



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

National Statement, delivered by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Permanent Representative to the UN, during General Debate under Agenda Item-4: Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

(25 September 2020)

Madam President,

Pakistan believes that the Council should consider country-specific human rights situations with objectivity, and in cooperation and dialogue with the concerned State.

Human rights situations of UN-recognized disputed territories warrant much closer attention of the Council. With diminished nature of Sovereign Responsibility, the Occupying Power invariably enacts draconian laws in the occupied territory to enjoy impunity, perpetuate occupation and avoid international scrutiny.

Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir is one such UN-recognized disputed territory requiring Council's urgent attention.

India's illegal and unilateral actions of 05th August 2019, in defiance of the international law and relevant UNSC resolutions were meant to impose a 'final solution' on the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

In order to do so, Indian forces in the last 13-months have illegally detained more than 13,000 Kashmiris, tortured young boys in public, summarily executed several civilians, fired pellet gunshots against religious processions and peaceful protestors, demolished homes and private properties, and imposed criminal sanctions on more than 200 journalists and Human Rights activists.

In an act of demographic engineering, 1.6 million settlers from India have been granted Kashmiri citizenship to convert Kashmiris into a minority. Demographic change is always a precursor to genocide and a clear war crime in terms of article 49 of the 4th Geneva Convention and Rule 156 of the Customary International Law.

Indian atrocities in IOJ&K are nurtured by the fanatic and fascist mindset of Hindutva, espoused by the government in New Delhi. The history of ruling BJP and its ideological founders, the RSS, is rife with violence against Muslims, Christian, Sikhs, Dalits and Adhivasis within India. Now it seeks *Hindutvization* of the Occupied Jammu and Kashmir

Appeasement of this government abets impunity, begets violence and threatens regional peace and security.

We, therefore, urge the Council to call on India to halt its egregious violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people, and implement recommendations of the two Kashmir reports by the High Commissioner.



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We call on Council's members and observers, who have continuously pronounced fidelity to human rights cause to come forward in shaping the Council's action on IIOJ&K, and not dither in deference to political expediencies and economic interests.

I thank you.