

Governor's Speech

Unveiling of Commemorative Coin issued in recognition of services of Abdul Sattar Edhi

31st March 2017

How much people love Abdus Sattar Edhi can be gauged from the fact that, after the announcement for the issue of the commemorative coin, they were eagerly waiting for it. The wait has now ended.

If you recall, in July 2016, the State Bank had organized a condolence gathering to pay homage to Edhi, where the announcement for commemorative coin was made. On the recommendation of the State Bank, the Prime Minister had decided to issue a coin to commemorate Edhi's services at national level.

Pakistan has issued only five commemorative coins highlighting personalities including *Quaid-e-Azam* Muhammad Ali Jinnah, *Shair-e-Mashriq* Allama Muhammed Iqbal, *Madar-e-Millat* Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah, Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Shaheed, and now Abdus Sattar Edhi. Edhi is the only social worker who has been honoured with a commemorative coin.

Sometime ago, an exhibition of the renowned painter Jimmy Engineer's sketches was held at SBP museum. All these tributes, be it a commemorative coin, sketches exhibition or some other honour, cannot encompass the range of Edhi's services. The real acknowledgement and honour is the satisfaction of the downtrodden benefitting from the services of the Edhi Foundation.

The wide scope of Edhi Foundation's services reflects the late philanthropist's deep insight into various social issues. In rendering his services, he made no distinctions

of geographical limits, colour, race, nationality and religion. He never sought the support of governments or ceremonies for fundraising and built a great institution on the basis of his philosophy of “help yourself”. Through his honesty and selflessness, Edhi Sahib won the love and confidence of people. He always lived up to people’s expectation; received donations of millions of rupees but never breached their confidence.

Several months after his demise, Edhi Foundation continues its activities as vigorously as ever, indicating that he has founded a strong institution. His mission continues in the person of Faisal Edhi and will Insha Allah continue. The best way to pay tribute to Edhi Sahib is to own his mission and cooperate in all philanthropic activities.
