

Imran Khan

Research & Supporting Information

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Imran Khan's public career has spanned international cricket, philanthropy and politics, including service as Pakistan's prime minister from 2018 to 2022.¹ This research document organises the record presented in the source material into thematic areas: democracy and human rights; peace negotiation; international dialogue; anti-war advocacy; environmental policy; health; education; and sport.

i) Democracy and Human Rights

Khan's Vision: From Conception to PM Election (April 1996 to May 2018)

In 1996, equipped with no prior political experience or background but only the sheer desire and determination to bring about socio-political change in a deprived third-world Pakistan, a 42-year-old Imran Khan created the political party "Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf" (translated as "Movement for Justice" and known as "PTI" in short.)²

With a party slogan of "**Justice, Humanity, and Self-Esteem**", Khan sought to eradicate corruption in Pakistan by restoring the rule of law and empowering a population trapped in the deep depths of poverty, disease, and illiteracy as a consequence of corrupt politicians ruling over the nation for most if not all of its existence.

Upon creating his political party, "PTI", Khan, a Cricket World Cup winning superstar and philanthropic hero, was largely overlooked by most of the public and ridiculed by his political opponents. Pakistan's two major political parties were so deeply embedded in the foundations of the country that the notion of its penetration by a former cricketer creating a new political party was either unthinkable or even laughable.

Despite facing intense political challenges, enduring ritual humiliation by opponents, and offering great personal sacrifice, Khan remained steadfast year after year on his mission to end major corruption, reiterating the same message of creating a "Naya Pakistan" (a new Pakistan) based on the party manifesto of Justice, Humanity, and Self-Esteem.

Khan envisioned creating a **social welfare system** in Pakistan to ensure the provision of social justice, welfare rights, community empowerment, economic development, education, environmental sustainability, peace, and security for all its citizens. His emphasis has remained from the very first day almost 3 decades ago, that this would only be possible upon **implementation of the rule of the law**. He frequently referenced the West, namely Scandinavia, as an exemplary model of a social welfare system that achieves justice, peace, and self-fulfilment for its citizens.

Khan shared with a downtrodden nation of over 200 million people the vision of a Pakistan that provides equal rights and opportunities for all, not just the rich and powerful. He envisioned a healthcare system that would provide equal access for all, ensuring that the poor would not have to suffer and die from treatable conditions. He envisioned an education system enabling children from all socio-economic and religious backgrounds to access a uniform syllabus promoting self-realisation, religious tolerance, and harmony, focusing on creative and critical thinking instead of traditional rote learning.

He envisioned a system where academic admissions, employment, and career progression would be based on merit, not bribery and nepotism. He envisioned a day, in sharp contrast to the current brain drain, when professionals worldwide would desire to return to Pakistan to work in a safe country rich in culture, resources, and opportunity. This desire would not be limited to the diaspora but extend to nationalities worldwide, enabling people from different countries, cultures, and religions to live and grow together in peace and harmony in a thriving Pakistan. He envisioned inclusion, equal opportunities, and self-fulfilment for those with special needs and minority backgrounds. He envisioned a Pakistan, already rich in natural beauty, to attract more travel and tourism worldwide, creating bridges between people and nations. Above all, he emphasised the **implementation of the rule of law** to turn these visions into a realisation.

With the passing of almost two hard decades, Khan's steep uphill struggle, cemented by the unrelenting consistency of his message and refusal to give up, had started to build momentum. The nation, where 70% of the population was aged thirty and below, had, through his consistent speeches and campaigns, developed a strong political awareness centred around the right to, and merits of, a true democracy—one in which they now desired to live.

Slogans centred around ending corruption and creating a new Pakistan free from injustice swept not only across the country but to the Pakistani diaspora across the world who had previously lost any hope in the future of Pakistan. The diaspora, women, youth, students, religious minorities, and those with special needs became politically aware and active like never before in a country where previously most people had just simply accepted their fate as a third-world country with little or no personal or global prospects.

A craze of political awareness and desire for democratic reform swept the nation after the groundbreaking PTI Rally in Lahore on 30 October 2011³, which established PTI as Pakistan's third major political force. Political fever now dominated homes, media, and the streets of Pakistan, indiscriminate of any social-economic boundaries. It was time for Khan, the political leader, to be taken very seriously not only on the national stage but also in the global arena.

Eventually, twenty-two years after setting off in his mission for democracy and human rights with the support of only a handful of friends and family, what had seemed an unthinkable and impossible feat in 1996 became a reality in the National Election of 2018. Imran Khan, aged 66, became the 22nd Prime Minister of Pakistan.

[Imran Khan: The 22nd Prime Minister of Pakistan \(August 2018 - April 2022\)](#)

Upon being elected Prime Minister, Khan inherited a country scoring chronically highly in international corruption⁴, poverty⁵, disease⁶, and illiteracy⁷. There was no underestimating the task that lay ahead of him in his first term of 5 years, especially considering that in the 71 years of existence of the country, not a single Prime Minister before Khan had managed to complete a full 5-year term. As Prime Minister, Khan set out to deliver his promise of providing human rights and a social justice welfare system through the democratic means he had toiled for over 26 years.

The United Nations (UN) defines Human Rights as "rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination."⁸

Prominent highlights of some of Khan's initiatives for the provision of human rights, particularly poverty alleviation in Pakistan, are outlined below.

- **Provision of Access to Health Care:**

- Launch of The Sehat Sahulat (Access to Health) Card for the poor which allowed them access to free medical treatment. The Sehat Sahulat Programme received appreciation beyond Pakistan's borders and was lauded in the Lancet in December 2022 as **"a social justice health policy leaving no one behind."**⁹
- Management of the COVID-19 pandemic with strained resources received global appreciation. An article in The Asian Journal of Comparative Politics on the 19th of February, 2023, stated, "The Pakistani government led by Imran Khan has achieved a remarkable record in controlling COVID-19. No doubt, the domestic progress in Pakistan is destined to enhance its reputation abroad. For example, the international community has extended encouraging words and deeds to Pakistan, while **some developed EU countries have policies designed by the Pakistani Government** because Islamabad has adopted successful social security and financial stimulus strategies."¹⁰
- Polio eradication efforts in Pakistan (which is one of only two countries globally where polio has not yet been eradicated) by Khan were **praised by The World Health Organisation**¹¹ and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation¹² as **"impressive"** and **"inspiring"**, respectively.

- **Development into the Provision of Human Rights**

- Launch of National Child Labour Survey in collaboration with UNICEF for the first time in 23 years in Pakistan.¹³
- Transgender Rights - Pakistan made history by becoming the first country in the world to include a legally recognised transgender woman, Aisha Mughal,

in its delegation at the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Committee in Geneva.^{14, 15}

- **Alleviation of Poverty**^{16, 17, 18, 19}

“Our commitment is to form a welfare state where rule of law, meritocracy, transparency and accountability in governance are guaranteed, where equal opportunity exists for all and where social welfare is provided to all those who need it.” - Imran Khan’s Victory Speech, August 2018.

- The **Ehsaas (Empathy) Programme** launched in March 2019 to deliver Khan’s vision of creating a social welfare state. It is known as the flagship programme of his Prime Ministership and is comprised of 140 policies that span multiple ministries. In April 2019, the Poverty Alleviation Social Safety (PASS) division was created to collate the agenda spread across several areas into one ministry.
- This Ehsaas programme was **aligned with the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Agenda 2030**, which includes the goals of zero hunger, good health and well-being, women empowerment, elimination of poverty, and reduction in inequality. The Ehsaas programme was lauded across the world.
- Over half of the Ehsaas Programme’s initiatives focused on providing financial security to women, including the “One Woman, One Bank Account” policy, supporting the United Nations SDG 5 on gender equality. Another area of significant focus was addressing the housing shortage, including offering interest-free, low-cost housing loans for the poor segments of society for the construction of low-cost housing.
- The Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies is Stanford University’s Hub for non-partisan interdisciplinary research, teaching, and policy impact in international affairs. It reported in a review of the Ehsaas Programme, **“Pakistan’s Ehsaas Programme has set itself apart as a world-leading anti-poverty effort** to uplift the country’s most vulnerable.”

- An independent analysis of The Ehsaas Programme by global social impact consultancy “Delivery Associated” working with governments and organisations to guide the implementation of social policies, reported, **“Ehsaas is a landmark in anti-poverty programmes in the history of Pakistan.”**
- The Borgen Project, a non-profit organisation founded and headed by Chris Borgen, one of the most prominent anti-poverty campaigners in the US, reported, **“Ehsaas’s implementation provides valuable lessons for other nations.”**
- Amongst multiple other initiatives, The Borgen Project highlighted the success of the Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program: **“In a 2021 report by the World Bank, Pakistan’s Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program was highlighted for its remarkable reach,** ranking fourth globally in terms of the number of people covered and third in terms of the percentage of the population served. The Ehsaas Emergency Cash initiative disbursed stipends of PKR 12,000 (\$48) to nearly 15 million households, benefiting more than 100 million people—almost half of Pakistan’s population. The World Bank praised the program for its rapid rollout and extensive coverage, calling it **one of the most impressive large-scale social protection measures worldwide.”**
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding in support of the Ehsaas initiative to alleviate poverty in Pakistan.²⁰

Imran Khan: Ousted, Targeted for Assassination, and Falsely Imprisoned (2022-Present)

On the 9th of April, 2022, during his first term in office, Khan was ousted as Prime Minister in what is believed to be a politically engineered no-confidence vote. Supporting evidence of this was shared by the independent investigative anti-corruption journalistic organisation, The Intercept, on the 9th of August, 2023.²¹

Later that year, on the 3rd of November, 2022, during his strong campaign for the government to hold elections, Khan survived an assassination attempt but was unable to register a First Information Report with the state-controlled police until the Supreme Court intervened, despite the assassination attempt being caught on video and broadcast to the world.²²

Over 200 false criminal cases were concocted against Khan in very quick succession by the state whilst he convalesced from the gunshot wound to his leg following the assassination attempt. These ranged from frivolous charges to charges punishable by death. Prior to these false charges, Khan, who had spent much of his life in the UK as well as Pakistan, had no criminal record anywhere in the world.

On the 9th of May, 2023, during a court appearance for one of these many fabricated cases, Khan was abducted from court by an estimated 100 paramilitary troops. They hit him on the head and pushed him violently through the road into a prison van. This drew the attention and condemnation of democratic societies from across the world. He was released three days later after the Supreme Court ruled that the arrest was illegal.²³

PTI supporters took to the streets in strong protest shortly after paramilitary troops abducted Khan on the 9th of May, 2023. However, as the day progressed, what started as a peaceful protest later turned into riots, where government and military institutions were damaged and even set alight. Police killed several protestors.²⁴

In the 72 hours that followed, over 10,000 people, mostly PTI supporters, were arrested due to the riots, mostly without evidence of involvement in any riotous behaviour. They were tracked down by geofencing systems and arrested for merely being present in the areas of protests.²⁵

Many of Khan's second-tier PTI leadership were either arrested or abducted because of the May 9th protests, whilst much of the remaining leadership was forced into hiding to escape unjust arrest and state torture. No evidence has surfaced of these arrested leaders instigating violence. The only videos of these leaders circulating on social media relating to conduct during the protest were of them telling protesters to remain peaceful.

Shortly after being arrested and abducted, and without a trial or any evidence presented against them, demoralised and dishevelled appearing PTI leaders emerged straight from their prison cells to same-day press conferences. In these press conferences, they lifelessly announced their resignations from the party.²⁶ It was evident that they were under obvious duress. This cycle repeated itself multiple times as accounts of state torture and threats to the families of these leaders emerged within the PTI circle.

It was clear that Khan's movement for justice, humanity, and self-esteem was not acceptable to the state.

Khan and PTI now believed with full conviction, as did independent journalists and analysts, that the riots of May 9th, 2023 (now widely referred to as a “False Flag Operation” by the masses of Pakistan) were designed to dismantle the leadership of PTI and terrorise its workers and supporters into silence and inactivism by planting rioters and then arresting thousands of innocents PTI supporters, workers and leadership. Hundreds of them remain imprisoned to this day in both civilian and military prisons without a fair trial or the presentation of any evidence against them.²⁷

Khan has stated on record that if CCTV footage identified PTI workers attacking government installations, he “would not only apologise, but also expel those people from the party, and ensure their prosecution before a court of law.”²⁹ No CCTV evidence has been provided to any court to date. The state has claimed all footage was destroyed in the riots. It is widely believed, however, that those seen attacking state and military institutions, mostly with their face covered, were planted by the state.²⁸

In the months preceding and following May 9th, party workers and impartial journalists feared for their lives. The minority who could flee the country did so, while the remainder became victims of state fascism in displays of violence which circulated widely on social media. These ranged from police firing expired tear gas shells at peaceful protesters, including adolescents and the elderly, to the abductions and torture of party supporters and workers and even the murder of peaceful protesters—all without any police accountability.²⁹

Despite his closest leadership and workers either being imprisoned, forced into hiding, or terrorised into silence, Khan appeared resolute and undeterred. He continued to face the almost 200 cases that had been concocted against him whilst he recovered from the gunshot wound to his leg. Through his regular social media transmissions, he spoke out against state fascism and the false imprisonment of thousands of workers, especially women. He maintained that it was just a matter of time before he, too, would be arrested in such a false case and urged the masses to stay strong and not give up on a peaceful fight for democracy and human rights.³⁰

On August 5th, 2024, as he had predicted, Khan was arrested under false corruption charges. He remains imprisoned to this day despite not being proven guilty of any crime. His workers and supporters remain terrorised by the state, as does the judiciary not to make decisions in favour of Khan or his party. In an unprecedented move and considered an act of extreme courage, six High Court Judges wrote a letter to the Supreme Court sharing their subjection to threats and torture by the intelligence agency over Imran Khan.³¹

During his time as Prime Minister, Imran Khan announced the introduction of electronic voting machines to address Pakistan's historic issue of vote-rigging. The machines were designed by the National University for Science and Technology, Comsats, and the National Institute of Engineering—all of which operated under the Ministry of Science and Technology, and production was planned to start. However, after Khan's forced removal from office in April 2022, the new government rapidly reversed this decision.³²

Despite the terror inflicted by state fascism and efforts to disable Imran Khan's party and support base, there was still a good turnout in the unconstitutionally delayed National Elections on February 8th 2024. PTI had been unjustly banned as a political party and lost its election symbol, forcing its party candidates to contest as independent candidates instead. Independent journalists reported witnessing an overwhelming majority of support for these candidates on election day, who were still, by all intents and purposes, unofficially representing and seen by the public as PTI. In what was predictably and widely documented to be, and referred to by the Economist, as a "rigged election" and "democratic charade", Khan and PTI's independent candidates' political majority mandate was stolen.³³

Amnesty International consider charges against Imran Khan to be politically motivated, reporting, "The multiplicity of cases against Imran Khan are consistent with a pattern of misuse of the criminal justice system in Pakistan to intimidate, harass and target political opposition leaders through politically motivated cases."²⁹ Their report called on the Pakistani authorities to immediately release Imran Khan through his right to bail and offer a public and fair hearing before an independent and impartial court. Their analysis raised "key concerns related to the right to [a] fair trial, including the lack of a public trial, the lack of independent and impartial judiciary, denial of access to legal counsel, inadequate time and facilities to prepare a defence and double jeopardy in the criminal cases against him. These irregularities in the criminal trials against Imran Khan amount to denying the right to a fair trial under international law and Article 10A of the Constitution of Pakistan, 35, resulting in deprivation of liberty."³⁴

A United Nations Human Rights panel has also called for the immediate release of Imran Khan due to his detention "arbitrarily in violation of international laws". The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention concluded Imran Khan's detention had "no legal basis and appears to have been intended to disqualify him from running for office."³⁵

Khan remains in prison in harrowing conditions³⁶, in what is by design a death cell. He has not been permitted access to a public trial or to be seen anywhere publicly. Despite the

extreme hardship and risk to his life, **he remains firm he would rather die in prison than compromise on his fight for democracy and has maintained throughout that his party remain peaceful**, which he has communicated through his family, lawyers, and the sheltered limited media interaction he has had.

The state-imposed restrictions on freedom of democratic expression, both on the ground and in social media, continue to this day. On the ground, PTI corner meetings and peaceful rallies were largely banned before the national elections, whilst other parties suffered no such restrictions. Only recently have PTI rallies and protests been permitted, and those have been done under very strict and impractical conditions.

On the day preceding the most recent major protest in Islamabad on the 5th of October 2024 against Khan's illegal detention, paths to the protest were blocked by the state with huge freight containers. Peaceful protestors were attacked and shelled with tear gas by the police. Amnesty International denounced the clampdown on the right to protest and subsequent arrests, calling on Pakistan to adhere to international obligations and refrain from using "unlawful force" against peaceful PTI protests.³⁷

Social media has also faced a clampdown. Twitter has been blocked in Pakistan since the 17th of February, 2024.³⁸ Social Media users who speak up against state fascism risk abduction and torture of themselves and loved ones, forcing them to remain silent or hide their true identities. Human Rights Watch Pakistan reported, "Authorities used draconian counterterrorism and sedition laws to intimidate peaceful critics."³⁹

Poor governance since Khan's ousting in April 2022 has caused unlivable conditions in the country for the masses. There are several documented cases of people committing suicide/killing their entire families due to not being able to afford food, electricity, or healthcare.⁴⁰

In a progressively worsening situation, democracy in Pakistan lies on the imminent brink, with the state passing unprecedented constitutional amendments giving a political executive the power to overrule decisions relating to the constitution made by even the highest legal institutions in Pakistan, including the Supreme Court. This outcome would be nearly impossible to reverse and would indefinitely abolish the footprint of any true democracy in the country. Khan has filed an urgent legal appeal through a London-based human rights law chamber with the UN Special Rapporteur on Judges and Lawyers over these constitutional amendments on the 7th of October 2024.⁴¹

Khan's life remains in imminent danger whilst in imprisonment, but his 28-year struggle for democracy and human rights continues.

ii) Peace Negotiation

Imran Khan has remained a vocal supporter of peace and the resolution of conflict through dialogue, not arms. Khan believes in the provision of democratic rights and human rights to all as a basis for avoidance of conflict, and that peace is not about winning wars "but to win the hearts and minds of the people."⁴²

- In his home country of Pakistan, despite threats to his life, **Khan condemned the multiple fatal terrorist attacks of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan**, referring to it as "naked terrorism" in a tweet on the 22nd of December, 2012 and in several other tweets. He strongly supported seeking the pursuit of dialogue to initiate peace and, for wanting to do so, was labelled as a Taliban sympathiser by his political opponents. However, in September 2013, the Pakistan All Parties Conference resolved by consensus that dialogue must be initiated with the Taliban.⁴³
- The political animosity between India and Pakistan has remained since the partition in 1947 and the two nations have fought multiple wars. In one incident during Imran Khan's term as Prime Minister, an Indian pilot was captured during a fighter plane showdown between Indian and Pakistani air force pilots in Pakistan-administered Kashmir in February 2019. Against mounting regional and global anxiety at the prospect of another Indo-Pak war, **the Khan administration returned the pilot without penalty as a "peace gesture" to India.**⁴⁴
- In another peace gesture welcomed especially by the Sikh community worldwide, the **Khan Administration permitted access to one of the holiest Sikh sites, the Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur**, which lies close to the Pakistan-Indian border. Before this, most Sikhs could only view it from binoculars in India. Imran Khan stated at the opening ceremony of construction work on the pathway on the Pakistani side of the border, "We will only progress when we free ourselves from the chains of the past."⁴⁵

- In the **US/Afghan Taliban conflict**, Khan maintained from the outset that dialogue was the only solution despite generalised opposition to this view. He played a key role in facilitating dialogue between the Taliban and the US to try and support a peaceful settlement and increase prospects of regional stability. On visiting President Donald Trump in his first trip to the U.S as Prime Minister in July 2019, Khan spoke at the U.S Institute of Peace Studies stating, “When I go back after meeting President Trump—and also, I’ve spoken to [Afghan] President [Ashraf] Ghani—now I will meet the Taliban and I will try my best to get them to talk to the Afghan government.” Eventual peace talks, he said, should lead to “an inclusive [Afghan] election.”⁴⁶

In August 2021, after over 20 years, US troops withdrew from Afghanistan. The Khan administration facilitated the urgent and safe evacuation of many international diplomats and workers from Afghanistan through Pakistan. Later that year, he spoke at the 17th extraordinary session of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation’s (OIC) Council of Foreign Ministers to discuss the situation Afghanistan at the Parliament House in Islamabad, urging the world to act promptly to address the huge humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.⁴⁷

- In October 2019, as Prime Minister, Khan initiated and conducted peace talks in Tehran between renowned adversaries **Iran and Saudi Arabia**.⁴⁸

iii) **Work Aimed at Creating a Better Organised and More Peaceful World**

- Following the terrorist attack on the USA on September 11th 2001, the world was swept with news of hate crimes against Muslims in the Western world, resulting in further polarisation of faiths and communities and further contributing to global conflict. **Imran Khan presented a resolution to combat this Islamophobia** at the 47th session of foreign ministers of the nations forming the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Council in 2020. The UN General Assembly then adopted, by consensus, a resolution introduced by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC, proclaiming March 15th as International Day to Combat Islamophobia, stating it was aiming to promote a culture of tolerance and peace globally.⁴⁹

- As prime minister, Imran Khan **pledged to allow the people of Kashmir the right to independence** if they were to vote to join Pakistan in a United Nations-mandated plebiscite that had been delayed for decades.⁵⁰
- **Defining the occupation of Palestine by Israel as illegal**, as Prime Minister, he spoke out at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2020 and reiterated Pakistan continues to support a two-state solution – in line with the UN General Assembly and the Security Council resolutions. Imran Khan continues to speak out against the genocide from prison, where he remains.⁵¹
- Khan helped **reverse the Sri Lankan “Anti-Muslim” COVID-19 Cremation Order**. Imran Khan intervened diplomatically during a visit to Sri Lanka, addressing the extreme distress it was causing Sri Lankan Muslims as, due to their Islamic faith, they can only bury, not cremate, the deceased.⁵²
- During the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Muhammad Bin Salman’s visit to Pakistan in Khan’s Prime Ministerial term, Khan made a special request for Prince Muhammad Bin Salman to look into the hardship of Pakistani labourers in Saudi Arabia and those imprisoned there who had left their poor families behind. In response, **the Saudi Crown prince ordered the release of over two thousand Pakistani prisoners**. Khan tweeted that the Crown Prince “won the hearts of the people of Pakistan when he said, ‘Consider me Pakistan’s ambassador to Saudi Arabia’ in response to my asking him to treat the 2.5 million Pakistanis working in KSA as his own.”⁵³
- During his time as Prime Minister of Pakistan, a 96% Muslim majority country, Khan’s administration opened the Shawala Teja Singh Temple for worship 72 years after it was sealed, following the fleeing of thousands of Hindus to India during the partition in 1947.⁵⁴ Similarly, the administration reopened the prominent Hindu philanthropist Sir Ganga Ram’s resting place to the public after evacuating illegal occupants who had been there since ten years.⁵⁵ In an unrelated incident, **Khan announced the Tamgha-i-Shujaat (National Medal of Bravery) for Malik Adnan, a colleague of the Sri Lankan manager who was killed in a harrowing incident by a vigilante mob**. Malik tried to save the Sri Lankan’s life, putting his own life in danger.⁵⁶

iv) Arms Control and Disarmament

- Imran Khan is a pacifist who has remained vocal as an anti-war and pro-dialogue/peace advocate for the world. In one of many similar vocalisations, when Khan spoke to the Saudi media as Prime Minister in an interview regarding the **Saudi-Yemen conflict**, he stated, "I feel that every conflict has a political solution. I am not a believer in a military solution."⁵⁷
- In October 2012, along with many Pakistanis, American anti-war activists organisation PINK also joined Imran Khan in an **anti-drone march** into the dangerous tribal area of Waziristan, despite suicide bombing threats made to the demonstration by the Pakistani Taliban.⁵⁸

v) Efforts to Limit the Harm Done by Man-made Climate Change and Threats to the Environment

- **The Clean Green Pakistan launch** during Khan's term envisioned a people-led movement aiming to bring a behavioural change in the public in order to achieve a sustainable and safe environment for Pakistan.⁵⁹
- In 2015, Imran Khan launched **The Billion Tree Tsunami** initiative, which aimed to turn the tide on land degradation and loss in the mountainous, formerly forested KPK province. The campaign simultaneously helped KPK province fulfil its 348,400 hectare commitment to the Bonn Challenge – a global effort to bring 150 million hectares of deforested and degraded land into restoration by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030. This marked the first Bonn Challenge pledge to reach its restoration goal. This initiative was planned for extension within the remainder of Pakistan.⁶⁰
- During Khan's term, Pakistan emerged as one of the countries to **achieve the United Nations SDG-13 (Sustainable Development Goal) on Climate Action**. This is the first time Pakistan has achieved any SDG goal. Pakistan achieved this UN climate action goal 10 years ahead of the deadline.⁶¹

- Speaking in his capacity as Prime Minister at the Middle East Green Initiative in 2021, Khan pressed upon the importance of not denying climate change whilst **pledging to obtain 60% of Pakistan's energy from renewable energy sources by 2030.**⁶²

i) **Health – The Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital** ⁶³

- Imran Khan has led several health initiatives, both inside and outside of his political roles. His most lauded effort is the creation of the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust Cancer Hospital in Lahore, which opened its doors in 1994 and, more recently, in Peshawar. The hospital provides free cancer treatment at the point of delivery for at least 75% of patients who would otherwise be unable to afford treatment in Pakistan.

Khan named the Shaukat Khanum Cancer Hospital in Lahore after his mother, who passed away from colon cancer aged 63 years in 1985. Khan was inspired to build such a facility after witnessing firsthand the plight of the poor who could not afford cancer treatment in Pakistan. In what he described as a very painful journey, he was still able to afford to take his mother abroad for medical care, while he saw that the poor in Pakistan could not and had to witness their loved ones die avoidable and painful deaths. This touched him deeply. Khan shares this experience in his autobiographical book “Imran Khan, Pakistan, a Personal History.” ⁶⁴

Raising funds for and building a world-class free cancer treatment facility in Pakistan was considered impossible. Khan was advised as such by almost all medical professionals he spoke with. To them, it was just not achievable. However, Khan persisted with his vision and eventually raised over 10 million dollars. Today, the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust is praised globally. At the World Cancer Congress in September 2024, a slide of Imran Khan was part of the presentation, alongside the caption, “We need to find and support political champions for cancer services.” ⁶⁵

ii) **Education – Namal University and other Initiatives**

- Alongside his charitable missions, Imran Khan has shown an ongoing commitment to education and literacy, including a grand vision of world-class higher education being accessible to the underprivileged in Pakistan. After three years of planning and

fundraising, Khan established a large college in the village of Namal, in the Mianwali district of Pakistan.

Namal College started its operations with a one-degree program as an affiliate college of the University of Bradford, UK. In early 2019, Namal was granted degree-awarding status and became the Namal Institute.

As per the Namal website, “Over time, the dream to build an educational institute has evolved into one for establishing the largest university town in Pakistan by the name of Namal Knowledge City.” Namal University now sits on over 1,000 acres of land and offers several degree programmes.⁶⁶

- Imran Khan has held the role of Chancellor at the University of Bradford 2005-2014.⁶⁷

iii) Sport

- Khan is internationally recognised as one of the greatest cricket players in history, having captained Pakistan to World Cup success in 1992.⁶⁸
- As editor of Cricket Life International, a monthly cricket publication, Khan used his position to advocate against racism in cricket.⁶⁹
- Khan was the pioneering force in the introduction of neutral umpires in cricket, resulting in a reduction of conflict within international teams and providing a fair playing field for all.⁷⁰

Unlike the majority of world leaders in modern history, Imran Khan founded a visionary grass roots level movement. His Movement for Justice, which took the form of a political party, became one of the largest political parties in the world and he eventually became Prime Minister after dedicating 26 years of his life to a gruelling fight for democracy and human rights to serve humanity. In doing so, he willingly sacrificed a hard-earned life of comfort and ease.

Throughout this struggle, he has advocated for peace between citizens in his country, and throughout the world.

Imran Khan has not only advocated for international peace through dialogue but has facilitated this process between multiple nations worldwide. In doing so, he has been very well-received, respected, and regarded by multiple prominent global leaders

Unlike many modern leaders of the world, Imran Khan has openly shared he does not believe in military solutions as a means of peace.

Before his political journey in the fight for democracy, Imran Khan toiled to deliver exemplary world-class philanthropic services to humanity after leaving behind a legendary sporting career in which he served as a hero and inspiration to millions of underprivileged people.

Imran Khan's efforts to address climate change are among the most significant among global leaders, regardless of his country's economic challenges.

Despite enduring the harrowing conditions of his imprisonment and the threat to his own life, Imran Khan refuses to compromise on his principles of democracy as a means of securing an easy exit route from prison. 28 years on after starting his Movement for Justice, he remains firm on his principles, continues to convey messages of peaceful democratic protests to his followers, and ultimately is willing to give his life for the cause.

Taken together, the material documented in this report spans democratic advocacy, public policy, peace-oriented diplomacy, philanthropy, environmental action, education and sport.

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