



Institute of Regional Studies

Indian authorities should be tried in an international tribunal for HR violations

ISLAMABAD, March 4, 2021: “There is a need for constituting an international tribunal on the pattern of Nuremberg for trying the Indians responsible for human rights violations in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir,” said the President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Masood Khan. He was speaking at a seminar on inhumanity in Kashmir organized by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) here on Thursday.



While commenting on the modalities of the trial of the Indian atrocities in the International Criminal Court (ICC), he recalled the recent jurisdiction claimed by the ICC over the Palestine. He also recommended a detailed study to further explore the legal aspects.

He said that the Indian government was acting in complete violation of international humanitarian norms in IIOJK and was actually “writing a manual of human rights violations through their acts.” Even wars are fought under certain internationally recognized principles, he said. He added that Kashmiris had become prisoners in their own houses under the watch of the Indian government.

The President of AJK shared that it was through the efforts of the Government of Pakistan that the OIC came up with a strong resolution condemning the Indian actions in IIOJK. He further stated that several European parliamentarians had also raised their voices in support of the people of Kashmir. He urged the political leadership of Pakistan and the parliamentarians to play a greater role in promoting the Kashmir cause internationally by raising the issue with parliamentarians from other countries.

Responding to a question about the recent restoration of ceasefire along the Line of Control (LOC), the President of AJK stated that it had brought relief for the people of AJK living near the LOC. While elaborating about the misperception of Kashmir being a bilateral issue, he clarified that there were already three parties to the dispute: India, Pakistan, and the people of Kashmir, in addition to the UN. He cautioned against the perspectives related to making the LOC a permanent border. “IIOJK is not a legal and constitutional part of sovereign India. Kashmiris on both sides of the LOC are not bound by it,” he said.

Former minister for social welfare in the government of Kashmir Ms. Farzana Yaqoob urged the youth to raise their voice about the Indian atrocities against Kashmiris through the use of social media. “The youth is more empowered than ever before,” she said. She added that Indian military was consistently using rape as a weapon of war, which, according to her, was a crime more serious than murder. “In murder you die once; in rape, you die over and over again,” she said. She referred to the Kunan-Poshpura incident of 23rd of February 1991 in which the modesty of a large number of Kashmiri women was violated. She added that the details of the atrocious incident were all documented.

Head of the Department of Defence and Strategic Studies at the Quaid-i-Azam University Dr Shabana Fayyaz shed light on the curtailing liberties of Kashmiris under the BJP government in India, especially after the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-A. Director of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Cell enlightened the audience on forced disappearances campaign unleashed by the Government of India on the Kashmiris. He urged Kashmiris and Pakistanis all over the world to continue raising their voice against Indian atrocities.

Summing up, President IRS Amb Nadeem Riyaz that the value of freedom was realized best in its absence. He regretted the silence of the international community over the Indian atrocities in IIOJK. “As the world watches silently, over 900,000 Indian security forces continue to unleash a new reign of terror on the people of Kashmir,” he said. He shared that since 1990, over 100,000 Kashmiris had been killed. He added that it was imperative for the youth to play their role to highlight the Kashmir cause.