

## CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

### Message

#### *On the on Commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973.*

On the historic occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Constitution of Pakistan, I extend my warmest regards and heartiest congratulations to the Parliament and to the People of Pakistan. It is indeed a moment of great pride as we celebrate 50 years of our Constitution, a constitution, which has for half a century, has upheld principles of justice equality and harmony.

The Senate of Pakistan, which came into being as a result of the Constitution of 1973, has safeguarded the rights of the provinces and minority communities. As the House of the Federation, the Senate has been a key player in ensuring that the interests of all federating units are adequately represented and protected. This is particularly significant when we recall the drafting of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973 which institutionalized the principles of federalism and parliamentary democracy in Pakistan.

The Senate, an important part of the constitutional architecture of Pakistan, and an integral part of the country's constitutional history, is a vital forum for debate, deliberation, and decision-making, where large provinces do not take precedence over smaller ones. Its role in ensuring that all provinces have an equal say in the federal legislature and in providing oversight of the government's actions cannot be overstated. This is one of the defining features of the Constitution of 1973, which created a bicameral Parliament to do away with the inequality that existed in previous unicameral parliaments of Pakistan. The Senate's contributions to passing landmark legislations, such as the 18th Constitutional Amendment, have been instrumental in devolving power to the provinces and strengthening the federation, changing more than 36 percent (102 Articles) of the contents of the Constitution.

As we celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973, we also celebrate the 50 years of the Senate of Pakistan, which represents inclusivity, equality, peace and harmony. On this momentous and historic day, let us all resolve to let us reaffirm our commitment to the principles of federalism and parliamentary democracy, and pledge to continue strengthening our democratic institutions. The Senate remains steadfast in its commitment to preserving the unity and stability of our great nation.

Thank you!