

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

-----

**ISLAMABAD: June 23, 2017:** President Mamnoon Hussain has said that participation of the society is of pivotal importance in the process of alleviation of poverty apart from the right policies at the state level.

The President was addressing an Iftar Dinner hosted for the Non-Governmental Organization "Akhuwat" which works for the alleviation of poverty at the Aiwan-e-Sadr on Friday. On the occasion, interest free loans were also given to the women to start their own businesses. Executive Director of "Akhuwat" Dr. Amjad Saqib also addressed the ceremony.

The President said that participation of all segments of the society in efforts to eliminate poverty promotes brotherhood and also raises the moral standards of the society, which renders salutary impacts on all disciplines of life. Pakistani society is very lucky in this respect that its people have willingly taken part in the welfare work but still there is much work left to do.

The President expressed his pleasure that the families which received assistance from "Akhuwat" utilized this financial assistance very honestly to stand on their own feet and also tried to support others. He also hoped that the families which are starting a new journey after getting assistance from this organization will forward this process of cooperation, compassion and empathy by following these bright examples.

The President stated that the objective of the establishment of Pakistan was to hold the hands of the weak, bring them at par with the well-endowed segments of the society and stop the high-handedness of the cruel so that the society can be saved from chaos and anarchy. Pakistan is moving step by step towards achieving these goals. Micro financing from "Akhuwat" is also part of the same process and millions of people from all around the country have benefitted from it.

The President appreciated the fact that Dr. Amjad Saqib and his colleagues have set a new trend of accepting their own responsibility by setting aside the stereotype that all has to be done by the government. He further said that this experiment of “Akhuwat” is also part of the establishment and promotion of an egalitarian economic system. It is the strength of this movement that now Federal and Provincial governments are using its platform for their services towards reduction of poverty.

The President also praised the services of Dr. Amjad Saqib and “Akhuwat” adding that their efforts will result in poverty alleviation and will also strengthen the progressive forces in the society. On the occasion, three women who established themselves after receiving assistance from “Akhuwat” also shared their experiences with the audience.

\*\*\*\*\*