

Pakistan dominates South Africa to Seal ODI Series



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Cape Town, 19 December 2024: Pakistan clinched a commanding 81-run victory over South Africa in the second ODI at Newlands, securing an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series. This marks Pakistan's third consecutive ODI series win, following triumphs against Australia and Zimbabwe.

Batting first, Pakistan posted a formidable 329 runs, powered by skipper Mohammad Rizwan's 80, Babar Azam's 73, and Kamran Ghulam's explosive 63 off 32 balls. Kamran's blistering knock, including five sixes, provided a crucial late surge. South African pacers Kwena Maphaka and Marco Jansen claimed four and three wickets, respectively, but struggled to contain Pakistan's batters.

In response, South Africa faltered early, slipping to 113-4 as Shaheen Afridi and Naseem Shah ran riot. Heinrich Klaasen kept the chase alive with a valiant 97, but his dismissal left South Africa stranded at 248 in 43.1 overs. Shaheen's 4-47 and Naseem's 3-37 proved decisive in dismantling the hosts.

This victory, highlighted by Pakistan's collective batting and bowling prowess, reinforces their dominance ahead of the third ODI in Johannesburg on 22 December.

Scores in brief:

Pakistan 329 all out in 50 overs (Rizwan 80, Babar 73, Kamran 63; Maphaka 4-72, Jansen 3-71)

South Africa 248 all out in 43.1 overs (Klaasen 97; Shaheen 4-47, Naseem 3-37)

Player of the Match: Kamran Ghulam.

