

Message by Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif
Prime Minister of Pakistan
On Commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of Constitution 1973

I extend my warmest felicitations to the Parliament and people of Pakistan on the auspicious occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973. April 10 marks the 50 years of the Constitution and reminds us of the epic sacrifices of the resilient nation and the heroic struggle of its great leaders for crafting a grand consensus on the supreme law of the land. This is also a day to pay rich tribute to all those defenders and protectors of the Constitution who devoted their lives to uphold the supremacy of the Constitution, the rule of law, and parliamentary democracy.

The history of intermittent democratic rule in Pakistan is a witness to the fact that only an open, accessible, informed, accountable and sovereign Parliament would prove panacea for all political problems in this day and age. It is now upon us, the entire Pakistani nation, to spare no efforts in foiling any conspiracy hatched against the democratic, parliamentary and federal nature of our Constitution. We thus ought to put collective efforts to protect the legacy of our forefathers and leave no stone unturned in strengthening parliamentary democracy, ensuring fundamental rights, promoting provincial autonomy and unified federation as envisioned by our sacred document.

At this critical juncture, we need to firmly commit ourselves to upholding the principles of parliamentary sovereignty and adopt parliamentary norms and values to steer our beloved country out of multifaceted challenges as the Parliament is the only august forum, which can forge unity in our ranks, intensify the implementation of constitutional provisions, equip us with strength of diversity and consensus, hold us to account and accentuate right direction to tread on and fulfill the aspirations of our people.

I staunchly believe that Pakistan came into being to achieve the highest glory in the comity of nations. In order to achieve that, adhering to the constitution and parliamentary sovereignty in its letter and spirit is indispensable. History is a witness that at the pivotal junctures in our national life, it is the forum of Parliament that has provided solutions in light of the constitutional stipulations.

I congratulate the National Assembly of Pakistan for commemorating the Golden Jubilee of the Constitution to underscore the significance of this document and enhance people's awareness of their rights and duties as enshrined in the Constitution.

Pakistan Paindabad!