



13th November 2025

The President of the
Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Aiwan-e-Saddar, Islamabad.

Re: **Resignation from the office of Judge, Supreme Court of Pakistan**

Mr. President,

Eleven years ago, I took the oath of office as a judge of the Islamabad High Court. Four years later, I swore an oath as that court's Chief Justice. Another four years on, I swore an oath as a judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Across this period of more than a decade in these robes, and across all those oaths, the solemn promise that I made was fundamentally the same. It was not an oath to a constitution; it was an oath to the Constitution.

2. Prior to the passage of the Twenty-Seventh Amendment, I wrote to the Chief Justice of Pakistan, expressing concern over what its proposed features meant for our constitutional order. I need not reproduce the detailed contents of that letter, but suffice it to say that, against a canvas of selective silence and inaction, those fears have now come to be.

3. It has been my greatest honour and privilege to serve the people of Pakistan as part of its judiciary and I have, to the best of my ability, endeavoured to discharge my duties in accordance with my oath. Today, it is that very same oath that compels me to tender my formal resignation.

4. The Constitution that I swore an oath to uphold and defend is no more. Much as I have tried to convince myself otherwise, I can think of no greater assault on its memory than to pretend that, as new foundations are now laid, they rest upon anything other than its grave. For, what is left of it is a mere shadow – one that breathes neither its spirit, nor speaks the words of the people to whom it belongs.

5. These robes we wear are more than mere ornaments. They are to serve as a reminder of that most noble trust bestowed upon those fortunate enough to don them. Instead, throughout our history, they have too often stood as symbols of betrayal – through silence and complicity alike. If future generations are to see them any differently, then our future cannot be a repeat of our past.

5. It is in that ardent hope that I now hang these robes up for the last time, and tender my formal resignation from the office of Judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, with immediate effect.

May those who judge do so in Truth.

(Signature)
13th Nov 2025
(Justice Athar Minallah)

Supreme Court of Pakistan, Constitution Avenue, Islamabad

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