



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

Pakistan's Right of Reply against India, delivered by Mr. Junaid Suleman, Second Secretary, during the Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Racism at the 44th session of Human Rights Council

(16 July 2020)

Madam President,

Indian sponsorship of over 260 fake media outlets, operating in 65 countries, as unearthed by EU DisinforLab, reveals that falsehood and deception have become internalized in its national narrative in a desperate attempt to hide its well-recorded human rights violations in IOJ&K.

On 13 July, Kashmiris all over the world celebrated the Martyrs Day to commemorate the 22 brave Muslims, martyred in 1931 in Srinagar by the Dogra Ruler of Kashmir. The inhumane and degrading treatment of Kashmiri Muslims, men and women, inflicted by the erstwhile Dogra Rulers continues till today at the hands of world's so-called largest democracy.

India's claim over Kashmir is based on a fraudulent instrument of accession by the same criminal ruler – a document that does not exist.

Let me refresh memory of the Indian delegation with concrete facts. We ask it to answer the following questions before this Council:

Can India deny its State-sanctioned national schemes such as "Ghar wapasi", "Love Jihad", "Land Jihad" etc., that are aimed at persecuting its minority populations?

Can India deny the fact that even during the COVID pandemic, the ruling party's media wing shamelessly stigmatized and incited violence against Indian Muslims through trending derogatory hash tags such CoronaJihad, BioJihad and COVID-786?

Can India deny that not a single Hindutva goon involved in lynching of Tabrez Ansari, Pehlu Khan and Muhammad Akhlaq and in fact, scores of other Muslims, Dalits and Christians has been brought to justice?

Can India deny that in order to cover up its State-sanctioned pogrom in New Delhi earlier this year, law enforcement officers destroyed CCTV cameras as the world community watched this serious miscarriage of justice on their TV screens?



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Can India deny that the instigator of the Delhi pogrom, ruling party leader Kapil Mishra, has yet to be charged while Mr. Lateef Ahmad, a Kashmiri Muslim, was yesterday released after being incarcerated for 24 years on false charges?

Can India deny that in 13 of its States, it has resorted to large-scale enforced disappearances, and kill-and-dump operations instead of addressing genuine grievances of its own people?

Can India deny over a dozen Security Council resolutions that called for an impartial UN administered plebiscite in Kashmir to determine the territory's future?

Can India deny reports of continued torture, illegal detention of hundreds of Kashmiris, sexual violence and forced abduction of children during night raids in the occupied territory since last August?

Can India deny launching the world's largest mass-blinding campaign against innocent Kashmiris through use of pellets?

Can India deny the mass raping of Kashmiri women and girl children in Kunan Poshpora in 1991 and its industrial scale extra-judiciary killing of innocent Kashmiris and then dumping of their bodies in mass graves?

Madam President,

Baseless allegations of terrorism against Pakistan cannot absolve India of the clear indictment by the UN human rights machinery, world parliaments, civil society and global media for its atrocities in IOJ&K and in its own sovereign territory. Deflection and empty rhetoric from India will not work.

This Council and the wider UN human rights system must press India to uphold its international obligations and allow access for impartial monitoring, investigation and reporting of its human rights violations in the occupied territory.

I thank you.