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SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF NWFP.

INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY – 2008 FRIDAY, 28TH MARCH 2008

Background

The previous Provincial Assembly of NWFP was dissolved by the Governor on 10 October 2008 on the advice of Chief Minister. Fresh general elections to the National Assembly and the Provincial Assemblies were held on 18 February 2008. The elections to the general seats were held on the basis of joint electorate for Muslims and non-Muslims and single member territorial constituency. Elections to the seats reserved for women and non-Muslims were held through proportional representation system of political parties' lists of the candidates on the basis of the total number of general seats secured by each political party in the Provincial Assembly. Against 99 general seats election for 96 seats were held in view of postponement of election in three constituencies.

First Meeting

The first meeting of the Provincial Assembly of NWFP was summoned on Friday the 28th March 2008 by the Governor for general oath taking and election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker. Arbab Muhammad Ayub Jan, Member-elect was nominated by the Governor to preside over the first meeting till the new Speaker entered upon his office.

Summary of Proceedings

The first sitting of the new Assembly was held on 28th March 2008 at 10:43 a.m. and was presided over by Arbab Muhammad Ayub Jan, Member-elect. The meeting commenced with a recitation from the Holy Quran. The Presiding Officer announced the procedure of taking oath by the Member-elect. After that the Members present along with the Presiding Officer rose in their seats and made the prescribed oath before the Assembly.

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After taking oath, the Members signed the Roll of Members. Against the total membership of the House 116 members including all the Members-elected against the 22 seats reserved for women and 3 seats reserved for non-Muslims took oath in this sitting. Only Mr. Anwar Saifullah Khan Member elect did not take oath in view of his absence. The presiding announced that nomination papers for Speaker and Deputy Speaker may be submitted to the Secretary Provincial Assembly today during office hours.

After oath taking, two resolutions i.e. UN to probe into Benazir assassination and condemning republication of sacrilegious caricatures in Danish newspaper were unanimously passed and thereafter the meeting was adjourned to 29 March 2008 at 10.00 a.m.