

*Hon. Liaquat Ali Khan*

than is perhaps usual on formal occasions. Your great country and our young state both belong to the commonwealth of nations. I am not one of those who would demand that the bond which exists between the various members of the commonwealth be minutely defined. It is enough for me to know that they all basically have the same constitution, even though one of them may be a monarchy and another a republic, and all subscribe to the common principles of democracy, freedom and peace. In the uneasy, apprehensive world of today, such a large group of nations with so much identity in their declared aims should be a heartening spectacle to mankind. No practical person would therefore wish wantonly for its disintegration.

Two facts, however, I would humbly and respectfully commend to your attention. First, that with the growth of three Asiatic members of the commonwealth to the status of dominions, the notion that the commonwealth ties are mainly religious, historical or racial must be regarded as having outlived its use. If the commonwealth does nothing more than give the world a lead in establishing the brotherhood of man, irrespective of race, creed or colour, it will still have made a notable contribution to the cause of human welfare. Second, that since the greatest fear of the world is the fear of war, under whose shadow progress alters its aims and millions of humble men and women wait helplessly and apprehensively for an undeserved doom, the commonwealth has great opportunities for raising the hopes of mankind by outlawing war and aggression and the use of coercion or force as a method of settling disputes amongst its own members. We sincerely believe that in this way this free association of free nations can set the world an inspiring example and can give greater reality and efficacy not only to itself but also to the charter of the United Nations, to whose aims we are all pledged and whose success we all pray for.

The ideals of a freedom-loving, democratic, but young and underdeveloped country such as ours, could be epitomized in three words—peace, progress and co-operation. These three are but aspects of the same fundamental urge; for there can be no progress without peace, no peace without progress and the removal of the economic disequilibrium, so apparent in Asia, which keeps more than half the world in poverty and the ferment of discontent, or without international co-operation, which we believe to be the greatest need of all countries, great and small. In the pursuit of democratic ideals few countries have shown greater sincerity of purpose and a higher quality of quiet determination than yours. Blessed with the wealth of natural

resources, you have shown the world how a nation, by dint of hard work, by its unity, its sturdy moral qualities, its progressive yet modest outlook, its wide international sympathies and its neighbourliness, can raise itself to great heights, bringing happiness to many and fear to none among those who love peace and honour the freedom of others as they do their own. I am sure that we can look forward to a long period of friendship between our two countries, and that in any joint moral undertaking to promote the welfare of mankind and good will and peace amongst nations, Pakistan and Canada will be more than friends. God bless your country and its people.

*(Translation):*

**Hon. Elie Beauregard (Speaker of the Senate):** Your Excellency, the Upper Chamber and the French-speaking people, on whose behalf I am now speaking, are pleased to welcome both yourself and your charming wife and collaborator, and to thank you for the friendly visit you have paid the Canadian parliament as well as for the substantial speech you have delivered. In you we greet a distinguished representative of a commonwealth nation which, in addition, is one of the world's great countries.

By its spiritual unity, based on the teachings and tradition of Islam, the sovereign state of Pakistan binds two territories that, oddly enough, are divided geographically. This thousand year old bond, of which religion and culture are the warp and woof, you recognize as stronger, as more imperious than that of mere neighbourhood or of the continuation of the land.

Pakistan's evolution provides one of the most interesting chapters of world history. In a sort of prophetic vision, your great poet Iqbal foresaw the development which you have made it your mission to achieve.

Under your leadership, your country, which throughout the ages has known and absorbed many civilizations, has progressed rapidly in the economic field. Though this is somewhat contrary to our conception of a legendary and static Orient, we can but rejoice at its march towards progress and a better standard of living, benefits which are common to all true democracies.

Following in the footsteps of the illustrious Mohammed Ali Jinnah, you recognize, as the leader of your country, that your authority comes to you from the people. You have desired to establish your country's constitution on a democratic basis and to complete its independence by making its policy as one with its ideals.

Through your character and your culture, as well as through the exigencies of our time, you are enabled to understand to the full