

The Big Joke Called Conflict At Play In Kashmir

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KZINE.IN

# KZINE

OPENING KASHMIR'S EYES

Jel  
Continues to  
**RADICALIZE  
OUR YOUNG**

**ALTAF  
KALOO** of NC  
perfects land  
grabbing

Steep fall in  
**ANTI-STATE  
ACTIVITIES**  
as noose  
tightens

Did NC MP  
**HASNAIN MASOODI**  
Sexually Exploit  
Women Employees?  
**SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS SURFACE**

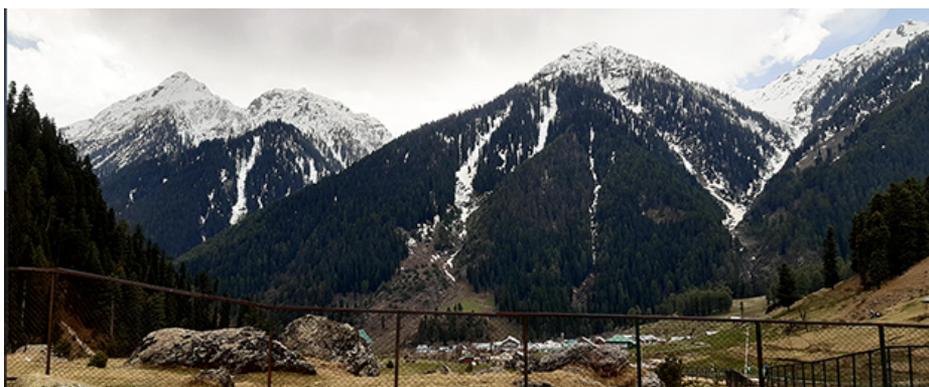
## For Darkness to Dispel, the Light Must Shine On



I am getting calls from diverse quarters asking me to slow down with KZINE.

I am a writer with my heart in the right place. I am ideologically convinced that the conflict entrepreneurship, irrespective of who is the purchaser and who is the seller – must end. The larger majority of Kashmir is wittingly or unwittingly becoming cannon fodder for conflict entrepreneurs. Most Kashmiris are not even aware that they are fodder for conflict, on which many are thriving. They are being consumed for diabolical ends which suit conflict entrepreneurs on both sides of the ideological divide.

I take pride in stating that I speak and write in unambiguous terms, without fear or favour. I will keep exposing the cozy nexus between the visible and invisible stakeholders of the terror ecosystem. I state this on record – I have nothing personal against anyone. I can foresee the devastation that conflict entrepreneurship will bring upon the Kashmir society if it is not exposed, and if the larger majority is not educated about the consequences.



I know that the so-called stakeholders are after my blood. I am aware that the political elites in Jammu region too are disturbed by the trailblazing KZINE. They need a Mehbooba in Kashmir for electoral consolidation in Jammu. The vice versa is equally true.

We are at an inflection point in the region. Someone somewhere has to come forward and speak the truth. We have to be brutally honest and unsparing to drag ourselves out of the mess that we are in. If we refuse to see where we are headed, we shall be consumed by the fires being stoked by the conflict entrepreneurs.

I urge all who are feeling the heat not to reach out to me. I am not a blackmailer who will accede to demands in return for favours.

All that we write comes from the conviction of our ideology. There are no state or non-state actors sponsoring our words. My heart bleeds for those who are being made to bleed. The faces of the beautiful children of my large region continue to fill me with hope. It is for their bright and happy tomorrows that I toil.

**Bashir Assad**

razor sharp analysis

INCISIVE REPORTING

INVESTIGATE THE TERROR ECOSYSTEM

EXPOSE DECEPTION

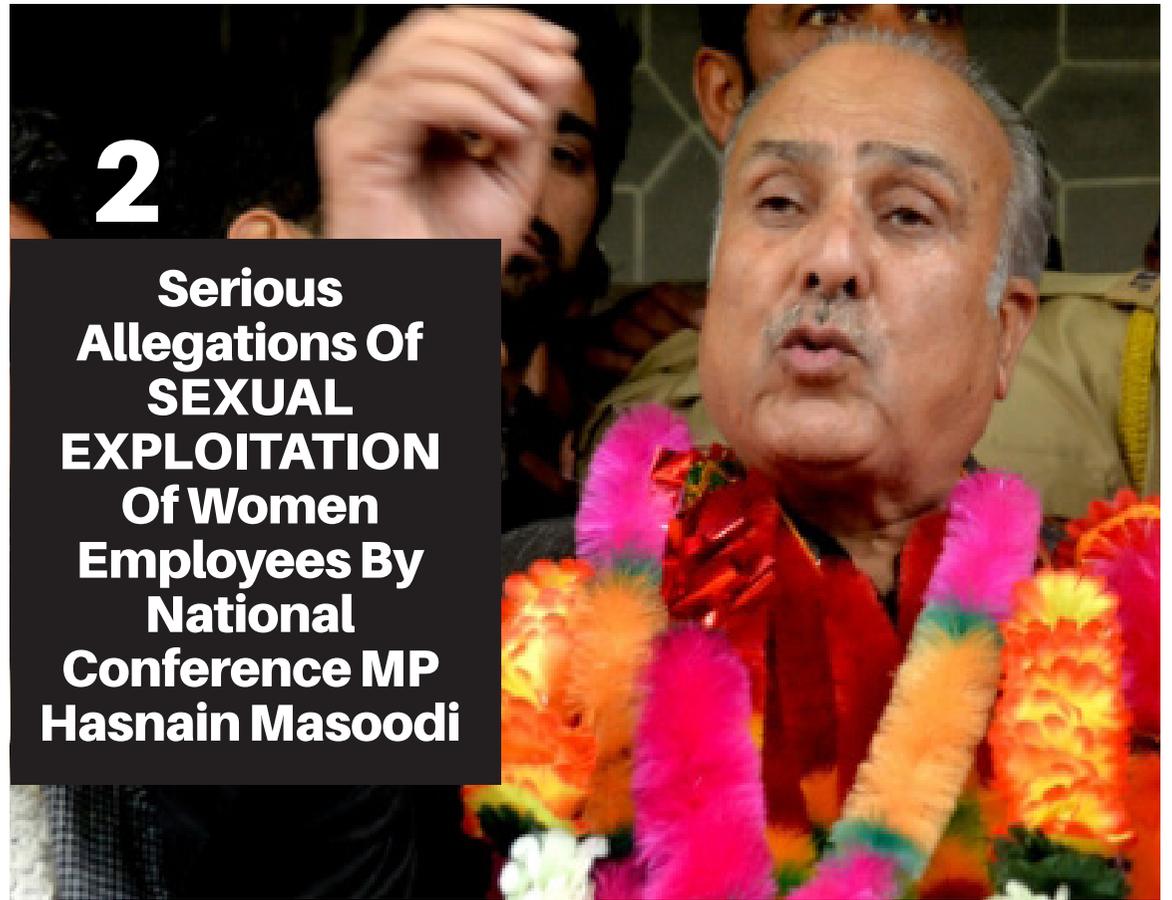
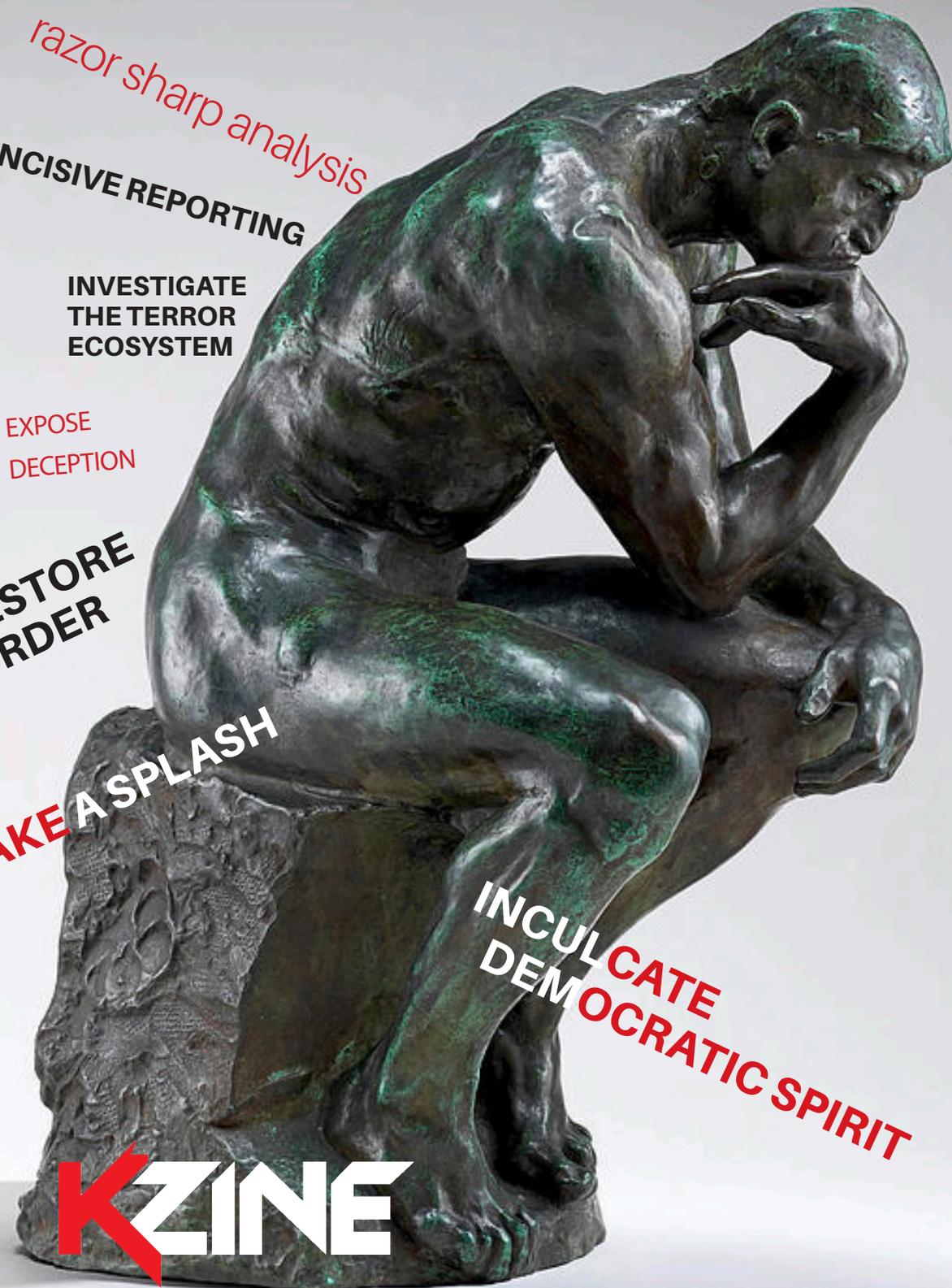
RESTORE ORDER

MAKE A SPLASH

INCULCATE DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT

**KZINE**

OPENING KASHMIR'S EYES



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**Serious  
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Of Women  
Employees By  
National  
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Hasnain Masoodi**



**Women Employees  
Have Accused Hasnain of  
Sexually Exploiting Them  
As Chairman of  
Selection-Cum-Oversight  
Committee, Investigating  
Agencies Go Slow After His  
Election to Parliament**

by Waseem GUL

**S**ince 2019, Hasnain Masoodi of National Conference is a Member of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Parliament. He is now the face for the National Conference in South Kashmir. Masoodi served as the Principal District Judge in Jammu and Kashmir from 2007 to 2009, and a Justice of the Jammu & Kashmir High Court Judge from 2009 to 2016.

In 2017, the government of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir constituted the Selection-Cum-Oversight Committee (SCOC), the apex body for monitoring and evaluation of the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS). Justice Masoodi, a former Judge of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, was appointed as the Chairman of the committee under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2013.

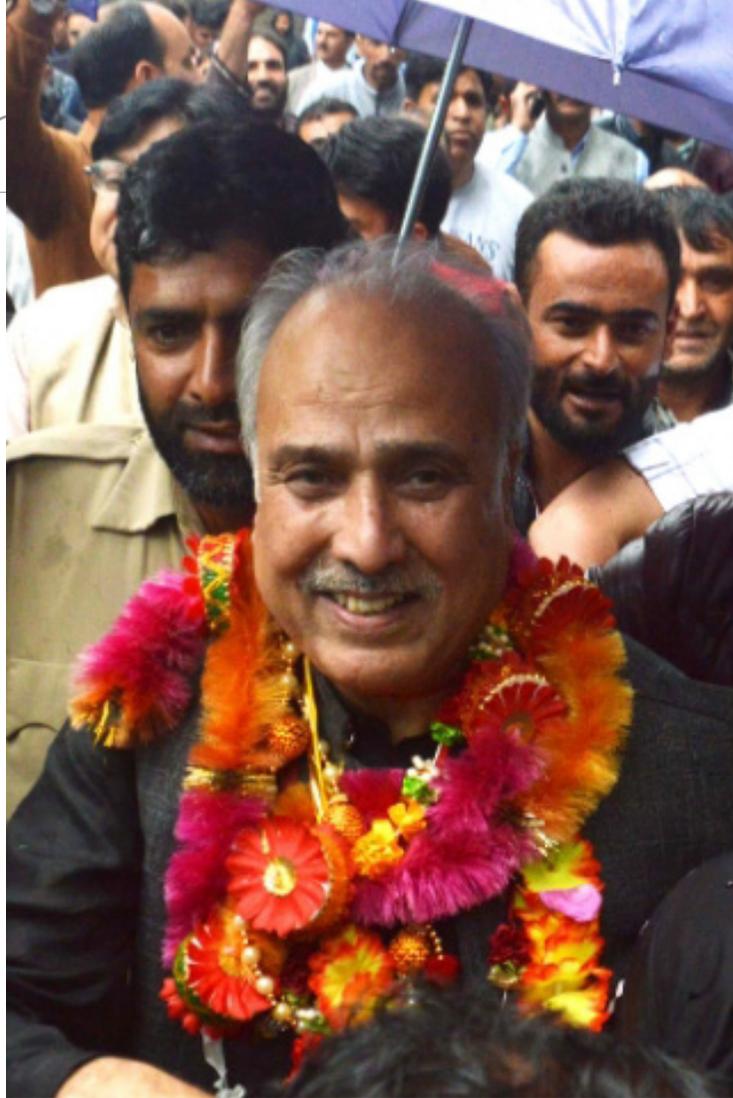
In March 2019, National Conference announced that Justice Masoodi would be its candidate for the Anantnag parliamentary constituency. Masoodi subsequently won the election. Thereafter, Masoodi resigned from SCOC. He subsequently won the Lok Sabha election from the Anantnag constituency.

Highly shocking details have come to light about Hasnain Masoodi pertaining to the time when he was Chairperson of the Selection cum Oversight Committee. According to the confidential complaint made to the top echelons of the UT Administration, Masoodi sexually exploited the young women working with SCOC. He also blatantly broke all rules to derive monetary benefits from the position.

The complaint against Masoodi states that the selection committee headed by Masoodi adopted unprofessional and unethical practices by resorting to corruption and seeking sexual favors from female aspirants.

SCOC has an office in Srinagar and also in Jammu. These offices were converted into hubs of immoral activities by Masoodi and his companions. They used these office premises to exploit young women and also charged money for giving employment in SCOC.

G A Sofi, then State Mission Director of Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) was Masoodi's partner in crime. According to the complaint, Masoodi and Sofi deputed only women



employees in the offices of SCOC at Srinagar and also at Jammu. These women were sexually exploited by Masoodi and company.

As per the complaint, Masoodi's remuneration for the Chairmanship of SCOC was supposed to be calculated on the basis of his last pay drawn minus pensionary benefits. The complaint stated that Masoodi misinterpreted the Government Order No 180. He drew his salary at par with a sitting High Court judge, viz Rs 3.80 lakh.

Masoodi and company milked this organisation for satisfy their personal interests. For some time, the Mission Director ICPS was Shafqat Sultan. The complaint against Masoodi states that Shafqat tried to take remedial measures so that the ICPS properties would not get financially starved or overburdened due to the malpractices of Masoodi and company.

Sultan tried to discontinue occupation of the rented premises at Jammu for the SCOC office. This was because huge liability had accumulated on account of unpaid rent, and could invite serious audit objections. The Mission Director ICPS did

## SHIVERING, TENSE AND ANXIOUS, JUSTICE MASOODI DENIES ALLEGATIONS

When Justice Hasnain Masoodi (Retd) spoke to me regarding the charges leveled at him, he was breathing heavily and was shivering. Justice Masoodi was visibly tense and anxious, and stammered once as he answered the questions.

**Sir, did you indulge in misappropriation of government funds during your tenure as President, Selection-Cum-Oversight Committee?**

The drawing and disbursing powers always lie with the DDO of the concerned office. Since I was not a DDO, how can I misappropriate any government fund in SCOC?

**Sir, was the daily running of the office difficult because you had used the office funds for your personal use?**

Being Chairman I lacked DDO powers. I did not have anything to do with the funds part in SCOC. Then how could I make the running of the daily affairs of the JJBs (Juvenile Justice Boards) and CWCs (Child Welfare Committees) difficult? Every committee under my supervision was running smoothly. In some places we were facing minor problems because the committees set up were in infancy stage. They had been set up in J&K for the very first time in the year 2017.

**Sir, did you take bribe from the aspirants who wanted to work with SCOC or other departments in order to provide them with a job? Did you also take sexual favours from women aspirants for this purpose?**

No. The allegation is wrong. I did not have any such role for selection. Our role is limited to Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards. Our area of operation was limited. In 1956 Right to Happy Childhood was promised in our constitution but we waited for almost 20 years. Only in 1970, the first Children

Act was formed but nothing was done. The structures which were required to be set up were not set up for next 30 years. Then came Juvenile Justice Act in which our role was limited to setting up Child Welfare committee and Juvenile Justice Boards. Difficulty was that the positions are not in a time pay scale and it was only honorarium. So we made all the efforts to have these structures in place and ultimately we succeeded in it.

It was more persuasion and most of the heads are retired deputy commissioners. Former district development commissioners were persuaded to head these committees as their pension will compensate them. The age required for selection was more than 35 years so the youngsters were ineligible for this. Because of the honorarium issue no body was attracted. Even after everything was done, almost 20 committees were left vacant as nobody was willing to join. Right now Child Welfare Committees are headed by Deputy Commissioners, some by individuals who have done PHD, and others by retired persons who were persuaded to join. The rest of the recruitment was not made by SCOC. SCOC was restricted to this only.

I will tell that with this effort we were able to have these Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards for the first time in place in J&K. You will be surprised to know that some of these committees are headed by former Deputy Commissioners. Our role was very limited.

**Sir, did you misinterpret the government order no 180 SW of 2018 dated 06/06/2018 so that you can draw your salary at par with sitting High Court Judge?**

The implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act is governed by Hon'ble High Court and Hon'ble Supreme Court Committee on Juve-

nile Justice and then there is a PIL. So we had to comply with the directions of hon'ble court on judicial side because we were working in close coordination with these committees of hon'ble courts. Every direction was issued by Hon'ble High Court so there is no question of misinterpreting any order, as everything was being monitored by Hon'ble High Court.

**Sir, did you sexually exploit the women who were working with the office of the Secretary, Selection cum Oversight Committee and Mission ICPS? Did you employ only those women at these offices who allowed you, Mr GA Sofi and others to exploit them sexually?**

Question of exploiting anyone does not arise at all. We have not employed or appointed anyone. It's a small office and we have all the assistance from District Childhood Committee, office of Mission Director and we were all acting together.

**Sir, did you depute only women employees for the offices of Selection-Cum-Oversight Committee and the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) at Srinagar and in Jammu? If yes, what was the purpose of deputing only women for all the official work?**

Why should I depute all women staff for the offices of SCOC and ICPS? In child welfare committees as per law there should be at least one female. We were having both male and female staff in these offices as per the need.

**Sir, is it true that Mr Shafqat Sultan, Director ICPS, tried to rationalize the expenditure at the offices of SCOC, but he was transferred overnight at your behest?**

All these postings are made by government and general administration department by the approval of the cabinet. I did not have any role in making such senior level transfers. —WG

not have sufficient budget to pay the rent for the premises.

The complaint against Masoodi states that the Jammu office of SCOC was the hub for Masoodi and company for their immoral activities. In this light, Masoodi used his powerful network to get Shafqat transferred from the role overnight. In turn, Masoodi's partner in crime GA Sofi was appointed to the post.

The complaint states that no expenses incurred on field work were being paid to the employees

even though separate expenditure heads had been provided for it. According to the complaint, even basic requirements of the staff could not be met due to the corrupt practices of Masoodi and GA Sofi.

The complaint against Masoodi was filed to former Governor Satyapal Malik, copy of which has been accessed by KZINE.

The allegations in the complaint against Masoodi are very grave in nature. They need to be investigated on priority.

# Why the Kashmir charade never ends

**There is a big joke at play in Kashmir. All those thriving on the conflict are playing along**



Two Kashmiri youngsters enjoying tea on a houseboat

**The Happy, Prosperous, Progressive Kashmir**  
**Do You Know it?**

by Mir QAYOOM



**All Kashmiris who have wanted to achieve something positive have done so. They live happy, fulfilled lives because they want to. Life is always about the choices one makes**



I am so amazed. Back in 2019, I had read each page, each word of Bashir Assad's courageous, path-breaking debut book *K File: The Conspiracy of Silence*. The book gave me some understanding, but couldn't open my eyes to this big circus in Kashmir. As they say, the Light dawns when has to. There is such a big joke at play in Kashmir. There is a cuss word commonly used across north India. *Ye hamara wahi bana rahey hain. Apna bhi bana rahey hain, hamara bhi bana rahey hain. Kyon bana rahey hain, ye nahin pata.* Why have a section of Kashmiris become so blinded that they are killing themselves and getting their children killed? I cannot figure out. But there is a huge, grotesque, bizarre joke at play here. Everybody is jumping. On this side of the fence, on that side of the fence. Kashmir is on fire! Kashmir is on fire!

BS! There is just a huge joke at play. The emperor is not wearing any clothes. The emperor is nanga. But everybody is pitching in, shaking their heads in worry that Kashmir is on fire.

And trying to find out the solution to that fire. You think there is a fire on? Check out the lives of all those who want to lead happy and prosperous lives in Kashmir. They wanted to. They have done so.

Most of all, check out the traditional Kashmiri elites, the affluent mullah clans of Kashmir. They are living the good life right there in Srinagar, Anantnag, Kupwara, Pulwama, Baramulla, Sopore and more. They are having a ball. There is wealth, the most plush houses you shall see, big cars, secure jobs or flourishing businesses.

The affluent members of the other castes too are living the good life. Kashmir is no Kandahar. Kashmiris love to live life king size. They enjoy abundance and affluence. They are aspirational. They enjoy all the trappings of the good life. And they live it.

Why hasn't the Indian state busted the big myth

of Kashmir being dukhi and oppressed? Why hasn't the opulent life of Kashmir been brought to light for all of India and the world to see? I cannot figure out.

### THE CHARADE OF THE CONFLICT NEVER ENDS

The charade of the conflict in Kashmir never ends. Everybody is playing the charade here. Lies oft repeated are regarded as the truth. Going up amidst this huge make-believe, many among the young generations of Kashmir now believe this charade to be the only reality.

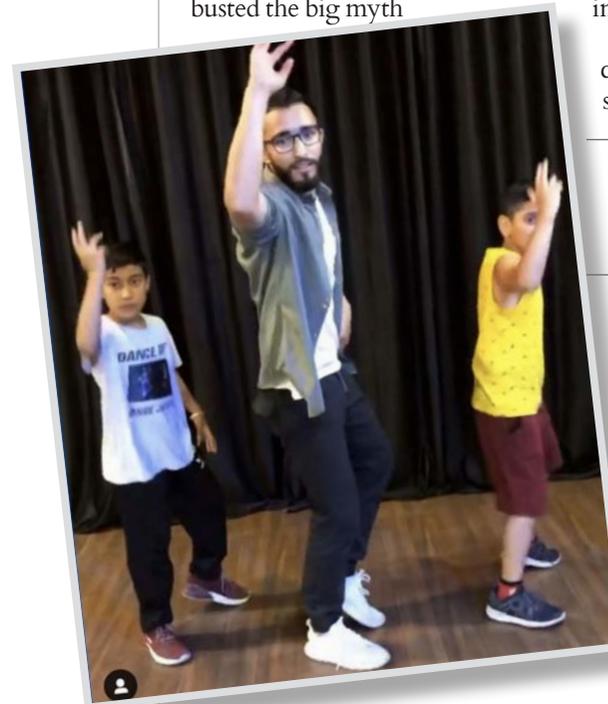
The charade played on the politics of victimization. Those thriving on the conflict economy have drawn immense benefits from the politics of victimization. The Indian state was always walking on eggshells around these conflict entrepreneurs. They were enjoying this huge joke, always showing India the middle finger.

The tragedy is that the charade comes with costs. The Kashmiri society paid heavily for it.

### THE MULLAHS AND THEIR KIDS AREN'T PART OF THIS MUCK

Note this: the affluent mullah clans of Kashmir don't pick up the gun. They and their families lead prosperous, fulfilled lives. The rogues among them reap the benefits of the conflict. These rogues remain in the forefront, driving the bloody narrative.

The gun is placed in the hands of the sons of poor Kashmiris. The poor



## MULLAHS KE GHAR PE PARTY CHAL RAHI HAI

You watch the Mullah clans of Kashmir, and there is no conflict. Zilch. These are the traditional Kashmiri elites. Abunant, joyful families. Large get-togethers. The numbers at their parties have reduced due to Covid. Even during Covid times, family weddings are grand and houses are decked up like resorts. The children of the mullahs study in the best colleges and universities in Indian metros and work in blue chip companies.

When it's time for weddings, these happy clans dance merrily to Bollywood hits or to popular Kashmiri songs. The elites live the good life. A rich, charming girl says into the camera, "Ye mein hoon, ye Hamara ghar hai, aur hamare yahan shaadi ki paaarrty chal rahi hai."

This is the so-called conflict region for you, folks. This is Kashmir. The girl is absolutely right. Yahan sach mein party chal rahi hai. Aur chalni bhi chahiye.

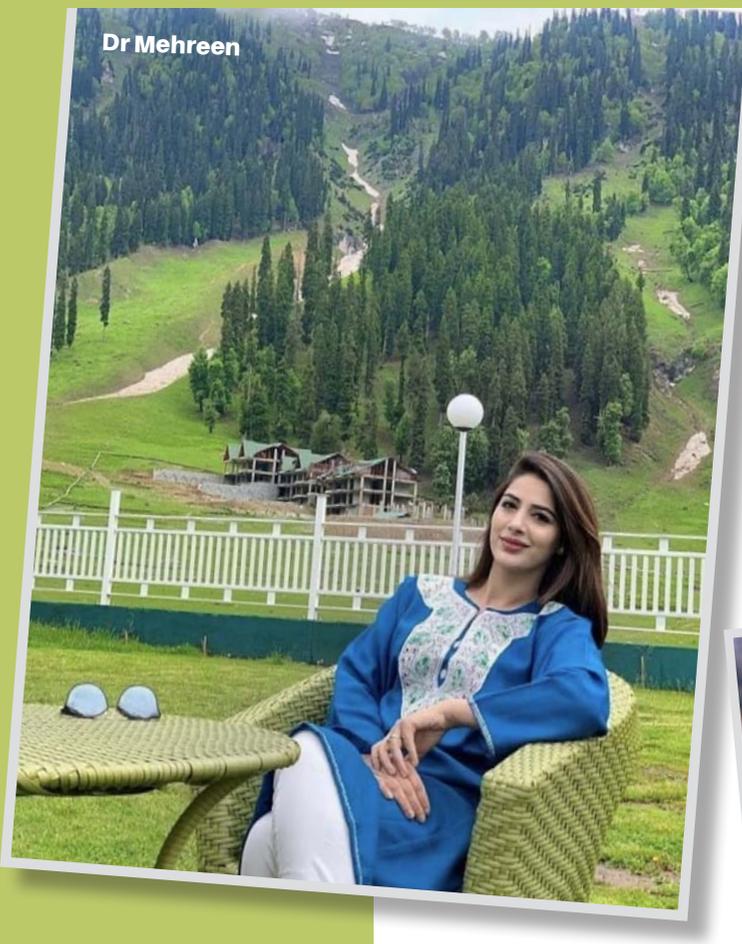
Affluent Kashmiris give so much gold to their daughters and daughters in law, that the bride is truly weighed down by the gold. The families proudly say - hum ne bride ko gold mein tolna hai. Again - the so-called conflict region.

When the sons or daughters of Kashmir's mullah clans marry, caste supremacy is always upheld. "None of those Wani, Bhat, Rather etc. We don't marry into those families. They are convertees. Our weddings take place only among high caste Kashmiris," says a matron of the mullah clan with pride.

I look at the various social media posts on Kashmir, always doing the big crying act. Always crying Kashmir Kashmir! What the \*%#&\* is going on here? What are these hashtags carrying on with? For whom is the conflict? It is only for sections of the peasantry class.

# THIS TOO IS KASHMIR

## Wake Up to What's Real!



Dr Mehreen

are inspired to kill and die in the name of jihad.

The children of the mullahs study in good schools and professional colleges. They don't get exposed to indoctrination at school. They take up white collar jobs. Some of them are armchair jihadis, but none of them get into the battlefield to die. This task is left for the sons of poor Kashmiris.

The mullahs of Kashmir control the levers of power - be it politics, bureaucracy, trade, media and so on. The rogues among them have perfected the charade. Some feign a sympathetic or pro-



**Why hasn't the Indian state busted the big myth of Kashmir being dukhi and oppressed? Why hasn't the opulent life of Kashmir been brought to light for all of India and the world to see? I cannot figure out**



Sana, young sketch artist, calligrapher

ceptive attitude while others adopt an aggressive approach.

### PAKISTAN MANUFACTURES THE CONFLICT FOR KASHMIR'S LOWER CLASSES: THEIR SONS ARE CANNON FODDER

Jamaat e Islami and similar other so-called socio-religious organisations have been driving the conflict for decades through government schools and madrasas. The result: a sizable number of children from the lower classes who study in these schools and madrasas are deeply indoctrinated. They look at everything from the conflict filter. These children are the ones who choose to die for some obscure goals of illusory Islamic and Heavenly Glory. The children of the Kashmiri elite, meanwhile, continue to enjoy privileged jobs, businesses and positions.

Entire industries are built

around sustaining the Kashmir sob story. Pakistan whips up Kashmir and claims that India is an existential threat. The so-called global Kashmiri experts cry over the big lie created in and over Kashmir. Everybody is living this big lie. And everybody is playing along. For those who gain from it, there is big money in keeping the lie going.

Many years ago, I had heard the quote: Everybody loves a good drought. It was in the Kashmir context that I finally understood it. Everybody is loving the drought in Kashmir. Everybody is milking it to get big.

### WHY GOOD GOVERNANCE IS VITAL FOR KASHMIR

The so-called Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL) of Kashmir has milked the conflict for decades.

Fattened by Pakistan for keeping Kashmir on boil, they have led opulent lives. The JRL deliberately crippled the delivery of governance. Conflict with the state brought with it social and economic challenges for Kashmir.

Simultaneously, radicalization was sold to the Kashmiris in the



**Zakiya Magray: A musician from Srinagar who want to represent Kashmir globally. Just 17 years old, Zakiya is learning to play the electric guitar and drum. After completing her training, she shall be the first woman electric guitarist and drummer from Kashmir**



**Falak Aslam discovers her love for baking**

name of Islam. The JRL never took up the gun itself. The children of Kashmir's affluent mullah clans did not take up the gun. It is the poor man and his sons who have chosen to kill and die.

Kashmir will change when the poor man and his children feel a qualitative difference in their lives. Good governance

and efficient delivery can make that possible.

Why do successful professionals, businessmen, artistes continue to emerge from the elite clans of Kashmir? Why do terrorists, over-ground workers, radicalized young men emerge from the poor sections of Kashmir?

The difference is in the education. The affluent Kashmiris send their

children to schools where the thrust is on global-standard education and cosmopolitan thinking. The poor send their children to government schools or madrasa. Most of these are compromised by radicalization and competitive Islamization. An alarming percentage of government school teachers are Jamaat-e-Islami activists or terror sympathizers. They were co-opted by the State Education Department after many FAT schools were shut down by the government. They continue to live with the ideology that initially shaped them.

The result – to quote a Kashmiri intellectual – is a sharp decline in thinking minds. The poor man's children are brought up with an idealized version of the Islamic caliphate, totally divorced from rationality and geo-political realities. Steeped in radicalization, these children are easily moved to unquestioning violence.



# ALTAF KALOO



## of National Conference perfects land grab racket in Aishmuqam

by Bisma NAZIR



**F**or decades, National conference was the giant on Jammu and Kashmir's political stage. The party run and controlled by the Abdullas presided over all kinds of scandals and uprisings in Kashmir. Particularly since 1996, the most sleaze-ridden periods in the political history of Jammu and Kashmir happened under the watch of the National Conference. NC became the safe haven for all kinds of frauds and fraudsters. Many of its former legislatures and office bearers face serious criminal charges.

Politicians and the Kashmir Mafia – also known as Kashmir's Terrorism – have long been bedfellows. This is not the least because of the dirty money that sustains political parties. Ninety per cent funding of Jammu and Kashmir's major regional forces – National Conference and PDP – comes from unknown sources. It is a known fact that secret funds also reach the terrorism structures

in the region. Links between the political parties and the terrorism structures have often surfaced. The Enforcement Directorate, the National Investigating Agency (NIA) and Jammu and Kashmir are consistently tracking the moles and syndicates to examine these links.

As chief ministers of Jammu and Kashmir, both Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah presided over some major scandals of Jammu and Kashmir. More and more skeletons are tumbling out of the cupboards as the wrongdoings of party leaders get exposed.

Altaf Ahmad Wani alias Kaloo, former MLA from Pahalgam constituency in Anantnag district is among the NC leaders about whose shady history not much has been spoken. Kaloo hails from Aishmuqam in Pahalgam tehsil.

Kaloo first earned notoriety in 1994 when police arrested him and recovered a fake currency machine from his possession.

In 2009, Kaloo was nominated to Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council (now abolished). The case was hushed up soon and Kaloo was granted bail. In September 2010, Kaloo was again arrested by Srinagar police from Nigeen lake in Srinagar. He was in a houseboat in a compromising position with a woman.

In 2014, Kaloo won the Pahalgam assembly segment as a National Conference candidate. An engineering dropout from Bengaluru, Kaloo's quick political ascent even after getting exposed for his conduct clearly implies the wide space that National Conference has for fraudsters.

**Kaloo's Land Grab Racket In Aishmuqam**

In Aishmuqam, Kaloo has perfected a land grab racket.

The military installation in Aishmuqam village houses the office of CO RR 3rd. It is spread over 458 kanals. Out of this, 302 kanals is under the jurisdiction of Jammu Patwar halqa and 156 kanals is in Logripora village.

Out of the total 458 kanals, only 51 kanals is proprietary land. The rest is community land (kahcharaie). However, the Army is paying rent



**Kaloo got wrong and illegal entries done in revenue records through the officials concerned. With these manipulations, Kaloo's family is enjoying the rent for 155 kanals of community even though they should get rent for 28 kanals only**



**Kaloo's cronies are also part of the land grab racket at Aishmuqam. Ghulam Muhammad Dar, a contractor by profession and a close aid of Kaloo, Ghulam Rasool Mir and Muhammad Ibrahim Numberdar are some of the players in this racket**

for all the 458 kanals of land. Out of 51 kanals of proprietary land, 28 kanals belong to Kaloo's extended family. But the rent is being collected for 155 kanal.

At Kaloo's behest, the revenue officials at the local level produced the documents that Kaloo's family possesses 155 kanals here. The fact is that community land cannot be possessed by individuals. Also, benefits from community land must be shared by the entire community. Usually any income from community land is spent on welfare schemes for the area. In this case, Kaloo got wrong and illegal entries done in revenue records through the officials concerned. With these manipulations, Kaloo's family is enjoying the rent for 155 kanals of community even though they deserve rent for 28 kanals only.

The property has been shown in the name of Waseem Kaloo (Kaloo's cousin), Nooruddin Kaloo (uncle), Gull Muhammad (uncle), Ghulam Rasool (father), Assadullah (grandfather), Latief Kaloo (cousin), Abdul Majeed Zargar (relative).

Now the next fraud. Assadullah Kaloo, Noorud-

din, Gull Muhammad and Abdul Majeed passed away years ago. How is this possible that even though the grandfather passed away many years ago, the revenue entries are still in his name? How is it that a portion of the property is in the name of the deceased, and the rest has been transferred to his legal heirs?

Kaloo's cronies are also part of the land grab racket at Aishmuqam. Ghulam Muhammad Dar, a contractor by profession and a close aid of Kaloo, is taking rent for 20 kanals of community land. According to revenue records, he is illegally occupying the same 20 kanals. Physical verification revealed that he has built a house and a commercial building over the 20 kanals of state land in his possession. Similarly Ghulam Rasool Mir and Muhammad Ibrahim Numberdar, both close to Kaloo, have community land physically in their possession. They also take rent from the Army for the same Khasra numbers.

The encroachment by Kaloo at village Hangal-pawa, Haripora, Khelanyar and Pahalgam will be revealed by KZINE in a subsequent edition.

# While You Were Sleeping

## Jamaat e Islami Continues to INDOCTRINATE Youth, Children Towards RADICALIZATION

by J N AHMAD



In August 2018, Dr Abdul Hamid Fayaz was elected as the Ameer-e-Jamaat of Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir. Jel is often referred to as the largest socio-religious party of the state. This euphemistic description veils the highly toxic role played by the Jamaat in the widespread indoctrination and radicalization of Kashmir. IMAGE SOURCE: FACEBOOK

**T**here is a major focus of policy planners on the role Jamaat e Islami plays in the spread of terrorist and extremist ideology. Role of Jamaat e Islami Jammu and Kashmir in spreading terror tentacles is being analyzed and assessed at different levels.

There is, however, little or no attention on how Jamaat prevents progressive change in society, rejects the rule of law and perceives democracy as the enemy of Islam. This is the core ideology of Jamaat e Islami. This is the reason why the Jamaat shall always remain in conflict with the state and its democratic system – terrorism or no terrorism.

In the pre-militancy era, Jamaat fought many elections in Kashmir on the premise of establishing the caliphate.

## SOME MAJOR JAMAAT-E-ISLAMI PLAYERS OF KULGAM

Here are some of the major Jamaat-e-Islami players of Kulgam. The administration never bothered to check them while they were preparing a volcano of destruction. All of them are Geelani's close associates and followers. After lending help in 2008 and 2014 elections, they were actively used and shielded by PDP.

**MOHD SHABAN.** From Wanpora Qaimoh, longtime Jel activist, former FAT office bearer, Tehreek-i-Hurriyat

(TeH) Tehsil secretary, been to prison many times for various charges including terror funding

**MOHD RAMZAN**

**SHEIKH.** From Rampora, Qaimoh, Jel Nazim Halqa/TeH District Secretary

**FAROOQ AHMAD.** From Khrewn, Qaimoh, Jel activist

**GULZAR BHAT.** From Poniwoh, Kulgam, TeH preacher and Darasgah Incharge in his native village

**MOHUIDDIN KUCCHAY.** From Kadder, Kulgam, longtime Jel activist, former Nazim Halqa, TeH Zonal secretary

**SAREER AHMAD.** From Bogund, Kulgam, Jamiat Tulaba Tehsil secretary

**IRSHAD WAGAY.** From Kanjikulla, Yaripora, Jamiat Tulaba activist, key role in 2016 mobilisation of violent mobs

**SAYAR RESHI.** From Kaharwat, Kulgam, Jamiat Tulaba activist, FAT Schools District Incharge, key role in 2016 violent unrest

**IMTIYAZ AHMAD.** From Kaharwat, Kulgam, Jel activist, Govt teacher, Jamiat village Nazim, key role in 2016 violent unrest Of these, Mohd Shaban and Ramzan Sheikh are probably more notorious in both Kulgam and Anantnag for their vitriol and public hate speeches against policemen and mainstream political workers. Both of them have consistently endorsed the gun. Shaban incited furious mobs at least twice in the past to attack local policemen's houses including one DySp Bashir in 2010 and another one in 2014.



The argument then put forth by Jamaat was that participating in elections was only a tool to capture power and change the system from secularism to Islamism. Hence the situation we have in Kashmir is this: defeat of terrorism, if at all it is defeated, does not mean the end of the game.

Even Jamaat e Islami's participation in elections is in itself a problem. It is here that the policy planners and those at the

PHOTO COURTESY: FAISAL KHAN/ANADOLU AGENCY

### Outside view of the central office of Jamaat-e-Islami in Srinagar, Kashmir

helm of affairs fail to anticipate Jamaat as a potential threat to democracy. The ideology of Jamaat which has influenced thousands in Kashmir cannot be decimated. Our effort must be to contain it and stop it from further expansion.

## IMPROVING GOVERNANCE IN J&K IS VITAL

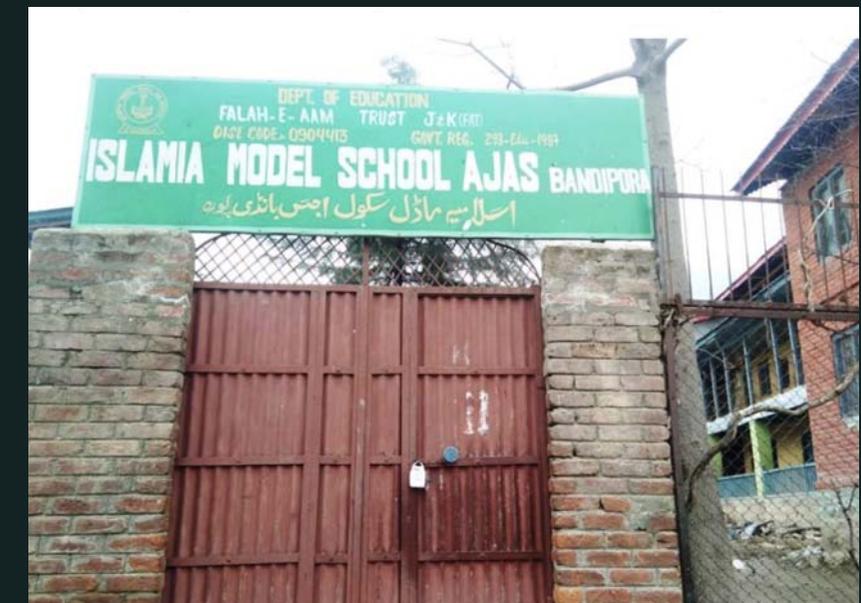
We need to understand the key driver of radicalization. It is the dissemination of propaganda to receptive or vulnerable individuals and groups. So how will we defeat the extremist religious ideology of Jamaat? The answer lies in the following:

- \* Strengthening the social contract
- \* Tackling governance failures
- \* Replacing counter-terrorism imperative with a focus on human security

India's capacity to sustain the counter-insurgency successes largely depends on improving governance in Jammu and Kashmir. Governance in the region has taken a huge hit in last many decades. Building trust is directly linked to good governance. And good governance has no substitute, ideological or political. Jamaat can be decimated only if governance is improved phenomenally.

At the same time, the atmosphere for good governance must be created. We need to remove the major irritants coming in the way of a working and functional democracy. Demolish the structures of anarchy. Jamaat is absolutely anarchic in its outlook and also ideologically. Jamaat has widely shifted the idea of knowledge and education. From an inclusive and rational search for all knowledge, Jamaat has narrowed focus solely on religious knowledge. This is void of rationality. Hence the knowledgeable in our society are radicalized. And they are

PHOTO COURTESY: KASHMIRLIFE.NET



This school, run by the Falah e Aam Trust, was sealed by the J&K Government in early 2019. This is a private school in Ajas in north Kashmir's Bandipora district

**A large number of government teachers are Jel activists, preachers, former militants and sympathizers. They came into the education system following their blanket recruitment during 1996-1997 after many FAT schools were closed**

produced in thousands annually.

Jamaat has disturbed and destabilized the social behavior of those it has influenced. They hold a narrow world view. What we have now is a decline in intellectual thought. We have a decline in thinking minds. We have allowed extremists to skew Islam's narrative by putting forward an idealized version of the Islamic caliphate. This version is completely divorced from rationality.

As a case study, let us discuss Kulgam in south Kashmir which remains the hotbed of extremism and terrorism.

## THE CONTINUING DOWNSLIDE IN KULGAM

Kulgam, unfortunately like other places in Valley is continuing to witness a surge in radicalization and militant recruitment. All this has been happening not because of the current phase of unrest. It has been the pattern for last many years. Examine the correlation: The villages that are worst affected by radicalization are also those areas which are the bastions of Jamaat-e-Islami. The majority of the militants



Falah e Aam Trust

**Despite an official ban by the state, the control of mosques in most areas is still with JeI/ Tehreek-i-Hurriyat. Their radical preachers still influence the youth**

have emerged – and continue to emerge – from these areas. The problem is relatively lesser in those areas where penetration of Jamaat-e-Islami is low.

Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) and Hizbul Mujahideen have had strong presence in Kulgam since 1989. Huge areas of state land have been encroached upon by JeI in many areas of Kulgam district since the 1990s. The encroachments are most notable in Chattabal, Kulgam and Kulgam Town. The state government has yet to retrieve that land.

For many years, Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) acted as Tehreek-i-Hurriyat (TeH) to escape government vigil. All the time, the dirty work at ground level continued. JeI and Tehreek-i-Hurriyat preachers in the area have publicly preached, propagated and sustained militancy

in the district for too long using Friday Sermons, Eid Sermons and Ijtimas (religious gatherings). They also at times preached in the schools run by Falah-e-Aam Trust, set up by Jamaat-e-Islami and Darasgahs.

**R**adical literature was freely distributed amongst the youth and Pakistan was lavishly praised.

At times, Pakistan was raised to mythological proportions. A large number of government teachers in the district are Jamaat-e-Islami activists, preachers, former militants and sympathizers. They came into the education system following their blanket recruitment during 1996-1997, when a significant number of FAT schools were closed down by the government. These people

have significantly helped in sustaining the radical ecosystem by further spreading the JeI tentacles.

The fires of the current radicalization/militancy swaying young lives were gradually lit up in the area by these preachers and their organizations in a systematic way. Despite an official ban by the Indian state, the control of mosques in most areas is still with JeI/ Tehreek-i-Hurriyat. Their radical preachers still influence the youth. The radical literature written by fanatic 20th century Islamist ideologues like Maududi, Syed Qutb and Hassan Bana and other ideologues continues to be distributed among youth.

JeI still collects large sum of charity money, albeit now clandestinely. JeI's high schools called Falahi-Aaam Trust (FAT) Schools continue to orient young children towards radicalization. Mohalla Madrasahs, locally called evening Quran Darasgahs, are run by Jamatis and Deobandis. They continue to indoctrinate children as young as eight to ten years old, using the most radical and distorted interpretations and versions of Islamic theology.

JeI continues to target women and young girls also. Quite regularly, the JeI, through the hardcore Islamist women organization Dukhtaran-i-Millat, organizes preaching programs for women in their Darasgahs and Mosques, where they are oriented towards violent extremism. Post 2019, all this is being done keeping a low profile and using non-eminent members. But the fact is they are carrying on with what they have been doing before.



## In Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir, Locals Say India Is Better

ITV RK News (@ITvRKNews)

**Tweeted: Locals in Bagh, Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, lash out against Pakistan govt for violently disrupting their elections. They claim India is better because at least Kashmiris on Indian side have freedom to vote in safe conditions.**





# **HARDCORE SEPARATISTS IN HIBERNATION FEARING STATE ACTION, KASHMIRIS SECRETLY HAPPY**

**As noose tightens,  
anti-state activities see  
sharp fall in Kashmir**

*by Sajeeda RASOOL*

In July 2019, an investigation by NIA on JKLF chief Yasin Malik stated that Malik had strong links with Pakistan's ISI. He had been showered with funds by ISI to create trouble in Kashmir, and had amassed properties worth more than Rs 15 crore. The NIA stated that some of these properties included government land grabbed by Malik  
*Photo courtesy: The Indian Express*

# W

hy are Kashmir's so called hardline, hawk-eyed separatists suddenly tamed? Why is it that Kashmir no more suffers shutdowns or hartal calendars? Why are separatists no more holding the state to ransom? It is because the Indian state has now defined that rights in a democracy come with duties. Suddenly, all the government employees, trade union leaders, businessmen and others who were supposedly jumping for Pakistan are aware of the red lines in Kashmir.

What you allow to grow – grows. This universal principle has defined competitive secessionism and separatism in Kashmir. For decades, the Indian state gave a long rope to individuals engaging in blatant anti-state activities. Lack of state action emboldened them more and more.

The world suffered lockdowns after Covid. But till a couple of years ago, separatists in Kashmir had made the common man's life miserable with their constant shutdown calls. Kashmir had been familiar with lockdown for years.

All economic activity was stalled. Educational institutes were closed. Life came to a grinding halt because of whimsical orders by directionless

separatists. Kashmiris wanted to get on with normal life. But nobody could afford to speak up, because the shutdown diktats were enforced by terrorists. Mafia-dom and goonda raj was called resistance.

The separatists, meanwhile, enjoyed a luxurious life. They received huge hawala money funding through different channels and conduits. They were being lavishly funded for causing disruption in Kashmir and waging war against the country.

In July 2019, an investigation by NIA on JKLF chief Yasin Malik stated that Malik had strong links with Pakistan's ISI. He had been showered with funds by ISI to create trouble in Kashmir, and had amassed properties worth more than Rs 15 crore. The NIA stated that some of these properties included government land grabbed by Malik. NIA is probing cases of terror funding by Kashmiri separatists.

### **YASIN MALIK TOLD NIA SEPARATIST LEADERS MADE HUGE WEALTH BY KEEPING KASHMIR ON BOIL**

After abrogation of Article 370 and 35 A, the National Investigating agency (NIA), Enforcement Directorate (ED) and CBI tightened the noose around these separatists. Suddenly, the graph of violence saw a steep fall. The custodial interrogation of JKLF chairman Yasin Malik, J&K Democratic Freedom

**As per NIA sources, Yasin Malik admitted that the Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL) and Hurriyat Conference headed by Syed Ali Geelani collected funds from the business community as well as other hawala sources to keep Kashmir on boil**

Masarat Alam



Shabir Shah



Party (JKDFP) chief Shabir Shah, Masarat Alam and Dukhtaran-E-Millat chief Asiya Andrabi revealed clinching evidence of how they fuelled unrest and organised



**The custodial interrogation of JKLF chairman Yasin Malik, J&K Democratic Freedom Party (JKDFP) chief Shabir Shah, Masarat Alam and Dukhtaran-E-Millat chief Asiya Andrabi revealed clinching evidence of how they fuelled unrest and organised violence in Kashmir**

violence in Kashmir. Masarat Alam was the prime organizer of stone-pelting protests of 2016.

As per NIA sources, Yasin Malik admitted that the Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL) and Hurriyat Conference headed by Syed Ali Geelani collected funds from the business community as well as other hawala sources to keep Kashmir on boil. They ensured that economic shutdown and violent protests continue to disrupt the daily life of the commoners. How this impacted the Kashmiris was not their concern.

Note the time when the separatists went into hibernation. It was when NIA, ED and CBI started to investigate their terror links and booked them under relevant sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC). Suddenly, the so-called spontaneous violent agitations stopped. 90% stone pelting incidents stopped.

Geelani felt the heat after his family members were booked for terror funding. He quit Hurriyat Conference.

There were token voices of

protest over the NIA raids, but the Kashmiris were in silent approval. They were happy that these swindlers had been targeted.

### **ACTION AGAINST SECESSIONISTS, TERROR SYMPHATHIZERS IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS**

In many departments of Kashmir, government employees were waging a war against the state. These secessionists and terror sympathizers were enjoying high and assured government salary plus perks. But on social media, they were spreading vicious propaganda against the state and promoting hatred. The harsh stand taken by these persons deepened the falsehood of conflict, driving vulnerable and indoctrinated young men to seek validation in the so-called freedom struggle.

After watching the action by NIA, ED and CBI raids on the

separatists and terror sympathizers, the numbers of these keyboard jihadis saw a major drop.

For long, the state had given a long rope to these secessionists and terror sympathizers in government ranks. No action was being taken against them in the name of democratic dissent. The realization dawned on the Indian state late that promoting hatred and violence against the state goes far beyond democratic dissent.

These terror sympathizers were consistently engaged in an anti-national campaign on social media. They were trying to create a false and fake narrative by spreading rumours with regard to the security scenario of the Kashmir valley.

In December 2017, the Jammu and Kashmir government warned government employees against waging a war against the state, working against the interests of the state and posting seditious content on social media. "No government employee shall engage in any criminal, dishonest, immoral or notoriously disgraceful conduct that may be prejudicial to the government on social media," read an order issued in 2017 by the Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department.

Government employees were also directed not to post inflammatory content online with the intent of provoking readers into an emotional response or of disrupting normal life.

### **SERVICES OF TERROR SYMPHATHIZERS TERMINATED**

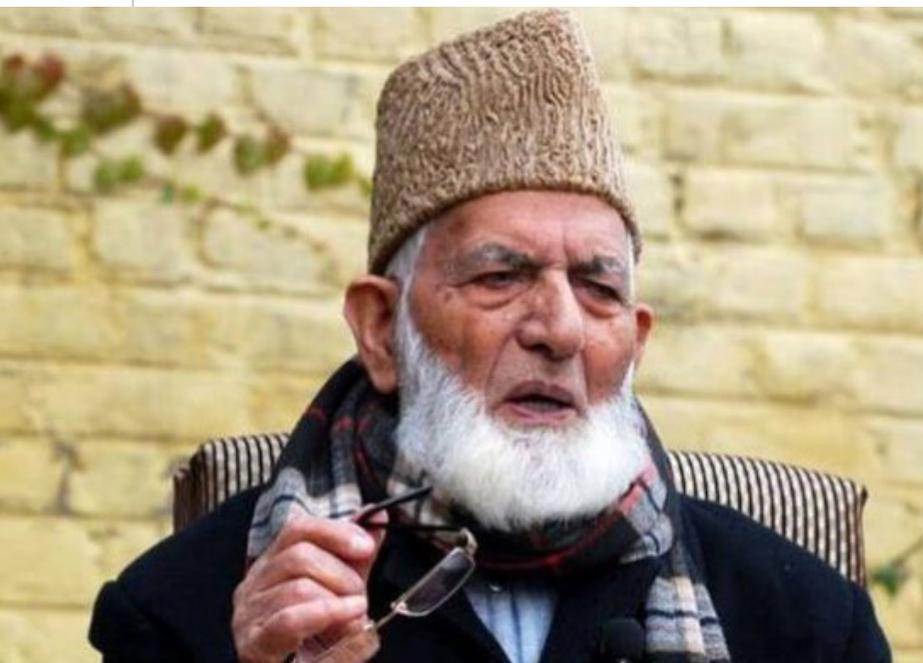
In April 2021, a Special Task Force headed by Additional

Director General of Police (CID) was constituted and assigned the task of speedily scrutinizing and screening the conduct of the government employees on social media platforms in a time-bound manner. It was decided that the government employees involved in aiding terror directly or indirectly would be immediately dismissed from service.

On July 30, the General Administration Department (GAD) of J&K invoked a special provision under Art 311 of the Indian Constitution for terminating the services of employees or initiating punitive action against them without an inquiry if evidence of wrongdoing was found.

After the formation of the SIT, many employees who were engaged in anti-state activities sensed trouble. They deactivated their social media handles and accounts. But those who continued with anti-state activities had to pay the price. Recently J&K

**Geelani felt the heat after his family members were booked for terror funding. He quit Hurriyat Conference**



Lt Governor Shri Manoj Sinha terminated the services of 11 employees found guilty of anti-state actions. Among them were two sons of Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, who were involved in anti-national and terror activities.

This is the second such move in recent months. In May, the UT Administration had sacked three government employees for their involvement in terror activities. Among them was a man working in Industrial Training Institute, Kupwara. He was an overground worker of terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba. This man was providing information to terrorists about the movement of security forces, and abetting and harboring terrorists to carry out activities in a clandestine manner.

Two teachers from Anantnag in South Kashmir were dismissed from service for their involvement in anti-national activities. These teachers were found to

be participating, supporting and propagating the secessionist ideology of the Jamat-Islami (JeI) and Dukhtaran-e-Millat (DeM).

### **GOVT EMPLOYEES INDULGING IN ANTI-STATE ACTIVITIES**

The other eight government employees recommended for dismissal for anti-state activities included two constables of Jammu & Kashmir Police. They were found to be supporting terrorism from within the police department. The duo were providing inside information to the terrorists as well as logistical support. One constable, Abdul Rashid Shigan, had executed attacks on security forces. He is in jail for terror activities. Another government employee of the Health Department, named Naaz Mohammad Allaie, had links with terrorist organizations. He was an overground worker of Hizbul Mujahideen and has a history of direct involvement in terrorist activities. He had also harboured two dreaded terrorists at his residence.

Jabbar Ahmad Paray and Nisar Ahmad Tantray of the education department, now terminated from service, were actively involved in furthering the secessionist agenda unleashed by terror-sponsors from Pakistan and are Jamaat-e-Islami ideologists.

Shaheen Ahmad Lone, an inspector of the Power Department, was been found involved in smuggling and transporting ammunition for Hizbul Mujahideen. Lone was found travelling along with two terrorists on the Srinagar-Jammu National High-



**J&K Lt Governor Shri Manoj Sinha recently terminated the services of 11 employees found guilty of anti-state actions. Among them were two sons of Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, who were involved in anti-national and terror activities**

way. In January 2020, he was intercepted by the security forces carrying arms, ammunition and explosives.

Out of the 11 employees dismissed, four are from Anantnag, three from Budgam, one each from Baramulla, Srinagar, Pulwama and Kupwara. Four of them work in the Education Department and two in J&K Police, and one each in Agriculture, Skill Development, Power, SKIMS, and Health Departments.

The dismissal of employees from service has sent shock waves among terror sympathizers who are serving as government employees. The move of the state has garnered support among the common Kashmiris. People hope that this move will help to bring normalcy to the valley. Kashmiris are happy that the state is targeting government employees who earned fat salaries but were

instigating vulnerable youth to take up arms against the state by fanning hatred and distrust.

### **DEMOCRACY EXPLOITED TO PROVOKE SEPARATISM, TERRORISM**

The people who condemn the Indian democracy, be it the separatists or the so-called unionists in Kashmir exploited India's democratic space to promote separatism and terrorism. Syed Ali Geelani, the hawkish Islamist separatist and other Kashmiri separatists have misused India's democratic space. Similarly Mehbooba Mufti, Er Rashid and many others have consistently exploited the liberties offered by the Indian state to incite the youth for violence.

For decades now, anti-India forces have exploited the intrinsic

**For long, the state had given a long rope to these secessionists and terror sympathizers in government ranks. The realization dawned late that promoting hatred and violence against the state goes far beyond democratic dissent**



**Syed Shahid Yousuf, son of Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin**

liberties that provide fair opportunity for dissent. In a research paper that appeared in Journal of Conflict Resolution in 2014, Belgin San-Acka writes: "Democracy encourages terrorism due to the intrinsic liberties and freedoms that provide an opportunity for terrorists to easily organize, recruit, and mount operations. ....one of the contexts in which democracy's influence on terrorism is examined.

I identify a theoretical mechanism about how democratic states unknowingly facilitate terrorism by letting terrorists freely stay within their borders, raise funds, smuggle arms, and operate offices. The empirical findings provide support for the hypothesis that democracies are vulnerable and can easily be exploited by terrorists since they have an environment conducive to terrorist activities", wrote Belgin San-Acka.

# MENTAL AND PHYSICAL OPPRESSION BY ISLAMIST FUNDAMENTALISTS:

## The Badamwari Fiasco

*“Behind the safe shield of Islam, their primary goal has always been, and will always remain, to destruct and to deprive the people of Kashmir of solitude and happiness. They thrive on bloodshed and chaos. Violence is their only method of communication, and hatred is their only tool. They do not care for the lives of innocent people. They not actually care for peace-making.”*

### ZOON

There is no questioning how terrorism has devastated Kashmir. Oppression, physical as well as mental, impacts individuals in the most brutal ways possible. It lowers self-esteem, reduces life opportunities, puts people in danger of rape, abuse, and other forms of violence. There is a well-established and extremely significant connection between the well-being of a person and the environment they live in. An oppressive environment tends to have an adverse effect on mental wellbeing, and may cause several disorders. Taking care of one's mental health is just as important as caring for one's physical health. However, this seems rather impossible in a place like Kashmir.

### MALICIOUS MOTIVES OF ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS

Over the course of several decades, the people of Kashmir have gone through tumultuous times. They have been misunderstood, oppressed, and violated at the hands of terrorists. Various terrorist and Islamic fundamentalist organizations have time and again committed hazardous atrocities and shattered peace in Kashmir. These terrorist organizations not only choose violence every day, but also aim at harming people mentally. They feed off of fear and unrest. They have crushed any and every hope that Kashmiris could ever harbour. The people of this so-called heaven on earth have experienced nothing but crippling grief and

trauma, only because of cowards that hide behind the name of jihad and shamelessly justify their extremist actions.

To somehow defeat the purpose of the terrorists, the artistes of Kashmir have made tremendous and highly appreciable efforts toward promoting the Kashmiri culture and music, knowing its therapeutic impact upon people. Research shows the benefits of music therapy for various mental health conditions, including depression and trauma. Music acts as a medium for process-

### ISLAMIST ASSAULT ON OUR CULTURE

A sinister game is at play in Kashmir. There is an attempt by Islamists to obliterate the rich cultural history of Kashmir. Indoctrination among a section of the populace is so deep that they have forgotten the vital place of women on our cultural landscape. It is extremely saddening to see the sadist comments posted by Islamists on photographs or videos of cultural performances by women. The women artistes are abused and cursed. Thankfully, the larger Kashmiri populace is mindful of our glorious culture, and endeavours to protect it from the assault of these indoctrinated, rabid elements of the society.





ing emotions, trauma, and grief. Music can also be utilized as a regulating or calming agent for anxiety or for dystopic living conditions. Kashmiri artistes have been tirelessly working toward the noble cause of rejuvenating the lives of people through their enchanting creativity and imagination, which intricately reflects in their rich art forms—be it music, poetry, cinema, or dance. They have been achieving major milestones by promoting their art not only in the valley itself, but all around the globe. They organize remarkable shows and events to help the people of Kashmir gain some normalcy in life, and reunite by the brotherhood that our heritage fosters.

### THE BADAMWARI FIASCO

One such event was organized at the Badamwari Garden, Srinagar, on March 28, 2021. The UT Administration funded and organized a show for the refreshment and entertainment of people, but certain brainwashed, radical Islamist youth of our valley would not have it. Hundreds

of people joyfully gathered in the beautiful Badamwari garden, after a year of quarantine, to enjoy and entertain themselves. About a hundred artistes were to perform and showcase their talents.

Just as a respected female performer started singing, a group of intolerant Islamic fundamentalists started creating a ruckus. The ruckus in the name of Islamic intolerance was such that people's lives ended up in danger. The Islamic fundamentalists beat the artistes present there, including singers, instrumentalists, coordinators and other staff. They also broke the equipment and stage. People got anxious and panicked. A huge chaos prevailed.

These militants chanted their usual mantra: Hum kya chahte? Azaadi! They think that stunts like these can get them the azaadi they seemingly want, or achieve any good at all? When has violence and bloodshed ever been an answer?

This was definitely not the first time something like this happened, and probably not the last. These infiltrators, using religion as an excuse, have never let the people of this valley live

in the peace and harmony they deserve. The state is trying its best to normalize the situation in Kashmir and improve people's lives here. But militants like these make it extremely difficult to do so. Behind the safe shield of Islam, their primary goal has always been, and will always remain, to destruct and to deprive the people of Kashmir of solitude and happiness. They thrive on bloodshed and chaos. Violence is their only method of communication, and hatred is their only tool. They do not care for the lives of innocent people, and do not actually care for peace-making.

### THE TOXIC IMPACT ON SOCIETY

The worst part is, due to events like the Badamwari fiasco, the mindset of Kashmiri people has been extremely polarized. We now have people who support the kind of atrocious behaviour these radical Islamists showcase and promote. A section of Kashmiris have been tricked into believing that this misery is what they deserve and that they are destined to lead this horrendous lifestyle.

**These terrorist organizations not only choose violence every day, but also aim at harming people mentally. They feed off fear and unrest. We have experienced crippling grief and trauma because of cowards that hide behind the aim of jihad and shamelessly justify their extremist actions**

The people of Kashmir have been deprived of all forms of entertainment. Most cinema halls in Kashmir closed in the 1990s due to diktats issued by terrorist groups. By enforcing closure of all entertainment hubs, these organizations have stripped Kashmiris of their basic human rights of entertainment and joy. They have forced the artistes to stop with their passion and profession of filling the lives of people with colours of joy.

All this is done by these radical Islamists in the pretence of Islamic tradition and values. They hide behind the curtain of religion to fulfil their ulterior motive of spreading hate and violence. They say that according to Islam, all such activities are forbidden. But even in Saudi Arabia, the most Islamic country in the world, people have access to recreational centres like theatres, auditoriums, etc. Women artistes have equal opportunities in Saudi whereas their counterparts in Kashmir are suffering at

the hands of these terrorists in the name of religion.

What's more is that the youth of Kashmir, the upcoming artistes and budding talents of the valley are not able to get the exposure to various art forms. Their potential as the future of Kashmir's art and culture has been snuffed. The threats and restrictions that these terrorist organizations have imposed upon us have led to an all-round decline and dip in the morale of Kashmiris.

### ART IS OUR SHIELD AGAINST MENTAL TRAUMA

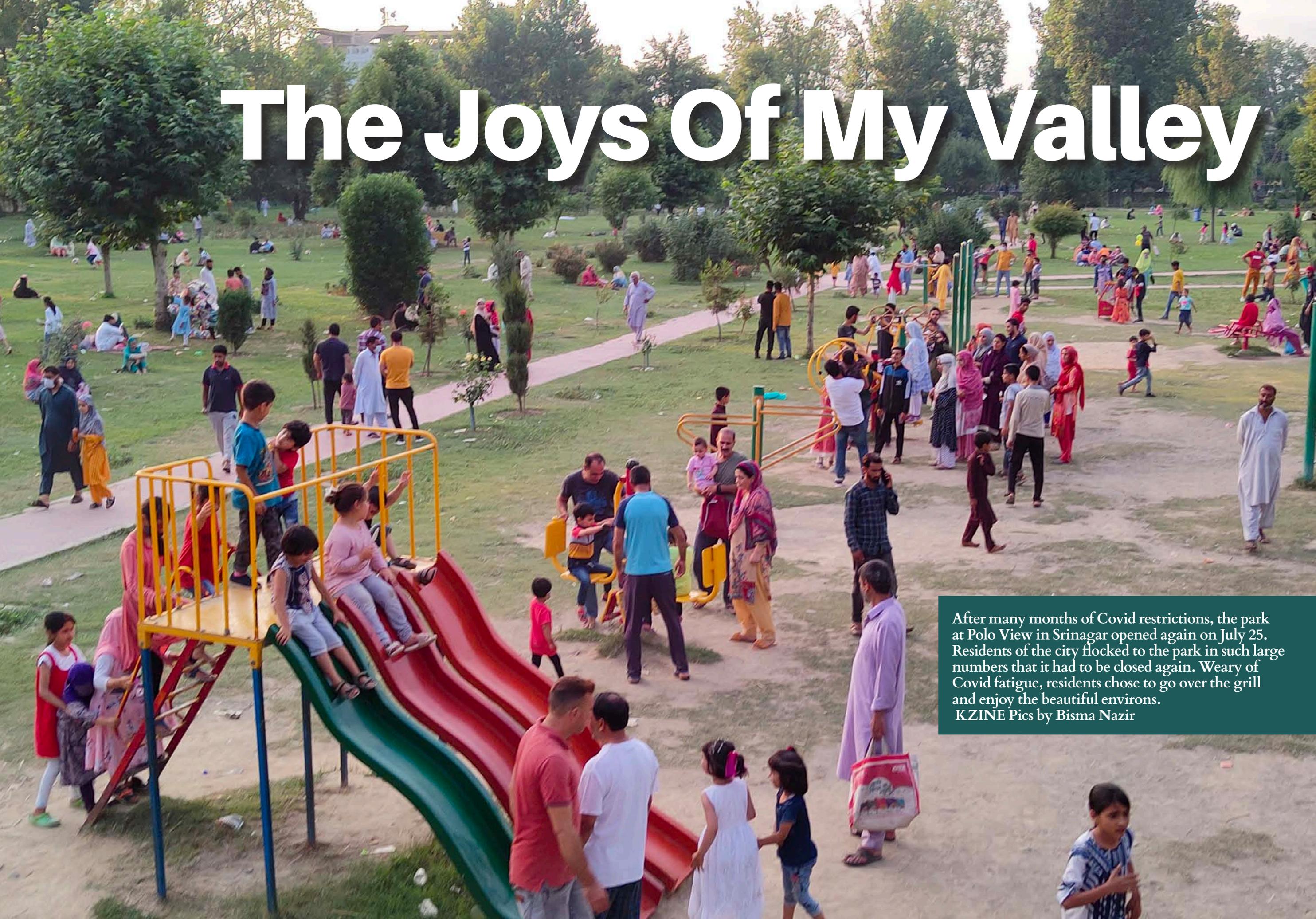
The militants and the terrorist organizations have always posed hurdles in the way of the cultural rejuvenation of the people of Kashmir. Despite these immense challenges, the artist community has always come together to withstand the storm. The terrorists have always aimed at decimating the cultural

heritage of Kashmir in the name of religion. Their ultimate goal is disharmony and bloodshed. These artistes, with the relentless support from the state, are always ready to rebuild the artistic scene of Kashmir and its legacy, just so the people of Kashmir can experience a sliver of hope and joyful entertainment. We believe that through the support of the state, there will be scope for the artistic exploration of talents and its enrichment in the youth of Kashmir.

The artistes are trying hard to liberate the minds of the people from the clutches of despair and bleak lifestyle that these terrorists and foes of humanity have imposed upon us. With the support of the state and the undying spirit of our artistes to fight for the people of Kashmir, the art and culture of Kashmir will stand as a barrier between the devastating ideologies and intentions of these terrorists, and the mental wellbeing of the people.

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# The Joys Of My Valley



After many months of Covid restrictions, the park at Polo View in Srinagar opened again on July 25. Residents of the city flocked to the park in such large numbers that it had to be closed again. Weary of Covid fatigue, residents chose to go over the grill and enjoy the beautiful environs.  
KZINE Pics by Bisma Nazir



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and exclusive features that bring to you  
the real Kashmir

**KZINE**

OPENING KASHMIR'S EYES