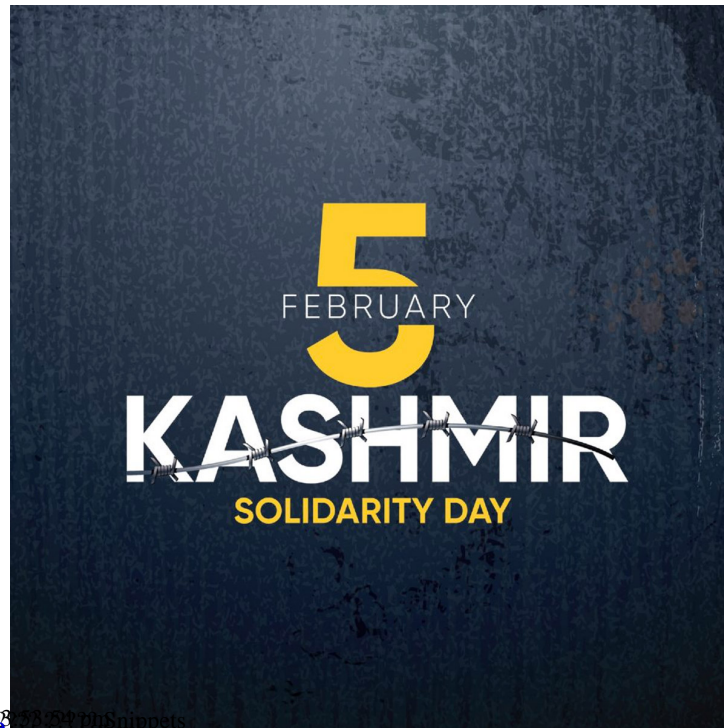


## **AJK begins preparations to observe Kashmir Solidarity Day on February 5 with renewed resolve**



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MIRPUR (AJK): Jan. 24: People and the Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir as well as all social, political and human rights organizations across AJK have begun brisk preparations to observe the Kashmir Solidarity Day on February 05 – to be commemorated across Pakistan including AJK to reiterate full solidarity with the people of Jammu & Kashmir in their just and principled struggle for freedom primarily based on with the prime spirit to achieve their globally-acknowledged right to self determination as enshrined in the international norms in form of the United Nations resolutions on Kashmir issue.

“In AJK, masses from all segments of the civil society are actively engaged to chalk out detailed programs to repledge their solidarity with the people of Pakistan in a dignified manner on Kashmir Solidarity Day”, organizers said.

This year too, the Kashmir Solidarity Day was being observed in most tragic scenario that was followed by August 05, 2019 forced and unlawful sinister action of scrapping special status of the internationally-acknowledged disputed Indian occupied Jammu Kashmir State by the hardliner Modi-led Indian government through abrogation of the article 370 and 35-A of the constitution. The bleeding occupied valley was, since the bleak day of Kashmir’s history, turned into the world’s largest prison following imprisonment of the people protesting against the nefarious Indian action under the shadow of over 2 million of the occupational Indian military and para military troops.

“Kashmir Solidarity Day is one of the occasions of significance in Kashmir which is celebrated every year to reiterate complete solidarity with the people of Jammu & Kashmir in their just and principled struggle for freedom and to achieve their globally acknowledged right to self determination”, said Altaf Hussain Wani,

renowned Kashmiri human rights activist and Chairman of the human rights Kashmiri think-tank – the Kashmir Institute of International Relations (KIIR).

Talking to our Special Jammu Kashmir state Correspondent Altaf Hamid Rao on Friday, he said that the day was most valuable for the Kashmiri people inhabiting either side of the line of control and rest of the world.

Altaf Hussain Wani, also a front line APHC leader, said that the Kashmir Solidarity Day was the day in the life of Kashmir which was known as the land of beauty. He said that the day was being celebrated by the Pakistani nation and the government as well as in Azad Jammu Kashmir to renew the bondage of long and deep rooted love and affection by the people and the government of Pakistan which they have for their brethren of Jammu & Kashmir by extending all possible moral, political and diplomatic support to their indigenous struggle for liberation of the motherland from Indian clutches, he added.

The Kashmir freedom struggle leader strongly suggested that in order to enhance the impact of solidarity efforts for Kashmir, the government of Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir should officially designate this specific day as “work for Kashmir Day.

” On this day, all institutions, from the Parliament to educational establishments, and from the Federal Secretariat to various government departments, should be encouraged to engage in comprehensive activities focused on raising awareness about the Kashmir issue, he added.

Wani further said that these activities could include seminars, workshops, discussions, and cultural events that highlight the historical and current challenges faced by the Kashmiri people. By fostering a unified and dedicated approach to this cause, we can amplify our message of solidarity and support for Kashmir, ensuring that it resonates throughout the nation and beyond, he urged.

The KIIR Chairman was of the view with his firm stance that the freedom and human rights loving world community always stressed the need to resolve the Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan to avert any eventuality that may cause a catastrophe in the region.

He added that Kashmir Solidarity Day 2025 will prove to be a landmark to bring Kashmir freedom movement to its logical end securing its complete success.

It may be recalled that Kashmir Solidarity Day is observed on 5 February every year since 1975 when late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto gave a country-wide wheel jam protest call against then Indra-Abdullah accord denying all international norms and commitments about the peaceful solution of Kashmir issue besides against the long Indian unlawful occupation of bulk of Jammu & Kashmir against the aspirations of the people of the state .

The ongoing uprising against the Indian occupation of Jammu & Kashmir began in 1989 and in view of the popularity of this indigenous uprising the then Pakistan government of the time had made it official and declared this a public holiday in 1990.

Ever since this declaration, each year February 5 is observed as Kashmir Solidarity Day, by Pakistanis throughout the country besides Azad Jammu Kashmir and abroad