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Indus River revival a must for saving life: Haroon

Associated Press of Pakistan

KARACHI: The Indus River has been synonymous for life for thousands of years but now human activities have damaged the entire river system, which has now jeopardized the survival of a large number of human as well as wildlife population.

This was stated by Pakistan's ambassador to UN Hussain Haroon, while joining the Friends of Indus Forum, which has been formed under the Indus for All Programme, WWF-Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, Hussain Haroon said that Indus valley is the cradle of civilization. The Indus valley civilization was formed some 5000 years ago. The entire region and its people have always been nature-friendly.

Unlike other civilizations like Nile, where the local rulers used to hunt, capture and harm animals, people of this region had respect for natural resources and the wildlife.

He said the concept of nature loving and peace being an integral part of the culture and civilization of this area, the very existence of this civilizations main source of life, Indus River, is in danger

He said a reduction in the water flow, one of the main factors for damage to the ecosystem, has ruined the economy of the entire river basin.

In addition to the human factor, natural phenomena like cyclones also wreak havoc every now and then in the deltaic area. Our forests which used to cover 1,300,000 acres have now reduced significantly, he added.