

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN
ASSEMBLY DEBATES

Tuesday, the 21st April, 2015.

The Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament) met in the National Assembly Hall (Parliament House), Islamabad at 09.50 of the clock in the morning with **Mr. Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq** in the Chair.

(National Anthems of the People's Republic of China
and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan were played)

(Desk Thumping)

RECITATION FROM THE HOLY QUR`AN

[Translation: And worship Allah and do not associate anyone with Him and do good to parents and to relatives and orphans and the needy and near neighbour and the distant neighbour and the companion of your side and the wayfarer and to your maid and female servants. Undoubtedly, Allah does not love the proud and boastful.]

WELCOME ADDRESS BY MR. SPEAKER TO HIS EXCELLENCY XI JINPING, PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan
(Sardar Ayaz Sadiq): بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ۔ اَشْهَدُ اَنْ لّٰهُ اَحَدٌ اَشْهَدُ اَنْ اِلٰهًا اِلَّا هُوَ اَشْهَدُ اَنْ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهٗ وَرَسُوْلُهٗ اَشْهَدُ اَنْ اِسْمٰئِيْلَ بْنَ اِبْرٰهِيْمَ الْكَلْبِیْنَ رَحْمَةً مِّنْ رَّبِّكَ اَشْهَدُ اَنْ اِسْمٰئِيْلَ بْنَ اِبْرٰهِيْمَ الْكَلْبِیْنَ رَحْمَةً مِّنْ رَّبِّكَ
Honourable President of the brotherly People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping and respected Parliamentarians!

It is my profound privilege to introduce to this august House, Pakistan's most trusted friend and a respected world leader, His Excellency Xi Jinping, the Honourable President of the People's Republic of China.

(Desk Thumping)

It is surely a momentous day!

It is historic because it is the first address by any foreign dignitary to the present Parliament.

It is memorable because it is also the first address in history by any Chinese President to the Joint Sitting of the Majlis-e-Shoora.

(Desk Thumping)

And it is unique --- because Excellency! You are the fourth Chinese leader to address our Parliament. No other country matches this number.

(Desk Thumping)

These landmarks reflect the deep bonds, which have continued to prosper between our two great nations for over six decades. Your visit to this House and to Pakistan, therefore, is not a formal state visit.

It's a brother's home coming;

It's a reunion of one big family; and

It's a keenly awaited visit by a friend-in-deed!

So, we all join hands to welcome you.

(Desk Thumping)

Excellency!

This House notes with great satisfaction that the successive leaderships of the two countries have diligently worked to translate the Sino-Pak relations into meaningful cooperation.

A short while ago, Chinese assisted 1 Mega-Watt Solar-power project in our Parliament was jointly inaugurated by our honoured guest and the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Pakistan. This will enable this building to convert its energy needs to solar power and hence becoming one of the first Parliaments in the world to "GO GREEN"!

This achievement is yet another milestone in the list of "world's first", which our two countries have jointly accomplished.

From the 8th wonder of the World namely Karakorum Friendship Highway to the world's largest deep Sea Port Gwadar, our friendship actually tells the world that it is in its literal meaning higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the deepest ocean.

(Desk Thumping)

Excellency!

Your address to this Parliament is of great importance. The continued war on terror, the deteriorating situation in the Middle East and the unresolved issue of Jammu & Kashmir are major political flashpoints affecting us while the global economic recession continues to haunt emerging economies like Pakistan.

In such daunting political and economic scenario, we are eager to hear from a visionary statesman, whose ideas and efforts have not only ensured China's unrelenting march towards glory but has also proposed the concept of "neighbourhood diplomacy" for mutual prosperity.

Here, I would like to share a quote from Your Excellency's speech to the Strategic Conference in Beijing last year in which you said and I quote:

"We should promote neighbourhood diplomacy;

Turn China's neighbourhood areas into a community of common destiny;

Continue to follow the principles of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness in conducting neighbourhood diplomacy;

Promote friendship and partnership with our neighbours;

Foster an amicable, secure and prosperous neighbourhood environment; and

Boost win-win cooperation and connectivity with our neighbours."

(Desk Thumping)

This House values our endeavours to develop the Economic Corridor, which will usher an era of unprecedented progress and prosperity in this Region.

The sincerity to this goal is further strengthened by China's initiative to establish the "Asian Infrastructural Investment Bank".

Pakistan is most proud to be one of the Founding Members of this Bank, as we genuinely believe that such concrete steps will make the dream of an "Asian Century" into a shining reality.

Honourable President!

The Parliament that you address represents the true aspirations of the people of Pakistan. Our continued fight against terrorism, the complete support of the on-going Military Operation of Zarb-e-Azab and the unanimous passage of the 21st Amendment are all reflections of our combined national resolve to curb the menace of terrorism at all costs.

There is, however, still some distance to cover on our chosen path, leading us to a peaceful, progressive and prosperous Pakistan.

It is this path where we eagerly seek the support of trusted friend---- China. The two Parliaments of our countries have a meaningful role to play.

As Speaker, I consider this interaction extremely important since the diversity of our respective political systems provides us a unique opportunity to learn from each other's experience.

Excellency!

There is a famous Chinese saying:

“Books speak to the mind,
Friends speak to the heart,
Heavens speak to the soul,
And all else speak to the ears.”

So, I once again thank you for your visit to Pakistan, welcome you to our Parliament and assure you that this House puts its mind, heart and soul all together to listen to you!

I thank you all. Long Live Pakistan China Friendship

(Desk Thumping)

Mr. Speaker: It is my privilege and pleasure to invite His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, the President of the People’s Republic of China to address the Majlis-e-Shoora, Parliament.

(Desk Thumping)

Speech by H.E. Xi Jinping, President of the People’s Republic of China:

Your Excellency Prime Minister Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif,
Your Excellency Senate Chairman Mian Raza Rabbani,
Your Excellency Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq,
Ministers,
Members of Parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends!

I am very pleased to come to the Parliament of Pakistan today to address you, Members of the Parliament of Pakistan. The Parliament of Pakistan's invitation to me to address you today fully testifies to the profound friendship you cherish towards the Chinese people. Thank you very much for your kind invitation.

First of all, I wish to convey, on behalf of the 1.3 billion and more Chinese people, our warmest greetings and best wishes to the brotherly people of Pakistan. I also take this opportunity to pay deep respect to all the Pakistani friends in various fields of endeavor who have over the years worked to promote friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and China.

Pakistan is the first foreign country I visit this year. Although this is my first visit to your country, Pakistan is not at all unfamiliar to me. As an old Chinese saying goes, "Meeting a good friend for the first time is like having a reunion with an old friend." This is exactly how I feel during my visit to Pakistan. When I was young, I heard a lot from the elder generation about life and scenery in Pakistan and the moving stories of friendship between China and Pakistan. So, I have long been fascinated by Pakistan. The moment we arrived in your beautiful country, my colleagues and I have been overwhelmed by your warm hospitality. It is just like coming to the home of dear brothers.

Friendship between China and Pakistan is based on trust and mutual support, and we have been devoted friends through both good and hard times. Our friendship is a pacesetter for amicable relations between countries. The Pakistani people say that China-Pakistan friendship is higher than the mountain, deeper than the sea and sweeter than honey. And we Chinese fondly refer to the Pakistani people as our good friends, good neighbours, good partners, and good brothers.

During my current visit, President Hussain, Prime Minister Sharif and I agreed to elevate China-Pakistan relations to an all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. By all-weather, we mean that our two countries will always move ahead together rain or shine. This description of China-Pakistan partnership is a most appropriate one, as it aptly defines the all-weather friendship and all-round cooperation between China and Pakistan.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends!

Pakistan is a great country, both ancient and young. It is home to a splendid ancient civilization. In modern times, Pakistan fought unremittingly to win independence and pursue national development. The Pakistanis are a kind, brave, dignified and confident people with an indomitable national character. Over the past 60 years and more since the founding of the country, the Pakistani government and people have, in the face of intricate domestic and international developments, risen up to various challenges and made remarkable achievements in upholding sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity as well as in national and economic development. In the new century, Pakistan has stood at the frontline of international fight against terrorism. It has made tremendous efforts, endured enormous sacrifice, and made outstanding contribution to upholding peace and stability of our region and the world. We in China have great admiration for the people of Pakistan.

The founding father of Pakistan Muhammad Ali Jinnah said that "We are not afraid of the deep sea or the fire, because we believe in the sun and the future." The future is something that you either expect or shape. Today, Pakistan has a historic development opportunity. Prime Minister Sharif has crafted the vision of the "Asian Tiger Dream", outlining a great blueprint for Pakistan. The Chinese people

are confident that the Pakistani people, united as one in making unremitting efforts, will surely make even greater progress in pursuing national development. The Chinese people will always stand together with the Pakistani people in your great endeavor.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends!

Over 2,000 years ago, the Silk Road became a bridge of friendship linking our two ancient civilizations. Zhang Qian, China's emissary in the Han Dynasty, Faxian, the master monk in the Eastern Jin Dynasty, and Xuan Zang, the great monk in the Tang Dynasty visited Pakistan. Our two countries share similar cultural traditions and values. The Pakistanis believe that good faith is more precious than wealth. And we Chinese believe that a person cannot do without credibility. In recent history, both China and Pakistan suffered from imperialist and colonialist aggression and oppression and we extended mutual sympathy and support to each other. Back in the 1930s, the great Pakistani poet Muhammad Iqbal wrote that the Chinese people are waking up from their sleep and the spring of Mount Himalaya is bursting. Those lines saluted and voiced support to the Chinese people in their struggle for independence and fight against foreign aggression. Similar historical sufferings and the common struggle have brought our hearts and minds together.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties, thanks to the commitment of successive Chinese and Pakistani leaders and the concerted efforts of our two peoples, our two countries have forged an all-weather friendship and pursued all-round cooperation. Despite changes in the domestic and international environment, we have always extended sympathy to and supported each other on issues crucial to our respective core interests. Such friendship is truly unique.

As a Chinese saying goes, "Strong wind reveals the strength of grass, and genuine gold stands the test of fire." We will never forget that Pakistan was one of the first countries to recognize New China and the first Islamic country to enter into diplomatic relations with China. At the critical times when New China endeavored to break the blockade, resume its lawful seat at the United Nations and explore ways to carry out reform and opening-up, Pakistan always came forward with selfless and valuable assistance. When China was hit by natural disasters or faced difficulties, Pakistan always extended a helping hand. In 2008, when the devastating earthquake struck Wenchuan, China, Pakistan responded immediately and sent all its transport aircraft to ship its entire reserve of tents to China. The Pakistani medical team on the transport plane had to remove all seats to make room for the tents and sat on the floor all the way to China. Today, thousands of Pakistanis are working side by side with Chinese engineers and workers on projects undertaken by China in Pakistan, and there are many moving stories about their cooperation.

Similarly, whenever Pakistan is in need, China has come to its help. China firmly supports Pakistan's efforts to uphold sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. When Pakistan was hit by a severe flood in 2010, China provided immediate relief assistance via air and land routes. We dispatched the largest ever medical team and sent a big convoy of vehicles and helicopters to carry out rescue operations, the first time that such an operation was undertaken in the history of China's rescue assistance. Following the terrorist attack in Peshawar at the end of 2014, China invited the students who had been injured in the attack and their family to spend some time in China for recuperation, so the trauma those kids had experienced could be healed with care and love of the Chinese people.

In the most recent evacuation mission in Yemen, the Chinese navy evacuated 176 Pakistanis from the Port of Aden, and the Pakistani navy evacuated eight Chinese students from Mukalla Port. The Pakistani commander gave the order that the ship would not leave until all the Chinese students were on board. His stirring words again show that China-Pakistan friendship is indeed deeper than the sea.

Former Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Geng Biao, whom I once worked for, said that the traditional friendship between China and Pakistan will spread far and wide, just like the Karakoram Highway. His forecast has proved true by the thriving China-Pakistan relationship we see today. Having gone through weal and woe together, we couldn't feel more gratified to have each other as great neighbour and friend.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends!

Today, China and Pakistan both shoulder the historic mission of achieving national renewal and realizing the great dream of building a strong country and delivering a better life for our people. More than ever, we need to work together to strengthen the traditional friendship, fully leverage on geographic proximity and economic complementarity to share opportunities, meet challenges head on, pursue common development and substantiate the China-Pakistan community of shared destiny. This will enable us to create greater benefits to the Chinese and Pakistani people, contribute to stability and prosperity of our region and lead the way in building a community of common destiny in Asia.

First, we should strengthen mutual assistance and deepen strategic cooperation. Both being developing countries, we pursue an independent path of development at home and a foreign policy of

peace. A defining feature of our relations is deep political trust, which means we always put ourselves in each other's position in addressing related issues. We should keep the good tradition of frequent high-level visits and meetings. As leaders, we should meet often just as family members, and work together on major strategic issues to grow China-Pakistan relationship. We should support each other on issues involving our respective core interests and major concerns, firmly uphold sovereignty, territorial integrity and national dignity, and be each other's most dependable partner.

Second, we should advance our shared interests and achieve common development. The Chinese culture believes that to achieve success, one should let others succeed as well. China champions a right approach to principles and interests. We believe that to help Pakistan is to help ourselves. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a focal point of our joint efforts to achieve common development, and we should use this economic corridor to drive our practical cooperation with focus on Gwadar Port, energy, infrastructure development and industrial cooperation. The planning and layout of the Economic Corridor should cover other parts of Pakistan as well so that the fruits of its development will reach both, all the people in Pakistan and the people of other countries in our region.

Yesterday, several dozen cooperation agreements were signed between the two sides. I am convinced that these agreements will boost our practical cooperation, and lead to substantive progress in the development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. To support economic development and improve people's wellbeing in Pakistan, China will provide free assistance to Pakistan for reconstruction in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and for undertaking projects for the improvement of people's livelihood that are important to Pakistan.

Third, we should enhance close exchanges to build lasting friendship. It is the people who advance progress of nations and history. The support of our people is the inexhaustible source of force fostering China-Pakistan all-weather friendship and all-round cooperation. This year is the Year of China-Pakistan Friendly Exchanges. We should use the platforms of sister cities, cultural centers and media organizations to conduct diverse and colorful events of celebration. We should continue to send 100-member youth groups to visit each other's country and encourage more contacts and exchanges between young Chinese and Pakistanis. In the next five years, China will provide 2,000 training opportunities for Pakistan and train 1,000 Chinese language teachers for Pakistan. We welcome Pakistan's participation in the program of people-to-people and cultural exchanges between China and South Asia to strengthen popular support for China-Pakistan friendship.

Fourth, we should stick together in face of difficulty and jointly meet security challenges. Our two countries share a common stake in security. Over the years, Pakistan has overcome all difficulties and contributed greatly to the security and stability of China's western border areas, and this is something we will never forget. China will assist Pakistan in strengthening its capacity for fighting terrorism and ensuring security, and work with Pakistan to tackle rising non-traditional security threats so as to provide a reliable security guarantee for bilateral economic cooperation and common development.

Fifth, we should fulfill our due responsibilities and increase coordination on international issues. China-Pakistan relations have gone well beyond the bilateral context. We should maintain strategic communication on regional and international developments and increase coordination and collaboration on major regional and global

issues. China supports Pakistan in playing a constructive role on the Afghan issue and will work with Pakistan to advance the reconciliation process and smooth transition in Afghanistan. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and the victory of the world's anti-fascist war. We should reaffirm our abiding commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and work together to build a new type of international relations of win-win cooperation.

No matter how the international landscape may change, China will always approach its relations with Pakistan from a strategic and long-term perspective and give Pakistan high priority on its diplomatic agenda. There is a saying in Pakistan that the wind does not always blow in the direction which the sailor wishes. Yes, that is true. But as long as we are guided by the aspirations of our people and strive to meet such aspirations, we will be able to surmount all the obstacles on the way, and China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partnership will be further strengthened and enriched.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends!

China has reached the crucial stage of building a society of initial prosperity in all respects. As China and its interests are increasingly integrated with the world, we will enhance cooperation with Pakistan and all other development partners to contribute more to the economic growth in both our region and the world.

The Chinese nation loves peace. Over 2,000 years ago, the Chinese already knew that a belligerent country, however big it may be, is doomed. "Do not do onto others what you do not want others to do onto you." This is a principle that we Chinese adhere to, and we do not subscribe to the belief that a country is bound to seek hegemony

when it becomes powerful. Peaceful development is in China's interests, and also in the interests of Asia and the world. Nothing can shake our resolve to pursue peaceful development. China is committed to the principle of non-interference in other's internal affairs; it will never impose its own will onto others; and China will never seek hegemony however strong it may become.

China will continue to pursue win-win cooperation and enhance friendship and cooperation with other countries. It will stay committed to the policy of affinity, sincerity, mutual-benefit and inclusiveness. It will deepen win-win cooperation with its neighbours so as to deliver more benefits to them through its own development. China will remain a reliable friend and sincere partner of other developing countries. China will continue to pursue a win-win strategy for opening-up, and advance all-round opening-up to build an open economy. This will create new development opportunities and space to both Asia and the world.

The initiative of building a Silk Road Economic Belt and a 21st Century Maritime Silk Road (the Belt and Road Initiative) that China has launched is a significant move to fully open up itself under the new conditions. This initiative also reflects China's commitment to sharing development opportunities and outcomes with more countries. We will strengthen cooperation with countries along the land and maritime Silk Roads and realize the connectivity of roads, trade, finance, policies and our people, so as to jointly build an open platform for cooperation and create new impetus to achieve sustainable development in the related regions.

South Asia is where the land and maritime Silk Roads meet. It is, therefore, a focal area and important cooperation partner for advancing the Belt and Road Initiative. Good progress has been made in building

the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor which are closely connected with the land and maritime Silk Roads. The building of these two economic corridors will give a strong boost to the economic growth of the related countries and provide a strong new force for deepening regional cooperation in South Asia.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends!

Peace, development and cooperation are the theme of our great times. The vast and richly endowed South Asia has boundless potential for development. The hard-working and talented people of South Asia are making vigorous efforts to speed up development in the region and turn it into a new pole of growth for the world economy.

China is the biggest neighbour of South Asia. A peaceful and stable South Asia that enjoys development and prosperity serves China's interests. China is ready to pursue its development strategy with that of the South Asian countries in mind to realize mutually beneficial development and common prosperity. During my visit to three South Asian countries last year, I put forward a number of initiatives to strengthen China's cooperation with the South Asian countries, which are being implemented. China respects the unique culture and historical traditions of the South Asian region. We are a sincere partner of South Asian countries. We will treat each other with respect and as equals, and accommodate each other's comfort level to ensure long-term and sound growth of our relations.

Only with win-win cooperation can we enlarge the pie of common interests and realize common prosperity. South Asia occupies a priority on China's westward opening-up agenda, and we will share more development practices with the South Asian countries to

complement each other's development endeavors. China is ready to do more to provide assistance and support to South Asian countries within the framework of South-South cooperation.

Both China and the South Asian countries have a time-honoured history, and we both value benevolence, friendship, inclusiveness, mutual learning, harmony and co-existence. China is ready to strengthen inter-civilization dialogue with South Asian countries, an important part of such dialogue across Asia, so as to jointly promote the wisdom of the East and Asian values.

It is thanks to openness, inclusiveness, unity and self-reliance that the Asian countries have succeeded in promoting development, prosperity and national renewal. We must continue to be guided by such visions to achieve even greater development in the future. China will strengthen cooperation with the South Asian countries to jointly advance regional cooperation in South Asia and Asia as a whole. China will upgrade its cooperation with the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, and step up international coordination with the South Asian countries under multilateral frameworks to jointly uphold the interests of developing countries.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends!

To build a China-Pakistan community of shared destiny is a strategic decision made by our two governments and people. It meets the fundamental interests of our two countries. Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founding father of Pakistan, once observed that only through united efforts can we turn our ideals into reality. Let us work together to create an even brighter future for China and Pakistan.

Thank you!

Mr. Speaker: Now, I invite the honourable Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly to present a vote of thanks to the President of the Peoples' Republic of China.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA BY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION
IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly (Syed Khursheed Ahmed Shah): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I, being the Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly of Pakistan, welcome His Excellency, Mr. Xi Jinping, President of China and the delegation here in the Majlis-e-Shoora. It is a great honour to have you among us.

I strongly believe that this visit will further strengthen our bilateral ties and contribute a lot to the development and prosperity of the two nations. Both nations are keen and active to further develop cooperation in each and every field of life.

Since the establishment of the Pak-China diplomatic relationship, both countries have attained main milestone in their bilateral relationship.

Mr. Speaker! Pakistan People's Party, under the visionary leadership of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, led the foundation of strong relationship with China. Through his vision, Bhutto made Pak-China relationship as an essential and never changed pillar of the foreign policy of Pakistan.

Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto continued the legacy of Mr. Bhutto, which was further cemented by ex-President Pakistan and co-Chairman of PPP Mr. Asif Ali Zardari.

I hope Pak China friendship rooted in the heart and mind of the peoples of the two countries will continue to grow for ever beyond any doubt.

Pak China Friendship Zindabad.

Mr. Speaker: Now, I invite the honourable Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to present a vote of thanks to the President of the People's Republic of China.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA BY THE PRIME MINISTER, ISLAMIC
REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

Prime Minister Islamic Republic of Pakistan (Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif): بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ۔ His Excellency President Xi Jinping, honourable Chairman Senate, honourable Speaker, respected Chinese friends, my fellow Parliamentarians!

Today is a great day for this Parliament and for the people of Pakistan - we are receiving a dear friend and the leader of great nation, that is our next door neighbour.

President Xi Jinping! you are a special guest. Confucius said centuries ago, "How delightful it is to have friends visiting us from afar", so are we delighted to have you amidst us. You are, however, not a friend from afar, but one who is so close to our heart. Mr. Xi Jinping, as in China, you are popular in Pakistan. We know you have a strong association with Pakistan. Mountains and rivers joint our territories and our hearts and minds unite our nations. We are friends forever in difficult and happy moments alike. We are good neighbours,

close friends, dear brothers and trusted partners. We have an all weather friendship, time-tested, cooperative and strategic partnership.

We are truly iron brothers. I extend warm greetings to all the Chinese friends here in this Chamber and who are watching us live.

President Xi Jinping! as you can see, leaders and representatives of all the political parties are here to welcome you. All political parties in Pakistan have one united stance. Pakistan should have a robust bond with China. This is also the aspiration of the constituents they represent, and in fact, the entire nation of Pakistan.

We thank you for your inspiring address, your solidarity with the people of Pakistan and your valuable insights on how our two nations should move forward hand in hand to seize new opportunities and overcome challenges. We will do so in pursuit of our shared goals of peace, stability and prosperity in our region and beyond that.

Let me assure you Mr. President! Pakistan considers China's security as its own security. We would fight together to eliminate the menace of terrorism. Our joint efforts in this regard have succeeded but we need to intensify these efforts to accomplish our objective.

In the international forums, Pakistan will continue to support One-China policy and China's stand on its core national interest. We appreciate China's solidarity with Pakistan in our quest for peace and stability in South Asia through engagement on all outstanding issues. We applaud your vision of community of shared destiny underpinned by one belt one route. This vision is anchored in the strong desire of the Continents of Asia, Africa and Europe to commend their common bonds for a better future.

Pakistan China Economic Corridor is a product of joint endeavors of our two countries at the conceptual and operational level. It has moved fast into the implementation phase. This is a catalytic project that will help us to combine the geo strategic and geo economic strands of our relationship. It will benefit the entire country and all the provinces - Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the areas of Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

The corridor will stimulate completion of the projects in the areas of transportation, infrastructure, energy and industrial development. We are grateful to the Chinese leadership, state institutions, banks and corporations for supporting all these projects, especially power projects. This Parliament, the Government and the people of Pakistan thank China for its commitment to help us resolve the energy crisis and make Pakistan self-sufficient in energy.

The corridor is a critical connective plank of one belt one route. It symbolizes our determination to create win-win partnerships, which threaten none but benefit all. Our defence ties are strong and they are poised to become stronger in the years to come. This year is the year of friendly exchanges. Let the youth of the two countries inherit this unique relationship that we have developed over the decades and take it to new heights.

Our young entrepreneurs, academics, media persons, teachers, students and professionals will sustain our friendship and make it even more productive.

President Xi! your visit and your address are a historic moment, as we look at our relationship over the next fifteen years and beyond. I

appreciate all members of your delegation for the diligent preparation they have made for this visit.

I would conclude with a couplet from our national poet Allama Muhammad Iqbal:

کھول آنکھ زمیں دیکھ، فلک دیکھ، فضا دیکھ
مشرق سے ابھرتے ہوئے سورج کو ذرا دیکھ

It means, open your eyes, look at the land, the skies and the air, look at the rising sun from the East.

Mr. President! your dream has not only galvanized the people of China, it has also inspired the people of Pakistan. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members, after the prorogation of the Joint Sitting, the honourable members are requested to remain seated as the honourable President of the People's Republic of China will step down to shake hands with the honourable members in the first row.

Now, I read out the Prorogation Order.

“In exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (1) Article 54 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan”, I hereby prorogue the Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament) in the Joint Sitting summoned on 21st April 2015 on the conclusion of its sitting.

Signed
(MAMNOON HUSSAIN)
President, Islamic Republic of Pakistan

(The Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament) in Joint Sitting was prorogued)