



## EMBASSY OF THE PHILIPPINES ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN



### ★★★ PHILIPPINE EMBASSY CELEBRATES 127TH INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN LAHORE ★★★

LAHORE, 21 June 2025—The Philippine Honorary Consulate in Lahore proudly held a vibrant celebration of the 127<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence Day on 21 June 2025 at the Khurshed Mahal Hall, Avari Hotel, Lahore, with the presence of select personnel from the Philippine Embassy in Islamabad.

The event was attended by over 250 guests from the diplomatic corps, government, business sector, civil society, and the Filipino community in Punjab. The celebration was graced by the Honorable Senator Michael Kamran as Chief Guest, alongside Philippine Ambassador to Pakistan, Dr. Emmanuel R. Fernandez, and Honorary Consul Mr. Fahdel Sheikh.

In his keynote remarks, Ambassador Fernandez emphasized the significance of this year's theme — “Kalayaan, Kinabukasan, Kasaysayan” — highlighting that the freedoms enjoyed by Filipinos today were hard-won and that every citizen, including those living and working overseas, has an important role in shaping the nation's future. He expressed pride in the resilience, compassion, and heritage that Filipinos carry with them, and underscored the role of the Filipino community in strengthening the bonds of friendship between the Philippines and Pakistan. Senator Kamran, for his part, reflected on the shared struggles for independence and heritage of both nations. He acknowledged the valuable contributions of the Filipino community in Punjab, commending their professionalism, strong work ethic, and integrity.

A commemorative video message from President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. was screened during the program, followed by captivating cultural performances featuring traditional dances and patriotic songs performed by members of the Filipino community and Pakistani-Pinoy families. Highlights included the Pasigin, Ragragsakan, Kapamalong-malong, Los Bailes De Ayer, Manang Biday, and Cariñosa dances, among others, as well as heartfelt renditions of “Ako ay Pilipino” and a medley of well-known songs.

The evening also featured a ceremonial cake-cutting and the awarding of certificates to sponsors and performers. The celebration was a testament to the strong bilateral ties between the Philippines and Pakistan and a reflection of the shared values of resilience, heritage, and unity that continue to connect both nations.

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The Embassy extends its sincere gratitude to the Filipino community in Lahore, its local partners, and sponsors for their dedicated support and active participation in making this event a meaningful and memorable commemoration of Philippine Independence Day. END



*Ambassador Emmanuel R. Fernandez (center) is warmly welcomed by the organizing committee of the 2025 Philippine Independence Day celebration in Lahore, led by Honorary Consul Fahdel Sheikh (third from right) and his spouse, Sajja Sheikh (third from left)*







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The Philippine Embassy delegation, led by Ambassador Emmanuel R. Fernandez (fifth from left), joins the celebration of the 127<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence Day in Lahore, hosted by the Philippine Honorary Consulate at Khurshed Mahal Hall, Avari Hotel on 21 June 2025



Members of the Filipino Community in Lahore, elegantly dressed in their Filipinianas for the occasion, gathered for a commemorative photo with Ambassador Emmanuel R. Fernandez (third from right, second row) at the conclusion of the 127<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence Day celebration in Lahore, 2025

