MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR JILANI

This edition of the Embassy newsletter is dedicated to the brave Kashmiri children, women and men who are fighting for their right to self-determination in the wake of enduring state-sponsored terrorism unleashed by Indian occupation forces.

It is high time the international community held India to account for its atrocious treatment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Since July this year, Indian security forces operating with impunity have murdered more than 100 people, blinded hundreds and injured thousands. An almost 4 months long curfew has brought unimaginable hardships upon the people but failed to force them to give up on their demand for ‘Azadi’. The illegal Indian rule in occupied Jammu and Kashmir is indeed a mockery of the international humanitarian and human rights laws. All freedom loving people including the citizens of this great country must ask themselves this simple question: Why is it a crime for the Kashmiris to demand their United Nations recognized right to choose their own destiny?

It is only through a just resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people that the prospect of lasting peace and prosperity in South Asia can be realized. As in the past, on its part, Pakistan is ready to engage India in an uninterruptible and meaningful dialogue on all outstanding disputes – including Jammu and Kashmir – in the interest of peace, stability and progress in South Asia. Pakistan would continue to extend moral, political and diplomatic support to the oppressed people of Jammu and Kashmir till the time they are afforded their inalienable rights. The international community must deliver on its promise to the Kashmiri people.

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“The Security Council has called for the exercise of the right to self-determination by the people of Jammu and Kashmir through a free and fair plebiscite held under UN auspices. The people of Kashmir have waited 70 years for implementation of this promise. The Security Council must honour its commitments by implementing its own decisions. This General Assembly must demand that India deliver on the commitments its leaders solemnly made on many occasions. To this end, steps should be taken by the United Nations to de-militarize Jammu and Kashmir and undertake consultations with India, Pakistan and the true representatives of the Kashmiri people to implement the resolutions of the Security Council. In this context, we welcome the offer of good offices by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. We will also open consultations with members of the Security Council to explore the modalities for implementation of the Security Council resolutions on Kashmir.”

THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB, WASHINGTON DC HOSTED PRESIDENT OF AZAD KASHMIR SARDAR MASOOD KHAN

President of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Sardar Muhammad Masood Khan addressed international media at the prestigious National Press Club, Washington DC. Drawing attention towards the horrendous human rights violations being committed by Indian security forces President Sardar Muhammad Masood Khan called upon the international community, especially the United States, to help bring an immediate end to the reign of terror unleashed on innocent freedom loving Kashmiris. He categorically rejected Indian allegations against Pakistan of supporting terrorism and highlighted that it was not humanly possible to breach the fence that India had erected throughout the Line of Control. The President further stated that India was indulging in state terrorism against Kashmiris and simultaneously trying to divert international attention from the gross humanitarian and human rights violations in IoK by falsely blaming Pakistan for the Uri attack. Pakistan was only extending diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiris which it was bound to do by its international obligations and the UNSC resolutions.

PRESIDENT AZAD KASHMIR, SARDAR MASOOD KHAN BRIEFED PAKISTANI & KASHMIRI JOURNALISTS

President of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Sardar Muhammad Masood Khan briefed the local Pakistani & Kashmiri media about the deteriorating situation in Indian Occupied Kashmir and lamented the silence of the powerful nations over the loss of hundreds of Kashmiri lives and thousands of serious injuries. Appreciating the role of US based Pakistani & Kashmiri media in promoting the Kashmir cause, President AJK requested them to highlight the plight of innocent Kashmiris who are currently subject to horrendous human rights violations being committed by Indian security forces and also requested media to play its due role in ending the worst ongoing human rights violation in IoK by mentioning Kashmir issue on all forums.

SPECIAL ENVOYS TO THE PRIME MINISTER ON JAMMU & KASHMIR, SENATOR SYED MUSHAHID HUSSAIN & MNA DR. SHEZRA MANSAB ALI KHAN VISITED WASHINGTON, DC

SENATOR SYED MUSHAHID HUSSAIN AND DR. SHEZRA MANSAB ALI KHAN MET DR. PETER LAVOY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT OBAMA AND SENIOR DIRECTOR FOR SOUTH ASIA, NSA

Senator Syed Mushahid Hussain and Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan met with Special Assistant to President Obama and Senior Director for South Asia at National Security Council, Dr. Peter Lavoy at the White House. The envoys apprised him about the grave situation of human rights in Kashmir and the deteriorating security situation in South Asia due to India’s aggressive posture. They also shared documentary evidence of India’s massive human rights abuses in the Occupied Kashmir and the reign of terror India has unleashed on the people of Kashmir. The envoys emphasized that the United States should respond to the present situation in IoK in line with its rich political & ideological ethos and respect for human rights and national freedoms. They further ...

Right: Senator Syed Mushahid Hussain and Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan with Dr. Peter Lavoy
SENATOR SYED MUSHAHID HUSSAIN AND DR. SHEZRA MANSAB ALI KHAN CALLED FOR PLEBISCITE IN KASHMIR ON THE PATTERN OF EAST TIMOR

Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed and MNA Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan held a meeting with Ambassador Richard Olson, the US Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan and other senior officials at the US Department of State. The Envoys apprised the US officials that the people of Jammu and Kashmir were exercising their democratic right to protest against the continued suppression of their legitimate right to self-determination promised by the United Nations Security Council in multiple resolutions. The U.S. side was informed that the ongoing people’s movement in Kashmir was completely popular, widespread, indigenous and spontaneous. It gained further momentum after the extra judicial killing of a young Kashmiri freedom lover Burhan Wani. The Envoys also stressed the need for activation of the United Nations Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) to monitor the ceasefire violations on the India side. US officials took note of the Indian human rights violations in Kashmir and informed that such excesses were also being documented and reported in their annual global report on the situation of human rights. The US officials further informed that the report regarding human rights violations in India constituted one of the longest parts of the US global report. In wake of heightened tensions in South Asia, it was agreed that an early solution of the Kashmir dispute was necessary for lasting peace and stability in the region.

SENATOR SYED MUSHAHID HUSSAIN AND DR. SHEZRA MANSAB ALI KHAN BRIEFED AMERICAN MEDIA

At an exclusive interaction with reporters from mainstream US print and electronic media held at the Pakistan Embassy, Special Envoys to Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Senator Mushahid Hussain and Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan highlighted the deteriorating human rights violations in Indian Occupied Kashmir and emphasized that Kashmir is a flashpoint. There cannot be peace in the region without resolving the Kashmir dispute as per aspirations of the Kashmiri people. While answering a question, Senator Mushahid Hussain said that Indian narrative of cross border infiltration is baseless. India has adopted a provocative stance to divert the attention of the international community from horrendous human rights violations being committed by the Indian occupation forces. Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan explained in detail the horrendous human rights violations in Occupied Kashmir. Both the Envoys remarked that the U.S., as a leader of free world, should raise its voice for the oppressed people of IoK. Dr. Shezra further insisted that a plebiscite should be held in Kashmir to ascertain their will on the lines of East Timor. Kashmiris have been giving their verdict day-in, day-out and international community should play its due role in this regard.

SPECIAL ENVOYS ON JAMMU & KASHMIR, SENATOR SYED MUSHAHID HUSSAIN AND DR. SHAZRA MANSAB ALI ADDRESSED THE KASHMIRI AND PAKISTANI DIASPORAS AT THE EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN

... demanded implementation of UNSC resolutions on Kashmir that called for a right to free and fair plebiscite to ascertain will of the Kashmiris on the pattern of East Timor. The U.S. recognized the importance of the resolution of Kashmir issue and urged on both India and Pakistan to resolve their differences through dialogue. It also expressed concern on the human rights situation in Indian Occupied Kashmir.
EMBASSY OUTREACH

AMBASSADOR JALIL ABBAS JILANI HANDED OVER A DOSSIER AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON INDIAN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE OCCUPIED KASHMIR

Ambassador Jilani met with Ambassador Richard Olson, the US Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan at the State Department and handed over a dossier containing information on the gross human rights violations by the Indian security forces in the Indian Occupied Kashmir. The Ambassador stressed that the international community, especially the United States, should take note of the inhuman and degrading treatment being meted out to the innocent Kashmiri civilians. He added that the international community must ensure that India, as a member of the United Nations, allows access to international human rights and humanitarian organizations to assess the factual situation in IoK. Recalling Prime Minister of Pakistan’s recent statement that Kashmiris and Pakistanis were inseparable, Ambassador Jilani reiterated that Pakistan would continue to extend all possible moral, political and diplomatic support to the people of Jammu & Kashmir for realization of their legally promised right to self-determination.

EMBASSY HOSTED A SEMINAR ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR DISPUTE IN LINE WITH BLACK DAY

The Embassy hosted a seminar on "Jammu & Kashmir dispute" coinciding with the observation of Black Day by Kashmiris around the World. Ambassador Jilani emphasized the fundamental truth that Indian occupation has been rejected by the Kashmiris on ground. Guest Speaker Ambassador Toqir Hussain remarked that the world had acknowledged the current Kashmiri freedom movement as being indigenous and spontaneous. Highlighting Indian atrocities, the guest speaker Former Foreign Secretary, Riaz Muhammad Khan said that the Indian forces were behaving in a manner of occupation forces and using pellet guns and live ammunition against the civilians with impunity. Kashmir American community representatives, including Dr. Imtiaz A. Khan, Professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Tropical Medicine at George Washington University who hails from Srinagar called upon the international community to take notice of the gross human rights violations occurring in the occupied Jammu and Kashmir. A documentary featuring the history and significance of the Black Day was screened on the occasion. The Embassy also arranged a Picture Exhibition highlighting the recent spate of Indian atrocities and massive human rights violations in the Indian Occupied Kashmir.
The Embassy of Pakistan, Washington DC hosted the third annual Convention of Pakistani American Community (CPAC-2016). The day-long event was attended by leading members of Pakistani American community, academicians, members of civil society, community organizations, professionals, media representatives and entrepreneurs. Ambassador Jilani briefed the participants about the tremendous economic turnaround Pakistan has witnessed in recent years under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif. Drawing attention of the participants toward Pakistan's regional challenges he highlighted India's aggressive policies and its destabilizing role in the entire region. Ambassador Jilani briefed the Convention on the Pakistan-U.S. relations and the ongoing cooperation under the framework of Strategic Dialogue. Ambassador Jilani also highlighted a community outreach program for inclusion of Pakistani American youth in the community affairs. The Prime Minister’s Special Envoy on Kashmir Senator Mushahid Hussain and MNA Dr. Shazra Mansab Ali Khan I also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the Government's efforts on the Kashmir issue.

AMBASSADOR JILANI DELIVERED A KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE BALTIMORE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Ambassador Jilani delivered a key-note address at the World Affairs Council and called on the US and the international community to help resolve the Kashmir dispute. Ambassador Jilani said that Pakistan deeply regrets Indian designs to scuttle all diplomatic efforts for bilateral and international dialogue and its stated intent to use water as a weapon against Pakistani people in flagrant violation of international treaty obligations. He added that the recent indigenous uprising in Kashmir bears testimony to the aspiration of Kashmiri people in seeking what the international community had promised but not delivered. He emphasized that India must not be allowed to deflect international attention from human rights violations and atrocities in Indian Occupied Kashmir, under the pretext of political expediency. Speaking on Pakistan-US relations, Ambassador Jilani shared perspective on trends and prospects in the longstanding relationship of the two countries and its continuing significance to the foreign policy of Pakistan. The Ambassador said that the leadership of our two countries shares the conviction that a robust, long-term bilateral relationship remains critical to regional and international security and prosperity.
SENATOR MOHAMMAD ISHAQ DAR, MINISTER FOR FINANCE RECEIVED ‘FINANCE MINISTER OF THE YEAR FOR SOUTH ASIA AWARD’

Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Minister for Finance received the ‘Finance Minister of the Year for South Asia Award’ by Emerging Markets. Ambassador Jilani received the award on behalf of the Finance Minister and thanked the Emerging Markets for the prestigious award and recognition of Pakistan's successful economic policies. He highlighted that the Government's people-centric policies and bold economic reforms had resulted in economic stability and led the country on the path of economic progress. The prestigious award has been given to Honorable Minister for Finance in recognition of his stewardship of Pakistan's economic policies during the difficult times in the international financial markets.

PAKISTAN RECOGNIZED AS BEST COUNTRY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH ASIA

Pakistan has been recognized as the Best Country for Infrastructure Development in South Asia by the Emerging Markets. The award was conferred in recognition of massive infrastructural development being undertaken in Pakistan. The award was also received by Ambassador Jilani on behalf of Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms. Ambassador Jilani thanked the Emerging Markets for recognizing and supporting Pakistan's development trajectory that was inextricably linked to peace in the region. He highlighted that Pakistan was committed to regional connectivity and share the fruits of prosperity with all neighbors.
FINANCE SECRETARY DR. WAQAR MASOOD MET WITH ANNETTE DIXON, VICE PRESIDENT SOUTH ASIA REGION, WORLD BANK

Pakistan delegation led by Secretary Finance Dr Waqar Masood Khan met with Ms Annette Dixon Vice President World Bank at the margins of Annual Meetings of IMF and World Bank. Finance Secretary briefed Ms Dixon about the successful issuance of Sukook Bonds at the lowest rates in Pakistan's history. Vice President World Bank congratulated Finance Secretary on completion of IMF Program and successful issuance of Sukook Bonds. She expressed hope that the government will continue the reform process for the benefit of underprivileged strata of society.

U.S.-PAKISTAN BUSINESS COUNCIL HOSTED FINANCE SECRETARY DR. WAQAR MASOOD KHAN

The Pakistani finance delegation led by Finance Secretary Dr. Waqar Masood Khan participated in an event hosted by U.S.-Pakistan Business Council. Finance Secretary Dr. Waqar Masood Khan highlighted Pakistan's remarkable economic turnaround during the last three years. He stated that Pakistan has become an ideal choice for Foreign Direct Investment as a result of the business friendly policies of the current Government adding that private sector lending has more than doubled during the last year and therefore U.S. investors should also benefit from the this window of opportunity and increase capital investment in Pakistan. At this occasion Ambassador Jilani informed participants that the government has been facilitating issuance of visas to businessmen and investors to promote investment in Pakistan. He reiterated that the genuine businessmen will continue to get multiple entry visas on priority basis.

OTHER MEETINGS:

- Pakistan Delegation led by Secretary Finance Dr. Waqar Masood met with Michael Kaplan, Deputy Assistant Secretary Treasury Department
- Pakistan Delegation led by Secretary Finance Dr Waqar Masood met with representatives of Moody's Rating Agency
ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE IMF/WB 2016

Meeting of Pakistan Delegation led by Finance Secretary Dr. Waqar Masood with representatives of Standard & Poor’s Rating Agency

Governor State Bank of Pakistan Ashraf Wathra met with Mr. Mubarak Rashed Al Mansoori, Governor of Central Bank of UAE

GOVERNOR STATE BANK OF PAKISTAN, MR ASHRAF MAHMOOD WATHRA RECEIVED BEST CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR AWARD BY EURO MONEY
The Embassy of Pakistan welcomes your feedback.

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