



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN **Geneva**

Statement

43RD SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

General Debate on Agenda Item 3

Right of Reply by Pakistan

9 March 2020

Madam President,

India has once again resorted to baseless accusations against Pakistan, falsify facts and mislead this House.

The Council is no stranger to such theatrical performance by the Indian delegation.

Back home, Indian leaders chant “Jai Shri Ram” for inciting violence against Muslims, Dalits, Sikhs and Adevhasis and other marginalized segments in India.

These chants provide green light and encourage goons and terrorists, belonging to RSS and other extremist Hindutva organizations to public lynching and mass killings in a coordinated pogrom.

Such pogrom occurred previously in Gujrat and happened again last week in New Delhi under the same leadership.

If this Council and the wider international community do not prevail upon the current government of India to rein in its lust for violence, many states, cities and towns in India will suffer a similar tragedy in the future.

Madam President,

These merchants of wholesale deceit and deception in today’s intolerant and fascist India illegally annexed the already occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir last August.

Indian atrocities against Kashmiri people have since then reached an unprecedented scale, graduating into war crime, and crimes against humanity. Such crimes include demographic engineering of the occupied territory, which is a clear violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

And yet the abuser tends to hide behind the smoke-screen of terrorism and peddles a hollow narrative of normalcy through cosmetic initiatives, managed access and guided tours, as in the words of the Guardian newspaper, quote “rent-a-diplomat tours” unquote.

Madam President,



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At the root of India's State-sponsored terrorism in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir is the negation of the Right to Self Determination, which has been promised to the Kashmiri people in over a dozen resolutions of the UN Security Council.

This central reality cannot be changed through fraudulent and unilateral measures by India or through misleading this Council.

The UN Secretary-General, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, international media and civil society organizations have fully acknowledged that granting the right to self-determination to Kashmiris is essential for putting an end to atrocities and abuse being inflicted upon them. A recent survey conducted by Washington Post also corroborated this long held view.

India must see the writing on the wall, stop its atrocities forthwith and grant the subjugated Kashmiris their basic civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

If India claims innocence and has nothing to hide, it should implement recommendation of OHCHR's reports on Jammu & Kashmir and allow full and unhindered access to IOK for monitoring and reporting of the human rights situation there.

I thank you.