

## AJK President calls for Muslim Ummah's unified stand on Kashmir, Palestine issues to help resolve longstanding disputes amicably:



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MIRPUR (AJK): March 7: Azad Jammu Kashmir President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that the Muslim world should adopt a unified stand on the issue of Kashmir and Palestine to help resolve the longstanding disputes amicably.

While addressing an Iftar dinner hosted by him in honor of the ambassadors of Islamic countries in the federal metropolis, the AJK President termed settlement of Kashmir and Palestine issues as a key challenge to Muslim world. He said that it was high time that the OIC as a representative organization should redouble its efforts to settle these age-old disputes, AJK President office said on Friday.

The AJK President continued that member states of the forum Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) should also individually play their role to stop ongoing bloodshed and barbarism in Indian occupied Kashmir and Palestine. He said that the UN resolutions on the Kashmir issue remain relevant; however, it was essentially important that any future dialogue between Pakistan and India has to be tripartite.

"Participation of Kashmiri representatives in Indo-Pak dialogue is necessary for making the talks result-oriented", Barrister Chaudhry said, adding that the Kashmiri people happen to be the fundamental party to the dispute. Briefing the ambassadors of Islamic countries about the latest situation in occupied Kashmir, Barrister Chaudhry said that the political and human rights situation in the region has further worsened following the Indian government's unilateral decision to abrogate article 370 and 35 A on August 5, 2019.

The president, on the occasion, praised the OIC for its consistent support to Kashmiris' legitimate cause and condemning India for the ongoing human rights violations in occupied Kashmir. He, however, maintained that the time has come that the OIC should move beyond political rhetoric and take practical steps to get both the issues (Kashmiri and Palestine) resolved.

Highlighting a nexus between India and Israel, the president said that both share a mutual alliance and expansionist designs. Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry said that the Muslim Ummah should act in unison and break this nexus between India and Israel and thwart their expansionist ambitions.

The Iftar dinner was attended by ambassadors and diplomats from Turkey, Iran, Turkish Cyprus, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Sudan, Bahrain, Libya, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kuwait, Indonesia, Syria, Nigeria, Kyrgyzstan, Bangladesh, Iraq, Malaysia, Lebanon, Somalia, Brunei Darussalam and Turkmenistan, while Norwegian Ambassador Per Albert Ilsaas and Austrian Ambassador Andrea Wicke also attended the Iftar dinner as a mark of solidarity with Musilms.

On this occasion, the ambassadors of Islamic countries assured the President of their full support on the Kashmir issue, AJK President office said.