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CIRCULATION CERTIFIED BY ABC

## Iran Vows Nuclear Comeback — Sites to Rise Stronger Than Ever

IRAN: Iran said on Sunday that it would rebuild nuclear sites damaged by Israeli and US strikes "stronger than before," as mediator Oman urged Tehran and Washington to revive stalled diplomacy.

US President Donald Trump has said the strikes obliterated Iran's nuclear programme, but the full extent of the actual damage remains unknown.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, in a visit to the country's nuclear organisation, said Tehran "will build (the destroyed sites) stronger than before."

"By destroying buildings [...] we will not be set back," he said in a video posted to his official website, adding that Iranian scientists still know how the necessary nuclear knowledge.

Pezeshkian did not elaborate. In similar remarks in February before the strikes, he said Tehran would rebuild its sites if they came under attack.

Israel launched an unprecedented bombing campaign against Iran in June,



kicking off a 12-day war that saw it target nuclear and military facilities — as well as residential areas — and kill many top scientists.

Iran retaliated with ballistic missile barrages aimed at Israeli cities.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said in July, after the United States announced a halt in fighting, that the damage in Iran was "serious and severe."

Pezeshkian's comments came as Oman, Iran's traditional intermediary, urged the two countries on Saturday to resume talks.

"We want to return to the negotiations between Iran (and) the United States," Omani Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi said at the

IISS Manama Dialogue conference in Bahrain.

Iranian government spokeswoman Fatemeh Mo-hajerani said on Sunday that Tehran "has received messages" on resuming diplomacy, without providing further details.

Oman hosted five rounds of US-Iran talks this year. Just three days before the sixth round, Israel launched its strikes against Iran's nuclear facilities.

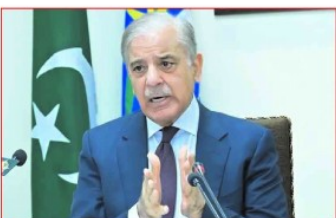
Iran has since faced the return of UN sanctions after Britain, Germany and France triggered the "snapback" mechanism over Tehran's alleged non-compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal.—RT/Agency

## PM Shehbaz Applauds PKLI After 1,000 Landmark Liver Transplants

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday expressed gratitude after the Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute (PKLI) achieved the milestone of 1,000 successful liver transplants.

The premier said, "With the blessings of Allah Almighty, the sapling planted in 2017 has now grown into a towering tree, benefiting 4 million patients so far."

PM Shehbaz Sharif recalled that past conspiracies had sought to undermine PKLI, leading to the abolition of its Board of Govern-



nors and rendering the institution non-functional. After taking office as Prime Minister in 2022, Shehbaz Sharif initiated efforts to revive

PKLI and restore its full operational capacity. The Prime Minister praised Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif for her relentless efforts in reviving the institution to serve humanity.

He noted that PKLI provides free treatment to 80% of its patients, enabling underprivileged people to access world-class medical care.

Shehbaz Sharif also commended the PKLI team, particularly Dr. Saeed Akhtar, for their dedication and hard work in making the institute's operations successful and saving countless lives.

Earlier, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif inaugurated the fourth phase of the Prime Minister's Youth Laptop Scheme 2025,

reaffirming his government's unwavering commitment to investing in education, technology, and skill development for the country's youth. The ceremony was attended by Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, senior government officials, students, and alumni of previous laptop schemes. A contingent of the Islamabad Capital Territory Police presented a guard of honour to recipients of the Youth Laptop Scheme on the prime minister's directives.—RT/Agency

## India Launches Its Heaviest Satellite in Space Push



INDIA: India launched its heaviest ever communication satellite on Sunday, the latest step in the country's ambitious space programme.

The CMS-03 satellite blasted off from Sriharikota in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh at 5:26 pm (11:56 GMT).

"Our space sector continues to make us proud!" said Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who wants to send an Indian astronaut to the Moon by 2040.

Weighing about 4,410 kilograms (9,722 pounds), it is "the heaviest communication satellite" launched in the country, the Indian Space Research Organisation said on Thursday.

The Indian Navy said the satellite would help "secure communication links between ships, aircraft, submarines".

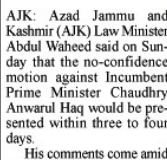
The CMS-03 satellite was sent into orbit from the towering 43.5 metre (143 foot) tall LVLM3-M5 launch vehicle.

It is an upgraded version of the rocket that launched India's unmanned craft that landed on the Moon in August 2023.

Only Russia, the United States and China have previously achieved a controlled landing on the lunar surface.

The country has flexed its spacefaring ambitions in the last decade, with its space programme growing considerably in size and momentum. Shubhanshu Shukla, a test pilot with the Indian Air Force, this year became the second Indian to travel to space and the first to reach the International Space Station — a key step towards India's own crewed mission planned for 2027.

## Countdown Begins: No-Confidence Motion Against AJK PM Within Days



AJK: Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Law Minister Abdul Waheed said on Sunday that the no-confidence motion against Incumbent Prime Minister Chaudhary Anwarul Haq would be presented within three to four days.

His comments came amid ongoing political uncertainty in the autonomous region, as Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari asserted that his party had secured the required numbers to form a government in AJK.

The AJK law minister, in a statement, said the no-confidence motion had been delayed due to consultations with stakeholders.

Waheed, however, assured that the PPP possessed the numerical majority to form the government without any coalition.

The AJK law minister said that the PPP's seats had risen to 27 after members of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) forward bloc, led by Barrister Sultan Mahmood, joined its ranks.

Waheed said that members of the PTI forward bloc



could not be subject to the floor-crossing law, noting that the party had not been registered in AJK for the last two years.

The minister asserted that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) would join the PPP in the no-confidence motion, despite the party's announcement that it would sit on the opposition benches.

The PPP initiated the process to form its government in the autonomous region soon after President Asif Ali Zardari announced the political move. The party strengthened its position in the Legislative Assembly after 10 PTI legislators joined the PPP on October 26 in a meeting with President Zardari's sister, Faryal Talpur, at Zardari House in Islamabad.

Soon after, the PPP and the PML-N jointly filed a no-confidence motion against AJK Prime Minister Chaudhary Anwarul Haq.

In an exclusive interview with Geo News on October 29, PPP AJK Secretary-General Faisal Mumtaz Rathore confirmed that his party had the "open support of 37 members." Rathore said that the party leadership would announce the name of the new AJK premier within the next two days. However, the AJK law minister said that the decision regarding the new Leader of the House would be taken by the PPP chairman when the no-confidence motion is moved against the incumbent prime minister.—RT/Agency

## New Joint Mechanism Ends Taliban's Alibi on Terror Control: Tarar

ISLAMABAD: Information Minister Attaullah Tarar on Sunday said the responsibility now lies with Kabul to act against militants using Afghan soil to launch attacks in Pakistan following the establishment of a joint monitoring and verification mechanism with the involvement of third parties.

His remarks came after Turkey's Foreign Ministry issued a joint statement saying that Islamabad and Kabul agreed to maintain the ceasefire, as well as decided to establish a monitoring and verification mechanism to ensure peace and penalise any violator.

The understanding was reached during the recent talks, held in Istanbul from October 25 to 30 under the mediation of Turkey and Qatar, concluded with both countries pledging continued cooperation for lasting peace and stability in the region.

Speaking on Geo News' programme "Naya Pakistan", Tarar praised Turkey



and Qatar for mediating the dialogue and reaffirmed that Pakistan's civil and military leadership are "on the same page" with full unity of thought and action.

He reiterated that Pakistan stands firm on its principled demands, including ending terrorism, preventing cross-border attacks, and respecting border sanctity, adding that Afghan territory must not be used for assaults against Pakistan.

Tarar lambasted the "propaganda warfare" waged by the Afghan Taliban regime, describing it as a fractured administration that "does not control the entire Afghanistan" and there-

fore cannot accuse Pakistan of creating instability.

The minister said that the onus will be on Kabul to act against Fina al-Khawariz and Fina al-Hindustan operating from their territory.

Regarding the joint framework, he said that finer operational details will be settled during the next round of discussions between senior officials from both sides in Istanbul on November 6.

"This arrangement re-moves any justification for the Taliban administration to avoid acting against militants," he emphasised, adding that they would receive punishment if they fail to act.—RT/Agency

## Hangu Police Convoy Targeted — SHO and Officers Wounded in IED Blast



HANGU: Three police officers, including SHO Imranuddin, were wounded on Sunday when an IED struck a convoy of senior police officials in the Doaba area of Hangu, authorities confirmed.

"The attack targeted SP Investigation Abdul Samad, DSP Tal Mujahid, and SHO Imranuddin," said a police spokesperson, adding that the wounded personnel were immediately shifted to DHQ Hospital Hangu, where their condition was stable.

According to police, SHO Imranuddin, Sub-Inspector Jehad Ali, and District Special Branch officer Abid sustained injuries in the blast. Following the explosion, a firefight erupted between police and the attackers in the area.

This incident comes days after a previous blast in Hangu that claimed the life of SP Operations Asad Zubair along with three other police officers. Security forces have launched search operations to track down those responsible. Pakistan has been grappling with rising terror incidents, particularly in KP and Balochistan,

since the Afghan Taliban regime took power in 2021.

The government has repeatedly urged the Taliban regime to rein in terrorist groups responsible for countless attacks in Pakistan.

However, the Taliban regime largely remained indifferent to Pakistan's demands and provided refuge to multiple terrorist groups targeting security forces and civilians.

Instead of addressing Pakistan's concerns about cross-border terrorism, the Taliban regime resorted to unprovoked firing along the border on October 12.

Pakistan Armed Forces retaliated swiftly, killing over 200 Taliban fighters and affiliated militants; however, as many as 23 Pakistani soldiers were martyred during the border clashes.

Security forces also conducted strikes inside Afghanistan, including in Kabul, destroying terrorists' hideouts in the country. Hostilities between forces of the two nations ceased after Pakistan accepted the Taliban regime's request for a temporary ceasefire on October 17.—RT/Agency

## Washington Moves to Reignite Military Ties With Beijing After Trump-Xi Talks

US: US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth said that during talks with his Chinese counterpart, the two sides had agreed to reboot military-to-military links to "de-conflict and de-escalate".

Hegseth met with China's Defence Minister Dong Jun on the sidelines of a regional summit in Malaysia, a day after leaders Xi Jinping and Donald Trump held talks in South Korea.

"I just spoke to President Trump, and we agree — the relationship between the United States and China has never been better," Hegseth said in a post on X, adding that he had spoken with Dong again since their face-to-face meeting.

"The Admiral and I agree that peace, stability, and good relations are the best path for our two great and strong countries," he said, tout-ing a path of "strength, mutual respect, and positive relations."



The Pentagon chief said that we should set up military-to-military channels to deconflict and de-escalate any problems that arise.

Such channels have existed for years but at times fallen out of use.

"We have more meetings on that coming soon," Hegseth said without elaborating.

There was no immediate comment from Beijing.

According to a Chinese defence ministry readout of their meeting in Malaysia,

Dong had told Hegseth the countries should "strengthen policy-level dialogue to enhance trust and dispel uncertainty", and build a bilateral military relationship "characterised by equality, respect, peaceful coexistence and stable positive momentum."

Last week, Trump said he had agreed to reduce tariffs on China to 47% in exchange for Beijing resuming US soybean purchases, keeping rare earths exports flowing and cracking down on the illicit trade of fentanyl.—RT/Agency

## Trump Threatens US Military Strike in Nigeria Over Christian Persecution

US: US President Donald Trump said that he has asked the Defence Department to prepare for possible military action in Nigeria if the Nigerian government "continues to allow the killing of Christians."

The US government will also immediately stop all aid and assistance to Nigeria, Trump said in a post on Truth Social.

If the United States sends in military forces, it would go in "guns-a-blazing," to completely wipe out the Islamic Terrorists who are committing these horrible atrocities," Trump wrote, without providing any evidence of specifics about the treatment of Christians in Nigeria.

"I am hereby instructing our Department of War to prepare for possible action. If we attack, it will be fast, vicious, and sweet, just like the terrorist thugs attack our CHERISHED CHRISTIANS! WARNING: THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT BETTER MOVE FAST!" he further wrote in the post.

Abuja had no immediate reaction to Trump's threat of military action. The White House also had no immediate comment on the potential timing of any US military action.



His social media post came a day after his administration added Nigeria back to a "Countries of Particular Concern" list of nations that the US says have violated religious freedom. Other nations on the list include China, Myanmar, North Korea, Russia and Pakistan.

Before Trump posted his attack threat, Nigerian President Bola Ahmed Tinubu earlier Saturday pushed back against the claims of religious intolerance and defended his country's efforts to protect religious freedom. The characterisation of Nigeria as religiously intolerant does not reflect our national reality, nor does it take into consideration the consistent and sincere efforts of the government to safeguard freedom of religion and beliefs for all Nigerians," Tinubu said in a statement, citing "constitutional

guarantees to protect citizens of all faiths."

Nigeria's Foreign Ministry, in a separate statement, vowed to keep fighting violent extremism and said it hoped Washington would remain a close ally, saying it "will continue to defend all citizens, irrespective of race, creed, or religion. Like America, Nigeria has no option but to celebrate the diversity that is our greatest strength." The US military footprint in West Africa was significantly diminished when about 1,000 troops withdrew from Niger last year. While the US sometimes has small groups of troops in the region to take part in drills, the largest US military base on the continent is in East Africa in Djibouti, which hosts over 5,000 troops and is used for operations in the region.—RT/Agency

## Turkiye Urges Swift Global Action to End Gaza Carnage

ISTANBUL: Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan is expected to call at a meeting in Istanbul on Monday for arrangements to be made as soon as possible to ensure the security and administration of Gaza by Palestinians, a foreign ministry source said on Sunday.

The foreign ministers of Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan,

Pakistan and Indonesia are set to join the meeting on ceasefire developments and the humanitarian situation in Gaza, the Turkish foreign ministry source said. The source said Fidan was expected to "emphasise the importance of coordinated action by Muslim countries for the ceasefire to evolve into a lasting peace."

Countries taking part in

the Istanbul talks all attended a meeting with US President Donald Trump in New York in September on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly.

The US-brokered Gaza truce, which left thorny issues like the disarmament of Hamas and a timeline for Israeli withdrawal from Gaza unresolved, has been tested by periodic violence since coming into force.—RT/Agency



# REGIONAL TIMES THE HEARTLAND



## LUMHS VC Makes Surprise Visit to Liaquat Hospital, Demands Top-Tier Patient Care

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Vice Chancellor of Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS) Jamshoro, Professor Dr. Ikramuddin Ujjan, paid a detailed visit to Liaquat University Hospital Hyderabad (Civil Hospital) to review medical facilities and service delivery.

He was accompanied by Medical Superintendent Dr. Ali Akbar Dahri, Additional Medical Superintendent (General) Dr. Muhammad Ali Qaimkhani, Additional Medical Superintendent-II Dr. Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Kalhoro, and other administrative and technical officers.

During the inspection, Dr.



Ujjan visited the Emergency Department, Central Operation Department (COD), Surgical Operation Theatres, and various wards. He examined cleanliness standards, surgical equipment, staff performance, and the overall facilities provided to patients.

The Vice Chancellor emphasized that no negligence

would be tolerated in ensuring quality healthcare and directed the hospital administration to maintain the highest standards of medical care. He appreciated the dedication of doctors and staff, stating that public service, professional integrity, and patient welfare are the defining principles of LUMHS hospitals.

## BISP Raids Expose Device Holders Skimming Cash from Poor Beneficiaries in Chundiko

By Gada Hussain Bhambhro

NARO: Raids were conducted at Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) centers in Chundiko following complaints from deserving women regarding illegal deductions from their stipends.

The raids were led by BISP District Director Abdul Sami Abro and Monitoring Officer Mansoor Shar. During the inspections, several women reported unlawful deductions from their financial assistance.

The BISP team took immediate action, recovering



the deducted amounts from the device holders and returning them to the rightful beneficiaries. Officials stated that strict action will be taken against those involved in illegal deductions.

## Writers, Leaders Honour Ilaahi Bux Alamani's Legacy of Courage and Reform

By Munwar Chandio

JAMSHORO: The Sindhi Adabi Sangat, Jamshoro Town Branch, organized a literary gathering (Rahan) at the M.H. Panhwar Institute of Sindhi Studies, Jamshoro, to honor renowned teacher, social reformer, and political activist, Saim Ilaahi Bux Sager Alamani.

The event, presided over by Hakim Chandio, drew a large audience, including prominent literary and political figures such as Professor Adam Butt of Jeay Sindhi Mahaz, Deedar Sham of Jeay Sindhi Qaumi Mahaz, Sarwar Barfat of SPP, Noor Muhammad Palh of PT-ALF, Comrade Suleman Bhulai of PPP



(Shaheed Bhutto), Professor Faheem Noonari, poet Muhammad Ayub Junjo (Sagher), and others.

Speakers paid glowing tributes to Alamani's lifelong contributions to education, social reform, and political awareness. They lauded his dedication to Sindhi culture and his role in shaping young

minds through his teachings. In recognition of his services, attendees presented traditional Sindhi gifts — Ajraks, Lungies, books, and plants — symbolizing respect and admiration. The gathering united diverse intellectual and political voices to celebrate the life and legacy of a true reformer.

## Pro-Sindh Lawyers Sweep Sindh Bar Council Polls; Qambar Shahdadt Bar Cheers Victory

SHAHDAKTOT: The President of the District Bar Association, Advocate Shafi Muhammad Khoso, General Secretary Advocate Sahinder Kumar, Advocate Raja Rajab Maggi, Advocate Rafiq Ahmed Khushk, Advocate Sajid Mirjat, and other members expressed great joy over the success of pro-Sindh lawyers in the Sindh Bar Council elections held across the province, calling it a victory of Sindh's collective consciousness.

In their joint statement, the lawyers of District Qambar Shahdadt said that the



legal fraternity has always stood for the rights of Sindh and empowered the people of the province with awareness and unity. They recalled that history bears witness to how lawyers played a leading role in protecting Sindh's water and river rights during the Babar protest, educating millions daily about the con-

spiracies against their homeland and awakening the true sons of the soil to their responsibilities.

The leaders added that by empowering Sindh's people through awareness, the lawyers have once again proved themselves to be loyal and patriotic sons of the land.

## Sanghar's Forgotten Ruins Hold Secrets of Sindh's Glorious Past: Sarfraz Rajar



By Mehtab Shar

SANGHAR: Sindh Government's Advisor on Archaeology, renowned writer and poet, and former PPP District President Sarfraz Rajar said that Sanghar is rich in historical and cultural heritage, housing sites of immense significance. Speaking to journalists at the residence of Abdul Sattar Khaskheli, President of PPP Cultural Wing Sanghar, during a reception hosted by

SPAAF District President Khadim Hussain Khaskheli, Rajar announced plans to soon visit the ancient site of Mansura (Brahmanabad) along with archaeological experts. He said that the site requires urgent preservation and further excavation, and practical measures will be taken based on expert recommendations. He emphasized that restoration and developmental work on these historic sites will be prioritized.

## SIEHS 1122 Sports Gala Ignites Nawabshah; SBA Zone Dominates Events

By Samad Ayaz Dahri

NAWABSHAH: Sindhi Integrated Emergency Health Services (SIEHS) 1122, Shaheed Benazirabad, in collaboration with the District Sports Department, organized a grand one-day Sports Gala featuring spirited competitions between the SBA Zone and Hyderabad Zone teams.

The thrilling contests included Badminton, Tug of War, Cricket, a 100-meter Race, and Volleyball. The SBA Zone emerged triumphant in Cricket, the 100-meter Race, and Volleyball, while the Hyderabad Zone claimed victories in Badminton and Tug of



War.

An award distribution ceremony was held at the Bilawal Sports Complex, Nawabshah, where Commissioner Shaheed Benazirabad Division Mr. Shahmir Khan Bhutto attended as the Chief Guest. Deputy Commissioner Mr. Abdul Samad, along with

officials from SIEHS 1122 and the Sports Department, were also present. The Commissioner lauded the participants for their enthusiasm and emphasized the importance of sports in promoting teamwork, fitness, and discipline among rescue and emergency service personnel.

## Hyderabad Builder Mafia Exposed: Heirs Cry Foul Over Alleged Land Grab

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Members of the Jatoti community staged a protest outside the Hyderabad Press Club against what they described as the illegal occupation of their ancestral land by an influential builder mafia.

Protesters alleged that four acres and 22 ghuntas of their land in Kali Mori Goth, Adoo Khan Jatoi, had been unlawfully seized and converted into a housing project under the name "Noori City."

Led by Shah Nawaz Jatoi, Sikandar Jatoi, and



Hashim Jatoi, the demonstrators accused builder Zahoor Malik, DSP Ishfaq Shah, and Waheed Qazi, along with three individuals from the Jatoti community, of colluding to occupy the property through forged documents.

The protesters raised

slogans demanding immediate intervention from higher authorities to stop the land mafia's activities and restore ownership rights to the rightful heirs. They warned that if justice was not served, they would expand their protest movement across Hyderabad.

## Police Track Down Cattle Thieves, Return Stolen Cows to Rightful Owners

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: Police

from Nawab Wali Muhammad conducted a raid near Mori and successfully recovered stolen cows. The animals were later returned to their rightful owners.

According to details, several cows belonging to Arbab Ali Khosa, an employee of the respected Khosa community figure Shah Muhammad Khosa, were stolen near Nawab Wali Muhammad. Using CCTV footage, police traced the suspects who were transporting the stolen cows in a Datsun vehicle towards Mori.



Acting promptly, the police chased the vehicle, conducted a raid near Mori, and recovered two stolen cows along with the Datsun.

The recovered livestock was handed over to the owners. Prominent community member Ghulam Sarwar Khosa visited

the police station and appreciated the efforts of ASI Tariq Ali Solangi, Checkpost Incharge Muhammad Panjal Solangi, Senior Constable Muhammad Ashfaq, Sajad Ali Zardari, Ijaz Ali Chaudhary, and other police personnel for their swift and effective action.

## Massive Crowd Floods Jhudo for Khatm-e-Nabuwat (PBUH) and Defence of Sahaba Conference

By Shahid Majood

JHUDO: A grand and historic conference titled "Tajdar Khatm-e-Nabuwat, Defence of Sahaba Karam and Ahl-e-Bait Conference" was held in Jhudo under the auspices of Jamaat Ahle Sunnat Jhudo, led by Mufti Tanveer Naqshbandi. The event took place at Muhammad Market, drawing a massive gathering of thousands of devotees and citizens.

The conference aimed to highlight the significance of the finality of Prophethood (Khatm-e-Nabuwat), the defence of the noble Companions (Sahaba Karam), and the reverence of the Ahl-



e-Bait (the family of the Holy Prophet?).

Distinguished religious scholars and spiritual leaders from across Sindh, including Pir Agha Muhammad Ayub Jan Sarhindi, Syed Zameer Shah, Mufti Muhammad Sharif Saedi, Pir Mushtaq Ahmed Naqshbandi, Mufti Muhammad Zubair Hazrati,

Professor Khadim Hussain Naemi, Dr. Habibullah Naemi, Sardar Ghulam Muhammad, and Hafiz Shehzad Tahir, attended and delivered speeches.

During the event, scholars emphasized unity among Muslims, love for the Holy Prophet (P), and adherence to Islamic teachings.

## Teenage Boy Killed in Road Accident near Mehar

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: A 14-year-old boy, Allah Bachayo Khoso, was killed when a speeding coach collided with his motorcycle near Taj Petrol Pump on Indus Highway.

The victim, a resident of Suleman Colony, died on

the spot. His body was taken to Mehar Taluka Hospital for postmortem before being handed over to his family.

The tragic news plunged the colony into mourning, as grieving parents fainted upon receiving their son's body.

## Free Eye Camp Brings Sight and Hope to Villagers at Al-Farabi Hospital

By Sajid Ali Janyaro

KETI BUNDER: A one-day free eye camp was organized at Al-Farabi Hospital in Village Raees Muhammad Yousif Perozani, Taluka Ketu Bunder, in collaboration with Pakistan Coast Guards Garho. The camp was in-

augmented by District Council Thatta Member Raees Mohib Perozani. Specialist doctors examined patients and provided free medicines, eye drops, and spectacles to those in need. Patients diagnosed with cataracts were selected for free surgeries at private hospi-

On the occasion, Raees Mohib Perozani said that his father, Raees Muhammad Yousif Perozani, devoted his life to serving humanity, and this free eye camp was a continuation of his legacy of social welfare and public service.

## Journalists Gear Up for Protest Over Illegal Toll Mafia in Daulatpur Safan



By Ejaz Ali Jokhio

DAULATPUR SAFAN: Journalists from across Taluka Qazi Ahmed have announced a peaceful protest on November 10 against the illegal toll tax collection and mistreatment of reporters by the Jhulo Toll Plaza administration.

In a meeting held at the Daulatpur Press Club, partici-

pants formed a coordination committee and urged all political, social, nationalist, and civil society members to join the protest.

Journalist leaders, including Murtaza Jokhio, Muhammad Musar Anar, and Ghulam Rasool Rind, demanded that authorities take immediate notice and end the harassment of media professionals and locals.

## Family Pleads for Crackdown on Drug Mafia Ravaging Digri Village

By Farooq Randhawa

DIGRI: A labourer, Narain Kolhi, along with his wife Shrimati Kami and their young children, appeared before journalists at the Digri Press Club to lodge a complaint against the open sale of narcotics and locally brewed liquor in their village, Babo Shah Deh 189, within the limits of Tando Jan Muhammad Police Station.

Narain Kolhi alleged that drug dealers, including individuals named Dewoo and Ramesh Kolhi, frequently consume alcohol and verbally abuse his family. He



said that while he performs night duty at the village guesthouse, these intoxicated men violate the sanctity of his home, enter his house, and assault his wife.

He further stated that the suspects again attacked his wife down illegal liquor dens operating in the area.

due to harassment and death threats. The distressed family has appealed to the DIG Mirpurkhas, SSP Mirpurkhas, and SHO Tando Jan Muhammad to take immediate action against the culprits and shut down illegal liquor dens operating in the area.

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: The Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Hyderabad has initiated an investigation after uncovering serious financial irregularities and procedural violations in the Hyderabad Development Authority's (HDA) Water and Sewer-

age development projects.

According to a reminder notification issued by the Director, Anti-Corruption Division (Notification No. ACH/2025/SHA-478, dated October 29, 2025), several HDA officials—including Executive Engineer Zeshan Malik, the Chairman of the Procurement Committee, and

the Tender Clerk—have been summoned for questioning.

The officials are accused of approving development contracts under NIT No. F-/DB/HW&SC/HYD/1340/2025 in violation of prescribed procurement rules, allegedly resulting in financial losses to the public exchequer.



REGIONAL TIMES:

# NATIONAL



## Punjab Unveils Genetic Breeding Program to Boost Cattle Milk Yields

MULTAN: The Livestock and Dairy Development Department Punjab has launched a major genetic improvement program aimed at enhancing the productivity of local non-descriptive (indigenous) cows.

Deputy Director Livestock, Dr. Jamshaid Akhtar, said the Punjab government has allocated Rs 1 billion for the project, which will provide over one million doses of high-quality cattle semen at highly subsidized rates. "Brahman semen doses are being offered at Rs 500 and Friesian semen doses at



just Rs 150," he said, adding that the program is expected to significantly improve the milk and meat yield of local cow breeds across Punjab. Dr. Akhtar explained that most cows in rural Punjab are non-descriptive

indigenous breeds with low milk production potential. "This project aims to prove their genetic composition, enabling them to produce more milk and gain weight faster," he said.—RT/Agency

## Punjab Extends Section 144 Amid Security Concerns Until November 8

LAHORE: The Punjab government has extended the enforcement of Section 144 across the province for another week, until November 8, according to a notification issued by the Punjab Home Department.

The extension follows a review of the latest threat assessments provided by law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

Authorities deemed it necessary to maintain restrictions to prevent potential disturbances, sectarian tensions, and unlawful activities, ensuring public safety and the protection of both public and private property.



Under the order, a ban remains in place on public gatherings, processions, siting, the carrying of weapons, use of loudspeakers, and distribution of provocative material.—RT/Agency

## Jhelum Valley Horror: Three Youths Tortured by Local Feudals in Shocking Abuse Case

MUZAFFARABAD: In a horrifying incident in Chinari village, Jhelum Valley, three young laborers were lured by influential locals, forced into a so-called "court," and subjected to brutal torture, ARY News re-

ported. Superintendent of Police Abbass Shah confirmed the youths' condition worsened, requiring hospitalization, and they remain critical. Authorities have registered a case against five suspects, arresting two so far, while pursuing the remaining culprits. The victims, employed in domestic work, were reportedly targeted by the powerful individuals abusing their influence over the community.—RT

## METRO KARACHI

### Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar Sweeps Sindh Bar Council Elections with Overwhelming Mandate

KARACHI: Sindh Law Minister Advocate Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar has been elected to the Sindh Bar Council from Nawabshah with a resounding majority, reflecting immense trust from the legal community. A former Vice President of the Sindh High Court Bar Association, Lanjar vowed to champion



lawyers' rights, strengthen

the judiciary, and uphold constitutional supremacy. His victory, celebrated across political and legal circles, signals unity among lawyers. PPP-backed candidates, including Qurban Malano and Asif Soomro, also claimed key Sindh Bar Council seats.—RT/Agency

## Karachi on Edge as Jamaat-e-Islami Accuses PPP of Chaos and Looting

KARACHI: Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami, Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman, has accused the Sindh government and PPP of monopolizing city jobs and resources, fueling mismanagement, encroach-

ments, and looting in Karachi. He claimed that despite limited resources, Jamaat-e-Islami's elected representatives are carrying out development work and vowed to free the city from exploitation. Hafiz Naeem also sharply criticized the road infrastructure, public transport, and e-challan system, calling for prioritization of public facilities.—RT/Agency

## Baby-Selling Scandal Rocks Karachi: Newborn Rescued, Police Hunt Hospital Staff

KARACHI: In action. According to Karachi's Malir area, Memon Goth, a newborn was reportedly sold to cover private hospital expenses, prompting swift police

are conducting raids to arrest Dr. Zahra, named in the case, and Shama Baloch, the hospital employee who paid the expenses and took the child.—RT/Agency

## Child Gunned Down During Robbery Resistance on Karachi Superhighway

KARACHI: On Karachi's Superhighway, a young boy lost his life and his uncle was injured during a robbery. Police identified the deceased child

as Qasim, who was sitting by the roadside with his uncle, Ali Asghar, when Ali Asghar tried to resist and brandished a weapon, the suspects opened fire. Both Qasim and Ali Asghar were wounded; sadly, Qasim died during treatment. Police report that the suspects were also injured and are still being pursued.—RT/Agency

## FIA Charges Six SIU Officers Over Youth's Custodial Death in Karachi

KARACHI: The FIA has registered a case against six SIU police officers in the Anti-Corruption Circle following the custodial death of a Karachi youth, Irfan. According to FIA officials, the case was filed under the Torture and Custodial Death



Act 2022. The FIR states that the officers allegedly tortured Irfan during detention, leading to his death. Authorities confirmed that the youth was illegally arrested, and investigations into the incident are ongoing.—RT/Agency

## Former PM Shahid Khaqan Abbasi Undergoes Emergency Heart Surgery

ISLAMABAD: Former Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi was rushed to Al-Shifa Hospital after experiencing severe chest pain, where doctors confirmed that he had suffered a heart attack. Medical tests revealed blockages in two of his heart arteries, following which an emergency angioplasty was performed and two stents were inserted. According to hospital sources, Abbasi's condition has now stabilized, and he is under ob-



servation in the cardiac care unit. His family members informed the media that his health has significantly improved post-surgery.—RT/Agency

## Lahore Chokes Under Smog as Toxic Air Forces School Closures



LAHORE: Amid worsening smog, Punjab's Director General Environment Imran Hamid Shaikh announced that all government and private schools will open after 8:45 a.m. Violators will face fines of Rs. 500,000 to 1 million. The decision follows Lahore's alarming Air Quality Index surge from 300 to 400 between October 19 and 30, making it the world's second most polluted city at 346 AQI—just behind New Delhi's 467. Officials warned of hazardous particulate matter, urging citizens to wear masks and avoid unnecessary travel.—RT

## Katcha Dacoits Abduct Two Boys in Sadiqabad, Police Launch Rescue Effort

SADIQABAD: Armed dacoits from the Katcha area kidnapped two boys in Sadiqabad.

According to police, motorcycle-borne robbers abducted the victims, identified as Nabeel Ahmed and Hasnain, from within the jurisdiction of Ahmedpur Police Station.

Upon receiving the report, a heavy contingent of police reached the scene; however, the bandits managed to flee with the abducted boys toward the riverine Katcha area.

Police have launched a search operation to recover the victims. Authorities said special teams, led by DSP Bhong and the SHO of



Ahmedpur Lamma, have been formed to track down the kidnappers.

Police expressed confidence that both victims would be safely recovered soon. Earlier on Oct 22, 2025, Seventy-two bandits of katcha area lay down arms in a ceremony here on Wednesday, chaired by Sindh's Home Minister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar.—RT/Agency

## Islamabad Driver Booked Under Terrorism Charges After Assault on Traffic Officers

ISLAMABAD: A driver has been arrested and booked under the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) for assaulting traffic police officers in Islamabad's I-8 Markaz area, police confirmed on Sunday.

A video circulating on social media shows the suspect attacking traffic personnel and creating chaos in a busy commercial area, causing panic among passersby and disrupting traffic flow.

According to police, the suspect, identified as Aaqib, engaged in a violent scuffle after they attempted to stop his vehicle for reckless driving and drifting.



When confronted, he reportedly became aggressive, assaulted the officers, and hurled verbal abuse.

The First Information Report (FIR), registered at I-9 Police Station on the complaint of Sub-Inspector Gul Hassan, included sections of the Anti-Terrorism Act and other relevant laws.—RT/Agency

## Central Punjab

### Development Push at Darbar Sharif Gujrat Marks New Growth Phase

By Dr. Mirza M.B. Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Secretary Chief Administrator Awqaf Punjab, Dr. Tahir Raza Bukhari, inaugurated the Darbar Sharif development project during the 32nd annual Urs of Hazrat Khawaja Muhammad Masoom Mohri Sharif.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Bukhari said that under the vision of the Chief Minister, the dream of transforming



shrines into "model societies" is being realized. He emphasized the need to promote unity among Muslims and eliminate sectarian incitement from the country.

### District Health Council Greenlights Hospital Upgrades in Toba Tek Singh

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: An important meeting of the District Health Council Toba Tek Singh was held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office, co-chaired by MPA Chaudhry Anjad Ali Javed and Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela. CEO Health Dr. Kashif Nadeem, MS Dr. Shahab Alam, and other council members also attended.

The meeting reviewed the performance of government hospitals and discussed key issues, including the shortage



of doctors, recruitment on vacant positions, and improvement of healthcare services across the district.

It was decided to ensure the 100% availability of medicines in all government hospitals. The council also approved the allocation of 20 beds for the Thalassemia Centre and other initiatives aimed at enhancing patient care and hospital efficiency.

### Punjab Food Authority Intensifies Crackdown on Adulterated Food Across Gujranwala

By Dr. Mirza M.B. Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Punjab Food Authority (PFA) Gujranwala teams have intensified operations against food adulteration and unhygienic practices, continuing surprise inspections across the district under the directives of the Director General, PFA.

Food safety teams carried out extensive crackdowns in Kamoni, Wazirabad, Qila Didar Singh, and urban Gujranwala to ensure public health and food quality. According to the latest performance report for the past month, 4,370 food points and units were inspected.



As a result, 14 production units were sealed due to poor hygiene conditions, and 15 FIRs were registered. Additionally, 415 establishments were fined a total of Rs. 5.26 million for violating food safety standards.

The teams also confiscated 2,560 liters of adulterated and defective milk, over 2,500 kilograms of unhealthy meat, and 2,610 contaminated eggs from vehicles and shops.

Officials emphasized that such operations will continue without warning to ensure the elimination of "food terrorists" and to protect citizens from harmful and sub-standard food products.

### CM Maryam Pledges to Safeguard Press Freedom on Global Journalists' Day

By Dr. Mirza M.B. Qamar

GUJRANWALA: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, in her message on the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists (IDEI) 2025, called for an immediate end to oppression and violence against journalists who speak the truth. She emphasized that freedom of the press, exercised with



responsibility, is the cornerstone of democracy and vital for building a strong and just society.

"Journalists are the protectors of social justice and the true voice of the people," she stated, adding that those who expose oppression, injustice, and falsehoods are the real heroes. Maryam Nawaz reaffirmed her government's unwavering commitment to safeguard press freedom and ensure a secure environment for media professionals across Punjab.

### Ahsan Iqbal Inaugurates Major RLNG Gas Project in Narowal

By Rana Mudassar

NAROWAL: On the directive of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Prof. Ahsan Iqbal inaugurated the RLNG gas connection project in Narowal.



Speaking to the media, he said that welfare-oriented projects are being prioritized to provide direct relief to citizens.

He stated that the government is taking effective measures to address the energy crisis and boost national development. He urged citizens to fulfill their tax responsibilities honestly, stressing that tax evasion places an unfair burden on honest taxpayers.

### PMML Leadership Brokers Rs. 6.35 Million Settlement Between Rival Groups in Pir Mahal

By Abid Mahmood Ch

TOBA TEK SINGH: Through the efforts of the Pakistan Markazi Muslim League (PMML) leadership in Toba Tek Singh, a long-standing financial dispute worth Rs 6,350,000 between two groups in Pir Mahal has been amicably settled.



The resolution came after two consecutive days of negotiations at Markaz-e-Fazal Rabi Pir Mahal, under the supervision of Abdul Majid Salik, District President of PMML. Toba Tek Singh and

Provincial President of ing Rana Mudassar Milli Labour Federation Punjab. Representatives from both groups attended the sessions, along with PMML leaders including Muhammad Rafiq.



# REGIONAL TIMES EDITORIAL

Founders: Late Kazi Saeed Akbar, Late Kazi Jawad Akbar, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher: Kazi Sajjad Akbar

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## A Welcome Reconnection: PTI Must Reclaim Shah Mahmood Qureshi's Guiding Hand

The recent visit by senior Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders Salman Akram Raja and Shaukat Basra to former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi at the Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute is more than a courtesy call — it is a symbolic and timely reconnection that may signal a thaw within the party's fractured leadership. Qureshi, who has endured immense personal and political trials since the ouster of the PTI government through a no-confidence vote, remains one of the party's most seasoned and respected figures.

Despite being sidelined by the current leadership, his enduring loyalty and commitment to democratic struggle stand as a testament to his

political maturity. The PTI, which continues to



command the support of millions, needs experienced voices like Qureshi's to steer it back into the national mainstream. The nation's political climate is volatile, and reconciliation — not radicalism — is the need of the hour.

Imran Khan and the party's core leadership must recognize that the time for isolation is over. A figure of Qureshi's stature could play a crucial role in rebuilding bridges — not only with the

country's establishment but also with political rivals. His diplomatic experience, measured tone, and credibility could be instrumental in de-escalating tensions and reviving PTI's political relevance within constitutional and democratic bounds.

The recent string of visits by both current and former PTI leaders suggests a growing realization that unity, not division, is the path forward. For PTI to reclaim its rightful place in Pakistan's democratic framework, it must embrace its veteran statesmen. Shah Mahmood Qureshi's political wisdom, if utilized with sincerity, could well become the catalyst for the party's rebirth — and for national reconciliation at large.

## REGIONAL TIMES THE HEARTLAND



### Sindh Bar Council Elections Jolt Status Quo as Fresh Faces Rise to Power

By G.M. Chandio

HYDERABAD: The unofficial and unconfirmed results of the Sindh Bar Council elections for the 2026-2030 term have brought a major shift in the province's legal fraternity, as several new faces emerged victorious while many senior members faced defeat.

According to preliminary reports, Sindh Home Minister Zia ul Lajpata, Aamir Nawaz Waraich, Athar Abbas Solangi, K.B. Laghari, Mir Muhammad Mangrio, and Qurban Malano are among the successful candidates. Jubilant celebrations broke out across Sindh as supporters of the winning lawyers celebrated their success, with many reiterating their resolve to continue striving for the rights of Sindh's legal community.

Out of 47,217 registered lawyers, nearly 30,000 exer-



cised their right to vote to elect 33 members of the council. In total, 160 candidates, including five women, contested the polls.

According to the compiled information, Sindh Home Minister Zia ul Lajpata secured the Nawabshah-Naushahro Feroze seat, while Karim Bakhsh Rind stood second. From Karachi, successful candidates included Karachi Bar Council President and "Babar Law Sit-in" leader Advocate Aamir Nawaz

Waraich, Rashid Rajar, Irfan Kerio, Aqib Rajpar, Jan Muhammad Naich, Zubair Abro, Haseeb Panhwar, Mohan Lal, Wajahat, Ashraf Samoon, Haq Nawaz Talpur, and E.B. Lashari.

From Hyderabad, K.B. Laghari, Ayaz Tunio, and Irfan Bughio were elected. Mir Ahmed Mangrio won from the Jamshoro-Dadu seat with a significant majority, while Fayyaz Ahmed Laghari claimed victory from the Sujawal-Badin constituency.

### Negligence Turns Deadly: Pregnant Woman Dies at Private Hospital in Tando Allahyar



By Afaq Ahmed Khanzada

TANDO ALLAHYAR: A tragic incident occurred at a private hospital on Nasarpur Road, where a pregnant woman, Jamila Solangi, lost her life allegedly due to the negligence of untrained nurses, identified as Bano Khaskheli and Shakeela.

According to reports lodged at the A-Section Police Station, no police officer or district health representative visited the site, while the District Health Office (DHO) staff remained absent, leaving the deceased's family helpless and distressed. Upon receiving the

### Free Medical Camp Brings Lifeline Care to Thatta Village

By Khuda Bux Brohi

THATTA: In a praiseworthy act of community service, the Society for Support to Destitute Persons organized a one-day free medical camp in Muradani village, Taluka Gharabari, district Thatta, offering essential healthcare and support to hundreds of residents.

Patients received free medical consultations from specialist doctors, along with complimentary medicines, clothing for underprivileged women, and lunch for all attendees.

The event drew the participation of several



distinguished guests, including Retired Brigadier Khadim Jatoi, former Secretary Health Dr. Naseem Ghani Sahito, former Director General Information Syed Fazil Shah, Director General Planning & Development Abdul Nabi Memon, and former Chief

### Allama Shahenshah Naqvi Warns of Looming Martial Law, Condolences with SAFWCO Chief's Family

By Sajjan Jani

SHAHADADPUR: Renowned religious scholar and orator Allama Shahenshah Hussain Naqvi visited the residence of Safwco Chief Suleman G. Abro in Shahdadpur to offer condolences on the demise of Suleman Abro's wife and the mother of Sajjad Suleman Abro.

During his visit, Allama Shahenshah Naqvi also participated in a religious gathering held at Babli House, where he delivered a speech highlighting the greatness of the Ahl-e-Bait.

Speaking to the media, he said that the country currently lacks a true democratic government, as decisions are not being made according to public will. He warned that decisions made behind closed doors are pushing Pakistan toward



martial law. Naqvi claimed that a political understanding has already been reached between the PPP and PML-N. He said Pakistan is the fortress of Islam and its ideological defenders are the people, while the Pakistan Army protects the nation's borders. He emphasized that the country's foreign policy should reflect harmony with neighboring countries, as Islam also upholds the rights of neighbors. Expressing solidarity with Allama Sajid Naqvi, he said, "We stand with the oppressed and against oppressors—that is what our faith teaches us." He condemned the judicial killings and target killings in Karachi and interior Sindh, lamenting that the culprits of the Pehlwan Goth incident remain at large, while suspects in another recent case were arrested within 24 hours due to their connections.

### SUP Protest Rocks Nawab Wali Muhammad Over Crime Surge and Police Silence and Apathy

By Yousuf Rind

NAWAB WALI MUHAMMAD: Hundreds of citizens and workers of the Sindh United Party (SUP) held a protest rally in Nawab Wali Muhammad and surrounding areas against the deteriorating law and order situation. The demonstrators raised slogans against the police for their alleged negligence and failure to curb street crimes.

The rally, led by SUP leaders Khameeso Khan Bhund, Shah Nawaz Khaskheli, Bhai Khan Umrani, and Imran Chandio, started from Jailani Cantt and passed through various intersections of the city before reaching the National Highway, where it turned into a large procession. The protesters later gathered in



front of the local press club, where they held a sit-in demonstration.

Speaking to the media, the SUP leaders said that thefts, robberies, and snatching incidents have become a daily routine in Nawab Wali Muhammad and nearby areas. Citizens are being deprived of their motorcycles and cash at gunpoint every day, while the police have completely

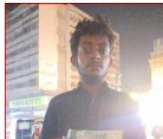
### Missing Student Found Alive in Karachi After Two Years

By Ejaz Ali Jokhio

DAULATPUR: In a major breakthrough, Nawabshah police have successfully recovered Habibullah Pale, a student from Daulatpur Safan, who had been missing for the past two years. According to reports, Habibullah mysteriously disappeared on his way to school two years ago. His father, Sikandar Pale, had lodged an abduction case against unknown persons at the Daulatpur Safan Police Station. Despite continuous protests by family members, civil society, and local political and social organizations, no progress was made for a long time.

Habibullah's mother, Ms. Shabiran, had also filed a petition in the Hyderabad High Court, where the case remained under hearing. The prolonged disappearance had caused unrest in the area.

After extensive efforts, Nawabshah police traced the missing student in Karachi and successfully recovered him, bringing immense relief to his family and community. Further investigation into his disappearance and those involved is currently underway.



### Khalid Qadri Lashes Out at Petrol Hike, Demands Fine Cuts and Road Fixes

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Senior Central Vice President of Pakistan Sunni Tehreek, Muhammad Khalid Qadri, has strongly condemned the government's recent increase in petroleum product prices, terming it "akin to squeezing the blood of the people."

He said that despite a global decline in oil and edible commodity prices, the government has failed to pass on the benefits to citizens, further burdening them

amid soaring inflation and rising utility bills. Qadri urged the government to curb its lavish spending and reduce taxes on petroleum products and essential utilities to provide relief to the public. Criticizing the high fines imposed under Karachi's e-traffic challan system, he called upon the Sindh Chief Minister and Transport Minister to reduce these penalties in line with other major cities, describing them as unjust to already struggling citizens.

### Hundreds Battle for 100 LLM Seats as Sindh University Holds Pre-Entry Test

By Munwar Chandio

JAMSHORO: The University of Sindh, Jamshoro, successfully conducted the Pre-Entry Test for admissions to the LLM (Evening) program for the academic year 2026 at the Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science (IMCS) on Sunday.

A total of 326 candidates, including 71 female aspirants, appeared in the test against 100 available seats, while 105 candidates remained absent.

According to the university spokesperson,



the test began at 10:00 a.m. and concluded smoothly at 11:30 a.m. The Sindh University candidates for their disinterested Centre promptly announced the results within one hour of the test's completion, and the results were made available on the university's official website. University authorities appreciated the candidates for their disciplined participation and reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring a transparent and merit-based admission process.

### Memon Community Unites in Mirpur Bathoro with Dazzling Power Show and Oath-Taking

By Samiullah Memon

DARO: The Memon community of Sujawal district held a grand power show and oath-taking ceremony under the leadership of Arbab Rameez Memon, attended by a large number of participants from Daro, Mirpur Bathoro, Sujawal, Chuhar Jamali, Jati, Jhoke Sharif, Banoon, and Beelo.

Prominent figures including MNA Thatta Sadiq Ali Memon, former MNA Arbab Wazir Memon, and former DG Health Hyderabad Dr. Hafiz-e-Ul-Haq Memon participated in the event.

The ceremony, organized by the Sindh Memon Ittehad Su-



On the occasion, host and Sindh Memon Ittehad Sujawal District President, Arbab Rameez-ud-Din Memon, who is also a PPP Sindh Council member, expressed gratitude to all guests and reaffirmed the community's commitment to unity, progress, and the welfare of Memons across Sindh.



# REGIONAL TIMES

## SPORTS

### Pedro Puts Team Glory First After Ending His Goal Drought

Chelsea striker Joao Pedro expressed satisfaction and relief after ending his goal drought, emphasising that team success is his first priority after netting the winner against Tottenham Hotspur in Saturday's 1-0 Premier League win.

In the 34th minute, Chelsea seized the lead when Moises Caicedo stole the ball from Micky van de Ven on the edge of the Spurs penalty box.

The aggressive Ecuadorian then squared for Pedro, who made no mistake from eight meters out.

Spurs goalie Guglielmo Vicario denied Pedro Neto and Alejandro Garnacho, and the 24-year-old Brazilian had three chances to increase his goal total but was denied.

Reflecting on their victory, Pedro explained that scoring this goal was important for him because he had not found the net in a while, and the team relies on him to contribute offensively, emphasising that winning matches is



more important than individual statistics. "I needed this goal because it had been a long time I didn't score, and the team expect that from me," Joao Pedro said.

"I always want to help the team with goals and assists, but first I need to play well. If I play well, the goals are going to come. The important thing is just to win games, and I am very chill about the goals."

Pedro added that, as a forward, it is natural to feel frustrated if you do not take shots or score goals.—Agency

### KGS Dominates Again as Record-Breaking Waves Hit Sindh Women's Swimming Championship



KARACHI. Karachi Grammar School once again regained supreme at the 31st Sindh Women's Swimming Championship, holding onto its title as teammates and families roared from the stands. The two-day event saw an unprecedented 377 swimmers from nearly 20 Karachi institutions — a

record turnout compared to previous years' 250 or fewer. However, organizers dropped grueling races like the 800m freestyle and 400m IM due to low participation. Despite such tweaks, the spirit of sportsmanship and sisterhood among the competitors grew stronger than ever.—RT

### John Cena Launches Epic 16-Man Tournament to Decide His Final Challenger



BOSTON: WWE legend John Cena has announced that a 16-man tournament will decide his final in-ring opponent, marking the beginning of the end for one of the most iconic careers in professional wrestling.

The announcement was made during a video segment aired on Saturday Night's Main Event, where Cena revealed that the tournament will kick off in his hometown of Boston on Raw, scheduled for Monday, November 10.

Emphasising the importance of merit and determination, Cena made it clear that his final rival must earn the spot rather than be hand-picked. "On my last day, I want to face whoever is willing

to step up and seize the same kind of opportunity I was given on my first day," Cena stated.

The 16-man competition will culminate at Saturday Night's Main Event in Washington, D.C., where the winner will officially earn the right to face Cena in his farewell match.

"My final opponent isn't going to be hand-picked," he reiterated. "It's going to be hard-earned."

The 2025 season has been a memorable one for Cena. Earlier this year, he captured his record-breaking 17th World Championship, the most in WWE history, and secured his 100th Premium Live Event (PLE) victory with a win over AJ Styles at Crown Jewel 2025.—Agency

### History Made in Mumbai: India Crush South Africa to Lift First-Ever Women's World Cup Title

India etched their name in cricketing history on Sunday, defeating South Africa by 52 runs in a thrilling final at Mumbai's DY Patil Stadium to claim their first-ever ICC Women's World Cup title. The victory marked a monumental moment for Indian women's cricket — a culmination of years of determination, grit, and passion.

Batting first, India set a formidable total of 298 runs, powered by brilliant performances from Shafali Verma (87 off 78 balls) and Deepti Sharma (58 off 58). Openers Smriti Mandhana and Shafali gave India a flying start, stitching together a 104-run stand that silenced the South African bowlers early on. Mandhana's fluent 45, laced with eight boundaries, set the tone before she fell to Chloe Tryon.



Verma continued to dominate, striking seven fours and two sixes in a classy innings that anchored India's top order. Jemimah Rodrigues provided steady support with 24, while skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (20) and Deepti Sharma took charge in the middle overs, pushing India past the 200-run mark. Deepti's composed half-century, her 18th in ODIs, came at a crucial juncture, while Richa Ghosh's quickfire 34

off 24 balls added late momentum. India ended their innings at 298 all out, setting South Africa a challenging target of 299.

In reply, South Africa began strongly as Laura Wolvaardt and Tazmin Brits built a steady 51-run opening partnership, briefly putting India on the defensive. However, a sharp run-out of Brits for 23 turned the tide. Shree Charani then struck to remove Anneke Bosch for a

duck, and from there, the Indian bowlers seized control.

Wolvaardt fought valiantly, crafting a magnificent century (101 off 98 balls) featuring 11 boundaries and a six. But regular wickets at the other end derailed South Africa's chase. Deepti Sharma delivered a masterclass in bowling, claiming a stunning five-wicket haul (5/39), while Shafali Verma chipped in with two crucial breakthroughs.

Despite a late 61-run stand between Wolvaardt and Annerie Dercksen (35), South Africa were eventually bowled out for 246 in 45.3 overs, falling 52 runs short.

As the final wicket fell, celebrations erupted across Mumbai and beyond.—Agency

### Kane Williamson Bids Farewell to T20Is, Marks End of an Era for New Zealand

Former New Zealand captain Kane Williamson announced his retirement from Twenty20 internationals on Sunday, but he will play for the Black Caps in the Test series against West Indies.

The 35-year-old batsman has played 93 T20Is for his country since making his debut against Zimbabwe in 2011, captaining the side on 75 occasions and leading them to the World Cup final in 2021 and semi-finals in 2016 and 2022.

"It's something that I've loved being a part of for a long period of time and I'm so grateful for the memories and experiences," he said.

"It's the right time for me and the team. It gives



the team clarity for the series moving forward and ahead of their next major focus, which is the T20 World Cup.

"There's so much T20 talent there and the next period will be important to get cricket into these guys and get them ready for the World Cup." He scored 2,575 runs in 18 half-centuries, including his 85 in a losing cause in the T20 World Cup final against Australia in 2021.

New Zealand cricket said Williamson, who no longer has a central contract, was open-minded about his future in one-day internationals and would definitely play in the three-test series against West Indies in December.

"Kane's performances as a player and his service as captain of the T20 side have been nothing short of immense," said NZ Cricket chief executive Scott Weenink.

"His runs in all conditions around the world reflect the world-class batsman that he is and are equally matched by the influence of his leadership on and off the field."

"With Kane committed to play the West Indies test series in December, I'd encourage all Kiwis to take the opportunity to get out and witness one of our greatest ever cricketers play."—Agency

### Jannik Sinner Blazes Past Zverev to Storm Into Paris Masters Final

PARIS: Jannik Sinner kept his hopes alive of reclaiming the world No.1 ranking with a commanding 6-0, 6-1 win over Germany's third seed Alexander Zverev on Saturday, advancing to the final of the Paris Masters.

The Italian, seeded second, produced a flawless performance on Centre Court, dismantling Zverev in just over an hour to book his first-ever Paris Masters final appearance.

Sinner will face Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime in Sunday's championship clash.

The four-time major champion came out firing, sweeping through the first set in just 30 minutes with 11



winners, while a weary Zverev managed only one.

The German appeared to be struggling physically after his grueling three-set quarter-final battle against Daniil Medvedev.

Zverev finally held serve in the opening game of the second set, but Sinner's relentless pressure proved too

much. The Italian wrapped up the match in 65 minutes, extending his remarkable indoor hard-court winning streak to 25 matches.

Reflecting on the victory, Sinner expressed satisfaction at reaching the final but acknowledged Zverev's fitness issues. "Obviously, I'm happy to be in the final. But it's not how you want to arrive. Playing against Sascha (Zverev) is always special. Today he was not 100%. We saw that — he was struggling physically," Sinner said.

The win gives Sinner a narrow 5-4 lead in their head-to-head record.

It also marks his third consecutive victory over Zverev this season, following triumphs in the Australian Open final in January and the Vienna Open final last week.—Agency

### AJ Lee Breaks Silence on CM Punk's Seventh WWE Championship Win



SALT LAKE: AJ Lee reacted to CM Punk defeating Jey Uso in Saturday Night's Main Event here at the Delta Centre to become the WWE World Champion for the seventh time.

Punk became the Number 1 Contender for the World Heavyweight Championship by winning the Fatal 4-Way match a few weeks ago on RAW, and Uso won a Battle Royal to be eligible for a shot at the vacant title.

The contest between Uso and Punk was necessitated after Seth Rollins injured himself and had to give up his title.

Uso and CM Punk both were one-time World Heavyweight Champions before this match and were up for the title to win it for the second time.

During the showdown, both stars tried their best, hitting each other with their own moves.

At the end of the match, the Best in the World tried a GTS on Jey. Due to this, Uso was pushed to the ropes and collapsed straight on the shoulders of the Punk, who repeated his GTS move and finished the contest to become the champion.

The finish was similar to how Punk defeated Rollins in the main event of the RAW debut on Netflix episode.

After Punk's victory, his wife, AJ Lee, reacted to his title win, taking it to Instagram and posting a story, saying she and Larry were proud of him. "proud mama and Larry @cmpunk," wrote Lee.—Agency

### Damon Hill Uncovers What's Really Behind Oscar Piastrì's Dip in Form

Former Formula One driver Damon Hill has shared his thoughts on McLaren's Oscar Piastrì's decline in form.

Piastrì has not been in good form in the recent few races; he has never won a race since the Dutch Grand Prix, finishing P3, P4 once and P5 twice. He has suffered a lot

since getting DNF in Azerbaijan, and his rivals have caught him in the meantime.

Piastrì's teammate, Lando Norris, won a race, finished in position 2 twice, and P3 and P7 once. While Max Verstappen of Red Bull secured three races on P1, the best of the two on P2 and P3.—Agency

### Pakistani Runners Conquer Two Continents at the Istanbul Marathon



Pakistani runners displayed remarkable grit and endurance at the Istanbul Marathon on Sunday — the world's only marathon that spans two continents. Twelve Pakistani athletes successfully completed the 42.195-kilometre race, cheered on by spectators as they crossed the iconic Bosphorus Bridge from Asia to Europe.

Mubarez Bin Rafay led the pack, finishing in 3 hours, 21 minutes, and 30 seconds, followed by Mujtaba Ahsan and Ismail Khan. Among the women, Sahar Ali Janjua topped with 4 hours, 22 minutes, ahead of Hina Malik. Geo News' Faizan Lakhani proudly completed his first marathon in 5 hours, 13 minutes.—RT

# REGIONAL TIMES

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Keira Knightley Opens Up on Why She Feels Truly Fortunate



Keira Knightley feels "fortunate" to have survived her early experiences of fame.

The 40-year-old actress has enjoyed a very successful career in the film industry, having starred in Bend It Like Beckham back in 2002 — but Keira acknowledges that her life and her career could've easily gone in another direction.

Speaking to The Independent, Keira explained: "The adult me is very aware that people can go through very difficult periods in their life, and they do not come out of it with a very successful career and a very healthy bank balance. I feel incredibly fortunate."

The Pride and Prejudice star also acknowledged that she's now achieved a level of respect from the public that didn't exist during her teenage years.

"I think being a 40-year-old woman, people have a different response to you than when you're 18. That's just the way the world is," she said.

Keira added, "When you're 18, you haven't got much work, you're all image. When you have a career that's 25 years long, and you've got enough stuff to be like, 'Well, that's a body of work; some worked, some didn't' — people can look, and go, 'That's a career.'"

### Kourtney Kardashian's Breaking Point — Why She Can't Stand Scott Disick



Kourtney Kardashian is reportedly done putting up with Scott Disick's antics.

As per the latest report by US Weekly, the Kardashians star has "lost respect" for her ex, 42, "a long time ago" particularly over his flirtations with her sisters.

Kourtney, 46, "finds me annoying as hell that he's still featured on the show and hanging round the family like a bad smell," a source revealed. According to the insider, Scott's constant flirtations with Kim and

Khloé Kardashian "really creep her out," and Kourtney "doesn't understand why they tolerate it."

The Poosh founder reportedly feels that Scott already has an "upper hand" in her life due to their co-parenting dynamic.

"If Kourtney had her way, Scott would be out of the picture entirely," said the source.

Kourtney dated Disick on and off from 2006 until 2015. They share three children, Mason, 15, Penelope, 13, and Reign, 10.

### Kate Hudson Looks Back on 30 Glittering Years in Hollywood



Kate Hudson is looking back on almost three decades in Hollywood.

The actress, 46, was at the world premiere of her new film Song Sung Blue during AFI Fest in Los Angeles on October 26, during which she caught up with the press about what she considers the greatest reward in her career.

"I think the first thing that comes to mind is the people that I've met, the connections. They always feel like my biggest gifts," Hudson said. "I feel so lucky to be like everything I've surrounded by people who are endlessly fascinating, intelligent, and wild. People who live, or at least strive to live, outside the norm."

Hudson, who made her film debut in 1998's Desert

Blue before rising to fame in Almost Famous, stars opposite Hugh Jackman in Song Sung Blue, a biopic inspired by the 2008 documentary of the same name.

Hudson added that the project allowed her to bring together everything she's learned across her career.

"All I ever wanted to do was musicals," she said. "This isn't exactly that, but it feels like everything I've studied and worked toward came together in one film and that doesn't happen very often." Song Sung Blue hits theaters nationwide on December 25.

### Kids' Corner



**Name: Muhammad Ahsan**  
**Location: Larkana**  
**About me: I love my Madina Pak!**

Please email us your photo for our Model Watch and Kids' Corner section at regionaltimes10@gmail.com



REGIONAL TIMES

# THE HEARTLAND



## Ghulam Murtaza Jatoi Seeks Justice for Moro Tragedy Victims, Consoles Grieving Family

By Akhtar Laghari

MORO: National Peoples Party (NPP) Chairman, GDA Central Leader, and former Federal Minister Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi, along with former Provincial Minister Masroor Ahmed Khan Jatoi, visited village Laghari Barani near Moro to offer condolences to the families of Moro tragedy victims, Irfan Laghari and Zahid Laghari.

They met the victims' brothers, Darshan Laghari and Manzoor Laghari, expressed deep sympathy, and offered prayers for the departed souls.

Speaking to the media, Ghulam Murtaza Khan Jatoi



strongly condemned the incident, stating that Irfan and Zahid Laghari were unjustly killed by police and private individuals during a peaceful protest over water issues. He alleged that afterward, miscreants deliberately set the Lanjhar House on fire and falsely implicated the Jatoi and Laghari

communities in the case. Jatoi claimed that the fire was caused by a chemical substance similar to that used during the tragic assassination of Benazir Bhutto, suggesting a deliberate conspiracy to malign the protesters and cover up the real perpetrators behind the Moro tragedy.

## Blind Elderly Couple in Mehar Threatens Self-Immolation After BISP Removal

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: A blind elderly man, Rasool Bux Khoso, along with his wife Mst. Amiran Khoso, staged a protest outside the Mehar Press Club against the removal of their name from the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). The couple, residents of village Rahim Ali Khoso, warned that they would set themselves on fire if their names were not reinstated in the program.

Speaking to reporters, Ra-



sool Bux Khoso said that he is blind and has five children, surviving only on charity and alms. "We are among the deserving poor — Zakat and aid are our right," he said. He

added that he and his late father had been loyal supporters of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), yet despite their devotion, their family has been wronged.

## Sakrand Cultural Festival Rekindles Sindh's Soul Through Folk Music and Dance

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: To preserve Sindh's ancient culture of sughar's kacheri (folk assemblies) and promote healthy community activities, the Indus Public Social Forum organized a cultural evening at Latif Park, hosted by Majeed Abbasi. The event was attended by poets, artists, and social figures who shared traditional verses, riddles, and folk poetry. Performances by folk singers and musicians added vibrancy to the gathering.



ing Artists including Ustad Manthar Ali Bughio, Muhammad Qasim Dahri, Ghulam Muhammad Sanjrani, and others showcased their talent. Forum leaders

Muhammad Bachal Kerio, Shoukat Ali Kerio, and others pledged to continue organizing such cultural events to keep Sindh's heritage alive.

## Villagers Clash with Feudal Group Over Land Grab Near Mehar

By Murtaza Panhwar

MEHAR: Residents of village Kothi Sodari near Mehar staged a protest outside the Mehar Press Club against an alleged land grab attempt and assault by an influential group. The protest, led by Amir Ahmed Sodhar, Zulfiqar Ali Sodhar, and Ali Akbar Sodhar, was held to condemn the at-

tack and false cases registered against them. According to villagers Amir Ahmed and Zulfiqar Sodhar, their agricultural land in Deh Dhakani, Survey No. 238, measuring 2 acres and 11 guntas, is legally owned by them and was sold to Ali Akbar Sodhar. They said that while conducting the land measurement in the presence of Tapidars Manzoor

Bhutto and Mahmood Memon, five armed men — including Naban Sodhar and Aamir Sodhar — attacked them, beat them severely, and forced them off their land. The protesters appealed to the Deputy Commissioner and SSP Dadu to take immediate action against the accused and ensure protection of their lawful property.

## Pir Zakri Shrine Honors Thalassemia Team for Saving Lives

By Zeeshan Soomro

SAKRAND: The custodian of Dargah Pir Zakri, Syed Muhammad Munir Shah, presented Appreciation Awards to Dr. Muhammad Saadig Sial (General Secretary), Ghulam Nabi Channa (Joint Secretary), and Qazi Javed Sanai (Information Secretary) of the Thalassemia Patients Welfare Association for their 20 years of selfless service to thalassemia children.

Speaking at the ceremony, Syed Munir Shah said that only a few individuals in today's society



dedicate themselves to humanitarian causes without greed or personal gain, and such efforts deserve recognition. He noted that the association's representatives have maintained close collabora-

tion with the Dargah for the past 15 years, organizing annual blood donation camps during the Urs celebrations. The Dargah management honored them for their continued humanitarian contribution.

## New MoU Aims to Empower Citizens with Legal Knowledge and Justice Access

By Sajjad Chang

HINGORJA: A landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Life Changing Foundation (LCF) and the Pakistan Legal United Society (PLUS) to advance empowerment, inclusion, and access to justice for all citizens. Under the agreement, PLUS will provide legal guidance, representation, and assis-



tance to LCF in all relevant legal matters. The collaboration aims to raise awareness about social justice, protect human

rights, and extend legal access to marginalized communities, serving as a symbol of hope for those deprived of justice.

## Qasimabad Choked by Garbage and Sewage as Civic Woes Mount



By Javed Samejo

HYDERABAD — Despite repeated complaints, heaps of garbage and mud continue to pile up along the Qasimabad-Wadhwa road, causing severe inconvenience to commuters and residents.

Social activist Comrade Shahid Soomro criticized the inaction of Sindh Solid

Waste Management Board and WASA officials, saying that since the monsoon season, no cleanup operation has been conducted. He added that stagnant sewage water near Hilal-e-Ahmer Park and other areas poses health hazards, urging the MDs of the Solid Waste Management Board and WASA to immediately ensure proper sanitation and drainage.

## Malaria and Dengue Spiral Out of Control in Badin

By Raja Zafar Iqbal

BADIN: Malaria and dengue fever have reached alarming levels in District Badin due to the negligence of the Health Department, District Council, and Municipal Committee.

Political and social activist Advocate Zeeshan Anees Junejo criticized of-

ficials for failing to conduct anti-mosquito spray campaigns despite receiving millions in budget allocations.

He said hundreds of people are being admitted to hospitals daily due to mosquito bites, while the authorities' corruption and incompetence are worsening the public health crisis.

## Phulji Crime Wave Erupts After New SHO's Posting

By Abdullah Khan Shahani

PHULJI STATION: Following the appointment of Sanwan Kalhoro as SHO, criminal incidents have sharply increased, spreading fear among residents.

Last night, unknown robbers broke into the locked house of the General Secretary of Phulji Press Club but fled after neighbors raised alarms.

Local citizens, including Advocate Sikandar Ali Panhwar and Mansoor Panhwar, said that since the new SHO



took charge, criminal and drug-related activities have escalated, demanding immediate action from the SSP Dadu.

## Hyderabad Mayor Ramps Up Citywide Anti-Dengue Offensive



By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: Mayor Kashif Ali Shoro has intensified the ongoing anti-dengue fumigation campaign across all nine Town Municipal Corporations of Hyderabad.

New fumigation machines have been procured, and additional staff from var-

ious departments have been assigned to strengthen the Malaria Department's operations.

Monitoring teams have been formed in each town, including City, Latifabad, Qasimabad, and Rural, to ensure effective implementation of the drive and protect citizens from dengue.

## Sindh Abadgar Board Pushes for Stronger Agricultural Research Drive



By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD — The Sindh Abadgar Board has called for stronger research and development in the agricultural sector, citing the example of declining onion yields due to lack of innovation and dis-

ease management.

Growers said that despite Pakistan's export potential, poor R&D has forced the country to import onions. They stressed that agriculture requires continuous research to improve yields, control pests, and boost productivity.

## Thul Student Shines with Top Score in MDCAT

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: Thul student Mujtaba Khoso achieved 5th position in Sindh, 2nd in Larkana Division, and 1st in District Jacobabad in the recent MDCAT test with 172 marks. A student

of New Beacon Public School and College, Mujtaba credited his success to his teachers and parents. Administrator Shafiq Noonani congratulated him and announced a special event at the school to honor his achievement.

## Sharjeel Memon Visits Ghotki — Offers Condolences to Mahar Family Over Tragic Loss



GHOTKI: Sindh Senior Minister and Minister for Information, Transport, and Mass Transit Sharjeel Inam Memon visited Khan Garh, Ghotki, to offer condolences to MNA Sardar Ali Gohar Khan Mahar and Sardar Ali Nawaz Khan Mahar on the passing of their mother, and to Provincial Minister Chief

Sardar Muhammad Bux Khan Mahar on the death of his aunt. Memon prayed for the departed souls' forgive-

ness and eternal peace. He was accompanied by MNAs Qasim Naveed Ejaz Jakhani and Asad Alam Qamar, and other PPP leaders. —RT

## One Dead, Two Injured in Thul Highway Tragedy

By Khair Muhammad Golo

THUL: One person was killed and two others injured when a bulldozer, rickshaw, and motorcycle

collided near Noonari Lari on College Road. The deceased, Said Noonari, succumbed to his injuries after being shifted to Sukkur Hospi-

tal, while Yusuf Buriro and Farooq Buriro were treated at Thul Taluka Hospital. The tragic news sparked mourning in the community.

## Police Launch Sweeping Operation Against Drugs and Gutka in Umerkot

By Muhammad Bachal

UMERKOT: On the directives of SSP Umerkot Uzair Ahmed (PSP), police launched effective operations across the district against narcotics and gutka/menpuri. Umerkot City Police recovered 35 packets (3,850 puris) of "Safina" brand gutka, while Kunri Police arrested Raja Lohano with 4 packets (440 puris) of "Royal King Gutka" and



cash. Police also apprehended two suspects involved in kidnapping

cases. All accused have been booked and investigations are underway.

## Free Press is Democracy's Shield, Says PPP's Kazi Ashaad Abbasi

By Muqem Keerio

HYDERABAD: PPP leader and Opposition Leader in Hyderabad Cantonment Board Kazi Ashaad Abbasi, in his message on the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists, said that a free



and safe press is essential for democracy. He condemned the rising violence and impunity against journalists, stressing that denying justice to victims undermines democracy and public trust. He urged the government to ensure journalists' safety and hold perpetrators accountable.

## Land Feud Turns Ugly in Kakar as Retired Cop Seeks Justice

By Z.A. Baber

KAKAR: A serious family dispute has broken out in Kakar, where younger brothers have allegedly turned against their elder sibling over a demand for a share in ancestral land. The feud has caused deep divisions within the Brahamani family, once bound by blood ties.

Retired police Jamadar Gullan Brahamani, accompanied by his wife Sakina and son Ghulam Nabi Brahamani, reached the Press Club carrying the Holy Quran, to protest against his younger brothers — Ghulam Hussain,



Khameeso, Ghulam Qadir, Mian Bux, Alhindo, and Ghulam Rasool Brahamani — whom he accused of committing serious injustices.

Speaking to the media, Gullan Brahamani said that he is a retired police officer and a resident of village Alhindo

located within the jurisdiction of Pith Gul Muhammad police station. He stated that his family owns 200 acres of registered and unregistered land in the Sindh and Kachhi areas, which they had long cultivated jointly as co-owners.

REGIONAL TIMES

## NATIONAL

## Twisted Plot Unraveled: Woman, Lover Held for Killing Husband in Lahore

LAHORE: Lahore police solved the murder of a man named Asif, uncovering a chilling plot by his wife Qaisra and her lover Rizwan Shah, an employee at Asif's factory. Investigators revealed that Rizwan killed Asif inside the factory before dumping his body into a canal near Patoki, disguising it on a motorcycle. Shockingly,



Qaisra had filed a missing report on October 23 to cover her crime, allegedly planning to marry Rizwan

after the murder. Both suspects are now in custody as police complete their probe. —RT

## GLOBAL

## Coffins in the Classroom: South Korea's Students Train for a Future in the Business of Death

NORTH KOREA: In Busan, South Korea, university classrooms lined with coffins are preparing students for careers in a booming funeral industry. With one of the world's lowest birth rates and nearly half the population over 50, the nation's "silver wave" is fueling de-



mand for funeral professionals. At the Busan Institute of Science and Technology, students practice wrapping mannequins in traditional funeral cloths, treating them with reverence. "Our ageing society means this work will only grow," said 27-year-old trainee Jang Jin-yong, as others called it a deeply meaningful calling. —RT



# METRO KARACHI

## Murad Hails Karachi as the Beating Heart of Global Culture

By Rahib Gaho

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah inaugurated the 2nd World Culture Festival at the Arts Council of Pakistan, declaring Karachi "the vibrant soul of Pakistan." The grand opening dazzled with dignitaries, artists, and guests from around the world, celebrating the city's creative pulse.

Murad Shah praised Arts Council President Ahmed Shah for turning a dream into a global platform, noting its



growth from 44 to 142 countries and over 1,000 artists this year. "Art unites, heals, and transcends borders," he said, hailing Karachi as a city "where the world feels at home."

The week-long festival showcases Sufi music, the-

atre, films, and visual arts, spotlighting Sindh's heritage and Pakistan's cultural resilience. Performances by artists from Pakistan, Belgium, Syria, Nepal, and France set the stage for a spectacular global celebration of humanity through art.

## Protest Erupts in Malir Over Forced Disappearances, Sit-In Planned at Press Club

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: The Jeay Sindh Awami Mahaz (JSAM) - Shaheed Bashir Qureshi Group, Malir District, held a protest rally from Razaqabad National Highway to the Malir Press Club against the forced disappearances of nationalist workers and the registration of false cases against student leaders Ghani Aman Chandio and Samad Mirani.

A large number of nationalist workers and students



joined the rally, which later turned into a sit-in at the Press Club. The protest was led by JSAM Malir District President Wahab Gabol, along with Azhar Chaudhry, SUP leader Shiraz Solangi, Malir Struggle Committee leader Iqbal Kalmati, Waheed Johkio, Saeed Solangi, and Zohaib.

Speakers condemned the ongoing abductions and fabricated cases against Sindh's youth, demanding the immediate release of missing persons and the withdrawal of false charges. They warned that protests would intensify across Sindh if such injustices continued.

## Dengue Crisis Engulfs Karachi as PMA Sounds the Alarm

KARACHI: Pakistan Medical Association representative Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Shero has warned that Karachi's dengue situation is "alarming," with every third patient at clinics testing positive. He attributed complications to self-medication and dehy-



dration. Painkillers, he

added, can worsen platelet loss and bleeding risks. The Sindh Health Department confirmed three more dengue deaths on Saturday, bringing the official toll to six this year. Karachi and Hyderabad remain the worst affected districts.—RT/Agency

## Court-Ordered Wildlife Committee Inspects Karachi Zoo Amid Public Outcry

KARACHI: A wildlife committee led by Chief Conservator Javed Mahar visited Karachi Zoo following court directives. According to the KMC spokesperson, the committee assessed the physical and mental health, diet, and cleanliness conditions of all



animals, including bear

Rano. The administration highlighted improvements in veterinary care and sanitation. The committee submitted recommendations for further welfare enhancements, and a detailed report will be presented to the Sindh High Court.—RT/Agency

## SIU and CIA Nab Three Lyari Gangsters in North Karachi Crackdown

KARACHI: The Special Investigation Unit and CIA police arrested three key members of the Lyari-based Shakeel Badshah gang, SSP Amjad Ahmed Sheikh said the suspects — Tanveer, Shakeel, and Waqas — extorted property

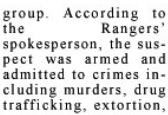


buyers and sellers by

posing as agents and threatening them through foreign numbers. They received up to Rs. 200,000 per target, with payments made via mobile accounts. Police recovered 9mm pistols and ammunition from their possession.—RT/Agency

## Rangers Capture Infamous Lyari Gangster Tamba Ali After Stealth Operation

KARACHI: Rangers group. According to arrested a most-wanted the Rangers' extortionist and gang spokesperson, the suspect was armed and



admitted to crimes in-

cluding murders, drug trafficking, extortion, and abductions. Ismail had joined the Lyari gang war in 2008 and has over 50 robberies and 11 murder cases registered against him.—RT/Agency

## Tragic Crash Near Teen Hatti Shrine Leaves One Dead, Another Injured

KARACHI: A tragic road accident near Teen Hatti Shrine claimed one life and left another injured when a mini-truck ran over two motorcycle riders. According to SHO Jamshed Quarters, the accident occurred when the truck, loaded with goods, lost control and hit the motorbike. The deceased and injured were shifted to a nearby hos-

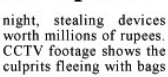


pital. Police arrested the driver, identified as Ghori Khan, and seized the mini-truck for investigation. SHO

said that a detailed inquiry has been initiated to determine the cause of the accident, including potential negligence or overspeeding. The incident sparked outrage among local residents, who demanded stricter traffic enforcement and better road safety measures in the area to prevent similar mishaps in the future.—RT/Agency

## Armed Robbers Loot Phones Worth Millions from Upscale DHA Store

KARACHI: In Defence Phase 5's Khadda Market, a group of armed robbers broke into a mobile phone shop late at

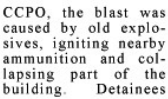


night, stealing devices

full of mobile phones. Police have initiated an investigation into the incident.—RT/Agency

## CTD Warehouse Blast Claims Policeman's Life, Investigation Underway

KARACHI: An explosion in the CTD police station's armoury on University Road killed one officer and injured two. According to the



Detainees

CCPO, the blast was caused by old explosives, igniting nearby ammunition and collapsing part of the building. Detainees were safely shifted to CTD headquarters, and clearance operations are ongoing. Authorities ruled out terrorism.—RT/Agency

## Hafiz Naeem Unveils Karachi's First Open Wi-Fi Zone at Haideri Market

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Karachi Ameer Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman inaugurated the city's first open Wi-Fi network at Haideri Market along with a newly constructed road stretching from Haideri Market to Safi College in North Nazimabad Town. Speaking at the inauguration, Hafiz Naeem said that providing digital connectivity and improved infrastructure reflects JI's vision for a modern and accessible Karachi. He emphasized that technology-driven initiatives and upgraded roads are vital for boosting business and



easing public movement. Local traders and residents appreciated the initiative, saying it would greatly benefit students and small business owners in the area. JI representatives assured that similar Wi-Fi facilities and infrastructure projects would.—RT/Agency

## Human Trafficking Ring Forcing Women Into Sex Trade Busted in Karachi

By Dildar Sailro

KARACHI: Shah Latif Town Police have arrested a five-member gang accused of luring women into prostitution under the false promise of employment and financial help.

According to SHO Muntaz Marwat, the arrested suspects include Urooj, Abdul Sattar, Irfan, Kaneez, and Muskan — with Urooj identified as the ringleader. Initial investigations revealed that Urooj was previously involved in similar illicit activities and had been running a well-organized network.



Police said the group targeted economically vulnerable women, trapping them with promises of jobs and financial support before forcing them into immoral acts. Investigations further disclosed that one of the women who went missing from Nawabshah eight years ago had also fallen prey to this gang.

## FIA Officer Killed in Malir Cantonment Crash; Dumper Driver in Custody

By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: A tragic accident occurred near Check Post No. 60 in Malir Cantonment when a speeding dumper collided with a motorcycle, killing the rider on the spot. The deceased, identified as 35-year-old ASI Mohammad Ayub of the FIA, was in

uniform at the time of the accident.

Police and rescue teams reached the scene immediately, and the body was shifted to Jinnah Hospital by ambulance. According to police officials, the dumper driver has been taken into custody, and further investigation into the incident is underway.

## Sindh-Friendly Lawyers Dominated Bar Elections, Says Advocate Kausar Sher



By Fida Hussain Panhwar

KARACHI: Senior lawyer Advocate Kausar Sher has congratulated the Sindh-friendly lawyers on their majority victory in the Sindh Bar Council elections, expressing hope that the successful candidates will continue to raise their voices for the rights and issues of Sindh as they have always done.

Speaking to journalists at the District East Press Club, Advocate Kausar Sher said that the victory of pro-Sindh

candidates reflects the growing political and social awareness among the people of Sindh.

He added that people from all walks of life — whether lawyers or ordinary citizens — now stand with those who support Sindh, its land, and its oppressed people. This awareness, he said, is a testament to the collective consciousness of Sindh's society, which continues to strengthen through unity and resilience.

## Hafiz Naeem Accuses PPP of Chronic Neglect Toward Karachi



KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami leader Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman accused the PPP of deceiving Karachi's people for 15 years. He said citizens are burdened by excessive e-challan fines and deteriorating infrastructure. "Bring-

ing 400 buses is a joke; Karachi's roads are broken, and people are robbed in the name of e-challans," he said. He urged town chairmen to improve schools and dispensaries, calling education a fundamental right, not charity.—RT/Agency

## CM Sindh Warns: Attacks on Journalists Are Blows to Society's Conscience

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah said that attacks on journalists are an assault on society's conscience, emphasizing that no society can be complete without press freedom. In his message marking the In-

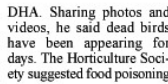


ternational Day to End

Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists, he called for a safe environment for media professionals. Shah assured that those behind attacks on journalists will face justice and urged a strategy to curb online harassment.—RT

## Bilal Maqsood Raises Concern Over Mysterious Bird Deaths in DHA Park

KARACHI: Singer Bilal Maqsood expressed concern after discovering 50-60 dead crows and two eagles in Major Khalid Shaheed Park,

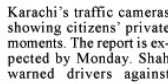


etly suggested food poisoning

from garbage, while the Sindh Wildlife Department inspected the site but found no conclusive evidence.—RT/Agency

## Leak Scandal: Probe Ordered Into Karachi Traffic Camera Breach

KARACHI: DIG Traffic Peer Muhammad Shah said an inquiry is underway into viral photos allegedly taken from

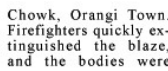


showing citizens' private

Karachi's traffic cameras showing citizens' private vehicles will be blacklisted, and FIRs registered immediately.—RT/Agency

## Two Women Perish in Devastating Orangi Town House Fire

KARACHI: Two women were burnt to death after a house caught fire near Shah Faisal Chowk, Orangi Town.



Firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze, and the bodies were

moved to Abbasi Shaheed Hospital. Police are investigating the cause of the fire.—RT/Agency

## Flyadeal Expands Skyward: Saudi Budget Airline Touches Down in Lahore, Adds Five Pakistani Cities

KARACHI: Saudi Arabia's fast-growing low-cost carrier flyadeal launched flights to Lahore, marking its fifth destination in Pakistan. The inaugural flight from Riyadh received a water cannon salute and a lively welcome ceremony at Allama Iqbal International Airport. With 18 weekly flights now connecting Karachi, Islam-



Greenway hailed the mile-

stone as a "remarkable achievement," while officials vowed continued growth, offering affordable travel for business, workers, and expatriates.—RT

## Special Children Win Global Glory as Abdul Haseeb Pledges Lifelong Advocacy

KARACHI: KVTC Chairman Senator Abdul Haseeb Khan pledged lifelong dedication to empowering special children, urging federal and provincial governments to remove hurdles faced by welfare institutions. Praising Sindh CM Murad Ali Shah's sup-

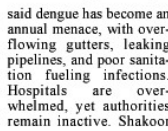


ported, he celebrated KVTC

students who won six gold and two silver medals at the Open World Budo Martial Arts Cup in Azerbaijan. He said KVTC has become a global brand of excellence and called for swift completion of its new Surjani Town center to expand opportunities for special children.—RT

## Karachi Dengue Outbreak Spirals Out of Control; Altaf Shakoor Demands Emergency Response

KARACHI: Pasban Democratic Party (PDP) Chairman Altaf Shakoor has sounded the alarm over Karachi's rapidly spreading dengue outbreak, urging the government to launch emergency measures. He

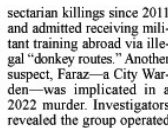


demanded special dengue

wards, free tests and treatment, fumigation drives, and urgent garbage clearance, warning that thousands are infected and lives are at grave risk across the megacity.—RT/Agency

## Terror Network Unmasked: Karachi's 'Sar Group' Linked to Sectarian Killing Plot

KARACHI: Law enforcement agencies arrested four suspected terrorists from the Sar Group in Karachi, unveiling a chilling terror network linked to the banned Zainebiyoun Brigade. Suspect Iqbal Zaidi confessed to



sectarian killings since 2011

and admitted receiving militant training abroad via illegal "donkey routes." Another suspect, Faraz—a City Warder—was implicated in a 2022 murder. Investigators revealed the group operated under a foreign handler, using supplied bikes and weapons for assassinations. Funds were reportedly funneled to free detained members. Two more Zainebiyoun-linked killers were arrested on Oct 23 by CTD.—RT

## Gold Skyrockets Again as 24K Hits Rs 423,500 Per Tola Across Pakistan

KARACHI: Gold prices in Pakistan continued their upward surge as 24-karat gold reached Rs. 423,500 per tola, while 22-karat stood at Rs. 388,206, 21-karat at Rs. 370,563, and 18-karat at Rs. 317,625. For smaller quantities, 10 grams of



24K gold cost Rs.

363,090, and 1 gram is priced at Rs. 36,309. Per ounce, gold now trades at Rs. 1,129,340. Rates are verified from the Pakistan Sarafa Market and updated live on GOLD.pk, offering latest trends for all major cities.—Agency



It always seems impossible until it's done."

—Nelson Mandela

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## Dar Heads to Istanbul for Urgent Arab-Islamic Ceasefire Talks

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar will undertake a one-day visit to Istanbul tomorrow to attend the Coordination Meeting of Arab-Islamic Foreign Ministers, the Foreign Office said on Sunday.

The meeting, hosted by Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, will discuss the implementation of the Gaza Peace Agreement and regional efforts to consolidate the ceasefire, read the statement.

According to the statement, Pakistan — which has remained engaged with the Arab-Islamic peace initiative



that led to the signing of the Gaza Peace Agreement in Sharm El-Sheikh — will underscore the need for the full implementation of the truce and Israel's complete withdrawal from the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially Gaza.

"Pakistan will also call for the provision of unfettered humanitarian assistance to Palestinians and the reconstruction of Gaza," the FO said.

It added that Islamabad

would reiterate the need for collective efforts to achieve an independent, viable, and contiguous State of Palestine, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, based on pre-1967 borders in line with relevant UN resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

"Pakistan has been, and will continue to be, committed to efforts to restore peace, justice, and dignity to the Palestinian people, as well as to ensure the realisation of their right to self-determination," the statement concluded. Hamas and Israel signed an agreement on October 9 to cease fire and free Israeli captives in exchange

for Palestinian prisoners, in the first phase of United States President Donald Trump's initiative to end the conflict in Gaza.

The deal includes the release of captives and prisoners as well as a surge of aid into Gaza after more than two years of genocide, after Tel Aviv started bombing the Palestinian enclave following Hamas's October 2023 attack on Israel. Later on Oct 13, mediators Egypt, Qatar and Turkey signed with US President Donald Trump a declaration as the guarantors of a Gaza ceasefire deal aimed at ending two years of war. —RT/Agency

## PM Shehbaz Reiterates Ironclad Commitment to Press Freedom

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif says the government is committed to protect freedom of press and provide a safe environment to journalists.

In a message on the International Day to end impunity for Crimes against Journalists, being observed today, he said independent journalism is the guarantee of a strong, transparent and democratic Pakistan.

The prime minister expressed the government's resolve to take all measures to ensure



effective investigation into crimes against journalists, provision of justice, and legal action against the perpetrators of these crimes.

The prime minister also urged the international community, media institutions and civil society to play their role in protecting journalists and promoting freedom of expression.

## Israel Presses Lebanon to Disarm Hezbollah Under Ceasefire Pact

JERUSALEM: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned on Sunday that Hezbollah was seeking to rearm and that Israel would exercise its right to self-defence under last year's ceasefire accord if Lebanon failed to disarm the group.

At the start of a cabinet meeting Netanyahu said Israel would "act as necessary", if Lebanon does not take steps to prevent its territory from becoming a renewed front.

The US brokered a truce in November 2024 between Lebanon and Israel after more than a year of conflict sparked by the war in Gaza, but Israeli strikes across the border have continued sporadically.

The Israeli military said in a statement on Sunday that it had killed four Hezbollah members.

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz also said the



Lebanese government must fulfill its commitment to disarm Hezbollah and remove the group from southern Lebanon.

Katz said maximum enforcement efforts would continue and intensify to protect Israeli residents in the north.

Under the ceasefire accord, Lebanon agreed that only state security forces should bear arms, which means Hezbollah must be fully disarmed.

Lebanese army sources told Reuters they had blown up so many Hezbollah arms caches that they had run out

of explosives and they expect to complete their sweep of the country's south by the end of the year.

Once the dominant political party in Lebanon, Hezbollah was severely weakened by the war with Israel, which killed thousands of fighters and longtime leader Hassan Nasrallah.

Hezbollah has publicly committed to the ceasefire and has not opposed the seizures of unmanned weapons caches in the south.

It has not fired on Israel since the November truce. —RT/Agency

## Mosharraf Zaidi Named PM's New Voice for Global Media Outreach



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday appointed columnist and public policy expert Mosharraf Ali Zaidi as his spokesperson for foreign media.

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar shared the notification of appointment on the social media

platform X. Welcoming Mosharraf Ali Zaidi in the team, the minister described the appointment as a valuable addition. He noted that working with Zaidi over the past few months has been a great experience and expressed his eagerness to continue this teamwork. —RT/Agency

## Fazl Denounces Anti-Seminary Propaganda Campaign



MULTAN: JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has said a negative propaganda is being carried out against seminaries to incite the youth.

Addressing the Tahafuz Madrasah Diniya Convention here on Saturday, Maulana Fazlur Rehman said, "External agents are worried how we saved the young generation from getting agitated. We saved the young generation that is why the external agenda is working against us. The JUI-F chief said it was written in the Constitution that Islam will be the state religion of Pakistan. The political veteran added that after the 9/11 incidents, there was an increase in terrorist incidents.

There is an external agenda to keep the youth away from religion and make them move towards so-called enlightenment, he said. —RT/Agency

## Australia Confirms Landmark 2026 Visit by China's Premier Li



SYDNEY: Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Sunday that China's Premier Li Qiang would visit Australia next year on a trip that may include a stop at Uluru, the giant monolith in central Australia. Premier Li will visit Australia next year, we've discussed that," Albanese told Sky News television, according to an official transcript of his remarks.

"Included in that was a discussion about a visit to Uluru that he expressed an interest in. I encourage that. I think that would be a very good thing to showcase Central Australia to what is after all well over a billion people," Albanese added. Uluru, the UNESCO World Heritage-listed 348-metre (1,142-foot) rock, famed for its deep red-ochre hues, is a top tourist draw despite its remote desert location near Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. —RT/Agency

## PTI Leaders Rally Around Qureshi Amid Political Turmoil

ISLAMABAD: Senior PTI leaders Salman Akram Raja and Shahbaz Khan's release and the party's democratic struggle. Qureshi, under medical care, reaffirmed his resolve to continue PTI's political mission. The visit follows similar meetings by former leaders including Fawad Chaudhry and Imran Ismail, signaling renewed coordination among PTI's senior figures. —RT

## Pakistan Doubles Down on Cross-Border Terror Elimination Drive

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has reaffirmed that Pakistan will continue to take decisive measures to eliminate cross-border terrorism for the protection of its people.

The defence minister has said the unrepresentative Afghan Taliban regime is facing internal divisions.

Taking to X, the defence minister has expressed a strong reaction to the misleading and malicious statement of the Afghan Taliban spokesperson, adding Pakistani nation and political and military leadership are in complete harmony, and there is a national consensus on Pakistan's security policies and strategy regarding Afghanistan.



He said that the people of Pakistan, especially Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, are well aware of the ongoing terrorism of Indian proxies under the patronage of the Afghan Taliban.

There is no ambiguity. The Taliban are continuously oppressing women, children and minorities, while the rights of expression, education and representation are being denied to the general public, Khawaja Asif said.

"Despite the passage of four years, the Afghan Taliban have not been able to fulfill the promises they made to the international community. They are merely using rhetoric, making narrative and following the agenda of external elements to hide their internal divisions and governance failures. The Afghan Taliban are acting as a proxy for external elements, particularly India. —RT/Agency

## October Offensive: Security Forces Neutralized 350 Militants, Says Report

ISLAMABAD: Successful kinetic operations by Pakistan security forces made October the deadliest month for militants with over 350 militants killed, according to a report by the Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS).

According to a recent report by the Islamabad-based security think tank PICSS, the month of October remained the lethal for militants across the country, with intensified operations by the security forces.

Estimates show that 355 militants were killed across the country, marking the highest losses in a decade from the militants.

During the month, 69 attacks were recorded, a 52 percent decline compared to August, according to the report. Amid clearance operations, 92 security personnel and 48 civilians also lost



their lives. The security forces also apprehended 22 suspected militants, the report stated. The report database recorded a 29 percent rise in militant attacks—from 69 in September to 89 in October—though overall human losses in these attacks declined by 19 percent.

In the southwestern province of Balochistan, 23 militant attacks were recorded, while casualties dropped sharply from 79 to 27, the report added.

During counter-terrorism operations, 67 militants were killed, marking notable improvement in the province's security situation. This represented a 92 percent decline in civilian deaths and a 52 percent drop in security personnel fatalities, the report added. In the former tribal districts, now merged into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa under the 25th Amendment of the constitution, and mainland KP, 55 militants were killed in kinetic operations led by the security forces. —RT/Agency

## Turbat Crackdown: Police Smash Human Trafficking Ring, Rescue 29 Afghans En Route to Europe

TURBAT: In a joint operation, police and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) foiled a migrant smuggling attempt in Balochistan's Turbat district on Sunday, arresting 29 Afghan nationals trying to cross into Iran illegally. According to SSP Kech Captain Zohaib Mohsin, a Land Cruiser carrying 12 men, 13 children, and 4 women was intercepted on Turbat's outskirts, along with two



drivers allegedly linked to the smuggling ring. Initial investigations revealed the group planned to reach Europe via Iran. All detainees were handed to the FIA as authorities expanded the probe, anticipating further arrests in the growing human smuggling network. —RT

## Bangladesh Unrest Turns Deadly — Nearly 300 Killed Since Hasina's Ouster

BANGLADESH: Nearly 300 people have been killed in political violence in Bangladesh in the year since student-led protests toppled autocratic former leader Sheikh Hasina, the country's main human rights group said on Sunday.

A report by Odhikar, a Dhaka-based rights organisation, said at least 281 people had been killed in violence involving political parties from August 2024, when Hasina's rule ended and she fled to India, to September 2025.

On top of those, there were another 40 victims of extrajudicial killings who had been suspected of crimes, while another 153 were lynched, the quarterly report released last week said.

Odhikar director ASM Nasiruddin Elan said adherence to human rights had improved since the fall of Hasina's government but law enforcement agencies were still not being held account-



able.

"Yes, we don't see the frequent extrajudicial killings or enforced disappearances that we witnessed during the Hasina era, but deaths in custody, bribery, and harassment of victims are still ongoing," Elan told AFP.

He said that "innocent people fall prey to atrocities" for their alleged involvement with the Awami League, Hasina's political party that is now banned.

Hasina's 15-year rule saw widespread human rights abuses, including the mass detention and extrajudicial killing of her political opponents.

Odhikar also said mob attacks had been relatively frequent during the period, mainly because of inefficient policing.

"Police have been used to achieve party interests and were given impunity, which eventually led them to kill and torture activists affiliated with the opposition," the report said.

It said "the police largely became dysfunctional and lost their morale", after Hasina fell. Bangladesh's interim government nor any of the political parties have responded yet to Odhikar's report. —RT/Agency

## Mexico Inferno Claims 23 Lives, Including Children

MEXICO CITY: A festive holiday weekend turned tragic for families in northwestern Mexico when a deadly blaze engulfed a discount store in the city centre of Hermosillo, killing at least 23 people and injuring a dozen.

Mexico is celebrating the Day of the Dead this weekend with colourful festivities in which families honour and remember deceased loved ones. "I have ordered a thorough and transparent investigation to clarify the causes of the accident," Alfonso Durazo, governor of the state of Sonora, home to the city, said in a video on social media, adding that children were among the victims.

Most of the deaths appeared to have been from inhalation of toxic



gases, said Gustavo Salas, the state's attorney general, citing its forensic medical service.

"My heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives," President Claudia Sheinbaum said in a post on X, adding that she had directed support teams to be sent to help victims' families and the injured.

Sonora's Red Cross said its 40 staff and 10

ambulances joined in the effort, making six trips to the hospital.

The cause of the fire, now doused, was still unclear, though some media blamed an electrical failure. City officials said the store, part of the popular discount chain Waldo's, was not the target of an attack.

The chief of the city's firefighters said it was still being investigated whether there was an explosion. RT/Agency