**Defence Day in Pakistan**

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In the midst of our daily lives, it’s easy to take for granted the freedoms and peace that we enjoy as citizens of an independent country. These conditions of peace and security are not accidental; rather, they are maintained by the unshakable commitment and sacrifices of our armed forces and security organizations. Under the direction of the civilian administration, they put forth endless efforts to defend our country against both home and foreign threats.

In Pakistan, Defense Day is a solemn occasion to remember the tenacity and valour of our country’s armed forces during the 1965 war with India. It pays homage to our armed forces members and all the martyrs who gave their lives in defence of the nation. Pakistanis hold a special place in their hearts for Defence Day, which is observed every year on September 6 and serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made for their freedom and security.

The events building up to Defence Day began on September 6, 1965, when the Indian army attacked Pakistan’s frontiers without warning. This invasion was a reaction to Pakistan’s military operations in Indian-occupied Kashmir, where those operations sought to stop the advancing Pakistani forces. Lahore, Sialkot, and the desert regions of Sindh were the main targets of the Indian army. The battle persisted up until September 22, 1965, when both parties consented to a ceasefire that was overseen by the United Nations.

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Our military defended the assaulted areas during this tough time while also defending numerous civilians’ houses and lives. The greatest respect and admiration should be accorded to the sacrifices made by our soldiers who persisted in the face of difficulty. This honour should also be given to the military troops who stood by our martyrs, took risks, and survived to tell their heroic stories.

Many of our country’s wartime heroes from 1965 received posthumous honours for their valour and bravery. The highest military medal, the Nishan-i-Haider, was given to Major Raja Aziz Bhatti for his outstanding contribution to the defence of the Lahore Bedian region during the war. He is one of a small number of valiant military personnel who have been recognized for their contributions during various battles and conflicts. For Pakistan’s defence, these people made the ultimate sacrifice-their lives.

The nation of Pakistan is reminded of its fortitude and resiliency on Defense Day. On this day, we are reminded once more that no foreign power, no matter how powerful, can intimidate us. Our military, which is distinguished by valour, bravery, and tactical skill, personifies the spirit of our great country. Through Defense Day, we commemorate and honour these virtues while teaching them to the nation’s children and young people.

A number of military parades and festivities are held across the nation to commemorate Defence Day. The most recent developments in military technology and equipment are displayed at these gatherings. Rarely, test launches of recently designed munitions are carried out, demonstrating our military’s dedication to maintaining cutting-edge defensive capabilities. The objectives are to showcase our military might and pay tribute to our heroes. Social media sites and television networks are essential for spreading this message.

The value of our military goes beyond times of conflict. Even in times of peace, they still make contributions to the country. The military forces frequently participate in humanitarian actions during catastrophes like floods, earthquakes, and other calamities, offering relief services and assisting impacted people. Additionally, military institutions-including hospitals, colleges, and schools-are essential to servicing civilians and improving the health of the country as a whole.

It’s never too late to recognize and pay tribute to our country’s heroes. Schools and communities can host events to honour the military personnel who have valiantly served our nation. Platforms for social media provide a way to increase awareness of their importance and contributions. A career in the armed forces can encourage young people to think about contributing to the defence and security of the country. This can be accomplished by having conversations with family and friends about the value of our military and their constitutional responsibility.

In Pakistan, the celebration of Defense Day serves as a reminder of the nation’s dedication to stability, security, and resilience. As we reflect on the tremendous sacrifices made by our warriors in the war of 1965, we must also acknowledge their ongoing commitment to defending our nation. The military of Pakistan represents more than simply physical might; it also captures the ethos of a brave and unified people. Through Defense Day, we honour this spirit and make sure that every Pakistani will carry on the tradition of sacrifice and patriotism.

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