



**MESSAGE FOR THE HON ALAN CARPENTER MLA
PREMIER OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

It gives me great pleasure to wish the Pakistani Association of Western Australia a very happy and successful Pakistan National Day Celebration. The occasion provides the opportunity not only to reflect on the successes of contemporary Pakistan, but also to celebrate the past and present role of Pakistanis in Western Australian society.

WA's small but vibrant Pakistani community has been contributing significantly to the rich fabric of our state since first beginning to arrive here over a century ago. Pakistanis were active in establishing WA's first mosque in 1905, and WA is particularly indebted to Pakistan's cameleers who played a large role in the exploration of Australia's interior. Their descendants established themselves in the farming community that forms a crucial part of the WA economy today.

These strong historical ties are reflected in the contemporary links between WA and Pakistan. Successfully establishing themselves in our State's mining, business, legal, education and research sectors, Pakistanis have helped strengthen the growing relationship between Australia and Pakistan through trade, engineering and science.

I am proud to acknowledge the Western Australian Pakistani community and its contributions to the past, present, and future growth of our State. I look forward to seeing the community continue to strengthen and its youth maintain the cultural ties that have helped it flourish.

My very best wishes for a healthy and happy Pakistan National Day.

Alan Carpenter MLA
PREMIER

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