

# MAJESTATIMES

Weekly edition

• Owner : Umar Shabbir

• Established in 2024

• Islamabad edition

## Qalandars crowned PSL champions for third time

Kusal Perera plays vital role in Qalandars' victory with 62 runs following Mohammad Naeem's 46

Lahore, May 25 — Lahore Qalandars claimed their third Pakistan Super League (PSL) title after defeating Quetta Gladiators by six wickets in a high-stakes final at Gaddafi Stadium. Chasing 202, Lahore started strong with a 39-run opening stand between Mohammad Naeem and Fakhar Zaman. Fakhar fell early for 11, but Naeem powered ahead with a blistering 47 off 27 balls before being dismissed by Faheem Ashraf.

Abdullah Shafique added 41 off 28 and built crucial partnerships with Naeem and Kusal Perera. Despite losing wickets, Lahore kept the momentum, with Perera scoring a vital fifty. Needing 13 off the last over, Sikandar Raza smashed a four and a six to seal the win with one ball to spare. Earlier, Quetta posted 201/8 after opting to bat. Hasan Nawaz top-scored with 76, while Faheem Ashraf hit a fiery 28 off 8 balls in the final over. Shaheen Afridi and Sikandar Raza took key wickets for Lahore.

The final also featured a special tribute to the Pakistan Navy, attended by top civil and military leaders, with patriotic performances and national pride on full display.



Lahore Qalandars' players celebrating after winning the PSL 10 trophy on May 25 2025. — Facebook@thePSL

## India's falsehood thwarted by youth-media 'steel wall': COAS

FM Asim Munir expressed profound gratitude to political leadership for strategic foresight during Maarka-e-Haq

COAS Asim Munir Lauds Youth, Media in Countering Indian Propaganda

RAWALPINDI — Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Asim Munir praised Pakistani youth and media as a "steel wall" against India's disinformation campaign during a high-level dinner event honoring the nation's leadership and unity during Operation Bunyan-um-Marsoos. The event was attended by top civil and military leadership, including President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and key political figures. COAS Munir commended the armed forces, scientists, engineers, and diplomats for their coordination and professionalism during the conflict.

Pakistan at UN: India Must End State Terrorism

At the UN Security Council, Saima Saleem, Pakistan's counsellor on human rights, condemned India's actions in IIOJK and accused it of cross-border terrorism and human rights violations. She highlighted the Pahalgam incident, India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, and attacks on civilians, urging independent investigations. She also cited India's alleged involvement in assassinations of Sikh leaders abroad and its support for terror groups targeting Pakistan, including TTP, BLA, and Majeed Brigade. Saleem demanded India respect international law and engage in meaningful dialogue on Kashmir.

Landmark PCI Report: Pakistan's Strategic Victory

The Pakistan-China Institute, led by Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, released a detailed report titled "16 Hours That Reshaped South Asia", analyzing the recent Pakistan-India conflict. The report credits Pakistan's military, diplomatic, and cyber response for restoring strategic balance in the region.



Field Marshal General Asim Munir. — Facebook@ISPROfficial1/File

It highlights:

- Reestablishment of nuclear and conventional deterrence.
- China's role as a regional stabilizer and Kashmir stakeholder.
- The U.S. acting as a mediator.

The report proposes a threefold response to India's strategy: proactive diplomacy, legal warfare, and narrative warfare. Senator Mushahid emphasized the importance of unity and resilience, praising Pakistani media for responsible coverage and comparing Modi's miscalculation to historic military blunders.

# Israel control 70 % of Gaza

By international reporter



Palestinians transport their belongings as they escape northern Gaza towards the south [Omar al-Qattaa/AFP]

At least 30 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks across Gaza since dawn, including journalist Hassan Majdi Abu Warda and several of his family members.

The Israeli military controls 77 percent of the Gaza Strip through “continued genocide [and] ethnic cleansing”, its Government Media Office says.

Israel has allowed 100 trucks carrying aid into Gaza since Wednesday, officials say, an amount nowhere near what’s needed to help its two million people as they face famine.

Israel’s war on Gaza has killed at least 53,939 Palestinians and wounded 122,797, according to Gaza’s Health Ministry. The Government Media Office updated its death toll to more than 61,700, saying thousands of people missing under the rubble are presumed dead.

An estimated 1,139 people were killed in Israel during the Hamas-led attacks of October 7, 2023, and more than 200 taken captive.



People use the coastal al-Rashid road to head to the southern areas of the enclave [Omar al-Qattaa/AFP]

## Trump Administration Targets Harvard as International Students Face Uncertainty

By local reporter

More than 1 million international students enroll in U.S. universities annually, contributing nearly \$44 billion to the American economy and driving innovation in science and technology. But these students are now caught in a political crossfire, as the Trump administration escalates its scrutiny of elite universities like Harvard.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently revoked Harvard’s ability to admit foreign students, citing concerns about antisemitism and controversial diversity programs. A federal judge temporarily blocked the move after the university filed a lawsuit, but tensions remain high.

Experts warn the crackdown threatens not just higher education but national competitiveness. “International students are vital to U.S. research and technology,” said Stuart Anderson, head of the National Foundation for American Policy. “They support innovation and help U.S. companies, particularly in tech.”

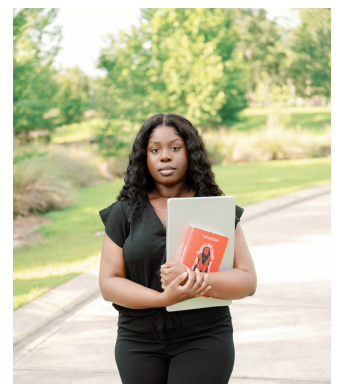
Many of these students, particularly from India and China, pursue STEM degrees. At the graduate level, they account for 70% of students in key technical fields like computer science and electrical engineering.

Fanta Aw, executive director of NAFSA: Association of International Educators, stressed the broader impact: “They are essential not only to the economy, but to America’s role as a global innovation hub.” She noted that Harvard alone added \$384 million to the local economy through its international student community.

Beyond financial gains, international students enhance cultural diplomacy. “They become future leaders in their countries and build bridges to the U.S.,” Aw said. Their presence also supports a wide range of academic programs that might otherwise shrink due to lack of enrollment.

Anderson emphasized their entrepreneurial drive, noting that about 25% of billion-dollar U.S. startups have at least one international student founder. Removing these students, he warned, could severely damage American higher education and its reputation.

As the Trump administration intensifies pressure on campuses, critics argue that targeting international students risks undercutting the very strengths that have made U.S. universities global leaders.



Vestibulum ante ipsum primis.



# Understanding Pakistan's Politics Through Its Roads: A Journey Down GT Road

By Muhammad Umar Shabbir

"If you want to understand a nation, look at its roads." — Paul Theroux

This quote struck me with full force as I traveled from Faisalabad to Sahiwal on the GT Road and its expressway bypass. The chaos, the struggle, and the unspoken rules of Pakistan's highways are not just about traffic—they are a mirror of the country's political and social order.

The Law of the Jungle: Might is Right

On Pakistan's roads, the hierarchy is clear: **trucks** bully cars, cars bully bikes, and bikes bully pedestrians. There is no respect for lanes, signals, or speed limits—only raw power determines who moves forward. This is Pakistan's politics in motion.

Trucks & Buses= The military, political elites, and feudal lords. They dominate the road (and the system), forcing others to yield.

Cars= The urban middle class—struggling to survive, sometimes oppressing those below (bikes), while being crushed by those above.

Bikes & Rickshaws= The working poor, weaving through danger, always at risk.

Pedestrians= The voiceless masses, ignored and run over.

Just as a truck driver doesn't care about a motorbike's right of way, Pakistan's ruling class rarely considers the common citizen's suffering.

Evading the System: Toll Taxes, Cops, and Corruption

Every driver's dream on GT Road? **Avoiding the toll tax.** Some take long detours, others bribe their way through. The police, instead of enforcing rules, take bribes and let violators pass.

This is exactly how Pakistan's governance works:

Toll Tax = Taxation Without Fairness— People avoid it because they see no return. Roads remain broken, services are poor. Why pay if the state won't deliver?

Police = Weak & Corrupt Institutions— Instead of protecting, they exploit. Just like in politics, where law enforcement is selective—harsh on the weak, lenient on the powerful.

Bypassing the System = Survival Instinct— When the system is unjust, people find illegal shortcuts. Pakistan's black economy, tax evasion, and power theft follow the same logic.

Two Pakistan's: Expressways vs. Broken Roads

The new Lahore-Islamabad Motorway is smooth, clean, and well-maintained used by the elite. Meanwhile, GT Road, used by the masses, is a battleground of potholes, reckless drivers, and decay.

This divide reflects Pakistan's **two-tiered society**:

Elite Pakistan – Gets modern infrastructure, security, and privileges.

Common Man's Pakistan – Struggles with crumbling roads, poor public transport, and neglect.

Politicians promise "development," but most projects serve the rich or foreign investors. The rest are left with GT Road's chaos.

Survival of the Fittest: No Rules, Only Power

In Pakistan's traffic, **signals, lanes, and speed limits** are just suggestions. **The real rule? Push or be pushed.**

This is how Pakistani politics operates:

No Merit, Only Muscle – Whether in business, bureaucracy, or elections, connections and force matter more than fairness.

- Ethics? Optional – Just as drivers cut lanes and ignore red lights, politicians switch loyalties, break promises, and loot without shame.

- The Weak Get Crushed – If you're not aggressive, you're left behind. The poor, the honest, and the law-abiding suffer most.

Conclusion: GT Road is Pakistan's Political Metaphor

Pakistan's roads are more than just pathways—they are a live demonstration of the country's power struggles, institutional decay, and social injustice.

- Might is Right – The strong dominate, the weak suffer.

- Corruption is the System – Rules exist only to be bypassed.

- Two Pakistan's – One for the privileged, one for the struggling masses.

- Survival, Not Justice – The system rewards aggression, not fairness.

Next time you're stuck in GT Road's chaos, remember: you're not just in traffic you're witnessing Pakistan's politics in its rawest form.

What do you think? Does Pakistan's road culture reflect its deeper crises? Share your experiences.



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