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SPEECH BY PRIME MINISTER MR LEE KUAN YEW

AT THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY OF THE

NISHAN-I-QUAID-I-AZAM ON 19 MARCH 1988

Thank you for this high award in recognition of Singapore's achievements.

I am most gratified that an Asian friend and neighbour has made this acknowledgement of her esteem for the efforts of Singaporeans to attain a better standard of living and a more just and equal society. Singaporeans are a people of diverse ethnic origins. We have made economic and social progress only because Singaporeans consciously set out to become a tolerant and harmonious multiracial and multi-religious society.

National Archives of Singapore

I am happy to be in Pakistan and honoured to be your dinner guest. I hope my visit will strengthen the close and warm relations between our two countries and the bonds of friendship between our peoples. We have great respect for the courageous and firm stand you had taken when foreign forces invaded and

occupied Afghanistan in 1979. Pakistan has made a vital contribution to international peace and security. Your stand has been vindicated.

Under your leadership, Pakistan has made both political and economic progress and has moved ahead despite difficult problems inherited from the past.

Your Excellency, I am privileged to enjoy your friendship and goodwill. I thank you and the Government and people of Pakistan once again for bestowing this honour upon me.

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