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Page. 15

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STUNZONC

04. Saudi Arabia fast becoming center of global sports

05. Doctors and Lawyers: Protests at Punjab Institute of Cardiology

07. How to Fix Pakistan's Crashing Economy

10. Pakistani tycoon hands over 50£m London house and 140£m accounts in record National Crime Agency asset recovery

11. US warns Pakistan of risks from China infrastructure push CPEC

12. In Lahore Hospital, It Was Lawyers vs. Doctors. 3 Patients Died. Mob of lawyers attack hospital in Lahore

13. Impact of CPEC on local People of Sindh

15. Fifteen Muslims of Pakistani origin elected to UK parliament

17. Will Pakistan stop gender segregation as Saudi Arabia have done

19. Europe's future: Between Islam and post-Christian grotesque decadence

20. Ten ADVICES from a Supreme Court JUDGE who handled Family Dispute Courts

21. USA: Washington State's first Muslim women elected to local office

22. Kashmir: Want Internet agree to give up Privacy

23. Evangelicals, Saudis and cyborgs: A conversation with Mbs

25. Book Review: THE PRICELESS PETALS - A COLLECTION OF MIDDLES & ESSAYS

26. A beautiful poem

27. MUSLIM STATISTICS

29. Kuwait appoints first female finance minister

30. RIYADH — Saudi Arabia's first female Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is named in Forbes 100 most powerful women in the world for a second time

31. If persecuted Ahmadiyyas, Shias seek refuge in India, we'll vet their cases- Minister Puri

32. Finland anoints Sanna Marin, 34, elected world's youngest serving prime minister

33. Commonwealth Journalists Association member won House of Lords British Community Honour Award 2019

34. UK: Cambridge Central Mosque inaugurated by Erdogan

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SAUDI ARABIA FAST BECOMING CENTER OF GLOBAL SPORTS



Zakaria Virk, Editor

Last month a first ever boxing match took place in Diriyah (outside Riyadh) in custom built stadium with a 15,000 capacity between Britain's Anthony Joshua and Mexican Andy Ruiz which was called Clash of Dunes. Joshua won this match on points thus earning 60 million pounds. Saudi Arabia paid 50\$ million in fee to bring this match.

The interesting thing about this was that the host of this event was Adnan Virk of DAZN TV in the US. His parents immigrated to Canada from Chenab Nagar 48 years ago. Adnan is a sports anchor having previously worked in the television industry in Canada.

It appears S. Arabia is fast becoming center of global sports. In January 2020 annual motor racing rally will be held called Paris-Dakar rally. Also this month Spanish Super Cup tournament is taking place in which four Spanish soccer teams are taking part Barcelona vs Real Madrid. It is expected the income from these matches in the next three years will be 35 million Euros. In February 2020 horse racing will take place with prize money of 20\$ million. In March 2020 European women gold tournament will be held in the country. Other global sports event slated are Formula E motor racing, European golf, and Spanish Super cup football.

The entry of S. Arabia which boasts the Middle East's biggest economy and the Gulf region's largest population, into the sports bidding market could have the significant impact. In doing so S. Arabia is following in the footsteps of Qatar and UAE, which have invested billions of dollars to make their mark on the international sports. Petro dollars are luring superstars and

top events. In December 3 day MDL Beast dance festival was latest addition to flourishing festival scene.

The impact of global sports is notable in soccer, from the decision to award Qatar 2022 World Cup to the millions of dollars Abu Dhabi and Doha (Qatar) have spent transforming Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain soccer clubs. But it's also having repercussions across motorsports, tennis, golf and boxing. Qatar is spending 200\$ billion on infrastructure associated with soccer World Cup. Abu Dhabi's Formula One track is the centerpiece of 40\$ billion development of YAS Island. S. Arabia plans to pour billions of dollars into its Qiddiya sports and entertainment project which will have a motor sports complex and Olympic style city near Riyadh.

S. Arabia is trying to diversify its economy, more spending in the country, and to create a positive image which has been badly tarnished after Jamal Khashoggi's murder in Istanbul. Any citizen can be detained without just cause, and those who talk about human rights are imprisoned. Although women are getting more rights like the recent move women in Saudi Arabia will no longer need to use separate entrances from men or sit behind partitions at restaurants. Some have called it "sports wash" in view of poor human rights record.

The development of sports is also viewed as important in the creation of more entertainment options for the youth population and battling high obesity levels.

For S. Arabia holding global sports events is the mandate within Vision 2030 project.



Doctors and Lawyers: Protests at Punjab Institute of Cardiology



By Sitara Brooj Akbar

“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.”

Alas, education failed us as a safeguard when hordes of Pakistani lawyers, infuriated over inaction by the government at alleged misbehavior by some doctors toward one of their colleagues, stormed a cardiology hospital in the eastern city of Lahore on the 12th of December.



The breach of the hospital boundaries set off clashes with the site staff, patients and guards in turn leading to three deaths, two of which were female patients at the hospital's emergency ward who passed when paramedics fled for safety. The protest also left heart patients unattended for over twelve hours. According to local authorities the mob damaged medical equipment and wards and many patients had to be relocated to other hospitals around the city. Some lawyers carried weapons and fired air shots while others torched vehicles and blocked the entry of ambulances, spreading even more panic and chaos.

The protesters involved in the attack said they

were triggered to act by a viral video made by a doctor, mocking them through reciting provocative poetry and belittling commentary. They then live-streamed on the way to attack Punjab Institute of Cardiology (PIC) as they walked toward the hospital. In one such video, a lawyer is seen challenging the doctors, announcing they had invited their own deaths and could not escape the wrath that was about to descend on them “We will put stunts into you now” he is heard yelling.

This was a dark day in Pakistan's history, which left the country appalled and at a loss for words. To think that this conflict arose between some of Pakistan's most well-educated citizens, people who are supposed to light the way for the rest of the nation, is education not supposed to teach us how to be better people? To build upon our morals, ethics and give us a sense of responsibility towards those less fortunate around us.



This “protest” is surely among some of the lowest moments in our history, such events do not even take place in times of war among bitter enemies and yet it was the appointed guardians of our human rights that haphazardly murdered and spread terror in broad daylight at the place

where some of the most sensitive patients come to find comfort and hope. The people who mobbed

not slaughter any of the enemies' sheep, cow or camel except for food; do not burn date palms, nor inundate them"



Can we truly label ourselves as such if we do not understand such fundamental teachings as human rights. Do we follow the religion that places the sanctity of human life above all else?

PIC should be given no comfort or leniency, in very simple words they reflect the darkest among us as humans and Pakistanis and by now should be charged with the acts that they have carried out in broad daylight in front of the world.

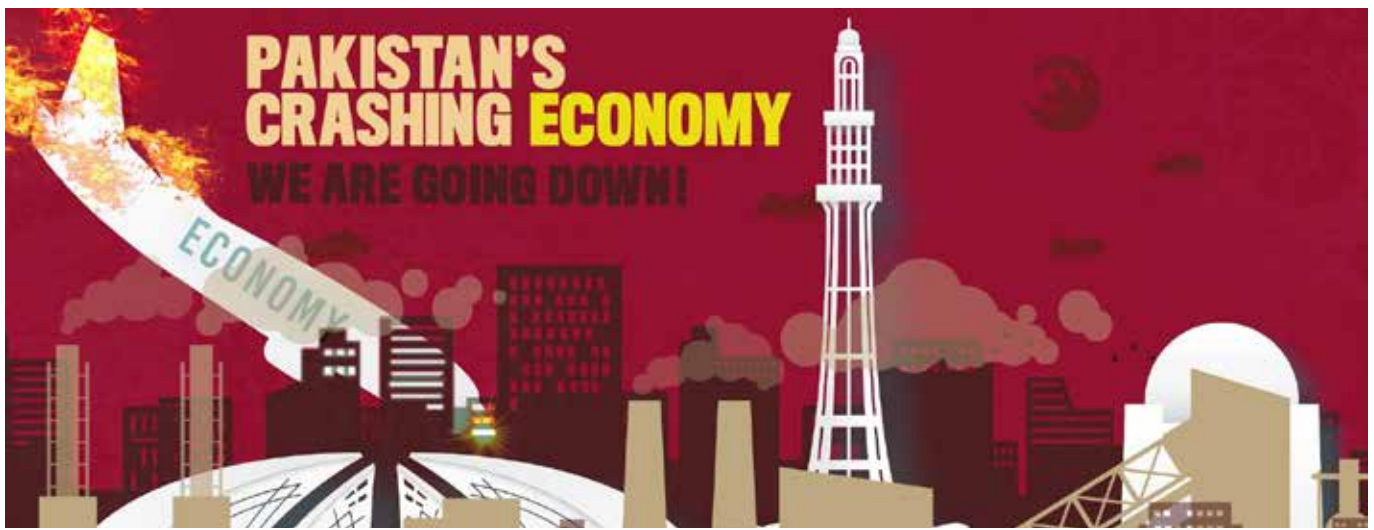
No matter what they say now or the poor excuses of remorse and apologies some might put forth, there is and never will be any justification for this tragedy. No matter how angered they were about something so trivial, one fails to understand how they came to the conclusion that this was how to expel such rage. Out of the above hundred men and women both old and young we can see in the footage, not one of them had a spine or soul?

Across media we can see recordings of some people beating up passerbys including children and the elderly. We claim to be a Muslim majority nation yet do we know so little of the religion we claim for ourselves? In the ever-relevant words of Hazrat Abu Bakr al-Siddiq (ra), the first Caliph "You must not mutilate dead bodies; do not kill a woman, a child, or an aged man; do not cut down fruitful trees; do not destroy inhabited areas; do

This event also leads one to think about the unrest throughout the year as a whole. In a world that has been rocked by protests across continents and in cities Hong Kong, Paris, Washington, Kashmir, Barcelona, Beirut and now Lahore should we not ask ourselves how far should these movements go? Do we draw the line at the loss of human life or is it justified if the act is for the greater good? What about the millions lost to economy and all the disruption in everyday life. Is this truly the only path towards achieving peace eventually or could there perhaps be another way to inspire change?

Hopefully the new decade will begin with us making a turn in terms of the strife and lead to a more prosperous world through tolerance, respect and understanding and while perusing this dream of an extraordinary tomorrow; we'll build a better world today.

"If civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships - the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world at peace."



How to Fix Pakistan's Crashing Economy



By Prof Atif Mian,
Princeton University USA

If an airplane took off a dozen times only to come crashing down each time, the only logical conclusion would be that the aircraft requires a fundamental

redesign. Pakistan's economy, like the airplane, has crashed 13 times in the last 60 years, each time requiring an International Monetary Fund bailout.

It wasn't always so. During the 1980s, in per capita terms Pakistan was richer than India, China and Bangladesh by 15, 38 and 46 percent. Today Pakistan is the poorest. Its most recent gross domestic product growth estimate was only 3.3 percent, barely sufficient to keep pace with population growth.

Supporters of one of Pakistan's largest religious parties marched across the country in October seeking the removal of Prime Minister Imran Khan. Credit...Rizwan Tabassum/Agence France-Presse

Pakistan's federal government is effectively

bankrupt. Last year, the sum of interest payment due on the government's debt obligations and pension payments owed to retired employees was more than the federal government's net revenue. The entire government machinery, including the military, is running on borrowed money.

The consequences of Pakistan's crashing economy have been devastating for its over 200 million people. They are instinctively aware of how far they have fallen behind and there is a clamor for change for a future where their children can live in dignity and comfort.



It was this public desire for change that propelled Pakistan's most famous cricketer, Imran Khan, and his relatively new party, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, into power in 2018. Prime Minister Khan promised change and a "naya" or new Pakistan to his people, but change is proving far more difficult than imagined.



The fundamental challenge in bringing change is that those who are benefiting the most from the dysfunctional economy and stand to lose the most from change would fight every attempt at reform and attack the people trying to ensure reform.

Pakistan's leadership must muster the courage to take on two primary forces of the status quo that hold the country back. First, the moneyed elite who tip the scales of markets in their favor through unfair business practices, tax evasion and preferential access to power. They use their privilege to grab the fruits of other people's labor rather than create something of value through their own enterprise.



The second force inhibiting Pakistan's progress is religious extremism. Decades of patronage by successive military and civilian governments for promoters of religious hate has created a culture of institutionalized intolerance. The result has been devastating for society. Thousands have been killed, communities have been ripped apart and hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced or forced to flee the country altogether. It is no wonder then that few want to invest in an environment afflicted with violence and intolerance. Many whose talents are sorely needed in Pakistan are forced to flee the country because of extremism.

The combined effect of extremism and an unproductive rent-seeking elite is that Pakistan has one of the lowest investment rates in the world. Pakistan invests only 15 percent of its output compared with 30 percent for the rest of South Asia. This has led to diminished productivity. Pakistan's total volume of exports has not risen since 2005. It has become a nation of consumers with limited capacity to produce and innovate. Last year, the country imported more than two times as much as it exported.

Reversing those trends requires a courageous

commitment to fight the entrenched elements and extremists. Consider the unproductive moneyed class which instead of investing in real businesses buys urban land and sits on it. This is an idle activity that adds nothing to the country's output and contributes directly to Pakistan's low investment rate. The value of land keeps rising, not because of any effort by the landowners but because of an urbanizing population.

The correct policy response to discourage such activity would be to tax the value of land appropriately. This would dissuade the rich from hoarding land and instead incentivize them to invest in real businesses. Land would then be available for more productive uses and at cheaper prices. Moreover, the revenue generated from land taxes could fund much-needed urban infrastructure.

While instituting a land tax addresses multiple problems in a single strike, carrying through with the policy requires courage as a large percentage of urban land is held by the powerful elite. Pakistan's leadership must develop the courage to put the interests of the collective above those of the privileged few.

Similar challenges exist in other parts of the economy. For instance, sugar cane, which is one of the most water-intensive crops, is grown on nearly 2.5 million acres in Pakistan. This makes no economic sense for a country with a very serious water shortage. Rationalizing agriculture toward more efficient farming choices requires that the government take on the landed aristocracy by removing subsidies and charging for excessive water use.

The government also continues to dole out large export subsidies without an iota of proof that these subsidies have helped increase exports. Will the government develop courage to say no to special interests and devise a performance-based assistance mechanism? The auto sector

is another example that has not innovated in decades but continues to be protected heavily by the government. And the power sector is dominated by private producers who enjoy high government-guaranteed returns in dollars only to run grossly inefficient plants.

It is even harder to find courageous leadership when it comes to dealing with religious extremists. One would have hoped that decades of suffering at the hands of religious extremism would convince at least one government or major political party to roll back the purveyors of hate. But no one seems interested. Or perhaps no one has enough courage.

This is Pakistan's ultimate dilemma. It takes courage to put principles above petty political advantages, to stand firm against vested interests and to openly call out religious bigotry when you see it.

Prime Minister Khan was known for his fearless play on the cricket field as if he were a "cornered tiger." Pakistan needs similar spirit in the political field today as its politicians have unfortunately developed a habit of conniving with vested interests and those who trade in religious hatred. Pakistan will change only when its leadership develops the courage to act otherwise. For the sake of Pakistan's children, may that day come soon.

Atif Mian (@atifmian) is John H. Laporte Jr. Class of 1967 Professor of Economics, Public Policy and Finance at Princeton University and the co-author of "House of Debt: How They (and You) Caused the Great Recession, and How We Can Prevent It From Happening Again."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/10/opinion/pakistan-economy.html>



Pakistani tycoon hands over 50£m London house and 140£m accounts in record National Crime Agency asset recovery



UK: One of Pakistan's wealthiest men has agreed to hand over 190£m to UK investigators in the largest asset recovery ever recorded by the National Crime Agency. The out-of-court settlement includes a 50£m house overlooking Hyde Park, as well as 140£m in frozen accounts. The deal with the family of Malik Riaz Hussain did not find any guilt and will see the money "returned to the State of Pakistan," a statement said. The property tycoon and philanthropist has made his fortune building upmarket, gated housing communities, but his firm has been caught up in investigations into corruption and land-grabbing.



alleges have been illegally salted away overseas by former leaders and members of the political elite. He has claimed much of it is in London.

A statement from the NCA said: "The National Crime Agency has agreed a settlement figure with a family that owns large property developments in Pakistan and elsewhere.

"The 190£ million settlement is the result of an investigation by the NCA into Malik Riaz Hussain, a Pakistani national, whose business is one of the biggest private sector employers in Pakistan."

The accounts had been frozen earlier on the grounds that the money may have been acquired illegally. Pakistan's Supreme Court in March accepted an offer from Mr Hussain's firm to pay 2.3£bn to settle cases over a Karachi development.

He said after Tuesday's settlement was announced: "I sold our legal and declared property in UK to pay 190£m to Supreme Court Pakistan against Bahria Town Karachi. He stressed

that the settlement "is a civil matter and does not represent a finding of guilt. "I am a proud Pakistan and I will remain until I breath my last."

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/03/12/2019/pakistani-tycoon-hands50-m-london-house140-m-accounts-record/>

Imran Khan's government welcomed the settlement as a success story of close cooperation between its asset recovery unit and the British authorities. Mr Khan was elected last year vowing to repatriate huge sums of money he



US warns Pakistan of risks from China infrastructure push CPEC

WASHINGTON: The United States on Thursday warned Pakistan that it faced long-term economic damage with little return if China keeps pursuing its giant infrastructure push. The top US diplomat for South Asia said the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor -- heralded as a game-changer by both Asian countries -- would profit only Beijing and said that the United States offered a better model.

"It's clear, or it needs to be clear, that CPEC is not about aid," said Alice Wells, the acting assistant secretary of state for South Asia.

She noted that the multibillion-dollar initiative was driven by non-concessionary loans, with Chinese companies sending their own labor and material.



"CPEC relies primarily on Chinese workers and supplies, even amid rising unemployment in Pakistan," Wells said at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. The corridor "is going to take a growing toll on the Pakistan economy, especially when the bulk of payments start to come due in the next four to six years," she said.

"Even if loan payments are deferred, they are going to continue to hang over Pakistan's economic development potential, Prime Minister (Imran) Khan's reform agenda," she said.

The United States has gone on the offensive



against China's Belt and Road Initiative, a signature project of President Xi Jinping which aims to build ports, highways and railways around the world.

But Wells' speech was unusually specific in warning of risks to Pakistan, a historic ally of the United States which has had a turbulent relationship with Washington in recent years. While acknowledging that the United States could not come to Pakistan with offers from state-run companies, Wells said private US investment, coupled with US grants, would improve the troubled economy's fundamentals.

"There is a different model," she said. "Worldwide we see that US companies bring more than just capital; they bring values, processes and expertise that build the capacities of local economies."

She pointed to interest in Pakistan by US companies including Uber, Exxon Mobil, PepsiCo and Coca-Cola, with the soft-drink makers together investing 1.3\$ billion in the country.

China's main promises in Pakistan include the development of Gwadar on the Arabian Sea into a world-class port.

Beijing hopes to link Gwadar to the western Chinese region of Xinjiang, giving the world's second largest economy more access to the oil-rich Middle East and reducing reliance on the dispute-ridden South China Sea.

In Lahore Hospital, It Was Lawyers vs. Doctors. 3 Patients Died. Mob of lawyers attack hospital in Lahore



ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Clad in black suits, white shirts and black ties, hundreds of lawyers forced their way into the Lahore cardiology hospital, smashing windows and damaging equipment. Doctors ran for cover, and unattended, panicked patients ran for their lives. The hospital wards were littered with shards of glass and broken furniture.

Riot police used tear gas canisters, water cannons and batons to disperse the intruders. The melee at the hospital, the Punjab Institute of Cardiology, lasted for hours on Wednesday, shocking the country.

In the end, officials said, three patients died amid the chaos. And now at least 80 lawyers have been arrested by Pakistani authorities, while Prime Minister Imran Khan has ordered an investigation.

The lawyers said they were avenging an attack in November by doctors and staff of the hospital, after the lawyers demanded preferential treatment.

Local news media reported that a lawyer visited the hospital, where his relative was being treated, in late November. He ended up arguing with the hospital staff and summoned some colleagues for support. The heated exchange turned violent, and the hospital staff and doctors injured three lawyers at the hospital building, the news reports said.

Afterward, the lawyers tried to have terrorism charges filed against the doctors and have them arrested. The Lahore police tried to mediate

between both groups, and no arrests have been made at the lawyers' behest over that dispute. This week, lawyers carried out a strike and staged a protest demonstration against the police for failing to arrest the doctors involved in the November incident.

On Wednesday, the lawyers said they decided to protest at the cardiology hospital after they felt provoked by the doctors.

"In any society, no matter what the situation, such an attack on a hospital has never taken place," said Muhammad Basharat Raja, the Punjab law minister. Paramilitary troops have been deployed at important government buildings in Lahore, the provincial capital, to quell further unrest.

In recent years, lawyers in Pakistan have not shied from resorting to violence and taking the law into their hands. Lawyers have attacked judges over disagreements during court hearings. Clashes with police are frequent.

Pakistani lawyers in general have been emboldened since 2007, when a political opposition protest campaign against the then-military dictator General Pervez Musharraf was spearheaded by lawyers.

Images of lawyers — dressed in their customary black coats and black ties — clashing with the police had assumed iconic status, as Mr. Musharraf struggled to maintain his grip on power and was eventually ousted.

Some of the lawyers involved in Wednesday's attack said they were moved to act by a viral video by one of the doctors, who mocked and ridiculed them through reciting poetry and belittling remarks.

The lawyers live-streamed the run-up to their attack on the hospital as they walked toward the building. In one video, an unidentified lawyer is seen challenging the doctors, saying the doctors had invited their death and could not escape the wrath of the lawyers.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/12/world/asia/pakistan-lahore-lawyers-attack.html>

Impact of CPEC on local People of SINDH



BADARUDDIN KALHORO

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), focusing on the repercussions the project will have on the Sindh population. In spite of no discussion with any agent figure of Sindh, CPEC will pass through major urban and key zones

of Sindh. In a setting where the Sindh locale produces the larger part of Pakistan's gas, oil and coal, the extend will as it were compound an as of now show slant of abuse. In response to sharp criticism from not only Sindh but also other marginalized regions in Pakistan, such as Baluchistan and Gilgit-Baltistan, supporters of CPEC claim that the project will generate plenty of jobs, However, given that only 20 percent of people working in the gas, oilfields and seaports are actually Sindh, it is highly unlikely that these new employment opportunities will be allocated to them. Mr. Lohano moreover focuses out how the expanding armed force staff guarding the development works will as it were escalating the as of now existing crackdown on the Sindh individuals. In expansion to this, the Pakistani and Chinese armed force faculty and other individuals brought in to the locale to work on the venture will affect the unsteady demography of the locale – making the Sindh a minority in their possess hereditary lands.

The things to be famous in terms of Sindh within the setting of CPEC incorporate: The proposed street arrange passes through nearly all major urban and key regions of Sindh.

33\$ billion is reserved for vitality era, which is more than %60 of the 54\$ billion generally budget. Out of 15 right now endorsed ventures, 8 are arranged for Sindh. More than %75 of the electricity will be generated from coal of the

Thar area of Sindh. In a strict sense, Sindh will be the control house of CPEC.

CPEC will generate about 2.3 million new jobs. Due to lack of transparency, it is hard to judge just how many jobs will be created in Sindh. But, based on the proposed projects it is estimated that at least one third of the jobs will be based in Sindh. Interpreted, this implies approximately 800,000 to 0.8 million jobs.

Zulfiqarabad is a proposed megacity that encompasses the entire coastal area of Sindh spread over more than 5200 sq. km. It is being built with help from China. Currently, no other megacity of this size exists in the world today. Sindh is in a most precarious demographic situation. This is often a result of the orderly, forceful endeavors to change over Sindhis into a minority in their thousand-year ancient homeland. According to the Sindh government, in the capital city of Karachi alone, there are over four million illegal immigrants.



Let me provide you with a brief historical overview of our experience of development in Sindh. Authoritatively, Sindh produces more than %70 of the riches in Pakistan. %72 of the gas and %55 of the oil is produced by only Sindh. Sindh has the 6th largest coal deposits in the world that constitutes over %95 of the coal in Pakistan. It is as of now the as it were operational seaport, producing nearly twice

more power and %50 more grains and cotton than is required. More than %70 of government taxes are collected from Sindh. And what does Sindh get in return?

In the gas and oilfields and seaport jobs in Sindh, Sindhis comprise only about %20. %75 of Sindhis live in poverty

%71.3 Sindhi families suffer from malnutrition. 2.4 million eligible school children have not been to school.

Literacy rate among Sindhi people is less than %39.8.

Diseases in Sindh are the highest in Pakistan. %27 of the population suffers from one of the following illnesses: hepatitis, tuberculosis, water born diseases and cancer.

More than %80 of the people do not have access to safe drinking water.

In spite of generating electricity in excess of our needs, cities, towns and villages remain drowned in darkness on an average of -12 20 hours per day—with the electricity being diverted to Punjab

As a result of an onslaught of developments, 8 million acres of land was distributed to people from outside the area.

Around %47.6 of Sindhi youth stay unemployed, whereas employment is granted to individual too from exterior the area. The burden of disease in areas where oil and gas is extracted is the highest. This is attributed to no regard for environmental considerations and no governmental projects to better their living situations.

In brief, due to orderly avoidance of Sindhis from improvement, plans for changing over Sindhis into a minority also merciless misuse of their assets has fashioned ruin on the Sindhi individuals. Rather than change, all pointers for social improvement have slowly and methodically disintegrated amid the past 70 a long time of Pakistani history.

With this background, the Sindhi country accepts that CPEC will bring advance hopelessness and annihilation or maybe any genuine social improvement. The taking after

results is expected.

The security of all CPEC routes will be monitored by army personnel with a check point every five kilometers. Satellite surveillance will be used as well. We accept this whole security arrange will be utilized to observe and encourage pulverize the Sindhi people's memorable, equitable and human rights movement.

As specified over, %75 of power will be created from Sindh coal. On the one hand, coal extraction will crush the environment, biological systems and territories in a flawless characteristic region. On the other hand, burning coal as a fuel will have outflows. Considering the record of Pakistani and Chinese natural controls, ready to anticipate encourage disintegration in discuss, water, and soil with unused illnesses surfacing.

Based on verifiable encounter and information, %82 of occupations will be given to individuals from exterior the zone. This will further destabilize the demography with the real possibility of turning the Sindhis into a minority. Not to be pondered at, hundreds of Chinese have as of now begun working in Sindh on different ventures counting driving squander transfer vehicles.

Sindhi people have not been consulted in the CPEC development at all. Sindhis believe it is a project that will further ruthlessly exploit their people's resources. It will marginalize them, destroy them, push them further into poverty, disease, and disempowerment and possibly into a minority status. The international community understands that this is not only an economic corridor. CPEC is a tool for geo-strategic control which will destabilize regional and global security for decades. If they want to stop this havoc from happening, they need to help Sindhis and other oppressed peoples in Pakistan to face the onslaught and fight back.

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Islamabad Pakistan

15 Muslims of Pakistani origin elected to UK parliament



LONDON: A total of 15 British Pakistanis are among 65 non-white parliamentarians elected to the 650-strong British Parliament after the general election which saw Prime Minister Boris Johnson

return to power with a big majority and a bruising defeat for the Labour Party.

In the fight for 650 seats, Tories have got 364 seats, Labour 203, SNP 48, Lib Dems 12 and the Greens one.

While Labour Party lost dozens of seats to Conservatives on a swing of around 11 percent in its traditional heartlands, most of the Labour MPs of Pakistani origin have been elected again with the exception of Faisal Rasheed, the Labour MP for Warrington, who failed to retain his seat. The victory of 15 Pakistani-origin MPs is increase of four

has also gone up from 12 to 15 in the new Parliament.

The winners on the Labour tickets include: Zarah Sultana, MP from Coventry South (new), by securing 19,544 votes with a narrow margin of 491 votes; Tahir Ali MP from Birmingham Hall Green (new) won easily after he got 35,889 votes; Khalid Mehmood MP from Birmingham Perry Barr received 26,594 votes; Shabana Mahmood MP from Birmingham Ladywood got 33,355 votes; Naz Shah MP from Bradford West received 33,736 votes; Imran Hussain from Bradford East secured 27,825 votes; Muhammad Yasin narrowly defended his Bedford seat and won only by 145 after securing 20,491 votes; Yasmin Qureshi from Bolton South East got 21,516 votes; Dr Rosenna Ali Khan from Tooting in London received 30,811 and Afzal

Khan MP from Manchester

Gorton got 34,583 votes.

Ghani from Wealden received 37,043 votes; Rehman Chishti from Gillingham got 28,173 and Imran Ahmed Khan from Wakefield (new) secured 21,283 votes.

The inclusion of 65 non-white MPs makes the current parliament most diverse house

in British political history. The last House had 52 MPs from ethnic minority backgrounds. Iraqi origin Nadhim Zahawi won again from Stratford upon Avon on the Tory ticket and Feryal Clark of Turkish-Kurd

| BRITISH-PAKISTANI MPs | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| LABOUR PARTY | | | | |
|  Naz Shah |  Khalid Mehmood |  Yasmin Qureshi |  Afzal Khan |  Tahir Ali |
|  M. Yaseen |  Imran Hussain |  Zarah Sultana |  Shabana Mahmood |  Rozina Ali |
| CONSERVATIVE PARTY | | | | |
|  Nusrat Ghani |  Imran Ahmed |  Sajid Javid |  Rehman Chishti |  Saqib Bhatti |



background (new) from Enfield North won on Labour Party.

The Indian-origin MPs on the Tory ticket include: Gagan Mohindra; Claire Coutinho; Priti Patel; Alok Sharma; Shailesh Vara; Suella Braverman; and Rishi Sunak. On the Labour benches: Navendu Mishra; Virendra Sharma; Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi; Seema Malhotra; Preet Kaur Gill; Lisa Nandy; and Valerie Vaz. Munira Wilson has won on the Liberal Democrats ticket.

Bangladeshi-origin elected MPs include: Rushnara Ali from Bethnal Green & Bow; Rupa Haq in Ealing Central & Acton; Tulip Siddiq in Hampstead and Apsana Begum (new) from Poplar & Lime House.

Most of the other MPs defended their majority comfortably but in most cases there was a significant swing to Conservatives because of the clear message of Conservatives over the issue of Brexit. While Labour's message to voters was complicated and full of ideas, the Tory message was simple and struck chord with the ordinary people. The Tories successfully exploited the worries of people over Brexit and promised to bring change and progress by quitting the European Union by making Britain great again.

No Pakistani-origin candidate could win on the tickets of Liberal Democrats, Greens or the Brexit Party. The SNP didn't give ticket to any Pakistani-origin

candidate. Agencies add: UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson vowed Friday to "get Brexit done" after his thumping election victory cleared the way for Britain to leave the EU after years of political paralysis.

Imran Ahmad Khan, first Ahmadi Muslim elected to UK parliament from Wakefield is son of Dr. Saeed Ahmad Khan, Wakefield's only Consultant Dermatologist. Ahmad-Khan worked as a counter-terrorism expert prior to becoming an MP, and joked his experience in conflict zones such as Somalia and Afghanistan gives him what's needed to build bridges between warring parties in the Brexit battle. Ahmad-Khan defeated incumbent Labour MP Mary Creagh, becoming the first Conservative MP from the constituency in 87 years, securing 21,28 votes <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/-583317new-record-as-15-british-pakistanis-also-elected-to-uk-parliament-boris-johnson-secures-historic-victory-in-uk-elections>





Will Pakistan stop gender segregation as Saudi Arabia have done?



By Rafia Zakaria

THERE was a central square in the Saudi capital city of Riyadh that was used for executions. Every

Friday, after prayers, prisoners were brought here and executed before the watching crowd. The blood of the executed, it is said,

used to flow down the square and into the gutters. In recent days, the square has been remodelled. There are no more executions here, and high-end shoppers breeze through the shops lining the square.

the latter continued to uphold the practice over the past several decades. Suddenly, all



of them will have to make arrangements to accommodate men and women together.

Part of the kingdom's move to become more entertainment-friendly (other reforms have permitted women to attend sporting events and watch certain shows and performances) is a continuing effort by the kingdom to escape its reputation as a staid and backward place, disconnected from the mores of the 21st century. A greater number of tourist visas are also part of the mix as an effort to attract tourists and travellers from the Muslim world and elsewhere to the kingdom.



At a restaurant, diners sip mocktails, sometimes racking up a bill of more than 1,000\$. Now men and women can enjoy the expensive mocktails without having to enter through different entrances. Nor will they have to sit segregated behind partitions.

At the beginning of the week, Saudi Arabia announced that it was putting an end to gender segregation in restaurants. While certain high-end luxury hotels in Jeddah and Riyadh had already ended gender segregation at restaurants, most of

As is the case with all changes, the new unsegregated restaurants edict has received mixed reviews. According to one businessman, the rapid pace of change can be likened to sitting blindfolded in the back seat of a car while it is being driven. One can sense that the car is moving but one cannot make out in which direction or its ultimate destination. Others complain that the pace of change, considering how slowly things have moved in the kingdom, is too fast for a sustainable transformation. There is a

danger, given this speed of change, that people will seethe in silence and oppose the new ways being introduced in a society that is used to old ways.

At the same time, whatever dissenting Saudis may think of the changes, there is no doubt that a transformation is taking place. The strength of the state means that even if people do not agree with the change, they will have to follow the prescriptions whether they involve women in restaurants or women driving cars. Undoubtedly, a new generation of Saudis is welcoming the change, eager to be the pioneers leading their country into a new era.

Pakistan and Pakistanis have had a long history of copying whatever Saudi Arabia does. Over the past several decades, the constant sending of migrant labour to Saudi Arabia has meant that the norms and mores of that land have come to Pakistan. The constant stream of pilgrims that go back and forth between the two countries, not to mention the leadership of the ummah, have all meant that many Pakistanis look to Saudi Arabia and take their cue from it regarding their support for or rejection of the emerging norms in their own country.

One hopes that this will also be the case regarding gender segregation. While it is true that Pakistan is not nearly as gender-segregated as Saudi Arabia, and there are no laws imposing such segregation on Pakistanis, the prevalence of formal and informal gender segregation seems to have risen in the past decade. Many weddings are now segregated with male and female guests kept entirely separate, and several other gatherings follow the same trend.

This trend has been noticeable in educational institutions. In September of this year, it was reported that Bahria University had issued a notification to all teachers to ensure that male and female students in their classes were seated separately. It was not the only educational institution to do this; even while men and women may no longer be segregated in restaurants in Saudi Arabia, the

University of Engineering and Technology in Lahore reportedly announced that boys and girls would not be permitted to sit together in the canteen. It was only after protests and an outcry that the administration retracted the directive.

These are the official and administrative motions that are encouraging gender segregation in Pakistan. Scores of other unofficial mandates are seen in educational institutions that have gender segregation on campus based on instructors' demands or those of conservative religious groups that have a presence there.

The rationale between these and other instances of gender segregation is the same — that men and women cannot carry the responsibility of behaving ethically and morally if they are in somewhat close proximity. Instead of placing trust in the individual conscience and showing moral strength, there is a tendency to build an environment to prevent 'wrongdoing'. It is a useless tactic. If the whole emphasis is on the environment, a human being's individual capacity for moral behaviour, which is the basis of a religious conscience, is completely negated. Ordinary human beings are generally imagined as little better than animals, dependent on this or that master for this or that freedom. The fact is that human beings are not animals and the power of the individual conscience is real. Men and women sitting in one section in a restaurant is just one means of ordering society so that the responsibility for good behavior is placed on the shoulders of the individual.

Saudi Arabia has taken a step in this direction, recognizing that this is the way to the future. One can only hope that Pakistanis, who so often take directions from the kingdom, will do the same.

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<https://www.dawn.com/news/1521628/saudis-and-segregation>



Europe's future: Between Islam and post- Christian grotesque decadence



Giulio Meotti

Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schönborn just hosted a pro-LGBT benefit concert in Vienna's St. Stephen's Catholic Cathedral. Austria's drag queen "Conchita Wurst", who won worldwide fame when he represented his nation at the 2014 Eurovision contest, has been the main performer scheduled to appear at the "Believe Together" fundraiser in Vienna's 14th-century mother church. The organizer of the event, homosexual activist Gery Keszler, said: "We are very grateful for the trust placed in us by Cardinal Schönborn".

French writer Michel Houellebecq was right when he recently wrote: "The Catholic Church is committing suicide". Europe's future will be a battlefield between Islam and these post-Christian decadent leftovers. The image provided by leaders of Western churches is that of a ridiculous religion, no longer to be taken seriously.

Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna Schönborn, who just allowed this blasphemous event to take place, feared the possibility of "an Islamic conquest of Europe", calling it "the third Islamic attempt to conquer Europe". Schönborn said those words speaking to the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Vienna, noting: "The Muslims would like to take advantage of our weakness, but they are not responsible for our weakness." Then, in a long interview with Der Standard, the cardinal said: "Take a look at the Viennese schools and see how the demographic developments of Christian children and Muslim children are divergent. This is a serious topic. There is no lack of Islamic voices that say that Europe is a mature fruit for Islam."

In the report "Religions in Vienna in the past, present and future" by the Wirel,

the researchers of the Wittgenstein Center for Demography and Global Human Capital and by the Vienna Institute of Demography, we read that in 19,2011 percent of the population under the age of 15 was Muslim, that from 1984 to 2011 the population born of Catholic parents decreased from 72 to 33 percent and that in 2046 the average age of In 1971, Islam was only 0.4 percent of the Viennese population, 4.3 percent in 8.2, 1991 percent in 11.6, 2001 percent in 2011 and will reach over 20 percent in a few years.

Muslims will be 34 years while that of those "without religion" will be 58 years. In 1971, Islam was only 0.4 percent of the Viennese population, 4.3 percent in 8.2, 1991 percent in 11.6, 2001 percent in 2011 and will reach over 20 percent in a few years.

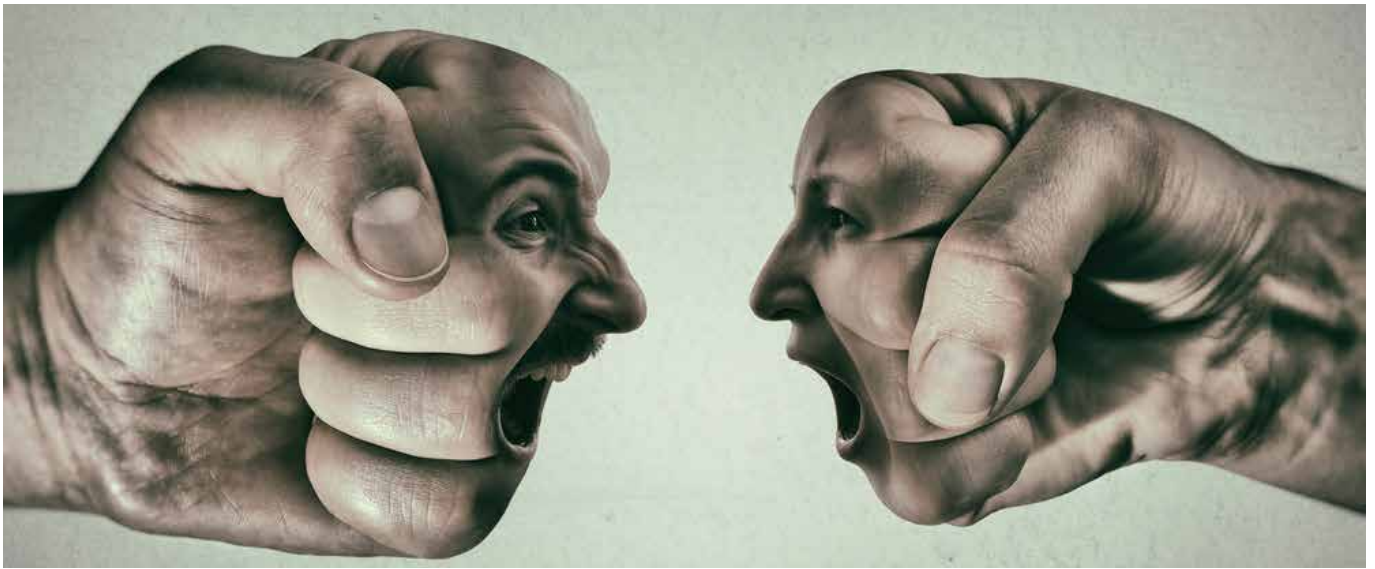
In 1977, French philosopher Raymond Aron wrote "Plaidoyer pour l'Europe décadente" (In defense of a decadent Europe), in which he denounced a sort of self-indulgence that distinguishes Western societies. "The civilization of self-centered pleasure - wrote Aron - condemns himself to death the moment it loses interest in the future".

It was then that Western culture contracted an autoimmune disease, one for which there seems to be no solution. In fact, we entered "an era of tiredness", as Joshua Mitchell called it in an essay. The era in which people are happy to play with gadgets and have lost interest in Western culture.

The age of tiredness is the hospice phase where Western culture is now. Europe's death will be anesthetized by drops of morphine of entertainment and "diversity". Then Islam will take over.

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/Articles/Article.aspx/24832>

10 ADVICES from a Supreme Court JUDGE who handled Family Dispute Courts



1. Don't encourage your son and his wife to stay under same roof with you. Best to suggest them to move out, even to the extent of renting a house. It's their problem to find a separate home.

More the distance between you and your children's families, the better is the relationship with your in laws.

2. Treat your son's wife as his wife, not as your own daughter, maybe just treat her as a friend. Your son would always be your Junior but, if you think that his wife is of the same rank and if you ever scolded her, she would remember it for life.

In real life, only her own mother and not u will be viewed as a person qualified to scold or correct her.

3. Whatever habits or characters your son's wife has is not your problem at all, it is your son's problem. It isn't your problem as he is an adult already.

4. Even when living together, make each others businesses clear, don't do their laundry, don't cook for them and don't baby sit their children. Unless, of course, there is a special request by your son's wife and you feel that you're capable and don't expect anything in return. Most importantly, you shouldn't worry about your son's family problems. Let them

settle themselves

5. Pretend to be blind and deaf when your son and his wife are quarrelling. It's normal that the young couple do not like their parents to be involved in the dispute between husband and wife.

6. Your grandchildren totally belong to your son and his wife. However they want to raise their children, it is up to them. The credit or blame would be on them.

7. Your son's wife need not necessarily respect and serve you. It is the son's duty. You should have taught your son to be a better person so that you and your son's wife relationship could be better.

8. Do more planning for your own retirement, don't rely on your children to take care of your retirement. You had already walked through most of your journey in life, there are still a lot of new things to learn through out the journey.

9. It is your own interest that you enjoy your retirement years. Better if you could utilise & enjoy everything that you had saved before you die. Don't let your wealth become worthless to you.

10. Grand children don't belong to your family, they're their parents precious gift.

USA: Washington State's first Muslim women elected to local office



REDMOND — While Varisha Khan and her team were canvassing to tell residents about her candidacy for the Redmond City Council, someone called the police on one of her team members, who is black. The caller called him “suspicious.”

“It’s unfortunate that he faced that bias and someone was fearful, even though he was doing all the right things,” Khan said. “That goes to a much deeper level of the tough conversations we need to have in Redmond.”

She plans to have those tough conversations in her new role as a Redmond City Council member. After a month of flip-flopping results and a machine recount, Friday delivered the official results: Khan beat three-term incumbent Hank Myers.

She is one of the first Muslim women to ever be elected to local office in Washington, according to the state’s Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Washington). In

Franklin County, Zahra Roach won a seat on the Pasco City Council.

“Everyone we talked to and all research pointed to them being the first Muslim women, which is kind of shocking to hear in 2019,” CAIR-Washington spokeswoman Jessica Schreindl said. “It shows Washington is a great state, but in a lot of ways we have a lot of work to do in terms of representation.”

Khan, a former political-action-committee director for OneAmerica Votes, will represent a city of 67,600 residents that’s seen rapid growth and demographic shifts: about half are people of color and %40 are immigrants. At 24, she’ll be the youngest member of the City Council. She’s a renter in a city where the median lease for a one-bedroom apartment is 1,800\$ and the median price for a house is 840,000\$.

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/eastside/new-redmond-city-council-member-is-among>



Kashmir: Want Internet agree to give up Privacy

By Junaid Kathju

Companies in Kashmir can finally restore their internet connections, which have been suspended for four months. But it will come at a cost. They'll have to give the government a signed bond saying that internet usage will be restricted to "business purposes." They must also promise to share all "contents" and "infrastructure" that they watch or use on the internet when asked by "security agencies."

The bond, a copy of which this reporter has seen, consists of six points, including that no encrypted file containing any sort of videos or photos will be uploaded. Other points state that "for the allowed IP, there will be no social networking, proxies, VPNs and Wi-Fi" and "that all the USB ports will be disabled on the network." Government officials say companies will be held responsible "for any kind of breach and misuse of internet."

It's the latest chapter in Kashmir's struggle for that most basic of 21st-century commodities: the internet. On Aug. 5, just hours before the Narendra Modi government revoked Jammu and Kashmir state's special status and split it into two union territories, authorities had suspended all communication lines across the valley to "prevent any law-and-order situation."

ALL CONNECTIONS ARE BEING MONITORED.

Even though postpaid mobile services were restored in Kashmir on Oct. 12, internet services for common people continue to remain suspended. However, over the past week, at least 100 hotels, guesthouses, travel agencies and some government offices have had their internet restored.

"The process of restoration of internet services has been started from government departments, followed by the hospitality sector," says an official, on condition of anonymity. Government departments have had to sign a similar bond, with the head of the department to be held responsible in case of any misuse. "Whoever was allowed to use these services was asked to sign a bond taking responsibility that there will be no misuse of the facility," the official adds. "Some of the connections of bureaucrats have also been restored."

The clearance to restore internet connections comes from the office of the inspector general of police. Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir Baseer Khan, while acknowledging that internet has been restored in some places, also acknowledges that "all connections are being monitored."

Meanwhile, travel and hospitality sector businesses in a recent meeting had categorically said they won't engage in any promotional campaigns unless internet services are fully restored. "We are ready to sign a bond that we will use the internet facility only for sending tour itineraries and financial transactions," they said in a statement. "Government should ease restrictions on the internet, or else the business community, especially tourism sector, is doomed."

The Modi government in mid-October lifted a travel ban it had enforced on tourists visiting Kashmir. But hospitality sector executives say they can't communicate effectively with customers without the internet

<https://www.ozy.com/news-and-politics/want-internet-in-kashmir-agree-to-give-up-privacy/248768/>

Evangelicals, Saudis and cyborgs: A conversation with MbS



The term “cyborg” is not one you might expect to hear spoken in a meeting with the royalty of the world’s most powerful Muslim country, Saudi Arabia. But the leadership of Saudi Arabia is charting a course to a new future, and artificial intelligence is central to it.

The conversation took place while I was on a trip with my father, author Joel C. Rosenberg, who’d been invited by the kingdom to lead a delegation of American Evangelical

the extremist ideology from schoolbooks and mosques, and advancing women’s rights. We also discussed the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, which he described as “a heinous crime,” and promised to bring to justice all those responsible. Such reforms must be made, and the Saudi leadership is making them.

At the heart of his vision is a project called “Neom,” which we had the opportunity to visit on our recent trip to the Kingdom.



Christian leaders to meet with top Saudi officials, Muslim clerics and Crown Prince Muhammad Bin Salman, commonly referred to as MbS.”

MbS is spearheading a massive transformation of Saudi Arabia to move past being an oil-dependent economy, to move toward a moderate Islam and into a peaceful and technologically advanced future. He calls his plan “Vision 2030.”

Much of the discussion we had with MbS involved his plans to overcome the challenges that have plagued the country historically – ending radical Islamist terrorism, eradicating

Neom, meaning “new-future,” is described on its official website as “the world’s most ambitious project; an entire new land, purpose-built for a new way of living.” It encompasses a massive region in the northwest section of the Arabian Peninsula, currently a desert wilderness, which MbS plans to turn into a futuristic oasis for technological pioneers and innovators. The Saudi king himself issued a royal decree in August, establishing a new government agency titled, “The Saudi Data and Artificial Intelligence Authority.”

Having read that Saudi Arabia had become the first country to grant citizenship to

a robot (back in 2017), I asked the crown prince if he was concerned that artificial intelligence was a potential future threat.

He answered by briefly painting a picture of the possible outcomes of the development of AI. He talked of the warnings of some that the rise of AI could spell humanity's demise. He spoke of the plans of others that humans should merge with AI and become, in his words, cyborgs.

The crown prince also told me that despite the "military and ideological challenges" regarding AI, he was excited about its future. However, he added that it is our responsibility as young people (he was 34 when we first spoke, I was 22) to keep AI "on a good path."

Many Evangelical leaders are deeply concerned about the potential dangers AI could bring. In April, the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) released a document titled, "Artificial Intelligence: An Evangelical Statement of Principles." Signed by 73 prominent Christians, the statement's goal is "to equip the church to proactively engage the field of AI."

As AI is increasingly woven into the fabric of the modern world, age-old questions of morality and meaning will increasingly return to the limelight.

In a Guardian article published last year, renowned Israeli historian Yuval Noah Harari made this unsettling statement: "Arguing about the Bible was hot stuff in the age of Voltaire... but in 2018 it seems a terrible waste of time. AI and bioengineering are about to change the course of evolution itself, and we have just a few decades to figure out what to do with them. I don't know where the answers will come from, but they are definitely not coming from a collection of stories written thousands of years ago."

Is Harari really suggesting we disregard the deeply held beliefs of approximately 2.4 billion Christians, 1.8 billion Muslims, and millions of religious Jews, when it comes to discussing the moral implications of technologies that will profoundly affect all of humanity?

As followers of Jesus who hold fast to the truth of God's word, Evangelicals have

a responsibility to be vocal about what God says in response to these questions. Faith doesn't disqualify us from the discussion of our technological future. Quite the opposite.

"In light of existential questions posed anew by the emergent technology of artificial intelligence, we affirm that God has given us wisdom to approach these issues in light of Scripture and the gospel message," the Evangelical statement reads. "Christians must not fear the future or any technological development because we know that God is, above all, sovereign over history... We recognize that AI will allow us to achieve unprecedented possibilities, while acknowledging the potential risks posed by AI if used without wisdom and care."

With artificial intelligence and brain-computer interfaces being developed around the globe by the likes of Google, Facebook, Elon Musk's Neuralink and OpenAI, and by the governments of the US, Russia, China and Israel, the cyborg world which the crown prince referenced may not be far off. But before we all go diving head first into this future, we would be wise to take some time to sit down and listen to each other. We should set ourselves and our machines some well-defined boundaries. And the rules of this digital world ought to take into account all of its inhabitants. That includes atheists, Hindus, Buddhists, Christians, Muslims and Jews.

While the threat of radical Islamist extremism and the Iranian regime are finally being aggressively confronted by the Saudis and other governmental and religious leaders in the Sunni Arab and Western worlds, new challenges are arising. AI – like the Internet and the smartphone before it – has the potential to affect billions of people worldwide, for good or evil.

As the crown prince made clear when we met, it is our responsibility, as peace-loving men and women in a rapidly changing world, to ensure AI remains on "a good path."

<https://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Evangelicals-Saudis-and-cyborgs-A-conversation-with-MbS610351->

Book Review: THE PRICELESS PETALS - A COLLECTION OF MIDDLES & ESSAYS

BY Prof. Dr. RITU K KUMAR, Haryana, India



Reading the works of great writers is a joy unbound for the reader. But being blessed with the opportunity to live in the age of a great and accomplished writer and also to know him or her is a no less than a blessing itself for the reader.

There are many writers who write literary pieces for newspapers and magazines. Dr. Ritu Kamra Kumar, an Associate Professor in Post Graduate Department of English, MLN, College, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana, India, stands out amongst them.

A few months ago, she launched her book entitled 'The Priceless Petals', which is a collection of her literary gems that have been published over the years in the leading English journals in India.

The book contains 68 essays and write ups and has been divided into six sections namely, Blissful Bonds, Candid Contemplations, College Colour, Feminine Finesse, Festival Fiesta & Seasonal Spells, and Societal Subtleties.

Dr. Kumar is blessed with the felicity of phrase and expression. Her style is simple yet effective, easy to understand yet has a profound meaning; the thoughts she expresses are spontaneous yet exhibit the vast and profound experience hidden in them; her choice of words shows that she has every word at her beck and

call to suit the occasion as she uses them with effortless ease. She has the magic to turn an ordinary matter of the day into a classic piece of literature. While going through her write ups, the reader immediately feels that he has forged an unseen bond with the writer.

Though every article in the book rivets the attention of the reader, the following pieces are particularly very interesting:

Happy memories from the days of Innocence,

Friendship: A sweet responsibility, never an opportunity,

A Tribute to the Teachers I Feel indebted to, Joy of Shopping is Lost,

Teaching is not a lucrative profession anymore, Space for feminine sensibility,

Shrinking open spaces, missing smiling faces,

To be a good doctor, first be Patient,

Magical Mantra of Positive Parenting,

The writer has squeezed the essence of her knowledge and her experiences of personal, academic and professional life into these essays. As a teacher, she teaches the reader; as a woman she advocates the rights of women; and as a good human being, she enriches, entertains and regales the readers with her bitter, sweet, funny and also philosophical feelings and experiences.

The writer is profoundly enamored of using very beautiful alliterations which is really a delicious feast for students of English literature. The names of the sections of the book are also fine specimens of alliterations.

It is a veritable treat for the connoisseurs of literature and will also prove useful in turning the leisure of a casual reader into a fruitful pastime as well. The book is available on Amazon

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A beautiful poem

by Lee Tzu Pheng (Singapore Cultural
Medallion winner)



Sip your Coffee
Nice and Slow,

No one Ever knows
when it's Time to Go,
There'll be no Time
to enjoy the Glow,
So sip your Coffee

Nice and Slow...
Life is too Short but
feels pretty Long,
There's too Much to do , so much
going Wrong,
And Most of the Time You Struggle
to be Strong,
Before it's too Late
and it's time to Go,
Sip your Coffee
Nice and Slow...

Some Friends stay,
others Go away,
Loved ones are Cherished, but not
all will Stay ,

Kids will Grow up
and Fly away,
There's really no Saying how Things
will Go,
So sip your coffee
Nice and Slow...

In the End it's really
all about Understanding Love,
For this World
and in the Stars above,
Appreciate and Value who truly
Cares,
Smile and Breathe
and let your Worries go,
So, Just Sip your coffee
Nice and Slow....



MUSLIM STATISTICS

*O YOU MUSLIMS, OPEN YOUR EYES, FOR
THERE ARE NONE SO BLIND AS THOSE
WHO HAVE EYES YET DO NOT SEE!*

Afghanistan= Destroyed

Iraq= Destroyed

Pakistan= Trying their best to destroy

Libya=Destroyed

Somalia= Destroyed

Syria= Destroyed

Number of Muslims killed in the last 20 years=
More than 2 million

Number of Muslim Refugees= 59.9 million

Number of illiterates in the Muslim world= 43
percent of about 2 billion

Number of people living below the poverty
line=60 percent



Yemen= Destroyed

Egypt= on the verge of destruction

Iran= Ready to be destroyed

Qatar= Ready to be Destroyed

With their destruction, millions of dream
destroyed, millions of lives were shattered, and
millions lost the will to live.

*And the debates among Muslim scholars and

communities are:*

The right of triple talaq of Muslim men

Should moon be actually sighted or can we trust Allah's system of the lunar cycle?

Can a woman lead the prayer?

How to declare anyone who does not agree with my interpretation of Islam as a deviant?

How to put down those who disagree with me?

What is the status of those who do not know how to recite the Quran with proper Tajweed?



Can non-Muslims be allowed to visit mosques?

How many items were served on the iftar party

Can a copy of the Quran be given to non Muslims

How big the iftar parties are in the Muslim world.

Can a menstruating woman visit the masjid and sit inside the masjid

*IT'S A SHAME ON OUR Muslim LEADERS & religious SCHOLARS and educated Muslims
SUNNIS, SHIA'S, BERELVI'S, MAULIDI'S, WAHABI'S

How much hair a Muslim woman can show when wearing the hijab?

How many dates one should eat during iftar

What have the muslim Leaders & religious scholars and educated muslims done to Sit Down & Iron out the differences amongst all of us...!! Why can't they put aside their *Pride - For Allah's Sake, and clearly see that the differences were, have & continue to be Mischief from Iblis, The West & The Zionists to create Jealousy, Pride & Fitna so that MUSLIM'S stay divided*

Can eight rakas of taraweeh be preferred over 20 rakas.

How to declare Shias Kafir

How to declare Sunnis kafir

Kuwait appoints first female finance minister



KUWAIT CITY — Mariam Al-Aqeel was named Finance Minister, the first female in the Gulf region to hold the post. In the new Cabinet unveiled by the new prime minister, two other women ministers, Khaled Al-Roudhan and Khaled Al-Fadhel, retained the portfolios of commerce and oil, respectively.



As finance minister, Al-Aqeel automatically heads the country's sovereign wealth fund, Kuwait Investment Authority. Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah announced the 15-member Cabinet, the ninth in the past eight years in the Gulf state, with many changes at the top of all the key ministries.

The old Cabinet stepped down a month ago after the defense minister alleged that nearly 800\$ million was stolen from a military

aid fund.

Soon afterward the emir appointed Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah as prime minister and tasked him with forming a new government.

Sheikh Ahmed Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Sabah, son of a former premier, was appointed foreign minister.

Sheikh Ahmed Mansour Al-Sabah was appointed defense minister, replacing the emir's eldest son Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, who brought the corruption charges to the public

Anas Al-Saleh, outgoing minister of state for cabinet affairs, was appointed interior minister, the first time a non-ruling family member takes the job. Kuwait is the only Gulf state with a fully elected parliament that enjoys wide legislative powers and can vote ministers out of office.

The country has been shaken by political disputes between lawmakers and the ruling family-led government for over a decade, with parliament and cabinets dissolved several times.

<http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/585162/World/Mena/Kuwait-gets-Gulfs-first-female-Finance-Minister>

RIYADH — Saudi Arabia's first female Chief Executive Officer (CEO) most powerful 100 is named in Forbes women in the world for a second time



Rania Nashar, Samba Financial Group CEO, was ranked 97th in the list that also included -16year-old climate change activist Greta Thunberg. The list also included the United Arab Emirates' Raja Easa Al-Gurg ranked at 84. The Emirati, who is a Board Member of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry, was also featured in the list in 2017.

Rania Nashar, Samba Financial Group CEO.

The top 10 in the list included German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Christine Lagarde, who was newly appointed president of the European Central Bank (ECB).

Nashar was appointed CEO in 2017, becoming Samba's first female CEO and simultaneously, the first female CEO of a listed Saudi Arabian bank.

Nashar arrived in the post with 20 years in the banking sector having served as a board

member of Samba's global markets subsidiary and a Pakistani unit. Samba is Saudi Arabia's third-largest bank by assets with more than 61\$bn in assets under management.

Nashar has achieved several 'firsts' at Samba. She was the first female Chief Audit Executive; the first female Compliance Head of a bank in the Gulf Cooperation Council; and the first Saudi Arabian woman certified as an Anti-Money Laundering Officer.

In her time with Samba, she has worked on its merger with United Saudi Bank, oversaw the development of its digital services and then helped the transition to a fully Saudi institution following Citibank's decision to withdraw its management agreement. Samba Financial Group is Saudi Arabia's third-largest bank by assets.

<http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/584899/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabias-first-female-CEO-makes-Forbes-100-most-powerful-women>



If persecuted Ahmadiyyas, Shias seek refuge in India, we'll vet their cases- Minister Puri



New Delhi: The Narendra Modi government will look into the cases of Ahmadiyyas and Shia Muslims facing persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh or Afghanistan if they seek shelter in India, Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri said Tuesday.

“If persecuted Ahmadiyas or Shias seek refuge in India, we will vet the cases separately,” Puri said at ThePrint’s ‘Off the Cuff’ in New Delhi. The Union civil aviation and urban development minister was in conversation with ThePrint’s Editor-in-Chief Shekhar Gupta.

Referring to the violent protests in Assam, Delhi and other parts of the country against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, Puri said those who have perpetrated violence and misled the people will be identified.

The minister said he has been a great admirer and champion of youth mobilisation, but things have come to a point where one seriously needs to “introspect” and see what has happened.

“Look, let me share one thing with you. This city is full of CCTV cameras, every one of us

has a phone, everything has been captured and when you look at that evidence, you will have the faces, you will get the names of the people who have done it. And I think, the picture, which is going to emerge from this, will cause a lot of discomfort to a lot of people,” he added.

The new citizenship law seeks to grant citizenship to non-Muslim refugees from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan if they faced religious persecution there, and arrived in India before 31 December 2014.

The Union minister said dissent is important in a healthy democracy but he thought there is a desire to take the narrative in a particular direction.

Puri said the Narendra Modi government was willing to have discussions. “Democracy is based on difference in opinions, respecting diversity and respecting dissent but at what point it metamorphosed into people beating up people and burning vehicles,” he asked.

<https://theprint.in/theprint-otc/if-persecuted-ahmadiyyas-shias-seek-refuge-in-india-well-vet-their-cases-hardeep-puri/336972/>

Finland anoints Sanna Marin, 34, elected world's youngest serving prime minister



Finland will have the world's youngest serving prime minister later this week when Sanna Marin, 34, is sworn in by parliament at the head of a coalition whose four other parties are all led by women, three of them in their thirties.

Marin, currently the transport minister, will take over from Antti Rinne, a former trade unionist who resigned last week after just six months in office when he lost the confidence of the Centre party, a coalition partner, over his handling of a postal strike.

She will become the Nordic country's youngest ever head of government, but said on Sunday night she had "never thought about my age or gender. I think of the reasons I got into politics, and those things for which we have won the trust of the electorate."

The five-party, Social Democrat-led coalition has agreed to stay together and maintain the policy programme it announced in June, focusing on major increases in public spending on welfare and infrastructure, and a pledge to make the

country carbon neutral by 2035.

Marin, who narrowly won her party's vote on Sunday to replace Rinne as prime minister, said the programme "glues the coalition together", but admitted the new government had "a lot of work to do to rebuild trust". Her Social Democrats currently stand at just %13 in the polls, well behind the nationalist Finns on %24. Finland's third female prime minister, Marin was raised by a single mother who later entered a same-sex relationship, and was the first of her family to go to university. She will be the world's youngest sitting prime minister: New Zealand's Jacinda Ardern is 39, while the Ukrainian Oleksiy Honcharuk is 35.

She has enjoyed a rapid rise in Finnish politics since becoming head of the council of Tampere, Finland's third biggest city, at the age of 27, and stood in for Rinne as party leader earlier this year when he had to take time off because of illness.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/dec/09/finland-anoints-sanna-martin-34-as-worlds-youngest-serving-prime-minister>



Commonwealth Journalists Association member won House of Lords British Community Honour Award 2019



Mansoor Ahmad, a member of Commonwealth Journalists Association UK won British Community Honours Award 2019. He received this award in an award giving ceremony organised by British Community Honours Award – BCHA held on Friday, the 18th October, 2019 at The House of Lords, the second chamber of the UK Parliament for his outstanding contribution towards British Society.

Expressing his feelings on receiving this award, Mansoor Ahmad said, 'I am extremely honoured and so thrilled to have won the British Community Honours Awards 2019. I am earnestly grateful for the recognition I have received for my contribution towards the community and I believe this respect would no doubt encourage & stimulate me to contribute further for the British Community.'

Mansoor is a qualified accountant currently serving as Manager, Accounts & Finance with Al Shirkatul Islamiyyah which is one of the largest Charities in UK. He migrated from Bangladesh in 2007 under British Government's Highly Skilled Migration Program. He has voluntarily

been involved with various primary schools, high schools and community works. He actively served as Parent Governor, Chairman, & Member of many Committees. He also served as a Co-opted Member for various Commissions under Merton Council. He has currently been serving as a Governor of St. John Fisher School and is dynamically being involved with various school committees.



Mansoor has been recognised by the British Citizen Award (BCA) for exceptional contribution to society and being an inspirational to other British Citizens in January 2019.

Mansoor authored numerous articles published in prestigious national, international journals, magazines and daily newspapers.

He is a life dedicated member of Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK.

<http://sylhetmirror.com/22/10/2019/commonwealth-journalists-association-member-won-house-of-lords-british-community-honour-award2019-/>



UK: Cambridge Central Mosque inaugurated by Erdogan



A Muslim cannot be a terrorist and Islam does not produce terrorists, the Turkish president said on Dec. 5, once again rejecting the term “Islamic terrorism”. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said racism, discrimination and Islamophobia have spread like poison ivy in countries once seen as cradles of democracy. Erdoğan’s remarks came at the inauguration ceremony of the Cambridge Central Mosque which he attended with first lady Emine Erdoğan and a group of high-level Turkish officials....

Erdoğan said workplaces, homes and places of worships of Muslims and foreigners are targeted by racists and fascist almost every day. “Muslim women are abused only because they are wearing headscarves” in Islamophobic attacks, Erdoğan said, adding Jewish, black people and whoever looks different are targeted in similar attacks.

Especially attacks targeting places of worships have reached “incredible dimensions,” he added, recalling the mosque attack in New Zealand, church attacks in Sri Lanka and synagogues in the U.S....

“You cannot bring the words terror and Islam together. If you keep doing it, then we are condemning those who do it,” he added. A Muslim cannot be a terrorist; Islam does not

produce terrorists, Erdoğan underlined. “We do not accept the Islamic terrorism etiquette, [a term] some insistently try to keep popular.” Erdoğan said Turkey has been fighting ISIL more effectively than any other country, noting that 3,000 terrorists were neutralized only in Syria’s Al Bab town. Erdoğan said he rejects any distinction of “good or bad” terrorist and all terrorists of ISIL, FETÖ, PKK/YPG, even Neo-Nazis are “bloodthirsty vampires”. Speaking about Europe’s first eco-friendly mosque built in Cambridge, Erdoğan said the mosque will be the “best response to rising Islamophobia”....

Also attending the ceremony, British singer Yusuf Islam said the Cambridge Central Mosque will promote understanding. Underlining that he became Muslim more than 40 years ago and his conversion was a “spiritual step forward”, Islam thanked the Turkish president and Turkey’s Religious Affairs Directorate for assistance in building the mosque....

The road to building Europe’s first eco-friendly mosque began back in 2008, when the capacity of local churches and houses was unable to meet the worship needs of local Muslims.... More than 10,000 people and groups donated money for the landmark purchase, with Turkish groups donating most generously. The Qatar National Fund also was among the donors. Abdal Hakim Murad, together with Islam (also known as Cat Stevens), sought support for the project from Erdoğan, who was then Turkey’s prime minister...

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/erdogan-rejects-reference-to-islamic-terror149517->