

CIVIC RECEPTION IN HONOUR OF QUAID-E-AZAM MUHAMMAD ALI JINNAH

'THIS BEAUTIFUL CITY IS VERY DEAR TO ME'

Quaid-e-Azam

The Municipal annals of Karachi will always revere 25th August 1947 when the great Quaid graced the Karachi Municipality with his presence on the occasion of a civic reception hosted by it.

Elegantly clad in a white achkan, the Quaid, accompanied by Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah and Quaid-e-Millat Liaquat Ali Khan, was warmly welcomed by the Mayor, Hakim Muhammad Ahsan on behalf of the citizens of Karachi. Outside the Municipality Hall, a huge crowd was ecstatic to receive their beloved leader and were chanting slogans of Allah-o-Akbar and Pakistan Zindabad. The honored guests were profusely garlanded and were respectably lead to the rostrum. The Mayor delivered his address of welcome that was first of its kind presented to the Quaid in Karachi. The address was laden with love and affection and exuded genuine warmth and gratitude. The Quaid acknowledged the gesture by commenting that Pakistanis have sanctified Karachi by making it their first and primary abode as it was his place of birth.

The Mayor of Karachi, Hakim Muhammad

Ahsan, described the difficulties experienced by Karachi due to the Second World War and said that despite the financial assistance given by federal and provincial governments, Karachi Municipality is facing financial difficulties. He said that since there is scarcity of civic taxation therefore there is a dire need for monetary aid. He also said that Karachi should be provided with more share in local taxation so that its municipality becomes financially viable. Hakim Ahsan underscored the privileged position of Mayor in official and social hierarchy and emphasized that, keeping in view the international position of Karachi, its Mayor should be accorded appropriate status along with enhancing the responsibility and authority of its municipal body.

Responding to the address of welcome the Quaid expressed his delight at being present on this occasion. He said that this beautiful city is very dear to him not only that it was his birth place but also

