



**National Statement, delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Second Secretary, during
General Debate under Item 3
55th HRC Session
15 March 2024**

Mr. Vice President,

The UN Charter established a clear link between international peace and human rights. The right to self-determination was enshrined in the UN Charter and remains the fountainhead of human rights.

It is the cardinal principle weaving the UN system's three pillars into a cohesive whole. Where self-determination is denied, human rights, peace and security, and development are all imperiled.

Respect for the right to self-determination is at the centre of mounting challenges to regional and global peace.

The tragedy unfolding before us in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially Gaza, has underscored how a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian question must flow from the self-determination of the Palestinian people, and an end to the brutal occupation.

This Council is mandated to promote and protect all human rights in pursuit of freedom, justice, and peace.

In our own region, the people of Occupied Jammu & Kashmir have reposed their faith in the UN Charter for more than seven decades but remain under occupation.

We call upon this Council and the OHCHR to act for upholding occupied Kashmiris' right to self-determination, freedom, and justice.

We request the OHCHR to continue monitoring the situation in Occupied Jammu & Kashmir and present an updated report.

I thank you!