

Vote of Thanks

by **Shah Murad Aliani**¹

Honorable Chief Justice of Pakistan Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry, Honorable Judges of the Supreme Court, Honorable Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of AJK and the Federal Shariat Court, Honorable Chief Justices and Judges of the High Courts, the Attorney General for Pakistan, respected delegates from district judiciary and judicial officers, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen!

It's my privilege to present a vote of thanks on this auspicious occasion.

As we move towards the close of the South Asia Conference on Environmental Justice, I must first and foremost express my gratitude to all of you for your interest and participation. Your presence at the first conference on environmental justice in Pakistan, under the patronage of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, is a very positive sign of the willingness of all Members and other distinguished participants to share their experiences and ideas with the ultimate aim of improving the quality of court rulings on environment and natural resource cases, and to be able to achieve effective enforcement of environmental law in the region.

I, on behalf of the organizers extend a very hearty vote of thanks to the Honorable Chief Justice of Pakistan, the honorable judges and all guest speakers for gracing the Conference and sharing their experiences, wisdom and thoughts with this audience.

I take this opportunity to extend our most sincere thanks to all our guest invitees who have come from different destinations to demonstrate their support and share their ideas. Even though we have tried to anticipate and cater to every ones' needs, I do apologize if any unintentional inconvenience was caused to anyone during the course of this conference and do hope that you will forgive us.

I must also acknowledge the contributions of all those who have presented papers at this conference, and am most grateful to the presenters who have worked very hard with input from the participants, and proposed excellent recommendations, which will hopefully be the basis for a refined environmental prosecution, adjudication and enforcement system in Pakistan. Thank you for your invaluable contribution.

An event of this scale cannot happen overnight. The wheels start rolling months in advance. It requires meticulous planning and execution and an eye for detail. We have been fortunate to be backed by a team of very motivated and dedicated colleagues of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, ADB and IUCN, who know their job and are result oriented. I cannot thank everyone enough for the efforts they have made and the willingness they have expressed to take on the completion of tasks beyond their comfort zones. Most importantly, the guidance provided by the "Committee for Enhancing Environmental Justice", under the

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leadership of Honorable Mr. Justice Anwar Zaheer Jamali has been extremely encouraging for the entire team. I believe under the patronage of the Honorable Chief Justice of Pakistan, the Committee will continue its efforts for the enhancement of environmental justice in Pakistan.

Once again, I thank you all.