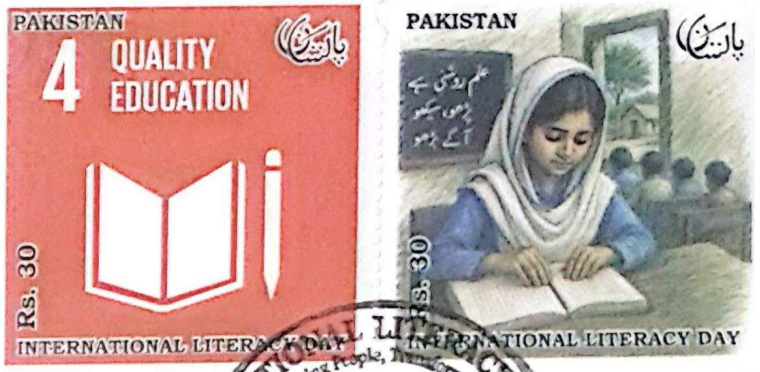
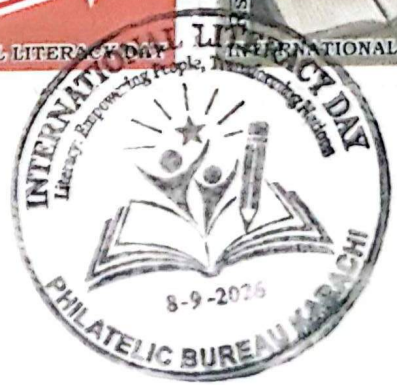




INTERNATIONAL

LITERACY

DAY

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

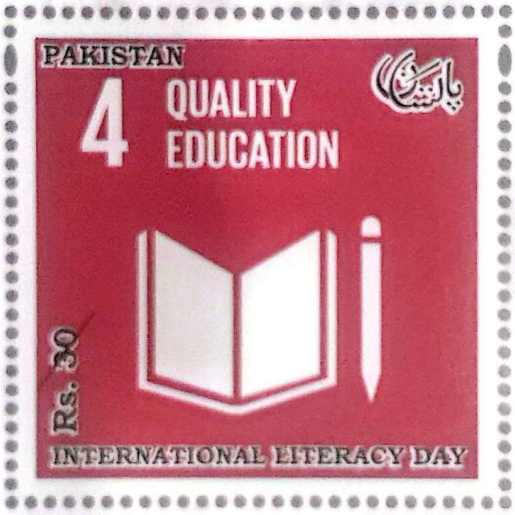
LITERACY EMPOWERS • EDUCATION TRANSFORMS • SOCIETY PROGRESSES

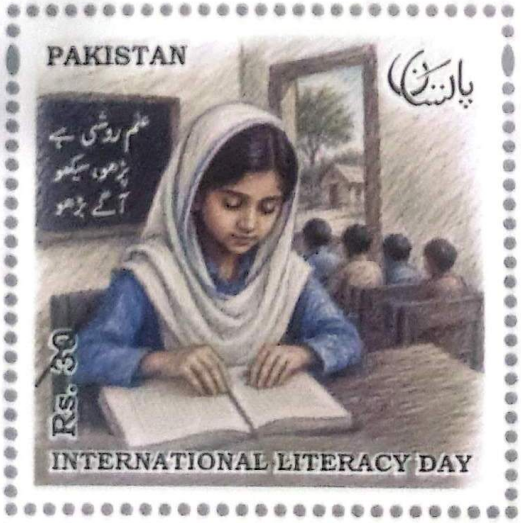
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2026-14-A

PAKISTAN POST
پاکستان پوسٹ

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY





COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

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INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

SALIENT FEATURES

Size of Stamp	:	40.5 x 40.5 mm
Size of Print	:	36.4 x 36.4 mm
Number of Stamps		4 X 2 (8 Stamps)
in a Sheet	:	Set of 2 stamps
Perforation	:	13 C Elliptical
Denomination	:	Rs.30/-
Colours	:	CMYK
Printing Technology	:	Lithography Offset
Paper	:	100 GSM Water Mark
		Gummed Paper
Gum	:	PVA
Quantity Stamp	:	0.03 Million (30,000)
Designer	:	Abu Obaidah Ayyaz
Printer	:	Pakistan Security Printing
		Corporation, Karachi

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INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

International Literacy Day, observed annually on 8 September, was proclaimed by UNESCO in 1966 to emphasize the importance of literacy as a fundamental human right and a cornerstone of sustainable development. The day serves as a global reminder that literacy is not merely the ability to read and write; it is a powerful instrument for empowering individuals, reducing poverty, promoting equality, strengthening democratic values, and fostering peace and prosperity.

Literacy is the foundation upon which individuals build knowledge, confidence, and opportunity. It enables people to make informed decisions, improve their livelihoods, participate meaningfully in civic and economic life, and contribute positively to their communities. In today's rapidly evolving world, literacy extends beyond traditional reading and writing skills to include digital literacy, critical thinking, communication, and lifelong learning competencies that are essential for personal growth and national progress.

For Pakistan, literacy is central to nation-building and socioeconomic development. An educated and literate population forms the backbone of a prosperous, innovative, and resilient nation. Literacy empowers citizens to realize their full potential, supports inclusive economic growth, strengthens democratic institutions, promotes social harmony, and contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 4: Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Recognizing the transformative power of education, Pakistan remains committed to expanding access to quality learning opportunities for every child, youth, and adult. National efforts continue to focus on improving foundational literacy and numeracy, strengthening public education, modernizing curricula, enhancing teacher development, promoting digital learning, and ensuring that education reaches underserved and marginalized communities.

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Special emphasis is placed on empowering women and girls through education. Educating girls is one of the most effective investments a nation can make. Literate and educated women contribute significantly to healthier families, stronger communities, higher economic productivity, and greater social cohesion. By ensuring equal educational opportunities for girls, Pakistan advances gender equality and lays the foundation for a more inclusive and prosperous society.

Alongside the formal education system, non-formal education has emerged as an essential pathway for reaching children, adolescents, and adults who remain outside conventional schooling. Flexible learning opportunities, community-based schools, accelerated learning programmes, and adult literacy initiatives provide second chances for learners to acquire foundational skills and continue their educational journey. These initiatives play a vital role in reducing educational disparities and extending the benefits of literacy to disadvantaged populations.

The Government of Pakistan has undertaken a range of initiatives to make education more accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of learners. Investments in educational infrastructure, technology-enabled learning, school support programmes, teacher capacity development, community participation, and innovative learning environments reflect the country's commitment to building a modern and equitable education system. Digital learning platforms, information technology facilities, robotics laboratories, and skills development programmes are equipping young people with the knowledge and competencies required to thrive in the twenty-first century.

Institutions such as the National Education Foundation (NEF), Basic Education Community Schools (BECS), the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD), and various provincial education initiatives continue to expand educational opportunities, particularly in remote, rural, and underserved areas. Scholarship programmes, education voucher schemes, and community partnerships further support children from disadvantaged backgrounds in accessing and completing their education.

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International Literacy Day also recognizes that achieving universal literacy requires collective responsibility. Governments, educators, parents, communities, civil society organizations, development partners, the private sector, and the media all have important roles to play in fostering a culture of reading, learning, and lifelong education. Creating an environment where every individual has the opportunity to learn strengthens not only families and communities but the nation as a whole.

Commemorative postage stamps serve as enduring symbols of a nation's values, achievements, and aspirations. By issuing a commemorative postage stamp on the occasion of International Literacy Day, the Pakistan Post Office Department pays tribute to the transformative power of literacy and renews the nation's commitment to ensuring that knowledge remains accessible to all. The stamp symbolizes hope, enlightenment, inclusion, and opportunity, reflecting the belief that education is the most powerful means of empowering individuals and building stronger communities.

As Pakistan continues its journey toward universal literacy and quality education, the collective commitment of government institutions, educational organizations, teachers, families, and communities remains essential. Every child who learns to read, every young person who gains new skills, and every adult who acquires literacy contributes to a more enlightened, productive, and prosperous nation.

International Literacy Day reminds us that literacy is far more than an educational milestone it is the foundation of human dignity, empowerment, innovation, and sustainable development. By investing in literacy today, Pakistan invests in a brighter future where every citizen has the opportunity to learn, grow, contribute, and realize their full potential. Through shared commitment and collective action, literacy will continue to unlock opportunities, transform lives, and strengthen the foundations of a peaceful, inclusive, and prosperous Pakistan.

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Concept/Design

The stamps presents International Literacy Day through two complementary visual concepts: The red graphic is based on United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 4 - Quality Education, highlighting the global commitment to inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all. On the other hand, the illustrated design portrays a young visually impaired schoolgirl engaged in learning within a rural classroom, emphasizing the importance of literacy for every child.

On International Literacy Day, Pakistan Post is issuing a set of two Commemorative Postage Stamps of Rs.30/-each denomination on September 8, 2026.

TERMS OF SALE

These Commemorative Postage Stamps will be available for sale from September 8, 2026 at all important Post offices in the country.

Overseas orders for Postage Stamps, First Day Issue Covers and Leaflets should be addressed to the Manager, Philatelic Bureau Karachi, GPO or Manager National Philatelic Bureau, Islamabad GPO, accompanied by a Bank Draft or Crossed Cheque encashable in Pakistan.

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