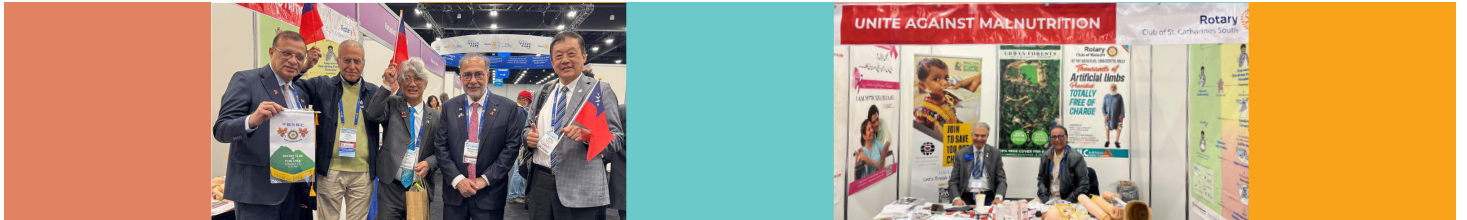


# Karachi Rotarian

The monthly e-newsletter of the Rotary Club of Karachi



# U N I T E



# F O R



# G O O D



## EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear RCK Members,

As you can see, we now have a name for our monthly e-newsletter, the Karachi Rotarian. This is however not a new name. Several years ago, RCK's monthly newsletter used to be printed, and it was called the Karachi Rotarian. At some point, the newsletter changed from a print edition to a digital edition, and somehow the name got lost in the process. So, what we have done now is to revive the previous name with this first issue of the new Rotary year starting in July 2025.

While the primary task of the Karachi Rotarian will be to report on the Club's monthly activities, it will also include other information and news which is inspiring and useful for our members. And this will also include information about Rotary itself, as we do have a lot of new members, who may not be so familiar with Rotary as a worldwide organization.

The RCK Board desires to make the Club more inclusive and promote greater engagement of the members. As such we welcome members' suggestions and feedback, which can be emailed to [rotarykhi@gmail.com](mailto:rotarykhi@gmail.com). In the subject heading you may please write 'Feedback on Karachi Rotarian.'

Kind regards,



**Zohare Ali Shariff**  
Honorary Secretary RCK 2025-2026  
Editor, Karachi Rotarian

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

It is with deep humility that I step into the role of President of the Rotary Club of Karachi, for the year 2025–2026.

This opportunity is not just a personal milestone, but also a profoundly symbolic one. In a year when Pakistan has been ranked last among 138 countries on the Global Gender Gap Index, my election as President takes

on a special significance. It is a quiet, yet powerful statement about how the Rotary network supports greater gender equity and inclusion.

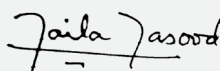
In this regard, Rotary International itself has led by example. The immediate past President of RI was a woman, as you know; a truly accomplished and inspiring leader whose tenure set a high bar for us all. I hope to follow in those footsteps with the same level of integrity, commitment, and purpose.

As I take on this responsibility, I feel truly fortunate to be surrounded by a strong, qualified, and fully committed team. Our Board is not only driven by the energy of new ideas, but also anchored by wisdom, with four highly experienced senior Rotarians graciously serving as our Advisors. Their guidance will undoubtedly be a source of strength and clarity as we navigate the year ahead.

We also owe much to the remarkable outgoing Board, which brought the previous Rotary year to a successful close, through dedication, vision, and service. Their achievements have laid a strong foundation, and it is upon that we shall now build. The new year started with a busy first month. Four weekly meetings with strong speakers. And then the District Installation Ceremony, for which your Club was the main sponsor. It was a huge event and a great success, with over 600 participants.

And taking it from there, let us in RCK, be guided by Rotary's motto for 2025-2026, UNITE FOR GOOD, and work together with compassion and purpose, to take our Club to even greater heights this year.

Sincerely,



**Naila Masood**  
President - Rotary Club of Karachi  
2025-2026

# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cari amici,

Two weeks ago, I was in my living room playing with my grandchildren. A few days later, I was on a plane to Calgary, suddenly carrying the responsibility of leading this incredible organization. Life come fast, but so often, it brings us exactly where we're meant to be.

We begin this year with a clear message;/ Unite for Good. It is a simple phrase, but a powerful one. Because behind every successful Rotary effort, every act of service, every new member welcomed, every global challenge met-there are two things that matter most: friendship and trust.

This is how we build strong clubs. It's how we create meaningful partnerships and transform global problems into local solutions. It's also how we lead-not through titles or applause, but with humility, humanity, and heart. But let me be honest with you-this kind of leadership is not always easy. We're human and yes, we make mistakes. We sometimes disagree, but in Rotary, we are called to something greater. let us reflect on the full vision of Rotary:

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

The last part is essential, because transformation doesn't start with strategy. It starts with character and the way we treat one another. It starts with how we listen, how we support, and how we serve.

This year, I ask you to lead with that spirit. To grow Rotary through relationships. To make your clubs more welcoming, more flexible, more open to new ideas. To think big-but also to think beyond one year. Our term is short, but our impact can be lasting if we plan and act with continuity and vision.

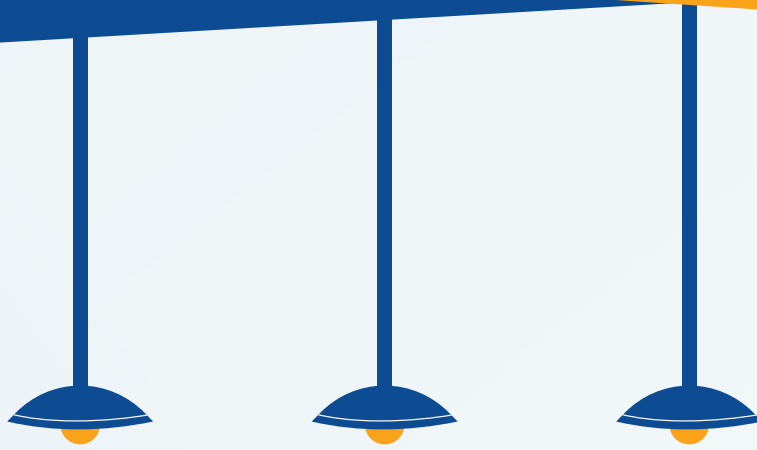


Let us remember our key priorities: membership, polio and peace. We are closer than ever to ending polio. We cannot stop now. We must keep the promise we made tot he children of the world. And as for peace-Rotary has been building it for over a century. Every clean water system, every youth exchange, every maternal health project is a step toward peace.

I joined Rotary as a young professional, eager to help but terrified of public speaking. My fellow Rotarians believed in me and encouraged me to take on new roles, and in doing so, Rotary changed my life. It gave me courage and purpose, but above all, it gave me you: my friends, my team, my family around the world.

So now, my friends...take out your dreams tucked away in a drawer, especially those you thought were too big or bold to achieve. Let's bring them into the light. Let's Unite for Good-for our clubs, our communities, and our world. And let's make this a year not only of service, but of joy, of connection, and of love.

**Francesco Arezzo**  
President, Rotary International,  
2025-26



# ROUNDUP

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

JULY 2025



**Week - 01**

**Dr. S. Akbar Zaidi**  
Executive Director IBA  
July 01, 2025



**Week - 02**

**Amin Hashwani**  
Executive Director,  
Hashwani Group of Companies  
July 08, 2025



**Week - 03**

**Sirajuddin Aziz**  
Federal Banking Ombudsman  
July 22, 2025

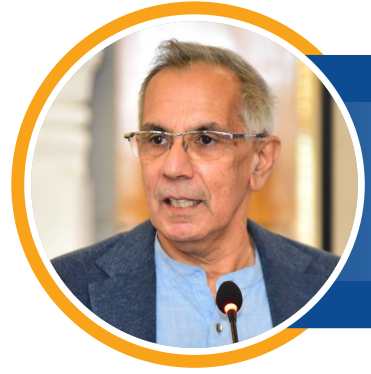


**Week - 04**

**Tariq Ali Nizamani**  
Managing Director,  
Sindh Solid Waste Management  
Board (SSWMB)  
July 29, 2025

# Guest Speaker Dr. S. Akbar Zaidi

Executive Director IBA



Meeting #	Date	Topic	Participants
01 of 2025-2026	Tuesday, July 01, 2025	Is the Direction of Travel of the Economy Upwards?	54

On July 1, 2025, Dr. S. Akbar Zaidi, a distinguished political economist and the Executive Director of IBA Karachi, graced the Rotary Club of Karachi with his presence as the guest speaker at its first weekly meeting of the Rotary new year.

With four decades of experience in academia and policy, including teaching stints at Columbia University and serving on the board of the State Bank of Pakistan, Dr. Zaidi brought critical insights into Pakistan's socio-economic challenges.



Recitation from the Holy Quran by Rtn. Abdullah Feroz



Members rise for the national anthem



RCK President, Naila Masood introducing the guest speaker



Guest speaker, Dr. S. Akbar Zaidi



RCK Vice-President Rasheed Jan Mohammad asking a question of the guest speaker



Rtn. Waqar Shaikh posing a question to the guest speaker



Certificate presentation to the guest speaker by President RCK and senior members



Guest speaker with IBA alumni - President RCK Naila Masood, Rtn. Kashif & Rtn. Afshan Lalani



Group photo of some Club members with the guest speaker

## Key Insights from the Speaker's Talk:

Commending the Club for electing a woman President, Dr. Zaidi linked it to the urgent need for gender parity in a country that ranks 148 out of 148 on the Global Gender Gap Index.

Reflecting on Pakistan's economic landscape, he noted encouraging signs of stability such as falling inflation and interest rates, and improving US relations but expressed disappointment in the federal budget's lack of tax reform and strategic foresight.

He called for investment in a knowledge economy over traditional industrial models and identified climate change as Pakistan's most pressing crisis.

In the Q&A session which followed the guest speaker's talk, questions were asked by Vice-President RCK, Rasheed Jan Mohammad, Rtn. Waqar Yousuf Shaikh and Rtn. Bilal Musti Khan.

The meeting ended with presentation of certificate to the guest speaker by Club President Naila Masood, and a group of senior Club members, followed by taking of group photographs.

Guest Speaker

# Amin Hashwani

Executive Director, Hashwani Group of Companies



Meeting #	Date	Topic	Participants
02 of 2025-2026	Tuesday, July 8, 2025	Innovation in the social development sector	68

On July 8, 2025, the Rotary Club of Karachi was honored to host Mr. Amin Hashwani, Executive Director, Hashwani Group of Companies, Karachi. He is a businessman and social activist, and a recipient of the Tamgha-e-Imtiaz.

Renowned for his wide-ranging contributions to education, health, culture, and youth development, Mr. Hashwani has founded several social organizations that run over 40 schools, vocational training centers, and inclusive community facilities. His efforts in peacebuilding, policy advocacy, and uplifting underserved communities have positioned him as a leading voice in Pakistan's social development landscape.

The President called upon PP Masood Ahmed Sheikh to invoke the meeting, following which the national anthem was played.

Then, after the Honorary Secretary had given the weekly updates, the President called upon Former Trustee Aziz Memon, to share some thoughts from his visit to the RI Convention in Calgary, in the last week of June. This was attended by him, along with several other RCK members. Mr. Aziz Memon then also enlightened the meeting on Rotary's Global Grants scheme and encouraged members to understand how the Grants work and to develop solid projects for future grants.



Guest speaker Mr. Amin Hashwani delivering his talk



General view of the members having lunch prior to the start of the meeting



President RCK with the guest speaker



Presentation of memento to the guest speaker



Group photo with the guest speaker at the start of the meeting

## Key Insights from the Speaker's Talk:

1. Pakistan is facing many problems, in several different areas, which need urgent attention. To give just 2 examples, in the health sector, Pakistan leads the world in incidence of diabetes and oral cancer. In the education sector, 25 million children out of school.
  2. Many parts of Pakistan are comparable to Sub-Saharan Africa.
  3. In the environment field, Pakistan is among the 10 most affected countries by climate change. After the poles, highest ice quantum in the world is in Pakistan, and the country has huge risk of GLOFs.
  4. While these trends are worsening, they are not irreversible. The speaker emphasized that although we are late in addressing these issues, it is not too late to act.
  5. Mr. Amin Hashwani emphasized that throwing money at problems is not a solution; what Pakistan truly needs is meaningful social innovation. He pointed out that most social solutions in the country tend to be risk-averse, which significantly limits their long-term impact.
  6. He stressed the importance of cultivating organizational cultures that attract and retain passionate, talented individuals who can drive change.
  7. Innovation requires a departure from conventional methods. Doing what has always been done before, will no longer produce meaningful results. Collaboration is the cornerstone of impactful innovation in the social development sector.
  8. Mr. Hashwani underscored the urgent need for Pakistan to build its capacity to create indigenous, context-specific solutions, that address its unique challenges.
  9. He concluded by urging individuals and institutions to consistently push themselves to go beyond the ordinary, and strive to do more in the face of growing national challenges.
- The session concluded with engaging questions and reflections from PP Masood Ahmed Sheikh, PP Muhammad Ovais, and Rtn. Aamir Butt.

Guest Speaker

# Sirajuddin Aziz

Federal Banking Ombudsman



Meeting #	Date	Topic	Participants
03 of 2025-2026	Tuesday, July 22, 2025	Learning from China	Re confirm

On July 22, 2025, Mr. Sirajuddin Aziz, an accomplished banker and the current Federal Banking Ombudsman of Pakistan, addressed the Rotary Club of Karachi at its third weekly meeting of the Rotary year. With a distinguished career spanning multiple countries, including Pakistan, China, the UK, UAE, and Nigeria, Mr. Aziz has held top

leadership roles such as CEO of Bank Alfalah and President of Habib Metro Bank. His insights are shaped by decades of executive management, international exposure, and an enduring engagement with academia, public discourse, and policy-making.



Guest speaker answering a member's question



Trustee Aziz Memon with guest speaker



Guest speaker Mr. Sirajuddin Aziz

## Key Insights from the Speaker's Talk:

The speaker first of all pointed out that the key word in his topic was not China, but learning. We, as a nation, first of all need to develop an attitude for learning, and not regard ourselves as experts already in every subject.

The recorded Chinese civilization is about 6,000 years old, and it has evolved hugely over the centuries. Today, China has rocked the world in practically every field, quietly and catching the world by surprise. As such there is a lot to learn from China.

China's 1st 5-year plan was from 1953 to 1958, when it sought to emulate the Soviet Union and focused almost entirely on developing its heavy industrial base. Agriculture was neglected, resulting in a devastating famine that killed millions. But China came out of it by refocusing on agriculture, even drawing women into it in great numbers.

China has had state-owned enterprises for a long time. These have been a success because while the state-owned various enterprises, it did not run these. Management was with professionals and there were negligible political appointees. We in Pakistan need to have the same approach with our SOEs.

Another major learning from China is that it realized very early that political independence is meaningless without economic independence. We need to have consistency in economic policies and be economically empowered, before we can be politically empowered on the world stage.

At the end of the speaker's talk, questions were asked by VP RCK Rasheed Jan Mohammad, PP Mohammed Ovais, and Rotarians Bilal Masti Khan and Noman Saigal.



RCK members listening to the guest speaker



Members listening to the talk of the guest speaker



Group photo of RCK members with guest speaker, Mr. Sirajuddin Aziz

Guest Speaker

# Tariq Ali Nizamani

Managing Director of Sindh Solid Waste Management Board (SSWMB)



Meeting #	Date	Topic	Participants
04 of 2025-2026	Tuesday, July 29, 2025	---	---



# District Installation Ceremony

The highlight of July was the District Installation Ceremony, which took place on Saturday, 12th July 2025. This was a grand gathering that marked the formal induction of the new District Governor and his team. The evening event was proudly hosted and sponsored by the Rotary Club of Karachi (RCK) and drew the participation of over 600 Rotarians from across the District.



The day began with a moving wreath-laying ceremony at Quaid-e-Azam's Mausoleum, paying tribute to the Father of the Nation.

This was followed by a Polio Orientation Seminar for Club Presidents and Club Polio Chairs, reinforcing Rotary's unwavering commitment to eradicating polio. Mid-morning, a Brunch Reception was held at Marium Banquet, opposite Dawood Engineering University. This gathering, jointly hosted by Rtn. Abdul Jabbar Shaikh (RC Khairpur Green City) and Rtn. Dr. Kashif Aziz (RC Samaro), provided an opportunity for Rotarians to reconnect before the evening's formal proceedings.



# Report on the evening event by Rtn. Shafqat Ali, Joint Secretary, RCK



President Naila Masood and Event Chair DGN Shehzad Sabir led a memorable evening of purpose and celebration at the RI District 3271 Installation Ceremony, hosted by Rotary Club Karachi at the Pearl Continental Hotel. The Masters of Ceremony, Rtn. Amena Khan and Rtn. Ayaz Rafique of RCK, ensured a seamless flow to the evening's formalities.

The ceremony commenced with a recitation from the Holy Quran and the National Anthem, setting a tone of reverence and patriotism. This was followed by the ceremonial installation of Assistant Governors, Club Presidents, Secretaries, the Deputy Governor, and the District Team, carried out zone-wise, officially ushering in the new Rotary leadership for the year.

A captivating video montage highlighted the district's journey and accomplishments, after which the spotlight shifted to the formal signing ceremony and a brief intermission.

The evening session resumed with welcoming remarks and introductions, followed by an address by IPDG Muhammad Rizwan Adhia and remarks by IPDGE M. Rizwan Adhia.

A key highlight was the installation of the new District Governor, Rtn. Shakeel A. Kaim Khani, conducted by esteemed Rotarians P.RID Muhammad Faiz Kidwai and P.TRF Trustee Aziz Memon. Rtn. Shakeel was joined on stage by his wife, First Lady Abida Shakeel, for the formal induction. He later delivered a heartfelt speech outlining his vision for the coming year.

## Awards presented included:

- A.** Best Participation Club Awards, given to RCK, RC Karachi Elite and RC Samaro.
- B.** Special Appreciation Awards, given to Rtn. Shafqat Ali and Rtn. Shahzad Ahsan, for achieving the highest-ever registration for an installation ceremony.





# Impressions of Rotary International Convention 2025



As Rotarians will know, Rotary International holds an annual Convention, in a different city of the world each year. Held at the end of June, just before the start of the Rotary new year in July, the Convention attracts thousands of Rotarians from all over the world. The number of participants can be as high as 30,000+.

This year the Convention was held from June 21 to June 25 in Calgary Canada. Some 15,000 Rotarians participated,

including at least 11 members of our own club, the Rotary Club of Karachi.

Karachi Rotarian requested one participant, Mansoor Y. Sheikh, to share his impressions with us for the July issue of our monthly newsletter. Rotarian Mansoor was kind enough to oblige and we are pleased to share his write-up with our members. It is also relevant to mention here that Mansoor has recently become a Major Donor to Rotary.



## A Whiff of Fresh Air!

By : Mansoor Y. Sheikh



While navigating across competing narratives and alternative reality constructs in these challenging times, the World Rotary annual Convention 2025 came as a whiff of fresh air.

Not only did it present a worldview more consonant with the aspirations of the people, it also reignited the hope of a peaceful world where the capacity of destroying ourselves many times over always exists. The yearning for peace and harmony, cooperation rather than mutually destructive competition, and the acknowledgement of challenges, from illiteracy, disease, poverty and war, rather than indifference and denialism, came to the fore.

The personalities of the outgoing RI President, Stephanie Urchick, and that of the incoming President, Francesco Arezzo, stood out, as resilient, innovative and humane leaders, of a movement that remains committed to bring about positive change in the lives of people across identities and geographies, even after 120 years.

### Key takeaways from this event:

- 01** Worldwide fellowship with about 15,000 attendees representing almost 1.4 million members sharing their visions and perspectives for positive change.
- 02** Encouragement to have the audacity to dream big, and have the tenacity of pursuing public good, despite the distractions being faced, through curtailment of freedoms of thought and expression, and intrusions into cognitive autonomy.
- 03** The importance of collaborative effort across national boundaries, as the challenges of disease alleviation and climate change are global in nature.



# International Day of Friendship

July 30



Building Bridges, Inspiring Peace

Every month Karachi Rotarian will feature an International day of that month which is relevant to Rotary, starting with featuring the International Day of Friendship this month.

In an increasingly fragmented world, the value of friendship; deep, genuine, and across boundaries has never been more vital. The International Day of Friendship, celebrated each year on July 30, was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2011, as a timely reminder of the transformative power of human connection.

More than a celebration of camaraderie, this day is a call to action. It urges nations, communities, and individuals to foster bonds of trust, empathy, and mutual respect across cultures and ideologies. The UN resolution establishing this day places particular emphasis on involving young people, the stewards of our collective future, in activities that embrace diversity, promote global understanding, and sow the seeds of long-term peace.

Rotary, as a global movement rooted in service and fellowship, embodies the very spirit of this international observance. With clubs spanning nearly every country and culture, our network proves that enduring friendships are not just possible across borders, they are essential.

Whether it's a project in a local community or a global grant initiative, Rotary thrives on partnerships anchored in trust, mutual respect, and shared purpose.

Friendship in the Rotary context is more than just interpersonal warmth, it is the currency of collaboration. It enables us to listen across difference, to serve with humility, and to lead with compassion. Friendships built through Rotary often begin with service, but they evolve into lifelong alliances rooted in values, vision, and shared humanity.

In alignment with this year's Rotary motto, "Unite for Good," let us recommit ourselves to friendships that transcend borders, to partnerships that elevate communities, and to unity that serves a greater purpose.

Rotary, as a global movement rooted in service and fellowship, embodies the very spirit of this international observance



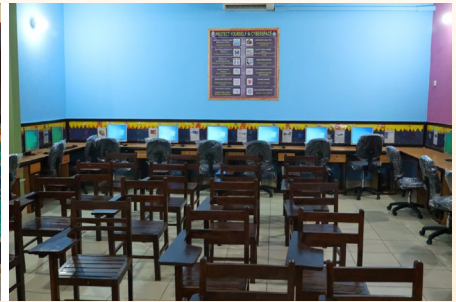
Japanese Rotarians at RCK stall at RI Convention in Calgary in June, symbolizing international friendships

# Computers donated to Bahria College, DHA Campus



The Rotary Club of Karachi has generously donated 22 computers to Bahria College to support and enhance digital learning. This initiative marks the beginning of our pilot project in educational support. This commitment was made by the previous Board of RCK, but owing to certain reasons, the inauguration ceremony of the upgradation of the Computer Lab could not be held till now.

The ceremony was held on Monday, 21st July, and the inauguration was done by President RCK, Naila Masood, Trustee Aziz Memon, DGE Shahzad Sabir, PP Mohammad Ovais, and Executive Secretary Shahzad Ahsan.



# Rotary Club of Karachi

## Board of Directors

### OFFICE BEARERS



**President**  
Naila Masood



**President Elect.**  
Humayun Qureshi



**Vice President**  
Rasheed Jan Mohammad



**Immediate Past President**  
Shoaib Ismail



**Hon. Secretary**  
Zohare Ali Shariff



**Joint Secretary**  
Shafqat Ali



**Hon. Treasurer**  
Ravi Kumar

### DIRECTORS



PP. Pervez Madraswala



PP. Navin Merchant



PP. Mohd Ajaz Saya



PDG. Dr. Farhan Essa



PP. Nisar Ahmed Shaikh



Aziz Merchant



Shumaila Omar

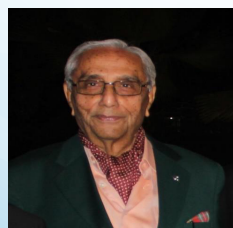


Khalid Abdullah

### BOARD ADVISORS



Trustee Aziz Memon



PDG. Akhtar K. Alavi



PP. Shahzad Sabir



PP. Mohammad Ovais