

In the name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Greetings

1-It is an honor for me to host you tonight in Lahore, the cultural heart and economic and agricultural hub of Pakistan, a city with deep historical and cultural roots, a city with loving and kind people, in the celebration of the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran. I sincerely thank all of you who accepted my invitation and participated in this ceremony.

2-The Islamic Revolution of Iran, as the most important event of the 20th century, introduced a new discourse into the world's political literature with the mottos of independence, freedom, and the Islamic Republic. National dignity, self-confidence, political and cultural independence are the gifts of the revolution and the main elements of this discourse.

3- The Islamic Republic of Iran has chosen the path of independence and progress for many years, and the most cruel and extensive campaign of economic terrorism waged by the enemies of peace and security of Iran and the region, from embargoes to crippling sanctions and maximum pressure, has never been able to change the great goals of the Iranian nation; the sanctions which are in clear violation of the norms of international law, the principles of the United Nations Charter, and even human rights.

4- In the field of foreign relations, the Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to developing international and regional relations, strengthening relations with other countries and good neighborliness. In the light of an active, dynamic and effective foreign policy, Iran has expanded its multilateral interactions with international and regional organizations such as BRICS, Shanghai, ECO and D-8 because we are seeking a strong and developed region for all.

**Regarding the situation in the
Middle East, the Islamic Republic of Iran remains committed to supporting
the rights and destiny of the Palestinian people.
Palestine belongs to the Palestinians and is not for sale.**

5- Developing good relations with neighbors is an unwavering principle in Iran's foreign policy. Within this framework, we have deepened our good neighborliness policy and expanded our links with neighbors. Strengthening brotherly relations with Pakistan has

always had a special place in Iran's foreign policy. The many civilizational, religious, cultural and linguistic commonalities in the long-standing and brotherly relations between Iran and Pakistan indicate great potentials and bright horizons.

6-In the economic and trade field, given that the economies of the two countries complement each other, there are significant potential and actual capacities for developing relations between the two countries. Due to the advantage of neighborliness, many of the mutual needs of the two countries can be met via bilateral interaction, because in principle, the nature of the markets of Iran and Pakistan is not only non-competitors, but on the contrary, they complement each other.

Iran, in total, has the highest oil and gas reserves in the world, and Pakistan is a fertile country rich in livestock and agricultural products. Such distinguished features are the factors that link the markets of the two countries.

7- Dear audience, Iran-Pakistan relations, based on the components of neighborliness, shared interests and mutual respect, are progressing towards bright horizons in line with the goals set. The collective efforts of all of us should be in line with activating the capacities, bringing progress to the region and improving the livelihoods of the people.

8-The Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Lahore considers itself committed to strengthening and consolidating the deep-rooted relations between the two countries, especially with the State of Punjab. We are trying to use all opportunities to develop these relations and cultural and commercial connections between the two countries.

Wishing peace and prosperity for the government and people of Pakistan, I would like to thank you, dear guests, for your presence at this celebration.

“Do not think that there is anyone on earth

Who loves Pakistan more than an Iranian”) M. T. Bahar (Iranian Poet).