

## DOCUMENTS

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#### **JOINT STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE VISIT TO PAKISTAN OF PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY, H.E RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN**

His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey paid an official visit to Pakistan from 23-24 December, 2013, at the invitation of Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif. He was accompanied by a high level delegation including Minister of Economy and the Minister of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communication. A large number of prominent entrepreneurs and industrialists from leading Turkish companies in the sectors of energy, construction, urban development and municipal services, public transport etc. accompanied Prime Minister Erdogan for participation in the Business Forum.

On the first leg of his tour, Prime Minister Erdogan visited Lahore where he addressed a well-attended Business Forum. Leading business community from Turkey and all across Pakistan participated in the Forum. The same evening, Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif hosted a reception for the visiting Prime Minister and his delegation.

In Islamabad, Prime Minister Erdogan called on President Mamnoon Hussain. Prime Minister Erdogan held *tete-a-tete* with Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif. The exclusive talks were followed by in-depth delegation level talks. Pakistan and Turkey enjoy unique relations which are unparalleled in the world. Our bilateral ties are characterized by time-tested bonds of affinity, mutual respect and solidarity and draw their strength from shared love of our two peoples. The two Prime Ministers exchanged views across the whole gamut of bilateral, regional and international issues in a warm and friendly manner. During talks, both the Prime Ministers;

- Expressed their satisfaction at the progress in our strategic partnership; Reiterated their resolve to comprehensively upgrade bilateral relations across all areas of mutual interest, especially economic and commercial;
- Emphasized their firm belief in the strength of democracy and expressed determination to cooperate to achieve democratic ideals to the benefit of the brotherly people of the two countries;
- Reaffirmed their abiding commitment for the socio-economic development of the people and to follow policies that bring qualitative improvement in the quality of life of people and prosperity to their respective countries;
- Condemned terrorism and renewed their resolve to increase

bilateral cooperation against terrorism and organized crime; and Expressed their desire to enhance cooperation in social sectors especially culture, education and tourism. Improved cooperation in social sector fields will also serve as a vehicle for greater people to people relations between the two countries.

During the visit, three MoUs and one Cooperation Protocol were signed between Pakistan and Turkey. During the visit, it was also agreed to;

- Maintain active political consultative process as well as regular exchange of high level visits alongside visits of parliamentarians, businessmen, civil society and media representatives;
- Follow up implementation of decisions taken at the High Level Strategic Cooperation Council Forum;
- Conclude Pakistan-Turkey Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) by the first half of 2014;
- Facilitate investments by the private sector in both countries. Pakistan would especially encourage Turkish private sector for investments in the key sectors of energy, especially coal, hydroelectric and wind, infrastructure including motorways, roads and airports, low-cost housing and urban development & municipal services like public transport and solid waste management;
- Encourage their respective state and private banks to open branches in Pakistan and Turkey;
- Ensure regular operations of Istanbul-Islamabad Container train for enhanced on-land connectivity between Pakistan and Turkey;
- Further strengthen our existing cooperation and partnership in security and counter-terrorism related issues;
- Further deepen our defence cooperation through exploring the possibility of joint defence production and allied Research and Development;
- Learn from each other's best practices in skill development and vocational training programs;
- Enhance cooperation between educational institutions of the two countries. The two countries agreed to increase the number of scholarships to students to pursue undergraduate, graduate and post graduate level studies in both countries in the fields of engineering, technology, medicine and management sciences;
- Promote cooperation in the field of tourism and preservation and restoration of historical and archaeological sites;

- Closely coordinate and consult each other bilaterally as well as multilaterally to promote regional peace and security.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan invited Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif to visit Turkey which the latter graciously accepted.<sup>2</sup>

<http://mofa.gov.pk/pr-details.php?prID=1627>

December 24, 2013

Islamabad

## Documents

### **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE 68TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THE PEACE BELL CEREMONY IN NEW YORK 18 September 2013**

Excellencies,  
Secretary General,  
Distinguished Guests,

*Ladies and Gentlemen:*

We begin this year's General Assembly- our 68th session- as we have every year since 1981, with a tribute to peace which happens to be the very foundation upon which this organization representing our family of nations is built. The annual Peace Bell Ceremony is a poignant reminder of the overarching purpose of our work to ensure a more peaceful world. The ringing of the peace bell is also an evocative statement of purpose guiding our collaborative efforts towards meeting the agenda of the 68th session of the General Assembly.

This bell rings for peace at a time when so many across the globe are struggling to eke out a living, and begin their day in the dark and end their day in dark, hungry and terrified to face the horror of another tomorrow. This bell rings for peace at time when there is still conflict and bloodshed in many parts of the world., where there are tensions and violence born of traditional and long held divisions, or stemming from ethnic and/or religious differences.

As we hear this bell ring, let us remember that it was the United Nations General Assembly that established this International Day of Peace in an effort that all member states will recognize and reflect upon the value of peace in world filled with everyday examples of bloodshed, violence and war. It is a day where any countries involved in conflict will have a day of ceasefire; where we will have a minute of silence in which we recognize and honour the victims of war and conflict wherever they are, and where we dedicate ourselves to work together to promote peace.

What makes this 2013 International Day of Peace unique is that for the first time, the Day has been dedicated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to peace education. Let us remember that education is a path to growth and development for citizens and societies, and that education that teaches the value of peace is a key preventive means of reducing war and conflict.

One of the world's great leaders, Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." It is therefore fitting that today we reflect on the role of education as one of the important building blocks upon which peace can be built.

Education provides an opportunity to raise the veil of ignorance that blinds us to the path of decency, respect, tolerance and the interdependence of the human family, irrespective of country of origin, religion or ethnicity. No serious business leader would fail to optimize all the resources available to them. Yet, we do exactly that when we fail to give girls and women equal access to education, healthcare and opportunity. Let us remember that when we educate our girl children, and when we empower women and young people we create a more sustainable future - one which holds the real promise of reducing poverty and ill-health and of eliminating the scourge of gender violence.

The ringing of this peace bell today summons us all to work for the broader cause of human development to which people everywhere are entitled, and to build the peace in which all people and societies can prosper. Let us not forget that peace does not occur by happenstance, it is the product of the conscious and consistent effort of people of good will acting together for the common good. And let us remember that peace that is secured by hard work, dedication and commitment is a peace that is lasting and sustainable and very much needed in this world of ours.

Thank you  
H.E. Mr. John W. Ashe

