

Weekly POK News Digest

(A weekly news digest on Pakistan Occupied Kashmir)

Volume 3 | Issue 21

22 May - 28 May 2023

Wheat scandal Gilgit-Baltistan POK
G20 summit
fake state subjects
fake degree SCO
new coordinators
no-confidence move



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR
DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES
मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

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Political Developments

'IIOJK's refugees' delegation calls on Bilawal Bhutto Zardari

Pakistan Observer, 23 May 2023

A delegation of refugees hailing from 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK), called on Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in Muzaffarabad and apprised him of its reservations regarding the G-20 meeting being held in Srinagar. The delegation appreciated the role of the foreign minister concerning the Kashmir freedom movement. The delegation also informed about the 'brutalities' by 'Indian forces' against the refugees coming to 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' from 'IIOJK' in 1990. The issues regarding the resettlement of the refugees were also discussed in the meeting.

<https://pakobserver.net/iiojks-refugees-delegation-calls-on-bilawal-bhutto-zardari/>

G20 summit, China and 'IIOK'

The Nation, 24 May 2023

After China's refrain and many others, the G-20 tourism conference in 'occupied Kashmir' has lost its global writ as well as worth. India tried to play big but the gambit has backfired. China's resolute boycott of the G20 tourism conference in 'Indian Illegally Occupied Kashmir' (IIOK) from 22-24 May is a powerful demonstration of its unwavering commitment to its principled foreign policy. Beijing's

opposition to conducting G-20 meetings in disputed territories exemplifies its unflinching dedication to non-interference and respect for national sovereignty. This position is consistent with China's foreign policy of defending its sovereignty while respecting the sovereignty of others. At a news briefing in Beijing, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said China will not attend a G20 tourism meeting next week in disputed Jammu and Kashmir: 'China is firmly opposed to holding any kind of G20 meetings in disputed territory and will not attend,' Wang Wenbin stated.

The Chinese move was in response to India's 'illegal annexation' of 'IIOJK', a Muslim-majority state, to create Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on 5 August 2019. Since a 2020 military skirmish in Ladakh killed 24 soldiers, New Delhi-Beijing relations have deteriorated. China prioritizes regional stability and avoids entanglements in complex disputes by maintaining neutrality in the Kashmir conflict. This principled approach not only guarantees the welfare of China's people but also positions China as a responsible global power that upholds international norms and promotes peaceful territorial dispute resolutions. Given Kashmir's proximity to China's western border and its strategic location, China must maintain a vigilant posture. This resolute defense policy reinforces China's position as a

staunch defender of its national interests and deters potential threats. China's support for Pakistan's condemnation of India's actions in the 'IIOK' is indicative of the strong and enduring affinity between the two countries.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) are two prominent examples of how China's strategic partnership with Pakistan has been consistently strengthened through various initiatives. China's support for Pakistan's position on 'IIOK' reflects its understanding of the region's intricate dynamics. China not only manifests solidarity by supporting Pakistan's condemnation of India's actions but also protects its strategic interests. Due to its contested status and its potential impact on regional stability, Kashmir is of tremendous geopolitical importance. China's support for Pakistan balances the influence of other key regional powers in the region.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/24-May-2023/g20-summit-china-and-iiook>

Srinagar G20 Moot: A Blow to India's Attempt to Normalize 'Occupation' of Kashmir

Pakistan Observer, 25 May 2023

India's ongoing attempt to normalize its 'occupation' of Kashmir has suffered a serious setback as several G20 countries have refused to attend the moot in Srinagar. The decision by

several nations to boycott the G20 event in the 'Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IOJK) highlights the international community's concerns and firm stance against holding meetings in disputed territories. China, in particular, took the lead in boycotting the Srinagar G20 meeting, joined by countries like Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, and Egypt. This diplomatic setback for India reflects growing solidarity with the oppressed people of 'IOJK' and raises questions about India's attempts to normalize its 'illegal hold' on Kashmir.

It is a clear message to India that the international community does not recognize or endorse its claim over the region. The boycott signifies the growing concerns about the plight of the Kashmiri people and emphasizes the need for a just and peaceful resolution to the Kashmir dispute. This boycott casts a shadow over the legitimacy of India's claims and raises doubts about its ability to effectively lead the G20. The international community has expressed concerns about India's handling of the Kashmir issue and its disregard for the rights guaranteed to the Kashmiri people by the United Nations Security Council. The ongoing situation in 'IOJK' raises concerns about press freedom, as journalists continue to face attacks and restrictions on their work. Journalists operating in the region face challenges in reporting the ground realities and providing unbiased coverage. The

militarized normalcy enforced by India, including arrests, raids, surveillance, and persecution, further undermines India's claim that normalcy has returned to 'IOJK.' The international community has closely scrutinized India's actions and intentions in the region. The refusal of countries to attend the Srinagar G20 meeting serves as a reminder to India that the issue of Kashmir cannot be brushed aside or resolved unilaterally. India must recognize the significance of this diplomatic setback and engage in constructive dialogue to address the concerns of the international community. The heavy security presence and restrictions imposed on the local population contradict India's claims of normalcy. The militarization of Srinagar, turning it into a military fortress for the G20 meeting, further raises questions about India's commitment to democratic principles and respect for human rights.

<https://pakobserver.net/srinagar-g20-moot-a-blow-to-indias-attempt-to-normalize-occupation-of-kashmir/>

Pakistan did not engage with India at SCO due to its actions in Kashmir: Bilawal

Pakistan Today, 25 May 2023

Minister for Foreign Affairs Bilawal Bhutto said his office had taken a principal stance not to seek bilateral connection with his Indian counterparts at the SCO meeting due to

the latter's actions in Kashmir in 2019. Briefing the Senate's Standing Committee on foreign affairs on the SCO meeting he attended in India earlier this year, he said it was a difficult decision to take after India's actions in Kashmir in 2019, adding that he had, at first, no interest in participating in the SCO meeting for emotional reasons. But 'I sat to deliberate and decided to join as it was a multilateral meeting,' he added. He continued by saying that he also used the forum meeting to meet FMs of other countries, except one, to strike meaningful dialogue. He went on to say that the other point his office considered that its founding members were Russia and China, our all-weather friends. As the PDM took over, it has made the SCO and Central Asian countries its priority, he added. He said the host gave the Pakistani delegation full protocol during the meeting, adding that Indian FM Jaishankar acted professionally. But 'I deplore that he used some words behind my back,' he added. Why we would allow them to go unchallenged, he asked.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2023/05/25/pakistan-did-not-engage-with-india-at-sco-due-to-its-actions-in-kashmir-bilawal/>

11 killed in G-B's Astore avalanche

The Express Tribune, 27 May 2023

At least 11 people were killed while 13 others were injured in an avalanche on Shounter Top in the Astore district of

Gilgit-Baltistan (G-B). According to the GB Disaster Management Authority (DMA) reports, the incident occurred when people belonging to the Gujjar community were coming from Kashmir towards Astore. Of the 11 people who died in the incident, the GB DMA said, the bodies of eight had been recovered while the search for the rest was ongoing. It added that 12 of the injured, who had been shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital Astore for treatment, were in critical condition. A control room has been set up in the district to facilitate the rescue operation and recover the people trapped under the debris. Officials said that those who were affected by the incident were nomads. The helicopter service of the Force Command Northern Areas has been procured for the rescue operation, which could not be started due to bad weather, the G-B DMA added. An emergency has also been declared at the hospitals of Gilgit, Astore, and Skardu.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2418834/11-killed-in-g-bs-astore-avalanche>

CM GB appoints 14 new coordinators to counter likely no-confidence move or disqualification

Pakistan Today, 27 May 2023

In anticipation of a possible vote of no confidence or disqualification, the Chief Minister of Gilgit Baltistan (GB), Muhammad Khalid Khurshid, who is facing allegations of possessing a fake

degree, has appointed 14 new coordinators, bringing the total number of his team to 24. The move is seen as an attempt to galvanize his support base and strengthen his position. In addition to the 24 coordinators, the Chief Minister's cabinet already comprises 12 ministers, two advisers, and five special assistants. Political analysts have expressed concerns that this large number of positions places a heavy burden on the limited budget of the regional government. These newly appointed 14 coordinators will serve at the pleasure of the Chief Minister and will receive a fixed monthly salary of Rs 150,000. The addition of these 14 coordinators brings the total number of public office holders in the Chief Minister's team to over 45. It is worth noting that there were already 10 coordinators, including two media coordinators, representing the Chief Minister in Islamabad.

The GB government had previously amended the rules of business to allow for the creation of these 10 coordinator positions. With the inclusion of 24 coordinators, along with the speaker, deputy speaker, focal person to the Chief Minister, political secretary to the CM, and four parliamentary secretaries, the total number of public office holders in GB reaches around 50. This is significantly larger than the total number of members from the ruling party and its allies in the GB Legislative Assembly, which is only 23. Critics have raised concerns about the large

size of the cabinet, given that the region has a population of only 1.6 million. According to the constitution, the cabinet can have a maximum of 11 percent of the total strength of the parliament, with each cabinet member required to be a member of parliament. In GB, this would mean there could be only four cabinet members, including the Chief Minister. However, through the Self-Governance Ordinance of GB introduced by the Pakistan People's Party in 2009, the suggested size of the GB cabinet was increased to nine members, including six ministers, two advisers, and the Chief Minister. The PTI government in GB has expanded the cabinet and the number of office holders to around 50 members, including the Chief Minister, which is 151 percent of the total number of GBLA members (33), far exceeding the 11 percent limit set by the constitution of Pakistan.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2023/05/27/cm-gb-appoints-14-new-coordinators-to-counter-likely-no-confidence-move-or-disqualification/>

Mushaal urges the PM, and FM to raise voices for Yasin Malik's safe release

Pakistan Today, 28 May 2023

Mushaal Hussein Mullick, the Chairperson of Peace and Culture Organisation and wife of jailed Kashmiri Hurriyat leader, Muhammad Yasin Malik, has urged the government of Pakistan to raise the issue of senior

Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik's detention at all fora globally because the 'notorious Narendra Modi fascist regime' is hell-bent to silence the most powerful voice of Kashmir freedom movement forever. Mushaal in a statement expressed alarm that the 'fascist government' would eliminate Yasin Malik, as India's infamous National Investigation Agency (NIA) again sought the death sentence for him, after he was given life in prison in a concocted and politically motivated case on 25 May last year for his crime to raise voice for the right to self-determination of Kashmiris. She demanded that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari should take up the case of Yasin Malik before the world leaders and at relevant UN forums and human rights organizations to protect his life. The Hurriyat leader stated that her husband's life was in danger because the Indian authorities could not buy his loyalty; hence they now resorted to hanging him to silence the most popular leader of the contemporary Kashmiri freedom fight. She said that it was high time for the Pakistani government to play a proactive role to not only save his life but to build maximum pressure on the Indian government to ensure his release from illegal detention.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2023/05/28/mushaal-urges-pm-fm-to-raise-voice-for-yasin-maliks-safe-release/>

JKLF condemns NIA's move against Yasin

Pakistan Observer, 28 May 2023

In 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK), the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) has strongly denounced the Indian nefarious move to ask the Delhi High Court for a death sentence against its Chairman, Muhammad Yasin Malik, in 'fake and concocted cases' filed against him by National Investigation Agency (NIA). The JKLF in a statement issued in Srinagar said that to regain the declining political situation of the 'ruling extremist party' of India, the BJP government is hell-bent upon punishing Yasin Malik for his peaceful and non-violent political beliefs.

<https://pakobserver.net/jklf-condemns-nias-move-against-yasin/>

'AJK' celebrates the Silver Jubilee of nuclear tests conducted

Pakistan Today, 28 May 2023

The silver jubilee of nuclear tests by Pakistan was commemorated in 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) with zeal and fervor to remember nuclear tests conducted on this day in 1998. Speakers in special ceremonies, hosted to mark youm-e-takbeer in various parts of 'AJK' including Mirpur and the capital city of Muzaffarabad to celebrate the historic day, renewed the pledge to lend all of the energies to make Pakistan strong and prosperous.

PML-N 'AJK' Chapter's President Shah Ghulam Qadir asked his party workers across 'AJK' to manage special ceremonies at all district headquarters to celebrate the day. The speakers said that a strong and prosperous Pakistan in all manners including in the defence and economic sectors is the guarantee to the freedom of Kashmir.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2023/05/28/ajk-celebrates-silver-jubilee-of-nuclear-tests-conduct/>

Economic Developments

The federation should guarantee the supply of 16 lakh sacks of wheat: GB Assembly

Dailyk2, 25 May 2023

A resolution adopted by the Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Assembly directs the federal government to provide GB with 1.6 million sacks of local wheat annually and an extra 5 billion annually for the following three years to make GB self-sufficient in wheat production. The resolution in addition to expressing concern about the province's wheat situation, also urged the federal government to consider the strategic location of GB for defence and strategic reasons. The resolution further said that a special committee would try to solve the wheat situation as swiftly as possible through meetings with federal government officials to avoid the region's malnutrition and the widely anticipated public outrage. This joint resolution was introduced by the

Minister of Information, planning and Development, Fethullah Khan, with the support from GB Minister of Finance Javaid Ali Manwa, the Leader of the Opposition Amjad Hussain, and Rehmat Khaliq of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F) among others. After the resolution was approved, Amjad Zaidi, the speaker of the GB Assembly, announced the formation of a special committee made up of seven people to supervise its implementation. Fathullah Khan asserted that hardly any action had been taken by the federal government on the vital issue of wheat subsidies and that just political speech and debate had taken place. He stated that after conversations regarding the wheat issue in the GB cabinet, everyone concluded that it required a lot of attention. He asserted that GB is an important region of Pakistan and the ancestral land of our forebears who fought for Pakistan and that the state of Pakistan should see the GB issue as one that affects all of Pakistan.

<https://www.dailyk2.com/Post/14421>

Government-run Bo-'AJK's remittances jumped to a record high of 6.76 billion

Pakistan Observer, 26 May 2023

The public-sector Bank of 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (BoAJK) has crossed another milestone in home remittances while continuing to make significant progress toward

development. This was disclosed in a high-level review meeting that the financial institution of the state was achieving business goals under the patronage of the government coupled with the support of customers. The meeting further noted that remittances increased to a record high of 6.76 billion due to the strong trust of customers around the world and the effective strategy of the organization.

<https://pakobserver.net/govt-run-boajks-remittances-jumps-to-record-high-of-rs-6-76b/>

Wheat scandal in GB

The Nation, 28 May 2023

The federal government provides a subsidy of 10 billion for 1.5 million bags of wheat, each weighing 40 kg. However, it has been alleged that 400,000 kg of wheat did not reach the general public but instead was provided to the elites and went missing during transit. This issue has been raised by opposition members as a matter of great importance, but the Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Chief Minister (CM) failed to provide a satisfactory reply. The scandal requires a thorough inquiry into the case to determine responsibility and ensure necessary actions are taken.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/28-May-2023/wheat-scandal-in-gb>

From Vernacular Urdu Media

Despite hosting the G-20 summit in Srinagar, India failed to generate the requisite interest: 'AJK' President

UrduPoint, 23 May 2023

Several significantly important nations, including China, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Egypt, Indonesia, and Mexico, declined to participate in the G-20 conference held in the 'disputed territory', which the president of 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK), Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry, claims has been a major diplomatic setback for India. He claimed that India's decision to hold the G-20 conference in the 'disputed region' is a violation of the UN resolutions on Kashmir, adding that on the one hand, key stakeholders' refusal to participate in the discussion has highlighted the contentious legacy of the ongoing dispute and, on the other, Kashmiris' worldwide protests on that day have globalized the Kashmir issue. He said that there were demonstrations in over 15 cities, including New York, London, and several nations in Europe, including Brussels. India has begun substantial changes in 'occupied Kashmir' since 5 August to 'illegally seize' the region.

He claimed that the Indian government could not mislead the world on Kashmir. The world is well aware that India has around 900,000 military and paramilitary personnel stationed in the 'occupied region', adding that it is

unclear what kind of tourism can be marketed in the area, which has been dubbed the world's most militarized zone. He criticized the Indian government for its 'oppressive practices' towards minorities, particularly Muslims, claiming that growing xenophobia and intolerance within Indian culture will cause India to fall apart and that PM Modi would end up becoming the Gorbachev of India.

<https://www.urduPoint.com/pakistan/news/islamabad/kashmir/live-news-3593042.html>

Fighting against the fake state subjects in 'Azad Kashmir:' Tahir Khokhar

UrduPoint, 23 May 2023

According to Muhammad Tahir Khokhar, a former parliamentary leader and minister of tourism and transportation, our fight in 'Azad Kashmir' is against the holder of 'fake state subject,' so that the black market for false state subjects using the names of Kashmiris and refugees who live in Pakistan and 'Azad Kashmir' can be shut down. He asserts that wealthy and powerful people have created their fictitious state subject and that migrant Kashmiris are being denied their constitutional rights. He claimed that while the real Kashmiri refugees are suffering, the rights and quotas intended for them are distributed to non-Kashmiris. According to Khokhar, certain PTI members entered the state

legislature using fictitious state subjects, whose resident state is fictitious, and who are not Kashmiris but rather non-Kashmiris. He continued by saying that these non-Kashmiri members also hold positions like deputy commissioners and are encamped in various offices, where they are attempting to sway the media by using their resources to make it appear as though they are residents of Kashmir. The actions would be taken against the non-Kashmiri elements who have made a mockery of Kashmiri citizenship to promote their power and fortune, he said, adding that courts will be approached with all evidence and that persons involved will be exposed.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaffarabad/kashmir/live-news-3593044.html>

I represent both 'Azad' and 'occupied' Kashmir in my capacity as foreign minister of Pakistan: Bilawal Bhutto Zardari

Urdupoint, 23 May 2023

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari while speaking to a crowd in Bagh, 'Azad Kashmir,' who were protesting India's violations of international law and UN resolutions by holding the G20 meeting in 'Indian Illegally Occupied Kashmir' (IIOK), claimed that the world is watching the drama that PM Modi is directing in 'occupied region' while the Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC) and their representatives in Pakistan are expressing solidarity

with their Kashmiri brethren. In addition to federal and provincial delegations, Bilawal complimented the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) and Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI) for joining the anti-Indian marches. Despite ideological and political differences between political parties, he claimed that he represents the entire country worldwide. He asserted that Kashmir continues to be his top priority in every international interaction and noted that as the country's foreign minister, 'I speak not only for Pakistan but also for 'Azad Kashmir' and 'Occupied Kashmir.' He asserted that despite the short-term internal problems Pakistan is currently facing, our generational relationship with Kashmir is one of fraternity, that Quaid-e-Azam has vowed to fight for a millennium, and that we will always stand arm in arm with our brothers from Kashmir because we are the children of martyrs and this is their motherland.

Bilawal said that according to UN resolutions, conducting a vote is the only way to resolve the Kashmir issue, which affects not only India and Pakistan but the entire world. He said that Indian representatives call us terrorists in reaction when I discuss the rights granted to the Kashmiri people by the UN. They claim that we are representing terrorists whenever we discuss the Kashmiri people and their rights. When we too are affected by it and its victims, how can they accuse us of supporting terrorism? The fact that

India is ruled by an Islamophobic, religiously driven political party is not our concern, Bilawal claimed. When I refer to a 'butcher' by his name, they label me, the son of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, a 'terrorist,' Bilawal said. He claimed such deferential reactions are something India has become accustomed to. The world has seen the true faces of those who called us terrorists and fanatics.

Bilawal claimed that the struggle of the Kashmiri people has made the world more open to seeing India as it truly is. Any chance we get, we don't let the world forget about Kashmir. When we presided over meetings of the G77 or the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), we did so to bring up the subject of Kashmiri's right to a referendum. Benazir Bhutto has fought for her Kashmiri brothers to have observer status at OIC. The closing remarks at the OIC Foreign Ministers' meeting were delivered by the president of 'Azad Kashmir.' He said that it has recently been decided that we will go to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Goa even though we have not begun a meaningful engagement with India since August 2019. The decision to deny India an open pitch and present Pakistan's case to SCO officials was made with foresight. We behaved in a way that complied with the rules and laws of the SCO to present an accurate picture of Muslims, Pakistanis, and Kashmiris.

He claimed that the Samjhauta Express case proves that true terrorism originates in Gujrat and that, as a pro-peace party, we would be prepared to negotiate with India once the situation with 'India's Illegal Occupied Kashmir' was reversed. A tourism workshop is being held in Srinagar. Who are they? The Kashmiri populace should benefit from their labor rather than Delhi.

With 90 000 soldiers and 90% of 'occupied Kashmir' being like a prison, what kind of tourism are they advocating? It won't be long before the people of Kashmir exercise their right to vote and hold plebiscites to gain freedom. The people of Kashmir seek liberation not through the might of the gun but through the might of democracy. He claimed that why is the so-called largest running democracy in the world terrified of the Kashmiri people and their right to freedom if it is indeed what it claims to be? He said that we are grateful to all the countries who have taken a principled stand following UN resolutions and international norms and decided to skip this tourism convention. We, therefore, salute all of the nations who declined Modi and the G20's invitation on behalf of the Kashmiri people, especially our Chinese, Saudi, and Turkish brothers, and sisters. You can look at any international newspaper to see whether India has succeeded in portraying Kashmir as an area that has returned to normalcy, he added. When hundreds of their soldiers are still

stationed in Kashmir, how can they convey a message of normalization?

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaffarabad/kashmir/live-news-3593064.html>

India cannot silence Kashmiris by hosting the G20 summit in 'occupied Kashmir:' GB CM

Pamir Times, 23 May 2023

In response to India hosting the G-20 summit in 'occupied Kashmir,' Chief Minister of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Khalid Khurshid, claimed that by rejecting the summit in Srinagar, the people of 'occupied Kashmir' had shown the rest of the world that India is 'illegally occupying' the region. He claimed that Kashmiris would never agree to India's 'colonization' of the region and will not allow India to muzzle their voice by organizing a gathering like the G-20. He asserted that people in 'occupied Kashmir' are opposing Indian policies and that India had attempted to convince the outside world that conditions in Kashmir had improved, but that their efforts had been rebuffed by the fervent Kashmiris. India has made it apparent to the world that it does not respect international law and that, by hosting the G-20 conference in Srinagar, it has defied the Security Council's resolutions. In light of UN decisions, according to Khalid Khurshid, the international community now has a substantial responsibility to play its part in ensuring that the oppressed and underprivileged people of 'occupied Kashmir' have access to

their fundamental rights. In addition to drawing attention to the detrimental situation in 'occupied Jammu and Kashmir', China and Saudi Arabia's decision to boycott the G-20 conference made it clear to the rest of the world that 'Indian atrocities' and supremacy over the oppressed Kashmiri people cannot be condoned. He claimed that the true face and plot of India have finally been revealed to the world.

<https://urdu.pamirtimes.net/2023/05/23/asd-2766/>

In the name of the G-20 Conference, India's game in 'occupied Kashmir' was a failure: Chairman of All Pakistan Ulema Council

Jasarat, 24 May 2023

The chairman of the All Pakistan Ulema Council (APUC), Hafiz Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi, claimed that India's attempt to use the G-20 card in the region of 'occupied Kashmir' had failed horribly. While expressing his gratitude to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, China, Turkey, and Indonesia, Ashrafi declared that the G-20 summit in India had been a complete failure due to the lack of meaningful government participation. These powerful economies have made it clear that 'occupied Kashmir' is a disputed region and that holding a summit there would be illegal under international law.

<https://www.jasarat.com/2023/05/24/indias-game-in-occupied-kashmir-in-the-name-of-g20-has-failed-hafiz-tahir-mahmood-ashrafi/>

Social Media (tweets)

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari
[@BBhuttoZardari](#)

22 May 2023

We have not forgotten the massacre of Muslims in the Jammu and Kashmir region in 1947. They were among the first martyrs – FM at the Legislative Assembly of Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

#NoToG20inKashmir

<https://twitter.com/MediaCellPPP/status/1660626569810022400>

Naz Baloch [@NazBaloch_](#)

23 May 2023

Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, staged a protest gathering in 'Azad Kashmir' to voice his opposition to the G-20 summit meeting India is hosting in Jammu and Kashmir.

#NoToG20inKashmir

https://twitter.com/NazBaloch_/status/1660994152618684419

Naqeeb Ullah [@naqeebt](#)

23 May 2023

Count down of Speaker GB Assembly starts from tonight. Most probably next havoc will victimize CM GB Khalid Khursheed.

Pray for best departure.

<https://twitter.com/naqeebt/status/1661018826971172864>

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Disclaimer

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