

Esteemed Journalists AoA.

Today is a day of historical significance. I am happy to announce that the World Kashmir Forum (WKF) has been set up to bring together representatives of various sectors of Pakistan's civil society to highlight and expose the predicament of Kashmiris in Indian-occupied Kashmir. We are filing a petition at the United Nations to stop the barbarism and ensure the right to self-determination and the freedom to decide their future of oppressed Kashmiris. India will also be asked to restore the status of the disputed territory of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. This will be the first public petition to be filed on the Kashmir issue. The establishment of the World Kashmir Forum will put the issue of Kashmir on a global pedestal and fight a constitutional and legal battle to give the oppressed Kashmiris their rights. The World Kashmir Forum will be headquartered in Pakistan while the regional offices will be established in the United States, the United Kingdom and the European Union, and OIC countries. Dear Journalists, the world's silence on the Kashmir issue isn't a matter of economic benefits or choice; now, it has become a serious criminal act and a threat to regional peace. The atrocities of the Indian government are intensifying with every passing day, and the cruelty and barbarism have reached their climax. The murder of a grandfather in front of his innocent three-year-old grandchild has shocked every heart. This was a brazen act of extrajudicial killing, thousands more of which have gone unnoticed in Kashmir over the past many years. An act of more horrid barbarism cannot be found in recent history. The United States, the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth, the European Union, the OIC, and international human rights organizations must note this incident and act accordingly. Under the auspices of the World Kashmir Forum, we will work with global media representatives, think tanks, and key global figures to expose India's ugly face to the world through seminars, conferences, panel discussions, roadshows and global conventions. The world knows that the 800,000 soldiers in India have a gruesome track record of cruelty and barbarism that are unprecedented in human history. Today, Kashmir has become practically the largest prison in the world. There are countries on the world map whose total military strength does not consist of 800,000 troops, while India has not been able to suppress the Kashmiris' spirit of freedom even by deploying 800,000 troops in occupied



Kashmir alone to continue its aggressive occupation. We reiterate our commitment to raising the issue of atrocities in Kashmir at every forum in the world. India is committing extrajudicial killings in occupied Kashmir. How long will human rights organizations remain silent spectators? It is time to wake the sleeping conscience of the world.

Honorable Journalists, I am happy to announce that we are launching the "Justice Now for Kashmir" campaign under the "World Kashmir Forum" to end the ongoing illegal occupation of occupied Kashmir by India. The WKF sign a petition campaign will start from today in which at least 2 million signatures will be collected. In the first phase of this campaign, Pakistan and overseas Pakistanis will be given a chance. In the second phase, OIC Countries will be included, while the rest of the world will be included in the third phase. As you are aware, the world is currently battling the COVID-19 pandemic. As the current situation improves, a delegation of ours will go to Geneva and formally submit this petition to the United Nations. India's method to cover up the ongoing atrocities in Indian-occupied Kashmir and to gain supremacy in the Occupied Territories in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions is a clear violation of international law. India has refused to comply with UN Security Council Resolution 48, the oldest of the UN resolutions, which remains to be implemented. The resolution calls on India to hold a referendum in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir so that the people of Occupied Kashmir could decide their future. On the other hand, India has fraudulently amended Article 360 of the Indian Constitution to make Indianoccupied Jammu and Kashmir a part of India unscrupulously. In doing so, India has blatantly violated Resolution 91, adopted by the UNSC in 1951. Dear Members of the Journalist Community, the tragedy is that despite India's blatant violation of UN Security Council resolutions, the United Nations and the international community still remain silent. The world powers are reluctant to act according to their conscience. The assassination of the grandfather should be enough to open the eyes of the world powers. Bashir Ahmad Khan, a civilian killed in Sopore, was tortured by Indian paramilitary forces, then taken to a vacant lot and shot dead. Will the international powers and human rights organizations still choose to remain silent even after this barbarism? The world stands witness that since August 5, 2019, the reign of terror on occupied Kashmir has intensified,



killings have increased. We demand that the international community form an international commission to investigate all the murders, including the innocent grandfather of a 3-year-old child. Dear Journalists, the fact is that India has been occupying the area illegally since 1948. The denial of the right to self-determination of millions of people living in Kashmir is a deviation from justice. Not only has India violated the UN Constitution, but it has also refused to implement international law. UNSC resolutions have called for a halt to military operations and for the people of Kashmir to decide their future under the auspices of the UN. The Modi government is pursuing a Hindutva policy in Kashmir, inciting hatred against Muslims and spreading false news on social media. Hundreds of thousands of Indian troops are stationed in the valley, and a minority Hindu army rules the Muslim-majority state. The growing number of serious human rights violations in the Kashmir Valley by the occupying Indian government is alarming, to say the least. Respected Journalists, Kashmir is burning due to state terrorism perpetrated by Indian forces. In Occupied Kashmir, it is a common practice to illegally arrest and detain Kashmiri youth through brutal use of force and kill innocent people. So far, many Kashmiri people have been killed. Indian troops in Kashmir are known to use banned-bore weapons, pellet guns, and other weapons to inflict maximum injuries on Kashmiri youth. In the resistance movement, Kashmiri youth are making the most significant sacrifices to save Kashmir from the occupying forces. The ongoing conflict between the Indian occupying forces and the local resistance movement is intensifying. By changing the status of Kashmir, and deceitfully adding it to India, the Indian government has violated not only all legal principles and human values but also the UN resolutions. Sadly, the world kept watching repeated violations, but no action was taken against India. Esteemed Journalists, The Indian government, under the leadership of Narendra Modi, has forcefully and treacherously made occupied Kashmir a part of India, ignoring UN Security Council Resolution 47, passed in 1948, and UN Security Council Resolution 91, passed in 1951. India has been continuously violating Articles 2 to 14 of the 1948 Resolution to reduce the population of Kashmiris in occupied Kashmir and seize their properties. For this purpose, they have annexed the state of Kashmir to India. India has imposed an inhuman curfew and imprisoned the Kashmiri people, which continues till today.



The Kashmiri people have been forced to live in an extended lockdown, while the Indian government is openly violating human rights. Through this petition, it is demanded from the Republic of India to obey the resolutions of the UN Security Council and ensure their implementation. India is also required to restore the status of the disputed territory of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The status of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (1948) was decided under Resolution 47. At present, the 5th generation in occupied Kashmir is a part of this war. Both Pakistan and India are nuclear powers, and the current situation could lead to a nuclear war, which would put the peace of the region and the world at stake. We demand the immediate lifting of curfew in Occupied Kashmir. The situation in Occupied Kashmir should be normalized, and foreign observers and representatives of international media should be allowed to visit the area. In light of UN resolutions, the people of Occupied Kashmir should be given complete freedom to decide their future. Dear Journalists, we are grateful to you for coming here despite your busy schedule. We hope that we will have the full support of the media on this critical issue.

Personalities attending the press conference (1) Haji Muhammad Rafiq Pardesi (Chairman World Kashmir Forum) (2) Former Justice and Attorney General of Pakistan Anwar Mansoor Khan (Secretary General - (WKF) (3) Haji Rafiq Suleiman (Member Central Cabinet) (4) Shaikh Rashid Alam (Member Central Cabinet)