

**PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC)
PRESS WING**

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ISLAMABAD, Mar 21 (APP):President Mamnoon Hussain on Wednesday called upon the Ulema (religious scholars) to make solid intellectual efforts in order to confront foreign cultural invasion and to safeguard the welfare and wellbeing of humanity.

In a meeting with Grand Mufti of Egypt Dr Shawki Ibrahim Abdul-Karim here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, the President said there was a dire need to devise a strategy in line of Quran and Sunnah to address the challenges of extremism.

He mentioned that a recent fatwa issued by nearly two thousand Ulema of Pakistan against terrorism was in the same spirit.

President Mamnoon welcomed Egypt's Grand Mufti and said his visit to Pakistan would strengthen the relations between the two countries.

He said both the brotherly countries had similarity of opinion on international issues and had been supporting each other at various global fora.

The President lauded the contribution of Egypt's Al Azhar University in promotion of teachings of Islam and emphasized on exchange of knowledge between the Ulema of both countries. Grand Mufti Dr Shawki Ibrahim Abdul-Karim conveyed President Mamnoon best wishes from Egypt's President General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and also felicitated the Pakistani nation on Pakistan Day. He termed the fatwa by Pakistani religious scholars against terrorism and extremism significant in eradicating these evils.
