

# KASHMIR CENTRAL

A KZINE INITIATIVE

GH MOHDSAFI

MUZAMIL  
THAKUR

ZAHID  
SAFI

THAKUR, SAFI AND SAFI

## Glib Talk Slick Exterior DEVIL'S AGENDA FOR KASHMIR

## Those Of Kashmir Press Club Who Stood Up For Sajad Gul Must Own Statement Backing Him

### KASHMIR CENTRAL

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CENTRAL

On January 11, a press statement attributed to “Kashmir Press Club (KPC)” appeared in some newspapers and online portals. The statement called for immediate release of “journalist” Sajad Gul, and urged the government to drop all cases against him. The statement did not carry name of any office bearer of “Kashmir Press Club”.

The statement needs to be contested for two obvious reasons. One, Kashmir Press Club is nonexistent. The term of the body expired in July 15, 2021, and fresh elections were not held for a new body. It was like senior BJP leader and then Speaker of Legislative Assembly Dr Nirmal Singh issuing a statement two years after the dissolution of the State Assembly, signing it as the Speaker.

There is no legitimate body by the name of Kashmir Press Club existent as on date. The newspapers and news portals which carried the statement did it against the journalistic ethics, because the statement did not carry the name of the issuing person.

The second important thing which has been deliberately and willfully concealed in the statement is that the man named Sajad Gul has been booked under Sections of 120B, 153B and 505B for serious offences against the security of the state.

How long can we afford to downplay the involvement of some people working for the one or other news organization in militancy-related activities? Every conscious and sane journalist in Kashmir is aware that OGWs and even hybrid militants have intruded into Kashmir journalism. Local and national media houses have been hiring such elements without any knowledge of the background of such persons. In certain cases, it is done willfully. Can anyone sitting in Press Colony or in the building at Polo View allotted by the government for Kashmir Press Club deny the fact that the first publicity chief of proscribed Hizbul Mujaideen was arrested from Press Colony? Can anyone deny that he was associated with an Urdu daily for six long years and simultaneously worked for the proscribed Hizbul Mujaideen till He was arrested in 1996?

A number of Journalists have been killed and targeted in Press Colony because militants have placed sources there who identify the targets for them. Recently, Journalist Adil Farooq was arrested with two live grenades after he hurled a grenade at security picket in Hari Singh High Street. Adil was earlier arrested in 2019 and was detained under Public Safety act for his alleged involvement in “providing logistics as well as other support to the active terrorists operating in Khrew area”. At that time there was hue and cry in Kashmir Press club for his detention.

Those from Kashmir Press Club issued the statement in Sajad Gul’s favour should come forward, identify themselves and take responsibility for every single person working with one or the other media house. And certify the credentials for each one of them.

**Bashir Assad**



razor sharp analysis

INCISIVE REPORTING

INVESTIGATE THE TERROR ECOSYSTEM

expose deception

RESTORE ORDER

MAKE A SPLASH

INCULCATE DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT

**Muzamil Thakur  
Gh Mohd Safi  
Zahid Safi**



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FOR ISI'S  
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# Muzamil Thakur Gh Mohd Safi Zahid Safi

**Why Do You  
Make Kashmiri  
Youth Militants?**

**Glib Talk  
Slick Exterior  
Devil's Agenda**

by Iqbal AHMAD

## **BIG SLOGANS FOR GLOBAL DECEPTION**

**M**uzamil Thakur, you use pleasing words and slogans that the world loves to hear. Stand For Freedom. *Stand For Free Speech. Stand Against Tyranny.*

Here is what you wrote on Twitter. *We don't bend. We don't bow. We certainly won't surrender. @DrAsifMaqbool81 and I will InshaAllah continue on the path of the righteous, abiding by international law.*

Muzamil, how do you define Standing For Freedom? Hunting for vulnerable Kashmiri youth who can be led to violence is Standing For Freedom? Emotionally hounding gullible Kashmiri youth to join militancy is free speech? Giving money, pistols, free I-phones with international SIM cards to Kashmiri youth for targeted violence is freedom of action?

"The path of the righteous. Abiding by international law." Remember these words as you struggle to answer the following questions.



## SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU

- Why do you pluck young Kashmiri youth out of their homes and lure them into militancy?
- WHY DO YOU HUNT FOR KASHMIRI YOUTH WHO ARE JUST OUT OF JAIL?
- Why do you prey on the financial insecurities of vulnerable Kashmiri youth?
- WHY DO YOU SEND PISTOLS AND I-PHONES WITH SIM CARDS FROM SAUDI, QATAR, KUWAIT, MALAYSIA ETC TO KASHMIRI YOUTH?
- Why do you tell Kashmiri youth to hide these phones, and use them only for communication with you and your clique?
- WHY DID YOU KEEP TRACK OF VIOLENT BOYS IN EVERY DISTRICT? WHY DID YOU ALWAYS INSTIGATE THEM TO BECOME OVER-GROUND WORKERS OR MILITANTS? WHAT DID YOU GAIN FROM DESTROYING THEIR LIFE?
- The Kashmiris who stand up for peace, for end to conflict – why do you send their photographs to vulnerable youth, asking them to kill these Kashmiris?
- WHY ARE YOU SIGNING DEATH WARRANTS FOR CHILDREN OF POOR KASHMIRI PARENTS? TO ENSURE YOUR RICHES FOREVER?

Riches built on the graves of innocent, misguided youth will never bring you peace. It is time you are extradited to India, where law can take its course.

Sitting abroad, you are making a mockery of international law with big words. Remember these words when international law shall finally catch up with you.



FIRSTPOST.COM

# Thakur, Safi and Safi Live Grand

## Send Kashmiri Boys To Graves

**M**uzamil Thakur, Gh Mohd Safi and Zahid Safi. These three are among the top strategic assets of Pakistan to keep drawing the local youth into the folds of militancy.

Speaking on public platforms in Pakistan and elsewhere, these three make sure that the grievances of the Kashmiris are forever manufactured anew. It's a huge game being played by Pakistan in which Kashmiri lives hold no value. Muzamil, Gh Mohd Safi and Zahid Safi are willing and happy players in this game.

Muzamil Ayub Thakur is UK-based man and of Kashmiri origin. He was recently booked by JK Police under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) for his anti-India activities on social media. This is only the tip of the iceberg. Muzamil's role in recruitment for the jihadi networks is being studied by the security agencies.

Muzamil Thakur wears the terror charge as a badge of honour. Sitting in London and enjoying the good life, Muzamil proudly declares on his Twitter handle, 'Charged Under UAPA'.

Here is something else that Muzamil declares on his Twitter handle. Born in Exile, Live in London, Heart in #Kashmir. Muzamil, if your heart is in Kashmir, it is a very black, a very cruel heart. It takes men with deeply cruel hearts to pluck innocent boys out of their homes, mislead them in the name of religion and jihad, give them the lure of money and turn them into Over Ground Workers or militants.

Muzamil is not alone in manufacturing militants in Kashmir. He is helped by his father-in-law Ghulam Mohd Safi and also by Zahid



Gh Mohd Safi and (left) Zahid Safi





DW.COM

## IT TAKES MEN WITH DEEPLY CRUEL HEARTS TO PLUCK INNOCENT BOYS OUT OF THEIR HOMES, MISLEAD THEM IN THE NAME OF RELIGION AND JIHAD, GIVE THEM THE LURE OF MONEY AND TURN THEM INTO OVER GROUND WORKERS OR MILITANTS

Safi, both of Kashmiri origin. Safi and Safi have been living in Pakistan for decades. Both have played a stellar role in driving Kashmiri boys into militancy, engaging them as hybrid killers or as Over Ground Workers.

Zahid Safi is the cousin of Gh Mohd Safi's wife. For Muzamil, Gh Mohd and Zahid, stoking militancy in Kashmir is family business.

### COLLECTING BILLIONS IN THE NAME OF SUPPORTING KASHMIR

Muzamil is the son of Dr Ayub Thakur of Shopian. Ayub Thakur was bankrolled by Pakistan. He collected millions of dollars from

agenda-driven individuals in Islamic countries and other affluent nations worldwide in the name of Kashmir. Muzamil is now carrying forward this thriving business of making big money in the name of Kashmir with his wife Shaista Safi, daughter of Gh Mohd Safi.

Gh Mohd Safi was a top Jamaat leader of Geelani's school of thought. Around 1990, he gained notoriety after he raised the Pakistan flag in the main chowk of Sopore. Safi's plan was to enter himself into the good books of ISI and project himself as a hero.

After the police got after Gh Mohd Safi for raising the Pakistan flag, he ran off to Pakistan. ISI was happy with him, and Safi managed to establish himself in

Pakistan. In January 2010, he was elected as the Convener of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) in Pakistan.

### GHULAM MOHD SAFI AND AYUB THAKUR

Ayub Thakur hailed from Shopian and Ghulam Mohd Safi from Baramulla. They were close associates while in Kashmir. Ayub Thakur moved from Kashmir to Saudi Arabia and then to England.

With the blessings of ISI, Ayub Thakur created NGOs to ostensibly provide support to the Kashmiri people. For decades now, the NGOs have been bankrolled by ISI and have received funding in millions of dollars. The family business is

## Vulnerable, Gullible Youth Systematically Trapped

PHOTO BY TAHA ZAHOOR/STANDWITHKASHMIR.MEDIUM.COM



Through terror circuits in every district of Kashmir, Muzamil Thakur, Gh Mohd Safi and Zahid Safi search for families in which any militant may have died. Or they look for houses where militants may have hidden, and the house may later have been damaged in counter action by the security forces. They seek complete details about the number of boys in that family. Their effort is to cultivate one or more

boys from the family in the name of revenge and drive him into the OGW network or militancy. The boys are lured with financial support and with promises of more gains if they are able to yield the desired results. They are also trapped emotionally.

continued by Ayub Thakur's son.

Gh Mohd Safi moved to Pakistan and monetized his Kashmiri identity. Ayub Thakur helped Gh Mohd Safi sell the anti-India propaganda in Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey and other nations. Like Thakur, Safi also received funding in the name of supporting the people of Kashmir.

Gh Mohd Safi has two daughters, Shabnam and Shaista. Shaista got married to Ayub's son Muzamil. The couple live in London and are engaged in the family trade. Ayub Thakur and Gh Mohd Safi gave platforms to Muzamil in the Muslim nations and also in the western world to stay focused on the money making in the name of Kashmir.

### EMOTIONALLY HOUNDING VULNERABLE KASHMIRI YOUTH TO JOIN MILITANCY IS FREE SPEECH? GIVING MONEY, PISTOLS AND FREE I-PHONES WITH INTERNATIONAL SIM CARDS TO GULLIBLE KASHMIRI YOUTH FOR TARGETED VIOLENCE IS FREEDOM OF ACTION?



OUTLOOK INDIA.COM

# MASTERMINDS FOR ISI'S KASHMIR PROJECT

## *Tumhara Beta Militant, Mera Beta Doctor*

**N**ote this. Gh Mohd Safi pushed hundreds of Kashmiri youth into militancy or made them over ground workers for the terror network in Kashmir. He did not rope in his own children for the so-called fight for freedom.

Gh Mohd Safi has three children. His elder daughter Shabnam Safi works in a university in Pakistan. His younger daughter Shaista is an anchor for a news channel. His son Nazar Safi is a doctor.

Shaista Safi and Muzamil Thakur's constant endeavour is to use all online platforms to inflame and provoke Kashmiri youth against the state.

Gh Mohd Safi's son Dr Nazar Safi is also a doctor. Gh Mohd



Shaista Safi, daughter of Gh Mohd Safi and wife of Muzamil Thakur

Safi's prescription for the sons of ordinary Kashmiris is fight against the state, guns and jihad. His prescription for his own children is high education and

lucrative careers. The formula is simple. Tumhara beta militant, mera beta doctor.

His relative and close associate Zahid Safi has followed the same

blueprint. Zahid did not get anyone from his family involved in militancy. Pakistan has a quota of 57 seats for Kashmiri students who want to do MBBS. Zahid accommodated the children of his family in the MBBS seats available in Pakistan.

Most sons and daughters of even the extended family of Ghulam Mohd Shafi and also of Zahid Shafi are doctors, after having studied in Pakistan on the Hurrayat quota. Some are engineers.

### HOW ZAHID SAFI ENTERED THE GAME

Ghulam Mohd Safi extensively helped Pakistan in strengthening the terror network in Kashmir. For this project, he also involved his wife's cousin Zahid Safi.

Zahid Safi was a kaandur, the traditional Kashmiri baker in Batapora, Sopore. Initially, Zahid Safi became a militant and joined Hizbul Mujahideen. Later, Gh Mohd Safi called Zahid to Pakistan. He initially engaged Zahid as his personal assistant. Later he introduced Zahid to top officers in ISI with whom he was in touch.

Zahid Safi too monetized his Kashmiri identity in Pakistan. Now both of them undertake militant recruitment in Kashmir.



Zahid Safi

## Muzamil, Safi & Safi Groom Hybrid Militants

### Prey Upon Vulnerable Youth Give I-Phones With International SIM Cards, Pistols

### Hit Lists, Targeted Violence

**T**hrough their local networks in every district, Muzamil Thakur, Gh Mohd Safi and Zahid Safi are constantly on the lookout for boys in Kashmir who have been involved in stone pelting and have been to jail. They connect with the boys when they are insecure and fill them with jihadi ideas. They especially search for vulnerable boys from poor families and instigate these boys against the state for Kashmir's "freedom".

Through their local networks,

Muzamil, Gh Mohd and Zahid tell the boys that they don't have to join any militant group. They can stay engaged with whatever activity they are pursuing. Simultaneously, these boys are given I-phones with international SIM cards.

The boys are told to hide the phone somewhere where no one can get to know of it. The boys are given specific instructions that the phone will not be used for any outside call. International SIM cards are provided so that these calls cannot be tracked.

The boys are also given pistols so that they can carry out any tar-

geted attack and then go back to their normal lives. These are the hybrid militant modules which have been found to be involved in crimes in Kashmir.

These boys are sent photographs on their exclusive phone of the people they have to kill in Kashmir. ISI most targets those Kashmiris who are involved with the peace process in Kashmir in one way or the other. Through terror masterminds like Muzamil, Gh Mohd and Zahid, these plans are put into action.

activities are a façade. Both Gh Mohd and Zahid Safi are active militant recruiters and administrators of Pakistan's terror networks in Kashmir.

For the record, Zahid Safi is the leader of Azad Jammu and Kashmir chapter of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq-led Hurriyat Forum. Gh Mohd Safi is Convener of Tehreek-e-Hurriyat Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan has showered Gh Mohd Safi and Zahid Safi with riches for masterminding ter-

identity as Kashmiris. Pakistan promotes them both on various platforms and international forums as part of the sustained anti-India propaganda.

### WHY IS MUZAMIL THAKUR FLAUNTING THE TERROR CASE AGAINST HIM?

Why is Muzamil Thakur proudly proclaiming on his Twitter handle – Charged under UAPA? Because in a fake world,

**FOR TERROR MASTERMINDS LIKE MUZAMIL THAKUR, GH MOHD SAFI AND ZAHID SAFI, THE PRESCRIPTION FOR SONS OF KASHMIRIS IS GUNS AND JIHAD. FOR THEIR CHILDREN, THEY CHOOSE HIGH EDUCATION AND LUCRATIVE CAREERS. IN THEIR ENTIRE CLAN, MOST CHILDREN ARE DOCTORS THROUGH HURRIYAT QUOTA IN PAKISTAN. SOME ARE ENGINEERS**

### POLITICAL FRONTS OF GH MOHD, ZAHID SAFI

Gh Mohd Safi and Zahid Safi have maintained political fronts in Pakistan to project that they are engaged with a so-called political movement. Their political

fronts are in Kashmir. They both have constructed palatial houses in National Police Foundation, Islamabad – one of the most posh areas of Pakistan's capital city, and own a fleet of big cars.

Both Gh Mohd and Zahid Safi are in direct contact with some top ISI officers. They milk their

everything is a prop. Muzamil and co have used the terror case to launch a propaganda storm against India. With some British politicians who toe their line, Muzamil and Co are going all out against India, flaunting the terror tag as badges of honour. Pak cheerleaders are lionizing

Muzamil Thakur and also Asif Dar. Both have been booked by JK Police.

Muzamil and Asif Dar have emerged as bigger heroes for ISI. In the terror circles, their net work has gone up. But they haven't cornered all the gains. Muzamil now carries the tag of an international terror operator. This has dangerous connotations that Muzamil and ilk cannot ignore.

### AYUB THAKUR WAS OUSTED FROM SAUDI ARABIA

Jama'at-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir laid foundation of Islami Jamiat Talaba (IJT) in 1977. IJT was led by Ayub Thakur on many occasions.

According to a feature on Ayub Thakur in a Kashmir newspaper, by the early 1980s, the relationship between IJT and Jamaat-e-Islami began to strain. Jamaat leaders began to fear that IJT had been radicalized beyond "limits". This created a rift between the two organizations. Jamaat wanted that IJT should act as its official student wing rather than an independent organization. There was disagreement among IJT leaders over this issue. The disagreement finally created a rift within IJT. Many top leaders of IJT refused to follow the diktat of Jamaat-e-Islami.

Finally Jamaat disowned IJT and created its own student body. The student body initially took the shape of Islami Teheek e Talaba. Finally it reincarnated itself as Islami Jamaat Talaba.

The original IJT group including Ayub Thakur lost the support of the Jamaat. Their organization began to disintegrate. Jamaat-e-Islami disowned him.

Ayub Thakur moved to Saudi

**IN THE MID 80s, AYUB THAKUR WAS TOLD TO LEAVE SAUDI ARABIA. THE SAUDI ADMINISTRATION WOULDN'T ALLOW HIM ANY ROMANCE WITH REVOLUTIONARY POLITICS, LEST THE YOUTH OF THE ISLAMIC KINGDOM GOT IMPACTED. IN 1986, AYUB THAKUR WENT TO LONDON.**



**WITH THE BLESSINGS OF PAKISTAN, HE CONTINUED HIS ACTIVITIES OF COLLECTING MONEY IN THE NAME OF KASHMIR, SENDING IT TO THE GEELANI GROUP AND TO HIZBUL MUJAHIDEEN**

### AYUB THAKUR DID NOT MAKE HIS OWN SON A MILITANT

Ayub Thakur gave money to make thousands of young Kashmiri men as militants. But he did not make his own son a militant. Ayub Thakur's son Muzamil Thakur pursued high education and joined Islamic Bank in London. Later Ghulam Mohd Safi persuaded him to leave the bank and take up the family business of collecting huge funding in the name of Kashmir and making Kashmiri boys militants.

Gh Mohd Safi introduced Muzamil to the entire anti-India set-up in Pakistan and in other nations. Safi promoted his son-in-

Arabia, where he joined the Nuclear Engineering Department of King Abdul Aziz University, Jeddah as Assistant professor. According to the feature on him in a Kashmir publication, the "Saudi administration wouldn't allow him to have this romance with revolutionary politics, lest the youth of the Islamic Kingdom might also catch these germs and hence vitiate the peaceful atmosphere of Kingdom". Ayub Thakur was directed by Saudi Arabia to leave the country.

In 1986, Ayub Thakur went to London. With the blessings of Pakistan, Ayub Thakur continued his activities of collecting money in the name of Kashmir, sending it to the Geelani group and to Hizbul Mujahideen.

law on all international platforms. As part of these promotional activities, Muzamil also met Turkey President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. These activities of Muzamil Thakur are continuing till date.

Muzamil Thakur and his wife collect money like beggars in the name of the orphans or the widows in Kashmir. A very small portion of this money reaches Kashmir. Meanwhile, they use all platforms available for instigating gullible and innocent Kashmiri youth against the state.

## Muzamil Thakur's Taste For Fine Cigars

**W**hen Muzamil Thakur visited Kashmir some years ago, the Kashmiris he met observed that he has a taste for highly expensive cigars. Those who were with him were astounded to see that his expenses on cigars in a single day run into several thousands. Muzamil can afford these cigars because of the heavy funding he collects from Muslim nations and also from the Western world in the name of Kashmiris



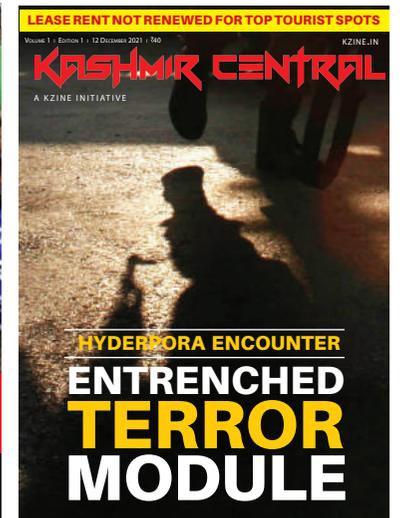
Extreme left, Zahid Safi and Gh Mohd Safi in the middle in this photograph taken in POK

**GH MOHD SAFI AND ZAHID SAFI HAVE MAINTAINED POLITICAL FRONTS IN PAKISTAN TO PROJECT THAT THEY ARE ENGAGED WITH SOME POLITICAL MOVEMENT. THEIR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES ARE A FAÇADE. BOTH GH MOHD AND ZAHID SAFI ARE ACTIVE MILITANT RECRUITERS AND ADMINISTRATORS OF PAKISTAN'S TERROR NETWORKS IN KASHMIR**

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# Own Children In White Collar Jobs

## Glorify Death For Sons Of Poor Kashmiris

This is the terror machine which you and your ISI masters operate, Zahid. You draw vulnerable Kashmiri youth into militancy. You promise them “eternal paradise”. You use big words when they sacrifice their lives for your devil’s agenda for Kashmir.

If you glorify sacrifice of life so much, why are your children and the children of Ghulam Mohd Safi engaged in white collar professions? Why aren’t they in their “beloved homeland”? Why aren’t they available for the “great and noble cause”?

The children of your brothers and sisters are in Kashmir. They study, pursue their careers and lead happy lives. As they should.

Then why have you made it the burden of the poor Kashmiri man that his son should engage in jihad? Why don’t you encourage the children of ordinary Kashmiris to pursue their dreams and seek prosperity and happiness? Why do you give them the gun to kill and die?

You say you want to make Kashmir “the cradle of Islam”. Is this the way you will make Kashmir the cradle of Islam, by leading blooming youngsters to their death? You, Gh Mohd Safi, Muzamil Thakur and others like you will have to answer these questions one day.

**WHY HAVE YOU MADE IT THE  
BURDEN OF THE POOR KASHMIRI  
MAN THAT HIS SON SHOULD  
ENGAGE IN JIHAD? YOUR  
CHILDREN PURSUE HAPPY  
CAREERS, YOU MAKE THE  
POOR MAN’S SONS PURSUE  
“SACRIFICE”**



PRESS RELEASE BY  
ZAHID SAFI, LEADER OF  
POK CHAPTER OF MIRWAIZ  
UMAR FAROOQ-LED  
HURRIYAT FORUM

**Zahid Safi pays  
glorious  
tributes to  
Merajuddin  
Halwai who was  
martyred  
in Handwara**

Zahid Safi while paying  
homage to Shaheed  
Merajuddin Halwai said that  
Mehraj sacrificed his life  
for a great cause. He was a  
brave Mujahid, this nation  
will always be proud of his  
martyrdom.

Meraj-ud-Din Halwai, a resi-  
dent of Sopore town...was al-  
ways ready to do anything for  
great and noble cause. Meraj-  
ud-Din Halwai was crowned  
with martyrdom and lived in  
eternal paradise. Zahid Safi  
said that we pay homage  
to the martyr. He sacrificed  
his life for the freedom of his  
beloved homeland...Carry-  
ing funerals has become a  
daily routine. We hope that  
thanks to the sacrifices of the  
martyrs, Kashmir will soon be  
free and the cradle of Islam.

# Saaya Of Soyat Upon Kashmir

## *Tum ne banaya merey bhai ka maqbar*

**M**UZAMIL THAKUR. I KNOW YOU WILL CALL ALL THESE CHARGES AS BASELESS, CONCOCTED. GH MOHD SAFI AND ZAHID SAFI MAY USE THE SAME WORDS. THEY MAY CALL ALL THESE FACTS AS LIES COOKED UP BY JK POLICE OR SOME SECURITY AGENCY AGAINST THE THREE OF YOU.

YOU MAY TELL THE WORLD THAT THESE ARE LIES. BUT THE THREE OF YOU KNOW, AND MANY MANY PEOPLE IN KASHMIR KNOW THAT EVERYTHING WRITTEN AGAINST YOU IS CORRECT.

I wish I had not known even your names. I wish I had never heard of you, my brother had never heard of you. Then my brother would still be alive and we would be living happily. Then Mouj would sing when she worked in the house or in the orchard, like she did before Bhai died. But Bhai is dead. And Mouj does not sing any more. She does not laugh any more.

Bhai was only into kanni jung. He was not helping any militant groups. He was not a mujahid. He did not even know the consequences of kanni jung. He got into it with some older boys of our mohalla. And one day the police took him away.

When he came back from the jail, he wanted to have nothing to do with kanni jung or anything like that. He wanted only to study and become something in life. But you got to know that he was in jail. You began to poison his mind.

NYTIMES.COM



From where did you get to know of Bhai? Why did you start calling him?

You started giving money to Bhai to make videos of any victims of this conflict which has eaten up our life. You told him – you must make videos of pain. You must make the people cry. You must make the women and girls and children cry.

You did not leave Bhai. You kept filling him with anger. Why? We are a poor Kashmiri family. What harm did we do to you? You are the saaya of soyat upon Kashmir.

I wish Bhai had never listened to you. We kept crying and telling Bhai to stay away from you. But we don't know what you did to his mind.

One day Bhai ran away. He went and joined the mujahid. It seems that Mouj died the day he ran away. We became like orphans.

Then he died. Mouj was half dead after he left. Perhaps I would feel some peace if she cried some times. But she does not cry also. She is like stone.

After that you never called us. You never tried to find out whether we are dead or alive. I wish Bhai had never of you. I wish we had never heard of you. You may say that all these statements against you are lies. But Allah shall punish you for our cries and our pain.

**YOU STARTED  
GIVING MONEY  
TO BHAI TO  
MAKE VIDEOS  
OF ANY VIC-  
TIMS OF THIS  
CONFLICT  
WHICH HAS  
EATEN UP  
OUR LIFE. YOU  
TOLD HIM -  
YOU MUST  
MAKE VIDEOS  
OF PAIN. YOU  
MUST MAKE  
THE PEOPLE  
CRY. YOU MUST  
MAKE THE  
WOMEN AND  
GIRLS AND  
CHILDREN CRY**

**WE KEPT CRYING AND TELLING BHAI TO  
STAY AWAY FROM YOU. BUT WE DON'T KNOW  
WHAT YOU DID TO HIS MIND**

# THE HIGH DRAMA OF SHEIKH SHOWKAT

## Always Biting The Hand That Feeds Him

by Bisma NAZIR

**O**ver the last few decades, some words have become part of the Kashmiri lexicon. One such word is 'collaborator'. The word is used like an abuse for all those Kashmiris who are somehow identified with the state. Pro-Pakistan propaganda made this usage the norm.

When J&K was ruled by elected governments, men who dubbed others as collaborators were always seen walking the corridors of power to seeking favours for posting, position etc. In social circles, they ranted about the collaborators.



Those who cried loudest about the collaborators have always drawn huge benefits from the state. Many among those who have worked for the state in diverse capacities and drawn handsome salaries are always crying about collaborators. They are always putting on a Holier Than Thou act.

Take for instance a retired government servant from Pulwama, who is a member of South Kashmir civil society. This man was always seen in the Secretariat with one or the other demand for personal gain or for his relatives. Once back home, he would take to Facebook to get into a tirade about collaborators.

### JEI DEPENDENCE ON SO-CALLED COLLABORATORS

From 2002, from the time when Mufti Sayeed became CM to 2018 when Mehbooba lost power, top members or Jamaat e Islami milked the state for all benefits. Individually or in groups, JEI members would visit ministers, MLAs, bureaucrats and take whatever they could. Once back in mosques, they

**Showkat has inflamed the youth against the state even as he enjoyed a cushy permanent job and a plump salary. These hypocrites holding high chairs have dominated our lives for decades, bossed us around and instigated us for wrong causes for their own greed**

### BOOKED IN 2010 FOR SEDITION

### Never Held Accountable For Indophobia

In 1990, Showkat appointed as Assistant Professor, International Islamic University, Malaysia. During the counter insurgency period of the 90s, he came back to Kashmir and constantly provided resistance content through the local publications.

It is the state that must be held accountable that such an individual was allowed to join government service in 2000. In 2010, Showkat was charged for sedition in Delhi for making a speech at a convention titled "Azadi: The only way". He was never dismissed from service for his anti-India bigotry and Indophobia.

In September 2021, Showkat tweeted: **Collect & preserve evidence of war crimes & crimes against humanity committed during the last twenty years & pursue for a War Crime Tribunal/or establish one. Those who talk about human rights in Afghanistan now should come clean about their own record of the past twenty years.**

Perhaps the state should also collect information about Showkat, who inflames the youth against the state. These hypocrites holding high chairs have dominated our lives for decades, bossed us around and instigated us for wrong causes and for their own greed. Now it's time to tackle them without letting ourselves slip into their hypocrisy.

## IN CONVERSATION WITH KASHMIR CENTRAL

**CORRESPONDENT:** Why do you always post such hateful content against the state, but as an academic you have never posted anything which may help the youth grow personally and professionally?

**SHOWKAT:** I am not answerable to you about my tweets.

**CORRESPONDENT:** You constantly posted content to project the Taliban in a positive light. Would any Kashmiri prefer to send their child to Afghanistan this time?

**SHOWKAT:** If medical colleges are opened there why won't the Kashmiris send their children there, as we are sending to Bangladesh, Pakistan or any other country?

**CORRESPONDENT:** Will you send your son or daughter to Afghanistan?

**SHOWKAT:** Why should I send to Afghanistan? Have I sent my kids to Bangladesh or Pakistan?

would start delivering monologues on collaborators. Hundreds of retired government servants are heard using this phrase against those who are now part of the power system, or those who believe in the idea of India.

Senior journalists who have built their entire career on benefits extended to them by the government are constantly using the term 'collaborators'. Why is this word being used so much? Because it still sells in the market.

### SHOWKAT AND THE HATE RANTS

On January 6, news broke out regarding the security of the former chief ministers. The notification specified that the former CMs shall be provided security as per their present categorization, viz. Z Plus, with additional escorts/measures as per necessity and assessment of the security wing.

Kashmiri academic Sheikh Showkat Hussain lost no time to lampoon the state administration. He tweeted: "Tissue papers are destined to be thrown away after use. Security of Ex-CMs reduced from DIG level to DSP level. While they harvest fruits of their collaboration, a lesson for neo-collaborators who are desperate to step into their shoes."

This is not the first time Showkat is spewing muck. He is a pro at it. He routinely picks up any matter and manipulates it to foster hate against the state. His posts can fill the youth with disaffection for the state and radicalize them. Has Showkat ever warned his students about the consequences of radicalization?

## ama'at-e-Islami Jammu & Kashmir



### TIME TO PAUSE AND QUESTION

Who is a collaborator?

IS HE THE AGENT OF THE ENEMY STATE WHO IS INDOCTRINATING PEOPLE AT THE BEHEST OF FOREIGN AGENCIES?

Or is he is the one who is contributing to peace building and a secured future for the children?

THE REAL COLLABORATORS OF THE ENEMY COUNTRY SECURE THE FUTURE OF THEIR OWN CHILDREN. THEN WHOM ARE THEY INSTIGATING AND INDOCTRINATING? Whose future are they destroying? The children of the poor Kashmiris.

IT IS TIME THAT THE ROLES ARE REVERSED. THE REAL COLLABORATOR IS SEEN IN HIS OR HER TRUE COLOURS. HOW LONG WILL THE KASHMIRIS TOLERATE THIS HYPOCRISY AND NONSENSE OF THE ENEMY AGENTS?

Does he care that radicalization may lead to anti-social behavior or violence, misery or grief?

### DRAWING MAXIMUM BENEFITS FROM THE STATE

Showkat moved from Kashmir University to Central University to benefit from the higher retirement age at CU. He stays in the forefront to benefit from the state. Simultaneously, he is always gunning for the state. It is one thing to castigate the government. Breeding hatred against the state is another matter.

After the recent takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban, Showkat was filling up his Twitter timeline

with celebratory messages. He posted the verses of the holy Quran whose English translation is this: "Truth has come and falsehood has vanished. Falsehood is indeed bound to vanish".

By posting the verses of the holy Quran, he tried to project the Taliban in a positive light and influence the minds of the vulnerable youth. These days he is silent on the Afghanistan issue because Taliban's brutality is hidden from none.

Showkat's Twitter handle is full of toxicity. Showkat is currently serving as Principal at Law College Nowshera, Srinagar. If his hate is so deep and real, why did choose to work for the state, and for as long as he could?



# Can We Kashmiris Accept The Talibanization Of Our Beloved Valley?

# NO

by Mareaya FAYAZ

**P**ragash, a Srinagar-based all girls band was publicly chastised for competing in the Battle of the Bands, a local rock band competition. Bashiruddin Ahmad, the grand mufti of Jammu and Kashmir, issued a fatwa against the band claiming that singing is un-Islamic (Indian Express, 2013). This was the first time an all girls band was competing in such an event. While the girls were forced to withdraw from the contest, male participation in music festivals and other programs continues uninterrupted.

We see heavy criticism of the government

in Kashmir but not much indignation over gender discrimination. Religious preachers and many members of the society constantly judge women harshly and blame them for everything that goes wrong. This has been normalized.

## WHY ARE WOMEN BLAMED FOR MEN'S FAULTS?

Almost every day, women and girls are blamed for being harassed on roads or on social media. Nobody questions the men or

the boys for harassing women. Is it that our society needs someone to blame for its shortcomings, and women are an easy target?

It is painful to observe that we as a people are misogynistic. Women are bitterly judged over everything. It seems to be an attempt to keep us silent all our lives, and never have a voice or identity of our own.

I have grown up observing that the men are conditioned to believe that they are not at fault even if they do the worst of things. I remember a Facebook post. It was a news report by a local newspaper of a girl named Nadiya. She was lauded for her work addressing child sexual abuse.

Some young men posted comments that women and children should be dressed properly. Their dressing creates wrong intentions. I was shocked to see that many youngsters, including girls, commented that women enjoy being harassed. That is why they dress inappropriately. A young man criticized Nadiya. He wrote that she should cover herself in a burkha and then teach others about sexual abuse.

This is not an isolated incident. It is common in Kashmir that a woman is morally policed publicly even though she is the one making a significant contribution to society.

Watch pages of women who are social media influencers. You will find abuses hurled at them by males and even females. The trolls do not even spare the parents and relatives of these social media figures. It is not that all the people in the Valley cuss them. But some express their hate in a very disturbing manner. They threaten these women,



**Preacher Mr Mushtaq Veeri never takes into account how he harshly stereotypes women in his speeches. Mr Veeri, don't judge women or girls harshly. It hurts**

they call them names, troll them and their families. They even make personal comments about them. How reprehensible this is, and how sad.

What also encourages these trolls are the lectures delivered by some religious preachers. While preaching about religion, they target women and judge them so severely.

## MR MUSHTAQ VEERI STEREOTYPES WOMEN

Once a friend sent me a lecture by Mr Mushtaq Veeri in which he was preaching about morality. He said parents do not watch over their daughters. He said when you ask the parents where their

daughter is, they will casually say that she has gone nearby with her brother's friend.

This statement is seemingly so simple. But Mr Veeri said it in such an accusing manner. With this one statement, he stereotyped a simple Kashmiri girl so negatively. Why? Mr Veeri never takes into account how he harshly stereotypes women in his speeches. He portrays them as property that needs to be guarded, kept hidden and placed under a lock perhaps.

Why Mr Veeri? I too am the child of Allah (SWT). When you preach about religion, I want to hear about my beautiful religion. I too want to know how I can practice my religion in a better way. But don't judge women or girls harshly. It hurts.

### DR MANZOOR BLAMES WOMEN FOR CARRYING COLOURFUL BAGS

Another preacher Dr Manzoor Ahmad Mir said in his sermon, "Women should not carry bags. Men may get attracted to those bags and may get wrong feelings about the woman. Women should carry their books in a gunny bag in order to protect themselves."

Then he said that burkha-clad women do not cover themselves properly. In their WhatsApp status, they post photographs dressed in abayas of different colours.

We are such a glorious, wonderful society. I am so proud to be a Muslim and a Kashmiri. But why are our preachers being so harsh to women and girls? Why are they conveying that a man can get into a wrong act if a woman is wearing a coloured abaya or carrying a colourful bag?

Why are they never telling the men to act in a noble manner? Do they realize that their statements put the women and girls in a very vulnerable position? Our preachers are giving the message to men and boys that you are not responsible for any wrong act. It is not your fault. The woman or girl should have worn a black abaya and carried a gunny bag.

At such times I want to cry and tell these preachers that this is Kashmir. This is not Afghanistan of the Taliban. Please don't make it the Afghanistan of the Taliban. We have our history. We have our culture. Please don't erase our history and culture.

It also occurred to me that this preacher has saved the number of girls in his phone. And he looks at their WhatsApp status and their



**Preacher Dr Manzoor said women should not carry colourful bags. I want to tell these preachers that this is Kashmir. Please don't make it Afghanistan of the Taliban. Please don't erase our history and culture**

clothes and the colours of their abaya. He reduces women to mere objects who cannot exercise any choice regarding the colour of their abaya or the colour of their bag.

Because of these kind of lectures, the men of our society believe that they are godfathers and they must moral police the girls all the time.

Because of the influence of such moulvis, everything bad that is happening is blamed on the women of our society. After the devastating flood of 2014, social media was flooded with comments of men saying that people of Kashmir faced punishment because of how women dress, they wear palazzos, they wear makeup etc.

The newspaper reports said that flood channels of the Jhelum had been blocked by encroachment and

rampant colonization. The corrupt colonizers, builders, engineers and contractors did not provide proper dams and water channels to divert the flood water. But a number of people chose to express their opinion that the women did not follow the proper dress code.

### WHY SUPPRESS OR SUBJUGATE WOMEN?

I see so many people who want to always want to suppress and subjugate women in one way or another. When I was doing LLM at Kashmir University, a senior told me that I should dress more appropriately. Jeans and coats are not something that a grown up woman should wear. This guy had the audacity to tell me that they are

## Dukhtaran-e-Millat Promotes Burqa-Clad Faceless Woman As Cultural Icon

Organisations like Dukhtaran-e-Millat present a burqa-clad faceless woman as a cultural icon. This vigilante group conducts raids using threatening and dubious techniques. Their assumption is that the houses have been turned into brothels. They mercilessly regulate romantic relationships between college-bound young men and women.

The members of Dukhtaran-e-Milat are making attempts to reconstitute Kashmir's historical and cultural discourses. It seems that they want to inspire some cultural nationalism that their fundamentalist politics necessitates. They are striving for some kind of unified, monolithic culture which erases the traditional liberties enjoyed by Kashmiri women.

Their harsh policies and purdah enforcement procedures support a patriarchal society in which women are rendered faceless. This is an attempt to Talibanize Kashmir's syncretic ethos.

I shall be proud of Dukhtaran-e-Milat if they campaign for quota for women in our Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council, Parliament and the Judiciary. Why are they promoting a faceless woman? A faceless woman is not our Kashmir. Can we Kashmiris accept the Talibanization of our beloved Valley? No.



tual and intellectual freedoms to be curbed. Kashmir has been ruled by four women rulers as mentioned in Kalhana's Rajtarangini namely Yashovati of Gonda Dynasty, Sugandha of Utpala Dynasty, Didda

of Viradeva Dynasty and the last queen was Kota Rani. We had a woman chief minister. We are proud to have a heritage where women have wielded power and authority.

going to write an application to the VC to make abaya mandatory for women studying in the university.

Is this the Kashmir that we want to build? Where the men decide the way the women can dress?

Some women are no less. In the university, once a burkha-clad woman came to me. She told me that I should not wear jeans and a coat. She said my dressing represented my community in a bad manner.

I am the child of Allah (SWT) and I am the child of this soil. I am aware of the rights and wrongs that I must abide by. Why should someone else dictate the rights or wrongs to me? Allah (SWT) has not given him or her any moral authority to do so.

Some of our preachers have constant khutbas on the clothing or makeup of women. They blame parents for sending their daughters to study in different states. It seems to me that we have created two Kashmiris. One Kashmir believes that our women, like our men, can achieve great heights if they get the right opportunities. Another Kashmir believes that women should be kept hidden in their homes.

But our history and culture has been of a glorious civilization. Our culture and ideology cherishes the verses of Lalla Ded, who defied the odds by crossing the threshold of her husband's house in order to live the life of an ascetic. Lalla Ded overturned the reliance on male authority. She chose to break the mold of patriarchy in a suffocating society by not allowing her spiri-

**I shall be proud of Dukhtaran-e-Milat if they campaign for quota for women in our Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council, Parliament and the Judiciary. Why are they promoting a faceless woman?**

# Blooms of Kashmir



A beatific, angelic smile. The gentle expression on her face. These were the first things I observed about Abida Parveen. And also that despite her years, she has a child-like innocence on her face.

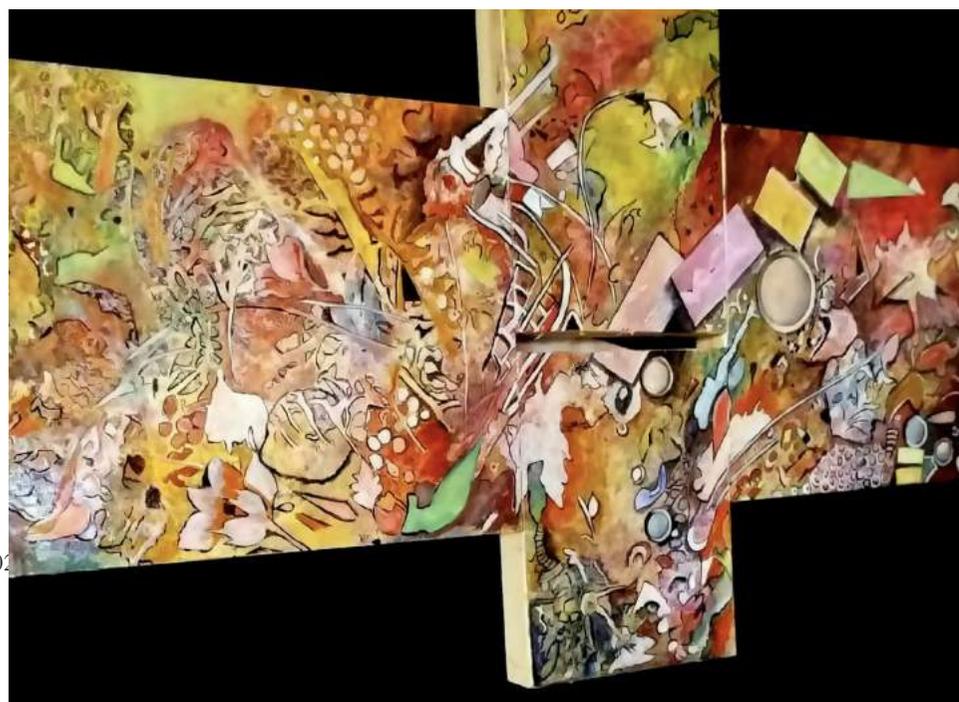
Then I remembered what had introduced me to her in the first place. Her amazing artwork on Cashmere, Wool, Silk, Cotton and Canvas. Her art is a riot of colours. It is like witnessing Kashmir through the various seasons. Now the blooms of sonth, now our lakes and meadows in grishum, now the oranges and rusts of harud, now the soft whites and ivories of shishur and more.

I later learnt that Abida is a self-taught artist who retired as a professor of chemistry from Government Amar Singh College, Srinagar. There is so much dexterity and harmony in her art. It seems like the special gift of Allah (SWT) that flows through her hands on all that she touches with her brushes and colours.

The patterns that she creates are original inspirations. The themes are botanicals, abstracts, cubist and monochromes. It is inspiring to know that Abida always uses only certified eco-friendly dyes.

Art has been Abida's abiding hobby since childhood. She could not devote much time to it earlier because of studies, marriage, children and family responsibilities. After retirement, she decided to explore her hobby to its full potential.

Abida is joyous that her family and extended family have supported her through this journey of traversing into the world of art. The in-



spiration to paint on Cashmere came because Abida wanted to create something that was uniquely Kashmiri. She was also keen to preserve the special features of Cashmere like its texture, softness, look, warmth and touch. All of these wonderful features remain intact after her artwork on the beautiful wools and fabrics.

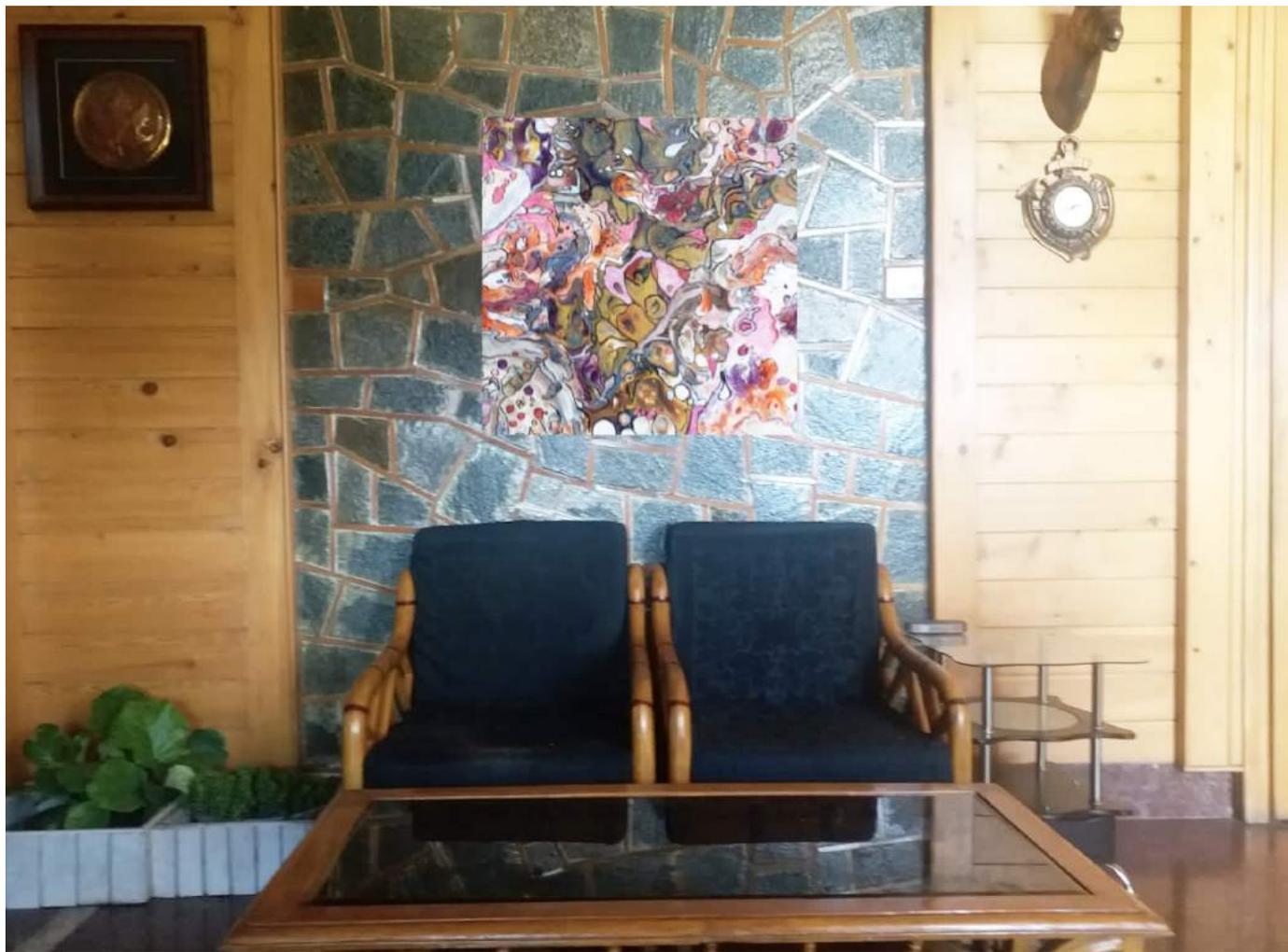
Abida finds life in art. "Artistic pursuit is the essence of my existence, the purest, noblest and most inspirational part of my being. Thorough art, the child within strives for purpose and place in life," she says with charming simplicity.

Everything she makes is hand-crafted, and all products are sold online. Abida is planning to explore the international market and open a shop locally. Abida has named her products Bega, her mother's name. It is her way of lovingly remembering her mother and carrying forward her legacy.

Abida encourages the youth to explore their talents and pursue their hobbies. Their hobby can be their chosen career if pursued with excellence. If not, it shall always be their special oasis of peace and joy in life. Abida advocates that the government can come up with schemes to give young artists the opportunities to use their talents to become self-dependent.



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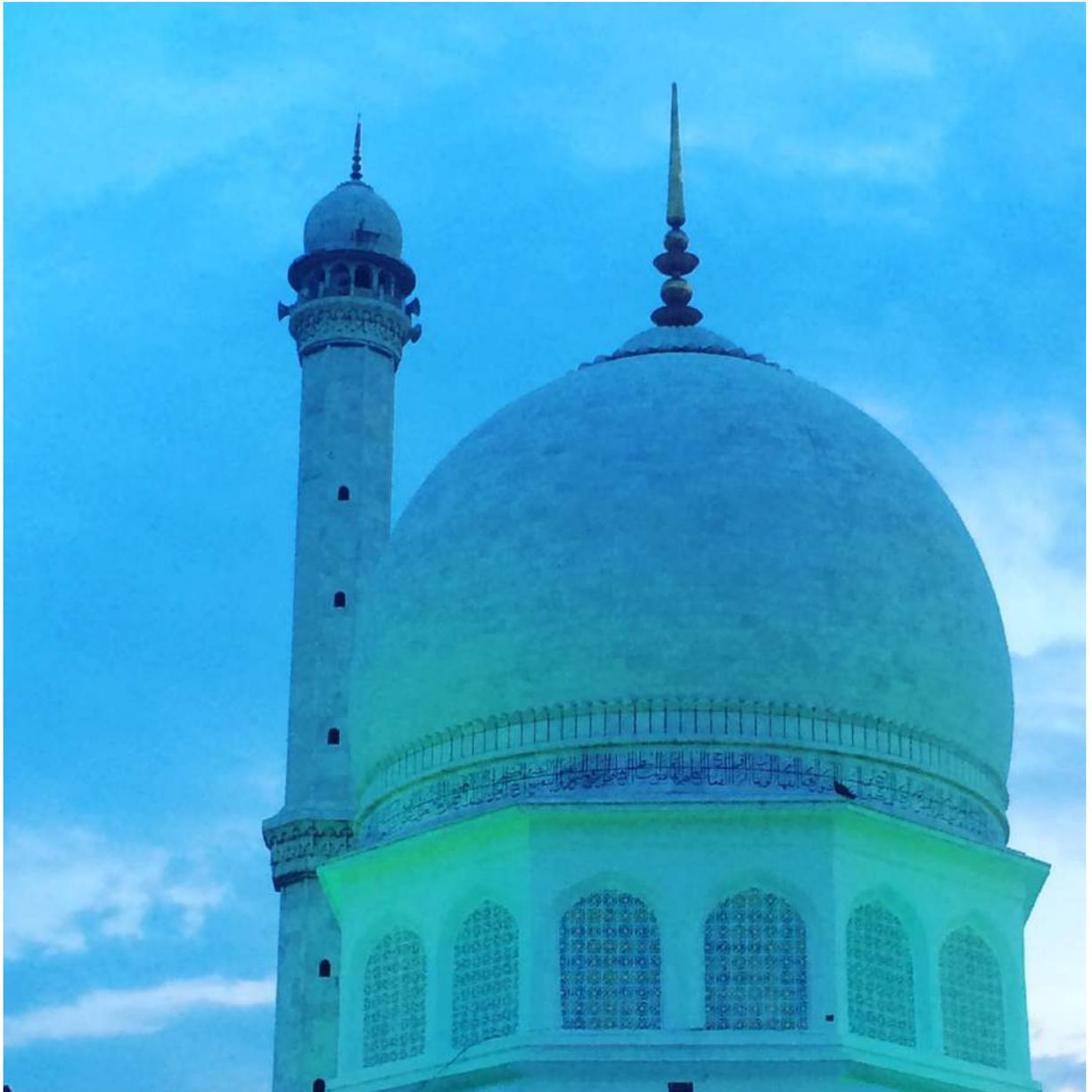
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