



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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CANADA AND PAKISTAN

A speech by Mr. J.G. Diefenbaker, Prime Minister of Canada, at the University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan, on November 17, 1958.

Need I say how deeply moved I am by the warmth of the welcome that you accorded me this morning and also by those very kind words, Mr. Registrar, which you used in introducing me to this degree. I am also deeply honoured that you have thought fit to show your regard for the people of my country in accepting me into the fellowship of this distinguished University. I know, Mr. Chancellor, that my people in my country will treasure the honour which you have conferred on them through me. I would be less than frank if I did not tell you how very deeply moved I have been during my stay in this country by the warmth of your hospitality, the kindnesses extended to me and, above all, by that feeling of oneness which is apparent between your country and mine.

Although my country is distant from yours by many miles, over the years I have come to know, as must all who realize the contribution that universities make to the welfare of all, the high standards and the tradition of your centres of learning. We have been happy to welcome in Canada many who have taken their studies there and gained experience in the techniques of industry and commerce and government. From them we have learned something of the qualities of the spirit which is nurtured and developed in the University of the Punjab. I count myself fortunate to have been honoured as I have, and to have been privileged to pay even so brief a visit here and learn at first hand something of the vigour, the activity, the breadth of vision of the active life of this University. And I know of its development in its affiliated colleges and of its students in the arts and sciences and in the wisdom and culture of Islam.

I know, too, of the developments that are taking place in Pakistan. What moves me more than anything else, Mr. Chancellor, is the tremendous vitality of this country -