



**National Statement by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Third Secretary during General Debate Agenda  
Item 9**

**51<sup>st</sup> Human Rights Council Session**

**03 October 2022**

**Mr. President,**

We align ourselves with OIC statement.

We are witnessing dangerous manifestations of discrimination, intolerance and violence against people on the basis of their race, colour, ethnicity or religion.

We are deeply concerned over racially motivated attacks, stigmatization and disenfranchisement of minorities, often tolerated or sponsored by some States to secure electoral gains, perpetuate foreign occupation and impose a majoritarian agenda. In some cases, state sanctioned disinformation campaigns have been launched to de-humanize and delegitimize entire communities and even legitimate struggles

Despite being states' international obligations, their responses to combat alarming trends of contemporary racism, often fail to commensurate with the intensity and gravity of challenges. The gap between words and actions must be bridged to counter these negative developments and to create a conducive environment for the enjoyment and protection of individuals' rights, freedom and dignity.

**Mr. President,**

Islamophobia is a dangerous form of contemporary racism, nurtured by decades of public rhetoric and amplified by right wing groups and political parties.

The most visible and consequential examples of this phenomenon are evident through the steady rise of extremist right-wing Hindutva ideology in our region, targeting Muslims, Christians and Dalits among others. Deprivation of citizenship, forced conversions, restrictions on facial veils and prohibition of religious practices are well documented manifestations of state-sponsored religious discrimination. Communal violence has resulted in the loss of life, limbs and private properties. Many of the perpetrators of these crimes enjoy state patronage and protection, reinforcing a growing culture of impunity.

These disturbing trends are most vivid in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir where the neo-colonialist regime is changing the demographic structure by converting Muslim majority into a minority and effacing their distinct cultural and religious identity, in clear violation and defiance of

international law. We strongly condemn the curbs on Kashmiri Muslims to practice their faith and restraining them from congregating on special religious occasions

This Council and the international community at large must speak out against such blatant violations of international law; redouble efforts to combat modern forms of racial discrimination, call for meaningful accountability of the perpetrators and ensure full compliance of concerned states with their respective obligations under international law.

I thank you.