



SINDHI FOUNDATION

SINDH'S STRENGTH IS THE WORLD'S STRENGTH

Unity for Justice

On July 16, 2016, the Sindh Foundation of USA convened with various Sindh groups at a local hotel in Karachi, Pakistan. Titled "Unity for Justice," this conference sought to promote discussion on issues such as religious extremism and exploitation of Sindh resources. Presided by Dr. Maqbool Halepota, Unity for Justice included Chief Guest Syed Jalal Shah, President of the Sindh United Party. Outlined below, are the points of discussion, the conference attendees, and a brief description of the event details.

Main Topics:

1. Religious extremism in Sindh
2. Exploitation of Sindh's natural resources
3. Demographic challenges of Sindh

Attendees:

1. **Awami Jamhuri Party**
2. **Jeay Sindh Liberal Front**
3. **Jeay Sindh Mahaz (Sarwar Sahito)**
4. **Jeay Sindh Qaumi Mahaz (Arisar Group)**
5. **Jeay Sindh Qaumi Mahaz (Bashir Group)**
6. **Jeay Sindh Quomparast Party**
7. **Qaumi Awami Tahrir**
8. **Sindh National Movement**
9. **Sindh Sagar Party**
10. **Sindh United Party**

After detailed discussions on the above topics, all party leaders came to the consensus that historically, Sindh has been a peace loving, religious tolerant, independent nation. However, due to the irrational "Two Nation" theory and the current patronage underlying the inception of Pakistan, religious extremism has been encouraged throughout the country. Due to this onslaught of injustice, Sindh and its people are consistently affected.

Religious Extremism

Using weaknesses in the educational system and poverty as weapons, extremists are recruiting young children throughout Sindh into a network of madrassas under the false title of religious education. To further their hold on these children, extremists provide free food, boarding and clothing. Even more troubling, is the fact that some madrassas are provided financial and legal assistance by specific government agencies in Pakistan.

At the conference, the attendees unanimously demanded that all madrassas, saturated with radical ideology and supported by government agencies, be shut down immediately due to their dangerous existence for Sindh religious tolerance.



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Exploitation of Sindhi Resources

The province of Sindh is blessed with seaports and extensive oil, gas, and coal reserves, but lacks ownership of these natural resources. For this reason, Sindh only receives a fraction of the profits from these resources and their use. Most of the proceeds are being usurped by Punjab under the pretext of the federation. On top of this, the wealth Sindh does receive is wasted by its incompetent and dishonest rulers.

It was unanimously demanded at the conference that Sindh should be given full ownership of all its natural resources. In addition, the ruling political parties of Sindh and at the federal level, as well as the incompetent elements in the civil, military bureaucracy should be held accountable for the current injustices.

Demographic Challenges in Sindh

Within Sindh, there have been organized conspiracies to convert Sindhis into a minority. A notable example is Karachi, where the Sindhi population is decreasing rapidly. It was agreed that these conspiracies should end immediately. Along with this, non-Sindhis living in Sindh should not maintain the right to vote or own property. All foreigners living in Sindh, including Qabailies, Afghans, Mohajirs, Bengalis, Burmese, Biharis etc. should be repatriated to their respective lands.

Extra-judicial Killings and Forced Disappearances

At Unity for Justice, all parties unanimously declared that extra-judicial killings and forced disappearances of political workers by government agencies are gross violations of basic human rights and need to be stopped immediately.

Conclusion

During the conclusion of the conference, Dr. Maqbool Halepota, President of the Sindhi Foundation thanked the various groups for their attendance. In addition, he vowed that the Sindhi Foundation would continue to convey these burning issues to policy makers in Washington, DC. His closed with the hope that the Sindhi Foundation would serve as a bridge between Sindhis living in Sindh and policy makers in the US, so that Sindh can be protected from these current dangers.

Dr. Maqbool Halepota

President

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