



From the General Secretary

We have set sail, and in the right direction too! As the saying goes, "We may not be able to change the direction of the wind, but we can change the course of our ship." So it is the duty of each one of us to build a strong community in North America.

The SANGAT had seven issues last year, a no mean achievement. More so when we consider the fact that all the finances of its last four issues were borne by individuals and not SANA. In this struggle to be on the top of the race to put your message presentably and swiftly in front of one's own community, and to others, for that matter, the need to have an official organ of our own cannot be under-emphasized. Thus to ensure the continued viability of SANA's organ the SANGAT the following is being done:

As you must have already noted, the January 1993 SANGAT does not only contains NEWS about Sindh and Sindhis, but gives the reader an insight on the great sons and daughters who lived and died for Sindh. SANGAT has also embarked on a journey to seek and publish original ideas and treatises aimed at outlining plans wherein SANA could help alleviate the sufferings of our brethren in Sindh, and whereby SANA could be more imbibed with community work in North America. We request you all to participate in this venture, as you well know that ideas are seedlings which if they take roots, can give birth to plants bearing fruits of growth. The SANGAT also plans to enlarge its community awareness role and increase cohesiveness in the community. Thus we have requested the Regional Secretaries/Chapter Presidents of SANA to send us, by the 20th of every month information regarding new arrivals, change of addresses, in their areas.

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Selection of The New COAS

President Ishaq Khan's choice of the new army chief, Gen. Abdul Waheed Kakar, is an interesting one. Gen. Waheed, Quetta Corps Commander, was due to retire in June. He now supercedes 6 Generals, all of whom are also due to retire this year. Of these, one is a current Corps Commander (Gen. Mohammad Ashraf) and three have commanded Corps in the past (Gen. Rehamdil Bhatti, Gen. Arif Bangash and Gen. Farrukh Khan). Seniority clearly was of no significance to President Ishaq. But this is not unprecedented, Gen. Yahya Khan superceded a couple of Generals and Gen. Zia ul Haq upstaged many more. So the President cannot be faulted on that score.

As far as professionalism is concerned, the President's choice is a good one, Gen. Waheed Kakar has both command and administrative experience. Before commanding the Quetta Corps, he served as General Officer Commanding in Panu Aqil, which means he is a Sindh-hand like his predecessor Gen. Asif Nawaz. He has been Adjutant-General too, which suggest he will be a strict disciplinarian. As an infantry man, he hails from the Frontier Force regiments of the Pakistan army. These are impeccable military credentials.

The two front runners, Gen. Mohammad Ashraf and Gen. Farrukh Khan, were bypassed for obvious reasons. Gen. Ashraf was thought to be close to the prime minister's business friends in Lahore, so he must have been ruled out on that score by the President who surely wanted to preclude any future PM-COAS grid against him. As for Gen. Farrukh, he was known to be Gen. Asif Nawaz' right-hand man and confidant, which probably disqualified him in the books of both the President and the Prime Minister. Since the PM was becoming jealous of the late general's rising popularity and impartial policies, Gen. Farrukh could not be trusted to toe Islamabad's political line unhesitatingly.

Of the others, two generals were ruled out because they lacked command experience. Gen. Javed Nasir, DG ISI, lacks it too; at any rate, he is too close to the PM for the President's comfort. Which left Gen. Rehamdil Bhatti, Gen. Arif Bangash and Gen. Abdul Waheed.

In the end, the Pathan President was bound to look upon the two Pathan generals more favorably than upon the Punjabi. About time, too, he must have thought. Pakistan has had nine army chiefs to date, of whom the first two were British, Gen. Ayub was a Hazarawalla, Gen. Yahya was Persian-speaking, Gen. Gul Hassan, Tikka Khan, Zia ul Haq and Asif Nawaz were Punjabis while Gen. Beg was an Urdu-speaking mohajir. So it was "Eeni Meenie Minie Moe" between Gen. Waheed and Gen. Bangash.

Continued on page 2



**Benzair new job
to improve
Pakistan image.**

Controversy on page 5

What will happen to Sindh policy after Gen. Asif Nawaz

There was a mixed response amongst Karachi's mohajir community to the sudden death of the chief of the army staff General Asif Janjua. While the Haqiqi are worried, there was jubilation amongst the supporters of Altaf Hussain, and hope for Azeem Tariq.

The "condolence message" of the chief of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), Altaf Hussain, was quite meaningful. It was also different from the statements of other political leaders. Altaf Hussain did not have any word of praise for General Asif Nawaz. He was in fact critical of the role that the army played in Karachi and Hyderabad under the late COAS. "It is in the national interest that differences with individuals should not be taken to mean differences with institutions. When you have differences with somebody and that person passes way it is unbecoming to even mention the complaints and grievances," he said.

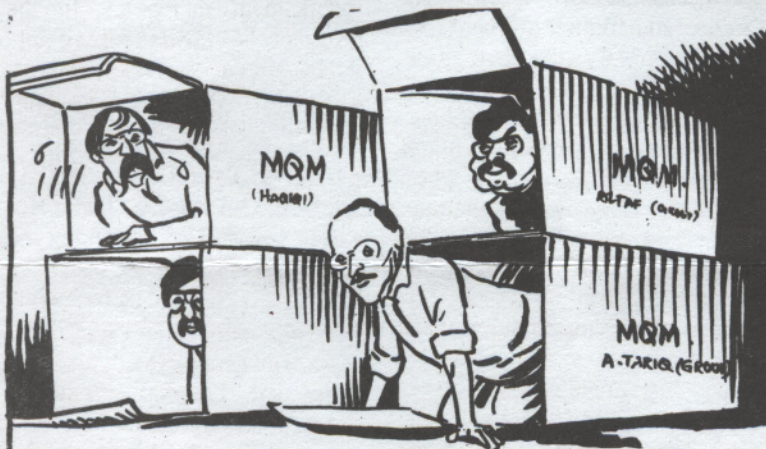
Will the army's policy on Sindh change after the death of General Asif Nawaz?

Mohammad Mirza reports on the hopes and fears of the different MQM factions

The sentiments of Altaf Hussain were also reflected in some areas of the mohajir community in Karachi. Altaf Hussain's supporters were relieved and hopeful that the new Army leadership might help in retaining Altaf Hussain's MQM.

According to eye witness accounts, some people even distributed "sweets" after hearing the tragic news. Such gestures are not very rare among sections of the people here. When the late Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was executed on April 4, 1979, Jamaat-i-Islami supporters distributed "sweets" too. Sweets were also distributed when the government of former Ms Benazir Bhutto was dismissed on August 6, 1990.

The anti-Altaf mohajirs, on the other hand were in a state of shock over the death of General Asif Nawaz. "It may create an uncertain situation among the supporters of MQM Haqiqi, as one cannot be sure what the policy of the army and government will be after Asif Nawaz," said one Haqiqi leader. The new COAS, not being an expert on Sindh, like his predecessor, could change track under political pressure from Islamabad.



General Asif Nawaz served Sindh as Corps Commander at very difficult time, when General Aslam Beg, considered to be close to the MQM, was the chief of the army staff. The late general took a strong stand against the decision of the former Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto to target only the MQM in Sindh. "The people against whom I wanted action to be taken are the same ones who are now accused of running a terrorist group by the army, she said in a recent interview.

Extract from "The Friday Times"

Selection of the new COAS (Continued from page 1)

President Ishaq must hope to get along fairly well with his Pashtu-speaking compatriot in Army House. He must also hope the new COAS will be indebted to him and not question the wisdom of Presidential discretion in matters as diverse as the 'Sindh problem', the 'Benazir Bhutto problem' and the 'Islamic Bomb' problem. Naturally, too, President Ishaq will want the new chap to approve wholeheartedly of his bid for a second term.

All this may come to pass. President Ishaq may yet succeed in dumping the theory of the 'trokia' into the dustbin and become All in All.

But we would like to strike a lot of caution to all those who are secretly hoping to lead the new chief by his nose. Pakistan's political history and the army's centrality in it suggest that whosoever becomes COAS is eventually going to be no one's "man" except his own. When you sit in Army House and know you can move half a million in arms by gesturing with your little finger, you have to be your own man. So let's hope that instead of being the President's "man" or the PM's "man," the new COAS will turn out to be as true a son of the soil; as his predecessor.

"The Friday Times"

SANA Annual Convention

The New York Chapter, under its Regional Secretary Mrs. Saeeda Abro, is taking great pains to make the event a big success.

The convention is scheduled for July 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 1993.

Details and schedules of events will be made available soon.

For more information of details and suggestions please contact any of the following people.

Saeeda Abro 718-762-9351
Paryal Soomro 516-488-1169
Roshan Shaikh 516-399-6880

U.S. asks Pak to return warships

Washington has asked for the return of nine warships which the U.S. government has leased to Pakistan, said Pakistani Naval Chief Admiral Saeed Mohammad Khan. "The demand is in contradiction of the Pressler Amendment, which provides that Pakistan's defense capability level should not be lowered," said Admiral Khan in a meeting with reporters on December 24.

At present, the Pakistan navy has nine U.S. warships on lease, including *PNS Aslat*, whose lease has already expired. According to *The Frontier Post*, the U.S. was not keen on having these ships back at the year's beginning, but of late it has "changed its mind and is pressing for early return" of the vessels, which includes a supporting ship.

U.S. military and economic aid to Pakistan was suspended in October 1990 under the Pressler Amendment on the suspicion that Islamabad's nuclear program was weapon-oriented. The Pakistan government has repeatedly denied the charge, but said that while pursuing its peaceful nuclear program, it had acquired "certain capability."

Replaying to questions, Admiral Khan said that during his recent visit to the U.S., he had told State Department and Pentagon officials that with the return of the leased ships, Pakistan's defense capabilities would be affected while the Pressler Amendment guaranteed maintenance of Pakistan's defense strength.

The Muslim, another Pakistani newspaper, said that a high-level U.S. team would visit Pakistan early in January to discuss with the authorities here the issue of the withdrawal of the ship.

The navy chief told reporters that "If these ships go, it will not mean an end of the navy. These are old ships. Now the Russians are friendly to us; beside the United Kingdom and a number of other countries are prepared to sell second-hand ships."

"Weekly"

U.S. Issues Final Warning

The impression about relations between Pakistan and the United States, created after the partial resumption of U.S. Aid for education and some social sectors, proved a mirage when a high level Pakistani delegation visited Washington last week.

According to well informed State Department sources, the United States government has made it clear to the visiting delegation that it was fed up with the smuggling of drugs and illegal immigrants to the United States on board the Pakistan International Airlines. The U.S. officials told their Pakistani counterparts that if the practice did not stop, the U.S. government would be forced to impound the P.I.A. planes involved in such activities and these would be released only after the payment of penalties. Pakistan was also told that "This should be treated as a final warning."

Pakistani delegation consisted of Federal Minister for Narcotics, Rana Chandar Singh, Federal Secretary Defense, Salim Abbaas Gilani, Managing Director PIA, Nawaz Tiwana and other officers of relevant ministries.

According to the U.S. sources the issues were under discussion between the two sides for quite sometime but the U.S. government was greatly disturbed after receiving reports about a new method of smuggling. Allegedly, Pakistani illegal immigrants are bringing drugs with them and they offer these drugs to U.S. immigration officers in exchange for allowing them to pass the immigration stage. The U.S. authorities believe that some of them have been successful in getting through by using this method. The U.S. authorities insist that people without proper documents should not be allowed to board for U.S. at Pakistani airports. The visiting Pakistani delegation took the stand that illegal Pakistanis board PIA flights after producing valid U.S. visas which through forged or fortified are not very distinguishable from the real ones.

According to the U.S. authorities immigration officers at the airports let these people board the flights fully knowing that they were in possession of forged documents, because they receive money in exchange for this service. The U.S. authorities also produced statements of some such Pakistanis, who claimed that they had paid up to three hundred thousand Rupees for boarding U.S. bound flights with forged documents.

"Next time we will impound PIA planes that bring in drugs or illegal immigrants"

The Pakistani delegation reportedly assured the U.S. authorities that they would improve arrangements at the airport to ensure that such incidents do not happen.

U.S. law guarantees a due process of hearing for every illegal immigrant who lands at a U.S. port and seeks asylum. This makes it difficult for the U.S. authorities to deport any passenger without giving him a hearing.

"Pakistan Calling"

Hingoro to seek independent seat

Ali Muhammad Hingoro, PDA MPA in Sindh Assembly, has denounced policies of Syed Quaim Ali Shah, Leader of Opposition in Provincial Assembly, and said we would submit an application to the Speaker for a separate seat as an independent member. In the House, however, he clarified he had not quit PPP. Addressing a Press conference, he said he had taken this decision after careful thought. The policies of Qaim Ali Shah were against the interest of Sindh and the Sindhi people, he said.

"Frontier Post"

Pak-US ties may take serious turn

U.S. Ambassador to India, T. Pickering says that bilateral relations between Pakistan and the United States will take a serious turn if Islamabad continues to support terrorism in India.

Talking to newsmen after addressing the Mysore University academic staff, he said Washington has enough evidence about Islamabad sponsored terrorism in India.

"Frontier Post"

Makhdoom Mohammad Zaman Talib-ul-Maula Passes Away

Makhdoom Mohammad Zaman Talib-ul-Maula (1920-1993) passed away on January 13th, in Karachi; after a prolonged illness.

Pir, poet and politician; the late Makhdoom was the seventeenth descendent of Makhdoom Nooh of Hala. His disciples included Sindhis Baluchis and Seraiki - and in numerous numbers. (nine Lakhs)

The late Makhdoom was a poet par excellence, and his literary contributions to the Sindhi language were tremendous. He was, till he breathed his last the Chairman of the Sindhi Adabi Board. His services to the development of Sindhi language and education, began early in life. In 1950 he put up a printing press at Hala. he upgraded the Sarwari School, his uncle had set up in Hala, to an intermediate College, and included a Hostel to it. He also opened a Girls School at Hala.

Talib-ul-Maula, founded the Shah Abdul Latif Cultural Society in 1952 along with late Miran Mohammad Shah. the Society used to hold Annual literary and cultural moots. He also published a literary Sindhi magazine *Firdaus* from 1952 to 1965. He has a large number of publication in Sindhi to his credit.

The late Makhdoom was a politician who had the love of his land as his foremost concern. he was elected as an MNA from Hala in 1961; and was the first one to organize the first broad-based Anti-One Unit Conference in 1967. Later, when a popular upsurge wanted a People's government he joined and aided Shaheed Bhutto, in this struggle. The first most important conference of the PPP was hosted by the late Makhdoom at Hala in 1968.

This famous Hala Convention decided that PPP will contest elections, and was the harbinger of the Peoples Power in Pakistan. Makhdoom Zaman remained the Senior Vice Chairman of the PPP till his last. So much was his love for democracy that he refused to meet the dictator Zia, although the general visited Bhit Shah twice in that quest.

With Makhdoom Mohammad Zaman's passing away Sindh has lost not only its patron in literary and educational fields, and a spiritual leader and able politician, but indeed, Sindh has lost an illustrious son.



Benazir Bhutto on the Sindhi Issue

extract from the Former PM's Speech
in the National Assembly on
December 26, 1992
Dawn, Karachi

A pin-drop silence prevailed in the National Assembly as the Opposition Leader made a scathing criticism on government policies in her 75-minute speech. Ms Bhutto dealt at length with issues ranging from the last general elections to setting up of special courts and issuance of presidential ordinances to victimise political opponents; inefficiency of the government; rampant corruption; fundamentalism; foreign policy; Afghanistan; Kashmir; a failed Japan visit; failure to attract foreign investment; legitimacy of the IJI government horse-trading in assemblies; govt's style of politics and its attitude towards the opposition. However she was most elaborate on the Sindhi issue and she said. "The rulers take refuge from their own People, of their own country behind barbed wires but I pledge to the people. You have known my father, you have known me. Neither he nor I shied away from you. To my father sweat of every peasant ploughing under the burning sun was sacred and so it is to me. To me the sweat of every daughter of this soil, blowing straight into the smoke and heat of hearth fires, is the essence of life. I do not shrink away from the people. I have their confidence. While barricades protect the rulers from the people. I defy barricades to be with them. Thus is established, conclusively, who truly represents the people of Pakistan. I, who have the confidence to be with them. Or they who shrink away from them. As a daughter of the martyr, I know how to fight for the fights of the oppressed people. As a wife of an innocent prisoner, I know the suffering for the sake of our children of this country, to give them hope for a better future."

Center Insert is for your area
Congressman/Senator/Church.

Please mail it with a cover letter
in your hand writing. remember
hand written notes carry more
weight with Congressmen and
Senators.

If you need further information
or assistance,
please call 618-397-6770

Sindhi Press Scan

Ibrat, Jan. 8, 1993. Back to the
General Zia days: "Elections to the
Local Bodies in Sindh have been re-
scheduled to June, and shall be held under
General Zia's party-less system

Jago, Jan. 8 1993. Sindh's top most
Bueracrat breaks his own laws:
"While hundreds of educated youth of
Sindh are on the verge of committing
suicides because of un-employment the
Chief Secretary of Sindh has appointed a
matriculate, who was already employed as
a telephone operator. The Ch. Sec. vide
his notification No. SOX (S.G.A.D) 3-
1(1) 88/56 dated Dec. 24, 1992, has
appointed one Feroz Akhtar s/o Abdul
Majeed Shaikh, as the Private Secretary to
the Chief Minister of Sindh, in Gr 16
which requires the appointee to be at least
a graduate.

Sindh's resent the plan of the
army to construct a network of
cantonments in Sindh: "A leader of
the Sindh Ittehad Lyari has condemned the
Pakistan Army's plan to construct a
network of cantonments in Sindh.

Awami Awaz, Jan 8, 1993 "Disturbtion
of Sindhi lands amongst landless
haris creates a serious problem for
Sindh. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's
Evaluation Cell's Incharge Gen. Sikander
Hayat's announcement that 4 1/2 lakh
acres of Katchi and Forest lands will be
distributed amongst landless haris, has
created serious problems; as similar
schemes in the past had resulted into
allotment of 635805 ac to people of whom
not a SINGLE ONE was a Sindhi. this
was at the time of One Unit and later
during Gen. Zia's time thousands of acres
were "given" to people none of whom had
the remotest connection with Sindh.

The settlement of Biharis

by Ahmed Bashir
"Frontier Post - Sept. 19"

Because the press in Pakistan is under the control and influence of the MQM and Jamaat-i-Islami, and the political establishment is interested only in its own survival, issues which may have the potential of ripping the country apart get swept under the rug.

Volcanos can suddenly erupt after two hundred years of sleep, but when they erupt there is nothing any one can do to stop the glow of lava and there is nothing any one can do to escape the onslaught of rivers of toxic mud. But some major catastrophes are man made and they can certainly be stopped before the storms break. Who can stop them? The government in power which makes policies. But the history of Pakistan shows that governments in power have been suffering from sleeping sickness. As if Pakistan does not have enough on its plate, the volcano of the repatriation of Biharis is being energized by the IJI government to appease the power broker of the MQM and the Jamaat-i-Islami. It wants to survive its little hut in the path of the lava. The fires will burn long after it is swamped in the mud following it.

According to press reports, the repatriation of Biharis, from Bangladesh will begin within this year. How many are they? About two million, according to Benazir Bhutto, and three million according to Taj Mohammad Langha of the Seraiki party. The Nawaz Sharif government, the MQM, and Jamaat-i-Islami, have been mischievously silent about exact figure. Where are they to be settled? How much will the new HJIRAT cost Pakistan? Nobody knows. The settlement of two to three million Mohajirs will require large tracts of land for settlement, its leveling the building of residential colonies, road, markets, school and hospitals, the supply of energy, including gas and electricity, installations of tube wells, provision for agricultural and industrial finance and bank loans, employment for the unemployed, and what have you in mind. How can Pakistan afford their costs, not counting the costs of their transportation from Bangladesh to Bahawalpur. But that is not the worst part of it.

The worst part of the repatriation of the Biharis is that they will always live as Mohajirs in Pakistan, and because of their cultural inhibitions, they will never identify themselves with the Seraikis giving rise to new social contractions.

The Biharis migrated to East Pakistan because they were driven out of their Indian Homes by the Hindu chauvinist of Bihar.

They were welcomed with open arms but they refused to be assimilated in Bengal and returned to their cultural and political exclusiveness. After the fall of Dacca, they rejected Bengali citizenship, and began to demand repatriation to West Pakistan which they had never visited. Their kith and kin had lived and proposed in Karachi and Hyderabad. They wanted repatriation for better opportunity in life from then and until now, they have lived in camps and suffered enormously.

On a human level one's heart bleeds for them, but why did they not accept the land and the culture of Bengal, which had given them protection and hope? Most of them never learnt Bengali. It was just like our Karachi and Hyderabad Mohajirs. Most of them are sons of the soil having been born in Pakistan, but they have refused to learn any Pakistani language or appreciate any of the local cultures, insisting on calling themselves mohajirs, fight for their special group interests. Now they claim to be a nation. They control the administration of Sindh. All sensitive government positions are manned by their henchmen. Not a straw moves without the consent of the Pir of Azizabad (Altaf Hussain).

Trained terrorist, bomb-throwers, and murderers, recruited from the educated unemployed and from the universities and colleges, are on the payroll of the MQM. the press is under their heels. They are an important component of the Jam Sadiq coalition, and the IJI coalition at the center is at their mercy. Not because they can topple it, but because they can give a blood bath to the urban centers of Sindh. Did they surrender their illegal arms?

No, illegal arms were legalized by issuing the MQM thousands of nameless licences (names were to be added by Altaf Bhai).

He now wants the repatriation of Biharis in order to add to his ethnic numbers, and to turn ethnic Sindhis into a minority in their ancestral land and that will ultimately force the division of Sindh.

The Sindhis knew the game and in self defense, are not willing to accept a fresh influx of the new Mohajirs. To put their minds in rest for the while, Mian Nawaz Sharif decided to settle them in the Seraiki belt. It is politically and economically a backward area which has never come up with organized public opinion. It would offer no problem. Its lands have been taken away by ABADKARS from the central Punjab, the Mohajir allottees of properties left behind by the Hindus, and the armed forces. What is now left is to go to the Biharis. The support that they are likely to get in their settlement has never been available to the Seraikis. Another privileged class of abuse is to be imposed on them, but now there is resentment, it is bound to turn into an anger and their anger will be violent. The land of Khawaja Farid will burn. When Mian Nawaz Sharif decided to settle the Biharis in the Seraiki area, did he know what he was talking about?

The MQM and Jamaat-i-Islami are happy over the arrangement because both know that the Biharis, after settlement in the Seraiki belt will sell their properties and residences as soon as they can, and move over to the urban centers of Sindh for resettlement.

That is the MQM's best bet. The best bet of the Jamaat-i-Islami is different. It has been beaten out of Karachi and Hyderabad by the terrorists of Altaf Bhai. It has been snaking but it knows that the Biharis are more religiously inclined. The Jamaat hopes to draw from their ranks fresh recruits for its Al-Shams and Al-Badar terrorists corps to settle the scores with the MQM Thundersquads. There will be blood shed all over, with ethnic Sindhis in the crossfire. Does Mian Nawaz Sharif know what he is bargaining for? He may not be there to reap the bitter harvest, but if he is sowing the wind, Pakistan will have to reap the whirlwind. Does anybody care?

I have nothing against the Biharis or the Mohajirs. Half of my family is Urdu-speaking and all of us believe that everybody is entitled to his cultural prejudices and preferences. But the question of Biharis is different. We in the

Punjab are not sensitive to the influx of strangers. That is our history. Anyone may come here and settle down. The Punjab will accept him. The Urdu-speaking Mohajirs who have settled in the Punjab do not speak Punjabi. The Punjabis are only too willing to speak Urdu. There is no cultural problem here.

But in Sindh, Urdu means domination over everything Sindhi, including physical resources of the land. In Sindh, the pursuit of peace and progress for an individual has become exclusive preserve of the Mohajir.

Altaf Bhai has built his power through terrorism, and approach he borrowed from the Jamaat. That is what frightens everybody, including the government of Mian Nawaz Sharif. The repatriation of Baharis will give impetus to violence as the arbiter of the nation's destiny. The Biharis are now called stranded Pakistanis. That gives the issue a sentimental face. They were Pakistanis when Bangladesh was Pakistan, where they had settled. Now that East Pakistan has become Bangladesh they are Bangladeshis as good as any. If they stranded Pakistanis, then all Bangalis are stranded Pakistanis, so let us welcome all of them. The Indian Muslims are stranded Pakistais too, since Indian Muslims voted for Pakistan in 1945-1946. Let us open our doors for all the Indian Muslims. What is so special about the Bihars of Bangladesh?

The migration of Indian Muslims to Pakistan has been continuous, and, Altaf Bhai knows it. I recently read a small news item saying that in the year 1989, about 100,000 Indian Muslims who had come to Pakistan on visit visas, got lost in Sindh. They never went back.

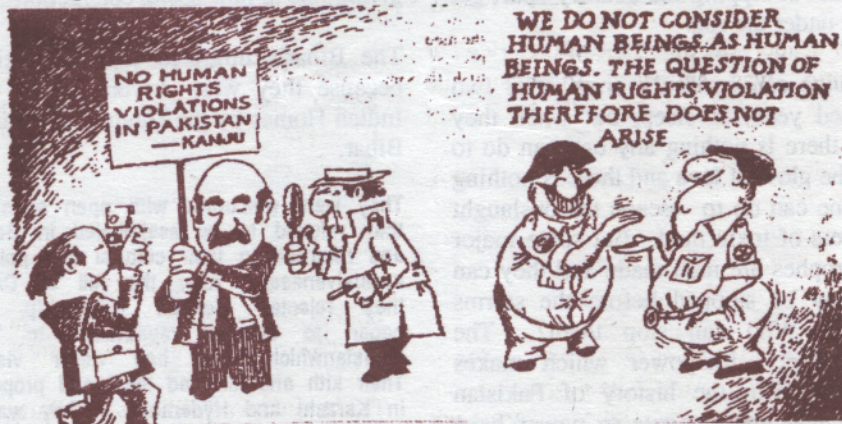
The MQM sees to it that our Indian visitors get Pakistani Identity Cards when they want to settle down. That is the first stage. That's done, the provision of a job or the allotment of a residential plot is all that would need to make them Pakistani citizens, more privileged, because of their "Mohajir" caste and class. They can get what they want. The Biharis from Bangladesh have been regularly trickling down, but what Altaf Bhai now demands is an influx.

The Sindhis will not let that happen. The Seraikis will not accept them. There will be trouble in that peaceful land. The Punjabis must speak up, Pakistan cannot afford the invasion. Its social fabric will be torn to pieces.

Deaths in Custody in Sindh, Pakistan

Pakistan Calling - New York

A number of people have died in the custody of the law enforcing agencies since the Sindh operation began in May. Some of those killed were dubbed dacoits, though some relatives have disputed the claim and have taken the matter to the High Court, in some cases, even the official announcements admit deaths in custody, through no reason is given except to claim that "he suddenly collapsed and died."



Here are some cases which have been reported in various newspapers...

Yusuf Jakhrani, a leader of the National Democratic Party died on June 12, at Kandhkot while being shifted to a thana. His body bore the marks of torture.

A teenage boy, Irshad of Shah Faisal Colony, died of alleged torture in police custody on July 21. Detained by Shah Fasal Police for not having his motorcycle papers, he was released after his condition began to deteriorate following torture. He died in JPMC.

Mujeeb Ejaz Jatoi, a student of Chandka Medical College, died under mysterious circumstances on August 5, while in custody of the Hala police. He was picked up from a Blue Lines coach at Shahdadpur chowk on Tuesday and taken to Hala police station from where his body was handed over to his family.

Ghulam Mohlyuddin Jatoi died in custody in Hala on August 6. On the same day, Muslim Rahoojo of Dadu was admitted to hospital after being allegedly tortured by the law enforcing agencies.

A writ petition before the Sukkur Bench of the Sindh High Court states that Qamar Din, Khadim Hussain and Sobo were killed in custody on August 20.

On September 1, Mehmood Khaskeli of Goth Jaloo, near Keti Bunder in Thatta district, died in custody. He was arrested in connection with a raid on Al-Zulfikar supporters.

Niaz Pathan was arrested from a bus at Kot Dill on September 11. According to writ filed in the Sindh High Court, the police demanded 50,000 rupees for his release. By the time the money was collected, Niaz was killed near Mir Wah, on the pretext of being a dacoit.

Momin Lakhair died in police custody on September 24. He was arrested from Dokri, Larkana, a few days earlier, "He suddenly collapsed and died," explained an official handout, helpfully.

Ali Hyder Shah, father-in-law of SP Zulfikar Shah died in custody in Dadu. His body was handed over to police for necessary action, but according to reports, the police refused to take possession.

Bhutto's FASC headship election irks PDA hawks

PDA's parliamentary party meeting witnessed heated debate and difference of opinion over the unanimous election of Benazir Bhutto as the chairperson of foreign affairs standing committee of the National Assembly.

The leader of the opposition, Benazir Bhutto, was supposed to chair the meeting but in her absence, Sardar Farooq Leghari had to tackle the awkward situation. The participants, while setting aside the original agenda for the meeting, reportedly expressed resentment over not taking them into confidence prior to this significant development.

According to sources the deputy leader of the opposition, Afzal Khan, objected that why parliamentary allies were not consulted before accepting the said office. Similarly the PDA MNA from Jhelum said, "On one hand the PDA has given call for the long march against the government, while on the other Benazir extended support to it."

"This will create mass confusion" opinioned another. The PDA members also criticized the way "Limited shadow kitchen cabinet" was taking decisions on behalf of entire opposition.

The meeting ended in a mess

Some of the participants claimed that they had heard about the election of Benazir as chairperson of the FASC and were waiting for her (Benazir) in opposition chamber but she went to the meeting without consulting her close allies and partymen.

Syed Iftikhar Gilani, who earned the title of "the voice of reason" in opposition after his soft speech on presidential address early this month, said the unanimous election of Benazir as chairperson, FASC, was not a surprise. Gilani, who didn't attend the Wednesday's parliamentary party meeting, talking to newsmen at the Parliament House said parliamentary standing committee had nothing to do with the functions of executive.

"By accepting the post of chairperson, it should not be taken that opposition has changed its policy of checking government's malpractices," he said and defended the move by adding, "opposition's working relationship with the treasury is a must for the success of parliamentary system."

About reported difference in the parliamentary party meeting, Gilani made it clear that there would be no revolt in the party over this issue. "People know what happened to Maulana Kausar Niazi, Jetoi, Khar, Mumtaz Bhutto and others," he emphasised.

Committees, Gilani said, were integral part of the parliamentary system. Not only Benazir, but almost all the PDA members are sitting in one or the other committee, he added and urged all not to make an issue out of a "non-issue."

Pakhtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party chief, Mahmood Khan Achakzai, who is viewed as the man behind reconciliation efforts between the government and the opposition, hailed the unanimous election of Benazir Bhutto and said, "I am a democrat and wish that democracy should flourish in the country."

When asked about his efforts in this regard the Pakhtoon leader said, "I have asked Ch. Nisar Ali to give chairmanship of some standing committees to the opposition to strengthen the parliamentary democracy."

"Jamaat-i-Islami will also chairmanship of a parliamentary standing committee," Achakzai revealed and thanked Benazir Bhutto for accepting the chairmanship of the FASC to "strengthen democracy in the country."

It is worth mentioning that Benazir Bhutto is also the member of the National Assembly's standing committee on defense.

"The Frontier Post"
Jan 14th

For delivery of Sindhi

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Mr. Ishaque Tunio
312-465-6707

Opposition requisition Sindh assembly session

Opposition group in Sindh Assembly has filed an application to requisition the session of the assembly here on Wednesday to discuss the repatriation of Biharis in the country.

Thirty MPA's of the assembly belonging to PDA-Jatoi coalition have submitted that the Sindh government should ask the centre to stop repatriation of the Biharis as it would affect the social as well as the economic life of the people of the province.

The application says: "The provincial assembly of Sindh is that the act of the federal government whereby it has started the process of receiving and settling Biharis in various parts of the country will eventually have repercussions on the socio-economic and political life of the people of the Sindh. This assembly, therefore ask the government of Sindh to approach centre with recommendation to immediately stop accepting such people."

"Dawn"

TO BENAZIR BHUTTO

Ms Bhutto you have worn the mantle of Federalism too long.

Do you not think that you should wear the mantle of provincial autonomy for the sake of our beloved Sindh.

Do you not think that for a change you should think of Sindh first and Pakistan later?

How long will you let Sindhis suffer?

How long will you let Sindh simmer in the cauldron of injustice and inequality.

Ms Bhutto save Sindh.

You alone can do so.

Rahman
Sindh Quarterly 1992

General Secretary (continued from page 1)

We also request that they send information about local social events, children's achievements, etc. But this is only possible if we all take the responsibility of informing our Area Representatives of the above news.

LAST but not Least, indeed the most important function of SANGAT from now onwards, shall be to put a separate insert in each issue, which highlights Human Rights Violation in Sindh. Each reader is expected not only to pass on this information to a public opinion leader and a church office but also to send a copy to others too.

Dear members we in SANA are a family. We have a bounden duty to look after each other. But we must help our less privileged brothers and sisters in our own land. So come more actively into the folds of our parent organization and make it strong. From a motley of a handful of families in 1987, we are a large organization now, but we aim at bringing ALL Sindhis in North America under SANA's umbrella. So help us.

As a last word, let me request you all to participate actively and whole-heartedly in our next Annual Convention in July in New York.

NWFP wins first round of battle against centre

Nawaz rushes to Swat to meet Wali

The NWFP government has won the first round of battle against the federal government over the issue of the privatisation of WAPDA.

The issue was to be debated by the meeting of inter-provincial committee here Wednesday, but the federal government deferred it for three months, when the committee will meet again.

The meeting which was attended by all the four provincial chief ministers and five federal ministers, had to take decisions on 22-point agenda. However, the issue of WAPDA's proposed privatisation was the most crucial matter.

The forceful pleading by the NWFP government against the centre over the WAPDA issue also made the prime minister, Nawaz Sharif to rush to Swat to call on the key leader of Awami National Party, Khan Abdul Wali Khan.

According to reliable sources, the Prime Minister assured Wali Khan that his government would not take any decision which may result into any kind of loss to the NWFP, provincial government or the people of the province. He also reportedly assured Wali Khan that the federal government would not take any step on any issue pertaining to the NWFP without the consent of the provincial government.

The sources said that the federal government surrendered before the NWFP, one day ahead of the meeting, when the federal minister for finance, Sartaj Aziz, along with Ch. Nisar Ali, the special assistant to the Prime Minister and Abdul Sattar Lalika went to meet the NWFP Chief Minister, Mir Afzal Khan and his other associates, Mir Afzal Khan arrived in Islamabad on Tuesday along with Begum Nasim Wali Khan, Ajmal Khattak and some provincial high officials to attend the meeting of the interprovincial committee.

The team of the federal government had to face tough time when they met the leaders of NWFP government. The main contention of the NWFP government leaders was that the federal government had adopted 'unfriendly' attitude towards their province while deciding to privatise the WAPDA. "Such a sensitive issue is a matter of life and death for the people of NWFP", the federal minister was told. The Chief Minister said that the federal government should not have bypassed the NWFP government while referring the issue to WAPDA's privatisation cell specially set-up by the Prime Minister under a retired secretary. The ANP leaders reminded the federal team that they were the partners of the IJI government both at the centre and in the Frontier and such a decision should not have been taken without the consent of the provincial government.

The federal team apologised to the NWFP government for its negligence and assured that the issue would not be even discussed without the consent of the provincial government.

"Frontier Post"

Save Areesar

Abdul Waheed Areesar, born in the shadow of the Karoonjhar Mountain Thar area, Pesh Imam of mosques, preacher of peace and former chairman Jeay Sindh Mahaz was arrested on 19-10-1992 during the night.

The way Abdul Wahid Areesar was arrested is highly condemnable. Not this only, but after arrest he was beaten by the soldiers like a criminal.

He was taken in a van with his hands tied behind him. The relatives, friends well-wishers and political followers of Areesar were concerned about his life.

A petition was filed in the circuit bench of High Court at Hyderabad but Areesar was not presented in the court of law by the agencies. The worthy judge of High Court directed police authorities to present Abdul Wahid Areesar in the court for justice on 26-10-1992.

This gave some hope to his friends and relatives but Abdul Wahid Areesar was not presented in the court of law. A piece of paper was produced by the agencies showing the presence of Areesar under their control.

a letter in "The Frontier Post"

Army Importance ?

Jago Karachi in its editorial quoting Wali Khan stated that the Pakistan Army has lost its importance for its Western Masters and will now be used for "Menial" tasks such as safe guarding food supplies in Somalia.

Political observers in Sindh strongly feel that the Pakistan Army intends to stay in Sindh indefinitely, and the hue and cry raised by high officials is just a sham.

Community Corner

Mr. Pervez Chana of Champaign, IL has been blessed with the birth of a daughter. He has also moved to Clintwood VA.

Sohail Shah son of Mr. Saleem and Parveen Shah of Champaign, IL has recently married in Hyderabad, Sindh.

Six Sindhi members of a Tablighi Jamait from Shahdarpur, Sindh were invited to Dinner by Dr. A. Wahab Kazi, in Belleville, IL and Mr. Siraj Hyder Qalbani in St. Charles MO. SANA members had a lively exchange of views on various issues important to them.

Moved/New Arrivals

Mr. Mujib Ghoto to Houston, TX.
Dr. Sajid Sodhar to Houston, TX.
(Moved from Toledo, OH)
Mr. Bilawal Dharejo to Houston, TX.
(Moved from California)
Dr. Skramullah Ahemdani to Chicago, IL.

SANA Children

Ruman Ahmed Kazi the youngest son of Dr. A. Whab Kazi and Samina Kazi recited from memory Surah-i-Yaseen, in front of an audience of 200 members of a local Islamic Center. He is the youngest child in the community to do so.

Our congratulations to him and his parents.

Higher Education

For information on higher education or financial aid in the U.S. you should write ONLY to the United States Education Foundation (USEF) office in your region. Letters to offices in regions other than your own will be redirected to the concerned regional office. You should not write to the U.S. Ambassador, American Embassy, the College Board or the Institute of International Education in Washington D.C.

In Pakistan contact:
U.S. Education Foundation
P.O. Box 1128
Islamabad, Pakistan

For a leaflet on how to apply to universities and colleges in the United States FAX or mail your request to SANGAT - FAX 618-397-6122

Sindhi Press Scan

Hilal-i-Pakistan, Jan. 8, "Pakistani authorities have not asked for extradition of Altaf-Hussain of the MQM, UK's Foreign Secretary, said in a Press Conference in Islamabad. He also that arms to Kashmiris go through Pakistan."

Sarwam, Jan., 7 "Shaheed Bhutto gave a voice to the millions of under-privileged, said speakers at a widely attended cake-cutting ceremony on the occasion of the 66th birthday of Z.A. Bhutto, in Nasarpur, District Hyderabad Sindh."

Friday Times, Jan 7-13 Sindhis were and are the primary targets of the Pakistan government since 1947. However so steeped the rulers have become in absolutism of power, that their targets are also seeking pastures elsewhere too.

Donations

Mr. Manzoor Memon of Houston has collected \$2000 for the flood victims in Sindh. The check has been sent to SANA.

Adopt your own village

For only a few hundred dollars a year, and your interest in a Primary school. You may bring a revolution in rural Sindh.

News You Can Use

□ A computer software program is now available for \$25.00 at SAM'S Club, it contains listing along with phone and FAX numbers of all the members of U.S. Congress. This program also has sample letters for writing to the members of Congress on various issues beside having all the information you need for contacting important organizations in the U.S. It is a valuable tool for those SANA members who are interested in Human Rights and other issues of interest.

□ MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. Worldlink North America, a non-profit telecommunication carrier corporation will send a specific message under your name. Cost per message is \$5.00. To send your message by FAX or Mailgram, call Worldlink 1-800-827-2831.

Losers Watch It Happen
Winners Make It Happen

Key Human Rights Contacts

Let's Be Heard.
Silence Equals Consent.
Opinions That Are Heard
Can Change The World
For Sindh.

Amnesty International USA
322 Eight Avenue
New York, NY 10001
(212) 807-8400

Amnesty International
Washington Office
C/O Estralia Jones, Asia Coordinator
304 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Bureau of Human Rights and
Humanitarian Affairs
U.S. Department of State
C/O Assistant Secretary Richard Shifter
2201 C Street, N.M.
Washington, D.C. 20520
(202) 647-2126

SMANA HOTLINE
618-397-6770

the news

43000 acres of land has been given by Sindh government to Pakistan Air Force for the construction of a new airport in Thatta. The airport will be part of the network of Cantonments being built in Sindh...

Sindh CM says that the new Cantonments in Sindh will bring economic prosperity to local people...

PPP members stage a walk out in the National Assembly on the Bihari issue...

Federal Int. Minister in an interview with VOA says that the settlement of Biharis will not be limited to the Punjab only...

Not a single Sindhi has been posted in grades 19-21 by IJI government in the last 3 years. 'Jago Editorial'...

Federal government has started a move to take over the recently discovered coal field in Sindh, despite the protest from intellectuals and politicians...

According to a survey there are 27 streets in Karachi alone, named after Liaquat Ali Khan...

Afgans ordered to pack-up: Pakistan tells all Afghan factions to close their offices and orders unregistered humanitarian group run by foreigners for the Afghan refugees to wind up by the end of January. Also orders printing press not to print any group's literature...

Ban on gov. jobs to go: Federal Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources said ban on recruitment in all government departments will be lifted by the end of January...

First group of Biharis arrive: The first batch of 323 Biharis belonging to 63 families reach Pakistan. They will be settled in Okara. A total of 250,000 Biharis will be repatriated from Bangladesh...

Black-day observed against repatriation: Black-day was observed in rural Sindh on the call of Sindhi nationalist parties against the repatriation of Biharis who, they fear, will settle ultimately in Sindh...

12 killed, 24 hurt in blast: At least 12 persons are killed and over two dozen injured in Bihar colony Kotri, Sindh. All belong to the Bihari community...

India asks Pak to slash Delhi HC staff: India asks the acting Pakistan High Commissioner to cut down the Delhi High commission staff from 150 to 110...

India accuses Pak of firing rockets into Kashmir: India accuses Pakistani soldiers of firing a dozen rocket-propelled grenades (RPG's) into Indian Held Kashmir. No casualties are reported...

Two units offices of MQM (Haqiqi) are sealed in Karachi following a bloody clash between the two factions of the party...

Government of Pakistan welcomes the decision of the U.S. government not to declare Pakistan a terrorist state...

Fertilizer crisis deepens in Sindh: The province of Sindh is suffering from an acute shortage of fertilizers which threatens its agrarian economy. 400,000 tons of fertilizers is still...

PDA, NDA boycott President's speech: to the joint sitting of Parliament of Tuesday alleging that he was partisan in the ongoing government-opposition tussle...

PDA protest crushed: The Islamabad administration crush a small protest demonstration on the occasion of the President's speech...

in brief

Four-day World Punjabi Conference calls of harmony among regional languages and to evolve a systematic framework to achieve a right place for Punjabi-language...

PDA condemns president for 'shameful act': PDA leaders condemn President Ghulam Ishaq Khan for promulgating a 'shameful ordinance' to deny Asif Zardari MNA the right to bail...

150 AIDS cases detected in Pakistan: The Deputy Executive Director of Pakistan Institute of Medical Science Dr. Mubasher Riaz Sheikh tells an International Seminar on Aids that 150 cases of AIDS have been detected in Pakistan. 80% patients have died while the remaining 20% are in various stages of ailment...

UAE deports Pakistanis: The United Arab Emirates authorities deport 500 Pakistanis for demonstrating in Al Ain City over the destruction of Babri Mosque in Ayodha. More are likely to be deported from UAE where 500,000 Pakistanis work...

PDA not to quit Jamali Govt.: President PPP Baluchistan Sardar Fatch Muhammad Hasni MNA says PDA will not quit Jamali government in the province...

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah appoints five new advisors to the government of Sindh...

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and ideas for publication**

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