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**Press Release**

**Pakistan Day Celebrated in Malaysia with Fanfare and Jubilation**

A large number of Pakistani Community in Malaysia observed the “71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Pakistan Day”, with great fervor and patriotism.

The High Commission for Pakistan in Malaysia organized various activities to celebrate the day with great fanfare and jubilation with active involvement of the Pakistan community and Pakistani students studying in Malaysia.

The event commenced with the hoisting of national flag by High Commissioner for Pakistan in Malaysia, Mr. Masood Khalid in accompaniment of national anthem.

Deputy Head of Mission, Dr. Imtiaz A Kazi read out the messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan issued on the occasion of the Pakistan Day.

The High Commissioner in his address said that the observance of the Pakistan day not only reminds us of the countless sacrifices rendered by the Muslims of subcontinent in their struggle to carve a separate homeland for them where they could lead their lives in accordance with their religion, customs and traditions without any fear or discrimination, but also of our duty to make Pakistan a strong, progressive, enlightened and economically stable country.

He said that Pakistan and Malaysia enjoy fraternal relations in all walks of life which are gathering strength and are being translated into meaningful economic and trade cooperation especially after signing of the Free Trade Agreement between the two countries in 2007.

The High Commissioner while lauding the role of Pakistani community in the growth and development of Malaysia said that every Pakistani living in Malaysia is the Ambassador of Pakistan, and it is obligatory on each of them to work for the progress and prosperity of Malaysia and win hearts and minds of Malaysians with their exemplary conduct and dealings.

The representatives of the community, in their speeches, highlighted the significance of the day and paid rich tributes to the founder of Pakistan Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the leaders of Pakistan movement.

The highlights of the event was a tableau by the school children, wherein they introduced rich cultural and social customs of the people of four provinces of Pakistan in a colorful and lively performance.

The Pakistani students studying in various educational institutions of Malaysia enthralled the audience with their melodious live performances and cultural dances representing the diverse culture of Pakistan.

Later, guests were served with Pakistani food delicacies including Halwa puri.

The highest circulated English Daily of Malaysia New Straits Times published a eight page special supplement in connection with the Pakistan Day wherein Pakistan’s vast potential, opportunities and incentive packages related to business, trade investment and tourism were highlighted.

**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 23rd March, 2011, Pr/A**