

Text of Speech of H. E. Mehran Movahed Far, Hon'ble Consul General of I. R. Iran in Lahore on the 45th Anniversary of the Glorious Islamic Revolution & Iran National Day, 12 February 2024

In the Name of Allah, the compassionate, the Merciful

پارسی از رفعت اندیشه ام در خورد با فطرت اندیشه ام

45 years ago, the Islamic Revolution of Iran reached victory with the motto of “independence, freedom and Islamic Republic”, and ever since a new vision originated in Iran’s foreign policy in particular in relation to neighborly countries. In the past 4 decades, despite all external pressures and mischiefs, I. R. Iran has made outstanding advancements in different domains from social welfare to various scientific fields.

The most unjust and expansive form of an economic terrorism campaign encompassing crippling sanctions to maximum pressure has been waged by those hostile towards Iran and the region’s peace and security. However, it has never been able to divert the exalted objectives of the Iranian nation. The sanctions are indeed blatant violation of the norms of international law, the principles of UN charter and human rights.

In foreign relations, I. R. Iran is committed to boosting its international and regional relations and consolidating good neighborliness. The destiny of the governments and nations of this region is intertwined by virtue of shared commonalities and bonds, and developing cordial relations with neighbors is an unchanging principle in the foreign policy of Iran.

Excellency Governor,

As the Consul General of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I would like to express my congratulations on successful conduct of recent elections in Pakistan. The active participation of people in the elections highlights dynamic democracy and stability in Pakistan. I pray to Almighty Allah for peace and welfare of the great nation and government of Pakistan.

Multiple civilizational, religious, cultural and linguistic commonalities in the long-standing and brotherly relations of Iran & Pakistan show massive potentials and brilliant horizons. Due to these commonalities, the two countries benefit from abundant opportunities for cooperation in economic, commercial, cultural and tourism sectors. We take pride in the sweet and beautiful poems of Allama Iqbal composed in the Persian language.

In the economic & trade sector, because the economies of the two countries are complementary, there are multiple tapped or untapped potentials in developing bilateral relations in these domains. Last year, valuable steps were taken to boost bilateral trade and it is a source of pleasure that the business persons from both sides have found ways to work with each other, and we are optimistic about the future of our cooperation.

Last year, a large number of Pakistani traders participated in Iran Expo 2023. This year, Expo 2024 will be held from 27 April to 1 May 2024, and we stand ready to facilitate the participation of Pakistani business persons in this event in our country.

The two countries are victims of terrorism and extremism, and they have a shared duty in combating against these ominous phenomena and narcotics trafficking which are the main reasons behind instability. Iran & Pakistan have borne huge costs and have made great sacrifices in this path, and we remember with pride and honor the martyrs of both countries, and in particular the hero of fighting against terrorism and extremism, Martyr General Qasem Soleimani who embraced martyrdom at the hands of the real backers of ISIS.

What we are now witness to in Afghanistan is a result of more than 40 years of occupation and foreign intervention in this country. In recent years, freezing assets of the people of Afghanistan by the occupiers has further complicated the plight of Afghans. Migration of millions of Afghan citizens, 6 million of whom my country is hosting, stems from the perpetuation of the inappropriate circumstances of the occupation time. The Global community, in particular those countries which played a key role in occupation of Afghanistan, should not forget their accountability in formation of this situation in Afghanistan.

Dear Guests,

In the past 4 months, we are witness to a real and unprecedented holocaust in Gaza & Palestine. Collective punishment, forced displacement and genocide by the occupying and apartheid Zionist Regime is a policy which this regime has been pursuing in the past 75 years; however, it has manifested horrifying spectacles in the past 4 months.

Regardless of any factors like ethnicity, language or religion, Palestine is an issue of human value and the world today is faced with systematic violation of the natural and fundamental rights of the Palestinian nation. While the absolute failure of the so-called two-state solution has become clear after 35 years, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the only solution to overcome the Palestine crisis is holding a referendum at the participation of all original inhabitants of Palestine including Muslims, Christians and the Jews. This is the only democratic and peaceful solution to end this 75-year tragedy.

I wish peace and welfare for the government and people of Pakistan and the Islamic Ummah and once again I express my thanks to all our dear guests.

At the end, I would like to end my speech by a line of poetry by Iranian renowned poet, Malek O' Shoara Bahar:

کسی به روی زمین

گمان مبر که بود بیشتر از ایرانی

دوستدار پاکستان (ملک الشعرا بهار)