

Speech at the gathering with senior journalists of Pakistan

(16/03/24- 6 Ramadan)

Assalm Alaikum,

I extend my felicities to all my dear guests on arrival of the holy month of Ramadan. I am very pleased to have this opportunity tonight to host a number of my dear friends from senior media managers of Pakistan and I am grateful to you for accepting my invitation. The holy month of Ramadan is the month of unity, brotherhood and an opportunity for showing the religion of Islam as the religion of peace and mercy and I hope that the bonds binding the Muslim societies will be further reinforced in this month.

In terms of bilateral relations of the two countries, we have always witnessed the positive role of media in clarifying the right path to mutual cooperation and in assisting the governments in treading the best path towards the development of relations.

In my opinion, the most important mission of media in respect of their country's foreign policy is monitoring and making suggestions in order to ensure national interests. We have many cases in the history of bilateral relations which highlight that the media have been the main catalyst for facilitating mutual ties.

For example, as the Consul General of I. R. Iran in Lahore, I almost read all the news pieces and articles in the wake of the recent border tension between the two countries and I believe that most media outlets were committed to the cause which I mentioned.

Rapid action of the two countries to restore brotherly relations resulted from the will of the authorities of the two countries and the recommendation of the media and the media in a way reflected the demand of the people.

I hold this perspective in high esteem. However, I would like to stress that the two countries' media have a never-ending responsibility to introduce the culture, economic potentials and tourist attractions of the two countries to each other.

The exchange of visits by the media delegations of the two countries is one of the ways to reach this objective and we will try to make this happen at a suitable opportunity in the foreseeable future.

The world in the past recent months has been witness to the savage massacre of defenseless people of Gaza at the hands of the Zionist regime. Unfortunately the comprehensive support by the Western governments from this lawless regime has further encouraged this regime in continuing bloodshed.

Tonight I would like to avail this opportunity to pray for peace and security of people of Palestine and in particular Gaza who have been denied of drinking water and food for several months and are suffering under disastrous situation. At this time the planes of two allies are simultaneously dropping bombs and foods for the people of Gaza!! Unilateralism of the West in giving a blind support to an illegitimate and criminal regime has degraded all human achievements in the area of multilateralism and international law.

The people and media of Pakistan in the past recent months in respect of the developments in Palestine have stood at the right side of history and they acted in sincerity in supporting the people of Palestine. This is the responsibility of all freedom-seeking media and in particular Muslims in this holy month of Ramadan to not allow the tragedy of Gaza to be forgotten.

I pray to Almighty Allah for peace and calm of all Muslim nations in this holy Month of Ramadan.

Once again, I thank my dear guests for participating in this Iftar feast.