

PAKISTAN and KASHMIR
The unshakable chain of relationships

یوم سیاہ کشمیر 27 اکتوبر



Asif Ali Zardari
The President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

On Jammu and Kashmir Black Day, we solemnly remember 27 October 1947, when Indian forces landed in Srinagar, marking the beginning of a prolonged and tragic chapter in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. This day reaffirms our recognition of the longstanding aspirations of the Kashmiri people and the continued pursuit of the fundamental and inalienable right to selfdetermination.

For the past eight decades, the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have endured profound sufferings, marked by violence, repression and serious violations of fundamental rights. Generations of Kashmiris have made immense sacrifices in their pursuit of justice, dignity and freedom. Their resilience and determination in the face of adversity remain a testament to the enduring strength of their cause.

Since 27 October 1947, the people of IIOJK have endured decades of conflict, restrictions and denial of their fundamental rights. The continuing restrictions on fundamental freedoms, heightened militarisation, arrests and reports of human rights violations remain a matter of serious concern and underscore the need for sustained international attention. The situation has further deteriorated since August 5, 2019, when India unilaterally attempted to alter the constitutional and legal status of Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir Black Day is, therefore, not merely a day of remembrance. It is also an occasion to reaffirm our commitment to a peaceful and just resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. Lasting peace, stability and prosperity in South Asia remain closely linked to the resolution of this longstanding dispute, in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

On this solemn occasion, I call upon the international community, particularly the United Nations and international human rights organisations, to take due cognisance of the human rights situation in IIOJK, support efforts for the protection of the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people and contribute meaningfully towards a just, peaceful and lasting resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

Pakistan will continue to extend its unwavering moral, diplomatic and political support to the people of IIOJK. We will continue to raise their voice at every appropriate international forum and to advocate the realisation of their legitimate aspirations.

Today, we pay tribute to the countless sacrifices of the Kashmiri people and reaffirm our solidarity with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters. Pakistan stands with them in the pursuit of justice, peace, dignity and the realisation of the legitimate right to self-determination.

The day is not far off when the people of Jammu and Kashmir will be able to determine their own future in accordance with their aspirations and the Jammu and Kashmir dispute will move towards a just and peaceful resolution.



M. Shehbaz Sharif
The Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Seventy-nine years ago, Indian forces landed in Srinagar, marking the beginning of a tragic chapter in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, one that continues to cast its long shadow over the region to this day. Since then, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been denied the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination, as affirmed in the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.

The people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have endured immense hardship, suffering and repression. Yet their courage, resilience and unwavering resolve to secure their fundamental rights remain undiminished. The sacrifices of successive generations stand as a powerful testament to their enduring commitment to freedom, dignity and justice.

India has continued its efforts to suppress legitimate political expression and silence the voices that represent the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. The prolonged incarceration of Kashmiri political leaders, activists and human rights defenders remains deeply concerning. It underscores the need for due process, respect for basic liberties, and greater international attention to the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Since 5 August 2019, India has taken a series of unilateral measures in IIOJK, accompanied by sweeping restrictions on fundamental freedoms. These measures, affecting the political, legal and demographic character of the territory, have drawn serious international attention. Pakistan has consistently called for these developments to be addressed in accordance with international law and the applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Pakistan's position on Jammu and Kashmir remains clear, consistent and principled. Lasting peace and stability in South Asia cannot be achieved without a just and peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

On this solemn occasion, I pay tribute to the countless Kashmiri men, women and children who have offered immense sacrifices in pursuit of their rights. Their memory will always be honoured. The aspirations of the Kashmiri people cannot be extinguished through coercion or repression.

On this Jammu & Kashmir Black Day, the Government and people of Pakistan reaffirm their unwavering solidarity with the people of IIOJK. Pakistan will continue to extend its moral, diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiri people, and to advocate for their legitimate rights at every national and international forums.

May the people of Jammu and Kashmir realize a future of lasting peace, dignity and security, and the fulfilment of their aspirations, including the right to self-determination.



Mohammad Ishaq Dar
Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan

On this solemn occasion of Jammu & Kashmir Black Day, we recall with deep sorrow the events of 27 October 1947, when Indian forces landed in Srinagar, marking the beginning of a prolonged and tragic chapter in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. Nearly eight decades later, the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) continue to bear the consequences of an unresolved dispute and continue to be denied their inalienable right to self-determination, as affirmed in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

For decades, the people of IIOJK have endured immense hardships, including restrictions on fundamental freedoms, human rights challenges and profound suffering. Despite these difficulties, they have remained steadfast in their determination, courage and resilience. The sacrifices of generations of Kashmiris reflect their continued aspiration for justice, peace, and the right to determine their own future.

The United Nations Security Council has adopted a number of resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir, envisaging a peaceful settlement in accordance with the will of the people. Pakistan has consistently maintained that these resolutions remain central to the resolution of the dispute and has emphasized the important role of the international community in facilitating a just, peaceful, and lasting settlement of this long-standing dispute.

The human rights situation in IIOJK has drawn greater international attention following India's unilateral actions of 5 August 2019. The subsequent legislative and administrative measures, restrictions on fundamental freedoms, demographic and political changes, and the continued detention of Kashmiri political leaders and activists have further deepened the sense of insecurity and alienation among the people of the occupied territory. These developments have also raised serious questions under international law and relevant international humanitarian and human rights standards.

The international community, including relevant United Nations bodies and human rights organizations, has documented concerns regarding the treatment of civilians and the broader human rights environment in IIOJK. These concerns underscore the need for continued international attention and engagement.

Yet, the people of IIOJK remain undeterred by such adversity. Their continued struggle for their fundamental rights serves as a reminder that the aspirations of a people cannot be suppressed through force or repression. Their sacrifices and quest for dignity and self-determination deserve the serious attention of the international community.

On this solemn day, Pakistan calls upon the international community to play its due role in addressing the sufferings of the people of IIOJK and promoting respect for their fundamental rights. Meaningful and sustained international engagement remains essential for a peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

Pakistan reaffirms its unwavering political, moral, and diplomatic support for the people of IIOJK. We will continue to raise their voice at every appropriate international forum and to advocate for a peaceful and just resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.



Engr Amir Muqam
Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan & Safron

Jammu & Kashmir Black Day is a solemn reminder of the events of 27 October 1947, when Indian forces entered Srinagar, setting in motion a conflict that has remained unresolved for seventy-nine years. It is a day to remember the sufferings and sacrifices of the Kashmiri people and to reaffirm the international commitments made to them regarding the Right to Self-determination.

For nearly eight decades, the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir have faced prolonged political uncertainty, restrictions on fundamental freedoms and serious human rights concerns. Yet through successive generations, the people of IIOJK have demonstrated remarkable resilience and an enduring determination to preserve their identity, dignity, and political aspirations. Their sacrifices deserve to be remembered with respect and their voices deserve to be heard.

The developments since 5 August 2019 have added a new and deeply concerning dimension to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. Unilateral changes to the constitutional and administrative framework, restrictions on political activity and fundamental freedoms, prolonged detentions, and measures affecting the demographic and political character of the territory have intensified concerns about the future of its people.

These developments cannot be divorced from the broader question of the status of Jammu and Kashmir and its unresolved international dimension. Pakistan's position on Jammu and Kashmir dispute has remained principled and consistent. We believe that no unilateral action can alter the fundamental nature of an internationally recognized dispute.

A durable settlement must be peaceful, just, and consistent with the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

The continuing tensions between Pakistan and India also underscore the importance of resolving the issues that lie at the heart of instability in South Asia. Peace in the region requires sustained diplomacy, respect for international obligations, and meaningful efforts to address the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. The international community, particularly the United Nations, must continue to play its role in promoting peace and protecting the rights of the people affected by this longstanding conflict.

On this Jammu & Kashmir Black Day, I pay tribute to the generations of Kashmiris who have endured immense hardships and made profound sacrifices. I also express my solidarity with the families who continue to bear the consequences of this unresolved conflict.

As Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and SAFRON, I reaffirm the Government of Pakistan's continued political, moral, and diplomatic support for the people of IIOJK. We will continue to advocate for their legitimate rights and to highlight their concerns before the international community.

Jammu & Kashmir Black Day is not only an occasion to remember the past; it is also a reminder of our collective responsibility to work for a future, in which the people of IIOJK can live in peace, security, dignity, and with the opportunity to determine their own future.



Attaullah Tarar
Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting

October 27, observed as Kashmir Black Day, reminds us of the historic day in 1947 when Indian forces entered Jammu and Kashmir, marking the beginning of a prolonged campaign to deny the Kashmiri people their fundamental right to self-determination.

The sacrifices, resilience and unwavering commitment of the Kashmiri people to their right to self-determination stand as a proud chapter in history. Despite facing relentless oppression and immense hardships, the resolve of the Kashmiri people has remained unshaken.

Pakistan remains steadfast in its commitment to extending political, moral and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people. We urge the international community and the United Nations to play an effective role in securing the Kashmiri people's recognised right to self-determination and safeguarding human rights in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

A just and lasting resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute can only be achieved in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

We pay tribute to the sacrifices made by the Kashmiri people in their struggle for freedom and reaffirm Pakistan's unwavering resolve to stand by our Kashmiri brothers and sisters and continue to extend our full support to their just cause.





OCTOBER 27: KASHMIR'S DARKEST DAY

Honouring the Struggle for Freedom and Self-Determination

M Zahid Riffat

KASHMIRIS in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan and around the world are observing October 27, 2026, yet again as the first darkest day in their history, continuing their protest against the occupation of their territory, which India forcibly took over on this day in 1947. The long-unresolved Kashmir dispute remains a source of lingering tension and conflict between the neighbouring nuclear powers, India and Pakistan. The dispute originated when the people of Jammu and Kashmir were denied their fundamental right of self-determination following the partition of the Indian subcontinent and the emergence of two separate independent states, Pakistan and India, on August 14, 1947.

At that time, it was generally presumed that Kashmir, as a contiguous state with a predominantly Muslim population, would accede to Pakistan. However, its Hindu ruler, Maharaja Hari Singh, fled to New Delhi in the face of protests by local residents and, through an improper and illegal instrument of Accession, acceded the territory to India on October 27, 1947. On the same day, India airlifted its forces to Srinagar and forcibly occupied the valley against the aspirations of the Kashmiris. This, in brief, is the background to why Kashmiris everywhere, along with freedom- and human-rights-loving people around the world, including in Pakistan, observe October 27 every year as a protest day to mark the first darkest day in their history.

The Kashmiris continue observing the darkest day on October 27, most unfortunately in the changed circumstances following the revocation of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019, through illegal amendments to the Indian Constitution by the fascist regime of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, thereby merging the territory into the Indian Union as an integral part of India. For more than 79 years, India has illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir against the wishes of the Kashmiri people, in blatant violation of UN Security Council resolutions and, indeed, its own commitments to the people of Kashmir. Through the determined efforts of Pakistan's civil and military leadership, the Kashmir issue has now been somewhat revived at the UN Security Council.

As such, the Kashmir issue is now occasionally discussed at international forums, where the brutalities and atrocities committed by Indian security forces in the occupied territory are condemned. The Indian government is being asked to take measures to restore normalcy there, implement UN Security Council resolutions and, accordingly, hold a free and fair plebiscite to let the Kashmiris exercise their birthright of self-determination and decide their future themselves in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions. However, it is deplorable as well as condemnable that the international community, led by the world body, continues to refrain from putting pressure on India beyond issuing condemnations, as countries have their own vested financial and economic interests in a big country like India.

Furthermore, besides the brutalities and atrocities committed by Indian security forces, the fascist Indian regime of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is also persistently taking deliberate measures to change the demographic structure of the occupied territory in a brutal attempt to obliterate the distinct Kashmiri identity and affect the outcome of a plebiscite envisaged in UN Security Council resolutions. This action by the Indian government violates the UN Charter, Security Council resolutions and international law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention, as changing the demographic structure of a territory is a war crime. The Indian government is settling Indian Hindus in the territory under the guise of immi-grant Kashmiri Pandits. Changing the Muslim-majority status of Indian-Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) into a minority has long been part of the Hindutva agenda of the RSS and BJP and they are persistently implementing it in practice. The Modi government has been constructing transit accommodation camps to settle Hindus in IIOJK. Construction of transit camps for Hindus is under way in all districts of the Kashmir Valley. As the Indian occupation of Kashmir continues without the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, the indigenous, unarmed struggle for freedom by the Kashmiris also continues until they achieve their cherished objective of freedom from Indian shackles.

Through its civil and military leadership, Pakistan has all along extended full political, diplomatic and moral support to the Kashmiri people and will continue to support their indigenous, just and legitimate struggle to secure their right of self-determination, as enshrined in the relevant UN resolutions. A peaceful, negotiated settlement of the lingering Kashmir dispute in accordance with UN resolutions has been and remains a top priority of Pakistan's foreign policy. Without resolving the Kashmir issue, the agenda of the partition of the Indian subcontinent remains incomplete, as Kashmir is regarded as the lifeline of Pakistan. It is an internationally accepted and acknowledged fact that Kashmir itself entails a global danger of escalating nuclear and missile proliferation in both India and Pakistan, coupled with their respective domestic instabilities and historical animosities.

India can kill the Kashmiris but not their aspirations for freedom, which they will never surrender. India should honour its promises to grant the people of Jammu and Kashmir the right of self-determination. They have already rendered endless sacrifices for freedom from illegal Indian occupation. The international community must take concrete steps to end the Indian occupation of the held territory and intervene to resolve the lingering Kashmir dispute peacefully to ensure durable peace, progress and prosperity for the people of the region. India is bound under international law not to change the demography of IIOJK and the international community must forestall this move and exert all possible pressure on India's fascist regime to honour its decades-old commitment, implement UN Security Council resolutions and let the Kashmiris exercise their birthright of self-determination. The UN and the international community should also exert greater pressure and influence on India to implement UN Security Council resolutions and let the Kashmiris exercise their birthright of self-determination.



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