

# PAKISTAN WATCH

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## POLITICAL ISSUES

### BAHRAIN

#### 1. Pakistan envoy meets Bahrain's foreign minister

Islamabad, Monday, 1 May 2017

Pakistan's envoy to Bahrain Javed Malik called on Foreign Minister Ahmed Al Khalifa to discuss bilateral ties.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/ambassador-javed-malik-meets-foreign-minister-of-bahrain/>

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### EGYPT

#### 2. Pakistan condemns attacks on Churches

Islamabad, Sunday, 28 May 2017

The terrorist attack on a bus carrying Coptic Churches to a monastery in the Minya province in South Egypt on 28 May was strongly condemned by the Foreign Office.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-condemns-terrorist-attack-in-egypt/>

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### IRAN

#### 3. Iranian delegation discuss border issues visit Pakistan

Islamabad, Wednesday, 3 May 2017

Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif along with his delegation called on Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, NSA Nasser Khan Janjua and Army Chief Qamar Bajwa to discuss the recent border attack and bilateral border coordination.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/nsa-iranian-foreign-minister-discuss-bilateral-ties/>

*See also: Daily Pakistan, Lahore*

<https://en.dailypakistan.com.pk/headline/pakistan-committed-to-have-lasting-relation-with-iran-coas-bajwa-tells-fm-zarif/>

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#### 4. Iran Cultural Counsellor visits Pakistan

Islamabad, Wednesday, 10 May 2017

Iranian Cultural Counsellor Shahabuddin Darai his meeting with Prime Minister's Adviser on National History and Literary Heritage (NHLH) Irfan Siddiqui in Islamabad emphasized on the need to strengthen cultural and literary ties, translation of Urdu and Persian literature and exchange of literary delegation between the two neighbours.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-iran-needs-to-explore-more-avenues-of-cooperation-in-different-sectors/>

*See also: Pakistan Observer, Islamabad*

<http://pakobserver.net/pakistan-iran-need-explore-avenues-cooperation/>

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## OMAN

### 5. Oman's foreign minister visits Pakistan

**Islamabad, Sunday, 7 May 2017**

Oman's Foreign Affairs Minister Alawi Bin Abdullah paid a two-day visit to Pakistan and discussed bilateral issues with Foreign Affairs Adviser Sartaj Aziz.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/foreign-minister-of-oman-arriving-on-2-day-visit/>

*See also: Daily Times, Lahore*

<http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/08-May-17/omans-minister-in-pakistan-on-two-day-visit>

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## SAUDI ARABIA

### 6. PM attends US-Arab-Islamic Summit in Saudi Arabia

**Islamabad, Saturday, 20 May 2017**

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif represented Pakistan at the first trilateral US-Arab-Islamic summit at Riyadh from 21 to 23 May and attended the inauguration ceremony of the World Centre against Extremism, a counter-radicalization initiative by Saudi Arabia.

*Source: The Express Tribune, Karachi*

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/1415172/us-arab-islamic-summit-pm-flies-riyadh-today-attend-trilateral-conclave/>

*See also: The News International, Karachi*

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/205773-PM-leaves-for-Saudi-Arabia-to-attend-US-Arab-Islamic-Summit>

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## TURKEY

### 7. Islamabad welcomes Turkey's mediation offer in Kashmir

**Islamabad, Monday, 1 May 2017**

Turkish President's proposal to "strengthen the dialogue process between India and Pakistan for resolving the Kashmir issue" and statement stressing an "end to bloodshed in Indian occupied Kashmir" ahead of his arrival in New Delhi was welcomed by Islamabad.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-welcomes-president-erdogans-offer-to-help-in-resolving-kashmir-issue/>

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### 8. Pakistan and Turkey discuss regional issues

**Islamabad, Thursday, 4 May 2017**

Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Babur Girgin and NSA Nasser Khan Janjua discussed Turkish President's visit to New Delhi, progress of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and strategic significance of Pakistan, Iran and Turkey in the region.

*Source: The Nation, Lahore*

<http://nation.com.pk/national/04-May-2017/pakistan-shares-vision-of-great-future-with-turkey-janjua>

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### 9. First session of Pakistan-Turkey Regional Consultations held in Islamabad

**Islamabad, Thursday, 18 May 2017**

Foreign Ministries of Pakistan and Turkey participated in the first session of Regional Consultations held in Islamabad on 18 May and discussed the regional developments.

*Source: The Nation, Lahore*

<http://nation.com.pk/national/19-May-2017/first-session-of-pak-turkey-consultations-held>

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## **DEFENCE ISSUES**

### **SAUDI ARABIA**

#### **10. Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee visits Riyadh**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 3 May 2017**

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (JCSC) Zubair Mahmood was conferred with Hayat King Abdul Aziz Medal of Excellence, the highest military award of Kingdom during his visit to Saudi Arabia.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/gen-zubair-decorated-with-saudias-highest-military-award/>

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#### **11. Pakistan Naval ship visits Saudi Arabia**

**Islamabad, Monday, 8 May 2017**

Pakistan Navy Ship Tippu Sultan (DDG-185) with Commanding Officer Rizwan Javed and Naval and Air Attaché Arshad Mukhtar with arrived at Port Jeddah, on a four-day goodwill visit.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/pns-tippu-sultan-visits-jeddah-ksa/>

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### **TURKEY**

#### **12. Pakistan delegation visits Turkey**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 3 May 2017**

A Standing Committee on Defence Production led by Chairman Sohail Mansoor stressed the need for strong collaboration between Pakistan and Turkey in various sectors of defence, including joint production and technology transfer.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/na-body-for-strong-pak-turkey-defence-collaboration/>

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#### **13. Defence Production minister visits Istanbul**

**Islamabad, Monday, 8 May 2017**

Minister for Defence Production Rana Tanveer Hussain, during his five-day visit to Istanbul to attend 13<sup>th</sup> International Defence Industry Fair (IDEF-17), signed three important documents concerning defence and strategic collaboration.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-turkey-sign-three-documents-elevating-defence-industry-cooperation-to-a-new-level/>

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#### **14. President of Turkish Aeronautical Industry visits Islamabad**

**Islamabad, Tuesday, 30 May 2017**

President of Turkish Aeronautical Industry (TAI) Temel Ketil called on Rana Tanveer Hussain, Minister for Defence Production in Islamabad to discuss the existing collaborations and future cooperation.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/tech-coop-an-tintegral-part-of-pak-turkey-relations-rana-tanveer/>

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### **UAE**

#### **15. Chairman Staff Committee visits UAE**

### **Islamabad, Friday, 5 May 2017**

Chairman of Pakistan's Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCS) Zubair Hayat was invited as the chief guest at the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the UAE armed forces.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/41st-anniversary-of-uae-armed-forces-day-observed/>

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## **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

### **SAUDI ARABIA**

#### **16. Riyadh, Islamabad discuss trade**

**Islamabad, Sunday, 21 May 2017**

A Pakistani business delegation of Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) paid an eight-day visit to Saudi Arabia from 11 to 19 May for detailed meetings to increase and diversify bilateral trade.

*Source: Radio Pakistan, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<http://www.radio.gov.pk/21-May-2017/trade-volume-b-w-pakistan-saudi-arabia-expected-to-enhance-in-coming-days>

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## **MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES**

### **OMAN**

#### **17. New flights to connect Multan, Karachi with Saudi Arabia and UAE**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 17 May 2017**

CEO of SalamAir Francois Bouteiller informed that Oman's budget airline SalamAir would start three weekly flights connecting Pakistan's cities of Multan and Karachi with Jeddah, Medina, Salalah and Dubai.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/omans-salamair-to-add-flights-to-multan-karachi/>

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### **TURKEY**

#### **18. Turkey, Pakistan discuss education diplomacy**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 12 May 2017**

A delegation of Turkish educationists visited Pakistan to hold a meeting with Minister of State for Capital Administration and Development Division (CADD) Fazal Chaudhry to discuss scope of bilateral cooperation in teacher training and educational interventions.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/turkish-delegation-offers-expertise-in-teachers-training/>

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#### **19. Turkey sends monetary aid for FTA**

**Islamabad, Friday, 30 April 2017**

Turkey announced US\$ 10 million as aid for rehabilitation of disaster/flood affected and the temporarily displaced people in the FATA province of Pakistan.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan, Islamabad*

<https://www.app.com.pk/pakistan-turkey-signed-us-10-million-agreement-on-contribution-to-the-people-of-fata/>

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## **COMPILED BY DIVYA MALHOTRA**

Divya Malhotra is a Doctoral candidate at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Email: [divyaidsa@gmail.com](mailto:divyaidsa@gmail.com)

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