



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

Pakistan's Right of Reply against India, delivered by Mr. Muhammad Hussian, Counsellor, during Interactive Dialogues with the Working Groups on Arbitrary Detention and Enforced Disappearance at the 45th session of Human Rights Council

(21 September 2020)

Mr. Vice-President,

India cannot gain credibility by discrediting the truth.

We are once again disappointed to see that India continues to mislead this Council about its despicable human rights crimes in IIOJ&K pertaining to arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance through fabricated narratives and falsifying facts.

Pakistan's interventions in the two Interactive Dialogues today were based on actual events reported from IIOJ&K.

The UN Security Council has also thrice met to discuss the dire post-05 August situation in the occupied territory, which clearly debunks India's self-serving claims of normalcy and Kashmir being an integral part.

Peddling falsehoods against my country may help the Hindutva zealots win elections but will not surely help them win respect in the global community.

The Prime Minister of today's illiberal and intolerant India has been implicated by his country's own Supreme Court for targeted killings of Muslims in Gujarat in 2002 and was until recently barred from entry into certain countries on account of his direct role in masterminding the Gujarat pogrom.

This poster child of the terrorist organization RSS continues to employ state sponsored terrorism to decimate its own minorities and brutally suppress the Kashmiri people in pursuance of a neo-fascist Hindutva project.

Speaking of victims of terrorism, let me remind the Indian delegation of people such 45-years old Ms. Kounsar Sofi, who was shot dead by Indian forces last week before her own son in Srinagar; or of 09-years old Sahil Ahmed Sheikh who was among the unfortunate 144 minors illegally detained in wake of India's illegal actions of last August.

The Indian representative could have spoken about the agony of hundreds of Kashmiri people, whose homes were razed down during fake search and cordon operations, and who were left without a shelter as they fight the deadly COVID virus and an even deadlier occupying power.



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The Indian representative could have also informed this Council about the extra-judicial murder of Mohammad Ibrar, Imtiyaz Ahmed and Abrar Ahmed from Rajouri on 20 July which its own authorities admitted were carried out by Indian Army due to the impunity provided under draconian laws.

The Indian representative could have also apprised the Council about steps taken to hold the instigators of the Delhi pogrom accountable, but instead chose to maintain a deafening silence.

Mr. Vice-President,

India's practice of state-sponsored terrorism is an open secret.

Since 1990, India's occupation army has martyred over 100,000 Kashmiris, widowed 22,000, orphaned 108,000 children and molested more than 11,000 women.

India's drivel against my country can neither change these well-documented facts nor silence the strong voices of concerns, being raised by global human rights constituencies about its atrocities in IIOJ&K.

And if India wants another impartial evaluation of the situation in the occupied territory, it should immediately give unhindered access to global media, civil society, OHCHR and SPMHs to J&K.

I thank you.