
2023 Annual Review

Human Rights situation in Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir



LEGAL FORUM FOR KASHMIR - LFK

Annual Review – 2023

**Human Rights Situation in Indian Occupied
Jammu & Kashmir**



Legal Forum for Kashmir – LFK

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Cover Image: Kashmiri youth handcuffed after IOF arrested him along with five other persons including women in Baramulla, IOJK on 26 September 2023 (Photo by Nasir Kachroo)

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

LFK	Legal Forum for Kashmir
ID's	Identity Documents
NIA	National Investigation Agency
IOF	Indian Occupying Forces
IOJK	Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir
IAC	International Armed Conflict
UNCIP	United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan
UNSCR	United Nations
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UN	United Nations Security Council Resolution
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
IHRL	International Human Rights Law
CASO	Cordon and Search Operation
CADO	Cordon and Destroy Operation
CAPF	Central Armed Police Forces
CRPF	Central Reserve Police Force
BSF	Border Security Force
SSB	Sashastra Seema Bal
ITBP	Indo Tibetan Border Police
JKP	Jammu and Kashmir Police
CCTV	Closed-Circuit Television
CrPC	Code of Criminal Procedure
BJP	Bharatiya Janata Party
UAPA	Unlawful Activities Prevention Act
PSA	Public Safety Act
TADA	Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act
SCI	Supreme Court of India
JKCCS	Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society
APDP	Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons
CID	Crime Investigation Department
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
NIA	National Investigation Agency
SIA	State Investigation Agency

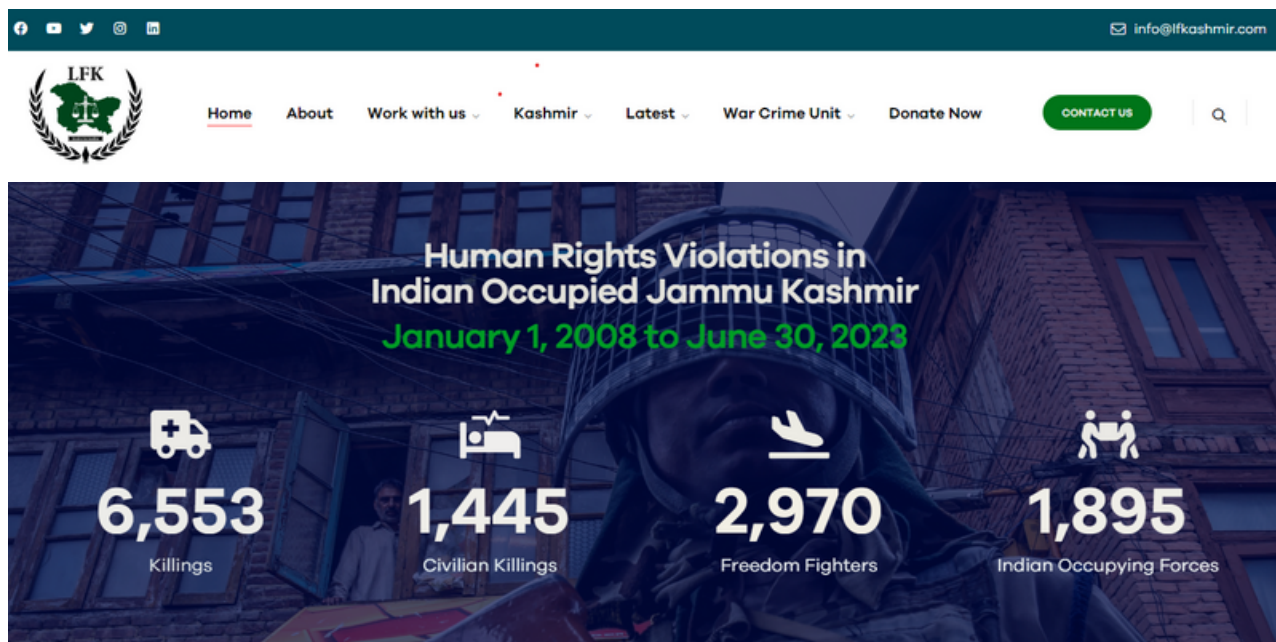
JeI	Jamaat e Islami
APHC	All Parties Hurriyat Conference
RPC	Ranbir Penal Code
IPC	Indian Penal Code
AFSPA	Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
CFL	Cease Fire Line
LOC	Line of Control
DGMOs	Director General of Military Operations
RTI	Right to Information
DeM	Dukhtaran e Millat
ML-JK	Muslim League Jammu and Kashmir
JKLF	Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front
DFP-JK	Democratic Freedom Party Jammu and Kashmir
TeH	Tehreek e Hurriyat

ABOUT LFK

The Legal Forum for Kashmir – LFK is an international legal Advocacy group working on the conflict in Kashmir. Its members are indigenous people of the occupied territory in Jammu and Kashmir. The organization aims to defend the political, social, and human rights of Kashmiris and to promote the UN-sanctioned Right of Self-Determination.

LFK works to address the consequences of marginalization, by working as an independent organization. LFK advocates, nationally and internationally, the Right of Self-determination and respect for human rights in Occupied Kashmir through legal research, documentation, and capacity building to address, under international law, the violations of individual and collective rights of Kashmiris.

LFK further believes that an impartial and independent investigation of India's actions in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) is necessary. This is crucial to prevent 'Atrocity crimes' taking place in the region from being disregarded.



METHODOLOGY

This report aims to highlight the pattern of the ‘Atrocity crimes’ in IOJK, and entreat concerned international authorities to initiate action. The report calls upon the international community to not limit the responsibility to only the physical perpetrators of crimes; instead, the principles of individual criminal responsibility shall hold to account all those who may indirectly participate in a criminal act in question. This could include ordering, instigating, manipulating, or even inciting a rights violation. Past reports produced by the Legal Forum for Kashmir have provided evidence, through detailed case studies, that there is no will to provide justice even though the system exists in theory. With a judicial system dancing to the chords of the Indian Military, the institutions, and procedures of the rule of law in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir remain perpetually subverted to function within the larger culture of institutionalized impunity.

This report is based on the primary and secondary sources of information collected by the research team of Legal Forum for Kashmir (LFK). The report has also compilation from official sources of IOJK, recognized media groups, NGO fact finding reports, as well as the information received from the victim families. All the details mentioned in this report have been fact-checked from various sources to ensure its accurate veracity.

BACKGROUND

The first International Armed Conflict (IAC) between India and Pakistan erupted in 1947-48 and was based on the disputed status of the former princely state Jammu and Kashmir. On January 1, 1948, the United Nations Security Council on the appeal submitted by Government India and counter-claim filed by the Pakistan adopted a resolution 39, which established the United Nations Commission for India & Pakistan (UNCIP) to investigate and mediate the dispute. On April 21, 1948 security council passed resolution UNSCR 47 (1948), the resolution rules that:

**Resolution UNSCR 47 (1948),
the resolution rules that:**

**“The question of the accession of
Jammu and Kashmir to India and
Pakistan should be decided
through the democratic method of
a free and impartial plebiscite”**

“The question of the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India and Pakistan should be decided through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite”

In 1949, the Karachi Agreement established a Cease-Fire Line (CFL) by the UN military observer group and recommended a referendum in the disputed territory. One third of the former princely state has been under the administrative control of Pakistan and the rest of the territory is under the military occupation of India, reluctant to adhere to the UNSC resolution for conducting impartial referendum.

Over the past seven decades, Kashmiris living in the Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) have been denied the Right of self-determination. India referred to the territory of the UN-recognised disputed Kashmir under its de facto control as the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) and asserted that it was a state like any other fully integrated into the Indian Union's polity, territory and under its jurisdiction.

In August 2019, Indian parliament unilaterally abrogated the semi-autonomous status of IOJK and bifurcated the state into two federally administered Union Territories: Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. Since then, the Indian occupying authorities have intensified the counterinsurgency operations and are perpetrating the unabated 'Atrocity crimes' against the civilian population. This intensification has had the impact of establishing the control over the region through newly introduced laws and counter insurgency operations that systematically criminalise the dissent and violate the International Humanitarian law (IHL) and International Human right law (IHRL) including freedom of opinion and expression; to liberty and security of person; to movement; to privacy; and to remedy and access to justice; forcibly confiscation of land; disproportionate use of force against civilians, torture, extrajudicial execution, repression against journalist and human rights defenders and arbitrary detentions. The authorities have committed these violations with absolute impunity.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Annual Report 2023 is an attempt to offer an overview of the Human Rights situation in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK). India's massive human rights abuses have been persistently ongoing for 7 decades in IOJK. These abuses include heightened militarization, land grabbing by the Indian Occupying Forces and the occupying authorities, extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detentions, prohibition of the public assembly, mass imprisonments, curbs on press and freedom of speech, nomenclature and demographic changes with a larger settler colonial design. This year witnessed at least **248** killings in different incidents of state violence in IOJK: which includes the killing of at least **82** freedom fighters, **66** extra-judicial killings of civilians, and **100** Indian Occupying Forces personnel from January to December 2023. During this period, at least **260** Cordon and Search Operations (CASOs) and Cordon and Destroy Operations (CADOs) were conducted by the Indian Occupying forces. At least **70** encounters took place between Indian Occupying Forces and the freedom fighters of Kashmir. During these CASOs, vandalism, and destruction of nearly **138** civilian properties were reported. Also, **171** instances of Internet Shut down were reported from January to December 2023 in IOJK.

On 11 December 2023, the Supreme Court of India (SCI) pronounced the verdict of the 16 hearings pertaining to the petitions challenging the August 5, 2019 unilateral decision of the Indian parliament to abrogate the semi-autonomous status of UN-recognized disputed territory. The 476 page judgment upheld the validity of the CO 273 bifurcating the erstwhile state into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. The mainstream political parties, Kashmiri civil society and renowned Indian jurists including former SCI judges criticized the verdict of five-judge Constitutional Bench stating that the court has misinterpreted the constitutional framework including the federal structure and distorted the legal history of Jammu and Kashmir.

LFK has documented and analyzed India's institutionalized and systematic discrimination against Kashmiris within the framework of the definition of Genocide and ethnic cleansing under international law. It has further analyzed the laws, policies and practices which have been newly introduced as the transitional phase of settler colonialism to change the demography of Muslim dominated region. Furthermore, it has documented specific repressive measures against the selected individuals, serious human rights violations and crimes under international law, committed against the Civilian population with the intent to maintain this system of colonial domination.

LFK concludes that international community must take cognizance of the evidence presented in this report. All the cases of extrajudicial killing, arbitrary detention, and torture of civilians, the curbs on freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of religion, the demographic changes, and all other measures aimed at the ethnic cleansing of Kashmir Muslims must not go unheeded.

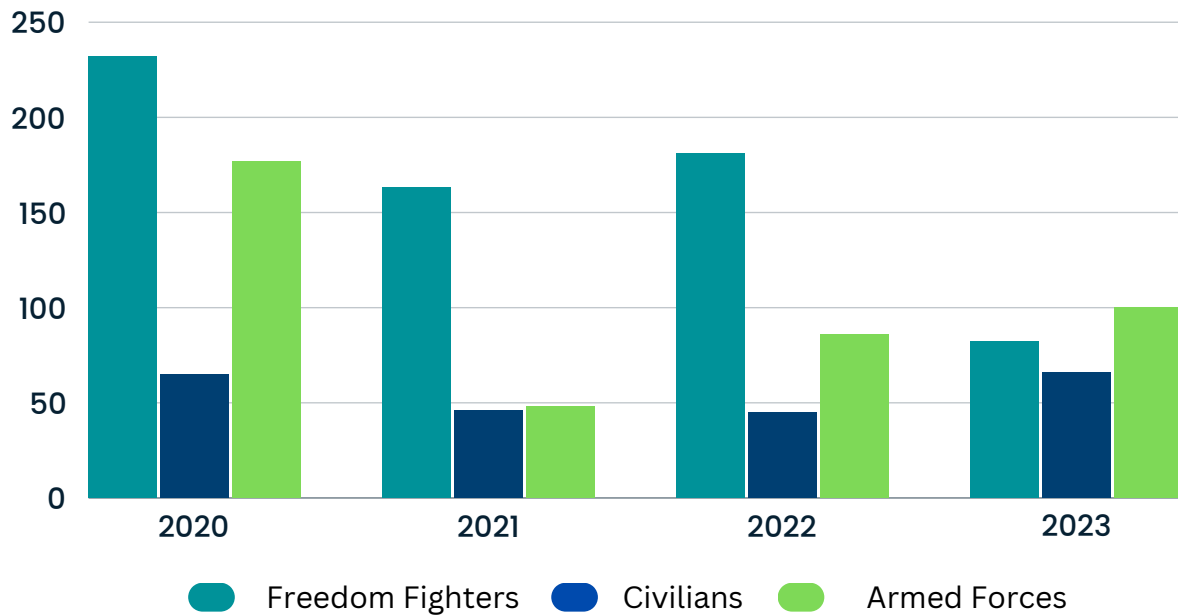
HR VIOLATIONS IN IOJK - JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2023

Month	Killings	Injured	Arrests	CASOs	Internet Shutdown	Structure Damaged	Gunfights
January	24	20	65	14	15	15	3
February	15	5	45	7	6	1	3
March	10	10	17	14	7	13	1
April	22	12	3018	14	15	31	1
May	26	25	2223	57	66	26	6
June	28	6	24	9	7	11	5
July	25	23	36	8	9	7	4
August	22	10	50	40	8	3	6
September	26	28	48	30	9	4	12
October	18	22	38	20	9	8	12
November	17	25	33	27	12	9	12
December	15	88	70	20	8	10	5
Total	248	274	5667	260	171	138	70

KILLINGS OF INDIAN OCCUPYING FORCES, FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND CIVILIANS IN 2023

Month	Occupying Forces	Freedom Fighters	Civilians	Total Killings
January	7	4	13	24
February	3	3	9	15
March	4	1	5	10
April	12	1	9	22
May	13	8	7	28
June	4	13	9	26
July	13	10	2	25
August	14	6	2	22
September	14	12	0	26
October	2	12	4	18
November	6	11	0	17
December	8	1	6	15
Total	100	82	66	248

KILLINGS IN IOJK - 2020 TO 2023



KILLINGS IN IOJK IN 2023



MILITARIZATION

Kashmir is the world's most densely militarized zone, with an astounding 900,000 Indian Occupying Forces present in the UN-recognized disputed territory. This includes the Rashtriya Rifles, Border Security Force, para-military, state police, special operations group, and undercover counter-insurgency personnel. The deployment of these occupying forces follows a strategy of 'force saturation' and 'area domination,' aimed at exerting control over both the territory and its civilian population.[1] The actions of the IOF in occupied Kashmir authorized by laws from Indian constitutionalism, have raised concerns regarding the violation of humanitarian principles and the rights of the civilian population. These laws, designed for counter-insurgency purposes, grant extensive powers to the IOF, potentially leading to 'Atrocity Crimes' against Kashmiris. International Human rights organizations have exhaustively reported the widespread and systematic pattern of human rights violation and war crimes including extrajudicial killings, torture, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and sexual violence by occupying forces, enabled by this climate of pervasive, legally sanctioned impunity.[2]

The occupied region experiences pervasive militarization, where the accumulation of IOF is not the sole concern; there is also undue interference in daily life, raising concerns about the domestication of the populace. Kashmiris' lives and bodies are not only physically occupied by IOF, but they are also subject to what can be described as an occupied existence.

Since 2019 the troop build-up has spiked intermittently deploying new troops on the pretext of security threats, and law and order situations despite portraying a sense of normalcy. In 2023, nearly 10,000 fresh troops have been deployed in IOJK who were called from mainland India. Over 140 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) – including Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the Border Security Force (BSF), and the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) were sent as part of fresh deployment for the Amarnath Yatra 2023.[3] The 62-day yatra commenced on July 1 and culminated on August 31 along two tracks - the traditional 48 km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag and the shorter 14 km Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

[1] IPTK & APDP 2015 Structures of Violence: The Indian State in Jammu and Kashmir Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society. (Available at www.JKCCS.net)

[2] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Update of the Situation of Human Rights in Indian-Administered Kashmir and Pakistan-Administered Kashmir from May 2018 to April 2019, Available at

https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Countries/IN/KashmirUpdateReport_8July2019.pdf

[3] PTI, "Centre to Move Fresh CAPF Units to Manipur, G20 Summit," The Economic Times, August 22, 2023. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/centre-to-move-fresh-capf-units-to-manipur-g20-summit/articleshow/102942910.cms>

India's union government deployed 18 additional companies of CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) in the Rajouri district of IOJK after the widespread panic following attacks by unknown gunmen in a span of two weeks in January 2024.[4] The CRPF already has a massive presence in IOJK, with over 70 battalions, which is around one-third of the CRPF's total strength deployed in IOJK.

A total of 26 IOF personnel, including three officers and five paratroopers, and seven civilians have been killed in eight attacks since October 11, 2021, in the twin districts Poonch and Rajouri - which are also called as Pir-Panjal region. To counter the threat, the IOF has strengthened its positions on both ceasefire as well as hinterland by rushing in more troops to thwart alleged infiltration attempts.[5]

Laws designed for counter-insurgency purposes, grant extensive powers to the IOF, potentially leading to 'Atrocity Crimes' against Kashmiris.

In the wake of security measures for the G20 meeting in May, the occupying authorities deployed additional Border Security Force (BSF) personnel in the occupied territory.[6] Additional reinforcements of Border Security Force (BSF) troops were deployed on the routes leading to the venue. The Indian Army's Rashtriya Rifles, paramilitaries Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) personnel were also deployed around the Sheri Kashmir International Convention Centre

[4] Nazir Masoodi, "Centre to Deploy 1800 Paramilitary Soldiers to Jammu after Terror Attacks," NDTV, 4 January 2023, <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/centre-to-deploy-1800-paramilitary-soldiers-to-jammu-after-terror-attacks-3664011>

[5] Zulfikar Majid, "Additional Troops Deployed in Rajouri-Poonch to Counter Rising Militancy," Deccan Herald, 12 September 2023, <https://www.deccanherald.com/india/jammu-and-kashmir/additional-troops-deployed-in-rajouri-poonch-to-counter-rising-militancy-2682611>

[6] Krishn Kaushik, Fayaz Bukhari, "India boosts security for G20 meeting in Kashmir after attacks," Reuters, 17 May 2023 <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/india-boosts-security-g20-meeting-kashmir-after-attacks-2023-05-17/>

DIGITAL SURVEILLANCE

Jammu and Kashmir Police (JKP) in 2022 initiated a project to cover the entire IOJK under round-the-clock Close Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance to keep an eye on the alleged anti-national elements and for “efficient law and order management.” The police headquarters of IOJK floated tenders for a CCTV integrated network system with a primary focus on procuring hi-resolution cameras having facilities for recognizing faces, automatic number plate, color unidentified objects, and stone pelting.[7] In the first phase, JKP officials revealed to the local media that 184 cameras will be installed in Kashmir at 43 sites while 218 cameras will be installed in the Jammu region at 119 sites. All five zones of Srinagar district will be covered where 43 cameras will be installed in the North, South, and Hazratbal zones of the district.[8]

In July 2023, the former Director General of Police J&K Dilbag Singh chaired a high-level meeting to review the project status of the implementation of CCTV Surveillance System across IOJK at Police Headquarters. During the review meeting, Singh revealed that the first phase has already been completed and the second phase of the project is already under implementation for which he emphasized that the System Integrator to ensure that the second phase of the project should get completed urgently.[9]

New Delhi is creating a surveillance state in IOJK and outsourcing the cost by ordering shop owners to spend thousands of rupees each to install security cameras. All the Deputy Commissioners of IOJK districts have already asked the local businessmen to install CCTVs outside their shops and malls. Amnesty International India’s former head Aakar Patel termed the CCTV order “a worrying development.” He further underlined that it will legitimize “a complete surveillance of their civic life, threatening their human rights to privacy, freedom of assembly, autonomy and dignity.”[10]

[7] Jammu & Kashmir Police Website, “List of Bids Published on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) From PHQ,” 2023, <https://www.jkpolice.gov.in/Tender-Notices>

[8] Excelsior Correspondent, “DGP Reviews Status of CCTV Surveillance System Project,” Daily Excelsior, 31 January 2023. <https://www.dailyexcelsior.com/dgp-reviews-status-of-cctv-surveillance-system-project/>.

[9] Newsdesk, “DGP Reviews Progress of CCTV Surveillance Project in J&K,” Greater Kashmir, 13 July 2023, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/todays-paper/front-page/dgp-reviews-progress-of-cctv-surveillance-project-in-jk/>

[10] Newsdesk, “Activists, Traders Fret as India Turns Kashmir into Surveillance State,” TRT World, 19 May 2022. <https://www.trtworld.com/asia/activists-traders-fret-as-india-turns-kashmir-into-surveillance-state-57260>.

PERVASIVE SURVEILLANCE: DIGITAL IDs FOR HOUSEHOLDS

With the systematic annihilation of critical voices and violation of the rights to freedom of expression, opinion, and privacy rights of Kashmiris the occupying authorities have introduced a digital surveillance tool to monitor the daily lives of Kashmiris.

Kashmiris go through frequent identification checks by IOF and always carry two forms of ID cards - the voter ID and the Adhaar card. In January 2023, the occupying authorities in IOJK claimed that the JK Family ID, an eight-digit code assigned to each household, would improve access to social welfare benefits.[11] The database will contain the information of every family member, including their name, age, qualifications, employment status, and marital status, among other details. The proposed move to allot “Family ID” has been welcomed by the BJP but criticized by other parties which raised concerns over personal data safety and undue surveillance. In IOJK the native population sees the new family IDs as part of a campaign to exert greater control over residents.[12]

This is a part of the multi-level surveillance architecture, and since 2019 IOJK has seen heightened surveillance with police forces dedicating resources for social-media monitoring and real-time observation of public spaces and mobile phone traffic. IOJK has already been transformed into a security state and the possible surveillance utility of this database is to enforce the crackdown on dissent, especially since the abrogation of Article 370, employing collective punishment as a tactic.[13] India’s ongoing settler-colonial program is being reinforced by gathering maximum details and mapping the personal details, land, and property records of households to identify, isolate, and punish those engaged in pro-resistance leadership and activists. The Indian occupying authorities came up with the “JK Family ID” to issue household numbers to track the civilian population which is in line with Israel’s “blue wolf” tracking database of Israel in the West Bank.[14]

[11] Newsdesk “Surveillance Concerns as India Issues New Digital IDs in Kashmir,” Al Jazeera, 26 January 2023, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/1/26/surveillance-concerns-as-india-issues-new-digital-ids-in-kashmir>

[12] Aman Singh, Maseera Khan, “Is Kashmir Ramping up Its Surveillance Campaign?” FairPlanet, 8 February 2023, <https://www.fairplanet.org/story/kashmir-family-id-database-surveillance/>

[13] Maknoon Wani, “What’s Really behind Jammu and Kashmir’s New Family ID?” Himal Southasian.” Himal Southasian, 23 January 2023, <https://www.himalmag.com/behind-jammu-and-kashmir-new-family-id-surveillance/>

[14] LFK Research Team, “India’s Impunity in Kashmir: Surveillance, Counter Insurgency & Politics of Fear,” LFK, 7 March 2023, <https://lfkashmir.com/indias-impunity-in-kashmir-surveillancecounter-insurgency-politics-of-fear/>

J&K POLICE GETS 'FREE ACCESS' TO MONITOR SOCIAL MEDIA

To intensify restrictions on social media users in IOJK, police have been given free access to track accounts of all Kashmiris in the name of monitoring anti-India activities. Police claimed to have secured direct cooperation from social media giants, including WhatsApp, X, Snapchat, Instagram, Telegram, and TikTok. Police officials in IOJK claim that they are actively monitoring the IP addresses of individuals engaged in spreading allegedly “anti-national” content and anti-India sentiment.[15] This collaboration is an extreme breach of privacy for civilians and extends to a host of social media giants. Given India’s status as an occupying power in Jammu and Kashmir, these measures are an extension of the occupation’s effort to assert complete control over the region and its populace

The civilian population of Kashmir including Human rights defenders, journalists, and scholars have long drawn attention to their humiliation at the hands of innovative forms of surveillance that violate their privacy. In many ways, the cases of Kashmiris shows how technologies can be weaponized, particularly as a means of inducing self-censorship and compliance from people living in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.[16]

In a fresh crackdown on netizens, the JKP booked scores in Kashmir ahead of the Supreme Court’s verdict on Article 370 in December 2023. The action against netizens comes in the wake of a recent police order under the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) suggesting that the posting of content (messages, and audio and video files) could potentially trigger a communal frenzy, promote terrorism and separatism, and “will be a legal offense” in IOJK. [17]

[15] Newsdesk, “J&K Police Collaborates With Social Media Giants To Scan Users: Report,” Kashmir Observer, 25 September 2023, <https://kashmirobsrver.net/2023/09/25/jk-police-collaborates-with-social-media-giants-to-scan-users-report/>

[16] Nasir Qadri, “Blatant Panopticon: Enforced Surveillance in Kashmir - Legal Forum for Kashmir.” Legal Forum for Kashmir, 13 October 2023, <https://lfkashmir.com/blatant-panopticon-enforced-surveillance-in-kashmir/>.

[17] Peerzada Ashiq, “Kashmir netizens face action over social media posts ahead of Supreme Court’s verdict on Article 370,” 9 December 2023, The Hindu, <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kashmir-netizens-face-action-over-social-media-posts-ahead-of-supreme-courts-verdict-on-article-370/article67622532.ece>

SYSTEMIC AND SYSTEMATIC VIOLENCE

Nancy Scheper Hughes defines Structural violence as:

“A continuum of structural and institutional violence: from less destructive to less empirically feasible; from less traceable to the actions of individual human agents. Since structural and institutional violence is more inflexible and dispersed, it is less interesting to think about genocide frameworks in which intentional human intervention is at the centre. To the extent that it is more manifest and direct, it may be more amenable to such a framing– and to interventions and attempts at amelioration based upon that framing.”[18]

Structural violence in the IOJK represents a systematic and pervasive form of oppression observable at a macro level. This violence is orchestrated by Indian occupying authorities and their institutions through de facto constitutionalism, resulting in the bodily harm and marginalization of a specific group – the Kashmiri Muslims. This marginalization is further exacerbated by mental harm inflicted on Kashmiris through cultural violence.

The Indian administration aims to erode the identity of the targeted Muslim community by systematically depriving them of their political and social rights. This process has been ongoing since the inception of Indian occupation in 1947 and has been intensified by the actions of the BJP-led central government, particularly the unilateral abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A on August 5, 2019.

Structural violence in IOJK is deeply ingrained in the institutionalized framework and is perpetrated gradually by the Indian occupying authorities, constituting a severe form of social injustice. The implications of such actions extend beyond immediate consequences, as they contribute to a broader context of systematic deprivation and erosion of fundamental rights of the Kashmiri Muslim community in IOJK.

[18] Nancy Scheper-Hughes, “The Genocidal Continuum: Peace-time Crimes,” in JeannetteMarie Mageo, *Power and the Self* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002), pp. 29–47, (PDF) *Genocide and Structural Violence: Charting the Terrain*. Available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/334274177_Genocide_and_Structural_Violence_Charting_the_Terrain

CRIMINALIZATION OF DISSENT

The criminalization of dissent in IOJK gives rise to profound apprehensions concerning the right to freedom of expression, a fundamental entitlement safeguarded by International Human Rights Law, the covenants of Human Rights, and even under the Constitutional framework of India. IOF continue to perpetrate repressive measures taken against individuals and groups expressing dissent, including arrests and rigorous legal scrutiny. The International community must ensure any constraints imposed on the right to free speech adhere scrupulously to the principles and standards of International Human Rights law and treaties.

The indiscriminate use of anti-terror law the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) has not only encroached upon the fundamental right to association but has also blurred the distinction between political dissent and criminal activity, effectively criminalizing dissident voices and actions. This has had a particularly pronounced impact on political dissent, including the pro-resistance leadership, human rights defenders, and civil society in Kashmir, leading to a significant delegitimization of these voices under the guise of criminality. The criminalization of dissent has given rise to a troubling culture of witch-hunts, wherein individuals and organizations challenging the legitimacy of the Indian occupation in Kashmir are ‘systematically outlawed.’ The Indian Judiciary during the trial and bail applications of Kashmiris under UAPA has failed to scrutinize the action of executive authorities (counter-insurgency forces) to ensure that its provisions are specific and do not leave room for misuse or abuse.

The Indian anti-terror laws including UAPA and PSA have been a subject of concern due to their potential violations of Human rights standards and its lack of conformity with the principles of free and impartial trial. To comprehensively evaluate its impact, we need to examine it through the lens of international legal frameworks, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and other relevant treaties.

On July 10, 2023, the JKP arrested senior Hurriyat leader Masroor Abbas Ansari and other activists including Shabbir Ahmed Dar, Syed Rehman Shamas, Firdous Ahmed Shah, Mohammad Rafiq Pehlu, Sajjad Gul, Jahangir Ghani Butt, Syed Muzaffar Rizvi, Hilal Ahmad War, Wajahat Qureshi, and Mohammad Yasin Butt during a raid on a hotel in Lal Chowk, Srinagar. The detainees were taken to Kothi Bagh Police Station for investigation alleging them of reviving Hurriyat activities and later booked under UAPA.[19] In September a special TADA court rejected the bail of these arrested individuals and they continue to be

[19] GK Webdesk, “Hurriyat, JKLF Activists Detained during Raid at Srinagar Hotel: Police,” Greater Kashmir, 9 July 2023, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/srinagar/hurriyat-jklf-activists-detained-during-raid-at-srinagar-hotel-police/>

incarcerated in jails across IOJK and mainland India.[20] APHC in a statement condemned the detention of Hurriyat leaders and businessmen and said that they (the arrested) had gathered there for an Eid Milan party at a hotel in Srinagar, and their arrest proved that there was no respect for democracy and Human Rights in the occupied territory.

The suspension of Kashmiri Lecturer Zahoor Ahmad Bhat on August 25, 2023, based on his testimony at the Supreme Court of India (SCI) on August 23, 2023, challenging the government's abrogation of Article 370, raises concerns about academic freedom.[21] The burden placed on Bhat to prove the legitimacy of his leave of absence to testify suggests an infringement on the right to freedom of expression and dissent.

Freedom House a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. best known for political advocacy surrounding issues of democracy, political freedom, and human rights, regards the status of IOJK as Not Free and gives it a Political Rights and Civil Liberties score of 27 out of 100.[22] The report also underscores the move to abrogate Articles 370 and 35A stripped the native populace of many of their previous political rights and that civil liberties have also been curtailed to quell ongoing public opposition to the reorganization. The report further laments that the personnel of Indian forces are frequently accused of human rights violations in IOJK, but perpetrators are rarely punished.

The police officials in IOJK have announced their intention to introduce a law aimed at prohibiting the online dissemination of content with the potential to "trigger religious violence, disrupt peace, and promote terrorism and separatism." The Director General of Police, Rashmi Ranjan Swain, informed reporters on December 1st that a law would be temporarily enacted under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code.[23] This law would criminalize the sharing of audio, video, and text messages that are purportedly disruptive to communal harmony or seek to intimidate individuals, whether disseminated by separatist elements or mischievous actors. According to Swain, the proposed law would specifically criminalize the sharing or forwarding of content that falls within the defined parameters, treating such actions as criminal offenses. Individuals found in violation of this law would be subject to legal consequences.

[21] GK Webdesk, "Special TADA Court Rejects Bail of JKLF, Hurriyat Activists Arrested in Srinagar Hotel Raid," Greater Kashmir, 25 September 2023, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/latest-news/special-tada-court-rejects-bail-of-jklf-hurriyat-activists-arrested-in-srinagar-hotel-raid/>.

[22] Newsdesk, "J&K lecturer suspended for appearing in SC, arguing for petitioners in Article 370 case," Indian Express, 29 August 2023, <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/srinagar/jk-lecturer-suspended-for-appearing-in-sc-arguing-for-petitioners-in-article-370-case-8909821/>

[23] "Freedom in the World 2023: Indian Kashmir," Freedom House, 2023, <https://freedomhouse.org/country/indian-kashmir/freedom-world/2023#PR>.

[24] Hilal Mir, "Kashmir to Bring in Law to Criminalize Online Content 'Disrupting Peace,'" AA, 1 December 2023, <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/kashmir-to-bring-in-law-to-criminalize-online-content-disrupting-peace/3070137>

Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code is conventionally invoked when there is a perceived risk of a dangerous event occurring. While its scope is broad, its primary application is to prohibit gatherings of four or more people. In the context of the proposed legislation, Section 144 is being leveraged to regulate the digital space and curb the dissemination of content that authorities deem potentially harmful to public order and communal harmony. From a legal standpoint, the introduction of such legislation demands scrutiny to ensure its compatibility with constitutional principles and international human rights standards.

REPRESSIVE MEDIA POLICY, HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION OF JOURNALISTS

The harassment and intimidation of journalists in the IOJK constitute a violation of both domestic and international legal standards, including provisions safeguarding the right to freedom of the press and the safety of journalists. Over the past four years, Kashmiri journalists have been raided by the police, beaten up, summoned to police stations, and arrested under draconian laws like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1969 and the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978. The misuse of the UAPA and other laws to detain journalists and fabricate cases against them undermines the fundamental right to freedom of expression and compromises the integrity of journalistic work.

The authorities in IOJK have employed the draconian UAPA and other legal mechanisms to imprison journalists and institute false charges against them under the pretext of counter terrorism efforts. Additionally, restrictions on foreign funding for NGOs through the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) further target human rights defenders and journalists. Such actions contravene established legal principles and jeopardize the ability of journalists to perform their essential role in society.

On the 2023 World Press Freedom Index, India's rank fell from 150 in 2022 to 161 out of 180 countries, largely because of punitive action against journalists in Kashmir.[25]

The cancellation of a media award bestowed upon Kashmiri journalist Safina Nabi by the journalism school of the Pune-based Maharashtra Institute of Technology-World Peace University (MIT-WPU) after being emailed that she had been chosen for the award raises concerns about the stifling of dissenting voices.[26] The award was cancelled by MIT-WPU's management allegedly under pressure from right-wing political sections.[27] The journalist was informed about the sudden cancellation on the eve of the award presentation ceremony. A statement released by MIT-WPU said that some of Nabi's "published opinions and views... have the potential to be viewed as contentious and not in alignment with the foreign policy of the Indian Government". Presenting her with an award – chosen by the jury – "at this time could have given rise to unwelcome controversies.[28]

[24] RSF Staff, "RSF World Press Freedom Index: India 2023," RSF, 25 December 2023, <https://rsf.org/en/country/india>.

[25] NewsClick Report, "Kashmiri Journalist's Media Award Cancelled under Alleged Political Pressure," NewsClick, 18 October 2023, <https://www.newsclick.in/kashmiri-journalists-media-award-cancelled-under-alleged-political-pressure>

[26] KL News Network, "Kashmiri Journalist Safina Nabi's Award Cancelled, Jury Refuses to Attend Event in Protest," Kashmir Life, 18 October 2023, <https://kashmirlife.net/kashmiri-journalist-safina-nabis-award-cancelled-jury-refuses-to-attend-event-in-protest-330459/>

[27] Wire Staff, "Pune Institute Cancels Award for Kashmiri Journalist, Jury Refuses to Attend Event in Protest," The Wire, 18 October 2023, <https://thewire.in/media/pune-institute-cancels-award-for-kashmiri-journalist-jury-refuses-to-attend-event-in-protest>

Such incidents raise questions about the independence of media institutions and the undue interference and influence of Indian authorities in even the coverage of the routine happenings in Kashmir. Kashmiri journalists, operate in an environment of multiple censorship levels and face severe harassment by occupying forces and the multiple agencies engaged in counterinsurgency. This includes interrogation, raids, threats, physical assault, restrictions on freedom of movement, and prosecution under counterterrorism laws. The targeting of journalists for their reporting activities violates the principles of free expression and impedes the essential role of the media.

According to the RSF's real-time data, five Kashmiri journalists/activists/human rights defenders Khurram Parvez, Irfan Mehraj, Sajad Gul, Abdul Aala Fazili, and Majid Hyderi are in Indian jails as of December 31, 2023, some of them since 2021.[28]

The arbitrary detention and prosecution of Kashmiri human rights defender Khurram Parvez under the UAPA on trumped-up charges is a matter of serious concern. In an opinion adopted on 28 March 2023 and released on 5 June 2023, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) said Mr. Parvez's detention was "arbitrary". It called on the Indian authorities to immediately release him and to provide him with an "enforceable right to compensation and other reparations.".[29] The alleged charge sheet framed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) against Parvez, Irfan Mehraj, and others, alleging conspiracy to fund proscribed outfits through NGOs, underscores the challenges faced by human rights defenders and journalists in IOJK.

Blockade of The Kashmir Walla's website and social media accounts by the Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology raises issues of censorship and restrictions on media freedom.[30] The Kashmir Walla, as an independent news site, has been covering developments in Jammu and Kashmir for more than 12 years.

The news outlet, in its statement, said that they are not aware of the specifics of why their website has been blocked in India and their social media accounts have been removed and withheld. "We have not been served any notice nor is there any official order regarding these actions that is in the public domain so far." They added: "This opaque censorship is gut-wrenching. There isn't a lot left for us to say anymore."[31] The forced closure of the media organization's office further highlights the challenges faced by independent media in IOJK. The lack of notice by the International Community and no recourse for such actions undermines the principles of due process and transparency.

[28] RSF Staff, "Barometer: Abuses in Real Time (India 2023)," RSF, 25 December 2023, [https://rsf.org/en/barometer?](https://rsf.org/en/barometer?exaction_pays_pays=138&exaction_pays_annee=2023&exaction_pays_statut=prison#exaction-pays)

[29] Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, "Opinions adopted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention at its ninety-sixth session, from 27 March–5 April 2023 Opinion No. 8/2023 concerning Khurram Parvez (India)," UN-HRC, 5 June 2023, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/detention-wg/opinions/session96/A-HRC-WGAD-2023-8-AEV.pdf>

[30] Al Jazeera Staff, "India Blocks Independent News Outlet The Kashmir Walla," Al Jazeera, 21 August 2023, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/8/21/india-blocks-independent-news-outlet-the-kashmir-walla>

[31] Gafira Qadir, "It Was a Home': Kashmir Walla Shuts, Lives on in Memory," Maktoob Media, 24 August 2023, <https://maktoobmedia.com/india/it-was-a-home-kashmir-walla-shuts-lives-on-in-memory/>

Irfan Malik s/o Ab Rashid Malik, from Chotta Bazar, Srinagar, was arrested by Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) for social media posts allegedly spewing hatred, glorifying terrorism, issuing threats against security forces, and resorting to name-calling. The First Information Report (FIR) has been filed against Irfan Malik under the relevant provisions of the law, with FIR No. 07/2023 registered at the Police Station CID CIK and the case is currently under investigation, focusing on the charges of misusing social media platforms, issuing threats against security personnel, and promoting terrorism.[32] The arbitrary detention of Irfan Malik by the CIK unit for social media posts underscores the broader issue of surveillance and restrictions on freedom of expression. Allegations that Malik's posts posed a threat to the unity and integrity of the country make it clear that the draconian anti-terror laws are being misused to suppress expression.

The reported incidents underscore the importance of upholding legal standards, including respect for freedom of expression, press freedom, and human rights, in IOJK. International bodies, civil society, and legal mechanisms should actively monitor and address these issues to ensure the protection of fundamental rights and the promotion of free and impartial media.

NO PASSPORTS FOR DISSIDENTS

The denial or impounding of passports can be seen as a means of exerting control over Kashmiris and limiting their mobility and participation in international affairs. It reinforces a narrative that portrays them as a threat, further entrenching power imbalances.

Since 2019 the Indian authorities have introduced one after the other tool from New Delhi's playbook to quell dissent in Kashmir. On July 31, 2021, J&K authorities issued a circular asking to withhold security clearance to individuals involved in "anti-national activities and other related crimes." Amod Ashok Nagpure, Senior Superintendent of J&K Police, CID, gave the Special Branch (SB) field units in Kashmir the go-ahead to "specifically" investigate "law and order," "stone pelting," and other charges before granting clearance to subjects who have applied for government employment or a passport, the circular says.[33]

A Kashmiri legal expert underlined that the order is an attempt to initiate "psychological warfare" in the valley, an attempt to nip fresh unrest. Quoting the Judgements of the Supreme Court of India, "Right to a passport is part of the right to life," and "right to travel abroad is part of the fundamental right to dignity, personal liberty," he stressed that if the right to life is not suspended "even during the time of Emergency", it cannot be denied based on a CID report.

[32] <https://kashmirilife.net/man-detained-for-posting-hateful-content-against-dysp-humayun-bhat-328238/>

[33] <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/politics/030821/jk-parties-are-angry-at-no-passport-no-government-job-to-stone.html>

Travel bans, Passport denials, and Impounding of Passports are now routine in IOJK. More than 40 Kashmiri journalists had been put on a 'No Fly List' (Exit Control List) and 'Lookout Circulars' issued against their names in 2019 and the number has risen to 200 in 2023.[34] Since August 2019, the Indian authorities and counter-insurgency agencies have barred Kashmiri journalists and human rights activists including Gowhar Geelani (2019), Bilal Bashir (2019), Zahid Rafiq (2021), Ruwa Shah (2021), Aakash Hassan (2022), and Sanna Irshad Matto (2022) from flying outside of India, with the government providing them with no explanation for curtailing their fundamental rights.[35]

Indian authorities have suspended the passports of some journalists and political activists in IOJK blatantly labeling them as "security threats to India". Invoking Section 10(3) of The Passports Act, 1967, the Regional Passport Office in Srinagar has sent out emails to at least two journalists and a political activist among others, informing them that their passports have been suspended. The emails, which have been sent out from passport.admin@passportindia.gov.in, also direct them to contact the Srinagar office on Boulevard Road near Nehru Park, including the warning "Action will be taken against you if unable to contact before the date as mentioned."

Devinder Singh, Srinagar Passport Officer, in conversation with Wire India, while refusing to elaborate or disclose the exact number has said that there are "instructions from intelligence agencies" based on which some passports of Kashmiri residents are being impounded. Several news reports quoted anonymous sources to suggest that between 98 and 200 passports are being suspended, including those belonging to journalists, academicians, lawyers and political activists.[36] According to Middle East Eye report on stripping of passports at least 10 people, including Kashmiri academics, students and journalists, in IOJK and abroad, had received notices between July and August 2023.[37] The developments back in IOJK have hit hard those Kashmiris living outside of India. Several Kashmiri journalists have found themselves in exile due to the shrinking space for critical reportage back home and the repeated harassment of their families by the Indian authorities.

Confiscation and impounding of passports will impede the right to freedom of movement, a fundamental right under international law. Any restrictions on this right are violation of ICCPR and other conventions ratified by India.

[34] Sonali Dhawan, "An Open-Air Prison': Kashmiri Journalists on How Travel Bans Undermine Press Freedom," CPJ, 19 September 2022, <https://cpj.org/2022/09/an-open-air-prison-kashmiri-journalists-on-how-travel-bans-undermine-press-freedom/>

[35] Anonymous, "When Story-Tellers Are Criminalised: New Tales in Kashmir's New Order," Free Speech Collective, 27 February 2023, <https://freespeechcollective.in/when-story-tellers-are-criminalised-new-tales-in-kashmirs-new-order/>

[36] NL Team, "Passports of Two Kashmiri Journalists Suspended Due to 'Security Threats to India': The Wire," NewsLaundry, 2 August 2023, <https://www.newsLaundry.com/2023/08/02/passports-of-two-kashmiri-journalists-suspended-due-to-security-threats-to-india-the-wire>

[37] Azad Essa, Shaheryar Mirza, "India Strips Passports from Several Kashmiris as Modi Tightens Grip on Dissent," Middle East Eye, 1 August 2023, <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/indian-government-strips-passports-kashmiri-dissent-modi>

TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEES

Since 2019 the Kashmiri employees have been terminated under Article 311(2)(C) of the Indian Constitution, which allows the government to terminate employees without ordering an inquiry into their conduct or allowing them to explain their position if the “President or the Governor, as the case may be, is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the State, it is not expedient to hold such inquiry”.

In 2020, the IOJK administration began a process to terminate the services of 500 of the employees allegedly involved in anti-national activities, as decided by a committee headed by then Chief Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam, constituted to examine and recommend dismissal of employees from their services for partaking in anti-national activities. The Indian authorities have so far terminated around 60 employees since April 2021 for allegedly “being a threat to the security of the state”.

In a fresh spate of terminations, the IOJK administration terminated four government employees, including the President of the Doctors Association of Kashmir, Dr. Nisar-ul-Hassan, for being a “threat to the security of the state”. The Indian authorities issued orders in November 2023 stating that the terminated employees have allegedly been a “threat to the security of the state” and that in the “interest of the security of the state, it is not expedient to hold an inquiry into the case”.

The administration had in October 2023 issued a similarly worded order announcing the termination of three more employees including police constable Abdul Majeed Bhat of Kunan village in Kupwara; Farooq Ahmad Mir, a teacher from Kupwara; and Abdul Salam Rather, a laboratory assistant in Higher Education and a resident of south Kashmir’s Kulgam.

The administration in July 2023 terminated the services of three government employees Kashmir University public relations officer (PRO) Faheem Aslam, revenue officer Murawat Hussain Mir, and police officer Arshad Ahmad Thoker for being a “threat to the security of the state.”

The administration in June 2023 terminated the services of two doctors for allegedly “actively working” with Pakistan-based groups and fabricating evidence in the 2009 “Shopian rape-murder” case. The action comes 14 years after a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation. Dr. Bilal Ahmad Dalal and Dr. Nighat Shaheen Chilloo were terminated from the service for allegedly actively working with Pakistan and falsifying the post-mortem report of Asiya and Neelofar of Shopian, who were abducted, raped, and murdered by the Indian Army on the intervening night of 29th and 30th May 2009.

The administration in February 2023 terminated the services of three government employees Manzoor Ahmad Itoo, a junior engineer in Bandipora, Syed Saleem Andrabi, an employee in the Social Welfare Department in Kupwara and Mohd Aurif Sheikh, a teacher at Government Middle School in Reasi, alleging they were involved in “anti-national” activities.

S.NO	Employees terminated in 2023 by invoking Article 311(2)(C) of the Indian Constitution	Designation/Department
1	Dr. Nisar-ul-Hassan	President, DAK
2	Abdul Majeed Bhat	Police Constable
3	Farooq Ahmad Mir	Teacher
4	Abdul Salam Rather	Laboratory assistant
5	Faheem Aslam	PRO, KU
6	Murawat Hussain Mir	Revenue Officer
7	Arshad Ahmad Thoker	Police Officer
8	Dr. Bilal Ahmad Dalal	Doctor
9	Dr. Nighat Shaheen Chilloo	Doctor
10	Manzoor Ahmad Itoo	Junior Engineer
11	Syed Saleem Andrabi	Social Welfare Department
12	Mohd Aurif Sheikh	Teacher

THE NIA'S DISTURBING TACTICS IN KASHMIR

Amidst the haunting backdrop of Kashmir's relentless turmoil, a grave concern casts its ominous shadow over the region. The National Investigation Agency (NIA), has been wielded as a weapon to target Kashmiris and orchestrate a web of false charges. This orchestrated campaign perpetuates an atmosphere of fear and injustice, silencing those who dare to advocate for self-determination, human rights, and justice. The NIA has been systematically suppressing dissent, branding legitimate expressions of apprehension as acts of sedition or terrorism. This misuse of power intensifies the suffering of Kashmiris, undermining the very fabric of justice and extinguishing the hope for a resolution of the Kashmir dispute.

SUPPRESSION AND PROPERTY CONFISCATION IN INDIAN-OCCUPIED JAMMU AND KASHMIR

In 2023, the National Investigation Agency continued its crackdown on Kashmiris, arresting thousands including resistance activists, common people, journalists, religious scholars and academicians. The NIA & SIA have attached Properties across IOJK in last one year (Jan-Dec 2023). According to a statement issued by the occupying authorities, "nearly, 77 of these properties belong to proscribed organisation Jamaat-e-Islami, which have been notified under Section 08 of UAPA in Case FIR number 17/2019 U/S 10, 11 and 13 UA (P) Act of Police Station Batamaloo being investigated by SIA." [38]

The attachment/ seizure of property orders passed by the occupying authority in IOJK are in complete violation of principle of natural justice. No prior notice or opportunity to file representation against the attachment orders is given to possessor or proprietor, which is in violation of the fundamental rights enshrined under the Constitution of India. The attachment/seizure orders are passed under the subjective satisfaction of occupying authorities including counterinsurgency agencies believing that the individuals are affiliated or are sympathizers of banned socio-political organization JEI. Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which provides:

1. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation.
2. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such attacks.

[38] Saleem Pandit, "SIA, Police Attach 124 Properties across Jammu and Kashmir," The Times of India, 8 June 2023, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/sia-police-attach-124-properties-across-jammu-and-kashmir/articleshow/100830519.cms?from=md>

This upholds the inviolability of the home, its primary characteristics being that of shelter and safety against outside elements (both natural and human), as well as being the center of intimate life and private, autonomous experience.

On February 1, 2023, the Occupying authorities in the occupied territory seized 20 shops in Srinagar's Aftab Market.[39] Residents and shopkeepers from the area said that the move is to "teach a lesson" to shopkeepers for observing the shutdown – Hartal – on the call given by resistance leaders. It is pertinent to mention that the people of Indian-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir have a history of showing dissent in the form of observing shutdowns on the instructions of resistance leadership in the region.

Indian administration after abrogating Article 370 and 35A, has heavily clamped down on the movement of people and resistance leadership, leaving no room for any kind of dissent in the region. Similarly, on the 29th of May, the State Investigation Agency (SIA) sealed 20 shops belonging to the socio-political organization Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir – an organization involved in myriad charitable works and providing quality education to students across the region.[40] The SIA team installed a board declaring the property, a shopping complex, as belonging to Jamaat-e-Islami, which has been designated as an Unlawful Association. According to an estimate, at least hundreds of shops have so far been sealed across the region to weaken people economically.

INSTANCES OF RAIDS, ARRESTS, AND RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES ATTACHED BY NIA

- On 7 January, the State Investigation Agency (SIA) attached properties of native citizens in southern Kashmir's Kulgam district.[41] The properties include a double-storied house, along with 7 Marla of land, 56 Kanal agriculture land, 02 Kanal 7 Marla land, 3 Kanal 4 Marla land, and 1.5 Kanal land. On 30 January, the NIA attached the Hurriyat Office in Rajbagh Srinagar.[42]
- On 28 January 2023, Additional Session Judge Shailender Malik ordered to attach the All Parties Hurriyat Conference headquarters. The APHC headquarter is located at Raj Bagh, in capital city Srinagar of J&K. All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) is an alliance of over two dozen political, social and religious organizations formed on 9 March 1993.

[39] Newsdesk, "At Least 20 Shops Built on 'State Land' Sealed in Srinagar," The Kashmiriyat, 1 February 2023, <http://thekashmiriyat.co.uk/at-least-20-shops-built-on-state-land-sealed-in-srinagar>

[40] KL News Network, "SIA Seals 20 Shops in Kashmir," Kashmir Life, 29 May 2023, <https://kashmirilife.net/sia-seals-20-%20shops-in-kashmir-318736/>

[41] KL News Network, "SIA Attaches More Properties of Jamaat-e-Islami," Kashmir Life, 7 January 2023, <https://kashmirilife.net/sia-attaches-more-properties-of-jamaat-e-islami-307896/>

[42] Basharat Masood, "NIA Attaches Hurriyat Office in Srinagar after Court Order; Separatists Slam Dramatic Action," The Indian Express, 29 January 2023, <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/srinagar/nia-hurriyatconference-srinagar-court-order-8411196/>

- On 2 March 2023, the National Investigation Agency (NIA), attached property (2 Marlas Residential Land) under Khasra No. 182 of freedom fighter Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar alias Latram, at Ganai Mohalla, Jamia Masjid, Nowhatta, Srinagar under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).
- On 3 March 2023 the National Investigation Agency (NIA), attached immoveable property of freedom fighter Bashir Ahmed Peer alias Imtiyaz Alam of Babapora, Kralpora Kupwara. The attached property is agricultural land measuring 1 kanal 13 marlas situated at Batapora.
- On 3 March 2023, the National Investigation Agency (NIA), attached the property of Basit Ahmad Reshi in north Kashmir's Baramulla district. His agricultural land measuring 9.25 marlas has been attached under the provisions of the UAPA Act.
- On 14 March, NIA conducted raids at multiple locations in Jammu & Kashmir regions including Srinagar in anti-terror case registered against civilians. The agency raided the residence of Junaid Ahmad Teli son of Abdul Rashid Teli residing at Salafiya Masjid Iqbal Colony 90 Feet road Soura with his brother, a resident of Yaripora Kulgam was thoroughly searched. As per reports, the team seized a cell phone during this raid. In Pulwama district, the houses of Zeeshan Altaf, son of Mohammad Altaf Bhat in Nillora and Arif Malik son of Ghulam Hassan Malik in Litter were searched. Similarly, in Kulgam the agency raided the residence of Altaf Ahmad Wagay (milkman) at Yaripora, Farooq Ahmad Dar (farmer) at Hanger and Ashraf Ahmad Sheikh, brother of slain commander Abass Sheikh at Rampora. The house of one Ubaid Ahmad son of Ghulam Qadir Vaid of Magray Mohalla Achabal was being searched by the sleuths of NIA. The residence of Ghulam Mohammad Bhat son of Abdul Khalil Bhat, a resident of Chermarg Zainapora in Shopian and Abdul Kabir Dar son of Abdul Khaliq Dar of Wachi Zainapora were thoroughly searched by NIA teams. Similarly, the raids were conducted at other locations also in Jammu and Kashmir in connection with a case already registered at the NIA office in Jammu bearing FIR no RC 5/2022.
- On 17th March, a special NIA court framed charges under the anti-terror law UAPA against Journalist Fahad Shah and PhD Scholar Aala Fazili for publishing an article on news portal. Their bail has already been denied by the trial court without any legal justification. The NIA in their charged sheet allege that duo have committed an offence of publishing and writing article which "glorify militancy and secessionist ideology".

- On 19 March 2023 after the multiple searches of Special Investigation Unit (SIU) in connection with case FIR No 239/2022, Bandipora police attached double storied residential houses of Abdul Majeed Reshi, father of Aijaz Ahmad Reshi at Gundpora, Rampura and Muhammad Jamal Malik, father of Masood Ahmad Malik of Chithey bandey, Aragam, Bandipora, under Section 25 of the UAP Act. The property was attached by the order of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir vide order No DIVCOM-‘K’/Rtn/05/2023 dated February 10, 2023,” according to the attachment notice, the owner of these houses have been restrained to transfer, lease out, dispose-off, change its nature, or deal with the property in any manner without the permission of the designated authority.
- On 20 March 2023, a prominent Kashmiri journalist Irfan Mehraj was arrested by NIA and shifted to New Delhi. Since then, the renowned journalist who is also a contributor for German public broadcaster, Deutsche Welle, and has extensively reported on the conflict in Kashmir, languishes in jail. Irfan was arrested for working with a prominent rights organization, Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCSS), headed by jailed rights activist Khurram Parvez – a human rights defender included among the 100 most influential persons by Times Magazine in 2022. Parvez, termed by Times Magazine as “a modern-day David who gave a voice to families that lost their children to enforced disappearances” and who is already in jail, was arrested by the NIA in “terror funding” case in March this year.
- On 23 April 2023, NIA attached the residential properties which includes a plot of agricultural land measuring two Kanals of Syed Shakeel Ahmad, and Shahid Yousuf both sons of Syed Salahuddin, Chairman of United Jihad Council & head of largest indigenous Armed group Hizb ul Mujahideen.
- On 2 May 2023, NIA carried out raids at 12 different locations across the region. Two days after this, NIA carried out raids on 16 locations in the Baramulla and Kishtwar areas on the 4th of May.
- On 9 May 2023, the investigative agency carried out raids in Anantnag, Kulgam, Poonch, and other districts of the region, seizing properties and framing false charges against Kashmiri people.
- On 10 May 2023, NIA attached an immovable property in Manigah village of north Kashmir’s Kupwara district under UAPA. A land measuring 3.5 Marlas belonged to one Daulat Ali Mughal of Shilabhatu Mohalla in Manigah was attached.
- On 11 May 2023, NIA raided the houses of at least a dozen people in different parts of the occupied territory. On the same day, the notorious agency extended its raids on multiple houses in Baramullah and Kupwara districts. One of the raided houses belonged to Mufti Abdul Rahim, brother of SAR Geelani, a renowned Kashmiri academician who died in 2019.

- On 15 May 2023, NIA raided different locations in Anantnag, Srinagar, Pulwama, Shopian and Budgam districts of the occupied Jammu and Kashmir.
- On 20 May 2023, NIA of India carried out raids in Pulwama, Awantipora, Anantnag, Srinagar, Kupwara in Kashmir division and Poonch in Jammu division of the occupied region.
- On 1 June 2023, the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) of J&K Police attached the under-construction house of Muhammad Ishaq Malik, son of Mohammad Saifullah in Danwathpora Kokernag area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. The under-constructed house is attached in the case of FIR No 103/2022 of Police Station Kokernag under UAPA.
- On 12 June 2023 the National Investigation Agency (NIA) attached three immovable properties measuring 13.3 Marlas, 8.6 Marlas, and 10.3 Marlas of Zahoor Ahmad Shah Watali at Baghatpora in Handwara tehsil of north Kashmir's Kupwara district. NIA had also attached Watali's house at Baghat in the capital city - Srinagar in May 2023 in connection with the case (RC-10/2017/NIA/DLI) on the orders by the special NIA court, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi. The immovable properties include lands measuring (i) 13.3 Marlas under survey No 457 min., (ii) 8.6 Marlas under Survey No. 458 min., and (iii) 1 Kanal and 10.3 Marlas under survey No 991/453 min., at village Baghatpora, Handwara, District Kupwara.
- On 13 June 2023, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) attached property of the incarcerated resistance activist Ayaz Akbar in the Shalteng area of Srinagar. The land measuring 1 Kanal 10 Marlas has been attached under court orders dated May 31, 2023 in RC-101 20177 NIA/ DLI, by the Special NIA Court, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi.
- On 1 August 2023, the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) of Jammu and Kashmir Police on attached 6 kanals and 3 marla land of Abdul Rashid Qureshi alias Farooq Qureshi of Kachama Kupwara. The property was attached in case FIR No.276/2022 of Police Station Kupwara under different sections of IPC and UAPA. Qureshi is currently in Pakistan administered Kashmir
- On 1 November 2023, Kulgam police attached the residential house of Sanaullah Mir, son of Muhammad Abdullah Mir of Turigam Kulgam after obtaining sanction from the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir vide order No DIVCOM-K/RTN/37/2023 dated October 31, 2023. The house was linked in case FIR No 10/2023 under Sections 302 and 307 of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC),

- On 2 November 2023, Jammu and Kashmir police attached a residential house Azad Ahmad Teli of Beighpora Awantipora under FIR No 58/2020 in Awantipora area south Kashmir's Pulwama district. The property has been attached on the orders of NIA Court Pulwama under section 33 UAPA Act.
- On 6 December 2023, Bandipora Police attached a residential land measuring 14 Marla of Irfan Ahmad Bhat, under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. Under FIR no. 43/2022.
- On 19 December 2023, police attached the properties of five persons (Mohd Yousuf alias Yousuf Naseem, Bashir, Mohd Rafiq, Mohd Sakhi, and Hilal Ahmad) in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. In total 27.13 Kanals of land belonging to 09 persons and one residential house have been attached so far in case FIR No. 120/2009 of PS Ganderbal by Ganderbal Police.

In 2023 from January to December, India's National Investigation Agency (NIA), State Investigation Agency (SIA), and Special Investigation Unit (SIU) of Jammu and Kashmir Police attached nearly **200** residential and commercial properties and land measuring approximately **100 acres** under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) across IOJK.

The relentless actions of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in Kashmir have given rise to a grave situation. Through a series of arrests, raids, and false charges, the NIA has systematically targeted Kashmiris who dare to advocate for self-determination, human rights, and justice. This misuse of power has perpetuated an atmosphere of fear and oppression, silencing voices of dissent and undermining the very principles of justice. The excesses of the NIA in Kashmir not only intensify the suffering of the people but also obstruct the path towards a peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute. It is crucial that the international community takes notice of these injustices and works towards ensuring the protection of human rights and the restoration of justice in the region.

The closure of shops, sealing of properties, and seizure of land have become common tactics employed by the authorities to weaken the local population economically and control any form of resistance. These actions not only curtail the fundamental rights of the people but also aim to pave the way for outsiders to settle in the region. The extensive encroachment on both agricultural and non-agricultural land adds to the gravity of the situation. It is crucial to recognize and address the implications of these measures, as they undermine the principles of justice, freedom, and autonomy for the residents of Jammu and Kashmir.

S.No	Owner	Nature of Property	Location	Date
1	APHC Headquarter	Office Building	Srinagar	28/01/2023
2	Abdul Rashid Qureshi	Agriculture Land, 6 Kanal 3 Marla	Kachama Kupwara	1/08/2023
3	Ayaz Akbar	Residential Property, 1 Kanal 10 Marla	Shalteng	13/06/2023
4	Mohammad Ishaq Malik	Residential House	Kokernag	2/06/2023
5	Mohd Abdullah Mir	Residential House	Yaroo	17/03/2023
6	Abdul Majeed Reshi F/o Aijaz Ahmad Reshi	Residential House	Gundpora, Rampura	04/03/2023
7	Muhammad Jamal Malik F/o Maqsood Ahmad Malik	Residential House	Bandipora	04/03/2023
8	Bashir Ahmad Peer Alias Imtiyaz Alam	Residential House, 1 Kanal 13 Marla	Kralpora, Kupwara	04/03/2023
9	Mushtaq Zargar Alias Latram	Residential House, 2 Marla	Nowhatta, Srinagar	02/03/2023
10	Basit Ahmad	Agricultural Land, 9.25 Marla	Baramulla	03/03/2023
11	Zahoor watali	Residential House and Agriculture Land, 31 Kanal 10 Marla	Handwara	12/6/2023
12	Azad ahmad teli	Residential House and Agriculture Land, 7 Kanal	Handwara	2/11/2023
13	Mohd Yousuf alias Yousuf Naseem, Bashir, Mohd Rafiq, Mohd Sakhi and Hilal Ahmad.	Residential Houses and Agriculture Land, 27 Kanal 13 Marla	Ganderbal	6/12/2023
14	Mukhtar Bhat F/o Irfan Ahmad Bhat	Residential House, 14 Marla	Ashtengoo bandipora	6/12/2023

NIA SEEKING DEATH SENTENCE FOR YASIN MALIK

The Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief Muhammad Yasin Malik was awarded a life term by a trial court in a case last year. On May 26, the NIA approached the Delhi High Court seeking the death penalty for Malik, asserting that not giving capital punishment to such a "dreaded terrorist" will result in a miscarriage of justice. India is using NIA to punish Malik to satisfy the 'collective conscience' of its nation and benefit from this hanging in multiple ways including in the upcoming 2024 elections. Before this, India hanged Maqbool Bhat and Muhammad Afzal in the notorious Tihar Jail. The ruling BJP party has also demanded strict punishment against Kashmir's popular resistance hero. A way is being paved to hang the resistance hero in coming months. India has already set a precedence by hanging two popular Kashmiri freedom fighters in Tihar jail. Many political analysts including Kashmiri resistance leaders have blamed Modi regime for scapegoating Malik to win 2024 elections.

The NIA's pursuit of seeking the death sentence for Yasin Malik, the leader of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, has raised concerns about justice and fairness. India's motives, driven by political gain and appeasing a collective conscience, seem to be overshadowing the principles of true justice. With the looming possibility of history repeating itself, as seen with the hangings of Maqbool Bhatt and Muhammad Afzal, the plight of Kashmir's resistance hero hangs in the balance. As political analysts and Kashmiri leaders decry this apparent scapegoating for electoral advantages, it becomes crucial to question the ethical implications and ensure that justice is not compromised in the pursuit of political gain.

LAND GRABBING

India has accelerated its efforts to control every means of dissent and seize properties of native inhabitants, paving way for the outsiders to settle in the region. In the name of “retrieving state land”, the occupational authorities and their auxiliaries seized over **4000 kanals** of land in the frontier district of Kupwara, north of Kashmir.[43] On the same day, over **938 kanals** of land were seized in central Kashmir’s Ganderbal district.[44] The total land seized in the district has surpassed **13431 kanals**. In Sothern Kashmir’s Shopian, over **400 kanals** of land were attached[45] and at least 40 shops were sealed by the authorities whereas over **400 kanals** of land were attached in Kulgam district of the region.[46] So far thousands of kanals of agricultural and nonagricultural land have been seized while as the occupational authorities have identified **178005.213 acres** in Kashmir region and **25159.56 acres** in Jammu as “encroached” by the residents who basically owned the said land legally under Agrarian Reforms Act, JK State Land Vesting of Ownership Act 2001, JK Evacuees of Property Act and other numerous acts and orders passed by the erstwhile state government in favor of landless peasants.[47]

The Indian Governments is applying Israeli model of systematic settlement which began in June 1967 from outset, private business benefiting from and contributing to them to build, finance, service, and market settlement communities. The UN recognized Disputed territory Jammu & Kashmir is under the de facto control of India and the Kashmiris are fighting a war of liberation to achieve the Right of Self Determination. Indian forcible evictions for Industrial settlements in the Jammu & Kashmir violate the International Humanitarian Law particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention prohibits an occupying power from transferring its citizens into the territory it occupies and from transferring or displacing the population of an occupied territory within or outside the territory.

There is an increasing trend of large-scale land-based investments by international and national business that may sometimes lead to forced evictions and human rights abuses, including the destruction of livelihood. International standards identify the distinct but complementary roles of government and business, whereby the State has the duty to protect against human rights abuses by third parties, including businesses. Corporate responsibility includes avoiding infringement on individual rights and addressing the negative impacts, such as remedies for victims.

[43] KL News Network, “4021 Kanals State, Kahcharai Land Retrieved in Kupwara,” Kashmir Life, 22 January 2023, <https://kashmirlife.net/4021-kanals-state-kahcharai-land-retrieved-in-kupwara-308845/>

[44] KL News Network, “13431 Kanals State, Kahcharai Land Retrieved in Ganderbal.” Kashmir Life. January 22, 2023. <https://kashmirlife.net/13431-kanals-state-kahcharai-land-308867/>.

[45] KL News Network. “406 Kanals Of State, Kahcharie Land Retrieved at Shopian, 40 Shops Sealed,” Kashmir Life, 28 January 2023, <https://kashmirlife.net/406-kanals-of-state-kahcharie-land-retrieved-at-shopian-40-shopssealed-309197/>

[46] KL News Network, “400 Kanals of State, Kahcharie Land Retrieved in Kulgam.” Kashmir Life, 29 January 2023, <https://kashmirlife.net/400-kanals-of-state-kahcharie-land-retrieved-in-kulgam-309247/>

[47] LFK, “The Great Land-Grab: Disempowering People in Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir - Legal Forum for Kashmir.” Legal Forum for Kashmir, 6 February 2023, <https://lfkashmir.com/the-great-land-grab-disempowering-people-in-indian-occupied-jammu-kashmir/>

TORTURE

Torture as an institutional expression of power and social control, is an instrument for states to intimidate or even eliminate the enemies and non-enemies.[48] Torture whenever routinely employed by the state is a reflection of its unauthorized use of violence and otherwise, impermissible use of coercion backed by the notions of self-defense and national security. Torture is both manifest and latent as it affects the physical as well as the psychological integrity of a person, hence it is prohibited under International Law, and domestic legal frameworks.

Article 1 of the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment which is representative of Customary International Law defines torture as an act by which ‘severe pain or suffering’ is intentionally inflicted upon a person or a third person with the intention of obtaining ‘information or a confession’ or as a ‘punishment for an act committed or suspected of committing’ or on any reason based on discrimination of any kind.[49]

Kashmiri natives suffer torture as a method of reprisals, a punitive measure, and a controlling tactic widely and extensively across the occupied territory. It is employed as a systematic mechanism to create a fear psychosis in the native population and to weaken the people’s resolve to resist the occupation.[50]

India’s systemic torture of the natives’ bodies and minds is a grave violation of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law. The ICCPR prohibits Torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment. The Articles 4 and 7 explicitly ban torture, even in times of national emergency or when the security of the state is threatened. India having ratified ICCPR is violating its Articles by hostage-taking, torture, and extrajudicial executions.

Multiple reports by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, JKCCS, and APDP have documented testimonies of several thousand Kashmiri civilians from all walks of life including minor children, women, the elderly, political activists, students, journalists, lawyers, and human rights defenders. The reports aim to expose the systematic and indiscriminate torture perpetrated by IOF and the counter-insurgency agencies in IOJK.

[48] Winston P. Nagan & Lucie Atkins, *The International Law of Torture: From Universal Proscription to Effective Application and Enforcement*, 14 Harv. Hum. Rts. J. 87 (2001), available at <http://scholarship.law.ufl.edu/facultypub/615>

[49] OHCHR, “Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,” See, Article 1, UNCAT, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-against-torture-and-other-cruel-inhuman-or-degrading>

[50] Newsclick Team, “Is Torture a State’s Instrument of Control in J&K?” NewsClick, 10 June 2019, <https://www.newsclick.in/torture-states-instrument-control-jk>.

Three Kashmiri civilians were extrajudicially executed by subjecting them to torture after they were picked up by the IOF in the wake of an attack by the armed fighters in the Dhatyar Morh between Dhera Ki Gali and Buffliaz in the Poonch-Rajouri belt of IOJK. According to the families, the three men – Mohammad Showkat, 22, Safeer Hussain, 45, and Shabir Ahmad, 32, were detained by IOF at the hilly Topa Pir village in Poonch district on 22 December 2023, a day after the armed rebels ambushed IOF vehicles and killing five personnel.[51]

The arrest of villagers, including the three who were found dead, was made by the IOF accompanied by policemen Mohd Rafiq and Mohd Rashid in the full public gaze, as per the testimony of a close relative of one of the deceased. “We were taken to the camp located in Manyal Gali near Dehra Ki Gali. We reached there at 10.30 am, our phones were switched off and they beat us with lathis and iron rods without saying anything. We were stripped, beaten, and smeared with chili powder on the wounds,” testified Mohammad Ashraf (52) undergoing treatment at the Government Medical College Hospital Rajouri along with four other people who sustained injuries during the torture and arbitrary detention.[52] The other four admitted at the Rajouri hospital with Ashraf are Farooq Ahmed, 45, and Fazal Hussain, 50, as well as Hussain’s nephews Mohammad Betab, 25, and another aged 15. They are all from the Thanamandi area.

Abdul Rashid Dar, 34, was picked up by the IOF from the Rashtriya Rifles (RR) during a raid on December 15. On March 2, 2023, the Kupwara police informed the family that they recovered Dar's body in a decomposed state from the nearby Zurhama-PK Galli Forest after three months of detention and disappearance from the RR custody.[53] The sarpanch of Kunan village, Khursheed Ahmad testified that the body was badly decomposed and it was very hard to identify him. On December 22, 2023, the Police, in a statement claimed that Dar was being questioned in connection with a militancy-related case, and had revealed some information regarding a hideout during his interrogation and while leading forces to the hideout, he escaped. However, his family and residents of the village contested this version, terming his arrest an enforced disappearance. When the police informed them of his death, demonstrators gathered in hundreds, calling it a extrajudicial execution due to sustained torture.[54]

[51] Livemint, “Chilli powder on wounds, beaten with iron rods': Civilians recount horror of torture during Poonch attack investigation,” Mint, 26 December 2023, <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/chilli-powder-on-wounds-beaten-with-iron-rods-civilians-recount-horror-of-torture-during-poonch-attack-investigation-11703576159689.html>

[52] Arun Sharma, “Civilian ‘tortured’ in Poonch speaks: ‘I am in video... they rubbed chilli powder on our wounds,’” Indian Express, 26 December 2023, <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/civilian-killed-tortured-poonch-video-chilli-powder-wounds-9082781/>

[53] Anees Zargar, “J&K: Body of Disappeared Youth Abdul Rashid Dar Recovered From Kupwara Forest,” News Click, 02 Mar 2023, <https://www.newsclick.in/jk-body-disappeared-youth-abdul-rashid-dar-recovered-kupwara-forest>

[54] Peoples Dispatch, “Protesters accuse military of custodial killing of daily wager in Kashmir,” Peoples Dispatch, 3 March, 2023, <https://peoplesdispatch.org/2023/03/03/protesters-accuse-military-of-custodial-killing-of-daily-wager-in-kashmir/>

Under the Jammu & Kashmir Armed forces (Special Powers) Act 1990 (AFSPA), Army has impunity as Section 6 reads that no suit or proceedings could be initiated against the army personnel without the sanction of the central government. The impunity granted to the Army under AFSPA has deprived the torture survivors from initiating any action against the perpetrators or claiming compensation from the federal governments. In the last 28 years the Home Secretary or Defence Secretary have not granted sanction to a single case. Even for prosecution against police officials sanction under section 197 of the CrPC is required, which is also impossible to obtain. The torture survivors in the state of Jammu & Kashmir have virtually no remedy, and the judiciary has failed to provide any relief to the victims or to implement the ratio decidendi.[55]



Indian Army stripping three muslim Kashmiri men — Safer Hussain (43), Mohammad Showket (27) and Shabir Ahmad (32), all residents of Topa Peer village of Buziaz — putting chilli powder into their butts

LFK has already filed a lawsuit against the Indian authorities and the IOF top brass at the War Crimes Unit of the Metropolitan Court in the UK. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of Ahsan Untoo, Chairman IFJHR-JK, who was tortured by Rashtriya Rifles in Watergam Camp of North Kashmir's Kupwara district. Untoo was arrested and booked under UAPA just days after the submission of his testimony under the Universal Jurisdiction application before UK-based law firm Stoke White.

[55] JKCCS, "Torture:Indian-State's-Instrument-of-Control-in-Indian-administered-Jammu-and-Kashmir," JKCCd, February 2019, <https://jkccs.info/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/TORTURE-Indian-State%E2%80%99s-Instrument-of-Control-in-Indian-administered-Jammu-and-Kashmir.pdf>

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

Extrajudicial executions in IOJK have been extensively documented since the enactment of the Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act, 1990. The grant of immunity to IOF has significantly compromised the likelihood of securing impartial and fair justice for the victims. While a substantial number of civilians have lost their lives in several incidents during counter-insurgency operations or public protest crackdowns, instances of staged encounters and custodial killings have regrettably not been uncommon. Testimonies from victims and human rights groups indicate that the malevolent actions and transgressions of the IOF in IOJK parallel those of the IDF in Palestine.

According to the Association of parents of disappeared persons (APDP) around 8000-10000 civilians have been subjected to enforced disappearance.[56] Hundreds of Habeas corpus petition and complaint against the occupying force are pending before the High court of Jammu and Kashmir, but due to the impunity under the draconian law AFSPA, the courts and Human Rights commission are handicapped to initiate criminal proceeding against any army officer or Unit accused of committing this grave offence.

Despite the graveness of the offence of enforced disappearances, India wilfully stays away from ratification of convention on International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and have a domestic legislation.

Several Indian and International human-rights groups have investigated the suspicious disappearance of Kashmiris, including European Union, Human Rights Watch, and the National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC).

On December 15, 2022 Abdul Rashid Dar, 33, from North Kashmir had a few bites of his dinner on a freezing night when his family heard a loud banging on their door. Rashid's elder brother, Shabir Ahmad, went to see who it was. As soon as he opened the door, he was faced with a squad of Indian army personnel, who picked Rashid from his house.

Rashid's Mother Khera Begum, told media reporters that a commander of Indian army Unit kept his hand on her head and assured that his son would be released the next day.[57]

[56] Goldie Osuri, "A Provisional Biography of The Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons, Kashmir — Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons," APDP, Accessed on 15 December 2023, <https://apdpkashmir.com/a-provisional-biography-of-the-association-of-parents-of-disappeared-persons-kashmir/>

[57] Auqib Javeed, "A 33-Year-Old's Disappearance After Detention In Kashmir Reveals Latest Abuse Of Law For Disturbed Areas," Article 14, 6 January 2023, <https://article-14.com/post/a-33-year-old-s-disappearanceafter-detention-in-kashmir-reveals-latest-abuse-of-law-for-disturbed-areas--63b784e9a6c45>

Two months after Rashid was subjected to enforced disappearance, his dead body was recovered from forest area in the Kupwara District. His brother Shabir told media that Rashid had red marks on his body, “as if it had been set on fire”. “His face was visibly damaged. The clothes he was wearing on the day of disappearance were also missing, except the thermal inner-wear which appeared to have been put on him in a hurry before he was buried.”[58]

Article 33 of Additional Protocol I of the Geneva Convention expressly allows States to locate missing persons of the adverse group. However, it is hard to put this duty on the Indian government because in non-international armed conflicts such as Kashmir, the majority of victims of enforced disappearance are not foreign nationals and are accused of supporting the opposition or militancy.

CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS BY IOF

The two hostile neighbour India-Pakistan have fought three major wars over the dispute of Kashmir and are often escalating the intensity of armed action across the Line of control. According to the International law experts and the Geneva academy the situation falls within the category of International Armed Conflict under Common Article 2 of Geneva Convention.

In 1949 India & Pakistan executed an agreement titled as ‘Karachi agreement’ under which Ceasefire Line (now Line of Control) was established. The Ceasefire Line (CFL) is a duly acknowledged line between India and Pakistan and both the countries have mutually agreed to preserve the sanctity of the CFL until the final settlement of the Kashmir dispute. The United Nation appointed United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), by way of the resolution 13th august 1948. Later, CFL was formally defined and renamed as Line of Control (LoC) under Shimla Agreement.

The two countries under a bilateralism announce ceasefire across the Line of control but it doesn’t last long. In 2003 and 2021 an agreement to practice cessation of hostilities was agreed by an unwritten joint commitment that was communicated by the then Director-General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of both countries. Despite the ceasefire announcements there has been numerous violations reported by the both countries.

[58] Jehangir Ali, “Kashmiri Man’s Body Found Two Months After He Disappeared While In Army Custody,” The Wire, 2 March 2023, <https://thewire.in/security/kashmiri-mans-body-found-two-months-after-hedisappeared-while-in-army-custody>

In July 2020 Pakistan summoned a senior diplomat and lodged a strong protest over “ceasefire violation by Indian occupying force” targeting civilian population of Pakistan administered Kashmir. The Pakistan ministry claimed that Indian forces violated a 2003 border agreement 1,595 times in 2021. India, on the contrary, accused Pakistan, saying that the latter violated ceasefire 2,027 times as of June 10, 2020. The renewed pledge on ceasefire violation at troubled border on February 2021 was cheered by both countries and also welcomed by US State department.

This so called pledge of truce was dusted by India on 23 November 2022, when the Northern Army command Lt General Upendra Dwivedi threatened to attack Pakistan administered Kashmir and invade it through military action.

On May 15, 2023, Fatima Parveen w/o Late Syed Manzoor Hussain Shah from Hotaredi district Hatian Bala of Pakistan Administered Jammu and Kashmir went out to collect firewood but did not come back. The village of deceased is very near to ceasefire line. According to the locals she inadvertently crossed the ceasefire line and entered into the Kamalkote area of district Baramulla of Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir. In the proximity to the border fencing, she was shot dead by Indian Army and dubbed as an “intruder” by the Indian media.

On May 19, 2023, Muhammad Taruf S/o Alam Deen from Lanjot Fatehpur Thakayala district Kotli of Azad Jammu and Kashmir went out to collect firewood and graze animals but did not come back. The village of deceased is also very near to ceasefire line. By profession Muhammad Taruf was shepherd, he used to graze animals near cease fire line. According to the locals, he inadvertently crossed the ceasefire line and entered into the Mendhar sector of district Poonch of Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir and was shot dead by Indian occupying forces.

According to the victim families, who live along the Line of control accuse Indian occupying force of using provocation and firing indiscriminately on the civilian population. The ceasefire line is heavily fenced and cannot be infiltrated on either side but the people who inadvertently crossed the ceasefire line are killed by the Indian occupying forces as intruder. Brother of victim reported to local press of PAK.

On June 23, 2023, Indian Army in a display of its usual inhumane approach towards innocent Kashmiris opened indiscriminate fire onto a group of shepherds in the Sattwal Sector of Jammu and Kashmir and killed two civilians and one person was critically injured. The slain civilians are identified as Obaid Qayyum, 22, and Muhammad Qasim, 55. Both the martyrs are Kashmiris residents, they were from the village Bara Dari Tetrinote, Tehsil Hajira, District Poonch, of Pakistan Administered Jammu and Kashmir. The firing and shelling incidents often result in casualties and fatalities; and destruction of property and livestock.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CURTAILED

In any armed conflict or occupation, the respect for religious convictions has been a fundamental guarantee applicable to all persons. The Geneva Convention (GC) IV impose a duty on occupying power to facilitate the religious rights of occupied inhabitants without any distinction or impediment. Further, the GC III also gives Chaplains & religious personnel equal protection as of medical personnel and religious organisation are, under certain circumstances, equated to relief societies.

The occupying authorities in IOJK curbs religious freedom on the pretext of law-and-order problem. In 2023 the local administration barred Kashmiri Muslims to offer Eid prayers, and the weekly Friday congregational prayers in historical Jamia mosque and Eidgah.

On 23 June a peaceful protest was reported in central mosque Srinagar to demand the release of Hurriyat conference Chairman and Chief cleric, Mirwaiz Muhammad Umar Farooq. The protestors holding placards read, it has been '200 Fridays' Mirwaiz has been barred to lead Friday prayers in Jamia Masjid.[59]

Authorities in IOJK on September 22, 2023 allowed top cleric and pro-freedom leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq to lead the congregational Friday prayers after more than four years of house detention. In his sermon Mirwaiz demanded a peaceful solution to the Kashmir issue to end the suffering of the people of Kashmir, and the release of the Kashmiri including traders, journalists and human rights activists imprisoned during since 2019.[60]

In wake of Israel's fresh spate of attacks in Palestine on October 7 the Indian administration bars Pro-Palestinian Protests in Kashmir. Mirwaiz has been again put under house arrest each Friday since the start of Israel's war on Gaza and Friday prayers were disallowed in Jamia Masjid.[61]

Aga Syed Mohammad Hadi, a Kashmiri religious leader, was barred from leading the Friday prayers for two weeks after placing him under house arrest. He was scheduled to stage a protest rally against the aggression of Israel.[62]

[59] Jehangir Ali, "200 Fridays Under House Arrest': Chorus Grows for the Release of Kashmir's Chief Cleric Mirwaiz," The Wire, 23 June 2023, <https://thewire.in/rights/200-fridays-under-house-arrest-chorus-grows-for-the-release-of-kashmirs-chief-cleric-mirwaiz>.

[60] Al Jazeera Staff, "Kashmir's top pro-freedom cleric leads Friday prayers after four years," Al Jazeera, 22 September 2023, <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/9/22/kashmirs-top-pro-freedom-cleric-leads-friday-prayers-after-four-years>

[61] Newsdesk, "We are forced to be silent': India bars pro-Palestine protests in Kashmir," TRT World, October 2023, <https://www.trtworld.com/discrimination/we-are-forced-to-be-silent-india-bars-pro-palestine-protests-in-kashmir-15750447>

[62] Aijaz Hussain, "India Bars Pro-Palestinian Protests in Kashmir," The Diplomat, 8 November 2023, <https://thediplomat.com/2023/11/india-bars-pro-palestinian-protests-in-kashmir/>

On 24 June an Indian army major of 50 RR stationed in Southern Kashmir Pulwama forced worshippers inside a mosque to chant the 'Jai Shri Ram' and "Bharat Mata ki Jai" slogan.[63]

INDIA'S MURKY WAR IN KASHMIR

India, besides having its one million soldiers in the occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir, is involved in a different kind of war. It has, especially following the developments of 5th August 2019, employed a range of insidious tactics to manipulate public opinion and control the narrative. The multifaceted strategies employed by the Indian occupying state in its quest to "win" the hearts and minds of Kashmiris range from the proliferation of embedded 'journalists' and organizing sports events to the strategic cultivation of journalists, activists, and social media influencers. A clandestine war is unfolding where the struggle for dominance extends far beyond the conventional battlefield. The Indian occupying forces are weaving a web of influence that stretches into every facet of Kashmiri lives.

One of the most insidious tactics employed by India is the manipulation of the media landscape in Kashmir. In a bid to control the narrative, India has installed embedded journalists who masquerade as independent voices while covertly advancing the occupier's agenda. These journalists serve as mouthpieces for Indian propaganda machinery, disseminating carefully crafted propaganda to shape public opinion and control the flow of information. The once-diverse media landscape of Kashmir is now a battleground where truth struggles to emerge from the fog of manipulation. In June this year, a Kashmiri journalist was declared 'self-styled' and his Facebook news page blacklisted after he filed an RTI appeal addressed to the Public Information Officer Baramulla, seeking information from the office including the monetization of a Facebook page run by the district admin, educational details of journalists in official group of Baramulla admin among other details. [64] The journalist had protested against the mushrooming of new journalists, favoritism by the government and unethical journalism. In 2022 a report by National Herald highlighted that there is a loss of credibility for local newspapers, which have lost readers and are now full of government advertisements and propaganda.[65]

[63] Staff Writer, "Pulwama Mosque Incident: 1 Officer Removed from Duty; Army, Police Continue Probe," Mint, 27 June 2023, <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pulwama-mosque-incident-1-officer-removed-from-duty-army-police-continue-probe-11687829675341.html>.

[64] Newsdesk, "Days after Filing RTI, Kashmiri Journalist Declared 'Self-Styled' by Officials, His Facebook Page Blacklisted," The Kashmiriyat, 7 June 2023, <https://thekashmiriyat.co.uk/days-after-filing-rti-kashmiri-journalist-declared-self-styled-by-officials-his-facebook-page-blacklisted/>

[65] Gulzar Bhat, "Is Muzzling the Media in Kashmir Serving the Interests of New Delhi?" National Herald, 12 March 2022, <https://www.nationalheraldindia.com/india/is-muzzling-the-media-in-kashmir-serving-the-interests-of-new-delhi>

The stifling of independent journalism is not the only tool in India's arsenal. The occupier is also orchestrating a series of sports events in IOJK, presenting a facade of normalcy while subduing resistance movement. These events, cloaked in the guise of entertainment, serve a dual purpose – to distract the population from the grim realities of occupation and to foster a sense of loyalty among the people. By intertwining sports and patriotism, India aims to dilute the spirit of resistance and replace it with a more docile acceptance of the status quo. By promoting these events, the occupier India seeks to create an illusion of harmony and goodwill while masking the underlying tensions of the occupied Kashmiri population. A latest report mentions that at least 60 lakh people participated in different sports events mostly organized by Indian Army, J and K Police and their auxiliaries.[66]

This murky war of India in Kashmir separates itself from conventional 'counterinsurgency' warfare by rendering the resistance movement and its goals irrelevant. Concurrently, the military administration is reinvigorated and welfare schemes are implemented under the rubric of "winning hearts and minds". India has spent crores of rupees on different such schemes including Operation Sadbhavana to lure people into believing that the occupying Indian Army, despite all its ills, is result oriented and better organized.[67]

A detailed report in The Caravan in 2022 highlighted how the Indian Army was involved in numerous hyper-nationalist protests and grooming of pro-occupation activists in IOJK.[68]

India's strategy extends beyond traditional media manipulation and the orchestration of public events. The occupying force has strategically cultivated a network of journalists, activists, and social media influencers who align with its agenda. These individuals, often planted and groomed by the occupying powers, serve as conduits for disseminating pro-occupation narratives and suppressing dissent. Through the proliferation of these pro-agenda figures, India seeks to drown out authentic voices of resistance and control the discourse within Kashmir. This calculated effort to shape public opinion and stifle opposition is a hallmark of India's murky war tactics.

The famous clock tower known as Lal Chowk has become a symbolic battleground, used by the military administration to divert attention from the grim realities on the ground and propagate false narratives. Lal Chowk serves as a central stage where India attempts to portray an illusion of tranquility, creating the impression that everything is hunky dory in the

[66] Tasaduq Hussain, "60 Lakh Youth Engaged in Sports Activities in J&K: Secretary YSS," KNO, 4 August 2023, <https://www.kashmirnewsobserver.com/top-stories/60-lakh-youth-engaged-in-sports-activities-in-jandk-secretary-yss-kno-177634>

[67] Kaustav Dhar Chakrabarti, "Sadbhavana and the Paradox of 'Winning Hearts and Minds': An Institutional Perspective," *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 50, No. 24 (JUNE 13, 2015), pp. 21-23 (3 pages), Accessed from JSTOR, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24481996>.

[68] Shahid Tantray, "False Flags: The Indian Army's secretive role in hyper-nationalist protests in Kashmir," *The Caravan*, 31 May 2022, <https://hindi.caravanmagazine.in/conflict/indian-army-organises-aakhir-kab-tak-nationalist-protests-kashmir>

region. This is achieved through various means, including organizing events like World Pheran Day[69], where Bollywood actors don the traditional Kashmiri attire Pheran to showcase a cultural integration that diverts attention from the underlying political strife. The strategic hoisting of Indian flags in Lal Chowk, amidst a heavy deployment of Indian troops, is a symbolic gesture to assert Indian authority over the region. Critics see these actions as an attempt to project a sense of normalcy, divert attention from resistance movements, and reinforce India's narrative over the region. The multifaceted nature of this conflict makes it a challenging and sensitive issue on both domestic and international fronts.

Another policy that the Indian state has crafted is the systematic facilitation of tourists to different parts of the region to advance its vested interests. The reported influx of 4.30 lakh tourists to Line of Control (LOC) villages[70] in the disputed Kashmir valley in 2023 raises questions about India's strategy for creating a facade of normalcy in the region. On the surface, the surge in tourist numbers might appear as a positive sign for the local economy and an indication of stability. However, it also reflects a complex and contentious approach employed by India to portray a sense of normalcy amidst the persisting tensions. By encouraging tourism in the LOC villages, India aims to project an image of the region as a peaceful and attractive destination, diverting attention from the underlying political challenges. Such initiatives not only serve economic interests but also contribute to a narrative that downplays the existing conflict and aspirations of Kashmiris who have been demanding their right to self-determination since India forcibly brought its military in the region. The presence of a large number of tourists may create an illusion of normal life in the area, overshadowing the ongoing disputes and the impact of military presence. This strategic maneuver is part of India's broader efforts to shape perceptions and control the narrative surrounding the Kashmir issue, both domestically and internationally.

India's engagement in the disputed region of Jammu and Kashmir extends beyond its military presence, manifesting in a complex web of insidious tactics to manipulate public opinion and control the narrative. From installing embedded journalists to organize sports events, India strategically employs multifaceted strategies to shape perceptions. The media landscape in Kashmir is under siege, with embedded journalists acting as conduits for Indian propaganda, stifling independent voices. Simultaneously, India orchestrates sports events to present a facade of normalcy, distracting from the harsh realities of occupation and fostering loyalty among the populace. The murky war involves spending on welfare schemes to portray a benevolent military, concurrently marginalizing the resistance movement. India strategically cultivates a network of individuals, including journalists, activists, and social media influencers, aligning with its agenda to drown out authentic voices of dissent. The symbolic battleground of Lal Chowk further exemplifies India's attempts to divert attention and propagate false narratives. Even tourism is leveraged as a tool, with the influx of tourists to LOC villages in 2023 aimed at projecting an image of peace, masking the underlying political challenges. Such efforts to shape public opinion and maintain a semblance of normalcy is a hallmark of India's controversial approach in Kashmir.

[69] Shabir Ibn Yusuf, "International Pheran Day Observed at Lal Chowk," Greater Kashmir, 21 December 2023, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/city/international-pheran-day-observed-at-lal-chowk/>

[70] KL News Network, "Kashmir's Border Tourism: 4.30 Lakh Visitors Flock to LOC Villages This Year," Kashmir Life, 25 December 2023, <https://kashmirlife.net/kashmirs-border-tourism-4-30-lakh-visitors-flock-to-loc-villages-this-year-336280/>

SMOKE AND MIRRORS: G20 AND INDIA'S STRATEGIC PLAY FOR NORMALCY IN KASHMIR

The G20 meeting[71] – a platform for representatives from 20 major economies to discuss and coordinate policies related to global economic stability and development – a session of which was held in the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) this year has sparked controversy and discord among member nations with China, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia refusing to participate in the event, citing international law that opposes holding international events in the disputed region. The refusal[72] of these significant members of the event raised questions about the participation of other G20 members.

International law serves as the cornerstone for maintaining peace, stability, and mutual respect among nations. The principle of any biased interference in the disputed regions emphasizes the importance of respecting people's aspirations stuck in protracted disputes across the globe. The G20, as a platform for global economic cooperation, should prioritize adherence to international law and respect the sensitivities of territorial disputes. Jammu and Kashmir has long been a region marred by conflict and a vicious cycle of violence leading to decades of political deadlock and continuous reports of rights abuses. The status of Jammu and Kashmir remains a sensitive issue, and holding any international events there is tantamount to aggravating tensions and hindering peaceful resolution efforts. Since 5th August 2019 when India, unilaterally and against international law and the UN resolutions, revoked the special status of the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, reports of gross human rights violations have continuously surfaced with international bodies acting as mute spectators. India has since then consistently tried to consolidate power and legalize its unconstitutional actions in the region. Under the garb of holding an international event in the territory, India is trying to gain international recognition and pass off the region as its own part besides paving way for gaining support from significant nation-states for its project of settler colonialism in the UN-recognized disputed territory. Post the abrogation of Article 370 and 35a, the country has accelerated its efforts to convince the world of its stance on the region and assert its de facto control over the illegally occupied territory. Jammu and Kashmir often remain in the news because of the violence perpetrated by India's occupational

[71] Al Jazeera Staff, "India Hosts G20 Tourism Meet in Kashmir under Heavy Security," Al Jazeera, 22 May 2023, [https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/5/22/india-hosts-g20-tourism-meet-in-kashmir-under-heavy-security#:~:text=It%20is%20the%20first%20diplomatic,took%20direct%20control%20in%202019.&text=A%20Group%20of%2020%20\(G20,event%20in%20the%20disputed%20region](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/5/22/india-hosts-g20-tourism-meet-in-kashmir-under-heavy-security#:~:text=It%20is%20the%20first%20diplomatic,took%20direct%20control%20in%202019.&text=A%20Group%20of%2020%20(G20,event%20in%20the%20disputed%20region)

[72] Geeta Mohan, "After China, Turkey, Egypt, Now Saudi Arabia Won't Attend G20 Meeting in Srinagar," India Today, 22 May 2023, <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/after-china-turkey-egypt-now-saudi-arabia-wont-attend-g20-meeting-in-srinagar-2382736-2023-05-22>.

troops and the ongoing resistance movement by the indigenous people from the territory against the military occupation of their homeland. India has, on and off, faced criticism from international bodies including human rights watchdogs for its crimes in the region. By holding a G20 meeting involving different countries across the globe, the Indian administration has tried to present a distorted picture of the ground realities and portray normalcy in the disputed region.

This is not the only time when the Indian state has desperately attempted to conduct an international event in the disputed region. In 2015, the military administration in the territory tried to conduct an International half-marathon in Srinagar which led to severe clashes with people opposing the event, demanding an impartial plebiscite in the region before conducting any such events. In 2013, a performance by Zubin Mehta faced controversy as Kashmiris, responding to a call from resistance leaders, staged a shutdown and protested the event arguing that the concert conferred legitimacy upon Indian occupation in the region. Reuters in its report termed it as “posing potential diplomatic embarrassment for Germany, whose ambassador organized the event.”[73] The occupational troops on the same day killed four civilians in the valley and injured a motorist in Srinagar where the event was being held.

In September this year, an announcement from former Miss Worlds from different countries was made that the 2023 Miss World event will be held in IOJK.[74] The move is aimed at portraying the façade of normalcy in the region. Even though Kashmir is a predominantly Muslim-majority region, India resorts to vulgar moves for its propaganda machinery in the valley. Besides, India is now increasingly organizing dancing programs under the garb of “cultural festivals” for propaganda in the region.[75]

Kashmiris have always opposed any attempt to conduct any event involving international bodies on their soil for the sole reason that the territory is an internationally recognized dispute and people have been fighting for a free and impartial plebiscite since decades. Any international event conducted by the military administration is a brazen attempt at distorting the ground realities, legalizing military occupation, and eroding the disputed nature of the region.

[73] Fayaz Bukhari, “Controversial Kashmir concert by Zubin Mehta ends on sour note,” Reuters, 8 September 2013, <https://www.reuters.com/article/kashmir-concert-zubin-mehta-idINDEE98706520130908/>

[74] David Tusing, “Miss World 2023 to Be Held in Indian-Administered Kashmir,” The National, 29 August 2023, <https://www.thenationalnews.com/lifestyle/fashion-beauty/2023/08/29/miss-world-2023-kashmir-india/>

[75] ANI, “Cultural Festival Jashn-E-Rustam Held by Army near Line of Control,” Hindustan Times, 30 August 2023, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/festivals/cultural-festival-jashn-e-rustam-held-by-army-near-line-of-control-101693393229925.html>

In light of international scrutiny, India's decision to host the G20 meeting in the Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) sparked controversy and dissent, leading significant nations such as China, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia to decline participation, citing violations of international law. This move of hosting a meeting in Srinagar underscores a broader pattern of India attempting to project a semblance of normalcy in the disputed region. Amid ongoing conflict and human rights concerns, including the revocation of Article 370 in 2019, India strategically employs international events like the G20 meeting to gain legitimacy and support for its actions in the UN-recognized disputed territory. This mirrors previous attempts, such as the controversial 2015 half-marathon and the 2013 Zubin Mehta concert, both met with local opposition and international criticism. The announcement of hosting the 2023 Miss World event in IOJK and the use of cultural festivals and dancing programs as propaganda further exemplify India's persistent efforts to downplay the region's disputed nature, eroding the aspirations of Kashmiris seeking an impartial plebiscite.

CRIMINALIZING RESISTANCE POLITICS

International Humanitarian Law acknowledges the people's right to resistance against colonial domination, alien occupation, and racist regimes. This right flows from the principles of occupation law and resonates in different sources of international law as the Jus Cogen norm. The Kashmiris' right to resist against the Indian occupying authority is a legitimate act. However, since 2019 the Government of India banned six indigenous Kashmiri organizations for propagating secession and dissent against the state under the first schedule of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967, section 3 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967. The banned Kashmiri organizations include Dukhtaran e Millat Jammu & Kashmir, Jamaat-e Islami Jammu & Kashmir, Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front, Democratic Freedom Party Jammu & Kashmir, and Muslim League Jammu & Kashmir.



Amit Shah
@AmitShah

Follow

The 'Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction)'/MLJK-MA is declared as an 'Unlawful Association' under UAPA.

This organization and its members are involved in anti-national and secessionist activities in J&K supporting terrorist activities and inciting people to establish Islamic rule in J&K.

The PM @narendramodi government's message is loud and clear that anyone acting against the unity, sovereignty, and integrity of our nation will not be spared and face the full wrath of the law.

2:03 pm · 27 Dec 23 · 756K Views



Amit Shah
@AmitShah

Follow

The 'Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, J&K (TeH) has been declared an 'Unlawful Association' under UAPA.

The outfit is involved in forbidden activities to separate J&K from India and establish Islamic rule. The group is found spreading anti-India propaganda and continuing terror activities to fuel secessionism in J&K.

Under PM @narendramodi Ji's zero-tolerance policy against terrorism, any individual or organization found involved in anti-India activities will be thwarted forthwith.

12:51 pm · 31 Dec 23 · 391K Views

On 28 February 2019 Indian administration banned Jamaat-e- Islami Jammu Kashmir and arrested its 300 members including office-bearers under anti-terror legislation UAPA.

On 22nd March 2019, Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front, a pro-freedom resistance group in IOJK was declared as an organization acting against the national interest and sovereignty of India. Similarly, the women's socio-political organization Dukhtran e Milliat was banned in January 2022. DeM Chairperson Syedah Asiya Andrabi including its first line leadership Nahida Nasreen Secretary General and Sofi Fahmeeda Spokesperson are jailed outside the IOJK and are facing trial under UAPA Since 2017.

On October 6, 2023, the Jammu Kashmir democratic freedom party headed by incarcerated Hurriyat leader Shabir Ahmad Shah was declared as unlawful association. [76]

On 27th December Amit Shah, Home Ministry of India announced on his personal X account followed by a official notification under UAPA "The Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction)/MLJK-MA is declared as an 'Unlawful Association' under UAPA.[77] This organization and its members are involved in anti-national and secessionist activities in J&K. To deprive peoples of such a right is to deny their right to equality and human dignity in contravention of the UN Charter. Having lived under alien domination and subjugation forever 75 years, resistance has become an integral part of the Palestinian identity.

On 31st December 2023, Amit Shah, Home Ministry of India announced on his personal X account followed by a official notification under UAPA "The 'Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, J&K (TeH) has been declared an 'Unlawful Association' under UAPA." [78]

[76] Newsdesk, "GoI bans jailed Hurriyat leader Shabir Shah's JKDFP for 'anti-India' activities," Free Press Kashmir, 6 October 2023, <https://freepresskashmir.news/2023/10/06/goi-bans-jailed-hurriyat-leader-shabir-shahs-jkdfp/>

[77] Midday Online, "Centre declares Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) 'Unlawful Association' under UAPA," MidDay, 27 December 2023, <https://www.mid-day.com/amp/news/india-news/article/centre-declares-masarat-alam-muslim-league-jammu-kashmir-as-unlawful-association-under-uapa-23326966>

[78] GK Webdesk, "Home Ministry declares 'Tehreek-e-Hurriyat' as 'unlawful association' under UAPA," Greater Kashmir, 31 December 2023, <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/gk-top-news/home-ministry-declares-tehreek-e-hurriyat-as-unlawful-association-under-uapa/>

ANNEXURE I: FREEDOM FIGHTERS KILLED FROM JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023

S.NO	Name of Freedom Fighter	IOF unit involved in Combat Operation	Date	Place of Combat Operation
1	Unidentified	Sikh LI	07/01/2023	Balakote
2	Unidentified	Sikh LI	07/01/2023	Balakote
3	Unidentified	2RR	15/01/2023	Magam area of Budgam
4	Arbaz Mir	53RR,43BN CRPF, SOG	17/01/2023	Budgam
5	Shahid Sheikh	53RR,43BN CRPF, SOG	17/01/2023	Budgam
6	Unidentified	7RR, SOG	16/02/2023	Tangdhar, Kupwara
7	Aqib Mushtaq Bhat	55RR, 130BN CRPF, SOG	28/02/2023	Padgampora, Pulwama
8	Aijaz Bhat	55RR, 130BN CRPF, SOG	28/02/2023	Padgampora, Pulwama
9	Unidentified	55RR, 182BN, 183BN CRPF, SOG	18/03/2023	Mitrigam Pulwama
10	Unidentified	4GR	09/04/2023	Shahpur, Poonch
11	Unidentified	57RR, SOG	03/05/2023	Machil, Kupwara
12	Unidentified	57RR, SOG	03/05/2023	Machil, Kupwara
13	Shakir Najar	29RR, 2BN SSB	04/05/2023	Kreeri, Baramulla
14	Hanan Seh	29RR, 2BN SSB	04/05/2023	<u>Kreeri, Baramulla</u>
15	Abid Wani	2RR,176BN CRPF, SOG	06/05/2023	Kunzer, <u>Baramulla</u>

16	Unidentified	60RR	06/05/2023	Kandi, Rajouri
17	Unidentified	19RR	14/05/2023	Mendhar
18	Unidentified	37RR	20/05/2023	Mendhar
19	Unidentified	38RR	02/06/2023	Dasal, Mehar, Rajouri
20	Unidentified	RR	13/06/2023	Kupwara
21	Unidentified	RR	13/06/2023	Kupwara
22	Unidentified	8 JAT	16/06/2023	Jumagund, Keran
23	Unidentified	8 JAT	16/06/2023	Jumagund, Keran
24	Unidentified	8 JAT	16/06/2023	Jumagund, Keran
25	Unidentified	8 JAT	16/06/2023	Jumagund, Keran
26	Unidentified	8 JAT	16/06/2023	Jumagund, Keran
27	Unidentified	45 RR	23/06/2023	Kala Jungle, Machil, Kupwara
28	Unidentified	45 RR	23/06/2023	Kala Jungle, Machil, Kupwara
29	Unidentified	45 RR	23/06/2023	Kala Jungle, Machil, Kupwara
30	Unidentified	45 RR	23/06/2023	Kala Jungle, Machil, Kupwara
31	Adil Majeed Lone	1RR, 18BN CRPF, SOG	26/06/2023	Hawoora, Kulgam
32	Unidentified	BSF	10/07/2023	LOC, Naushera Sector

33	Unidentified	39RR	17/07/2023	Poonch
34	Unidentified	39RR	17/07/2023	Poonch
35	Mohammad Rafir Mir	16RR	18/07/2023	Poonch
36	Sharif	16RR	18/07/2023	Poonch
37	Mahemood Ahmed	16RR	18/07/2023	Poonch
38	Yasir	16RR	18/07/2023	Poonch
39	Unidentified	BSF	19/07/2023	Kupwara
40	Unidentified	BSF	19/07/2023	Kupwara
41	Unidentified	Army, police, SOG	05/08/2023	Rajouri
42	Unidentified	Army	06/08/2023	Tangdhar Kupwara
43	Unidentified	Army, police, SOG	05/08/2023	Body recovered from Reasi on 18 august
44	Muneer Hussain	Indian Army	07/08/2023	Poonch
45	Unidentified	Indian Army	21/08/2023	Balakote Poonch
46	Unidentified	Indian Army	21/08/2023	Balakote Poonch
47	Shakeel Janbaz	58 RR	04/09/2023	Chassana Reasi
48	Unidentified	25 RR	06/09/2023	Poonch
49	Unidentified	25 RR	06/09/2023	Poonch
50	Gowhar Manzoor wani	63 RR	12/09/2023	Rajouri
51	Unidentified	63 RR	12/09/2023	Rajouri

52	Unidentified	5 JAK Rifles	16/09/2023	Uri
53	Unidentified	5 JAK Rifles	16/09/2023	Uri
54	Unidentified	5 JAK Rifles	16/09/2023	Uri
55	Uzair	9RR	13/09/2023	Kokernag
56	Unidentified	9RR	13/09/2023	Kokernag
57	Unidentified	Army and police	30/09/2023	Kumkadi Machal
58	Unidentified	Army and police	30/09/2023	Kumkadi Machal
59	Basit Amin Bhat	Rashtriya Rifles, and CRPF	5/10/2023	kulgam
60	Saqib Ahmad Lone	Rashtriya Rifles, and CRPF	5/10/2023	kulgam
61	Morifat Maqbool	Indian army 44 Rashtriya Rifles	10/10/2023	shopian
62	Jazim Farooq	Indian army 44 Rashtriya Rifles	10/10/2023	shopian
63	Unidentified	IOF	21/10/2023	Uri
64	Unidentified	IOF	21/10/2023	Uri
65	Fayaz	IOF	26/10/2023	Kupwara
66	Gh. Rasool	IOF	26/10/2023	Kupwara
67	Sarfaraz	IOF	26/10/2023	Kupwara
68	Sher Afzal	IOF	26/10/2023	Kupwara

69	Sadiq	IOF	26/10/2023	Kupwara
70	Unidentified	IOF	29/10/2023	Kupwara
71	Maisar Ahmad Dar	2 Rajput, SOG	09/11/2023	Shopian
72	Bashir Malik, MJF	8 RR, JKP	15/11/2023	Uri
73	Abdul Gani, MJF	8 RR, JKP	15/11/2023	Uri
74	Sameer Ahmed Sheikh	34 Rashtriya Rifles, 9 Para, CRPF and 2 Sector R R	17/11/2023	Kulgam
75	Danish Thokar	34 Rashtriya Rifles, 9 Para, CRPF and 2 Sector R R	17/11/2023	Kulgam
76	Ubaid Paddar	34 Rashtriya Rifles, 9 Para, CRPF and 2 Sector R R	17/11/2023	kulgam
77	Hanzara Shah	34 Rashtriya Rifles, 9 Para, CRPF and 2 Sector R R	17/11/2023	kulgam
78	Yasif Bhatt	34 Rashtriya Rifles, 9 Para, CRPF and 2 Sector R R	17/11/2023	kulgam
79	Qari	63 RR, JKP	23/11/2023	Rajouri
80	Abu Alqama	63 RR, JKP	23/11/2023	Rajouri
81	Kifayat Ayoub Alie,	Army (44RR), and CRPF (182Bn), JKP	30/11/2023	Arigam, Pulwama
82	Unidentified	Army	22/12/2023	Akhnoor

ANNEXURE II: KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS FROM JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023

S.No	Name	Date	Nature of Killig	Place of Killing
1	Pritam Sharma	01/01/2023	Rajouri attack	Rajouri
2	Ashish Kumar	01/01/2023	Rajouri attack	Rajouri
3	Deepak Kumar	01/01/2023	Rajouri attack	Rajouri
4	Sheetal Kumar	01/01/2023	Rajouri attack	Rajouri
5	Unidentified Child	01/01/2023	Rajouri attack	Rajouri
6	Unidentified Child	01/01/2023	Rajouri attack	Rajouri
7	Prince Sharma	02/01/2023	Rajouri attack	Rajouri
8	Unidentified	10/01/2023	Ran over by IOF vehicle	Kupwara
9	Unidentified	10/01/2023	Ran over by IOF vehicle	Kupwara
10	Ifran Ahmed	13/01/2023	Mysterious firing	Poonch
11	Mohammad Ashraf Khatana	13/01/2023	Unidentified	Kulgam
12	Sher Singh	15/01/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, Police custody	Rajouri
13	Rubina Kouser	26/01/2023	Accidental fire	Poonch
14	Gulzar Ahmad Dar	01/02/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, Police custody	Shopian
15	Sonu Kumar	01/02/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, Police custody	Kathua
16	Babu Ali	14/02/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Srinagar
17	Naseer Ahmad Lone	14/02/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Srinagar
18	Mushtaq Ahmad	14/02/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Mendhar
19	Unidentified	17/02/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Srinagar
20	Unidentified	17/02/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Ganderbal
21	Sanjay Pandith	26/02/2023	Fired upon by unknown gunmen	Pulwama
22	Umran	28/02/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Kulgam

23	Abdul Rashid Dar	01/03/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, Police custody	Kupwara
24	Mohammad Jamal Dar	05/03/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, Police custody	Sopore
25	Shamim Akhter	08/03/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Poonch
26	Unidentified	12/03/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, IOF custody	Budgam
27	Suhail	15/03/2023	Fired upon by unknown gunmen	Srinagar
28	Suresh Kumar	10/04/2023	Killed by IOF	Rajouri
29	Unidentified	10/04/2023	Killed by IOF	Rajouri
30	Unidentified	10/04/2023	Killed by IOF	Rajouri
31	Unidentified	10/04/2023	Killed by IOF	Rajouri
32	Unidentified	16/04/2023	Mysterious blast	Srinagar
33	Unidentified	19/04/2023	Mysterious blast	Kishtwar
34	Unidentified	24/04/2023	Collateral damage during gunfight	Anantnag
35	Aqib	24/04/2023	Killed by IOF	Bijbehara
36	Unidentified	27/04/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Kupwara
37	M. Shoib	01/05/2023	Fired upon by unknown gunmen	Poonch
38	Unidentified	01/02/2023	Killed by Police	Kupwara
39	Yaqoob	03/05/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Srinagar
40	Mir Muzamil	05/05/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Budgam
41	Unidentified	05/05/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Srinagar
42	Mohi ud din	06/05/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Budgam
43	Unidentified	08/05/2023	Fired upon by unknown gunmen	Anatnag
44	Unidentified	01/06/2023	Killed by IOF	Samba
45	Tarsem Lal	03/06/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Kulgam
46	Unidentified	03/06/2023	Fired upon by unknown gunmen	Srinagar

47	Unidentified	03/06/2023	Mysterious circumstances, decomposed body found	Awantipora
48	Bakir Bashir	04/06/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, IOF custody	Anantnag
49	Unidentified	04/06/2023	Suicide	Baramulla
50	Unidentified	09/06/2023	Extrajudicial Killing, IOF custody	Sopore
51	Umar	21/06/2023	Police vehicle	Khistwara
52	Unidentified	28/06/2023	Stray bullet	Rajouri
53	Imran Yousuf	19/07/2023	Fired upon by unknown gunmen	Pulwama
54	Aquib Ahmad Itoo	20/07/2023	Unknown	Baihama Devsar
55	Gh Ahmad Malik	05/08/2023	Mysterious circumstances	Srinagar
56	Mukhtar Ahmad Shah	29/08/2023	Unknown gunmen	Karnah
57	Sahil Bashir	05/10/2023	Unknown gunmen	Anantnag
58	Yasir Nazir	11/10/ 2023	IOF	Poonch
59	Mohammad Azam	17/10/2023	Unknown gunmen	Rajouri
60	Gulzar Begum	17/10/2023	Unknown gunmen	Rajouri
61	Ghulam Hassan Magray	08/12/2023	Hit by CRPF Vehicle	Ganderbal
62	Safeer Hussain	22/12/2023	Indian forces	poonch
63	Mohammad Shoukat	22/12/2023	Indian forces	poonch
64	Shabir Ahmad	22/12/2023	Indian forces	poonch
65	Parshotam Lal	23/12/2023	Fire incident in army camp	Doda
66	Shom Raj	23/12/2023	Fire incident in army camp	Doda

ANNEXURE III: INDIAN OCCUPYING FORCES KILLED FROM JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023

S.No	Name	Date	Nature of Killig	Place of Killing
1	JCO, Unidentified	11/01/2023	Killed in accident	Kupwara
2	Unidentified	11/01/2023	Killed in accident	Kupwara
3	Unidentified	11/01/2023	Killed in accident	Kupwara
4	Fayaz Ahmed	14/01/2023	Cardiac arrest	Baramulla
5	Lance Naik Shiv Kumar	20/01/2023	Suicide	Handwara
6	Unidentified	24/01/2023	Suicide	Baramulla
7	Subedar Jitendra Kumar	30/01/2023	Cardiac arrest	Kupwara
8	Unidentified	22/02/2023	Cardiac arrest	Anantnag
9	Unidentified	28/02/2023	Gunfight with Armed fighters	Awantipora
10	Unidentified	28/02/2023	Suicide	Awantipora
11	OP Sharma	05/03/2023	Cardiac Arrest	Baramulla
12	Unidentified	15/03/2023	Cardiac Arrest	Poonch
13	Umer Farooq	16/03/2023	Accidental fire	Anantnag
14	Suneel Surain	29/03/2023	Cardiac arrest	Bijbehara
15	Unidentified	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters, Vehicle caught fire	Poonch
16	Unidentified	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters, Vehicle caught fire	Poonch
17	Unidentified	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters, Vehicle caught fire	Poonch
18	Unidentified	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters, Vehicle caught fire	Poonch
19	Lance Naik Debashish Baswal	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Poonch
20	Lance Naik Kulwant Singh	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Poonch
21	Sepoy Harkrishan Singh	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Poonch
22	Sepoy Sewak Singh	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Poonch

23	Hawaladar Mandeep Singh	20/04/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Poonch
24	HC Sarwan Kumar	23/04/2023	Cardiac arrest	Srinagar
25	Havildar Sudhir Kumar	29/04/2023	Killed in accident	Rajouri
26	Paramvir Sharma	29/04/2023	Killed in accident	Rajouri
27	SI/GD Mohan Singh	03/05/2023	Suicide	Anantnag
28	Inspector Sunil Kumar	04/05/2023	Slipped into a gorge during CASO	Rajouri
29	Unidentified	04/05/2023	Killed during CASO	Kishtwar
30	Unidentified	05/05/2023	Explosion during gunfight	Rajouri
31	Unidentified	05/05/2023	Explosion during gunfight	Rajouri
32	Unidentified	05/05/2023	Explosion during gunfight	Rajouri
33	Unidentified	05/05/2023	Explosion during gunfight	Rajouri
34	Unidentified	05/05/2023	Explosion during gunfight	Rajouri
35	Unidentified	05/05/2023	Explosion during gunfight	Rajouri
36	Feroz Ahmed	07/05/2023	Killed in accident	Poonch
37	Constable Ram Chandran	07/05/2023	Killed in accident	Poonch
38	Lance Naik Jasbir Singh	11/05/2023	Accidental fire from personal weapon	Poonch
39	Unidentified	17/05/2023	Suicide	Pulwama
40	Shuja Ali Bhat	08/06/2023	Mysterious Circumstances	Srinagar
41	Fayaz Ahmad Raina	12/06/2023	Killed during CASO	Anantnag
42	Patil	16/06/2023	Cardiac arrest	
43	Aijaz Ahmad Tantray	22/06/2023	Cardiac arrest	Bandipora
44	Constable Ajay Pratap	01/07/2023	Suicide	Srinagar
45	Avinash Sharma	03/07/2023	Suicide	Kathua
46	Naresh Kumar	06/07/2023	Suicide	Samba
47	Dombal Mayur	07/07/2023	Shoots Self	Samba
48	Naib Subedar Kuldip Singh	09/07/2023	Missing while crossing a river	Poonch
49	Lance Naik Telu Ram	09/07/2023	Missing while crossing a river	Poonch

50	Deepak Verma	12/07/2023	Accidental fire	Poonch
51	Naik Varinder Singh	17/07/2023	Mysterious Death in Army Camp	Poonch
52	Captain Anshuman Singh	19/07/2023	Fire Incident	Siachen
53	Tang Kishor Das	21/07/2023	Cardiac arrest	Anantnag
54	Vijay Ramachandra	22/07/2023	Unconscious death in Cantonment	Srinagar
55	Deepak Kumar	31/07/2023	Stray bullet	LOC pooch
56	Name withheld	31/07/2023	Suicide	Baramulla
57	Mahesh	01/08/2023	Unconscious death	Budgam
58	Mahesh Singh	01/08/2023	Killed in accident	Sonwar
59	Waseem Sarwar	04/08/2023	Encounter	Kulgam
60	Babulal Haritwal	04/08/2023	Encounter	Kulgam
61	Mahipalsinh Pravinsinh	04/08/2023	Encounter	Kulgam
62	Sepoy Anuj Kumar	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
63	Gunner Tarandeep Singh	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
64	Gunner Chandrashekhar	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
65	Lance Naik Tejpal Singh	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
66	Naib Subedar Ramesh Lal,	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
67	Lance Naik Manmohan Singh,	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
68	DMT Ankit Kundu	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
69	Havaldar Vijaya Kumar	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
70	Havaldar Mahendra Singh Sikarwar	20/08/2023	Road Accident	Kyari Leh
71	Deepak Pandey	07/09/2023	Electric Shock	Samba
72	Ravi Kumar	13/09/2023	Gunfight with Armed fighters	Rajouri
73	Unidentified	13/09/2023	Gunfight with Armed fighters	Rajouri
74	Colonel Manpreet Singh	13/09/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Kokernag

75	Major Ashish Dhonchak	13/09/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Kokernag
76	DSP Humayun Bhat	13/09/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Kokernag
77	Yogesh Kumar para commando	13/09/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Kokernag
78	Sepoy Pradeep	13/09/2023	Attack by armed fighters	Kokernag
79	Unidentified	17/09/2023	14 RR killed by his fellow soldier	Bandipore
80	Sadiq	26/09/2023	Accident	poonch
81	Jamil	26/09/2023	Accident	poonch
82	Unidentified	27/09/2023	Fratricide	Bandipore
83	Swami Raj	27/09/2023	Killed in Accident patrolling	Chanderkote
84	Parvaiz Ahmed	27/09/2023	Killed in Accident patrolling	Chanderkote
85	Amritpal Singh	11/10/2023	Died while performing sentry duty	Mehdhar Poonch
86	Ghulam Mohammad Dar	31/10/2023	Unknown	Baramulla
87	Lal Farnn Kima	09/11/2023	Cross Border firing	Samba
88	Captain M V Pranjal	22/11/2023	Encounter	Rajouri
89	Captain Shubham Gupta	22/11/2023	Encounter	Rajouri
90	Havildar Abdul Majid	22/11/2023	Encounter	Rajouri
91	Lance Naik Sanjay Bisht	22/11/2023	Encounter	Rajouri
92	paratrooper Sachin Laur	22/11/2023	Encounter	Rajouri
93	Masroor Ahmad Wani	07/12/2023	Shot Dead	Srinagar
94	Birendra Singh	21/12/2023	Attacked by armed fighters	Poonch
95	Karan Kumar	21/12/2023	Attacked by armed fighters	Poonch
96	Chandan Kumar	21/12/2023	Attacked by armed fighters	Poonch
97	Gautam Kumar	21/12/2023	Attacked by armed fighters	Poonch
98	Sundeeep Kumar	21/12/2023	Attacked by armed fighters	Poonch
99	Mohammad Shafi	24/12/2023	Shot by unknown Baramulla	Baramulla
100	Col. Karanbir Singh	25/12/2023	Injured in encounter in 2015, was in comor for last 8 years, died in military hospital Jalandhar	kupwara

ANNEXURE IV: LIST OF PSA DETAINEES FROM JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023

S.NO	Pending Since	Name of Detainees Under Public Safety Act 1978
1	2023	Mohammad rafiq mir
2	2023	Sahil bashir dar
3	2023	Javid ahmad rather
4	2023	Shahnawaz ahmad bhat
5	2023	Reyaz ahmad bhat
6	2023	Shabir ahmad teeli
7	2023	Azad ahmad ganaie
8	2023	Faisal manzoor khan
9	2023	Bashir ahmad sheikh
10	2023	Tariq ahmad lone
11	2023	Aatimad ahmad bhat
12	2023	Waqas riyaz khan
13	2023	Shakir riyaz khan
14	2023	Aadil ahmad wani
15	2023	Yawar ahmad mir
16	2023	Raja ilyas makroo
17	2023	Nazir ahmad gudoo
18	2023	Gulzar ahmad ganaie
19	2023	Amir farooq dar
20	2023	Imtiyaz ahmad dar
21	2023	Dawood ibrahim
22	2023	Basharat rajab dar
23	2023	Mohammad Amin Malik

24	2023	Aqib gulzar
25	2023	Muzaffar ahmad misgar@ muz thatru
26	2023	Mohammad ramzan dar
27	2023	Owais mehraj teli
28	2023	Iqbal ahmad mian
29	2023	Shabir ahmad baniya
30	2023	Owais Farooq Waza
31	2023	Mohd yousuf reshi through his son
32	2023	Tawseef ahmad shah
33	2023	Javaid ahmad beigh
34	2023	Ashiq hussain wani
35	2023	Naseer ahmad war
36	2023	Mirza altaf hussian
37	2023	Ishfaq ahmad bhat
38	2023	Mohammad arif najar
39	2023	Musadiq hussian padder
40	2023	Umer gul bhat
41	2023	Shoib ahmad pandit alias shoib
42	2023	Maisar ahmad mir
43	2023	Umar nazir bhat
44	2023	Touseef khan through his mother
45	2023	Sajjid zahoor khan
46	2023	Zahoor ahmad bhat
47	2023	Ghulam Mohammad Mir
48	2023	Naveed mudasir wani
49	2023	Tawseef ahmad sheikh
50	2023	Mosiab mir @ altaf
51	2023	Farooq ahmad hajam

52	2023	Irfan yousuf kawa
53	2023	Amir manzoor khokher
54	2023	Mohammad azam qurishi
55	2023	Umar shah @daliya
56	2023	Mushtaq ahmad bhat through his father
57	2023	Suhail ahmad allaie
58	2023	Mohammad younis zargar
59	2023	Jahangeer ahmad mugloo
60	2023	Mohammad rafiq bhat
61	2023	Ghulam qadir parray
62	2023	Muzaffar jan
63	2023	Amir ahmad mir
64	2023	Umer gul bhat
65	2023	Shoib ahmad pandit alias shoib
66	2023	Maisar ahmad mir
67	2023	Shahnawaz ahmad malik
68	2023	Sameer ahmad dar
69	2023	Shoib ramzan tantry
70	2023	Razia begum
71	2023	Shakeel ahmad bhat
72	2023	Uzair amin jan @ radie
73	2023	Mushtaq ahmad kumar
74	2023	Mohammad asif thoker
75	2023	Tariq ahmad malik
76	2023	Mohammad yaseen bhat
77	2023	Basheer ahmad peer alias bashir pandith
78	2023	Musaib ahmad baba

79	2023	Suhail shabir ganie
80	2023	Qasim ummer khan
81	2023	Mohammad latief dar
82	2023	Abdul hameed dar
83	2023	Junaid ahmad dar
84	2023	Raja ilyas makroo
85	2023	Idrees jan mir
86	2023	Rafiq ahmad thoker
87	2023	Danish mushtaq
88	2023	Fazil maqsood sheikh
89	2023	Javid ahmad ganie
90	2023	Ashiq hussain lone
91	2023	Khalid ahmad bhat
92	2023	Mohammad shaban wani
93	2023	Bashir ahmad
94	2023	Mushtaq ahmad rather
95	2023	Gowhar ayoub fafoo
96	2023	Mohammad rafiq najar
97	2023	Mohammad yaseen naikoo
98	2023	Irshad hassan dass
99	2023	Firdous ahmad jogi
100	2023	Manzoor ahmad sofi
101	2023	Basit ahmad baba
102	2023	Jamsheed ahmad malik
103	2023	Fahad altaf sheikh
104	2023	Touseef ahmad wani

105	2023	Imran ahmad shangloo
106	2023	Owais syed khan
107	2023	Shakib shakeel
108	2023	Adil ahmad da
109	2023	Adnan shafi kana
110	2023	Ali mohammad kawa
111	2023	Mohammad qasim mangnool
112	2023	Sameer ahmad bhat
113	2023	Ghulam mohammad dar
114	2023	Mehran ahmad malik
115	2023	Owhar rasool
116	2023	Ubaid nazir sofi
117	2023	Zahoor ahmad shah
118	2023	Adil hassan najar
119	2023	Mehraj ahmad wani
120	2023	Aijaz ahmad dar
121	2023	Ashiq hussain dar
122	2023	Waseem ahmad shah
123	2023	Amir mehmoos malik
124	2023	Danish rafiq bhat
125	2023	Rafeeq ahmad khan
126	2023	Nawaz ahmad chandel
127	2023	Muneer ahmad sheikh
128	2023	Mirza zubair beigh
129	2023	Hayat ahmad bhat @ hayat dar
130	2023	Nawaz ahad sha
131	2023	Khursheed ahmad dar
132	2023	Muneeb rasool sherwani

133	2023	Shabir ahmad khanday
134	2023	Gulzar ahmad bhat
135	2023	Suhail ahmad ganie
136	2023	Syed tajamul bashir
137	2023	Shabir ahmad dar
138	2023	Tawqeer bashir magray
139	2023	Aijaz ahmad sheikh
140	2023	Showkat ahmad ganie
141	2023	Ghulam nabi mir
142	2023	Rayees ahmad khan
143	2023	Feroz ahmad allaie
144	2023	Altaf ahmad rather
145	2023	Lateef hassan lone
146	2023	Abdul qayoom bhat
147	2023	Ishfaq Gul
148	2023	Mohammad Shoib itoo
149	2023	Abdul Ahad Bhat
150	2023	Umer Gul Bhat
151	2023	Tawseef Ahmad Mir
152	2023	Suhaib Ahmad Malik
153	2023	Abdul Rashid Dar
154	2023	Javid Ahmad Malik
155	2023	Mohammad Shafi Naikoo
156	2023	Rafiq Ahmad Chowhan
157	2023	Adil Hassan Najar
158	2023	Javaid Ahmad Beigh
159	2023	Shakeel Ahmad Bhat
160	2023	Altaf Ahmad Rather

161	2023	Javid Gull Tawqeer Bashir Magray
162	2023	Jahangir Ahmad Wani
163	2023	Mohammad Younis Mir
164	2023	Rafeeq Ahmad Khan
165	2023	Shakir Ahmad Zargar
166	2023	Khursheed Ahmad Lone
167	2023	Waseem Ahmed Mir
168	2023	Muneeb Rasool Sherwani
169	2023	Abid Parvaiz Hajam
170	2023	Shabir Ahmad Kana
171	2023	Junaid Ahmad Dar
172	2023	Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh
173	2023	Riyaz Ahmad Dar
174	2023	Abdul Hamid Mir
175	2023	Sameer Ahmad Dar
176	2023	Sehran Muzaffar Dar
177	2023	Mohammad Amin Malik
178	2023	Amir Ahmad Mir
179	2023	Ashiq Hussain Wani
180	2023	Adil Ahmad Ganie
181	2023	Kacho Amir Khan
182	2023	Reyaz Ahmad Khan
183	2023	Reyaz Ahmad Bhat
184	2023	Ghazi Ahmad Bhat
185	2023	Showkat Ahmad Mir
186	2023	Adil Ahmad Sofi
187	2023	Mitha Malik
188	2023	Tajamul Ahmad Dar

189	2023	Shabir Ahmad Wani Alias Shabu
190	2023	Idrees Jan Mir
191	2023	Subzar Ahmad Bhat
192	2023	Abdul Qayoom Guroo
193	2023	Shamim Ahmad Bhat
194	2023	Tarq Ahmad Dar
195	2023	Ashiq Hussain Lone
196	2023	Tariq Ahmad Wagay
197	2023	Mohammad Shafi Sheikh
198	2023	Jahangeer Ahmad Mugloo
199	2023	Ghulam Mohammad Mir
200	2023	Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat
201	2023	Jahangir Ahmad Dar
202	2023	Ubaid Bashir
203	2023	Abdul Rehman Naikoo
204	2023	Irshad Amin Wani Alias Sunny
205	2023	Mohammad Umar Noor
206	2023	Yawa Ahmad Bhat
207	2023	Shareef U Din Chichi
208	2023	Tariq Ahmad Sheikh
209	2023	Barkat Ali Mian
210	2023	Suhail Bashir Shergojri
211	2023	Shoib Ahmad Pandit Alias Shoib
212	2023	Mushtaq Ahmad Rather
213	2023	Jahangir Ahmad Bhat
214	2023	Rayees Ahmad Khan
215	2023	Fahad Altaf Sheikh
216	2023	Naseer Ahmad War

217	2023	Mosiab Mir
218	2023	Mehraj Ahmad Wani
219	2023	Mohammad Arif Najar
220	2023	Sameer Ahmad Yatoo
221	2023	Feroz Ahmad Allie
222	2023	Shoaib Ahmad Shiekh
223	2023	Tanveer Ahmad Bhat
224	2023	Zahoor Ahmad Shah
225	2023	Tajamul Islam Bhat
226	2023	Mudasir Irfan Dar
227	2023	Suhail Ahmad Wani
228	2023	Fareed Ahmad Chouhan
229	2023	Mohd Yousuf Reshi
230	2023	Mehran Ahmad Malik
231	2023	Naseer Ahmad War



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