

Message from Dr. Arif Alvi
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

(On the occasion of Christmas, 2018)

I extend my warmest greetings to our Christian brethren all over the world particularly Pakistan on the joyous occasion of Christmas. Much more than festivity and celebration, the spirit of Christmas is to share, to reach out, and to love all humanity.

Jesus Christ brought and preached the message of peace, brotherhood and love for the whole humanity. He guided people towards virtuous living and urged them to seek Divine mercy. As a Divine Messenger, Jesus Christ is venerable to adherents of all religions especially Islam.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to commend the sincere efforts of our Christian Community for the socio-economic development of our country. I also take this opportunity to pay rich tribute to the sacrifices made by our Christian brethren in Pakistan's fight against terrorism.

The Government of Pakistan holds sacrosanct the principle of equal rights and freedom for all citizens irrespective of belief, creed or religion. Our commitment to these fundamental principles is firmly based on the teachings of Islam, vision of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and inviolable guarantees of our Constitution. We are committed to building a society that respects difference and finds strength in diversity; a nation that is tolerant and cohesive; and a state that provides equal rights and opportunities to all citizens.

We are proud of our Christian brethren; they are an integral part of our multicultural polity; and together we are building a strong and prosperous Pakistan, for ourselves and our children.

May the blessings of Allah Almighty be with us all.
