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Candle light vigil held to remember BB

Myra Imran
Islamabad

The civil society representatives and human right activists got together at the busy Super Market on Monday and held a candle light vigil in remembrance of Benazir Bhutto on her third death anniversary.

The participants were holding beautiful candles and pictures of Benazir Bhutto and paid rich tribute to the struggle and sacrifices made by her for democracy in the country. The representatives of Pakistan Students Federation and common

public also joined them.

The participants chanted slogans and praised the courageous leadership of Benazir Bhutto through speeches and poetry. They said that Benazir was the symbol of strength and bravery and will always remain alive in the hearts and minds of each and every Pakistani.

Chief Operating Officer Aurat Foundation Naeem Mirza said that Benazir believed in the politics of consensus and reconciliation and always stood for the rights of women and minorities. "It is only because of the sacrifices she made that to-

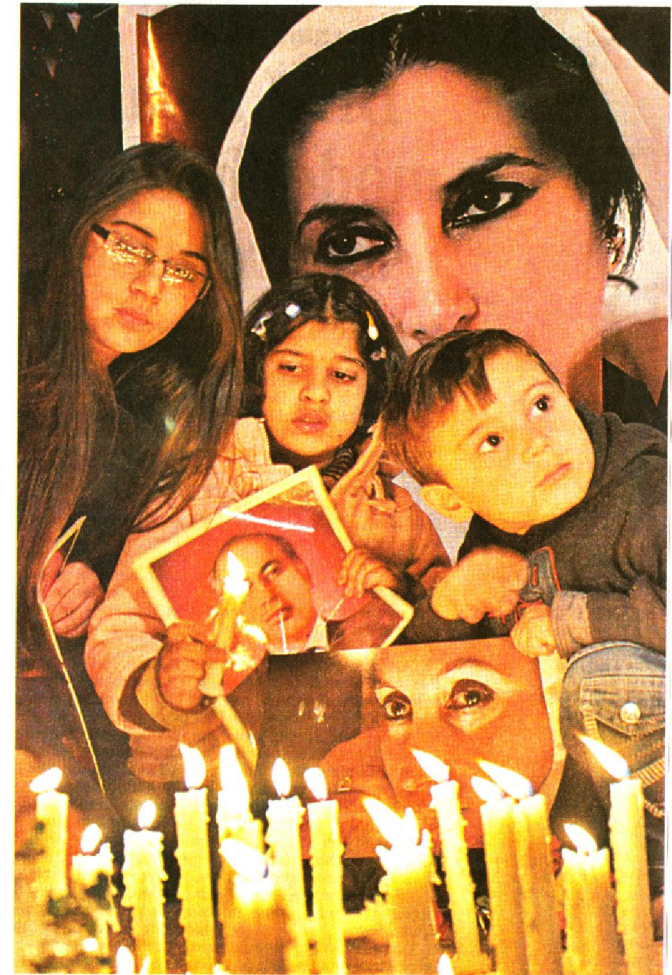
day we have democracy in our country," he said.

Human right activist Marvi Sirmed said that people of Pakistan remember Benazir in each and every moment of their lives. "We remember her when we talk about the human rights, we remember her when we think of tolerance, peace and reconciliation," she said.

Executive Director Potohar Organization for Rights and Democracy (PODA) Sameena Nazir said that Benazir was not only a great leader for Pakistan but was a celebrated leader of the subcontinent and the world.

Talking to 'The News', Tahira Abdullah said that being a woman, Benazir never considered herself fragile and weak and always spoke truth before the brutal tyrants. "She was equal to 1,000 men and was a complete role model for Pakistani girls," she pointed out.

Fehmida Riaz and Tamkeen Tahir presented their poems on the occasion. Other prominent names who attended the vigil included Iftikhar Arif, Nasreem Azher, Ghazi Salahuddin, Haris Khaliq, Irfana Mala, Arif Mazhar, Aqsa Khan, Shabana Arif and Rehana Hashmi.



Children lit candles in memory of Mohtarrma Benazir Bhutto on her third death anniversary in Islamabad. — NNI