

**Ambassador's Online Meeting between Faisalabad and Qingdao**  
(15 October 2021)

H.E. Mr. Zhao Haozhi, Mayor of Qingdao  
H.E. Ambassador Nong Rong,  
Mr. Zahid Hussian, Administrator (Metropolitan Corporation Faisalabad),  
Mr. Wang Zihai, Honorary Investment Counsellor,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen, (Assalam-o-Alakium and Xiawu Hao)

It is my honor and privilege to participate in the first online exchange between the Mayor of Qingdao and the Administrator of Faisalabad in beautiful coastal city of Qingdao. I vividly recall that in April 2021, during my first visit to Qingdao, Qingdao and Faisalabad had signed the Letter of Intent for establishment of Sister-City Relationship. During last five months, exchanges and pragmatic cooperation between Faisalabad and Qingdao increased many fold.

Today, both sides are signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between establishment of Friendly Cooperative City Relationship between Faisalabad and Qingdao. Likewise, MOU of cooperation between SCO Demonstration Area (SCODA) and Allama Iqbal Industrial Park will also be signed. I congratulate Qingdao Municipal government and Faisalabad Administration on signing these MOUs.

Pakistan and China are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and excellent partners in peace and development. Our unique and iron-clad friendship is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people of the both countries. This great friendship has always stood test of times. The second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has been making huge progress. Recently, the 10<sup>th</sup> Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) successfully concluded and new avenues of cooperation particularly information technology and industrialization have been added in bilateral cooperation under CPEC.

This year, both brotherly countries are commemorating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties by organizing different events in China and Pakistan. So far, we have organized more than 95 commemorative events. In Qingdao, we will organize the 100<sup>th</sup> commemorative event during this visit. It signifies our great important to Shandong Province and Qingdao City.

I am confident that establishment of friendly cooperative city relationship between Faisalabad and Qingdao will definitely boost and further deepen cooperation and exchanges between the two cities particularly in the fields of industrialization, trade, investment, culture, tourism, science and technology and people-to-people exchanges. Likewise, cooperation between SCODA and Allama Iqbal Industrial Park is extremely important for promotion of industrialization of Pakistan particularly

Faisalabad. Direct communication and exchanges between two beautiful cities will further deepen the pragmatic business and industrial exchanges the peoples of two cities.

Today, I take this opportunity to propose the following:

- Focal persons from onward communication and exchanges may kindly be nominated;
- Regular exchanges between SCODA and Allama Iqbal Industrial Park for mutual development and industrialization;
- Qingdao-based industries and business enterprises may consider Allama Iqbal Industrial Park as their second base to set up their industries and businesses;
- Qingdao-based universities may cooperate and collaborate with the universities of Faisalabad; and
- An online seminar on trade, investment and businesses exchanges may please be held at a mutually convenient date.

In the end, I assure the Embassy's full support in promotion of friendly exchanges between Faisalabad and Qingdao. I wish a complete success to the first online meeting between the leaders of two cities.

Long-Live Pakistan-China Friendship.  
(Ba-Zhong Youyi Wan Sui.)

Thank you

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