

PRIME MINISTER SYED YUSUF RAZA GILANI'S MESSAGE O THE DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF QUAID-E-AZAM MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAH

Islamabad 11th September, 2010

Today we are observing 62nd death anniversary of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the Founder of Pakistan and a great statesman of the world.

Nature had gifted Quaid-e-Azam with a giant's strength in so far as his determination was concerned to accomplish tasks that he set before him. His political acumen, his vision and will, his capacity to handle delicate and grave situations were put to the severest test, and his phenomenal success dazzled the eyes of friends and foe alike.

It is unknown in the annals history that any new nation had to face such difficulties as were faced by Pakistan at its birth. But Quaid-e-Azam was a dedicated man, and he dug the mine of his physical strength to the last ounce of that metal to serve his people. To Pakistan, his untiring dedication and devotion was its richest asset in those early years, when her very existence was a question-mark of history. Our adversaries' intrigues were actively undermining the economic fabric of Pakistan even before it came into existence. They declared, "After us the deluge. We are leaving Pakistan an economic desert". But their claims epitomized wishful thinking.

Achievement of Pakistan had meant for him only the end of one phase of his life and he beginning of another phase, equally important- of consolidating Pakistan and ensuring its stability. Despite his failing health, he was not going to desert his post at the period of crisis through which his nation was passing, and he did not spare himself. He went on working to the very last and continued to deal with important State papers until his death.

The best tribute which we can pay to the father of the nation is allegiance to principles which he espoused vigorously and the values which he promoted consistently in his career. His death anniversary calls for reappraisal of the situation and a solid commitment to complete Quaid's mission of consolidating Pakistan and ensuring its stability. His life-giving words uttered during the struggle for Pakistan still rings true in our ears. He said, "We have won the battle for Pakistan's freedom but the grimmer battle for preservation of that freedom is still in progress". The Quaid stood for the rule of law, for freedom and democracy, for social justice, for discipline and orderly progress. He envisaged Pakistan as a welfare State. In his message on Eid-ul-Fitr on 27th August, 1948, he wrote, 'It is only with united effort and faith in our destiny that we shall be able to translate the Pakistan of our dreams into reality'.

Our government is striving hard to restore peace in the country and put the economy back on rails to progress and prosperity. We have restored the constitution in its original forms and empowered the Parliament. We have harmonized inter -provincial

relations and ensued reconciliatory politics in the country. The government is fighting the menace of terrorism through effective strategy.

Recent ravaging floods have caused colossal loss to our economy washed away one fifth of our agriculture and displaced 20 million people. However, I have complete faith in the resilience of our Nation which has always braved such daunting challenges with courage. I solemnly assure the flood affectees that their Government will not leave them in the lurch and will rehabilitate them in their home in the shortest possible time.

I am confident that on this day we would come up to the expectations of our great Quaid and pledge to extend all possible help to our brethren devastated by the ravaging floods. We shall, with the grace of almighty Allah and with the support of our brave people, overcome the challenges confronting the Nation and turn them into opportunity to make Pakistan a better and strong country”.