



**POST AUGUST 5, 2019 ILLEGAL INDIAN ACTIONS:
DYNAMICS, IMPLICATIONS AND OPTIONS**

Dialogue Analysis

CENTRE for AEROSPACE & SECURITY STUDIES
August 2021

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS) organized a Webinar on 4 August 2021 titled 'Post August 5, 2019 Illegal Indian Actions: Dynamics, Implications and Options.' The discussion focused on:

Indian Abrogation of Article 370 & 35A: Geopolitical Dynamics of the Kashmir Issue

Contemporary Regional Security Implications of the Illegal Indian Actions

Conflict Resolution of the Kashmir Issue: Strategic Options and Way Forward

The speakers from Pakistan not only discussed India's illegal actions in Jammu and Kashmir subsequent to 5th August, 2019, they also evaluated their impact on geopolitical dynamics and regional security, and shared strategic options for conflict resolution. The high-level panel consisted of a top Kashmiri statesman and two leading security and strategic affairs experts who candidly deliberated on the various key aspects of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

President Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) Sardar Masood Khan warned that the purpose of the Hindu extremist Indian government is to turn Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) into Hindu Rashtra and that is why it has already significantly changed the region's demography and is attempting to change its language and culture as well.

Indian authorities are committing grave crimes against humanity as per the Israeli playbook because of New Delhi's alliance with the United States. It is the duty of the international community to take note of these illegal Indian actions.

Air Marshal Masood Akhtar (Retd), former Deputy Chief of Air Staff (Training), Pakistan Air Force described Jammu and Kashmir as Modi's 'pet political project' which has also disappointed Kashmiri pundits. He emphasized the need to make

Kashmir an issue of vital national interest and develop AJK as a model of economic well-being.

Kashmiris should be regarded as the first and most important stakeholders in all negotiations.

He suggested that according provisional provincial status may be considered. He also cautioned that India was waging hybrid warfare against Pakistan and had openly stated that it would give monetary incentives to its poor people to launch anti-state operations. The retired Air Marshal stated that PAF had proven that it could retaliate in all facets and quickly re-establish deterrence if provoked by its neighbor.

General Zubair Mahmood Hayat (Retd), Former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and the Guest of Honor argued that the changing context, framework, character and nature of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute had made it pivotal to great power politics and raised its international stakes.

Indian illegal actions of August 5, 2019 and New Delhi's 1998 nuclear tests were strategic miscalculations which have put the ball in Pakistan's court and reinforced Kashmir's status as a nuclear flashpoint.

He suggested a three-level approach towards favorably shaping the international, regional and domestic environment:

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- Exposing Indian atrocities by internationally leveraging Pakistani and Kashmiri diaspora.
 - Expanding the scope, scale & mandate of the UN Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).
 - Seeking the help of regional powers to build a humanitarian corridor in IIOJK.

General Hayat also suggested that emerging regional constructs like Pakistan-China-Russia (PCR) or the Pakistan-China-Russia-Iran (PCRI) could also be explored to reduce the sufferings of Kashmiris.

Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan (Retd), Deputy President, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS) and former Vice Chief of the Air Staff, in his *Concluding Address* paid rich tributes to the courage, perseverance and strong determination of the Kashmiris in keeping their hopes high and resolve firm, in their just and resolute struggle for independence from Indian occupation, despite growing human rights violations and atrocities by the Indian government and its forces.

Indian oppression and tyranny against Kashmiris in particular, and minorities in general, is part of the RSS-driven agenda of the BJP government which has proven that India is no longer a secular state.

The Deputy President said that the BJP government was trying to deprive Kashmiris of their identity to redefine them as Indians. In addition, India was committing war crimes and trying to hide those from the international community. Furthermore, the conditions created within IIOJK had caused huge losses to the Kashmiri economy which had further deepened the misery and sufferings of the Kashmiri people.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- India is no longer a secular state as it is changing IIOJK - a disputed territory under the UN Charter - into a Hindu Rashtra or Hindu province.
- India has been getting away with war crimes in Occupied Jammu & Kashmir because of its strategic alliance with the United States. Its demography has already changed. 80% of Kashmiri lands have been appropriated. Kashmiri businesses are being delegitimized with outsiders monopolizing all trade and economic activities.
- Since independence, India has made two strategic miscalculations: first, nuclear tests in 1998; and second the 5th August illegal annexation of Jammu & Kashmir. India's unconstitutional abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A have changed the context, framework, character, and nature of the Jammu & Kashmir conflict which has made it pivotal in great power politics and raised its international stakes.
- The occupying authorities in IIOJK are re-delimiting the constituencies. Their purpose is to increase Hindu members in the Legislative Assembly to create a puppet assembly in future.



- It is not just the responsibility of India, Pakistan, or Kashmiris, rather it is the responsibility of the international community to stem the risk of war. This peril should not be swept under the carpet.
- India's actions of August 5th 2019 were a 'strategic miscalculation' which has opened the door to 'all options on the table,' and solidified Jammu & Kashmir's position as a 'nuclear flashpoint.'
- Due to Indian actions, the region has become a powder keg and if at any time, it is ignited, there could be war. Pakistan Air Force's role has been recognized in the changing strategic environment and PAF has proven that it can retaliate in all facets and quickly re-establish deterrence if provoked.

India is implementing measure after measure in IIOJK from Israel's playbook.

Pakistan and Kashmiris are facing the onslaught of the Hindu extremists ruling India under the inspiration of the RSS Hindutva philosophy that has no tolerance for Muslims, particularly Kashmiris.

PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

External

- Pakistan should press the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to take strong collective action against India's blatant violations of its legal obligations in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.
- Diaspora can play a vital role in self-determination movements by political lobbying and fund-raising in their host countries. Kashmiri and Pakistani Diaspora can add value to Pakistan's diplomatic efforts by using soft tactics for resolution of the Jammu & Kashmir dispute. Their mobilization can play a key role in expanding its global outreach.
- A third party could approach the International Law Commission or the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) to raise their concerns about the crimes against humanity being committed by India.

Internal

- Pakistan needs to put the Kashmiris front and center as the primary stakeholders in all negotiations since this will strengthen Pakistan's position and credibility in the international community.
- Pakistan should consider documenting Kashmir as part of its national interests and define those as well.
- It is important for Pakistan to put its own house in order first so that the country's political leadership speaks and stands unanimously on the Jammu & Kashmir dispute at the international fora.
- The media, academia and think tanks, apart from the Foreign Office, should play an active role in exposing India's illegal and violent attempts at bifurcating the occupied territory and countering them on international, regional and national levels through hard-hitting evidence and research.
- In terms of lawfare, Pakistan should build its case according to relevant international laws and project the human rights violations, genocide, and ethnic changes occurring in IIOJK on all international forums.
- Pakistan must prepare itself against Indian-sponsored hybrid warfare and the risk of renewed insurgency and rise of terrorism.
- By becoming constitutionally proactive, Pakistan should enhance its strategic space, leverage, and proclamations on the jurisdictions of those territories now illegally occupied by India.
- It is vital for Pakistan to garner the support of peace-loving countries, UNSC and international organizations that have shown serious concerns about the human rights violations in IIOJK in order to marginalize India in the comity of nations.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Sardar Masood Khan, President Azad Jammu and Kashmir

Keynote Address: Indian Abrogation of Article 370 & 35A: Geopolitical Dynamics of the Kashmir Issue

Change in Demography and Delimitation of Constituencies in Jammu & Kashmir

Sardar Masood Khan said that India had already changed the demography of Jammu & Kashmir with nearly 80% of the land belonging to Kashmiris being appropriated. Their businesses had been delegitimized and were now being monopolized by outsiders.

The occupying authorities are in the process of re-delimiting the constituencies to increase Hindu representation in the Legislative Assembly for a puppet assembly in the future, and to decrease the number of Muslims in order to create a Hindu Rashtra or Hindu province.

From Delhi's perspective, IIOJK had now become a federal territory; and it was undertaking massive data/statistical manipulation to achieve this façade.

Ongoing Atrocities in Jammu & Kashmir

The AJK President further stated that Urdu had been banned. Hindi script and Indian language were being imposed on Kashmiris. Temples were being constructed. These systematic changes, under international law, the Geneva Convention, UN Resolutions, and Customary International Law, were all war crimes and crimes against humanity.

India is committing genocide. But, there are no Nuremberg trials to indict India so it is getting off scot-free for all its crimes. India is working under the strategic cover of the United States, and because of this alliance, it is getting away with murder.

A Leaf out of Israel's Playbook

According to Sardar Masood Khan, India was implementing measure after measure from the Israeli playbook which had occupied Palestinian territories. Israel, with demographic changes had created the false narrative that the land of Palestine belonged to Israel and not to the Palestinians. Similarly, Modi was falsely and unconstitutionally propagating that Kashmiri Muslims were no longer the legitimate inhabitants of Jammu & Kashmir and Hindus were legitimate settlers.

Clash of Civilizations

The Jammu & Kashmir dispute had become a civilizational war between two doctrines and the two-nation theory had resurfaced again. It was a fight between Hindus and Muslims for identity and the right of self-determination. In the speaker's view, the fault lines had become extremely deep and multigenerational.

Challenges on the Political Front

Sardar Masood Khan was of the view that the international community had also stood by Kashmiris for a while after the August 5th abrogation and massive Indian lockdown in which the Valley had been converted into a virtual prison. However, their attention was diverted because of other developments around the globe, including the pandemic.

The diplomatic front after 5 August 2019 was strong, but unfortunately, very little was done on the political front. The UN reaction was lukewarm, and while Pakistani diplomats remained active, the political parties had no shared platform to project Pakistan's point of view and to highlight the atrocities and war crimes that were taking place in IIOJK.

The Future

President AJK was hopeful that with greater awareness about lawfare, Pakistan could approach international forums like the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC). Any third party could also go to the International Law Commission or the European Court of Human Rights and other similar forums to raise their concerns about India's blatant and criminal human rights violations.

Crimes against humanity and genocide are being committed in J&K that were perpetrated last century during the inter-war period in Germany and during the war in Germany and Italy. The genocide of Kashmiris is more sinister and more lethal.

He concluded that the whole region was a powder keg and if at any time, it was ignited, there could be war. It was not just the responsibility of India, Pakistan or Kashmiris, it was also the responsibility of the international community to stem the risk of war. This peril could not be swept under the carpet.

Air Marshal Masood Akhtar (Retd), Former Deputy Chief of Air Staff (Training), Pakistan Air Force

Contemporary Regional Security Implications of Illegal Indian Actions

Kashmir - Modi's Pet Political Project

It was likely that the annulment of Article 370 and 35A was an act of passion rather than a well-thought out process.

Air Marshal Masood Akhtar (Retd) described Kashmir as 'Modi's pet political project' to redo the territory as part of his political manifesto. In his opinion, annulment of Article 370 and 35A may have been done to primarily impose curfew, arrest Kashmiri leadership to prevent protests against this move, and to create space for shaping a King's Party.

The retired Air Marshal discussed four reasons for the failure of the King's Party. **First**, during the district council elections, the coalition government was able to defeat BJP. **Second**, the militancy in Kashmir grew uninterrupted. **Third**, the foreign investment which Mr Modi spoke about, never came to Kashmir. **Fourth**, the recruitment of *Mujahideen* continued. In fact, there was a spike in such recruitments. Thus, Modi took a U-turn and called the pro-Indian political parties for dialogue in Delhi. During the dialogue, he blamed the failure of the King's Party on '*Delhi ke Duri*' and '*Dil ke Duri*', and urged them to join him in the elections. Modi also made an offer of restoring statehood but did not agree on the reversal of Article 370 and 35A.

Pakistan-India Backchannel Dialogue

The US pressured India and Pakistan to agree to the backchannel dialogue because Washington wanted a stable South Asia, in the backdrop of its withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Moreover, Air Marshal Akhtar stated that three Muslim countries - Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Qatar, encouraged both sides to hold dialogue. Qatar had gained India's trust through its facilitation in the dialogue between India and Taliban at Doha, he remarked.

Emerging Trends vis-a-vis Jammu & Kashmir

Air Marshal Masood Akhtar identified five emerging trends regarding the future scenario around the Jammu & Kashmir dispute.

First, rapid flow of information due to social media would build pressure on both sides as whatever was done internally and externally, either in Pakistan or India, the other side and the world would receive information about it quickly.

Second, for the foreseeable future, Pakistan would not be able to help Kashmir physically for various reasons.

Third, as and when the curfew was eventually lifted, Modi and his government would not be able to contain the backlash. In fact, according to the speaker, Modi had been attempting to mitigate the consequences that would come with the end of curfew by agreeing to the backchannel dialogue.

Fourth, both India and Pakistan were aware of the limitation of military power application in this dispute. India attempted to assess the capacity of military power application during strategic strikes and the Balakot crisis which revealed that this would be a failed strategy and, therefore, could not be applied in the future. In this regard, the situation between India and Pakistan would get even more complex.

Fifth, the plebiscite that Pakistan had been hopeful about since 1947 was a far-fetched idea. Pakistan had been barely able to keep the Jammu & Kashmir dispute alive on the UN Security Council's agenda. According to the speaker, Pakistan needed to think of alternate policies.

IIOJK: Through the Lens of Pakistan's National Interests

According to the Air Marshal's analysis, Pakistan would have to come up with clear maximalist policies, such as continuing to push for plebiscite; as well as minimalist policies including calling for demilitarization, autonomy, local government, and open borders.

Pakistan would need to make Kashmir a model of political, economic and fiscal progress.

Moreover, the recent rigging allegations on the ruling parties in Pakistan and AJK had brought a bad name to Pakistan, in his view. Therefore, the matter of rigging needed to be addressed in Pakistan, and especially in AJK.

In addition, Air Marshal Akhtar suggested treating Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan as provinces. He asked the Government of Pakistan to give Kashmiris their due place as key stakeholders in all negotiations.

India has been sidelining the Kashmiris as it was to their advantage, but including them would be to Pakistan's advantage. This would strengthen Pakistan's position within the international community about the Kashmiri cause.

The speaker highlighted that Pakistan's national interests had been focused towards national defense, integration, harmony, security, economic well-being, favorable regional and global order, people security versus state security and promotion of values.

Pakistan must put Kashmir squarely in the context of national interests which had not been done until now.

Air Marshal Masood Akhtar emphasized that Pakistan should first put its own house in order to solve the Jammu & Kashmir dispute so that Pakistani leadership were unanimous and on the same page. He warned that Pakistan must prepare itself in case of renewed insurgency; and cautioned that the country was becoming ripe for

hybrid warfare as India had openly stated that it would give monetary incentives to its poor populace to launch anti-state operations.

US withdrawal has given fertile ground for hostilities against Pakistan to grow.

He added that Kashmiri diaspora was a huge force and it had not been adequately tapped. This had to be done by the Kashmir Committee. He emphasized that it was high time that the government appointed a full-time Kashmir Committee Chairperson with vision and commitment to the cause.

India's Presidency of the UNSC

Air Marshal Masood Akhtar said that India would try to marginalize the Jammu & Kashmir issue at the UNSC during its presidency, but pointed out that the Biden Administration had a tilt towards human rights, which had nudged India to talk to Pakistan. In his view, the left of center European governments were also likely to tow the same line. Diplomacy on the Kashmir cause could become easy with the help of Europeans and the American leadership, only if Pakistan was able to play its part, he said.

Returning Statehood to Kashmir & Modi

According to the speaker, Indian Prime Minister Modi's statements about returning statehood to Jammu & Kashmir were mere bargaining chips that he and the BJP had built into the equation. Other political parties in the disputed region were also keen to go to Delhi and talk to Modi because they did not want to be marginalized. The Air Marshal predicted that Modi was not going to offer statehood immediately, he would follow the path of delimitation first, then elections and then he might consider tapping the option of returning statehood. He further said that returning statehood would mean escape from restoring Article 370 and 35A and the process of unification.

Role of Airpower in Future Warfare

Air Marshal Akhtar, while addressing a question related to the role of airpower in future warfare in the changing strategic environment, said that in case of the Indo-Pak scenario, both countries had realized the limitations of military power. However, airpower could be a tool to bring about changes in the Indo-Pak equation. However,

he pointed out that India was more likely to use simpler, less expensive non-kinetic hybrid warfare tools against Pakistan for which the country should be well prepared.

Guest of Honor General Zubair Mahmood Hayat (Retd), Former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee

Conflict Resolution of the Kashmir Issue: Strategic Options and Way Forward

India's 'Strategic Miscalculations'

According to General Zubair Mahmood Hayat (Retd)'s analysis, since independence, India had made two 'strategic miscalculations': first, the Pokhran-II nuclear blast, and the second, the August 5th illegal annexation of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Pokhran-II nuclear blast enabled Pakistan to establish strategic parity which it did not have before, while BJP's action of August 5th intended to pursue the BJP-RSS agenda, unconsciously altered the strategic environment by changing the context, framework, character and nature of the Jammu & Kashmir conflict.

In his view, the BJP-RSS strategically miscalculated the illegal annexation since it made Jammu & Kashmir pivotal to global power competition and solidified Kashmir's position as a 'nuclear flashpoint.' He was also convinced that this Indian action had made Kashmir a possible trigger for World War III.

All Options on the Table

The speaker maintained that the region had now entered an altered strategic environment in which India's ruling government had done a favor and service to Pakistan by putting all options legitimately on the table post-August 5th, 2019.

India's illegal action in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir has put India on the defensive and back foot. The ball is no longer in India's court, rather in Pakistan's court.

India's Presidency of the UNSC

The General, while addressing the issue of India's UNSC presidency, remarked that it was just a rotational opportunity which India had not earned. Secondly, India had

already put forward for the month the basic and core issues that it would like to address at the UNSC.

The bare minimum India would like to achieve at the UNSC is to frame the Kashmir problem in the context of terrorism as they have defined it and not allow the context to change in the UN framework.

Resolution of Jammu & Kashmir Conflict

General Hayat proposed resolving the IIOJK dispute at three levels - international, regional and internal:

International Level: Expose Indian Atrocities

The speaker stated that with a malicious and incorrect interpretation of the Simla Agreement, India had managed to portray the Jammu & Kashmir conflict as a bilateral issue. However, with the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, Kashmir had truly become international. He emphasized that for that reason, after 50 years, Kashmir was still discussed and echoed at the United Nations.

The scope, scale, and mandate of the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) needs to be increased. A Special UN Rapporteur on Jammu & Kashmir should be immediately appointed who should present his/her findings to all UN member states.

He stressed that organizations like Amnesty international or independent groups like 'Doctors without Borders' should visit the Valley and see the victims of torture, rape, and pellet guns and expose the Indian state repression on the 12 million Kashmiri population.

General Hayat said that in many countries Kashmiri diaspora was well-settled, well-embedded and economically stable. They had a voice, and could play an important role in creating awareness about the Kashmir cause. He also recommended that the Kashmiri diaspora needed a political face and the international community could play a crucial role in providing that. To substantiate his argument, he quoted an example from the recent meeting of the US Secretary of State Antony Blinken with the leaders of the Tibetan government in exile in New Delhi. The speaker asked that if the US

could take such a step, why couldn't representatives of the People's Republic of China and Russia come and meet the Hurriyat Conference leadership in Islamabad?

Regional Level: Initiate a Humanitarian Corridor for IIOJK

Although he was convinced that the Kashmir issue needed to be primarily resolved according to the UN Charter and resolutions, in accordance with the wishes of the Kashmiri people, General Zubair Mahmood Hayat also suggested that Pakistan could seek the help of regional powers for the Kashmiri people. He added that the regional players must insist on opening a humanitarian corridor in IIOJK, which the international community should endorse.

Regional dynamics had changed under emerging constructs like Pakistan-China-Russia (PCR) or the Pakistan-China-Russia-Iran (PCRI) alliance which can be conducive in halting Kashmiris' 70-year long suffering.

Internal Level: Pakistan must become Proactive.

According to the speaker, Pakistan must build its case according to international laws and highlight the human rights violations, genocide, and ethnic changes that were occurring in the illegally occupied territory. For highlighting, Indian atrocities in IIOJK, organizations working on international law could be of great help, he said.

Pakistan needs to become constitutionally proactive, and enhance its strategic space, leverage and proclamations regarding jurisdiction over the territory illegally occupied by India. We must also harness the power of media in highlighting the miseries of the Kashmiris kept under illegal Indian occupation.

Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan (Retd), Deputy President, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Islamabad

Concluding Remarks

India is Not a Secular State!

In his *Concluding Remarks*, Deputy President of CASS, Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan (Retd) provided detailed background of the growth of BJP's extremist agenda in

India; and highlighted that India was no longer a secular state, rather had become an extremist one.

According to the Deputy President, proof of BJP's extremist nature could be seen from the 2002 genocide of 2500 Muslims in Gujarat that was carried out when Modi was the Chief Minister of the province. This genocide marked the beginning of Modi's fame in the extremist community of India. The February 2019 Indian false flag operation, and August 2019 abrogation of Article 370 and 35A did not happen out of the blue, but were part of BJP's manifesto and agenda, he explained. In Air Marshal Khan's view, Modi only delayed those acts to gain maximum support from the parliament for his illegal actions in IIOJK.

Indian oppression and tyranny against Kashmiris in particular and minorities in general, are part of the RSS-driven BJP agenda that prove that India is no longer a secular state but a hardliner state led by Hindutva ideology.

Implications of India's Illegal Actions in August 2019

Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan further said that on 5th August, 2019, by issuing a Presidential Order, India abrogated Article 370 and 35A from the Constitution which ceased the special status of Jammu & Kashmir and allowed New Delhi to make demographic changes in order to marginalize the Kashmiri people. The abrogation of Article 370 and 35A also led to the amendment of 40 other domestic laws to achieve this objective.

According to him, the **first** implication of these unilateral steps by the Modi government was a violation of the UNSC resolution which called for resolution of the Jammu & Kashmir dispute through a plebiscite.

Second, it was an attempt to diminish Muslim identity and redefine Kashmiris as Indians to ultimately nullify the struggle of Muslim Kashmiris.

Third, for the purpose of demographic change, Jammu & Kashmir had been split into two territories - Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The changes in demography were being used to bring power shift in the occupied, disputed territory as non-Muslim outsiders were now able to purchase property and receive preferential treatment.

Fourth, all Indian government employees and their children who had served in Jammu & Kashmir (even for a short duration) were now considered eligible for domicile. Consequently, this demographic change would upset the balance between Kashmiri Muslims and non-Muslims from India. The new domicile law would allow outsiders to clinch high-quality jobs and as a result Kashmiris would be limited to level-4 jobs only.

Fifth, India had abolished the human rights commission of the state, commission for the protection of women rights, state accountability commission, and scores of other commissions that were maintaining some level of oversight over the state. New media laws had now been introduced, and freedom of speech had been abolished. These steps were an attempt to conceal war crimes in IIOJK.

Sixth, re-naming various national days and important structures from Muslim to Hindu was another attempt of bringing structural changes in the social and cultural norms of the occupied Valley.

The Deputy President concluded on the note that because of the restrictions imposed, IIOJK had suffered financial losses worth USD 3.5 billion which had caused severe economic hardships to the people.

ANNEXURES

Annexure I

Profiles of Speakers

Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan, HI (M), SBt (Retd)

Deputy President, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS)

Former Vice Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force

Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan (Retd) is the Deputy President, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS). He was commissioned in GD (P) Branch of the PAF in March 1977. After commissioning, he served as a fighter pilot in various frontline fighter squadrons.



During his service, he remained on various important command and staff appointments. His command assignments included command of a fighter squadron, a fighter wing and an operational PAF airbase. His appointments at Air Headquarters included Additional Director General (ADG) Air Force Strategic Command, Chief Project Director of JF-17 program and Vice Chief of the Air Staff, an appointment he held till his retirement in July 2013. He has also served as Chairman Pakistan Aeronautical Complex Board (PACB) at Kamra. He has been President Ski Federation of Pakistan, on CAA Board and Chairman Monitoring Committee of Islamabad and Multan Airports. The Air Marshal has also served as Pakistan's Air Attaché in New Delhi, India.

Air Marshal Farhat has qualified various professional courses including Combat Commanders' Course, Air War Course and National Defence Course. He holds two Master's degrees, one from the University of Karachi and one in Defence and Strategic Studies from the National Defence University, Islamabad.

He is the co-author of two books 'The Aviation City' and 'Milestones' about the growth of military aviation industry in Pakistan and its way forward. After retirement from service, he started work on building Pakistan's Aircraft Manufacturing Industries with a civilian partner in the private sector. He is the sitting Chairman of Scaled Aviation Pvt Ltd, the first and only aircraft manufacturing industry in Pakistan, presently engaged in manufacturing two-seat trainers, and has ventured into designing a purely indigenous six-seat aircraft.

He is a recipient of Sitara-i-Imtiaz (Military), Hilal-i-Imtiaz (Military) and Sitara-i-Basalat.

Sardar Masood Khan

President, Azad Jammu and Kashmir

Sardar Masood Khan is currently serving as the 27th President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, a position he assumed on 25 August 2016. Before becoming the President, he was Director General of the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad.



Prior to getting elected as the President of AJK, Sardar Masood Khan had a long diplomatic career with the Foreign Service of Pakistan. Most notably, he served as the Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2003 to 2005; Pakistan's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva, Switzerland from 2005 to 2008; Pakistan's Ambassador to China from 2008 to 2012; and Pakistan's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 2012 to 2015.

In his earlier diplomatic career, he held important diplomatic positions in China, The Netherlands, United Nations (New York) and the United States (Washington, D.C).

Over the years, he also held leadership positions in the international community which include President of the Conference on Disarmament; President of the Biological Weapons Review Conference; President of the Governmental Group of the International Labour Organization (ILO); Chairman of the ILO Reform Committee; Chairman of the Council of the International Organization for Migration; Chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation in Geneva; and Chairman of the Group of 77 and China.

Air Marshal Masood Akhtar, HI (M), TBt (Retd)

Former Deputy Chief of Air Staff (Training)

Pakistan Air Force

A fighter pilot for over 33 years and with a Masters in War Studies, Air Marshal Masood Akhtar has lectured extensively on National Security Policy, Air Power Doctrine and Strategy and Leadership at Staff and War Colleges and at the National Defence University. He also represented Pakistan at the Royal United Services Institute and International Institute for Strategic Studies in the United Kingdom.



In the Pakistan Air Force, he commanded a flying squadron, a fighter wing/base and has been Director General Air Intelligence; Commandant Air War College; Chief Instructor National Defence Course; and Director General National Accountability Bureau. The Air Marshal retired as Deputy Chief of Air Staff (Training).

He developed and advised the Government of Pakistan on the country's 'National Security Policy and Strategy' and anchored a program 'Debate: Secure Pakistan' on Samaa TV.

He uses a unique FM Knowledge-CAASE 2014 teaching/learning paradigm evolved by Squadron Leader Fahad Masood that articulates all six levels of Benjamin Bloom's Taxonomy rungs. His workshops highlight all six elements, i.e., knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation for effective learning outcomes.

Air Marshal Akhtar has conducted interactive workshops on Redefined Airmanship, Automation Airmanship, HFAC, and Applied Fighter Aerodynamics at the Institute of Air Safety, Pakistan Air Force; and at the National Accountability Bureau on the evolution of its identity. He has also conducted workshops to mentor the faculty of Azad Jammu and Kashmir universities to enhance their teaching capacity through all six K-CAASE elements in an effort to bring them at par with the modern and best universities in the West.

General Zubair Mahmood Hayat, NI (M) (Retd)

Former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee

Commissioned in 1976, General Zubair Mahmood Hayat, NI (M) (Retd) had a decorated military career that spans over 4 decades. He is a graduate of Fort Sill Oklahoma (USA), Command and Staff College, Camberley (United Kingdom) and National Defence University (Pakistan). He has two Masters Degrees in War Studies and Military Science.



He is also a recipient of 'Humanities Gold Medal', 'Master Gunner Award', and 'Master War Fighter Award'. He has delivered lectures on Peace, Security and Defence in foreign military institutions and think tanks across six continents.

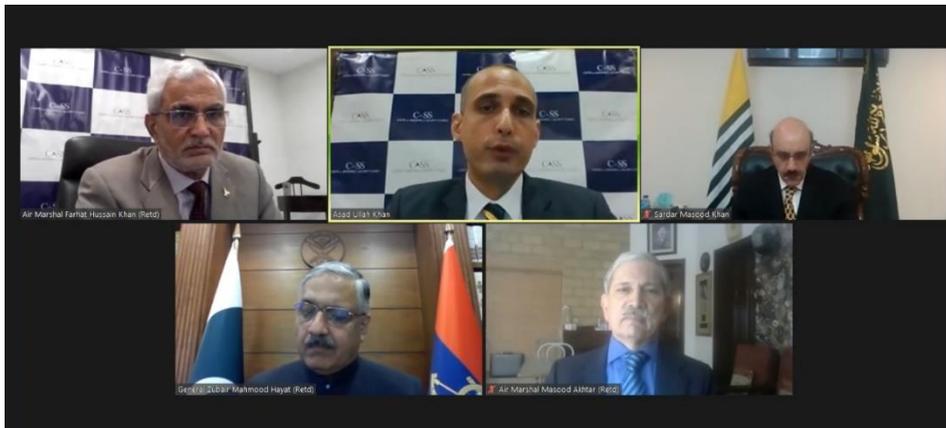
During his service, the General has commanded an Infantry Division and Corps. His key staff appointments included Army & Air Adviser (United Kingdom); Chief of Staff of a Strike Corps; Private Secretary to Chief of Army Staff; Director General Staff Duties at General Headquarters; Director General Strategic Plans Division (responsible for Pakistan's Nuclear Program); and Chief of General Staff, Pakistan Army.

In November 2016, the General took over as the 16th Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee. He is also the 3rd Col-in-Chief of Regiment of Artillery. In November 2019, he hung his uniform after 43 years of military service. The General continues to give lectures on geostrategic and nuclear matter as well as issues pertaining to defense and security. The General is happily married with 3 children and 2 grandchildren.

Annexure II
Press Release

**Post August 5, 2019 Illegal Indian Actions:
Dynamics, Implications and Options**

4 August 2021



The Indian August 5, 2019 actions in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) were a strategic miscalculation, which has opened up the door to “all options on the table.” This was stated by **General Zubair Mahmood Hayat (Retd), former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and the Guest of Honor** at a webinar organized by the Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS) on the topic of ‘Post August 5, 2019 Illegal Indian Actions: Dynamics, Implications and Options’ on August 4, 2021. General Hayat further stated that these illegal Indian actions have made Kashmir pivotal to the global power competition and has solidified Kashmir’s position as a nuclear flash point. He urged that Pakistan should press the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to take strong collective action against India’s blatant violations of its legal obligations in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir.



President Azad Jammu & Kashmir Sardar Masood Khan stated that Kashmir’s demography has already changed and the purpose of Indian government is to turn Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) into Hindu Rashtra. He further stated that Indian authorities are committing crimes against humanity and it is the duty of the international community to take note of these Indian actions.

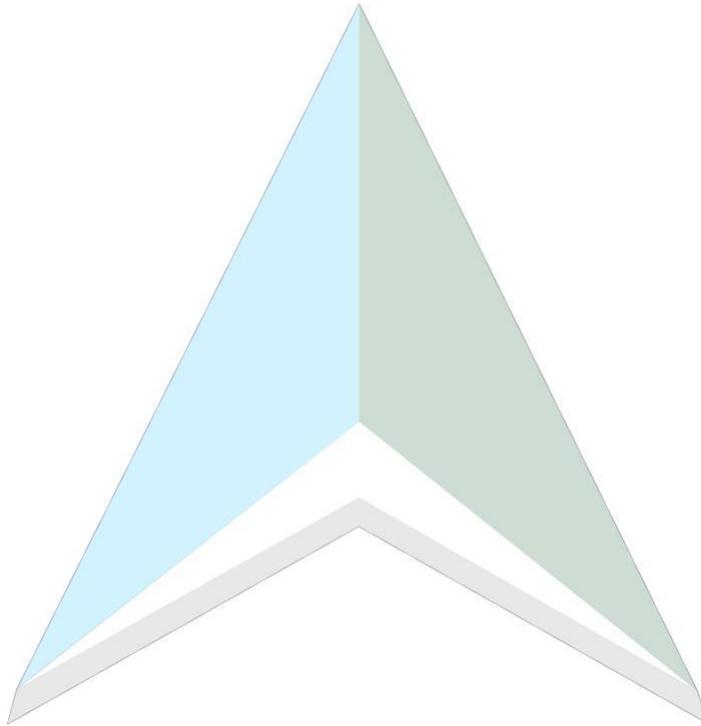
Air Marshal Masood Akhtar (Retd), former Deputy Chief of Air Staff (Training), Pakistan Air Force stressed the need to make Kashmir an issue of vital national interest, a model of economic well-being, consider according it provisional provincial status and regard Kashmiris as stakeholders in the negotiations.



In his concluding address, **Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan (Retd), Deputy President, Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS)** and former Vice Chief of the Air Staff paid rich tributes to the courage and strong will of the Kashmiris in keeping their hopes and resolve high, in their just and resolute struggle for independence from Indian occupation, despite growing human rights violations and atrocities by the Indian government and forces.

Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Khan also emphasized the fact that Indian oppression and tyranny against Kashmiris in particular and minorities in general, as part of RSS driven BJP agenda, proves that India is no longer a secular state. Furthermore, BJP government is trying to take away the identity of Kashmiris, commit and hide the Indian war crimes, deprive the Kashmiris of their rights and properties and also subject them to major economic losses. He also stated that the illegal Indian actions have badly damaged the Kashmiri economy and added to their misery and sufferings.

The renowned speakers also highlighted the changing context, framework, character and nature of the Kashmir dispute which has made it pivotal to great power politics and raised its international stakes. This was followed by a vibrant question and answer session which led to a rich and substantive discussion on the subject.



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