

PAKISTAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION'S NEWSLETTER



January - March, 2026



PAKISTAN

&



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Empowering Growth Through Collaboration

(Edition-8)

Message

Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the latest edition of the Pakistan Embassy's newsletter. This initiative is part of our continuous efforts to enhance communication and engagement with the Pakistani community in the United Arab Emirates, as well as our esteemed Emirati hosts.



Our mission in the UAE is multifaceted, focusing on strengthening bilateral relations, promoting trade and investment, providing consular services, and fostering cultural exchange. The embassy in Abu Dhabi and the consulate in Dubai are committed to serving the Pakistani diaspora with dedication and professionalism.

Through this newsletter, we aim to keep you informed about the various activities and initiatives undertaken by our diplomatic missions. Whether it is facilitating business opportunities, organizing cultural events, or addressing the consular needs of our community, our goal is to ensure that the services we provide are both comprehensive and accessible.

In the coming editions, we will highlight the significant work being done by our teams in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. You will find updates on key events, stories of our community members' achievements, and important information on consular matters. We hope this newsletter will serve as a valuable resource and a bridge between the embassy, the consulate, and the Pakistani community in the UAE.

I encourage you to stay connected with us and share your feedback to help us improve our services. Together, we can continue to build a strong, vibrant, and supportive community.

Warm regards,

(Shafqat Ali Khan)

Ambassador of Pakistan to the UAE

1. DIPLOMATIC OUTREACH

Hussain Muhammad Pays Condolence Visit to Bangladesh Consulate in Dubai Following Passing of Khaleda Zia

January 5th, 2026

H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, visited the Consulate General of Bangladesh in Dubai to express condolences on the passing of Begum Khaleda Zia, Chairperson of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and former Prime Minister of Bangladesh. The Consul General recorded his remarks in the condolence book.





January 11th, 2026

Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam MNA, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, delivered Pakistan's national statement to the 16th International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Assembly in Abu Dhabi. Pakistan has emerged as one of the world's fastest growing solar markets, with 12 GW of off grid and over 6 GW of net metered solar capacity by the end of 2025. Last fiscal year, renewables accounted for a historic 53% of total electricity generation.

January 24th, 2026

Deputy Prime Minister / Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar held meeting in Dubai, with H.E. Jassem Mohammed Bu Ataba Al Zaabi, Chairman of Etisalat (e&) and the Abu Dhabi Department of Finance. The meeting reviewed Pak-UAE trade & economic cooperation and explored opportunities to enhance investment.





January 26th, 2026

Asif Ali Zardari and Aseefa Bhutto Zardari Received by UAE Justice Minister at Zayed International Airport

President Asif Ali Zardari and First Lady Bibi Aseefa Bhutto Zardari were received by the Minister of Justice of the United Arab Emirates, Abdullah bin Sultan bin Awad Al Nuaimi, at the Presidential Flight Terminal of Zayed International Airport.



January 27th, 2026

H.E. Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence of the UAE called on President Asif Ali Zardari in Abu Dhabi. The meeting underscored the importance of promoting dialogue, inclusivity, and peaceful coexistence. President Zardari paid tribute to the visionary leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and lauded the UAE's national vision of tolerance and human fraternity. First Lady Bibi Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, MNA; Chairman People's Party, Mr Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control, Syed Mohsin Naqvi and Pakistan's Ambassador to the UAE Shafqat Ali Khan were also present during the meeting.



PRESIDENT ASIF ALI ZARDARI MEETS MOHAMED JUMA AL SHAMISI, CEO OF AD PORTS GROUP

January 27th, 2026

Captain Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi, Managing Director and Group CEO of AD Ports Group, paid a courtesy call on President Asif Ali Zardari. The President appreciated AD Ports Group's long-term investment and growing role in Pakistan's maritime and logistics sector. He highlighted the group's ongoing investments at Karachi Port as instrumental in enhancing port capacity, efficiency, and regional competitiveness.

The meeting was attended by First Lady Bibi Aseefa Bhutto Zardari MNA, Chairman People's Party, Mr Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Syed Mohsin Naqvi, and Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan.





January 27th, 2026

President Asif Ali Zardari, accompanied by a high-level delegation, met today with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, during an official visit to the UAE. The leaders discussed ways to further deepen the longstanding and brotherly relations between Pakistan and the UAE. They reviewed the full spectrum of bilateral cooperation and explored new opportunities in trade, investment, energy, infrastructure, technology, and people-to-people exchanges, highlighting the significant potential for expanding economic and strategic partnership.





January 28th, 2026

President Asif Ali Zardari met with H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai, at Zabeel Palace, today. The two leaders discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral relations, with a focus on expanding economic, trade and investment cooperation between Pakistan and the UAE.

President Zardari congratulated His Highness on two decades of leadership as Ruler of Dubai and commended Dubai's remarkable transformation into a global centre for tourism, finance and emerging technologies. Both sides exchanged views on benefiting from Dubai's development experience, particularly in ports, logistics, infrastructure, information technology and digital financial services.



January 31st, 2026

On the sidelines of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue 2026, H.E. Chaudhry Salik Hussain, Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis, and Human Resource Development, held a meeting with H.E. Dr. Asif Nazrul, Adviser to the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment of Bangladesh.

Both sides expressed their commitment to continued engagement and constructive dialogue to strengthen cooperation in areas of shared interest. Senior officials of the Pakistan and Bangladesh diplomatic missions in the UAE were also present during the meeting.





January 31st, 2026

On the sidelines of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue 2026, H.E. Chaudhry Salik Hussain, Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, held a meeting with H.E. Atty. Hans Leo J. Cacdac, Secretary, Department of Migrant Workers of the Philippines.

Both sides agreed to maintain close engagement and to share further information on registration, training, and reintegration mechanisms for migrant workers, with a view to strengthening cooperation and benefiting from each other's experiences.

February 02nd, 2026

On the sidelines of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue 2026, Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Chaudhry Salik Hussain, held a meeting in Dubai with Her Excellency Rabab Abdullah Al-Osaimi Director-General of Public Authority for Manpower (PAM), Kuwait. The meeting explored avenues to further strengthen cooperation in the labour sector between Pakistan and State of Kuwait.





MINISTER OF STATE BILAL AZHAR KAYANI REPRESENTS PRIME MINISTER AT WORLD GOVERNMENT SUMMIT 2026 IN DUBAI

Mr. Bilal Azhar Kayani, Minister of State for Finance and Railways, represented Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif at the World Government Summit (WGS) in Dubai.

February 03rd, 2026



February 04th, 2026

Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam, Secretary General of the Zayed Award for Human Fraternity, called on the First Lady of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Bibi Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, during her visit in Abu Dhabi. Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam briefed the First Lady on the Zayed Award for Human Fraternity.

The First Lady appreciated the UAE's visionary leadership in institutionalizing human fraternity as a cornerstone of global humanitarian discourse and lauded the Zayed Award for Human Fraternity as a credible and impactful platform for advancing inclusive and values-based engagement worldwide.



February 07th, 2026

SENATE CHAIRMAN YOUSAF RAZA GILANI ATTENDS CEREMONY FOR APPOINTMENT OF MOLDOVA'S HONORARY CONSUL IN PAKISTAN

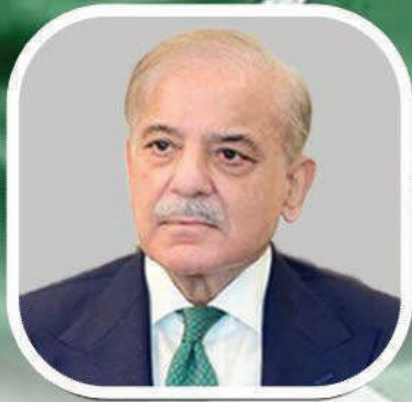
The Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan, H.E. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, was the Chief Guest at a ceremony marking the appointment of Syed Kashif Ali as Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in Pakistan.



February 27th, 2026

H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, met with H.E. Riaz bin Abdul Razak, Consul General of Malaysia in Dubai, and the Northern Emirates. The meeting, held at the Consulate General of Pakistan, provided an opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest and explore avenues for enhancing bilateral cooperation between the two sides.





Prime Minister

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif



His Highness

**Sheikh Mohamed bin
Zayed Al Nahyan**

The Prime Minister:

- Strongly condemned the serious regional escalation resulting from the Israeli attack on Iran earlier 28.02.26 followed by the regrettable attacks against the UAE, in both Abu Dhabi and Dubai, as well as in other Gulf countries.
- Expressed his sadness at the tragic demise of a Pakistani national in the missile attack on Abu Dhabi.
- Assured the UAE leadership of Pakistan's solidarity and support in the current crisis.
- Pakistan would always stand with its Emirati brothers and sisters, consistent with the close fraternal bonds between both countries, that had withstood the test of times.

Source: (PMO) 28-02-2026

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2. ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY



January 12th, 2026

The 27th edition of Intersec, the world's largest business exhibition for security, safety, and fire protection was held from 12 January 2026 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. Intersec 2026 featured exhibitors from over 60 countries, with more than 1,400 companies and an expected turnout of over 50,000 trade visitors.

This year, six Pakistani companies participated in the exhibition under the auspices of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) to showcase their products and services. The Pakistan Pavilion was inaugurated by H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan, along with Mr. Ali Zeb Khan, Trade and Investment Counsellor.

January 19th, 2026

Pakistan participated in the 30th edition of AEEDC Dubai 2026, the UAE International Dental Conference & Arab Dental Exhibition, held from 19–21 January 2026 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. Pakistan was represented by 8 companies under the umbrella of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), alongside more than 35 Pakistani companies participating privately, highlighting Pakistan's expanding footprint in the global dental and oral healthcare market.

Mr. Ali Zeb Khan, Trade & Investment Counsellor accompanied by Mr. Muhammad Saleh, Press Counsellor inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion at the exhibition.



September 19th, 2025

Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan, Pakistan's Envoy to the UAE, met a delegation of the Pakistan Business Council (PBC) Dubai at the Consulate General of Pakistan. The delegation was led by Mr. Muhammad Shabbir Merchant, Chairman PBC, and included management committee members Mr. Kamran Ahmed Riaz, Mr. Iftikhar Ali Tatlah, Mr. Noor Karim Afridi, Mr. Saleem Tabani, and Mr. Muhammad Iqbal Dawood. Senior officers of the Consulate were also present during the meeting.

The Ambassador reaffirmed the Mission's support to PBC initiatives aimed at strengthening bilateral trade and facilitating the Pakistani business community in the UAE. Mr. Shabbir Merchant briefed the Ambassador on various initiatives undertaken by PBC aimed at strengthening the footprint of Pakistani businesses in the UAE.





January 26th, 2026

The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) marked its largest-ever participation at Gulfood 2026, the world's leading food and beverage trade exhibition, with the inauguration of the Pakistan Pavilion in Dubai. The 31st edition of Gulfood brought together more than 1.5 million products showcased by 8,500 exhibitors from 195 countries. Pakistan's expanded presence at this premier global platform highlighted the country's sustained efforts to enhance exports, diversify markets, and strengthen engagement with global food value chains.

This year, TDAP facilitated an unprecedented 67 Pakistani companies, while 75 companies participated independently, across four specialized pavilions covering Rice, Pulses & Grains, World Food, Beverages, and Meat & Poultry sectors. H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, Mr. Athar Hussain Khokhar, Director General (Agro Division), TDAP, along with Trade & Investment Counsellor, visited the Pakistan Pavilion at Dubai Expo City (DEC) and Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC).



January 29th, 2026

Ahsan Iqbal Visits Pakistan Pavilion and Biryani Festival Stall at Gulfood 2026 in Dubai

Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Professor Ahsan Iqbal visited Pakistan Pavilion at Gulfood 2026 in Dubai. During his visit, the Minister toured various Pakistani stalls and interacted with exhibitors, encouraging them to focus on enhancing exports and value addition. During the visit, Professor Ahsan Iqbal also visited the Biryani Festival stall set up by TDAP and appreciated the initiative to showcase and promote Pakistani basmati rice at the event.



February 09th, 2026

The Pakistan Pavilion was inaugurated at the World Health Exhibition (WHX) 2026, formerly known as Arab Health, at South Hall 3, Dubai Exhibition Centre (DEC), Expo City Dubai, held from 9 to 12 February 2026.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Mr. Ali Zeb Khan, Trade & Investment Counsellor, and Mr. Muhammad Saleh, Press Counsellor, Consulate General of Pakistan, Dubai, along with representatives of participating Pakistani companies. A total of 40 leading Pakistani companies, participating under TDAP, showcased medical devices, surgical instruments, and pharmaceutical innovation, highlighting Pakistan's growing footprint in the global healthcare industry.



February 13th, 2026

A dinner was hosted in honour of Pakistani exhibitors participating in the World Health Expo (WHX) 2026, formerly Arab Health at the Metropolitan Hotel, Dubai. H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, along with Mr. Ali Zeb Khan, Trade & Investment Counsellor, and other officers of the Consulate, warmly welcomed the Pakistani exhibitors and appreciated their participation in one of the region's premier healthcare platforms.



3. PAKISTAN IMAGE BUILDING

Consul General of Pakistan Inaugurates Pakistani Art and Culture Festival at Dubai International Art Centre

February 07th, 2026

H.E. Mr. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, along with Mr. Muhammad Saleh, Press Counsellor, inaugurated Pakistani Art and Culture Festival at Dubai International Art Centre. The Consul General congratulated and appreciated the organizers for showcasing Pakistan's artistic and cultural wealth on an international platform. He said that Dubai is a hub for multicultural engagement, noting that UAE provides unique spaces and opportunities where diverse cultures converge, interact, and are celebrated. Ms. Soobika Fawad thanked the Consul General for their encouragement and support. The festival is organized by Pakistani artists Ms. Soobika Fawad, Ms. Afsheen Beig, Dr. Anum Ali, and Ms. Alia Amin.



February 13th, 2026

H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, met with Syed Abu Huraira Shah, a talented young Pakistani international Taekwondo athlete who has represented Pakistan at various competitions. In recognition of his contribution to promoting Pakistan's positive image abroad, the Consul General presented him with an appreciation certificate and conveyed his best wishes for continued success in future competitions.



March 23rd, 2026

PAKISTAN RESOLUTION DAY

Pakistan's Embassy in Abu Dhabi and Consulate General in Dubai celebrated Pakistan's National Day with events featuring flag hoisting. Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan hoisted the flag in the Embassy of Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Abu Dhabi, while H.E. Hussain Muhammad in the Consulate General of Pakistan in Dubai, with both ceremonies followed by the National Anthem. The Ambassador and the Consul General delivered key note speeches during the ceremonies.



23rd March, 2025

On Pakistan Day 2026, Pakistan's national flag illuminated the iconic Burj Khalifa at 7:20 PM, while the ADNOC Headquarters lit up in green and white to celebrate the National Day of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The beautiful tribute added pride and joy to the celebrations of this special occasion.



PAKISTAN'S NATIONAL FLAG DISPLAYED ON THE ADNOC BUILDING IN ABU DHABI



PAKISTAN'S FLAG DISPLAYED ON BURJ KHALIFA ON THE EVE OF 23RD MARCH

4. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

February 02nd, 2026

CONSUL GENERAL ATTENDS CLIMATE AWARENESS EVENT FEATURING THE LAST VILLAGE DOCUMENTARY IN DUBAI

H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan, attended an event organized by Earth Warriorz and the Pakistan Youth Forum (PYF) at the Pakistan Association Dubai, featuring screening of the documentary titled "The Last Village". The event aimed to engage Pakistani youth and the diaspora in dialogue on climate change and community resilience.

Addressing the gathering, the Consul General appreciated the efforts of Ms. Emaan Danish, Founder of Earth Warriorz, and her team, and commended PYF for mobilizing young Pakistanis on an issue of global and national importance.



February 02nd, 2026

Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Mr. Chaudhry Salik Hussain, was received by H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, upon his visit to the Consulate.

The Federal Minister held a meeting with officers of the Consulate, during which matters concerning the welfare and facilitation of Pakistani nationals residing in the UAE were discussed.





February 03rd, 2026

Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Chaudhry Salik Hussain, held an interactive session with members of the Pakistani business community in Sharjah. The event was organized by the Pakistan Business Council (PBC) Sharjah to strengthen engagement between the Government of Pakistan and overseas Pakistani entrepreneurs. H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, along with senior officers of the Pakistan Consulate, also attended the session. The business community was represented by the President and Senior Vice President of PBC Sharjah, as well as prominent Pakistani businessmen, investors, and professionals based in Sharjah.

February 05th, 2026

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Abu Dhabi organized an event at its premises to observe the Kashmir Solidarity Day. The event reaffirmed Pakistan's resolute support and solidarity for the oppressed Kashmiri brethren in their just and indigenous struggle against illegal occupation and condemning the human rights violations being committed by the Indian forces.



The Consulate General of Pakistan in Dubai organized an event at its premises to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day 2026. Many Pakistani and Kashmiri community members based in the UAE attended the gathering. H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General underscored that the Kashmir issue remains a core humanitarian and principled concern for Pakistan. He emphasized that the right to self-determination of the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) is an internationally recognized right, enshrined in the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, and must be realized through peaceful and democratic means.



February 23rd, 2026

The Consulate General of Pakistan in Dubai, in collaboration with the National Bank of Pakistan and Al Ansari Exchange, organized an Iftar dinner and Community Engagement event in Al Ghurair Workers Camp in Sonapur, Dubai on 22 February 2026. H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, was the Chief Guest at the event. The Consul General emphasized the importance of utilizing formal and legal channels for remitting funds to Pakistan.



March 09th, 2026

Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan visited the Ramadan Iftar tent established by Vista Maritime Travel and Tourism at Port Rashid in Dubai. The tent provides daily Iftar meals to hundreds of people throughout the holy month of Ramadan as part of its initiative aimed at serving the wider community. The Ambassador appreciated Dr. Zafar Tahir Rizvi CEO, and the management of Vista Maritime Travel & Tourism for the initiative.



March 09th, 2026

H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, along with Community Welfare Attachés Mr. Imran Shahid and Mr. Junaid Murtaza, visited Rashid Hospital to inquire about the health and well-being of Pakistani nationals who were injured due to falling debris following the interception of incoming missiles in Dubai.



Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan visited Sheikh Shakhbout Hospital and met injured Pakistani nationals receiving treatment. He wished them a speedy recovery, appreciated the hospital administration for their care, and lauded the UAE government's commitment to providing top-tier medical care to all affected residents.





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