

PRESS RELEASE

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PNS SAIF PARTICIPATES IN 5th JOINT PAK-CHINA NAVAL EXERCISE AT SHANGHAI

Islamabad, 09 Dec 17: Pakistan Navy Ship SAIF (FFG-253) participated in 5th PN-PLA(N) Bilateral Exercise held at Shanghai, China . Upon arrival, the ship was received at sea by Chinese Navy (PLA (N)) Frigate JINGZHOU off port Wusong, Shanghai. An impressive welcoming ceremony was held in which senior officials of Shanghai Naval Base along with Defence Attaché and Naval Attaché of Pakistan received the ship.

During the stay in the port, the Commanding Officer PNS SAIF called on senior civil/ military officials including Mayor of Shanghai, Mr. Fan Yufei and Commander of Shanghai Naval Base, Rear Admiral Wang Jianxun. An overwhelming response from Chinese authorities was received during reception dinner onboard PNS SAIF. Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Mr. Masood Khalid, co-hosted the event along with ship's Commanding Officer. A large number of guests representing civil/ diplomatic/ military communities in Shanghai attended the dinner.

PN-PLA(N) Bilateral Exercises were instituted in 2014 when Pakistan and Chinese Navies conducted inaugural joint exercise in Pakistani waters of North Arabian Sea. The second exercise of the series was conducted in East China Sea in year 2015 whereas both third and fourth exercises were held in beginning and end of year 2016 in North Arabian Sea. Now the 5th exercise of the series has been conducted in Chinese waters off Shanghai wherein PNS SAIF and frontline warships of PLA(N) along with air and subsurface assets participated to carry out joint drills and naval maneuvers to develop interoperability between the two Naval Forces. Observers from both Navies were also exchanged to learn and benefit from each other's professional experiences. In addition, Marines teams of both PN and PLA(N) also held joint training and tactical drills.

The present visit of PNS SAIF to China and conduct of 5th PN-PLA(N) Bilateral Exercise will further strengthen friendly and professional ties between the two important Navies of South-West and Far-East Asia Regions. The exercise will help in developing combined response by PN & PLA (N) in the face of conventional as well as asymmetric threat to maritime interests of both countries.



A group photograph of Marines of Pakistan and Chinese Navy



Commanding Officer of PNS SAIF and Commander of Shanghai Naval Base during a reception onboard PNShip



PLA (N) ship gun firing during 5th Joint Pak-China Naval Exercise at Shanghai



PN Officers visiting Chinese Ship at Shanghai