

# Liaquat Ali Khan - Shaheed-e-Millat

- Liaquat Ali Khan - Shaheed-e-Millat..... 1
  - Early Life.....2
  - Political Career.....2
  - Role in Pakistan's Formation.....3
  - Domestic and Foreign Policies .....3
  - Assassination.....3
  - Legacy .....3
  - Famous Quotes.....3



**Born:** October 1, 1895

**Died:** October 16, 1951

**Known for:** First Prime Minister of Pakistan

**Title:** Quaid-e-Millat (Leader of the Nation)

**Position:** 1st Prime Minister of Pakistan

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**Liaquat Ali Khan** was a prominent Pakistani statesman and the first Prime Minister of Pakistan. Serving from 1947 until his assassination in 1951, he played a pivotal role in the country's early political landscape and is revered as the "Shaheed-e-Millat" (Martyr of the Nation).

## Early Life

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Born on October 1, 1895, in Karnal, British India, Liaquat hailed from a well-off landowning family. He received his early education at the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College in Aligarh and later pursued higher studies at Oxford University, earning a degree in political science. He was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in London, equipping him with a strong foundation in law and governance.

## Political Career

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Upon returning to India, Liaquat entered politics in 1923, joining the All-India Muslim League. He quickly rose through the ranks, becoming a close associate of Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Liaquat was instrumental in the Pakistan Movement, advocating for the rights of Muslims in the subcontinent.

His eloquence and dedication made him a key figure in negotiations with the British and the Indian National Congress.

## Role in Pakistan's Formation

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After the creation of Pakistan in 1947, Liaquat was appointed as the nation's first Prime Minister. He faced the monumental task of setting up a new government, establishing administrative structures, and addressing the challenges of partition, including the influx of refugees and communal tensions.

## Domestic and Foreign Policies

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Domestically, Liaquat emphasized the importance of democracy, rule of law, and economic development. He introduced the Objectives Resolution in 1949, laying the foundation for Pakistan's constitution and asserting the country's commitment to Islamic principles and democracy.

On the international front, Liaquat sought to position Pakistan as a significant player during the early Cold War era. He visited the United States in 1950, strengthening bilateral relations and securing economic and military assistance. His foreign policy aimed to balance relations between major powers while safeguarding Pakistan's sovereignty.

## Assassination

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Tragically, Liaquat's life was cut short on October 16, 1951, when he was assassinated while addressing a public gathering at Company Bagh in Rawalpindi. The assassin, Said Akbar, was immediately shot dead by the police, leaving the motives behind the attack shrouded in mystery. The assassination plunged the nation into mourning and led to political instability.

## Legacy

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Liaquat Ali Khan's contributions to Pakistan's early years remain significant. He is remembered for his dedication to democracy, his efforts to establish a strong administrative framework, and his vision for a progressive Pakistan. Monuments, educational institutions, and public spaces bear his name, ensuring that his legacy endures.

## Famous Quotes

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*"The foundations of Pakistan have been laid and we have to build the structure. It is now for us to work and work hard, and we all hope to make Pakistan a great nation."*

*"We shall have to work in our sphere with the same spirit and determination as the Quaid-i-Azam did in his."*