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TEHRAN

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TIMES

Rabi'

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Pakistan-Iran Relations







It is my singular honour to be Pakistan's Ambassador to Iran- a great country which has played an instrumental role in annals of human civilization boasting more than 5,000 years history. Tehran's magical beauty, with incredible imprints of rich Persian civilization, the resilience and vitality of its people, and devotion of Iranian leadership to its citizens has always inspired me.

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By Allah's blessings, Pakistan was created on 14 August 1947 and Iran recognized Pakistan soon after. This demonstrates that we were intertwined by age-old ties. Since then both countries have maintained very strong relationship despite facing turbulent geostrategic times.

Both countries, sharing a border of more than 900 km, are neighbours and have a critical role in shaping region's destiny. Our relationship is rooted in history, culture, and commonality of interests. Seized of changing dynamics of the region, leadership of the both countries has been regularly interacting to protect and promote mutual interests Both countries firmly supported each other during 12-day War and 4-day War against their adversaries.

In past two years, the Honourable Prime Minister of Pakistan, H.E. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif visited Iran twice and in April 2024, the late Pres-

ident Ebrahim Raisi visited Pakistan. In first week of August 2025 H.E. President Masoud Pezeshkian visited Pakistan. Similarly, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, visited Iran several times while Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araghchi visited Pakistan multiple times to further reinforce bilateral ties. The military leadership of both countries has also met frequently to exchange views on regional security and strategic challenges.

It may also be recalled that the His Eminence, Sayyed Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of Iran undertook a landmark visit to Pakistan in 1986 (as President of Iran) which played a crucial role in elevating Pakistan-Iran ties. The grand welcome accorded to His Eminence- by warm and hospitable people of Pakistan- has become an unforgettable part of our history.

There are also forums such as Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC), Joint Economic Commission (JEC), and Joint Border Trade Committee (JBTC), whose regular meetings further underpin our ties.

Both countries are also engaged in efforts to battle terrorism on their border. Moreover intelligence cooperation between us has been quite robust > Page 2







Pakistan-Iran Relations

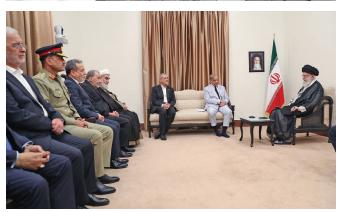
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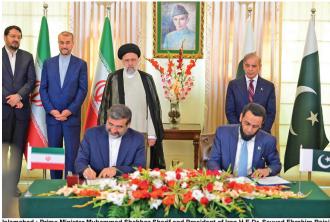
This year bilateral trade has reached \$3.1b. As committed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Pezeshkian, the two neighbours are making resolute efforts to elevate trade to \$10b annually. To achieve that goal, key reforms have been undertaken by both governments and more facilities have been provided at the border crossing points for expeditious clearance of goods. Both countries are in process of signing a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and are institutionalizing barter-trade system to expand trade volume.

I urge business community and chambers of both countries to make every effort to explore their limitless potential to substantially widen bilateral economic ties.

Last month, a successful Pakistan-Iran Joint Business Forum was held in Tehran in which nearly five hundred businessmen participated and explored lucrative opportunities. 307 Iranian and nearly 50 Pakistani companies participated in the Forum.

We are also strengthening people-to-people ties. Pakistan's national anthem is full of Persian words and is an absolutely beautiful and melodious representation of two civilizations. Our national poet, Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, is deeply revered in Iran





Islamabad: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and President of Iran H.E. Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Ra witness signing of MoUs of Cooperation in different fields, between Iran and Pakistan on 22 April, 2024.

CHAIDMAN SEMATE SYER YOURSE BAZA GILANI IN A MEETING WITH IDANIAN DRESIDENT TO SEVVEN ESBANIM BAISI

CHAIRMAN SENATE, SYED YOUSAF RAZA GILANI IN A MEETING WITH IRANIAN PRESIDENT DR. SEYYED EBRAHIM RAISI IN ISLAMABAD ON APRIL 22, 2024.





Islamabad: President of Iran H.E. Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharii unveiling plaque of renaming an avenue of Islamabad as Iran Avenue, on April 22, 2024.

for his unmatchable literary and intellectual power which has inspired generations of Muslims across the world.

Tehran University has a prestigious Pakistan Chair and an eminent professor

Tehran University has a prestigious Pakistan Chair and an eminent professor from Pakistan has been posted there. Moreover, current Secretary General of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) is a distinguished diplomat from Pakistan and is based in Tehran. Islamabad is also posting President of ECO-Cultural Institute (ECI)- who will soon join Tehran.

Pakistan School in Tehran, an iconic institution, serves as a bridge between younger generations of two countries and has produced outstanding students contributing to the national development of their respective countries.

Tens of thousands of Zairean visit Iran every year as part of their religious and spiritual journey and Iranians treat them with a great deal of affection and generosity- for which we are immensely grateful. Thousands of Pakistani students are also studying across Iran who play a crucial role in strengthening our social and academic ties.

I am very hopeful about the future of Pakistan-Iran ties. The leadership of both countries is fully committed to explore true potential of our strengths, and by deepening trust and maintaining regular interaction at all levels, is making efforts to help build a vibrant, strong, and peaceful region. People of both countries must also join hands to realize that endeavour.

Pakistan Zindabad



H.E. Muhammad Mudassir Tipu Ambassador of Pakistan in Tehran



Astonishing and Majestical Landscapes of Pakistan

From the mighty stretches of the Karakorams in the North to the vast alluvial delta of the Indus River in the South, Pakistan remains a land of great adventure and nature. Trekking, mountaineering, white water rafting, wild boar hunting, mountain and desert jeep safaris, camel and yak safaris, trout fishing and bird watching, are a few activities, which entice the adventurers and nature lovers to Pakistan.



Badshahi Mosque Lahore



Minar-e-Pakistan



Ghizer River Gilgit Baltistan



Hingol National Park Balochistan



Moola Chotok, Khuzdar Balochistan



Rakaposhi Karakoram



Dhandoor Lake Gilgit Baltistan



Neelum Valley Azad Kashmir



Kalash Valley Chitral



Hunza Velley



Arang Khel Azad Kashmir



Attabad Lake Hunza



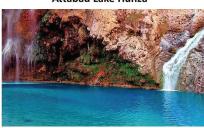
Kalam Valley Swat



Katas Raj Temple Chakwa



Dharam Sar Lake Kaghan Valley



Pir Ghaib Balochistan



Hingol Balochistan



Gadani Beach Karach



Sajikot Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa

Cultural Heritage

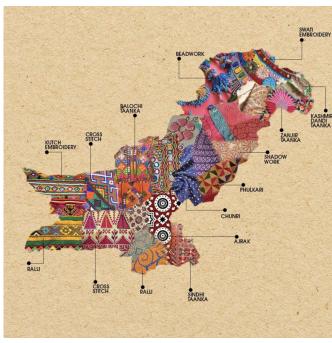
Pakistan's culture is a captivating mosaic of ancient traditions, regional customs, religious beliefs, and artistic expressions that span centuries. Rooted in the cradle of one of the world's oldest civilizations—the Indus Civilization—Pakistan's Valley cultural identity is a rich blend of South Asian, Central Asian, Middle Eastern, and Islamic influences. This diversity is reflected in the languages, religions, cuisines, music, literature, and everyday lives of its people.

Pakistan is a multi-ethnic society with a population comprising of Punjabis, Sindhis, Pashtuns, Baloch, Muhajirs, and many other communities. Each group brings its own language, customs, dress, and heritage to the national cultural landscape. From the agricultural heartlands of Punjab to the deserts of Sindh, the mountains of Gilgit-Baltistan to the rugged terrains of Balochistan, Pakistan is a country of contrasts and coexistence.

"Urdu" is not only the national language but also a symbol of unity, cultural commons regional languages like "Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashto, Balochi, Saraiki, and Shina" are widely spoken and cherished. Pakistan also has a rich literary tradition, both in classical and modern forms. The poetry of Allama Iqbal, the nation poet of Pakistan, remains influential. Sufi poets like "Bulleh Shah, Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai, and Khushal Khan Khattak" are deeply revered, while modern writers like Faiz Ahmed Faiz, Parveen Shakir, and Intizar Hussain have made significant contributions to Urdu literature.

Being an Islamic Republic, Islam is the state religion in Pakistan and shapes the country's laws, festivals, and moral values. However, Pakistan is also home to religious minorities including Christians, Hindus, Sikhs, and others. The presence of Sufishrines across the country reflects the deep-rooted mystical tradition in Pakistani Islam. These shrines are centers of spirituality, music, poetry, and cultural gatherings.

The national dress of Pakistan is the Shalwar Kameez, worn by both men and women in various regional styles. Women often wear vibrant dupattas or shawls, and in rural areas, traditional jewelry and embroidery are common. Urban life in Pakistan, especially in cities like Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad, is a mix of modernity and tradition. Young people balance contemporary trends with deep cultural roots.

















Defense Relations of Pakistan & Iran

Defense Day (September 06th) is a solemn event commemorating Pakistan's victory in the 1965 war with India and honoring the sacrifices of Pakistan's armed forces. At the Pakistan Embassy, a tribute is paid to the martyrs of the 1965 war. Wreaths are laid at the Embassy, and a brief ceremony takes place where speeches are made honoring the sacrifices of Pakistan's military. Special prayers are offered for the security and well-being of Pakistan, with calls for peace and stability. This is often followed by prayers for the soldiers and martyrs who sacrificed their lives for Pakistan's defense. The Embassy may organize screenings of documentaries and films that focus on the 1965 war, showcasing the bravery and heroism of Pakistan's armed forces. Some community gatherings include singing national songs and viewing archival footage of the 1965 war, bringing the community together in remembrance and national pride.



H.E. Ambassador of Pakistan meeting with Senior Iranian Military Officer on Pakistan Defense Day





visit to Iran - May 2025



The defence cooperation between Pakistan and Iran in year 2024/25 is marked by efforts to strengthen ties, securing mutual security challenges amid regional tensions. The military cooperation is growing in various domains. It exhibited through exchange of training at each other's military institutions, crossover visits by high level delegations, participation in each other's military exercises, etc.

In mid-2024, Pakistan and Iran had a security cooperation agreement, establishing an Intelligence-sharing mechanism. Subsequently, Colonel ranked officers from both sides were deputed correspondingly at Zahedan (Iran) and Turbat (Pakistan). The mechanism is getting matured and proving mutually advantageous.

There had been very productive bilateral military interactions between both the countries over past couple of months, which marks the positive trajectory in Pakistan-Iran military relations. The mutual endeavors include Iran's participation in IDEAS-24 with exclusive

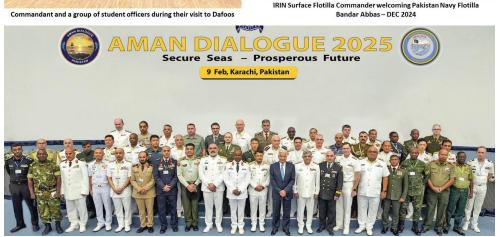


pavilion, PAF Ex Indus Shield, Multinational Maritime Ex AMAN-25 & AMAN Dialogue, etc. Similarly, from Pakistan's side PN ships' port call visits to Bandar Abbas, participation with observers/ high level delegations in IONs Maritime Exercise; Iran's Navy day, Iran's 12th International Aerospace & Aviation Exhibition - 2024/ Kish Air Show, Ex Maritime Security Belt (MSB-25), etc.

Likewise, high-level visits from Iranian side to Pakistan include Iran's Dy Def Minister, Chief of Staff of IRI Armed Forces, Major General Mohammad Hossein Bagheri, Cdr IRIAF, Brig Gen Hamid Vahedi and Cdr IRIN, R/ Admiral Shahram Irani. Similarly, Pakistan corresponded with its high level delegations more frequently than previous years.

The future outlook of military collaborations is very bright and promising, which would definitely bring both the nations further closer, guaranteeing each other's' future prosperity.







Cake cutting ceremony at Pakistan House during Defense Day Celebration



Pakistan Navy and Pakistan Maritime Security Agency Ships' visit to Bandar Abbas - DEC 2024

Various Pakistani National Events in Tehran, Iran

Pakistani national events are celebrated with great enthusiasm and patriotism by the Pakistani diaspora in Tehran, Iran. The events are significant and serve as moments for community unity, national pride, and the promotion of Pakistan's culture and heritage. The commemorations also serve to enhance the diplomatic and cultural relations between Pakistan and Iran, which share close religious, historical, and geopolitical ties.

The Pakistani community in Tehran actively participates in these national events to celebrate their shared identity, culture, and national pride. Despite being in a foreign country, they continue to honor their roots and foster strong ties between Pakistan and Iran. Through seminars, flag hoisting, cultural performances, and community events, the Pakistani diaspora in Tehran not only commemorates important national days but also strengthens the cultural diplomacy between the two countries.

Pakistan Independence Day

Every year, on August 14th Independence Day is being celebrated which is Pakistan's most significant national celebration. The Embassy hosts a formal flag-hoisting ceremony and the national anthem is sung. The Ambassador delivers a speech reflecting on Pakistan's history, achievements, and hopes for the future. Pakistanis in Tehran gather at local community centers or homes to celebrate Independence Day. Events often include singing patriotic songs, enjoying traditional Pakistani food, and dressing in the national colors (green and white). Children often perform skits and sing patriotic songs. Pakistani dances, music, and other cultural activities are performed to celebrate the diversity and rich heritage of Pakistan.



Opening of DLA Charity Bazaar in Tehran

A charity bazaar was opened by the Diplomatic Women's Association of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the occasion of the New Year on Wednesday, January 01, 2025. The event was held in a friendly and cultural environment with the strong presence of the spouses of foreign ambassadors and Iranian diplo-



Ms. Araghchi, head of the Diplomatic Women's Association of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that the spouses of ambassadors from 17 different countries participated in this event and showcased their culture by presenting handicrafts, clothing, and traditional foods.

Biking from Pakistan to Iran: A Journey Across **Borders**

Embarking on a road trip from Pakistan to Iran by motorcycle is an unforgettable adventure that combines breathtaking landscapes, rich cultures, and the thrill of cross-border travel. Starting from Pakistan, the most common route begins in Quetta,



Balochistan, and leads to the Taftan border crossing—the primary gateway into southeastern Iran.

The journey through Balochistan is a unique experience in itself. While the terrain is rugged and remote, the hospitality of the local people and the raw beauty of the desert landscape leave a lasting impression.

Pakistan Day

Pakistan Day (March 23rd) marks the Lahore Resolution of 1940, which laid the foundation for the creation of Pakistan. It is one of the most important national days for Pakistanis globally, and Tehran is no exception. The Pakistan Embassy in Tehran holds a flag-hoisting ceremony, followed by the singing of the national anthem. Embassy of Pakistan, Tehran proudly celebrated this year and last year at Burj Azadi, Tehran with the cooperation of Iranian Government video mapping showcasing National Anthems of both countries, magnificent display pictures of National Monuments with heart touching tunes in the background. This is often accompanied by an address from the Pakistani Ambassador or diplomatic representatives, highlighting the significance of Pakistan's creation and its historical importance. Pakistanis gather at local community centers or the Embassy for social events, where traditional food is served, and patriotic songs and speeches are made. These events also often feature patriotic performances. Pakistani musical performances and national songs are performed, celebrating Pakistan's cultural diversity and unity. The Embassy hosts a diplomatic re-

ception attended by Iranian officials, foreign diplomats, and members of the Pakistani community. The reception serves as a diplomatic celebration of the strong ties between Pakistan and Iran. National Day celebrations are marked in a similar fashion to Pakistan Day and Independence Day, emphasizing unity and national pride.



Iqbal Day

Every year Iqbal Day is being commemorated on the birth anniversary of Dr. Allama Muhammad Igbal dated November 9th popularly known as Iqbal Lahori.

Iqbal is the philosopher, poet, and visionary who iscredited with inspiring the idea of a separate Muslim state, which later became Pakistan. Such programs

served at Washing

reflect cultural diversity of Pakistan.

We are honored to have the Secretary General of ECO, Dr. Asad Majeed Khan a prominent and distin-



Partners in Progress: Pak-Iran Flourishing Trade Relations

People of Pakistan and Iran are not only bonded by the religious brotherhood, but also share deep cultural and historical ties. 900 kilometers long shared border and accessibility through all three transportation modes namely land, air and sea – accentuate the strong proximity factor between the two countries. Therefore, Pakistan and Iran are suited to be natural trading partners. As a result, trade in goods is the cornerstone of economic relations between Pakistan and Iran. Pakistan is the 6th largest trading partner of Iran in non-oil goods and the momentum is accelerating with every passing day.

Granting market access is the utmost sign of bilateral resolve to expanding trade ties. Pakistan and Iran entered into a Preferential Trade Agreement on 4th March 2004 which is operational since 1st September 2006 till today. Under the Agreement, 309 items from Pakistan and 338 items from Iran enjoy preferential import duties in the reciprocal market. To graduate to the next level of opening up, the two sides are at an advanced stage of finalizing a Free Trade Agreement which is expected to signed in the near future.

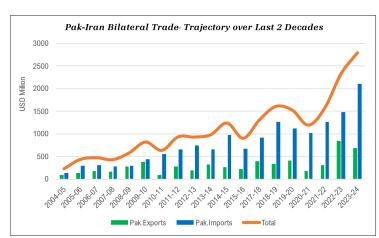
On the occasion of historic visit of the Iranian President to Pakistan in April 2024, leadership of the two countries announced to enhance bilateral trade to the tune of USD 10 billion per annum. This resolve has been reiterated by the Leadership recently during the visit of President Pezeshkian to Islamabad in August 2025.

In the year 2023-24, bilateral trade of goods between Pakistan and Iran has reached USD 3.1 billion – comprising USD 2.4 billion and USD 0.7 billion of Pakistan's imports from, and exports to Iran respectively. This is the highest-ever volume of bilateral trade between the two neighbors. What is even more remarkable is the fact that trade volume has almost quadrupled over a short span of 4 years. Rice is the largest exported commodity to Iran. Pakistan proudly caters to one-third of the Iranian rice import market and, given the world-revered aroma of Pakistani basmati rice, is looking forward to competitively gain even bigger market share. Iran sources mangoes, the king of fruits, and kinnows exclusively from Pakistan. Bananas and sesame seeds from Pakistan also find their way to Iranian market in ample quantities each year. Pakistan has commenced exports of chilled meat to Iran in financial year 2023-24. Exports on this account have already witnessed an impressive growth to the tune of USD 149 million in the financial year 2024-25. Pakistan, being an agricultural country and next-door neighbor, can also competitively cater to a substantial portion of USD 3.0 billion market of corn imports in Iran, for which active efforts are underway.

On the non-food side, Pakistan proudly supplies many items to Iran – most prominent being the fabrics and surgical instruments. Pakistan is poised to supply its world-class value-added textiles and finished leather goods to Iranian brethren soon after the ongoing negotiations for market-access are finalized.













Pakistan Embassy International School and College, Tehran

Pakistan Embassy International School and College, Tehran (PEISCT) is a non-profit English medium institution established in 1964 to cater to the educational needs of Pakistani and foreign students living in Tehran. Over the years, it has evolved into a high-quality educational institution providing academic excellence to children in a multicultural co-educational environment. The school currently has on its roll 35 nationalities. It offers curricula from pre-nursery through O' and A' levels in science and business studies groups. PEISCT is the only institute in Tehran which is affiliated with the University of Cambridge Assessment and International Education, UK and Federal Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education (FBISE) Islamabad. The School's curricula are modeled in line with international standards meeting the criteria of both, University of Cambridge, UK and Federal Board of Education, Pakistan. It also offers music and expressive arts as separate subjects. Besides co-curricular activities, outdoor trips and sports competitions are an integral part of the school activity calendar to shape the new generation as a well-rounded human being. All these facilities ensure that the school is an ideal place to learn where students are motivated and prepared to be indepen-



dent learners.

The school has a Formative System of Assessment which gauges the students' academic performance throughout the year. Each academic session is divided into two terms: Mid and Final, and the new academic session begins in August and ends for the summer break in June.

Our mission at PEISCT is to impart quality education to culturally diverse

students of different nationalities to transform and prepare them for higher order learning to become professionally successful and responsible global citizens. PEISCT has hired the services of experienced and qualified faculty and there is a structured mechanism for monitoring students' academic performance and progress. Parent teacher meetings are focused on the students'

What makes our school particularly special is how this global spirit blends beautifully with the local culture. Tehran offers a rich backdrop of history, hospitality, and inspiration. Our host community has welcomed us with open arms, and together we've built a school that is not just international in name, but in heart and practice.

Whether it's multilingual classrooms,







academic improvement and personality development. Teachers' professional development through INSET and Cambridge trainings is based on enhancement of quality teaching and learning process. The Alumni of the school is placed in top universities of UK, US, Canada, Australia, UAE, Malaysia, Iran and Pakistan and they have earned laurels in their areas of study. Career counseling is offered to senior students to guide their university selection and pursue their careers. The school is housed in a 2-storey vast state-of-the-art, centrally located building with facilities that support students' learning outcomes. The school is equipped with modern educational resources with Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer labs and Sports facilities.

international festivals, collaborative projects, or service learning that connects our students to global causes the good things happening here are the result of dedicated educators, supportive families, and students who are curious, courageous, and kind.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to nurturing a school environment where every child feels seen, heard, and inspired to make a difference here and around the world.

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