

## Shahid Afridi lauds services of Police Animal Rescue Center



### BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE—Shahid Afridi along with former leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed visited Police Animal Rescue Center here at Gulberg on Sunday.

Shahid Afridi reviewed the facilities provided in the center to the rescued animals, and said it was an important project of the government. ASP Syeda Shahrabano Naqvi and

animal rights NGO (JFK) CEO Zulfshan Anusha briefed Shahid Afridi about Animal Rescue Center.

ASP Shehbanu Naqvi said that Animal Rescue Centers (PARC) of Punjab Police are active in Lahore, Gujranwala and Rawalpindi. The centers have veterinary doctors, ambulance, rescue staff, police team.

The police animal rescue center is playing an important role in the

treatment and rehabilitation of helpless, injured animals, she added.

Shahid Afridi said that other provinces should also create police forces and institutions like Punjab Police Animal Rescue Centre.

Later, Shahid Afridi along with Mushtaq Ahmed also visited Special Initiative Police Station Gulberg, where ASP Gulberg Syeda Shahrabano informed Shahid Afridi about the working of Special Initiative Police Station, Saitan office.

Shahid Afridi said that the upgradation of police stations and public facilities centers is a good initiative of Punjab Police to provide services to the citizens.

It is worth mentioning here that the center has been established in collaboration with Punjab Police and Animal Rights Activism (JFK).

## PUC vows global action against Islamophobia, calls for steps to address anti-Muslim sentiments

### NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD—Pakistan Ulama Council (PUC) Chairman, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi said the Council is set to escalate its efforts on a global scale to foster interfaith dialogue and harmony.

Addressing international media in connection with the 'International

Day to Combat Islamophobia' the other day, he emphasized that Islamophobia poses a grave threat to Muslims worldwide.

Ashrafi urged world powers to accelerate initiatives to eradicate Islamophobia, labeling it as a toxic barrier hindering interfaith harmony.

He called upon the United Nations, the Organization of Islamic

Cooperation, and other international bodies to champion initiatives aimed at eradicating all forms of discrimination while nurturing a culture of love, tolerance, and coexistence. He stressed that Islam embodies peace, love, and tolerance, emphasizing the teachings of Allah Almighty and the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).



## IIUI president revokes Rs 5,000 Aitekaf fee at Faisal Masjid



### BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—President of International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI), Prof. Dr. Hathal Homoud Al-Otaibi, has taken cognizance of the Rs. 5,000 registration fee for Aitekaf at the Faisal Masjid.

According to IIUI spokesperson Nasir Farid, the President IIUI has instructed the Dawah Academy to immediately revoke the fixed registration fee for Aitekaf.

Furthermore, the president has mandated

that any matters concerning the Faisal Masjid and the public must receive formal approval from the quarters concerned, and the academy is not authorized to make independent decisions.

Moreover, the president has emphasized the provision of all necessary facilities to worshippers at the Faisal Masjid during the fasting month and the resolution of issues pertaining to Aitekaf.

Additionally, the president has directed to ensure optimal arrangements for Aitekaf.

## 1.3 million rupees fine has been imposed to profiteers during six days of Ramadan



### RANA IQBAL HASSAN

FAISALABAD—As many as 1.3 million rupees fine has been imposed to profiteers during six days of Ramadan, additional Deputy Commissioner Numan Afzal Awan has informed

that 204 shop keepers were arrested and 45 FIRs were registered.

He said that the Price Control Magistrates of the district have been put in filed to check the prices and rate list.

He said that no one would

be allowed to sale the item as their own prices and strict action would be taken against profiteers. He said that he himself remained in field and checked the prices in market and bazars along with on the DC Counters of mega marts.

## Abdullah Gul condoles martyrdom of Army soldiers in North Waziristan



### BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—Chairman Tehreek-e-Jawaan Pakistan (TJP) Mohammad Abdullah Gul on Sunday expressed his deep sorrow over the martyrdom of the officers and soldiers of Pakistan Army in North Waziristan. The TJP Chairman prayed for the exaltation of the hereafter and blessings of peace and patience onto the bereaved families, said a press release.

Abdullah Gul said it was

not easy to offer the funeral of martyrs while expressing his deep grief and pain over the martyrdom of the brave sons of the soil. He said that the government and opposition leaders should abstain from politics on such occasion as it was not the time for scoring points but rather for creating motivation and encouragement among all the ranks and files of the nation. He regretted that it was big tragedy but no news channels turned their screen margins and logos dark to express solidarity or held

any talk show. "There should not be a criminal silence on such big tragedy on the floor of the National Assembly and the Senate, but rather should express sorrow and share the pain with the martyrs' families, because our children sleep peacefully due to the guard of Army soldiers at border," he said. Abdullah Gul mentioned that martyrs did not only belong to the institutions but rather of nation and the nations that did not value their heroes fall into decline.

## Faisal Masjid seeks applications for Aitekaf in last Ashra of Ramadan

### BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—Faisal Masjid is set to host 300 individuals for Aitekaf, a revered Islamic tradition of seclusion and devotion, in a bid to deepen their spiritual connection during the holy month of Ramadan.

The administration of Faisal Masjid has opened its doors to those seeking this profound spiritual experience in the last Ashra (10 days) of the holy month. It has announced that applications for Aitekaf will be accepted until the 10th of Ramadan, allowing eager devotees to secure their spots in advance.

Applicants are advised that the process operates on a first-come, first-served basis, emphasizing the importance of prompt submission. Prospective participants are required to obtain an application form from the Faisal Masjid Islamic Centre office. Alongside the application, individuals must provide two passport-sized photographs and a copy of their national identity card, ensuring all necessary documentation is in order.



With the responsibility of Suhoor and Iftar arrangements falling upon the participants, individuals are urged to prepare accordingly for the duration of their Aitekaf.

It's worth noting that the opportunity for Aitekaf is open to individuals up to 60 years of age, fostering inclusivity within the spiritual community. Moreover, participants are reminded of the necessity to arrive before Iftar on the 20th of Ramadan, marking the commencement of their seclusion.

In anticipation of this sacred undertaking, Faisal Masjid has made special arrangements to accommodate the devotees embarking on this spiritual journey. From provisions for prayer to facilities for rest and reflection, the Faisal Masjid aims to provide a conducive environment for the spiritual growth of its participants.

## Unlocking the Doors to Peace Innovative Approaches to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

### DR. MUHAMMAD SHAHZAD ASHFAQ

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the most prolonged and engrained conflicts in the world with roots dating back to the late 19th century. The conflict is characterized by deep historical, religious and territorial disputes that have resulted in decades of violence, bloodshed or suffering for both Israelis and Palestinians.

The search for a peaceful resolution to the conflict has been elusive, with many attempts at negotiation and mediation failing to produce a lasting and sustainable peace agreement.

However, despite the seemingly insurmountable obstacles to peace, there are innovative approaches that could potentially unlock the doors to peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These approaches involve thinking outside of the box, seeking alternative pathways to peace, and engaging in new ways of dialogue or cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians.

One innovative approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the concept of two independent states. Rather than maintaining the current single-nation solution, which predicts a separate Palestinian state alongside Israel, will involve the creation of a single democratic state that would involve both Israeli and Palestinian territories. Peacemaking in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the concept of "Track II diplomacy." This involves engaging with non-governmental actors, such as civil society organizations, religious leaders, and academics to resolve the conflict. These people working outside of the traditional diplomatic channels track II diplomacy will create new opportunities for

dialogue and collaboration, helping to generate creative solutions to the deep-rooted issues that have plagued the peace process. Track II diplomacy, and technological tools, it is possible to break down the barriers of fear and mistrust that have long divided Israelis and Palestinians, paving the way for a more peaceful environment for both peoples.

This approach would emphasize equality, mutual recognition, and integration between Israelis and Palestinians, rather than maintaining one-nation identities and boundaries. These initiatives like people-to-people programs have shown promise in building bridges between Israelis and Palestinians and fostering understanding and cooperation. These individuals are involved with civil society organizations working together on projects that promote dialogue, reconciliation, and mutual understanding between Israelis and Palestinians. People engaging in both states Israelis and Palestinians will build personal relationships, break down stereotypes and create opportunities for collaboration or peace building. The conflict (Israeli-Palestinian) has been a longstanding issue that has plagued the Middle East for decades. The hostility and violence between the two sides have resulted in countless deaths, destroyed homes, and hindered any prospects for peace in the region. Innovative approaches to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict also involve addressing the underlying causes of the conflict, including issues of inequality, discrimination, and injustice. By promoting social and economic equality, and addressing the grievances of both Israelis and Palestinians, a

more just and sustainable peace will be achieved. These innovative approaches will involve addressing issues such as land rights, water rights and refugee rights, working towards a more equitable distribution of resources and opportunities for both Israelis and Palestinians. Social media platforms and online communication tools will be used to facilitate dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians, allowing for the exchange of ideas and perspectives in a safe and controlled environment. Virtual reality technology will be used to create immersive experiences that foster empathy and understanding between the two sides. By leveraging international support, grassroots movements and a commitment to dialogue and cooperation, it is possible to overcome these challenges and pave the way for lasting peace in the region. Unlocking the doors to peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will require innovative thinking, bold initiatives, and a willingness to explore new pathways to reconciliation and cooperation. Embracing sovereignty, economic interdependence, cultural exchange, and technology; there is a real opportunity to break the cycle of violence and build a future based on peace and coexistence. This conflict requires bold and innovative approaches that challenge the status quo to promote cooperation and understanding. While the road to peace may be long and difficult, both sides must continue to seek innovative solutions and build a brighter future for generations to come. It is time for all stakeholders to come together and embrace these innovative approaches will finally put an end to this long-standing conflict.

International Islamic University Islamabad, Pakistan



ISLAMABAD: Large number of people participating in a Walk to 'Raise Awareness About Kidney Diseases Their Precautions & Treatment in Pakistan' at Mehran Gate F-9 Park.

## Pak-Iran bilateral trade can be increased up to \$5b: Iranian envoy

### BT NEWS

ISLAMABAD—Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan, Dr. Reza Amiri Moghadam has said that to strong economic and trade integration between Pakistan and Iran, bilateral trade can be increased up to \$ 5 billion a year in the coming few years.

There is a strong possibility of doubling the bilateral trade between the two countries through air, rail and maritime integration, which will prove



to be a catalyst in regional and global trade as well, he said while addressing the business community in Islamabad.

Middle East, South Asia and Central Asia. Therefore, the land and sea integration of both countries is of great importance in the world of Geo- economy, said a press release issued, he said.

The Iranian envoy said that in order to further improve transit trade between Pakistan and Iran, 12 border trade markets had been opened, in which 6 border markets had been completed and others are in progress, which would usher in a new era of economic integration in

both countries.

He said that Gwadar and Chabahar were very important in maritime trade ties, so both countries should declare both ports as coastal sister ports so that mutual economic development can be achieved jointly.

Dr. Reza Amiri Moghadam said that both countries were members of major forums like Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), ECO and D-8 in which it was very easy to work on common economic goals.