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## The Jammu Massacre: When Jammu's Muslim Homeland Was Turned into a Graveyard in a Day:



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MIRPUR (AJK): November 6: "Horrific Jammu muslim massacre, this day of November 6, 78 years ago in 1947, stands as one of the bloodiest single-day killings of Muslims in South Asian history", speakers recalled while addressing a seminar held in Dhirkot city of AJK marking Jammu

martyrs day on Thursday.

Our Special Jammu Kashmir state Correspondent Altaf Hamid Rao reports from Mirpur that the Institute of Dialogue, Development and Diplomatic Studies (IDDDs), in collaboration with the Post Graduate Degree College, Deerkote, organized a National Seminar to commemorate the forgotten Massacre of Jammu, 1947—a dark chapter in history when the Muslim majority of Jammu was slaughtered by the Dogra Forces, Hindu Mahasabha, and RSS.

The speakers continued that although every day in Kashmir remains a black day under Indian occupation, this particular episode was deliberately suppressed and underreported by design—to conceal what was, in essence, a genocide planned to alter the demography of the Muslim-majority Jammu province of the then princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, ruled by the Hindu Dogra Maharaja. The Dogra regime, aided by paramilitary groups, had distributed lethal weapons among Hindu militias while disarming the Muslims, ordering them to surrender even household tools like axes and knives. This strategic move ensured that the Muslim population had no means to defend themselves when the orchestrated killings began. As a result, Jammu's Muslims lost their land, lives, and liberty. Speakers emphasized that even today, talking about this tragedy remains a challenge under India's military domination, which continues to deny the people of Jammu and Kashmir their fundamental rights. The seminar was attended by a large number of

students—the architects of the future—who showed deep concern over the suppressed history of Jammu's tragedy.

The discussion traced the massacre's historical and political context. It was noted that while British colonial rule was collapsing, the Muslim population of the subcontinent had already been marginalized under Hindu-majority dominance. In Jammu and Kashmir, the minority Dogra ruler subjugated the Muslim majority, depriving them of basic democratic rights. Hence, joining Pakistan, a Muslim-majority state, was seen as the natural and just choice for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. However, this reality was intolerable to the Dogra ruler and his allies, who launched the Jammu Massacre to transform the Muslim majority into a minority.

Between 200,000 and 237,000 Muslims were brutally killed, while nearly half a million were forced to migrate to what became Pakistan—causing an irreversible demographic shift in Jammu, which was precisely the Dogra and Indian strategic objective. Historical records indicate that the massacre was pre-planned weeks in advance (September–October 1947), around the same time when the people's uprising liberated Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

The Maharaja, realizing that Muslim-majority sentiment favored Pakistan, attempted to retain Jammu by exterminating its Muslim population. Muslims were deceitfully told that they would be given a safe passage to Pakistan, but the convoys of refugees were ambushed—with men, women,

and children massacred by armed RSS and Dogra forces. Dr. Waleed Rasool, addressing the gathering, said: "This tragedy teaches us to remain grateful to the sons of the soil who liberated Azad Jammu and Kashmir from Indian control during those testing times. History cannot be changed, but geography can be reshaped through struggle and unity."

The lesson of Jammu is that we must remain steadfast, united, and resolute in pursuing the right to self-determination despite all odds." He further emphasized that unity of thought and action among the people of Jammu and Kashmir is the most powerful tribute to the martyrs who sacrificed everything for freedom. In his concluding remarks, Prof. Zahid Shah stated "Kashmir has paid a huge cost for its resistance. We must now uphold unity, faith, and discipline as guiding principles to honor the martyrs of Jammu and to secure our future."

The seminar concluded with a collective prayer for the martyrs of Jammu, reaffirming the commitment to continue the struggle for justice and freedom.