

**SENATE OF PAKISTAN  
HOUSE OF THE FEDERATION**



**REPORT NO.1**

**SPECIAL REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS**

**ON THE VISIT OF SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO  
LONDON FOR KASHMIR SOLIDARITY DAY, FEBRUARY 4-6, 2019**

**PRESENTED BY**

**SENATOR MUSHAHID HUSSAIN SAYED  
CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE**

Subject: **SPECIAL REPORT ON THE VISIT OF SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO LONDON FOR KASHMIR SOLIDARITY DAY, FEBRUARY 4-6, 2019.**

I, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs have the honour to present the special report of the Committee on the visit of Senate Foreign Affairs Committee to London for Kashmir Solidarity Day, February 4-6, 2019.

2. The composition of the Standing Committee is as follows:-

1.	<b>Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
2.	Senator Anwar ul Haq Kakar	Member
3.	Senator Muhammad Asad Ali Khan Junejo	Member
4.	Senator Sitara Ayaz	Member
5.	Senator Siraj ul Haq	Member
6.	Senator Atta Ur Rehman	Member
7.	Senator Mian Muhammad Ateeq Shaikh	Member
8.	Senator Dr. Asif Kirmani	Member
9.	Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi	Member
10.	Senator Nuzhat Sadiq	Member
11.	Senator Abdul Rehman Malik	Member
12.	Senator Sherry Rehman	Member
13.	Senator Dr. Shahzad Waseem	Member

3. The Senate Secretariat vide letter dated 23.01.2019 approved the visit of entire Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs along with the Secretary Senate, Secretary of the Committee and Deputy Director Protocol to London in order to attend the Kashmir Solidarity Day on 4-5 February, 2019. The delegation headed by Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed left Islamabad for London on 03.02.2019 and landed at Heathrow on same day.

**THE AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND BRIEF FACTS OF THE VISIT ARE AS FOLLOWS:-**

4. The Chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed on the invitation of Mr. Wajid Khan, member of the European Parliament visited Brussels and Strasbourg in September, 2018 where he met about 20 members of the European Parliament including Mr. Antonio Panzeri, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee of the European Parliament. The main focus of the discussion of Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed with the members of the European Parliament was Kashmir and Pakistan's pivotal role in the changing regional scenario. The Kashmir cause received great momentum and support with the report of the United Nations for Human Rights Council dated 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 which called for a fact finding mission on this issue for the first time followed by a similar report by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Kashmir of the British Parliament. Additionally, the Human Rights Committee of the European Parliament also gave its full support and decided to hold a hearing on Kashmir on February 19, 2019.



5. The Chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed after returning from the Brussels and Strasbourg decided to convene the meeting of the Committee in order to update the honourable members of the Committee about his visit and meetings with the European Parliament members.

6. Accordingly, the meeting of the Committee was convened on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 which was attended by Foreign Minister, Foreign Secretary and the entire team of the Foreign Office besides the honourable members of the Committee. He apprised all the participants about his visit and meetings with the European Parliament members and further said that the time is ripe to internationalize the Kashmir issue and that there should be a global expression of solidarity with the Kashmir. He further suggested that the Parliament, Foreign Office and the task force should make some engagement plan in London and convene an international conference on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day in February, 2019. The idea and suggestion of the Chairman of the Committee Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed was welcomed and endorsed by the entire Committee and Foreign Minister of Pakistan. The Foreign Minister in this regard further invited the Committee to hold a meeting in the Foreign Office to draw a plan for holding conference in London.

7. The meeting of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee was accordingly held at the Foreign Office on 28.01.2019, wherein it was decided that Kashmir is a national issue and above the party politics and it enjoys unreserved support from all the governments as well as entire nation. The visit program was accordingly finalized.

#### **Visit Programme/ Engagements of the Foreign Affairs Committee in London:-**

8. Following members of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee visited London from February 4-6, 2019:

1. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed	Chairman/Leader of the delegation
2. Senator Syed Shibli Faraz	Leader of the House/Special Invitee
3. Senator Sherry Rehman	Member
4. Senator Muhammad Javed Abbasi	Member
5. Senator Dr. Asif Kirmani	Member
6. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq	Member
7. Senator Mohammad Asad Ali Khan Junejo	Member
8. Senator Atta ur Rehman	Member
9. Senator Dr. Shahzad Waseem	Member
10. Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar	Member
11. Senator Mian Atiq Sheikh	Member
12. Mr. Amjad Pervez	Secretary Senate
13. Mr. Hafeezullah Sheikh	Secretary Committee
14. Mr. Fazal Dad	Deputy Director Protocol

9. All members of the delegation traveled in Economy Plus Class on the PIA flight to London and the Foreign Minister was also on the same flight from Islamabad to London and during the flight, there was also informal interaction between the Foreign Minister and the members of the Foreign Affairs Committee travelling on the same plane. All agreed that since they were travelling for the Kashmir cause, which is above party politics, they would refrain from any comments on domestic politics.

## Monday, February 4

10. The delegation arrived at the House of Commons for the International Conference on Kashmir which was held at the conference room of Westminster Palace. The Committee members were accorded a special place of honour and the following members from Senate Foreign Affairs Committee spoke at the conference apart from the Chairman:-

1. Senator Sherry Rehman
2. Senator Dr. Asif Kirmani
3. Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar
4. Senator Dr. Shahzad Waseem
5. Senator Mian Atiq Sheikh
6. Senator Nuzhat Sadiq

11. The delegation represented the entire political spectrum. The comments of the Senators were very well received at the conference hall which was attended by the British parliamentarians, think tanks, media and representatives of the Kashmiri diaspora. A resolution was also sponsored by the British Parliamentarians led by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Kashmir, which was also endorsed by the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee (copy of resolution is annexed as "A").

12. After the International Conference on Kashmir, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed accompanied by Senator Shibli Faraz, Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar, Senator Javed Muhammad Abbasi and Senator Mian Muhammad Atiq Sheikh also participated in a special meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Belt & Road Initiative (BRI)/China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). This meeting was hosted by Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on BRI/CPEC, Rt. Hon. Faisal Rashid, Member of Parliament. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed made a keynote presentation on CPEC followed by another presentation by Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar on the role of Gwadar Port/Balochistan in CPEC and the meeting was attended by think tanks, business leaders, investors, bankers, students and scholars, the Deputy Ambassador of China and British Parliamentarians.

## Tuesday, February 5

13. There was a meeting arranged with the counterpart of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Lords which was moderated by Lord Qurban Hussain. It was attended by the members of the House of Lords, namely Lord Qurban Hussain, Baroness Shaista Shaheen, Lord Sheikh Aftab, Lord Wallace and others. During this interaction, the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee presented Pakistan's perspective on Kashmir with a focus also on Pakistan's role in the region as well as greater inter-parliamentary interaction. Apart from the Chairman, the interactive session had the participation of Senator Shibli Faraz, Senator Sherry Rehman, Senator Javed Abbasi, Senator Nuzhat Sadiq, Senator Asad Junejo, Senator Mian Ateeq Sheikh, Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar, Senator Dr. Shehzad Waseem and Senator Dr. Asif Kirmani.

14. In the evening, the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee attended a photo exhibition and reception where they interacted with the Kashmiri diaspora and British Parliamentarians as well as other guests and the evening was capped off by a dinner hosted by the Pakistan High Commissioner in London, where members of the Committee interacted with the British Parliamentarians.



Wednesday, February 6

15. The Senate Foreign Affairs Committee also had engagements outside the parliament including a lecture by Senator Mushahid Hussain on CPEC at the top British think tank, International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS) in which other members of the Foreign Affairs Committee, including Senator Sherry Rehman, Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar, Senator Nuzhat Sadiq, Senator Javed Abbasi and Senator Asad Junejo also participated. The talk was followed by an interactive Q&A session in which Senator Sherry Rehman, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on CPEC, and Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar actively participated. All these presentations from the Pakistani side were quite well received among audience of influential think tank persons, government officials and diplomats.

16. Finally, the same afternoon, a talk on "Pakistan and the Changing Regional Scenario" at the School of Oriental and African Studies hosted by the International Students Society in which Senator Mushahid Hussain gave the keynote address and Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar also participated in the event, giving their perspective on the situation in the region and Pakistan's role in particular.

### CONCLUSION

17. The visit of the Foreign Affairs Committee to London was quite unique and unprecedented since parliamentarians from 6 different political parties from all the four provinces representing both the government and the opposition went together with the Foreign Office to this event for the Kashmir cause. The visit had three positive outcomes.

18. First, it sent a very timely message to the people of Occupied Kashmir, who are struggling and sacrificing against the Indian occupation and making unparalleled sacrifices of Pakistan political leadership speaking with one voice on Kashmir and that the Kashmir cause is above any partisan and politics and support to the Kashmiri people is unwavering. Second, the visit sent a good message to the international community since the Kashmir cause was promoted internationally and the world capital, London, especially in the mother of parliaments, the British Parliament, in both Houses through interaction with their members and even members of the European Parliament. Third, the visit of the Foreign Affairs Committee to London project a very positive image of Pakistan as a vibrant, dynamic democracy and as a "happening place", including Kashmir as well as CPEC and Pakistan's pivotal role in the region including the Afghan peace process and CPEC. In other words, Pakistan is witnessing a turn around, thanks to the last few years of struggle of the people of Pakistan against extremism and terrorism and thanks to the CPEC and the heroic struggle of Kashmir people which is the cardinal factor of Pakistan's foreign policy, with Pakistan's pivotal role for peace, security and stability regionally and internationally.

19. In this context, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed quoted the Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the Father of the Nation who had said in an interview to the American 'Life' magazine in January 1948, when asked about the future role of Pakistan and he said: "**Pakistan is the pivot of the world placed on the frontier on which the future geo-politics of the world revolves**". Seventy years later, this prophesy of the Quaid-i-Azam is coming true, InShaAllah.

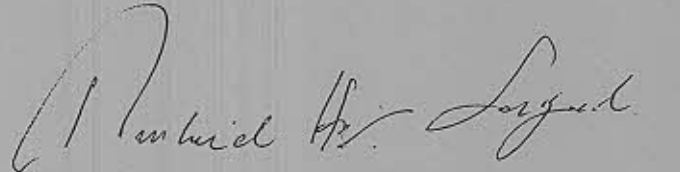
20. The Senate Foreign Affairs Committee members wish to place on record their deep appreciation to the Chairman Senate for his sensitivity to the Kashmir cause and the national



interests of Pakistan since he facilitated the visit as well as <sup>the</sup> Senate Secretariat led by the Secretary Senate and the Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Committee without whose efficient cooperation, the visit of the delegation would have not been so successful.



(HAFEEZULLAH SHEIKH)  
AS / Secretary Committee



(SENATOR MUSHAHID HUSSAIN SAYED)  
Chairman of the Committee

**RESOLUTION 4-5 February 2019 Kashmir Solidarity Event**

Taking note of United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner's Report of 14 June 2018 on the grave human rights situation in Jammu & Kashmir;

Noting Amnesty International's 2017 Report on the deliberate blinding of Kashmiri Youth, entitled: Losing Sight in Kashmir;

Noting the findings of the 2009 Report on the presence of unnamed and unmarked mass graves in various districts of Jammu & Kashmir, published by J&K NGO International People's Tribunal (IPIK) entitled: Buried Evidence;

Realizing that the UN Security Council Resolutions on Kashmir, which call for Kashmiris' right to self-determination under a UN supervised plebiscite, remain unimplemented;

Noting that non-resolution of Kashmir dispute has resulted in the sufferings of Kashmiri people, threat to the regional security and has adverse bearing on the socio-economic situation of Kashmiri people and others;

Noted that dozens of massacres of Kashmiris, including GawKadal, Sopore, Handwara, MashaliMohallah, SaderkootBala, Zakoora & Bypass, Hawal, Khanyaar, Lai Chowk, Bhibhera, Kupwara, Chittisinghpura, Pathribal and many others have been committed but justice has not been delivered to Kashmiris;

Having noted that KunanPoshpora Mass Rape happened in 1991 and the justice is yet to be delivered despite a lapse of 28 years, as also mentioned in the OHCHR Report;

Understand from the available statistics that from 8 July 2016 to 30 September 2018, 753 Kashmiris have been killed, including 80 children, 18 women and 56 custodial killings, over 20,000 have been injured, thousands have been arrested arbitrarily and hundreds of women have been gang raped and molested;

Thanking Foreign Minister of Pakistan and Members of Pakistan and members of Senate Standing Committee for their solidarity with the people of Jammu & Kashmir;

We, the participants of 4 February 2019 Conference on Human Rights situation in Jammu & Kashmir at the Palace of Westminster, are deeply concerned at the plight of Kashmiris; and

Urge the International Community, Members of the civil society, the UN General Assembly and the Security Council, relevant International Organizations, the OHCHR Geneva, and Parties to the Kashmir dispute to take immediate and effective measures to address the human rights situation in Kashmir;

Underline that pellet guns victims blinded should be examined and provided necessary medical assistance to alleviate their sufferings;

Urge immediate resolution of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions on Kashmir;

Express solidarity with the Kashmiris; and

Commit to the continued efforts for creating awareness and extend moral support to the Kashmiris.

Adopted on 4 February 2019 at Palace of Westminster, London, United Kingdom.