

# Weekly POK News Digest

*(A weekly news digest on Pakistan Occupied Kashmir)*

Volume 4 | Issue 35

26 August - 01 September 2024

**Karachi Agreement POK**  
**Revenue Gilgit-Baltistan**  
**Tourism Jagran development**  
**Power Projects**  
**software technology park**



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

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## Political Developments

### **‘Kashmiris fight for complete independence, not just constitutional revisions’**

Pakistan Today, 25 August 2024

All Parties Hurriyat Conference ‘Azad Jammu Kashmir’ (APHC-AJK) chapter has claimed that the people of ‘Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir’ (IIOJK) are not concerned with the restoration of constitutional provisions like Article 370 and 35-A, which was unilaterally abrogated by the Indian government on 5 August 2019. APHC-‘AJK’ leaders Sheikh Abdul Majid, Sheikh Muhammad Yaqoob, Muhammad Ashraf Dar, Abdul Majeed Lone among dozens of others in their joint statement in Islamabad said that the Indian Home Minister Amit Shah’s refusal to restore the abrogated constitutional provisions is meaningless to the Kashmiris as the struggle of the people of ‘OJK’ is not for the reinstatement of a temporary provision or farcical elections but for complete independence from the Indian hegemony.

They claimed that the abrogation of Article 370, and 35A was unconstitutional and oppressive, which was BJP’s agenda to snatch all political, social, economic and religious rights of the ‘IIOJK’ people and to strengthen its illegal occupation over Kashmir. They said despite Indian forces’ might policies, people of ‘OJK’ stand for their just demand of plebiscite

and will not give up until they reach their destination of complete independence from India. They urged the international community to recognize the legitimate aspirations of the Kashmiri people and support their struggle for justice, peace and freedom and pressure India to end its illegal occupation of the Kashmiris’ motherland.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2024/08/25/kashmiris-fight-for-complete-independence-not-just-constitutional-revisions/>

### **Election under occupation**

*Dawn, 26 August 2024*

INDIA’S election commission has announced that polls to elect the legislative assembly in Jammu and Kashmir will be held in three phases on 18, 25 September and 1 October. The Indian government is obliged to hold these by 30 September to comply with the Supreme Court verdict of December 2023, which had upheld Delhi’s 2019 abrogation of Article 370 of the constitution as ‘legal and constitutional.’ The last assembly elections took place 10 years ago. After the assembly was dissolved in 2018, the state has been under direct rule by Delhi. In August 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s government wrote another grim chapter in J&K’s tragic history by illegally annexing the state, bifurcating and absorbing it into the Indian union. This was in defiance of UN Security Council Resolutions that prohibit any material change in the

state, which is recognised as an international dispute.

Since 2019, the Modi government has carried out far-reaching changes administrative, electoral, demographic and in domicile rules to pave the way for elections with the aim of consolidating its 2019 action and claiming this has been 'accepted' by the people of J&K with 'normalcy' returning there. In fact, last month, before announcement of the election schedule, the government substantially increased the powers of the lieutenant-governor (LG), who is nominated by Delhi, to sharply limit the authority of the next 'elected' government. The Modi government has opted to maintain central control knowing that BJP or its proxies cannot win the election and being unwilling to cede authority to anyone else. The LG was given sweeping administrative and security powers – over the police, transfer and postings of civil servants, sanction for prosecution and other public order issues.

His decisions will not be subject to review by the Council of Ministers, with his nominees authorised to attend cabinet meetings. This provoked an uproar in J&K and was denounced by the national opposition as another move to disempower the people there. It was sharply criticised by both pro-India Kashmiri parties, National Conference and People's Democratic Party. Former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti described it as reducing J&K to a

municipality while Omar Abdullah said the chief minister's office had been downgraded to 'a powerless rubber stamp.' Congress condemned it as the 'murder of democracy'. It was also critiqued in its latest report by the 'Forum for Human Rights in Jammu and Kashmir,' an independent organisation comprising concerned Indian citizens.

This however was only the latest attempt to disempower the people of occupied J&K. Two key post-2019 actions aimed to reshape the electoral map and alter the state of play to the detriment of the Kashmiri people. In 2020 India's Delimitation Commission carved out new electoral constituencies with Jammu given six more seats in the 90-member J&K Assembly while Kashmir was given only one more, even though Kashmir's population far exceeds that of Jammu. This gerrymandering was designed to give Jammu greater representation to reduce the political weight of Muslims in the assembly and shift the balance to Hindus. Demographic changes through new domicile laws also sought to disenfranchise Kashmiris. After abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A, non-Kashmiri outsiders became eligible to domicile status and to enlist as voters. An indeterminate number of domicile certificates were issued over the past five years. In July 2022 even temporary residents were given voting rights. Again, this was decried in J&K as a brazen effort to change its demography.

Against the backdrop of such manipulative moves and gerrymandering what can be expected in the upcoming election albeit to a toothless assembly? What will the poll mean for the BJP government's 'consolidation' aims? It is widely predicted that Omar Abdullah's National Conference will emerge as the lead party in the election. In its election manifesto the party has pledged to fight for the restoration of Article 370, which gave J&K special status, repeal all post-2019 laws that eroded Kashmir's autonomy and work for India-Pakistan dialogue. Abdullah also made it clear that NC's first order of business would be for the assembly to adopt a resolution calling for restoration of statehood and rejecting Delhi's decision to strip J&K of its special status. If this happens it will hardly advance the BJP's agenda in the territory. In fact, a tussle between the 'elected' government and the LG will be inevitable, which far from establishing 'stability' will plunge the region into renewed political turmoil.

Then there is the engineer Rasheed factor and how it plays out in the election. Abdul Rasheed Sheikh won in the Lok Sabha elections from Baramulla. A fierce opponent of abrogation, he won from jail defeating former chief minister Omar Abdullah. Being incarcerated since 2017 on terrorism funding charges he has emerged as a symbol of defiance of Delhi. His election campaign made

waves across the Valley and drew support across the board especially from youth. His victory reflected the depth of Kashmiri anger with Delhi in what was widely seen in the Valley as a vote against India. The question then is whether his Awami Ittehad Party can build on that momentum and make a significant impact in the assembly poll.

Over the decades elections in J&K have been seen by Kashmiris as a meaningless and illegitimate exercise under Indian occupation. This has been reflected in the abysmally low public participation especially in view of boycott calls, denuding the polls of any legitimacy. However, the relatively higher voter participation in the recent Lok Sabha election suggests that casting the vote may become a 'new' form of resistance and expression of the Kashmiri aspiration for freedom. All this indicates that not only is the Modi government unlikely to achieve its aim of securing endorsement of its 2019 action but may confront new challenges from an election which gives a fillip to the popular Kashmiri demand for 'azadi'. Elections in J&K can never be a substitute for a genuine exercise of self-determination for the Kashmiri people, but the upcoming one may become a vehicle to express their rejection of occupation.

*Written by: Maleeha Lodhi*

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1854799/election-under-occupation>

## Unveiling the Karachi Agreement: Gilgit-Baltistan's Unending Constitutional Crisis

*Pamir Times, 28 August 2024*

Gilgit Baltistan (GB) formerly known as the northern areas is a region directly administered by the federal government, also called Khita-e-Be Iaen (Region without a constitution) by the local people. Due to the geo-political and geo-strategic significance and unique topography, the region was a battleground for different empires such as the Chinese Tang Dynasty, the Tibetan Empires, the local Maqpon Dynasty, and the Rajas of Hunza till the 1840s. Subsequently, the Dogra Dynasty took control of the region from 1840 to 1947-48 in a Treaty famous as Treaty Amritsar 1846. The primary focus here is to shed light on the Karachi Agreement, which reshaped the destiny of Gilgit Baltistan plunging it into an unending constitutional crisis, rather than delving into the historical explanation.

The agreement was signed secretly on 27th-28th April 1949 between Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani, the then Pakistan's minister without portfolio, Chaudary Ghulam Abbas, head of All Jammu & Kashmir Muslim Conference, and Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan, the then president of 'Azad Kashmir.' The four-page agreement is divided into three sections, the first two sections outline the administrative and financial compromises between Pakistan and 'Azad Kashmir', but surprisingly the

third and most important part deals with the division of power, only in a single line the matters of GB are transferred to Pakistan along with others including defense, negotiation with UNCIP, control over AJ&K force etc. Section III A (VIII) of the agreement is quoted as: 'All affairs of the Gilgit and Ladakh areas under the control of the Political Agent at Gilgit.'

Martin Sokelfeld a German scholar has used the word 'transfer' for the agreement by arguing that, the government of 'AJK' has practically never experienced any responsibility for GB, but because the government of Pakistan by default recognizes the 'AJK' government as legitimate for the whole of J&K, so it took the legal justification for controlling GB from 'AJK.' Moreover, he also justified by referring to Article 1 of the Treaty of Amritsar 1846, that the greater part of GB is situated on the western and northern side of the Indus River, however, territory specified in the treaty given to Gulab Singh mostly included eastern chunks of today's GB. Sajid Ali in his MPhil dissertation argues the infamous Karachi Agreement is the first and most unfortunate attempt by the Pakistani state to associate GB with the Kashmir issue, for which the people of Baltistan had fought war and got liberated from Dogra troops on 1st November 1947.

The people of GB celebrate the 1st of November as the Day of Independence (Jang Azadi-e-Gilgit) every year and

pay tribute to the heroes who have sacrificed their lives in this freedom struggle. The telegrams sent by Major Brown to Pakistani officials that are quoted in his book 'The Gilgit Rebellion 1947', depict the patriotic sentiments raising the slogans 'Pakistan Zindabad' curious to accede with Pakistan. The Pakistani state has treated the region as a colony since its accession on 16th November 1947. Major Brown further wrote in 'Gilgit Rebellion' that, despite sending several letters the Pakistani officials did not respond immediately, but sent Sardar Alam who was a political agent (Tehsildar) to take power over the region. Qasim Naseem a senior journalist and writer from GB narrates that, Muhammad Ibrahim Khan one of the signatories has denied his presence in the agreement. He further argues that, if GB as part of Kashmir is a justifiable claim, then the UK could also claim India and Pakistan to be her territory as it was a former British colony.

Indian Politician Dr Karan Singh, son of former Maharaja of Jammu & Kashmir Hari Singh publicly apologized to the people of GB for the forcible occupation of the region by his ancestors. He also said that GB is not part of Kashmir and their reunification is not possible which must be acknowledged by both Pakistan and India including the Kashmiri officials. Nosheen Ali argues in her book 'Delusional States', the government of Pakistan linked GB with the Kashmir

file to grab more votes in the case of the UN's plebiscite for the resolution of the Kashmir dispute. The pro-Pakistani sentiments among the people of GB, coupled with East Pakistan's historic decision to unite with Pakistan in 1947, both underscored common aspirations for an Islamic state that could ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens.

But, instead of providing proper governance and administrative structures, the government of Pakistan imposed a draconian and colonial rule i.e. Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR), and gave a political agent. Subsequently, in 1949 without any representation and consensus of the people of GB the secret agreement was signed with the government of 'Azad Kashmir' that amalgamated the region with Kashmir file ruining the freedom struggle of our heroes. The collective discourse among the people of GB, including nationalists, writers, poets, the youth, and various stakeholders, uniformly recognize the agreement as an unlawful act. But surprisingly, the document is still inaccessible on the websites or any other academic platform.

The larger section of people in GB haven't even read the document because of its inaccessibility, a few sections of people confuse it with the Karachi Agreement that was signed on 27 July 1949 between the military officials of India and Pakistan for a

cease-fire. However, the agreement was revealed for the first time in 1992 by the 'AJK' High Court when it ordered the 'AJK' government to take control of GB. The local people have grievances with the government of Pakistan, as it has always neglected the region since its inception in 1947 till now. Despite the formal accession of Gilgit and later on Baltistan, Pakistan has administered it as a colony by imposing FCR, not abolishing the despotic rajgiri (principality) and jagirdari (feudal) system till the 1970s, and, sidelining from mainstream politics.

The people of GB cannot cast their votes in general elections nor have representation in the National Assembly. On the other hand, the disparity in governance and political affairs between GB and 'AJK' can be seen in the current status of both regions. An autonomous setup is provisioned to 'AJK', whereas, GB is running under a self-governance order with absolute federal government control. Despite the order of the Supreme Court in 1999 emphasizing the extension of all constitutional and human rights to the people of GB, the government has failed to ensure the provision of constitutional rights. During the election year, politicians give lollipops by promising to grant constitutional status to win the election. But the times have changed, and the new generation has learned from past

experiences and deprivations and is redefining the politics in GB. The infamous Karachi Agreement lacks credibility in history and contemporary scholarly writings. Therefore today's educated young and elderly generations in GB view the Agreement as fabricated, an attempt to alter actual history.

<https://pamirtimes.net/2024/08/28/unveiling-the-karachi-agreement-gilgit-baltistans-unending-constitutional-crisis/>

### **Pakistan apprises OIC of India's attempts to consolidate occupation over Kashmir**

*Pakistan Today, 31 August 2024*

Foreign Secretary Muhammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi apprised the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) of the situation in 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK), voicing Pakistan's concerns over India's efforts to tighten its control over the region through what he described as an atmosphere of intimidation and fear. Qazi led a delegation to the two-day OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFMs) in Cameroon. On the sidelines, he also briefed a meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir, chaired by Secretary General Hissein Brahim Taha, about the situation in 'IIOJK', which witnessed administrative changes in 2019 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government revoked its special constitutional status.



The foreign secretary outlined India's attempt to consolidate its occupation over Kashmir in violation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, including by creating an environment of intimidation and fear, the foreign office said. Qazi urged India to release all political prisoners and lift curbs on political parties, as he referred to some of the measures taken by New Delhi since revoking the territory's special constitutional status. In response, the OIC Contact Group unanimously issued a communique emphasising that long-term peace and stability in South Asia depend on resolving the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2024/08/31/pakistan-appraise-oic-of-indias-attempts-to-consolidate-its-occupation-over-kashmir/>

### **'Dangerously delusional': Pakistan rejects India's stance on Kashmir**

*The Express Tribune, 1 September 2024*

In response to recent comments by India's Minister for External Affairs, S Jaishankar, on Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan's Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch reiterated that the Kashmir dispute is internationally recognised and must be resolved according to United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people. Resolution of this unresolved conflict is pivotal to peace and stability in South Asia, Baloch said. Jaishankar, had

stated that 'I think the era of uninterrupted dialogue with Pakistan is over. Actions have consequences, and insofar as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, I think Article 370 is done.' He further added, 'the issue today is what kind of relationship we can possibly contemplate with Pakistan. What I do want to say is that we are not passive, and whether events take a positive or negative direction, either way, we will react.'

In her response, Baloch firmly rejected any notion that the Jammu and Kashmir dispute has been or could be settled unilaterally. Such claims are not only misleading but dangerously delusional, as they blatantly disregard the on-ground realities. India's unilateral actions in 'IIOJK' cannot and will not change this reality, she said. Baloch emphasised that while Pakistan remains committed to diplomacy and dialogue, it will respond with resolve to any hostile actions. True peace and stability in South Asia can only be achieved through a settlement in accordance with UNSC resolutions and the inalienable rights of the Kashmiri people, she stated. Pakistan called on India to abandon its provocative rhetoric and baseless assertions about 'IIOJK' and engage in meaningful dialogue for a just and lasting resolution of the Kashmir dispute to ensure durable peace in the region.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2492760/dangerously-delusional-pakistan-rejects-indias-stance-on-kashmir>

## Zardari and Sharif honor Syed Ali Gilani on his third martyrdom anniversary

*The Nation, 1 September 2024*

President Asif Ali Zardari has paid tribute to Syed Ali Gilani, the iconic Kashmiri leader renowned for his struggle for the rights of the people in 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK). In a message, Zardari described Gilani as a beacon of hope and resistance, who inspired many Kashmiris in their quest for self-determination. He reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to advocating for the realization of the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination as outlined in United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also commemorated Syed Ali Gilani on the third anniversary of his martyrdom. Sharif emphasized that Pakistan's struggle to secure the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination will persist until the goal is achieved. He expressed that Pakistan will continue to provide moral, diplomatic, and political support to the Kashmiri people. Sharif lauded Gilani as a respected leader of the Kashmir independence movement, noting his lifelong dedication to achieving self-determination for Kashmiris. He acknowledged that despite the hardships and captivity Gilani endured, his commitment

remained unwavering, and his sacrifices will not be forgotten.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/01-Sep-2024/zardari-and-sharif-honor-syed-ali-gilani-on-his-third-martyrdom-anniversary>

## Economic Developments

### Explore Kashmir's Hidden Gem Muzaffarabad in Luxury

*Friday Times, 26 August 2024*

The hustle and bustle in the urban centres of Pakistan is effectively contrasted by the calmness of its breathtaking northern landscapes in Hunza, Swat, and the majestic Kashmir Valley, the last of which is home to an exceptional resort owned and operated by the country's leading hospitality services provider, Hashoo Group. Under the luxurious five-star Pearl-Continental brand, this hotel in Muzaffarabad hosts a large number of local and international tourists every year. With boundless natural beauty in the form of Pir Chinasi, Patika Waterfall, and the famed Neelum Valley, Pearl-Continental Hotel, Muzaffarabad offers comfort, opulence, and unparalleled services to visitors. Since its inauguration in 2007, the hotel features exciting activities within and around it, presenting guests with the chance to experience the utmost adventure, recreation, and luxury during their visit. With 100 luxurious rooms, is its seamless accessibility from urban centres like Islamabad.

The resort also hosts culinary enthusiasts, with its exceptional chefs preparing local, traditional Kashmiri cuisine, and continental delicacies with the utmost finesse, offering premium dining experiences for varying palates. For adventurous visitors seeking memorable and adrenaline-fueled experiences, paragliding at Pir Chinasi is a great way to spend the day. For families and tourists looking for the perfect chance to unwind and rejuvenate after a day of full-filled thrills, indoor games like snooker, carrom, and table tennis are also offered in addition to calming walks in the Herb Garden, cultural immersion at the handicrafts shop, and an entertaining play area for children.

<https://thefridaytimes.com/27-Aug-2024/explore-kashmir-s-hidden-gem-muzaffarabad-in-luxury>

### **SCO raises another exemplary step for development of IT in Kotli Azad Kashmir**

*Daily Parliament Times, 27 August 2024*

Another exemplary step by the Special Communications Organization (SCO) for the development of information technology in 'Azad Kashmir.' Director General of SCO, Major General Umar Ahmed Shah inaugurated the Software Technology Park equipped with international standard facilities in Kotli, 'Azad Kashmir.' The hub was also inaugurated by Mirpur Muzaffarabad and Poonch. After Mirpur Muzaffarabad and Poonch, this

is the fourth software technology park from which a large number of young people including IT professionals, civil society and students are benefitting. Fastest internet, computers and IT-related facilities have already been provided to talented IT students and youth through software technology parks managed by SCO with modern facilities at Kotli along with Bhimbar. Parks of this nature have been completed in Bagh as well.

The DG SCO was briefed on the facilities in the park, the stages of completion of the park and other issues and told that along with the development in information technology, its software will also be promoted at the international level. DG SCO further inspected the various departments of the Software Technology Park. While appreciating the hard work and dedication of the officials of SCO 'Azad Kashmir', he expressed his determination to establish more such parks and hubs. More than 40 software technology parks and freelancing hubs have been established in GB, which will not only give the youth an opportunity to hone their skills in the IT sector, but will also gain access to foreign countries.

He said that information technology is growing as a major industry in 'Azad Kashmir', which will benefit the youth and their families. He said that now it is up to the youth of 'Azad Kashmir' to make maximum use of these facilities.

This important information technology project will not only help in the eradication of unemployment in 'Azad Kashmir' but will also make significant progress in the economic development of Pakistan along with the economic empowerment of the youth.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2024/08/27/sco-raises-another-exemplary-step-for-development-of-it-in-kotli-azad-kashmir/>

### **From Vernacular Urdu Media**

**World community's silence on Indian aggression in 'occupied Kashmir' is against civilizational values: Rana Qasim Noon**

*UrduPoint, 28 August 2024*

It is against cultural and civilizational norms, according to Chairman of the Kashmir Committee Rana Muhammad Qasim Noon, for the international community to remain silent about the 'crimes and barbarism' committed by India on the innocent residents of 'occupied Kashmir.' The Kashmir issue is an incomplete agenda of the partition of the subcontinent, claimed Rana, who was presiding over the Kashmir Committee meeting. He declared that Pakistan will keep up its moral, political, and diplomatic level support for Kashmiris. During the meeting, a number of Hurriyat leaders also spoke and discussed the present situation in 'occupied Kashmir.'

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaffarabad/kashmir/live-news-4135628.html>

**'AJK' PM meet with various delegations in Neelum District**

*UrduPoint, 27 August 2024*

The Prime Minister of 'Azad Kashmir' in his meeting with various delegation in Neelum district stressed the need for completion of development projects within the stipulated period and added that funds have been channelled down to the grassroots level to improve service delivery in the region. He said that appointment of administrative officers was made on the basis of merit to ensure good governance and added that the road infrastructure in the region will be improved to promote tourism and create employment opportunities at local level. He also directed the concerned authorities of the Department of Electricity to make the revenue collection system more effective. He said that it is quite unfortunate that only 22 percent of people in Neelum valley pay electricity bills despite the cheap electricity.

He noted that out of 22,000 consumers, only 4,000 consumers are paying electricity bills and stressed that action should be taken against those consumers who refuse to pay electricity bills. He also directed the Director of Forests, Neelum Circle to compile a report and submit the complete record of timber in the transit depot. He also sought a report regarding the completion of the Jagran Power Project Phase 2 within a month. The Prime Minister also received a briefing from

the heads of Health, Education, Roads, Electricity and Public Works Department, Local Government, Tourism, Forest and other departments regarding the performances of their respective departments and progress on ongoing development projects.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/muzaffarabad/kashmir/live-news-4135617.html>

### **Arrest order for former GB CM Khalid Khurshid due to his non-appearance in the fraudulent degree case**

Dailyk2, 29 August 2024

The former chief minister of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Khalid Khurshid was ordered to be arrested by a Senior Civil Judge and Judicial Magistrate in Gilgit. This was in response to Khurshid's non-appearance in court on a matter involving a fake degree. Khalid was charged under various sections of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) for submitting a fictitious law degree from the University of London in his nomination papers for the 2020 elections and also for obtaining a lawyer's license from the GB Bar Council. Additionally, he is also charged with fabricating an affidavit and submitting it to the Higher Education Commission (HEC) in Islamabad in order to receive an equivalency certificate. According to the civil magistrate's court decision, Khalid Khurshid was previously granted bail, with Nabi Ullah and Wazir Shah Alam serving as sureties. The ruling states that on 19 August

2024, the sureties were summoned by the court to provide an explanation for why their bond money should not be forfeited as a result of the accused's failure to comply with the terms of the bail. Since the accused failed to show up for court despite being given notice and an opportunity, and the sureties' justifications were found to be insufficient by the court. Khalid who is also the head of the GB chapter of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), has been the subject of controversy since July 2023, when the GB Chief Court disqualified him due to the problem of a fake degree. Shahzad Agha, a member of the GB Assembly, filed a petition, which resulted to a three-person bench of the court disqualifying him.

<https://www.dailyk2.com/Post/24713>

### **Need to change strategy on Kashmir: Former Prime Minister of 'Azad Kashmir'**

Geo News, 1 September 2024

Our approach to the Kashmir issue needs to be modified, according to former 'Azad Kashmir' prime minister Sardar Atiq. During a seminar held to commemorate the third anniversary of Syed Ali Geelani, a 'freedom-loving' leader of Kashmir, Atiq stated that Geelani stood for Kashmir in the most trying circumstances and that innocent people in Kashmir continue to give their lives following in his footsteps. Atiq underscored that a shift in approach towards Kashmir is

imperative, and that the campaign for Kashmir's independence must become proactive. He claimed that Pakistan's nuclear program is linked to its defense, and that Kashmir is related to both. During the event, Raja Zafarul Haq, the leader of the Muslim League-N, said that instead of giving speeches, a committee should be formed to begin working on the issue of Kashmir. He also mentioned that Pakistan is not contributing to the cause of Kashmir. He said that Jamaat-e-Islami was outlawed in Kashmir, but Bangladeshi students carried out heroic deeds, and India was still unsure of Hasina Wajid's whereabouts. He also said that we went to the Indian embassy and voiced our concerns over Kashmir there as well.

<https://urdu.geo.tv/latest/378018->

### [From Social Media](#)

**WAJAHAT ALI@wajahatgilgiti**

30 August 2024

Gilgit: On the orders of Chief Secretary Gilgit-Baltistan, a commission has been set up to investigate fake documents related to land and land compensations issues in sub-division Shoontar Astor. Assistant Commissioner appointed head of Chilas Commission. Order to submit report within 15 days. Board of Revenue GB#Astore.

*Document link:*

<https://twitter.com/wajahatgilgiti/status/1829512864773845324>

**Shamsin @shamasinilahi**

30 August 2024

Pakistan's soft image is built almost entirely on the beauty and culture of Gilgit-Baltistan. Without it, there's nothing positive left to show the world.

#GilgitBaltistan

<https://twitter.com/shamasinilahi/status/1829586103508107511>

**Gilgit** **Baltistan**  
[@GBTourism](https://twitter.com/GBTourism)

31 August 2024

The Home Department of Gilgit-Baltistan issued border passes to non-locals (those not belonging to Gilgit-Baltistan). According to a 1985 agreement, only the citizens of Gilgit-Baltistan are permitted to travel to China using a border pass.

Why issuing these passes?

*Images link:*

<https://twitter.com/GBTourism/status/1829772399207706700>

**Shamsin@shamasinilahi**

1 September 2024

Mainland Pakistanis who feel entitled about Gilgit Baltistan & Kashmir systematically disregard and undermine the basic rights and humanity of the people there.

<https://twitter.com/shamasinilahi/status/1829951732136493209>

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## Disclaimer

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