



PAKISTAN PROSPERITY FORUM

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Arthur B. Laffer, Ph.D.

Dr. Arthur B. Laffer is the founder and chairman of Laffer Associates, an economic research firm that provides global investment-research services to institutional asset managers, pension funds, financial institutions, and corporations. Since its inception in 1979, the firm's research has focused on the interconnecting macroeconomic, political and demographic changes affecting global financial markets.

Dr. Laffer's economic acumen and influence in triggering a world-wide tax-cutting movement in the 1980s have earned him the distinction in many publications as "The Father of Supply-Side Economics."

Dr. Laffer was a member of President Reagan's Economic Policy Advisory Board for both of his two terms (1981-1989). He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Reagan/Bush Finance Committee in 1984 and was a founding member of the Reagan Executive Advisory Committee for the presidential race of 1980. He also advised Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on fiscal policy in the United Kingdom during the 1980s.

He was formerly the Distinguished University Professor at Pepperdine University and a member of the Pepperdine Board of Directors. He also held the status as the Charles B. Thornton Professor of Business Economics at the University of Southern California from 1976 to 1984. He was an Associate Professor of Business Economics at the University of Chicago from 1970 to 1976 and a member of the Chicago faculty from 1967 through 1976.

Dr. Laffer has been widely acknowledged for his economic achievements. He was noted in Time Magazine's March 29, 1999, cover story "The Century's Greatest Minds" for inventing the Laffer Curve, which it deemed one of "a few of the advances that powered this extraordinary century." He was listed in "A Dozen Who Shaped the '80s," in the Los Angeles Times on Jan. 1, 1990, and in "A Gallery of the Greatest People Who Influenced Our Daily Business," in the Wall Street Journal on June 23, 1989. His creation of the Laffer Curve was deemed a "memorable event" in financial history by the Institutional Investor in its July 1992 Silver Anniversary issue, "The Heroes, Villains, Triumphs, Failures and Other Memorable Events."

Dr. Laffer received a B.A. in economics from Yale University in 1963. He received an M.B.A. and a Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University in 1965 and 1972 respectively.

Rizwan Rawji

Non-Executive Chairman PRIME

Rizwan Rawji is a businessman, economist and philanthropist based in Belgium. Rizwan Rawji is also a major donor for PRIME. He has supported the work PRIME has done to promote the idea of flat taxation including this conference.

Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq Ahmed

Chairman Federal Board of Revenue

Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq Ahmed is currently the Chairman of Federal Board of Revenue and Secretary Revenue Division, Government of Pakistan. Earlier he has held the positions of Member (Inland Revenue Operations) and Director General (International Taxes) in FBR. Dr. Ashfaq Ahmed holds Ph.D. in Political Economy from Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad/University of Washington, Seattle, USA, M. Phil (US Studies/International Relations) and MS (Economics) – Policy Analysis from Saitama University, Japan. He has published academic papers in prestigious papers on a wide range of topics including taxation, governance, regulation, global political economy, fiscal policy and economics.

Dr. Ikram ul Haq

Advocate Supreme Court

Dr. Ikram ul Haq is co-author of “*Towards Flat, Low-rate, Broad and Predictable Taxes*” (PRIME, 2016, 2020). He specializes in tax, constitutional, corporate, press and human right laws. He is Chief Editor of Taxation and Visiting Faculty at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). He established his own law firm in 1996 and is presently chief partner of Huzaima & Ikram, and partner of Huzaima Ikram & Ijaz. He studied journalism, English literature and law. He is author of Pakistan: From Hash to Heroin and its sequel Pakistan: Drug-trap to Debt-trap and Practical Handbook of Income Tax. He has also coauthored with Huzaima Bukhari many books that include Law & Practice of Income Tax, Law & Practice of Sales Tax, Law & Practice of Federal Excise, Federal Tax Laws of Pakistan, Provincial Tax Laws of Pakistan, Principles of Income Tax with Glossary, Master Tax Guide, Income Tax Digest (with judicial analysis) and Commentary on Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreements. He regularly writes columns for many Pakistani newspapers and international journals. He has contributed about 1500 articles, columns, and papers on a variety of issues of public interest, printed in various journals, magazines, and newspapers at home and abroad.

Huzaima Bukhari

Huzaima Bukhari is co-author of “*Towards Flat, Low-rate, Broad and Predictable Taxes*” (PRIME 2016, 2020). Huzaima Bukhari is Advocate High Court, Partner of Huzaima & Ikram and Huzaima, Ikram & Ijaz, leading law firms of Pakistan, specializing in constitutional, tax and corporate laws. She is the Editor, Taxation, Weekly Tax Journal & monthly Tax Review, Honorary Adviser of A.A. Consultants & Publishers, a prestigious publishing house of Lahore, Pakistan specialising in developing tax books and literature. Huzaima is also Correspondent & Review Editor of International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. She is member, Adjunct Faculty of Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS).

Ali Salman

Executive Director PRIME

Ali Salman is an economist and Executive Director of Policy Research Institute of Market Economy (PRIME), an independent economic think tank that he founded in 2013 in Islamabad. He has served as CEO of Malaysia’s prominent independent think tank, IDEAS from 2017-2020. He is also CEO of Islam & Liberty Network, a foundation incorporated in Malaysia. Ali is author of “*Islam and Economics: Markets, Morals and Justice*” (Acton, 2021).

Ali Salman has served as a consultant-economist for international development organizations, private sector companies, and government over years. He has advised the Competition Commission of Pakistan analyzing economic implications in several legal decisions. Ali played an instrumental role in writing Pakistan’s first youth policy while working with the Government of the Punjab. Ali has taught courses on Economics and Entrepreneurship as adjunct faculty for several years in the Government College University Lahore. Ali holds master’s degrees in Economics, Public Policy and Business Administration. He is recipient of Fulbright Scholarship, Royal Netherlands Fellowship and Charles Wallace Fellowship. He writes op-eds for Express Tribune, a partner publication of New York Times.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque

Vice Chancellor Pakistan Institute of Development Economics

With a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Chicago, Dr. Nadeem ul Haque is currently the Vice Chancellor of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad. He also served as the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Pakistan from 2010-2013. He has wide ranging operational experience in policy development and economic planning. Apart from his work in Pakistan, Nadeem ul Haque worked for the International Monetary Fund for 24 years. During his long and illustrious affiliation with the IMF, he implemented public structure reform in Sri Lanka and worked in two central banks to organize a modernization effort, which included improvements in the monetary framework and the policy formulation process. Dynamic yet easily approachable, Dr. Nadeem-ul-Haque is also a published author with five books and over fifty articles in various publications to his credit. He has a great vision for the economic sector of Pakistan and wishes to extensively work towards sharpening domestic debate and raising awareness on the local front.

Syed Javed Hassan

Chairman, Economic Advisory Group

Syed Javed Hassan has over 30 years of experience in leadership roles both internationally and in Pakistan. He held senior investment ranking positions in London and Hong Kong before returning to Pakistan. In Pakistan he was CEO IGI Insurance before devoting his to the non-profit sector. He is currently Chairman of NAVTTC, the apex body for skills and vocational training in Pakistan. He trained as a Civil Engineer at Imperial College London where he also did his Masters in transportation. He also has an MBA from London Business School.

Mohammed A. Rajpar

Member, Board of Trustees PRIME

Mr. Mohammed A. Rajpar holds a M. Phil degree from Cambridge University and a BSBA degree (magna cum laude) from Bucknell University and is the Managing Director of General Shipping Agencies (Pvt) Ltd., Karachi, a family-owned shipping agency which represents several internationally reputed shipping Principals.

Mr. Mohammed A. Rajpar is the current Chairman of Pakistan Ship's Agents Association, Chief Executive of Pakistan Belgium Luxembourg Business Forum and Director of International Chamber of Commerce Pakistan National Chapter. In addition, Mr. Mohammed A. Rajpar is the current Chairman of British Overseas School, Board Member of Al-Murtaza School, Honorary Secretary of Zainabia Educational Society and Trustee of Oxford & Cambridge Society Karachi Educational Trust.

Mr. Mohammed A. Rajpar has served as a Trustee of Karachi Port Trust (KPT) from March 2009 to December 2013, Board Member of Port Qasim Authority (PQA) from March 2006 to March 2014, Board Member of Oil and Gas Development Company Ltd (OGDCL) from June 2012 to May 2014, Board Member of Board of Investment (BOI) from January, 2013 to 14th May, 2015 and Board Member Karachi Dock Labour Board (KDLB) from December 1996 to December 2014 and Vice Chairman from 17th December, 2014 to 14th June, 2015. He has also served on the Gwadar Port Implementation Authority, Advisory Committee on Ship owning, Planning Commission Task Force on Maritime Industry, Planning Commission Task Force on Trade Facilitation and Regional Connectivity and Prime Minister's National Trade Corridor Improvement Program.

He is happily married with two children.