



**Condolence reference
to pay tribute to Syed
Ali Gillani Shaheed and
roundtable discussion
on dossier on Human
Rights Violations-2021
of Ministry of Foreign
Affairs**

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The death of great Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Gillani Shaheed created a vacuum in the resistance leadership corridors. He was, in fact, an epitome of the freedom struggle in the occupied valley and spent all his life for the legitimate right of the people of Kashmir to self-determination. He was adamant that the destiny of Kashmir – and Kashmiris - lay with Pakistan.

A condolence reference in the memory of Veteran Hurriyat leader, Syed Ali Gillani leading to the discussion on the Dossier on Indian Human Rights Violations by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was organized by Riphah Institute of Public Policy, Riphah International University and IDDDS. In the round table discussion activists and academicians paid tribute to the legendary resistance leader and discussed the gravity and intensity of the situation. Dr Waleed Rashul, Prof. Dr Asma ShakirKhawaja (NDU), Dr Rashid Aftab (Director RIPP), Dr Farooq Ahmad (Faculty Member IIIUI) , Mr. Nazir Qureshi (Mercy International, London), Mehmmod Ahmad Sagir (All Parties Hurriyat Conference), Mr. Faiza Naqashbandi (Convener All Parties Hurriyat Conference), Adv Nasir Qadri (LFVOK), Ms Saba Aslam (Lobbyist), Mr Abdul Qadeer (Activist), Mr Kashif Zaheer (Faculty member RIPP) and other Kashmiris activists participated in the discussion.

The speakers said that Syed Ali Gilani spearheaded the freedom struggle of Jammu and Kashmir from Indian occupation and he spent his entire life working for this sacred cause. Paying homage to the veteran Hurriyat leader, the participants maintained that Syed Ali Gilani bravely and courageously led the innocent unarmed Kashmiris and fought the Indian barbarism. On the occasion, the participants paid great tribute to the Gilani sahib and it was reiterated that the sacrifices of Syed Ali Gilani and other Kashmiris would not be allowed to go in vain and voice for the oppressed Kashmiris will be raised across the global community. The speakers said the Kashmir issue is an issue of Muslims and the Muslim Ummah. Muslim world needs to be

sensitized and the cause needs to be pleaded as case of human rights violations. It was further added that, the world is changing its mind on the Kashmir issue, which is a human rights issue.

The participants also talked about the dossier by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Pakistan to unveil the Indian Human rights violations in occupied Kashmir with some of the concrete evidences. The dossier contains the information relating the terrorists camps within Indian to destabilize its neighbors especially Pakistan. During a press conference Pakistan's foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi said, the decision to compile the dossier was taken due to the alleged actions of Indian authorities after the death of Kashmiri resistance leader Syed Ali Geelani and their treatment of his family. RIPP gave a presentation on the dossier to the panelists before the discussion. The brief of the dossier is as follows

Dossier comprised 131 pages and had three chapters: one on war crime by the Indian army and its genocidal actions, second on the disappointment of Kashmiris and how a local resistance movement is being born despite the propaganda of everything being normal, and a third chapter on how UN Security Council resolutions, international laws and humanitarian laws were being violated through efforts to bring about a demographic change in the valley. The aspects highlighted comprises of;

- Continuing communications blackout in IoK as independent journalists and observers were denied access, while facts were distorted and brutalities went unreported "by design. vast range of incidents and atrocities from war crimes, extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, torture, pellet gun injuries, rapes, over 100,000 cases of children being orphaned, search and cordon operations, false flag operations, fake encounters and planting of weapons on innocent residents to implicate them and harm the resistance movement.

- It is mentioned in the dossier that, India was operating five training camps in Gulmarg, Raipur, Jodhpur, Chakrata, Anupgarh and Bikaner. By injecting these state-trained ISIS fighters, India may try to establish linkages of the freedom movement with international terrorism in order to malign the freedom struggle and to justify its own crimes as counter-terrorist operations.
- There is a strong need and expectation from the UN and International community that; India to stop human rights violations of Kashmiris, Action taken against perpetrators, end to demographic change, end to the military and digital siege, Release of all political prisoners, Allow unhindered access in IoK to the UN, the independent permanent human rights commission of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, independent journalists, human rights organisations and civil society organisations
- The dossier and its timing is at the time when Syed Ahmad Geeliani sb has left us and we have to pay tribute to him as his whole life was spent for this purpose (IoK's freedom). Till the last day of his life his struggle was full of J&K's self-determination and Kashmir politics, we lost a gladiatorial figure whose political stand on the conflict was only reinforced by the events that took place in the region, at least in the last three decades.
- Syed Ali Geelani's struggle, and the response of the subsequent governments in India and Pakistan to his political stand, is one of the most dominant chapters of the region's contemporary history. He was popular among youngsters, and engaged the audience with his voice that was clear and assertive.

As mentioned above, the dossier contains different parts starting from war crimes committed by Indian army, Indian propaganda cells, and the resistance movement of Kashmiris, to demographic shifts implemented by the current regime of India by violating the international law, UN resolution and local legislation. The panelists emphasized the responsibility of the foreign missions, diaspora and intelligentsia of the country to unveil the nefarious designs of Indian government in the region. The universities need to divert their specific portion of research towards the Kashmir dispute.

The participants of the roundtable discussion appreciated the government and especially foreign office for exposing the Indian government with the evidence based dossier. The fascist regime of Indian is not only harmful for the minorities in India, Kashmiris in the valley but for the region as well. The revocation of article 370 from the Indian constitution is not less than the implementation of Hindutva (expansionist ideology) of BJP. They believe there must be Hindutva ideology must prevail and for this cause they can do anything and can take any risk. It is claimed with the dossier by the Qureshi Sahib that, “we should play our role and unveil the real face of this government, claiming to be the world’s biggest democracy, before the world”. The participants were of the view that, Indians has painted their soft image around the globe as world’s largest democracy. In actual they are violating every parameter of democracy. There was a continuing communications blackout in IoK as independent journalists and observers were denied access, while facts were distorted and brutalities went unreported. Main stream media, social media, print media were banned and censored. Media was enforced to report in the favor of occupied regime.

The panel discussion ended with the following key considerations

- Human rights violations of Kashmiris by Indian government needs to be spotlighted at national and international level via different academic and activist networks
- Action taken against perpetrators highlighted in The Dossier by Ministry of Foreign Affairs is good effort and this needs to be shared with the intelligentsia
- Demographic change is one of the main concerns and Indian priority in occupied Kashmir. It is a basic human rights violation. This demographic shift is also against the spirit of plebiscite and UN resolutions.
- India's military has unleashed criminal activities and is doing severe violations. In addition, the digital siege needs to be addressed and highlighted
- The government, academia and activists work to allow unhindered access in IoK to the UN, the independent permanent human rights commission of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, independent journalists, human rights organizations and civil society organizations
- Indian government is involved in unnecessary imprisonments and making political prisoners. This must be stopped and government needs to pursue this at international institutions.
- Academia must engage its research scholars in unveiling the Indian atrocities and human rights violations

Picture Gallery:



