



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

### **Pakistan's Right of Reply against India, delivered by Mr. Salman Khalid Chaudhary, Third Secretary, during General Debate under agenda item no. 9 at the 45<sup>th</sup> session of Human Rights Council**

**(01 October 2020)**

Madam President,

I am exercising our right of reply against the baseless accusations made by Indian delegation against Pakistan.

India's bellicose rhetoric, laced with fake news and distortion against Pakistan, cannot deter us from raising the plight of Kashmiris under Indian occupation at this Council.

Neither can India's state terrorism deter the Kashmiri people from demanding their inalienable right to self-determination. Notwithstanding India's illegal occupation for over seven decades, Jammu and Kashmir is neither an integral part of India nor shall be it, as long as international law and UN Security Council resolutions exist.

Madam President,

It is obscene to hear that a country that has legislated over 2 million of its minority people stateless and has built detention centres designed to forcefully expel them is sermonizing other countries about human rights of minorities.

The dismal state of minorities under BJP Hindu Raj in India is well known and well-documented as a result of state-sanctioned discrimination, hatred, contempt and violence against Dalits, Christians, Muslims and Adhivasis.

In India, a low caste Dalit rape victim is cremated with her family in lock up, while those who commit the crime remain un-apprehended or on bail.

Only a country like India has the insidious distinction of categorizing Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains as Hindus under its Constitution while falsely claiming to be the world's largest secular democracy.

Again, it is in India only where anti-conversion laws are being increasingly enacted by States to maintain Hindu majority.

Such is the lack of accountability and absence of rule of law in India that organizers of massacres against minority populations become Prime Minister, Ministers and Chief Ministers.



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Violence unleashed by Hindutva gangs on innocent victims such as Muhammad Akhlaq, Pehlu Khan, Tabraiz Ansari and scores of others are still fresh in memories of the world community. A subservient judicial system continues to deny justice to these individuals and to victims of the Gujarat and Delhi pogroms.

The recent decision by Indian Supreme Court to acquit all those accused of Babri Mosque destruction confirms that a religious apartheid is being enforced where all organs of the State have become complicit in the Hindutva project.

Madam President,

India's deeply-rooted Islamophobia extends beyond its borders and has shaped its illegal and unilateral actions of last August in IIOJ&K.

BJP leader's misogynist remarks against Kashmiri women are enough to reveal the sick and depraved mindset.

Madam President,

Indian delegation's patent falsehoods against Pakistan and its tenuous grandstanding to eulogize its own credentials cannot shield it from international accountability for its blatant human rights abuses in IIOJ&K as well as on its own sovereign territory.

I thank you.