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### **Muslims help fasting Christians - World - Brief Article**

Dennis Coday

LAHORE, Pakistan -- Muslim students hosted a traditional Islamic fast-breaking meal for Christian schoolmates observing Lent March 3. The iftari communal meal at St. Lawrence School in Lahore reciprocated an iftari Christian students hosted last year during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, which ended in November. About 150 students ages 13 to 17 joined the iftari, a meal of rice and fruit, in the school hall.

Capuchin Fr. Francis Nadeem, executive secretary of the Catholic bishops' National Commission for Inter-Religious Dialogue and Ecumenism, told the students that it was the first time he had heard of Muslim students in Pakistan making such a gesture. Older students fasted that day before the iftari, which started with prayers by students of both religions.

Azam Khan, on behalf of his fellow Muslim students, said he hoped Lent would bring peace and harmony to Christians in Pakistan and all humanity. Faiza Tariq, representing Christian students, thanked his Muslim schoolmates. "All of us will work together to make our country a tolerant, moderate and liberal country," he said.

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