

Miandad urges Pakistan to focus on West Indies challenge after SA defeat



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ISLAMABAD: Former Pakistan captain Javed Miandad has urged the national team to move past their recent Test series loss to South Africa and focus on the upcoming home series against the West Indies, starting January 17 in Multan.

Miandad, speaking to Dawn, acknowledged that while the West Indies offer a relatively easier challenge compared to South Africa, Pakistan's players must remain fully committed to Test cricket. He emphasized that individual performances are critical for victory and players must learn from the mistakes made during the South Africa series.

“The conditions in South Africa were different, but this home series is a chance for Pakistan to perform well,” Miandad said, pointing out that Pakistan's batsmen often struggle on fast pitches. He urged players and coaches to focus on improving techniques to address this weakness.

Miandad also stressed that while the Pakistan Cricket Board and coaches play a key role, players themselves must take responsibility for their execution on the field. He advised batsmen to play the ball on merit and bowlers to stick to a disciplined approach.

Furthermore, Miandad called for the inclusion of top domestic performers and highlighted the need for an overhaul of the domestic cricket system. “A competitive domestic structure, like in England, Australia, and South Africa, is crucial for producing quality players,” he said.

Both Pakistan and the West Indies currently sit near the bottom of the ICC World Test Championship standings.

