



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION ISLAMABAD

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Press Release

The sacrifice of Pakistani soldiers at Gallipoli remembered on ANZAC Day

The sacrifice and service of Pakistani servicemen of the 7 Mountain Artillery Brigade which was attached to the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) in the 1915 Gallipoli campaign, were remembered today at a service at the Australian High Commission in Islamabad.

Today also saw the first contingent of former Pakistan Servicemen march in the ANZAC Day parades in Australia's national capital Canberra, state capitals Sydney, Brisbane, Perth, and the NSW regional city of Armidale.

Australian High Commissioner Margaret Adamson said the service and sacrifice of Pakistani soldiers who fought shoulder to shoulder with ANZAC soldiers at Gallipoli was a testament to the enduring friendship between Australia and Pakistan.

ANZAC Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand to commemorate all those who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. In both countries on this day, dawn services, marches by veterans, and gunfire breakfasts are held in every town and city.

"Today, ANZAC Day, we remember all those who have laid down their lives in service to their countries for peace and security," Ms Adamson said. "At the same time we remember the countless victims of conflict and terrorist or extremist violence, then and today. We must never forget their sacrifice and bear witness to the horror and futility of conflict and war, of terrorism and of violent extremism in all its forms."

On 25 April 1915, ANZAC soldiers landed at Gallipoli in Turkey. The 7 Mountain Artillery Brigade comprising 26 Jacob's Battery Artillery, the 21st Kohat Mountain Battery Artillery (part of today's Frontier Force) and the 89 Punjab Regiment (today's Baloch Regiment) were attached to the ANZAC forces. They landed on the first day alongside Australian and New Zealand soldiers. These artillery units were the first to be deployed ashore and the last to leave when the force was evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915. The Brigade sustained more than 400 casualties in the first 10 days of fighting alongside the ANZACs.

After extensive re-designation over the years, these units are now known as the First Self Propelled Regiment Artillery (Frontier Force) and the First Baloch Regiment. The Director General Artillery, MAJ GEN Farhan Akhtar, accompanied by members of the Regiments attended the Islamabad Service.

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