



**National statement delivered by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Permanent Representative to the UN, during the Interactive Dialogue with the UN Special Rapporteur on Summary Execution at the 47th session of Human Rights Council**

**01 July 2021**

Madam President,

We thank the new Rapporteur for sharing his priorities. Within the scope of these priorities, we strongly encourage him to spotlight the increasing use of extrajudicial killing in territories under illegal occupation, where occupation regimes, armed with draconian laws, suppress people struggling for their inalienable right to self-determination.

In this regard, we invite Rapporteur's particular attention to the situation in Indian occupied Jammu & Kashmir.

To suppress resistance against demographic engineering of the disputed territory, India has in the past two years intensified unlawful killing of innocent Kashmiris under the cover of oppressive laws with full impunity.

At least 55 civilians have been murdered in cold-blood during the last 06 months alone, which include many teenage boys as young as 14-years old Faisal Bashir. The actual number may be higher, as India continues to deny access to independent observers including human rights organizations and foreign media.

The recent 'custodial murder' of 77-years old Kashmiri activist Mr. Ashraf Sehrai represents another worrying trend. According to civil society reports, Kashmiri political prisoners are increasingly being hanged and buried in the notorious Tihar jail.

The refusal to hand over human remains, and instead, charging affected families for demanding so under draconian CT law reflects India's moral bankruptcy, and should be called out. Dead bodies are often dumped into unmarked, mass graves-hundreds of which have been discovered recently in the occupied territory.

The UN's two Kashmir Reports have shed light on the scale and intensity of these extrajudicial killings, and the serious miscarriage of justice for victims of the two infamous fake encounters in Macchal and Pathribal.

We urge the Council members and the Rapporteur to call for an immediate halt by India of unlawful killings of Kashmiris, repeal of draconian laws and acceptance of UN-led probe to hold those found responsible to account. Thank you.