Qatar 2023 underscores the potential for further collaboration and growth in bilateral trade relations between Pakistan and Qatar.

Pakistan's showcase of Agricultural Excellence at AgriteQ 2024



exhibitors showcased a range of products, from rice and cereals to honey, spices, and tea.

Each exhibitor reflected the diversity and dynamism of Pakistan's agricultural landscape, providing visitors with a glimpse into the country's agricultural wealth. Noteworthy exhibitors included Pak Agro, a supplier of rice and cereals; Ismail and Co., a premium rice company; Organish, specializing in honey and spices; Sundar Trading, exhibiting tea, spices,



AgriteQ, Qatar's leading International Agricultural Exhibition, has emerged as a symbol of progress towards sustainability and food security, aligning with the worldwide call for a greener future. Initiated to advance the objectives outlined in Qatar's National Food Security Strategy, AgriteQ has evolved into a key platform over the past decade. It has cultivated an environment for the exchange of expertise, innovative trends, and business opportunities among both local and international stakeholders in the agricultural sector. The 11th edition of AgriteQ was held from February 21 to 27, 2024, at Expo 2023 Doha.

showcasing its rich agricultural heritage fused with modern practices.

The Pakistani delegation, comprising several respected exhibitors, left a lasting impression at the event, emphasizing the country's commitment to agricultural development and sustainability. With a prominent presence in the Cultural Zone of Expo 2023 Doha, Pakistani

and rice; and Hemroc, honey exporters from Pakistan. During the exhibition, Ambassador Muhemmed Aejaz visited the Pakistani stalls, engaging with exhibitors and highlighting the country's agricultural achievements. Pakistan's participation in AgriteQ 2024 signifies more than just product display—it represents a commitment to sustainable agriculture, innovation, and global collaboration. It also demonstrates a commitment to participate in Qatar's Vision 2030 for sustainability.



The event witnessed participation from over 250 international and local exhibitors, encompassing local farms, honey producers, and date cultivators. Among the distinguished participants, Pakistan made a significant impact,



Pakistan's vibrant presence at Web Summit 2024 in Qatar

The Web Summit 2024, held in Doha, Qatar, featured the inauguration of the Pakistan Pavilion. This significant event was led by the esteemed Ambassador of Pakistan in Qatar, Dr. Muhemmed Aejaz, and the Chairman of the Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), Mr. Mohammad Zohaib Khan.

The summit is a global stage for startups, with participation from 1,043 startups spanning 81 countries. The Ambassador expressed immense satisfaction over the participation of over 100 delegates from Pakistan in this globally recognized event.



optimism for major B2B deals to materialize into significant export orders for the IT & IT-enabled Services (ITeS) industry across various verticals. Nine leading IT companies are showcasing their services at the Web Summit, with delegates from numerous other companies actively engaging in the event. This participation underscores Pakistan's dynamic presence in the global tech landscape.

The Ambassador further highlighted the potential for exchanging of expertise to spur growth in the IT industry. This could enable Pakistan to penetrate new markets, diversify its verticals, and expand its customer base. The Ambassador's statement underscored the importance of this event, which comes on the heels of the Pakistan-Qatar IT Conference held three months prior. He emphasized the excellent opportunities this presents for Pakistani IT companies and startups to explore the Qatari market and align with Qatar's Vision 2023. The Chairman of P@SHA elaborated on the potential of Pakistani innovation, talent, and potential to attract foreign direct investment (FDI). This could support economic development, job creation, revenue generation, and achieving equilibrium in the balance of payments.

The Pakistan Pavilion, a testament to the country's vibrant and innovative tech ecosystem, is a collaborative effort involving several Pakistani ministries and organizations. The participation in the Web Summit 2024 demonstrates a commitment to advancing technology and strengthening bilateral ties between Pakistan and Qatar. The Trade and Investment Attaché at the Embassy of Pakistan in Qatar expressed



PAKISTAN'S IT INDUSTRY A driving force for Economic Growth

In recent years, Pakistan's Information Technology (IT) sector has emerged as a powerful catalyst propelling the nation's economic growth. Positioned as an emerging contender in IT and IT-enabled services (ITeS) outsourcing, the country boasts over 19,000 registered IT and ITeS companies exporting to more than 170 countries. This robust growth can be attributed to a combination of factors,

including a skilled workforce, cost-effectiveness, and government initiatives. Pakistan's IT industry is not only thriving but has positioned itself as an affordable and mature ecosystem capable of meeting the demands of global organizations.

Pakistan's IT sector has demonstrated remarkable resilience, sustaining its expansion through the delivery of cost-effective

and high-quality services. A pivotal factor contributing to this success is the well-trained and accessible workforce, available at a comparatively affordable cost. This strategic blend of professional talent and cost-effectiveness has propelled the industry's growth, leading to Pakistan's recognition as the most financially attractive destination for outsourcing by Kearney's Global Services Location Index 2022.

Impressively, the country offers its quality services at nearly 70% lower cost compared to more advanced markets like North America.



TNG
The Next Generation
School
Quality Education

TNG shines with outstanding academic performance recognition

The Next Generation (TNG) School is dedicated to nurturing an environment that empowers our youth to strive for excellence. We are committed to meeting every child's needs to help them become confident, independent, and prepared to meet the challenges of our rapidly evolving world.



TNG was recognized by the Ministry of Education in its first "We Are Proud of You" event, a new initiative to highlight students who have outstanding academic performance. Muhammad Ibrahim from Ain Khaled was recognized for his exemplary performance in the Cambridge Checkpoint exams. From Al Wakra Secondary, Fatima Amir was recognized for highest marks in Islamic Studies in Qatar, while Mohammad Farhan Arshad was recognized for high achievement in A-Level Chemistry. These achievements are emblematic of the success that is encouraged by each member of the TNG community.

Four TNG campuses were also highlighted for their outstanding performance in the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study. Two campuses were in the top four among 32 of highest scores in Qatar, Wakra Primary securing second place and Nuaija securing fourth place. Ain Khaled and Al-Daayen campuses were also appreciated for their outstanding performance. This accomplishment is a testament to the dedication of our teachers, students, and parents.

At TNG, students continue to soar past numerous milestones. We are delighted to see the effort we put into realising our mission and vision keep



bearing fruition. Looking ahead, TNG will continue to foster a positive learning environment, and encourage our students to grow into future leaders of tomorrow.



The Next Generation School
Quality Education

TNG School promotes the skills of analysis, problem-solving, critical reasoning, creativity and encourages deeper thinking in its learners.

Reflective
Reflective as learners,
developing their ability to learn

Confident
Confident in working with
information and ideas -
their own and those of others

Engaged
Engaged intellectually
and socially, ready to
make a difference

Islamic Values
True Muslims with an
emphasis on Islamic
values and practices

Innovative
Innovative and equipped
for new and future challenges

Responsible
Responsible for themselves,
responsive to and respectful of others

Transforming Information to Knowledge
Knowledge to Wisdom

Al-Nuaija
KG & Primary

Al-Wukair
Kindergarten

Ain Khalid
KG & Primary

Al-Wakra
Secondary

Al-Daayen
KG & Primary
& Secondary

Al-Wakra
KG & Primary
& Secondary

Al-Wukair
Primary

Acknowledging the importance of the IT industry, the government of Pakistan has played a crucial role in fostering its development. Through various initiatives, such as research and innovation, the establishment of software technology parks, subsidized bandwidth, international marketing endeavors, and facilitation of international certifications, the government actively supports sustainable growth and rapid digitization. Over 40 software technology parks across the country exemplify the commitment to providing a conducive environment for IT businesses. In the last few years, Pakistan's IT exports have surged, experiencing a growth of 178% at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 30%.

To further attract foreign investment, Pakistan offers 100% company ownership, a minimal tax rate of 0.25% to promote IT exports, and 100% repatriation of profits and dividends for foreign owners. These incentives, coupled with the country's strategic vision outlined in Pakistan

Vision 2025, position the nation as a favorable destination for global investors seeking to leverage technological advancements for national development.

With 64% of Pakistan's population under the age of 29, the country's ICT sector is fueled by young minds with ambitious goals. Unlike previous generations, the youth of Pakistan is increasingly inclined towards entrepreneurship over traditional public sector employment. This shift is supported by the government, with continuous efforts to enhance IT exports and encourage the establishment of new IT companies.

Pakistan, with its 250+ Higher Education Commission-recognized universities and an annual production of 75,000 IT graduates, stands out as a prominent source of skilled professionals. Proficient in English, widely spoken across the country, and with many IT professionals having studied or lived in

Western countries, Pakistan offers a workforce with global exposure and minimal cultural barriers. The country's IT sector employs over 600,000 English-speaking professionals, attracting global enterprises like Bentley®, IBM®, Mentor Graphics®, S&P Global®, Symantec®, and Teradata® to establish their centers in Pakistan.

In conclusion, Pakistan's Information Technology sector has not only proven to be a cornerstone of economic growth but has positioned the nation as a global hub for innovation and expertise. With a government committed to fostering development, a young and entrepreneurial population, and a skilled workforce with global exposure, Pakistan's IT industry is set to continue its upward trajectory. As the nation aligns itself with the digital age through initiatives like Pakistan Vision 2025, it stands poised to offer diverse technological solutions and services to the world, solidifying its place as a valuable resource in the global IT arena.

Activities of Pakistani Community Engagements of Community Welfare Wing with local authorities

The community welfare wing of this mission actively participate in meetings/ events related to laws/policies, safety of workers, awareness and efficient and transparent recruitment of workforce etc. organized by local authorities for the betterment of expatriates including Pakistanis residing in Qatar. This Office disseminates such information in Pakistani community from time to time and also encourages Pakistani Community to take active part in positive and healthy socio-cultural activities including participation in different events organized by local authorities.

Few events/meetings for the last six months are illustrated below:

- i. A meeting was held on 04.09.2023 in the Ministry of Labour, Qatar regarding the signing of MoU between the Ministry of Labour Qatar and the Ministry of OP& HRD Pakistan. The aim of this proposed MoU is to exchange experiences in the field of labour relations, labour inspection, occupational safety and health and any other field specified by the Ministries within their scope of competence.
- ii. Participated in an event organized by International Labour Organization (ILO) on 12.09.2023 wherein Mr. Gilbert F. Hougbo, Director-General, ILO delivered a lecture on "From G20 to the SDG Summit: Where do we stand on decent work and Social Justice."
- iii. Ministry of Municipality, Qatar launched an informative book covering different activities and information about Doha Expo-2023 on 29-09-2023. Attended the ceremony on the invitation of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Qatar.
- iv. A meeting was held on 02.10.2023 with M/s. Qatar Care in Doha, Qatar. The meeting's primary agenda centered on the possibility of recruiting manpower from Pakistan. The company's representative shared valuable insights and information regarding their current workforce, which comprises approximately 400 nurses from various nationalities. The representative of M/s. Qatar Care's expressed commitment to prioritize the hiring of Pakistani workers in the future. This commitment to consider Pakistani candidates for employment opportunities is a positive development that aligns with our efforts to facilitate employment opportunities for Pakistani nationals in Qatar.
- v. Meeting was held on 03.10.2023 with Undersecretary H.E. Sheikha Najwa Bint Abdul Rahman bin Naseer Al Thani, Undersecretary, Ministry of Labour, Qatar, and Ambassador H.E. Muhammad Aejaz, along with Syed Mustafa Rabbani, Deputy Head of Mission and Mr. Arsalan Khan Tanoli, Community Welfare Attaché-II. The Qatari counterpart informed about the new initiative of Labour Ministry "Labour Management Information System" which would provide real-time requirements of manpower demand. H.E Ambassador appreciated the efforts and reforms carried out by Labour Minister. He also emphasized on the creation of two new Qatar Visa Centers in Lahore & Peshawar and a G2G mechanism to be build to enhance bilateral cooperations in the field of manpower.
- vi. Attended the seminar the Arab Fintech Forum 2023 at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Doha and represented the Embassy of Pakistan, Doha on 10-11 October, 2023. The theme of Arab Fintech Forum 2023 is centered on "Innovating for Inclusive Financial Futures in the Arab World." The forum aims to explore how financial technology can drive financial inclusion and empowerment across the Arab region, addressing challenges and opportunities for a more inclusive and sustainable financial ecosystem.
- vii. Actively participated and attended the signing ceremony of MOU between M/s. Elegancia Healthcare W.L.L and Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) on 19-10-2023. The Ambassador of Pakistan on the behalf of the OEC signed the MoU. The MoU aims to recruit healthcare professionals from Pakistan through OEC platform.
- viii. Attended the achievement ceremony of Bin Thani Infrastructure Company on 29-10-2023 upon the invitation of the company's owner Sheikh Jassim Bin Saud Bin Fahad Bin Jassim Al Thani through Pakistani diaspora member Mr. Sheraz Orakzai.
- ix. Attended and actively participated on the first ever Pakistan Qatar IT Conference on 03-12-2023. This event was a groundbreaking opportunity for Pakistan's IT industry to showcase its capabilities to business and government executives in Qatar with the aim of establishing collaborations and partnerships.
- x. The 21st Edition of Doha Forum was held on 10-11 December, 2023 at the Sheraton Grand Doha Resort & Convention Hotel. The Forum was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of Qatar. Mr. Arsalan Khan Tanoli, CWA-II participated in the forum on behalf of this Mission. The theme of forum was that the world is experiencing unprecedented fragmentation in geopolitics, technology, and trade, leading to great power competition and national conflicts. Despite this, the importance of proactive engagement, systems thinking, and dialogue is emphasized to address these challenges. The Doha Forum serves as a platform for diverse perspectives and constructive dialogue to foster sustainable safety, justice, and freedom in our interconnected world.

Engagements of Pakistani Community in Qatar

i. The Community Welfare Office coordinated with Ministry of Culture, Qatar and Pakistani Community to organize an event on Pakistani Culture and Philanthropy on 08-09-2023. H.E Ambassador of the Mission was chief guest and Mr. Amjad Saqib a well known philanthropist from Pakistan and Mrs. Maryam Yassin Al-Hammadi, Director of Culture and Arts Department, Ministry of Culture, Qatar were guest of honours. The event was attended by large number of Pakistani Community.



An interaction took place between the Minister of Environment in Qatar and members of the Pakistani diaspora.

ii. Interacted with Pakistani community and meet with H.E Sheik Faleh Bin Naseer Bin Ahmed Bin Ali Al Thani, Minister for Environment Qatar in a wedding ceremony on 27-10-2023.

iii. Participated in a cake cutting ceremony on account of Qatar National Day organized by Pakistani community.



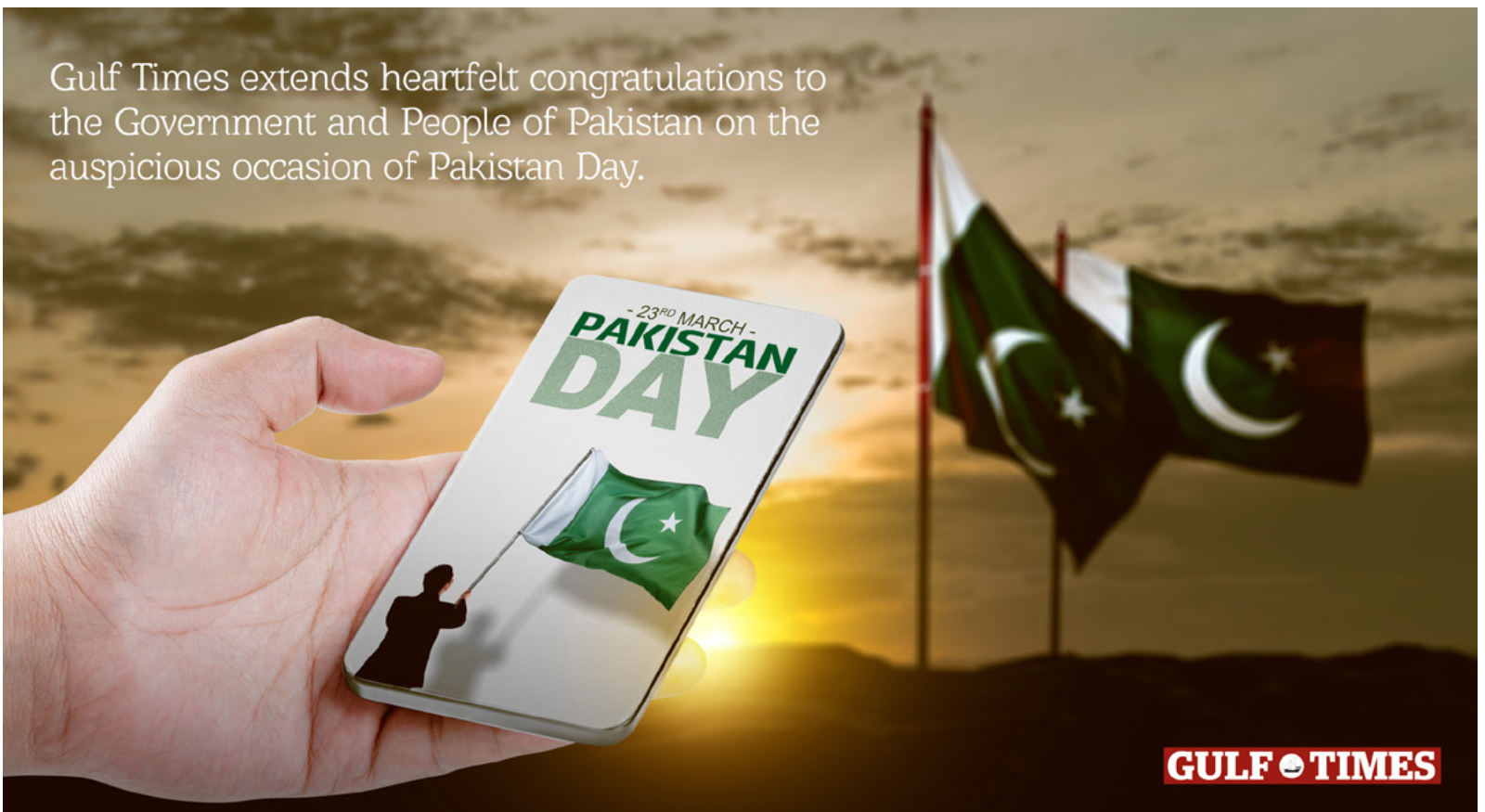
Celebration of Quaid-e-Azam Birthday with Pakistan Engineering Forum-Qatar.



Event on Pakistani Culture and Philanthropy.

iv. Pakistan Engineering Forum a Pakistani community in Qatar organized a cake cutting ceremony on account of Quaid-e-Azam Day. The CWA Office actively participated in the event and ensured that optimum number of Pakistanis attend this event.

Gulf Times extends heartfelt congratulations to the Government and People of Pakistan on the auspicious occasion of Pakistan Day.



Welcome to the Land of Beauty

Pakistan is a beautiful country that is rich in culture and history, as well as natural beauty. With shining deserts and some of the world's highest peaks, the country has myriad attractions for sightseers, skiers, trekkers and mountaineers.



Babuser, Pakistan



Ornaj, Khuzdar, Balochistan



Sadpara Lake, Skardu, Gilgit Baltistan



Beautiful View of Islamabad Pakistan



Dunga Gali, Abbottabad, KPK



Neelam Valley, Azad Kashmir



Omer Hayat Mahal, Chiniot, Punjab, Pakistan

Happy Pakistan Day

Send Money to Pakistan in 60 seconds.



Send money to your family and loved ones in Pakistan using the fastest international money transfer service in Qatar, with funds credited in 60 seconds to bank accounts.



Scan the QR code to download **CBQ Mobile App**.

CONSTRUCTING THE COUNTRY TOGETHER

Descon is a pioneer engineering enterprise, with over 4 decades of dedication towards building Pakistan. Operating in various key sectors including power, engineering and chemicals, we cater to almost all the sectors of the Pakistani industry. With services at par with international standards, we are always committed to raise Pakistan's flag higher and see our country advance further ahead.

