

Light Show at Badaling Great Wall

(22 September 2021)

**Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
My Dear Friends,**

I am very pleased to welcome you tonight at the light show organised at the Great Wall of China to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China.

I would first like to express my profound gratitude to the Government of Yanqing District of Beijing Municipality and Beijing Foreign Affairs Office for organising this event.

Dear Friends,

The Great Wall of China enjoys worldwide fame for its rich history and folklore. It is rare to imagine any architectural monument which so vividly defines the history and identity of a nation. No wonder that the Great Wall has inspired many poets and painters for creating magnificent works of art.

Built originally for the defensive purposes in ancient times, the Wall has now emerged as the symbol of the unconquerable spirit, innovative genius and architectural excellence of the Chinese nation.

It is often said that, '*architecture is frozen music*'. Seen from this perspective, the Great Wall is a symphony of Chinese history perfected over the course of centuries.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Badaling Section of Great Wall is the most well-preserved segment of this ancient architecture. Many great world leaders and notable persons have visited this section to pay tribute to this

marvel of history. Many Pakistani leaders have also made a point to visit the Wall during their stay in China.

As the token of Iron Brotherhood and eternal friendship between Pakistan and China, Pakistan is honoured to play a humble role for the restoration of the Badaling section of the Wall from northern tower 6 to 7 in 1980s.

Today, as we assemble here to celebrate the seven decades of Pakistan-China friendship, the Great Wall of China would remain etched forever in our memories as the vivid symbol of our special ties and all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

May Pakistan-China Friendship enjoy longevity, strength and grandeur like the Great Wall of China!

I thank you all!