

“PROMOTING PAKISTAN-AFRICA RELATIONS THROUGH REVIVAL OF THE BANDUNG SPIRIT OF AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY”

Launch Event of PAIDAR

Pakistan’s inaugural think-tank on Africa, the Pakistan-Africa Institute for Development & Research (PAIDAR), was launched amidst discussions highlighting the country’s evolving engagement with the African continent. Additional Secretary (Africa) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sheryar Akbar Khan, emphasized the gradual expansion of Pakistan’s involvement despite challenges in implementing the ‘2019 Engage Africa Policy’. Founded by Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, PAIDAR’s inauguration coincided with the 69th anniversary of the Bandung conference, underscoring Pakistan’s historical ties with Africa. The initiative aims to bolster diplomatic relations and foster collaboration across various sectors, including education, trade, and sustainable development.



Speakers Gallery



Pakistan-Africa Relations

- Pakistan's links with Africa predate the creation of the country in 1947 as the Founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah visited Egypt in 1946 which laid the foundation of building this common bond;
- Pakistan has the honour of strongly supporting the freedom struggles of Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco in the 1950s, even providing Pakistani diplomatic passports to their leaders during the anti-colonial struggle;
- Pakistan supported the struggle for independence of Libya and Eritrea at the United Nations and provided military, diplomatic and political support to the liberation movements of ANC in South Africa, ZANU-PF in Zimbabwe and SWAPO in Namibia;
- Pakistan was at the forefront of opposing the racist apartheid regimes in South Africa and Rhodesia;
- Pakistan helped in military training, administrative capacity building, plus providing scholarships to students, technical expertise in areas of health, education and law to the newly independent African states.
- Pakistan has 60 year track record of the Pakistan Army serving Africa through participation in UN Peacekeeping Operations.
- Pakistani people have always had an affinity with struggles of people of Africa: in 1960, after the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, there was a huge solidarity demonstration in Lahore & one of the most famous poems of Pakistani popular poet, Faiz Ahmed Faiz, is 'Come Back Africa'.

Aims of PAIDAR

- **Rejuvenate** the historical bonds of solidarity between Pakistan and Africa which were cemented during Pakistan's support to freedom movements in Africa.
- **Restore** Pakistan's foreign policy priority orientation and involvement in Africa given common interests and centrality of Africa to the resurgence of the Global South in 21st century;
- **Revive** Pakistan-Africa relations through people-to-people exchanges and business-to-business connectivity.

Pakistan's efforts in Africa

- Pakistan played a pivotal role in supporting the liberation movements of Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, and Eritrea during their anti-colonial struggles, offering **diplomatic passports** and backing at the United Nations.
- Pakistan has consistently extended **humanitarian aid** to African countries during times of crisis, providing relief assistance, medical aid, and disaster response support.
- Pakistan staunchly **opposed apartheid regimes** in South Africa and Rhodesia, providing military, diplomatic, and political support to movements like the ANC, ZANU-PF, and SWAPO.
- With a 60-year track record, the Pakistan Army has been instrumental in serving Africa through participation in **UN Peacekeeping Operations**, contributing to regional stability and conflict resolution.
- Pakistan actively contributed to the **development of newly independent** African states, offering military training, administrative capacity building, scholarships, and technical expertise in crucial areas such as health, education, and law.
- Pakistan has supported **healthcare initiatives** in Africa, including medical missions, training programs for healthcare professionals, and assistance in combating diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, and Ebola.



Outreach to Africa



President PAIDAR, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed was invited as the Guest of Honor to the Iftar dinner by His Excellency Jemal Beker Abdula, the Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan, at his residence.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed was invited as the Guest of Honor to the reception celebrating the 56th Independence Day and the 32nd Anniversary of the Republic of Mauritius, which was hosted by His Excellency Mr. Rashidally Soobadar, the High Commissioner. Also in attendance was His Excellency Mr. Atadjan Movlamov, the Ambassador of Turkmenistan and the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Islamabad.



President PAIDAR, Senator Mushahid Sayed visited the High Commission of Kenya in Islamabad and signed the condolence book for the tragic death of General Francis Omondi Ogolla, Chief of Defence Forces of the Kenya Defence Forces.

Media Coverage of the launch event

The launch event of the Pakistan-Africa Institute for Development and Research, which took place on April 18, 2024, in Islamabad, was extensively covered by Pakistan's leading media outlets.

1. Daily Times

Daily Times

Your right to know A new voice for a new Pakistan

Mushahid launches Pakistan's first think tank on Africa

APP APRIL 19, 2024



Pakistan's first think tank on Africa, Pakistan-Africa Institute for Development & Research (PAIDAR) was launched at a well attended event at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) here on Thursday.

The think tank is the brain child of Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, introduced the aims and objectives of this new initiative as the founding President of PAIDAR.

The think tank was launched at a Seminar hosted by the ISSI with the theme: "Reviving the Bandung spirit of Afro-Asian solidarity: Pakistan-Africa relations". The guests included a number of ambassadors, especially from African countries as well as scholars, students, dignitaries and think tanks, a news release said. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed noted the launch of PAIDAR coincides with the 69th anniversary of the Bandung conference of Asian and African nations held on April 18, 1955 in Indonesia in which Pakistan participated along with China as well as countries from Africa. He termed Africa as the pivotal player in the resurgence of the Global South with 54 members of the African Union.

Referring to Pakistan-Africa relations, Senator Mushahid Hussain said that Pakistan's ties with Africa predate the creation of Pakistan as the Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the Founder of Pakistan visited Egypt in 1946 to forge friendly ties with this key African country. He said in the 1950s, it was Pakistan which gave full support to liberation movements of African countries like Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and Eritrea, even providing diplomatic passports to prominent freedom fighters from these countries.

2. Dawn News



Pakistan's first think-tank on Africa launched

The Newspaper's Staff Reporter | Published April 19, 2024



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ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's engagement with Africa is gradually growing despite the slowdown in the implementation of the "2019 Engage Africa Policy", said Additional Secretary (Africa) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sheryar Akbar Khan on Thursday.

He was speaking at the launch of the country's first think-tank on Africa - Pakistan-Africa Institute for Development & Research (PAIDAR) - which has been founded by Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed. The think-tank was launched at a seminar hosted by the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) with the theme: "Reviving the Bandung spirit of Afro-Asian solidarity: Pakistan-Africa relations".

PAIDAR's launch coincided with the 69th anniversary of the Bandung conference of Asian and African nations held on April 18, 1955 in Indonesia in which Pakistan participated together with China as well as countries from Africa.

The senior foreign ministry official said the first phase of Engage Africa Policy was successfully implemented under which Pakistan opened five new missions in Africa taking Pakistan's diplomatic presence in the continent to 20. Moreover, two existing missions were upgraded.

3. The Nation



Mushahid urges need to broaden Pakistan's foreign policy outlook

PAKISTAN'S FIRST THINK TANK ON AFRICA LAUNCHED



4. The News International



Pakistan's first think tank on Africa launched

Guests included a number of ambassadors, especially from African countries as well as scholars, students and dignitaries

By Our Correspondent | April 19, 2024



5. Daily Islamabad Post

Seen from LAHORE, KARACHI A sister publication of CENTRAL PRESS & CPA News Agency Islamabad@post.com.pk

Daily Islamabad POST

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Speakers call for cultivating closer links with African region

18/04/2024 105 0

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6. Business Recorder

BUSINESS RECORDER

— PAKISTAN'S PREMIER FINANCIAL DAILY —

Pakistan, African countries: Diplomats for active exploration of various collaboration areas

Recorder Report Published April 19, 2024

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7. Daily Parliament Times

Daily Parliament Times



Mushahid launches Pakistan's first think tank on Africa

8. Daily The Spokesman

Daily The Spokesman

Member CPNE, Member Pakistan Press Foundation

Islamabad/Lahore/Multan

PAIDAR::: Mushahid launches Pakistan's first think tank on Africa

By News Desk April 28, 2024 0 126

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PAIDAR Launch in Karachi



PAIDAR Launch in Karachi

1. Dawn News



'Pakistan seeking to enhance relations with 55 African countries'

Aleazeh Fatmeh | Published May 20, 2024 | Updated a day ago



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KARACHI: Africa and Pakistan share historical relationship, which was possible due to a budding friendship with Oman, and to foster this connection, excuses should be eradicated and actual measures should be taken, said former Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed on Sunday.

Speaking at the special launching event of Pakistan's first think-tank on Africa here, he emphasised the importance of decision-making.

The event was a joint collaboration of Sindh Investment Department, Karachi Council of Foreign Relations (KCPR) and Pakistan-Africa Institute of Development and Research (Paidar) which was founded by Mr Sayed himself.

"If we really want to see a change, we need to have a clear vision, we have all the opportunities in the world, however, the power to 'act' and make the right-decision matters the most," he said.

2. The News



First-ever think tank on growing Pak-African ties launched

Senator Mushahid says Pakistan has always supported independence, autonomy, progress and development of African nations

By our correspondent Asian countries see all set to play an important role in world politics after decades of Western global hegemony coming to an end shortly, African countries were added. He recalled that soon after coming into being in 1947, Pakistan had recruited a vocal and persistent supporter of the cause of independence, autonomy, progress and development of the African nations in the post-World War II era, when colonialism had been coming to an end in Asia and Africa. He also said that present African national leaders in the post-colonial era between Pakistan and African countries. He said Paidar would prove to be an effective agency to cement economic, cultural, people-to-people and government-to-government relations between Pakistan and African countries. The first-of-its-kind think tank has been launched at a critical juncture of international relations when Afri-

there is a massive potential for growing economic and trade ties between Pakistan and African countries. He urged Pakistani industries and businesses to actively explore the options of African nations as a fast-emerging and thriving market for their products and commodities. He said that the trade of African nations can play an important role in this regard after fully understanding the dynamics of the local markets in Africa. He also said that competent and qualified people from the private sector should be given a chance to grow trade relations between Pakistan and the African continent. KCPR Chairman Nadra Panjwani acknowledged the recent advancements made by African countries in academic, scientific and technological fields. She said women in Africa have been getting a greater chance to play an effective role in the process of national development. She also said Pakistan and African countries should collaborate in the fields of science, technology and academia. Latest digital means of communication have played an important role in accelerating poverty alleviation in Africa, and the progress of the disadvantaged people in the backward parts of the continent, she added. KCPR Patron-in-chief Iqbal Khan said in his view of thanks that the special think tank would conduct more meetings and discussions to find the ways and means to further enhance ties between Pakistan and Africa. He expressed gratitude to Consul General of Oman in Karachi Engr Sani Abdullah Salam Al Khanqari for attending the launching ceremony, saying that Oman would serve as a gateway to further cement economic and trade ties between Pakistan and the African continent.

3. The Express Tribune



PAIDAR comes to city

KARACHI. The Pakistan-Africa Institute for Development and Research (PAIDAR) was introduced to a group of eminent Karachiites and diplomats from the platform of Karachi Council on Foreign Relations at a local hotel. This initiative is being spearheaded by Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, a prominent figure in journalism and politics. The primary aim of PAIDAR is to highlight the increasing significance of African economies and their expanding influence on global economies and policymaking. Through collaborative efforts and a shared vision, PAIDAR will seek to spur meaningful dialogue and cooperation between the two regions, paving the way for mutually beneficial partnerships and advancements on the global stage. The event was well attended by dignitaries, diplomats, academicians, businessmen and various stakeholders who hailed the launch of this think tank as a right step towards promotion of trade and people to people relations with Africa. OUR CORRESPONDENT

4. Business Recorder



PAKISTAN'S PREMIER FINANCIAL DAILY



KARACHI: A group photo of Senator Mushahid Hussain, Karachi Council of Foreign Relations (KCPR) Chairperson Nadra Panjwani, Tariq Iqbal Khanqari and others at a special launching event of Pakistan's first Think Tank on Africa Pakistan-Africa Institute of Development & Research (PAIDAR) at a hotel, here on Sunday.—Recorder photo

PAIDAR launched to further cement ties with African countries

