



Greenwich University  
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# Positive Post



Monthly publication to create a soft and positive image of Pakistan

2012 Silver Jubilee Year

## Independence Day Celebrated



Mohiuddin Abro  
BS35 2936

The nation celebrated its 65th Independence Day on Tuesday, August 14, 2012, with great enthusiasm, joy and festivity. People in all provinces decorated street, houses, shops and offices with the national flag, banners and



bunting. Government and private buildings were illuminated throughout the country.

Sindh Governor Dr Ishratul Ibad Khan and Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah visited the mausoleum of the Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and jointly performed flag-hoisting in the morning. They also laid floral wreaths and offered Fateha at the mazar. The ceremony was attended by members of the provincial cabinet, senior civil officials, diplomats and notables of the city.

Newspapers brought out special supplements while television and radio channels aired programs to highlight the significance of the day. Various organizations and institutions held seminars and workers' meetings.

Courtesy: Dawn

## Forces join festivities



Taimoor Ghaznavi Navaid  
BS 39 3415

The armed forces joined the nation in celebrating the Independence Day with day-long programs befitting the occasion.



In Karachi, celebrations began with a smartly turned-out contingent of Pakistan Naval Academy cadets taking over guard duties at the mausoleum of the

Contd. on Pg. 7

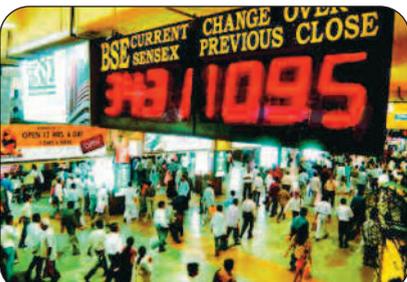
## Pakistanis can now invest in Indian shares



Deepak Kumar  
BS40 3503

India has opened its doors to Pakistani citizens and entities incorporated in this country to invest in shares and convertible debentures of an Indian company under the Foreign Direct Investment Scheme.

Cont. on Pg. 4



## Our legislators visit Bihar



Izzat Hayat  
BS 39 3378

Being dubbed as a runaway success, the visit of a Pakistani delegation to India – ahead of the visit of Indian Foreign Minister S M Krishna to Islamabad – was warmly welcomed by the Indian parliamentarians in Bihar.

Lawmakers from both sides recommended radical confidence-building measures including easy travel and trade across the border and visa-free access for educationists and senior citizens.

The Pakistani delegation held intense discussions with Indian parliamentarians led by senior leader of the opposition Bharatiya Janata party (BJP) Yashwant Sinha and former foreign minister and Congress member Mani Shankar Iyer.



### Easy Access

The members of the delegation suggested that both Pakistan and India should allow each others' citizens to travel across the border in their own vehicles and waive the condition to report to police in order to avoid undue harassment. They also recommended visa-free access for the senior citizens and those associated with the education sector.

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August 2012

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**Acknowledgement**

Positive Post is grateful to the newspapers/agencies from which the news have been gleaned by students.

# Maqbool – A Noble Soul!

S. M. Sohaib Roomi  
BS24 1860



The following story was written (and posted in online Karachi Food Diary) by Zeeshan Jamote, who while looking for his wife's ring that she had accidentally dropped outside Ami's, in Karachi DHA's Khadda Market, went to the Facebook group "We've Had Enough" asking for help...and a lot of people said that he would probably NOT find his wife's diamond wedding ring, and that it was gone forever. He wrote:



"I was on my way home from work when I got a call from the owner of Ami's (I had left my number with him the night before in case something came up). He told me there was somebody there who claimed to have the jewelry. He hadn't seen it himself since the person wanted to speak to me face to face first.

"I got there right away and as I was parking my car outside Ami's, the Red Apple (a nearby fast-food joint) waiters (who remembered me from the night before and our frantic search together), rushed to the car excitedly saying, "Sir aap ka samaan milgia!"

*Contd. on Pg.7*

## Khairpur teenager wins \$250k scholarship on bio-chem research

Deepak Kumar  
BS40 3503

Shadab Rasool Abro, a student of matriculation and a resident of Khairpur, has received an award as well as a scholarship worth US 250,000 dollars from the US State University of New York for presenting his research in the field of Bio-chemical technology.



The student of Pak-Turk School has devised an amazing project to recycle chemical waste as well as make the industrial processes virus-free.

On an invitation from the State University of New York, Shadab Rasool Abro visited the United States and performed a successful experiment on the basis of his research.

*Courtesy: The Goodnews*

## Karachi students clinch global math contest

Fahad Odho  
BS39 3393



Four students of the Dawood Public School, Karachi, were declared high achievers in the International Kangaroo Mathematics Competition.

Ayesha Rizwan secured first position in Level 7 and was awarded a gold medal along with a cash prize of Rs10,000.



Javeria Jawaid won a silver medal in Level 9. Royal

Ramesh and Manal Farruk each won a bronze medal in Level 4.

Students from across the country participated in the competition which is held around the world and gives students a chance to test their mathematical skills. It was first organised in 1991 in France and has been held in Pakistan since 2005 by the Pakistan Kangaroo Commission.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

### EDITOR'S NOTE

The 19th Positive Post contains some interesting and inspiring stories on Independence Day celebrations, our continuously improving economic and political relations with neighbouring India, individual and institutional achievements by our compatriots, and much more.

There is a visible progress in our students' ability to select ever-better news stories that motivate and encourage positivity. Let's keep raising the bar and make this publication more and more useful for our readers. As always, your intellectual input and active participation are welcome.

## Team Pakistan sweeps debating competition in Mexico

Taimoor Ghaznavi Navaid  
BS39 3415

For the three 15-year-old students selected to represent Pakistan in one of the biggest high school tournaments in the world, the Karl Popper Debating Championship (KPDC), their first visit to Mexico became a time to shine.

Not only did the Pakistani team win the final against the team from South Korea, but all three participants were listed in the top 10 speakers of tournament. The titled was achieved after winning through six preliminary rounds, three elimination rounds and the grand finale.

Karachi Grammar School student Zainab Hameed was named the top speaker of the competition while Azeem Liaquat, student of the Salamat International Campus for Advanced Studies in Lahore, came second. Their compatriot, Ahmed

*Contd. Pg. 7*



## LNG pipeline talks on the cards with India

Mohd Harris Javaid  
BS40 3516



Islamabad and Delhi are expected to discuss a plan to lay a pipeline from India to Pakistan for export of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in a meeting to be held in Islamabad in the first week of September.

According to sources, Pakistan and India, during the deliberations, will also touch issues of LNG pricing and transport facility. They said India was planning to expand its pipeline network for shipment of LNG across the border.

The sources pointed out that India had already laid a pipeline network covering 100kms for transporting LNG



to Bhatinda, from where the pipeline could be extended to Pakistan's Wagah border to inject gas into the network of Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL).

Indian LNG trading company, Petronet Private Limited (PPL), has an LNG receiving and re-gasification terminal at Dahej, Gujarat, with original handling capacity of five million tons per annum (mtpa). The capacity of the terminal,

*Contd. on Pg.6*

## Blogger sets out to change nation's image

Izzat Hayat  
BS 39 3378

A blogger for the last two years on topics ranging from international relations to social issues, Mehreen Kasana got sick of comments posted on her blog asking whether all Pakistanis were extremists.



"When it comes to international media and reporting, a stereotype has been established of Pakistanis as people full of hate," said the 23-year-old student of FC College, where she studies media and political science. "People would post on my blog asking whether Pakistanis were really how they were shown in the media."

So on August 8, Kasana set out to

*Contd. Pg.6*

## Epic struggle for more milk

Narowal's Shahzad Iqbal abandoned the jet-set lifestyle of a corporate executive because he wanted to do something worthwhile for his country. So he invested his life savings in world-class bull semen.

He imports the sperm from potent bulls in the West, with names like Socrates, Air Raid and Liberator, and sells it at affordable prices to farmers so they can breed cows that produce higher volumes of quality milk.

Iqbal is one of a band of trailblazers - from small-town entrepreneurs to managers in multi-national companies - who want to transform Pakistan's ramshackle dairy industry into a multi-billion dollar enterprise. "It's going to take a revolution to turn it around," said Iqbal, as his farm workers moved metal cylinders filled with liquefied nitrogen gas that store the semen at -196 Celsius (-321 Fahrenheit).

If Iqbal and his comrades can succeed in their mission to overturn centuries-old practices and introduce modern techniques, they could open the door to a revolution in the livelihoods of millions of impoverished farmers.

The dismal state of the dairy industry is a striking example of Pakistan's habit of missing opportunities throughout a 65-year history tainted by military coups, political in-



fighting and a form of crony capitalism that has stifled entrepreneurship.

With 63 million cows and buffaloes, Pakistan has one of the world's biggest herds, but it cannot export milk because the animals' yields are so low.

Preoccupied by power struggles and tension with the army, successive governments have failed to realize the potential of the sector, which engages about 35 million people, or 20 percent of the population, in direct or related work.

While other countries worked on ways to improve livestock gene pools, fodder and veterinary medicine, Pakistan largely left its farmers to fend for themselves over the decades.

The result is a haphazard supply chain riddled with inefficiencies stretching from the cow's udder all the way to the tea cup.

*Contd. Pg.6*

# Tandoor boy tops Bachelor's exam

Taimoor Ghaznavi Navaid  
BS39 3415

Muhammad Mohsin, son of a labourer of Hafizabad, has topped the list by obtaining 688 numbers in Punjab University's bachelor's examination this year.

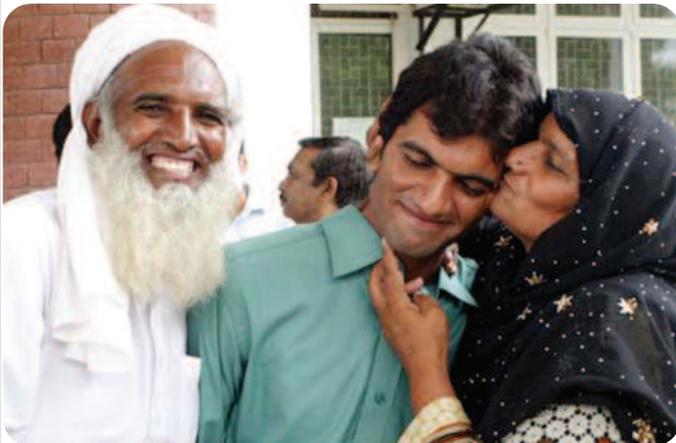
Talking to 'Geo News', Muhammad Mohsin said he is son of a labourer and works at a tandoor to help his father. "I could not afford college fees due to this I ap-

peared in private exams," he said and added: "I want to get master's degree but cannot pay the fee."

He requested the Punjab government to provide give him scholarship so that he could continue his education.

Muhammad Mohsin's parents are very happy on their son's great achievement.

Courtesy: The News



## Contd. Pakistan, legislator visit Bihar

The recommendations further included the removal of ban imposed on news and entertainment channels and called for promotion of artists and media persons across the border.

The parliamentarians urged the two governments to quickly implement the trade-related agreements and finalise the details of trade of energy-related products.

### Panic SMSs

Discussing the issue of fake SMSs allegedly emanating from Pakistan, the parliamentarians asked the Indian government to provide evidence for their claims.

Indian Home Secretary R K Singh had alleged that text messages and emails originating from Pakistan-based URLs had caused widespread panic among the people of North East India, causing them to migrate.

"Even if the hate mails were not generated from Pakistan, the issue only emphasises the reasons why are we here in India; we are here to create a positive atmosphere," Pak-

istan MNA Khurram Dastagir said.

Responding to questions about Hindus from Pakistan crossing over to India due to alleged ill-treatment, Khan said: "As far as we know, no Pakistani Hindu has so far applied for political asylum here. The government is dealing with this problem and the Supreme Court has also taken note of it."

### Liberal visa regime

Welcoming the forthcoming meeting between the foreign ministers of India and Pakistan in Islamabad from September 7 to 9, the parliamentarians stressed the need to sign the proposed liberal visa regime agreement during the meeting.

They also stated that the health-related travel and religious tourism should also be made easier as early as possible.

The Pakistani and Indian lawmakers admitted that time was ripe to resolve long-standing disputes such as Siachen and Sir Creek.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

## Contd. Pakistanis can now invest in Indian shares

Such investment would have to be made after prior approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board of the Government of India. It

will also be subject to the condition, among others, that "the Indian company, receiving such FDI, must not be engaged in sectors/activities pertaining to defense, space and atomic energy and sectors/activities prohibited for foreign investment," an announcement by the Reserve Bank of India said recently.

The move came on the heels of the August 1 decision by the Indian commerce ministry

that overturned a ban on foreign investment (in industrial ventures) from Pakistan, permitting a citizen or entity from Pakistan to make such investments in India.

The decision to accept the FDI from Pakistan was taken in April this year when the two trade ministers met in New Delhi and was thought to be in response to Pakistan's decision to grant India the 'Most Favored Nation (MFN)' status by the end of the year.

Traders and investors on this side of the border express pleasure over the second step in 'trade diplomacy' in a single month as they believed it would help tackle troublesome issues such as Kashmir that has soured relations between the two countries, since their creation 65 years ago.

A senior stock broker, however, thought the Indian decision to be "symbolic". He did not expect an imminent rush of funds to equity markets on the other side of the border.



The Managing Director of Karachi Stock Exchange, Nadeem Naqvi, however, commented that it was a welcome step. He said that it was a natural evolution of the thawing of relations between the two neighbours where the potential for bilateral business and investment relationship was huge.

An industrialist said: "Now that India has permitted Pakistani nationals and corporates' investment in industrial ventures and equity markets, everyone looks forward to the RBI to remove a Pakistan-specific regulation that bars Indian companies from investment in Pakistan."

Courtesy: DAWN

**Happiness is not the absence of problems, it's the ability to deal with them.**

—Steve Marabll



## Calligraphist finds peace in his work

S. M. Sohaib Roomi  
BS24 1860

The calligrapher of Masjid-e-Nabavi, Shafeeq uz Zaman, is from Pakistan. Since 1990, he has been working in the Thuluth script on the mosque's 177 domes.

He recently bagged second prize at the International Calligraphy Competition in Istanbul, Turkey, and has also won several competitions at national and international levels.

Hundreds of Arabs and Turkish people are students of Ustad Shafeeq, who has learned calligraphy on his own and calls himself the spiritual student of the renowned 20th century calligrapher, Ustad Hamid Al-Amidi. Ustad Shafeeq thinks in the period of computers, calligraphy's importance will not fade. He also says he finds peace while doing calligraphy in Masjid-e-Nabavi cannot find this anywhere else.

Courtesy: Goodnews.pk

## National art on National Day

Taimoor Ghaznavi Navaid  
BS 39 3415

Patriotic displays and family events kept visitors busy when they joined Independence Day celebrations on the lawns of Lok Virsa in Islamabad.

The day started with a flag hoisting ceremony. Pakistani flags were swaying in all directions; loudspeakers blaring national songs and live folk music accompanying numerous events, which included an exhibition of artisans-at-work featuring craftsmen/women in various specialised



fields at the Heritage Museum at Garden Avenue.

Master artisans like Rubina Zulfiqar displayed her Kashmiri embroidery, Taj Muhammad Tajal put on a show of his Namda/Gabba making, while Zulfiqar Ali Ghazi put up papier mache (French for chewed paper) art, Khaleerur Rehman traditional truck art, Zahid wax printing, Matahir Bukhari Multani embroidery, Fauzia Naheed traditional doll making and Hafeez Nasir Zari (needle) work.

Among some of the attractions were Zulfiqar Ali Ghazi's famous Kashmiri art of papier mache. Determined to preserve the golden era of the Mughals, Ghazi had painted nature, floral motifs, birds, animals, and Mughal kings in his paintings as well on papier mache artifacts.

The other one who caught the visitors' eye was Khaleerur Rehman, creative artisan and painter in truck art from Rawalpindi creating fantasies and dreams in rich colours and embellishments oozing off deeply rooted folklore.

While Shaukat Dholi and his group of tra

## 'Rikshaw' at your doorstep!

S.M.Sohaib Roomi  
BS24 1860

Lined neatly in a row are 27 white auto rickshaws with spotless doors and glass windows. On a blue strip on their back a number is painted. Once they are out on the streets, they will give conventional rickshaws a run for their money.



Karchi's Call-a-Rik project, launched on July 24, brings a rickshaw to one's doorstep. Moreover, it gives one what one can call a luxury rickshaw ride with a backseat as big as Suzuki Mehran, doors which close like a car's doors, an LCD screen for entertainment, and headphones for every passenger to buffer the noise outside.

All that for an affordable price of Rs10 per kilometer on weekdays and Rs12 per kilometer on weekends.

Courtesy: Goodnews.pk

ditional dhol players in colourful costumes walked towards crowds often parking themselves where most attention was paid to their compositions performing throughout the day for the pleasure of their visitors, folk artists and musicians including junior Alan Faqir (Muhammad Bukhsh) also presented popular items and sung national and folk songs marking the celebrations.

To attract visitors towards the joyous atmosphere in the lawns of the Lok Virsa had also granted a special rebate of fifty per cent on entry tickets for Pakistani adults at the National Heritage Museum and Pakistan Monument Museum, adjacent to the monument sitting on the hills. Like previous years, the Independence Day event was one of the most attended.

Courtesy: Dawn News

## Contd.: Epic struggle for more milk

### Big Money

Iqbal can take comfort from the fact that he is not alone in his quest for reform. Some international companies are also working for change.

Nestle has installed 3,200 industrial-size milk refrigerators at collection points across the country to lay the foundations for the kind of cold storage chain essential for a modern dairy industry, and give farmers a steady market for their milk.

At a training centre with manicured lawns and spotless dormitories for farmers in Punjab, Nestle holds workshops to drive home a simple message - properly managed cows produce more milk.

Instructors show farmers how to treat their animals - the Nestle cattle lounge around on soft sand under powerful fans, chewing nutritious fodder. They have constant access to water - essential practices of which most farmers are ignorant.

So far, Nestle has put 9,000 farmers through the program. Some have doubled their milk output, says the company, which estimates it could make about \$450 million in milk exports from Pakistan.

"The potential is very large but it will only succeed if we can develop milk of export quality because we need to be able to trade in the commodity export market," said New Zealander Bill Stevenson, head of milk collection and dairy development at Nestle Pakistan Ltd.

Like Iqbal, he has found that deep in rural Punjab, attitudes are hard to change.

Many farmers still view their animals as status symbols, not assets that can help turn around the economy, where some believe a lack of opportunities for a frustrated, youthful population may pose as big a threat to stability as militancy.

Cows are often sold to pay for weddings or dowries and are seen as four-legged insurance policies for hard times, usually living beside farmers' mud and brick homes.

"It's a full-time job," said farmer Mukhtar Ahmed as he lay on a rope bed outside his home, a cow defecating nearby.

"And farmers can't always sell their milk because it's not easy to transport and find buyers. Many are left with unsold milk."

*Courtesy: New York Times*

## Contd. Pakistan, India to discuss LNG pipeline

which is meeting around 20% of the country's gas demand, was expanded to 10mtpa in June 2009.

The LNG price for the Dahej project is linked with Japan's crude cocktail price. India may also link the price of gas for Pakistan with Japan's price.

PPL has a long-term contract with Ras-Gas, Qatar, for supply of 7.5mtpa of LNG with back-to-back sales arrangement with GAIL India, Indian Oil Corporation and Bharat Petroleum. It has also made arrangements with Exxon Mobil's Gorgon venture in Australia for supply of 1.44mtpa.

India also has an oil refinery in Bhatinda from where it desires to export oil to Pakistan as well. In this regard, Delhi has expressed interest in building a pipeline to Wagah for supply of oil to Pakistan.

An energy expert said Pakistan would have to use the option of pipeline if it wanted to import LNG from India. However, he suggested that Pakistan should first try to find out whether India was in a position to export gas in the face of shortages there.

"India currently faces shortage of over four

billion cubic feet of gas per day (bcfd), which poses a question mark over whether it will be able to provide gas to Pakistan," he said, adding there were some other questions which needed to be answered before going for LNG imports from India.

"The proposed import of 200 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) of LNG may be a short-term arrangement," he said, adding the quality of pipeline would need to be examined to find out how long it would be able to channel the gas if a long-term contract was reached between the two countries. He pointed out that India was importing 75% of LNG in a long-term arrangement with Qatar and 30% of the requirement was being met through spot purchases.

"Pakistan may cost \$3 to \$4 per million British thermal units (mmbtu) in terms of terminal toll, profit and transportation of LNG through the pipeline," he said, adding, however, the cost of LNG ranged between \$13 and \$18 per mmbtu in India.

Discussing gas wastage in the country, the expert said "efficiency of gas appliances in Pakistan is 30% to 35%, prompting the need for the government to focus on using most efficient appliances," he said.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

## Contd. Blogger sets out to change

make a statement against this stereotyping. She advertised heavily on social media, inviting people to contribute to her project by taking a picture of themselves holding a piece of paper with the Pakistan flag on it and a message declaring: "I am a Pakistani and I refuse to be stereotyped."

"The idea was to encourage Pakistanis to speak out and tell the world that we are a lot more than what people see on the television," Kasana said.

"I got mails from people saying even though we are not Pakistanis, we want to send in a picture speaking out against the stereotyping of Pakistanis," she said. Pictures were sent by Britons, Americans, Canadians, Afghans, Palestinians and Indians. "An Indian sent in a picture saying I am an Indian and I am against the stereotyping of Pakistanis," she said.

In all, she received over 200 pictures, many carrying serious or sometimes humorous statements condemning stereotyping.

She put up a collage of the entries on her Tumblr blog on August 14. "A collage is just a fun way to engage with people and make their contributions visible," she said.

The aim of the project, she said, was to open a dialogue to help better understand Pakistanis and their diversity.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

## Contd. PCB hires Mohammad Akram

In contrast, Akram has taken several coaching courses in England where he has played extensive first-class cricket before and after his international career ended back in 2001. Intikhab Alam, who heads the PCB committee, told reporters that Akram has been chosen for the job because he has the desired qualification. However, experts believe that Akram lacks proper experience for the job.

"He (Akram) may have taken some coaching courses but I don't think he has enough experience," said Sikander Bakht, a former Pakistan Test pacer.

Sikander suspected that Akram was appointment because he had the backing of some influential elements.

Akram is certainly a surprise choice for the job for which Essex pacesman Ian Pont was believed to be a leading contender. He takes over at a time when Pakistan's pace arsenal is dwindling due to a variety of reasons.

*Courtesy: DAWN*

**Contd. Maqbool — A Noble soul**

"I got off and asked about it and one of the waiters came forward and said he had it. We went inside Ami's store where he first asked me to describe the jewelry and then handed it to me, carefully wrapped in a brown paper bag. No damages and all the diamonds intact.

"I couldn't believe it. Turns out that the waiter's little son, who is a pan-cigarette-kid there, found the jewelry lying on the ground and was selling it to another kid on the street for a few hundred bucks the following day. The waiter caught him just in time and kept it. He knew about the lost jewelry from the night before and instantly informed Ali, the owner of Ami's.

"I could not thank the man enough and commend him for his honesty. And to top it, he did not ask for any amount in exchange for the return which I was surely expecting (I obviously did reward him for it and it was well deserved).

The waiter's name is Maqbool, employee number 23. It was a great feeling. Not just because we found the stuff but also meeting someone like Maqbool. The man is truly a star.

"I'm sure you would agree that most of the issues of the country and its systems that we talk about in groups and forums like this one, mainly affect the people who're living much simpler lives than us. People battling the ever-growing frustration caused by the soaring living expenses, as they try to survive on low salaries and day-to-day earnings. It's this frustration that usually leads to one closing his/her eyes to morality and the basic sense of right and wrong.

"Really happy to see that honesty and character is still important to some of our people today and they wear it proudly despite how they living conditions are. Salute to all of them."

*Courtesy: Karachi Food Diary*

**Contd. Forces join festivities**

Father of the Nation. The cadets presented a guard of honour to the Quaid-i-Azam and paid homage to him.

Pakistan Navy Commandant Commodore Zahid Ilyas, who was the chief guest at the ceremony, inspected the guard of honour, laid a wreath at the Mazar and offered Fateha.

The army presented a 21-gun salute and held special flag-hoisting ceremonies at its various headquarters and units. The message of the chief of the army staff General Ashfaq Pervaiz Kayani was read out at the ceremonies.

Pakistan Air Force officers, junior commissioned officers, airmen and civilian staff assembled at their respective headquarters, bases and

units to sing the national anthem after special prays in Fajr prayers at all PAF mosques.

Pakistan Navy also organized special programs at all its installations and ships.

A guard mounting ceremony was held at the Mazar-i-Iqbal in Lahore in which smartly turned-out contingent of Pakistan Rangers assumed the guard duties. Major General Aamer Riaz laid wreaths to pay homage to the national poet and offered Fateha.

The Pakistan Rangers also celebrated the day in a befitting manner. The Rangers Headquarters and Rangers House were illuminated and a national flag hoisting ceremony was held at Wagah border.

*Courtesy: Dawn News*

**Lahore students win Harvard MUN India 2012**



*Syed Daniyal Iqbal BS40 3528*

Eid-ul-Fitr proved to be an extra happy affair for the Lahore Grammar School delegation which made it back home across the border after winning the Harvard Model United Nations India 2012 competition and bringing back a few souvenirs for the religious festivities.

Represented by Mahnoor Faisal Khan, Neha Mukhtar, Ayesha Anjum, Shaheera Saleem, Maaheen Afzaal and Raza Goraya,

LGS Defense bagged a Best Delegation Award (School Award) as Norway with three out of its six team members winning as best delegates and one as honourable mention in their independent committees. (Mahnoor Faisal Khan, Ayesha Anjum, Maaheen Afzaal and Shaheera Saleem).

Perhaps even more remarkable was the fact that LGS Defense and KGS won two out of the three coveted school awards at a conference in Hyderabad India, with more than 1,000 delegates representing 199 countries.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

**Contd. 12-year-old to participate in Istanbul Chess Olympiad**

Zahid, who is also a chess coach at the Punjab University and the University of Management and Technology, feels there is a dearth of coaching facilities and encouragement, especially young girls.

Gul is the youngest person to have qualified for the Olympiad from Pakistan. In 2008, the youngest participant was from Karachi and was 15-years-old.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

**Contd. Team Pakistan sweeps debating competition**

Shujaan from the Aitchison College, was not far behind either and bagged the fifth position among more than 200 participants.

Teams from 45 countries came together to debate on a mix of prepared and impromptu motions. The event was a part of the 18th edition of the International Debate Education Association (IDEA) Youth Forum held in Mexico from July 2 to 15.

The topic for the KPDC finals was "Guantanamo Bay prison should be closed down immediately". Team Pakistan was defending the motion, while team Korea had the burden to disprove it.

The teams participated in two competitions – the KPDC and the mixed team track. In the former, they represented Pakistan as a team, while in the former they were split up and paired with debaters from other countries.

"It was the first time that Pak-

istan participated, but it was also the first time that any team won with all nine votes of the judges in its favour," said Team Pakistan coach, Daniyal Asad, also the general secretary of the Debating Society of Pakistan. Asad also won the best coach-cum-adjudicator award.

A two-day selection camp, comprising the top 20 speakers at the "Under-17 Pakistan National Debating Championship", was arranged by the Debating Society of Pakistan in Lahore. The participants were primarily the O' level or matriculation students, out of which Zainab, Ahmed and Azeem were selected.

The society has been running the debating circuit across the country successfully for the past 20 years without help from the government. The expenses of trip were paid by the US-based Open Society Foundations.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

# SPORTS



## PCB hires Akram as new bowling coach



Aneel Ali  
VS40 3501

After denying the news of Akram's appointment for several days, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has finally confirmed that the former Test pacer has been roped in as a specialist bowling coach for the national team.

"Pakistan Cricket Board has appointed former Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Akram as national team's bowling coach. He has been hired initially on a contract of one year," said a brief statement.

According to the PCB, Akram will join the national team in the UAE where Pakistan will host Australia for a limited-over series starting from August 28 in Sharjah. Pakistan are scheduled to assemble in Sharjah.

Akram, 37, represented Pakistan in nine Tests and 23 One-day Internationals during 1995 to 2001 and mostly played as a side kick to the illustrious pace duo of Wasim



Akram and Waqar Younis during the first half of his career. Later, he was overshadowed by the rise of fast bowlers Shoaib Akhtar and Mohammad Sami. Akram's appointment came soon after Akhtar expressed a keen interest in taking over as Pakistan's bowling coach – a post that has been lying vacant since former Test pacer Aaqib Javed quit it to take over as UAE's national coach earlier this year.

Akhtar, regarded as one of the fastest bowlers in cricket history, was rejected by a three-man PCB committee that was entrusted with the job of finding the best man for the job. It is believed that Akhtar was overlooked because he is not a qualified coach.

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## 12 year old to participate in Istanbul Chess Olympiad

Izzat Hayat  
BS 39 3378

LAHORE: Mehak Gul, 12, will leave for Istanbul this Monday as part of the 10-member team which will represent Pakistan in the World Chess Olympiad.



Gul will be the youngest participant to represent Pakistan in the tournament. Gul- who has been playing chess since the age of six- recently came in the limelight after securing positions in chess championships at provincial and national levels. A student of the Lahore

Garrison School in Township, Gul won school chess championship back in 2010 after which she participated in the Punjab Chess Championship in June this year. She came third in the competition.

Her father and her coach, Mohammad Zahid said he was proud of her daughter's talent. "Her performance in all the tournaments has been beyond my expectations," he said while talking to The Express Tribune.

After her performance at the provincial championship, Zahid said, he decided to help his daughter participate in the National Chess Championship.

"Obviously her chances were not as bright as she was inexperienced. Her confidence helped her win," he said.

Gul participated in the National Chess Championship in Karachi in July and came fifth, qualifying for the team which will represent Pakistan at the world championship.

Contd. Pg. 7

## Pakistan women triumph at tri-series cricket after Nain's 100



Sara Jilani  
BS 352938

Coach Mohtashim Rashid was pleased after his team clinched the Ireland Tri-Nation Women's

One-Day Series involving the hosts and Bangladesh, adding that Nain Abidi's



record century was the icing on the cake Pakistan, led by Sana Mir, beat Ireland and Bangladesh to secure their triumph in Dublin with vice-captain Abidi scoring the first international century for the women's team against the hosts.

Rasheed said the achievement has given the players 'self-belief' and motivated them to do better at the international level. "Abidi has become a role model and suddenly all the girls have got this belief of conquering new avenues which is great for Pakistan cricket," Rasheed told The ExpressTribune from Dublin.

"Abidi had been working very hard for the last couple of months and it paid off as she produced a special performance." "The conditions weren't favorable as the pitches were damp due to rain. There was a lot of movement of the ball but our batters were up for the challenge."

Pakistan now contest a T20 series against the two teams

Courtesy: Express Tribune