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BLACK DAY 27 OCTOBER

Background

Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control and across the globe observe October 27 as Black Day. It is the darkest day in the history of Kashmir as on this day in 1947 India had forcibly occupied Jammu and Kashmir by landing its army in Srinagar against the will of the Kashmiri people and in total disregard to



the Indian Independence Act and Partition Plan. Under the Partition Plan, Indian British Colony was divided into two sovereign states, India (comprising Hindu majority areas) and Pakistan (consisting of Muslim-majority areas of Western provinces and east Bengal). Every year, 27th October is marked by complete strike in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and rallies, seminars and demonstrations in the illegally occupied territory, Azad Kashmir and world capitals.

As per the understanding behind the Partition Plan, the then Princely States were given the choice to accede either to Pakistan or India on the basis of their geography and demography. Being a Muslim-majority state, with 87% Muslim population, Kashmir was a natural part of Pakistan as both shared strong bonds in respect of religion, geography and culture. But, unfortunately, the then Hindu ruler of Jammu and Kashmir, Maharaja Hari Singh, destroyed the future of Kashmiri people by announcing its accession to India under a controversial document, Instrument of Accession, thus laying the foundation of the Kashmir dispute. Many observers including prominent British historian, Alastair Lamb, and noted Kashmiri researchers, Abdul Majid Zargar and Basharat Hussain Qazilbash, deny the existence of such a document with the argument that had it been there, the Indian government must have made it public either officially or at any international forum. Even Indian Archives Department has now declared that the document is lost and the announcement has put question marks on the very existence of the document.

Kashmir in the United Nations

The people of Jammu and Kashmir strongly resisted India's illegal occupation of their soil and they launched a movement to liberate it from the Indian yoke. Their resilience forced India to seek the help of the world community to settle the Kashmir dispute. Sensing a humiliating defeat to its armed forces, India approached the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on January 01, 1948. The World Body in its successive resolutions nullified the Indian invasion and called for holding of an impartial plebiscite under its supervision to allow the Kashmiri people decide their fate by themselves. Unfortunately, these UN resolutions and the pledges made by Indian leaders remain unfulfilled even after the passage of several decades, resulting in the continued suffering of the Kashmiri people.

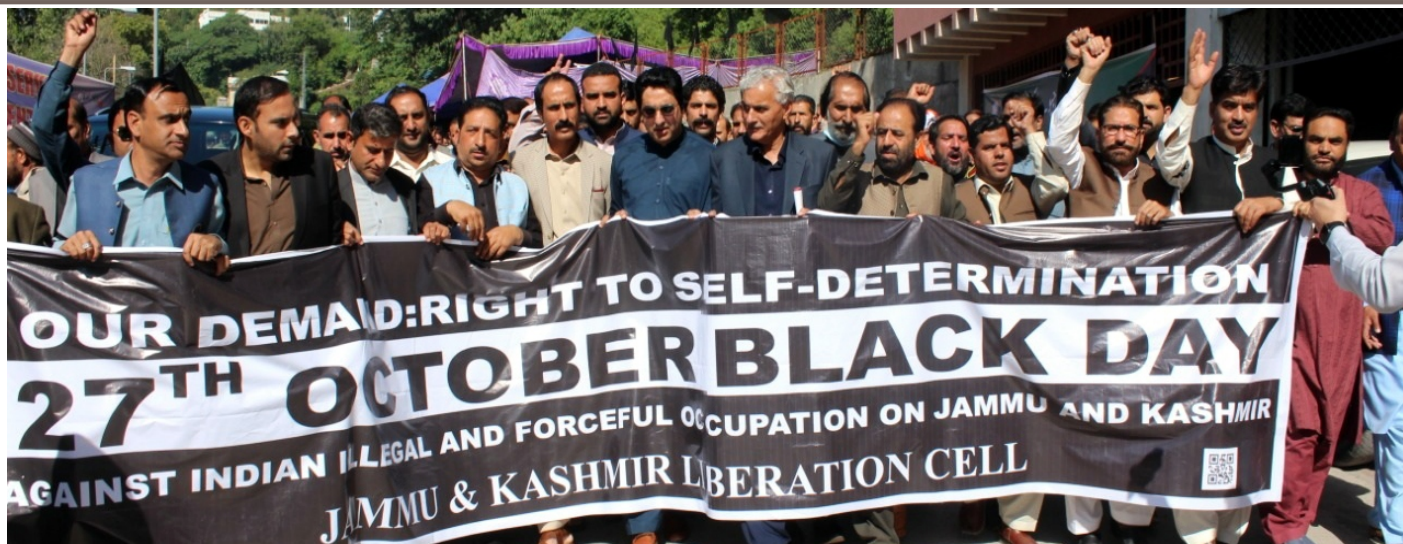
Kashmiris' revolt and mass uprisings

Disappointed over the failure of all the efforts aimed at resolving the Kashmir dispute through peaceful means for decades, the people of IIOJK intensified their freedom struggle in 1989 to secure their right to self-determination. This movement gave sleepless nights to the Indian rulers. They responded this popular movement with the brute military might.

The people of IIOJK added a new dimension to their freedom movement in 2008. They hit the streets in thousands during mass uprisings in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2016. However, most of the time, Indian troops and police personnel used brute force against these peaceful demonstrators, killing hundreds of them. Since the mass uprising triggered by the extrajudicial killing of popular youth leader, Burhan Wani, on 8th July in 2016, besides killing over 1,300, the troops have caused injuries to more than 29,220 people by firing pellets, bullets and teargas shells on protesters. During this period, more than 10,280 people have suffered pellet injuries and over 395 of them have lost their eyesight in one or both eyes.

Indian state terrorism

India is using every brutal tactic to continue its illegal hold on Jammu and Kashmir for the past over seven decades. Since 1989 till September 2021 alone, Indian troops had martyred 95,871 Kashmiris, widowed 22,934 women, orphaned 107,842 children and molested or gang-raped 11,245 Kashmiri women. While the whereabouts of over 8000 of innocent youth subjected to disappearance in custody remain untraced, the discovery of thousands of mass graves across the territory has raised concerns about their safety. However, despite exhausting all its resources



and resorting to the worst kind of state terrorism during the past over seven decades, New Delhi has miserably failed to intimidate the people of IIOJK into submission.

Modi's 5th August onslaught

Narendra Modi-led fascist Indian government has put the peace of the entire world in perils by abrogating Article 370 of the Indian Constitution that granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir and annexing it with India on August 05, 2019. It also divided IIOJK into two federally administered union territories - Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. After repealing the Article 370, New Delhi put the illegally occupied territory under strict military siege, confining millions of Kashmiris to their homes and arresting thousands. Continued curfew, restrictions and communications blackout led to humanitarian crisis in IIOJK. At the same time, Indian troops intensified violent cordon and search operations across the territory.

The Modi government imposed several federal laws and introduced new domicile rules in IIOJK. In gross violation of the UN resolutions and the international law, it has granted domicile status to thousands of non-Kashmiri Hindus including some IAS officers. The local people fear that more than 800,000 Indian soldiers and over 600,000 migrant labourers present in the territory might also be granted the domicile status in the coming days.

The BJP regime, as part of its anti-Muslim policies, is also replacing the Muslim names of important places and departments with Hindu names in IIOJK. The birth anniversary of former Chief Minister, Sheikh Abdullah, and Kashmir Martyrs' Day on July 13 have been dropped from the list of public holidays. The Modi govt has initiated the process of delimitation of Lok Sabha and assembly constituencies in IIOJK with an aim

to give more seats to Hindu-dominated areas of Jammu division. At the same time, it has flouted a new political front of its collaborators led by Altaf Bukhari in the name of Jammu Kashmir Apni Party.

The basic objective behind all these unilateral illegal measures is to convert IIOJK's Muslim majority into a minority by settling Indian Hindus in large numbers. It is also aimed at damaging the essence of the UN resolutions on the Kashmir dispute and affect the results in India's favour if New Delhi is compelled to hold a plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir at any point of time in the future.

Pakistan's support to Kashmir cause

The Pakistani leadership has always represented the Kashmiris' aspirations and never betrayed the faith reposed on it by the Kashmiri people. It was his commitment to the interests of the people of Kashmir that drove father of the nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, to visit Jammu and Kashmir three times before 1947. He had rightly termed Kashmir as the "Jugular Vein" of Pakistan. Prime Minister, Imran Khan, in his address to the UN General Assembly, drew world's attention to the worsening humanitarian crisis in IIOJK after Modi government's 5th August illegal move. He repeatedly warned the world that Modi government's Hindutva policies and aggressive posture posed serious threat to the peace in the region and the entire world. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry is consistently updating the world leaders on the Indian brutalities in IIOJK. The Pakistan Parliament has passed several resolutions since August 05, last year, expressing solidarity with the oppressed people of IIOJK and condemning India's illegal actions in the territory. The Army Chief, General Qamar Javed Bajwa, has repeatedly expressed Pak Army's support to the Kashmir cause. He has declared that

Pakistan is ready to fight till last bullet and last soldier for Kashmir.

Positive developments

The Kashmir dispute has become the focus of attention at the global level after the illegal actions taken by the Modi regime on and post August 05, 2019 in IIOJK. Pakistan's arduous efforts and the grave human rights situation caused by the continued military siege in the illegally occupied territory convinced the UNSC to hold its session on Kashmir thrice first time after the period of over 50 years. The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has repeatedly offered mediation to resolve the Kashmir dispute in the wake of heightened tension between Pakistan and India. While US Secretary of State Antony Blinken during a dialogue in Washington before elections in 2020 had announced that the Biden administration, if elected, will raise the issue of Kashmir with India and would also convey its concerns on a recent Indian law that discriminates against Muslims. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, several members of UK parliament and US lawmakers as well as world bodies including the OIC, the Amnesty International and

Human Rights Watch have expressed serious concern over the grim human rights situation in IIOJK. Even the International watchdog, the Genocide Watch in a statement expressed fears of genocide against the Muslims living in IIOJK and the Indian state of Assam.

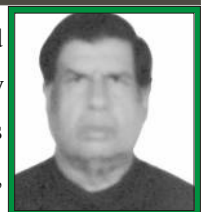
Conclusion

This is the context of the observance of October 27 as Black Day by the Kashmiris all across the globe. The observance is aimed at sending a loud and clear message to the world community to take stock of the miseries of the Kashmiri people and come forward in a big way to ensure a solution of the lingering Kashmir dispute in accordance with their wishes. It is also intended to send a strong message to New Delhi that the Kashmiris reject its illegal occupation of their homeland and that they would continue their struggle till they achieved their inalienable right to self-determination promised to them by India and the world through several UN resolutions. Following India's action to change the disputed status and demographic composition of IIOJK, the solution of the Kashmir dispute has become more imperative for ensuring permanent peace in the region and the world at large.

Modi's India

Just as India is a big democratic country, it is also the biggest violator of human rights in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). The fascist RSS-BJP regime, headed by the mass Gujarat killer and promoter of the Hindutva philosophy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has surpassed all his predecessors by annulling the special status of the region and making it part of the Indian Union unilaterally on August 5, 2019. The population came under complete military siege, all communication means were cut off and occupying security forces' strength increased to 900,000. Despite the atrocities committed by the Indian government, the international community continues to look the other way, only expressing 'deep concern' over the gross human rights violations in IIOJK. As a result, it is condoning Modi's actions in the region through direct and indirect means and putting salt on the wounds of Kashmiris.

Prime Minister Imran Khan, in his second virtual address to the UN General Assembly (UNGA), denounced the global community's double standards and said, "It is unfortunate, very unfortunate, that the world's approach to violations of human rights lacks even-handedness, and even is selective. Geopolitical considerations, or corporate interests,



Muhammad Zahid Rifat

commercial interests often compel major powers to overlook the transgressions of their affiliated countries. Such double standards are the most glaring in the case of India, where this RSS-BJP regime is being allowed to get away with human rights abuses with complete impunity."

As the UNGA elected India as a non-permanent member of the Security Council (SC) for a two-year term, it has brushed aside the bitter fact that

India has a long history of disobeying resolutions, particularly in the case of Kashmir. India's hostilities towards Pakistan are no



secret but it became much more obvious when it denied Pakistan its legal right to address SC sessions two times. The government's intention was to talk about the rapid developments taking place in Afghanistan following the exit of the US-led NATO forces after 20 years. Our prime objective has always been promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan but India has not missed any opportunity to spoil activities.

The UN's Security Council (UNSC) has a strength of 15, including the five permanent members and 10 others. According to its procedures, the presidency of the Security Council follows an alphabetic order. As such, India will again preside over it in December 2022, prior to the end of its membership term. Furthermore, a member of the United Nations but not of the UNSC may participate, without a vote, in its discussion when the UNSC considers that the country's interests are at odds. Accordingly, it was only after the expiry of India's presidency in September 2021 that Pakistan was allowed to participate in the discussion on Afghanistan.

And Kashmiris living under lockdown in IIOJK have persisted against India for two years but the inhuman action is not stopping. Their only option is to offer countless sacrifices for securing freedom, hoping that one of them would do the trick. Their hope is that the UNSC will implement its own resolutions and let them exercise their right of self-determination for which

they are continuously struggling.

The civil and military leadership of Pakistan, on its part, continues to express and voice moral, legal and political support for the just struggle for Kashmir on all international forums. It has called upon the UNSC to implement its own resolutions and exert pressure on India to reverse its August 5, 2019 illegal and unilateral actions. No words are strong enough to condemn the international community's persistent display of double standards as it gives a preference to its own economic and trade relations with India over ongoing gross human rights violations by occupying Indian security forces in IIOJK. Despite the UNSC's inaction, the international community looking the other way and persistently ignoring all the wrong India is doing is not acceptable.

Meanwhile, the Kashmiris are continuing their fight for freedom and are offering sacrifices every day. They are determined to continue marching onwards towards achieving their cherished objective of freedom much sooner than later with the blessings of Almighty Allah, Inshallah.

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Despite the atrocities committed by the Indian government, the international community continues to look the other way.

Kashmir: closed chapter?

Ershad Mahmud

Recently, Indian Home Minister Amit Shah warned Pakistan that more surgical strikes could be carried out in case of transgressions at the India-Pakistan border. "There is no time to hold talks, will only retaliate," he said. The threat of surgical strikes coincides with a spate of civilian killings and back-to-back armed clashes that took place close to the Line of Control (LoC) and even in densely populated areas such as Shopian and Tral.

Consequently, over 33 people have died in the past two weeks alone, including nine Indian soldiers and thirteen militants. In retaliation, the Indian forces have launched a massive manhunt, jailing over 300 citizens for the acts committed by a few individuals. The arrested Kashmiris were subjected to collective punishment, which is a war crime.

Leaving aside the reasons behind the sudden surge in the armed clashes and civilian killings, these tragic incidents prove that

Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir, especially Srinagar city, is no longer a violence-free area as boasted by Indian authorities. Some of the attacks took place in the heart of the city which shows that the normalcy mantra was merely rhetoric to create an illusion of peace. Kashmiris have maintained a long silence since the abrogation of Article 370 which was misconstrued and later turned out to be a lull before the storm.

The Indian home minister's statement clearly indicates that the ceasefire along the LoC has failed to make any headway in resuming diplomatic ties and initiating a dialogue process over the long-standing Kashmir issue despite backchannel contacts which led to a truce in February this year. The quiet diplomacy led by friendly countries Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates remained unable to cut a deal between the two neighbours.

On the other hand, the BJP government is using these killings for its domestic political gains, portraying the struggle as a Hindu-Muslim conflict as a few local and Hindu migrant workers were

also gunned down in the most recent attacks. Some Indian observers called it the beginning of ethnic cleansing or the return of the 1990s which marked the mass exodus of Kashmir pundits from the valley, ignoring the fact that a large number of civilians killed this year were Muslims.

The community in the majority suffered more than anybody else, but the Indian media and politicians hardly demonstrate sympathy for the loss of lives of common Kashmiris, particularly Muslims. Ironically, human tragedies are being seen through the religious lens.

The Washington Post observes on August 16, 2019, "The Kashmir crisis isn't about territory. It's about a Hindu victory over Islam. Prime Minister Narendra Modi used the Muslim-majority state as a demonstration of Hindu power."

Consequently, the Hindu-Muslim gulf in Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir is fast broadening. Also, the two communities are now taking divergent paths and indulging in a zero-sum game. Former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir Farooq Abdullah recently advised fellow Muslim voters to consolidate their political power under the banner of the political party 'National Conference'.

The February ceasefire offered a historic opportunity for the initiation of dialogue and the resumption of full-scale diplomatic and trade ties. However, the government of India did not honour the commitments which were made through a third party and in backchannel talks as it was assured that the statehood status of Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir would be restored, no demographic change would occur, and zero-tolerance to human rights violations would be ensured.

The post ceasefire developments revealed that India has rushed the administrative and legal changes in all spheres of life, trying to ensure that no semblance of autonomy or Kashmiriyat remains. Despite making promises, it did not restore the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir. Likewise, military operations

inside Kashmir were intensified in order to suppress dissenting voices. No respite in human rights violations was recorded in the past months. A large number of political leaders are still in jails, including Yasin Malik, Shabir Shah and 76-year-old Mian Abdul Qayoom. Some of them are suffering from serious illnesses.

It is widely reported that the people of Kashmir are not even able to express themselves freely or communicate their day-to-day suffering on social media fearing the state's clampdown. Nearly, 10, 000 citizens are under strict illegal surveillance. Such systemic oppression has constantly been pushing young people to join militant outfits without realising its consequences.

One of India's leading news magazines, Frontline, aptly captures the situation in its October edition in the following words: "By squeezing political space, New Delhi has pushed the young Kashmiris against the wall. They have no avenue to vent out their grievances or express their views. The reality is that the Indian government continues to rule Jammu and Kashmir by means of the barrel of a gun and a slew of draconian measures that embody an unprecedented media gag and witch-hunting of civil society members, politicians and journalists who attempt to expose what is unfolding on floor zero."

All recent developments indicate that backchannel conversations or third-party mediation efforts cannot deter the BJP's government from pursuing its ideological agenda towards Kashmir. It appears that Kashmir is inching towards another round of full-scale confrontation in the days to come.

It is naive to think that the Kashmir issue is a closed chapter. If it remains unresolved for a long time, it might take a dangerous turn and become even more complicated and hard to be resolved. The ceasefire along the LoC sustained so far might not last long if timely steps are not taken or significant change in the Indian approach towards Kashmir is not made.

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The darkest day

Muhammad Zahid Rifat

Historically speaking, Kashmiris have a pretty large number of 'darkest' days in the bloody struggle for freedom from the Indian shackles of slavery.

Kashmiris' darkest days started on October 27, 1947 and are continuing unceasingly till they exercise the long-awaited and persistently denied right of self-determination in accordance

with the UN Security Council resolutions.

As such, October 27 is the first darkest day in the history of Kashmir. Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC), in Pakistan and around the world observe October 27 every year as the blackest day of their history to ensure their voice is heard and the slumbering international community wakes up to realise its humanitarian responsibilities.

It was on this day, back in 1947 when India airlifted its forces and

occupied the valley of Jammu and Kashmir after Hindu Maharaja Hari Singh announced accession to India through an illegal instrument.

Kashmiris are observing this darkest day in their history after having completed three years under a complete military siege. Following the unilateral and illegal development by India's fascist regime, Kashmiris have also started observing August 5 alongside October 27 as the darkest day of their history.

But the Kashmiris continue to be determined and committed and offer sacrifices by way of violations of curfew restrictions. Prime Minister Imran Khan, during three successive addresses to the UN General Assembly, quite emphatically reiterated Pakistan's principled stand to continue supporting the just struggle of Kashmiris politically, morally and legally and warned the international community by terming Kashmir a nuclear flashpoint between the two neighbouring countries.

Pakistan has been reiterating its unstinted support to the Kashmiris in their just struggle by frequently observing solidarity with Kashmiris. Even the Independence Day celebrations were marked by solidarity with the Kashmiris and flags of Pakistan and Kashmir were unfurled together all over the country.

It is a bitter and quite regrettable reality that the Kashmir dispute remains unresolved on the UN agenda for such a long time. At the same time, the continued silence of the international community at large, and not putting pressure on India is very much

deplorable.

It is also a matter of great shame and regret that the international community is all criminally silent over India's continued occupation and killings of more and more Kashmiris whose only crime is that they do not accept India's illegal occupation which is against their aspirations.

Kashmir is an unfinished agenda of the subcontinent's partition. Over the years, the Indian government has been forcibly migrating Hindus into occupied Kashmir to turn a predominantly majority of Muslim population into the minority. But even after resorting to such tactics India is not letting the Kashmiris obtain their right of self-determination.

There is no denying the fact that the resolution of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with Kashmiris aspirations is the key to stable peace, prosperity and progress in South Asia.

By observing yet another black day on October 27, 2021 after one on August 5, Kashmiris hope to highlight their just and indigenous struggle for freedom from Indian subjugation, wake up the sleeping conscience of the international community and human rights organisations throughout the world and bring the lingering unresolved Kashmir dispute back to the UN agenda for implementation. Kashmiris' long struggle is soon going to be met with success.

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The long impasse

Maleeha Lodhi

The writer is a former ambassador to the US, UK & UN.

WHILE Pakistan has been preoccupied with developments in Afghanistan it has not taken its eye off its eastern neighbour with whom relations remain tense and troubled. The diplomatic impasse between the two countries continues with formal dialogue long suspended and toughly worded statements exchanged every so often. The latest was Islamabad's condemnation last week of a provocative pronouncement by India's home minister who threatened "surgical strikes" against Pakistan. In response the foreign ministry accused Delhi of "stoking regional tensions".

Nevertheless, backchannel communication at the intelligence

level continues. This was set in motion over two years ago. But it has made no progress towards resuming the broad-based peace process. The start-stop process was known at various points as 'Composite Dialogue', 'Resumed Dialogue' and 'Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue'. It was abandoned by India many years ago. No agreement has been reached on the backchannel to restore normal diplomatic representation after it was downgraded and trade halted by Pakistan. This followed Delhi's illegal annexation of Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019.

The backchannel contact did however lead to the February 2021 re-commitment by Pakistan and India to observe a ceasefire on the Line of Control in line with a 2003 understanding. From the



Maleeha Lodhi

dangerous confrontation epitomised by the Balakot crisis two years ago, the two countries stepped back from the brink and agreed to the LoC truce. The ceasefire has since held. But expectations that this thaw would pave the way for normalisation of ties have not been realised. Despite apparent assurances on the backchannel by the Indian side to ease the situation in Kashmir, restore its 'statehood' and dial down its aggressive rhetoric none of this happened. Backchannel communication may have played a role in managing tensions but its limits have been laid bare by lack of movement on substantive issues.

There has recently been working-level diplomatic engagement on practical issues such as civilian prisoners, issuance of visas to officials and fishermen detained for maritime trespassing. These discussions may well yield agreement on such issues in the coming days. But this does not presage movement towards a dialogue on substantive issues or disputes that have long divided the two countries the most outstanding of course being Kashmir. Pakistan has repeatedly declared that dialogue can only resume if India rescinds its Aug 5, 2019, actions. Meanwhile, India's repression in Kashmir shows no sign of easing with continuing grave violations of human rights. The situation remains dire with sweeping restrictions, a military siege and suspension of fundamental freedoms. Since the so-called integration of the state into the Indian union and abrogation of Article 370 of its constitution the government of Narendra Modi has pursued a policy to bring about demographic changes, in utter violation of UN Security Council resolutions, and to delimit electoral constituencies. Both aim to reduce the Muslim majority by shifting the balance to Hindus. These actions have drawn strong protests from Islamabad and been roundly rejected by the people of occupied Kashmir. The deepening alienation and growing anger of the Kashmiri people underlines Delhi's failure to secure their acquiescence by the use of force, fraud and economic inducements.

Modi's efforts to enlist support for his Kashmir strategy from traditionally pro-India Kashmiri politicians have also ended in failure. In June 2021, he invited these leaders to a round table conference on Kashmir. The genuine representatives of the Kashmiri people, who form the All Parties Hurriyat Conference, were excluded. They denounced this meeting as nothing more than a drama. Meanwhile, APHC leaders continue to languish in jail or house detention.

The aim of Modi's move was to consolidate the August 2019 action by seeking to establish a facade of 'normality' and enticing

select politicians to re-join a revived political process. By showing its intent to initiate a political process in Kashmir the Modi government has tried to persuade people at home and abroad that the situation is 'normalising'. It sought agreement for the delimitation plan to pave the way for so-called elections in Kashmir, which in turn would aim to 'endorse' the 2019 action. But even handpicked Kashmiri leaders did not fall for this bait. The meeting produced no outcome and ended in failure.

In this backdrop and persisting deadlock the future outlook for Pakistan-India relations is exceedingly uncertain. Immediate prospects are anything but bright. Looking ahead, three possible scenarios can be postulated for the future course of relations. The best-case but unlikeliest scenario is for the peace process to resume, cover all issues including Kashmir and other disputes, as well as trade and terrorism, two issues of priority for India. Serious efforts would be directed to conflict resolution and a result-oriented process set in train that encourages both sides towards compromise to achieve a negotiated settlement of core issues. This scenario is urged by the stark reality that strategic dynamics between the two nuclear neighbours remain fraught and unpredictable. But there is no possibility of the scenario materializing in the near term.

A second scenario is arguably the most unstable in which an acrimonious stand-off persists and mounting tensions sparked by an incident or action spin out of control. Escalatory steps by one or both parties heighten the risk of a crisis. The nuclear factor prevents an outbreak of conflict but the two countries become locked in deadly confrontation raising the danger of uncontrollable escalation.

The third scenario is more of the same. Formal dialogue remains suspended, disputes are left to fester, low-level diplomatic engagement takes place but no headway is made to normalise ties. A backchannel tries to manage tensions and prevent them from boiling over even as a war of words erupts from time to time. This seems the most probable scenario for now. With Delhi ruling out talks on Kashmir and Pakistan unable to agree to a dialogue minus Kashmir it is hard to see how this impasse can be overcome. The prospect then is for Pakistan and India to continue in an uneasy state of no war, no peace with management of tensions being the principal focus of sporadic if quiet diplomacy. But on this count too both countries have yet to put a proper framework in place to manage tensions.

The writer is a former ambassador to the US, UK & UN.

Violence in Occupied Kashmir

Malik Muhammad Ashraf

The occupation of Kashmir by the Indian security forces will complete 74 years on October 27, a day which is observed as Black Day by the people of the occupied territory, Pakistan and the Kashmiri diaspora around the world.

These years have been a sad story of defiance of UNSC resolutions, international law and the Fourth Geneva Convention, unmitigated oppression and criminal indifference by the international community to the plight of the people of the occupied territory.

India reneged on its commitment to implement the UN resolutions, pledges made to Pakistan in that regard by the then Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru as well as his statements in the Indian parliament. Instead of fulfilling its pledge and obligations under UNSC resolutions, it held elections for the constituent assembly of Occupied Kashmir in October 1951 in which all seats were won by the National Conference headed by Sheikh Abdullah.

The UN Security Council passed Resolution 91 to the effect that such elections did not substitute a plebiscite. Again, on November 17, the state constituent assembly adopted a constitution for the state which declared Kashmir as an integral part of the Indian Union. The UN Security Council once again repudiated it through its Resolution 122 which reiterated that the settlement of the question of accession of the state could not be resolved by any means other than a plebiscite held under the auspices of the UN. As is evident, it was a vehement rejection of the Indian position on the Kashmir issue.

However, India kept insisting on Kashmir being an integral part and continued denial of the right of self-determination to the people of Kashmir. Which is why the occupied people were forced to launch an armed struggle to win their freedom. Since then, India has been using its military might to crush it. Indian security forces enjoying immunity for their actions under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act 1990, have indulged in an unabated killing-spree in the state. They have killed more than 96,000 Kashmiris, raped thousands of women and destroyed thousands of structures since the beginning of the freedom struggle. The discovery of mass graves also tells the story of the Indian oppression on the people of Kashmir. However despite

this unending oppression India has not been able to extinguish the flame of liberty.

By scrapping Article 370 of the Indian constitution, to end the special status of Occupied Kashmir, its bifurcation into two territories and annexation to the Indian Union as well as promulgation of the new domicile law designed to change the demographic realities of the state, the Modi government has further aggravated the situation and given a new twist to the dispute.

Kashmiris are facing unabated extrajudicial killings, custodial torture and death, arbitrary detention, looting to inflict collective punishment and other worst forms of human rights abuses, corroborated by reports of human rights organisations, the UN Human Rights Commission findings, the European parliament and international media.

According to reports compiled by international agencies, over 500 people have been killed since August 5, 2019. Three thousand people are under arrest, including 200 politicians. Reportedly 10,000 people have been picked up and disappeared since then. Though internet services were restored in August 2020 on the orders of the Indian Supreme Court, the people of Occupied Kashmir are still living in an open prison and suffering immensely at the hands of the Indian security forces.

The Modi government has been trying to sell the narrative that the action taken by it in Occupied Kashmir was its internal matter. But it has failed to convince the international community. Thanks to the diplomatic offensive launched by the government of Pakistan, reports by the international media and unraveling of the oppression on the people of Kashmir, the international community has not subscribed to the Indian disposition on the issue.

It is pertinent to mention here that the August 5 action of the Modi government has also been opposed by conscientious elements within India. P Chidambaram, a senior leader of Congress, opposing the bill for repeal of Article 370 had said: "The move will have catastrophic consequences. You are dismembering J&K in the name of the people of Kashmir. Do not do that. Reflect on what you are doing. Momentarily you may think you have scored a victory, but you are wrong and history will prove you to be wrong. Future generations will realise what a grave mistake this house is making today. [The] BJP's sense of victory

will be short-lived and history will prove it to be wrong” His statement reflected the historic truth. The BJP regime -- inebriated by the RSS Ideology of 'Hindutva' -- has not only violated the UNSC resolutions, international law and 4th Geneva Convention through its actions but has also been persistently engaged in sponsoring acts of terrorism within Pakistan in connivance with Afghan intelligence agency NDS. It has also fomented and supported insurgency in Balochistan. The arrest of Kalbhushan Jadhav and his confessions leave no doubt about it. India has also indulged in fake propaganda against Pakistan and portraying it as an epicenter of terrorism through fake media outlets as revealed by EU Disinfo Lab recently. It has also adopted a hostile posture towards us. The threatening statements by Indian military and civilian leaders and the daredevil act of bombing imaginary terrorist training camps at Balakot in

February 2019 are a ranting testimony to the threat that India poses to peace and security in this region. Pakistan has presented two dossiers to the UN and the world powers regarding state terrorism by India and its use of false propaganda to malign us. Prime Minister Imran Khan has rightly likened the RSS Ideology to Nazism and persistently warned the world of its likely repercussions if India is not stopped in its tracks right now and the Kashmir issue resolved in consonance with the UN resolutions. It is the right time for the UN and the world community to act before it is too late, particularly the powers that see the Kashmir dispute through the prism of their strategic and commercial interests. Their apathy to the situation in Occupied Kashmir encourages India to persist with its inhuman actions.

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In India, killing Muslims is an electoral tool

Sehrish Khan

The house of Abdul Manan, a businessman from Tripura, Hart, was attacked by an angry mob of Hindus just after midnight.

His widow and 4-year-old son had to flee from the back. The mob broke into their house and destroyed it.

Abdul Manan is a well-known businessman and close relative of a member of the State Assembly, but his house was nevertheless targeted. Earlier, Muslim MP Ehsan Jafari was tortured to death.

Just in September, the Delhi residence of Asaduddin Owaisi, a Hyderabad Deccan MP and Muslim leader, was attacked and vandalized by Hindus.

But what did the Indian government do? While Bangladesh immediately arrested the perpetrators of the temple vandalism, a temple in Bangladesh was vandalized this week because a Quran was placed on the knee of a Hindu deity during a Hindu festival.

After the video went viral, riots broke out in Bangladesh. The Bangladeshi government immediately arrested the rioters, while in India the victims were targeted instead of the rioters.

The riots in Tripura escalated to the point that despite burning a dozen mosques and burning down Muslim shops and homes, the anger of Hindu extremist groups has not abated. The government has given them full exemption and the administration has been a spectator.

This attitude persists throughout the year in India, but increases

as elections approaches. Nowadays, Hindu organizations are busy rioting everywhere, be it Assam, Tripura, Gujarat, Godhra or Delhi.

Surprisingly, when Modi is representing a secular country as the Prime Minister, no one interrupts him. Whether it is the United Nations or the FATF, everyone gives him an “all right” certificate.

Tripura is a state in eastern India, covering an area of 15,000 km. Its capital is Agartala, just 10 km from Bangladesh.

The population is 3.6 million, 10% of the population is Muslim. But Hindu organizations consider them Bengali. It is said that most of them migrated to India during the war of 1971.

This is not only the statement of Hindu organizations but also of the Indian government.

Therefore, the Indian government had passed the Citizenship Amendment Bill by a majority in Parliament in December 2019.

The bill proposes to grant Indian citizenship to people belonging to six minority communities (Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi, Christian and Sikh) in Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

If a person coming from these countries is a Muslim, he will be called an illegal immigrant in any case and in no case will he have the right to apply for citizenship in India.

When the bill was introduced, protests took place not only in Assam and Tripura but also in other cities of India and curfew was imposed and internet was shut down.

Muslims in India in particular, in the wake of this discrimination,

feel that the NRC is in fact a place to harass Muslims. The government is trying to deport millions of Muslims through it.

The former Chief Minister of Assam has said that the economic policy of the Modi government has failed miserably, unemployment and poverty have increased.

In this situation, the Citizenship Amendment Bill is actually an electoral ploy of the Modi government which he hopes will benefit the election they have been benefited in the past.

Despite the cover-up by the Indian media, news of the riots in Tripura a few days ago spread like wildfire. These scenes and angry slogans are very disturbing for Muslims in other states of India. "There are government-backed hardline Hindu organizations involved in the riots in Tripura," says Sonia, an Indian journalist. Rewards are also given to their workers for their performance. Is there anyone in the world who calls them terrorists and raises the voice of interrogation about them? The two countries are neighbours.

JAMMU GENOCIDE OF MUSLIMS IN 1947

"More or less the entire Muslim population of Jammu,



amounting to half a million, was displaced' by then. She quotes Calcutta Statesman editor Ian Stephens saying that around 200,000 of those who disappeared completely were presumably 'butchered, or died from epidemics or exposure'"

Alex Von Tunzelmann, *Indian Summer: The Secret History of The End Of An Empire*, London: Simon & Schuster, 2007, p. 287

"As per the 1941 census, the Muslims accounted for 77.1 per cent of the Jammu and Kashmir 's population excluding in areas that came under Pakistan's control after 1947. Their population had gone down by almost 10 per cent and plummeted to 68.29 per cent in 1961."

Ashgar Ali Engineer, *Communal Riots in Post-Independence*

See the difference in attitude. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina Wajid, who broke into the temple, immediately met the Hindu community.

The government made arrests and the ministers reassured them of meeting the affected Hindus.

On the other hand, Indian citizen Abdul Manan provides CCTV footage of the attack on his house to the police, but no action is taken by the government.

Are concerned for Shafiqul Rehman, President of the Tripura Students' Organization, says the main reason for the violence against Muslims is the elections, the dates of which have been announced.

He also said that the entire Hindu community has been sidelined in such a way that even the opposition parties are not ready to speak out against the violence.

The question is, why would the Muslims of India stand aside? Why not try to form an alliance?

India, Hyderabad: Sangam Books, 1997, p.157

"Railway services from Jammu to Sialkot (now in Pakistan) were suspended and a permit system was introduced for traveling. The Muslims were left at the mercy of their attackers. By September end, they were besieged in Jammu city's Muslim-majority localities of Talab Khatikan and Ustad Mohalla, and were even denied water supply and food"

Bhasin, *Jammu 1947*, November 17, 2015, *The Kashmir Life*, <http://kashmirilife.net/jammu-1947-issue-35-vol-07-89728/>

"Hindus had taken up positions on their houses before troops from Indian Forces (**Patiala Forces**) joined them. In Billawar, stranded Muslims faced near starvation while women were



abducted"

Bhasin, *Jammu 1947*, November 17, 2015, *The Kashmir Life*, <http://kashmirilife.net/jammu-1947-issue-35-vol-07-89728/>

"British diplomat C B Duke, who visited the area in the third



week of October, saw around 20 burnt out villages along the Chenab River and concluded that it was the Muslims 'who were suffering. Maharaja had ordered 'ethnic cleansing under the guise of a defensive strategy to create an approximately three-mile wide buffer between his territory and Pakistan. 'Muslims were either pushed into Pakistan, or killed.'

(Alex Von Tunzelmann, *Indian Summer: The Secret History of The End Of An Empire*, London: Simon & Schuster, 2007, p. 287)

"A 'former but well-connected' British intelligence operative provided the American embassy an 'indisputably grim' estimate. 'Sikhs and Hindus undertook a wholesale massacre of the local Muslims [in Jammu] and it is stated that up to 20,000 were killed at the end of October. This matter is ... being kept strictly secret"

(Nisid Hajari, *Midnight's Furies: The Deadly Legacy of India's Partition*, Gurgaon: Viking, 2015, p. 209).

"Estimated that 237,000 Muslims had disappeared from the eastern Jammu province. It said that they were 'systematically exterminated unless they escaped to Pakistan along the border by all the forces of the Dogra state, headed by the Maharaja [Hari



Singh] in person and aided by Hindus and Sikhs'

(*The Times*, August 10, 1948)

Hari Singh is said to have fired at a roadside Muslim gathering on his way back to Jammu 'thus signaling to his Hindu subjects to follow suit', It marked the culmination of a sustained campaign of 'harassment, arson, physical violence, and genocide' against

Muslims 'in at least two areas Poonch, right on the border with Pakistan, and pockets of southern Jammu'

(Tariq Masud, *Escape from Paradise*, November 13, 2015, *The Friday Times*, <http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/escape-from-paradise/>)

"India would deny that 'any holocaust had taken place, perhaps because it was secretly providing arms to the Dogra [Hari Singh]'s side'

"**Alex Von Tunzelmann, *Indian Summer: The Secret History of The End Of An Empire*, London: Simon & Schuster, 2007, p. 287"**

"Hindu extremists were hitching rides on army trucks amid rumors that Hari Singh was using them as 'shock troops to rid Jammu of its Muslims"



(Nisid Hajari, *Midnight's Furies: The Deadly Legacy of India's Partition*, Gurgaon: Viking, 2015, p. 208)

"In an October 2012 document titled 'vision and mission', the RSS acknowledged the 'timely collaboration of the entire Sangh (RSS) force then present at Jammu with the Armed Forces of Bharat [India]' in 1947".

(Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, *Vision and Mission*, [rss.org](http://rss.org/Encyc/2012/10/22/rss-vision-and-mission.html), October 22, 2012, <http://rss.org/Encyc/2012/10/22/rss-vision-and-mission.html>).

Mazhar Malik, 86, who lost his father in the violence, cited the account of a survivor and told *The Guardian*:

"People ran hither and thither, begging for mercy; mothers tried to shield their children; old people fell silently to their knees; men tried in vain to fight back. Mercifully, because it was dark by then, about one-third succeeded in escaping. The border was just a few miles away and the lucky ones managed to straggle across. Our father was not one of them"

(Moni Mohsin, *The wounds have never healed': living through the terror of partition*, August 2, 2017, *The Guardian*,

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/aug/02/wounds-have-never-healed-living-through-terror-partition-india-pakistan-1947>).

“Instead of trying to prevent killings and ensuring peace, ‘the Maharaja’s administration helped and even armed the communal marauders’. Clearly, for him, it was a ‘planned genocide by the RSS activists who were joined by Sikh refugees from West Pakistan and enjoyed full protection and patronage of the administration’. Administration was involved in changing Jammu’s demographic character. Jammu governor Lala Chet Ram Chopra summoned me and warned me of consequences for my Students Union’s peace efforts. Chopra told Bhasin that they were imparting arms training to Hindu and Sikh boys in Rehari area and asked him and his colleagues to join it. A colleague of Bhasin found that soldiers were training some RSS youths and others in using 3.3 rifles when he sent him to the training camp the next day.

(Ved Bhasin, Jammu 1947, November 17, 2015, The Kashmir Life, <http://kashmirlife.net/jammu-1947-issue-35-vol-07-89728/>)

Hari Singh’s Prime Minister Mehr Chand Mahajan asking a delegation of Hindus to demand parity with the transfer of power from the Maharaja. He pointed to Ramnagar Rakh, where some bodies of Muslims were still lying, and said that the population ratio too can change when asked how they could demand parity amid difference in the population ratio.

(Ved Bhasin, Jammu 1947, November 17, 2015, The Kashmir Life, <http://kashmirlife.net/jammu-1947-issue-35-vol-07-89728/>)

Ramnagar Rakh was ‘littered with the dead bodies of [Muslim] Gujjar men, women, and children. A colleague of Bhasin rescued a young girl crying near the bodies of her parents in Ramnagar.

Ved Bhasin, Jammu 1947, November 17, 2015, The Kashmir Life, <http://kashmirlife.net/jammu-1947-issue-35-vol-07-89728/>

“Almost 95 percent of left-over properties, which should have in the normal course been taken over by the State government were allowed appropriated by looters and rioters”.

(Daily Telegraph London dated 12 January 1948).

“The massacres took place in the presence of the then Jammu and Kashmir’s Prime Minister Mehr Chand Mahajan and the governor of Jammu, Lala Chet Ram Chopra and that some of those who led these riots in Udhampur and Bhaderwah later



joined the National Conference with some of them also serving as ministers.”

(Ved Bhasin (17 November 2015). “Jammu 1947”. Kashmir Life

“An unspecified number of Muslim women was abducted from different parts of Jammu Province. Most of them were not returned to their families and in many cases, Hindus and Sikhs forcibly married them. The abducted women were raped and smuggled out to different parts of India. Although the number of such unfortunate victims will be never known there are some estimates which say that 25,000 women were abducted from Jammu Province. However, Muhammad Yusuf Saraf considers this figure on the higher side and “a liberal estimate

Muhammad Yusuf Saraf, Kashmiris Fight for Freedom, Vol II, p 818; Civil & Military Gazette, December 2nd 1947.)

On October 22, 1947, when reportedly 14,000 people were massacred in Samba, “all the Muslim women in the village were apparently taken away by the State troops, and the men were slaughtered with the exception of fifteen survivors, who escaped to Sialkot”. Likewise, during the massacre at Maogaon on October 23 in which 25,000 Muslims were slaughtered, their women and all their personal belongings were taken away from them by the Dogra troops.

“The main aim of Dogra king Hari Singh and his administration was to alter the demographics of the region by eliminating the Muslim population in order to ensure a Hindu majority in the region.”

Ved Bhasin (17 November 2015). “Jammu 1947”. Kashmir Life. Retrieved 4 June 2017. Noorani, A.G (25 February 2012). “Horrors of Partition”. Frontline. 29 (04).

NEWS SECTION

In meeting with OIC envoy, PM Imran calls for allowing global bodies and media access to IoK

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday emphasised the urgent need for the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), human



rights organisations and international media to be allowed access to Indian-occupied Kashmir (IoK), so that independent investigations could be carried out into human rights violations in the region. He expressed these views during a meeting with OIC's Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir Yousef Aldobeay who is currently on a six-day visit to Pakistan and Azad Kashmir, according to a tweet by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). Aldobeay was accompanied by OIC Assistant Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Tarig Bakhit. Senior members of the OIC delegation were also present on the occasion. According to the PMO, the premier underlined the importance of the "OIC's principled position on the [...] Kashmir dispute and the resolute support of the Islamic ummah to the just struggle of Kashmiri people for their inalienable right to self-determination." He also

convert it into a Hindu-dominated territory.

"These illegal actions were in clear violation of the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions and international law, including the 4th Geneva Convention," the statement quoted Prime Imran as saying.

As the premier called for allowing international organisations and media access to the valley for reporting rights abuses, he also emphasised the need for the provision of humanitarian support and assistance to the people of the occupied valley. "The prime minister strongly underscored the need for the [Muslim] world to forge greater unity against [...] challenges posed by the extremist political ideologies stoking Islamophobia," the statement said.

"He [...] underlined the importance of [the] peaceful resolution of international conflicts and longstanding disputes, including



[those of] Kashmir and Palestine," it added. The premier reiterated that a just settlement of the Kashmir dispute, in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions and the wishes of Kashmiri people, remained a prerequisite for durable



highlighted the atrocities being committed by India in the occupied valley, which had "over 900,000 troops deployed in the occupied territory, making it the most militarised zone in the world", the statement said. The premier also told the OIC delegation that the "illegal and unilateral" actions of India since August 5, 2019 when India stripped the region of its special autonomy were aimed at disenfranchising Kashmiris and altering the demographic structure of the valley in order to

peace and stability in South Asia, the statement concluded.

'BJP's exclusionist policies threaten regional peace'

Earlier, Aldobeay and other members of the OIC delegation met Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood, in Islamabad, according to a statement issued by the Foreign Office (FO). Mahmood said on the occasion that the "exclusionist policies" pursued by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its fountainhead, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), reflected their ideological agenda

of establishing a Hindu Rashtra (Hindu nation) in India, threatening regional peace and stability. The secretary emphasised that the majoritarian outlook of the RSS and BJP to establish a Hindu nation "espoused suppressing all minority communities, especially Muslims", the statement said. Like Prime Minister Imran Khan, he also pointed out that since the Modi government's "illegal and unilateral" actions of August 5, 2019, Kashmiris in the valley had been denied their fundamental rights and freedoms. Moreover, Indian authorities had "detained the legitimate Kashmiri leadership and killed, maimed and summarily executed and tortured Kashmiris on a mass scale", the statement quoted him as saying. "[And] the Covid-19 pandemic ... turned the dire situation into a grave humanitarian crisis." The foreign secretary told the OIC envoy that subsequent steps by India, including the issuance of over 4.2 million Kashmiri domiciles to Indian citizens, were meant to disenfranchise Kashmiris and to turn the Muslim majority valley into a Hindu-dominated territory.

According to the FO statement, Mahmood recalled that the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights had issued separate reports on Kashmir in 2018 and 2019, and Pakistan had underlined that this reporting should continue. He also handed over to the OIC envoy a copy of the dossier unveiled by the Pakistani government on September 12, 2021, highlighting human rights violations in Indian-occupied Kashmir, the statement added. On the OIC's role on the issue, the statement said, the foreign secretary underscored that Aldobeay's visit to Pakistan reaffirmed the organisation's "resolute support to the just struggle of the Kashmiri people for their inalienable right to self-determination".

"As a collective voice of the Islamic Ummah, this steadfast and principled position [is] a source of strength to the people of the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir," he told Aldobeay.

Commending the leading role of the OIC on the Kashmir dispute, the secretary noted that the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir had convened four ministerial meetings since the Indian actions of August 5, 2019. He welcomed the "clear and unequivocal reaffirmation of the OIC's principled stance on the ... Kashmir dispute in the joint communique adopted by the ministerial meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir in New York on September 23, 2021," the FO's

statement said. Thanking the foreign secretary for the detailed update on the situation in Indian-occupied Kashmir, Aldobeay said the "OIC's abiding solidarity and support to the legitimate Kashmiri struggle for their inalienable right to self-determination as enshrined in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions", according to the FO statement. Earlier, while discussing the Kashmir situation with representatives of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference in Pakistan on Sunday, Aldobeay had assured that the OIC would continue to support the right to self-determination of the people of Kashmir.

The envoy said that he would prepare and present a report during the next ministerial meeting of the OIC on the situation in the region. The OIC envoy is visiting Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir from November 7 to November 12 to "undertake a first-hand assessment of the human rights and humanitarian situation" in occupied Kashmir, the FO said. This is the second visit of the envoy to Pakistan and Azad Kashmir. Aldobeay earlier visited the region in March 2020.

World wants solution to Kashmir issue: AJK president

Islamabad: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Barrister



Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry Tuesday said that his recent visit abroad has broken the two-year stalemate on Kashmir issue, as the international community wants an immediate solution to the Kashmir issue. "I returned from a visit to the UK and Europe Monday. When I was sworn in as President on August 26, I said that I would raise the issue of Kashmir aggressively on the world stage because Azad Kashmir is the base camp of independence. Therefore, we have a greater responsibility to speak up for the people of Indian Occupied Kashmir," he told a news conference here. In abroad, he noted the Kashmiri diaspora was inactive due

to the coronavirus situation and after August 05, 2019, unconstitutional Indian measures in occupied Kashmir gave birth to a new situation and there was a huge increase in Indian state terrorism. In this situation, he said he decided to speak out against the ongoing atrocities in Occupied Kashmir and the Kashmir issue before the international community, on which he visited the United States in September and the United Kingdom and Europe in October.

AJK president said that during his visit to the United States, he led a demonstration of Kashmiris on the occasion of Modi's visit to the UN General Assembly. In addition to addressing the OIC Contact Group meeting, including a meeting with the UN Secretary General, the OIC Permanent Representative to the UN and meetings with US Congressmen, senators and think tanks and the international media on the current situation in Occupied Kashmir, he gave briefings on the Kashmir issue. During his visit to the UK, he attended a function on behalf of Lord Mayor City Council Leeds at Leeds City Council and also addressed a function of Kashmiris in Birmingham on the occasion of Azad Kashmir Foundation Day on 24 October. Afterwards, he addressed press conferences at various events in the British cities of Luton, Milton, Connaught and Slav. Similarly, he also addressed the British members of Parliament at the House of Commons in London on 26th October at the invitation of Debbie Abraham, Chairperson of the All Party Kashmir Committee in the British Parliament. More than 40 members of Parliament attended the meeting.

Similarly, in London, he met with Labor Party leader Jeremy Corbyn and Conservative Friends of Kashmir Chairman James Daly to brief them on the Kashmir issue and the ongoing Indian atrocities in Occupied Kashmir. Later, he met with members of the European Parliament and other senior EU officials, including the Kashmiris protesting in Brussels, Belgium, and called on the EU to appoint a representative on Kashmir.

He participated in a demonstration of Kashmiris in front of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the capital of the Netherlands, while he also participated in a huge demonstration of Kashmiris in Paris, the capital of France, and met with French think tanks there: He gave a detailed briefing on Kashmir issue.

AJK PM for early implementation of UN resolutions to resolve Kashmir issue

Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Sardar Abdul



Qayyum Niazi has stressed the need for the implementation of United Nations Resolutions to grant the Kashmiri people their internationally recognized right to self-determination to decide about their destiny. He said that India was the biggest obstacle in implementing the United Nations resolutions. The prime minister was talking to a high level delegation of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) who called on him led by OIC Secretary General's Special Representative for Jammu and Kashmir and Assistant Secretary General Ambassador Yousuf Muhammad Saleh Al-Dubey in AJK's metropolis on Thursday.

The delegation comprised OIC Ambassador Targ Ali Bakhit, Ambassador Hassan Ali Hassan, Ambassador Ahmed Sarir, Ambassador Rizwan Saeed Sheikh, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to OIC Habib Borani, Ms Maha Asiri, Muhammad Alkham Lychee, Waqas Latif Mughal, Farrukh Iqbal Khan. Director General, Mohsin Saifullah, Deputy Director OIC, Shehzad Hussain and others were present on the occasion. Cabinet Minister Abdul Majid Khan Diwan Ali Choughati, Opposition leader Ch Latif Akbar Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Sahibzada Hafiz Hamid Raza, Members of Assembly Mian Abdul Waheed and Syed Baz Ali Naqvi, Nisar Abbasi were also present on the occasion. Briefing the delegation about the grave situation obtaining in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), the prime minister called upon the Islamic world to play its role at the OIC level to resolve the Kashmir issue and expose human rights violations by the Indian forces in IIOJK. The prime minister said Indian forces have intensified the reign of terror in IIOJK and as a result of unprovoked Indian forces firing civilians of Azad Kashmir have been martyred and injured and their property have been damaged. The prime minister said that Kashmiri leadership have been put behind bars and locked up in jails and homes while women and children are being treated inhumanely. He said India is openly violating UN resolutions regarding IIOJK and has recently revoked the special

status of IIOJK and repealed Articles 370 and 35A of the Constitution aimed at changing the demographics of IIOJK and have also intensified its brutalities there. He said that Kashmiri people had decided to join Pakistan in 1947 on the basis of the two national ideologies of our forefathers. Over 900,000 Indian forces have intensified its repressions in IIOJK and have cordoned off the whole IIOJK to suppress the freedom movement, he added. Naizi said occupying Indian Army on the one hand was killing the youth while on the other hand raping women and blinding the children with pellet guns. India was bent upon wiping out an entire generation of Kashmiris with the massacre of youth and added that about 40,000 RSS extremists have also been sent to IIOJK. The prime minister said that no Pakistani citizen can buy land in Azad Kashmir today while on

the other hand lands are being forcibly snatched from Kashmiris in IIOJK. The prime minister thanked the OIC delegation for coming to Azad Kashmir and meeting the refugees settled at the Line of Control (LoC).

The prime minister highly commended the role of the Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan for effectively projecting the Kashmir Issue in its true perspective at international level and proved as a real ambassador of the Kashmiri people. He said it was due to the successful foreign policy of the Pakistan government that a delegation of OIC is visiting Azad Kashmir to review the situation of IIOJK. AJK PM called for projecting the Kashmir issue effectively in the forthcoming OIC Foreign Ministers conference and to raise its voice against the atrocities taking place in IIOJK.



The founding day of Azad Jammu and Kashmir government was celebrated throughout Azad Jammu and Kashmir

Muzaffarabad (PID) The founding day of Azad Jammu and Kashmir government was celebrated throughout Azad Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday with the firm determination to channelize all resources for the liberation of occupied Kashmir, establishment of good governance and supremacy of the law in the state.

Functions and seminars were held all over the state to mark the day. In this connection a main function was held here on Sunday, the Acting President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Ch. Anwar-ul-Haq was the chief guest. Speaking on the occasion he said that basic purpose of celebrating the founding day is to transfer the legacy of the liberation movement to the coming generation and to apprise them about the genesis of the liberation struggle. He said Prime Minister of Pakistan has effectively projected the Kashmir issue at international level in its true perspective and have exposed the Indian expansionist designs before the international community. He paid rich tributes to Pakistan Armed forces for defending the motherland and warned India that Pakistan Armed forces are fully capable to defend the motherland and to foil the Indian nefarious designs. He congratulated the Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir and expressed the hope that the new government under the leadership

of the Azad Kashmir Prime Minister will ensure the establishment of good governance and wellbeing of the people of the state. The Acting President said the day is not far off when the occupied Kashmir will be liberated from Indian clutches and the dream of entire state accession to Pakistan will be realized.

Addressing the function the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi said that the people of Azad Kashmir had linked their destiny with Pakistan with the adoption of the historical accession to Pakistan resolution on 19th July 1947 before the establishment of Pakistan. He urged the international community to play their role and grant the Kashmiri people their fundamental right to self-determination in accordance with the United Nations agreed resolutions. The Prime Minister drew the attention of the world community towards the unresolved Kashmir dispute and urged them to play their role for the settlement of the Kashmir dispute to avert atomic war between the two atomic powers. He said the Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan has effectively projected the Kashmir issue at international level and has exposed the Indian forces' repressions on Kashmiri people who have been struggling for the achievement of their internationally recognized right to self determination. He said the Prime Minister of Pakistan has agreed in principle to extend a historical developmental package amounting to 500 billion rupees to Azad Kashmir which would help accelerate the tempo of

developmental activities in the state and prosperity of the people will also be ensured. The Prime Minister also assured the people living at the line of control that they have been facing difficulties due to Indian forces firing and the government will utilize all its resources to mitigate their sufferings.

OIC envoy on Kashmir visits Muzaffarabad

Muzaffarabad (KT) - OIC Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir Yousef Aldobeay and Assistant Secretary General Humanitarian Affairs Tariq Ali Bakheet visited Muzaffarabad along with a high level delegation including senior diplomats from brotherly countries including Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Sudan and Maldives. The delegation today visited Thotha Refugee Camp where they were briefed on elaborate measures taken for socio-economic well-being of the inhabitants who fled from Indian atrocities in illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The delegates also visited a vocational training center and interacted with the refugees. Later, the delegation met UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan where they were apprised on security monitoring mechanism along LoC. During the visit, the delegation also met the President and Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir.

Kashmiris observe Jammu Martyrs' Day

Srinagar: Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control and the world over observed the Jammu Martyrs' Day, today, to reaffirm the resolve to continue the martyrs' mission till the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination. According to Kashmir Media Service, hundreds of thousands of Kashmiris were massacred by the forces of Dogra Maharaja Hari Singh, Indian army and Hindu extremists in different parts of Jammu region while they were migrating to Pakistan during the first week of November in 1947. The illegally detained All Parties Hurriyat Conference Chairman, Masarrat Alam Butt, in a message from New Delhi's Tihar Jail said that Jammu massacre was the first act of systematic ethnic cleansing and the worst example of state terrorism after the illegal military occupation of Jammu and Kashmir carried out by India on 27 October 1947. He

Earlier a smartly contingent of Azad Kashmir Police, rescue 1122 and Girl Guide presented salute to mark the day. The ceremony was attended by the Cabinet Ministers, members of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir legislative Assembly, high ranking civil and military officials and a large number of people.

urged the UN Secretary General to take serious action against India for victimizing the people of Jammu and Kashmir for demanding their inalienable right to self-determination. The Hurriyat forum led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq in a statement in Srinagar said the ethnic cleansing of the Muslims of Jammu is an extremely painful chapter in the history of Kashmir freedom struggle. Other Hurriyat leaders and organizations including Molvi Bashir Ahmad, Khawaja Firdous, Abdul Samad Inqilabi, Kashmir Freedom Front, Tehreek-e-Wahdat-e-Islami, Jammu and Kashmir Insaf Party, and Jammu and Kashmir Peoples League in their statements said that Jammu massacre was aimed at changing the demographic composition of the occupied territory. Posters appeared in different areas of Jammu region eulogizing the sacrifices of the victims of Jammu carnage. The posters were pasted by Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Alliance. Meanwhile, Indian troops launched a massive cordon and search operation in Rajouri district in Jammu region. The troops cordoned off Khablan and other nearby villages of the district and launched searches. They also closed vehicular traffic from Thanamandi to Rajouri. On the other hand, speakers at a roundtable conference organized by APHC-AJK chapter at its office in Islamabad, today, to pay homage to Jammu Martyrs said that the Kashmiris were determined to continue their struggle till they were granted their inalienable right. Pasban-e-Hurriyat Jammu and Kashmir held a rally in Muzaffarabad to pay tributes to Jammu Martyrs of 1947. The protesters raised high-pitched slogans against India and in favour of Kashmir's freedom from Indian yoke. In India, a Hindutva mob beat up two Christian pastors and disrupted a prayer meeting in Biler area of Dhamtari district in Chhattisgarh state. The attackers set on fire the copies of Bible, and asked the pastors not to hold prayer services.



Muzaffarabad: (KT) Prime Minister AJK Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi and other speakers are addressing to a Seminar on 6 November Youm-e-Shuhada -e -Jammu

Kashmiris beaten, Shami abused after India loses to Pakistan

Kashmiri students assaulted and bowler Mohammed Shami faced online abuse after Pakistan's win at T20 World Cup in Dubai.

New Delhi, India Just before the start of the India-Pakistan T20 World Cup cricket match in Dubai on Sunday, the Indian team took a knee in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. India lost the match, handing Pakistan its first win against the arch rival at any World Cup. As soon as the match at the Dubai International Stadium ended, some Kashmiri students celebrating Pakistan's victory were attacked in India. Even Mohammed Shami, a Muslim member of India's playing-XI, was abused on social media following the loss, despite captain Virat Kohli acknowledging his side had been “outplayed” by Pakistan. Cricket matches often worsen the tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbours, who have fought three wars since their independence from the British in 1947.

'I feel unsafe'

Muzamil, a Kashmiri studying in a college in Mohali district in western India's Punjab state, told Al Jazeera that minutes after the cricket match ended, “a group of nearly 20 goons gathered outside our hostel”. “We had never seen those faces and had no idea who they were. They had sticks and they beat up three of my friends. I was afraid and didn't leave the room,” said the 22-year-old who did not want to disclose his full name for fear of reprisals.

After the assault, Muzamil said his friends were forced to move into the house of another friend, as they feared for their safety. “This was a game and supporting any team is an individual's choice. What happened to us is really, really wrong,” he told Al Jazeera. “It happens with us in [New] Delhi and everywhere else. As a Kashmiri student, I feel unsafe in India.”

“But it was suicidal to do so in Punjab,” said Nasir Khuehami, the national spokesperson of Jammu and Kashmir Students' Association, referring to Kashmiris celebrating Pakistan's win. “They are a minority in mainland India and the celebrations were stupid. Knowing that your life is in danger, it wasn't a wise step.” Kashmir is claimed by India and Pakistan, which rule over parts of it. The Indian side of the Himalayan territory has been witnessing an armed rebellion for decades, with many



residents supporting a merger of the region with Muslim-majority Pakistan.

Khuehami said at least 14 Kashmiri students were attacked across India following the match, with seven of them sustaining serious injuries. He said he spent the rest of Sunday night responding to calls of distress from Kashmiri students, despite the police saying they had not heard of any such attacks on Kashmiris. After India's loss, Indian cricketer Shami's Instagram got hundreds of abusive messages, some of which labelled the fast bowler a “traitor” and a “sell-out”. Some posters even called him a “Pakistani”, suggesting he should be thrown out of the Indian team. Shami made his ODI and T20 debut against Pakistan in 2013 and 2014 respectively when India were victorious in both matches. Critics also highlighted why the Indian cricket team had not spoken up about Shami being singled out. “[The] silence is not wilful ignorance, it is worse than that. Who were they taking a knee for? The American players have risked their careers to take that position,” Kavita Krishnan, rights activist and member of the Communist Party of India (MarxistLeninist), told Al Jazeera.

“Why can't you tell your own government that Muslim lives matter and Kashmiri lives matter?” Omar Abdullah, former chief minister of Indian-administered Kashmir, said Shami was “one of 11 players who lost last night, he wasn't the only player on the field”. “Team India, your BLM knee-taking counts for nothing if you can't stand up for your teammate who is being horribly abused and trolled on social media,” he posted on Twitter. Krishnan said the BLM movement was against the police brutality against the Blacks. “Then why can't Indian players speak on the police brutality against Muslims?” she asked. “Posturing for others may be a fashionable thing to do, but it is moral bankruptcy.”

27 OCTOBER



Brussels: President of AJ&K Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry addressing to Protist Rally against Human Rights Violations in IIOJK



Tatrino: Prime Minister AJK Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi and other speakers are addressing to a Public Rally



Minister for Local Government and Rural Development Khawaja Farooq Ahmed and other speakers are addressing to a public gathering on 27 October Black Day



ABBASPUR



NEELAM



BHIMBER



KOTLI



HAVELI KAHUTA



RAWALPINDI



MIRPUR



Muzaffarabad: Prime Minister of AJK Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi addressing to a Seminar on Foundation Day of Azad Govt. of the State of Jammu & Kashmir at Muzaffarabad



Muzaffarabad: Former President of AJ&K Masood Khan and others speaker are addressing to a Seminar on Foundation Day of Azad Govt. of the State of Jammu & Kashmir at Muzaffarabad



Muzaffarabad: Briefing to Delegation of OIC by Director Admin Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Cell Raja Muhammad Sajjad Khan



Departmental briefing to Secretary Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Cell Aijaz Hussain Lone by Director Admin Raja Muhammad Sajjad Khan

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN IOK

(From Jan 1989 till 31 Oct 2021)

Total Killings	95,897
Custodial killings	7,207
Civilian arrested	163,402
Structures Arsoned/Destroyed	110,439
Women Widowed	22,936
Children Orphaned	107,849
Women gang-raped / Molested	11,246

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Settlement in Kashmir

