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# PAKISTAN WATCH

#### No. 17

#### April 2012

### **POLITICAL ISSUES**

#### JORDAN

#### 1. Pakistan highly values its ties with Jordan

#### Islamabad, Tuesday, 27 March 2012

Acting President Syed Nayyar Hussain Bukhari said that Pakistan placed its bilateral cordial relations with Jordan in high esteem, which should be further strengthened in different fields of life including judicial system.

#### **Source: Associated Press of Pakistan**

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=186921

#### SAUDI ARABIA

#### 2. Saudi Ambassador calls on President

#### Islamabad, Thursday, 8 March 2012

Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan Abdul Aziz Ibrahim Al-Ghadeer called on President Asif Ali Zardari at the Aiwan-e-Sadr. Pak-Saudi bilateral relations were discussed during the meeting.

#### Source; Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=183359&Itemid= 1

#### **3. Saudi minister's visit to further strengthen bilateral tie** Islamabad, Tuesday 27 March 2012

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan said that the upcoming visit of Saudi Minister for Culture and Information Dr Abdul Aziz bin Mohiuddin Khoja would go a long way not only in understanding each other's culture but would further help strengthen bilateral relations

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=186947

#### TURKEY

4. President, Burhan Kayaturk discuss Pak-Turkey relations

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#### Islamabad, Friday, 23 March 2012

Burhan Kayaturk, Co-Chairman Turkey-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, called on President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

#### Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=186523

## 5. Turkey, Pakistan agree to improve cooperation in trade, defense and communication

#### Seoul, Monday, 26 March 2012

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and his Turkish counterpart Recap Tayyip Erdogan met on the sidelines of second Nuclear Security Summit, discussed bilateral relations, regional and international situation, and agreed to promote trade and economic relations between the two countries.

#### Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=186761

#### UAE

### 6. UAE ambassador calls on Foreign Minister

#### Islamabad, Saturday, 12 March 2012

The Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates Essa Abdullah Al Basha Al Noaimi called on Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar to deliver a letter from the Foreign Minister of UAE Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The Foreign Minister and the Ambassador also discussed regional and international matters of mutual interest.

#### **Source: Associated Press of Pakistan**

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=184117&Itemid= 1

#### ECONOMIC ISSUES

#### IRAN

#### 7. Pakistan rejects foreign pressure on Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project Islamabad, Thursday, 1 March 2012

Foreign Minister, rejects any foreign pressure against Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project, said it was in Pakistan's national interest to acquire energy from wherever it was available.

#### **Source: Business Recorder**

http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/1-front-top-news/47848-pakistan-rejects-foreign-pressure-on-iran-pakistan-gas-pipeline-project-.html

#### 8. Tender floated for laying Pak-Iran Gas pipe line project Islamabad, Thursday, 15 March 2012

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Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Dr. Asim Hussain informed the National Assembly that tender has already been floated for laying Pak-Iran Gas pipeline project.

#### **Source: Associated Press of Pakistan**

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=184735

#### UAE

## 9. UAE's investment creating better opportunities for market, people in Pakistan

#### Islamabad, Wednesday, 28 March 2012

Minister for Interior, Rehman Malik said Pakistan appreciates investment from United Arab Emirates (UAE) in all economic sectors, especially telecom which is creating better opportunities for market as well as for people.

#### **Source: Associated Press of Pakistan**

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=187155

#### **MULTILATERAL ISSUES**

#### 10. Trilateral summit to boost trade activities: Hina

#### Islamabad, Thursday, 8 March 2012

Foreign Minister, Hina Rabbani Khar has said that the Trilateral Summit of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan has provided an opportunity for substantive discussions on cooperation in energy related projects including IPI Gas Pipeline, increasing rail and road links and enhancing trade.

#### Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=183373&Itemid=1

## 11. Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Tajikistan vow to promote, strengthen regional trade

#### Dushanbe, Sunday, 25 March 2012

Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Tajikistan reiterated their resolve to promote and strengthen trade and economic cooperation in the region besides joining hands to fight the menace of terrorism, militancy and drug trafficking for a win-win situation.

#### Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=186705

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **12. Pakistan and Turkey vow to cooperate in women's empowerment projects** United Nation, Friday, 2 March 2012

Pakistan's Goodwill Ambassador for Women Empowerment, Fiza Batool Gillani, exchanged views on women-related issues with Turkish Deputy Minister for Family and Social Policy, Askin Asan, on the margins of the current session of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women.

#### **Source: Associated Press of Pakistan**

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http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=182301

### 13. UAE launches campaign for World Expo 2020

#### Islamabad, Sunday, 4 March 2012

The United Arab Emirates has launched an official campaign to host the World Expo 2020 in Dubai, an event that rivals the Olympic Games in scale and prestige.

**Source: Associated Press of Pakistan** 

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=182885

#### **14. Pakistan's ambassador to UAE decorated with Sitara-e-Imtiaz** Islamabad, Monday, 26 March 2012

Pakistan's Ambassador to UAE Jamil Ahmed Khan received high civil award, Sitara-e-Imtiaz on Pakistan Day on March 23 in recognition of his outstanding performance as ambassador to Libya and presently to UAE.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=186831

#### **15. Pakistan Day celebrated in Bangladesh, UAE, Egypt, Sri Lanka** Islamabad, Monday, 26 March 2012

Pakistan Day was observed with traditional fervor and enthusiasm in Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Sri Lanka.

**Source: Associated Press of Pakistan** 

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=186531

#### 16. Cultural night of Pakistan celebrated in Turkey

#### Islamabad, Thursday, 29 March 2012

A spectacular cultural night of Pakistan under the theme 'Rumi and Iqbal' was celebrated in Ankara, Turkey.

Source: Associated Press of Pakistan

http://app.com.pk/en\_/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=187375

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