



Tweet



Forward



+1



Share



Share

Dear Readers,

This May, the British Pakistani community has much to celebrate. The UK's 56th General Election saw a record number of ethnic Pakistanis being elected as MPs. With ten seats in Parliament, the community has never been so well represented in the political sphere in the UK. This historic result represents the mainstreaming of the community. We are proud of the achievements and efforts of our fellow British Pakistanis and wish to celebrate their success. And so, we have dedicated this edition of the newsletter to applauding the re-elected and newly elected British Pakistani MPs.

We are also delighted to announce two upcoming BPF events. BPF's Women's Network has collaborated with playwright and actor, Aizzah Fatima, to host a story-telling workshop and tickets for her solo comedy show, [Dirty Paki Lingerie](#). In June, BPF will also be convening its second [Business and Professionals Club event](#). The function is a follow-up after the resounding success of our Business and Professionals Network launch event in March and will focus on entrepreneurship and business pitching.

While there have been many positive developments here in the UK, we are outraged and deeply saddened by events in Pakistan; the attack on the Ismaili community, and the murder of civil society activist Sabeen Mahmud. Our heart goes out the victims of the senseless violence in Pakistan, and we hope and pray for a peaceful and tolerant country.

Best Wishes,

The British Pakistan Foundation Team




---

## A Record Number of British Pakistanis in Parliament

The 56th UK General Election saw a record number of British Pakistanis being elected to Parliament.

Ten British Pakistanis representing Labour, the Conservatives and the Scottish National Party (SNP) have been elected as MPs in this historic election, which has seen high levels of diversity and ethnic minority representation. This marks the changing electoral map in the UK, and the growing prominence of British Pakistanis in the political sphere.

Sajid Javid, the Conservative Party's first Muslim cabinet minister, has been re-elected as MP for Bromsgrove. Other British Pakistani Conservative MPs include Rehman Chisti from Gillingham & Rainham and Nusrat Ghani from Wealden. From Labour, Yasmin Qureshi has been elected from Bolton South East, Shabana Mahmood from Birmingham Ladywood, Khalid Mahmood from Birmingham Perry Bar, Imran Hussain from Bradford East, Sadiq Khan from Tooting and Naseem Shah from Bradford West.

Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh, representing the SNP, has been elected from Ochil & South Perthshire.

At BPF, we would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to all the British Pakistanis who have been newly elected or re-elected!



---

## Upcoming BPF Events



### [#OurStoriesMatter and Dirty Paki Lingerie](#)

LONDON: May 30, 2015

The BPF's Women's Network is excited to present an exclusive offer: tickets to the hit comedy show, Dirty Paki Lingerie, and a four hour story telling and performance with playwright and actor Aizzah Fatima and drama educator Abdul-Rehman Malik for only 20.

The workshop aims to use forum theatre, improvisation and creative writing techniques to create a space for participants to tell their stories, and learn new skills in an interactive and oftentimes hilarious environment.

Dirty Paki Lingerie is a one-woman comedy show and has been written and performed by Aizzah Fatima and directed by Erica Gould. The production is set in a post 9/11 America and explores the lives of six Pakistani-American Muslim women, aged six to sixty-five, as they navigate their existence between the chaotic juncture of two cultures. The play has received rave reviews and has been playing to sold-out audiences in New York, Toronto, Pakistan, Edinburgh and London

[\[Read More\]](#)



---

### [Entrepreneurship, Networking and Business Pitching](#)

LONDON: June 4, 2015

BPF is proud to announce the second Business and Professionals Club networking event, 'Entrepreneurship, Networking and Business Pitching'.

Book your ticket today and join over 150 professionals and business leaders for an evening of networking at the prestigious Ritz Carlton Hotel in London.

The event will also feature talks by successful entrepreneurs and professionals including Bill Morrow, CEO of Angels Den, Daniel Murray, Co-Founder of Grabble, Henna Riaz, Founder of 360 Audit, Julianne Ponan from Creative Nature, and Imran Khan from Imran Khan Solicitors.

To book your ticket, please click [here](#).

---

## Other Events

### Dil Phaink



LONDON: May 15 - 25, 2015

PeaceNiche, an in initiative by the late, great Sabeen Mahmud, brings 'Dil Phaink', a multi-media love letter to the Pakistan polity to the Alchemy Festival at the London's South Bank Centre.

Dil Phaink sees artists, graphic designers, typographers, musicians, writers and videographers and architects coming together to showcase Pakistani street culture, cinema and art.

The exhibition is a moving, tragic, often hilarious and beautifully staged testament to Pakistan's resilience and its colourful, vibrant culture.

[\[Read More\]](#)



### Vision 2030

LONDON: May 21, 2015

Forum for Change, an initiative of The Concordia Forum, presents Forum for Change: Reconstructing Narratives in Europe'. The event explores what British Muslim culture will look like in the next 15 years.

The sold-out event includes talks by prominent thinkers, journalists and academics, including David Aaronovitch from The Times, Nomia Iqbal from the BBC, Joy Lo Dico from the Evening Standard, Nesrine Malik from the Guardian and Ziauddin Sardar, author.

Patrons will be subsidising 20 places for the event for 30.00

[\[Read More\]](#)

---

## News and Highlights

### Karachi Attacks

At BPF, we would like to extend our most heartfelt



condolences to the families of the victims of the tragic bus attack in Karachi, and to Sabeen Mahmud's family.

We are deeply outraged by the continuing violence in Pakistan and the senseless attacks on minority groups and members of civil society.

We hope and pray for a tolerant, peaceful and inclusive Pakistan.

---

## Spotlight on British Pakistani MPs



**Khalid Mahmood**

**Labour MP for Birmingham Perry Barr**

Khalid Mahmood is a British Labour Party politician and has been a Member of Parliament for Birmingham Perry Barr since 2001.



**Imran Hussain**

**Labour MP for Bradford East**

Imran is a British Labour politician and was elected as Member of Parliament for Bradford East in May 2015.



**Naseem Shah**

**Labour MP for Bradford West**

Naseem Shah was elected as a Member of Parliament for the Labour Party from Bradford West in the 2015 General Election.

---

**Nusrat Ghani**



### Conservative MP for Wealden

Nusrat Ghani was elected as a Conservative MP for Wealden in the 2015 General Election.



### Rehman Chisti

#### Conservative MP for Gillingham and Rainham

Rehman was elected as the Conservative MP for Gillingham and Rainham in 2010, and was re-elected in 2015.



### Sadiq Khan

#### Labour MP for Tooting

Sadiq Khan was elected as the Labour Party MP for Tooting in 2005, and has been re-elected in the 2010 and 2015 General Elections.

Sadiq recently announced that he is running to be Labour's candidate in the 2016 London mayoral election.



### Shabana Mahmood

#### Labour MP for Birmingham Ladywood

Shabana Mahmood is a British Labour Party politician and was elected as Member of Parliament for Birmingham Ladywood in 2010 and in 2015.

### Sajid Javid

#### Conservative MP for Bromsgrove

Sajid has been a Member of Parliament for Bromsgrove since 2010. From 2014 - 2015, he served as Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

In May 2015, Sajid was re-elected as an MP, and was elected as Secretary of State for



Business, Innovation and Skills.



**Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh**

**SNP MP for Ochil and South Perthshire**

Tasmina was elected as Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire in Scotland in May 2015



**Yasmin Qureshi**

**Labour MP for Bolton South East**

Yasmin Qureshi is a Labour politician and has been elected as Member of Parliament in 2010 and 2015.

## Career Opportunities

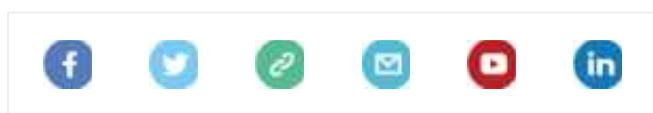
### Communications Specialist

**Organisation:** British Pakistan Foundation

**Location:** London

**Deadline:** June 12, 2015

Interested candidates should send a CV and covering letter to [info@bpfuk.org](mailto:info@bpfuk.org).



Join BPF's Membership Programme [\[Click Here\]](#)

*You are receiving this email because you opted in at the BPF website or are a member of the BPF community*

**Our mailing address is:**

The British Pakistan Foundation  
Room F57A, First Floor  
New Wing, Somerset House Strand  
London WC2R 1LA

[info@bpfuk.org](mailto:info@bpfuk.org)