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Near East & South Asia

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Kashmir: U.S. Reasons for Not Involving UN Probed

92AS0780E Karachi AMN in Urdu 28 Feb 92 p 2

[Article by Jumma Khan: "Why Doesn't America Want To Resolve the Kashmir Issue Through the UN?"]

[Text] Mr. Nicholas Platt, U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, said that his government considers Kashmir a disputed region between India and Pakistan, and that it desires that India and Pakistan sit down according to the Simla Agreement and find a resolution to this problem. Talks between the two countries is important for increasing relations and establishing peace in this region.

Why does the United States consider Kashmir a contested region between India and Pakistan? The simple answer to this question is that the United Nations has declared Kashmir a contested area and the United States respects the UN decision. Now the question is, if the United Nations has declared Kashmir a contested area, then why doesn't it make a decision about it, and why doesn't the United States help the United Nations make this decision?

A UN resolution declared the states of Jammu and Kashmir a disputed area, and the Kashmiri people were to decide about its future by a plebiscite. They were to decide whether to join Pakistan or India. According to this resolution, India and Pakistan do not have the right to decide Kashmir's future through bilateral talks. This right belongs to Kashmiris only. Therefore, the advice given to India and Pakistan to hold talks over Kashmir according to the Simla Agreement is contrary to the UN resolution.

If the United Nations had not been a party to the Kashmir issue, then there would have been no UN resolution about Kashmir. In that case, Pakistan and India would be right in holding bilateral talks to discuss Kashmir.

Keeping in view the UN resolution, the simple route to resolving the Kashmir issue is for the United Nations to hold polls in Jammu and Kashmir under its own supervision. In such polls, the people of the two states can decide whether they want to join India or Pakistan. Whatever results from these polls, the United States should follow and declare that the states of Jammu and Kashmir join one country or the other.

The U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Nicholas Platt, should first explain why he does not want the decision to be made by the United Nations and why the United States insists on bilateral talks between Pakistan and India over the Kashmir issue. Is it not possible for the United Nations to implement the resolution it passed? If this international organization has the capability and power to implement its decisions, then why doesn't it take the simple route of holding a plebiscite in Kashmir to resolve this issue?

Every country in the world, including the United States, knows very well that detailed talks between India and Pakistan on the Kashmir issue have been held for many years. There have been no results from these talks. India

does not agree to holding a plebiscite under UN supervision, and it does not even offer any other acceptable alternative to resolve this issue. Against this background, if negotiations are again held between these two countries over Kashmir, they will not bear fruit either. We cannot say how long these negotiations will continue.

The Kashmir issue is now 43 years old. The Kashmiri people have been living a life of uncertainty for this long period. Hundreds of thousands of Kashmiris have become homeless, and they do not have the right to express their opinions. Forty-three years is not a brief period in the life of a nation. It is not proper or fair to keep the Kashmiri people indefinitely deprived of the right to determine their future.

At present, the Kashmiri people are divided into five groups. One lives in the Kashmir occupied by India, the second in Azad Kashmir, the third in India, the fourth in Pakistan, and the fifth lives outside the subcontinent in other countries. This is equal to torture against Kashmiris. They do not even have the right to live as a group like any other nation, and they are being ruled by other people. Both the United Nations and the United States have not tried to be fair to the Kashmiris and are forcing them to run from pillar to post. These people are making innumerable sacrifices to join Pakistan and end the Indian occupation. However, the conscience of the world is still asleep.

As for bilateral talks between India and Pakistan and establishing of peace in this region, we cannot ignore the importance of talks between the two countries. There were some benefits from talks in the past, and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has already met the Indian prime minister five times. This has helped to reduce the tension somewhat; however, the real reason for the confrontation between the two countries is Kashmir. Until it is resolved, they will not trust each other. At the same time, the path for economic cooperation will not be paved, either.

The fact is that there can be such wide-scale trade between the two countries after the Kashmir issue is resolved, that we cannot even imagine it. Both countries can meet each other's needs in various areas. They import many things from third world countries, which are very expensive because of the transportation involved. This also takes a lot of time because of the distance. If both countries agree to exchange these products between them, then many required things can be procured right here. Prices will be reduced because of the lower costs involved in transportation. Both countries can also use a barter system in trade. In addition, the whole deal can be done using rupee currency, and billions of rupees in foreign exchange can be saved, but the Kashmir issue is the single major hurdle in establishing friendly relations between the two countries.

India has also ignored the fact that if friendly relations are established in Pakistan, then all Islamic countries—especially Arab countries—will open their markets to it. These markets will be gradually closed for India as Islamic countries establish political and economic cooperation in the future. If the Kashmir issue is resolved, then India's economic relations can increase with all Islamic countries.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Afghan President's Terrorism Plan Discussed*92WR0258Z Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 2 Mar 92 p 1*

[News Report: "President Najibullah's Plan for Political Terrorism in Pakistan"]

[Text] Islamabad (AAP)—General Najibullah, under siege in Kabul, has appropriated billions of rupees for wide-scale terrorist activities in Pakistan. This money is being specifically spent in Balochistan. According to reliable sources in Kabul, the former head of the intelligence division now known as President Najibullah has made large-scale plans to have Pushtoons and Balochis fight in Balochistan. Patriotic politicians in the Pushtoon region of the state have been contacted. Similar contacts had also been made with extremist Balochi leaders and student organizations. These are the Balochi and Pushtoon people who had contacts in connection with opposing the Afghan mujahidin. They used to post advertisements at the behest of the Kabul government reading "Throw Out Afghan Refugees From Afghanistan." According to the present plan, the political confrontation between Pushtoons and Balochis in Balochistan will be increased during the first phase. The four major highways that leave to Quetta from other states—Quetta-Karachi, Quetta-Jacobabad, Quetta-Dera Ghazi Khan, and Quetta-Dera Ismael Khan—will be barricaded. Afterwards, this confrontational situation will be spread toward Karachi to put pressure on the federal government of Pakistan. A practice run of this plan was made in Balochistan four months ago, in September. After it, armed confrontations resulted between Pushtoons and Balochis, educational institutions were closed, and Pushtoon students were expelled from the engineering college and other technical colleges in Baloch areas. Now during the early part of March, when the educational institutions will open in Quetta, the supporters of the Najibullah government will begin political confrontations by starting pro-Pushtoon demonstrations. As a result, the Baloch nationalists, supported by Najibullah, will start retaliatory action, and the whole plan will thus be implemented.

Formation of the Islamic Commonwealth Urged*92AS0780F Peshawar MASHRIQ in Urdu 21 Feb 92 p 3*

[Article by Fakhr-ul-Din Siddiqi: "Islamic Countries Should Form Their Own Commonwealth"]

[Text] In various chapters of the Holy Koran, the interest system is condemned and its drawbacks are brought to [our] attention. If we look at it historically, it appears that the system of charging interest is as old as the history of man. In every era, one form or another of this condemned system has been present in the society of man. This cursed system has divided human society into various groups. All men are equal when they are born, and they have equal rights. That is why the interest system has been banned in every religion. Be it the Vedas of Hindus, the Torah of the Jews, or the Bible of the Christians, their studies have indicated that the interest system is improper.

Islam is an international religion, and its aim is the welfare and security of the human race. It has been made a perfect religion from every perspective. The interest system in present society has affected individual and large-scale trade dealings. If we say that this kind of interest system differs from the traditional interest system, then two facts emerge.

1. [First sentence is unclear, however, refers to Koran being the book to define "knowledge of the invisible."] Was it known that the minds of the people would suffer from such capitalistic avarice, then the perfect religion and the perfect Book would have taken steps to rectify it so that the human society was stopped by taking this wrong path.

2. The Holy Koran claims that it is an effective and immortal sharia system. God is gracious, but this religion is not being followed much because the modern man does not look for the resolution of his problems in it.

These two facts emerge because Islamic countries in the modern era have ignored the implementation of the Islamic religious system and the encouragement of trade among Islamic countries. More than a billion Muslims live in various countries of the world. If all the small and large Islamic nations in the world were to work cooperatively and establish an economic cooperation system, then we could not only get rid of the curse of the interest system, but also establish an Islamic society based on strong and solid foundations. Allah has said about the interest system that it will be eliminated in the end. The Islamic truths and the Zakoh [charity] system will survive. When persecuted societies raise their heads, it results in revolution. The world has seen this with its own eyes again and again. Just recently, right in front of our eyes, the communist system of the Soviet Union disintegrated, and we have all read and seen what happens to such unnatural government systems.

The economic system that Islam has developed to fight the curse of the interest system should be implemented honestly in all Islamic countries. This would have a very positive effect on the whole world. However, it is unfortunate that the people in power fail to understand this very important point. All they understand is that international trade in the present era cannot operate without the interest system. If all Islamic countries established a commonwealth of nations and started a joint treasury to meet the needs of other people and also made arrangements to produce the necessary items in those countries, then all the interest charged by foreign businesses could be stopped. The Islamic treasury will always have enough capital so that no Islamic countries will have to borrow money on interest. Each country will be able to buy necessary things from any country by paying cash. Because of the interest system, however, the whole capital is controlled by a few persons who take advantage of the helplessness of needy countries and then continue to increase their capital. It does not matter to them whether the society becomes indigent or if the widows and orphans die without food. They just do not care. Islam has strongly condemned the interest system because of such results. Those who do not give up the interest system are working against the wishes of God, and they will meet an exemplary end.

The interest system has played the ugliest role in destroying the economic system. Therefore, Islam has condemned it and ordered:

"Those people who live on interest stand like a person that has been attacked by the devil and made him insane. Their situation is bad because they think that buying and selling is also like charging compound interest, while God has made buying and selling sacred. As for the interest system, it is totally banned." (Baqrah No. 276)

The Koranic economic system is managed according to the following principles:

1. All acquisitions must be made through hard work, and all illegal means of acquiring things are strictly forbidden.

"All those who believe in Allah! Do not use each other's owned thing illegally. Yes, it is legal only by mutual agreement and in trade."

2. Hoarding money is strictly forbidden. This leads to inequities in society, and the rights of the needy are suppressed. It is said:

"Those who save gold, silver, and money and do not use it for God's work should be informed about the tortures he will suffer as punishment."

3. The Koran teaches spending money instead of hoarding it. Islam has forbidden using money for investment. It says that the money spent for God's work increases and expands, because it helps one discharge one's duty to the society. It also establishes good will in society. The Koran says that spending money in the name of God is a kind of business in which there is no fear of losing money. It is because God himself assures it. The assurance of the rich is often canceled, while there is no such danger in God's law. We have the examples of former leaders and God's people in front of us.

4. The Koran advises use of the Zakoh system. If the Zakoh system is implemented according to Islamic procedures, then all needs of the people in the society can be met, and there will be enough capital in the community chest that if any businessman loses every thing in business, then he can be helped. Therefore, in the Zakoh system, the words *alartab* [rules, rituals?] and *algharmin* [criminals?] have a lot of flexibility in them. They protect the needy from the curse of interest.

Now let us compare the interest system and trade. Why did the Koran condemn the interest system and support trading? Trade is the name of the process in which a person offers an item for sale and the person who needs it pays money and uses the item. In this process, the purchaser has full possession of the item. The system of interest is the name of the process by which a needy person goes somewhere to borrow money and the lender provides this money on specific conditions. It does not matter whether the borrower benefits from this money or not; he has to pay specific interest and the principal within a specific period to the lender. If he fails to return this money because of some problem, then the interest continues to build up. This way, the borrower is crushed under the weight of

interest. Meanwhile, the lender's principal remains safe, and he continues to receive more money in interest. This leads to many flaws and inequities in our society. Because of it, human society becomes a society of hatred rather than a society of love. This is totally against Koranic education and the Islamic spirit.

The Holy Koran has emphasized the condemnation of the interest system because it gives birth to capitalism. The capitalist system progresses, and Islam wants to totally eliminate it. Islam totally forbids avarice and stinginess and teaches charity and sympathy. If we establish Zakoh and a community chest in the true spirit of Islam, then we will not need any banks, cooperative societies, insurance companies, or provident funds. The system of a community chest and Zakoh fills all their needs. Islam is a lifestyle that is complete in every aspect. We do not establish it according to all of its principles and then ask how we can get rid of the interest system. If we recognize Islam as the original religion and implement it in every sphere of our lives, then the interest system can be permanently eliminated. Did we not have trade with foreign countries in the initial stage of Islam? Didn't caravans of Muslim traders visit Sri Lanka, Indonesia, China, and travel as far as Russian Turkistan? Did they use the interest system for running their trade? The answer to all of these is the definite negative.

Some innocent people try to say that "ruba," "sud," and "biaj" [words meaning interest] as synonyms. It does not matter whether the word is in Arabic, Persian, Hindi, or English. If it is used for honest trade, then it is acceptable. Trade is the name of the process in which the profits and losses have not been decided; however, there is always the possibility of profit and loss. As for "ruba," "sud," and "biaj," they are always for profit. Therefore, it is condemned in our religion. If banks and other organizations follow this system and every party shares equally in profit and loss, then such financial organizations' capital would be used in trade and would not require the payment of ruba and sud. Such organizations can be successful only if they are controlled by the government, so that nobody can commit fraud or dishonesty. If such organizations are established and the government regulates them closely, then we can get rid of the curse of the interest system. This organization can then be expanded and spread all over the Islamic world. The whole Islamic world will then become a strong and stable economic bloc. It will business with any country in the world on cash and by purchasing things it needs. This system is definitely easy to implement and is according to the spirit of Islam. If we ignored it and depended on the non-Islamic world system of paying interest, then our economic system would be controlled by foreigners, and the Islamic bloc would be at the mercy of other people.

Recently some intellectuals were making statements without thinking. In their opinions, it is important to have the point of "circle of dignity." It should be remembered that such a point can only be successful when there is a danger of the elimination of a nation. In such a situation, a sinful practice is acceptable only if one wants to stop

death. The bank for the Islamic world has been established; however, the Islamic spirit is not there. When the Islamic bank was established, it should have been put under the guidance of Islamic economic and financial experts. It could then have been an exemplary organization. Allah has given a lot of money to various Islamic countries for this purpose. However, it is a sad thing. Had the speed with which our Islamic clerics issued certificates of atheism and paganism been used to focus on this national and religious issue, then this problem would have been solved a long time ago. It is sad that our clerics are proving that they are dense instead of being farsighted.

Considering the system of banking totally sinful is wrong. The banking system provides many other services in addition to loaning money on interest. These services are important at the present time. For example, storing the money of business people for safekeeping, called the ongoing account, which is free of interest. They also have to make arrangements for paying foreign accounts for the traders. This is also an important service provided by the banks. In addition, instead of carrying cash when traveling, one can carry checks or bank drafts. This is a very good service. Thus, if we ignore the interest system associated with banking, we cannot deny the importance of banks. If we run a business with both profits and losses involved, and a given amount of profit is not taken for a specific time, then the banking system can be appropriate according to Islam.

At present, people who have superficial knowledge and play with the feelings of the people should know that every important task requires some time for completion. The economic or financial system of a country is not an electric switch that can be turned on or off at any time. Economic problems are resolved after thorough thinking and strategic research by the experts. With apologies we want the clerics to know that [illegible sentence]. If it is unavoidable to use an illegal act in order to protect humanity from a calamity, this illegal act still should not be used too much. It should not be equivalent to rebellion from Islamic laws, either. If needed, an international system of banking can be used temporarily, however, efforts must be made to find an alternative. This will help implement an Islamic system that is neither against caliphate nor against religious rules. On the contrary, if we procrastinate and continue the interest system permanently, then our action will be totally condemnable and anti-Islamic. It is not appropriate to look for an excuse in the sharia to justify it.

Against this background, we would like to advise the clerics and the government to refrain from going too far and establish an alternative to the present interest system as soon as possible. If both parties are honest, then it will not be a difficult task. It is deplorable that both sides are being extreme. The whole issue is becoming increasingly complicated. Even today, if the economic experts study this system in light of Islamic education, then the rays of hope can shine in the near future. All we need is honesty and sincerity from both sides, and neither party should make it a question of its ego.

Another humble word of advice we have is that a board be established composed of economic experts, Sharia experts, Islamic experts, and prominent lawyers. They should study this issue around the clock and publish a report in the newspaper every week so that this system, after going through the scholars' fine-toothed comb, becomes a viable one. If the government presents this system by preparing it in a vacuum with the help of some political simpletons, then it will definitely be opposed. Therefore, it would be better that the government study it openly and make sure that everyone is ready to accept it. If this issue is put on the backburner for some reason, then the lava smoldering below the surface will take a dangerous shape. May Allah make sure that this problem facing our country is resolved peacefully.

Tourkham Kabul Highway To Be Opened by Peace March

*92AS0754B Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu
25 Feb 92 p 8*

[News Report: "Decision to Open Tourkham-Kabul Highway with Peace March; If Any Obstacles Are Placed, All Mujahidin Transport Routes in All Tribal Agencies Will Be Closed Off; No Further Delay Will Be Tolerated; The Opening of the Highway Is in Pakistan's Interests; Meeting of the Businessmen and Leaders of Tribal Agencies"]

[Text] Peshawar (special correspondent): Businessmen and leaders of the various tribal agencies have decided that the Tourkham-Jalalabad highway will be opened with the proviso that if anyone places any obstacles, Mujahidin's transportation, supply, and business routes in the agencies will be closed off. In a press conference on Monday, the head of the tribal merchants, Al-haj Khiali Khan Shanwari; head of the proposed Gadoun chamber of commerce and industry Nayer Zaman Mudmand; Tariq Shah Koki Kheel; Haji Qabil Sher Koki Kheel; Qayum Khan Shanwari; Haji Qalum Khan Kokikheel; Haji Jan Badshah Kokikheel; Haji Safdar Khan Shanwari; and Haji Muneer Khan Shanwari said that two days ago, a tribal meeting of the prominent businessmen and tribal leaders of the various agencies was held in which it was decided to take practical measures to open the Tourkham-Kabul highway for trade and traffic; the meeting decided unanimously that the Tourkham-Kabul highway should be opened no matter what the circumstances and without further delay. To that end, a peace march with white flags would be undertaken from Landi komel Tourkham to Jalalabad following which the highway would be opened. If anyone created any obstacles, all routes of trade, supplies, and transport of the Mujahidin would be closed off by all the agencies. [The tribal leaders] told the press conference that merchants, industrialists, and businessmen of the tribes and frontier areas would take part in the peace march; the tribal conference appointed a number of delegates to meet with the Mujahidin organizations in a last ditch attempt to open the highway through brotherly and peaceful compromise. The delegation would submit its report in a few days. The press conference was told that the highway would be opened under any conditions and at any cost; that the

Tourkham-Kabul highway was a matter of life and death for hundreds and thousands of individuals and that the opening of the highway was in the interests of the Frontier province and Pakistan. [The tribal leaders] said, "We want peace but if anyone wants to continue fighting, he can do so; but we will not tolerate any further closure of the highway." They expressed the hope that the government of Pakistan would not obstruct their objectives. They appealed to all political parties, religious scholars, business organizations, merchants and all peace loving individuals for cooperation and participation in the peace march so that the people of the area would be able once again to trade with Central Asia and Russia and bring prosperity to the region.

Bilateral Pact Reached With Kazakhstan

*92AS0754C Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu
25 Feb 92 p 1*

[News Report: "Pakistan and Kazakhstan Will not Interfere in Each Other's Affairs; They Will Respect Each Other's Freedom, Independence and Territorial Integrity; Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Will Be Promoted; Joint Measures Will Be Taken To End Terrorism, Organized Crime and Drug Smuggling; Four Agreements Have Been Signed; They Desire Good Relations With Neighboring Countries Especially Islamic Countries; Nazarbayov, the President of Kazakhstan, Toured Ordnance Factories and Patryata"]

[Text] Islamabad (APP/PPA: Monitoring Desk): Pakistan and Kazakhstan have concluded an agreement based on the principles of mutual friendship; the document, which was signed by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Nur Sultan Nazarbayov of Kazakhstan, establishes relations between the two countries. In the declaration of friendship, the two countries agreed to the accepted principles of such relations and promised to observe the aims of the charter of the United Nations. Under this agreement, the two countries will respect each other's freedom, independence, and territorial integrity and will not interfere in each other's affairs. They will encourage economic, commercial, scientific, and technical cooperation; they will also move to establish and increase land, sea, and air connections. The agreement further states that the two countries will establish close relations in the fields of information and broadcasting; education; press; media of communication; industry; tourism and sports. They will take joint measures to end terrorism, organized crime, and illegal drug trafficking. The two countries signed four cooperation agreements in various fields and decided to establish a joint commission at the government level. The agreements were signed in the prime minister's secretariat in the presence of President Nazarbayov and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. The treaties include agreements on the establishment of a joint commission, science and technology, trade, economics and culture. The joint commission will include representatives from both countries; it will study all issues of mutual interest and suggest measures to increase cooperation in these various fields. The commission will hold alternate meetings in the two countries. Under the science and technology agreement, the two

countries will help each other in the exchange of scientific and technical knowledge. The two countries will accord privileged status to each other and will create the right atmosphere for investment in the economic sector. Under the cultural agreement, close cooperation and the exchange of information will be promoted in the fields of education, culture, media of communication, tourism and youth affairs. The agreements were signed on Pakistan's side by the ministers in charge of the related ministries. After the signing of the pacts, Nazarbayov said in a television interview that his country wanted good relations with all neighboring countries and with Islamic countries in particular; that agreements signed with Pakistan on Monday would lay the foundation of a beneficial cooperation between the two countries. The president of Kazakhstan later toured ordnance factories; the chief of the POF [Pakistan Ordnance Factories] board told the president that the factories were established 30 years ago and the complex consisted of 14 production units. President Nazarbayov toured the different units of the complex. He expressed interest in the production of explosives and weapons, praised the quality of the products, and fired several test shots. Later, he was presented with a copy of the Koran and the prime minister gave him a submachine gun and pistol as gifts. President Nazarbayov visited Patryata near Murree. Waseem Sajjad, chairman of the Senate, met with President Nazarbayov and exchanged ideas concerning cooperation in various fields and matters of mutual interest. In Patryata, Nazarbayov enjoyed the beautiful natural scenery from a chairlift.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Intra-Party Struggles in IJI Analyzed

*92AS0780B Karachi AKHBAR-E-JEHAN in Urdu
2-8 Mar 92 p 13*

[Article by Sheikh Haq Nawaz: "Confrontation Among the Religious and Secular Forces Within the IJI"]

[Text] The truth has now been fully revealed that the [majority party in the] present government [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] and the religious-political powers are fighting over the issue of ending the interest system. These religious powers have played an important role in forming this government and have been giving the impression to the whole nation that only these rulers will be able to implement a sharia type of government. All those tendencies and traditions will be eliminated that are against this form of government system. It is amazing that these very religious groups are the strongest critics of the government now. They are blaming it for not implementing a sharia government or having any interest in doing so. In an interesting fact is that some of these party leaders are still with the government and are still supporting it. This double role of the leaders is open proof of the dichotomy that is providing a lot of materials to the people for judging the philosophies, standards, and policies of these groups.

The conflict between these religious-political groups and the government started after some newspaper statements were issued by federal ministers. They had given the

impression that not only would the economy of the whole country be ruined if the system of interest was eliminated, but that it would also adversely affect foreign relations. After these impressions were circulated, these powers expressed strong reactions against the ministers. Not only this, they started a regular campaign against them. Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Mr. Sheikh Rashid, and Mr. Asif Ahmed Ali are the ministers included in this group. These forces had demanded that the ministers resign from the Cabinet immediately and that exemplary disciplinary action be taken against them. Some have even demanded such actions against these people that would be unacceptable in most political circles. State Minister Sardar Asif Ahmed Ali has become so unacceptable to these forces that they cannot even bear his existence. This minister is so intolerable to these powers that he has started to challenge and ridicule them. He said that they could not present a viable replacement for the interest system. He has also started to bluntly tell them, "These religious-political forces have not identified a viable alternative. Even though an alternative to the interest system is being discussed and discussions at high levels are continuing, there will be no results from all this. Other countries, like Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, are also trying to find alternatives to the interest system. They have not been successful to this date. Those countries have no dearth of resources, while we have none at all. All we have are problems and problems only. We are badly entrapped in our problems. Therefore, in this situation, it is possible that we may be able to find an alternative soon, and maybe it will be our country where a system without interest will emerge. In my opinion, whatever system emerges, it will have nothing more than a new name. In other words, the interest system will continue in one form or another. Without it, our national economy will definitely be destroyed." The minister also made another statement, that he had also talked about ending this interest system and that this system has been declared sinful by the sharia court. The countries interested in investing money here are suffering from various apprehensions. The first project to suffer from this fear was the hub of a thermal power generation project. This is definitely a very deplorable fact. All those religious scholars who issue such decrees have no knowledge of our country's financial and economic deterioration. We have received a directive in favor of the interest system. Some Islamic nations have issued such directives, and the remaining will issue them soon. In this context, there is the directive of the last caliph of the Islamic world. All religious and political forces are equally angry over the demands to end the interest system and its definite results. They have demanded immediate action to remedy this problem. They do not fully agree with the state minister's above-mentioned statement. In their opinion, he is ignoring the facts. These forces have expressed their combined feeling in this context and have called a national conference here. In this conference, they not only criticized the federal minister, but the whole present government. They said, "The attitude and reaction of the government over the federal shariat court's decision regarding the interest system is extremely deplorable. It shows their dishonesty. The propaganda aimed against religious scholars cannot change the facts. It has become a

strange spectacle that the government is hiding the report issued by the Islamic Council and has, for some reason, imposed restrictions on its publication."

The negative statements issued by the Cabinet members against the religious scholars are published carefully, while the reactions of the religious scholars are presented in the wrong light. Emperors in every era have received religious mandates. However, only those opponents who were upright were victorious. The religious mandates issued against the interest system cannot change the role of interest in our economy. Protecting the interest system is against God and His teachings and is equivalent to disobeying Him. These people who came to power raising slogans for the implementation of sharia rule should give up their negative attitudes and make arrangements to sincerely and honestly spread sharia rule in the country. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan should also use his office and influence against the interest system in our country. He is the actual initiator of this system, and the 1985 noninterest banking system was implemented under his leadership. The ministers who ridiculed the removal of interest, especially Sardar Asif Ahmed Ali, have defied the Constitution of Pakistan. He should be thrown out for contempt of court. Some resolutions were also passed in this national convention. Most of these demanded the implementation of Islamic rule in the country. If the interest system is not ended, then the religious scholars will start an insurrection. Accusations by some federal ministers against the religious scholar for failing to present a viable alternative to the interest system is part of explicit government policy. This representative group of our nation fully condemns this approach. The Islamic Ideological Council is composed of religious scholars and experts and is a constitutional agency. In the 1980's, it presented to the government a system for noninterest banking. This system has been an answer to all the fears and dangers expressed about the elimination of the interest system. The government must eventually end this cursed interest system. Otherwise, it will have to face very forceful consequences, and all this will not end until it achieves its goals. This national convention strongly appeals to all the scholars and religious leaders to rise above their political beliefs and join the movement to end the interest system in our country. They must pay attention to our present government's interest in this system. Their interest will show their love and respect for the religion.

From the day State Minister Sardar Asif Ahmed Ali started to condemn these religious-political forces just for issuing a mandate against the interest system and not presenting a viable alternative, these forces started new efforts to end the interest system. They have started to propagate information at various fronts that the finance minister's statements and negative reactions about the effect of the interest system on our nation's economy is just the policy of our government. The government is trying to propagate its belief through its ministers to shake up popular opinion. These forces are concentrating their criticism more on the government and less on the said Cabinet member. In this context, they have adopted an attitude that reflects their strong emotional reactions. These forces

have threatened to throw out the government if it does not stop the interest system. This shows how serious they are about it. They have told the government that if it clashes with them, it will face the same consequences that its predecessors faced in the past. The arguments presented by Sardar Asif Ahmed Ali about the adverse effects on the country's economy and foreign relations that will result if the interest system is ended do not hold any weight in their opinion. They are trying to prove in their retaliatory arguments that the government leaders want to keep the interest system in order to protect their own living standards and vested interests. These forces declare that the actions of the government or government officials are the results of U.S. influence. In a recent seminar entitled "Noninterest Economy," Qazi Hussein Ahmed, emir of the Jamaat-i Islami (JI), strongly criticized the government and openly said, "They are not the representatives of Muslims; they represent some other groups. Therefore, we must start campaigns to remove them, exactly as we campaigned to throw out the foreigners from here. It is impossible to expect this government to implement an Islamic form of government. In order to establish an Islamic government, we must bring to power the people, who themselves are committed to establishing Islam."

Among all the national religious-political forces, Jamaat-i Islami is the religious force showing the most eagerness in eliminating the interest system. There is no doubt that all the religious groups are active in demanding the elimination of the interest system. The credit for starting this campaign also goes to the Jamaat-i Islami (JI). The economic experts associated with the JI have proved with their solid arguments that the statement issued by the cabinet ministers in various press conferences are questionable. They are trying to prove that the government's contentions are not based on facts. Professor Khurusheed has unmasked this stand on several occasions. He said that if the present government is sincere in eliminating the interest system, then most of the hurdles in their way will disappear by themselves, and the path for another system will open automatically. He said that international banking organizations such as the IMF, the IFC [International Finance Corporation], and the World Bank, have declared that a noninterest system is a viable economic system, and that they are willing to do business based on it. However, our government is not willing to do so. The IFC has expressed its willingness to issue loans to the private sector according to the Islamic economic system. Our own government told it not to do so. A high-level official of this organization told us that banks can run without the interest system. The professor also said that 60 banks in 31 countries are operated according to the Islamic economic system, while in our country, they are declaring that our economy will be destroyed if we do not continue charging interest. He feels that it is unfortunate that while other nations are investigating the efficiency of an Islamic economic system and are looking for ways to benefit from it, we are not only avoiding it but also looking for more and more drawbacks in it. One senator has also tried to advise the government that if it decided to deal with international monetary organizations without an interest system and

clearly indicated to them that Pakistan would not deal with them in any other system, then they would be forced to follow the system. In this kind of deal, they would benefit more than Pakistan. Other experts within the JI are also presenting similar arguments in favor of eliminating the interest system. In this context, they specially emphasize the point that if our government adopts a noninterest economy, then the people will be rid of billions of direct and indirect taxes which result from the interest system. At present, we spend 81 billion rupees on our defense and 81 billions rupees for paying interests on our loans. If we had a noninterest system in our country and had obtained loans from various organizations on the basis of cooperation for developmental projects, then we would not have been trapped in these unbearable debts. Instead, we would be a very prosperous and industrialized nation. The JI, which has played the role of leader of various religious and political powers, is very busy in playing this role effectively these days. It has declared a jihad to eliminate the interest system. It is also organizing a nationwide campaign against it. It is expected that an announcement of this campaign will be made by 30 June. The leadership of the JI believes that if the government shows its willingness to implement a different system by this date and also takes some practical action, then the campaign will be canceled. If the government continues to postpone implementation of plans and keeps making excuses, then the campaign will be started with full force. These religious-political forces are offering to the government that they will provide all kinds of guidance and leadership to the government for a replacement system. They had also suggested earlier that a new board be established, composed of the government officials, economic experts, modern scholars, and constitutional and legal experts. This board would be given the mission of presenting a new and effective economic system before a given date. The promise that the government made during the election must be fulfilled. Most serious political circles praise, however, they also ask that if they have any viable replacement for the interest economic system, then they present it to the people. This will help them to maintain the credibility of their various claims. It will also assure the people that the criticism issued by State Minister Sardar Asif Ahmed Ali is baseless.

Sharia: Government's Hesitation Condemned

92AS0780A Lahore NIDA-E-KHILAFAT in Urdu
3-9 Mar 92 p 3

[Editorial: "Same Old Problems, Same Old Hesitation"]

[Text] These days, when there is a lot of noise about Islam and Sharia and the discussion about Caliphate is getting a lot of attention, Mohammed Nawaz Sharif, prime minister of the Islamic Democracy of Pakistan, is losing weight worrying about how to assure the West, especially the United States of America, that they are in no danger from Pakistan. Meanwhile his associates, Sardar Asif Ahmed Ali and Sartaj Aziz, cannot be successful in their efforts; otherwise, "they are trying to make the Koran a toy of their whim and invent a new Sharia." We heard that a special order has been issued from Jama al-Azahar in Cairo. According to it, Pakistan is in a very precarious position

and cannot survive without the interest on loans. Thus, it was decided that this is the time of utter helplessness. What is wrong with the interest on loans? You can even eat a pig! These people are complaining that "Ghalib, you have been enchanted by the British." Meanwhile, this president of Islami Jamhoori Ittehad and the one who tried to pass the Sharia bill is the prime minister, and we should demand an answer from him as to what is the truth. "The same old chronic sickness; the same old uncontrolled heart's desires." He had this problem; why did he show green valleys to the Muslim voters in the name of Islam? After taking power, he talked about breaking the beggar's bowl and raised the slogan of self-sufficiency. The people of our own country would have said in the word of "Hindu kafir, 'Europe may be annoyed with the word, Islam,' it does not matter since the other name of this religion is the proud poor." He was praised, but later we learned that, "the Islamic prayer marks that glittered like the moon, have been bought by the Europeans." It seems that Islam has become a subject of history, and perhaps the "nights of its life are not free from struggle."

Fear says, "do not go toward Medina alone," and desire says, "You are a Muslim, you walk fearlessly!"

What does his apologetic attitude represent? All he is trying to demonstrate is that in the name of Islam and through his cunning acts, he succeeded in getting the support of the Muslim clergy and managed to win elections. He does not want the Western bosses to be unhappy so that the world is saved. His opinion was considered very appropriate until recently. He had said that, "In schools, there is the gracefulness of actions; in tombs of holy men there is interest in mysterious things." However, a lot of water has flowed under the bridge since then, and knowledge about religion has become common. Be it little knowledge or incomplete, it is there. The wisdom of the Muslims of Pakistan has not become something to be proud of, and according to Iqbal, his worship so far lacks permanence. However, those who want to help the nation have also made up their minds. It has become very difficult to fool the nation by giving it some toys. The prime minister should not increase his problems any more. It is not only the nation, but the religious groups also, that are going through difficult times. Only religious groups can help him now. Do not let it be destroyed.

"If you ignore religion, the people will also leave you, if the people leave then faith will also disappear."

If the people in power are willing to listen, then they should listen to the secret that the fundamentalists [hold], of which the United States is afraid. But your talks cannot fool the Muslims of Pakistan. These are important facts, and the immaturity of your actions very clearly evident. Your assurance cannot satisfy the people of the West. They know that the Muslims of Pakistan will get the message from the angels at any time. It does not matter how much they try to fool the gods or themselves; they have no way to achieve their goals. Let us not fool ourselves or the nation, and let us bow in front of our God. He will deliver us. Through him, we will all be delivered.

Partition of Sindh Addressed

92AS0658B Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 7 Feb 92 p 17

[Text] Dr. Salim Haider, president of the Alliance Movement has said that Sindhi-Mohajir differences and tensions have been intensified to such a degree that normality is impossible. Therefore our proposal is that in order to settle the Sindhi-Mohajir dispute permanently, it is necessary that Sindh should be partitioned into two administrative units. Still if a Sindhi or Mohajir leader of the province has any proposal for establishing peace, brotherhood, and good will between the two communities, let him introduce it. If there is a delay in this regard, no power on earth will be able to stop the permanent partition of Sindh. In a special interview in Sakhar, he said that conditions in Sindh are being deliberately worsened and certain forces do not want Sindhis and Mohajirs to live peacefully. In this regard the attitude of Sindhi nationalist leaders is also unfriendly, extremist, and unsympathetic. They do not want to coexist with non-Sindhis, especially Mohajirs. In the Sindh interior, conditions have been created so that thousands of Mohajirs have been forced to leave their homes and move. Larkana, Dado, Shikarpur, Badeen, Matli and several small cities have been practically cleared of Mohajirs. In these areas, the land and property of Mohajirs, the value of which is over 4 billion rupees, have been occupied and the government could not afford any protection in these cities to those who had left their homes. Dr. Salim Haider said that even in those cities where a few Mohajirs still remain, a feeling of insecurity is increasing and, under a well-thought out scheme, Mohajirs are being pushed toward Karachi and Hyderabad. In the interior of Sindh, the gates of educational institutions have been closed to Mohajir children and, in certain educational centers, non-Sindhis cannot even enter. Similarly they have been denied occupational and employment opportunities. He said that this entire situation is taking Sindh on the road to partition. Those who say that Sindh shall not be partitioned, what have they done so far to stop it? Most of the forces in Sindh are deliberately taking Sindh on the road to partition and, when we openly say this, we are branded Sindhi enemies and traitors. He said that Sindhi-Mohajirs differences have been magnified to such a degree that the two cannot live together peacefully. Let someone explain how Sindhis and Mohajirs can live peacefully and friendly in an atmosphere of brotherliness when living conditions for Mohajirs are being made more difficult every day. He said that the present provincial set-up has been utterly unsuccessful in providing security for non-Sindhis. Therefore, while remaining within the Pakistani and Sindhi set-up, the province should be administratively partitioned. There should be two assemblies in Sindh although both the administrative units may continue to be called Sindh. There is no other way to improve the situation in Sindh. In reply to a question, Dr. Salim Haider said, that under the conditions that have been created in Sindh, Sindhis and Mohajirs can live together while murdering one another but the right way is that Sindh should be partitioned. The partition of Sindh will not have any adverse effects.

He said what a ridiculous situation it is that those who oppose dividing Sindh are enthusiastic supporters of the partition of Punjab in the shape of the Saraiki province. Referring to a ratio of population in Sindh, he said that Sindhi nationalist leaders deliver speeches day in and day out saying that the Sindhis will be reduced to a minority. We say that Sindhis even today are in a minority in the province. According to the last census Sindh's population was 21.2 million. But, according to the recently held census, the population of Sindh has jumped to 55 million. In fact under a well-thought-out plan, nationalists got confusing population figures entered during the census. It is interesting to note that, as a result of census figures, one learns that population of Shikarpur and Nousheharo Feroz has exceeded 6 million each. The population of even tiny villages is listed in the hundreds of thousands. He said that the census beginning on February 22 should be conducted through the military and the form should also include a column listing a mother tongue so that it may be ascertained how many Sindhis and how many non-Sindhis are in the province. He said that according to G.M. Sayyad the population of Sindh, at the time of formation of Pakistan, was 3.5 million. Out of this, 0.5 million Hindus left for India while, from India 10 million people came over, out of which, over 5 million came to Sindh and settled here. Moreover, no Sindhis have moved in from outside whereas Mohajirs kept entering Pakistan, most of whom settled in Sindh. Sindhis constitute only 30 percent in the province while 70 percent are non-Sindhi settlers but in Sindh assembly the situation is exactly opposite.

Thirty percent seats are for non-Sindhis and 70 percent are seats for Sindhis. In answer to a question, Dr. Salim Haider said, that the partition of Sindh, which appears impossible today, will naturally come about in future because Mohajirs have no security in Sindh. They are looked upon as refugees and "spiders." They have no home land. How long will Mohajirs remain homeless? We have always been active against separatist forces. He said that MQM [Muhajir Quami Movement] is an ally of Sindh chief minister Jam Sadiq Ali's government. But it has not been able to get its problems resolved. It has arrived at an agreement with the Jam government in order to resolve the problems of the Mohajirs but one year has passed and this agreement has not seen the light of the day and the Mohajirs have not received anything either. The quota system is alive and flourishing. In Sindh, the interior doors of education and employment are closed to them. The return of the stranded has not materialized so far. In Hyderabad the city university has not been built. He said that Mohajirs have put their trust in MQM. Therefore it will have to prove true to the trust of Mohajirs.

Speculation on Next Sindhi Chief Minister

92AS0658A Karachi *AKHBAR-E-JEHAN* in Urdu
16 Feb 92 p 10

[Unattributed article]

[Text] Once again I'm receiving telephone calls regarding Jam. A diplomat said: "Mr. Jam will last only till the

wedding of his daughter. The wedding takes place on Feb. 12. From the 13th he will no longer be the chief minister."

Has Mr. Jam accompanied the prime minister or not? He has not been seen on television at any official function. This time Mr. Jam has not appointed anyone as officiating chief minister.

Such rumors are common in political and official circles of Karachi. Names of alternative chief ministers are also circulating. The name of Makhdoom Rafiq Alzaman is current in diplomatic circles because, in some meeting, the American counsel very confidently asserted that Makhdoom Rafiq Alzaman is the next chief minister of Sindh. The American counsel made this remark in the presence of Makhdoom Rafiq Alzaman. Makhdoom Rafiq denied it countless times but to no avail. In our country the word of American counsel is taken to be gospel. If American ambassador can arrange transfers and appointments of chief ministers or if he can get it done, in that case naturally, the office of chief minister must be in the hands of the American counsel. Other names in circulation include Sayyad Gaus Ali Shah, Mr. Hazar Khan Bajarani and Ghulam Murtazi Jatoi. The name of Sayyad Muzaffar Hassain Shah is also mentioned.

No one knows what the basis of these rumors. A no-confidence motion is not scheduled in the Sindh assembly. Neither is there unrest in Sindh on such a scale as to make leadership changes inevitable. The problem of G.M. Syed and the tensions arising due to the observation of his anniversary have also cooled down with his arrest. This has caused no repercussions in Sindh and no commotion in Punjab. The 24-hour notice issued by the leader of the opposition also passed long ago. Analysts of our central capital are obsessed with Sindh. They consider it their mission to topple any and every government in Sindh. This has been their attitude to all the three chief ministers, Sayyad Gaus Ali Shah, Sayyad Qayim Ali Shah, and now Jam Sadiq Ali. Because of their analysis they receive invitations to visit Sindh, they lodge in five-star hotel, they also manage to have their problems resolved. But reality never figures in their analysis.

Whenever there has been a change in Sindh government, whenever a Sindh chief minister has left on his own volition or has been eased out, his entire administration has collapsed. Even now the central government is aware that if they initiate any such moves in Sindh their own throne will be endangered. Such were the consequences of the departures of Sayyad Gaus Ali Shah and Sayyad Qayim Ali Shah.

Conditions in Sindh are getting relatively better. The law-and-order situation, first in cities and now in rural areas, is relatively better. The manner in which prices of stock exchange shares in cities are increasing proves that people's confidence is returning. A rapid rise in the prices of shares of Sindh's first private bank, Mehran Bank is its greatest proof. This bank's formal inauguration was achieved by Sindh's spiritual leader, Pir of Pagaro.

Senate member and Sindh's influential political personality Pir Pagaro, as a rule, does not attend such functions.

Sindh's old and new industrial houses have united in this bank. There are Dauds, there are Jamals, and there are Tabanis. When such established business families are showing an interest in investments they must be seeing some hope, some confidence. That is why they are investing millions and inviting the Pir. They invited Jam Sadiq Ali for the second time. First they got him to open a lottery for an allotment of shares. Later he was asked to preside over at the time of the formal inauguration. Financiers and especially financiers like Ahmed Daud judge the lay of the land way in advance. They never invite to these functions those who are on their way out. Apart from very big capitalist houses this bank has also secured the services of banking experts, among whom Sayyad Aldin Siddiqi deserves mention, who after having successfully associated himself for years with the foreign exchange section of Habib Bank, worked for BCCI [Bank of Credit and Commerce International] in London, Cairo, and Europe. The association of such experts in advanced banking in key roles can guarantee an institution's success. When our financiers express their confidence and faith by inviting Mr. Jam to inauguration of their institutions, that must mean something. Politically also, this reality is evident that if, for some reason, Mr. Jam leaves, the only alternative political force is the [Pakistan] People's Party [PPP]. Would Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan like to see an opposition government in the most sensitive province like Sindh? Is the People's Party in a position to run a provincial government in the presence of a confrontational central government? On behalf of PPP the shadow chief minister Sayyad Qayim Ali Shah recently said in an interview that he is not prepared to form a government under present conditions because he does not believe in squandering money on horse trading.

The solution to the Sindh problem cannot lie solely in shuffling of chief ministers. The solution to the Sindh problem should be on a collective level. Sindh needs consensus. It needs cooperation. If the prime minister really wants to resolve Sindhi affairs with good will, he first has to create a politically favorable climate. He should bring together Sindh's various political forces. He should help end confrontational climate. The law-and-order situation in Punjab is also bad but it does not receive prominence. This is because it lacks political color. In Sindh it has politics mixed in it. The central and provincial governments should together look for a solution to the political angle of law and order. Political prisoners should be released. The withdrawal of cases from those political personalities against whom cases are going on and even after such a long time, these cases are not nearing a stage where guilt can be established, withdrawal of cases under these conditions, can create a more favorable climate. Only an internally united Pakistan can deal with international developments that have taken place or are emerging around us. For this consensus is very essential. Developments around us also dictate that no changes should take place in the country at this juncture. New permutations and combinations will not be appropriate at this stage. The regional dangers, which are arising because of changes in conditions or the possibilities that are emerging because of

these changes, all demand that Pakistani nation should demonstrate unity and oneness. Ways of confrontation should be given up.

On February 12, the Sindh chief minister will fulfill his duty of having his daughter married. Over 10,000 invitations are being issued from Jam Nawaz Ali Goth for this wedding. Top governmental and political personalities of the country will gather on this occasion in Mr. Jam's native village. How nice it would be for Sindh and the country if Mr. Jam were to convert this occasion of happiness into an occasion of political happiness and reconciliation. How nice a political climate would result in the province if his former political colleagues and present opposition also were present at the time of giving away of his daughter. In Punjab there is a saying that "One's daughter is everyone's daughter." On such occasions differences disappear.

Such a reconciliation has to begin one day. Why shouldn't it start on this auspicious occasion?

Government Seen Ineffective, Corrupt

92AS0659B Lahore MUSAWAT in Urdu 3 Feb 92 p 3

[Editorial: "It is Necessary To End the Present Government"]

[Text] Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, chairman of the All Parties Conference, said, "Which president should we now go to meet? When we tried to meet with the president, he demonstrated his bias by refusing to do so." Nasrullah Khan also said that the present government should be dissolved in the interests of the country's stability.

Nawabzadeh Nasrullah Khan is a senior statesman and his efforts for the restoration and stabilization of democracy cannot be ignored. His words, which show great disappointment and hopelessness, have an extensive background. After analyzing the conditions and events of the last four years, he has said, "It is necessary to end the present government in the interest of the country's stability."

From the very day that he assumed the office of president, Ghulam Ishaq Khan has acted against the popular and democratically elected government. During the 20-month-term of office of the Benazir Bhutto government, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan turned a blind eye to the continuing activities of provincial governments against the federal government and used the country's entire administrative machinery to collect instances of shortcomings on the part of the Benazir government alone, thus demonstrating his extreme bias. On 6 August 1990, President Ishaq Khan issued a charge sheet against Benazir Bhutto based merely on false press reports and verbal accusations and unilaterally announced the dismissal of the government. He initiated innumerable court cases against one party and its leadership and established special courts to hear the cases. Ghulam Ishaq Khan did not stop there; he appointed elements extremely opposed to the People's Party to high-level posts in the federal and provincial governments and thus set up a frightening scenario of confrontation against the People's Party and the popularly elected former government. Ghulam Murtaza Jatoi, who

had been badly defeated in the elections in his home district and had won an interim election for a charity seat in Muzaffar Garh, was nominated prime minister by the president. In selecting ministers, the only test of competence was to see how strong a language they could use against the People's Party and its leaders; and ministries were allocated to the candidates on that basis alone. The entire government machinery of the country was given the task of collecting material against a few patriotic individuals. President Ishaq did not stop there but under his own supervision, established an election review board headed by a retired general who, during General Zia's term of office, had promoted the notorious referendum drama. This election board, expert in voting fraud, mandated that before elections, the public media organizations fling as much dirt as possible on the People's Party, its leadership and other public figures; the dirt was provided by the president's office. At election time, these enemies of democracy were surprised that the people refused to be influenced by the propaganda against their beloved leaders; hence, this organization for fraud, which was given the name of election review board, stole the votes of millions of people. A strange fraud was perpetrated in the name of democracy; election results were sent by the security administration to this election seal which, in turn, gave the election results the form it wanted and sent them to the chief election commissioner who, very innocently, published them. Several protests were filed against the election fraud and documented proof of this fraud was published in the form of books and pamphlets. But the election commission, which knowingly or unknowingly, was a participant in this drama, ignored the entire issue and gave legal sanction to the "fraud." Thus, for the first time in the history of world democracy, individuals promoting the program of a military dictator staged a successful drama by obtaining a fraudulent popular mandate. In spite of their illegal status, these people took control of a legal government and President Ishaq helped them in every way.

In order to create division in Sindh, which was the Pakistan People's Party's strongest fortress, President Ishaq Khan appointed Jam Sadiq Ali as the caretaker chief minister and Jam Sadiq carried political vengeance in Sindh to the extreme. From the very beginning, this protege government of President Ishaq Khan treated the people as a conquering nation treats a subjugated one. The people suffered under a reign of high costs, malfeasance, and bribery. Under foreign pressure, the nation's economy was placed under the control of the IMF and World Bank; the country was opened up to foreign imports, allowing India and other adverserial countries to sell here and buy and take away whatever they pleased.

The people lost more than 26 billion rupees when the financial institutions called cooperative finance companies went bankrupt and according to documentary proofs, certain families, which are part of the government stole these 26 billion and more rupees; but neither government departments nor the president of the country has taken any notice of the incident. When the opposition parties decided to meet with the president in regard to this issue,

just a few hours before the meeting, an insulting statement was issued by the president, which implied as well that the president himself was involved in all those government affairs about which the opposition parties wanted to complain to him.

If the president wishes now that the opposition and government benches should hold a dialogue, would he clarify as to why this need has suddenly arisen seeing that this need existed from the very beginning? Did president Ishaq Khan realize this fact in the past or only now? If so, what has he done about it?

If he does not see all that is happening, then what kind of dialogue does he expect to have with the opposition parties? Are there any laws left intact that he is supposed to be safeguarding?

Rationale Behind Public Nuclear Weapons Declaration

*92WP0167Y Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu
13 Feb 92 p 10*

[Text] In a recent interview with the WASHINGTON POST, Pakistani Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan announced that Pakistan has the capability to make a nuclear bomb but it has voluntarily decided not to arm itself with nuclear weapons. In this context he said that Pakistan has enough nuclear material to make at least one nuclear bomb. Following Pakistan's announcement that it has this capability, Indian External Affairs minister Solanki, said in a talk with newsmen on 8 February 1992, that this Pakistani disclosure is hardly surprising. He said that Pakistani scientists had been saying the same thing for the last four years. When asked if India will make a nuclear bomb, he said whether it is a bomb or something else, all of this is part of defense preparedness and that whatever the nature of threat, it will be dealt with. He said that Pakistan's choice for making this official announcement at this time is meant to increase tension along the control line. He further said that Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, has, through his speeches, recently extended support to Kashmiri freedom fighters and Pakistan's National Assembly has already passed a resolution in this regard.

It is a fact that since 1984 Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan consistently announced that Pakistan acquired the capability of making a nuclear bomb. Most Pakistani people have been saying that Pakistan should be practical and demonstrate its capability by conducting a nuclear explosion experiment.

But Pakistan has always insisted that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes and that has no intention of making a nuclear bomb. Putting faith in this assertion, America has been giving Pakistan military and economic aid.

In February 1989 when the Soviet Union quit Afghanistan, America began raising questions regarding Pakistani's nuclear program. On 6 October 1989, President Bush certified that Pakistan did not have a nuclear bomb and this cleared the way for American aid to Pakistan. But in the certification he also wrote a sentence that Pakistan was busy secretly promoting its nuclear program, and in the

following year, October 1990, President Bush refused to certify that Pakistan did not have a nuclear bomb and therefore it was not possible for Pakistan to obtain American aid. Pakistan continued protesting that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes and that it did not have a nuclear weapon but it did not impress America at all. Here it is necessary to point out that it was President Bush's wish that he should continue aid to Pakistan. Therefore, at the end of May 1991, he requested Congressional approval that under special circumstances, he be granted exemption from the mandatory condition of issuing a certificate in connection with foreign aid under the Pressler Amendment but the U.S. Congress rejected his request.

It was clear that because of Pressler Amendment it was no longer possible for President Bush to authorize any kind of aid for Pakistan and moreover, during a recent visit to Pakistan, Pressler made the explosive charge that Pakistan has a nuclear bomb and it should, on its own initiative, dismantle it.

In response to strong Pakistani protests the American administration said that Senator Pressler's pronouncements represent his own views and that they do not represent the views of the U.S. Government. The views of the U.S. Government became known when, in the middle of January 1992, Gates, the chief of the American intelligence agency (CIA), told the U.S. Senate that America has no proof that Pakistan and India have acquired nuclear bombs. But both of them are in a position to make them. Thus, for the first time, America revealed that both Pakistan and India have nuclear capabilities.

However the question here is why did Pakistan officially announce at this time that it has nuclear capability? The answer to this question that Indian External Affairs minister Solanki gave is that its aim is to increase tension along the control line. Now even if we allow that Mr. Solanki is correct in his statement that Pakistan wants to increase tension along the control line, it can be asked what good will come to Pakistan? It is clear that it can do Pakistan no good. On the contrary, it can hurt Pakistan. The massacre of a few innocent Kashmiris at the hands of Indian troops, will put the Pakistani Government in dire straits. Moreover Pakistan is aware that if tension along the control line gets out of hand, it can engulf the subcontinent in war. For this reason Pakistan cannot welcome increased tension along the control line. This is why the Pakistani Government announced its refusal for permission to cross the control line on 11 February 1992. Therefore the reason for Pakistan's announcement, that it has nuclear capability, must lie elsewhere.

Now it is an open secret that when on 2 December 1974 Mr. Bhutto announced that if America did not restore arms supplies to Pakistan, it would be forced to conduct a nuclear experiment and this was not empty talk, and Pakistan had the capability of conducting a nuclear explosion, the Kremlin and Delhi were rocked by these words. This was the time, when due to the Russian-Indian alliance, Pakistan's survival and integrity were in very serious danger. This announcement, on the one hand, cleared the way for supplying American arms to Pakistan

and on the other hand, eased Russian-Indian pressure on Pakistan. It became clear to both Russian and India that Pakistan was not a delicacy. Here it will not be remiss to point out that at this time, the prevailing impression was that Pakistan by itself did not have the ability to conduct a nuclear explosion but, in this regard, its ally China could help it to the utmost. However Russia and India did get the message that if Pakistan is subjected to undue pressure, it could conduct a nuclear explosion for the sake of its integrity.

After the Russian occupation of Afghanistan, Pakistan once again started to feel the weight of the Russian-Indian alliance. In the beginning of 1984 this pressure reached critical dimensions. It became apparent that India was preparing to invade Pakistan. In April 1984 it even occupied Siachin so that by advancing through Gilgit and joining with the Russians moving across Dakhan, it could cut off the land connection between Pakistan and China. But it could not pull it off. Instead it began to sink in Siachin snow. But India intensified its preparations for invading Pakistan.

Rajiv Gandhi openly said that by the end of 1984 India would have invaded Pakistan. It was clear from this that India was about to attack Pakistan. Therefore Pakistani scientist Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, in an interview in NAWA-I-WAQT, told India that Pakistan was a nuclear power. This nuclear capability of Pakistan played a very important role in frustrating Indian aggressive designs against Pakistan. Mrs. Indira Gandhi's murder clearly put off the Indian attack.

After this in 1986, when once again the danger of an Indian attack on Pakistan became very serious, Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, again, removed the danger of an Indian attack on Pakistan by referring to Pakistan's nuclear capability; and in 1987, General Ziaul Haq bluntly told the American TIME magazine that Pakistan could make a nuclear bomb whenever it wanted to. Again in April 1988, he reminded the WALL STREET JOURNAL of this reality. In 1990 when the danger of war between Pakistan and India intensified because of the massacre of Muslims in Kashmir valley, and it appeared unavoidable that India would attack Pakistan willy-nilly, once again Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan stated on 25 February 1990 that Pakistan could make a nuclear bomb. The result was that it became very difficult for India to attack Pakistan. Instead it intensified its efforts to crush the Kashmiri nation.

India believed that by massacring the Kashmiri people, it could crush the nation and with the passage of time, it would become clear to Kashmiris that Pakistan could not help them in any way. Therefore the Kashmiris would compromise with the situation and agree to remaining under it. But despite suffering unspeakable difficulties and troubles for over two years, there was no reduction in the spirit of freedom of the Kashmiri nation. A proud Kashmiri nation vowed to play martyr. About this time India also noticed that its economic backbone was broken. Following the disintegration of the Soviet Union in August 1991, at the same time it became clear to it that its military backbone was also about to be broken.

Currently, the conditions of India are such that because of its involvement in Kashmir and Punjab, it is becoming economically bankrupt and, at the same time because of breakup of military alliance with Russia, the military superiority that it enjoys over Pakistan is rapidly losing its edge. India was feeling pleased that, by stopping military aid to Pakistan, America had paralyzed its air force. But now by promising to give Pakistan Mirage 2000 fighter-bomber aircraft, France has put an end to its complacency and now, by announcing plans to give Pakistan spare parts and ammunition for F-16 planes, America has made India very worried. This condition is very serious for India. It is becoming clear to Indian that if Pakistan is not crushed this time, its military superiority could disappear in the near future.

The fact is that India's condition is much the same as Pakistan's was in 1964. Thanks to American military aid, Pakistan, by the beginning of 1960 decade, had got the better of India in terms of military hardware. When near the end of 1963, Western nations, especially America, initiated the process of breaking up China by strengthening India militarily and economically, Pakistan calculated that if it did not take advantage of its superiority in armament, it would never be able to recover Kashmir. It was this

compulsion that drove Pakistan into a war in Kashmir. Now, following end of the Soviet Union, India is faced with a similar situation. It knows that its military superiority over Pakistan will disappear very soon. There is no doubt that it is turning to America to obtain weapons. But first it needs time and second, it will have to pay a very heavy price for this. America will want India to cease being a nuclear power and not embark on developing missiles. In the meanwhile, now that the effectiveness of Pakistani Air Force has clearly suffered due to a ban on American military aid to Pakistan, India would like to take advantage of its military superiority. By this means it hopes that it will not only occupy Azad Kashmir but also take control of Sindh. Thus it will not only solve the Kashmir problems but also the Sikh rebellion in Punjab will be crushed. Pakistan is aware of this Indian plan. That is why it has formally announced that not only does it have nuclear capability but it also has enough material to make at least one nuclear bomb.

Viewing these facts, it becomes clear that the reason Pakistan has officially announced that it has nuclear capability is to let India understand that attack on it will be tantamount to a devastation of the subcontinent.

**Government Criticized for Printing Excess
Currency**

92AS0780C Peshawar MASHRIQ in Urdu 24 Feb 92 p 10

[Editorial: "Two Trillion, Twenty Million Rupees in New Notes"]

[Text] According to a report issued by the State Bank, the government has issued new notes worth 2.2 billion rupees. This has increased the total value of various notes issued to this date to over 1.5481 trillion. We have always strongly opposed this system of deficit spending. Blindly printing notes to meet government expenses is not a wise step. Most of the previous governments have also used this "hide-the-sting" system. The present government already has the

heavy burden of a budget deficit. The main reason for this deficit is that during the last two decades, nothing has been done for economic stability. The government has borrowed billions of rupees in foreign and domestic loans and has tried to make dues by printing loan notes blindly. As a result, the budget deficit has reached its extreme. The present government, realizing the drawbacks of deficit spending, has established some restrictions in borrowing money from banks and printing new notes. However, it appears that it has become impossible for the government to stay within these restrictions. This is a danger bell for our country's economy. We would like to advise our government officials not to use any more tricks of the deficit economic system.

Article Warns of Alarming Population Growth

92AS0780D Peshawar MASHRIQ in Urdu 28 Feb 92 p 4

[Article by Khias Ahmad: "Alarming Population Growth in Pakistan"]

[Text] According to a radio report, Pakistan's population 44 years ago was about 30 million (at that time, it was called West Pakistan). The present population is 120 million, and within 20 years, this population will double to 240 million. In 20 years, the situation will be so bad that, in addition to other basic items, we will be facing a scarcity of wheat. Unfortunately, property in Pakistan is being controlled by a few families, and most of our land is left uncultivated. They do not cultivate it and are not willing to let others use it. In addition, land in a similar situation is under the control of the governments in Punjab and Sindh. It is unfortunate that neither the government nor the religious clerics and landlords who own arable acreage are aware of the amazing increase in population. These three groups will learn about it when the water has risen above their heads, and as the proverb says, it will be useless to cry over spilled milk. They will not be able to do anything at that time. There is still time for these three groups to read the writing on the wall and start efforts to rectify this problem. First, we must start an organized plan to control the population increase. In this context, the religious groups should not oppose it without reason and should cooperate with the government. They should support it. At the same time, and in light of the predicament, all the unused land should be distributed among farmers and small landlords. In addition, these people should be given the ownership to this land so that they actively take part in

making this land productive, considering it their own property. This way, all unused land will be brought under cultivation, and there will be a significant increase in agricultural production. This will also increase the production of wheat. It should be remembered that Islam considers a person who plows the land to be the owner of that land. It does not consider the absent landlord to be the owner at all. The landlord system was started by the British after they took over our country, and they implemented it for their own vested interests. The British made large parcels of land and gave them to wealthy landlords. This system deprived millions of people of land ownership. As a result, the landlord has more land than he can use and leaves it uncultivated. He neither cultivates it himself or rents it out to farmers. There is no doubt that our government is being controlled by landlords, investors, and other wealthy people. They do not think that their unused and barren land belongs to anyone, and they try to keep it uncultivated. They should not forget that the population has increased and the acreage of arable land has decreased. If the rich continue to become richer and the poor continue to become poorer, then there will be a time that will be fatal to landlords and investors. At that time, rectifying this problem would perhaps be very difficult, if not impossible. Therefore, these three groups should take stock of the looming difficulties and destructions and bring all the unused land under cultivation so that agricultural production, especially of wheat, can be increased. The person who plows the land should be the owner. This way, when all land is brought under cultivation, then we will not only be self-sufficient, but will be able to export food grains to other countries.

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