

KASHMIR CENTRAL

A KZINE INITIATIVE



How Saboteurs Held Sway At Kashmir Press Club

WE ALL NEED TO STAND UP AGAINST THE FALSE
NARRATIVE THAT THESE SELF-STYLED CHAMPIONS
OF MEDIA FREEDOM HAVE BEEN PROMOTING AT THE
BEHEST OF PAKISTAN STOOGES

Only The Dumb - Or Those Sold To Pakistan - Are Blind To The Messaging

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CENTRAL

A day before Republic Day, terrorists throw a grenade at a marketplace in Srinagar. Four civilians and a policeman are injured. Within minutes the terrorists issue a statement claiming that have breached security for Republic Day. What have the terrorists achieved?

They have caused mindless suffering. They have damaged the properties of the shopkeepers. These poor men stood helplessly after the attack, staring at their shattered glasses.

So this is it. This is Pakistan's definition of achievement - maximising Kashmiri damage.

For more than 30 years we have suffered this. For more than 30 years we have watched Kashmiris being killed because Pakistan's Generals must have an opium to feed to their junta.



The bottom line is this. For Pakistan, Kashmiri lives don't matter. Only two kinds of people will be blind to the messaging. One, those who are sold out to Pakistan. They don't care that Kashmiris continue to die. They will keep churning out their rants. They will constantly refuse to admit that Pakistan is using Kashmiris and killing Kashmiris at will.

Second, the dumb will be blind to the messaging of the attack. Only a dumb person cannot see that for these bloodthirsty radicals Kashmiri lives are meaningless. They indulge in mayhem at call of their radical masters here and in Pakistan.

This is clear indicator that are losing the battle and their mental balance. Those silent on this attack reveal their ideology. Remember: The common man is watching.

Bashir Assad

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expose deception

RESTORE ORDER

MAKE A SPLASH

INCULCATE DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT

How Saboteurs Held Sway At Kashmir Press Club

Why I Am Withholding My Name

These Pakistan stooges who headed the Press Club earlier have vitiated the atmosphere so much that even as I write the truth, I am withholding my name. They are all networked with the terror ecosystem sponsored and funded by Pakistan. For their masters, Kashmiri lives hold no value

WE ALL NEED TO STAND UP AGAINST THE FALSE NARRATIVE THAT THESE SELF-STYLED CHAMPIONS OF MEDIA FREEDOM HAVE BEEN PROMOTING AT THE BEHEST OF PAKISTAN STOOGES



January 8, 2018. A motley group of journalists converged at the posh Poloview area to take charge of a government-owned building that was to be converted into the first Press Club of Kashmir.

The event was momentous. After years of toil and hard work, journalists in Kashmir were to get an address which belonged to them all. They could now come together at a place where they would interact, engage and even entertain themselves as they had never experienced such a facility before.

They got the address in 2018 after hectic efforts by many senior journalists including Bashir Manzar, Manzoor Anjum, M Saleem Pandit, Mehrajuddin, Farooq Javed, Habibullah Naqash and others. The Press Club became a reality.

AFTER ELECTIONS IN JULY 2019, THE CLUB FELL INTO WRONG HANDS

The founders of Kashmir Press Club did not know that after elections to the managing body would be held, the club would fall into wrong hands.

Elections to the club were held in July 2019. New faces emerged on the scene who managed to gain entry as its office bearers owing to an alliance cobbled up by the Kashmir Editors Guild (now invalid).

The new faces took upon the task to work out a plan that was dictated by personal greed and lust for power. They sidelined the Executive Members of the club who too had been elected and had got more votes than the office bearers. The Executive Members were not involved in any decision making or informed about policy decisions and statements.

The constitution of the Press Club does not allow the office bearers or the executive members to issue statements on any policing or security activities in Kashmir. The mandate of the press club is and will be beyond this.

THE MANAGING COMMITTEE, ELECTED IN JULY 2019, SIDELINED THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE CLUB WHO TOO HAD BEEN ELECTED AND HAD GOT MORE VOTES THAN THE OFFICE BEARERS. THE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS WERE NOT INVOLVED IN ANY DECISION MAKING OR INFORMED ABOUT POLICY DECISIONS AND STATEMENTS



ANGRY AT MANAGING BODY, TWO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS DID NOT ATTEND MEETINGS, TWO RESIGNED

Nevertheless, the managing body of the Press Club continued to issue statements against the state and security apparatus (Details in separate section of report). This was the reason that two executive members of the club Altaf Baba and Habibullah Naqash did not attend any meeting of the top management of the club during their two-year term.

The same stands true for Arshid Ahmad, another Executive Member. He quit the club to protest what he called the dictatorial attitude of the office bearers. Another Executive Member Shafat Kira also quit the club in 2020 alleging non-involvement of the execu-

MOST MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WANTED TO NOMINATE A WORKING COMMITTEE TO FULFILL THE DAY-TO-DAY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CLUB AND FORM AN ELECTION COMMISSION FOR CONDUCT OF FRESH ELECTIONS. WHY DID THE MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE CLUB NOT AGREE TO THIS?

tive members in the club affairs. His resignation was not accepted.

The office bearers of the Press Club were carrying out these arbitrary activities in connivance with some 'selected' executive member. They took virtual control of the club without showing any regard for the constitution of the club.

The office bearers followed dictations from some unknown quarters and stuck to a particular line of thought by issuing statements and pretending to be champions of journalists' rights.

GRANTS SANCTIONED BY GOVT NOT UTILIZED

The money generated by the membership contributions and the huge amount sanctioned by the government for KPC was not utilized. The gymnasium and library established at the club remained defunct, despite huge money being spend on purchases of second-hand machines and outdated equipment.

Ironically, the club even failed to initiate short term courses and training workshops for young and budding journalists. The office bearers cited paucity of funds as one of the reasons. This was ignored, even

No Welfare Initiative For Scribes Who Needed Help

It is a matter of concern that the former managing committee did not introduce any welfare measures for those journalists who work for local and other small media organizations where the perks and other benefits are not enough to suffice their needs. The club failed to introduce even a single welfare scheme or even discuss it with concerned quarters including the government.

SOME QUESTIONS FORMER PANEL MUST ANSWER

THE BODY WHICH CLAIMED TO BE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS CLUB AND THE FRATERNITY AT LARGE NEED TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS BEFORE THE JOURNALIST COMMUNITY AND THE PEOPLE.

- Why did these “champions of journalists’ rights” display utter disregard for the constitution of the club by continuing to be in office even after their term ended on July 14, 2021?
- Who gave them the authority to override the KPC constitution and take all major and minor decisions involving even financial matters after their term was over?
- The majority of the members of the Executive Committee wanted to nominate a working committee to fulfill the day-to-day requirements of the club and form an election commission for conduct of fresh elections. Why did the managing committee of the club not agree to this?
- Why did they continue to spend funds and allocate the club canteen at will?
- Why did they fail to introduce even a single welfare scheme for those journalists who faced tremendous stress after the pandemic when they lost their jobs and earnings?



though it was the prime mandate of the club was ignored. No initiative was taken to involve others on this important responsibility of the club.

Sources in the club claimed that five erstwhile KEG members contributed Rs 50,000 (Rs 10,000 each) for the conduct of the workshops. The money was utilized for some petty purchases.

WHY THE MANAGING COMMITTEE HAD TO BE REMOVED

Now that the club office bearers continued to act arbitrarily, a need was felt by the local journalists to keep the prying office bearers out of the day-to-day functioning of the club. A temporary managing committee was set up to conduct the affairs of the club and manage fresh elections.

Ironically, the exposed and out-of-job office bearers saw it as the end of their hegemony and their self-created power structure. They raised a hue and cry ignoring the basic principles and the constitution that governs Kashmir Press Club.

All-out efforts were made to project the new managing body as government-sponsored. Statements were generated from Pakistan decrying the takeover of the new management.

Now that the KPC building has been taken over by the government and the club is facing a crisis owing to it being a non-registered body, the onus of dragging the club to this point falls directly on the former office bearers who did not want to lose the power structure that they had created in their favour.

THE EXPOSED AND OUT-OF-JOB OFFICE BEARERS SAW IT AS THE END OF THEIR HEGEMONY AND THEIR SELF-CREATED POWER STRUCTURE. THEY RAISED A HUE AND CRY IGNORING THE BASIC PRINCIPLES AND THE CONSTITUTION THAT GOVERNS KASHMIR PRESS CLUB

Damning Tweets And Posts Part Of Subterfuge At Play In Kashmir

The tweets emerging from some journalists regarding the change of guard at the club are hilarious. Peerzada Ashiq, correspondent for The Hindu tweeted: “August 5, 2019 is not mere a date, but an act which is being implemented and normalised in Kashmir on a daily basis. Ending Kashmir Press Club for merely being a space of safety and collective thinking for scribes is unfortunate and saddening, threatening too.”

Various truths and untruths have emerged, need examination

The recent developments that have come to the fore in the media fraternity have brought out various truths and untruths that need examination. We all need to stand up against the false narrative that these so-called champions of press freedom have been promoting at the behest of Pakistan stooges who believe in spilling of blood of innocents for achieving their self-centered goals. These dual-faced backstabbers need to be held accountable and taken to task.

Their actions smack of sinister designs. These very people had been vociferous opponents of establishing a press club in Kashmir. When the club building was to be handed over to journalists, these so-called champion reporters associated with two private news channels met the former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti and tried to persuade her to rethink her decision to provide a government building for the press club.



During Internet Ban, Govt Offered Media Centre At Press Club Thrice

Why Did Managing Committee Reject Offer Every Time?

One of the key issues journalists in Jammu and Kashmir faced on August 5, 2019 was the snapping of internet and other communication facilities. Journalists had to face a lot of inconvenience to file news reports for their respective organizations. The problem was confronted by all journalists. In order to address this challenge, the government established a media centre at a private hotel in Srinagar. But media persons complained of inconvenience at the centre.

Within a few days of the communication blockade, the government reached out to the press club office bearers and offered internet connectivity at the club. The officials of the information department even offered computers to be setup at the club premises. This offer was made thrice during September 2019. The offer was rejected by the so-called champions of the journalist rights.

The reason cited by the managing body of the club was that the journalists would 'misuse' the facility and club office bearers would have to face the 'consequences'.

Why was the offer made by the government three times rejected? Was it because it would puncture their claims that there was government-imposed information blockade in Kashmir? The media fraternity needs to ask these self-proclaimed Champions of Journalists Rights: Why did they not accept the government offers to set up a full-fledged media centre in Kashmir Press Club? Why did they stick to this stand when the local scribes faced an uphill task to report their stories? Will this not be called as sabotage by those who claim to represent the media fraternity?

We need answers to these questions in open forums, not in closed door meetings.

THE MEDIA FRATERNITY NEEDS TO ASK THESE SELF-PROCLAIMED CHAMPIONS OF JOURNALISTS RIGHTS: WHY DID THEY NOT ACCEPT THE GOVERNMENT OFFERS TO SET UP A FULL-FLEDGED MEDIA CENTRE IN KASHMIR PRESS CLUB? WHY DID THEY STICK TO THIS STAND WHEN THE LOCAL SCRIBES FACED AN UPHILL TASK TO REPORT THEIR STORIES? WILL THIS NOT BE CALLED AS SABOTAGE BY THOSE WHO CLAIM TO REPRESENT THE MEDIA FRATERNITY?

Constant Statements By Managing Body In Contravention Of KPC Constitution

It was not in the constitution of Kashmir Press Club to issue any kind of statement against the police or the administration. Yet the current management had made it the norm to issue statements targeting the UT Administration and the police.

Week after week these statements were issued, claiming that journalists are being harassed for carrying out their professional duties in Kashmir. This was not the truth. Journalists were being questioned by the state for their secessionist and lopsided reporting. The truth that none of us admitted was that coloured and biased reporting by some pro-separatist and pro-extremist journalists had been normalized in Kashmir for decades.

Why did the previous governments allow this imbalanced reporting to continue earlier? Since separatism ruled in Kashmir, the government willy-nilly turned a blind eye to the distortion of news.

After the abrogation of Article 370, the UT Administration started focusing on the questionable professional conduct of some journalists. Since biased reporting had been normalized, government action was seen as bizarre. Statements were issued against the police officers and bureaucrats who initiated action against subversive reportage.

Nobody spoke of the clampdowns imposed by the militants, the horrific diktats issued by them, the siege of Pakistan-sponsored violence over Kashmir. The

write-ups and social media posts of these select journalists are always about genocide, suppression, oppression, muzzling of voices, demographic changes etc. We know that this is Pakistan's international narrative for Kashmir. Is this reporting accurate for the Valley? No.

The mandate of the press club was not to issue statements against the state. The Constitution of the club did not empower the managing body to issue these statements. In a conflict region where nothing can be taken at face value, the club management took it upon itself to be the champion of journalistic rights. Given their personal leanings, the motive of the members of the managing body was to create space for themselves. The Executive Committee of the Press Club raised this issue several times with the managing committee. Their concerns were not heeded.

I remember that once, the IGP of Kashmir called the managing committee of the Press Club for a meeting. He assured them that no action would be taken against professional reporting. Action would be taken only if any journalist tries to subvert peace through his work or through his social media post.

The managing committee nevertheless continued with the statements. Once, they issued a statement that a photographer was beaten by the police while photographing some event. The photographer later stated that he had covered the event as usual and had not been beaten by the police or any other security force.

IN A CONFLICT REGION WHERE NOTHING CAN BE TAKEN AT FACE VALUE, THE CLUB MANAGEMENT TOOK IT UPON ITSELF TO BE THE CHAMPION OF JOURNALISTIC RIGHTS. GIVEN THEIR PERSONAL LEANINGS, THE MOTIVE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MANAGING BODY WAS TO CREATE SPACE FOR THEMSELVES

Why The Change Of Guard At Kashmir Press Club

'The pro-separatist, pro-extremist clique in power at Kashmir Press Club Has Been Removed. Our own Kashmiri media brethren have removed them'



For decades, we knew that the media in Kashmir is largely pro-separatist, pro-militancy. Anybody who entered the profession knew it soon enough. It was an open secret

ZEE NEWS

Truth may not be revealed for long out of fear. And when truth reveals itself, it blows up in our face. Then truth mocks our fear. But it is seemingly too late.

For decades, we knew that the media in Kashmir is largely pro-separatist, pro-militancy. Anybody who entered the profession knew it soon enough. It was an open secret nobody discussed with anybody else. It did not surprise any of us. When separatists and their protégés – the extremists – held away over all sectors in Kashmir, would media be any different? The pro-separatist constituency was in power in the medical sector, in the legal circles, in labour unions, in politics, in mosques, in the society. The media is the product of the same society.

So none of us questioned it. Many of us who did not believe in separatism or extremism tried to earn bread and butter for our family by staying away from this powerful clique in the media. Equally, we tried hard that we should not offend this clique. We have to provide for our families. We cannot afford to be the statistic as one more victim of the Na-maloom Bandoor Baradar in Kashmir – the unknown gunmen.

Today, the truth has blown up in our face. The powerful pro-separatist, pro-extremist clique among the journalists of Kashmir has been removed from the management of Kashmir Press Club. Our own Kashmiri media brethren have removed them. The UT Administration and JK Police did not initiate any so-called coup at the Press Club. The three security men present there were the personal security guards

of Mohd Saleem Pandit, who led the so-called coup.

I am daily amazed at the fantastic flip given to this event. Some fellow mediapersons decided to show the door to this pro-separatist, pro-extremist management of Kashmir Press Club. Yes, they did it forcefully. But was the current management ready to leave otherwise? Their term had ended in July 2021. They continued to hold fort at the Press Club. They turned down repeated suggestions by the Executive Members, who are also elected, to appoint an interim managing committee and initiate elections for the next managing committee. How long would we have to watch them hold on to power at KPC? They were unwilling to move.

Those giving it names to smear the state are doing what they have always done. For decades, they have used everything to strengthen and deepen the Pakistan narrative in Kashmir. We watched it quietly because the media was and is our rozi roti. We don't have to die pursuing some desire to stand up for what is right.

You see an imposing list being put out for all those who supposedly oppose the forcible "takeover" of Kashmir Press Club. Here's the list. Anjuman Urdu Sahafat. JK Editors Association. JK Journalists Association. JK Press Association. JFK. Kashmir Journalist Association. KPPA. Kashmir Union of Working Journalists. K Video Journalists Assoc. Kashmir Working Journalists Association. In Kashmir, statements come and go. On ground, nothing is in black and white.

Why I Call The Powerful Media Clique Pro-Separatist And Pro-Extremist

This powerful clique that held sway over the media in Kashmir – why do I call them pro-separatist and pro-extremist? Because they are active collaborators in the disinformation campaign meticulously unleashed by the adversaries of the state. Note the words they are constantly throwing about in their writings and social media posts on Kashmir. Genocide, suppression, oppression, muzzling of voices, demographic changes etc. These words continue to be peddled about with the same feeling of impunity as earlier.

Now study their posturing. In their narrative, there is no Pakistan. There are no terrorists. There are no terror support systems. It is only the Indian state and its forces pitted against the unarmed innocents Kashmiris.

They couch their professional positioning in charming words. Look up the tweet of Gowhar Geelani, a leading light of this clique. “Kashmir Press Club. The three words they fear and abhor. The first is about the place, identity. The second is the power to tell our story and speak truth to power. The third is the fear of assembly and unity, vibrant voice!”

Examine the references. Place, identity. Speak

truth to power. Fear of unity, vibrant voice! The same old trope is peddled. No Pakistan, no extremism, no struggle of the Indian state to contain cross-border terrorism by an enemy state. Pakistan uses this phraseology to influence international opinion on Kashmir. So does Gowhar Geelani and others of his ilk.

In a conflict region where the state is battling a hostile, destructive neighbour, whose side are they on?

Go through their writings. Do they tell you that Pakistan has shrewdly used its religious affinity with Kashmir to consistently deepen the notion of religious supremacy, and is doing it even now? Do they tell you that Pakistan is engaged in the project to obliterate everything which interferes with the idea to establish the Islamic state in Kashmir? Do they tell you about the intention of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, which is translated in action in Kashmir through cross-border terrorism and the enemy state’s effort to embed anarchy? No. They don’t mention a word of any of this.

Their rulebook is – why bother with the ugly picture of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism and mayhem? Instead, these journalists always position the state against the people of Kashmir.

Study their posturing. In their narrative, there is no Pakistan. There are no terrorists. There are no terror support systems. It is only the Indian state and its forces pitted against the unarmed innocents Kashmiris



TWEETS

AFTER THE INITIAL BROUHAHA, DISSENTING VOICES EMERGE



Zulfikar Majid @zulfikarmajid

Journalist covering Kashmir conflict for last 19-years <http://deccanherald.com>, previous <http://greaterkashmir.com>

For months together because of former KPC body, journos had 2 face huge hardships finding internet at govt facility. Now same people r trying to hide behind “state sponsored” narrative. Y were they in favour of providing internet at DIPR office 4 journos instead at KPC?

Can former journos-turned businessmen @ShujaUH & @ishfaqantry answer y did they oppose Internet facility at Kashmir Press Club in Oct 2019 when govt had offered dem that instead of Directorate of Information office, they ll provide facility 2 journos at KPC. Y dey sabotaged it?

Some of them r beneficiaries of DD & Radio but hiding behind “state sponsored” narrative. Plz don’t explain 2 me later on phone dat ur name had been used wdout ur permission & u were not part of meeting

DON’T B PART OF MAFIA AS THEY R NOT WELL-WISHERS OF JOURNOS BUT OPPURTUNISTS

As I ve already started exposing these PR managers, whose remote controls lie in the hands of politicians, I’ll continue to take it forward. Anybody becoming part of such conspiring meetings & his name appearing in statement against interim body of former KPC will ve 2 face music

Appeal to fellow journalists:

Activists & PR managers of political parties, who had illegally occupied #KPC, r r trying to play victim card now. Dey conspire against bonafide & majority of silent journalists by holding meetings & issuing statements 2 mislead people & media bodies

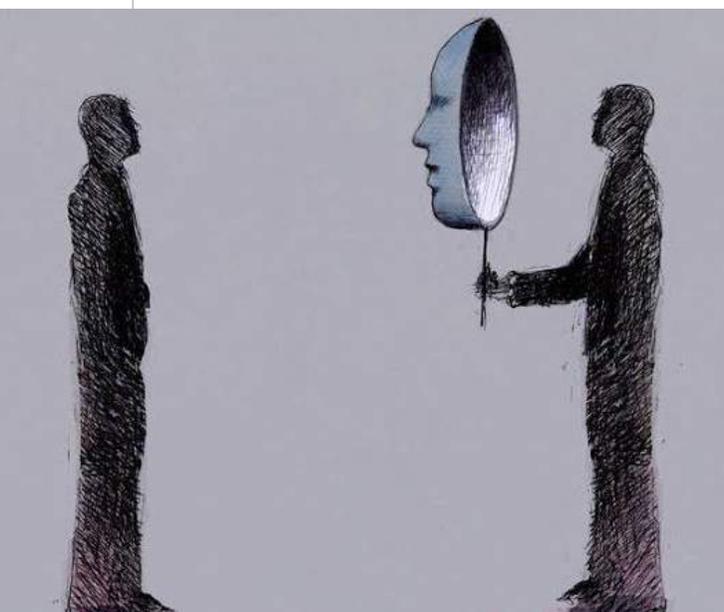
My dear fellow journalists: Do u Kashmir Press Club was always govt owned premises. It belongs to Estates Deptt. It has 7 cops from J&K police guarding the building. The KPC enjoyed 24 hour power supply under domestic category. though it should ve been under commercial category.

And this informative series will continue.

Wait and watch.

Either you are with us or against us

Picture abhi baaki hai mere dost



Pakistan's Mind Games In Kashmir



KASHMIRLIFE.NET

ISI Involves Those In Terror Networks Who Are Least Likely To Be Suspected

by Iqbal AHMAD

SOMETIMES GIRLS DEPUTED FOR MOVEMENT OF MILITANTS

Pakistan is constantly playing mind games in Kashmir. They choose those people as their operatives who are least likely to be suspected. The offensive by ISI is not just in terms of militants. It is involving those local youth in the terror networks who are least likely to be suspected by the police or the security forces.

One of the focal areas of ISI is maximizing its reach on information regarding Kashmir. They use financial support to lure girls and young women from poor families. The ISI operatives tell the women – you don't have to kill. You only have to share information.

They also work on involving the girls by trapping them emotionally and by indoctrinating them, telling them that they are working for jihad. "If anything happens to you, you will be called a shaheed," they tell the girls. Mostly poor girls get caught in the terror network because their family needs the money.

For transporting pistols in Kashmir which are delivered to hybrid militants, ISI prefers to give the task to some local girl. This is because girls are not suspected or doubted as much as boys. Their checking is also less as compared to the boys.

Militants, OGWs, ISI operatives – all know that Army men hesitate to stop the local girls for questioning. When the girls carry pistols or other weapons for delivery, the male OGWs provide them with cover. The purpose is that if any Army man stops a girl for questioning, these youths raise a protest so that the girl can get away in time.

Many times, local girls who are co-opted into the terror network are deputed for movement with Pakistani militants or local militants. This is done so that the two are regarded as a couple. There is higher trust factor in the movement of a couple, as compared to the movement of men.

When a girl is directed to ac-

company a Pakistani militant or local militant to give the appearance of a couple, the ISI operatives tell her that she should have an ultra-modern look. This is done to divert the attention of the security personnel who may stop the youth for questioning.

Pakistani national Abu Dujana, an LeT commander in Kashmir, had a large network in Kashmir. Half his network was of girls. Burhan Wani also had a large network of girls. The girls are given money for the transport of weapons, and for helping with



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Many times, local girls or women who are co-opted into the terror network are deputed for movement with Pakistani militants or local militants. This is done so that the two are regarded as a couple

the logistics.

In the last few months, the police have been talking of hybrid militants. This is Pakistan's new strategy. Indoctrinated young men are told to engage in jihad without joining the ranks of militants. They are given pistols and are told to stay occupied in their regular activities as a salesman, mechanic, cook or any other profession. They are asked to carry out an assassination. At times girls in the OGW network are stationed around the spot where the assassination is to be carried out.

After a militant or a hybrid militant carries out the attack, sometimes he hands over the pistol to a girl in the OGW network. Even if police and army search parties move in fast and start frisking those in the area, the girls are suspected less. They move away with the weapon. The male killer is able to escape conveniently because he does not have any weapon in his possession.

HIGH MILITANCY GRAPH IN NORTH KASHMIR

Police think that south Kashmir is the militancy hotbed. Perhaps they do not know or perhaps they don't want to reveal the high militancy graph in north Kashmir.

In south Kashmir, a militant is likely to survive for two or three months only. Most local militants have a maximum life span of six months. But in north Kashmir, the influx of Pakistani militants is higher. They give more intensive training to the local militants on how to use weapons.



At times girls in the OGW network are stationed around the spot where the assassination is to be carried out. After a militant or a hybrid militant carries out the attack, sometimes he hands over the pistol to a girl in the OGW network

The weapons used by militants in south Kashmir are all supplied from north Kashmir. The ammunition is supplied from Sopore, Rafiabad, Uri and such areas.

Whenever any attacks have taken place in north Kashmir, they have been deadly attacks. Sometimes it seems that they

are like perfect crimes. Nobody knows who did it.

The reason is that there are more Pakistani militants here. They are involved in the attack. They also give full personal training to the local youth here.

The target practice and training in how to handle weapons is given to the youth deep in the

DAILYEXCELSIOR.COM

This is one of the major motives of the ISI operatives here. That the local youth must continuously keep moving into militancy. They want to keep militancy in south Kashmir con-

supplied from north Kashmir. The bitter truth is that militants have higher support of people in north Kashmir than in south Kashmir. Here the support of the people is very high. If any

ZEE NEWS.COM



forests. They use silencers so that nobody knows that shooting practice is going on. Theoretical training regarding how to store a pistol or a grenade, how to use them etc is given at home.

tinually active. They don't care whether a youth who becomes a militant is alive for two months, three months, six months.

The resources, money, weapons for militancy – all these are

The bitter truth is that militants have higher support of people in north Kashmir than in south Kashmir. Here the support of the people is very high. If any Pakistani militants or local militants have to stay in any house, wahan un ki bohot khatirdari hoti hai. This does not mean that support is there for Pakistan only. A good percentage of people support India.

Pakistani militants or local militants have to stay in any house, wahan un ki bohot khatirdari hoti hai.

One house gives them the contact for ten houses. In this way their stay for several months is ensured.

This does not mean that support is there for Pakistan only. About 50 per cent of the people support India. Most people who support India do not reveal this. They are targeted by the militants, hence they stay quiet out of fear. In the homes where the parents support Pakistan and parents support militancy, how can the child have an objective mind? He will grow up with the same toxic mindset. Then he or she will be ready material to become a stone pelted, an OGW, a militant.

ANYBODY WHO WORKS FOR PEACE IS ON THE HIT LIST OF ISI

When the terror network suspects that some local youngster is helping the police or the Army, they direct some girl in their network to honeytrap him. Anybody who works for peace is on the hit list of ISI. It is their manifesto.

The girl makes relations with the young man who is pro-police or pro-Army. After they have a close bond, the youth starts confiding in her about his activities. He starts sharing his secrets with her. In this way, many youths who were working with the police or the Army revealed their activities to the girls. The girls informed the persons in the OGW network. In this way, these pro-police or pro-Army youth were brutally killed by the militants. Bohot saare ghar ke iklaute the par vo maar diye gaye.

Female police force is there but they don't check the girls like the way the checking of boys is conducted.

OGWS GIVEN TASKS ACCORDING TO THEIR AREA OF INTEREST

There is complete profiling to OGWs to examine that they are best suited to which

task. The ISI operatives and the locals engaged in the terror network first identify the areas in which an OGW is likely to perform well, and then assign tasks accordingly. If a boy is good at handling computers, he will be given the same task.

The terror network especially looks for people who are least likely to be suspected regarding their involvement. Some years ago, there was an OGW associated with Jaish. He was handicapped in both legs. Later the security forces came to know of his activities and arrested him. But the media raised a hue and cry that a man handicapped in both legs has been arrested for being a terror operator.



DOUBLE CROSSER OGWs

The terror networks deliberately encourage some people in their OGW network to cultivate good relations with the Police or with the Army. One such OGW was Mushtaq Bhat. In the 90s, he was so poor that he was counted among the lower class socially.

He became a militant. He started extorting money from rich Kashmiris. He used to take an AK 47 and go to rich men and tell them – we need money for Islam. We need money for jihad. And he used to tell them – if you will tell anyone that I took money from you, you will be finished.

In this way, he collected a lot of money. Then as was his plan, he surrendered to the forces. He took license as a local dealer for Airtel, for Jio, and as a distributor for Coca Cola.

For about 15 years, the police or the Army did not come to know that Mushtaq Bhat was a double crosser. He became a rich man. The Police and the Army thought that because he was a surrendered militant, he did not subscribe to the same ideology. They



OGWs are told to build relations with the officers in the Police or the Army. They are also told to join the BJP, the Police or the Army

thought that they could trust him.

Most surrendered militants were killed by other militants. But nobody killed Mushtaq Bhat because he was still part of the terror network. Us ka senior officers ke saath uthna baithna tha. And all this time, he kept funding local militant activities.

Wherever there was an event, people like Mushtaq Bhat are told to invite the local Police and Army officers in order to build good relations with them. They are told to give gifts to the Police and Army officers. Some officers take gifts. Some officers don't take gifts. But goodwill bonds are formed.

When Police or Army officers need to cross-check some information in their local network, they ask people like Mushtaq Bhat. But the officers don't know where their query is reaching.

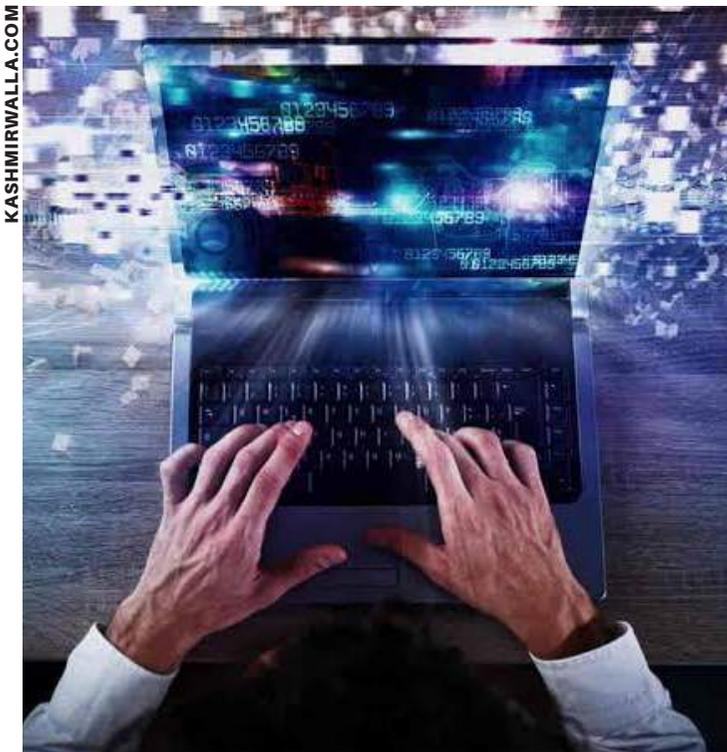
The forces got to know of Mushtaq Bhat's double-crossing in 2016. They came to know that he had provided the funds to the youth for agitations. He was arrested under the Public Safety Act. Now he is in Kupwara jail.

OGWs are not just told to build relations with the officers in the Police or the Army. They are also told to join the BJP, the Police or the Army. That is why we

have cases that some policeman or some Army soldier ran away with weapons.

This is an old tactic of ISI – that some OGWs should join the political parties in the Valley. In this way, some OGWs even got elected as MLAs. One of the most quoted examples is of Abdul Rashid Dar, who was an OGW for Hizbul. Jamaat e Islami and Hizbul propped up Dar to insulate them against state action. Dar joined the Congress and was elected twice as MLA. He has maintained strong relations with the top leadership of Hizbul Mujahideen in Pakistan for nearly 30 years now.

SHARING EXACT LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES FOR STRATEGIC LOCATIONS



The latitude and longitude coordinates for sensitive locations are not sent to Pakistan directly. They are sent through route links like Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Indonesia etc

One of the tasks constantly given to youngsters who are involved by terror networks for information sharing is to send the latitude and longitude coordinates of any spot of strategic significance like an Army installation, fixed Army or police check posts etc. The location is sent through a short and specific effort on Google Maps. The latitude and longitude coordinates show up in the search bar at the top, which are specific to six decimal points.

The latitude and longitude coordinates for sensitive locations are not sent to Pakistan directly.

They are sent through route links like Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Indonesia etc.

The digital information of the latitudes and longitudes is moved around according to a pre-decided code. They may be shifted to ABCD coding and used with emojis like flowers or stars. This is done so that when they are shared further with contacts in the terror network in India, nobody can understand that these are latitude and longitude coordinates for a specific strategic location.

It is wise to prohibit the use of mobile phones around strategic

installations, especially those of the Army or the Police. Many times vendors go up to strategic locations in Uri or in other border areas. Then they send the latitude and longitude coordinates for these locations.

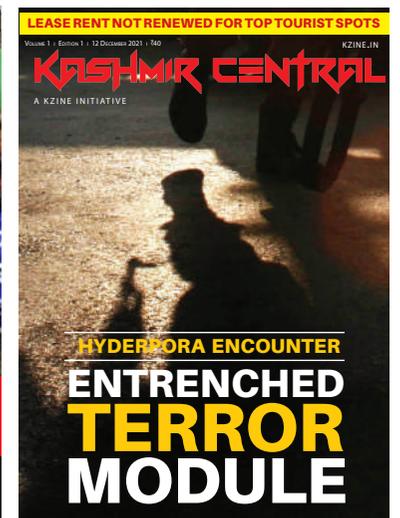
With these coordinates, Pakistan comes to know the exact location of the strategic installations and can attack accordingly.

On the demand of the locals, internet services are provided in border areas. Perhaps the internet services are also needed by the police and the security forces. But the mobile networks also amount to a security breach.

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The High Cost Of Ignoring Development In Kashmir

by **Bisma NAZIR**

Here is a plain truth about Kashmir. Abrogation, restoration or status quo are issues mainly for the political class, and something that Pakistan uses to keep up the shrill pitch.

The common man is least bothered about abrogation or restoration issues. He wants the state and the administration to focus on improving his life condition. The bitter reality is that if the state does not help the commoners and the youth realize their dreams of a peaceful and dignified life, many among them feel frustrated and defeated. Some get drawn to the option of Pakistan-manufactured secessionism readily available at their doorstep.

We need to understand the Kashmir psyche. Suppose a Patwari who is a Kashmiri or a Tehsildar who also is Kashmiri or a junior engineer in the public works department – again a Kashmiri – does not provide the requisite services aptly and honestly. Then it is regarded as the conspiracy by the Indian state to keep Kashmiris away from development and personal progress.

Administrative Inefficiency Led To Under-Utilization Of Funds

FUNDS RELEASED IN 2012, LYING UNUSED DUE TO INERT APPROACH



The report by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India for the year ended 31 March 2019 has revealed the inert and disinterested approach of the political system and the officers at some places in Kashmir. The report was released by

CAG after studying the fund utilization made in the social, general, economic and revenue sectors.

In Kashmir, the report has brought to light that even though the government had allocated funds for various sectors of development, these were not utilized by some departments and kept lying unused. Before the abrogation of Article 370, poor administration, embezzlement of funds, illegal appointments, scams etc by the political class and the bureaucracy was normal. As a result, economic and social development of Kashmir suffered.

2012-2017: FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN ANANTNAG KEPT LYING UNUSED

The CAG Comptroller and Auditor General's (CAG) report for 2019 has made important observations on the under-utilization of funds meant for completion of development works in Anantnag. It

was revealed in the report that the cost of kahcharie land in Anantnag had been transferred from the Bank Account of Collector Land Acquisition, Public Works Department and deposited in the bank accounts of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Anantnag for the period 2012 to 2017. The funds kept lying unused.

OUT OF RS 14.08 CRORE, ONLY 0.36 CRORE USED, RAILWAY APPROACH ROADS NOT MADE

In 2013 and 2015, Rs 14.08 crore was transferred in the bank account of DDC Anantnag. The funds were to be used for the railway approach roads to be made as part of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Fund utilization for the project was very poor. Almost the entire amount remained unutilized. Rs 13.72 crore were still in the bank as on March 2019.

1.32 CRORES RELEASED FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION, FULL AMOUNT INCLUDING INTEREST UNUTILISED

For the road to be constructed by the State Public Works Department, Rs 1.32 crores were sanctioned. The principal amount kept lying in the

Cash Compensation Of Rs 7.84 Crore For Victims Of Militant Violence Remained In Bank Accounts Of DCs For 10 Years

According to The General Administrative Department rules, cash compensation of Rs 4 lakh in lieu of government job is given to the family members of civilians killed in militancy-related actions. The office of the concerned Deputy Commissioner is supposed to deposit the amount in the bank account of the next of kin of the deceased person. The amount is deposited provided the claimants furnish willingness for acceptance of cash compensation in lieu of government job.

The audit for October-November 2019 of the related records in the offices of DC Anantnag and DC Baramulla revealed that compensation in lieu of government Service

had been claimed by 372 and 111 people respectively. The disbursement was made only for 281 claimants by DC Anantnag and 84 claimants by DC Baramulla.

Rs 14.88 crore was drawn from 2008-09 to 2017-18 by DC Anantnag from the Treasury. It was credited into the bank account of the DDO. However, cash compensation of Rs 3.64 crore drawn for 91 claimants was lying undisbursed as on March 2019 in the bank account of DC Anantnag.

Similarly, as per the information furnished in November 2019 by DC Baramulla, cash compensation of Rs 4.44 crore was withdrawn from the Treasury. Out of this amount, Rs 3.36 crore was paid up to March 2019. This reveals that balance of Rs 5.71 crore and Rs 2.13 crore were still lying in the bank accounts of the DCs of

Anantnag and Baramulla respectively in March 2019.

According to audit observations, compensation amount was not disbursed due to non-completion of requisite formalities such as want of Fixed Deposit (FD) receipts, not opening of bank account by the beneficiaries, non-submission of willingness by the claimants for acceptance of cash assistance in lieu of government job.

The bottom line is that compensation amount totaling Rs 4.72 crore was drawn from the treasury for payment to the family members of persons killed in militancy-related incidents. The amounts remained parked in bank accounts of the Deputy Commissioner for about ten years, which is against the principles of financial propriety.

When this was pointed out in the audit in October 2019, the DC Anantnag transferred 4.77 crore in November 2019 from the bank account to the deposit head, leaving a balance amount of 0.94 crore.



bank along with the interest amount, totalling to Rs 2.94 crore. According to the CAG report, the amount was lying unused in the bank account of DDC Kistinyan road/DDC Public Works Department.

ONLY 1% OF SANCTIONED FUNDS USED FOR POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED TOWERS KISHTWAR SINTHAN ANANTNAG ROAD

In 2016, Rs 8.56 crore were transferred in the bank account of DDC PMGSY for the project Power Grid Corporation of India Limited Towers Kishtwar Sinthan Anantnag Road, Border Roads Organization. Only 1 per cent of the fund was used for the sanctioned project. As on March 2019, Rs 8.34 crores were still lying unused in the bank account.

RS 1.53 CRORE UNUSED FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAY PROJECT

From 2012 to 2017, 17.31 crores were deposited in the bank account of DDC for the four-laning to be carried out for the National Highway Project. Out of this, Rs 1.53 crore was lying unused in the bank account.

The amount transferred for these four projects was Rs 41.27 crore. Out of this, Rs 26.53 crores (63.5%) kept lying unutilized in the bank accounts of ADC Anantnag for periods ranging

from two years to seven years. The grant was not used for developmental works.

The officials concerned spent only 36.4% of the grant sanctioned for development. After this was pointed out in Audit (October 2019), the Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) transferred Rs 16.40 crores to the deposit head (MH-8443). The balance amount of Rs 10.13 crore was still lying in the bank in September 2020. During the period, the tenure of various officers changed but the work was not done.

FOR VICTIMS OF FIRE MISHAP IN 2007, RS 5.41 CRORE INCLUDING INTEREST STILL UNDISBURSED

A major fire engulfed the Army's Khundru Field ordnance Depot, Anantnag in August 2007. The Ministry of Defense, Government of India (GOI) released Rs 26.74 crore in favor of Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag for disbursement among the victims of the fire mishap.

CAG records for February 2020 revealed that compensation amounting to Rs 23.19 crore was



The report by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India for the year ended 31 March 2019 has revealed the inert and disinterested approach of the political system and the officers at some places in Kashmir

182 Bank Accounts Opened In Private Banks - Violation Of J&K Financial Code Rules

According to Rule 2-33 of J&K Financial Code VOL-I, unless otherwise expressly authorized by any law or rule or order having the force of law, money may not be removed from the public account for investment or deposit elsewhere without the consent of government. The account must be opened with Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited. Where there is no such office, the account may be opened with the Post Office, Saving Bank or with the prior approval of the Finance Department, with any other bank. Despite these orders, 44 Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) had opened 182 bank accounts in private banks without obtaining prior approval of the Finance Department.

Table 2.2.5: Department wise bank accounts opened in banks other than J&K Bank

Sl. No.	Department	Accounts opened in private banks		Accounts in nationalised banks		Total	
		DDOs	Accounts	DDOs	Accounts	DDOs	Accounts
1.	Revenue	11	17	01	01	12	18
2.	Public Works	01	01	00	00	01	01
3.	Rural Development	29	150	02	13	31	163
	Total	41	168	03	14	44	182

(Source: Information provided by the respective DDOs)



KASHMIRGLACIER.COM

In 2013 and 2015, Rs 14.08 crore was transferred to DDC Anantnag for the construction of railway approach roads. Till March 2019, almost the entire amount remained unutilized

disbursed to the affected people up to December 2009. Thereafter, no payment on account of compensation was made. The balance amount of Rs 3.55 crore which was intended for compensation remained un-disbursed in the bank account of the DDO for more than 14 years. According to the CAG report, the principal and the interest totaled Rs 5.41 crore.

The specific reasons for why the compensation was not disbursed were not provided to the audit team by the DDO concerned.

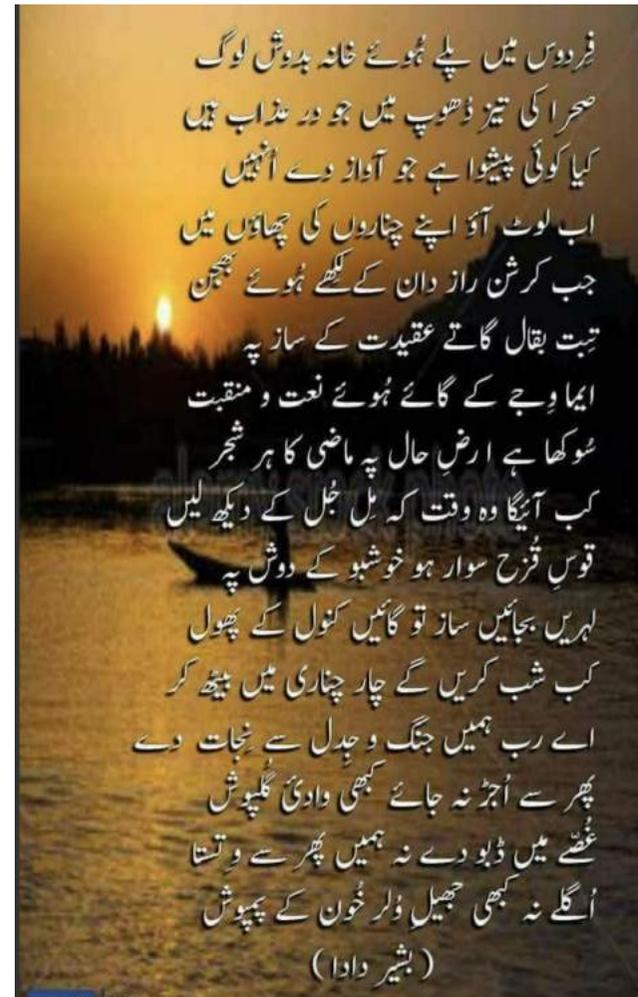
ADMINISTRATORS FAILING THE PEOPLE

According to reports, 131 DDOs of the Revenue Department, Public Work Department and Rural Development Department had total deposits of 116.41 crores in 1138 bank accounts in 2014, which increased to 399.94 crores till 2019. The increase in accumulated balance was due to undisbursed funds of relief/ compensation for natural disasters, victims of militancy, improper planning and non-completion of schemes, retention of funds, retention of statutory deductions and land compensation outside the government account, etc.

The administrative machinery was unable to spend the money allocated to it. As a result, people could not get the benefits of these projects. All these unutilized funds are keeping people away from development, be it better road connectivity, compensation funds or electricity services.

Ab Laut Aau Apne Chinaron Ki Chaon Mein..

By Bashir Dada, A Kashmiri Poet



فردوس میں پلے ہوئے خانہ بدوش لوگ
 صحرا کی تیز دھوپ میں جو در نذاب ہیں
 کیا کوئی پیشوا ہے جو آواز دے انہیں
 اب لوٹ آؤ اپنے چاروں کی چھاؤں میں
 جب کرشن راز دان کے لکھے ہوئے تھمن
 تبت بقال گاتے عقیدت کے ساز پہ
 ایماوجے کے گائے ہوئے نعت و منقبت
 سوکھا ہے ارض حال پہ ماضی کا ہر شجر
 کب آئیگا وہ وقت کہ مل جل کے دکھ لیں
 قوس قزح سوار ہو خوشبو کے دوش پہ
 لہریں بجائیں ساز تو گائیں کنول کے پھول
 کب شب کریں گے چار چناری میں بیٹھ کر
 اے رب ہمیں جنگ و جدل سے نجات دے
 پھر سے اُجڑ نہ جائے کبھی دادی گلپوش
 غصے میں ڈبو دے نہ ہمیں پھر سے ویتنا
 اگلے نہ کبھی جھیل ڈلر خون کے پمپوش
 (بشیر دادا)

Firdaus me paley badhey khana badosh log ...
 Sehra ki tez dhoop mein jo dar azab hai...
 Kya koi Peshwa hai jo awaz de inhe ...
 Ab laut aau apne Chinaron ki chaon mein..
 Jab Krishn Razdan ke likhe hue bhajan..
 Tibet bakal gaate akidat ke saaz pe..
 Aima Vijay ke gaye hue naat wa mankibath..
 Sukha hai arz e haal pe mazi ka har shajar..
 Kab aayega woh waqt ki mil jul ke dekh le..
 Kous kiz swaar ho khushbu ke dush pe..
 Lehrey bachaein saaz tau gayen kawal ke phool..
 Kab shab karen gey Char Chinari mein baith kar..
 Aiy Rab hamein jang wa jadal se najat de..
 Phir se ujad na jaaye kabhi waadi gulposh..
 Gusee me dubo de na hamein phir se vitasta..
 Aagey na kabhi Jeel Wular khoon se pamposh

THOSE WISHING FOR THE TALIBAN IN KASHMIR Be Careful What You Wish For

**AFGHANISTAN
TODAY**

**Crippled Economy,
Women Begging In
Streets,
No Food,
No Healthcare,
No Incomes,
All Round Poverty**



IFRC.ORG

In all these months, the only happy pictures of Afghans have been of those who left their home country and reached elsewhere. They were beaming with relief that they were out of Afghanistan. If the Taliban takeover is so good for Afghanistan as is being projected in Kashmir, why are only those Afghans happy who have managed to flee?

by Mareaya FAYAZ

2021 is going to be remembered for many things. One of them shall be the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

The Talibanization of Afghanistan has been glorified by many in Kashmir. But what has been its impact on Afghanistan? What has the Taliban takeover meant for the Afghans? The images have consistent been of despair and panic. The Afghans were trying to escape Afghanistan in any way they could. They were trying to get their money out of the banks. They were buying luggage and packing up whatever little they could to be ready to escape. After six months, the situation is much worse.

In all these months, the only happy pictures of Afghans have been of those who left their home country and reached elsewhere. They were beaming with relief that they were out of Afghanistan. If the Taliban takeover is so good for Afghanistan as is being projected in Kashmir, why are only those Afghans happy who have managed to flee?

On videos emerging from Afghanistan, the Afghans were crying about how life was when Taliban had first captured power. They had imposed a brutal interpretation of Islamic law according to which women and girls were not permitted to go to study. Music was banned. Women were



GETTY IMAGES/BBC.COM

Before you support the Taliban, you must think this through. What the Taliban have done to Afghanistan - is this the fate that you want for the women and children of your society? If the women and girls of your society are brutally oppressed, do you think the men of Kashmir shall be able to secure happiness?

not allowed to leave their homes without a male guardian even for visiting a doctor. People were stoned to death for adultery.

A repeat of all this happened the second time Taliban came to power. Nobody was surprised, since the Taliban do not treat women even as

humans. For them women are commodities and possessions. The Taliban have deprived women of their identity and livelihoods. Women can only become teachers or nurses. The Taliban have demolished systems that aided women who were victims of gender-based violence.

NO FOREIGN AID, NO FOOD

As soon as the change of power was complete, food prices in Afghanistan went through the roof. People struggled to get basic supplies. They could not get their money out of banks. After the Taliban captured power, many Afghans ran away to live in makeshift camps, adding to the 400,000 Afghans who had been forced to leave their homes. The problems for Afghans do not seem to have lessened. Six months after the Taliban captured power, Afghans are suffering more than ever.

The Taliban takeover of the Afghanistan was much reliant on international aid. When the aid stopped, the Afghan economy collapsed. The money that people earned before was not much. After the Taliban takeover, the situation is disastrous.

World Bank has estimated that close to 15 million Afghans across two million households are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of the bankrupt economy. With loss of jobs and income, poverty is predicted to rise from 54.5 percent to 72 percent.

Since the Taliban came to power, boys have been called back to school while girls have been asked to wait until a nationwide policy for educating girls is made.

After the Taliban have come to power, Afghanistan is going through severe economic crises. Without international aid, the number of mal-



IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT FOR THE WOMEN OF KASHMIR?



Is this what the men of Kashmir want to dish out to the women of Kashmir? Do you want to Talibanize Kashmir? Do you want to support a regime that establishes a brutal interpretation of Islamic law?

Before you support the Taliban, you must think this through. What the Taliban have done to Afghanistan - is this the fate that you want for the women and children of your society? If the women and girls of your society are brutally oppressed, do you think the men of Kashmir shall be able to secure happiness?

In Iran, after the Islamic Revolution in February 1979, the female judges were dismissed and were given clerical duties. Shirin Ebadi was the first female judge of Iran. She won The Nobel Peace Prize 2003. "I and other female judges were dismissed from our posts and given clerical duties. They made me a clerk in the very court I once presided over," she wrote of those years.

Is this the Kashmir that we want to build? Where women are treated as second class citizens? Where women are refrained from holding important offices? Is this our glorious heritage? There is a popular English saying - Be careful what you wish. Be careful that you don't wish for a crippled economy where children go hungry, women lose identity, healthcare and education is in shambles, and women who were earlier officers are begging on the streets so that their children can eat. God forbid! Nobody can wish for this fate for Kashmir. Do not wish for the Taliban in Kashmir. Be careful what you wish for.



EXPRESS AND STAR



nourished children is rising. For the Afghans, life is a catastrophe daily.

According to a report, 95 percent people in Afghanistan do not have enough food to eat. Nearly 23 million – more than half the population – are at a risk of starvation. The figure includes 3 million children under the age of five. The Afghans are living through extreme poverty in freezing winter.

The situation in Afghanistan is serious. New limitations have been imposed on women's appearance and behaviour, affecting every area of their lives including their employment prospects.

We have had some taste of this barbaric attitude towards women. In the summer of 2007, a notorious militant by the name of Munna Janwari was active in north Kashmir. Munna Janwari decided to impose a dress code upon women. He got posters pasted in North Kashmir on which it was written that from now on, women would have to wear an abaya to go out of their homes. He insisted that this code would be followed in junior schools, senior schools and colleges.

Munna was killed in an encounter. But in 2010 another breed of militants became active who again issued the diktat that women must wear abayas. Government Degree College Sopore made it compulsory for women to wear an abaya to the college. They did not allow any girl to enter the college premises if she was not dressed in an abaya.

These militants issued notices to all beauty parlours in North Kashmir, particularly in and around Sopore, directing them to shut down. As a terror tactic, a parlour owned by a Sikh woman was set on fire. This incident happened near downtown Sopore.

AFGHANISTAN IS TURNING NIGHTMARES INTO REALITY

Afghanistan is turning nightmares into reality. I am sitting at home sipping tea, seeing so many social media posts and news reports about how people from my homeland are thrilled about the Taliban takeover. The social media is flooded with content about people posting that they want the Taliban to move and capture Kashmir. They want the Taliban to set up in Kashmir what according to them is Islamic rule.

Is this what the supporters of Taliban in Kashmir want for their sisters and daughters? Is this what the men of our society want for the women of Kashmir? Is this what they want Kashmir to become – a case study of manmade catastrophe? Do they even realize what they are asking for?

Afghan Girls Cry About Their Plight In Video



Begging begging begging for food

Our sky is not blue
This is what they do
There is nothing left for sale in my house
And in my jail
I sold my mom's memorial necklace
Cause my child was hungry and helpless Now I can feel the pain that
my mom felt
But I can't find her a meal

We are nothings
To have our price
They have sold us once
For a bag of rice
For a piece of bread
I can't believe it was real
Begging begging begging for food