



**OIC/ACM-2018/J&K/REP
ANNEXE - VII**

**REPORT OF
THE OIC CONTACT GROUP ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR
ON THE SIDELINES OF THE ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETING OF
FOREIGN MINISTERS**

NEW YORK, 26 SEPTEMBER 2018

Report of the Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers

New York, 26 September 2018

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir met on the sidelines of the Annual Coordination Meeting in New York on Wednesday, 26 September 2018 under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Dr. Yousef A. Al-Othaimeen, Secretary General of the OIC. The Contact Group comprises Pakistan, Azerbaijan, Niger, Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

The meeting expressed deep concern over the grave human rights situation in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir which is not only a travesty a justice but also a violation of all norms of law and morality. The Indian atrocities have resulted in the deaths of over 100,000 civilians including women and children.

The meeting reaffirmed complete solidarity of the Ummah with the plight of the Kashmiri people, brought into fresh light by the June 14, 2018 report of the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights. The report chronicles, in detail, systematic violations of human rights by the Indian occupation, including ‘impunity for human rights violations and lack of access to justice’ and enactment of special laws such as the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) and the Public Safety Act (PSA) to ‘obstruct the normal course of law, impede accountability and jeopardize the right to remedy for victims of human rights violations’

The meeting noted that the findings of the report were neither new nor previously unknown. Violations of fundamental human rights of the Kashmiris by Indian occupation are well-documented by the international media and human rights organizations. Through their indiscriminate use of the pellet-firing shotguns, Indian occupation forces have not only killed and maimed peaceful Kashmiri protestors, but have blinded countless others in what has been described as ‘first mass blinding’ in human history.

The meeting welcomed the recommendation by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to establish a Commission of Inquiry (CoI) to conduct a comprehensive independent international investigation into allegations of human rights violations in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting stressed that this was an imperative of justice and

accountability, and a requisite first step towards addressing the culture of impunity prevalent in the occupied territory.

The meeting welcomed the first statement of the new High Commissioner for Human Rights during the 39th Session of the Human Rights Council, underscoring that ‘the people of Kashmir have exactly the same rights to justice and dignity as people all over the world’. These rights must be respected.

The meeting underlined that gravity of the situation in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir necessitates an effective follow-up mechanism, and called upon the office of the High Commissioner to issue regular follow-up reports.

The meeting reaffirmed its abiding faith that brutality and oppression has never worked to subdue a peoples’ quest to freedom and dignity, and will not deter the unwavering resolve of the Kashmiris for their right to self-determination. A just settlement of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions is also a precondition for lasting peace in South Asia.

The meeting commended the effective role of the OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC) in promoting the legitimate cause of the Kashmiris as a priority issue on its agenda.

The meeting also thanked the Secretary General for his active leadership in steering the collective voice of solidarity and support of the ummah with the Kashmiri people. The meeting agreed to the need to develop a roadmap to better harmonize these efforts.

Statements were also delivered by Representatives of the Kashmiri people, along with declaration on the Jammu and Kashmir, which is attached to this report.

This report is submitted to the Annual Coordination Meeting for its consideration.