



History of Exchange

Lahore, Pakistan
Chicago's Sister City Since 2007

Chair: Dr. Tariq Butt

Vice-Chair: Tariq Malhance

2007

February 6

Focus: Signing Agreement

The Official Signing of the Chicago-Lahore Sister City Agreement took place at the Chicago Cultural Center on Tuesday, February 6, 2007. The agreement was signed by The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago and The Honorable Mian Amir Mahmood, District Nazim of Lahore, Pakistan.

2008

January 12

Focus: Recognition

The Lahore Committee Chair, Dr. Tariq Butt made a presentation on the Chicago-Lahore relationship at the Asian American Coalition of Chicago celebrating Lunar New Year Celebration. The Pakistani Community was the official host of this year's celebration. A letter of recognition for public service from the President of the United States was read at the event and presented to Dr. Butt.

April 29

Focus: Government

The Honorable Mian Amer Mahmood, Mayor of Lahore participated in The Fourth Annual Richard J. Daley Urban Forum in Chicago, Illinois. Mayor Mahmood participated on a panel titled "Innovation in Access to Health Care and Education."

April 30

Focus: Government

The Honorable Mian Amer Mahmood, Mayor of Lahore, Pakistan addressed an audience of Chicago Sister Cities International members at a dinner in his honor at the Union League Club of Chicago.

September 20

Focus: Arts & Culture

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities and Endless eye Productions, in association with the Iqbal Academy Pakistan proudly presented “A Message from the East” a feature documentary on Allama Muhammed Iqbal, the visionary poet and philosopher.

The evening featured Iftar, Maghrib, Dinner, Iqbal Poetry Recitation, and exclusive sneak peek preview of “A Message from the East”, and a Q&A with the filmmakers.

2009

September 20

Focus: Arts & Culture

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International and Endless Eye productions, in association with the Iqbal Academy Pakistan presented “A Message from the East”. This was a featured documentary which expressed the visionary works of a poet and Philosopher Allama Muhammed Iqbal. Included in this event were a traditional Iftar, Maghrib prayer, dinner, and Iqbal Poetry recitation.

October 1-4

Focus: Medical

Dr. Iqtedar Ahmed from Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital & Research Center participated in the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium – Sister Cities Medical Initiative.

Focus: Government

The Honorable Mian Amer Mahmood, Mayor of Lahore came to Chicago for meetings.

2010

May 27

Focus: Arts & Culture

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International held a public book launch event of 26-year-old Pakistani-American author, Farhan Noorani’s book titled, *Mea Culpa*, in Preston Bradley Hall of the Chicago Cultural Center. The reception included a reading by Farhan and book signing afterwards. Anchor Ravi Baichwal of ABC 7 News emceed the speaking program, and Secretary of State Jesse White said a few words. Traditional Pakistani food was served, in addition to more modern fare. The event was attended by approximately 150 people.

July 27

Focus: Public Safety

On the morning of July 27, a video conference was held between Chicago safety officials and representatives from the Lahore and Punjab State to discuss public safety operations. The video conference took place at Chicago’s 911 Emergency Communications Center.

August 27

Focus: Arts & Culture

On the closing day of the 5th Annual Chicago Sister Cities International Festival in Millennium Park, the Sister City of Lahore was represented via a performance by Chicago’s own Absolutraag, performing classical to modern compositions.

August 30

Focus: Humanitarian

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International in conjunction with the Humanitarian Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International, the Badin Education and Welfare Trust, the Pakistan Physician Society and the Sarah Foundation, along with honorary co-hosts Hon. Richard J. Durbin, United States Senator, Hon. Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, Hon. Richard M. Daley, Mayor, City of Chicago and Hon. Jessie White, Illinois Secretary of State, hosted a reception in Preston Bradley Hall of the Chicago Cultural Center benefiting the American Red Cross's Pakistan Relief efforts after the devastating floods that left nearly one-fifth of Pakistan under water. A total of \$38,284 was raised.

October 20

Focus: Arts & Culture

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International presented its first ever public multi-media exhibition, titled *From Chicago to Lahore: Connecting Edge*, curated by Sadia Uquaili, Arts & Culture Chair of the Committee.

This premier exhibition featured drawings, films, photographs, writings and paintings by artists with works ranging from renowned masterpieces to contemporary explorations in various media. Artists included the likes of Abdur Rahman Chughtai, Adam Siegel, Bashir Ahmed, Khalid Iqbal, Meher Afroze, Tassaduq Sohail, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker John Lyons, MacArthur Fellow Shahzia Sikander and Berlin Today Award-winning filmmaker Maheen Zia.

2011

August 18

Focus: Government, Culture

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International held a Ramadan Celebration reception in which the committee welcomed Mr. Amer Ahmad, the new City of Chicago Comptroller, who is of Pakistani descent.

September 15-18

Focus: Medical

Dr. Susheel Kumar from the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital & Research Centre in Lahore, Pakistan participated in the 13th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium in Chicago as part of a grant from Northwestern Memorial Hospital. The grant allowed one physician from each Chicago Sister City to attend the Symposium.

2012

March 16

Focus: Culture

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International hosted a reception celebrating the 5th Anniversary of Chicago's Sister City relationship with Lahore in the G.A.R. Hall and Rotunda of the Chicago Cultural Center. Traditional Pakistani fare and entertainment (sitar and tabla music) complemented the event, which was attended by 130 members of the Pakistani community and supporters including the Honorable Consul General Khan, Tammy Duckworth and Pamela Leeming, the first Pakistani-American judge in the United States.

August 6-10**Focus: Culture**

The 7th Annual Chicago Sister Cities International Festival transformed Daley Plaza into an international village filled with merchants, food, music, and dance from Chicago's 28 Sister Cities. Merchants Elegant Peddler and Pakistan Fashion Lounge sold traditional Pakistani arts and crafts representing the culture and heritage of Lahore.

October 4-7**Focus: Medical**

The 14th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium was a professional educational event highlighting the most recent clinical and scientific advances in breast cancer research. Dr. Azhar Shafi from Shaikat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital participated and represented Galway in the 2012 symposium.

October 17**Focus: Arts & Culture**

The Lahore Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International presented its second public multi-media exhibition, curated by Sadia Uquaili, Arts & Culture Chair of the Lahore Committee. This exhibition featured drawings, films, photographs, writings and paintings by various artists from various backgrounds.