



Khabr-o-Nazar

(NEWS & VIEWS)

July 2007

Published by the U.S. Embassy, Islamabad



**4th July:
America's 231st
Independence Day**

**Anne W. Patterson
Sworn in as New U.S.
Ambassador to Pakistan**



President General Pervez Musharraf exchanging views with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Mr. John D. Negroponte and Assistant Secretary of State Mr. Richard Boucher who called on him in Rawalpindi on June 16. (PID Photo)



President General Pervez Musharraf talking with Admiral William J. Fallon, Commander U.S. CENTCOM, who called on him in Rawalpindi on June 16. (PID Photo)



Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz talking to U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Mr. John D. Negroponte who called on him at the Prime Minister's House in Islamabad on June 16. (PID Photo)

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Published by
Public Affairs Section
 Embassy of the United States of America
 Ramna-5, Diplomatic Enclave
 Islamabad-Pakistan

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 Fax: 051-2278607

Front Cover
 Anne W. Patterson is being sworn in as the new U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan by Charge d' Affaires Peter W. Bodde with the assistance of Executive Office Manager Ms. Christine Tapsoba at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad on July 6. (KN Photo)

New dimensions

"Khabr-o-Nazar" – the wonderful magazine brought out by your esteemed Embassy is in my hands. It has given new dimensions to my thoughts and knowledge. As a broadcaster of current affairs, the magazine is of immense professional support to me. After reading the magazine I take it to my home where my children show much interest in it as they get to read articles both in English and Urdu. The magazine also considerably helps them to improve their English language skills. Please extend my congratulations and appreciations to all the members of your team.

Sultan Ahmed Shahwani
Khuzdar

Very interesting

I came across the May issue of "Khabr-o-Nazar" while sitting in the office of the District Nazim, Dir Upper. My children also found the magazine very interesting.

Sher Nawaz Khan
Dir Upper

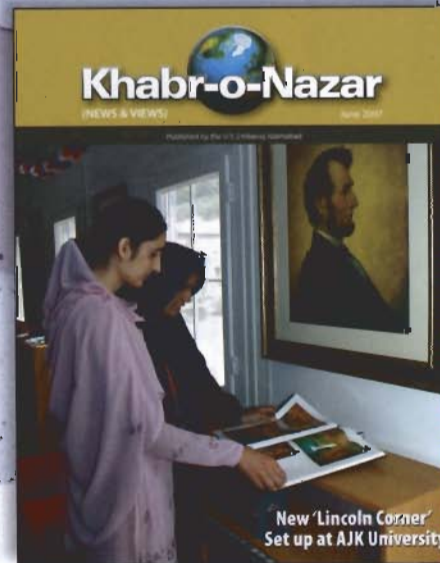
Keen interest

"Khabr-o-Nazar" is a very beautiful, informative and useful magazine. I have been reading this magazine regularly with keen interest. This is an era of media and communication and both these sources are very important to mold relationship between nations. "Khabr-o-Nazar" is contributing a great deal to strengthen friendship between Pakistan and the United States of America.

Mohammad Himayat N. Hasan
Karachi



letters to the EDITOR



Favorite magazine

"Khabr-o-Nazar" is my favorite magazine. It is playing a pivotal role in removing misunderstandings between the people of Pakistan and the U.S. It would be fair to say that the U.S. has been supporting Pakistan on every crucial occasion. Had it not been for the American support, it would have become very difficult for Pakistan, if not impossible, to cope with the October 2005 earthquake that resulted in great destruction.

Mohammad Baqir
Skardu

Fruitful purposes

The June issue of "Khabr-o-Nazar" is in my hands. It is really an informative magazine in terms of letting us know about the various developmental activities and other efforts that the U.S. undertakes in Pakistan. U.S. Embassy's initiative for information dissemination by establishing "Lincoln Corners" in different cities of Pakistan serves fruitful purposes. In this regard, I would like to suggest the establishment of a "Lincoln Corner" in Hyderabad, which is the second major city of Sindh. It will provide ample opportunity to a large number of students studying at various educational institutions in Hyderabad.

M. Rafique Wassan
Karachi

Best friend

Before going through "Khabr-o-Nazar" I had meager knowledge about Pak-U.S. relations and I used to believe that friendship between the sole Super Power and a small country is always an unequal partnership. But this magazine has cleared all my misconceptions and now I look at the U.S. as our best friend in the world.

Rahmanullah
Bajaur Agency

President Names

Anne W. Patterson

As Ambassador to Pakistan



Anne W. Patterson was confirmed as the U.S. Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan by the United States Senate on June 28, 2007.

Prior to her assignment to Pakistan, Ambassador Patterson served as the Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs. Ambassador Patterson also served as the Deputy Permanent Representative and Acting Permanent Representative at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations from 2004 to 2005.

A Career Minister in the Foreign Service of the United States, Ambassador Patterson has also served as the Deputy Inspector General of the Department of State from 2003 to 2004, Ambassador to Colombia from 2000 to 2003, and Ambassador to El Salvador from 1997 to 2000.

Ambassador Patterson joined the U.S. Foreign Service in 1973 as an economic officer. She has served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Inter-American Affairs and as Office Director for Andean Affairs. Mrs. Patterson also served as Political Counselor to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva from 1988 to 1991 and as Economic Counselor in Saudi Arabia from 1984 to 1988. She has held a variety of other economic and political assignments, including in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs, the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs.

Ambassador Patterson received the State Department's Superior Honor award in 1981 and 1988, its Meritorious Honor award in 1977 and 1983, and a Presidential Honor award in 1993. She has also received the Order of the Congress from the Congress of Colombia, and the Order of Boyacá, from the Government of Colombia. Ambassador Patterson was also recognized by the Government of El Salvador with the Order of José Matias Delgado.

Ambassador Patterson was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas. She graduated from Wellesley College and attended graduate school at the University of North Carolina. She is married and has two sons.

4th of July

A Special D

Excerpts from Ambassador Anne W. Patterson's speech delivered at the 4th of July reception held at her residence in Islamabad.



I would like to welcome you to the U.S. Embassy for this celebration of the 231st anniversary of the independence of the United States of America.

The Fourth of July is a special day for Americans. I am very pleased that my first opportunity to host our friends in Pakistan, as well as my fellow Americans, falls on the Fourth. The history of friendship and close relations between the United States and Pakistan is as old as Pakistan's independence. Both nations were born in a struggle against adversity. Both nations were founded on ideals, not just geographical happenstance.

Both nations are pluralistic and ethnically diverse. And both nations are now joined in the fight against extremism and terrorism.

Today, Americans in ceremonies like this throughout the world recall the enduring principles from the Declaration of Independence: "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

When Thomas Jefferson wrote these words in that hot summer of 1776, we Americans began our imperfect but profoundly hopeful journey as a nation. And as citizens, we have debated for 231 years exactly what our founders intended in the Declaration of Independence, in our Constitution, and in our Bill of Rights, which Thomas Jefferson insisted be added to our constitution.

As in Pakistan and many other countries, Americans are struggling now, more than at most times in our history, to find the right balance between individual rights and collective security.

We have struggled with the treatment of our minorities, racial and religious, and most recently, of our immigrant population. We have struggled with the definition of a free press, the role of religion in public life, and the relative importance of our branches of government. These debates are a normal and essential part of any democracy, and most Americans firmly believe our institutions eventually will find the right answers.

Soon, elections in both the United States and in Pakistan will give a renewed voice to the governed. Just as we in the United States constantly seek to improve our own imperfect institutions, we are committed to helping our friends develop their own societies and their own democratic institutions. As Pakistan continues on its own path toward democratic elections, I want to assure you of America's support for this process.

Last week, President Bush visited the Islamic Center in Washington, D.C. to honor its 50th anniversary. He reaffirmed America's strong commitment to diversity,

(AP Photo)

ay for Americans

particularly diversity of religious belief. He expressed appreciation and respect for the Muslim faith, which has enriched the world for centuries, and whose American adherents, coming from all parts of the Muslim world, have become an integral and valued part of the United States. At that ceremony, President Bush reaffirmed our commitment to help the countries of the Islamic world find their own paths to prosperity, peace, and democracy.

I would like to mention one area where America's commitment to assisting its friends has been clear. When Pakistan suffered an earthquake in November 2005, the United States joined with Pakistanis and others in the international community to help with relief, and later with reconstruction. Today, we are proud to continue working to help Pakistan rebuild, and to rebuild more securely, in the area devastated by the earthquake.

In the last two weeks, Americans were saddened by the devastating impact and human cost of the cyclone that struck much of Pakistan. Our hearts and prayers have gone out to the victims of this tragedy, to their families and to their loved ones. The United States looks forward to assisting the people of that area recover from the storm and flooding.

Pakistan is a key ally of the United States. It is a relationship based not solely on our joint efforts to fight extremism, although that is critically important, nor on Pakistan's key geographical location, nor on an obligation America has to help a friend that has suffered blows from both nature and history. Our relationship is based on shared values and on principles which our own Founding Fathers articulated so well, the desire of all peoples for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

So thank you for joining us. I look forward to getting to know you and working with you.

Let me in closing again recognize the 231st birthday of the United States of America and the enduring relationship between the United States and Pakistan. May God grant us all the prosperity, peace and liberty that we all seek.



Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi, U.S. Consulate's Principal Officer Bryan Hunt and local businessman Mian Asad Jamil cut cake at the 231st anniversary of the United States of America. Punjab Assembly Deputy Speaker Sardar Shaukat Hussain Mazari and PML MPA Lubna Tariq are also seen in the picture. (KN Photo)

U.S. Consulate Lahore's Principal Officer Bryan Hunt stressed America's "enduring relationship with Pakistan" during the 231st American Independence Day celebration in Lahore on July 6. Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi and other dignitaries attended the reception hosted by Principal Officer Bryan Hunt at his residence.

"It is a pleasure for me to celebrate Independence Day in Lahore," said Bryan Hunt. "July Fourth is more than just a day of celebration; it is a day to renew our commitment to uphold the fundamental principles – of liberty, equality, rule of law – that led to the birth of our nation."

Welcoming the distinguished guests, Mr. Bryan Hunt stressed the ideals and values Pakistan and the United States shared. "Our Founding Fathers stood for the same ideals of freedom and liberty that led to the creation of Pakistan under the guidance of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah."

Chief Minister Elahi hoped that relations between the peoples of America and Pakistan would be further strengthened and the bonds of friendship between the two countries more firmly riveted in the times to come.

National anthems of Pakistan and the United States were played to mark the beginning of the celebration. A live band later on entertained the guests as they were served traditional American fare. Several U.S. businesses contributed generously to make the event a success.

Opportunities in the **FATA** Sustainable Development Plan



By: Jonathan Addleton, Ph.D.

The official release of the Sustainable Development Plan for the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) is a welcome development. Prepared by the FATA Secretariat in Peshawar, the plan offers both an assessment and a way forward for future planning in this remote but strategically important border region. The fact that FATA formed an important topic of discussion at the recent Pakistan Development Forum in Islamabad further underscores the emergence of this region as vital issue that is now firmly on Pakistan's development agenda.

The USAID Mission in Pakistan followed with interest the preparation of the FATA Sustainable Development Plan. Besides others in the international donor community, we are committed to partnering with the Government of Pakistan to help implement this important plan.

What are the likely areas of USAID support in FATA, both



Boys sitting in the class room of their new school constructed with USAID funds at Khyber Agency, FATA. (KN Photo)

now and in the coming years? Several important themes need to be emphasized when responding to that question.

First, FATA is not an entirely new area of interest for the USAID program in Pakistan. In fact, when I first arrived in Islamabad as a junior USAID officer in January 1985 USAID had launched a Tribal Areas Development Project focused on training, water and infrastructure development. That \$24



USAID Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Asia and the Near East bureau, Mark Ward, visits Landi Kotal Agency HQ Hospital in Khyber Agency FATA on the launch "Child Health Day." (KN Photo)

million project started in 1982 and lasted ten years.

More recently, even before press attention had focused international interest on FATA, USAID was undertaking a number of useful programs in cooperation with the FATA Secretariat. The rationale is clear: The USAID program in Pakistan is national in scope and, under this precept, FATA should benefit from USAID-funded development programs, along with the rest of the country.

USAID-funded programs currently focused on FATA have entailed investments on the order of \$6 million to \$8 million over the last couple of years. In education, this has involved scholarships for female teachers and a construction program aimed at building 65 schools. In health, this has included efforts to address issues related to women and children as well as support for programs focused on clean water. And, in economic growth, it involves the launch of a micro finance program as well as efforts aimed at promoting a modern marble and granite industry in FATA.

Second, a strategic response to FATA demands new ways of thinking and new approaches. While USAID is proud of its current FATA programs, the prospect of substantial additional funding underscores the importance of both coordination and more systematic approaches to development in FATA, as set forth in the Sustainable Development Plan.

From a USAID perspective, at least four key components need to be emphasized in our own response to the Sustainable Development Plan for FATA. One foundational principle is the importance of supporting the Government of



Boys standing outside the newly constructed government school, funded by USAID under its FATA School Construction Program at Khyber Agency. (KN Photo)

Pakistan's vision for the area, as reflected in the Sustainable Development Plan. Another principle is the importance of relying heavily on Pakistani institutions and Pakistani expertise. A third principle is the need for a long term perspective: development issues facing FATA weren't created overnight and they won't be resolved immediately, either.

Another important principle is the need for community participation as part of a broader consultative process. Development anywhere, including FATA, is unlikely to be successful unless it is done with local communities rather than for them.

Third, a central core element in any USAID response to FATA will almost certainly include a strong focus on institutional building. Budget allocations are important but these funds need to be combined with strong management in order to be effective. From a USAID perspective, one key dimension in any new FATA initiative would be a robust capacity building effort focused on key institutions charged with delivering development services in FATA such as the FATA Secretariat and the newly establish FATA Development Authority. Private sector participation and a strong public-private sector partnership will also be essential.

Undoubtedly, FATA is one of the biggest challenges that the Pakistan development community will face in the coming years. That said, there has probably never been an occasion when interest in FATA has been so high and the prospects for additional resources are so great.

Intriguingly, FATA is about the same size as the earthquake-affected regions of northern Pakistan in terms of both population size and land area. Just as Pakistan's response to the devastating October 2005 earthquake was prompt, thorough and largely effective, a similar commitment, backed by vision and a long-term perspective, can yield far-reaching results in FATA.

Jonathan Addleton is the former USAID Mission Director to Pakistan. Born in Murree, he also spent part of his childhood in Shikarpur and Hyderabad. In addition to Pakistan, he has served in Yemen, Jordan, South Africa, Cambodia, Kazakhstan and Mongolia.

USA: A vibrant democracy with a free press

By Raza Khan



Mr. Raza Khan who is Producer Current Affairs at the Pakistan Television, Lahore Center, went to the U.S. on the Edward R. Murrow Fellowship in 2007.

Edward R. Murrow Fellowship for Journalists invites emerging leaders in the field of journalism from around the world to examine journalistic practices in the United States. This program is a public-private partnership between the Department of State, the Aspen Institute and twelve leading U.S. schools of journalism.

I was nominated for the Edward R. Murrow Fellowship along with two other colleagues from Pakistan this year. We were part of the South Central Asia group comprising 19 journalists representing Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Kyrgyz Republic. In all, there were 11 regional groups comprising 185 journalists from 129 countries.

We reached Washington D.C. by the evening of 7th April 2007 and were received at the Dulles International Airport by State Department officials. It was really cold outside because a snow storm had hit the east coast then. We stayed at Marriot Wardman Park during our first stay in Washington D.C. Next morning we woke up and proceeded to a lecture on the structure of U.S. government by Mr. Akram Elias. This lecture helped us understand the complex federalism being practiced in U.S. with three tiers of government i.e. federal, state and local. Later, we were taken for a guided tour of Washington D.C. We visited memorials like Lincoln and Jefferson as well as Vietnam and Korean War memorials. We also went to the White House and the Capitol Hill buildings.

The official opening of the program took place in the Cotillion Ballroom of our hotel on 9th April. Ms. Nan Bell, Acting Director, Office of International Visitors, welcomed all the participants. Later on Ms. Dina Habib Powell, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs also delivered a welcoming speech. She emphasized that out of all the International Visitor Programs, Edward R. Murrow Fellowship is The Flagship Program. She also informed the audience that this program has been formulated with special input from the Secretary of State Dr. Condoleezza Rice.

April 10th was a big day as the Secretary of State Dr. Condoleezza Rice addressed the Murrow Fellows in the Loy Henderson Auditorium of the US Department of State. She emphasized that this fellowship was designed to bring the world's journalists to America because there is no more important pillar of democracy than a free and active media. Her short speech was followed by Q&A session with one question each being asked by a representative from each of the 11 groups. Later that evening our group had a meeting with Assistant Secretary of State for South & Central Asian Affairs, Ambassador Richard A. Boucher. Several issues related to US policy towards the region came under discussion.

During the remaining part of our stay in Washington we attended seminars on journalism related issues with leading journalists from CNN to PBS, Washington Post to Reuters etc. There were discussions on issues like transparency in government and freedom of information. There were meetings with foreign policy experts at the Brookings Institution and Henry L. Stimson Center. We visited Howard University and interacted with the students and teachers of its journalism department.

After our initial stay in Washington D.C. we proceeded to Los Angeles, a city all of us wanted to visit for obvious reason, Hollywood. We stayed in





Marriot by the Courtyard in Pasadena. Our academic program was coordinated by the Annenberg School of Communication, University of Southern California (USC). During the course of the week we spent in Los Angeles, we attended discussions and presentations on diverse issues like role of religion, faith, politics and the media, coverage of immigrants and a changing America, social justice, community issues in immigrant Los Angeles, politics in America reporting on communities and writing about cultures, media coverage of South Asia. The panelists in all these discussions were leading journalists from organizations like LA Times, NPR West, KPCC, KABC-TV, academicians, and social activists etc. There were field trips also and we visited places like the Korea Town and Little India in Artesia.

The most memorable segment of our stay in LA was the visit to Hollywood and the University City containing Universal Studios. We badly wanted this entertainment break after a hectic academic schedule. Later, some of us found time to visit other localities of LA like Long Beach etc. We liked the weather in LA which was much warmer than Washington D.C.

After LA we went to Jackson, Mississippi. We had heard a lot about the Southern states in the context of civil rights movement and the civil war. But to be honest despite the initial surprise upon the inclusion of Mississippi in our itinerary we had a great time there. Several factors combined to make it a memorable stay. First of all the weather was so pleasant and sunny, secondly there were less meetings/discussions planned over there, thirdly we managed to sleep and spend more time amongst ourselves.

In fact it was in Jackson where all the nineteen of us used Urdu/Hindi as a connecting link and had ball of a time singing songs and gossiping. Furthermore the famous "southern hospitality" turned out to be true. We enjoyed home hospitality with several members of African American community in Jackson and it was nice to notice that African Americans are now playing active part in all spheres of life in Mississippi despite a tumultuous past.

After a relaxing week in Jackson we proceeded to Washington D.C. again for the last leg of our fellowship.

The biggest event of our final sojourn in Washington was a day-long symposium on Current Issues in Journalism arranged by the Aspen Institute in the Loy Henderson Auditorium of the State Department. Diverse topics were addressed during discussions like American Media and International Affairs, Role of Journalist: Accuracy or Activism? Government-Press Relations in Reporting International News, New Media's Impact on Journalism. Eminent journalists from media organizations like CBS, Wall Street Journal, Broadcasting Board of Governors, Washington Times, ABC News etc took part in discussions and later on had informal discussions with us. One journalist stood out amongst all the stars that were present and he was Bob Woodward, Assistant Managing Editor, The Washington Post. Foreign journalists like us scrambled to meet him and get photographed because being responsible for

exposing the "Watergate Scandal" he is a role model as far as investigative reporting is concerned.

We went for a visit to Voice of America Urdu Service during the culminating part of our fellowship. It turned out to be a memorable visit as we were able to meet several senior and junior journalists from Pakistan who are now working for VOA Urdu. We were interviewed for the VOA TV program "Beyond The Headlines" and for the VOA Radio as well. The day before departure was spent meeting journalists from other groups and by spending precious final moments with our own group mates. During the review of the fellowship with Ms. Colleen Fleming the Program officer for South-Central Asia, journalists in our group praised the program and appreciated the hospitality of the State Department.

The departure was an emotional event as participating journalists from our group had become friends and everyone missed the parting of ways. But there was a genuine appreciation for the opportunity given to each of us to come together by the State Department. Although we were thankful for everything, but we did not act as apologists or sheepish souls during the tour. Most of us were able to speak their mind and ask tough questions during the Q& A sessions. I for my part did not leave a single opportunity to participate in discussions or ask question. I wanted to represent Pakistan in the best possible manner and I think I did a reasonable job of that.

This fellowship has enabled me to take a rare peep into USA. To



be honest, despite our misgivings on certain American policies, the fact remains that USA is a vibrant democracy with a free press that is allowed to ask tough/aggressive questions from the government and act as the "fourth estate" that it is meant to be. People in the U.S. are generally open, courteous and straight forward. After our daytime meetings we spent ample time in the streets, restaurants, shops, parks, museums etc to interact with common Americans and found them to be as human as the rest of us. There was no air of arrogance around. The religious and cultural diversity was amazing and truly make America a land of immigrants.

Finally, I want to say that one mistake which we must never make in life is to assume and develop hatred or prejudice towards someone without knowing or meeting that person. I hope and pray that media can help remove the misperceptions and prejudices on both the sides so that people of both the U.S. and Pakistan can be brought nearer to each other.

'Pakistan a

Foreign Policy Expert Dr. Philip Gordon speaks at Foreign Service Academy Islamabad, Peshawar University and Peshawar Press Club



Dr. Philip Gordon, a senior fellow for U.S. Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution, speaks at the Foreign Service Academy in Islamabad on May 19. The Director General, Foreign Service Academy, Fuzia Nasreen, is also seen in the picture.



Dr. Philip H. Gordon, a senior fellow for U.S. Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution, discussed U.S.-Pakistan relations, in a roundtable discussion at the Foreign Service Academy in Islamabad on May 18.

Pakistani diplomats and students of politics and international relations participated in the event organized by the U.S. Embassy at Foreign Service Academy.

Dr. Gordon said that the U.S. still saw Pakistan as a vital partner in war on terror and wanted long-term relations with it. He emphasized that the U.S. could not win its war in Afghanistan against Taliban until and unless Pakistan ensured that such people did not sprout up on its territory and stop crossing into Afghanistan.

Vital Partner'

Dr. Philip H. Gordon of the Brookings Institution has observed that "Pakistan's help is of vital significance for the U.S." to establish peace in war-torn Afghanistan, and "without its support Afghanistan can never be peaceful."

"We are working together to ensure that Al Qaeda and the Taliban are completely flushed out from Pakistan," Dr. Gordon said while delivering a lecture on "Pak-U.S. relations" at the Lincoln Corner in Peshawar University on May 18.

The Brookings Senior Fellow said it was unfortunate that the partners on terror were victims of terror and added that more attention should be focused on the economy as poverty was the root-cause of most problems.

Dr. Gordon noted that President Pervez Musharraf was a strong United States ally in the on-going war on terror and that the American government highly valued the courageous and bold policies of the Pakistani government in this regard.



Dr. Philip Gordon speaks at the Peshawar Press Club. U.S Embassy's Press Attache Elizabeth Colton and President PPC Riaz Khan are also seen in the picture. (KN Photo)



'Prayers For Peace'

held at the
U.S. Embassy

A special ecumenical "Prayers for Peace" ceremony was held at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad on May 29 in keeping with President Bush's declaration that Memorial Day be marked as the Prayers for Peace day.

At a simple but solemn ceremony at the Embassy, readings were delivered in both Urdu and English from the Holy Quran, the Old Testament Book of Psalms, and the New Testament.

All American and Pakistani employees attended the service and joined in prayers for permanent peace in the world.





Former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Ronald Neumann, addressing a media roundtable in Islamabad on May 16. (KN Photo)

Former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan

Ronald Neumann Visits Islamabad

Former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan Ronald Neumann has noted that “General Pervez Musharraf continues to be relevant in the war against terror” adding that “Pakistan is a key player and strategic partner in the war on terror.” Addressing a news conference in Islamabad on May 16, Dr Neumann said that Pakistan and Afghanistan have lost many soldiers to common enemies. Everyone needs to do more and to continue cooperation and to work harder to combat terrorism.

“Some thirty-four nations are involved in stabilizing the present political dispensation in Afghanistan and no withdrawal was in sight except when the ruling regime ensures the stability of the government through strengthening civil society institutions, local government, establishing strong Afghan national army that is capable of dealing with all contingencies and structuring strong police that is capable of ensuring peace and security in every corner of Afghanistan,” Neumann emphatically said while commenting on the withdrawal of the troops of NATO and ISAF from Afghanistan.

Information Resource Center

Re-opened For Members in Lahore



(KN Photo).

The U.S. Consulate on May 29 re-opened its Information Resource Center (IRC) to members, providing them with a walk-in facility to use its research and reference services.

“The IRC, which is a combined paper and electronic reference library, will provide access to a wealth of resources on U.S. political, economic, business, legal, legislative and social affairs,” said Principal Officer of the U.S. Consulate Bryan Hunt at the inaugural ceremony.

Provincial Minister for Education Mian Imran Masud felicitated the Consulate on the occasion and hoped “members would utilize the facility for their research and reference needs.”

The IRC also offers free access to specialized online databases such as CIAONet (Columbia International Affairs Online), EbscoHost, Factiva Lexis/Nexis, and Proquest Direct, which in turn provide access to approximately 10,000 research journals and 7,000 news resources in the fields of politics, economics and law.

No fee is required for IRC membership, which can be obtained by filling out the membership form and returning it to the U.S. Consulate. The visiting hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Pakistani and American Holidays.



(KN Photo).



U.S. Consulate Lahore’s Principal Officer, Bryan Hunt, laying a ‘chadar’ at the shrine of Punjabi Sufi poet Baba Bulleh Shah in Kasur on May 17 (KN Photo).

USAID Workshop Explores

Pakistan's Mango Export Potential to the U.S.



(AP Photo).

A day-long workshop on the importance of “awareness and mango marketing opportunities” aimed to inform mango growers and exporters about the current status and U.S. requirements for mango exports from Pakistan to the U.S. was held in Multan on May 21.

“Multan is not only a city with a rich cultural heritage, it is also an important agricultural center. The geography and climate are ideal for producing some of the sweetest mangoes in the world,” Bryan Hunt, Principal Officer of the U.S. Consulate Lahore, said while speaking at the USAID workshop.

The workshop was conducted under the auspices of USAID’s Pakistan Initiative for Strategic Development and Competitiveness (PISDAC) which aims to increase competitiveness of Pakistan’s small and medium sized enterprises.

The senior American diplomat highlighted U.S. efforts to “strengthen the Pakistani fruit crop sector” and appreciated the “quality of mangoes grown in southern Punjab.”

“It is only befitting that USAID has organized this workshop

here. Through initiatives such as today’s workshop and one held in Lahore last month, USAID aims to enhance the export potential of Pakistani fruit crop industry,” Mr. Hunt pointed out.

Bryan Hunt said that in order to remain competitive, the fruit crop sector must continue to modernize production technology, harvesting practices, packaging and post-harvest care.

“The goal of the PISDAC project is to help develop a sustainable and diverse Pakistani fruit crops sector in each of the four provinces to enable growers to provide the market with consistent supplies of uniform high quality product at competitive prices,” said Mr Eugene Miller, Deputy Chief of the PISDAC project.

The workshop was also addressed by eminent expert and world renowned consultant Charles Ed Miller who talked about the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s requirements for the export of mangoes to the United States. The Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock gave a presentation on the current status of export of Pakistani mangoes.

U.S. Provides Third Tranche of

\$200 Million



U.S. Charge d'Affaires Peter W. Bodde and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar sign a grant-agreement of \$200 million direct U.S. economic support for Pakistan's Federal Public Sector Development Program for 2007 in Islamabad on June 15. Also seen in the picture are new USAID Mission Director Anne Aarnes and Secretary for Economic Affairs Division M. Akram Malik (KN Photo).

The governments of the United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan signed an agreement on June 15 in Islamabad that provides \$200 million (approximately Rs.12 billion) in direct U.S. economic support for Pakistan's Federal Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for FY2007.

The bilateral agreement was signed by the U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, Peter W. Bodde, the new USAID Mission Director, Anne Aarnes, Minister of State for Economic Affairs, Hina Rabbani Khar, and Secretary for Economic Affairs Division, M. Akram Malik.

"The United States Government is proud to continue working with the Government of Pakistan in improving the living standards of its citizens," said Mr. Bodde in his statement. "Providing improved health services, creating economic and educational opportunities, supporting better governance, and ensuring basic human security for all Pakistanis is fundamental in building a solid, sustainable foundation for Pakistan's continued development," he added.

This agreement is the third of five annual \$200 million installments of U.S. economic assistance over five years (2005-09) to support Pakistan's investment in human capital. It has significantly helped Pakistan stabilize its macroeconomic environment and invest in human capital and private sector development.

The FY2007 economic support funds will help the Government of Pakistan to meet the needs of its people by increasing its investment in education, healthcare, clean water and

earthquake reconstruction. The impact of this assistance was evident in FY2006 when the budget was noticeably increased over the FY2005 budget by 55% in education, 19% in health, and 100% for clean water.

The United States is the largest bilateral donor of assistance to Pakistan. In addition to the budget support assistance, USAID is providing to Pakistan, over five years, another \$1.5 billion in project assistance in five major areas of education, health, economic growth, democracy & governance, and earthquake reconstruction.

Subsequent to September 11, 2001, the U.S. Government broadened and deepened its bilateral ties with Pakistan by providing critical debt relief and emergency financial assistance, which included a \$600 million cash transfer in FY2002 for balance of payments and budget support. In FY2003, the U.S. Government provided \$188 million in the form of debt relief rather than direct budget support. In FY2004, the U.S. Government provided \$200 million in debt relief.

In June 2003, President Bush met with President Musharraf at Camp David and pledged that the U.S. Government would seek an additional \$3 billion – \$600 million per year for five years – in economic and military assistance for Pakistan over five years. Of the total, it was agreed that \$200 million each year would be in the form of budget support that would be used for purposes spelled out in the mutually agreed upon "Shared Objectives." In FYs 2005 and 2006, the U.S. Government provided a total of \$400 million in budget support.

photo gallery



Mr. Javed Khursheed, the Provincial Election Commissioner for Baluchistan , briefs U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Boucher on the voter registration process while Mr. Boucher reviews a poster explaining the registration process.



U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John D. Negroponte speaking at a Press Conference at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad on June 16. U.S. Acting Deputy Chief of Mission James H. Williams is also present on the occasion.

photo gallery



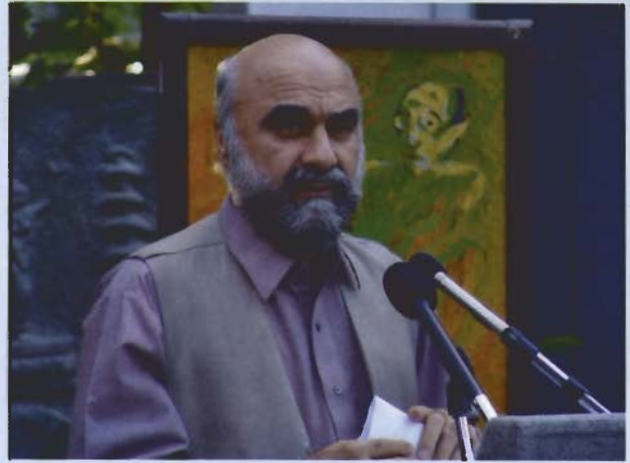
U.S. Consulate Karachi's Public Affairs Officer Karen Heimsoth addressing a training workshop at the Society for Pakistan English Language Teachers (SPELT) in Karachi on June 9.



U.S. Consulate Principal Officer Bryan Hunt chats with the students of Mike Community School, run by Donalita Youth Welfare Society, in Kasur on May 17.

photo gallery

Federal Minister for Culture G. G. Jamal speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the 'Landmarks of New York exhibit' in Islamabad



Peshawar
University Sa
Museum

Pakistanis Marvel at "Landmarks Of New York" Photo Exhibit

Over 80 photographs documenting some of New York City's most significant and unusual properties impressed Pakistani audiences in a four-city tour. "The Landmarks of New York" photo exhibit was launched with fanfare in Islamabad by U.S. Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Cecile Shea and the Federal Minister for Culture G. G. Jamal on May 23.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony held at Hunerkada Academy of Visual and Performing Arts in Islamabad Cecile Shea said that the exhibition would offer viewers an opportunity to look into the history of New York and its people from the 1640's to the present day as it covered monuments like the Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn bridges and lesser known objects like Red Lighthouse in Manhattan.

In Lahore, the exhibit was inaugurated by the U.S. Consulate Principal Officer Bryan Hunt and the Punjab Minister for Information Technology Abdul Aleem Khan at the Tollington Hall where it remained on display from June 6-14. In Peshawar Principal Officer Lynne Tracy and NWFP Chief Secretary Sahibzada Riaz Noor opened the exhibit at Sir Sahibzada Abdul Qayyum Museum, University of Peshawar where it ran from June 21-28. Eminent Art Critic Ms. Marjorie Husain inaugurated the exhibit at the VM Art Gallery in Karachi on July 7 which remained open till July 12.

The exhibition, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cul-

tural Affairs and the U.S. Embassy in Skopje, celebrates the 40th anniversary of New York's Landmark Preservation Act. It features a diversity of photographs including civic buildings, factories, office towers, universities, museums, and parks etc.



U.S. Consulate Lahore's Principal Officer, Bryan Hunt, and Punjab Minister for Information Technology, Abdul Aleem Khan, inaugurating the photo exhibit in Lahore on June 7.



U.S. Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Cecile Shea, Hunerkada Academy of Visual and Performing Arts, having a look at the photo exhibit.

نیویارک کی نمایاں عمارات کی عکسی نمائش نے پاکستانی شائقین کو مسحور کر دیا

r Consulate's Principal Officer Lynne Tracy and NWFP Chief Secre-
bzada Riaz Noor opening the exhibit at Sir Sahibzada Abdul Qayyum
at Peshawar University

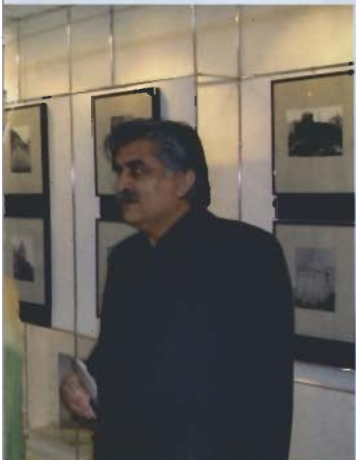


نیویارک شہر کی ممتاز عمارتوں اور غیر معمولی جائیدادوں کی 80 سے
زیادہ تصاویر پر مشتمل ایک نمائش پاکستان کے چار شہروں میں منعقد کی گئی
جسے شائقین کی ایک بڑی تعداد نے دیکھا۔ "نیویارک کی نمایاں
عمارات" کے عنوان سے اس عکسی نمائش کا افتتاح اسلام آباد میں امریکی
سفارتخانہ کی قائم مقام ڈپٹی چیف آف مشن سیسل شی اور وفاقی وزیر
ثقافت جی جی جمال نے 23 مئی کو کیا۔

ہنرکدہ اکیڈمی آف وڈیول اینڈ پرفارمنگ آرٹس اسلام آباد میں
افتتاحی تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے سیسل شی نے کہا کہ اس نمائش
سے شائقین کو نیویارک کی 1640ء سے لے کر آج تک کی تاریخ اور
لوگوں کے متعلق معلومات میسر آئیں گی۔ اس نمائش میں مجسمہ آزادی،
بروکلین کا پل اور نیشنل کم معروف جگہیں جیسا کہ مین ہین میں ریڈ لائٹ
ہاؤس وغیرہ کی تصاویر بھی شامل کی گئی ہیں۔

لاہور میں نمائش کا افتتاح امریکی قونصل خانہ کے پرنسپل آفیسر برائن
ہنٹ اور پنجاب کے وزیر انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی عبدالعلیم خان نے لوگنٹن
ہال میں کیا جہاں یہ نمائش 6 جون سے 14 جون 2007ء تک جاری
رہی۔ پشاور میں پرنسپل آفیسر لین ٹریسی اور صوبہ سرحد کے چیف سیکریٹری
صاحبزادہ ریاض نور نے پشاور یونیورسٹی کے سر صاحبزادہ عبدالقیوم
عجائب گھر میں کیا جہاں یہ نمائش 21 سے 28 جون تک جاری رہی۔
آرٹ کی ممتاز نقاد مارجوری حسین نے کراچی میں 7 جولائی کو وی ایم
آرٹ گیلری میں اس نمائش کا افتتاح کیا اور یہ 12 جولائی تک شائقین
فن کیلئے جاری رہی۔

یہ نمائش جس کیلئے مالی اعانت امریکی محکمہ خارجہ کے شعبہ تعلیمی و ثقافتی
امور اور Skopje میں امریکی سفارتخانہ نے کی ہے اور یہ نیویارک
لینڈ مارک پریزرویشن ایکٹ کی 40 ویں سالگرہ کی تقریبات کے
حوالے سے لگائی گئی تھی۔ نمائش میں شہری عمارات، فیکٹریوں،
وقفا ترازو، جامعات، عجائب گھر اور پارک سمیت مختلف عمارت کی
تصاویر شامل ہیں۔



tion, Cecile Shea, and Chairman,
and Performing Arts, Syed Jamal
exhibit in Islamabad on May 23.