



The Pakistan Society

Bringing Pakistan & Britain Together

Newsletter – January 2008

Benazir Bhutto

1953 - 2007



Ms Bhutto was killed in a terrorist attack on her convey as it prepared to leave an election rally in Rawalpindi. At least 20 other people are reported to have died in the attack.

She will be remembered as the first woman in modern history to lead a Muslim country, serving as

Prime Minister of Pakistan from 1988 to 1990 and again from 1993 to 1996.

Prince Charles offered condolences to the family of Benazir Bhutto. In a message conveyed through the Deputy British High Commission in Karachi, Prince Charles said he and his wife had been deeply shocked and saddened by the news of Ms Bhutto's untimely death. "This tragedy underlines the extraordinary threat we all face from extremism and terrorism. But we hope it will also show the world Pakistan's resilience as she comes to terms with the terrible tragedy," he said. "We pray with all our hearts that Ms Bhutto's memory will be honoured by a determination to pursue democracy and stability to which she was so strongly committed."

Gordon Brown payed tribute to the former Prime Minister.

"I have just spoken again to President Musharraf. I passed on my condolences, and those of the British people, following the assassination of Benazir Bhutto and many of her supporters yesterday.

"This was a cowardly terrorist act designed to destabilise democratic elections. The international community is united in its outrage and determination that those who stoop to such tactics shall not prevail. I therefore encouraged President Musharraf to stick to the course he has outlined to build democracy and stability in Pakistan."

"This deadly attack is also a potent reminder of the threat we face from terror. Pakistan is a major ally in the global effort to combat this menace. I told President Musharraf that the UK is prepared to sustain and build the already significant counter-terrorism support we offer his country, not least in the effort to destroy Al Qaida."

President Pervez Musharraf meets

Prime Minister Gordon Brown



President Pervez Musharraf embarked on a four-nation tour of Europe on 20th January to remove misperception about the situation in Pakistan and to further enhance bilateral cooperation. He visited Belgium, France, the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland and the UK.

The President visited Brussels on 20-21 January where he met Secretary General of NATO, leaders of the European Union, including Javier Solana. He also addressed the European parliament's foreign affairs committee and held talks with Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt.

The President arrived in Paris on 21st January on a two-day visit and held talks with the French President Nicolas Sarkozy. He also met business leaders and representatives of a French think tank before heading for Davos to attend the World Economic Forum meeting 23-25 January. He held several bilateral meetings with delegates in Davos, including US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Afghan President Hamid Karzai and Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

The President arrived in London on 25th January on the last leg of his eight-day tour during which he addressed members of the Royal United Services Institute and the Pakistani community. On 28th January he held talks with Prime Minister Gordon Brown at 10 Downing Street.

Please Renew Your Annual Membership

The annual Membership fee for 2008 is now due. Ordinary Members £30, Students and Overseas Members £10.

Please note that annual subscriptions runs for one year from 1st January to 31st December. The Membership Renewal Form and the Bankers Order Form are attached.

In this issue:

UN Security Council	P2
European Union EOM	P3
Pak UK Cooperation	P4
Exhibition 22-23 Feb	P5
Artist Nasser Azam	P6
The BE&C Museum	P7
Sports	P8
Literature & Drama	P8
Society Events	P9
Other Events	P10
Membership Forms	P11

Next Event: Visit to The Wallace Collection at 3.30pm on Thursday, 21 February 2008. Meeting point: Hertford House, Manchester Square, London W1U 3BN.



Security Council SC/9217

5816th Meeting 27 December 2007

Members Pay Tribute to Benazir Bhutto, Express Sympathy for Other Victims

The Security Council this afternoon condemned in the strongest terms the today's suicide attack in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, which caused the death of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and numerous other casualties.

In a statement read out by Marcello Spatafora (Italy), its President for December, the Council paid tribute to the former Prime Minister and expressed its deep sympathy and condolences to the victims of the "heinous act of terrorism" and their families, as well as to the people and Government of Pakistan.

Calling on all Pakistanis to exercise restraint and maintain stability in the country, the Council underlined the need to bring the perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of the "reprehensible act of terrorism" to justice, urging all States to cooperate actively with the Pakistani authorities in that regard.

The Council reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constituted one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism were criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed. It reminded States that any measures taken to combat terrorism complied with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

At the outset of the meeting, the Council President welcomed the presence of United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

The meeting started at 2p.m. and ended at 2:05p.m.

The full text of presidential statement S/PRST/2007/50 reads as follows:

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist suicide attack by extremists that occurred in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, on 27 December 2007, causing the death of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and numerous other casualties, and expresses its deep sympathy and condolences to the victims of this heinous act of terrorism and their families, and to the people and the Government of Pakistan. The Security Council pays tribute to former Prime Minister Bhutto.

"The Security Council calls on all Pakistanis to exercise restraint and maintain stability in the country.

"The Security Council underlines the need to bring perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of this reprehensible act of terrorism to justice, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and resolution 1373 (2001) and consistent with resolution 1624 (2005), to cooperate actively with the Pakistani authorities in this regard.

"The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Security Council further reaffirms the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. The Council reminds States that they must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.

"The Security Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations."



**European Union Election
Observation Mission to
Pakistan 2008**



In light of the re-scheduling of the National and Provincial Assembly elections by the Election Commission of Pakistan to 18 February 2008, the European Commissioner for External Relations and Neighbourhood Policy, Mrs Benita Ferrero-Waldner has decided to upgrade the EU Limited Election Observation Mission to a full Election Observation Mission (EOM). The Mission will be headed by Chief Observer Michael Gahler, Member of the European Parliament.

The Mission is composed of a Core Team of 11 experts based in Islamabad. Subject to security situation, it is anticipated that some 50 Long-term Observers will be deployed in the coming days who could be joined by additional observers on a short-term basis over the election day period.

The EOM will undertake a comprehensive assessment of the entire election process, including the campaign, performance of the election administration, performance of the judiciary and general environment in which the elections take place. In line with standard practice, the EU EOM will assess the conduct of the elections in accordance with international standards for democratic elections.

Gahler welcomed the recent statements by the President, caretaker government, Election Commission and political parties that the elections should be free, fair and transparent. He underlined that steps could still be taken in a number of areas by the state and electoral authorities to improve conditions. These include:

- ensure that the election administration operates in a transparent and consultative manner to promote confidence among election stakeholders;
- issue and enforce instructions to ensure that detailed polling station results are immediately publicly displayed at polling stations and all levels of result consolidation, as well as on the internet, to enable an independent audit to be conducted;
- issue and enforce instructions to ensure that all counting and tabulation processes are fully open to scrutiny by candidates/agents and observers;
- issue and enforce instructions to ensure that state and local officials do not use state assets to influence the electoral process;
- ensure all media outlets are free to cover all aspects of the election process so that voters can make an informed choice; and
- ensure an independent framework for redress, and that complaints and appeals are dealt with in a timely, effective and transparent manner.

EU EOM Core Team



Michael Gahler
Chief Observer (Germany)



Hannah Roberts
Deputy Chief Observer (U.K.)



Alexander Matus
Election Analyst (Slovakia)



Pawel Jurczak
Operations Expert (Poland)



Alison Sutherland
Legal Analyst (U.K.)



Isabelle Ribot
Observer Coordinator (France)



Marian Gabriel
Political Analyst/Country
Expert (Slovakia)



Manfred Bernhard
Security Expert (Austria)



Giovanna Maiola
Media Analyst (Italy)



Mathias Eick
Press and Public Outreach
Officer (Germany)



Kate Upshon
Human Rights Analyst (U.K.)

EU EOM will issue a Preliminary Statement within 72 hours of Election Day. This will provide an assessment of the electoral process up until that stage. A final report will be issued about 2 months later. This will provide a comprehensive assessment of the entire electoral process and will include a thorough set of recommendations.

Maritime education gets boost through Pakistan/UK cooperation



L-R: Dr.Margaret Noble, Captain Javed Afzal, Prof. Sarah Palmer, V-Adm Farooq Rashid, Baroness Blackstone, H.E. Dr. Maleeha Lodhi, Dr Minghua Zhao, Mr. Bari Malik, Dr.Waqas Rana, Col.Amir Awan.

The University of Greenwich has pledged cooperation with a Pakistani university on maritime research and teaching. The maritime industry is one of the biggest in the global economy.

Greenwich Vice-Chancellor Baroness Blackstone signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Vice Admiral Farooq Rashid, Rector of Bahria University, on 12 December 2007 to develop shared courses and research projects which will benefit both countries.

The two universities specialise in maritime studies: Greenwich has its Maritime Institute and Bahria has the newly formed National Centre for Maritime Policy Research. Greenwich, home of Mean Time and 0 degrees longitude, has long been at the centre of naval and maritime affairs and is conveniently based in London, the world capital of maritime financial and legal services.

Pakistan holds an important geo-political location and maritime affairs are of key strategic importance, as they are to the UK. Bahria University was established by the Pakistan Navy in 2000 to deliver quality education, and the Pakistan government chose it to develop the centre. The centre has been given a role in advancing Pakistan's national interests by assisting the integration and development of national maritime sector and policies.

The signing ceremony was attended by Her Excellency, Dr Maleeha Lodhi, High Commissioner for Pakistan, Captain Raja Javed Afzal, Director of the National Centre for Maritime Policy Research, Professor Sarah Palmer, Director of the Greenwich Maritime Institute and Mr Bari Malik, Managing Director of Corporate Media Associates.



Greenwich Maritime Institute

The Greenwich Maritime Institute (GMI) is located in the historic setting of the Old Royal Naval College in the centre of Greenwich, a part of London with a rich maritime heritage.

The GMI was established in 1998 and is a specialist postgraduate teaching and research institute within the large multi-faculty University of Greenwich. It draws upon the university's existing academic strengths and develops them into new directions. Greenwich has a long association with shipping, so the Institute maintains and builds upon an historic and educational tradition while working towards the future needs of the global maritime community. The maritime education offered includes postgraduate degrees in Maritime History, Maritime Policy and Maritime Management and an Mphil/PhD in Maritime Studies.



National Centre for Maritime Policy Research

National Centre for Maritime Policy Research (NCMPR), located in Karachi, was established in January 2007 to provide seat of excellence for maritime policy research and serve as Think-Tank for multidisciplinary study and analysis on maritime affairs.

The NCMPR is headed by a Director who is responsible to Rector Bahria University for overall research and administrative activities of the Center. It is divided into Research and Resource wings. The Research Wing consists of distinguished research fellows, analysts and scholars with varied maritime backgrounds. The Resource Wing comprises a research library, Internet/Web casting cell, outreach cell and publications cell.

Exhibition 22-23 February 2008 Kensington Great Hall, London



FROM Loom TO Luxury

'From Loom to Luxury' presents over forty exhibitors show casing an exquisite variety of the finest exports from women entrepreneurs in Pakistan. This exhibition reflects the quality of manufacturing rooted in the rich heritage of Pakistan.

An exhibition and sale of fabric, homeware, fashion wear, jewellery, carpets and gifts by Pakistan's women entrepreneurs.

Exhibition includes:
 Luxury goods
 crafts, gifts, fabrics, jewellery, carpets
 Specialist areas
 textiles, leather, marble, food, health and herbalists, travel and tourism

Date/Times
 Friday 22nd February 11am – 10pm
 Saturday 23rd February 9am – 7pm

Venue
 Kensington Great Hall, Kensington Town Hall, Conference and Events Centre, Hornton Street, LONDON W8 7NK

For More Information please visit
www.phclondon.org
 or Call 0207 664 9215 or 0207 664 9245

FREE ENTRY - Open to trade buyers and general public
Friday 22 February 11am – 10pm
Saturday 23 February 9am – 7pm
 Kensington Great Hall, London

For more info visit: www.phclondon.org or Call 0207 664 9215 or 0207 664 9245

Textiles Leather Marble Jewellery Carpets Fine Art Crafts Gifts Herbalists Food Travel and Tourism

London Underground
 Take a District Line to High Street Kensington and walk Kensington High Street, cross the High Street and walk straight up Hornton Street approximately 100 yards. The Conference and Events Centre is on the left hand side.

Car Parking
 There is a car park immediately behind the Town Hall. Additional public car parks are available at the Royal Garden Hotel (Kensington High Street) and in Neave Street. For more details on legal parking visit <http://www.kensington.gov.uk>

Textiles Leather Marble Jewellery Carpets Fine Art Crafts Gifts Herbalists Food Travel and Tourism

Ministry of Tourism Announcement

Good news for those planning expeditions to Pakistan in 2008. The Ministry of Tourism has announced that the discounts on Royalty fees will continue in 2008.

The ministry of tourism will charge:

- No royalty fee for Peaks up to 6500 meters
- 10 % royalty fee on mountains situated in Chitral, Gilgit and Ghizar except on Spantik/Golden Peak.
- 5 % royalty fee on all peaks during the winter season (December- February)
- 50% discount on royalty fee on all peaks except those mentioned above

The original prices:

1. K-2 8611m \$ 6000 for 7 member for additional member \$1000
2. 8001-8500m \$ 4500 for additional member \$750
3. 7501-8000m \$ 2000 for additional member \$250
4. 7001-7500m \$ 1250 for additional member \$150
5. 6001-7000m \$ 750 for additional member \$100



The ministry has also decided that the services of a Liaison Officer will not be required by expeditions outside the Baltoro region.

According to The Alpine Club of Pakistan, in 2007 201 mountaineers from 50 expeditions were successful in reaching the following summits: Chogori K2 (8611m), Broad Peak (8047 m), Gasherbrum II (8035 m), Gasherbrum I (8068 m), Nanga Parbat (8125 m), Spantik (7027 m) and K7 West Face. The 2007 season also saw the pioneering of a new direct route of the K2 West face by the Russian expedition lead by Viktor Kozlov.

Nasser Azam at Dali Universe County Hall Gallery London



Following his solo exhibition at the Dali Universe in late 2006, the British-Pakistani artist Nasser Azam has taken up residence in County Hall Gallery.

This major exhibition will present over 100 paintings and sculptures and

will give a perspective of the artist's work covering three decades. The exhibition will rotate quarterly to display new works.

Over the past year Azam has produced a dazzling body of work developing his twin concerns with abstract and figurative imagery. Recent work picks up many of the themes he had developed twenty years previously: a concern with emotional intimacy and the human body; with the natural processes of aging and dying; but also with the synaesthetic properties of line and colour.

A book, *Azam: A Short History of Sensation, Volume I*, written by Dr John-Paul Stonard was launched in 2007.

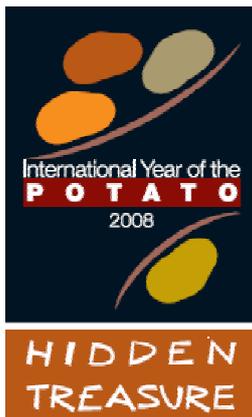
Like all artists, Azam is a provocateur. He paints regardless of the world, taking whatever he is dealt and reshuffling it according to his own will. His images arise entirely through his own individual alchemical process – which remain obscure, even to the artist himself. But if the process is dark, the results are not, throwing off beams of light, a son-et-lumière of colour and form.

A new bronze sculpture by Azam, "The Dance", will be unveiled on 5th February 2008. This 4 metre tall sculpture will be located on Queen's Walk, South Bank, outside County Hall, next to Dali's "L'Éléphant Spatial"

Dali Universe
County Hall Gallery,
Riverside Building,
County Hall, London SE1 7PB
Next to the London Eye

Admission Free

UN General Assembly declared 2008 as the International Year of the Potato



UN General Assembly declared 2008 as the International Year of the Potato. In taking this action, the Assembly affirmed the need to focus world attention on the role that the potato can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty, and in achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. It invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the Year, in collaboration with Governments, the United Nations Development Program, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research Centres, and other relevant United Nations system and non-governmental organizations. Previously, the Assembly had declared 2004 as the International Year of Rice, noting that rice is the staple food of more than half of the world's population.

The potato was introduced to coastal southern Asia in the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century by European (initially Portuguese) mariners. Cultivation of potatoes in the area of contemporary Pakistan expanded under British colonial rule in the nineteenth century, but remained a small-scale garden crop. In 1947, when Pakistan became an independent nation, fewer than three thousand hectares were under potato cultivation, producing less than thirty thousand tons.

Over the past few decades, potato has become the fastest growing staple crop in Pakistan. The greatest concentration of cultivation occurs in the central and northern plains of Punjab. In 2003, Pakistan's population of over 150 million people consumed nearly two million



Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of The Pakistan Society will be held at 6pm on Wednesday, 2 April 2008 at the High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 9JN, for the following purposes:

1. To receive the minutes of the previous meeting.
2. To receive the Chairman's Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2007.
3. To re-elect officers and Hon. Auditor.
4. To elect Executive Committee Members.
5. Vote of thanks.

Note: Copies of the previous minutes, Chairman's Report and Financial Statements will be available at the meeting.

tons of potatoes.

The British Empire & Commonwealth Museum announces move to London



The British Empire & Commonwealth Museum has announced plans to move its core operations from Bristol to London. The Board of Trustees of the independent charity has taken the decision to relocate the institution to secure its long-term future, and to reach a larger international audience. The award-winning Museum, that recently celebrated its fifth anniversary, is in negotiations over a major cultural venue in the capital to house its existing archives and to accommodate an ambitious programme of major exhibitions and events.

The move is in line with the Museum's long term plans to become a leading international centre for the learning, research and understanding of Britain's colonial past. It is the first and only Museum in the world to explore the history of the British Empire and its emergence into today's Commonwealth, and has been widely praised for tackling contested and controversial histories.

It is anticipated that the move will enable the Museum to expand upon the range of topics covered in connection with Britain's colonial past and continue to address the contemporary legacies of this history today. In May 2008 the Museum will host an international conference in partnership with Kings College London marking the 60th anniversary of the end of the British mandate in Palestine. Plans for a ground-breaking exhibition on the Palestine Mandate are currently underway, in addition to a touring exhibition entitled 'Serving Empire', reflecting the lives of those who worked in outposts of the British colonies. Further exhibitions up until 2010 have also been confirmed in conjunction with London partners.

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"Opportunities Unlimited"

Expo Pakistan 2008 is a thoroughfare to the true commercial and cultural diversity of Pakistani products and services. It provides an ideal 'showcase' venue for sourcing value products to satisfy consumers the world over. Last year, Pakistan achieved just about \$16.5 billion of exports and looks to provide opportunities to sellers and buyers to achieve an increase of about 12% in the current year. Expo Pakistan is also a great venue for forging new alliances and business ventures.

Rugby League Looks to Pakistan



area.

Having made significant advances in Europe over the past two years, Rugby League is now looking to establish a presence further to the East, with Pakistan seen as a likely growth

Potential development in that region is being spearheaded by former **England International and professional with Leeds, Featherstone and London, Iqram Butt**; who has worked tirelessly to spread the code within the Asian population, not least with the setting up of the British Asian Rugby Association.

Backing Iqram's initiative are Leeds Metropolitan University while the experience of the Rugby League European Federation in successfully nurturing emerging nations has also been tapped into, with RLEF Development Executive Kevin Rudd helping out with support based on practical initiatives underway in other new Rugby League areas.

Speaking from Islamabad, Iqram commented, "This is a continuation of discussions with Kevin about development being triggered by coach education that ties into Carnegie and their 'coaching for life' programme which we were already working on for rugby. We are now hoping to develop that initiative in the whole of South East Asia and to take rugby league forward, in particular, in Pakistan. While I am out here over the next few weeks, I am taking the opportunity to deliver some basic Rugby League coaching taster sessions to some school teachers and players who have been involved in the game for quite some time."

"There is a club already training with Rugby League techniques in Islamabad and it works quite well. One of their guys there has just graduated from Leeds Met with an MBA. He was a former captain of the Pakistan Rugby Union side but while he was over in Leeds studying he played League and has taken his knowledge, experience and skills back to Pakistan."

"We hope to officially launch the Pakistan Rugby League Federation next March or April by taking a team out from the UK."

Neil Turner MP for Wigan and the Government's Ambassador for Rugby League wished Iqram well on his current mission. "Iqram has done a superb job in helping to promote the sport amongst the Pakistani community in Britain, and I am sure his love of the game will be infectious and enthuse youngsters in Pakistan to take it up. I look forward to seeing a Pakistan Team taking part in a Rugby League World Cup in the future, perhaps with Iqram proudly leading the team out as their Coach."

New Year Honours 2008



Hanif Kureishi, Playwright, Author and Director is awarded C.B.E. for Services to Literature and Drama.

Hanif Kureishi was born in Bromley, Kent in 1954 and read philosophy at King's College, London. His first play, *Soaking the Heat*, was performed at

the Royal Court Theatre in London in 1976 and was followed in 1980 by *The Mother Country*, for which he won the Thames TV Playwright Award. In 1981 his play *Outskirts* won the George Devine Award and in 1982 he became Writer in Residence at the Royal Court Theatre.

His screenplay for the film *My Beautiful Laundrette*, directed by Stephen Frears, was nominated for an Academy Award. He also wrote the screenplays for *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid* and *London Kills Me* (1991), which he also directed. His film *My Son the Fanatic* was adapted from his short story included in *Love in a Blue Time* (1997). The film was first shown at the 1997 Cannes Film Festival. His play *Sleep With Me* (1999) was first performed at the National Theatre in London in 1999, and was followed by *When the Night Begins* (2004), produced at the Hampstead Theatre in 2004.

Kureishi's first novel was the semi-autobiographical *The Buddha of Suburbia*, published in 1990. Karim, the novel's young hero ('an Englishman born and bred - almost'), like Kureishi, has a Pakistani father and an English mother. The novel describes Karim's struggle for social and sexual identity, a comic coming-of-age novel and a satirical portrait of race relations in Britain during the 1970s. It won the Whitbread First Novel Award and was produced by the BBC in 1993 as a four-part television series.

His second novel, *The Black Album* (1995), explores some of the issues facing the Muslim community living in Britain in the 1980s. *Love in a Blue Time*, his first collection of short stories, focuses on a series of characters working in the media.

Intimacy (1998), a novella, is a painful account of a man's decision to leave his partner and two young sons. It was produced as a film in 2001. His second short story collection, *Midnight All Day* (1999), continues to explore very personal issues about human relationships and sexual desire.

Gabriel's Gift (2001) tells the story of a 15-year-old schoolboy whose artistic skills enable him to survive the trauma of his parents' separation. *The Body and Other Stories* were both published in 2002. *The Word and the Bomb* (2005), is also a collection of non-fictional writings. Hanif Kureishi's latest work is the play, *Venus* (2007).

Recent Events

On 17 October 2007, the talk by **Jules Stewart** entitled **Spying for the Raj: The Pundits and the Mapping of the Himalayas** was a fascinating insight to British India. The 'pundits' were the unsung heroes in the intrigue and espionage indulged in by the British and Russian empires in Central Asia. This was the Great Game of the 19th century. Jules Stewart's exhaustive research has reclaimed the 'pundits' heroism and devotion from the historical obscurity to which they might otherwise have remained consigned.

On 31 October 2007, **Prof Iftikhar Malik** presented an illustrated talk on **Islamic Modernism in the Subcontinent: Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and other Muslim Intellectuals**. Syed Ahmad Khan, the founder of the MAO College (Aligarh) was a great Muslim modernist whose work has become even more relevant today. Prof Malik traced his career in India, Punjab and London (1869-70). Syed Ahmad Khan was the architect of Islamic modernism and believed in a strong interface between Islam and the West. His views were adopted up by a whole generation of Muslim intellectuals.

On 21 November 2007, **Sir Mark Lyall Grant KCMG**, former British High Commissioner to Pakistan (2003-06) talked about his **Personal Reflections of Pakistan**. Recognising this was a difficult time for Pakistan Sir Mark commented on positive developments including economic progress, India-Pakistan dialogue and cooperation in the war on terrorism. He said that the UK wants to see a prosperous, peaceful, stable and democratic Pakistan. The UK commitment towards that aim will be undiminished and long term, based on shared history and intertwined populations.

At a joint event with the LSESU Pakistan Society held on 4 December 2007 at LSE, **Dr Sarmila Bose**, Director Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Department of Political and International Relations, Oxford University, presented an **Appraisal of the 1971 War from a Bengali Nationalist Perspective**. She talked about her research on the conflicting memories of the 1971 war in East Pakistan, combining oral testimony with documentary material and press reports. Her forthcoming publication on the topic is eagerly awaited.

On 6 December 2007, the society hosted a meeting with **the special envoy from the Government of Pakistan Senator Tariq Azeem** who explained the current political situation in Pakistan and answered questions.

On 12 December 2007, The Pakistan Society launched the **updated and restyled website www.thepakistansociety.org.uk**. The site contains a wealth of information on Pakistan, the Society and forthcoming events.

Forthcoming Events

Thursday, 24 January 2008

The Mughals and the Islamic dynasties of India, Iran and Central Asia 1206-1925

Professor Francis Robinson CBE, Department of History, Royal Holloway, University of London

Time: 6pm **Venue:** High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, London SW1X 9JN

Admission: Free. **RSVP** Tel: 020 7235 9914 or email info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

Thursday, 21 February 2008

Visit to The Wallace Collection

Largest collection of Marie Antoinette's furniture, oriental paintings and armoury including Indian, Persian, Arabic and Japanese arms from 15th to 19th Century.

Time: 3.30-5pm

Venue: Hertford House, Manchester Square, London W1U 3BN (5min walk from Bond Street Tube Station)

Places: 25 (First come first served) **RSVP** Tel: 020 7235 9914 or email info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

Thursday, 13 March 2008

The Eagle's Nest: Ismaili Castles in Iran and Syria

Peter Willey

Time: 6pm

Venue: High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, London SW1X 9JN

Admission: Free. **RSVP** Tel: 020 7235 9914 or email info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

Wednesday, 2 April 2008

Annual General Meeting followed by Reception

Chairman's Report and Financial Statements for year ending 31 December 2007

Time: 6pm

Venue: High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, London SW1X 9JN

Admission: Free. RSVP Tel: 020 7235 9914 or email info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

Thursday, 15 May 2008

Tourism in Pakistan – A Secret worth Sharing

Amy Adams, Deputy Editor of TNT Magazine & Sarah Baxter, Deputy Editor Wanderlust Magazine

Time: 6pm – 8pm

Venue: High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, London SW1X 9JN

Admission: Free. RSVP Tel: 020 7235 9914 or email info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

Tuesday, 24 June 2008

55th Annual Dinner

Venue: Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3TL.

Admission: **£60 each** for Members and their Spouse, and **£75 each** for Non-Members.

Booking required. Details will be published in the April Newsletter.

Other Events



FROM
**Loom to
Luxury**

Friday 22 February
11am - 10pm
Saturday 23 February
9am - 7pm

An exhibition and sale of fabric, home ware, fashion ware, jewellery, carpets and gifts by Pakistani women entrepreneurs at the Kensington Great Hall, Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, London, W8 7NX.

For more information visit www.phclondon.org or call: 020 7664 9215/9245

Sharing the Narrative of Progress

Lecture Series 2008 at the Ismaili Centre, 1 Cromwell Gardens, London, SW7 2SL.

23 April

Diasporas & Development

Lord Meghnad Desai, LSE

7 October

Poverty & Growth: The Development Dilemma

Prof Paul Collier, University of Oxford

25 November

The Third UN: The Role of Civil Society

Sir Richard Jolly, University of Sussex

Timing: 7.45pm Refreshments followed by the lecture. **Please register your interest by emailing events@ncsect.org**



Art in Heaven: astronomy and astrology in Islam. A gallery talk by Silke

Ackermann at 1.15pm on Wednesday 20 February 2008 at The British Museum (Room 34), Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3DG. Admission is free, just drop in.

22nd Pakistan Workshop: "Spaces of Dialogue". 9-11 May 2008 at The Rook Howe,

Lake District. This workshop was founded to bring together anthropologists and sociologists whose research involved Pakistan, Pakistani Diaspora and South Asian Islam. This year's theme is Spaces of Dialogue and it is hoped that papers will deal with various forms of dialogue among Pakistanis, between Pakistanis and other groups, and dialogue about Pakistanis, both in the past and in the present, at home and abroad, and the global and local contexts in which these dialogues take place. **Contact: M.T.Blell@durham.ac.uk** for more information about this event.



Iqbal Academy (U.K.)

Iqbal in Europe Centenary Conference

Iqbal Academy (UK), in conjunction with Iqbal Academy Pakistan, is holding an **international conference to mark the centenary of Iqbal's stay in Europe (1905-1908)**. The Conference will have two parts (at two venues). Part 1 - to be organised chiefly by the UK Academy - will take place on **Tuesday 17 June 2008 at SOAS, University of London**. Part 2 - to be organised mainly by the Pakistan Academy - will take place on **Thursday-Friday, 19-20 June 2008 at Cambridge**. Entrance to both parts is free - but by invitation only. The illustrious son of the **Poet-Philosopher, Justice (R) Dr Javid Iqbal**, will be amongst the speakers at the London venue. Any persons interested in participating in either part of the Conference are requested to get in touch with either the Iqbal Academy (UK) Chairman: drsadurrani@yahoo.co.uk or the Hon. Secretary: dawer@tawfik.freeserve.co.uk

The Pakistan Society, 8 Harriet Walk, London SW1X 9JH, Tel: 020 7235 9914
info@thepakistansociety.org.uk www.thepakistansociety.org.uk

The Pakistan Society Membership

Please note that the **annual Ordinary/Associate Membership fee for 2008** is now due. Please complete the form below and return it with your cheque to the Treasurer as indicated. Alternatively you can pay by Bankers Order. This notice does not apply to Life Members, or those who renew their membership by Bankers Order or new members who joined after 15th November 2007.

The Pakistan Society, 8 Harriet Walk, London SW1X 9JH

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