

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN/CPA ASIA REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## Contribution for CPA Asia Region Monthly E-Circular

September, 2026

During the month of September, 2026, the National Assembly of Pakistan, in its capacity as the CPA Asia Regional Headquarters, actively advanced its parliamentary diplomacy objectives through the organization of the following key programs and activities:

### **1. 12th IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians form 4-6 September, 2026 in Samarkand Uzbekistan**

The 12th IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians was held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 4 to 6 September 2026, jointly organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Parliament of Uzbekistan. The Conference was convened under the theme “Reclaiming human rights, justice and dignity for all in turbulent times.” It brought together young parliamentarians from around the world to exchange views, share parliamentary experiences and identify practical approaches for strengthening the role of young people in democratic governance. The IPU invited national parliaments to nominate delegations of up to four parliamentarians under 40 years of age, with encouragement for gender-balanced representation and participation of the youngest members.

**Aim and Objectives:** The principal aim of the Conference was to examine how young parliamentarians can contribute to the protection and promotion of human rights, justice and dignity, particularly in an increasingly complex international environment. The Conference provided a platform for young legislators to discuss the rights and concerns of young people and to strengthen their capacity to translate these concerns into parliamentary action. Its objectives included enhancing youth participation in political and parliamentary decision-making; facilitating the exchange of good practices and legislative experiences; strengthening international parliamentary cooperation and networking among young parliamentarians; and developing common approaches to challenges affecting younger generations. The Conference also addressed the protection of youth rights in situations of conflict, digital rights and online safety, data privacy, misinformation, climate justice, youth employment, political participation and violence against women.

A significant component of the Conference was the consideration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 8 concerning decent work and economic growth. Participants discussed the role of parliaments in addressing youth unemployment and economic insecurity and in ensuring that young people have meaningful opportunities to participate in development processes. The Conference also emphasized that young people should not merely be viewed as beneficiaries of policies but as active participants in shaping legislation, public policy and democratic institutions.

**Participation by Members of the National Assembly of Pakistan:** Pakistan was among the parliamentary delegations participating in the Conference. Publicly available official information confirms Pakistan's participation in the Samarkand Conference; however, the available official sources reviewed do not clearly identify the names of Members of the National Assembly of Pakistan who attended. The Senate of Pakistan separately reported the participation of Senator Agha Shahzaib Durrani, who chaired a session of the Conference on 5 September 2026. Therefore, for an official National Assembly report, it would be appropriate to state the participation of the National Assembly delegation only after verification from the National Assembly Secretariat's nomination/official delegation record, rather than attributing names without documentary confirmation.

Overall, the Conference provided Pakistan's young parliamentarians with an opportunity to engage with counterparts from different parliamentary systems, exchange experiences on youth-oriented legislation

and democratic participation, and contribute to international parliamentary dialogue on human rights, justice, digital transformation, climate-related challenges and youth empowerment. The Conference also reinforced the IPU's broader objective of increasing the meaningful participation of young people in parliaments and political decision-making.



## **2. Annual Visit of Official High-Level Delegation to Commemorate the Birth of the of Hazrat Muhammad Rasool Allah Khatam-Un-Nabiyeen (Pbuh) To Pay Homage at Roza-E-Rasool as Per Approved SOPS from 1 - 11 September, 2026**

The Annual Visit of the Official High-Level Delegation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, held from 1 to 11 September 2026, was undertaken to commemorate the birth of Hazrat Muhammad Rasool Allah Khatam-un-Nabiyeen (PBUH) and to provide an opportunity for the official delegation of Pakistan to pay homage at Roza-e-Rasool (PBUH) in Madinah. The visit has a significant religious and national character and is organized annually in connection with 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal, which holds particular importance for the people of Pakistan. The principal aim of the visit is to enable the designated high-level delegation to represent Pakistan on this solemn occasion, offer salutations at Roza-e-Rasool (PBUH), and reaffirm Pakistan's deep reverence for the Holy Prophet (PBUH). It also provides an opportunity for the delegation to undertake official engagements with the relevant Saudi authorities, strengthen institutional relations, and ensure the dignified representation of Pakistan during the sacred occasion. The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony has the relevant mandate under the Rules of Business, 1973, including matters relating to Ziarat and Umrah and the welfare and safety of pilgrims and Zaireen.

The subject annual visit is held pursuant to a resolution passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan in November 2016, under which a parliamentary delegation visits Roza-e-Rasool (PBUH) on 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal every year. According to the National Assembly Secretariat's official clarification, the members of the delegation undertake the visit at their own expense, and no financial burden is placed on the national exchequer. The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony provides administrative facilitation in accordance with the approved Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and does not bear the expenditure of the visit

## **3. 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference from: 13-18 September, 2026, Cape Town South Africa**

The 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) brought together Speakers, Presiding Officers, Members of Parliament, parliamentary officials and representatives of CPA Branches from across the Commonwealth. The Conference provided a comprehensive platform for parliamentary dialogue on democracy, international law, institutional resilience, human rights, climate change, artificial intelligence, accessibility, gender equality and legislative scrutiny. In addition to the main CPC programme, the Conference incorporated meetings of the CPA International Executive Committee, CPA General Assembly, 42nd CPA Small Branches Conference, 10th Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Conference, Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities (CPwD), Society of Clerks-at-the-Table (SoCATT) and a series of thematic workshops.

- (i) **CPA International Executive Committee Meeting:** The CPA International Executive Committee met during the 69th CPC to consider matters concerning the governance, administration, financial affairs and future direction of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. The Executive Committee represents the nine CPA Regions and therefore provides an important institutional mechanism for coordinating the interests of national, state, provincial and territorial Parliaments throughout the Commonwealth. The Committee met in different sessions, including meetings of its Finance Subcommittee and Planning and Review Subcommittee, followed by the main Executive Committee sessions. Matters discussed included developments relating to the CPA's legal status, financial reporting, organizational planning and future activities. The Committee also considered issues relating to the Association's structural arrangements and its continuing efforts to strengthen its institutional framework.

The Executive Committee meeting was particularly relevant to the continued institutional development of the CPA because the Association brings together nearly 180 Parliaments and Legislatures. During the 69th CPC, Members were briefed on progress concerning the CPA's new legal status following the passage of the Commonwealth Parliamentary

Association and International Committee of the Red Cross (Status) Act 2025 by the UK Parliament and related secondary legislation. The Committee also considered the CPA's financial and administrative matters and future programme of work. Pakistan, as a member of the CPA Asia Region and as a long-standing participant in Commonwealth parliamentary activities, benefited from the opportunity to remain engaged in discussions concerning the future institutional and parliamentary cooperation framework of the Association. Additionally, the term of Ms. Farah Azeem Shah, MPA, CPA Balochistan Branch, as a Member of the CPA International Executive Committee expired during the 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference. Accordingly, on a rotational basis, Ms. Suriya Bibi, Hon. Deputy Speaker, Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, was nominated by the CPA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Branch as the new Member of the Executive Committee.



- (ii) **10th Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Conference:** The 10th Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Conference was held on 14–15 September 2026 under the theme “Making Gender Sensitivity an Institutional Mandate: Ethics, accountability and structural change.” The CWP network seeks to promote the representation of women in CPA Branches and the full and equal participation of women in political and parliamentary leadership. The 10th Conference consisted of a Business Meeting, governance discussions and four substantive workshops.

The four workshops addressed “Parliaments for People: Structural sensitivity,” “Intergenerational Equality: The future of parliamentary democracy,” “Legislating for All: Gender mainstreaming in procedure, practices and policy,” and the joint workshop on “Delivering Inclusivity Measures in Capacity-Strained Parliaments.” The discussions examined institutional barriers affecting women’s participation, gender-sensitive parliamentary procedures, intergenerational representation and the need to integrate gender considerations into legislation and parliamentary administration. The Conference also provided an opportunity for women parliamentarians and other Members to exchange legislative and institutional experiences concerning gender equality and inclusive parliamentary practices. The participation of Commonwealth Parliaments in the CWP Conference reinforced the importance of ensuring that parliamentary institutions are representative and responsive to the needs of women and other under-represented groups.

- (iii) **Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities (CPwD) Meeting and Outreach:** The Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities (CPwD) network conducted a Town Hall and outreach programme during the 69th CPC to examine the role of Parliaments in promoting disability inclusion. The Town Hall, held at Cape Town City Hall, brought together CPwD Regional Champions, Conference delegates and representatives of South African disability organizations. The discussions focused on how Parliaments can engage with civil society and representative organizations to develop and implement legislative frameworks that promote the rights and participation of persons with disabilities.

A further important aspect was CPC Workshop B, “Accessible Parliaments: Inclusion for People with Disabilities.” The workshop examined ways of making parliamentary institutions

more accessible to Members, parliamentary staff and the public. The session was chaired by Hon. Ahmad Kundi, MPA, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which provided a direct contribution from Pakistan to the international discussion on parliamentary accessibility and inclusion. Participants also considered the CPwD Capital Investment Fund, which supports Commonwealth Parliaments in improving accessibility. The CPwD programme consequently highlighted the need for disability inclusion to be incorporated not only in legislation but also in parliamentary buildings, procedures, communications and institutional practices.

- (iv) **60th Society of Clerks-at-the-Table (SoCATT) Meeting:** The 60th Meeting of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table (SoCATT) was conducted alongside the 69th CPC and brought together parliamentary Clerks and officials from Commonwealth Parliaments. The meeting was chaired by Advocate Modibedi Phindela, Secretary to the National Council of Provinces of the Parliament of South Africa, and included a meeting of the Society's Advisory Committee. The principal purpose was to provide parliamentary officials with a professional forum for exchanging experiences, institutional knowledge and innovations in parliamentary administration.

The two-day discussions covered several contemporary parliamentary administration issues, including public engagement, artificial intelligence, institutional memory, bicameral Parliaments, committee evidence gathering, ethical leadership in parliamentary administration and the role of parliamentary secretariats. Delegates also received an overview of the work of the CPA from its Secretary-General. At the conclusion, the Society considered its 2025 accounts and proposals for the agenda of the 61st SoCATT General Meeting in 2027. For parliamentary institutions such as the National Assembly of Pakistan, SoCATT provides an important avenue for professional interaction among parliamentary officials and for sharing practical approaches to legislative, committee and administrative work.

- (v) **CPC Thematic Workshops:** The main CPC programme included six substantive workshops designed to facilitate discussion between parliamentarians and experts on contemporary parliamentary and international issues. The workshops covered inclusive fair trade and underdevelopment; accessibility and disability inclusion; climate adaptation and resilience; artificial intelligence in Parliaments; human rights and peace; and post-legislative scrutiny. A Youth Roundtable also considered ways of rebuilding youth trust and participation in democratic processes.

Of particular relevance to Pakistan was Workshop C, "Parliamentary Leadership in Promoting Climate Adaptation and Resilience," in which Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq participated. The workshop provided an opportunity to discuss the role of Parliaments in developing legislative and policy responses to climate change, strengthening resilience and promoting adaptation measures. Other workshops considered the implications of AI for parliamentary institutions, protection of human rights, accessible parliamentary institutions and mechanisms for reviewing legislation after enactment. The thematic programme consequently connected parliamentary practice with major contemporary challenges and enabled delegations to exchange experiences on legislative and institutional responses.

- (vi) **CPA General Assembly and General Debate:** The CPA General Assembly, the supreme authority of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, was held on 17 September 2026. It was attended by Members from more than 100 CPA Branches and included a general debate on "New Leadership Opportunities for the Commonwealth: Parliamentary Action to Strengthen Democracy and International Law." Pakistan was among the CPA Branches participating in the debate.

The General Assembly considered a range of institutional and governance matters, including progress concerning the CPA's legal status, structural changes, the establishment of the CPA

Charitable Funds, the 2025 Annual Report, audited financial statements, membership matters, budgets and financial management reports. The Assembly also endorsed reports of the CWP, CPwD and CPA Small Branches networks. The next Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, the 70th CPC in 2027, to be hosted by the CPA Canada Federal Branch and Parliament of Canada, was also approved. The General Assembly therefore served as the principal decision-making forum for the Association during the 69th CPC.



(vii)

**CPA Asia Regional Executive Committee Meets in Cape Town, South Africa:** The CPA Asia Regional Executive Committee met on the sidelines of the 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) in Cape Town, South Africa, chaired by Hon. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan and Chairperson of the CPA Asia Regional Executive Committee.



The Committee considered a range of matters relating to the activities and development of the CPA Asia Region, including the resumption of Bangladesh's participation, rotation of the Regional Chair, regional representation on the CPA International Executive Committee, and institutional strengthening initiatives.

Members also discussed the CPA Asia Regional Fund, CPA Asia Democracy Award, and the 2027–2028 Calendar of Activities, including forthcoming regional conferences and parliamentary programmes.

The meeting reaffirmed the commitment of CPA Asia Regional Branches to strengthening parliamentary cooperation, dialogue and collaboration across the Region.



(viii) **Hon'ble Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Highlights Parliamentary Leadership in Climate Adaptation and Resilience**

Hon'ble Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq participated in Workshop C of the 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, "Parliamentary Leadership in Promoting Climate Adaptation and Resilience," highlighting the important role of parliaments in strengthening climate resilience and advancing effective policy responses.

During the workshop, the NA Speaker shared Pakistan's experience and emphasized the need for parliamentary leadership, legislative oversight and coordinated action to address the growing impacts of climate change. The session also provided an opportunity for parliamentarians from across the Commonwealth to exchange experiences and discuss practical approaches to climate adaptation and resilience.



**Awards and Recognition for Pakistan:** A significant feature of the 69th CPC was the recognition accorded to Pakistan's Parliament and Pakistani parliamentarians through the inaugural Green Mace Awards and the Commonwealth Parliamentarian of the Year Awards. The National Assembly of Pakistan received the inaugural Green Mace Award, which was received by Hon. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker National Assembly, on behalf of Parliament. The award recognized the National Assembly's environmental and sustainability initiatives, particularly its status as the world's first Parliament to operate entirely on solar energy, its progress towards a paperless parliamentary system and the development of a rainwater-harvesting project at Parliament House. The CPA confirmed that the Parliament of Pakistan was among the first recipients of the Green Mace Award under its new initiative for recognizing environmental and sustainability excellence in Commonwealth Parliaments.

The Provincial Assembly of Punjab was also among the first Parliaments/Legislatures to receive the CPA Green Mace Award. The CPA recognized Punjab Assembly's combination of renewable energy, digital transformation and climate resilience. According to the CPA, the Assembly has installed 1,111 solar panels across its Old and New Assembly Buildings and associated facilities, while its digital transformation has substantially reduced printing during the 2026–27 Budget Session. The Assembly has also developed a 1.5-million-gallon underground rainwater storage facility to address rainfall management and urban flooding risks.

Another important Pakistani recognition was conferred upon Hon. Babar Saleem Swati, Member of the Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, who received the 2026 Parliamentary Equality and Diversity Award. The award recognized his work in embedding equality, diversity and inclusion within parliamentary practice, including the establishment of parliamentary caucuses relating to women, minorities, children and young people. The CPA also highlighted the piloting of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Parliamentary Caucus, described by the CPA as the first of its kind in Asia and seventh globally.

The Commonwealth Parliamentarian of the Year Awards also recognized parliamentarians from Tasmania, Malta and Sri Lanka. The awards were presented by the CPA Chairperson, Hon. Dr Christopher Kalila, MP, at the conclusion of the 69th CPC. The recognition received by Pakistan's Parliament, Punjab Assembly and a Member of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly represented three distinct areas of parliamentary achievement—environmental sustainability, institutional innovation, and equality and diversity—and formed an important part of Pakistan's parliamentary presence at the Conference.





In addition to this the 69th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference provided a broad platform for parliamentary engagement among Commonwealth Legislatures and enabled Pakistan's parliamentary representatives to participate in discussions concerning democratic governance, international law, climate resilience, accessibility, gender equality, artificial intelligence, legislative scrutiny and parliamentary administration. Pakistan's participation was further highlighted through the contribution of Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker National Assembly, in the climate adaptation workshop; Hon. Ahmad Kundi, MPA, in the disability-accessibility workshop; Pakistan's participation in the CPA General Assembly; and the recognition of Parliament of Pakistan, Provincial Assembly of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa parliamentarian Babar Saleem Swati through CPA awards. The Conference therefore provided opportunities not only for parliamentary diplomacy and exchange of experience but also for showcasing institutional initiatives undertaken by Pakistani Legislatures within the Commonwealth parliamentary community.

**Important announcements regarding upcoming CPA activities include:**

- 12 to 16 October 2026: CPA Parliamentary Academy Residency Programme for Members (Practice & Procedure), Guernsey.
- 9 to 13 November 2026: Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Workshop, Nadi, Fiji.

**Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Calls for Responsible Stewardship of Pakistan's Wildlife and Natural Heritage:**

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, while addressing a Gala Dinner organized by Safari Club International (SCI) Pakistan in Islamabad on the theme "Wildlife Conservation, Sustainable Use and Responsible Stewardship," emphasized the need for a balanced, responsible and sustainable approach to wildlife conservation. He stressed that protection of natural habitats, responsible use of natural resources, scientific breeding, prevention of poaching and meaningful participation of local communities were essential for preserving Pakistan's biodiversity and natural heritage. The Speaker also expressed concern over environmental degradation, melting glaciers and the recurring loss of lives and infrastructure due to floods. He highlighted Pakistan's commitment to environmental sustainability, noting that Parliament of Pakistan became the world's first Green Parliament in 2015, and apprised the

gathering of initiatives for rainwater harvesting at Parliament House and efforts to promote water conservation and discourage unnecessary tree cutting.

The Speaker appreciated the efforts of SCI Pakistan, its Chairman Syed Sumsam Ali Bukhari, officials and members for promoting wildlife conservation, habitat protection, responsible hunting, animal breeding and community welfare initiatives. Recalling his childhood experiences of outdoor recreation, he observed that the re-emergence of wildlife in urban areas during the COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of animals in maintaining ecological balance. He called for concerted efforts to protect markhors and other wildlife through scientifically managed conservation and breeding programmes and welcomed international members of SCI to explore Pakistan's diverse natural landscapes, including its northern areas, glaciers and the mountains of Balochistan. The event was attended by Federal Minister for Defence Production Muhammad Raza Hayat Harraj, parliamentarians, wildlife officials, conservation experts and members of SCI, while awards were also presented to prominent contributors to wildlife conservation and related fields.



**Islamabad 04.09.2026: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq in a group photo with participants of SCI Pakistan Chapter International Conservation Gala Dinner 2026.**

### **Parliament House Conducts Mock Fire Drill**

On the special directives of Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, a mock fire drill was conducted at Parliament House to assess and further strengthen existing fire safety and emergency response arrangements. Officials of the Capital Development Authority (CDA), ICT Fire Brigade, security staff of the Senate and National Assembly, and other relevant personnel participated in the exercise and performed their respective duties in accordance with the prescribed SOPs. During the drill, the fire alarm was activated, following which employees and staff evacuated the building through designated emergency exit routes and moved to safe locations in an orderly manner. The exercise included a practical assessment of evacuation procedures, firefighting and rescue arrangements, and coordination among the concerned institutions. The drill also provided an opportunity to review existing safety measures, emergency response mechanisms and evacuation procedures with a view to ensuring the safety of officers, employees and other persons present at Parliament House and facilitating a prompt, coordinated and effective response in the event of any emergency or untoward incident.

### **Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Pays Tribute to Martyrs and Ghazis of 1965 War on Defence Day**

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, in his message on Defence Day, paid rich tribute to the martyrs and ghazis of the 1965 war, acknowledging the exceptional courage, bravery, professionalism and sacrifices of the Pakistan Armed Forces in defending the motherland. He said that the unity and

solidarity demonstrated by the nation while standing alongside the Armed Forces during the 1965 war represented a glorious chapter in Pakistan's history. He further paid tribute to the Armed Forces for their sacrifices in the fight against terrorism and for their continued role in safeguarding the country's sovereignty, territorial integrity and national interests, as well as assisting the people during natural disasters and other crises.

Referring to recent defence and security developments, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq commended the Armed Forces for effectively thwarting threats to Pakistan's security and reiterated the nation's resolve to defend its sovereignty under the leadership of Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir. He said that the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement between Pakistan, Türkiye and Saudi Arabia reflected a shared commitment to mutual defence cooperation, regional security and peace, while reaffirming Pakistan's desire for sustainable peace and stability in the region. He also prayed for the elevation of the ranks of the martyrs and for peace, security, progress and prosperity in the country.

### **Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Pays heartfelt Tribute to Navy Martyrs and Veterans on Navy Day**

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, in his message on Navy Day, paid rich tribute to the martyrs and veterans of the Pakistan Navy for their invaluable services and sacrifices in defence of the motherland. He highlighted the Pakistan Navy's unwavering resolve, courage and professional excellence in safeguarding the country's maritime boundaries and national sovereignty, recalling its outstanding performance during the 1965 war, particularly Operation Dwarka and the operational role of PNS Ghazi. He said that during Marka-e-Haq, the Pakistan Navy once again demonstrated professionalism, courage and a strong sense of duty in safeguarding the maritime frontiers. The Speaker underscored the strategic importance of maritime routes for Pakistan's economy, trade and national security and appreciated the Navy's continued services in protecting the country's maritime interests.

Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah also paid tribute to the martyrs and veterans of the Pakistan Navy, acknowledging their courage, professionalism and patriotism, particularly during the 1965 war and Operation Dwarka. He said that the Navy's effective role during Marka-e-Haq reaffirmed the capability and resolve of Pakistan's Armed Forces to meet challenges to national defence and security. Both the Speaker and Deputy Speaker emphasized that the sacrifices of the martyrs and services of the veterans would always be remembered with the highest respect and honour, and prayed for the elevation of the ranks of the martyrs and for lasting peace, stability, progress and prosperity in Pakistan.

### **Quaid-e-Azam's leadership, political vision and commitment to constitutional principles remain a guiding light for the nation, NA Speaker**

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, in his message on the 78th death anniversary of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, paid rich tribute to the Father of the Nation, highlighting his visionary leadership, political acumen, constitutional struggle and steadfast commitment to principles that led to the creation of Pakistan. He said that Quaid-e-Azam's emphasis on the rule of law, constitutionalism, democracy, equality, fundamental rights and religious freedom remained highly relevant to Pakistan's present and future. He stressed the need to acquaint younger generations with the Quaid's life, struggle and political thought and urged the nation to reaffirm its commitment to the principles of Faith, Unity and Discipline.

Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq said that Parliament, as the custodian of Quaid-e-Azam's democratic and constitutional vision, had an important role in strengthening democratic institutions, upholding the Constitution and rule of law, and promoting legislation aimed at the welfare of the people. He called upon political leadership and citizens to place national interests above all else and work with unity, tolerance and mutual respect for the country's stability, development and prosperity. Deputy Speaker National Assembly Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah also paid tribute to Quaid-e-Azam, emphasizing that his vision of democracy, constitutionalism and rule of law constituted an enduring legacy and that adherence to these principles was essential for building a strong, stable and prosperous Pakistan.

## **National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Pays Tribute to Major Raja Aziz Bhatti Shaheed on His 61st Martyrdom Anniversary**

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq paid rich tribute to Major Raja Aziz Bhatti Shaheed (Nishan-e-Haider) on the 61st anniversary of his martyrdom, recalling his exceptional courage, bravery and supreme sacrifice during the 1965 war. He said that Major Raja Aziz Bhatti Shaheed defended the motherland with unwavering determination in the Burki sector near Lahore, where he fought the enemy for five days and five nights and laid down his life in the line of duty. His valour and sacrifice, the Speaker said, constituted a glorious chapter in the nation's history and earned him Pakistan's highest military award, the Nishan-e-Haider.

Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq said that Major Raja Aziz Bhatti Shaheed's sacrifice represented the unwavering resolve of the nation and its Armed Forces to safeguard the sovereignty, security, honour and dignity of the motherland. He said that the sacrifices of the martyrs of Pakistan's Armed Forces were a source of courage, patriotism and inspiration for the nation, and that those who laid down their lives in defence of the country were its true heroes. He reaffirmed that the nation would always remember and honour the sacrifices of its martyrs with the highest respect and reverence.

## **Sardar Ayaz, Honourable Speaker held meeting with Maldivian parliamentary delegation**

Speaker of the People's Majlis of the Maldives, H.E. Abdul Raheem Abdulla, leading a parliamentary delegation, paid an official visit to Pakistan and called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House. The Maldivian delegation was warmly received by the Speaker National Assembly, who held detailed discussions with H.E. Abdul Raheem Abdulla on bilateral relations between Pakistan and the Maldives, with particular emphasis on strengthening parliamentary linkages and institutional cooperation between the two legislatures. The Speaker National Assembly highlighted the longstanding and cordial relations between the two countries and underscored the important role of the Pak-Maldives Parliamentary Friendship Group and various parliamentary forums, including the Young Parliamentary Forums, SDGs Secretariat, Women Parliamentary Caucus and Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights, in promoting parliamentary cooperation and exchanges. He expressed the hope that the visit would further contribute to strengthening institutional linkages and parliamentary contacts between Pakistan and the Maldives.

H.E. Abdul Raheem Abdulla appreciated the warm welcome extended to the Maldivian parliamentary delegation and reciprocated the goodwill sentiments expressed by the Speaker National Assembly. He stated that the Maldives attaches great importance to its friendly relations with Pakistan and expressed his appreciation for the support extended by Sardar Ayaz Sadiq during the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference held in Cape Town. The visit was undertaken at the invitation of Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and provided an opportunity for both sides to reaffirm their commitment to enhancing parliamentary exchanges, institutional cooperation and mutual understanding. Convener of the Pak-Maldives Parliamentary Friendship Group, Ms. Shaista Khan, along with MNAs Syeda Nosheen Iftikhar, Daniyal Chaudhary, Isphanyar M. Bhandara, Asia Naz Tanoli and other women Members of the National Assembly, also participated in the meeting.



**Islamabad 22.09.2026: Speaker of the People's Majlis of Maldives Mr. Abdul Raheem Abdulla called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House.**