



The Pakistan Society

Bringing Pakistan & Britain Together

Newsletter – May 2014

PM Nawaz Sharif Arrives in London at the Invitation of PM David Cameron



Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif arrived in London on 29 April. The 3-day official visit started on 30 April.

During the visit Prime Minister held discussions with his British counterpart and cabinet members on matters of mutual interest. He also addressed an Investment Conference and met chief executives and investors from the financial and energy sectors to apprise them on improving business environment in Pakistan.

The “Pakistan-UK Enhanced Strategic Dialogue” (ESD) was signed during the first official visit of British Prime Minister, David Cameron to Islamabad on 5 April 2011. The ESD identifies following five

strands of cooperation: 1. Trade and Business Relations 2. Financial, Macro-Economic Stabilization and Development Cooperation 3. Education and Health 4. Defence and Security, and 5. Cultural Cooperation. The second round of ESD was held during the recent visit of Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs to London on March 13, 2014. This was followed by the visit of Sir Kim Darroch, UK National Security Advisor to Islamabad on April 2, 2014. These two visits set the stage for the Prime Minister’s visit to the UK.

British High Commissioner to Pakistan



UK High Commissioner-designate presenting credentials to President Mamnoon Hussain during a special ceremony at the Aiwan-e-Sadar, Islamabad on February 27, 2014

Speaking upon his arrival in Islamabad, Mr Barton said: I

am delighted to become Her Majesty’s High Commissioner to Pakistan. The relationship between the UK and Pakistan remains deep and strong. I am committed to strengthening these connections during my time here, building on the excellent work of my predecessor Sir Adam Thomson.

61st Annual Dinner Wednesday, June 4, 2014



Rt. Hon. Justine Greening MP, Secretary of State for International Development will be the UK Guest of Honour at the society’s 61st Annual Dinner to be held on Wednesday,

June 4, 2014 in the Great Hall, Lincoln’s Inn, London. She is MP for Putney, Roehampton and Southfields

On May 2, 2014 Justine Greening announced new support from the UK that will give a boost to 200,000 small and growing business in Pakistan.

Britain will drive economic growth and investment in Pakistan worth £400m by helping to create more than 4000 jobs, increase tax collection from 9% to 15% of GDP by 2018 and cut through red tape to make it easier for small and growing enterprises to do business,

The new commitments include expert support to help Pakistan’s Federal Board of Revenues design and implement a country-wide tax awareness campaign.

UK will continue to provide vocational skills for 135.000 poor people, 40% of them women.

Please Renew Your Annual Membership

The annual Membership fee for 2014 is now due. Ordinary Members £40, Students and Overseas Members £15.

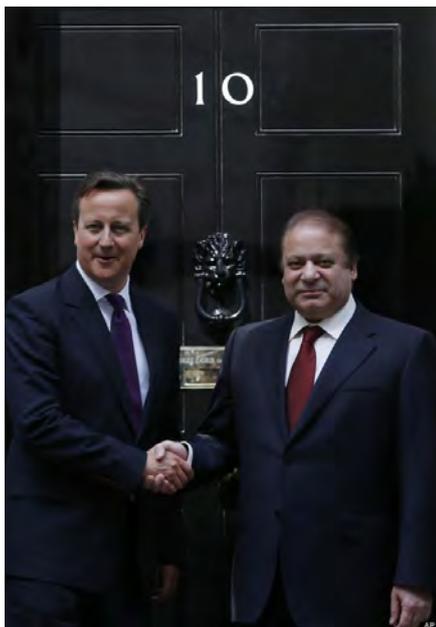
The Membership Renewal and the Bankers Order Forms are attached to the Newsletter January 2014.

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Next Event: Fakir Ajizuddin talk at 6pm on Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at the High Commission for Pakistan, Knightsbridge, London

Visit of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to the UK



David Cameron welcomed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan to Downing Street on April 30, 2014 for his first official bilateral visit since taking office

Following the meeting, a Downing Street spokesperson said:

The visit continued the development of the close relationship between the two countries and Prime Minister Sharif thanked the PM for being the first foreign leader to visit him following his election last year.

There was also a discussion on regional issues, including the positive progress of the ongoing Afghan elections. PM Sharif stressed his determination to eliminate terrorism from Pakistan and never allow his country to be used to launch an attack against Afghanistan or anywhere in the world. They also agreed on the importance of Pakistan continuing to build its relationship with India and discussed recent blasphemy cases in Pakistan, as well as prospects for reforms of these laws.

They noted the significant impact UK development support is having in the country, particularly with health and education initiatives. PM Sharif also outlined the progress his government has made in increasing tax take and the PM offered further UK support and advice towards a target of 15%. PM

Sharif also set out plans to improve domestic energy supplies, the PM again offered UK support but stressed the importance of maintaining good relationships with the industry. PM Sharif was enthusiastic in his support for the agreement to open a new Deputy High Commission in Lahore, and thanked the UK for its support on improving market access with Europe.

UK Pakistan Joint Communiqué on the Bilateral Visit

Prime Minister Cameron and Prime Minister Sharif met today [April 30, 2014] in London and reaffirmed the strong bonds of friendship and partnership between Pakistan and the UK. The two leaders underscored their commitment to support the UK-Pakistan relationship by agreeing to open a new British Deputy High Commission in Lahore, Punjab. The UK and Pakistan have a long history of working closely and effectively together as members of the Commonwealth. The UK's large diaspora population of Pakistani origin has made a significant contribution to British cultural and economic life. Both countries are committed to broadening their relations across many areas. This was Prime Minister Sharif's first official bilateral visit to the UK since Pakistan's landmark elections in May 2013. Prime Minister Sharif is also meeting the Deputy Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, Home Secretary, Defence Secretary, Secretary of State for International Development and delivering a keynote address at the Pakistan Investment Conference.

Cultural and Education Cooperation

The visit marks the launch of a UK-Pakistan cultural and education cooperation 'roadmap' which sets out the basis of cultural engagement between Pakistan and the UK, enables collaboration on a calendar of cultural engagement for the next 3 years, and builds on elements of the strong existing UK-Pakistan relationship on education. In partnership with UK providers, the roadmap includes the British Council's

commitment to train 1 million teachers of English over the next 4 years in Punjab, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provinces to help enhance the quality of English language teaching in Pakistan. A new Memorandum of Understanding on the status of the British Council in Pakistan maps out a range of joint activities around the British Council's work there, including English language learning, arts and the creative industries. The roadmap also highlights work through the Department for International Development to support delivery of primary and secondary education in Pakistan, which by 2015 aims to benefit 4 million more children in school and train 90,000 teachers per year. The UK welcomed the priority Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's Government has given to education, including the recent commitment to increase education spend to 4% of GDP. Both Governments noted recent progress on education in Punjab and the re-launch of the UK's education partnership in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which will benefit all primary and lower secondary school children in the province. Both sides also welcomed the partnership between the UK and the Government of Punjab to provide vocational skills training to 135,000 people living in poverty, 40% of them women. Pakistan agreed to the importance of honouring the shared history and sacrifice made by those soldiers from what is now called Pakistan during WWI and as part of this committed to a memorial copse in Islamabad to mark the fallen.

UK Pakistan Joint Communiqué on the Bilateral Visit

Trade and Investment

The UK and Pakistan also discussed how to further the trade and investment links between the UK and Pakistan. Both sides renewed their commitment to increase bilateral trade to £3 billion by 2015. A revised Trade and Investment Roadmap sets out new cooperation between the UK and Pakistan, including four new Trade Champions to progress the business agenda. On specific new initiatives, UK company Asian Precious Minerals has announced a new project with over £100m of investment in Pakistan. The UK also supports the growing dialogue between Pakistan and UK investors highlighted by a roundtable meeting with Prime Minister Sharif and Finance Minister Ishaq Dar hosted by Peter Sands, Global CEO of Standard Chartered Bank. Prime Minister Sharif was also guest of honour at a trade and investment focussed conference attended by over 100 delegates. The UK welcomes signs of growth in Pakistan's economy as a result in achieving GSP+ trading agreement status with the EU: GSP+ status is dependent on a number of measures including human rights conditions, which are monitored by scorecard. The UK will provide Pakistan with further advice and support on effective monitoring.

Economics and Development

The UK and Pakistan welcomed indicators of an upturn in economic activity and agreed on the importance of improved conditions in Pakistan to foster economic stability, inclusive growth and prosperity. They agreed to work together to support the Government of Pakistan's implementation of critical economic reforms, particularly to increase the tax to GDP ratio towards 15% and welcomed the developing relationship between the Federal Board of Revenue and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs to support this. The UK and Pakistan welcomed the launch of UK support to help improve the business environment and increase domestic and international investment in small and growing businesses in Pakistan. This aims to create up to £400 million in additional economic production, and generate up to 400,000 jobs, half of which will be for women and young people.

Both the UK and Pakistan agreed on the importance of effective regional cooperation for stability and growth. Both sides agreed to work to improve Pakistan's trade competitiveness, particularly in reducing trade barriers between Pakistan and its neighbours. The UK and Pakistan agreed to exchange expertise and business dialogue on energy. Both sides also welcomed the launch of the Government of Punjab's new approach to delivering health reform, supported by the Department for International Development, which aims to improve basic primary healthcare provision across the province, including increasing immunisation coverage and reducing maternal and child deaths.

Security and Defence

Prime Minister Sharif also held comprehensive discussions with UK Ministers about security and stability in Pakistan and the wider South Asia region. They agreed to the importance of supporting the new Afghan government and developing closer co-operation with the new government in India. Both Governments also reaffirmed their commitment to working in partnership to counter the shared threats from terrorism, organised crime and illegal migration and to support Pakistan's new National Internal Security Policy. On support to a secure and stable Pakistan, both sides agreed to continue counter-terrorism training and support, including aviation security, exploring building on our existing counter-IED programme, and increasing security cooperation at customs.

Multilateral issues

The UK welcomed Pakistan's endorsement of the Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict launched by UK Foreign Secretary William Hague in September 2013 during the United Nations General Assembly. The Foreign Secretary will co-host, with the Special Envoy of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, a Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict on June 10–13, 2014 to bring the international community together to turn the commitments made in the Declaration into practical action on the ground.



Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Nawaz Sharif at the business luncheon hosted by Standard Chartered Bank in London on 1-5-2014

2nd EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue Held in Brussels



Joint Press Release

The 2nd Session of the EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue was held in Brussels on March 25, 2014, between High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, and Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on National Security and Foreign Affairs.

The dialogue included wide-ranging consideration of regional and global issues and the good progress made in strengthening relations, including through the Five-Year Engagement Plan adopted in 2012.

The High Representative underlined the EU's continued support for democratic institutions and rule of law in Pakistan. She referred to the transparent elections held in May 2013 and the contribution made by the EU election observation mission. Pakistan thanked the European Union for its inclusion in the GSP + scheme. Both sides agreed that this could provide an important contribution to growth and employment in Pakistan as well as help it promote sustainable development and good governance objectives.

The Advisor highlighted the steps taken by the Government of Pakistan for promotion and protection of human rights, including women, children and minority groups. The High Representative welcomed these steps and encouraged efforts to fulfil international commitments in national laws, in particular with respect to the rights of women. Both sides agreed to continue dialogue and cooperation for the effective implementation of the relevant UN conventions in the context of GSP+.

The Pakistani side also elaborated on the security situation and the new National Internal Security Policy (NISP) of Pakistan. The High Representative appreciated Pakistan's efforts to promote peace and stability. The High Representative assured of the EU's continued support and cooperation towards successful and effective implementation of NISP and shared the EU's experience in this regard.

The two sides agreed that a first dialogue on non-proliferation and disarmament should take place as soon as possible.

In response to Pakistan's suggestion, the EU side assured that development cooperation would be responsive to the demands of the expanding Strategic Dialogue between EU and Pakistan.

The Advisor and the High Representative also discussed matters related to the economy, energy, trade and migration. They agreed to further broaden and deepen cooperation under the Engagement Plan. This could include a strengthened dialogue in areas such as energy, climate change, research and higher education. The Advisor emphasized the importance of support for poverty alleviation, water for drinking and irrigation in remote and arid areas. The next Joint Commission in June will further elaborate this.

Both sides recognized the importance of mutual cooperation in the field of energy and agreed to establish an Energy Dialogue.

Cooperation with Pakistan dates back to 1974, but the 2004 cooperation agreement paved the way for closer relations. Since the start of its cooperation with Pakistan the Commission has committed more than €500 million to projects and programmes.

The EU granted the preferential trade status GSP+ to Pakistan in December, allowing Pakistani products duty-free access to European markets. The EU is a major donor of development aid to Pakistan.

The European Commission established its first office in Islamabad in 1985. This was upgraded to a Delegation in 1988. In 1992, the humanitarian arm of the European Commission (ECHO) opened its own office in Islamabad. Since the recent entry into force of the Treaty on the Working of the European Union, better known as the Lisbon Treaty, on 1 December 2009, the EC Delegation has gradually been upgraded to a fully fledged EU Delegation to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. It now represents the European Union on matters ranging from the more traditional development cooperation, trade, humanitarian assistance, and the promotion of a wide range of sectoral cooperation, including energy, environment, health, transport, migration issues and climate change but also overall EU-Pakistan political relations. The Delegation presently employs around 80 European and local staff.

The Head of the EU Delegation is accredited to Pakistan with the rank of an Ambassador, representing the EU in Pakistan. The Delegation is responsible for the coordination among the Ambassadors and Embassies of EU Member States represented in Islamabad on matters of common interest and EU policies in a number of fields.

Strategic Relations between Pakistan and the UK

Adviser to PM on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz and Foreign Secretary William Hague met on March 14, 2014 to further the strategic relations between Pakistan and the UK, which underpins the enduring partnership between both countries.

They reviewed progress on bilateral commitments and discussed future plans to develop a deeper dialogue between the two countries, strengthening friendship and promoting mutual interests. The dialogue represents a long-term commitment by both countries to work together for greater security and prosperity.

Adviser Sartaj Aziz and Foreign Secretary William Hague discussed priority areas of the bilateral relationship including; renewing commitment to increase bilateral trade to £3 billion by 2015; promoting investments; enhancing Pakistan's EU trade access recently secured with significant UK support; the UK's commitment to stand alongside Pakistan to tackle militancy, terrorism and extremism while acknowledging the huge sacrifices the Pakistani nation has made. They also welcomed the positive contribution made by the British Pakistani community to further strengthen the relationship between the two countries. The two sides agreed to review the whole spectrum of the Enhanced Strategic Dialogue during Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's forthcoming visit to the UK.

After the meeting the Foreign Secretary William Hague said: Pakistan and the UK share longstanding ties. I was pleased to have this opportunity to discuss plans to reframe the Enhanced Strategic Dialogue into a deeper and more focused agreement between our two countries, which strengthens our partnership and promotes our mutual interests. This dialogue represents a continuing, long-term commitment by both countries to work together to create the conditions necessary for greater security and prosperity.

Adviser Sartaj Aziz said: I was delighted to hold substantive discussions with Foreign Secretary William Hague and other key British cabinet members on the progress of bilateral cooperation in areas of common interest. I emphasized the importance of greater international recognition of Pakistan's security concerns. We agreed to intensify efforts to achieve meaningful and mutually beneficial progress in a holistic manner under the framework of the Enhanced Strategic Dialogue. The UK remains, as Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has said, one of Pakistan's closest allies and the leading development partner.

The Enhanced Strategic Dialogue was signed in 2011 and sets out the UK and Pakistan's strategic partnership in 5 areas: trade and business relations; financial, macro-economic stabilization and development cooperation; Education and health; consultations on defence and security; and cultural cooperation.



Adviser Sartaj Aziz shaking hands with Foreign Secretary William Hague in London on March, 14 2014



Adviser Sartaj Aziz shaking hands with Defence Secretary Philip Hammond in London on March, 12 2014



Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz shaking hand with British Secretary for International Development, Ms. Justine Greening, in London on March 12, 2014



Adviser Sartaj Aziz with Foreign Office Minister Baroness Sayeeda Warsi in London on March, 12 2014



Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif addressing International Education Conference on "Unfinished Agenda in Education: the Way Forward" in Islamabad on March 29, 2014

Former Prime Minister Gordon Brown now United Nations Special Envoy on Global Education said that international donors have pledged to provide Pakistan with about a billion dollars (£600,000) over the next three years to help it offer education to millions of children who are not in school. The international community will work with Pakistan in financing the biggest education expansion in the country's history. Mr Brown said the goal is to provide education to more than 55 million people over 10-years-old who are illiterate in Pakistan.

There has been a global commitment to get every child into education by December 2015, which the UN and EU money will help to achieve, said Mr Brown, who was at the International Education Conference in Islamabad at the invitation of the Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

"There are seven million children who are not going to school," he said. "This is completely unacceptable in the modern world and I know the prime minister wishes to do something about it.

"What we've got to do is find a way that Pakistan can increase the money it's spending on education and we can give support from the international community for them to do so.

"We don't want girls forced into early marriage, we don't want child labour, we don't want girls and boys that are trafficked, we want schools that have teachers and we have got to make a huge impact on this problem as quickly as possible."

Pakistan recently doubled its education budget, from 2% to 4% of its Gross Domestic Product.

- Education is beneficial for girls since each extra year of schooling can help increase their wages by up to 20%. Girls who attend secondary school are also likely to marry later and have fewer children.
- The UK is working closely with provincial governments and partners on ambitious plans and innovative approaches which will help benefit 4 million of the most deprived children across Pakistan – half of whom will be girls - by the end of 2015.
- Investing in girls and women is transformational – for their family, their community, and for the country. Women invest nearly all the money they earn back into their family to educate and feed their children, breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

British Pakistani MP made Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and Minister for Equalities



Sajid Javid MP was appointed as Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and Minister for Equalities at the Department of Culture, Media and Sport on April 9, 2014. Previously he was Financial Secretary to the Treasury.

Sajid has been the Conservative Member of Parliament for Bromsgrove constituency since being elected in the 2010 General Election. He was a member of the Work and Pensions Select Committee from June to November 2010

Before being elected MP, he worked in business and finance. Aged 25, he became a Vice President at Chase Manhattan Bank.

He later moved to Deutsche Bank in London to help build its business in emerging market countries. Sajid left Deutsche Bank as a senior Managing Director in the summer of 2009 to give something back through politics.

Sajid speaks fluent Punjabi and Urdu. He attended state schools in Rochdale and Bristol before studying economics and politics at Exeter University. Sajid is married to Laura and they have 4 children.

UK delegation of Women Members Visit Parliament of Pakistan



A delegation of women Members led by the Rt Hon. Baroness D'Souza CMG, Lord Speaker, took part in a three-day workshop with Pakistani parliamentary colleagues in Islamabad February 18-20, 2014.

Accompanying her was a high-level delegation, made up of Baroness Falkner of Margravine, Mary Macleod MP, Shabana Mahmood MP, Baroness Northover, Yasmin Qureshi MP and Rt Hon. Baroness Royall of Blaisdon.

The meetings were the third event in the important long-term partnership programme between Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK, the Pakistan Women's Parliamentary Caucus and the Parliament of Pakistan.

A report of the delegation's activities, findings and outputs will be published in due course.

Visit of Sir Kim Darroch to Pakistan



Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, led delegation level talks with visiting National Security Adviser of the United Kingdom, Sir Kim Darroch on April 2, 2014 at the Foreign Office.

Stressing the importance of bilateral ties, Adviser Sartaj Aziz said that Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with UK which are based on mutual respect, interest and understanding of each other's perspectives. National Security Adviser, Sir Kim Darroch reciprocated these sentiments.

The two sides discussed counter terrorism, regional security and issues of mutual interest including Afghanistan. UK expressed its willingness to continue to assist Pakistan in areas of security and counter terrorism.

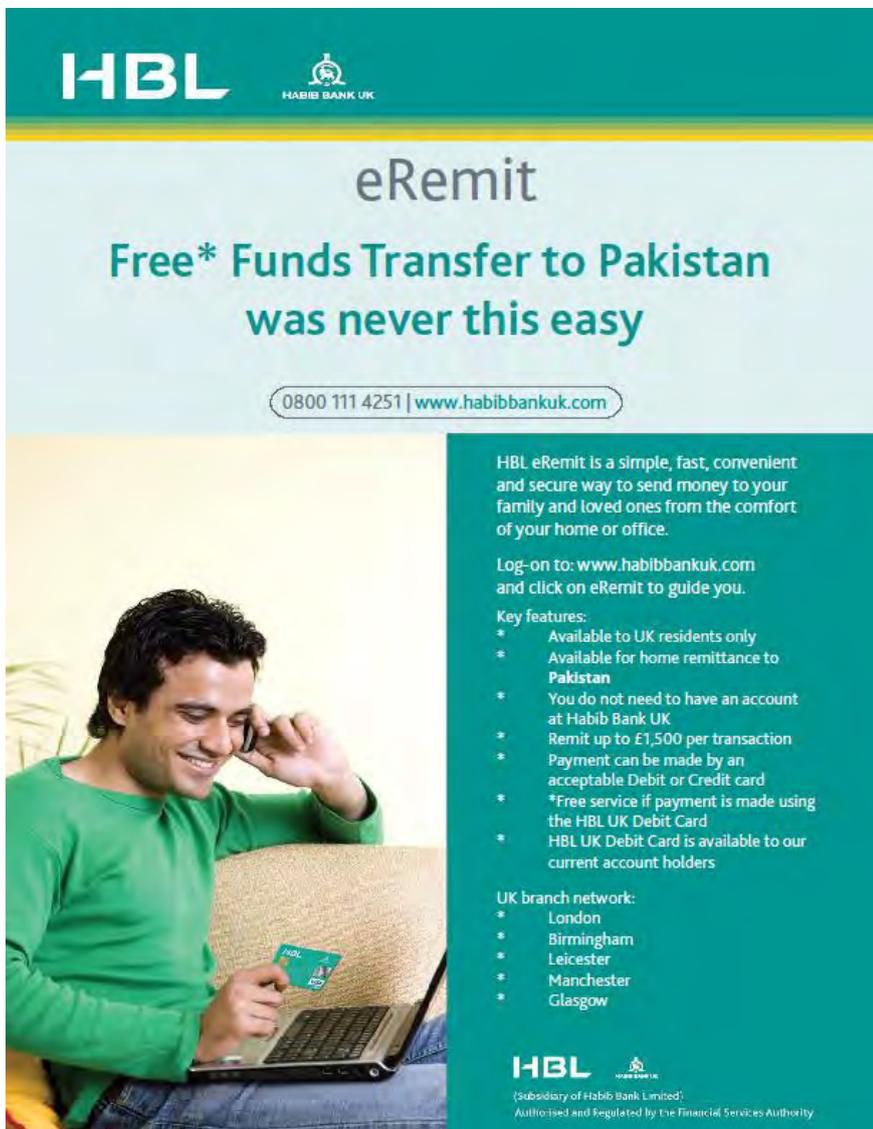
Talks on issues of National Security are part of the Pakistan-UK cooperation under Enhanced Strategic Dialogue.

Pakistan Day, London, March, 23 2014



**Pakistan Day
2014**





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Centre for the Study of Pakistan– Annual Lecture

Karachi and 1960s Cinema: Cultural Wounds and the Production of Sameness

Dr Kamran Asdar Ali

Date: 6 May 14

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Venue: Russell Square: College Buildings

Room: Khalili Lecture Theatre

Organiser: SOAS South Asia Institute

Email: ssai@soas.ac.uk

Tel: 020 7898 4390



Shezad Dawood: Towards The Possible Film At Parasol Unit Foundation for Contemporary Art. April 4 to May 25, 2014



A solo exhibition of work Shezad Dawood: Towards the Possible Film comprises a group of recently executed light sculptures, an installation of large scale paintings on textile, and two films, one of which, Towards the Possible Film, gives its title to the exhibition.

Shezad Dawood (b. London, 1974) works across film, painting and sculpture to juxtapose discrete systems of image, language, site and historical narrative. His practice often involves collaboration, working with groups and individuals across different territories to physically and conceptually map far-reaching lines of enquiry. Dawood's paintings and sculptures interplay with his film work as liminal extensions of his interrogation of perception, the politics of place, and structures of belief. Shezad Dawood trained at Central St Martin's and the Royal College of Art before undertaking a PhD at Leeds Metropolitan University.

**Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 12-5pm
Parasol Unit, 14 Wharf Road, London N1 7RW**

QED WINS MAJOR MUSLIM ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



The Pakistan Society Member, Dr Mohammed Ali OBE, Chief Executive of QED received national recognition winning the coveted Uthman Dan Fodio Award for Excellence in Community Development at the twelfth Muslim News Awards for Excellence. Prime Minister David Cameron joined 800 guests at London's Grosvenor House on March 31, 2014 to celebrate the very best of British Muslim Achievement.

News in Pictures



Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz, at the press conference after Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group meeting in London on 14-3-2014



Adviser to the PM on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz in a delegation level meeting with the National Security Adviser of UK Sir Kim Darroch in Islamabad on April 2, 2014



FEDERAL MINISTER FOR COMMERCE, ENGR. KHURRAM DASTGIR KHAN MEETING WITH PHILIP BARTON NEWLY APPOINTED BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER TO PAKISTAN IN ISLAMABAD ON MARCH 24, 2014



Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan in a meeting with Mr. Charles Farr, Director General of Security and Counter Terrorism, UK, who is representing the UK delegation at the Pak-UK Joint Working Group meeting in Islamabad on February 25, 2014.



HM The Queen's 88th Birthday Party at the British High Commission, Islamabad April, 2014



Member British House of Lords, Lord Nazir Ahmed called on Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif at PM House, Islamabad on February 20, 2014.

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If you would like to help The Pakistan society, please contact Emran Husain at: adc@thepakistansociety.org.uk to discuss sponsorship opportunities.

Recent Events

Friday, 17 January 2014

The Western withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2014: the consequences for Pakistan, Afghanistan and the wider region

This event was co-hosted by the The Pakistan Society and SOAS Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy. It was chaired by Sir William Blackburne and Dr Rahul Rao. Ahmed Rashid one of the best-known writers and commentators on Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asia, spoke on this critically important subject. He reiterated the reasons why the international community, the people of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia need to understand what has gone wrong with the US 'war on terror' and what needs to be done to save the region from the cancer of extremism. This event was packed to the full and many of those who wanted to hear Ahmed Rashid speak had to be turned away for lack of space inside the auditorium.

Wednesday, 26 February 2014

An evening with Sir Nicholas Barrington KCMG CVO FRSA

To celebrate the publication of his two autobiographical books, Sir Nicholas Barrington talked to the Society about his remarkable life. He had a distinguished diplomatic career and he served twice in Pakistan: as First Secretary during the Ayub era and, from 1987 to 1994, as British High Commissioner. In a series of amusing or intriguing anecdotes he touched on his many postings, from the first, in the Foreign Office in Kabul, to his last in Islamabad, via Tokyo, Vietnam, Egypt, and the USA. In talking about aspects that have shaped his life and career, he described some of the difficult, often highly sensitive, international situations he has had to deal with as well as the extraordinary characters he has met.

Thursday, 27 March 2014

Nasreen Askari: The Tale of the Tile: The Ceramic Traditions of Pakistan

In a superbly illustrated lecture, Nasreen Askari, the Founder-Director of the Mohatta Palace Museum in Karachi, guided us expertly through the development of Pakistan's traditions of ceramic art. In explaining how they evolved by fusing the artistry and skills of Central Asia with those of South Asia, she showed examples of the different techniques used to make tiles, as well as the range of designs, patterns and motifs that emerged. She presented examples from many parts the country, concentrating on those from Sindh, Multan, Uch and Lahore; together they demonstrated the vibrancy, the variety and the richness of Pakistan's ceramic heritage.

Wednesday, 2 April 2014

Annual General Meeting

The Chairman, Sir William Blackburne thanked members for coming. The minutes of the last AGM were read and passed. Then the Treasurer and the Honorary Auditor presented the accounts which were passed. After the election of the Officers, the Chairman explained the changes in Committee members. He then gave a resume about the lectures and events that had been arranged in the past twelve months as well as some of the coming events. Sir William asked Mr Imran Mirza, Deputy High Commissioner to convey the thanks and good wishes of the Society to HE Wajid Shamsul Hasan who had announced that he was stepping down as High Commissioner. At the end of the formal business, Mr Imran Mirza addressed the gathering giving a brief report on the successful transition of power in Pakistan, the efforts of the government to revive the economy, the foreign policy initiatives and the commitment to peace within the country and with the neighbours.

Forthcoming Events

Wednesday, 21 May 2014

The Resourceful Fakirs: Three Muslim brothers at the Sikh Court of Lahore

Under Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the Punjab was welded for the first and only time in its tumultuous history into a unified kingdom. In an illustrated talk, Fakir Syed Ajazuddin traces the history of this colourful period in an original and intriguing way — through the careers of three Muslim brothers who were courtiers of immense and lasting influence at the Sikh Darbar of Lahore, and were also his direct ancestors. In addition to having a distinguished career as a chartered accountant, Aijazuddin is an internationally recognised art-historian and author of over a dozen books whose subjects range from the history of Lahore and a catalogue of miniature painting from the Punjab Hills, to Dr Henry Kissinger's secret visit to China in July 1971. As William Dalrymple writes in his Foreword to Fakir Aijazuddin's new book: "The Resourceful Fakirs is a fascinating, original and long overdue study ... In addition to creating memorable pen portraits of the three brothers, he gives one of the best sketches in print of life at the heart of Ranjit Singh's inner circle. To date, Aijazuddin has been known mainly as one of Pakistan's most eminent art historians. With this volume he has now become one of Pakistan's most interesting historians and biographers. *The Resourceful Fakirs* is a remarkable achievement"

Time: 6pm

Venue: High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, London SW1X 8JN.

Admission: This event is open to Members of The Pakistan Society and their guests.

RSVP email: info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

Wednesday, 4 June 2014

61st Annual Dinner

The 61st Annual Dinner of the Pakistan Society will be held at the Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn. The Guest of Honour this year is the Rt. Hon. Justine Greening MP, Secretary of State for International Development. The Reception before the Dinner is a great opportunity to meet people and network. **All details are on the attached form.** If you would like to put an advertisement in our brochure or become a sponsor of the Dinner please get in touch so we can send you further details.

Time: From 6.30pm

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

Admission: This event is open to Members of The Pakistan Society and their guests. Member and spouse £70 each and Non-Members £85 each.

Wednesday, 30 July 2014

A visit to the Headquarters of the Metropolitan Police Service, New Scotland Yard

We are grateful to Commander Mak Chishty of the Metropolitan Police for arranging for the Society to go behind the scenes at New Scotland Yard. In addition to Commander Chishty, other officers who work in the many different departments of the Met will explain to us how London is policed and protected.

Time: TBC

Venue: New Scotland Yard, 8-10 Broadway, Westminster, London SW1H 0BG.

Nearest Station: St James's Park. **Admission:** This event is open to Members of The Pakistan Society and their guests. **RSVP** email: info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

Other Events



International Conference "Pakistan: Opportunity in Crisis"

10-11 May 2014 St. Antony's College, University of Oxford

Pakistan has experienced political turbulences in the past, and its current security and economic challenges are indeed formidable. Yet the country continues to show remarkable national resilience in the face of these challenges. This is contrary to its doomsday portrayal in mainstream media and literature—which remains largely impervious to the myriad complexities of Pakistan's internal realities, especially some viable social, political and economic transformations the country has undergone in recent years. Occurring amid critical circumstances, these transformations entail rare opportunities for reshaping Pakistan's domestic politics and foreign policy, which need in-depth analysis and fresh insight. Hence this conference, which brings together prominent scholars and writers on Pakistan from UK and the rest of the world to critically debate the historical, political, social, economic and regional contexts underpinning such transformations, and thus rationally assess their potential outcomes for internal politics and external relations.

Entry: Student (£9) & Non-Student (£15) for registrations until 30/04/2014

More Details & Registration: www.knowledge.org.uk



Pakistan: What Else You Need To Know

1200 on Sunday 25 May 2014 at Purcell Room, Southbank Centre, London

A day of wide-ranging events discussing Pakistan, curated by author Kamila Shamsie. The extent to which Pakistan is a country viewed by outsiders through the filter of terrorism and extremism became evident a few years ago when media outlets around the world, including the Daily Telegraph and Huffington Post, declared that Karachi Fashion Week was striking a symbolic blow against the Taliban. a series of events covering topics such as satire, film, cricket and the Pak-Sino relationship. With Mishal Husain, Athar Hussain, Declan Walsh, Maha Khan-Phillip, Moni Mohsin, Rashid Rana, Nazir Khan, Imran Qureshi, Shaziz Sikandar, Osman Samiuddin, Hammad Khan and Rachel Dwyer.



XX Commonwealth Games

Glasgow, Scotland 25 JULY – 3 August 2014

17 sports (10 core, 7 selected) across 14 venues. There will be 70 participation nations including Pakistan. Starting 9 October The Glasgow 2014 Cultural Programme will be a nationwide celebration – a platform to showcase the best of Scottish culture alongside work from the Commonwealth. There are two strands: a Scotland-wide programme **Culture 2014**; and a Games-time celebration in Glasgow called **Festival 2014**.

The Pakistan Society, 8 Harriet Walk, London SW1X 9JH Tel: 07427 500 377
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The Pakistan Society
Bringing Pakistan & Britain Together

61st Annual Dinner

On Wednesday, 4th June 2014

**The Great Hall,
The Honorable Society of Lincoln's Inn,
London, WC2A 3TL**

Reception from 6.30 pm. Seated for Dinner at 7.45 pm

Our Dinner will be held at the prestigious Lincoln's Inn, where both Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Mohammed Iqbal were called to the Bar. The UK Guest of Honour will be **The Rt. Hon. Justine Greening MP, Secretary of State for International Development**. Tickets are **£70 each** for Members and their Spouse, and **£85 each** for Non-Members. Corporate members taking tables of 10 persons at £1000 or half table for £500 will be appropriately recognised in the programme.

Provisional bookings **cannot** be accepted and **NO** tickets will be available at the door. Members may apply for themselves, their spouse and their Guests. Please apply for places as early as possible.

Tables will seat 10 persons, depending on final numbers. Please indicate below your seating preference and any dietary restrictions. Any meat served will be halal.

Cancellations: If you cancel your booking on or after Friday, 30 May 2014, the full fee per place will be charged. The Pakistan Society will accept a substitute if a ticket holder is unable to attend. All cancellations or substitutions must be received in writing and will be deemed to take effect from the date when received by the society.

The Pakistan Society

Member

Mr/Mrs _____ Surname: _____

First Name: _____

Decorations: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Tel No: _____

I wish to be seated near: _____

**Booking Form for the 61st Annual Dinner
on Wednesday, 4th June 2014
Guests**

Please state each guest's full name and any decorations.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

E-Mail: _____

I hereby apply for:	Qty	Total
Members and Spouse ticket(s) @ £70 each		£
Non Members ticket(s) @ £85 each		£
Corporate table for 10 persons @ £1000		£
Corporate table for 5 persons @ £500		£
I enclose a cheque made payable to The Pakistan Society	TOTAL	£

**Return to: Mrs Shama Husain, Honorary Secretary, The Pakistan Society, 8 Harriet Walk,
London SW1X 9JH by Friday, 30th May 2014 Email: info@thepakistansociety.org.uk**