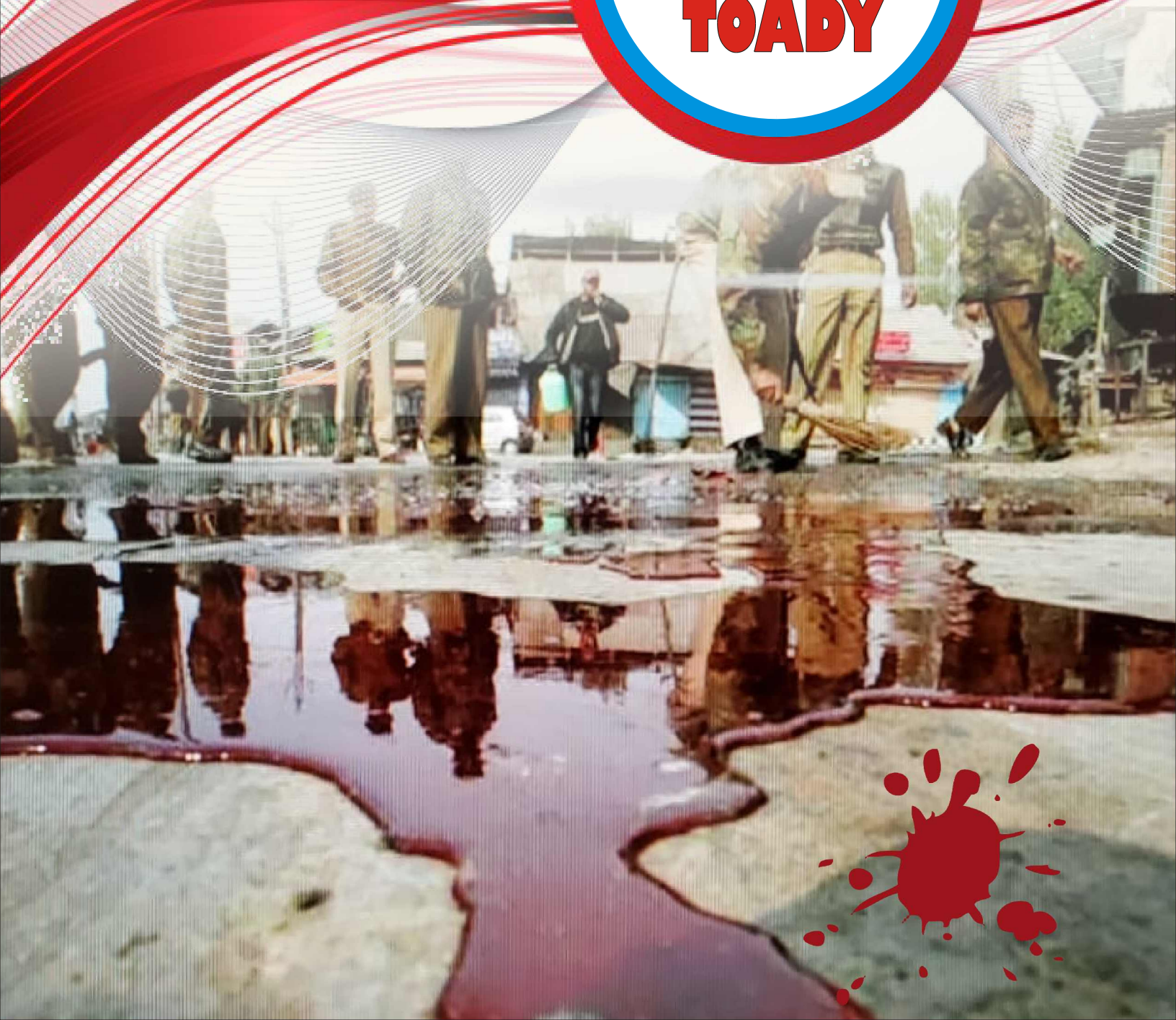


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**KASHMIR
TOADY**



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KASHMIR MARTYRS DAY: THE STRATING POINT OF KASHMIR LIBERATION MOVEMENT

Dogra family was the ruler of Kashmir through the treaty of Amritsar of 1846. Kashmir was a princely state under the suzerainty of the British Empire. The life of the Muslim population of Kashmir was very miserable under the oppressive and tyrannical rule of Dogra rulers. There were separate laws for Muslims and Non-Muslims, even capital punishment was granted on cow slaughter. Heavy taxes were imposed and there were many kinds of taxes. According to Walter Lawrence, "Army was employed in forcing the villagers to plough and sow, and worse still, the soldiers came at harvest time and when the share of the state had been seized" and "there was very little grain to tide the unfortunate peasants over the cruel winter." The Muslim population in Kashmir was against the rulers because of these and many other barbaric acts. On July 21, 1924 the "**Resham Khana**" (Silk factory) incident was first public awakening against this regime. It was an industrial unit in the Srinagar having 5000 workers. The workers protested against low wages given to them out of which corrupt Hindu officers took a substantial scheme of their bribe. This uprising was crushed by Dogra Cavalry, who killed Muslims with both bayonets and bullets, trampling upon their dead bodies, to have the satisfaction of complete job. Police had arrested 21 leading workers. The second incident was Ban on Eid Khutba on April 29, 1931. A police official *Stops the Khutba* or sermon at a congregational religious service of Muslims in Jammu on the ground that it aloud with the Quranic passage about Moses and the Pharaoh and thus indirectly advocates seditions. Protest by worshipers in Jammu was led by Ch. Ghulam Abbas. Expressions of vehement disapproval of police action in Srinagar and major towns. The third incident was **the desecration of the Holy Book "Holy Quran"**. Police constable Fazal Dad was reciting a part of the Holy Quran (*Punj Surha*), was accosted by the head warder of central jail Jammu for being late to attend his duties. The constable put away the holy book under his pillow and rolled his bedding. Labu Ram sub-inspector who was accompanying the warder threw away his bedding. The Muslim constable protested that

this was the deliberate **desecration of the Holy Book "Quran"**. The sub-inspector was devilish enough to kick it. A public meeting convened on 21st June 1931 in the compound of Khanqa-i- Mulla to choose the representatives of Kashmiri Muslims.



Seven representatives were elected, Khwaja Said-ud-Din Shawl, Mir Waiz Yousuf Shah, Mir Waiz Hamdani, Agha Syed Hussain Shah jalini, Khwaja Ghulam Ahmed Ashai, Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah & Munshi Shahb-ud Deen. At the end of the meeting, Abdul Qadeer delivered a speech against the ruler Maharaja and he was arrested. Due to large public resentment, the trial court of Abdul Qadeer was shifted to Central Jail Srinagar.

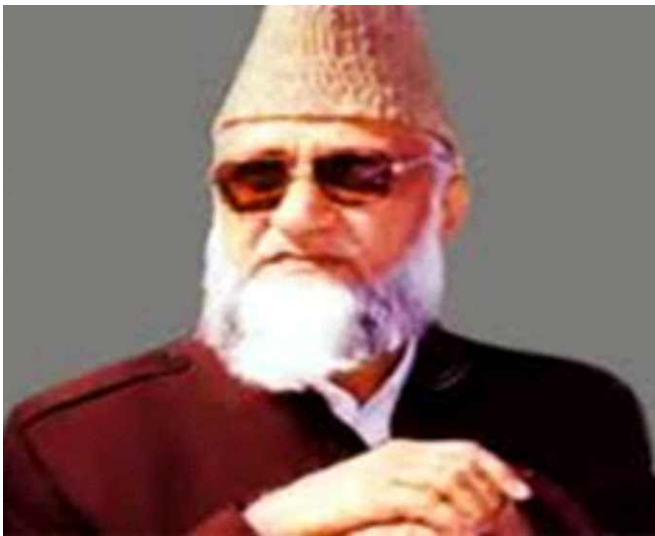
On July 13, 1931, thousands of people thronged the Central Jail Srinagar to witness the trial. As the time for obligatory prayer approached, a young Kashmiri stood for Azan. The Dogra Governor, Ray Zada Tartilok Chand ordered soldiers to open fire at him. When he got martyred, another young man took his place and started Azan. He was also shot dead. In this way, 22 Kashmiris embraced martyrdom in their efforts to complete the Azan. The people carried the dead and paraded through the streets of Srinagar, chanting slogans against Dogra brutalities. A complete strike was observed in Kashmir and traffic from Srinagar to Jammu and Rawalpindi came to halt from July 13 to 26, 1931. The martyrs were Ghulam Mohammad Halwai 25 years Jamia Masjid, Abdul Khaliq Shora 33 years Wazapura, Ghulam Nabi Kalawal 27 years Pandan, Ghulam Mohammad Soofi 20 years Daribal, Ghulam Qadir Butt 22 years Mohalla Bahandin, Mohammad Ramazan 19 years Khanyar, Mohammad Usman 20 years Kalashpura, Ghulam Mohammad Naqash 22 years Kani Kadal, Ghulam Rasool Darzi 23 years Ahmeda Kadal, Amir Joo Jandagaroo 27 years Gojwara, Abdul Ahad 23 years Gao Kadal, Ghulam Ahmed Kalbaf, 32 years Fateh Kadal, Amir Joo Makai 35 years Nawa Kadal, Shaaban Joo Makai 60 years Nawa Kadal, Subhan Khan 22 years Nawab Bazar, Abdul Khaliq 30 years Watal

Kadal, Mohammad Akbar 33 years Zaldagar, Abdul Qadir 26 years Bahauddin Sahib, Ghulam Rasool Dora 27 years Gotapura, Ahmed Rather 30 years Nowshehra, Ahmed Dar 30 years Nowshehra and Wali Wani 50 years Batapura. The Maharaja was not allowing any memorial of these martyrs and want to bury them in their respective graveyards. Due to public pressure the Government had granted permission to Mir Waiz Molana Muhammad Yousaf Shah to make funeral arrangements of the martyrs. Twenty two funerals were buried at the graveyard in Hazarat Khawaja Naqshband shrine in the

old city and the graveyard has since known as *Mazar-i-Shuhada (mausoleum of martyrs)*. From that day every year people of Jammu and Kashmir are observing this day as Kashmir Martyrs Day. The tyrannical rule of Dogra rulers was ended in 1947 but the people of Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir are still under occupation and oppression of India and they are struggling for liberation and right to self determination.

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10th July.2020 5th Death Anniversary of Mujahid-e-Awal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan



4th April, 1924 -10th July, 2015

Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan is one of those stalwarts who are destined to become legendary in their lifetime Among the leaders produced by Kashmir. He was born on 4 April 1924 in Ghaziabad, a village in the present day Bagh District..He studied in various educational institutions and attained Secondary Education from the University of Punjab in Pre-1947 united India. He was an exceptionally intelligent and resourceful student. He then joined the Engineers Corps of the British Indian Army and saw the active service in the African Deserts and in the Middle East. He gained valuable experience and knowledge in military and defence affairs and

witnessed the Palestine Operation from very close quarters in 1942-46.

Sardar Abdul Qayyum has to his credit the unique advantage of closely studying the Zionist, Israeli movement right from the very beginning. Later in 1946 he resigned from active service, came home and organized, activated and operationalized Kashmir Freedom Movement in 1946-49 on the basis of military experience he had gained in Africa and in the Middle East, motivated by the fervour of partition and his inherent military acumen and aptitude.

He rose to fame when the Dogra ruler refused to concede to the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan on 23 August 1947 led the mighty Liberation Movement (freedom struggle) from the historic hilltops of Neela Butt, culminating in the liberation of thousands of kilometres area now constituting Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Northern Areas.

The Day, 23rd August stays as a national commemoration Day observed annually. The August 23 Movement remained all along a very disciplined, pragmatic, human rights observing and effective event of history with all its unique

characteristics under highly trying conditions obtaining then in Kashmir and elsewhere in united India. In recognition of initiation of the Liberation Movement he was bestowed the popular title of Mujahid-e-Awal by the Kashmiri nation. When the reports of these revolutionary activities of Sardar Sahib was received by the Maraja,s Government he was declared a rebel and reward of Rs.5000 was fixed for his head.

He raised and commanded 1st AK Battalion which is presently 19-AK Battalion which became 6 Battalion Brigade under his command. This six-battalion Brigade is known in history books as 'Qayyum Brigade'. It operated in highly strategic zone between Uri and Poonch. From August 1947 that movement lasted for 18 full months till 1st January 1949. It was halted on the call of the UNO when the ceasefire came into effect. When the volunteer force that was operating in Kashmir was being regularized, he was ranked as a Major. But immediately after the ceasefire on the 1st of January he resigned from active service. He then started his political career from the platform of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference. He was elected President of All Jammu & Kashmir Muslim Conference for 14 times.

He started his political career in early fifties from the platform of Muslim Conference, a party that played a significant role in flaming the fire of freedom and kept the spirit of liberty alive in the hearts of Kashmiris for long time. Muslim Conference was established by Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah and Chaudhry Ghulam Abbas. Being skilled organizer, hard worker, extremely committed to the ideology of Kashmir's accession to Pakistan and having ability to rally the masses around him, Sardar Abdul Qayyum during his active political life made Muslim Conference a populist party and turned himself an iconic leader of the region.

He was undoubtedly a man of extraordinary qualities, extraordinary strength, will power of will and patience was the hallmarks of his personality. He had connections with many people and organizations inside and outside the country as a permanent member of the Islamic world. He had extraordinary access to the sciences of politics, history, religion and human psychology.

It was his towering personality and political influence that Azad Kashmir remained a citadel of Pakistan's defence and India never succeeded in orchestrating its terrorist activities in the region. Similarly, it was he, who steadily integrated AJK society into the mainstream Pakistan and discouraged the Kashmiri nationalist sentiments to take roots in the liberated area.

In an environment where politics revolves around tribes and clans, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan did politics of principles binding the people in the bond of ideology, which was evident from the fact that Muslim Conference once was considered a beautiful bunch of all tribes and clans in Azad Kashmir.

He has repeatedly held the posts of President, Supreme Head of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference. He held the post of President of Azad Kashmir three times and Prime Minister once He established many departments during the tenure of his government. He made practical efforts for the continuity of democracy, human rights, rule of law and good governance.

Another important aspect of his personal life was that he had never run after the material things and lived a simple life not different from his ordinary political followers. Many people in Azad Kashmir know that he used to wear worn out Shirwani (long coat) with hand- sewn patches on it during the climax of his politics.

The simplistic life style helped him earn confidence of his followers and common people of Azad

Kashmir who considered him someone different from just a politician. A devote Muslim in personal life and liberal in politics, his political philosophy and strategy made him equally popular in religious and moderates circles and he never faced divide in his party on religious grounds.

His achievements and accomplishments made him the king of the politics, most humble contented and down to earth person. People from all walks of life and across the entire political spectrum will continue to remember him as an authentic politician, a strategist and statesman who did politics as full time job with a sense of national duty, a religious obligation and a mission.

He is the author of more than fifty books and magazines (Kashmir Banay ga Pakistan, Mukadm-e-Kashmir, In search of Freedom, Muzakrat se Marshal Law etc).

Admired by millions, the most popular political and spiritual guru who touched the hearts of the common masses and elite alike, Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan died on Friday 10th July 2015

following a protracted illness and was laid to rest on Saturday the 11th July 2015 at his ancestral home in a small picturesque village of Ghaziabad in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).

Pakistan Military guards escorted his casket wrapped in national flag to final resting and gave him gun salute in military traditions. A contingent of AJK Police also presented a guard of honour to mark it as state burial. When the mortal remains of the 91-year-old freedom fighter-turned politician were lowered into the grave, thousands of teary-eyed helpless followers watched the final journey of AJK's Mujahidawal (first crusader).

The narrow lanes of Ghaziabad town were choked with influx of people pouring in from all over the AJK to pay their last respects to iconic leader who led the freedom struggle of Kashmir in 1947 and later ruled the liberated

The most significant thing he has left behind is his wonderful political legacy for his followers to cherish.

May Allah Almighty rest his soul in eternal peace!

KASHMIR MARTYRS' DAY

Martyrs' Day is observed in **Kashmir** in remembrance of the people killed on 13 July 1931 in the region. On the day Kashmiris were agitating outside the Srinagar Central Jail premises at Srinagar where Abdul Qadeer was arrested on the charge of terrorism and inciting public against the Maharaja of Kashmir by Dogra state forces.

The Kashmir Martyrs Day is observed each 13 July every year on both sides of the Line of Control and all over the world by the Kashmiris to pay homage to 22 Kashmiri people who were killed in 1931 during a revolt against atrocities on 13 July 1931, when people rose against Dogra rule and protested against the prosecution of sympathizer of Kashmir struggle, Abdul Qadeer Khan Ghazi. It was the beginning of

modern era Kashmir freedom struggle which has different phases including political struggle as well as Armed struggle and civilian protests.

Five important incidents, which occurred quick succession, sparked the revolt. These causes are:

In the first case

A leading land-holder in Udhampur Jammu had converted to Islam. The Hindu Tehsildar sanctioned a fresh mutation of his lands, eliminated his name and mutated the same in the name of his brother. He filed a suit that was dismissed with the remarks that unless he re-entered Hindu faith, he was not entitled to any property. This was done in accordance with a decree issued by the Dogra Government on 31 December 1882.

The second incident

This took place on 4 June in the Central Jail Jammu. Fazal Dad Khan, a police constable from Mirpur, was sitting on a cot when a Head Warder, Balak Ram, reprimanded him for being late on duty. In the meantime, Labhu Ram, a Sub-Inspector, threw away Khan's bedding in a fit of recklessness. It contained a copy of *Panjsurah* (five chapters from the *Quran*). Fazal Dad approached the Young Men's Muslim Association.

The third incident

This took place in Srinagar on 20 June 1931 when leaves of the Quran were found in a public latrine. Moulvi Muhammad Yousuf Shah at a public meeting held at Hazratbal said: "If we are arrested there is nothing for you to fear. If ten of us are arrested, the other ten must be prepared to take our places". In his work

Immediate cause

Abdul Qadeer was an employee of an English army officer, Major Butt of the Yorkshire Regiment posted at Peshawar. Abdul Qadeer had been attending the meetings and at *Kanqah-i-Maula* he was unable to suppress his feelings, which resulted in his impromptu address to the crowd. His speech was recorded by the CID and when he returned to Naseem Bagh that night, he was followed and arrested on 25 June from the house-boat of his employer and charged under section 124-A (treason) and 153 of the Ranbir Penal Code. Rashid Taseer in his "Tarikh-i-Hurriyat" (page no 96), recorded his speech as: "Muslim brothers: the time has now come when we should not meet force by great force to put an end to the tyrannies and brutalities to which you are subjected, nor will they solve the issue of disrespect to Holy Quran to your satisfaction. You must rely up on your own strength and wage a relentless war against oppression"; pointing his finger towards the palace he shouted, "raze it to the

ground". He said, "We have no machine guns. But we have plenty of stones and brickbats." When Muslims learnt of his arrest, there was wide resentment across Kashmir.

Khan's trial was started in Srinagar Jail. The Deputy Inspector of Police came to the site of the trial with one Inspector, 2 Sub Inspectors, 5 Head Constables and 44 Policemen. Out of this force, 22 policemen were armed with rifles and the rest with hand clubs, while the Inspectors had revolvers. Besides the above, the Jail forces consisted of 119 policemen armed with *dandas* and 19 policemen with rifles. Thousands of Muslims assembled outside the Central Jail. After the entry of the session Judge, they demanded permission to enter the compound. According to an estimate, four to five thousand people went witness the trial. Before the session began, a group of about two hundred people entered the compound and remained in peace outside the *Jail Guard Lines*.

At 1:00 pm. Muslims began lining up for their noon prayers. A little later the District Magistrate, the City *Munsiff*, the Superintendent of Police and the Assistant Superintendent of Police arrived in cars. As soon as they left their vehicles, people shouted slogans, "*Allah-o-Akbar- Islam Zindabad*" and "*Abdul Qadeer Zindabad*". When the Judge arrived the people shouted, "Our brother from Raibareli; Release Abdul Qadeer! Our brother from Rawalpindi! We will go to the jail. Imprison us instead". The police charged them with batons and the people fought the police with stones and brickbats,

To quell the crowd, the police started firing and continued for fifteen minutes. Governor Turlok Chand ordered the armed police to open fire. According to the evidence officially placed before the Dalal Inquiry Commission, 180 rounds were fired. Seventeen Muslims were killed on the spot and

forty received serious injuries, five of whom died later. Chaudhri Ghulam Abbas Khan in his autobiography that "the sky became suddenly overcast with dark frightening clouds and the city witnessed an unusual dust storm, as soon as the

procession reached Jamia Masjid, and the government clamped martial law and handed over the city to the army". On the third day, they were buried in the compound of Kanqah-i-Maula, which has since come to be known as "Mazar-i-Shuhada.

MARTYRS OF 13 JULY 1931

S#	NAME	AGE	RESIDENCE
01	Ghulam Mohammad Halwi	30 years	Jamia Masjid
02	Abdul Khalique Shora	27 years	Wazapura
03	Ghulam Nabi Kalawal	26 years	Pandan
04	Ghulam Mohammad Soofi	33 years	Daribal
05	Ghulam Qadir Butt	30 years	Mohalla Bahandin
06	Mohammad Ramazan	22 years	Khanyar
07	Mohammad Usman	60 years	Kalashpura
08	Ghulam Mohammad Nagash	35 years	Kani Kadal
09	Ghulam Rasool Darzi	32 years	Ahmeda Kadal
10	Amir Joo Jandagaroo	23 years	Gojwara
11	Abdul Ahad	27 years	Gao Kadal
12	Ghulam Ahmed Kalbaf	23 years	Fateh Kadal
13	Amir Joo Makai	22 years	Nawa Kadal
14	Shaaban Joo Makai	20 years	Nawa Kadal
15	Subhan Khan	19 years	Nawab Bazar
16	Abdul Khalique	22 years	Watal Kadal
17	Mohammad Akbar	20 years	Zaldagar
18	Abdul Qadir	27 years	Bahandin
19	Ghulam Rasool Dora	33 years	Gotapura
20	Ahmed Rather	25 years	Naushdra
21	Ahmed Dar	30 years	Naushdra
22	Wall Wani	50 years	Batapura

INDIA'S LIMITLESS TYRANNY IN OCCUPIED KASHMIR

On July 1, in Sopore, a town in Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK), security forces dragged 65-year-old Bashir Ahmed Khan from his car and killed him in front of his three-year-old grandson. The picture of the toddler sitting on his grandfather's chest enraged Kashmiris who accused the Indian security forces of killing an unarmed Khan and staging crossfire between the militants and security forces.

Stephane Dujarric, the spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, in a press briefing on July 2, condemned the killing of unarmed civilians in Sopore and stated that those responsible for such an act must be

made accountable. Despite voices being raised to express their shock and anger over the incident, the international community remained mum. Taking advantage of the Covid-19



Dr. Moonis Ahmar

pandemic and the indifference of the world, the Indian state has accelerated its efforts to practically grab Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) by giving 30,000 domicile certificates mostly to non-Muslim residents.

Almost a year has passed since India ended the special status of J&K as was ensured in Article 370 and 35(A) of the Indian Constitution and took back-to-back measures

to inundate the Muslim majority valley with non-Muslims so as to transform its demographic status. Expressing his alarm and rejection of Indian moves to establish non-Muslim settlements in Kashmir, Mirwaiz Umer Farooq, the Chairman of the Awami Action Committee and a key figure of the All Parties' Hurriyat Conference (APHC), asked the valley's residents not to sell their property to outsiders as it would enable the Indian state to transform the Muslim majority into a minority.

In retrospect, about a hundred years ago, when Palestine was given to Britain under a system mandated by the League of Nations, an influx of Jews began and they started buying property from Arab residents. Those who refused to sell their properties faced Jewish occupation with the connivance of British authorities. Muslim Kashmiris are mindful of the reality of Palestine that how the Jewish population in that former Ottoman territory, which had only 7% population at the time of the Balfour Declaration 1917, surged to 30% within two decades. There are approximately eight million Muslim Kashmiris in IOK and if New Delhi is able to fully implement its domicile policy and plan to establish non-Muslim settlements, it expects to transform the Muslim majority into a minority in 15 years'time.

India's limitless tyranny in IOK will not end after the cold-blooded murder of Bashir Ahmed Khan in Sopore. It will further augment with the passage of time because except for Pakistan's firm stance against New Delhi's brutal and cruel actions in IOK, there is silence elsewhere. Although, India is bogged down in its confrontation with China in Ladakh, it is using all opportunities to strengthen its physical and political control after its illegal acts of August 5, 2019. Even if Syed Ali Shah Geelani, a veteran Kashmiri leader, is determined to sustain struggle against Indian occupation of J&K, the dilemma for the Kashmiri Muslims becomes acute because of three main reasons, as follows: First, since August 5 when India abrogated the special status of J&K, there is no letup in atrocities and brutalities unleashed by the Indian security forces on

unarmed Kashmiris. The world experienced a lockdown because of a pandemic this year, but the Kashmiris, particularly those living in the valley, are facing lockdown depriving them of connectivity and freedom of movement since last August. Brutal and humiliating siege and search operations conducted by the Indian security forces led to forced disappearances particularly of Kashmiri youths, arrests and dishonouring of Kashmiri women. Even some news coverage in the mainstream international media like *The New York Times* and CNN exposing Indian atrocities in IOK has failed to have an impact on the mindset of the Indian state. The Indian print and electronic media is selective and only gives coverage to the official statement of the Indian state in which it rejected the allegation that Khan was killed by the security forces and projected the false notion that he was killed in crossfire.

Second, it is out of frustration, anger and vengeance that the Indian forces are targeting Muslim Kashmiris because despite their months of repressive and brutal actions they have failed to subdue their resistance in the valley. If Kashmiri Muslims are fighting for their survival and are charged with faith and courage, Indian forces are devoid of conviction and devotion. As an occupant army, they lack any ownership with J&K and are told by their superiors that they only need land and not people. As a result, the morale of the Indian army is down as they are fighting a war they cannot win.

Third, the dilemma of Kashmiri Muslims is also related to Pakistan, their main supporter over their right to self-determination. But Kashmiris living in IOK are perplexed because of Pakistan's domestic issues, particularly of political polarisation, bad governance and sliding economy. Had Pakistan been internally stable, it would have been a source of great help for Kashmiris. Furthermore, for many Kashmiris the track record of Pakistan in accomplishing its age-old ambition of self-determination of J&K is marred with failures, starting from the 1948 war on Kashmir to the Operation Gibraltar which

was launched during the summer of 1965 and the Kargil misadventure of 1999. Furthermore, the disintegration of Pakistan in 1971 and emergence of India as a dominant power in South Asia also led to pessimism and demoralization among Kashmiri Muslims.

In this scenario, India's limitless tyranny in IOK gets an impetus because of Pakistan's inability to render practical support for the Kashmiri struggle for emancipation. The complicated nature of the Kashmiri conflict is another issue because for any final settlement of Kashmir, realities like the non-Muslim majority in Jammu and Ladakh and the Muslim majority in the valley, Azad

Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan cannot be overlooked. So far Pakistan has been able to expose Indian atrocities in IOK before the UN, OIC, European parliament and other international forums.

But when reports about fake licences issued to pilots in Pakistan and other news items related to its bad governance reach world capitals, it has a negative reflection on the support which is needed for the beleaguered Muslim community of IOK to get themselves emancipated from the clutches of Indian occupation.

Published in The Express Tribune, July 10th, 2020.

PM MODI'S STRATEGIC MISCALCULATIONS

PM Modi has ended up steering his country into a strategic blind alley with nary a viable option in sight. He is facing multidimensional challenges. India's economy is tanking and the coronavirus is relentless in its debilitating effects. The borders with China are hot and it has been summarily outmanoeuvred at the tactical and operational levels in Ladakh-Line of Actual Control (LAC). PM Modi and his military have clearly overreached. They now negotiate from blatantly weak positions. India's strategic partner, the US and even the ever-reliable Russia have been reticent to help against China. Other South Asian states seem to be increasingly leaning towards China, too. PM Modi finds himself isolated and unenviably stuck between a frigid hell in Ladakh-LAC and political doom at home and abroad. He has to live up to his overblown macho image or perish!

This paradox is the outcome of some serious strategic miscalculations and blunders by the Modi-led RSS-BJP government over time.

The basic flaw in PM Modi's political philosophy and style of governance lies in the overwhelming influence of the RSS-inspired Hindutva ideology on statecraft, governance, policy formulation and decision making to achieve political and other objectives. Indian national interests have since had a distinctive Hindutva tinge. Domestically, this manifested itself in the ruthless

pogroms of Indian and Kashmiri Muslims; first in Gujrat, then all over India and finally in Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IOJ&K). Resultantly, Indian society got polarised



Imran Malik

and fractured, irretrievably. These effects have clearly seeped down the command channels of the Indian military and may have seriously affected its combat potential, too. However, this unnatural concoction of Hindutva, statecraft and inspired policy formulation and decision making came to serious grief when it was applied to achieve foreign policy objectives. Quite obviously, the xenophobic Hindutva ideology and the norms and principles of international relations, geopolitics and geostrategy are mutually exclusive.

PM Modi first tried, albeit unsuccessfully, to coerce Pakistan into submission through a series of false-flag operations, cross-LoC ceasefire violations and RAW-sponsored terrorist attacks from Afghanistan and Iran. Pakistan's swift and deadly response to India's failed air attack on Balakot, post the false-flag operation at Pulwama, badly exposed the Indian military's inadequacies as the IAF lost an SU 30 MKI, a MIG21 Bison and a pilot(s)! India's chauvinistic Hindutva ideology had clearly gotten the better of military strategy, good sense and judgement. Much to India's chagrin the

Tenuous strategic balance in the subcontinent got reiterated emphatically.

Undeterred and unrepentant at the reverses suffered at the hands of the Pakistanis, PM Modi struck next in IOJ&K. He moved to incorporate the internationally recognised disputed territories of IOJ&K as well as Ladakh into India as Union Territories. The Indians issued maps which fraudulently claimed these territories as Indian and even included China's Aksai Chin and the Pakistan controlled Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJ&K) and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) to boot. This was expansionism at its most pathetic. It inevitably drew China in to become a proactive part of the larger Kashmir issue. This was India's worst strategic blunder (Hindutva inspired) of all and had serious strategic ramifications. It vitiated the strategic environment in the most sensitive nuclear flashpoint of the world where the interests of three nuclear powers clashed violently. This strategic imbroglio was further compounded by the Indian attempts to build defence infrastructure in Ladakh in stark violation of the understandings with the Chinese. This included the Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie Road (DSDBOR) and the airstrip in the area. The deceitful maps, the defence infrastructure, the boisterous claims by the BJP politicians, the megalomaniac rantings of their military commanders and the insufferable media campaigns were clearly part of India's expansionist plan to encroach upon Pakistani and Chinese territories. The Indians were generating unambiguous physical threats towards Aksai Chin, G219, the lateral of strategic importance between Xinjiang and Tibet Autonomous Region, the Karakoram Pass, Siachen, AJ&K, GB and the rather distant KKH-CPEC-BRI! Predictably, it gave common cause to China and Pakistan to confront India. The Pakistanis have always kept their powder dry. The Chinese had no option but to move in and crystallise the LAC, to put an

end to this Indian Hindutva-driven madness. They did so swiftly, occupied positions on their own side of the LAC and started dominating the only Main Supply Route in the area, that is the DSDBOR. This has put shackles on all Indian pretensions to expansionism in the region and restricted them to tactically disadvantageous positions. Shell-shocked, the Indians poured about three infantry divisions into Ladakh and may have yet erred again in their operational strategy. Have they senselessly manoeuvred themselves into a strategic vise, a nutcracker with Pakistan and China already positioned as the two pincers? In another hypothetical scenario here, Pakistan could form the anvil to China's hammer or vice versa. The Indians may have ironically actualised the two-front war scenario they have been dreading all along. A simultaneous upheaval in IOJ&K will destabilise the internal front, threaten the Indian base of operations and make all operations in Ladakh and across the LOC quite untenable. Any misplaced bravado by the Indian military (even against Pakistan) will lead to an all-out war and a possible nuclear holocaust/winter. Discretion might be the better part of valour for the Indians.

The Indians feel let down by the US offer of mediation instead of their unqualified material and physical support. Presently, US and Indian interests in this region appear divergent. Quite unsurprisingly, the Indians approached the Russians for succour and relief. Ideally for the US, India and China ought to expend their economic and military resources against each other in a conflict that lingers on unabated. This will serve the dual purposes of constraining China's multidimensional rise and making India a permanent client state of the US. At the grand strategy level, such a scenario will also keep Asia from replacing the US and its allies as the geopolitical, geo-economic and geostrategic centre of gravity of the world!

UN URGED TO CONTINUE DOCUMENTING HR ABUSES IN HELD KASHMIR

(Baqir Sajjad Syed)

Islamabad: Pakistan on Friday called on the United Nations to continue monitoring and documenting human rights abuses being committed by India in occupied Kashmir. "Pakistan reiterates its call for enhanced international monitoring of and continued UN reporting on the human rights crisis in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir to save lives, dignity and freedoms of the Kashmiri people under illegal occupation for over seven decades," the Foreign Office said in a statement.

The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) had in 2018 and 2019 produced two consecutive reports pointing out serious human rights violations in occupied Kashmir, particularly excessive use of force by Indian security forces leading to civilian casualties, use of pellet guns, arbitrary detentions, and impunity enjoyed by Indian authorities and forces in the occupied territory indulging in rights abuses. Both reports made wide ranging recommendations for addressing those violations, including one about setting up of a Commission of Inquiry, the highest-level investigation in the UN system. India refused to accept the findings of both the reports. There has, however, been no report on the human rights situation in the valley this year despite a sharp aggravation since the annexation of the occupied territory in August last year. For most of the period since the illegal annexation, the region has remained under military siege, lockdown and communication blockade. The Kashmiris have been facing continued oppression including so-called cordon and search operations and fake encounters. It is estimated that about 150 people have been martyred by Indian security forces in the first six months of this year. More-over, occupying troops have carried out 'collective punishment' of entire communities and neighbourhoods, and crimes against humanity.

"This excessive use of force by India is its standard modus operandi, as witnessed in the recently released picture from Indian-Occupied Jammu & Kashmir, where a three-year-old child sits on his grandfather's blood-covered dead body in Sopore," Human Rights Minister Shireen Mazari noted in her letter to High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet this week.

There have been a number of reports by human rights bodies this year highlighting the grim rights situation in Kashmir. "The 2018 and 2019 UN Kashmir reports provided a window to the world about the scale of India's human rights violations, aided and abetted by hundreds of thousands of occupation forces and draconian laws," the FO said. "The UN human rights machinery has consistently spotlighted India's non-compliance with its international human rights obligations. Through several official communications, nearly a dozen UN Special Rapporteurs have regularly raised serious concerns over India's consistent pattern of arbitrary arrests, detentions, torture, corporal punishment, extra-judicial killings, and physical and digital lockdown in occupied Jammu & Kashmir," it added.

The FO said India had disregarded the international pressure and had persisted with its mode of defiance and denial. "It rejected the two Kashmir reports and refuses to grant access to any independent international observer, organisation and media to investigate gross human rights violations. In fact, India has heightened its repression in IOJ&K taking advantage of the world's preoccupation with the Covid-19 pandemic," the FO said.

Emphasising the need for holding India responsible, it said India's willful defiance of international law, democratic norms and its human rights obligations necessitated continued accountability and opprobrium, as underlined in the UN's Kashmir Reports.

The FO also pointed towards Indian attempts to engineer demographic change in IOJ&K and convert the Kashmiri Muslim majority into a minority.

Dr Mazari in her letter had cautioned that absence of accountability for India's actions would further embolden it. "I request urgent intervention with respect to bringing to an end these breaches of fundamental human rights norms. If we do not act together now, we may risk further destabilisation and bloodshed in the region, which would affect millions on both sides of the Line of Control, the Pakistan-India border and in the region at large," she said.

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WHERE ARE CHAMPIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Reportedly four special rapporteurs of UN have sent a report to the Indian government over the continued deterioration of human rights conditions in occupied Kashmir documenting several cases of arbitrary detentions, violations of the prohibition of torture, ill-treatment and pummelling rights of people belonging to minorities, particularly Muslims. They also expressed regret that they had received no response to two earlier communications sent to the Indian government in 16 August 2019 and February 2020. The rapporteurs have also asked the Indian government to investigate the alleged torture and custodial killings of several Muslim men since January 2019. In the report shared on website of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OCHCR), they said, "We remain deeply concerned about the ongoing human rights violations" The foregoing contents of the report not only depict the horrendous act of ethnic cleansing by the Indian security forces but also the disdainful arrogance of the Indian authorities in not responding to the UN communications, because they feel that with the support of their western strategic partners, they can get away with whatever they do in IO&JK like Israel in Palestine. It is pertinent to point out that two reports on human rights situation in IO&JK compiled by OCHCR had also corroborated blatant violation of human rights by the Indian security forces suggesting the constitution of a UN Inquiry Commission to hold a thorough probe in the matter. Regrettably no progress has been made in that regard so far.

Ever since the launch of freedom movement by Kashmiris in 1989 to win their freedom and the right to self-determination, the Indian security forces have killed more than one hundred people there, mostly civilians and raped thousands of women. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and other human rights organizations have been regularly compiling reports on the extra-judicial killings and blatant violation of human rights. The international media in spite of lack of access to

the valley has also been reporting acts of bestiality by the Indian security forces, including the massacre of 53 people in Sopore on 6 July 1993. The media has also come up with detailed



Malik Ashraf

reports on the plight of besieged Kashmiris and continued killings in IO&JK since 5 August. Pakistan government has also been sensitizing the world and the UN about the snow-balling crisis in IO&JK and the likely repercussions of the actions of Modi government.

One wonders where are the champions of human rights and right of self-determination who lose no opportunity to cry hoarse from every convenient roof-top to condemn the alleged human rights situation in China and her promulgation of the Security Law in Hong Kong which they perceive oppressive in regards to the fundamental rights of its citizens?. Their criminal indifference to the situation in the India-occupied Kashmir to protect their strategic and commercial interests surely denudes the myth about their humanitarian credentials. Their material interests are dearer to them than human rights and humanitarian causes enshrined in the UN Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They raise hue and cry on their violations only when it suits their interests. It will not be wrong to say that these powers, particularly USA has been responsible and connected to almost all the conflicts around the world in which hundreds and thousands of people have been killed, what to speak of their human rights.

It is a world of the powerful. Human rights and internationally recognized principles as enshrined in the UN Charter as well as diplomacy are all bullshit. It is the worth and strength of a country or group of countries that carries the day. It is amply corroborated by the behaviour of USA and its allies who have shown no respect for them whenever they decided that it was in their strategic and national interest to defy them. Their power and status is such that they can manipulate things their way even at the

UN and other international forums where they use their coercive clout to win support for their imperialist actions. I am sure that what the Modi government did in IO&JK on 5 August, its annexation to the Indian Union, continued lockdown and persistence with extra-judicial killings, has a nod of approval from the USA and her allies which are building strategic partnership with India to promote their interests in this region and Asia Pacific. India is being rewarded for her role in promoting the objective of their 'contain China Policy'. People of Kashmir are victim of global politics and the supremacist ideology of BJP government headed by Narendra Modi. If principles and diplomacy really mattered in the management of international affairs, the way Pakistan conducted its diplomatic

offensive and sensitized the world about human rights situation in IOJ&K and warned the UN and the international community about the threats to peace and security in the region, the world would have sprung into action to stop India in her tracks and used its pressure to have the UN resolutions implemented. The reality is that the UN was created by the triumphant nations of the World War-II and the charter drawn by them was actually meant to promote their own interests and fashion the world accordingly. As a result the smaller and weaker nations have always been on the receiving end and looked upon their benign support for their causes. No wonder then that these powers have been very discreet in doing that.

The writer is freelance columnist based in Islamabad.

KASHMIR MARTYR'S DAY

The decade's old Kashmir struggle is not a story of single day but it comprises of those unknown bloodshed and sacrifices which has paved way for this struggle to exist and deter occupation forces. 13 July is marked as Kashmir Martyrs day throughout the country. The day is the milestone in the history, as it has become dawn of the Kashmir's struggle for independence against foreign occupation. This martyr's day marks the beginning of liberation movement that resulted in armed uprising and struggle against the autocratic rule of Maharaja of Kashmir in 1947. It was on July 13, 1931 when 22 Kashmiris were gunned down by Dogra army and police in front of Central Jail Srinagar. This incident in history was later narrated as "bastille of the Kashmir". History of Kashmir narrates about this incident that agitation began in April, 1931 when Dogra rulers imposed ban on Eid and other religious sermons and Dogra forces deliberately did desecration of Holy Quran. One of the young boy named Abdul Qadeer at that time along with other youngsters raised slogan that 'destroy every brick of this' by pointing towards the Dogra palace. It was then, this boy was taken into custody for trial. However, with fear of resentment Dogra troops shifted him to Central Jail of Srinagar. On July, 13 when his trial began large number of Kashmiris gathered outside jail to witness hearings. As the time for one of

prayer began a young boy from the protesters stood and started calling Azaan. The Dogra Governor ordered his soldiers to open fire and so that youngster got martyred. But the youth and people did not let Azaan to be left uncompleted and as soon as first youngster martyred other on stood up and started Azaan and hence 22 Kashmiris got martyred in this effort to complete call for prayers. Later this incident called for widespread protests throughout Kashmir and other parts of subcontinent against the Dogra rule.

History has witnessed many freedom movements world over. The struggles sooner or later succeeded with varying price tag ranging from few hundred to some thousands lives. Unfortunately, there is a freedom movement which is on for the more than six decades and is still anticipating its triumph. This movement has legal backing of no less than UN and Security Council's repeated resolutions. The price paid so far is over 100,000 lives and hundreds of thousands of gang rapes in addition to other human rights violations. The movement is termed as Kashmir freedom Movement. Going a little back in history will help the audience to understand the Kashmir predicament. During the partition of



Reema Shaukat

The Sub-continent, the people of Muslim majority State of Jammu and Kashmir decided to join Pakistan according to the British-led formula. But, Dogra Raja Hari Singh, then Hindu ruler of J&K, in connivance with the Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Governor General Lord Mountbatten joined India. The real design to forcibly gain Kashmir began to unfold on August 16, 1947, with the announcement of the Red Cliff Boundary Award. It gave the Gurdaspur District, a majority Muslim area, to India to provide a land route to the Indian armed forces to move into Kashmir. This led to a rebellion by State forces, which stood against the Maharaja and were joined by Pathan tribesmen. When Pakistan responded militarily against the Indian aggression, on December 31, 1947, India made an appeal to the UN Security Council to intervene and a ceasefire ultimately came into effect on January 01, 1949, following UN resolutions calling for a plebiscite in Kashmir

On February 5, 1964, India backed out of its promise of holding plebiscite. Instead, in March 1965, the Indian Parliament

passed a bill, declaring Kashmir a province of India, and integral part of the Indian union. The bloody tragedy of poor Kashmiris had started after 1947 when they were denied their legitimate and UN approved right of self-determination. As a natural outcome of Indian injustice, people of IOK organized themselves and launched a war of liberation which India tried to crush through coercion and brutalities.

Later, in 1988, Indian positioned a very large number of Armed Forces to suppress Kashmir struggle on gun point. International watchdogs have many at times called for revoking of AFSPA and urged investigations for the human rights violations in J&K by an “independent and impartial” authority. Amnesty International and Human Rights organizations time and again have appealed India to stop atrocities and violence in IoK. Pakistan has always extended full diplomatic support on Kashmir cause and will continue to do so unless a peaceful solution comes up.

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Modi's first term as prime minister had been marked by lynching of Muslims, Christians and Dalits by extremist Hindu mobs.



Day not far when Kashmir will be free from clutches of Indian occupation, says PM Imran Khan



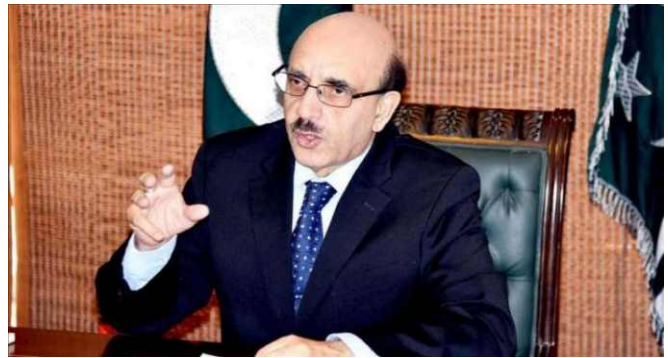
Islamabad: Prime Minister Imran Khan paid tribute to the Kashmiris on Monday for laying down their lives for freedom as they "continue to fight and defy a Hindutva supremacist regime" which is focused on wiping out the Kashmiri people. The prime minister in his message on Kashmir Martyrs' Day, while saluting the Kashmiris for their continued struggle against the illegal and barbaric Indian occupation of the occupied territory said, "The shuhada of 13 July 1931 were the forefathers of today's Kashmiri resistance," PM Imran tweeted. "Their descendants have, generation after generation, laid down their lives for freedom and today they continue to valiantly fight and defy a Hindutva Supremacist regime bent on demographic engineering to wipe out the Kashmiri people and their identity," he added.

The prime minister added that Pakistan will continue to support the Kashmiris' right to self-determination till it is liberated. "Pakistan has always stood steadfast for the Kashmiri right to self-determination and will continue to support this just struggle till IOJK is liberated from the clutches of Indian illegal occupation. That day is not far," the premier added. The Kashmir Martyrs' Day is being observed across the country including Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) today to pay homage to 22 Kashmiris martyred by the troops of Dogra Maharaja on July 13, 1931, for appearing outside the Central Jail in Srinagar in support of Abdul Qadeer who was charged for propelling people to defy the Dogra Rule. Functions and seminars

will be held across AJK to pay tribute to the martyrs on this day.

AJK President Urges Kashmir-origin British Councilors To Lobby For Kashmir Issue Settlement

Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) President Sardar Masood Khan Monday called upon the British government to fulfill its responsibility to ensure early settlement of the much-delayed Kashmir issue according to the aspirations of the Kashmiri people and urged the Kashmiri community of the UK to use their leverage for



the solution of the problem

Mirpur: Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) President Sardar Masood Khan Monday called upon the British government to fulfill its responsibility to ensure early settlement of the much-delayed Kashmir issue according to the aspirations of the Kashmiri people and urged the Kashmiri community of the UK to use their leverage for the solution of the problem. Addressing a National Councilors' Conference organized by President Tahreek-e-Kashmir UK Faheem Kiyani on the topic of "Brutal Lockdown and Demographic Changes in Kashmir", he said the UK being a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and forbear of human rights has the responsibility to brief the others, permanent members of the council about the irredentism in IOJK and mounting humanitarian crisis in the region. The event, first of its kind, participated besides others by elected members of over fifty members of different City Councils and Boroughs from across the UK was moderated by Uzma Rasool and also addressed by prominent Kashmiri

Hurriyat leader Altaf Ahmed Bhatt and Raja Faheem Kiani. Speaking as Chief Guest of the event, President Sardar Masood Khan urged the Kashmiri leaders to accelerate their efforts and mobilise British Parliamentarians through cohesive efforts to raise the Kashmir issue.

"I appeal to you to mobilise public opinion in the UK and beyond by relating that in the last century it was a crime to be a Jew in Nazi Germany and now Muslims in India and occupied Kashmir are facing the same persecution at the hands of BJP-RSS fascist regime," Khan said. The President exhorted the Diaspora community leaders to play their due role in raising the Kashmir issue effectively in the British Parliament, civil society and the media and approve resolutions in their respective councils in favour of Kashmiris peoples' inalienable right to self-determination and against Indian atrocities and monstrosities in IOJK. Khan noted that many electoral Constituencies in the UK have a strong Kashmiri population and the Kashmiris constituents can persuade their elected MPs in the British Parliament to help push the Kashmir issue forward for its peaceful resolution as the conflict has posed a serious threat to peace and security of the region. "Your outreach within your councils and constituencies is very significant. It's time to work at the grass-root level to draw global attention towards the horrendous human rights situation in Indian Occupied Kashmir and stem the genocide taking place in the occupied territory," he added.

Urging the elected representatives of the diaspora community to communicate with their lawmakers and write to FCO and 10 Downing Street, President asserted that the UK government should be more firm when it comes to situation in IOJK and they should not hide behind the frivolous argument that the Kashmir issue is a bilateral matter between India and Pakistan. Referring to the history of Kashmir freedom, President Khan said Kashmiris have been fighting for the freedom and liberty for past 200 years but their plight became more complex after India's occupation of Kashmir in 1947. "Kashmiris

have been facing massacres and mayhem in the hands of the occupying army since India occupied the territory 73 years ago. A holocaust took place in 1947 leading to the brutal murder of 237,000 Muslim Kashmiris that resulted in a major demographic change in Jammu region of the occupied state, he said. Now India, AJK President said, under the garb of double lockdown is transforming the demography in Kashmir Valley. After the occupational lockdown the 700,000 troops present in IOJK were beefed up to 900,000 and there has been an incessant communication blockade across the occupied territory. The reaction to the August 05 move of Indian government came from world parliaments, civil society and media, questioning the legitimacy of Indian action to colonize Kashmir and even United Nations called the communication blockades imposed by New Delhi in Kashmir as a tool to curb expression and other fundamental rights of the people.

But unfortunately, the reaction lasted only for three months partly because of Brexit in the UK, President's Trump's impeachment and later due to outbreak of COVID-19. However, he expressed his deep gratitude to the UK's public opinion leader parliamentarians and the diaspora community for mobilising support for the oppressed Kashmiris by organising massive rallies and calling out human right crimes committed by India in IOJK. Others who spoke on the occasion were, Cllr Zafar Islam Dudley, Cllr Sajid Mehmood from Nottingham, Cllr Khatejah Malik from Luton, Cllr Altaf Hussain from Oxford. Cllr Kashif Ch from Luton, Cllr Naveed Raja from Luton, Cllr Maqsood from Waltham Forest, Muhammad Hanif Raja from Glasgow, Qaiser Chaudhry from Chesham, Mehboob Hussain Bhatti from Wycombe, Cllr Muhammad Ayun from Bolton, Liaqat Ali MBE from Waltham Forest, Cllr Nyer Nazir from Redditch, Cllr Aasim Rashid from Rochdale, Cllr, Shoukat Ali from Manchester, Cllr Aslam Khan from Loton, Cllr Shahida Mehrban from Hounslow, Cllr Munsif Dad from Hyndburn, Cllr Salma Mumtaz from Nottingham, Cllr Shazia Bashir from Peterborough, Cllr Khalid Hussain from Bury, Cllr

Muhammad Idrees from Birmingham, Cllr Javeria Hussain from Luton, Cllr Jamila Azad from Oxford, Cllr Mushtaq Ahmed from Red Bridge, Cllr Akhtar Hussain from Black Burn, Cllr Iram Ali from Newcastle, Cllr Asif Khan from Watford, Cllr Nighat Khan from Nottingham, Cllr Muhammad Saghir from Nottingham, Cllr Shakil Ahmed from Rochdale, Cllr Muhammad Iqbal from Bolton, Cllr Sehrish Loan from Burnley, Cllr Mushtaq Mughal from Newham, Cllr Fiaz Matloob from Slough, Cllr Hather Ali from Waltham Forest, Cllr Afrasiab Anwar from Burnley, Cllr M. Yaseen Hussain from Sandwell, Cllr M. Shahzad from Leeds and Cllr Sabina Dita from Wallsal.

Kashmir has become important issue in world: Masood Khan

London/Islamabad: The President of Azad Jammu and



Kashmir, Sardar Masood Khan has said that Kashmir has become an important issue in the world. The President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Masood Khan was the chief guest of the conference while Hurriyat leader, Altaf Ahmed Bhat attended the conference as the guest of honour. The conference was presided over by Faheem Kayani, President of Tehreek-e-Kashmir, UK, with Azmi Rasool as compere of the conference. Glasgow MBE Bazili Hanif Raja, councilor, Mehboob Hussain Bhatti (Highwycombe), councilor, Muhammad Ayub Bolton, councilor, Liaquat Ali MBE Waltham Forest, councilor, Naveed Ahmed Lotan, Altaf Ahmed Oxford, Kashif Chaudhry Lotan, Masood Ahmed Waltham Forest, Khatija Malik Lotan, Zafar Islam Dudley, Sajid Mahmood Nottingham attended the conference. Sardar Masood Khan, addressing a webinar conference, "Brutal

lockdown and demographic changes in Indian occupied Kashmir", said that Kashmiris had been fighting for their birthright to self-determination for the last several decades. He said in occupied Kashmir in November 1947, more than 237,000 people were martyred by the Indian forces in a single month. Occupied Jammu and Kashmir had a large Muslim majority at the time, but later attempts were made to turn Jammu into a Hindu majority, he added. He deplored that at present, the Indian government and the Bharatiya Janata Party in occupied Kashmir had been active in turning Kashmir into a Hindu majority territory and that was why a lockdown was imposed on Kashmiris in occupied Kashmir under a conspiracy. Last year, the Indian government also increased the number of troops imposed on Kashmiris from 700,000 to 900,000 and this 900,000 Indian army has cut off the Kashmiris from the world by shutting down the communication system and others in Kashmir, he added.

The AJK president said that the situation in occupied Kashmir had changed completely since August 5, 2019 and India was facing worldwide condemnation for the steps taken by the Indian government in Kashmir. He said that a new domicile law was also introduced in Kashmir in clear violation of international law and the Geneva Convention. Hurriyat leader Altaf Ahmed Bhat on the occasion thanked Fahim Kiani and others and said that Fahim Kiani had always raised his voice in favor of Kashmiris and had always condemned Indian brutalities in occupied Kashmir. He said that in occupied Kashmir, mothers, sisters and innocent children had been oppressed in every era, be it Manmohan or Modi. The Kashmiri people, he said, has been suffering oppression for 72 years and you have conveyed the voice of oppressed and unarmed Kashmiris to the houses of the world especially in countries like UK, Europe and US now there is talk for the rights of Kashmiris. He praised Faheem Kayani and other councilors for their work at the grassroots level that had forced international leaders to speak on Kashmir.

Unresolved Kashmir dispute is a potential threat for peace in South Asia, Prime Minister Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider khan

Islamabad:(PIDAJK) Prime Minister Raja Muhammad



Farooq Haider khan has said that unresolved Kashmir dispute is a potential threat for peace in South Asia and made it clear that permanent and durable peace could not be established between Indian and Pakistan unless and until Kashmir issue is resolved in accordance with the wishes and aspirations of Kashmiri people in the line with the United Nations relevant resolutions. In an interview here on Sunday, he urged upon the international community to exert pressure over India to immediately stop the flagrant human rights violations and systematic killings of Kashmiri people at the hands of oppressive Indian forces. The Prime Minister said that the Kashmir issue has become in the sharp focus of the world attention due to unprecedented sacrifices offered by the kashmiri people for the liberation of their mother land. It is now the collective responsibility of the international community to come forward and play their practical role in resolving the lingering Kashmir dispute. He said implementation of United Nations resolutions on Kashmir is the only way to settle the Kashmir dispute for establishing permanent and lasting peace in the region. He underscored the need for immediately stopping killings of Kashmiri's and human rights violations in occupied Kashmir and to explore the avenues through diplomatic means for the settlement of Kashmir dispute. He said occupied Kashmir is under complete siege and lock down for the last eleven months and even

communication system is not operating in held territory while 8 hundred thousands Indian troops have been engaged to crush the indigenous struggle of the Kashmiri people. Indian government has been using all illegal and immoral tactics to change the demography of the state for this purpose 27 thousand illegal state subjects have been issued to non-state residents. Turning to the observance of Black day on 5th of august, he said Kashmiri's will again demonstrate their firm determination on this day that whole Kashmiri nation is united against the Indian repressions and will continue their struggle till the complete liberation of Occupied Kashmir. He said Chairman Senate has informed that the special session of the Senate will be held in Muzaffarabad on 5th of august to express complete solidarity with the people occupied Kashmir. This session he said will be a milestone in context of current situation obtaining in Occupied Kashmir. He urged upon the Indian government to allow the foreign journalists and human rights activists to visit occupied Kashmir to monitor the grave situation prevailing over there.

AJK PM urges world to put pressure on India to stop HR violations in IOK

Muzaffarabad: The Prime Minister of Azad Jammu Kashmir, Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider has urged the international community to put pressure on India to immediately stop the flagrant human rights violations and killings of Kashmiri people in occupied Kashmir. In a media interview in Muzaffarabad, he said that unresolved Kashmir dispute was a potential threat for peace in South Asia. He said that the Kashmir issue had become in the sharp focus of the world attention due to unprecedented sacrifices offered by the Kashmiri people for freedom. He said that occupied Kashmir was under complete military siege and eight hundred thousand Indian troops have been engaged to crush the indigenous struggle of the Kashmiri people.

Gilani calls for complete strike on August 5

Srinagar: In occupied Kashmir, the veteran Hurriyat leader, Syed Ali Gilani has called for a complete strike on

August 5 while appealing people of Jammu and Kashmir to observe the day as Awareness Day.

Syed Ali Gilani in a message to the Kashmiri people in connection with August 5 said that this day has gone down as the blackest day in the history of Sub Continent. He pointed out that the way fascist Indian government shamelessly bifurcated occupied Jammu and Kashmir and merged it with India has lifted the veil of hypocrisy and deception from New Delhi's face.

He said that the way the Indian rulers manifested brutality by confining the entire population of Kashmir into their houses to fulfill their nefarious agenda and converted the territory into the world's biggest jail for several months posed an open challenge to the international community. However, the criminal silence maintained by the world is no less than a human tragedy, he added.

The veteran leader said, after brazen aggression on August 5, last year, India continues to adhere to policy of coercion, torture and deception to undermine the Muslim majority character and ground realities of Jammu and Kashmir by changing its demography. At a time when the entire world is engaged in coping with the coronavirus pandemic and using its all resources to save the lives of the people and revive the economy, the fascist Indian government, under the guise of coronavirus lockdown, has stepped up its efforts to fulfill its nefarious agenda, he added.

Here is the complete text of Syed Ali Gilani's message:

August 5, 2019 has gone down in the history of Sub Continent as the blackest day. The way fascist government of India brazenly and shamelessly took illegal, immoral and unconstitutional step to bifurcate occupied Jammu and Kashmir and integrate into India in blatant violation of not only international law but its own constitution, has lifted the veil of hypocrisy and deception from the face of India.

The way the Indian rulers manifested brutality by confining the entire population of Kashmir into their houses to fulfill their nefarious agenda and converted the

territory into the world's biggest jail for several months posed an open challenge to the international community. However, the criminal silence maintained by the world is no less than a human tragedy.

After brazen aggression on August 5, last year, India continues to adhere to policy of coercion, torture and deception to undermine the Muslim majority character and ground realities of Jammu and Kashmir by changing its demography. At a time when the entire world is engaged in coping with the coronavirus pandemic and using its all resources to save the lives of the people and revive the economy, the fascist Indian government under the guise of coronavirus lockdown has stepped up its efforts to fulfill its nefarious agenda. On one hand, people have been restricted to their houses and new autocratic laws are being enacted, while outsiders, on the other hand, are being granted the citizenship rights on one pretext or another and settled in the territory. Similarly, big pieces of land are grabbed and handed over to the Indian Army. On the Israeli pattern, the people of Kashmir are being forcibly evicted from their land and properties and attempts are being made to render them refugees in their own houses. This is extremely a serious situation, but regrettably neither the local population seems to be reasonably alert and attentive, nor does the external world seem to be aware of the situation.

It is therefore needed that we should not restrict ourselves to observe August 5 as mere another traditional black day; instead, we should observe it as a day of awareness to get ourselves aware as well inform others about the sinister designs behind India's naked aggression and their implications. For this, we should, on one hand, collectively record our protest through observing complete shutdown and civil curfew on August 5 and 15 and make our young generations, on the other, aware of the Kashmir's history through holding special meetings in our houses in our individual capacity, and also seek Allah's blessings through repentances.

More responsibilities lie with the Kashmiris living abroad particularly in Pakistan and other countries to assemble

outside Indian embassies in large number across the world on the day and forcefully record their protest and also convey a clear message to the world that Kashmiris would continue to adhere to their demand for freedom and rights no matter whether the world stands by them or not. Insha Allah. Our struggle will continue till the dawn of freedom.

Kashmiri struggle 'destined to succeed': DG ISPR

Director-General Inter-Services Public Relations

(ISPR) Major General Babar Iftikhar in his message for the Kashmir Martyrs' Day, said earlier that the day was "reminiscent of utmost price paid for freedom by brave Kashmiris".

In a statement shared on his Twitter account, the Pakistan Army's spokesperson said: "Every single drop of blood shed, shall not be forgotten or forgiven. Decades of Indian atrocities failed to suppress insurmountable spirit and legitimate freedom struggle, destined to succeed, Inshallah."



Muzaffarabad: Prime Minister AJK Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider Khan addressing to the Seminar on Kashmir Martyrs' Day



Muzaffarabad: Prime Minister AJK Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider Khan addressing to the Seminar on Accession to Pakistan Day

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN IOK

(From Jan 1989 till June 30, 2020)

Total Killings *	95,623
Custodial Killings	7,141
Civilian arrested	160,523
Structures Arsoned/Destroyed	110,334
Women Widowed	22,916
Children Orphaned	107,793
Women gang-raped / Molested	11,20

