



Newsletter

AUGUST
2021

LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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14 AUGUST

75th INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Lahore Arts Council celebrated the 75th Independence Day of Pakistan with usual zeal and zest and in full compliance with the SOP's issued by the Government of Punjab. Independence Day celebrations started with the Flag raising ceremony by the Executive Director, LAC, accompanied by Zulfiqar Ali Zulfi, Director (Arts and Culture), and other officials of Alhamra. The celebrations continued with a tree plantation event where Executive Director, Lahore Arts Council, Ms. Farhat Jabeen, planted a sapling. This was followed by other officials playing their part in the plantation drive. An Azadi Music Competition, Independence Day Painting Exhibition, Child Art Activity, and other family festivities were also held on this occasion.





with
Arif Lohar



ONLINE

The Lahore Arts Council held an online session of Kuch Yaadein, Kuch Baatein, with renowned Jugni singer Mr. Arif Lohar. The session kicked off with the childhood memories of Mr. Arif Lohar, who shared that how much his father loved him. " My father often asked me in Punjabi, "Kidha Puttar Hain," and I used to reply, "Alam Lohar Da." Lohar said " I had four sisters who loved me and found my father's personality traits in me. Whenever my elder sister asked me to bring out some utilities from the market, I often used to return less than the actual leftover amount terming it as the increase in prices of utilities. When she found out that I embezzled the spare money, she punished me, and that was the sweetest punishment I have ever got. My father never asked me to accompany him to his musical events, but I insisted by making some lame excuses and going with him. Once I went to a Mela with my father where some Halwaii (sweetmeat merchant) took me to his shop and served me "Jalebi" and announced on the loudspeaker that the son of Alam Lohar is eating "Jalebis" made in desi ghee at my stall, which was a marketing strategy. When my father heard the announcement, he asked someone to bring me back from that stall. He told me that parents are a great blessing of Allah and can't be bought from any market. I always admired my father and wanted to be a singer

like him, but he did not allow it in the beginning but later agreed". Regarding his first performance, Arif said " I had my first performance at Mela Chiraghan at the shrine of Madhu Lal Hussain in Lahore, where my father asked me to sing two lines of a song much appreciated by the audience. Regarding the singing journey of Jugni, he said "I got this tradition from my father, Alam Lohar. After getting the practice of Jugni, I made some modifications to it, which was later sung at national and international levels". The session was moderated by Sumera Khalil.





with
Tanzila Khan

Roshan Sitaray invited Ms. Tanzila Khan, a Pakistani disability rights activist, author, and motivational speaker as the guest. Khan said " With the realization of my disability, I started participating in extracurricular activities like dance and occasional events. I was the eldest in all my cousins; I often mentored them in their studies". She further said "I have worked on the various types of disabilities that men and women face in our society. I am currently about to complete my second Bachelor in Law. The essential purpose of getting this education is whether we are achieving the goal of education or failing or moving forward with people with disabilities who are paying for other people's actions. For example when a rich person buys a place where people with disabilities used to come for a walk. Now a building is standing there, which hinders their mobility rights. And they are deprived of even the most basic pleasures of enjoying a walk". In response to a question about how you came up with the idea of the "Theatre of Taboo" initiative, she said that it was an initiative in which they used to talk about. As various un-explored topics of society are never discussed in real

Still, they mainstream topics, and should be highlighted. Participants of this initiative brought a variety of things/issues that needed to be discussed in the lime light." I think one should always be good at listening to what others are saying, and if you are doing it right, you might find the answers to things in your life". Moreover, she highlighted her difficulties while making her documentary "Fruit Chat," which won the first prize at Zee5.



360°

SOLO SHOW

by Asad Rana

A Solo photo exhibition titled "360" was held at Alhamra Art Gallery in August. Director Art and Culture Alhamra Zulfiqar Ali Zulfi inaugurated the exhibition. Zulfi said that purpose of the show was to present the beautiful land of Pakistan and other countries to the public. The exhibition featured approximately 40 photographs by artist Asad Rana on display. These were various cities of Pakistan, including Lahore, Multan, and Bahawalpur.



Orientation and Training Session of RTI Champions at Alhamra

رسائی

معلومات تک رسائی - خدمات تک رسائی

The Lahore Arts Council conducted a training session "Rasaii" on Services and Information Law at Alhamra Art Centre, the Mall. The young champions of FCC University attended the session who would later educate 700,000 women in four districts of Punjab, i.e., Lahore, Khanewal, Sheikhupura, and Toba Take Singh, about their fundamental rights. Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab Information Commission Mehboob Qadir participated as chief guest in the training session and said RTI is trying to improve the situation of right to information of citizens. He added that RTI had laid the foundation for reform in society because if a person knows his rights, he can easily remove the obstacles that come in his way.



ALHAMRA ACADEMY OF VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS



Alhamra Academy of Performing Arts is an exemplary teaching and learning institute for art students. The Alhamra guarantees a bright future of youth in twelve fields such as music, flute, guitar, harmonium, violin, sitar, and other areas. Alhamra provides youth with advanced facilities for learning music and singing and plays a vital role in promoting art and culture. Alhamra's teachers polish the students ability of singing and instrumental music. Alhamra Academy of Performing Arts proved truly productive as many people, especially the youth, took part in these classes and were groomed under the supervision of highly professional teachers. Lahore Arts Council has continued to present the students' abilities during COVID by organizing online sessions of students from the singing classes and other instrumental music classes, i.e., Sitar, Tabla, Guitar, Violin, etc.



OBITUARY

Khursheed Shahid

The entertainment industry of Pakistan lost another veteran Television and stage actress and Pride of Performance holder Begum Khursheed Shahid who passed away on recently. She was known for her sensitive stage television portrayals. Her classical and first state-run comedy TV play titled "Ras Malai," is still widely remembered. Other classical performances include "Fehmida ki Kahani Ustani Rahat Ki Zabani." She was also renowned for her traditional theatre performances at the Lahore Arts Council and other well-known theatre groups, i.e., Ajoka Theatre and Tehreek-e-Niswan. Apart from her theatrical stage performances, she has also sung on All India Radio in pre partition days and accompanied classical singer Roshan Ara Begum on the Tanpura during her performances.



OBITUARY

Durdana Butt

Lahore Arts Council mourns the loss of actress Durdana (Doodi); she fought with the COVID-19 for eight days and passed away on 12 August 2021. Durdana was best known for her finest roles in dramas, i.e., Ruswai, Intezaar, Rani. The famous characters she played are the roles of "Bibi" in "Tanhaiyaan" and "Naye Silsilay", "Fifty-Fifty" as Safia, Sultana Sahiba in "Angan Terhan" and last but not the least she paired with Moin Akhtar in a comedy play titled "Naukar kay Aage Chakar" as Tahira Begum. Various celebrities, politicians, and fellow actors mourned the death of this great actress.



OBITUARY

Rehana Siddiqui

A renowned television and film industry actress Rehana Siddiqui has departed from this world recently. She was a well-versed actress who performed various memorable roles in television plays and films, i.e., Hamdam (Lead Role), as Muhammad Ali's sister in "Mohabbat Rang Laay gi" and many more. Pakistan's film, drama industry, and her colleagues expressed their deepest condolences over her demise. Rehana Siddiqui was buried in UK where she had lived for the past many years with her family.



OBITUARY


Asif Mehdi


Asif Mehdi, a famous classical singer and son of the great Mehdi Hassan Khan left for his heavenly abode on 2 August 2021. He was known for reviving classical singing in Pakistan. Asif was a tabla player as well. He was the founder of the Mehdi Hassan Foundation, which supported the revival of classical singing in the country. The music industry condoles him as a significant loss to the classical music industry.



Pakistan Civil Awards 2021

Hilal-e-Imtiaz







**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
Alhamra**
Congratulates


Rohail Hayat
Music Composer


On receiving the Presidential Award
"Hilal-e-Imtiaz"
on March 23rd, 2022




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Sitara-e-Imtiaz





**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Abida Riaz Shahid Alias Nelo (late)
Actress

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Sitara-e-Imtiaz"
on March 23rd, 2022




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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates


Rashid Ali Rana
Artist

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Sitara-e-Imtiaz"
on March 23rd, 2022



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Pakistan Civil Awards 2021

Pride of Performance





**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Durdana Butt
Actress

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Ismail Tara
Actor

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Jan Ali
Folk Music

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Noor Muhammad Jarral
Naat Khuwan

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
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Pakistan Civil Awards 2021

Pride of Performance





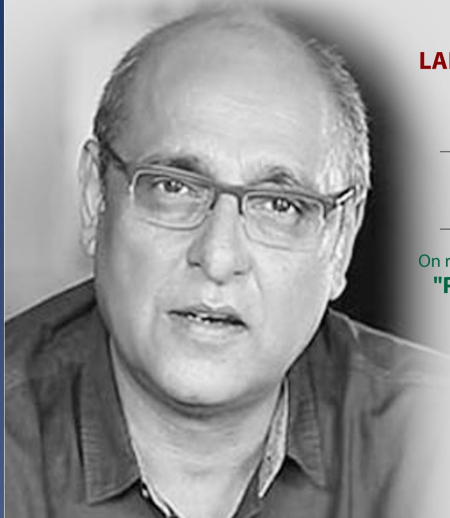
**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates


Syed Mumtaz Ali Shah
Actor

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Syed Sajid Hassan
Actor

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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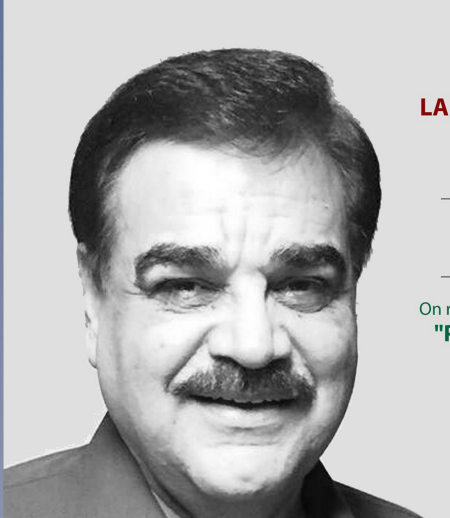
**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
Alhamra**
Congratulates


Shahid Hameed alias Shahid
Actor

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Shaharyar Zaidi
Actor

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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Pakistan Civil Awards 2021

Pride of Performance





LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Qamro Jan
Folk Singer

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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Congratulates

Shoukat Mehmood
Singer

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Shakila Naz
Singer

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Pride of Performance"
on March 23rd, 2022



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Pakistan Civil Awards 2021

Tamgha-e-Imtiaz





**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Ghuncha Bibi Alias Saima Noor
Actress

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Tamgha-e-Imtiaz"
on March 23rd, 2022



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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Rubina Mustafa Qureshi
Singer

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Tamgha-e-Imtiaz"
on March 23rd, 2022



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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
Alhamra**
Congratulates

Momina Duraid Qureshi
Drama Director / Producer

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Tamgha-e-Imtiaz"
on March 23rd, 2022



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**LAHORE ARTS COUNCIL
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Congratulates

Ejaz Sarhadi
Sarinda Player

On receiving the Presidential Award
"Tamgha-e-Imtiaz"
on March 23rd, 2022



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Pakistan Civil Awards 2021

Tamgha-e-Imtiaz



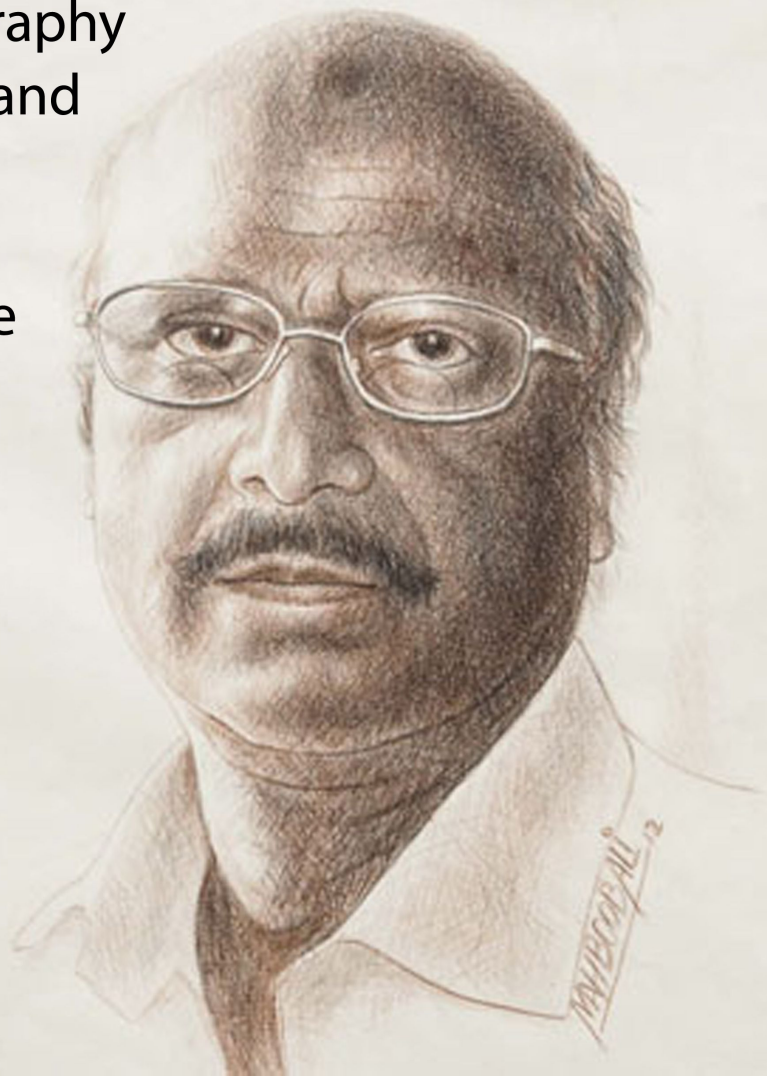


المتحف

Art Museum

MAHBOOB ALI

Mahboob Ali is a visual artist who creates woodcut prints for the four decades. He is graduated from National College of Arts and also did National Diploma in Design (1972). As a student woodcut print fascinated him the most and he invented new techniques and researched on technical variation and color hues. He carves and prints manually without use of machine. This medium is ancient, laborious and requires patience. Before him artists were used to work in monochrome using woodcut print but he is the first one to use around 100 colors and 52 hues in one print. His hard work, devotion and labor popularized this medium in country and inspired new generation. Mehboob Ali is also inspired from walled city Lahore and Quranic calligraphy and explored it in pastels and mix medium techniques. He has exhibited his work in Pakistan and around the globe. His work is in permanent collection of Pakistan National Council of Art and Lahore Arts Council, born in 1952.





'Kims Gun'

Wood Cut Print

49 x 39.5 cm

1996



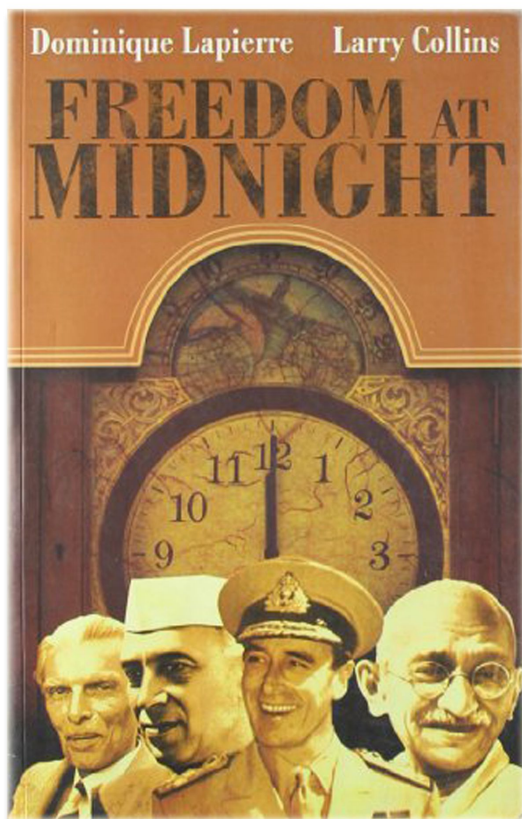
BOOKS & AUTHORS

Book: Freedom at Midnight

Authors: Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre

In *Freedom at Midnight*, Collins and Lapierre unveil the story of how thoughtful, intelligent, and willful men brought a negotiated end to an empire, yet unleashed the most massive migration in human history. Upon arriving in India in 1947, Viceroy Mountbatten sought a consensus solution for the emplacement of Indian self-rule. "I had to force the pace," he remembered, "[for] we were sitting... on a fused bomb and we didn't know when the bomb would go off." The fuse moved towards an explosive packed with sectarian resentments that might engulf over a fifth of the world's population. Mountbatten sought to leave the subcontinent with all the imperial dignity he could muster. He therefore charmed Gandhi, Nehru, Jinnah and other Indian political elite into finding a swift solution. As the clock struck midnight on August 15, 1947, those leaders celebrated a historic accomplishment: a bartered transfer of power after hundreds of irrevocable years of colonial experience. The Indian elite smothered the bomb of sectarian strife, but it still went off. Hundreds of thousands perished. The book draws to a close after Hindu extremists murder Mahatma Gandhi. Rather than celebrating Gandhi's pious nature, the murderous zealots despised Gandhi as the purveyor of "a coward's philosophy that had vitiated the force and character of the Hindu people." But in the violent season that

Indian independence, it took no courage for the strong to slaughter the weak and helpless. "India was ever a land of extravagant dimensions, and the horror of the Punjab's killings, the abundance of human anguish and suffering that they would produce would not fail that ancient tradition." Collins and Lapierre present a thoughtful and heartfelt rendering of India's tragic salvation. Their largely successful work contains two irritations. First, the authors suggest the Indian political elite might have better managed the transition to Indian independence. But they present little evidence that historic contingency allowed for any serious alteration of the outcome. Second, they show little empathy for the Eastern concepts of reverence that locked the various factions into cycles of bloodshed; they consider sectarian rivalry as a mere cultural cover for self-interested gain. While that thesis holds a truth, it fails to grapple with the complete complexity of religious psychology. Yet the sweeping power of their epic narrative renders such complaints a marginal matter for academic debate; their biases in no way impede enjoyment of the book.



From the Archives

Muhammad Ali Jinnah's first speech on 11th of August, 1947
to the Constituent Assembly

Ladies and Gentlemen, I cordially thank you, with the utmost sincerity, for the honour you have conferred upon me — the greatest honour that it is possible for this Sovereign Assembly to confer — by electing me as your first President. I also thank those leaders who have spoken in appreciation of my services and their personal references to me. I sincerely hope that with your support and your co-operation we shall make this Constituent Assembly an example to the world. The Constituent Assembly has got two main functions to perform. The first is the very onerous and responsible task of framing our future constitution of Pakistan and the second of functioning as a full and complete Sovereign body as the Federal Legislature of Pakistan. We have to do the best we can in adopting a provisional constitution for the Federal Legislature of Pakistan. You know really that not only we ourselves are wondering but, I think, the whole world is wondering at this unprecedented cyclonic revolution which has brought about the plan of creating and establishing two independent Sovereign Dominions in this sub-continent. As it is, it has been unprecedented; there is no parallel in the history of the world. This mighty sub-continent with all kinds of inhabitants has been brought under a plan which is titanic, unknown, unparalleled. And what is very important with regards to it is that we have achieved it peacefully and by means of

Dealing with our first function in this Assembly, I cannot make any well-considered pronouncement at this moment, but I shall say a few things as they occur to me. The first and the foremost thing that I would like to emphasise is this — remember that you are now a Sovereign legislative body and you have got all the powers. It, therefore, places on you the gravest responsibility as to how you should take your decisions. The first observation that I would like to make is this. You will no doubt agree with me that the first duty of a Government is to maintain law and order, so that the life, property and religious beliefs of its subjects are fully protected by the State. The second thing that occurs to me is this. One of the biggest curses from which India is suffering — I do not say that other countries are free from it, but, I think, our condition is much worse — is bribery and corruption. (Hear, hear.) That really is a poison. We must put that down with an iron hand and I hope that you will take adequate measures as soon as it is possible for this Assembly to do so. Black-marketing is another curse. Well, I know that black-marketers are frequently caught and punished. According to our judicial notions sentences are passed, and sometimes fines only are imposed. Now you have to tackle this monster which today is a colossal crime against society, in our distressed conditions, when we constantly face shortage of food and or the essential commodities of life. A citizen who does black-marketing commits, I think, a greater crime than the biggest and most grievous of

crimes. These black-marketers are really knowing, intelligent and ordinarily responsible people, and when they indulge in black-marketing, I think they ought to be very severely punished, because they undermine the entire system of control and regulation of food-stuffs and essential commodities, and cause wholesale starvation and want and even death. The next thing that strikes me is this. Here again is a legacy which has been passed on to us. Along with many other things good and bad, has arrived this great evil -the evil of nepotism and jobbery. This evil must be crushed relentlessly. I want to make it quite clear that I shall never tolerate any kind of jobbery, nepotism or any influence directly or indirectly brought to bear upon me. Wherever I find that such a practice is in vogue, or is continuing anywhere, low or high, I shall certainly not countenance it.

Source: <https://defence.pk/pdf/threads/full-text-of-quaid-e-azams-speech-on-11th-of-august-1947-to-the-constituent-assembly.630809/>

