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Durrani and Siddiqui Commit to Dialogue for Political Solutions

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Former Federal Information Minister Muhammad Ali Durrani and Senator Irfan Siddiqui, parliamentary leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) in the Senate, have agreed to pursue ongoing dialogue to address Pakistan's pressing political challenges. Their recent meeting in Islamabad signals a rare push for constructive engagement in a polarized

landscape. This article explores their commitment, the obstacles to meaningful talks, and the potential for progress amidst deep divisions.

On July 17, 2025, Durrani and Siddiqui met to discuss the nation's volatile political climate, as reported by the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP). Durrani, a seasoned politician known for his advocacy of reconciliation, stressed that dialogue is essential for national stability, urging the government to show flexibility. "Avenues for dialogue should be opened in the national interest," he said, emphasizing the need for generosity from all sides. Siddiqui, who chairs the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, echoed this sentiment, noting that under Nawaz Sharif's leadership, the PML-N has consistently kept communication channels open. He criticized the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) for favoring confrontation over negotiation, pointing to their reliance on protests as a barrier to progress.

Pakistan's political scene is fraught with tension, marked by distrust between the ruling coalition and the opposition. The PTI's refusal to engage constructively, as Siddiqui highlighted, stems from a strategy of public agitation rather than dialogue, a stance that has deepened gridlock. Durrani's call for unity comes against a backdrop of economic strain and security challenges, where partisan bickering only worsens the plight of ordinary citizens. The PML-N, while claiming openness to talks, faces skepticism over its willingness to compromise, especially with ongoing legal battles involving PTI leaders.

This renewed push for dialogue offers a glimmer of hope but demands sincerity. Past attempts at reconciliation have faltered due to entrenched egos and power struggles. For Durrani and Siddiqui's efforts to succeed, both sides must prioritize national interest over political point-scoring. As

Pakistan navigates its challenges, their commitment to talk rather than clash could pave the way for stability—if all parties choose reason over rivalry.