

REPORT

# UNMASKING INDIA'S NORMALCY FACADE: ASSESSING THE G20 MEETING IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY

ROUNDTABLE

MAY 19, 2023

Organized By:



ISLAMABAD INSTITUTE OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION - IICR

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## About IICR

**Islamabad Institute of Conflict Resolution – IICR** is Islamabad based independent and nonpartisan research institute (think-tank) ardent to being a source of impartial research for the government officials, scholars, journalists, young researchers, activists, and academicians. It deems to work on regional and global security issues in an unbiased manner and initiate discourses on conflict and conflict resolution.

## What We Do?

To strengthen the debate on peaceful coexistence, geo-political to geo-economic shift, and to avert the future crisis, IICR works with governments, think-tanks, universities, journalists, field experts, policy makers, and civil societies.

IICR is on mission to link research and policy through analysis and youth training to comprehend the state policies and global affairs. IICR aims to conduct in-depth research to propose sound solutions and policy recommendations to deal with humanitarian and security challenges of Pakistan and the region.

# Concept Note

## Introduction

Islamabad Institute of Conflict Resolution – IICR is organizing a round table conference titled **“Unmasking India's Normalcy Facade: Assessing the G20 meeting in Occupied territory”** to address the concerning issue of India's disingenuous democracy and its efforts to justify the occupation by hosting the G20 meeting in the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK). It is imperative to organize the round table discussion prior to the G20 meeting to bring attention to the ongoing human rights violations and advocate for holding the perpetrators of war crimes accountable. By convening key stakeholders and representatives, this initiative also aims to encourage G20 member states to refrain from participating in the scheduled 2023 summit meeting in the UN-recognized occupied territory.

## Background

IOJK is under the illegal de facto control of the New Delhi administration having no legal authority to organize the 3rd Tourism Working Group meeting of the G20 summit 2023. Moreover, the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir is an UN-recognized disputed territory, with 18 UNSC resolutions calling India and Pakistan to hold a free and impartial plebiscite.

India's de facto administration in IOJK is committing war crimes and crimes against humanity on a massive scale. There has been material evidence of torture, and other war crimes perpetrated by Indian occupying forces in IOJK to suppress Kashmiris from claiming their UN guaranteed Right of Self-determination. India's aim to hold 3rd Tourism working group in Occupied Jammu Kashmir is to portray a normalcy before international community.

## Proposed Discussion & The Targeted Audience

The round table discussion will involve the participation of various stakeholders, including representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), diplomats, and leaders from the Kashmir resistance movement, academics, and experts specializing in conflict resolution. The discussion will be conducted in a structured format, with a moderator overseeing the proceedings. Participants will have the opportunity to present their perspectives, share their expertise, and put forth recommendations based on their knowledge and experiences. This format will facilitate a comprehensive and balanced exchange of ideas during the round table discussion.

## Themes of Discussion

- Unmasking the false portrayal of normalcy by India in IOJK and its efforts to legitimize the illegal occupation.
- Urgent appeal to G20 member states, urging them to withdraw or abstain from participating in summit meetings scheduled to be held in IOJK.
- Examining the relevance and application of international humanitarian law and human rights law in the context of Kashmir, and exploring the responsibility of the international community in addressing the situation.
- Need for documenting and discussing the extensive human rights violations perpetrated by the Indian occupying forces, including instances of torture, sexual violence, and the use of pellet guns.

## Program Details

**Date:** May 19th, 2023

**Time:** 03:00 pm – 05:30 pm

**Venue:** Ambassador Hall 3, Marriott Hotel, Islamabad

## Panellists

S. No.	Name	Designation/Organization
1.	Ms. Farzana Yaqoob	Former AJK Minister
2.	Prof. Nazir Hussain	Former Dean Social Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
3.	Dr. Raza Muhammad	President IPRI
4.	Ambassador Abdul Basit	Former High Commissioner to India & Germany
5.	Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Safi	Convener Tehreek-e-Hurriyat Jammu Kashmir
6.	Mr. Abdur Rasheed Turabi	Former Ameer, Jamaat-e-Islami AJK
7.	Advocate Nasir Qadri	Executive Director, LFK
8.	Ms. Sabah Aslam	Founder & Executive Director IICR

## Proceedings:

The conference commenced with opening remarks by **Ambassador Maj Gen Dr. Raza Muhammad**. He emphasized the need for a strong strategy by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and AJK government to counter India's nefarious designs in the region. Ambassador Muhammad exposed India's objective of projecting normalcy in the region by hosting the G20 meeting in the occupied territory. He called for Pakistan's foreign affairs to initiate a strong demarche to the G20 member states participating in the 3rd tourism meeting of the G20 summit in the occupied territory.

**Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Safi** highlighted India's formation of a smokescreen of democracy in the occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the significance of UN resolutions, which state that the disposition of the disputed status can only be achieved through a free and impartial plebiscite. He condemned India's unilateral actions of August 5, 2019, as a masterstroke that robbed the Kashmiris of their fundamental rights.

**Advocate Nasir Qadri** expressed concerns regarding the lack of proactive Lawfare by successive governments of Pakistan in addressing the Kashmir issue. He stressed the urgency for Pakistan to develop a clear policy on Kashmir and launch a sustained and proactive lawfare campaign to bring perpetrators of atrocity crimes in IIOJK to justice.

## Proceedings:

**Mr. Abdul Rasheed Turabi** criticized the inaction of the state of Pakistan and emphasized the need for immediate practical counteractions in IIOJK and AJK to expose the agenda behind conducting the G20 meeting in the region. He pledged full support to the strike and protest call issued by the All Parties Hurriyat Conference AJK Chapter.

**Ambassador Abdul Basit**, through a pre-recorded video message, advocated for a well-calibrated multi-pronged strategy to counter India's unilateral and unlawful actions. He proposed the appointment of a special envoy on Kashmir and a plebiscite advisor by the AJK government.

**Dr. Nazir Hussain** called for the framing of a long-term Kashmir policy and proposed the appointment of a Permanent Special Rapporteur on Kashmir. He urged for AJK to be declared the bastion of Kashmir's resistance movement.

**Ms. Farzana Yaqoob** urged the Government of Pakistan to involve the people of AJK and GB in policy-making on the Kashmir issue. She emphasized that Pakistan should not disown the Kashmiris fighting against India's military occupation and should trust the people of AJK and GB.

**Ambassador Fauzia M. Sana** stressed the need for a consistent Kashmir policy with no change in stance. She reaffirmed the commitment of Pakistan's diplomatic fraternity to its duties on the Kashmir issue.

## Conclusion:

In his concluding remarks, Ambassador Maj Gen Dr. Raza Muhammad reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering stance on Kashmir and pledged support for the Kashmiris' just struggle for the right to self-determination.

Ms. Sabah Aslam, Founder, and Executive Director of IICR, expressed gratitude to the panellists and participants. She urged the Government of Pakistan to provide material support to the resistance movement beyond political, moral, and diplomatic support.

The roundtable conference provided a platform for experts and panellists to discuss and analyze India's normalcy facade in the context of hosting the G20 meeting in the occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The conference highlighted the need for a strong and sustained strategy to counter India's actions, promote accountability, and support the Kashmiri people in their quest for self-determination.



## Proposals and Recommendations:

The roundtable conference discussed several important proposals and recommendations to address the Kashmir issue, and the imminent response towards India's unlawful hosting of the G20 meeting in the occupied territory. These include:

- **Organizing a Peaceful March towards Chakothi Border:** It is recommended to consider organizing a peaceful march towards the Chakothi border AJK on May 22nd to draw attention to the ongoing situation in the occupied territory. This action can help raise international awareness and put pressure on relevant stakeholders to address the issue.
- **Issuing a Strong Demarche to G20 Member States:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs should promptly issue a strong demarche to G20 member states attending the 3rd tourism meeting of the G20 summit in the occupied territory. The demarche should emphasize the illegal nature of the occupation and the human rights violations taking place, urging these states to reconsider their participation in the G20 meeting in IOJK.
- **Appointment of a Permanent Special Rapporteur on Kashmir:** It is advisable to propose the appointment of a Permanent Special Rapporteur on Kashmir, similar to other conflict regions such as Palestine and Western Sahara. This position would ensure continuous monitoring and reporting on human rights issues in Kashmir and provide recommendations for appropriate actions.

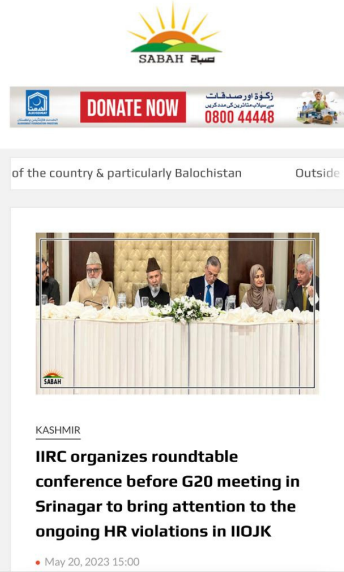
- **Formulate a Comprehensive long-term Kashmir Policy:** It is crucial for Pakistan to develop a comprehensive and long-term Kashmir policy that outlines clear objectives, strategies, and actions. This policy should address political, diplomatic, legal, and humanitarian aspects, aiming to support the rights and aspirations of the Kashmiris.
- **Appointment of a Special Envoy on Kashmir and a Plebiscite Advisor:** The AJK government should consider appointing a special envoy on Kashmir to represent the interests of Kashmiris and advocate for their right to self-determination. Additionally, a plebiscite advisor could guide the AJK Government on the plebiscite process and adherence to UN resolutions.
- **Engaging the People of AJK and GB in Policy-Making:** Inclusive policy-making is essential to address the Kashmir issue effectively. The government of Pakistan should actively involve the people of AJK and GB in the decision-making process on Kashmir issue, seeking their perspectives, experiences, and aspirations. This participatory approach will ensure greater representation and legitimacy.
- **Developing a Clear Policy and Launching a Proactive Lawfare Campaign:** It is imminent for Pakistan to develop a clear policy on Kashmir and launch a sustained and proactive lawfare campaign. This campaign should involve legal actions to hold accountable the perpetrators of atrocity crimes in IOJK and seek justice for the victims.

- **Declaration of AJK as the Bastion of Kashmir's Resistance Movement:** Considering the significance of AJK in the Kashmir issue, it is recommended to declare AJK as the bastion of Kashmir's resistance movement. This shouldn't only be limited to a symbolic gesture. It should demonstrate unconditional solidarity and support for the Kashmiri people in their struggle for self-determination.

These proposals and recommendations reflect the discussions and suggestions put forth by the distinguished panellists and experts during the roundtable conference. The implementation and further actions related to these proposals and recommendations would require careful consideration and coordination by relevant authorities and stakeholders involved in addressing the Kashmir issue.




# Press Coverage



**SABAH** زنگنه اور مسافرت 0800 44448

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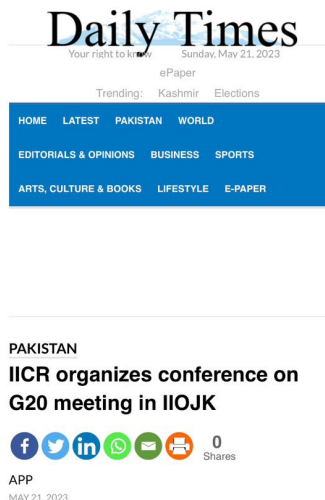
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Islamabad Institute of Conflict Resolution (IICR) organized a round table conference titled "Unmasking India's Normalcy Facade: Assessing the G20 Meeting in Occupied Territory" to address the concerning issue of India's disingenuous democracy and its efforts to justify the occupation by hosting the G20 meeting in the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK). The round table conference was organized before the G20 meeting to bring attention to the ongoing human rights violations and advocate for holding the perpetrators of war crimes accountable.

The round table conference was Chaired by Ambassador Maj Gen Dr. Raza Muhammad, President IPRI and former Ambassador. The distinguished panelists included Ghulam Muhammad Safi, Convener Tehreek e Hurriyat; Advocate Nasir Qadri, Executive Director Legal



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**IICR Organizes Conference On "Unmasking India's Normalcy Facade: Assessing G20 Meeting In IIOJK"**

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**Unmasking India's Normalcy Facade: Assessing the G20 Meeting in Occupied Territory**

by asiafreepress May 20, 2023



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