Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah:
A Chronology (1893-1967)∗

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>31 July Born at Newnham Road, Karachi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>After four years’ informal schooling at home, she joined Bandra Convent Boarding School, Bombay.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>Admitted to St. Petrik High School Khandala, Bombay.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>Passed Matriculation Examination from Bombay University.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Passed Senior Cambridge Examination as a private candidate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Enrolled at Dr. Ahmad Dental College, University of Calcutta, Calcutta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>Obtained diploma in Dentistry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Opened Dental Clinic at Abdur Rahman Street, Bombay. Besides, she also worked at the Municipal Clinic where free treatment was provided to poor patients.</td>
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* Extracted from Dr. Riaz Ahmad’s recent publication, Madr-i-Millat Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah: A Chronology (1893-1967) (Islamabad: NIHCR, 2003)
After the death of Rattie Jinnah, her sister-in-law, Fatima took permanent residence with her brother to take good care of him.

Attended Round Table Conferences in London, and stayed with him during his self-exile (1931-34).

15-18 Oct. Attended All-India Muslim League (AIML) Session at Lucknow along with Jinnah.

26-29 Dec. Attended the AIML Patna session.

Quaid-i-Azam appointed her as Convenor, AIML Women’s Wing.

Addressed first meeting of the Muslim women arranged under Bombay Muslim League Women Sub-Committee’s auspices at Qaisar Bagh, Bombay.

21-26 Mar. Visited Lahore along with Quaid-i-Azam to attended the AIML Lahore session.

12-15 Apr. Attended the AIML Session at Madras along with Quaid-i-Azam.

3-6 Apr. Attended the AIML Session Allahabad along with the Quaid.

2 Aug. Visited Balochistan and addressed a meeting of Muslim Women at Quetta.

24-26 Apr. Attended the AIML session in Delhi. Also addressed the Muslim Women Students Federation, Delhi.

2-19 July Visited Balochistan along with Quaid-i-Azam.

7 July Visited Government Intermediate College, Quetta with the Quaid and Qazi Isa.

24-26 Dec. Attended the AIML session at Karachi along with the Quaid.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>3 Apr.</td>
<td>Inaugurated Meena Bazar under the Punjab Muslim Women Sub-Committee’s auspices at Lahore.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 Aug.</td>
<td>Arrived in Bhopal along with the Quaid-i-Azam.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>22 Dec.</td>
<td>Addressed the Muslim League Women Sub-Committee meeting at New Delhi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>Addressed the Kemari (Karachi) Muslim League meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 April.</td>
<td>Accompanied Jinnah to Dinner hosted by Lord and Lady Mountbatten, at the Viceregal House, New Delhi.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27 July.</td>
<td>Addressed a Muslim Women’s public meeting at Delhi.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 Aug.</td>
<td>Left Delhi for Karachi along with Quaid-i-Azam.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 Aug.</td>
<td>Attended a Dinner in honour of Quaid-i-Azam hosted by Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, Sind’s Premier and Governor-designate, at the Karachi Club. It was here that Jinnah publicly acknowledged his debt to his sister. “Miss Fatima Jinnah is a constant source of help and encouragement to me”, he said, adding, “In the days when I was expecting to be taken as a prisoner by the British Government, it was my sister who encouraged me and said helpful things when revolution was staring me in the face. Her constant care is about my health.”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11 Aug.</td>
<td>Attended the first session of the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan at the Sindh Assembly as a Visitor, at which the Quaid was elected President and gave his Presidential Address.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 Aug.</td>
<td>Co-host at the Banquet in honour of Lord and Lady Mountbatten, hosted by Quaid-i-Azam, at...</td>
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the Governor-General House, Karachi; played host to Lady Mountbatten during her visit to Karachi, 13-14 August.

14 Aug. Accompanied Lady Mountbatten to the Constituent Assembly and attended the Transfer-of-Power ceremonies at which Mountbatten handed over Power to the provisional Government of Pakistan. She played host to Lady Mountbatten during the ceremony and accompanied her back to the Governor-General House.

15 Aug. Attended the Flag-hoisting ceremony, and the swearing-in of the (first) Pakistan’s Governor-General and of the (first) Pakistan Cabinet ceremonies, at the Governor-General House in the forenoon.

25 Nov. Her recorded speech was relayed from Radio Pakistan, Lahore.

1948 14 Feb. Accompanied Quaid-i-Azam to the Sibi Darbar, where he addressed the members of Shahi Jirga, Sardars of Balochistan, and other leaders and representatives of Balochistan. Accompanied Quaid-i-Azam to a gathering of the civil officers of Balochistan of the rank of Naib Tehsildars and above, at Sibi.

15 March Attended a meeting of the Pakistan Red Cross at the Governor-General House, Karachi, which was addressed by the Quaid-i-Azam.

23 March Addressed a Dhaka District Zanana Muslim League meeting.

26 March Addressed a Women meeting at Chittagong.

28 March. Addressed the East Pakistan Women, in a broadcast from Radio Pakistan, Dhaka.

April. Accompanied Quaid-i-Azam on his tour of the NWFP for about two weeks. Attended
various functions addressed by the Quaid-i-Azam, which included the following: Islamia College, Peshawar (12 April), Royal Pakistan Air Force Station, Risalpur (13 April), 3rd Armoured Brigade, Risalpur (13 April), Pakistan Armoured Corps. Centre, Nowshera (13 April), Civil Officers’ gathering at Government House, Peshawar (14 April), Presentation of Colours to the 2/15th Punjab Machine Gun Regiment at Peshawar (15 April), and Edwards College, Peshawar (18 April).

16 Apr. Visited D.I.Khan in the company of the brother Quaid-i-Azam who met different tribal chiefs and leaders.

18 Apr. Addressed a Zanana Muslim League, NWFP, public meeting at Mohammed Ali Park, Peshawar.

19 Apr. Inspected the Convent School and College, Peshawar, and addressed its students and teachers.


22 Apr. Accompanied Quaid-i-Azam to the opening ceremony of Pakistan Olympic Games, at Polo Ground, Karachi.

24 May. Issued a press release in connection with the donation of funds to U.N. Children Welfare Fund for which Pakistan National Committee was established. For this 5 June 1948 was declared as the fund raising day.

12-29 Jun. Accompanied Quaid-i-Azam on his Balochistan tour, and attended functions organized by various institutions, which were addressed by Quaid-i-Azam. These included Quetta Parsi community delegation at the Government House (13 June), Staff College, Quetta (14 June),
Quetta Municipality’s Civic addressed (15 June), and Quetta Girl Guides.

1 July. Accompanied Quaid-i-Azam to the opening ceremony of the State Bank of Pakistan, which he performed.

14 July. Accompanied Quaid-i-Azam to Ziarat, a health resort in Balochistan.

11 Sept. Accompanied bedridden Quaid-i-Azam to Karachi.

5 Nov. As President, Kashmir Relief Committee, Karachi, appealed for donation of the blankets for the Kashmiri freedom fighters.

18 Nov. Addressed the All-Pakistan Muslim Youth Convention, Karachi.

14 Dec. Thanked the Muslim Merchants Association of Jauria Bazar, Karachi, for donating Rs.400,000 for the Kashmir Fund.

1949


16 March. Inaugurated Shama Ladies Industrial Home, Karachi, under Young Women Muslim Association’s auspices.

21 April. Replied to a number of addresses presented in her honour at Gol Bagh, Lahore. Also addressed a Yom-i-Iqbal meeting, at Lahore.

25 April. Addressed the Anjuman Tahaffuz Haqiq-i-Niswan meeting at Lahore.

24 May. Addressed Kashmiri Refugees at Wah Camp. Addressed a women’s meeting at Wah Ladies
Club. Also addressed a public meeting at Rawalpindi.

24 June. Gave a message for Pakistani Children through the press. Inaugurated Urdu College, Karachi, established under the auspices of Anjuman-i-Taraqi-i-Urdu.


11 Sept. Broadcast to the nation, on the occasion of First Death Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam M.A. Jinnah.

1950 14 Jan. Given a warm reception at Hyderabad (Sindh) on her visit to the city. Inaugurated a Centre for Adult Education (Taleem-i-Balighan), at Hyderabad. Presided over a Hyderabad Sindh Majlis Uswa-i-Rasool function at Hyderabad in the evening, to commemorate Milad-un-Nabi.

16 July. Message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.


11 Sept. Addressed the nation on the occasion of the second Death Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam over Radio Pakistan, Karachi.

21 Sept. Inaugurated Ciros Cinema at Karachi.


1951 6 March Message to the people of the Punjab on the occasion of elections for the Punjab Legislative Assembly.

30 Apr. Visited the Women Orphanage of Anjuman Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 July</td>
<td>Message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, from Karachi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Sept.</td>
<td>Radio broadcast in Urdu from Karachi on the third Death Anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam. Controversy in the newspapers over tempering certain portions of her broadcast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Oct.</td>
<td>Wrote to M/s Pakistan Herald Ltd., and Pakistan Herald Publication Ltd., Karachi explaining the status of <em>Dawn</em> (Karachi). She wrote this letter as a Trustee of the “Dawn Trust”.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Nov.</td>
<td>Presented ambulance to Jinnah Hospital, Karachi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Dec.</td>
<td>Performed the opening ceremony of the Salika Sewing Institute, Karachi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Dec.</td>
<td>Addressed a Milad meeting under the auspices of Kutchi Muslim Anjuman, Karachi.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Dec.</td>
<td>Addressed a large crowd from the balcony of Moti Mahal, Hyderabad.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1952</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Jan.</td>
<td>Addressed the staff and students of Madrasa-tul-Banat, Lahore.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Jan.</td>
<td>A consignment of 4200 blankets, 400 coats and 77 pairs of boots were received at Muzaffarabad as a gift from her.</td>
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</table>
23 Jan. She announced in Karachi that a biography of Quaid-i-Azam under her personal supervision is being written for which she was collecting material. She also explained that she had nothing to do with what Hector Bolitho’s biography of the Quaid-i-Azam, which was being done at the instance of Government of Pakistan.

23 June Message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

4 July Addressed an Eid function in Karachi, under the auspices of the Ladies Branch of the Bombay Muslim Association.


31 Aug. Message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.


1953


24 Feb. Presided over a meeting of Khatoon-i-Pakistan Education and Welfare Board, held at Flag Staff House, Karachi.


14 June Message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.


11 Sept. Broadcast from Radio Pakistan, Karachi Station, in connection with death anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam.
22 Oct. Laid the foundation stone of a refugee colony to be constructed by the Women’s Refugee Rehabilitation Committee, near Drigh Road Airport, Karachi.

9 Dec. Inaugurated Sindh Muslim College History Society, Karachi.


1954
23 Jan. Inaugurated the Islamic History and Culture Society, at the University of Karachi.

2 June. Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation.

9 Aug. Eid-ul-Azha message to the nation.

4 Nov. Inaugurated the First World Youth Students Photographic Contest and Exhibition, Karachi.


1955
28 Marc. Chief Guest at the annual function of the Muslim Women Technical and Industrial Institution, Karachi.

13 Apr. Gave a press statement from Karachi, calling for the rule of law.

24 May Message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.


6 Sept. As Chairperson, Central Flood Relief Committee, allocated Rs.600,000 for East Pakistan and Rs.25,000 each to the flood affected districts of Sialkot, Sargodha, Multan, and D.G. Khan. She also received Rs.10,000 from Chinese Hajis, and Rs.50,000 from Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of USSR, and Rs.10,000 from Muslim
Religious Boards of Central Asia, Kazakstan and Tashkent for the flood affectees of Pakistan.


23 Sept. Presided over the Annual Prize Distribution function of Madressah Anwarul Uloom, Karachi.

1 Oct. Message to All-Pakistan Refugee Convention held at Karachi which was inaugurated by Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar.


19 Apr. Met Mumtaz and Almas Daultana in the evening, at the Flag Staff House, Karachi.

3 May Attended dinner by Mr. & Mrs Ayub Khuhro in her honour, at Karachi.

13 May Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation.

2 July Presided over the meeting of Khatoon-i-Pakistan Education and Welfare Board, held at Flag Staff House, Karachi.

18 July Eid-ul-Azha message to the nation.


11 Sept. Broadcast to the nation, over Radio Pakistan Karachi, on the occasion of Quaid’s death anniversary.

25 Sept. Inaugural address at the S.M. College Students Union, Karachi.

26 Sept. As President Central Flood Relief Committee sanctioned Rs. one lakh for West Pakistan flood sufferers.


29 Dec. Chief Guest at the Annual Dinner of the Pakistan Medical Association, Karachi Branch. Dr. Habib Patel was President of this Association.

1957

24 Jan. Inaugurated the Pak-Industrial Exhibition.

26 Jan. Presided over the annual function of Jinnah College, Union, Karachi.

3 May Addressed the 10\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of the *Millat*, a Gujrati daily newspaper.

9 May Arrived in Peshawar. Spoke at the inaugural ceremony of the Students Union of Peshawar University, Peshawar.

10 May Inaugurated the Centenary of the War of Independence of 1857 commemorated all over NWFP and the Tribal Areas. She also visited Warsak to see 60-million dollar Warsak multi-purpose project.

11 May Addressed a rally of the Girl Guides, at Peshawar.
12 May  Her Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation and Chief Guest at a reception hosted by the Citizens of Peshawar.

13 May  Addressed the staff and students of Frontier College for Women, Peshawar.

14 May  Arrived in Rawalpindi from Peshawar. Thanked the Rawalpindi citizens for their rousing reception.

15 May  Arrived Mirpur. Addressed a public meeting in Mirpur in which she announced a grant of Rs.2,25,000 for Community Welfare purpose for Mirpur areas.

21 May  Received a historic reception by the people of Mardan.

3 June  Chief Guest at the function organized by the Jahanzeb College, Saidu Sharif.

7 June  Addressed a meeting of the social workers, doctors and prominent citizens, at Lahore.

9 July  Her Eid-ul-Azha message to the nation.

14 Aug.  Her Independence message to the nation.

11 Sept.  Her message on the occasion of Quaid’s death anniversary.

1 Oct.  While inaugurating the Sindh Muslim Science College Students Union, Karachi, announced a sum of Rs.3,50,000 from the Quaid-i-Azam’s personal estate, to Sindh Madressah Board, Karachi.

3 Oct.  Inaugurated the Gizri Bagh Colony, Karachi.

26 Nov.  Addressed the students of Islamia College for Girls, Lahore.

7 Dec.  Addressed the students of Islamia College, Lahore.
9 Dec.  Presided over the first Annual Prize Distribution ceremony of King Edward Medical College, Lahore.

18 Dec.  Inaugurated the Microbiological Society of Karachi University, Karachi.

23 Dec.  Inaugurated a Dispensary of Qureshi Welfare Association at Ranchor Lines, Karachi, for the poor.


6 Feb.  Her message to the N.E.D. College on its 34th Annual Sports function, Karachi.

21 April.  Eid message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

31 May.  Presided over the annual function of the Muslim Ladies Industrial and Technical Institute, Karachi.

29 June.  Her Eid-ul-Azha message to the nation.

16 July.  Inaugurated the Khatoon-i-Pakistan Girls High School, Karachi.


15 Aug.  Inaugurated Jamia Tibbiya Sharqia, an Institute of Eastern Medicine, at Karachi, established by the Hamdard Dawakhana Trust. Hakim Mohammad Saeed was Secretary of the Trust.

6 Sept.  Inaugurated a two-day exhibition of arts and crafts organized by the East Pakistan Ladies
Association at the B.V.S. High School, Victoria Road, Karachi.

11 Sept. Speech broadcasted from Radio Pakistan in connection with Quaid’s death anniversary.

19 Sept. Inaugurated the Women’s Section of Seerat Conference, Karachi.

20 Sept. Inaugurated the Sindh Muslim College of Arts Union, Karachi.

29 Sept. Addressed D.J. Sindh Science College students on the occasion of Eid-i-Milad, at Karachi.


1959

10 Apr. Her Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation.

11 Aug. Donated Rs.1,60,000 for development of health and educational services in Azad Kashmir.


11 Sept. Her message to the nation on the occasion of Quaid’s death anniversary.

1960

29 March. Her Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation.

5 Apr. Sent a condolence telegram to the wife of Lt. Col.(R) Ilahi Bakhsh, on his death.

28 Apr. Chief Guest at the Annual Prize Distribution ceremony of Khatoon-e-Pakistan Girls Secondary School, Stadium Road, Karachi.

6 June. Her Eid-ul-Azha message to the nation.

11 July. Chief Guest at the Annual Dinner of the Rotary Club, Karachi.

14 Aug. Her Independence Day message to the nation.

3 Sept.  Chief Guest at the Prize Distribution ceremony of Karachi Athletic Club at the YMCA. Donated Rs.5,000 for construction of an Athletic Stadium, at Karachi.

11 Sept.  Her message on the occasion of the Quaid’s death anniversary.


26 Sept.  Sent her condolence message on the death of I.I. Chundrigar, offering her deepest and sincere sympathies to the bereaved family.

24 Nov.  Performed the Opening Ceremony of Jinnah Science College, Karachi, and laid the foundation stone of its Technical Block.


26 May.  Her Eid-ul-Azha message to the Nation.

30 June.  Left Karachi by Air for Beirut en route to Europe on a two-month’s private visit. During the visit, she was expected to visit Vienna, Geneva, Paris and Zurich. Before her departure she donated Rs.35,000 to Technical Section of Jinnah College, Karachi.

6 Sept.  Arrived at Karachi by Air from Vienna after over two months’ stay in the Middle East and Europe. Teachers and students of Khatoon-i-Pakistan Girls School received her at the Karachi Airport.
11 Sept. Her message to the nation on the Quaid’s death anniversary. Also offered Fateha at the Mazar of Quaid-i-Azam.

10 Oct. Performed the Opening Ceremony of Jinnah Polytechnic Institute, established by the Anjuman Islamia, Karachi.


25 Dec. Her message on the occasion of the Quaid’s birth anniversary.

30 Dec. Presided over a function organized by the East Pakistan Mehfil, to celebrate Quaid’s birthday.

1962

5 Jan. Handed over a cheque of Rs.100,000 to Mr. Nisar Hassanaly Effendi, Secretary, Sindh Madressah Board, Karachi, for the purpose of expanding the Institute. The sum was paid from the residuary amount of the will of Quaid-i-Azam’s will.

8 Mar. Her Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation.

15 May. Her Eid-ul-Azha message to the nation.

19 July. A meeting of the workers of District Muslim League, Multan, presided over by Makhdoom Mohammad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi, MP, and former President of District Muslim League, Multan, appealed to her to assume the leadership of Muslim League.

14 Aug. Her message to the nation on the occasion of Independence Day.

11 Sept. Her message to the nation on the Quaid’s death anniversary.
18 Oct. Received an ovacious welcome at the Lahore Railway station on her arrival from Karachi by Tezgam. A contingent of the West Pakistan Girls Guides, representatives of the Pakistan Deaf and Dumb Welfare Society, and the National Tuberculosis Association were present at the railway station to welcome her. Prominent among them were Begum Shahnawaz and Dr. Riaz Ali Shah, President of the National Tuberculosis Association of Pakistan. She later presided over the annual function of Fatima Jinnah Medical College, Lahore.

22 Oct. Attended reception by the Lahore Municipal Corporation. Interviewed by a Lahore daily in which she revealed that when Quaid-i-Azam died he left behind the All-India Muslim League funds amounting to Rs.46 lakhs. Of these now only a few lakhs had been left. Left for and reached Rawalpindi. Stayed at Flashman Hotel, Rawalpindi.

23 Oct. Visited Anjuman-i-Faizul Islam Orphanage, Rawalpindi, in Trunk Bazar. Donated Rs.10,000 for the Anjuman. Earlier, she was welcomed by the President and Secretary of the Anjuman and was given a Guard of Honour by young Cadets and Scouts. Also witnessed the performance by the inmates of the orphanage and was taken round its different sections. She also addressed them. In the afternoon a citizens’ reception at Liaquat Bagh was also organized by the Anjuman.

24 Oct. Given an unprecedented welcome at Peshawar when she arrived there in the afternoon by car from Rawalpindi. The 50-mile route from Attock to Peshawar was lined on both sides by villagers of Attock, Akora, Nowshera,
Khairabad, Pirpal, Pabbi and Nasirpur areas. About 2,000 students from Peshawar University and Colleges went to receive her 20 miles outside the city along with the Vice-Chancellor of the Peshawar University, Ch. Mohammad Ali, Muslim League leaders and others. She laid the foundation stone of the Peshawar University Commerce College at the University Campus, named as “Quaid-i-Azam Commerce College”.


4 Nov. Addressed a gathering of the people arranged by Sarhad Muslim League in Peshawar near the old Assembly lawns. Khan Makarram Khan, President Sarhad Muslim League also addressed the gathering.

25 Dec. Her message on the occasion of the Quaid’s birth anniversary.

1963

7 Jan. Joins Pakistan (Council) Muslim League by formally signing its membership form.

22 Feb. She said that she joined the faction of the Muslim League which was founded by Quaid-i-Azam.

26 Feb. Her Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation.

5 May. Her Eid-ul-Azha message to the nation.

11 May. Presided over the annual meeting of the Karachi Children’s Home School, at Karachi.

21 May. Performed the Opening Ceremony of the Central Nursing Home on Frere Road, Karachi.

8 Aug. Declared that the Pakistan Muslim League headed by Khawaja Nazimuddin was the legacy of Quaid-i-Azam. This was stated by her during her meeting with Mr. S.K. Khairuddin, Chief Whip of the Opposition Party in the East
Pakistan Assembly and Vice-Chairman, Dhaka Municipality who called on her in Karachi, to discuss certain important national problems.

14 Aug. Her message to the nation on the occasion of Independence Day.

11 Sept. Her message to the nation on the Quaid’s death anniversary.

25 Dec. Her message to the nation on the occasion of Quaid’s birth anniversary.

1964 15 Feb. Her Eid-ul-Fitr message to the Nation.

7 March. Revealed in an interview that she was writing a biography of Quaid-i-Azam, with G. Allana as her associate.

13 April. Inaugurated the 7th Annual Conference of National Tuberculosis Association of Pakistan at Karachi.

23 April. Her message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

27 May. Sent her condolence message to Mrs. Indira Gandhi, on the death of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, in which she sympathised with the bereaved family.


11 Sept. Here message to the nation on Quaid’s death anniversary.

16 Sept. A meeting of the five Combined Opposition Parties (COP) was held at Lakham House, Karachi, which announced that she had accepted their request to contest the forthcoming Presidential elections as the COP’s candidate. After the meeting, leaders of the five opposition parties, namely Khwaja Nazimuddin, (Council Muslim League), Chaudhri Mohammad Ali,
(Nizam-i-Islam Party), Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani, (National Awami Party), Nawbzaada Nasrullah Khan and Sh. Mujibur Rahman (Awami League) drove to her residence to thank her. They garlanded her and remained with her for some 45 minutes. The five political parties were: i) Council Muslim League, ii) Awami League, iii) National Awami Party, and iv) Nizam-i-Islam Party, and v) Jamat-i-Islami.

To their impassioned appeal to accept the COP’s nomination in the name of the nation, democracy and patriotism, responded that she felt compelled “to accept the nation’s call”, as a matter of duty, and promised to “spare nothing on devotion, service and hard work in achieving the objectives for which the millions in Pakistan have been silently and devotedly yearning for the last few years”. The COP had issued a nine-point programme, outlining its objectives earlier, on 11 July. Her candidature came as a big surprise and shock to the government circles, but was widely hailed throughout the country as “a historic decision” and “a great challenge to those among us who dream and crave for the establishment of a clean political and moral order”. In the ensuing debate during the three months election campaign, the COP programme was characterised by Ayub as a “bundle of lies”, a string of “catchy slogans based on sentiments of parochialism, regionalism, and petty issues”, while the Ayub’s manifesto was dubbed as a big election bluff.

19 Sept. Matloob Hussain, Private Secretary to her, revealed that a large number of deputations, and individuals called on her to congratulate her on her decision to contest the Presidential elections. A large number of trunk calls and telegrams
were also received from prominent citizens and associations, assuring her full support.

20 Sept. Addressed her first public meeting at Patel Park, Karachi, in connection with the Presidential election campaign.

30 Sept. Issued a statement outlining the purposes for which she was contesting the elections.

1 Oct. Began an eight-day election tour of West Pakistan. Received a rousing welcome on arrival at Peshawar and was taken out in a procession from the railway station to the city, which took three hours to reach its destination. Addressed a largely attended public meeting at Jinnah Park, Peshawar, in connection with her election campaign.

3 Oct. Received a tumultuous welcome by thousands of people from wayside villages, during her 105-miles motor journey from Peshawar to Rawalpindi. Addressed several way-side meetings. Addressed a mammoth crowd at Liaqat Bagh, Rawalpindi.

4 Oct. Was accorded a big reception at Gulistan-i-Fatima, Lahore, by the citizens of Lahore. A deputation of the West Pakistan High Court Bar Association met her, and assured her full support in the election. A cheque of Rs.3,000/- was presented by the Bar as first contribution to the election fund.

7 Oct. Addressed a big public meeting at Hyderabad, outside the old Eidgah Maidan. While travelling from Lahore to Hyderabad, by rail, addressed rallies at various railway stations such as Raiwind, Kot Radhakrishan, Okara, Sahiwal (then Montgomery), Chichawatni, Mian Channu, Khanewal, Multan, and Bahawalpur.
8 Oct. Reached Karachi. On the last leg of her tour, she also addressed a way-side public meeting at Thatta. Immediately on her arrival at Karachi, addressed a press conference. Her tour of West Pakistan was termed extremely successful.

15 Oct. Arrived at Dhaka, on the first leg of her eight-day election tour of East Pakistan. Was accorded a tumultuous welcome by men, women and children. Addressed a mammoth crowd, at Dhaka’s Paltan Maidan.

17 Oct. Reached Chittagong. East Pakistan’s fastest express train, Green Arrow, took over 28 hours to cover a mere 196 miles journey normally covered in seven hours. The train had to come to a dead stop at almost all the railway stations, all the way from Dhaka to Chittagong, where thousands of people swarmed at the platform and mobbed her compartment, requesting her for an appearance and for addressing them. On arrival at Chittagong, addressed a mammoth gathering at the Laldighi Maidan.

22 Oct. After addressing different public meetings in various cities of East Pakistan, returned to Dhaka. Addressed newsmen at Government Guest House before her departure to Karachi after her 8-day election tour of East Pakistan. Reached Karachi Airport the same day and addressed newsmen at the Karachi Airport. Nazimuddin’s death due to campaign fatigue at Dhaka caused a little setback to her campaign, but the campaign soon picked up because of the on-going momentum.

30 Oct. Issued a press statement from Karachi in which she appealed to the people to elect honest candidates in the ensuing basic democracy elections. 31 Oct. Elections to the lowest basic democrat (B.D.) tier held in West Pakistan from
31 October to 9 November, and in East Pakistan from 10 to 19 November. Each wing was to elect 40,000 B.Ds each, which were designated as Members of the Electoral College (MECs) for electing the President in the election scheduled for 2 January 1965. About 2,725 BDs were elected unopposed in West Pakistan, some 2,123 in East Pakistan. Cities like Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Dhaka, and Chittagong had a surfeit of nominations while nominations in the rural and remote areas were minimal. However, over 100,000 nominations were filed for the 40,000 seats in East Pakistan. Even as the polling progressed, the COP alleged that the procedure for MECs election had “built in loopholes, permitting large scales bogus voting and all manners of corrupt practices”, and its 34 page White Paper listed ten specific charges and demanded a judicial inquiry, headed by a High Court Judge.

15 Nov. Organized a reception to the like-minded B.D. members at Flag Staff House, Karachi, and addressed them.

16 Nov. West Pakistan High Court Bar Association organized a big reception in her honour at Lahore, where she addressed them. Also addressed a public meeting in Sialkot in the afternoon.

22 Nov. Filing of nominations called for within 72 hours. In addition to her, Ayub and two minor candidates, three members of Ayub’s cabinet filed nominations as presidential candidates.

31 Oct. During the election campaign (including the projection meetings at which the candidates specifically addressed the MECs), the alternatives presented by the two major candidates were sharply opposed — and
focussed. Ayub talked in terms of “stability vs. chaos”, while she in terms of “democracy vs. dictatorship”. Ayub claimed to have given and ensured stability within and without, but she retorted that what was desired was stability through a system and not through a person. “Give me votes and I will give you democracy”, she said repeatedly.

4 Dec. Addressed a big public meeting on the grounds of Abbasia High School, Bahawalpur. Also addressed the Bahawalpur Bar Association. Also addressed a gathering of B.D. members, at the residence of Syed Mohammed Qasur Gardezi. Also addressed a women’s gathering.

7 Dec. During a brief halt from Bahawalpur to Rawalpindi, addressed the workers and supporters of COP at the Lahore railway station. Arrived at Rawalpindi in the evening.

8 Dec. Read out a written statement before a gathering of the B.Ds at the Army Stadium, Rawalpindi. In the afternoon she proceeded to Peshawar by car.

10 Dec. Addressed a projection meeting organised by the Election Commission in Peshawar. Also addressed a meeting of the Chiefs of Tribal Areas at Peshawar.

11 Dec. In a letter to her Ch. Ghulam Abbas, leader of the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference, assured full support to Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah in the elections. Addressed a public meeting at Gol Bagh, Lahore.

12 Dec. Addressed a Projection Meeting, attended by members of Electoral College at Lahore, organized by the Election Commission. Answered a number of questions.

27 Dec. Addressed a Public Meeting at Barisal. On her way back to Dhaka from Barisal, also addressed a large gathering at Narayanganj Railway Station.


1965 1 Jan. Issued a statement to the press from Karachi, on why they should vote for a change.

2 Jan. First presidential polls, the main contestants being Ayub and Fatima Jinnah. Ayub secured 49,951 (62.7 per cent) of the 79,700 votes cast, and she 28,691 (36 per cent). West Pakistan gave Ayub 28,939 (73.3 per cent) votes and her 10,257 (26.7 %) votes. Ayub received 21,012 (52.9 %) votes in East Pakistan, and she 18,434 (46.5 %) votes. She carried three (Karachi, Dhaka, and Chittagong) of the country’s 16 divisions by meagre majorities. The results enthused government circles and cast a pall of gloom over the COP’s adherents. Ayub’s massive vote came from the rural areas while her strength from the protest vote of the professional and middle classes in the urban areas.

4 Jan. In a statement, levelled a series of charges against the administration, questioned the impartiality and fairness of the elections, but was “gratified to those 30,000 electors who had the conviction to stand by their conviction and have voted according to their conscience in spite of all kinds of pressures”. Also renewed her earlier pledge to continue to work for the restoration of the sovereignty of the people and true democracy in the country.
6 Jan. Toured the Liaquatabad area, in Karachi, where a “victory” procession of Ayub’s (Pathan) supporters, led by his son, Gohar Ayub, had attacked her supporters and set fire to their hutm ents, and shops. Dozens of people were killed, hundreds of people were injured and property worth lacs of rupees was ransacked and gutted.

19 Jan. Received a deputation of the West Pakistan Students League at the Flag Staff House, Karachi.

4 Feb. Her Eid-ul-Fitr message to the nation.


Jan. Addressed the concluding session of two-day Council Muslim League meeting at Khaliqdina Hall, Karachi.

14 Aug. Her Independence Day message to the nation.

11 Sept. Message on the occasion of Quaid’s death anniversary, calling on the nation to thwart Indian aggression and give a fitting reply to New Delhi’s chauvinistic ambitions.


1966 Jan. Her message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

2 Apr. Her message to the nation on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.

14 Aug. Her Independence Day message to the nation.

11 Sept. Her message on the occasion of Quaid’s death anniversary.

25 Dec. Her message on Quaid’s birth anniversary.

13 Feb. Visited Bham bore, Thatta, and Kalri Lake. Also saw the repair work being done at the Shah Jahan Mosque at Thatta.

8 Apr. Issued a press statement on the death of Mir Jafar Khan Jamali, uncle of Prime Minister Mir Zafrullah Khan Jamali. In the statement she expressed: “I am sorry to hear about the death of Mir Jafar Khan Jamali. My sincerest sympathies to his families”. Mir Jafar Khan Jamali died of heart attack on 7 April 1967 at Karachi. His dead body was taken to Rojhan, District Jacobabad by car where he was buried.

9 July Died at Karachi, in the early hours of 9 July. Her death was widely mourned all over Pakistan. She was buried in the Quaid’s Mausoleum Complex. Her Namaz-i-Janaza, led by Mufti Muhammad Shafi (of Darul Uloom Karachi), was offered at the Polo Grounds, Karachi, but her Ghaibana Namaz-i-Janaza was offered at different cities of both West Pakistan and East Pakistan. Her funeral was attended by some 600,000 people and Karachi wore a deserted look Quran Khawanis were also arranged in different cities of Pakistan by various Anjumans and Associations.