



Pre-Recorded Message by Foreign Minister H.E. Jalil Abbas Jilani, for the UDHR 75
High-Level Event
11th December 2023

**High Commissioner for Human Rights Mr. Volker Turk,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

The 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a solemn occasion to renew our pledge to humanity.

The principles of human dignity, equality and freedom, as enshrined in this Declaration, lie at the very core of Pakistan's Constitution and animate our outlook.

Today, Pakistan renews its commitment to work with the international community for realization of these principles for everyone everywhere.

Distinguished Delegates,

Pakistan has been at the forefront of development of international human rights law, norms and agenda.

It is a matter of pride for us that Pakistani delegate Begum Shaista Ikramullah played a pivotal role in codifying women's rights in UDHR.

As member of the Human Rights Council, Pakistan has always endeavoured to forge consensus, and build bridges across diverse perspectives. We remain a strong advocate for peaceful resolution of disputes, dialogue, and mutual respect in promoting universal respect for human rights.

In the last 75 years, we have witnessed significant progress across the global human rights landscape, yet challenges remain.

The world must particularly reflect upon the continued prevalence of what the Declaration has termed "barbarous acts that outrage the conscience of mankind".

From occupied Jammu and Kashmir to Palestine, generations of people continue to brave such barbarities with disturbing impunity for the violators.

Global commitment to human rights and inability to stop such crimes cannot go together.

We echo concerns about increasing double standards in implementation of the UDHR principles.



We urge the international community to deliver to the oppressed what the Declaration promised them 75 years ago.

Ladies and gentlemen,

True to the UDHR spirit, today, Pakistan pledges:

- i. To advance the implementation of its international human rights obligations;
- ii. To reinforce social safety net for the poor and the marginalized;
- iii. To build climate resilience and rehabilitate the people affected by the 2022 devastating floods;
- iv. To continue to lend political, moral, and diplomatic support to the occupied people of Jammu and Kashmir and Palestine;
- v. To build partnerships in countering the growing problem of religious intolerance, hatred, and Islamophobia worldwide.

Thank you.