

Pakistan Embassy, The Hague



Pakistani-Dutch community mobilizes over a crore Rupees to help dislocated persons

The Pakistani-Dutch community has raised over one crore fourteen lac rupees (Euro 1,01,480 equivalent to US dollars 1,41,500) to help the dislocated people in NWFP. The entire amount was channeled to the Prime Minister Fund for the Victims of Terrorism through Habib Bank Limited Rotterdam.

The fund-raising campaign was commenced on 19 May under the guidance of Ambassador of Pakistan, Mr Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry. During the campaign, fund-raising dinners were held in the cities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and The Hague.

Several associations of Pakistani Diaspora and individuals exhibited a high sense of nationalism and support and sympathy for the displaced

persons and donated generously.

The fund raising campaign concluded on 16 July with a meeting at the residence of the Pakistan Ambassador. The leading contributors and leaders of Pakistani-Dutch community expressed their deep sense of satisfaction over the contribution made by the community to help their brethren in need.



Full details of the funds collected were rendered by the Embassy through a comprehensive presentation in the interest of transparency and financial discipline.

Foreign Minister visits the Netherlands

The Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Shah Mehmood Qureshi, visited the Netherlands on 31 March 2009 to represent Pakistan in the Hague Conference on Afghanistan. During the visit, the Foreign Minister called on the Dutch Prime Minister Mr. Balkenende and held meetings with the Dutch Foreign Minister, Mr. Verhagen and Development Cooperation Minister, Mr. Koenders. He also interacted with Dutch media.



Inside this issue:

Pak Ambassador Hockey Cup	2
Embassy-Community Interaction	2
Pak Ambassador Cricket Cup	2
News in brief	3
Cricket Championship Trophy 2009	3
Pakistan Day Reception	3
NL joins FODP	4
Pakistan Ambassador presents credentials	4
Embassy Information	4
Independence Day Reception	4

After a productive visit in 2008, Dutch businessmen and entrepreneurs are gearing up to participate actively in Expo Pakistan, Karachi, 3-5 December, 2009

Pakistani mangoes go on display in Rotterdam

An exhibition of Pakistani mangoes was organized by the Commercial Wing of the Embassy of Pakistan on 25 June 2009 at Hilton Hotel, Rotterdam. A sizeable number of



wholesalers, importers and retailers of fresh fruits and vegetables participated in the Exhibition.

Seven varieties of Pakistani mangoes were on display and available for tasting along with the different delicacies prepared from mango. Importers of Pakistani mangoes in NL participated in the exhibition.

For details, see website.



Foreign Minister interacting with Dutch, Pakistani and international media at the Hague World Convention Center.

Pakistan Ambassador Hockey Tournament – a glorious tradition continues

Pakistan-Dutch community, under the patronage of the Embassy of Pakistan, organized 21st Pakistan Ambassador Hockey Cup on 3 July 2009 played between the teams of Dutch Parliament, Dutch Foreign Office, and the Pakistan Community XI.

Pakistan Dutch community was thrilled to see the glorious tradition continued.



Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry, Ed Kronenburg, attended the tournament, did bully for one match with Pakistan Ambassador, and also attended the dinner hosted by Ambassador Chaudhry.

lush green Kleinzwisterland. His speech in Dutch language was greatly appreciated and struck a cordial chord with the Dutch community.



Pakistan Community XI Captain receiving the winners trophy

This year's Hockey and Cricket Ambassador Cups, which have been an annual feature since 1987, were dedicated to the memory of the Late Mr Shamsi, who had endeavored to promote understanding through sports.

"...such traditions strengthen the bond between the Pakistani community and the Dutch."
Foreign Minister Verhagen

Foreign Minister of Netherlands, Mr Verhagen sent a supportive message noting that such traditions strengthen the bond between the Pakistani community and the Dutch.

Notable participants included Tom de Bruin, Dutch Ambassador to the EU, and Mr. Stefblok, MP, who both displayed wonderful hockey.

Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry thanked all players and spectators who had gathered in large number in the

Embassy–Community interaction institutionalized

As part of its commitment to serve the Pakistani Diaspora in the Netherlands, the Embassy of Pakistan has decided to hold quarterly meetings between the Embassy and the Pakistani-Dutch community to discuss community issues. The first such meeting was held in the Embassy on 5 August 2009 and was attended by a representative group of community. The meeting was chaired by the Ambassador.

Briefings were given on consular issues, trade related matters, efforts of PIA, and remittances issues. The ensuing discussion covered several useful suggestions to address the problems facing the community. The Community representatives greatly appreciated this initiative and thanked the Ambassador for personally steering this dialogue and coordination between the Embassy and the Community. The next meeting will be held in October 2009.



Pakistan Community XI wins 19th Pakistan Ambassador Cricket

Pakistan Community XI and KNCB XI (Dutch Cricket Board) met in a thrilling match at the VCC ground on 18 August in a contest for the 19th Pakistan Ambassador Cricket Cup. After a wonderful day of cricket, witnessed by a large number of spectators, Pakistan Community XI, led by Mr Zulfiqar, won the Cup by 7 runs in an exciting finish. Among its many sponsors, PIA provided a return ticket to Islamabad for the man of the match award. The tournament promotes understanding between the Dutch and Pakistani communities and the cricket in the Netherlands.



Amb with KNCB President and CEO at award ceremony



Dutch Parliament XI, Pak Community XI, Dutch Foreign Ministry XI



Dutch Cricket Board (KNCB) XI and Pakistan Community XI

Pakistan Day Reception at Pakistan House

The Ambassador of Pakistan organized a reception at Pakistan House on Sunday, 22 March 2009 to celebrate Pakistan Day. Pakistan-Dutch community attended the event, which included a flag hoisting ceremony, reading out of the messages from the President and the Prime Minister, and an address by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry.



Pakistani Dutch Community attended the reception in large numbers

Pakistani-Dutch Community organizes Cricket Championship Cup for 2009

A group of young Pakistani-Dutch cricketers, known as Pak Patriots NL, under the patronage of the Ambassador of Pakistan, organized the first ever Pakistan Community Cricket Championship Cup in the lush green stadium of Voorburg Cricket Club on Sunday 26th July 2009.



Pakistan Ambassador and PIA manager with the champions—Den Haag Green

Six teams of young Pakistani-Dutch cricketers displayed entertaining cricket. The Championship will be an annual feature. A large segment of Pakistani-Dutch community, including families, witnessed the amusing Cricket and greatly appreciated the initiative.

Kashmir Center Holland organized a session with visiting Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry. The Ambassador also attended. Mr. Chaudhry met with the Dutch parliamentarians.

REAP delegation visits NL: A delegation of Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan visited the Netherlands for business meetings organized by Commercial Secretary Ashraf. Pakistani basmati rice is gaining popularity in the Netherlands. The Ambassador hosted a networking dinner for the delegation.



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News in Brief

- * Ambassador attended welcome-receptions by Pak-Netherlands Welfare Society and Pakistan Welfare Association (March 09)
- * Pak-Dutch National Forum organized Pakistan Day function (23 March), mushaira (June), and Independence Day function (14 Aug). Ambassador was chief guest at the three events.
- * Ambassador participated as chief guest in the European Naat competition organized by Maraqlba hal.
- * Minhajul Quran, The Hague, organized an Eid Milade Nabi function. Embassy was represented by Third Secretary Atif Sharif.
- * Ambassador paid special visits to Masjid Ghausia and Masjid Naushahi in Rotterdam and Al-Karam mosque in Amsterdam.
- * Ambassador met with leading cricketers and hockey players in separate meetings at his residence. (May-June 09)
- * South Asia Press Club office bearers met the Ambassador.
- * Delegations of Stifting Good Shepard and Pak European Christian Alliance met with the Ambassador to discuss minority issues.
- * Tadfeen Committee Delegation visited the Ambassador to apprise him of its welfare activities. (April 09)
- * Rotterdam based Pak Council organized a meeting with the Ambassador to revitalize its activities. (August 09)
- * Roznamadharti.com covered community activities extensively.



Ambassador with Pakistani-Christians delegation (left) and Pakistani-Dutch Students in Dutch Universities (right)

* On 19 May, the Pakistani-Dutch community adopted a Resolution resolving to extend every help to the dislocated persons in NWFP. The community redeemed its pledge by attending in large numbers the three major fund raising dinners held at The Hague (7 June), Rotterdam (8 June), and Amsterdam (18 June), as well as collections at Ghausia, Naushahi, & Al-Karam mosques.

A scene from the dinner at Ambassador residence on 7 June (right)



- * Pakistan Foreign Service officers visited Clingendael Institute for International Relations for a 6-week training course (Mar-Apr 09)
- * National Defense University delegation visited the Netherlands for meetings at the Foreign and Defense Ministries (April 09)

Embassy of Pakistan, The Hague

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Submission of documents: 0930-1200
Collection of documents: 1200-1300

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Netherlands joins Friends of Democratic Pakistan Forum

The Netherlands has joined the Friends of Democratic Pakistan. Development cooperation between the two countries is well on course. Netherlands also participated in the Tokyo ministerial of the FODP held in April 2009, where it was represented by Development Cooperation **Foreign Minister conferring with Mr. Koenders in the Hague.**



Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry presented credentials on 4 March 2009 as Ambassador of Pakistan to the Netherlands and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) since March 2009.

Member of the Foreign Service of Pakistan since Dec 1980. Served as Additional Foreign Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Islamabad (2008-2009) dealing with Pakistan's relations with India and other South Asian countries. Represented Pakistan in the SAARC and OIC. Organized 34th ICFM in Islamabad in May 2007. Represented Pakistan in the United Nations for over six years (2000-2006). As Pakistan's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, participated in inter-governmental negotiations and chaired UN parleys on UN Budget and HRM. Served as Political Counsellor in Pakistan Embassy Washington (1999-2000). Facilitated expansion/restructuring of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) as chef de cabinet to the SG of ECO (1991-97). Served as Director Foreign Secretary's Office (1997-99). Served as Third/Second Secretary Pakistan Embassy in Doha (1984-87) and language trainee at Cairo (1983). Holds Master's degree in Int.Rel. from Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Massachusetts. Also holds Masters degree in Pol.Sc.and BSc from Punjab University, Lahore. Married, and has three children.



Pakistan and OPCW: Pakistan delegation participated actively in the Executive Council sessions of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

Independence Day Reception at Pakistan House

A solemn flag hoisting ceremony at the Pakistan Embassy in The Hague marked the commencement of a week-long celebration of the 63rd Independence Day. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry hoisted the Pakistani color. Messages of the President and the Prime Minister were read out and prayers were offered for the peace, development and glory of our beloved country. Other celebrations included a grand reception at Pakistan House on Sunday 16 August which was attended by over two hundred and fifty guests. Events planned for the week included a cultural function by Pak-Dutch National Forum (14 August), national service by Pak European Christian Alliance (14 August), and Pakistan Ambassador Cricket cup played between the teams of Pakistan Community XI and Dutch Cricket Board (18 August).



Pakistani-Dutch community distinguishes itself for its high national spirit and ever readiness to help fellow country-men and women.

Messages of the President and the Prime Minister being read out



Senior-most Pakistani in the Netherlands Mr. Tufail Dar, joins Pak Amb, his wife, & PIA manager to cut the cake.

