

Positive Post

A Publication by Department of Mass Communication & Media Studies and the Diplomatic Academy



Greenwich University
Pakistan - Mauritius

April in History

April 8, 1950: *Liaquat-Nehru agreement is signed in New Delhi for Inter-Dominion problems.*

April 18 – 24, 1955: *Pakistan participates in the Bandung Conference.*

April 22, 1961: *Government institutes Film Awards.*

April 6, 1970: *First ordinance factory is inaugurated at Ghazipur.*

April 21, 1972: *Martial Law lifted; constitutional rule is restored in the country. Hamoodu-ur-Rehman is sworn in as Chief Justice of Pakistan.*

April 10, 1973: *1973 Constitution of Pakistan enacted by the National Assembly.*

April 6, 1978: *First of the 13-volume exhaustive Urdu Dictionary is published by Taraqqi-i-Urdu Board.*

April 8, 1982: *Jahangir Khan wins British Open Squash Championship.*

April 20, 1988: *Jahangir Khan wins seventh Squash title in a row.*

April 25, 1991: *Jahangir Khan creates history by winning British Open Squash title for the record tenth consecutive time.*

April 26, 1992: *Pakistan's Alam Channa enters Guinness Book of World Records as the tallest man in the world.*

April 15, 1999: *Pakistan conducts test of a nuclear-capable short-range ballistic missile, Shabeen.*

April 16, 1999: *Pakistan won Coca-Cola Cup final at Sharjah crushing India by 8 wickets*

April 26, 2006: *Pervez Musharraf lays foundation-stone of Diamir-Bhasba dam.*

Pakistan's standing in the global rankings

Overview

Pakistan observed a slight improvement in the overall international rankings in 2018 covering socio-economic and political outcomes of the country. Several elements complemented the prospects including successful democratic transition, efficient counter-terrorism measures leading to enhanced peace and security, and foreign direct investment inflows under CPEC, among others. Albeit, decoupling economic growth from human development suggests that the country needs to enhance its scores in health, education and standard of living by ensuring political will, equitable financing and efficient governance to ensure parallel growth for marginalized segments as well. Civil and political liberties must grow hand in hand to ensure a conducive environment for democratic dialogue and accountability which ultimately supports its nation building process.

DEMOCRACY INDEX

Pakistan ranked 112th out of 167 countries in the Democracy Index scoring 4.17 out of 10 in 2018 compared to 4.26 in 2017.

Index from 0 (authoritarian regime) to 10 (full democracy)

Compiled based on indicators covering: Electoral process and pluralism, Civil liberties, Functioning of government, Political participation, and Political culture.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Pakistan ranked 150th out of 189 countries in the Human Development Index scoring 0.562 out of 1.000 in 2018 compared to 0.560 out of 1.000 in 2017.

Index from 0 (low development) to 1 (very high development)

Compiled based on indicators covering: life expectancy, education, and per capita income

PRESS FREEDOM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 139th out of 180 countries in the Press Freedom Index scoring 43.24 out of 100 in 2018 compared to 43.55 in 2017.

Index from 0 (most press freedom) to 100 (least press freedom)

Compiled based on indicators covering: pluralism, media independence, environment and self-censorship, legislative framework, transparency, and infrastructure.

TERRORISM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 5th out of 163 countries in the Terrorism Index scoring 8.18 out of 10 in 2018 compared to 8.40 in 2017.

Index from 0 (lowest impact) to 10 (highest impact)

Compiled based on indicators covering : Total number of terrorist incidents in a given year, total number of fatalities caused by terrorism in a given year, total number of injuries caused by terrorism in a given year and the approximate level of total property damage from terrorist incidents in a given year.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM INDEX

Pakistan ranked 131st out of 180 countries in the Economic Freedom Index scoring 54.4 out of 100 in 2018 compared to 52.8 out of 100 in 2017.

Index from 0 (repressed) to 100 (free)

Compiled based on indicators covering: Market openness, Regulatory efficiency, Government size and the rule of law.

Positive Post is a strategic effort to project achievement and contributions of Pakistan. While showcasing Greenwich University's cultural diplomacy initiatives, it also encapsulates a compilation of different developments complementing Pakistan's socio-cultural, economic and Political outcomes.

Greenwich delegate represents Pakistan at 6th APFSD

— Ali Jillani



Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) is the regional platform engaging member States, United Nations bodies and other institutions, major groups and concerned stakeholders in assessing the progress made on the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. The 6th APFSD assessed the progress made on the regional road map for implementing the Agenda 2030 in Asia and the Pacific along with preparatory work for the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF). The forum helped surface regional and sub-regional perspectives on the 2019 HLPF theme, “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” and the cluster of goals to be reviewed - in line with the General Assembly resolution 70/299.

Ali Jillani, Greenwich University delegate, represented Pakistan at the APFSD at United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok. Mr. Jillani was part of different engagements with intergovernmental mechanisms, member States, UN entities, Civil society and other stakeholders, and different meetings and side events. He also had the privilege of being part of the closed-meeting with Eminent persons of the UN to reposition and reform ESCAP for enhanced development outcomes across the Asian-pacific region.

Some of the excerpts from Mr. Jillani’s interventions that also made way into the core set of recommendations from the civil society.





Core set recommendations - regional

1. A Regional Regulatory Mechanism composed of intergovernmental and UN entities should be enacted for a comprehensive review of Trade and Investment agreements to help countries like Pakistan secure policy space in defence of citizens' rights against neo-liberal manoeuvres like ISDS. The entity should also be mandated to help with prevention of illicit financial flows and combating corruption incidence to help reduce inequalities within and among countries.
2. In line with the regional roadmap, a regional tax body should be composed to facilitate coherent taxation reforms to enhance human development financing in the region.

Other than the global push for mobilizing domestic resources for development, countries like Pakistan should also be supported in navigating macro-economic pressures embodied in conditions of market deregulations, debt-consolidation and austerity measures to avoid massive cuts to key strategic sectors like education, health and standard of living ensuring adequate fiscal space for social development.

3. Beyond the politics of aid, it is a moral imperative for the international community to recognize that those mainly responsible for climate change should commit the most of their finances and technology required for adaptation and mitigation measures. In line with the Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CB-DRRC) of the Paris Agreement, the developed countries must bear the onus to ensure capacity building, financial support, and technology transfer to the developing countries like Pakistan - ranked 7th most vulnerable country - to efficiently cope with climate change.

Thematic Working Group recommendations

1. Goal 4 on Education epitomizes the potential to realize the transformative ambition and scope of the Agenda 2030. In the backdrop of data insufficiency on more than 50% indicators around the Asia-pacific region, academia and think-tanks can play a central role in generating indicative data, especially on qualitative indicators, to provide insights into critical areas of consideration like social development (goals 1,2,3,4,5), equality (goal 10) and democratic governance (goal 16).





2. Linking goal 4 with goal 8 prioritizes education for employability over education for emancipation, conditioning educational attainment with capital development, which undermines the importance of education as a fundamental human right. Educational governance at the national and global level must decouple human development from economic growth to ensure universal quality education beyond conditionalities.
3. Target 4.7 on global citizenship education must draw insights from normative (CEDAW, BPfA, ICPD and ILO, among others), human rights (UDHR, ICCPR and ICESCR), and Development Justice frameworks as guiding principles. To ensure capable and conscious future leadership, we need to produce graduates who can confront fundamentalisms, inequalities and oppressions to realize an inclusive, just and equal world for all.

Dhoop Kinare will air in Saudi Arabia this summer



PTV reveals that Dhoop Kinare and Tanhaiyaan have been selected for airing in Saudi Arabia this year.

Saudi Arabia will be airing popular television series Dhoop Kinare (1987) this June, state reports.

Arab News reported that the Sahira Kazmi directorial along with Tanhaiyaan have been selected by PTV to air in the Kingdom this year.

“We have selected two very popular dramas, Dhoop Kinare (Sunlight’s Edge) and Tanhaiyaan (Loneliness), for Arabic subtitles. We will be able to send Dhoop Kinare to Saudi Arabia by June this year,” Shahzia Sikander, Director International Relations at Pakistan Television, told the publication.

“This is the first time that Pakistan Television is subtitled Pakistani drama into Arabic for Saudi viewers,” Sikander said.

Tanhaiyaan’s airing date has not

yet been announced.

Late last month, Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry revealed in a press conference in Riyadh that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are in talks for increasing cultural exchange between the two countries. He said that Pakistan wished to participate in Saudi Arabia’s cultural revival and is willing to support its newly established performing arts academies by sharing the expertise of our actors, directors and other artists like calligraphers.

He also announced that the Pakistani government will make arrangements for the Arabic dubbing of local TV dramas to facilitate their export to Saudi Arabia. He added that Saudi Airlines is being approached for the inclusion of Pakistani dramas as part of the in-flight entertainment.

Courtesy: Dawn

Kamila Shamsie and Mohsin Hamid shortlisted for the Dublin Lit Award



Two Pakistani authors, Kamila Shamsie and Mohsin Hamid, have been shortlisted for the International Dublin Literary Award 2019. In its 24th year, the award is given to a novel written in or translated into English. It is administered by Dublin City Public Libraries, with nominations submitted by library systems in major cities throughout the world - making the award unique in its coverage of international fiction.

Kamila Shamsie is nominated for her seventh novel Home Fire, which also won Women’s Prize for Fiction last year. On the other hand, Mohsin Hamid’s fourth novel Exit West has been selected - the same book was shortlisted for Man Booker Prize in 2017. The two are competing against eight other titles by Irish authors and writers from France, Pakistan, UK and the USA.

The 2019 shortlist includes Compass

by Mathias Enard and translated by Charlotte Mandell; History of Wolves by Emily Fridlund and Midwinter Break by Bernard MacLaverty; Jon McGregor’s Reservoir 13; Conversations with Friends by Sally Rooney; Emily Ruskovich’s Idaho; Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders and Rachel Seifert’s A Boy in Winter.

Books are nominated for the Award by invited public libraries in cities throughout the world and titles are nominated on the basis of ‘high literary merit’ as determined by the nominating library.

The winner will be announced on June 12, 2019 and the author of the winning book will be awarded with €100,000. However, if the winning book is in English translation, €75,000 will be presented to the author and the rest will go to the translator.

Courtesy: The News

Art critic Marjorie Husain bids farewell to Pakistan after 60 years

It was an evening that art lovers and practitioners will remember for a long time; some might not be able to forget it for as long as they appreciate art. And a few of them were teary-eyed, understandably so.

The venue was the Canvas Art Gallery which had organised on Tuesday a farewell tea party for eminent art critic Marjorie Husain who, after living in Pakistan for more than six decades, is leaving for England on Friday.

The moment news of Ms Husain's leaving broke, it created a buzz in art circles. Her husband Hamid Husain passed away on March 21, which was extremely distressing. That made Tuesday's event all the more important.

A big number of admirers of Ms Husain gathered at the gallery. They included renowned artists (Wahab Jaffer, Mehr Afroz, Amin Gulgee, Abdul Jabbar Gul, among others), critics and members of the media.



Ms Husain, as graceful as ever, sat in one of the sofas placed in the upper left part of the gallery. She met everyone who had come to say goodbye with a smile on her face.

A big number of admirers of Ms Husain gathered at the gallery.

Half an hour into the event Sameera Raja, who runs the Canvas Gallery, requested Ms Husain to say a few words and if anyone else wanted to share their feelings, they too were welcome.

Ms Husain thanked the guests for

coming to the farewell function. One of the guests, in a lighter vein, suggested that her name be put on the ECL [so that she couldn't leave us]. Wahab Jaffer recalled the time when he first met her. He said he had known her for 50 years, and regretted that her invaluable services to Pakistani art hadn't been acknowledged at the government level. To which Ms Husain responded that she had never sought that. Another guest remarked, "She's the best of the British."

Ms Raja spoke about the Artists'

Association of Punjab, highlighting the days when Ms Husain would visit the province, and the big number of followers that she has there. She extended her gratitude to the guests for showing up on Tuesday and to those "who are here in spirit".

Ms Husain came to Pakistan in the 1960s after her marriage to Hamid Husain. In the beginning she was known as a brilliant artist. Subsequently, her reputation as a distinguished critic grew from strength to strength. It wouldn't be wrong to suggest that she is one of the trailblazers when it comes to art criticism in Pakistan. She has authored several books on art and prolifically contributed essays and analyses to the country's leading newspapers and magazines. She is also the founding member of Pakistan's first art gallery established by Bashir Mirza.

She will be missed.

Courtesy: Dawn

Lahore's Tamasha performing arts fest wraps up with cross-cultural performances

Pakistani artistes collaborated with 12 theatre activists from 10 different countries for the performances. The three-day Tamasha Festival concluded with a spectacular 'Next Generation Showcase Performance' by a team of foreign and local artistes at the rooftop of the Institute for Art and Culture on Sunday. 12 international theatre activists from 10 countries collaborated with eight Pakistani artistes and prepared three brief performances, focusing on specific themes. They received a standing ovation from the audience.

The international artistes who took part in Tamasha 2019 were Judith Gorgass (German), Delia Gavlitchi (Romania), Kelly Fielder (USA), Yun Hyejin (South Korea), Ishan Kulathilaka (Sri Lanka), Surangi Kosala Kumari (Sri Lanka), Marija Backovic (Montenegro), Obett Motaung (South Africa), Fredyl B. Hernandez (Philippines), Niclas Malmcrona (Sweden), Zang Ningbei (China) and Doris Fu (China).

Shoaib Iqbal, president International Association of Theatre for



Children and Young People (ASSITEJ) Pakistan, thanked all the participants. He said the second edition of the Tamasha Festival had proved a bigger success with active participation by all the performing teams.

"Theatre is one of the most effective mediums of social change and such festivals are necessary to motivate the youth for performing arts and constructive mindset," he said. On the concluding day, nine performances were presented. The Beaconhouse-Newlands team highlighted the issue of bullying through their play, which could greatly affect the people by push-

ing them into depression, anxiety and self-esteem issues.

Veteran dance instructor Bina Jawwad brought together masters of dance storytelling for a unique show, titled Rang-e-Kainaat, in which the artistes celebrated rich folk culture and heritage and performed for the love of art and freedom.

An impressive dance performance was also presented by Nighat Chaothry, Adnan Jahangir and Hammad Rashid and it brought forth the message of love by using the poetry of mystic saints.

IAC theatre society performed their comedy play, Rail-Away Station, to a packed house in the auditorium. Other performances included Masty Family by APS (Azam Garrison), Laikhak (Journey of a Writer) by the UMT, Bhageshree Tarana in Jhap Taal, Fusion by Sunaina Khan and storytelling performance 'Hathi Ka Bucha' by Sadia Sarmed were also appreciated.

IAC Vice Chancellor Professor Sajida Vandal thanked the participants, saying that the IAC gave supreme importance to the promotion of new talent and celebrated multiethnic culture through performance and visual arts, which were universal expressions of humankind.

With participation of thousands of visitors every day, both IAC Mela and Tamasha festival had proved enormous success and IAC would host more cultural events and festivals in the future for the promotion of cultural studies. A minute silence was also observed at the festival for Quetta blast victims and prayer was offered.

Courtesy: Dawn

Pinky Memsaab wins audience choice award at UK Asian Film Festival

Pakistani film Pinky Memsaab was loved by the audience and the movie has an accolade to prove it.

The Hajra Yamin-starrer made its way to the UK Asian Film Festival, which also marked its world premiere.

The cast and crew, including director Shazia Ali Khan, attended the premiere.

Hajra Yamin, Shazia Ali Khan and Kiran Malik at the world premiere for Pinky Memsaab

Director Shazia, who made her debut with the film shared her joy with Images, saying, "Pinky Memsaab is an expat story made for people in homes away from home. I'm so humbled and so grateful that the international audience appreciated it the way they did. They laughed and they cried with the film, there were people from all walks of life



watching and resonating with the movie. They appreciated the beauty of our country, the beauty of our people and the talent of our artists."

Hajra shares a picture of the award She added, "The award was just the cherry on top because even before the ceremony, the feedback was heartwarming. To be a Pakistani woman, representing the film industry on such a platform, I am just humbled for taking this win for the country."

Actor Hajra Yamin, who has also bagged a Lux Style nomination for her performance as Pinky revealed to us that she couldn't believe they won the award, saying, "I didn't even know there would be an award ceremony! I found out the night before, way after the premiere that this would happen. When they called out Pinky Memsaab as the winner for 'Best Picture' (audience choice) we were just numb and couldn't believe it."

Hajra Yamin attended the premiere in an ensemble by Ansaab Jahangir and accessorised her look with jewelry from Allure by MHT.

"I'm really happy. Especially seeing the positive reactions to the movie, that's what makes me happiest. It's playing here in cinemas and they're all sold out. I'm on Cloud 9, this is like a wonderful dream come true."

Courtesy: Dawn

Coke Studio star Sara Haider honoured with prestigious Charles Jehlinger Award

Coke Studio star Sara Haider has just graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, according to a tweet by her sister.

The acting institution has produced some of Hollywood's most well-known actors, including Robert Redford, Grace Kelly, Danny Devito, Hank Azaria, Anne Hathaway, Paul Rudd, Jessica Chastain, among many others.



According to the tweet, Sara had the honour of delivering the commencement speech at her graduation and was awarded the prestigious Charles Jehlinger Award that is given to the student who developed most "as a person as well as an artist" and "who displays a professional attitude towards the art".

Past honourees include the likes of Robert Redford and Spencer Tracy! Sara will also have the distinction of being the first Pakistani to do a MFA at The Juilliard School in the fall. She's earned a full scholarship.

Congratulations to Sara on this triple win and making Pakistan proud!

Docu filmmaker Shehzad Hameed wins silver and bronze awards at the New York Festival

Hameed travelled to Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan to shoot his winning documentaries

Filmmaker Shehzad Hameed Ahmad has made a name for himself since his documentary Flight of the Falcons won big at the New York Festival in 2016.

Now, he has nabbed two awards at 2019's New York Festival. He's been awarded a Silver World Medal in the History and Society Category for his documentary The Rise and Fall of Mujib and the Bronze World Medal in the Community Portraits Category for *Nepal's Child Brides*.

Ahmad traveled to Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan to shoot these documentaries. His entries to the festival were made through Singapore's Channel NewsAsia.

"I'm very grateful to my hardworking and diligent teams in Nepal, Bangladesh and Singapore for their total commitment to both these projects," said Shehzad in a press statement.

"For Nepal's Child Brides, I traveled to remote parts of Nepal, where we filmed in villages and towns like Jhanakpur and Dhangadi where the



weakest and poorest women are forced into marriages before they turn 18."

"These age-old cultural practices need to end immediately and this documentary tries to highlight the work of Nepali activists in creating awareness about this crucial issue, especially among men, as it seriously hampers the development of a healthy society while putting women in harm's way: socially, politically, and economically."

About The Rise and Fall of Mujib, he said, "I traveled to Pakistan and Bangladesh to meet eye-witnesses of the Bengali freedom movement and understand the economic injustices, misconceptions and mistrust and the eventual war between India and Pakistan that led to the deaths of millions of Bangladeshis, Pakistanis and Indians."

He added, "We had to digitize footage from film reels that were

filmed in the 1970's that nearly took 3 months of work. We also filmed with the stranded Pakistanis of Camp Geneva in Dhaka which I hope can finally be accepted as citizens of either India, Pakistan or Bangladesh and their misery can come to an end. In the end, I hope that South Asia can learn lessons that violence and military means can achieve nothing."

Jada Pinkett Smith is a big Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, Abida Parveen fan

Pakistani music icons Rahat Fateh Ali Khan and Abida Parveen have surely held their thrones in the country's music scene but it appears that their influence is spreading swiftly across the seven seas, all the way to Hollywood as well.

Hollywood's famed actor Jada Pinkett Smith, wife of acclaimed star Will Smith, recently turned to her social media expressing her profound fondness for Pakistan's sufi music, in particular two favorite music icons –Abida Parveen and Rahat Fateh Ali Khan.

Sharing a clip of the two vocal power houses performing Chaap Tilak on Coke Studio, the Gotham star states: "@queenofsoul_ap and



@officialfakworld are two of my favorite vocalist of Sufi music. This song is called Chaap Tilak and you can go on YouTube to check out the lyrics. They are beautiful."

Soon after she showed her followers a glimpse into Pakistan's ethereal vocal crowned heads, many people not familiar with the Amir Khusrow poem or Urdu language itself also appeared entirely in awe of the two music icons.

Courtesy: The News

FACE Music Mela returns to Islamabad with cross-cultural collaborations

Polish artist DJ Practical and French DJ Samifati will collaborate with Zulfiqar Faqeer and Ejaz Sarhadi

The lawns of Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) once again opened their doors to crowds of people as Face Music Mela kicked off.

A number of programmes are lined up for the two-day event which will have music of various genres, theatre, dances and food.

The organisers of the Foundation for Arts, Culture and Education (Face) Music Mela described the event as a premium cultural festival showcasing music, films, theatre, dance, two international acts from Poland and France along with artisans and food stalls.

The festival is being held every year in Islamabad since 2014. In 2017 and 2018, the festival was also held

in Hunza and Lahore.

Roots performs at the FACE Music MelaThe organisers said the mela was about celebrating cultural diversity through the universal language of arts and connecting people and building bridges through music.

"The mela is considered as a pioneer and the largest festival of Pakistan attracting some 20,000 people every year. Like last year, the festival is also envisioned to travel to Hunza in mid-2019," said the founder of the festival, Zeeja Fazli, on the opening day.

As in the past, the festival includes live music performances and from all regions of Pakistan.

Besides digital gaming lounges, a startup expo, art installations, folk musicians and cultural performances were the main features on



the first day of the event.

The day saw cultural performances by Jil Band and Naseer Afridi, rock performances by Roots, pop and Sufi rock acts by Kashmir, Dyra and Dhool. Next in line were the all-girl Sufi band Saakin and qawwali performances by Farid Ayyaz and Abu Mohammad.

Face has been curating collaborations between Polish and Pakistani artists for the last five years, and this year DJ Practical, a Polish artist, will collaborate with Zulfiqar Faqeer.

French DJ Samifati will be collaborating with Ejaz Sarhadi, said the festival's director Zeejah Fazli.

"This year the event has provided an interesting platform for gamers called PTCL Gamer's Hub. We endeavour to bring people together and celebrate life with common interests.

"Music has the incredible power to heal, shape, change and unite all types of people. The mela is bringing all backgrounds of music to the centre stage," said Fazli.

Courtesy: Dawn

Qavi Khan and Saboor Aly's short film 'Nanu Aur Main' is headed to DFW South Asian Film Festival

The film is based on the bond between a grandfather and granddaughter

Qavi Khan and Saboor Aly have starred in a heartwarming tale about the bond between a grandfather and granddaughter and it looks like the film is being greatly enjoyed all over the world.

Directed by Ali Sohail Jaura and written and shot by Muhammad Belaal Imran, Nanu Aur Main features Saboor as Erum who is raised by her grandfather (Qavi) after the death of her parents. When Erum leaves to study abroad, the two keep in touch with letters initially until she gets wrapped up in her new life. However, one day she receives a letter from Nanu that forces her to realise that it's time for her to return home. Director Jaura says that the film is now being screened at the Dallas-based DFW South Asian Film Festival, which he describes as "one of the largest South Asian fests in North America. Many high-profile Pakistan and Indian films, like Mehreen Jabbar's Lala Begum and Iram Haq's What Will People Say, which was Norway's entry for the Oscars, were screened there last year." Nanu Aur



Main is being screened on May 19 from 11am to 1pm at the festival's AMC Village on the Parkway 9 venue.

Nanu Aur Main has previously been screened at many other international fests, including India's Kolkata Short Film Festival 2018, Arthouse Asia 2019, Bangalore Short Film Festival 2018, and Tasveer South Asian Film Festival 2018 and Vancouver South Asian Film Festival 2018 in North America. In Europe, it's been screened at Largo Film Awards 2018 in Switzerland and Filmstrip International Film Festival 2018 in Romania. The film is both Qavi Khan and Saboor Aly's first short film, according to Jaura who described the experience of making the film as a delight. He said, "I always wanted to work

with veteran actors. Qavi sahab is very humble, very nice person. He's a living legend of our country and I believe we should give good roles to our senior artists where they can showcase their unique abilities, They can still contribute amazingly to our cinema. There is no comparison of them with new actors."

"Saboor also gave her 100% to the role. She had to portray different ages and managed that challenge very well."

Jaura added that Nanu Aur Main is a special film dedicated to their grandparents. "We wanted to explore family themes in a different way as it's done on TV," he said. The film is available on iflix.

Courtesy: Dawn

In a first, transgenders to be offered 5pc jobs in Sindh police: IG



Members of the transgender community will be provided five per cent of the jobs in Sindh police for the first time, Inspector General Dr Syed Kaleem Imam announced.

The announcement was made during a meeting between a delegation of transgenders with the Sindh police chief in Sukkur.

The transgender individuals will be offered various office jobs in the provincial police force, a statement quoted IG Imam as saying.

The Sindh police chief also said efforts were underway to restore the quota for disabled persons in the provincial police, and necessary officials steps will be taken in this regard soon.

IG Imam said they were focusing on promoting a people-friendly atmosphere at the level of police stations and on bringing the policing standards at par with modern standards

Courtesy: Dawn

President House opens its doors for a historical exhibition

Aiwan-i-Sadr opened its doors to the public for two days this weekend to showcase Pakistan's history, from the Pakistan Movement to the difficulties facing migrants in the subcontinent, through rare photographs and documents.

The historical exhibition was organised by the National Archives of Pakistan, and highlighted the personality and work of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah and the struggle for a separate country for Muslims.

Documents exhibited included rare texts in Arabic, Persian, Punjabi and Pashto, magazines published in the subcontinent, the deed of Kashmir between Dogra Raja Gulab Singh and the British from 1846 and royal orders issued by Mughal emperors Shahjehan and Mohammad Shah.

Personal documents belonging to Jinnah and Fatima Jinnah were also displayed, including their original passports, vehicle registration books, diaries and accounts books.



A photograph of Fatima Jinnah and Dina Jinnah.

The exhibition was held at President House on Friday and Saturday, and saw crowds of visitors who came to enjoy the rare glimpse into history as well as the Presidency. Visitors were allowed to visit the gardens and the Darbar Hall.

The exhibition tried to tell the story of Pakistan under Jinnah's leadership. It started with Jinnah's arrival in India from England and culminated in the experiences of migrants who travelled to Pakistan during partition.

Rare photographs of Fatima Jinnah and Dina Jinnah were also displayed, as well as photos of Jinnah's residence in London and his friends.

One photograph showed Jinnah, Fatima Jinnah being received by Ayub Khan, then major general, at a visit to Kurmitola Parade Ground in



what was then East Pakistan. East Pakistan's governor and area commander Sir Frederick Bourne could also be seen.

Al-Hasan and Al-Hussain, an Arabic text published in 1509, a Punjabi book by Mohammad Qasim from 1277, Pashto text written in 1256 and handwritten copies of Futwa-i-Alamgiri and Sharah-i-Hindi in Persian from 1272 were displayed.

Among old newspapers and magazines was the original Paisa Akhbar newspaper from 1930s Lahore, Al-Hilal from Calcutta from 1927, Chitaa from Lahore dated 1950, the Hamdard newspaper from Delhi dated 1928 and Oudh Punch from Lucknow from 1924.

Speaking to visitors, President Dr Arif Alvi said work needs to be done to identify Jinnah's friends and others who were part of history, as younger generations do not recognise them.

He said the public has been given access to rare photographs for the first time so they can see the original documents available with the government.

He said students and researchers would also benefit from these documents.

"It's a great opportunity for people, especially students of history, to feel real moments captured in photographs; these are the windows to the past that show how our great leaders went through the freedom struggle," said Mohammad Awais, a visitor at the exhibition.

Fiza Ahmed, who came from Rawalpindi, said that her family came to see the President House



A photograph of Mohammad Ali Jinnah after his graduation, which he sent to his father Jinnah Poonja with his signature.

as well as the exhibition. She said she had also learned that more rare documents were available at the National Archives.

"But, seeing the rare photographs of the founder of the nation and the documents in President House was the best experience. There should museums in such buildings that are open to the general public," she added.

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