CONDEMNED THE DEROGATORY CARTOON

PRESS RELEASE

Rao Muhammad Akhtar - Press Secretary

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Prof. Khurshid Ahmad

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<u>Islamabad (May 9, 2005)</u>: Senator Prof. Khurshid Ahmad has strongly condemned the derogatory cartoon published by the Washington Times that portrays Pakistan as a dog doing the dirty work for Uncle Sam.

Saying "while we condemn this outrageous insult to Pakistan as a nation", Professor Khurshid Ahmad added, "This cartoon is also a mirror in which the rulers of Pakistan, who have mortgaged our sovereignty and independence to the present US establishment, can see their picture as American leadership sees it."

We condemn the publication of the cartoon and the desecration of the Holy Quran by the American Armed Forces in Guantanamo Bay, he said. "But our real response must come in the form of reviewing our relationship with the US and putting an end to the dirty work that we are being forced to perform for the US establishment in its so-called war against terror," he emphasized. He noted that the war has now itself become a war against Islam and Muslims.

There is a limit to humiliations that are being inflicted on us, and our government and Parliament must take a firm stand by bringing to an end this abject and unconditional surrender. In these critical times, he said, we need more than ever to adopt "a foreign policy that is in keeping with the demands of our sovereignty, independence and national honor".