



LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Reception 2000 & 2002

Guest High Commission of Pakistan

His Excellency Professor Akbar

& Qassim Afzal, M.A



Pakistani guest gets warm VIP welcome

CHEETHAM councillor, Qassim Afzal met with Pakistan's High Commissioner, Prof Akbar Ahmad during his latest visit to Britain.

Cllr Afzal accompanied the High Commissioner on a tour of the region when he met commu-

nity leaders in Cheetham, Manchester, Trafford and Rochdale.

Cllr Afzal said: "It was a great pleasure to accompany the High Commissioner on his tour and he enjoyed meeting people from our communities."



Address by Leading Politicians Scholars Ambassadors, senators & LibDems Cllr



Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, Prof Akbar, & Film Icon Peter Cussion. Photo by Qassim Afzal



■ QASSIM AFZAL: International role

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

A MANCHESTER councillor has been given a major international role in a bid to forge stronger links between Britain and Pakistan.

Qassim Afzal, a Liberal Democrat councillor for Cheetham Hill, has been made a special adviser to Pakistan's High Commission in the UK, after establishing himself as one of Britain's leading authorities on the volatile state of Pakistani politics.

Afzal caught the eye of political observers when he predicted a military coup would occur in the country - just four weeks later, his prediction came true.

And the councillor isn't averse to mixing it with the big names when he feels the need. He recently had a run-in with Pakistan's former PM, Benazir Bhutto during her visit to Manchester over remarks about the recent coup.

He says: "I suggested that as there hadn't been the public uproar against it, didn't it show people wanted change? She wasn't too happy with my statement and accused me of siding with the army. But I had stated what was obvious. I also made it clear we want democracy in Pakistan. "But the people clearly felt some things weren't being delivered."

Afzal adds: "My role is about helping to build bridges between Pakistan and Britain, both economically and socially."



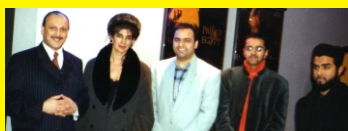
Actor Peter Caisson & Partner at the Launch of Jinnah



Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Autographs for Zaynab



Cllr Qassim Afzal, HE Prof. Akbar Ahmed, Molana Habib ul Rehman



Qassim with Actorres played Fatima Jinnah

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2000