

## ~~Sopore's massacre' victims remembered.: KC EU seeks world's quick due role for peaceful solution to K- issue:~~

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Altaf Hamid Rao.

MIRPUR ( AJK): Jan. 7 : Brussels-based

Kashmir Council Europe (KCEU)'s Chairman Ali Raza Syed has said that we cannot forget the martyrs of January 6, 1993 in Sopore area of Occupied Kashmir.

It should be remembered that on January 6, 1993, Indian security forces massacred more than 60 innocent Kashmiris in Sopore area of the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Addressing the meeting of the core committee of the Kashmir Council EU held late Sunday in commemoration of the martyrs of Sopore in Brussels, Ali Raza Syed said that today 31 years of the Sopore's massacre have been completed, but the wounds of this sad event are still fresh in the hearts of the Kashmiri people, says a message reaching and released to the media here on Monday.

He said that on January 6, 1993, Indian soldiers set fire to more than 500 buildings in Sopore bazar and fired indiscriminately on passers-by, killing more than 60 people and burning many shops and many houses. The martyrs included more than 25 passengers who lost their lives as a result of firing and setting fire to a passenger bus by Indian security forces at the spot on the same day.

Ali Raza Syed condemned this brutal action of Indian forces and said that this incident was very painful, how can we forget it, not only more than 60 Kashmiris were killed in this incident, but during this massacre, Indian soldiers snatched a 6-month-old child and thrown into the fire, and killed the mother with bullets.

He said that the Sopore massacre is a clear proof of state oppression against Kashmiris, where the Indian forces brutally targeted innocent civilians. This bloodshed was not only a grave violation of human rights but also a flagrant abuse of state power.

Chairman Kashmir Council EU said that this incident was a brutal example of oppression of the Kashmiri people and it is also still a matter of serious concern for the international community. The international community must take notice of the atrocities committed by the Indian forces and take effective measures to protect the basic human rights of the Kashmiri people.

He demanded the international community, including the United Nations and the European Union, to conduct transparent investigations into the tragedy and many other state-terrorist activities in occupied Kashmir and use their influence to bring those responsible to justice and get them punished.

Ali Raza Syed appealed that the international community should play its effective role in giving the Kashmiris their right to self-determination and for a peaceful solution to the Kashmir issue, in accordance with UN's resolutions.