



**National statement delivered by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan  
Permanent Representative to the UN, during the Interactive Dialogue with the  
UN Special Rapporteur on Truth, Justice and Reparation at the 48th session of  
Human Rights Council**

**16 September 2021**

Madam President,

We agree with the SR that accountability provides the best anti-dote against impunity and recurrence of human rights violations and abuses.

We share his concerns that impunity is writ large in situations of armed conflict-many of which the UN Security Council is seized of.

We thank the SR for spotlighting in his report the State-sanctioned impunity that is evident in India's grave and systematic suppression of the Kashmiris' fundamental rights and freedoms.

Regrettably, absence of Indian accountability has resulted in the loss of thousands of Kashmiri lives, their dignity and rights.

Oppressive laws, such as PSA, AFSPA and UAPA, have enabled this deeply entrenched impunity. These laws continue to provide a free license to Indian forces to kill, maim, abduct, detain, torture and persecute Kashmiris. Not a single Indian security official has so far been held to account for these widely documented violations.

Since 05<sup>th</sup> August 2019, the Hindutva Raj has shuttered local independent human rights institutions, gagged media, silenced human rights defenders, and installed a pliant judiciary.

These illegal measures have drastically curtailed avenues for Kashmiris to seek legal redress, remedy and reparations. To quote just one example, hundreds of habeas corpus petitions are pending before local courts on account of illegal detentions only.

We, therefore, strongly urge the Rapporteur to continue monitoring India's gross human rights abuses in occupied J&K, and call for its global accountability so that justice is served to the Kashmiris. I thank you.