

Pakistan build commanding 328-4 on Day 1 with Shan and Abdullah's tons



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Multan, 7 October 2024: Pakistan ended the opening day of the first Test against England at 328 for 4, thanks to centuries from Abdullah Shafique and Shan Masood at the Multan Cricket Stadium.

After opting to bat, Pakistan lost Saim Ayub early for 4, caught behind off 10 balls. At 8-1, Shan Masood joined Abdullah Shafique, and the duo stabilized Pakistan's innings, guiding the team through to lunch without further loss.

Post-lunch, both batters reached their centuries. Shan's fifth Test and 28th first-class century came off 102 balls, including 10 fours and two sixes. Abdullah's 100 came from 165 balls with 10 fours and two sixes. Their remarkable 253-run partnership for the second wicket, the fourth highest for Pakistan in Test cricket, was finally broken when Abdullah was dismissed by Gus Atkinson for 102 off 184 balls.

Shan, playing his first century as captain, was next to fall after scoring a well-crafted 151 from 177 balls. Following his departure, Pakistan lost Babar Azam for 30, adjudged LBW, just before the close of play.

Saud Shakeel (35 not out) and nightwatchman Naseem Shah (0 not out) will resume tomorrow at 10 a.m. Gus Atkinson was the pick of the bowlers for England, claiming 2 for 70, while Chris Woakes and Jack Leach took a wicket each. Sources PCB.