

US election 2024: Trump elected 47th President, Harris camp somber

Washington (News Desk) Donald Trump has been elected the 47th president of the United States, international media reports. With his win in Wisconsin, confirmed by multiple sources, Trump crossed the 270 electoral votes needed to claim the presidency, securing victory in one of the nation's most fiercely contested races. This marks a dramatic return for Trump, who, four years ago, refused to accept defeat, resulting in a violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, a felony conviction, and surviv-

ing two assassination attempts. As the race tightened, the mood at Kamala Harris's election night watch party in Washington, D.C. grew increasingly grim. Supporters who had gathered at Howard University with optimism began to quietly disperse as it became clear Harris would not be delivering an address. The venue, once filled with hopeful chatter, was left empty, marked by abandoned decorations and chairs. This stark contrast to the jubilant celebrations unfolding in Florida, where Trump support-

ers awaited his victory speech, reflected the shifting mood of the night. "I'm devastated," said Dr. Elizabeth Ryznar, a local supporter. "The consequences of a second Trump presidency are unimaginable, and I fear for our country and the planet." Others, however, held onto hope, stressing that several major cities were still counting votes. "It's far from over," said Devante Hill, an attendee. "Metropolitan areas are always Electoral Vote Count." Trump's victory was confirmed after a critical win in Wiscon-

sin, where he defeated Democratic challenger Kamala Harris, clinching the final electoral votes necessary to surpass the 270 threshold. Donald Trump has secured victories in four crucial swing states—Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Georgia, and North Carolina—out of the seven most closely contested states. In a victory speech delivered at Florida's Palm Beach Convention Center, Trump vowed to work tirelessly to deliver a "strong and prosperous America," promising to reshape the nation's future.



World leaders rush to congratulate Donald Trump as he recaptures White House

Justice Aminuddin Khan to head new constitutional bench in SC

ISLAMABAD: (News Desk) In its maiden session on Tuesday, the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) — reconstituted under the 26th Amendment — appointed Justice Aminuddin Khan as head of the seven-judge constitutional bench by a majority vote of seven to five, with Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Yahya Afridi among the dissenting members.

The seven-judge constitutional bench includes representatives from all four provinces: Justice Aminuddin Khan and Justice Ayesha A. Malik from Punjab, Justices Jamal Khan Mandokhail and Naeem Akhtar Afghan from Balochistan, Justices Muhammad Ali Mazhar and Hassan Azhar Rizvi from Sindh, and Justice Musarrat Hilali from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Justice Aminuddin, who ranks fourth in seniority among Supreme Court judges, will lead the bench. Those in the minority were CJP Yahya Afridi, senior puisne judge Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Munib Akhtar, PTI leaders of the opposition in the Senate and the National Assembly Shibli Faraz and Omar Ayub.

The nomination for the constitutional bench is set for a period of 60 days as per legislation passed by parliament on Monday night that increased the number of Supreme Court judges from 17 to 34.

Iran, Pakistan agree to improve border security

ISLAMABAD: (News Desk) Iran on Tuesday emphasised the need for improving coordination with Pakistan to strengthen border security and prevent cross-border terrorist attacks, assuring Pakistani leaders of its commitment to denying terrorists any space to target its neighbouring country. The pledge was made during a visit by Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi, whose discussions in Islamabad centered on regional security concerns, including Israeli genocide in Palestine, invasion of Lebanon and latest aggression against Iran.

Speaking at a dinner reception at the Iranian embassy at the conclusion of his visit, Mr Araghchi acknowledged 'gaps' in the coordination between Iran and Pakistan on border security, though he noted the 'will and good determination' among the leadership to address the issue.

"I told Pakistani officials that we consider terrorism against you as a threat against us," Mr Araghchi said after meeting Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and army chief Gen Asim Munir.

Donald Trump delivers 'victory' speech, vows to 'fix everything'

Florida (News Desk) Donald Trump spoke to supporters at his election headquarters in West Palm Beach, Florida and declared victory in the presidential race.

Trump's election night watch party in West Palm Beach was filled with jubilation celebrations, with his backers embracing, making calls, and tossing MAGA hats into the air as the results from crucial battleground states come in. In a speech delivered, Donald Trump declared his campaign's victory a triumph over formidable and un-

precedented obstacles. "We overcame obstacles that nobody thought possible," Trump stated, reflecting on the challenges his campaign had faced throughout the race.

The 'victory' speech turned to the future as Trump made a bold vow to continue his fight for his supporters' families and the country's prosperity. "Every single day, I will be fighting for you with every breath in my body," Trump promised, positioning himself as a relentless advocate for the American people. "I will not rest until we have de-

livered the strong, safe, and prosperous America."

"We're going to fix everything about our country. We made history for a reason tonight," he said. "It is now clear that we've achieved the most incredible political thing."

Donald Trump praised his running mate, Senator JD Vance, during his victory speech in West Palm Beach, Florida, following his strong lead in the 2024 U.S. presidential election. The event saw Trump and Vance addressing an enthusiastic crowd, as Trump solidified his position for a

second term. In his address, Vance lauded Trump's leadership, calling it pivotal in what he described as "the greatest political comeback in the history of the United States of America."

"Under President Trump's leadership, we're never going to stop fighting for you, for your dreams, for the future of your children," Vance said. He continued, emphasizing their shared vision for America's future, "And after the greatest political comeback in American history, we're going to lead the greatest economic comeback in American history."



PRIME Minister Shehbaz Sharif meets Iranian Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araghchi in Islamabad

Two Pakistan-origin candidates win US elections

Washington (News Desk) Two Pakistani-American Democratic candidates, Salman Bhojani and Suleman Lalani, have made history by securing their second consecutive term in the Texas State House elections. Bhojani, who first entered the assembly in 2022, has focused on vital issues like healthcare, education,

and business development while advocating for immigrant rights. His victory is seen as a key milestone in South Asian American political representation. Suleman Lalani successfully defended his seat in the Texas State Assembly, winning 56.1% of the vote with 32,141 votes against Republican Lee Simmons, who gar-

nered 43.9% with 25,197 votes. Meanwhile, Republican Aaron Bashir, the only Pakistani-American candidate running for Congress, faced a setback in Pennsylvania, losing a tight congressional race. Bhojani's success reflects an increasing trend of South Asian Americans actively participating in shaping U.S. politics,

marking a significant shift toward greater diversity in political leadership. After winning the US presidential election, Donald Trump addressed his supporters in Florida. In a speech delivered, Donald Trump declared his campaign's victory a triumph over formidable and unprecedented obstacles.

Govt increases perks, privileges of high court judges

ISLAMABAD: (News Desk) The federal government has increased salaries and house rent allowance of high court judges, a notification issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice has indicated.

According to the notification signed by acting president Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, the house rent of high court judges has been increased from Rs65,000 to Rs350,000. Likewise, the superior judicial allowance of the judges has also been increased from Rs342,431 to Rs1,090,000. The notification, however, asked the high courts to formulate "a policy in respect of the vehicles including fuel, maintenance, drivers and inter-bench travel".

Nearly 180,000 Pakistanis to perform Haj in 2025

ISLAMABAD: (News Desk) With an evenly split quota for government and private schemes, the new Haj policy, approved by the federal cabinet on Tuesday, allows 179,210 Pakistani nationals to go on pilgrimage next year but puts a restriction on taking children aged below 12 with them. Under Haj Policy 2025, a new portfolio of Nazim (administrator) has been introduced to facilitate the pilgrims. One Nazim will be appointed for each 100 pilgrims, who would be selected from among the welfare staff, as 1,000 seats would be allocated for hardship cases and 300 for labourers and low-income employees registered under the Employees Old-Age Benefit Institution or Workers Welfare Fund.

The cabinet meeting, which was presided over by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, was told that selection under the government scheme would be made through a computerised balloting. The cabinet called for giving preference to those intended pilgrims who could not succeed in the last year's balloting.

Under the policy, Road-to-Makkah facility will be available for pilgrims at Islamabad and Karachi airports, while a special Haj Management App has been developed to facilitate the pilgrims and arrangements have been made for their training. The Haj group organisers would sign a service provider agreement with the Ministry of Religious Affairs, which would be strictly monitored by the ministry.

PM Shehbaz, Bilawal congratulate Trump on US election win

Lahore (News Desk) Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has congratulated Donald Trump on his re-election as US President, calling it a "historic victory" for a second term.

In a tweet, Shehbaz expressed enthusiasm about collaborating with the incoming administration to bolster Pakistan-U.S. relations. "I look forward to working closely with the incoming administration to further strengthen and broaden the Pakistan-U.S. partnership," Shehbaz wrote.

In the clip, Trump can be heard saying, "Hello, my Pakistani American friends. I promise, that if I win, I will try my best to get Imran Khan out of jail as soon as possible. He is my friend, I love him."

I will support him to take over the government again, and rock, and we will work together to make our ties stronger. Imran Khan Zindabad". Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also congratulated Donald Trump on his "election and historic comeback" as U.S. President in a tweet on winning the election.

PM Shehbaz inaugurates work on 2 mega road projects in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: (News Desk) Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday laid the foundation stone of Serena Chowk on Khayaban-i-Suharwardi and PTCL Chowk on 9th Avenue to ensure smooth flow of traffic in the capital city. He was briefed by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and CDA Chairman Mohammad Ali Randhawa that the Serena Chowk project would be completed in 60 days

and 9th Avenue in 100 days. The minister said a Safari Park will also be set up in Islamabad after a few months and the prime minister would be requested for laying the foundation stone of the park as well. Mr Naqvi said two new five-star hotels will be established in Islamabad as the CDA had floated bids for auction of two plots near Marriott. He said besides other

projects, Margalla Avenue will also be linked with Motorway (MI) and after its completion the distance between the President House and the motorway would be covered in 15 to 20 minutes. The minister said South Asia's tallest flat will also be set up in Islamabad soon. After laying the foundation stone of the projects, Prime Minister Sharif appreciated Mr Naqvi and his team, saying Mr

Naqvi had continued the pace of development in Islamabad like he did in Punjab. Mr Sharif said these projects marked the beginning of initiatives for development and prosperity of the residents of Islamabad and other adjoining areas. He said it was good that the projects which were supposed to be completed in six months would be ready in 60 and 100 days. He also appreciat-

ed the interior minister, information minister and CDA teams for beatification work for the recent SCO conference, saying foreign delegates, including the Chinese and Russian prime ministers were impressed with the beauty of Islamabad and they also acknowledged it. He also appreciated the CDA chairman, IGP Islamabad, army officers and all stakeholders involved in making the

SCO summit a successful event. The ceremony was also attended by information minister Atta Tarar and PML-N local MNAs. Under the Serena project worth Rs4.2 billion, three underpasses (two on Srinagar Highway and one on Khayaban-i-Suharwardi) along with some loops would be constructed while the 9th Avenue project worth RsRs4.1 billion includes one flyover.