

DAILY PAKISTAN WATCH

12 August 2026

Security

- ◆ **Bugti Condemns Extremist Violence, Promotes Peaceful Image of Balochistan** — Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti denounced extremist groups for waging a “**futile conflict**” that harms ordinary Baloch people by destroying infrastructure and livelihoods. He emphasised that such violence undermines progress and stability. Bugti announced an upcoming **international calligraphy exhibition** in Quetta, aiming to showcase the province as a hub of peace and Islamic art. He also highlighted Pakistan’s rising global stature, noting the recent **defence collaboration with Saudi Arabia and Turkey** as a defensive partnership for safeguarding peace. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Security Forces Neutralise Terrorists in Panjgur** — The ISPR announced that five terrorists belonging to the proscribed **Fitna al-Hindustan** group were neutralised during a “**high-tempo, intelligence-driven operation**” in Balochistan’s Panjgur district. Weapons, ammunition and IEDs were recovered and destroyed, followed by sanitisation operations. The action was part of **Operation Shaban** under the broader **Azm-e-Istehkam** vision, aimed at eliminating foreign-sponsored terrorism. **President Asif Ali Zardari** and **Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif** praised the security forces, vowing that operations against terrorist elements “**will continue till their complete elimination.**” (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Honouring Distinguished Military Service** — At a special investiture ceremony at Aiwan-e-Sadr, **President Asif Ali Zardari** conferred the **Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Military)** upon **General Syed Aamer Raza, Commander National Strategic Command (CNSC)**, recognising his “**meritorious contributions, outstanding professional acumen and distinguished services towards the defence and security of Pakistan.**” The event was attended by **Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Senate Chairman Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, Deputy PM Ishaq Dar, COAS Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, and service chiefs**, alongside cabinet members and diplomats. Later, Gen Raza paid a courtesy call on the president. (*The News International*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Pakistan’s Regional Balancing Act** — In its editorial, *Dawn* notes Pakistan’s recent efforts to reassure **Iran** that the **Makkah Joint Defence Agreement** signed with **Saudi Arabia and Türkiye** is “**not an instrument of confrontation**” (FM Ishaq Dar) and “**entirely for defence purposes**” (PM **Shehbaz Sharif**). Tehran responded positively, saying it did not see the pact as encirclement. Analysts highlight the agreement’s mutual defence clause, raising speculation about its scope, but stress the need for a **new regional security architecture** involving Arabs, Iranians and others. Pakistan and Türkiye could act as bridges to reduce mistrust, while Gulf states must lessen reliance on external powers. (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **A New Security Architecture in the Making** — In his column, **Zahid Hussain**, author and journalist, describes the **Makkah Joint Defence Agreement** between **Türkiye, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan** as “**fundamentally altering the strategic landscape of the region.**” The pact, likened to NATO’s Article 5, declares that an attack on one will be treated as an attack on all, though its practical emphasis may be on deterrence and intelligence-sharing. Hussain stresses it is not a “Muslim alliance” but a framework reducing dependence on the US and countering Israel’s expansionist agenda. He notes Iran’s mixed reaction, Egypt’s hesitation, and India-Israel’s deepening partnership in response. (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Two Militants Killed in Bannu Operation** — Security forces carried out an **intelligence-based operation** in Shahid Khan village, Janikhel, Bannu district, killing two unidentified terrorists in an exchange of fire. Their bodies were recovered by a local unit. Meanwhile, an **explosive device** planted on a roadside in Khanikhel, Miryan tehsil, created a large crater but caused no casualties. Initial reports suggest the bomb targeted security personnel’s movement. Following the blast, forces cordoned off the area, launched a clearance operation, and temporarily disrupted traffic. Operations against militants continue in Khanikhel and adjoining areas. (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))

Economy

- ◆ **Seafood Trade with China Expands Rapidly** — Pakistan’s seafood exports to China surged by **24% in 2025, reaching \$255 million**, driven by strong demand for mud crabs and other high-value products. According to **PCJCCI President Nazir Hussain**, Pakistan must invest in **modern processing, cold-chain infrastructure, quality control and certification** to unlock full export potential. **Vice President Amir Ali** emphasised compliance with food-safety standards, while **Commercial Ambassador Adeel Munawar** highlighted mud crabs as a promising diversification product. **Secretary General Salahuddin Hanif** noted that expansion could generate employment and uplift coastal communities. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Empowering SMEs through Digital Transformation** — Pakistan’s Ministry of IT and Telecommunication has partnered with **Meta** to launch the **Small Business Growth Academy**, aiming to train over **1,000 SMEs** in nine major cities. The programme will provide workshops and modules on Meta’s platforms and **AI-enabled tools**, with a strong focus on **women-led businesses** in textiles, handicrafts and IT services. Federal Minister **Shaza Khawaja** stressed that “**SMEs are the backbone of Pakistan’s economy,**” while Meta’s **Tehara Punchihewa** said the initiative will help entrepreneurs use AI confidently to compete. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Pakistan’s Debt Burden Deepens Despite Higher Revenues** — The **State Bank of Pakistan** reported federal debt at **Rs83.6 trillion by June 2026**, marking a **75% increase in four years** despite IMF programmes and higher taxes. Domestic debt rose to Rs59.5 trillion, while external debt reached Rs24.2 trillion, cushioned slightly by rupee appreciation. Analysts note that **42–50% of the budget is consumed by interest payments**, leaving little room for productive spending. Under the Fiscal Responsibility Act, debt should decline annually, yet the government remains in violation. The IMF still deems debt “sustainable,” though financing needs of 20–23% of GDP are unsustainable. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Pakistan's Energy Economy** — In his analysis, **Mashhood Urfi (Alternate Development Services)** argues that Pakistan's energy transition requires reliable baseload power beyond intermittent solar and wind. He highlights the **OGDCL–SLB collaboration in Sindh** as a strategic opportunity to combine **geothermal electricity and lithium extraction**, creating an integrated clean energy ecosystem. Geothermal offers **24-hour renewable generation with minimal emissions**, while lithium enables domestic battery manufacturing and energy storage. Urfi stresses that this dual-resource model could reduce LNG imports, strengthen energy security, and support industrial competitiveness. He cautions, however, that financing, regulation and technology transfer must be addressed for success. (*The News*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **CPEC 2.0: From Energy to Exports** — Pakistan is seeking to expand exports to China under **CPEC Phase II**, aiming to move beyond the \$3 billion currently exported into China's **\$2.6 trillion import market**. Planning Minister **Ahsan Iqbal** told a visiting Chinese delegation that while **CPEC 1.0 helped overcome Pakistan's energy deficit**, the new phase is expected to address the **export deficit**. He emphasised **B2B cooperation**, industrial modernisation, and learning from China's expertise in **automation and robotics**. Chinese advisor **Sun Dongsheng** reaffirmed the importance of deepening cooperation in industry and agriculture, noting CPEC 2.0's shift from infrastructure to industrialisation and competitiveness. (*The Nation*, [12 August 2026](#))

Foreign Policy

- ◆ **Pakistan Steps Up Mediation in US-Iran Conflict** — Islamabad intensified its diplomatic role as **Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi** met Iranian President **Masoud Pezeshkian**, Foreign Minister **Abbas Araghchi** and Interior Minister **Eskandar Momeni** in Tehran. Defence Minister **Khawaja Asif** said that Washington and Tehran may be “**close to some sort of an arrangement**,” raising hopes of a breakthrough. Naqvi emphasised Pakistan-Iran's “**strong and unbreakable**” ties, while Pezeshkian welcomed deeper cooperation. The talks highlight Pakistan's effort to balance relations with both rivals, amid tensions over the **Strait of Hormuz** and **Bab el-Mandeb**, critical to global energy flows. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **US Lawmakers Press Rubio on Imran Khan's Detention** — A bipartisan group of **US Congress members** has urged **Secretary of State Marco Rubio** to raise concerns over the detention of **Imran Khan** and his wife **Bushra Bibi** with Pakistan. Citing a **UN special rapporteur's letter**, lawmakers highlighted reports of “**solitary confinement up to 23 hours a day**” and Khan's alleged “**severe eye damage**” and claims of “**slow poisoning**.” They also noted Bushra Bibi's confinement in “**airless, overheated cells**” with restricted access to food, water and family visits. The letter demanded immediate US review and diplomatic engagement. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Makkah Defence Agreement Framed as Long-Term Partnership** — **Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud** described the recently signed trilateral **Makkah agreement between Türkiye, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan** as a “**long-term defence partnership**” aimed at boosting cooperation, addressing regional challenges and maintaining stability. Signed at a summit on 7 August 2026, the pact formalises decades of strategic ties rather than creating a new bloc, analysts noted. It establishes a framework of **collective security and deterrence**, with Pakistan contributing military expertise,

Saudi Arabia economic strength, and Türkiye advanced defence technology. Analysts emphasise it is **not a ‘Muslim NATO’**, but a defensive mechanism to enhance regional stability. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Modi’s Policy of Hostility Towards Pakistan** — In his analysis, **Touqir Hussain**, former ambassador and adjunct professor at **Georgetown University**, argues that Prime Minister **Narendra Modi’s Pakistan policy** since 2014 has been unprecedented in “**hostility, intransigence and intolerance.**” He notes that even if dialogue resumed, “**it may change little,**” as India’s refusal to engage is itself a deliberate policy. Hussain links Modi’s stance to populism, RSS ideology, and the exploitation of terrorism narratives to harden public opinion. He adds that India’s suspension of dialogue masks its inability to impose hegemony, while enabling new ground realities in Kashmir and water disputes. (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Pakistan–US Renew Higher Education Ties** — Pakistan and the United States have signed a **five-year agreement** extending their partnership in higher education through the **Higher Education Commission (HEC)** and the **United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP)**. The pact will support **66 PhD scholars** alongside Fulbright Master’s, Visiting Scholar, FLTA and Humphrey Fellowship programmes. **Dr Peter Moran (USEFP)** said the programmes empower participants to benefit Pakistan’s development, while **Prof Dr Ziaul Haq (HEC)** called the partnership a hallmark of cooperation. The agreement, worth Rs6.48bn, reaffirms shared commitment to academic excellence, research and international collaboration. (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Japan’s Grant for Pakistani Civil Servants** — Japan has extended **¥350 million** under the **Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) Programme 2026**, enabling Pakistani government officers to pursue advanced degrees at leading Japanese universities. At the signing ceremony in Islamabad, Ambassador **Akamatsu Shuichi** said: “*When we support a young civil servant... we are helping to shape a future leader.*” Since 2018, over 100 officials have been dispatched, with 80 returning to contribute to Pakistan’s development. The programme aims to strengthen institutional capacity, deepen bilateral ties, and build “**human bridges — one scholar at a time**” between Pakistan and Japan. (*The Nation*, [12 August 2026](#))

Politics, Culture, Etc.

- ◆ **Local Governments over New Provinces** — In a major policy discussion hosted by SDPI, mainstream parties including **PML-N, PPP, PTI and JUI-F** rejected the idea of creating new provinces, instead favouring **strengthening Article 140-A to empower local governments**. PTI’s **Salman Akram Raja** called dividing Punjab “nonsensical,” arguing that “**the solution is to empower local governments.**” PPP’s **Qamar Zaman Kaira** warned that new provinces could deepen fault lines, while experts like **Dr Khaqan Hasan Najeel** proposed raising LG spending from 4.7% to 40%. Only **MQM-P** supported new provinces, but most participants stressed that stronger LGs ensure accountability and service delivery. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **AJKEC Orders Re-Polling in Bagh Constituencies** — The ‘Azad’ Jammu and Kashmir Election Commission (AJKEC) has directed **re-polling at 23 polling stations** in LA-15 Bagh-II and LA-16

Bagh-III on **15 August 2026**, after irregularities were reported. Chief Election Commissioner **Justice (retd) Ghulam Mustafa Mughal** urged voters to participate, noting that results from most polling stations had already been received. Meanwhile, the outcome of **LA-17 Haveli** remains disputed, with **PPP's Faisal Mumtaz Rathore** and **PML-N's Mohsin Aziz** both claiming victory. The AJKEC has yet to decide whether to recount or announce results, leaving tensions high. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Judicial Appointment Deadlock Resolved** — A brewing crisis over judicial appointments was averted when **President Asif Ali Zardari** signed pending summaries confirming additional judges as permanent judges in the **Sindh High Court (SHC)** and **Lahore High Court (LHC)**, alongside appointments in the **PHC, IHC and BHC**. The move followed an **Islamabad High Court order** demanding explanations for delays. The statement also noted Zardari's approval of equalisation of judges' salaries with the Federal Constitutional Court and amendments to privileges. Three new IHC judges — **Justice Ayaz Shaukat, Justice Umair Majeed Malik and Justice Shah Rukh Arjumand** — took the oath immediately after. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Child Nutrition Challenges Persist in Punjab** — Despite progress, Punjab still faces serious child health concerns. Stunting among children has declined from **36% in 2018 to 27% in 2026**, while wasting dropped from **15% to 10%**. Yet, **“more than one in four children remain stunted,”** keeping infant feeding and maternal nutrition high on the provincial agenda. At a UNICEF seminar, **Minister Khawaja Imran Nazir** stressed that breastfeeding is a child's fundamental right, vital for survival and development. Punjab has upgraded **2,500 health units**, set up **29 Kangaroo mother care centres** and expanded mobile clinics, but experts insist stronger support for mothers is essential. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Supreme Court to Hear PTI Petitions on Imran Khan's Access** — The **Supreme Court registrar** has assured PTI lawyers that **five petitions concerning access to Imran Khan** will be fixed for hearing next week. The assurance followed protests outside the SC building and a meeting led by **Salman Akram Raja** with ILF Chief Organiser **Intezar Panjutha** and others. Panjutha said the petitions relate to denial of access to Khan's family, physicians and legal team. Meanwhile, Imran's sister **Uzma Khan** has sought his transfer to Shifa International Hospital for treatment. The SC has already issued notices in one case. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Mall Road Shooting Sparks Political Tensions** — Security forces in Rawalpindi killed **Muhammad Hussain**, identified as a suspected assailant and alleged PTI worker, after he opened fire on a patrol near Mall Road, injuring one official. Authorities recovered a pistol, ammunition and a PTI flag. The **PTI leadership, including Salman Akram Raja**, distanced the party from the incident, insisting it operates strictly within constitutional limits and warning against **“unverified accusations.”** Meanwhile, **Information Minister Attaullah Tarar** condemned PTI's “violent politics,” linking the episode to broader unrest. (*The News International*, [12 August 2026](#))
- ◆ **Outsourcing Airports and Privatising Power Firms** — Pakistan has advanced its privatisation agenda by approving an **EY-Parthenon-led consortium** as financial adviser for outsourcing **Lahore's Allama Iqbal International Airport** and **Karachi's Jinnah International Airport**. The **Privatisation Commission Board**, chaired by Adviser Muhammad Ali, also declared the

privatisation of **Lesco and Mepco** as major transactions, initiating the process of appointing advisers. These moves form part of the government's wider restructuring drive to address **persistent losses and inefficiencies in the power distribution sector**, while expanding private participation in critical infrastructure. (*The News International*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Celebrating Minorities' Contributions to Pakistan's Progress** — At a ceremony marking **National Minorities Day**, **Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif** lauded the role of Christians, Hindus, Sikhs, Parsis and others in Pakistan's creation and development. He recalled his own early education at Christian institutions and praised figures such as **Justice A R Cornelius** and **Cecil Chaudhry**. The PM stressed that **"all citizens, regardless of religion, must work together for the country's growth and prosperity."** He also highlighted the **Makkah Defence Agreement** with Saudi Arabia and Türkiye as a peace initiative, while awarding honours to minority representatives. (*The News*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Civil Society Demands Equal Rights for Minorities** — On **National Minorities Day**, activists and community leaders staged a protest at **Mazar-e-Quaid**, condemning rising discrimination and violence against minorities and demanding acceptance of their **11-point charter**. Speakers including **Sheema Kermani**, **Pastor Ghazala Shafiq** and **Dr Vinesh Arya** recalled Jinnah's 1947 speech, stressing today's reality is **"contrary to the founder's vision."** Protesters urged equal citizenship, a **criminal ban on forced conversions**, quotas in education and employment, reforms to allow minorities eligibility for top offices, and protection of worship sites. Placards highlighted insecurity and frustration among minority youth. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Safeguarding Human Dignity in the Age of AI** — In her commentary on Pope Leo's encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas*, **Nabila Feroz Bhatti**, **human rights activist**, highlights its urgent call to protect the rights of the marginalised amid rapid technological change. The Pope warns that **"the use of AI is never a purely technical matter"**, stressing risks of exclusion, manipulation and inequality if power remains concentrated. He urges labour unions to adapt, governments to ensure equitable access, and communities to protect children from online exploitation. Bhatti connects these concerns to Pakistan, citing Karachi's water-stressed data centres and children's vulnerability to cyberbullying. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Patriotism Beyond Reason** — In her reflective essay, **Sara Aslam Basar**, **lawyer and volunteer executive member of Blind Resource Foundation Pakistan**, recalls childhood rituals of assemblies and rote learning that seemed monotonous yet gradually instilled an **"enduring affection for my homeland."** She argues that patriotism often precedes logic, rooted in memory, identity and belonging rather than prosperity or perfection. Despite deteriorating conditions and inequality, she insists her bond with Pakistan remains **"unseverable."** For her, patriotism is akin to faith: a spiritual connection transcending reason, adversity and material comforts. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Honour Killing Exposes Deadly Custom in Kohistan** — Police in Upper Kohistan reported that a married woman was allegedly killed in the name of honour in Dasu, though her family claimed she died from a stray bullet. District Police Officer **Tahir Iqbal** said investigators suspect honour killing and warned that the man linked to her could also be targeted under the local **"Chor"**

tradition, which demands reciprocal killings. He stressed, **“We cannot rely solely on the family’s account... we want to save his life.”** Clerics and elders are being engaged to abolish the practice. (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Punjab’s Commitment to Minority Rights** — On **National Minorities Day**, Chief Minister **Maryam Nawaz Sharif** pledged to uphold **Quaid-i-Azam’s vision** of equal rights and freedom for all communities. She highlighted Punjab’s initiatives, including the **Minority Card** scheme providing Rs10,500 quarterly to families, the **Sikh Marriage Act 2024** granting legal status to *Anand Karaj*, and the approval of the **Hindu Marriage Act 2017**. The provincial government has expanded budgets for minority welfare, scholarships, and restoration of historic places of worship. Festivals such as **Baisakhi, Holi, Diwali, Christmas and Easter** are now celebrated officially at a larger scale. Maryam declared: *“Minorities are the beautiful colours of Pakistan, and we will never allow these colours to fade.”* (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))

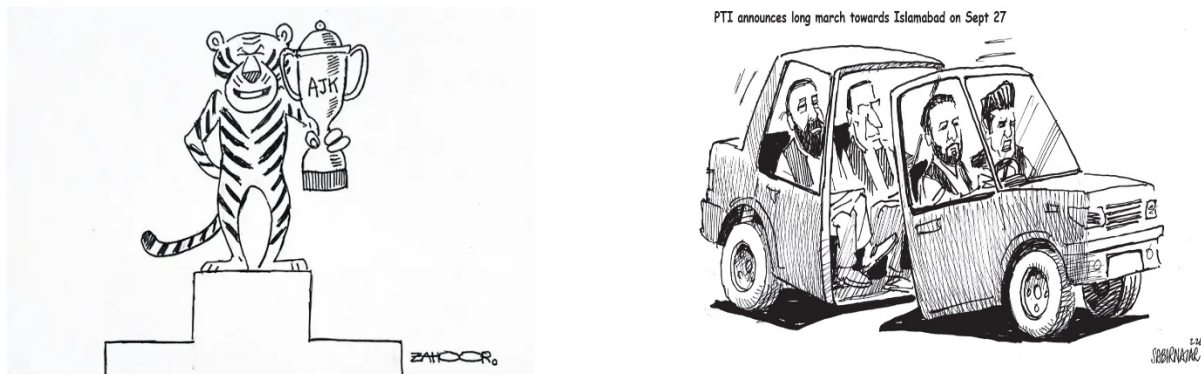
- ◆ **Sindh’s Tradition of Inclusion** — Chief Minister **Syed Murad Ali Shah** emphasised that **religious harmony is deeply rooted in Sindh’s history and culture**, where diverse communities have lived together in respect for centuries. Speaking at the Arts Council on **National Minorities Day**, he recalled **Quaid-i-Azam’s vision of equal citizenship** and highlighted the election of minority leaders such as Mahesh Kumar Malani and Gianchand Israni as proof of public trust beyond religious identity. Shah shared his own educational journey shaped by Christian, Hindu and Parsi institutions, stressing that **“minorities are integral to Pakistan’s development.”** He reaffirmed Sindh’s commitment to protecting constitutional, social and economic rights of minorities. (*The Express Tribune*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Independent Commission for Minority Rights** — Prime Minister **Shehbaz Sharif** announced the establishment of an **independent commission to protect minority rights**, reaffirming the role of Christians, Hindus, Parsis and Sikhs in building a cohesive society. Addressing a ceremony on **National Minorities Day**, he urged collective efforts in education, health and youth empowerment, and paid tribute to figures such as **Jogendra Nath Mandal** and **Cecil Chaudhry**. The commission, created under legislation passed last year, will **address grievances, monitor safeguards, oversee places of worship and employment quotas, and recommend policy reforms**. He emphasised that minorities had always worked “shoulder to shoulder” with Quaid-i-Azam. (*Dawn*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Transport Strike Deadlock in Karachi** — Talks between the government and the **All Pakistan Goods Transport Alliance** failed to resolve disputes, with President **Malik Shehzad Awan** announcing the strike will continue. He stressed that **“verbal assurances are not enough — we need written and implementable commitments.”** Despite several rounds of discussions, key demands remain unmet, and transporters vowed not to back down. The protest has entered a “decisive phase,” disrupting operations at **Port Qasim** where vehicles have been parked, halting goods movement. Awan said the struggle would remain peaceful until transporters’ “legitimate rights” are secured. (*The Nation*, [12 August 2026](#))

- ◆ **Glacier Protection: A Global Responsibility** — In his commentary, **Shabbir Mir, journalist and former spokesperson for the Gilgit-Baltistan government**, highlights the establishment of the **Gilgit-Baltistan Glacier Protection Authority (GBGPA)** as a landmark climate policy initiative.

Home to over **13,000 glaciers**, GB sustains Pakistan's agriculture, hydropower and drinking water, yet faces accelerated melt due to climate change. Mir stresses that **"villages in Gilgit-Baltistan repeatedly find themselves on the frontlines of a climate crisis they did little to create."** He argues that protecting these glaciers is not just a local duty but a **shared global obligation**, requiring international finance, expertise and collaboration. (*The News*, [12 August 2026](#))



AT A GLANCE

Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye seal joint defence agreement

A TRILATERAL FRAMEWORK FOR COLLECTIVE SECURITY, STABILITY AND SHARED PROSPERITY
Islamabad, Riyadh and Ankara formalise decades of trust and cooperation with a pact that is defensive in nature, not directed against any country, and aimed at safeguarding regional peace through collective security and collective deterrence.

 ROOTED IN HISTORY Decades of historic ties built on trust, shared values, common interests and strong people-to-people bonds.	 A CHANGING REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT Evolving threats and regional conflicts underscore the need for stronger cooperation among trusted partners.	 A DEFENSIVE, NOT OFFENSIVE PACT Any external attack on one member is a threat to all three. The pact is not directed against any country.	 NOT AGAINST ANY COUNTRY Designed to prevent conflict through credible deterrence and promote peace and stability.	 BUILT FOR STABILITY A mechanism to promote regional stability and strengthen collective security.
 PAKISTAN Military capability, battle-tested experience and strategic expertise.	 SAUDI ARABIA Centrality in the region, a strong economy and powerful, clear-headed leadership.	 TÜRKİYE Advanced defence technology, resilience and industrial capabilities.	WHAT THE PACT IS NOT - Not a Muslim NATO - Not nuclear backslapping - Not directed against any country - Not an offensive alliance	
 PAKISTAN AS A NET REGIONAL STABILISER From Mark-e-Haq and its role in mediating the U.S. Iran military conflict, Pakistan is emerging as a trusted bridge between regional and global stakeholders. Constructive relations with Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Iran and others, and strong ties with the United States and China.	 LEADERSHIP BUILT ON SINCERITY, CLARITY AND COMPETENCE The credibility of this framework rests on the sincerity, clarity and competence of Saudi, Turkish and Pakistani leaderships. Proven ability to manage crises responsibly, combine preparedness with strategic restraint, and pursue diplomacy without compromising national security.	 COLLECTIVE SECURITY & COLLECTIVE DETERRENCE By pooling military capabilities, intelligence cooperation and strategic coordination, the three countries build a strong deterrent. Raises the cost of aggression and reduces the likelihood of conflict through credible defence cooperation.		
 COLLECTIVE DEFENCE COMMITMENT An attack on one is an attack on all.	 JOINT MILITARY COOPERATION Training, exercises, interoperability and capacity building.	 INTELLIGENCE SHARING Intelligence sharing and information exchange.	 DEFENCE INDUSTRY & TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATION Joint production, R&D and technology transfer.	 NAVIGATING SECURITY COOPERATION Protecting sea lanes, critical infrastructure and maritime interests.
SALIENT FEATURES OF THE TRILATERAL DEFENCE PACT COUNTER-TERRORISM COOPERATION Combating terrorism and extremism in all its forms. CRISIS MANAGEMENT MECHANISM Consultation and consultation in times of crisis. STRATEGIC THOUGHT & POLICY COORDINATION Regular high-level engagement on regional and global issues. PEOPLE-CENTRIC PROSPERITY Issues for the sustainable development and shared prosperity.				
THE PACT DELIVERS - Stronger collective security - Enhanced deterrence - Regional stability and peace - Protection of sovereignty and national interests - A secure environment for economic growth & prosperity		 STRONGER TOGETHER. SAFER TOGETHER. PROSPEROUS TOGETHER.		
A PACT FOR THE FUTURE - Defensive, non-aggressive and inclusive - Built on trust, respect and sincerity - For the people, for prosperity, for peace - Self-reliance, not dependence - Credibility through transparency, empowering stability				

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