

# Aiding the trans community

**T**he transgender community in Pakistan has long been excluded from receiving services and benefits offered by the state because of issues regarding their gender. Since their identity is somewhat considered as obscure with regard to existing identity, gender and sexuality paradigms, the community has long been treated as an outcast. It was only recently, when amendments were made in Nadra, that transgenders were able to register themselves as citizens of the state and receive their CNICs. It must be acknowledged that tremendous strides have been made over the past few years to recognise and protect the transgender community, particularly with the passing of the Transgender Protection Act.

The incumbent government has now extended support and the BISP board has approved the inclusion of repressed community as beneficiaries of the Benazir Kafalat Programme. Under this programme, transgender persons can receive Rs7,000 upon registration. This will immensely help those who are struggling to find employment or income opportunities. To many, it will be the safety net needed to get out of illegal or uncommon professions such as beggary or prostitution. Those that have acquired skills, these funds can be used to start a small-scale business such as a carpentry or embroidery shop. However, the high rate of inflation will make this relief programme less affective. In such a situation, officials need to rethink their relief strategy.

Now that the government has lent a hand, and hope is that they will continue to do so, the transgender community must also reply in kind to change the internal culture. There are some who have formed strong mafias within the community to maintain power and earn money. Awareness campaigns must be held by trans activists within their own community of how such relief benefits should be used to eventually enhance their standard of living.

## Topic: BISP - Extending Relief Benefit to Trans Community =

In Pakistan, transgenders have long been deprived of even basic human rights due to their gender. Stigmatized identity led them to be treated as an outcast. However, currently NADRA is issuing them CNICs as citizens of Pakistan. This has resulted from tenacious efforts done in the domain like Transgender Protection Act. To get trans out of beggary and prostitution, government is including the community in schemes like BISP to provide them social security and a headstart for small businesses. It will be fruitful if the culture changes internally too which can be achieved with the help of trans activists to campaign awareness about the effectiveness of such relief packages.

No. of Words: 109

Original text: 296



## **SAMPLE PASSAGE**

With the nation's attention divided between unending political intrigues and the economy's slow march to catastrophe, Covid-19 has once again crept up upon us, threatening to add another dimension to the multiple crises we already face. The disease has, yet again, become a major global concern, with new variants threatening to run riot in countries unprepared for another reckoning with a pandemic-scale public health challenge. Pakistan, in particular, seems quite unprepared, with the possibility of another outbreak figuring nowhere in the state's priorities till Monday evening. The National Command and Operation Centre had earlier said it was 'closely monitoring' the situation, but no measures had been taken to prevent the ingress of new Covid-19 variants through screening measures at airports.

This had considerably increased the risk of sick people travelling in from countries experiencing a renewed Covid-19 outbreak, and spreading the disease in Pakistan through the people they would come in contact with here. Thankfully, the National Disaster Management Authority has woken up to the challenge and asked the National Institute of Health to take stock of vaccine availability and arrangements in hospitals to deal with a possible outbreak.

Though the NCOC does not appear very concerned about an imminent outbreak, independent experts had been urging for more proactive measures. There was sound logic in their demand for a more proactive approach, as new variants can slip into the country at any time and start spreading rapidly if they find conducive conditions. The NCOC and NIH have now been directed by the NDMA to 'issue a precautionary Covid variant risk advisory for the public [...] and carry out selective mock drills for [a] Covid emergency'. This is much needed. The government needs to restart a public awareness drive and encourage basic prevention measures, such as wearing masks, avoiding crowded public gatherings, and washing or sanitising hands with regularity. It should also consider issuing guidelines for people who have recently travelled to countries that are known to be experiencing a surge in Covid-19 cases, such as India, China, and the United States. The old maxim should be kept in mind that prevention is better than cure. Awareness and prevention drives are a much cheaper disease mitigation strategy than waiting for another nationwide outbreak. Successful past vaccination drives and our apparently robust immune systems may help the authorities feel secure, but they should not make them complacent about dealing with this new challenge.

**Word count= 412**



# Title: Resurgence of COVID-19: A Looming Health Crisis

COVID-19 is sliding in, thus, adding a new angle to crises of Pakistan when country is overwhelmed with political upheavals and economic slow downs. It appears to be at risk of another upsurge but is being reluctant to take steps to shield itself from looming health crisis. Return of travellers from COVID hot-spots is putting the population at risk. However, NCOE and NDMA has insisted the NIH to implement several preventive measures including screening at airports, observance of SOPs, review of combative resources and awareness campaigns. Seriousness of the government on the issue is much needed as precautionary measures and sensitization schemes are much cheaper mitigation strategies than combating another wave of COVID-19. So, in face of this emerging challenge, authorities must not be content with previous vaccination movements and effective immunity of people rather should sternly deal with the menace as the upcoming variant is more virile.

Word Count = 147



## Translation #01

پاکستان کی خارجہ پالیسی کا بنیادی (۱) اصول یہ ہے کہ زخمہ رہو اور دوسروں کو (۲) زخمہ نہ رہتے دو۔ ہم سب کے ساتھ  
دوستانہ تعلقات قائم رکھنا چاہتے ہیں۔ کسی کے خلاف کوئی جارحانہ (۳) عزائم نہیں رکھتے۔ موجودہ دور میں کوئی ملک خود کفیل  
(۴) نہیں۔ ایک سے ایک شہر میں ایک دوسرے کی ضرورت محسوس ہوتی ہے۔ بالخصوص ترقی پزیر (۵) ممالک کو ترقی پزیر  
(۶) ممالک کے ساتھ دوستانہ تعلقات قائم رکھنا چاہتے ہیں۔ ہم اسلامی ممالک کے ساتھ باہمی روابط (۷) کو فروغ (۸) دینا چاہتے ہیں  
کیونکہ ان کے ساتھ ہمارے اہل برادری (۹) تعلقات ہیں۔ ہم ان پر بوقت ضرورت انحصار کر سکتے ہیں۔ ہمیں قوی امید ہے کہ ۱۱  
بھلے برسے وقت (۱۰) میں ہمارا ساتھ (۱۱) دیں گے۔ چین بھی ایک قابل قدر ہمسایہ ہے جس نے ہر مشکل گھڑی میں اہل مل  
یہ سنی کا ہاتھ بڑھایا ہے۔ ہم امریکہ کے ساتھ بدستور دوستانہ تعلقات قائم رکھنا چاہتے ہیں۔ لیکن ہم دوست چاہتے ہیں نہ کہ ظالم۔  
(۱۲) ہمیں اپنی کرداری دہری مزہ سے بچنے ہم ہر وقت ہر قرار (۱۳) رکھنا چاہتے ہیں۔ ہم بڑی طاقتوں کی سیاست میں الجھنا (۱۴) نہیں  
چاہتے۔ اگرچہ روس نے ہماری متعدد بار جنگ کھینچنے (۱۵) کی کوشش کی پھر بھی اس کے ساتھ اچھے ہمسایوں جیسے تعلقات قائم رکھنے  
کے خواہاں ہیں۔ اس نے ہمیں کراچی میں فولاد کارخانہ قائم کرنے میں گرانقدر (۱۶) مدد فراہم کی ہے۔ جس کے لئے ہم اس کے  
دل سے شکر گزار (۱۷) ہیں۔ ہم ہر ملک کے حق خود ارادیت کے حامی ہیں اور کسی طاقتور ملک کے کسی کمزور ملک پر جارحانہ (۱۸) اقدام  
کے شدید مخالف ہیں۔ ہم اقوام متحدہ کے منشور (۱۹) پر غیر متزلزل (۲۰) عقیدہ رکھتے ہیں۔



آپ نے یہ قانونی سازشوں (۳) اور تعضیبات (۴) کا اس جو انہر وی اور تالیبت (۵) سے مقابلہ میا جس کی مثال تاریخ عالم میں نہیں ملتی آپ کو بڑے بڑے عیدوں کی پیش کش کی گئی لیکن انہوں نے اسے شرف قبولت (۶) نہ بخشا۔ حتیٰ کہ متحدہ ہندوستان کے جلیل جند قابل وقت (۷) عید کو بھی آپ نے ٹوٹ پا (۸) سے ٹھکرا دیا۔ آپ کے کردار کا نمایاں پہلو (۹) یہ تھا کہ آپ کسی قیمت پر فریبے نہیں جاتا (۱۰) تھے آپ خود (۱۱) بہادر اور دلیر انسان تھے کسی خوف و خطر سے آپ کے پاؤں نہیں ڈگمگاتے (۱۲) تھے آپ نے زندگی بھر انہیں (۱۳) کے سامن کو ہاتھ سے نہیں چھوڑا۔ ہندوستان کے بڑے بڑے شاملر (۱۴) لیڈر جیل کی ہوا (۱۵) کھاتے رہے۔ لیکن اللہ نے ہر قوم پر ان کی رہبری کی اور آپ ہمیشہ ہر مشکل سے صاف نکلے (۱۶) تھے رہے۔ جس پامر وی (۱۷) سے انہوں نے پاکستان کی جنت جنتی ان کی زبان (۱۸) اور سنت کا زبرد ثبوت ہے ابتدا علی سے آپ حق و انصاف کے حاکم تھے۔ آپ نے محکم ارادہ کر لیا تھا کہ کسی قیمت پر باطل کا ساتھ نہیں دیں گے۔ اور حق و انصاف کے لئے اپنی جان کی بازی (۱۹) لگانے سے بھی دریغ نہیں کرتے اور حقیقتاً ذر انسان تھے بڑے بڑے بد مزاج (۲۰) انگریزوں سے انہیں پالا پڑا (۲۱) لیکن وہ انہیں کبھی خاطر میں نہ لائے (۲۲) بانٹ کا یہ مالہ تھا کہ ایک دن ایک عدلی (۲۳) نے ان کے جائز واجبات (۲۴) سے زیادہ رقم پیش خدمت کر دی لیکن آپ نے اپنی مقروض (۲۵) انہیں کات کر بھالا (۲۶) سے واپس کر دیا۔



# TRANSLATION-I

The basic principle of Pakistan's foreign policy is: live and let live. We wish to maintain friendly relations with other nations. We have no aggressive designs against anyone. No country is self-sufficient in today's world. Every one needs help in one way or another, especially developing nations are required to maintain friendly relations with developed states. Because of eternal brotherly relations with muslim countries, we ~~want~~ wish to promote mutual relationship with them. We can count on them in ~~need~~ <sup>hour</sup> of need. We firmly believe that they will support us during thick and thin. China is also a trusted neighbor who has extended us her helping hand at odd times. We wish to maintain friendly relations with America also but we want friends, not masters. We hold our independence dear and wish to maintain it at any cost. We do not want to get involved in power politics of great powers. Although Russia has tried to pull our leg multiple time but still we wish to maintain good neighborly relations with her. She has rendered us monetary help in the



settlement of steel mill at Karachi for which we are thankful to her ~~whole heart~~ whole-heartedly. We support the right of every nation of self-determination and negate the aggressions of powerful nations against the weaker ones. We have unshakable faith in the manifesto of United Nations Organization

X—————X

## 'TRANSLATION'

Quaid-e-Azam was our great leader. Pakistan, the God-given gift, was the result of untiring efforts of day and night. He withstood the British scheme and prejudices with such steadfastness and capacity which has no parallel in human history. He was offered the highest offices but he rejected. He even did not accept the highest and most coveted offices of United India's premiership. The most distinguishing attribute of his character was that he can not be purchased at any cost. He was fearless, brave and courageous. No danger could shake his determination. For his whole life he held fast the constitutional way. Even the



most cunning and clever leaders of Hindustan tasted the air of prison but God guided him at every step and he ~~ever~~ got out of every difficulty ~~use~~ unscathed. The perseverance with which he fought battle of Pakistan stands out a positive proof of his intelligence and hardwork. From the very start he was in favor of justice and truth. He has steadfastly resolved that he would not side with ~~fast~~ falsehood at any cost. and he would not even flinch a muscle ~~for~~ <sup>in</sup> staking his life for justice and truth. In fact he was a fearless person. He had to deal with various peevish British judges but he did not care a fig for them. His honesty was such as @ once a client paid him more than his dues but he deducted the fee and returned the remaining to him.

X—————X