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Remarks by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Permanent Representative to the UN, during Interactive Dialogue on High Commissioner for Human Rights' Annual Report at the 47th session of Human Rights Council

22 June 2021

Madam President,

Pakistan thanks the High Commissioner for her Annual Report, and reaffirms its full support to her Office.

We welcome the High Commissioner's continued monitoring and reporting of the situation in Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IOJ&K).

Since the 2nd Kashmir Report two years ago, the human rights conditions in the occupied territory have further deteriorated as a result of India's illegal actions of 05th August 2019.

India continues to defy UN Security Council resolutions and the 4th Geneva Convention by accelerating the pace of demographic engineering of the disputed territory. There are reports of additional unilateral and illegal Indian actions in the occupied territory. The Indian objective is to deprive the Kashmiris of their inalienable right to self-determination enshrined in international law.

More than 3.5 million foreigners have been granted Kashmiri citizenship, allowed to buy property, and seek local jobs. As we speak, this staggering number continues to increase.

The collective future of Kashmiri people is being devoured with full impunity through land grabs by occupation forces, by doling out mining leases to Indian businesses, and plans to erect settler colonies.

On top of it, over 900,000 occupation forces continue to kill, torture, arbitrarily arrest and detain hundreds of Kashmiris, under the cover of draconian laws, through use of state terrorism and behind an iron curtain. Only this year, more than 55 civilians have been summarily executed. Like before, not a single Indian member of the security forces has been held accountable in these cases.

The Hindutva Raj has muzzled the local judiciary, gagged the media and silenced the civil society through reprisal attacks.



Using COVID pandemic as a pretext, India has reinforced its brutal military siege, and continued to deny access to UN human rights machinery, and foreign media to the occupied territory.

The OIC, world parliaments, UN Special Procedures, civil society and global media have been raising red-flag about the dire situation in IOJ&K.

A group of UN Special Procedures have even described the situation to be in 'free fall' and called on the global community to 'step up'.

Today, Pakistan echoes this call for action in the occupied territory. The Council must ensure realization of Kashmiri people's fundamental rights, and hold India accountable for its widely documented human rights crimes.

The global flag-bearers of human rights should practice what they preach, and call out India for its grave violations in occupied Kashmir.

We reiterate our request to the High Commissioner to issue a report on the grave human rights situation in Jammu& Kashmir in exercise of her prevention mandate. Thank you.