

# PAKISTAN WATCH

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No. 25

December 2012

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## POLITICAL ISSUES

### EGYPT

#### **1. Hina Khar visits Cairo**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 8 November 2012**

Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar visited Cairo as a special envoy of President Asif Ali Zardari to deliver personal invitation from him to Egyptian President Mohammad Morsi, for participation in the Developing Eight (D-8) Summit being held on 22 November and to undertake a bilateral visit during 23-24 November.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en/\\_/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=213965&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=213965&Itemid=1)

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#### **2. Egyptian President phones PM Ashraf; discusses Gaza situation**

**Islamabad, Friday 16 November 2012**

Egyptian President Mohammad Morsi telephoned Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf to discuss the situation in Gaza arising out of the aerial bombardments by Israeli warplanes in which several Palestinians were killed and many injured.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en/\\_/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=214987&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=214987&Itemid=1)

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#### **3. Egyptian President Mohammad Morsi to arrive on Friday**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 20 November 2012**

President of Egypt Mohammad Morsi will be undertaking a state visit to Islamabad, immediately after the D-8 Summit at the invitation of President Asif Ali Zardari.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en/\\_/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215535&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en/_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215535&Itemid=1)

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### ISRAEL

#### **4. At UN, Pakistan slams Israel's deadly offensive in Gaza**

**United Nations, Thursday, 15 November 2012**

Pakistan has strongly condemned Israel's new offensive in the Gaza Strip and urged the UN Security Council, which met in a private emergency session, to demand an immediate cessation of military action.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=214763&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=214763&Itemid=1)

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**5. International community must intervene to stop aggression of Israel: Kaira**

**Lalamusa, Sunday, 18 November 2012**

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Qamar Zaman Kaira has condemned the killing of innocent Palestinians in Israeli air strikes and demanded of international community to stop Israel from such brutal acts.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215195&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215195&Itemid=1)

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**IRAN**

**6. Iranian Interior Minister calls on President**

**Islamabad, Tuesday, 13 November 2012**

Iranian Interior Minister Mustafa Mohammad Najjar called on President Asif Ali Zardari after the inaugural session of the Regional Ministerial Conference on Counter-Narcotics.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=214449&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=214449&Itemid=1)

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**7. Iranian President calls President Zardari**

**Islamabad, Sunday, 18 November 2012**

President of Iran, Ahmadinejad called President Asif Ali Zardari and discussed bilateral relations.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215203&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215203&Itemid=1)

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**8. Ahmadinejad arrives to attend D-8**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 21 November 2012**

President of Iran Ahmadinejad arrived to participate in the summit of Developing-8 countries and to discuss bilateral issues with the Pakistani leaders.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215611&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215611&Itemid=1)

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**9. Rehman Malik calls on Iranian President**

**Islamabad, Friday, 23 November 2012**

Minister for Interior Rehman Malik called on President of Iran Ahmadinejad and discussed matters of mutual interests including control of human smuggling on Pak-Iran border.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215989&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215989&Itemid=1)

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**OMAN**

**10. Ambassador of Oman calls on Foreign Minister**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 28 November 2012**

The new Ambassador of Oman Riyadh Yousuf Ahmed Al-Raisi paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar at the Foreign Office.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=216455&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=216455&Itemid=1)

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## **QATAR**

### **11. President Zardari to visit Qatar on Nov 6**

**Islamabad, Sunday, 4 November 2012**

President Asif Ali Zardari will pay a two-day official visit to Qatar aimed at strengthening ties with the Gulf state.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=213597&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=213597&Itemid=1)

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### **12. Pakistan desirous of multifarious ties with Qatar: Zardari**

**Doha, Qatar, Wednesday, 7 November 2012**

President Asif Ali Zardari arrived on his first official visit to Qatar on the invitation of the Emir of Qatar and discussed desire of promoting ties with Qatar in diverse fields as the traditional relations provided an excellent foundation for building a mutually beneficial economic edifice.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=213863&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=213863&Itemid=1)

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## **TURKEY**

### **13. Turkish Prime Minister arrives for D-8 Summit**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 21 November 2012**

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan arrived to attend the meeting of the D-8 aimed at forging closer trade and economic ties, besides discussing bilateral ties with the Pakistani leadership.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215647&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215647&Itemid=1)

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### **14. Turkish PM says joint projects among D-8 states must to make a dynamic move**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 22 November 2012**

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said joint projects among the member states of D-8 countries were the only way to make a dynamic move towards prosperity.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215805&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215805&Itemid=1)

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## **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

## **EGYPT**

### **15. Presidents of Pakistan, Egypt vow to increase economic cooperation**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 22 November 2012**

President Asif Ali Zardari and Vice President of Egypt Mahmoud Mekki vowed to bolster Pak-Egypt bilateral trade and economic cooperation and agreed on frequent exchange of business delegation to explore new avenues for investment in various fields to mutual benefit of the two countries on the sidelines of D-8 Summit in Islamabad.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215893&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215893&Itemid=1)

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## IRAN

### **16. Fahim calls for enhanced trade with Iran**

**Islamabad, Monday, 19 November 2012**

Senior Minister for Commerce Makhdoom Amin Fahim showing concern over the decreasing trade between Pakistan and Iran emphasized the need for effectively implementing the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) for boosting trade between the two countries.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215321&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215321&Itemid=1)

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### **17. Iranian President hopes Pak-Iran gas pipeline to complete in 2014**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 22 November 2012**

President of Iran Ahmadinejad said that Pakistan-Iran gas pipeline project would be completed by 2014.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215875&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215875&Itemid=1)

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### **18. Iran proposes investment fund, barter trade, PTA amongst D-8 member states**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 22 November 2012**

President of Iran Ahmadinejad proposed setting up of a Joint Investment Fund, barter transactions and operationalization of the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between the D-8 member states.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215797&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215797&Itemid=1)

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### **19. Pakistan, Iran Presidents vow to take concrete steps to bolster bilateral trade**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 22 November 2012**

President Asif Ali Zardari and Iranian President Ahmadinejad vowed to take concerted and concrete steps to bolster Pak- Iran bilateral trade to new heights while vigorously pursuing mega projects in all areas particularly in energy, trade and economic fields.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215889&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215889&Itemid=1)

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## OMAN

### **20. Oman envoy pays a courtesy call on PM**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 29 November 2012**

Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf said Pakistan looks forward to more intense trade relations with Oman and hoped that Omani investors would benefit from the business-friendly policies of the government.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=216505&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=216505&Itemid=1)

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## **QATAR**

### **21. Zardari invites Qatari businessmen to invest in oil & gas, infrastructure sectors**

**Doha, Qatar, Wednesday, 7 November 2012**

Talking to a delegation of Qatar's leading business tycoons led by Vice Chairman of Qatar's Chamber of Commerce and Industries Muhammad bin Ahmad bin Tawar Al-Kawari, President Asif Ali Zardari invited Qatari businessmen to take advantage of investment and business friendly policies of Pakistan by investing in various sectors including energy, infrastructure, banking and agriculture.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=213919&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=213919&Itemid=1)

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### **22. Pakistan, Qatar agree on cooperation in energy, trade**

**Doha, Qatar, Wednesday, 7 November 2012**

Pakistan and Qatar agreed to collaborate in energy and trade sectors and discussed ways to resolve formalities for importing Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from Qatar.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=213869&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=213869&Itemid=1)

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## **TURKEY**

### **23. Turkey offers to help Pakistan construct dams**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 21 November 2012**

Prime Minister of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that if the issue of Karkey Power Plant was not resolved then it would have a negative impact on Turkish investors who are keen to invest in Pakistan.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215731&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215731&Itemid=1)

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### **24. President stresses on conclusion of Pak-Turkey trade agreement**

**Islamabad, Wednesday, 21 November 2012**

President Asif Ali Zardari emphasized the need for fast tracking the conclusion of Pakistan-Turkey Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) and creating facilitative mechanisms and opportunities for investors and private sectors of the two countries to bolster bilateral trade to new heights and achieve mutually agreed trade target of US\$2 billion.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215733&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215733&Itemid=1)

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## MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

## **LEBANON**

### **25. Prime Minister greets Lebanese counterpart on Independence Day**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 22 November 2012**

Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf has felicitated the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lebanon Najib Mikati on their Independence Day being celebrated on 22 November.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=215747&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215747&Itemid=1)

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## SAUDI ARABIA

### **26. Pak envoy visits injured in Riyadh hospitals**

**Riyadh, Friday, 2 November 2012**

Ambassador of Pakistan to Saudi Arabia Mohammed Naeem Khan visited various hospitals in Riyadh to inquire about the health of Pakistanis injured in a road accident.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=213497&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=213497&Itemid=1)

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### **27. President wishes good health, early recovery to King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 15 November 2012**

President Asif Ali Zardari Thursday wished good health and early recovery to King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, who would be undergoing surgery in Riyadh.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=214915&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=214915&Itemid=1)

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## TURKEY

### **28. Pakistani leadership condoles with Turkey over helicopter crash**

**Islamabad, Sunday, 11 November 2012**

The leadership of Pakistan has condoled with the people and Government of Turkey over the helicopter crash in Siirt province that resulted in the death of 17 Turkish soldiers.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=214161&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=214161&Itemid=1)

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## UAE

### **29. Conferment of Nishan-i-Imtiaz (Military) upon COS UAE**

**Islamabad, Tuesday, 6 November 2012**

Acting President Syed Nayyar Hussain Bukhari, on the advice of the Prime Minister, approved the conferment of *Nishan-i- Imtiaz* (Military) upon Lt. Gen. Hamad Mohammed Thani Al-Rumaithi, Chief of Staff United Arab Emirates in recognition of his services for further strengthening the bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=213807&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=213807&Itemid=1)

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### **30. President decorates UAE Naval Commander with Hilal-i-Imtiaz (Military)**

**Islamabad, Thursday, 15 November 2012**

President Asif Ali Zardari decorated Commander UAE Naval Forces, Staff Maj. Gen. (Navy) Ibrahim Salim Mohamed Al Musharrakh, with *Hilal-i-Imtiaz* (Military) during a special investiture ceremony held at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

*Source: Associated Press of Pakistan*

[http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=214787&Itemid=1](http://app.com.pk/en /index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=214787&Itemid=1)

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