



PAIDAR NEWSLETTER

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SPECIAL EDITION

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PRESIDENT PAIDAR, SENATOR MUSHAHID ADDRESSES AFRICAN POLITICAL PARTIES SUMMIT

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed became among the first Asians specially invited to address the first-ever historic African Political Parties Summit, hosted by Ghana, bringing together over 200 representatives from over 40 African countries. He was invited in his capacity as Co-Chairman of International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) and President of PAIDAR, Pakistan's first think tank on Africa.



In his speech, Senator Mushahid talked about Pakistan's consistent and principled policy of supporting African freedom struggles, including Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Eritrea, Somalia, South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, plus Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. He also referred to the 1955 Bandung Conference hosted by Indonesian President Sukarno, which was co-sponsored by Pakistan, and which laid the basis of Afro-Asian solidarity. Referring to his personal experience in Africa, he referred to his various visits to African countries including South Africa, Rwanda, Angola, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Egypt, Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia, and his role as Information Minister of Pakistan, when he had the honour of serving as Minister-in-Waiting to President Nelson Mandela in May 1999 during the great African leader's State Visit to Pakistan.

He hailed the 'Mandela Model' of peace and reconciliation and termed it relevant for Asia as it presents a peaceful and democratic way forward. He said after his interactions with President Mandela, he was convinced that the 'Mandela Model' was key to stability as it had three major components. First, President Mandela was a strong believer in a policy of generosity, on a forgive-and-forget approach, so that societies and states could move on, with a forward looking approach. Second, the 'Mandela Model' rejected the politics of vengeance, vendetta and victimisation, as that meant being hostage to the past. Third, the 'Mandela Model' is based on inclusive and institutional democracy, seeing Public Office as a people's trust, with voluntary exit from Presidency upon completion of his one elected term of office as President of South Africa. Most of Asia and Africa suffers from power-hungry politicians. Mushahid also praised Mandela's support for the causes of self determination of the people of Occupied Palestine and Occupied Kashmir, terming him as a principled statesman. Finally, Senator Mushahid Hussain termed the 21st Century as the century of the resurgence of the Global South which includes Asia, Africa and Latin America. He also hailed Ghana's first President, Kwame Nkrumah, as the leader of Pan African Unity, paying homage at his Mausoleum in Accra as he was also an architect of non alignment. He assured African leaders that Pakistan-Africa relations would expand further in diplomacy, trade and investment, education and IT, as well as cooperation in mining and critical minerals.



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**African Political Parties Summit 2025,
Accra , Republic of Ghana**





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**Ms. Benedicta Lasi, Executive Chair
Africa Governance Centre**



**H.E. Jeff Radebe, Former Minister of
South Africa**





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President PAIDAR celebrated Independence Day of Pakistan at the High Commission of Pakistan in Ghana



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.



Brief Profile of President PAIDAR

Mushahid Hussain Sayed has a long experience and interest in Africa from his student days. As a student, he founded the Pakistan Youth Committee on Afro-Asian Solidarity.

While in the United States, he studied Africa among his principal areas of academic interest in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, where his Academic Adviser, Dr. Chester Crocker, a leading American expert on Africa, later went on to serve as Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs in the administration of President Ronald Reagan. As journalist, he covered the war in Western Sahara & interviewed Yasser Arafat in Tunisia as well as Sudan's Sadiq al-Mahdi in London.



As Minister for Information, Culture and Tourism, he had the honour to serve as Minister-in-Waiting for President Nelson Mandela during his visit to Pakistan in May 1999.

He also had the privilege of interacting with President Julius Nyerere, when he visited Pakistan in 1989 as Chairman of the South Commission.

He served as Leader of Pakistan's Parliamentary Delegation to Nigeria in 2021 as well as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) General Assembly at Luanda, Angola in October 2023.

He was elected Vice President of the IPU Committee on Human Rights of Parliamentarians, during the IPU Conference in Kigali, Rwanda in October 2022 where he focused on issues of democracy and Human Rights in Africa. He also served as Convenor of Pakistan-Nigeria Parliamentary Friendship Group in the Senate during 2021-2024.

He is the first Pakistani to be invited to a BRICS official event, when, in August 2023, on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit, he was specially invited in his personal capacity by the National School of Government & the Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa to the BRICS Forum on People-to-People & Cultural Exchanges in Johannesburg.



With grandson of Nelson Mandela at Tehran International Conference on Palestine



With President of Angola, Mr. João Lourenço





Pakistan-Africa Institute for Development and Research

Pakistan's First Think Tank on Africa

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