

# BONJOUR

PEARL - CONTINENTAL HOTELS, PAKISTAN

ISSUE No. 14 1993

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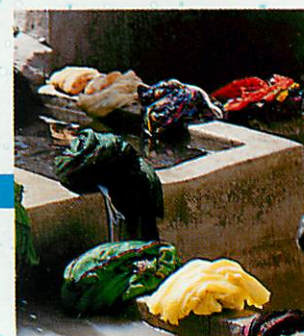
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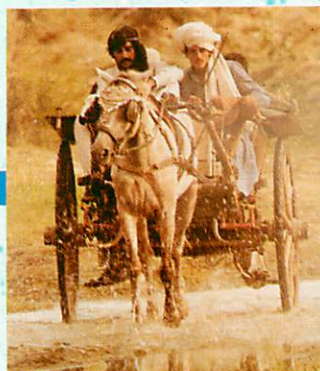
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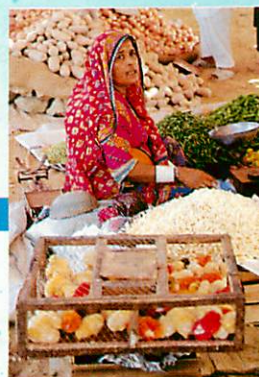
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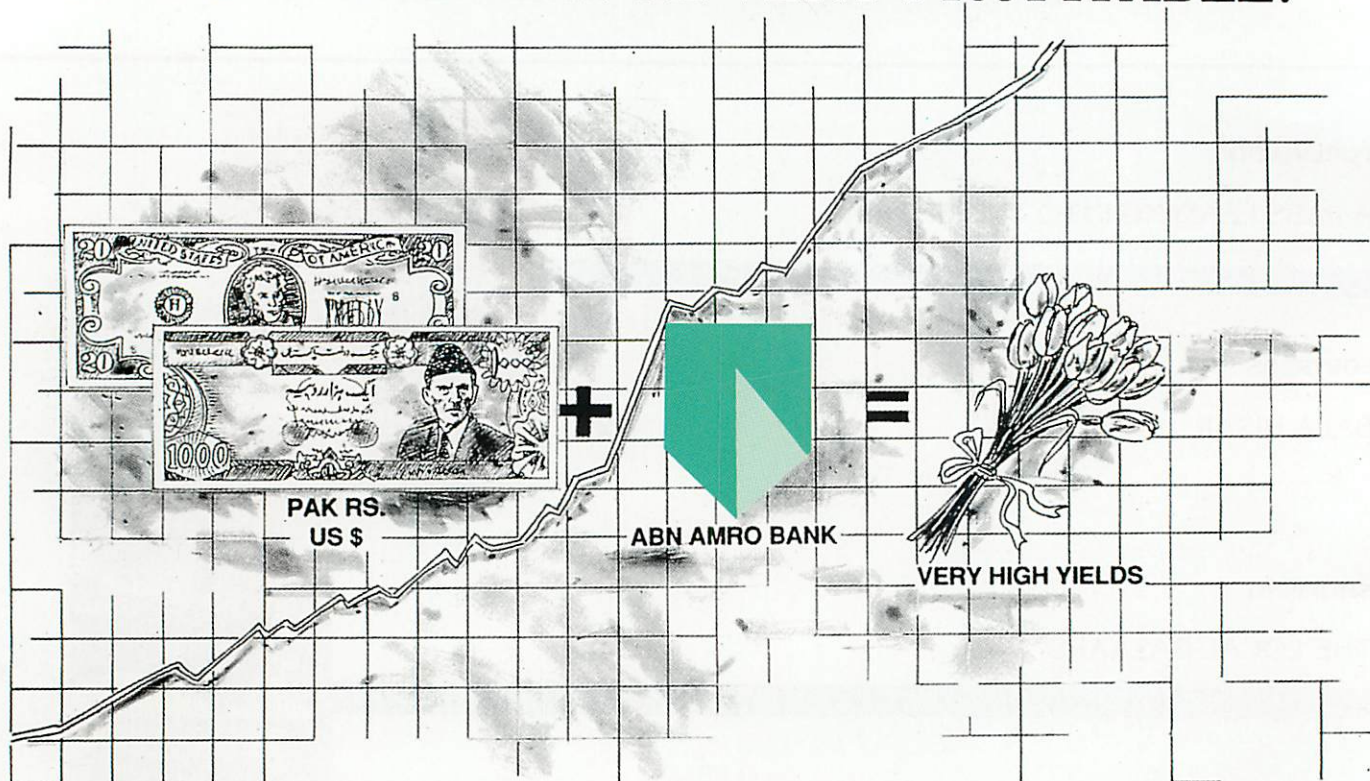
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## ON THE COVER

Watched by tribesmen who have wagered on the contest, a  
fighting cock rears back preparing to strike at its opponent.  
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The Pathans, the book gives an insight into many other  
attractive features of Peshawar.



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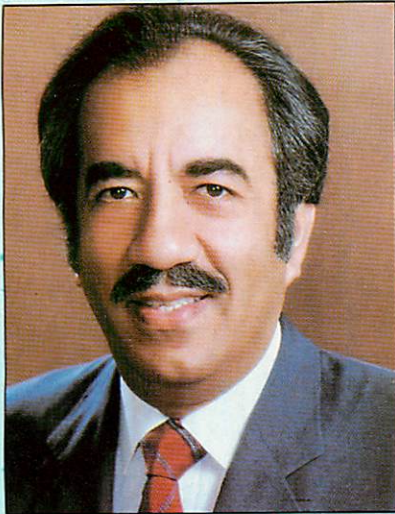
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## Chairman's Message



**T**he hospitality industry has to be dynamic and progressive keeping the guest requirement foremost in mind. The warm smiles of the doormen, the enthusiasm of the staff in answering a query, the overall friendliness and efficiency go a long way in fulfilling guest expectations.

Great strides have been made at Pearl-Continental Hotels to raise the standard and provide facilities par excellence. Therefore, the Pearl-Continental Chain has over the years invested in refurbishment and expansion; it is continuously utilizing its potential to be the best.

As part of its developmental programme to provide the best, the Pearl Tours and Travels has come into operation and has initiated the Rent-a-Car and Group Tours. To maintain a right balance for work or pleasure, the Pearl Rent-a-Car has recently increased its fleet. This facility provides our guests an assured availability of transport when needed. Moreover, the Pearl Tours will promote international and domestic tours in our country which has so much to offer of History, Culture and Sunshine.

**SADRUDDIN HASHWANI**

Chairman





**L**ahore, the cultural and intellectual city of Pakistan is one of the great Moghul cities of the subcontinent, ranking with Delhi and Agra in its range of superb Muslim architecture. The beautiful mau-soleums, mosques and cathedrals, educational institutions and government buildings portray a blend of the Islamic culture and glimpses of the British Raj in the country. The busy streets and bazaars, annual fairs like the Horse and Cattle Show, Basant and innumerable cultural activities make Lahore a vibrant city of surprises and contrasts.

Situated on Shahra-e-Quaid-e-Azam, at a distance of 6 kilometers from the airport, Pearl-Continental Hotel Lahore, is conveniently located in the heart of the city and sym-



bolises the true spirit of Lahore. Being a vibrant hotel in a lively city, it has over the years become equally popular with the foreign guests visiting the city and the locals of Lahore.

It features 196 guest rooms including 15 suites. The rooms offer luxurious comfort and amenities including international dialling from all guest rooms. The Executive Floor provides the business traveller with special facilities on and off the floor. The business centre is professionally staffed and fully equipped to meet the requirement of the busy executive.

The *Brasserie* is the hotel's formal dining restaurant which offers Pakistani and Continental cuisine. A Friday Brunch and daily high tea is also



## HOSPITALITY



*The Lobby*

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*By the Poolside*



*The Coffee Shop*





served there. For casual meals, the *Coffee House* is open round the clock. In the evenings, the *Garden Bar B Que*, in the lush green lawns, serves charcoal grilled Pakistani specialities with live music. Large wedding receptions, major conferences

---

*Being a vibrant hotel in a lively city, it has over the years become equally popular with the foreign guests visiting the city and the locals of Lahore.*

---

and exhibitions are also hosted at the hotel where the Shalimar rooms, the foyer and the lawns provide ample space. The hotel also hosts the Regional Food Festival, Basant Mela, Eid Bazaar charity shows and fun extravaganzas.

For the health conscious, the state-of-the-art *Sports and Aqua Club* has



Garden Bar B Cue





Tennis Court



Health Club



*A very pleasant addition to the hotel is an aviary in the aesthetically landscaped lawns where beautiful and exotic birds from all over the world are housed.*







*The Luxurious Suite*



*A Comfortable and Spacious Suite*

the latest equipment for a vigorous aerobic workout, a relaxing massage, steam bath or even a session of yoga under the guidance of an expert instructor. An outdoor swimming pool and tennis court are also located on premises.

A very pleasant addition to the hotel is an aviary in the aesthetically landscaped lawns where beautiful and exotic birds from all over the world are housed. One can enjoy light snacks at the *Garden Cafe* which resounds to the tinkle of tea cups and rhapsodically rhymes with the twitter of the birds.

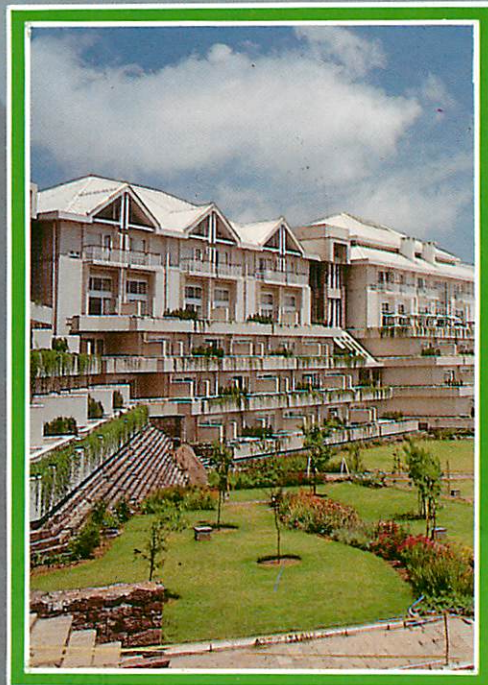
A major expansion of the hotel is being undertaken. On completion it will offer our guests two hundred and eighty-nine guest rooms, convention and banquet facilities, restaurants, an elaborate shopping arcade and a parking lot to accommodate 850 cars.



CONFERENCE

# Pearl-Continental Hotel

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## Bhurban



# AMERICAN EXPRESS GUIDE TO CARPETS



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*The poetry of skilled artistry woven in every knot, in rich, eyecatching colors'*

American Express Guide to carpets leads you to the finest carpet showrooms in the city who welcome the American Express Cards with the traditional fervor that echoes a rich heritage.

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## LAHORE

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68, Shahra-e-Quaid-e-Azam.  
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## ISLAMABAD

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- **Kabul House**  
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- **Pak Persian Carpets**  
Haroon Chambers.  
Tel: 826467 / 822571

## RAWALPINDI

- **Kashmir Victory House**  
The Mall. Tel: 66011 / 64349

## PESHAWAR

- **Carpet Palace**  
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Tel: 73769







The Zaver Hall.



The Foyer.

**T**he Pearl-Continental Hotel at Bhurban is not only one of its kind vacation destination but also a spectacular conference centre situated at an altitude of 6250 feet, nestled in the Murree Hills.

The conference facilities include several meeting rooms with the capacity to accommodate all types of conferences. The smaller meeting rooms are ideal for small scale meetings, while the larger meeting rooms can accommodate upto 350 persons. Also offered are state-of-the-art audio and visual equipment, over-

---

*At Pearl-Contiental Hotel, Bhurban, we not only provide our discriminating business travellers an ideal meeting and conference venue but also the chance to blend business with pleasure by providing our customers the proverbial "Pearl Hospitality".*

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head and slide projectors and other meeting related equipment.

The discerning business travellers are provided a productive work environment when away from their work place, with the essential secretarial and communication facilities such as fax at the recently inaugurated centre.

At Pearl-Continental Hotel, Bhurban, we not only provide our discriminating business travellers an ideal meeting and conference venue but also the chance to blend business with pleasure by providing our customers the proverbial "Pearl Hospitality".



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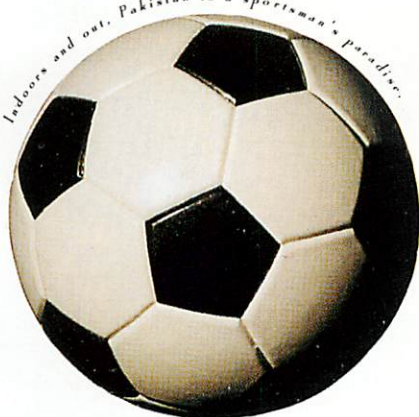


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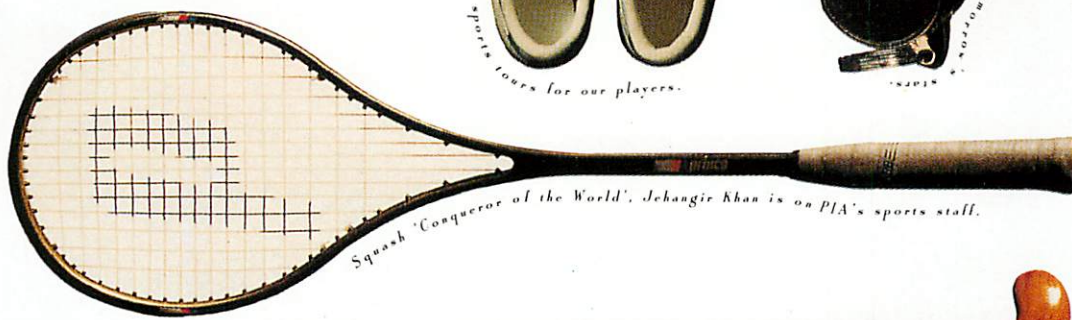
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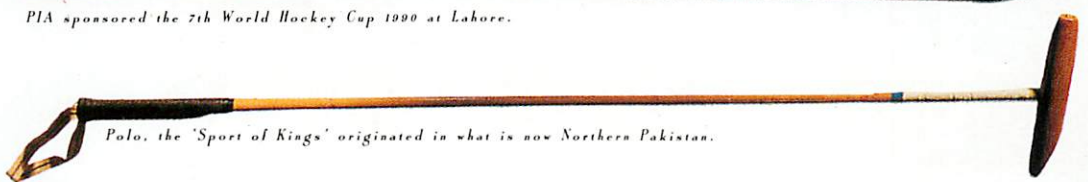
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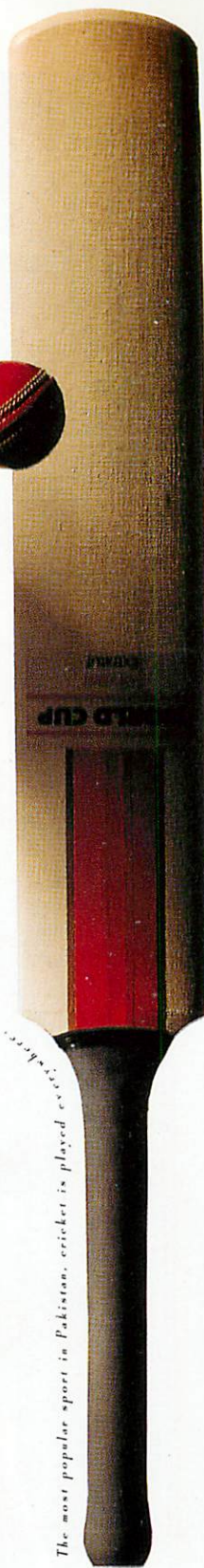


PIA sponsored the 7th World Hockey Cup 1990 at Lahore.



Polo, the 'Sport of Kings' originated in what is now Northern Pakistan.

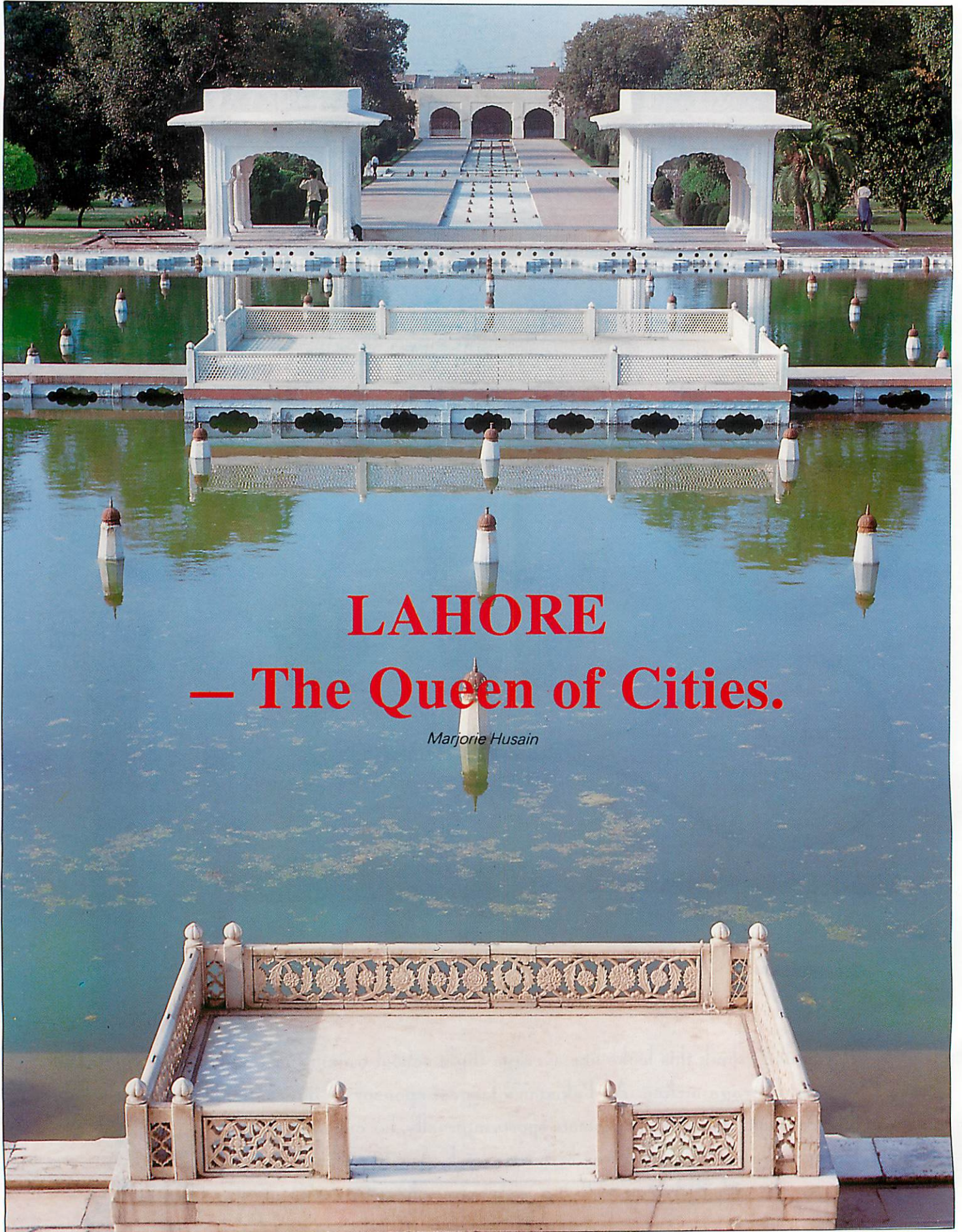
The most popular sport in Pakistan, cricket is played everywhere, from stadiums to streets and backlanes.



If you don't think this looks like average flight school training material, you're right. But then PIA is no average airline. As Pakistan's largest sponsor of international sports, it's only natural that we would also actively promote sports internally, for our own fitness. Because the better we play, the better we work. Another reason why, when you fly with PIA, you're flying with extraordinary people.

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Great people to fly with





# LAHORE

## — The Queen of Cities.

*Marjorie Husain*



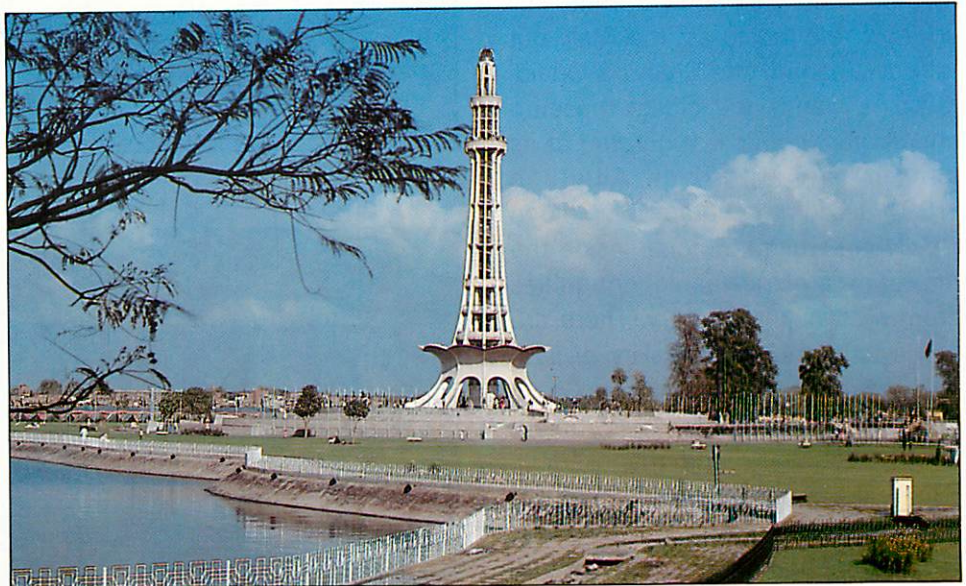
Lahore, the capital city of the Punjab is aptly known as "the Queen of Cities". Its origins are lost in antiquity but it still subtly displays the historic glory and splendour of the Moghul rulers. Thanks to the Great Moghul Emperor Akbar, who made Lahore the capital of his Empire, today some of the finest examples of Moghul architecture in the world can be seen in the city. To trace the development of Moghul design a trip to the Lahore Fort is a must. Opposite the Fort, in all its majesty stands the Badshahi Mosque. Built of red sandstone in the reign of Emperor Aurangzeb in 1674, it is one of the most imposing mosques in existence. Visitors to the Badshahi Masjid are advised to climb the steps of the high minarets, as their effort will be rewarded by a magnificent view of Lahore and its environs.

There is a year round opportunity for sightseeing, and a host of activities to occupy visitors. The activities start with Basant, the festival that heralds the coming of spring, and brings in a display of colour everywhere. In the countryside, the bright yellow of the mustard seed blossom contrasts appealingly with the blue sky, everywhere there are kites. The sky is filled with fluttering objects of all shapes and colours. Kite flying is a fiercely contested sport in the Punjab. Rivals are intent on cutting each others kite strings while the girls of the family, dressed in shades of yellow and orange, cheer them on. Traditionally, participants gather on the flat roofs of many storied buildings to unfurl their kites. Less dangerously, the parks too are thronged with kite enthusiasts filling the sky with their paper kites.

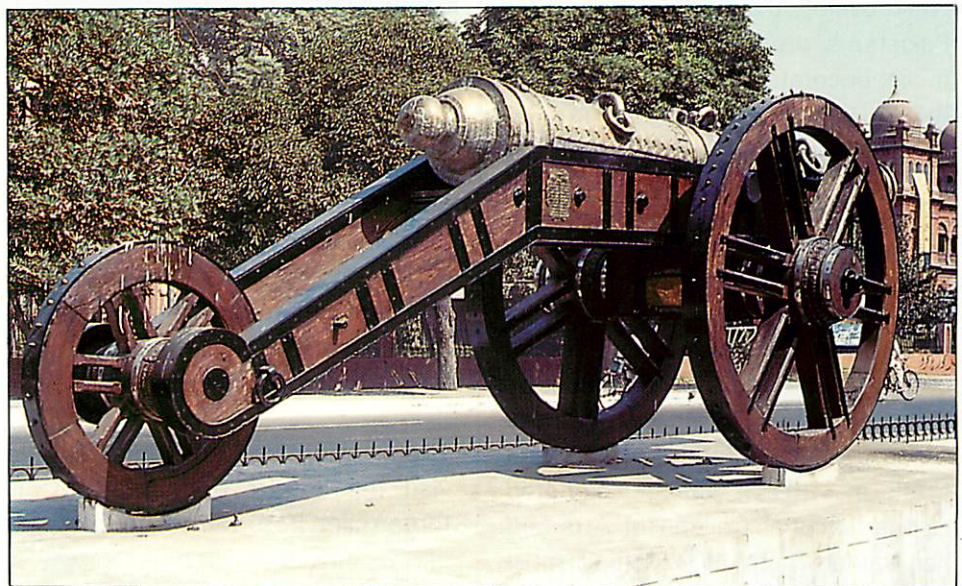
Following Basant is the much anticipated annual event, the Horse and Cattle Show, held at the Fortress Stadium, usually between February and March. The spectacular contest has been witnessed by distinguished



*The Old Gymkhana Club, currently the Quaid-e-Azam Library*



*Minar-e-Pakistan*



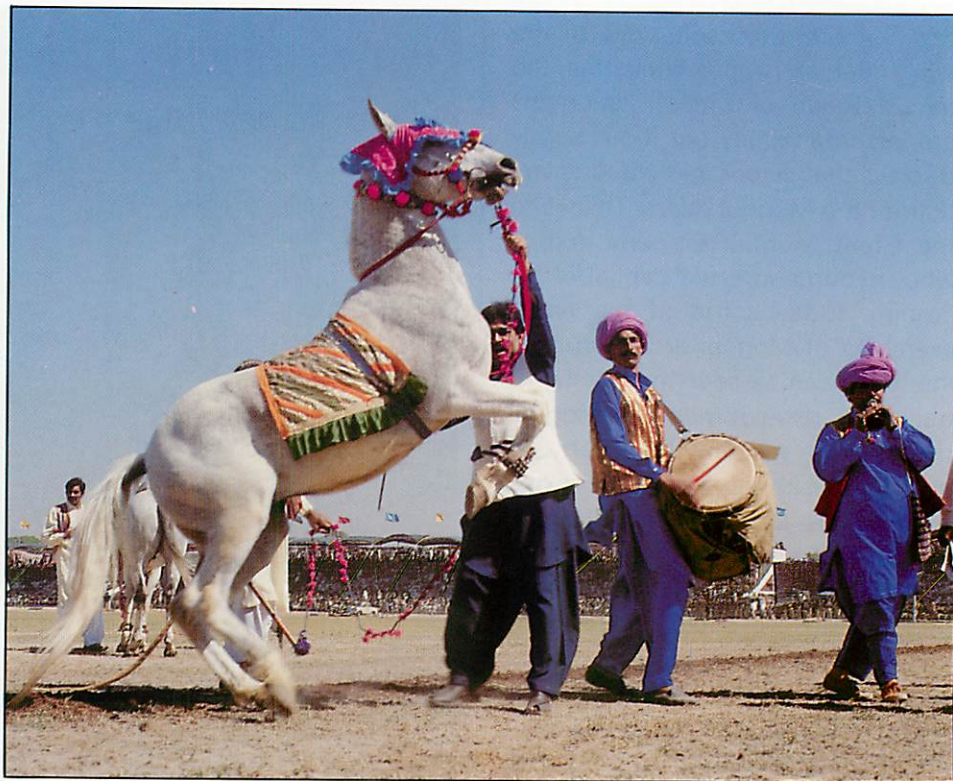
*The Kim's Gun*



guests from all over the world. Full of colourful pageantry, massed pipers and drummers march to traditional airs; ornately dressed horses and camels dance to the beat of folk dancers gathered from all areas of Pakistan. Exciting tent pegging events take place as teams from the armed forces, rural areas and local colleges show their mettle mounted on superbly trained horses. At the end of the event there is a grand tattoo, while the finale is a dazzling display of fireworks.

There is so much history, culture and tradition found in Lahore that every excursion becomes an adventure. On the wide, tree lined avenue, still lovingly referred to as 'the Mall' but officially named the Shahra-e-Quaid-e-Azam, stands the oldest museum in Pakistan. It was inaugurated at its present site by Prince Albert in 1894, to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Inside the museum are invaluable antiquities from all over the country. There are relics from the Indus Valley civilization, magnificent examples of Gandhara art, sculpture relating to the life of Buddha, coins and manuscripts. There is a magnificent collection of miniature paintings and a collection of contemporary paintings. The ethnological galleries fascinate visitors, while overall, the murals painted by Pakistan's eminent painter, Sadequain, decorate the ceilings. Outside the museum is the 'Zamzama', the gun immortalised by Kipling as the Kim's gun. Manufactured in 1761, it stands in all its majesty on a plinth, vividly displaying the glory of the by-gone years.

Next door to the museum, is the country's leading art college. Built by the British in 1877, it was originally called the Mayo School of Arts and Crafts. In 1962, it was re-designated as the National College of Arts and has trained many of Pakistan's most esteemed artists.



*Horse and Cattle Show*

Habib Akhtar



*A Folk Dance*

The beautiful Alhamra building was designed by a leading contemporary architect who received his training from the National College of Arts. Containing several spacious, well lit exhibition halls, conference rooms and auditoriums for staging plays, there are also areas where classes in the performing arts are conducted.

Those interested in sports should visit the Lahore golf course. Only three miles from the teeming centre of the city the 18 hole fairway is shaded with large, old trees. Here,

for a nominal sum, visitors are welcome to enjoy a game which includes the services of a caddie.

Polo is another of the town's favourite sports. Teams come from all over the world to compete with the internationally celebrated local teams on lush, green grounds. Horse racing continues to attract crowds; although, there is a ban on betting.

There are numerous places to shop in Lahore from the vast stores along the Mall to assorted bazaars and markets where goods of all kinds are

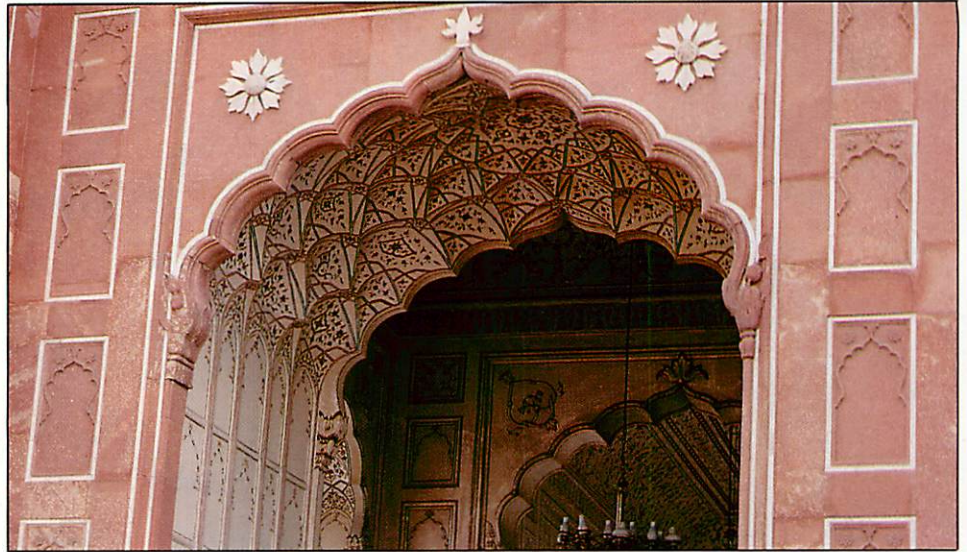


available. Liberty market with its smart boutiques is ideal for an evening stroll and window shopping, while inside the old city, craftsmen sit in tiny booths working on metals, leather, silver; and printing textiles in the old traditional ways. The most popular of all the bazaars is one named after a famous courtesan of Moghul Crown Prince Jahangir, Anarkali the pomegranate blossom. The unfortunate girl was entombed alive for her temerity in capturing the heart of the Emperor's son, but her legend lives on.

In cool weather, picnics are a regular feature of Lahore's life. Picnickers sit on the banks of the River Ravi or visit the parks. Shalimar gardens, dating from 1642 is spread over 42 acres. It has three beautiful terraces, marble pavilions, lakes and fountains. Wide tree lined avenues are popular for strolling all the year round. Iqbal Park is a huge sports complex where children flock on school holidays to join in a variety of sports.

One of the great joys in Lahore's life is eating out. Every delicious type of food is available. Chinese restaurants are extremely popular and there are several places for light snacks which are favourite meeting places for the young. There are restaurants of all kinds, but the street food in Lahore is superb. Kebabs of all kinds, fried river fish, Nahari, Paya, Karai Ghosht - the list is endless. For variety and economy the food stalls in Lahore are unmatched anywhere in the world.

Lahore is full of interest. There is so much to explore and experience that one day is not nearly enough. One may set off on foot, on a horse drawn tonga, or in a car; just ask the obliging staff of the Pearl-Continental Hotel to guide you in the right direction and have a nice day.



Badshahi Mosque



Lahore Cathedral



# Phulkari

## An Ancient Folk Craft

*Dr. Saifur Rehman Dar*

The word folk art But, Phulkari how old? No one knows. The composite term of existence of a two Sanskrit narrow rough words *Phul* (flower) and *karya* (to do); hence, cloth 18" in meaning "to do pit" looms in flower-work". purely geometrical design - When applied to lozenges, squares, embroidery, it stands for the triangles, oblongs, devoid of the ancient craft of curves and natural designs indicating its primitive origin. Few specimens as old as embroidery on a plain rough cotton cloth (Khaddar), and more have survived in private the embroidered piece of cloth is or public collections both in Pakistan and the Indian Punjab. called *Phulkari*. In Punjab, it has been an ancient



It originally was a casual wear, and an item of daily use, worn and discarded after use. Half a century back the Phulkari stitch was popular only on chadars, dupattas and orrhnis used by women. Preparing a Phulkari has always been a feminine pastime, usually young maidens assisted by their friends would prepare it for their dowry.

On sunny winter days, it used to be a common sight to see young girls or elderly women sitting on '*peerhis*', multicoloured seats, gossiping and embroidering their Phulkaris. Occasionally, a friend would join in and pick one end of it to make her own contribution. It is similar to 'quilting bees' get-togethers in the American mid-west in the past.

A distinctive feature of Phulkari is the simplicity of its stitch. With the design in mind, the darning stitch was worked in reverse by counting the threads. The correct counting of threadlines was necessary as a single mistake could spoil the entire design. Geometry being the basis for the design, curves are almost impossible to obtain. The thread used was pure silk dyed in various colours.

Phulkari has a great deal of variety. A normal pattern usually has three widths of cloth, each 18" wide, stitched together once embroidered. The ceremonial Phulkaris sometimes consisted four widths. However, there is no fixed rule as to the portion of the surface that must be embroidered. There may be a few scattered flowers or the entire surface may be covered with embroidered motifs. Typologically, phulkari is categorised into *Til Patra Phulkari*, *Bagh Phulkari*, *Chobe Phulkari* and *Shishadar Phulkari*. The *Til Patra* (seeds and leaves of sesame) *Phulkari* is the simplest, and has an embroidered pattern repeated at intervals. In *Bagh* (garden) *Phulkari* the entire surface



is covered with repeated patterns giving the effect of a large flower bed of variegated flowers. In contrast, a *Chobe* (tent pole) *Phulkari* has only its borders embroidered in yellow; whereas, the centre of the red cloth is left plain. It is larger in size than any other type and is wrapped round a bride. *Shishadar Phulkari* is the latest addition in the craft, where amidst heavily em-

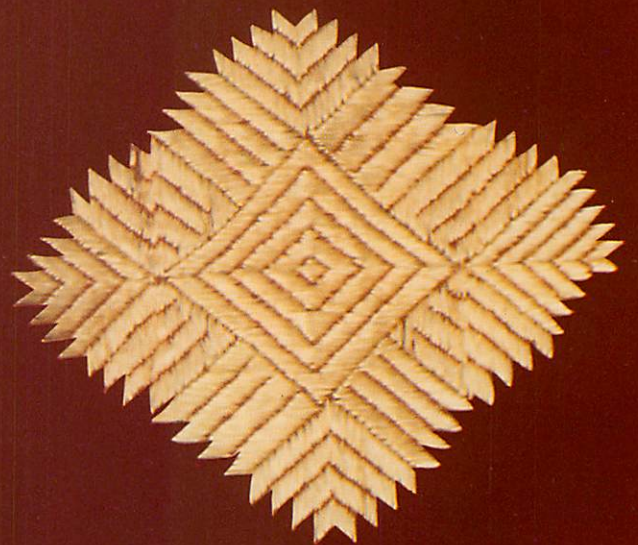
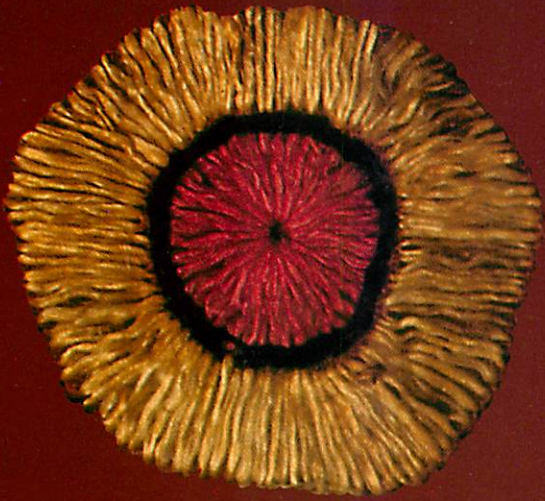
broidered surface small mirrors are fixed in button-hole stitch in the design.

Among these, *Bagh Phulkari* has numerous varieties, each deriving its name from the main motifs on it. The classification and nomenclature can be based on vegetal motifs, colours, flowers, birds, and many more. Phulkari known as '*vari da bagh*' is





The smoothness and regularity of stitches, variety of designs and colour combinations show the aesthetic sense, methodical judgement and creative ability of the rustic women.







very special as it takes over a year to complete, and is prepared by two or three generations as family heirlooms and presented to brides. The exquisite design in yellow and red symbolises fertility and happiness. In the design concept of '*Bawan Bagh*' Phulkari (52 divisions) the surface is divided into 42, 48, 52, and even 104 squares - each square containing different patterns in multiple colours. Yet another design made in 1890 has a thousand square pattern and as such has been given the name of '*Hazari*' Bagh Phulkari.

Punjab has always been the home of Phulkaris. But these were, and still are being made in the Hazara and the Swat regions of Pakistan. However, the best Phulkaris are always from the Punjab. The smoothness and regularity of stitches, variety of designs and colour combinations show the aesthetic sense, methodical judgement and creative ability of the rustic women. Some scholars imply a religious significance to the

various colours - green for Muslims, saffron for Sikhs, white for Hindus - but basically these and other colours add colour and brightness to the pattern. Black, white and green are rare, usually ceremonial and ritual rather than religious.

In Pakistan, very few institutions preserve Phulkari in their collections. The oldest collection is found at the Lahore Museum; whereas, the largest collection is in the Lok Virsa, Islamabad.

Gone are the days when the young and elderly women would sit in the courtyards and embroider Phulkari for the pure and simple pleasure of doing it. This folk art still survives, but it has been commercialised. Currently the work is being done at handicraft centres in Jhang, Attock, Chakwal, Rawalpindi, Bahrain in Swat, Haripur in Hazara and patronized by private organizations. The design no more flows from the mind of its creator. Instead, it is now

stamped with the help of wooden blocks; instead of Khaddar cloth, woollen or synthetic is used. The stamped design is first outlined in running stitch in white, yellow etc and then filled in with the help of a silken thread on the surface. The original stitch from reverse is rarely practised.

Phulkari had virtually become obsolete, but recently, its popularity has revived in Punjab, Hazara and Swat. Both hand-made and machine-made Phulkaris are seen in the market. Being an expensive item, the rich hand-made patterns are popular amongst the fashionable elite. The common folk, who once used simpler and cheaper Phulkaris, are now content with the machine-made ones. What was once a pure pastime for young and the old has turned into a commercial enterprise.

Photography : Nasim Akhtar.  
Phulkaris : Courtesy - Lahore  
Museum.





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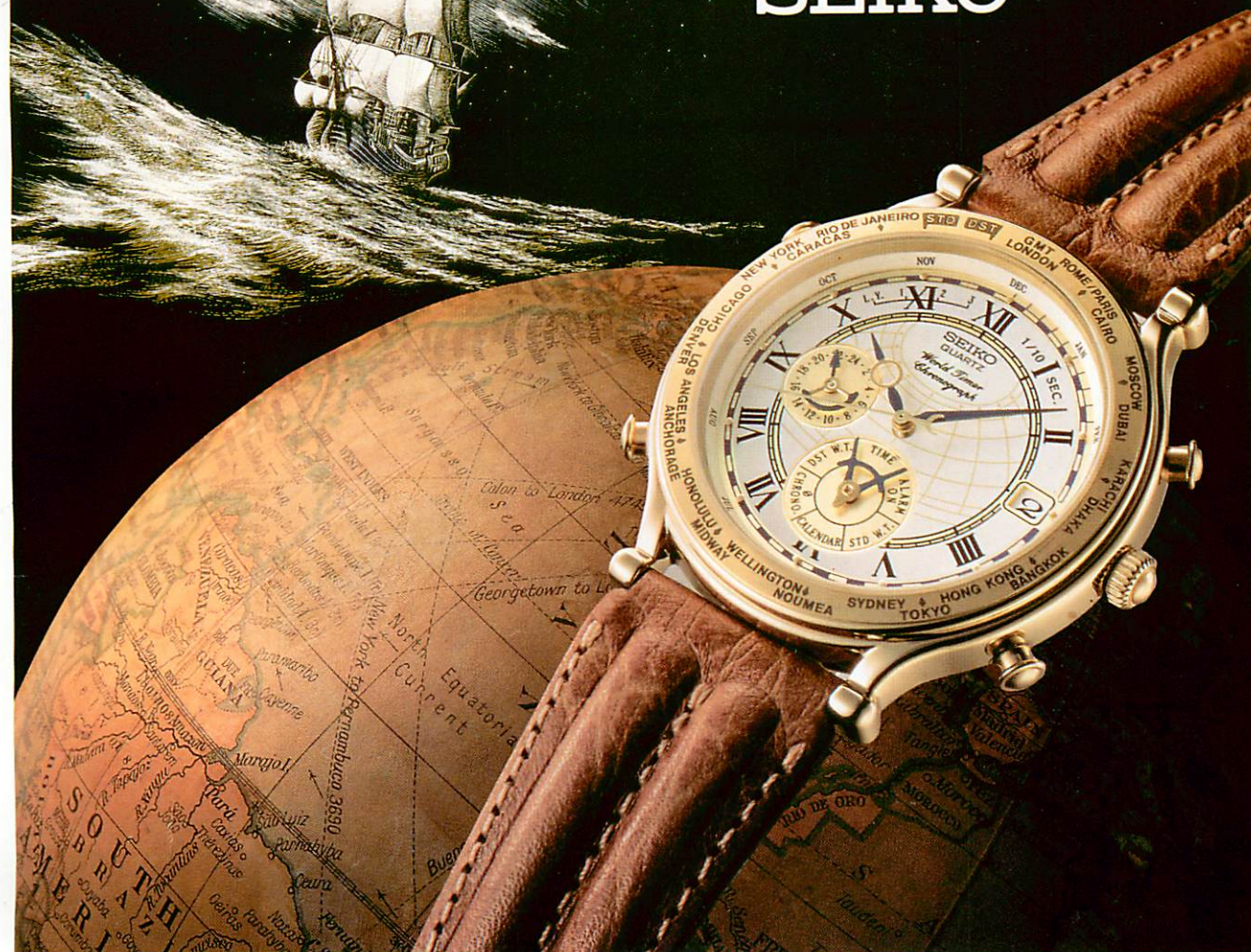


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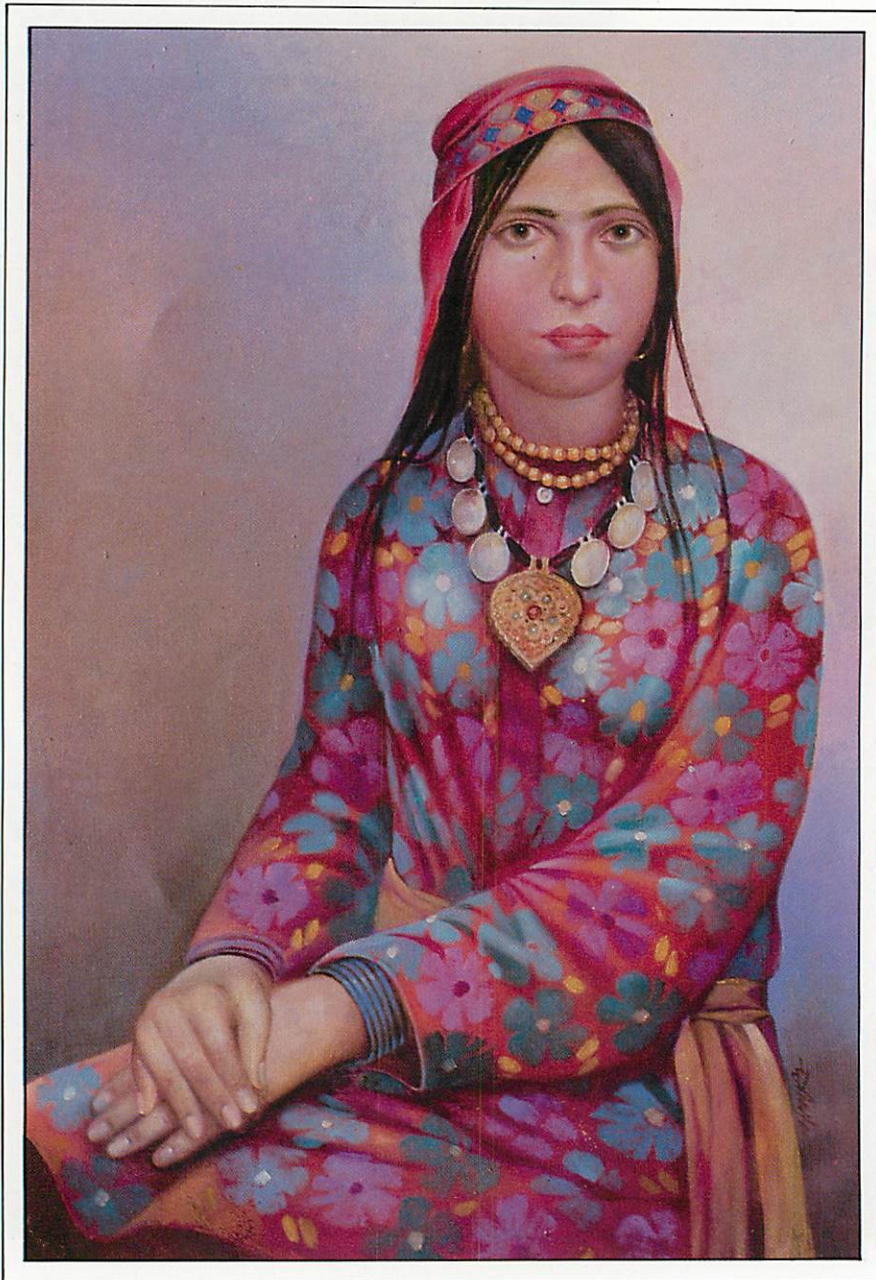
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# Karachi's Vibrant Art Galleries

*Marjorie Husain*



*Hanjra*



Visitors to Karachi with an interest in art will find much to divert them while in the city.

There are a number of active art galleries, each having its own particular charm. Many of the country's most dynamic artists live in Karachi, a large number of whom are women. Lacking the facilities and support found in Western countries, local artists depend upon their own talents and determination to achieve recognition and work with dedication in the process.

Exhibitions of paintings, sculpture, prints and ceramics are ongoing functions throughout the year. From all over Pakistan artists send their work to Karachi, the teeming centre of commerce in the country, where wealthy art patrons are eager to decorate their offices and homes. Many artists from Pakistan have exhibited their work abroad and have their work included in important collections all over the world. If there is time to spare, it is enormously rewarding to visit the galleries and glimpse the viewpoints of the artists.

Furthest from the Pearl-Continental is the VM Art Gallery, managed by the Rangoonwala Trust. It is a long narrow gallery situated on the first floor of the Rangoonwala Community Centre, Dhoraji Colony. The energetic director of the gallery, Rif-fat Alvi who is an artist herself, has over the last five years, organised a series of unusual exhibitions showing the work of local and foreign artists. Her aim is to broaden the horizon of local art students, and introduce them to new trends. Recently, group shows of artists from China and Sri Lanka took place. Colette, a French artist showed her experiments with chemical elements and Professor Bartolomeo from the Slade School of Art, London, displayed a series of prints.



Sardar Mohammad



Asghar Ali



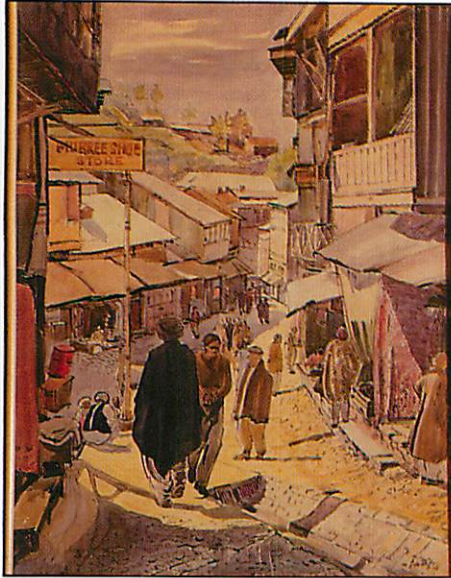
Qudsia Nisar



Situated on Shahra-e-Faisal opposite the Nursery market is the oldest gallery in Karachi, the Indus Gallery. Established by Mr. Ali Imam in 1971, it has been a constant factor of interest in the art world. Until 1985, it was the only gallery, struggling to meet the demands of all artists. It has a long record of well organised and important exhibitions showing the works of Pakistan's most acclaimed artists. Since there is no National Gallery, or Museum of Art in the city, often the Indus Gallery has offered art lovers the only opportunity to view the work of great artists. A. R. Chughtai, Shakir Ali, Ahmed Pervaze and Shams, landmarks in the art history of Pakistan, have all been featured at the Indus Gallery. Recently the gallery exhibited a series of displays by artists living overseas, M. F. Husain, F. N. Sousa, and Tassadec Sohail all of whom are internationally celebrated artists.

Ali Imam is himself an artist of repute. He belonged to a movement known in the 50s as the 'Lahore group' which introduced contemporary art to Pakistan inspired by Shakir Ali.

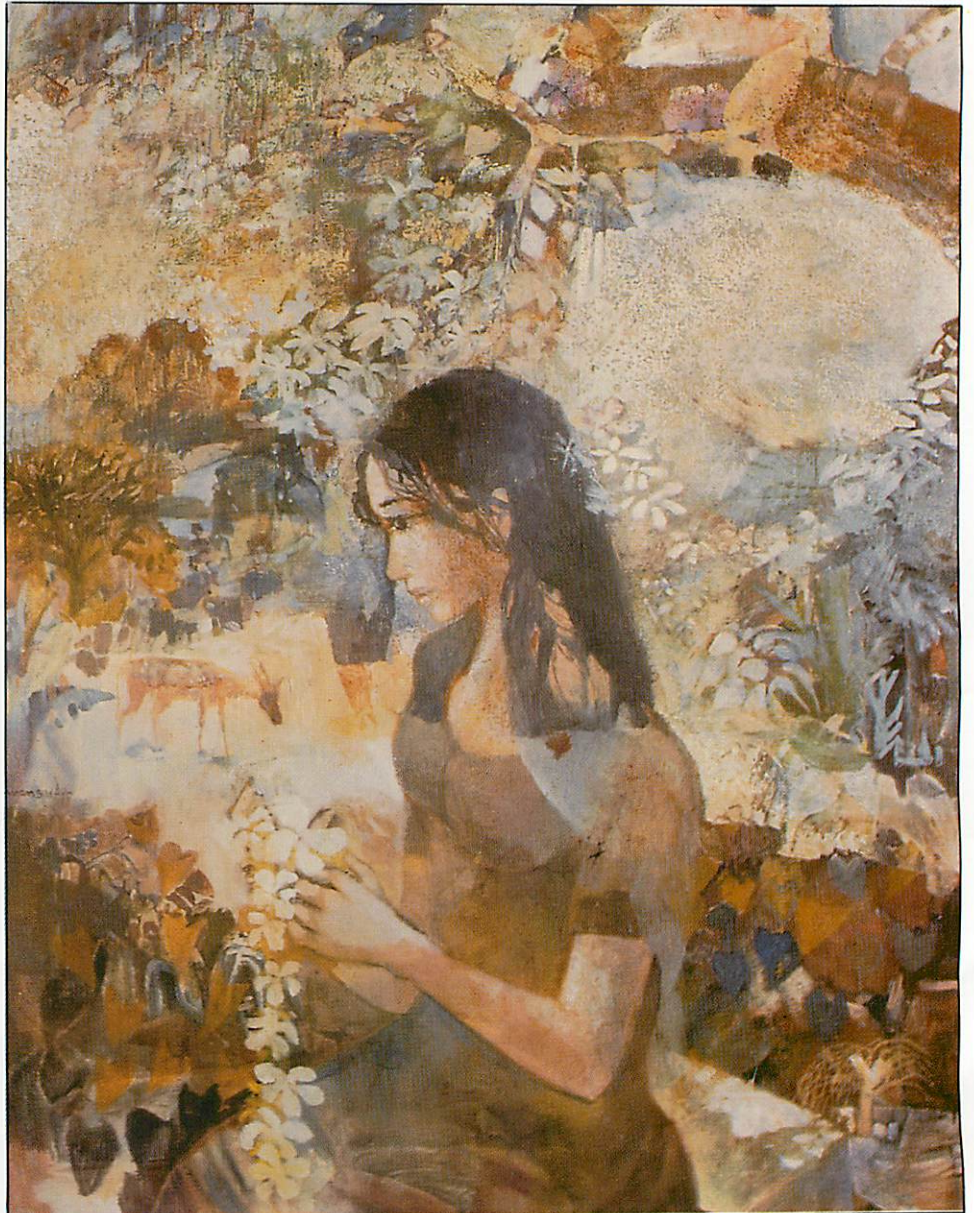
The posh Clifton area is the venue for several art galleries. The most popular and trendy being the Chawkandi Art, which is a favourite centre of artists and collectors alike. The exhibitions here are of a very high standard. Prestigious artists from Lahore regularly display their work at Chawkandi Art and occasionally there are exhibitions from abroad. Well-known sculptor, Shahid Sajjad, Zahoor ul Akhlaq, and ceramist Sherazade Alam have held memorable exhibitions of their work in this gallery. Between solo exhibitions, the gallery displays a variety of works by leading local artists: watercolours, prints, acrylics and oils; there is something for all tastes.



Mohammad Latif



Mohammad Ali



Mansoor Aye





Najmi Sura



Sardar Mohammad

Less active is the Chawkandi Gallery - a few shops away from Chawkandi Art. It usually holds a miscellaneous collection of paintings in diverse styles and media. The gallery holds few solo exhibitions preferring to concentrate on a permanent display of changing groups.

Another gallery in Clifton with a unique style of its own is the Art Collector's Gallery. It occupies the ground floor of a spacious house, and belongs to Mr. Sultan Mahmood, a leading advertiser and one of Pakistan's earliest art patrons. For over forty years, Mr. Mahmood has been adding to his own assortment of artworks, and opening the gallery was perhaps a way to accommodate some of his own collection of over a thousand paintings, as well as promoting the work of the artists he admires. His collection includes paintings, brass figurines, curios, and antique coins. Sadequain, Gulgee and a vast collection of Chughtai's etchings are displayed alongside the known and unknown artists. The Art Collector's Gallery holds exhibitions on a regular basis, usually combining the works of four or more artists. It is a fascinating place to while away an odd half hour. One can browse through the various areas and often come across unexpected art gems. Old Masters hang side by side with contemporary artists, all a part of the rich diversity of art in the country.

The media has always been extremely supportive of the artists and regularly covers art exhibitions. To find out where art displays are being held, one can skim through the local papers or consult the helpful hotel personnel; then you are all set for a very rewarding experience.

*Paintings: Courtesy  
Sultan Mahmud*





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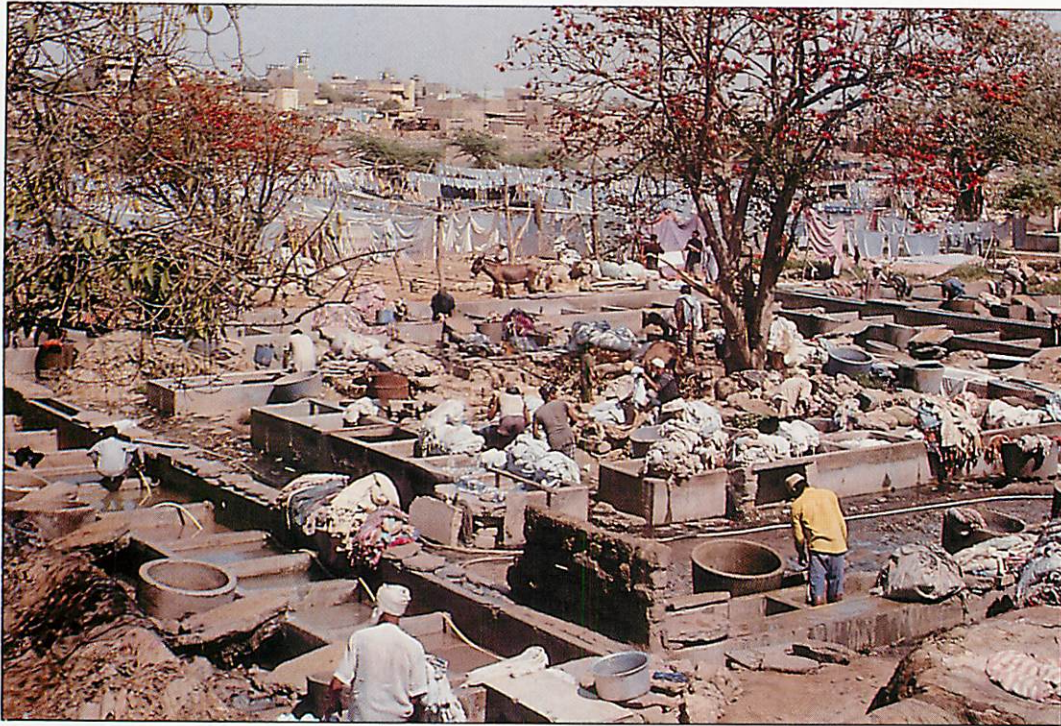
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## Aabshar-the Dhobi Ghat

*Dr. Iftikhar Salahuddin*

**A**abshar - a waterfall is Karachi's largest washing yard where washermen bring loads of clothes to wash, dry and iron. It is spread over a few acres and is located in the old central part of the city, surrounded by roads choked with bristling traffic and a sea of humanity.

At sunrise, literally hundreds of dhobis (washermen) converge here with their families to stake out their areas. The yard has dozens of kilns to heat water for boiling the clothes, and each family pays a monthly rent for this oven and the washing tubs are part of the price. It is a sight to behold as clothes are rinsed in soap and then beaten on slabs to clean the grime and dirt. Soon thousands

of multicolored clothes billow in the breeze as they hang from the clothe lines.

On any given day 300 - 400 dhobis pay a fixed rent to the owners for use of this facility. Literally thousands of clothes are washed each day, but the ingenious markings keep them from the frightening possibility of mixups.

As young girls sing traditional songs and women swap gossip, the children help in sorting out the different stacks and grandmothers keep a watchful eye on the truants and the naughty.

It is hard work and shows on the faces of men as they work in the

heat and dust, stopping only for a quiet lunch with their families. There is a sense of contentment and satisfaction as the day draws to a close, and the clothes are taken off the lines to be sorted and pressed, ready to be loaded on the donkey carts for the journey back home.

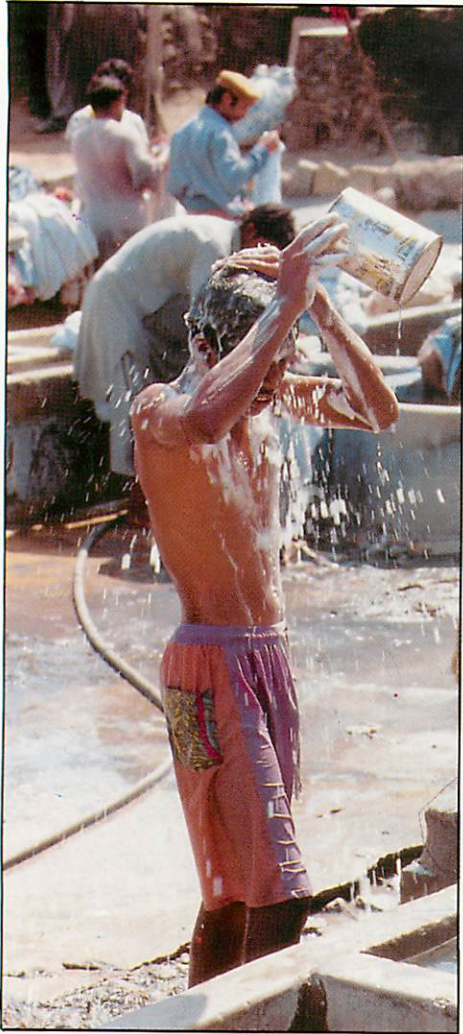
Customs die hard and this exacting and traditional business is handed down generations. After finishing school, the younger generation prefers the security of a family business and joins this profession.

Inspite of the innumerable laundry and drycleaning shops in the city, the art of handwashing clothes will survive.













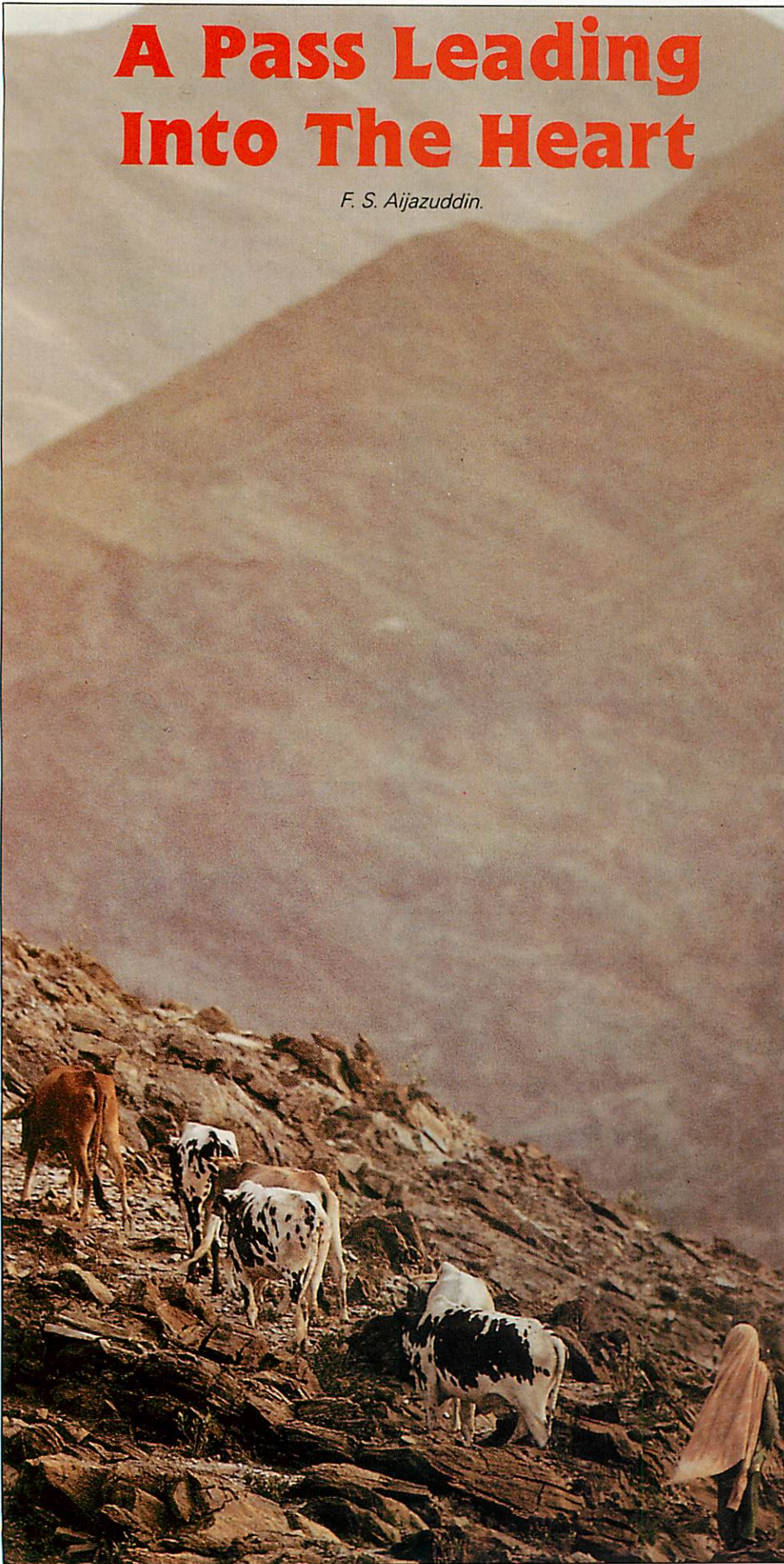
Photography : By the author.





# A Pass Leading Into The Heart

F. S. Aijazuddin.



**T**he Pathans are a paradoxical race. Living within the jagged folds of the mountainous North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan, they have been sentinels of change having witnessed the continuous traffic of history as conquerors from Alexander to Chengiz Khan, and his descendants the Mughals passed through their territory into the plains of modern Pakistan and India.

And yet, despite such unwilling commerce, the Pathan tribes have remained over the centuries, like the granite which shields them, impervious to change. They have learned over time to become dependable hosts, in fact a byword for hospitality, yet they remain fiercely xenophobic, viewing strangers preferably through the sights of a gun.

To most modern visitors, the Pathans are perhaps the north-western equivalent of the American Wild Westerners - hardy, skilled gunmen with a whiplash sense of justice and a rough but effective code. Sir Winston Churchill (who was it should be remembered, himself half-American) described it in the 1890s as a most elaborate code of honour [which] has been established and is on the whole faithfully observed. A man who knew it and observed it faultlessly might pass unharmed from one end of the frontier to the other. The slightest technical slip would, however, be fatal.

*Andre Singer - the author of Guardians of the North-West Frontier: The Pathans (Time-Life Books, 1992 - distributed by Liberty Books, Pakistan), obviously memorised Churchill's advice. His account of the time he spent, accompanied by a female photographer Toby Molenaar, in the Pathan village of Kado, north-east of Peshawar, is a cautious, sensitive description of the day-to-day lives of*





*The image of a Pathan and his inseparable weapon remains an enduring image of the hardy and dangerous life into which he is born, as uncompromising a destiny as that of the invisible female members of a Pathan's family.*



the Mohmand tribe who, once they had accepted him, extended to him and his colleague a blanket of protection.

In return, Singer and his team immersed themselves into the simple rustic customs of their hosts Shams-ud-Din and his family, sharing the villagers' meals, observing their rituals, harvesting their sugarcane, witnessing a circumcision, mourning a death, and in an armful of photographs documenting their threadbare lives in vivid pictorial essays.

They accompany the family on a purchasing expedition for new guns from Durrah - the cottage-industry for armaments which but for a quirk of fortune might have rivalled the mighty Krupps - and watch guns and rifles being manufactured to a level of serviceable sophistication. The weapons are facsimiles of British Lee-Enfields, US Colts and Russian Kalishnikovs, but they are decidedly not copies nor 'counterfeit', for to the Pathan craftsmen who burnishes the barrel of a gun, it is as much a work of original creation as its mechanical prototype. He has merely overstepped the intermediate stage of design.

The image of a Pathan and his inseparable weapon remains an enduring image of the hardy and dangerous life into which he is born, as uncompromising a destiny as that of the invisible female members of a Pa-



Each arrayed with cartridge belt and rifle.



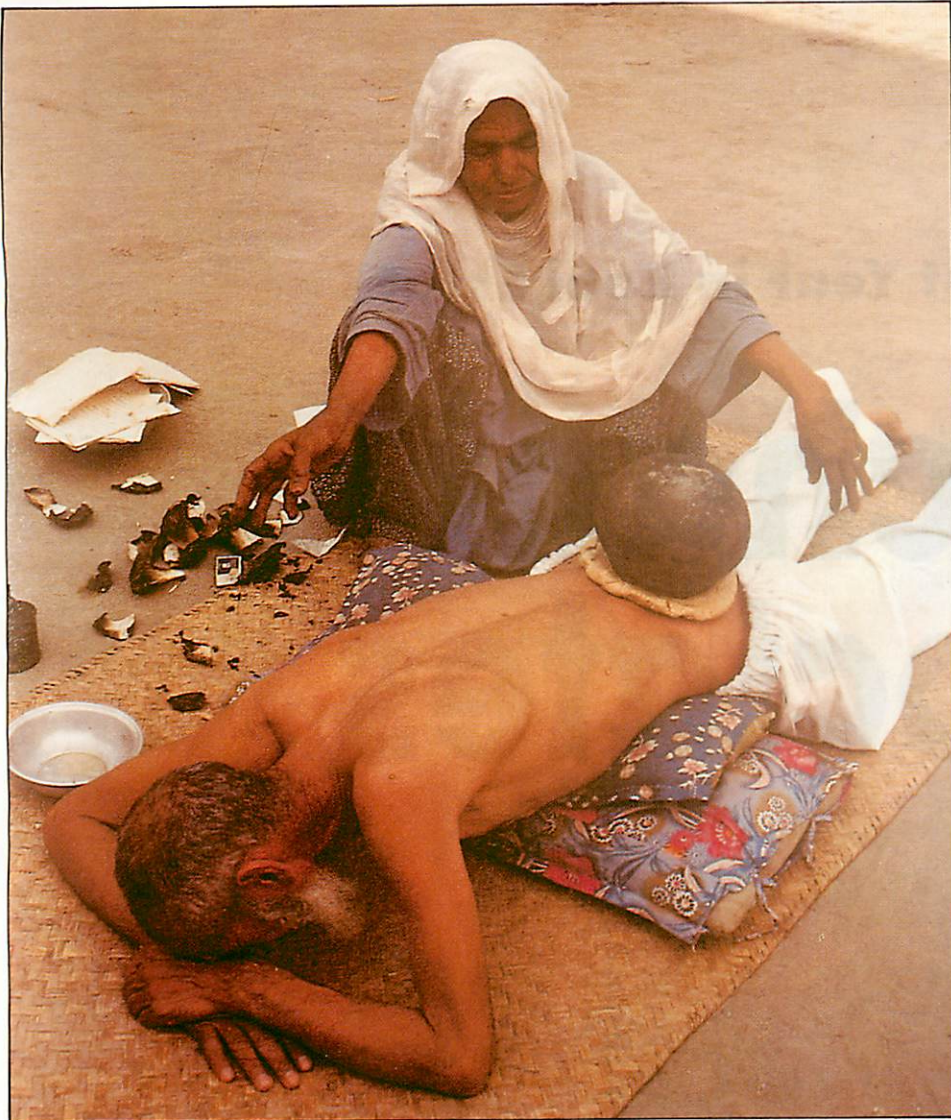
The women are veiled except for the younger ones.



A woman polishes her teeth with a piece of walnut bark.

*In return, Singer and his team immersed themselves into the simple rustic customs of their hosts Shams-ud-Din and his family, sharing the villagers' meals, observing their rituals, mourning a death, and in an armful of photographs documenting their threadbare lives in vivid pictorial essays.*





An old midwife renowned for her healing powers treats a backache.



The men embrace at the end of Ramadan as they leave the Kado Mosque.

than's family. Secluded within the privacy of the hujra, they create a microcosm of their own world within the high mud walls, sheltered by and a shelter for their menfolk whom they tend with a loyalty severed only by death.

Although the position of Pathan women in such a fiercely patriarchal society would inevitably be interpreted as subordinate to their menfolk, the reality of human relationships creates its own natural equilibrium, and one is not therefore surprised to watch through the author's eyes 'Shams-ud-Din repeating the words of a song we had just heard some women singing. It was a sentimental song. Each verse ended with the refrain 'My Beloved.' When the song was over, Shams-ud-Din put his arms round Bebeha [his wife] and, laughing, pointed at her as he repeated the last line, 'My Beloved.'

The qualities and virtues for which the Pathans of the North-West of Pakistan have been famous have been best encapsulated in the words of the famous 17th century poet Khushal Khan Khattak:

*What is it, but a sound and healthy body,  
Which, more than empire and sovereignty, is preferred?*

*Altho, the world's wealth is an excellent thing,  
Glory and renown are, than riches, more precious still.*

*What are more inestimable than the most perfect thing?  
The one, is purity - the other is sincerity of heart.*

The Khyber Pass has always been more than simply a track through mountains. It symbolises a path through the hospitable heart of the Pathans of the North-West Frontier of Pakistan.



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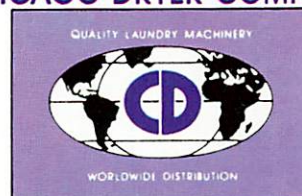


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## Bala Hisar

**B**ala Hisar – the very name is synonymous with history and the vagaries of power struggle, depicting the fortunes of various dynasties and empires in the area for the past two millennium. The word has its origins in Persian, meaning an elevated or high fort. The original structure was raised to the ground by Emperor Babar in the early sixteenth century. The fort was destroyed and rebuilt many times. Finally, the British reconstructed the fort as it stands today in all its majesty on its high ground overlooking the maize of winding streets of the city.

The fort contains a huge, irregular quadrilateral building, and is shaped into a maize with two thick walls. These broad walls are made of red bricks and are strongly bastioned. The interior of the fort is built into lower and upper portions; both por-

tions contain buildings which are mostly of British and post independence (1947) period. The British could proclaim their complete sovereignty - "the Raj" - over the North West Frontier Province and Peshawar only when they conquered this fort from the Sikhs in March 1849.

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*Bala Hisar -- the very name is synonymous with history and the vagaries of power struggle, depicting the fortunes of various dynasties and empires in the area for the past two millennium.*

---

No one is clear about the origin of the fort, and many believe that it was built by the Mughals; this is definitely not true. In reality, the fort is perhaps as old as the city of Peshawar itself – ofcourse changing in

shape and size, and in accordance with the needs of the time. However, regardless of its shape and size, it has always been the symbol of authority and government in the area as Peshawar has always remained a strategic city for the rulers of the area in particular, and the subcontinent in general. Whoever controlled Peshawar, controlled the entrance to the subcontinent. The importance of this city and the fort has been amply demonstrated by all invaders and rulers for its control right from the days of Ashoka, the Ghaznavis, the Mughals, and the British.

Today, the Bala Hisar houses the headquarters of the famous Frontier Corps .NWFP (North Frontier Province). The whole fort is maintained and looked after by the Frontier Corps, and stands with all its dignity and grandeur, alongside the famous Grand Trunk Road on the entrance





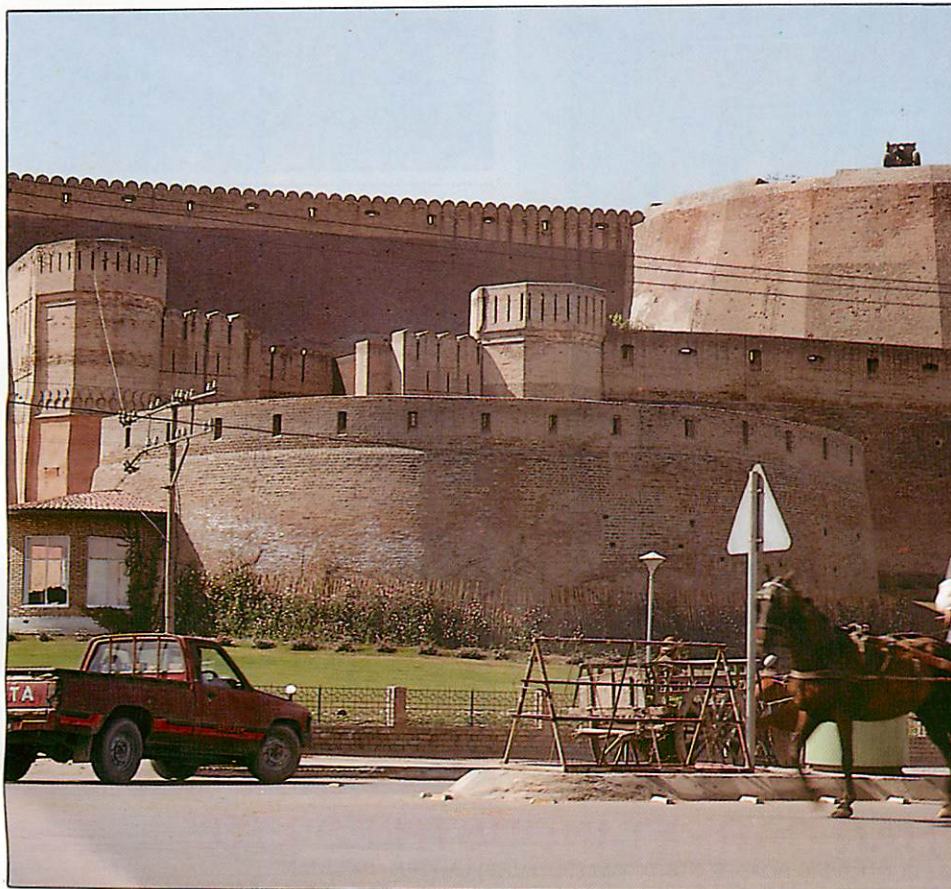
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*In reality, the fort is perhaps as old as the city of Peshawar itself -- ofcourse changing in shape and size, and in accordance with the needs of the time.*

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to the city of Peshawar - a name redolent of the legend and romance associated with the East.

*Photography : Wahab Studios  
Peshawar.*



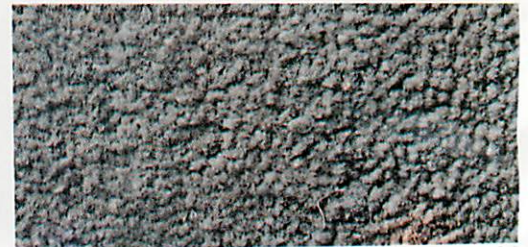
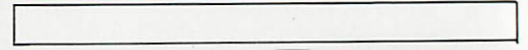
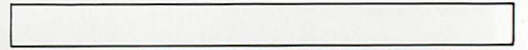
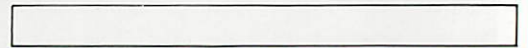
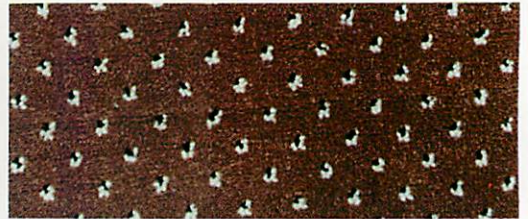


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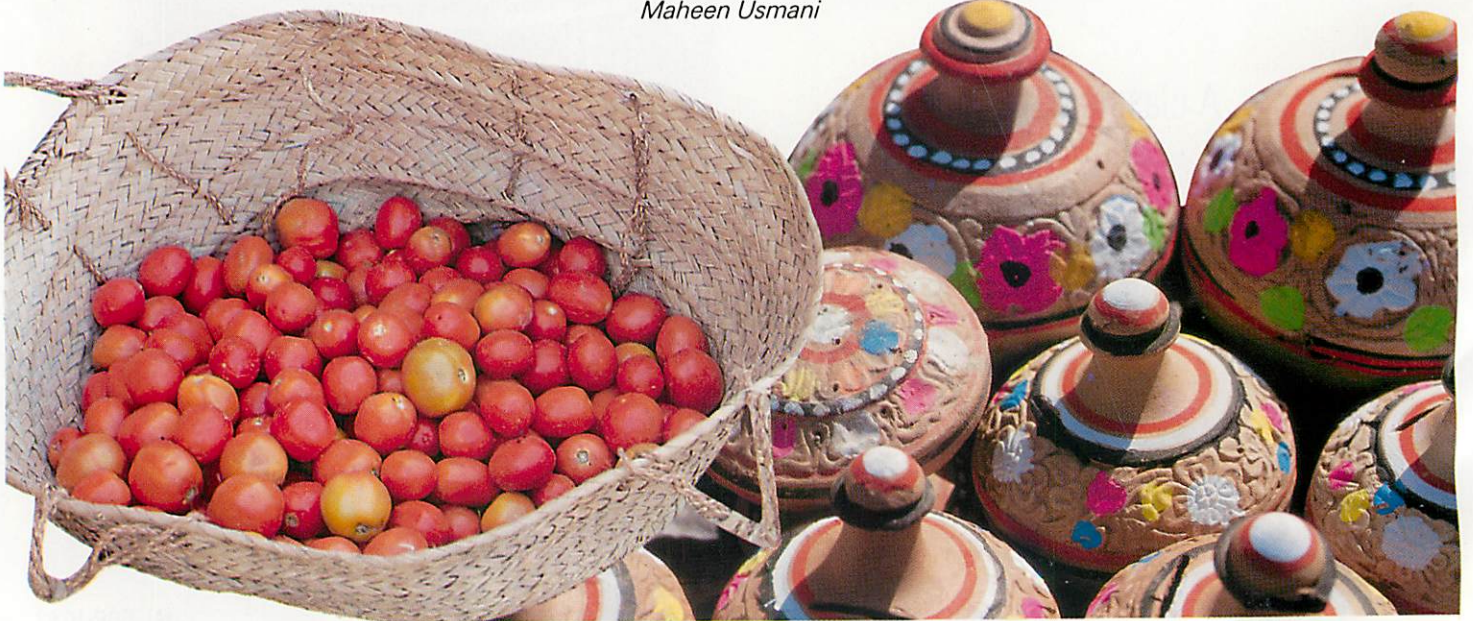
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## The Local Bazaars

*Maheen Usmani*





A wide range of goods confront the unsuspecting buyer who visits the pulsating Jumma bazaar with its carnival-like ambience. Men hawk their wares sprawled on the ground (vegetable, fruits, clothes), reclining in chairs (lamps, ready-made kurta shalwars, biscuits, cassettes), or perched atop their carts (books and magazines).

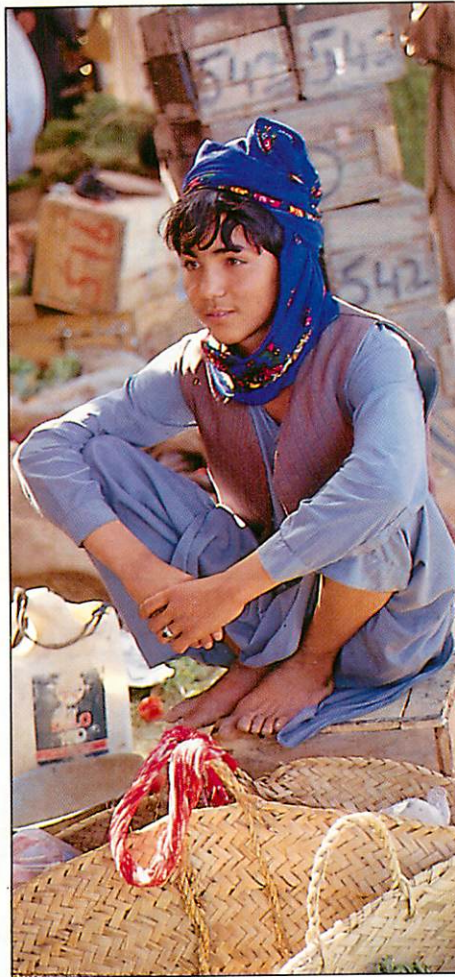
Magazines pertaining to racing cars (which are avidly pursued by gentlemen in cycling shorts), art, beauty, fashion and glamour are prominently displayed at marked down prices, and for those who prefer more substance a wide array of fiction is available. Young girls and middle-aged women hunt through the pile of Mills and Boon novels for that spice and true love which is so rare in real life. Bill Cosby's 'Fatherhood' is priced at Rs. 70 down from Rs. 450.

Despite the bargains to be gained in this corner it remains relatively deserted, a haven from the maddening crowd which is just around the corner haggling over clothes and foodstuffs.

Kurta shalwar is another feature of this bustling bazaar with everything marked under Rs 300. In fact most suits are available for under Rs. 250. Granted that the material is nothing to write home about, as the stall owner readily admits, because they are mass produced at factories and the designs are simple, but they are still able to offer an alternative to people who cannot afford the exorbitant prices of our so-called exclusive boutiques. Many customers purchase the garments for their servants, thereby, relieving themselves of arduous trips to Bohri Bazaar, Tariq Road, Zainab Market and other shopping areas. Unstitched clothes billow from all directions and are in great demand with the ladies who

enjoy the good natured haggling before settling on a satisfactory price.

Plants are on display for those with a green thumb. Apparently gardeners take cuttings from their employers and sell them to the stall owners who then plant them in soil and, voilá, you have a plant!



*As one enters the wholesale market the olfactory senses are assailed by the pungent smells which permeate every corner of the massive tent. The newcomer usually stops to get his bearings before venturing any further.*

As one enters the wholesale market the olfactory senses are assailed by the pungent smells which permeate every corner of the massive tent. The newcomer usually stops to get his bearings before venturing any further.

Women of all shapes, sizes and ages are visible moving with slow deliberation from stall to stall while young boys with dirt streaked faces shining with vitality and vigour waylay customers before they can even embark from their vehicles. They offer to carry the goods in sacks slung

*Official rates are low but in practice some of the stall owners do not adhere to the stated price preferring to increase the rate.*

carelessly over their shoulders and despite vigorous and repeated brush-offs remain unfazed and their wide grins actually seem to grow wider. Others of their ilk are more interested in selling dhanias.

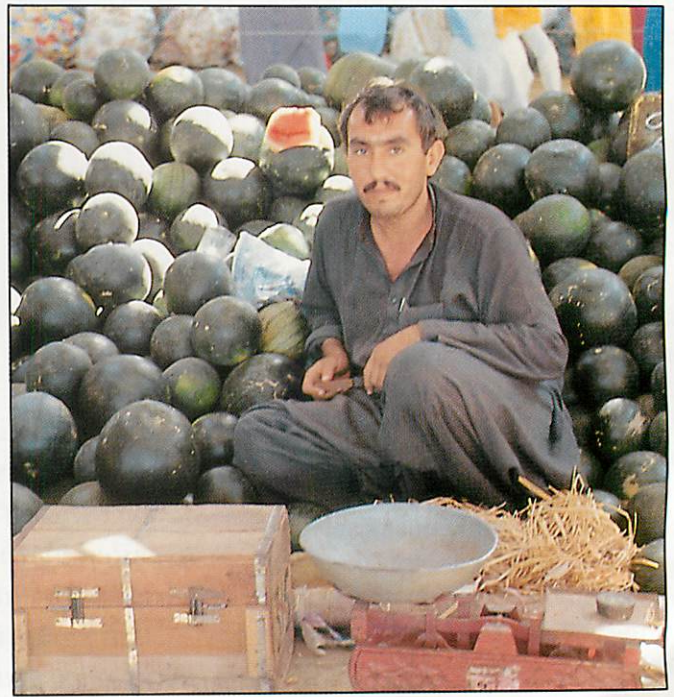
In one corner a lady is seen purchasing a watermelon which is sliced by an over eager stall owner who licks the knife before plunging it back into the moist, juicy depths of the fruit. The customer, meanwhile, remains blissfully unaware of the unhygienic scene being played behind her back.

Official rates are low but in practice some of the stall owners do not adhere to the stated price preferring to increase the rate. Aggrieved customers can approach the complaint centres but when approached by an official the wily sellers deny any wrong-doing on their part pointing instead to the official rate which is prominently displayed alongside their stalls!

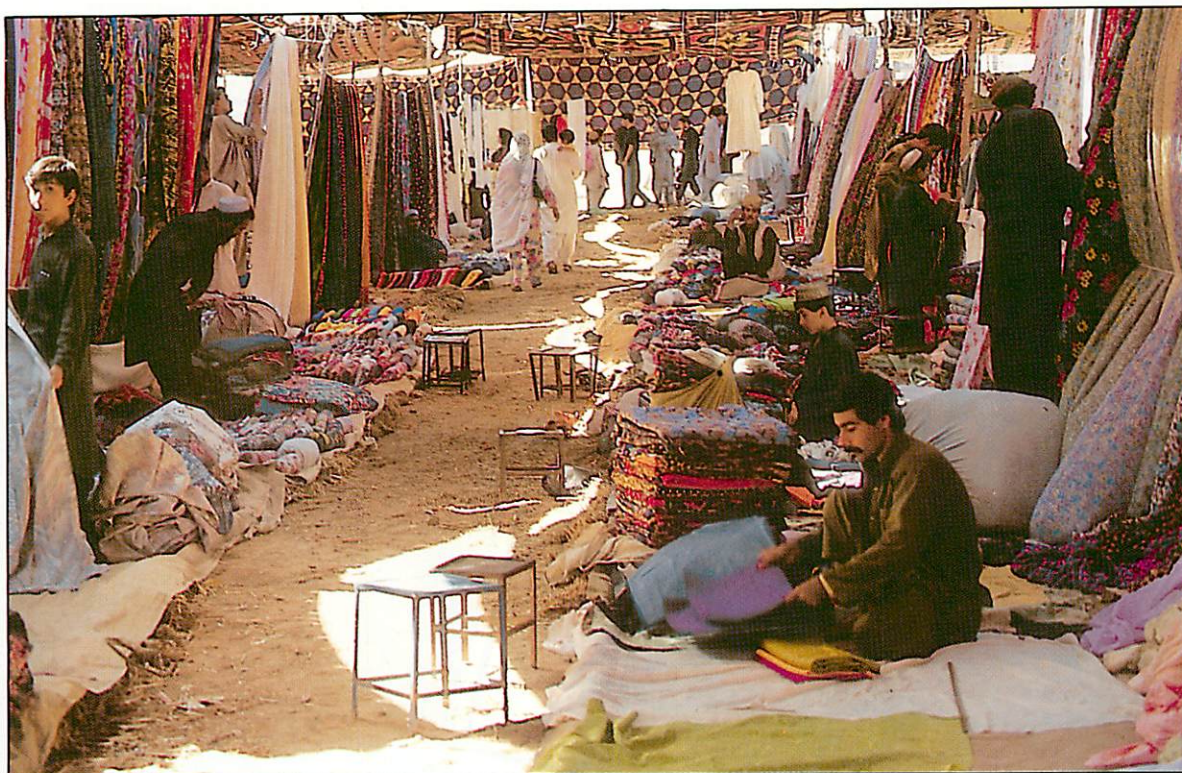
Foreigners now prefer to buy T-shirts



## SHOPPING







and sweatshirts from Jumma bazaar instead of going to the crowded Zainab Market, breathing in the fumes of the frenetic traffic and struggling for a parking place which is next to impossible. Prices are also more reasonable than those at Zainab with a Rs. 75 T-shirt available for Rs. 50.

The Jumma bazaar started around 1983-84; although, a decade has gone by there is still no ground earmarked in Karachi for the purpose. Before the tents are set up, permission has to be taken from the Jumma bazaar administration.

Despite its shortcomings, *Jumma* (Friday), *Itwar* (Sunday), and *Mangal* (Tuesday) bazaars cater to the needs of a large number of people, and by eliminating a long and irritating journey (specially in our hot, humid and sticky climate) to crowded shopping areas, it is providing a vital service to

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*Official rates are low but in practice some of the stall owners do not adhere to the stated price preferring to increase the rate.*

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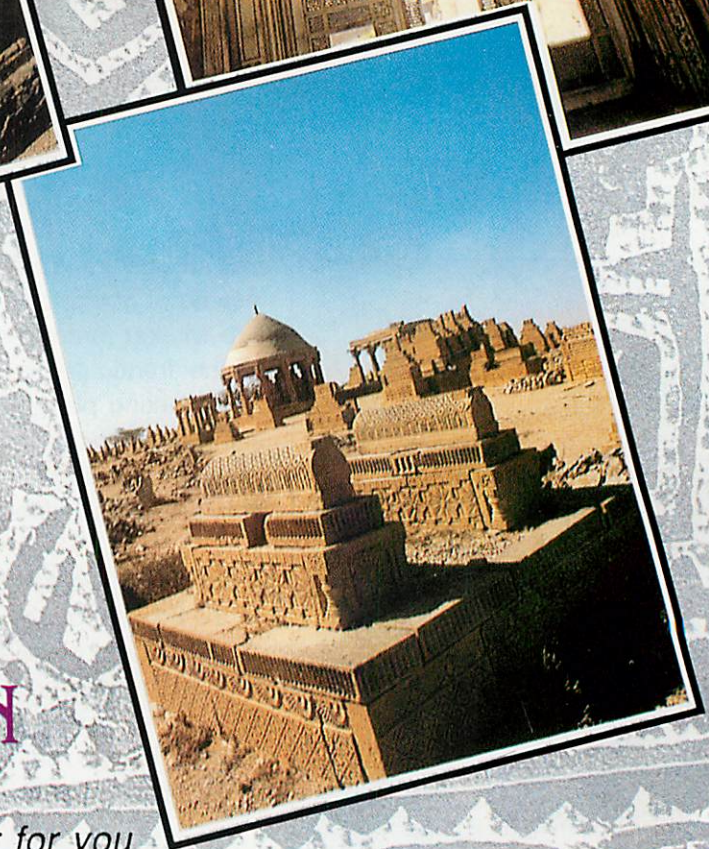
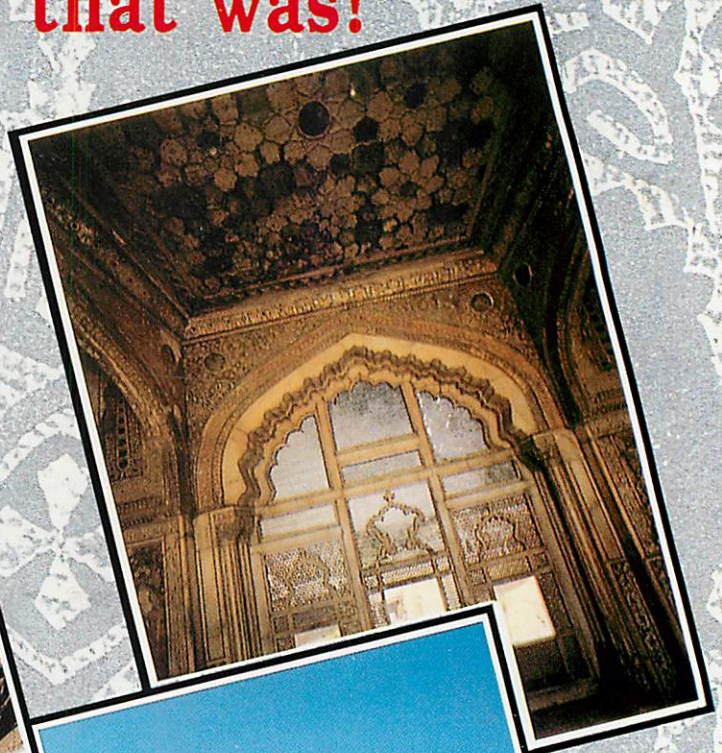
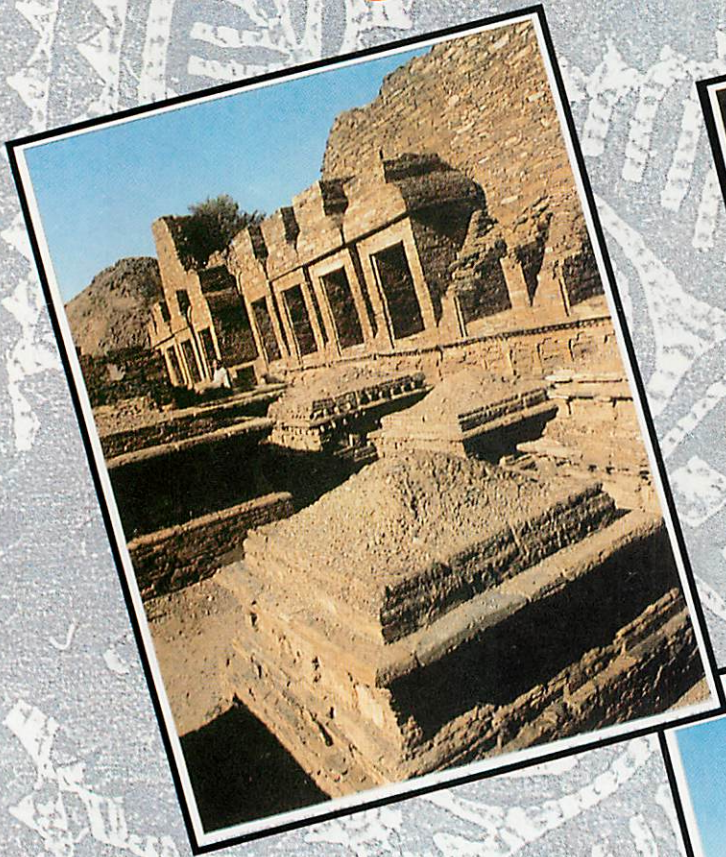
the public. Instead of stocking up a month in advance, housewives make weekly trips to the bazaar where everything is within reach at reduced prices. It also provides a pleasant outing to housewives bored with the humdrum routine of the house.

*Photography: Dr. Ifthikhar Salahuddin*



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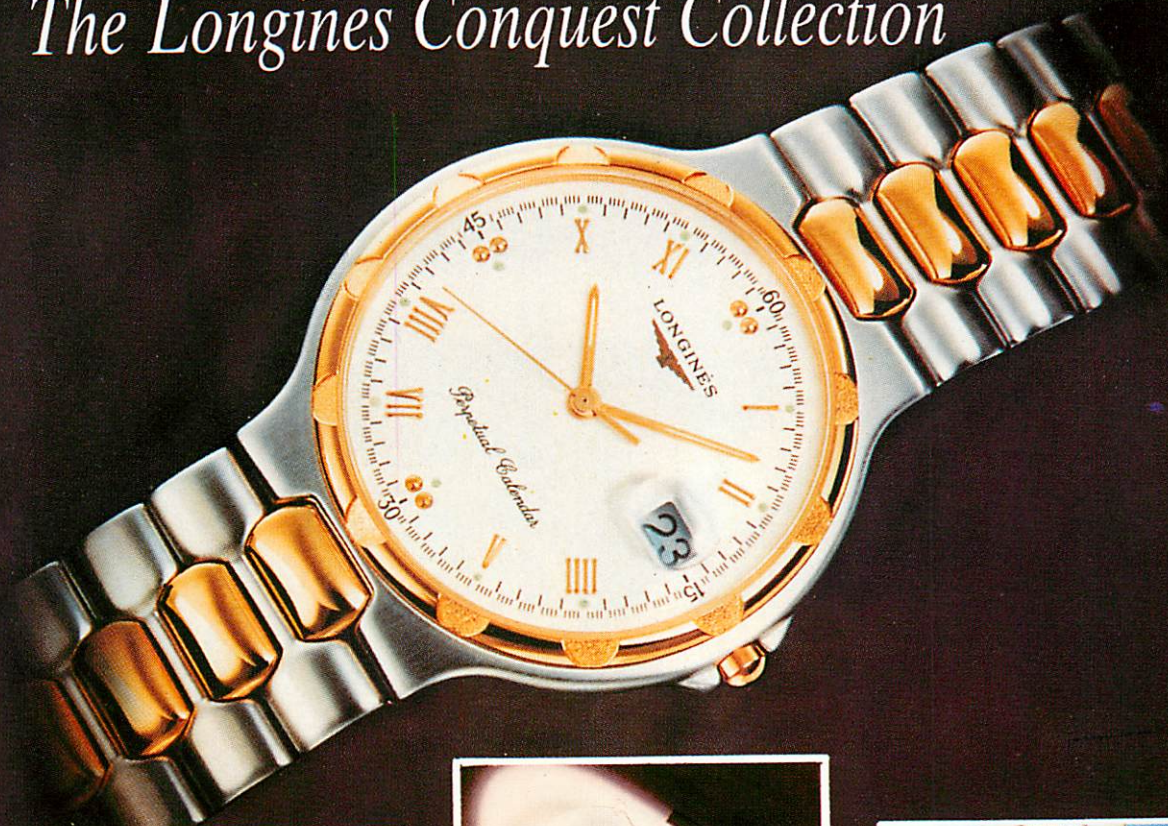


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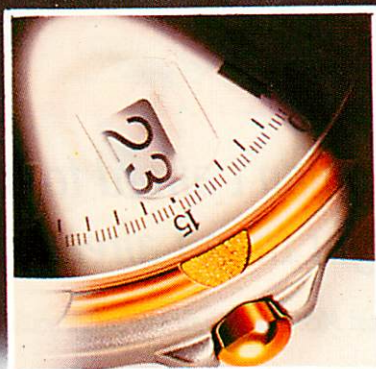


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Fitted with a thermocompensated quartz movement, the conquest VHP is 5 to 10 times more accurate than traditional quartz watches:  $\pm$ one minute in 5 years.



## Conquest Futurity

The futurity comes with a permanently correct date, combining a highly sophisticated quartz movement with a specially perfected electronic microchip. This enables the futurity to remember every month, whether 31, or 28 days, as well as the 29 February in leap years. In other words, except for a slight adjustment on 28 February 2100, the calendar never needs correcting.



## Conquest Ten

Conquest Ten will perform well into the next century. The entire watch is guaranteed for ten years including the battery that powers its quartz movement. This Lithium battery is the result of intensive research and is designed to keep the minute and hours going, as well as the date and sweep-seconds hand

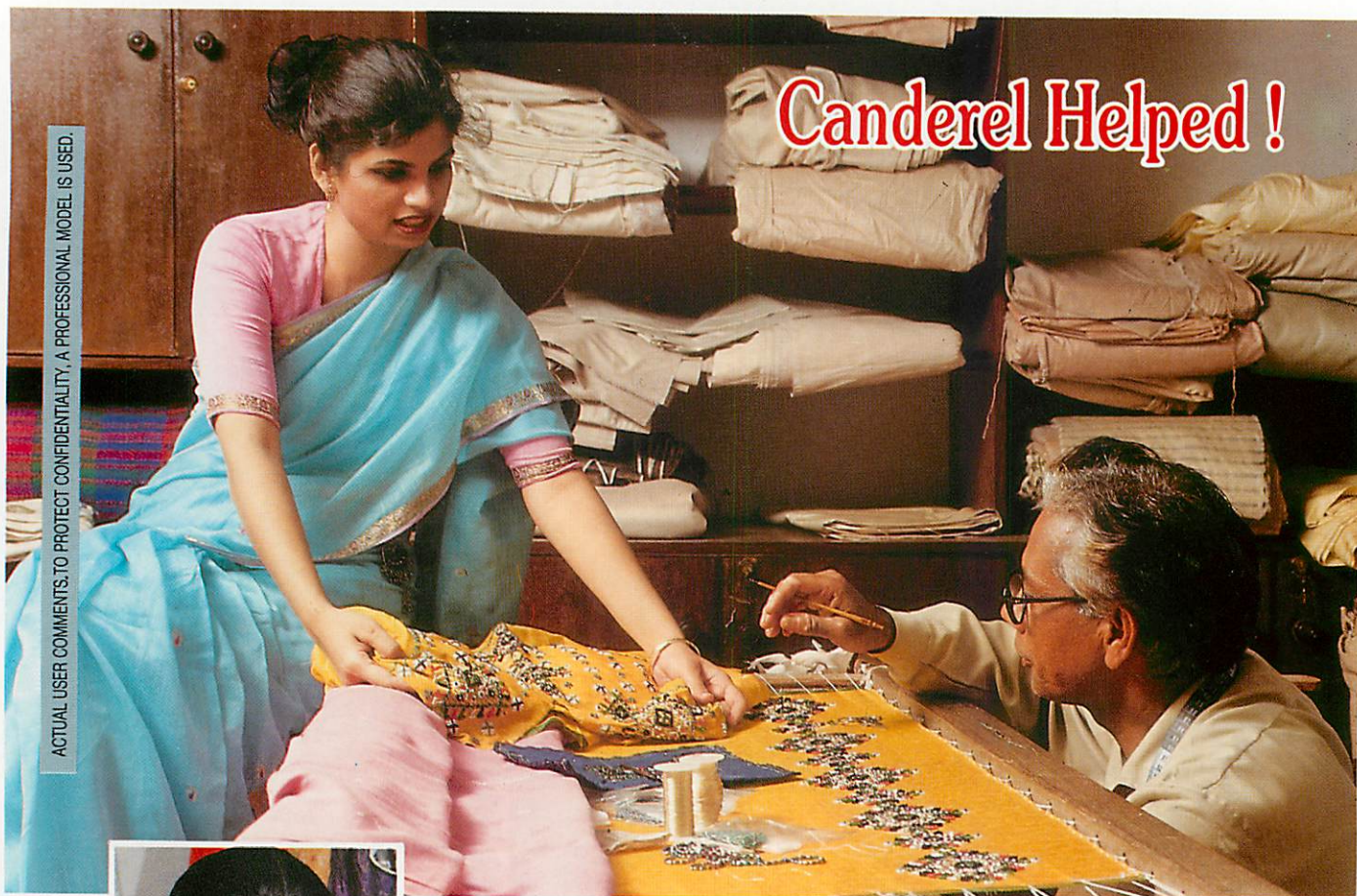
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She spends her spare time baking and preparing exquisitely specialized desserts. She smiles and with eyes twinkling, continues. "I must admit, sweets are my weakness." Yet she looks like someone who stays away from sugar. "Actually I do. For the last six or seven years I've been using Canderel in my tea, coffee and desserts. In fact, I keep it at the boutique as well - you'd be surprised how many of my clients use Canderel as well!"

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UEST

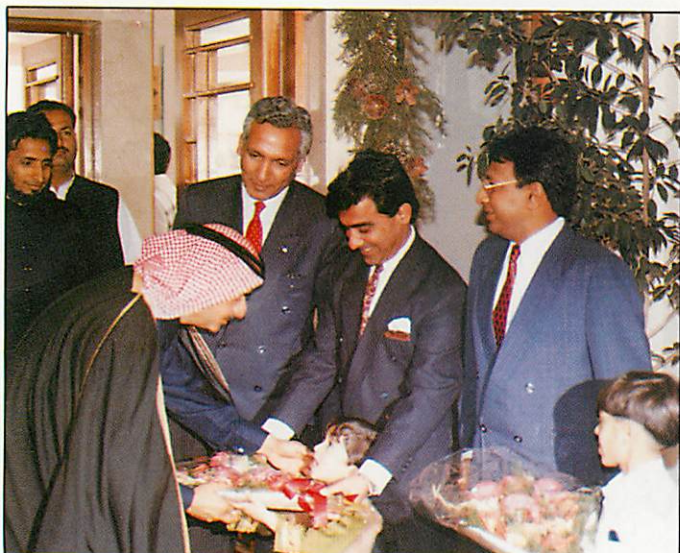
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PEARANCE

PEARL - CONTINENTAL HOTEL, BHURBAN



1



2



3

1. The Japanese Ambassador, H.E Qunio Muraoka, with his wife at Bhurban.
2. Sheikh Maktoum Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of U.A.E and Ruler of Dubai greeted upon arrival by G.M, Mr. Irshad B. Anjum.
3. Mr. Klaus Topfer, Minister for Environment of Germany and Mrs. Klaus Topfer were welcomed on arrival at the hotel.
4. 'Basant' celebrations at PC Bhurban.



4



G

UEST

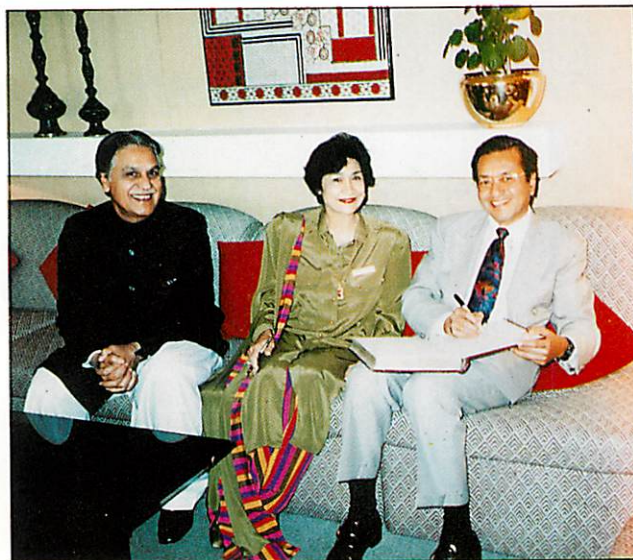
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PPEARANCE

PEARL - CONTINENTAL HOTEL, KARACHI



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4



5

1. The visiting Japanese Table tennis team.
2. The hotel's Guest Relations Manager with his Excellency Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dr. Muhatir Bin Mohammad.
3. A French group photographed at Pearl-Continental Hotel, Karachi.
4. Mr. Vartan Gregorian, President of Brown University, U.S.A, is seen here with the General Manager of the hotel Mr. Fortune' Jaubert and Mrs. Jaubert.
5. Participants of the Skat Club meeting held at the hotel.

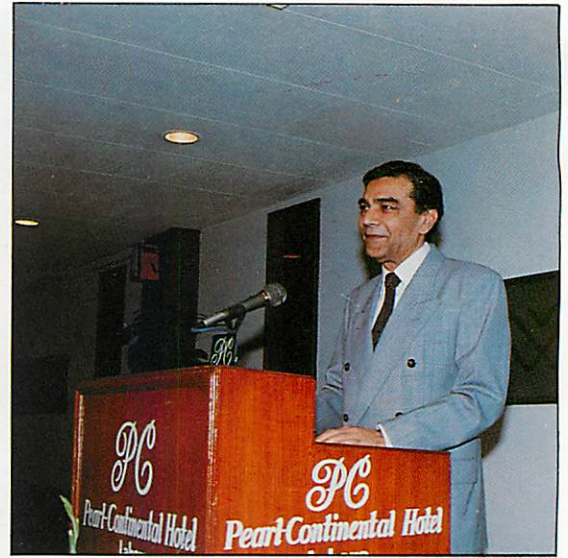


# GUEST APPEARANCE

PEARL- CONTINENTAL HOTEL, LAHORE



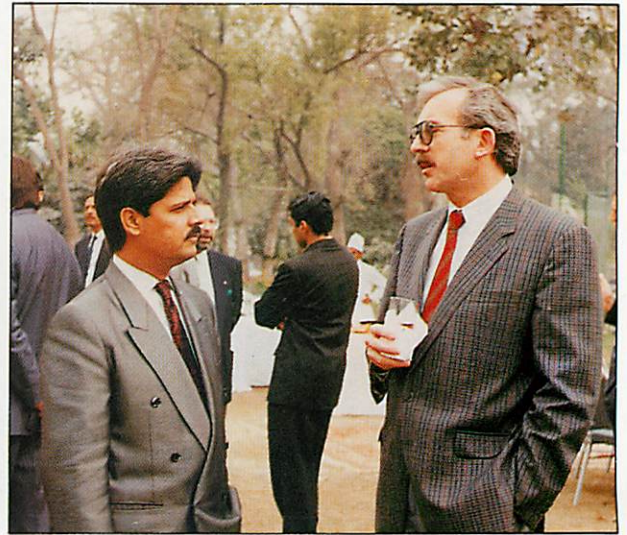
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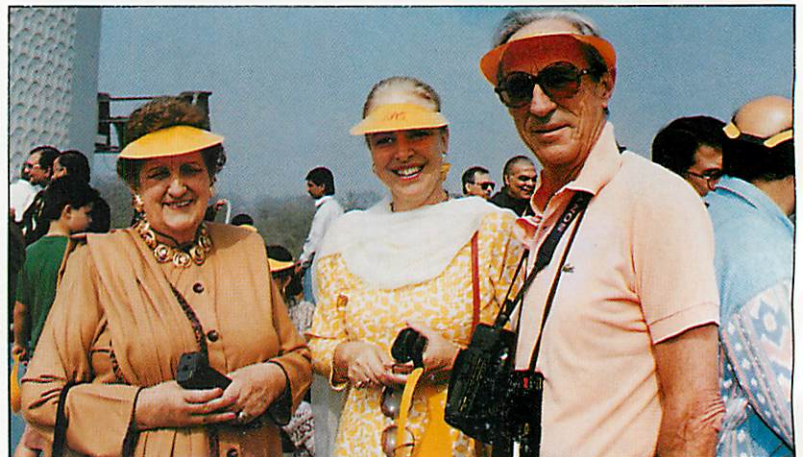


3



4

1. A delegation from Uzbekistan photographed with the General Manager.
2. Zia Mohiuddin at the poetry recital.
3. Sir Francis McWilliams, Lord Mayor of London, and his wife were warmly welcomed by the General Manager on arrival.
4. Mr. J. Muller, Managing Director MilkPak with the General Manager at a luncheon hosted by the Austrian Trade Commission.
5. Guests enjoying the Basant Festival at the hotel.



5



# GUEST APPEARANCE

PEARL-CONTINENTAL HOTEL, PESHAWAR



1



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4



3



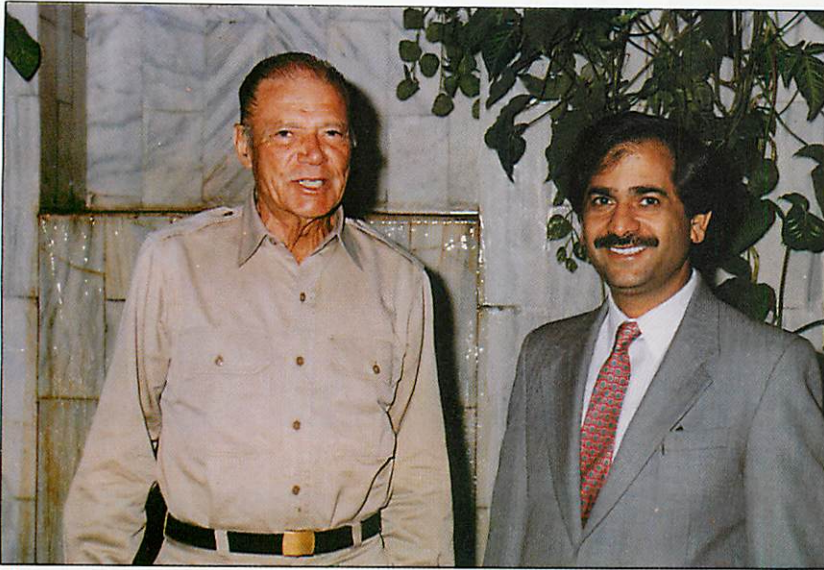
5

1. A Jazz concert at the hotel.
2. Chairman Senate, Mr. Wasim Sajjad and Speaker N.W.F.P Mr. Habibullah Khan were received upon arrival by the General Manager.
3. Mr. Iftikhar Ahmed Khan Jhagra, Minister for Agriculture N.W.F.P (3rd from left), the General Manager and some guests.
4. Mr. Asif Shah, Commissioner Peshawar, with the General Manager, Mr. Jehan Zeb.
5. Mr. Masud Shah, I.G.P in conversation with the General Manager.



# GUEST APPEARANCE

PEARL- CONTINENTAL HOTEL, RAWALPINDI



1



2



3



4



5

1. Mr. Robert McNamara, Ex-President World Bank and the former Defence Secretary of USA photographed on arrival.
2. Ex-Chief Justice of Pakistan, Justice Mohammad Afzal Zullah was welcomed upon arrival by the General Manager.
3. The hotel hosted a lunch in honour of the PATA French Chapter delegates.
4. Turkish Defence Minister H.E. Nevzat Ayaz was received on arrival by the General Manager, Mr. Rashid Bhatti and the Guest Relations Manager.
5. General B. Gustafsson, Chief of Swedish Armed Forces and Supreme Commander of the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan stayed at the hotel with his delegation.





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