



# GLOBAL KASHMIRI PANDIT DIASPORA

AN INITIATIVE TO RECOGNIZE KP GENOCIDE AND ETHNIC CLEANSING

September 7, 2019

**Mr. Martin Brower**

**Executive Editor**

**The Washington Post**

In a historic first, many Kashmiri Americans demonstrated peacefully outside your offices against the biased news coverage on Kashmir following the removal of Article 370, a temporary provision governing the Federal State Constitutional relationship of Jammu and Kashmir.

We respectfully request you to publish the contents of this Press Release to ensure that your readers get a fair and balanced reporting of what has transpired.

Your coverage has not addressed the de jure lawlessness that existed in the State of J&K due to Article 370 accompanied by Article 35A which supposedly granted special status to the State. Special Status in J&K meant the right to commit pedophilia, misogyny including the right to strip descendants of Kashmiri women under certain conditions and freedom to commit corrupt acts without fear of any legal recourse. 106 legal amendments which gave expanded rights to Indian citizens were blocked through the mechanism of Article 370 from applying to the State by the ruling oligarchy which had established a defacto Sheikdom. There were no minority rights, no right to education for children, no State Citizenship rights for those who had escaped from Pakistan during the time of partition or protection for other socially disadvantaged groups such as the Valmikis and Scheduled castes.

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Nowhere in the Washington Post media narratives is their mention that in this lawless State the most heinous genocide was committed against the aboriginal people, the Kashmiri Pandits, resulting in their virtual exile. Christians were not spared either. The tacit acceptance of a new ethnically cleansed normal is a shocking condonement of culpability of the rarest of crimes by your newspaper.

The Kashmiri Pandits were given 48 hours' notice to leave the Valley. Kashmiri Pandit Community was completely cleansed, 450,000 had to flee under enormous duress with loss of life, limb and assets. 1397 Kashmiri Pandits and other non-Muslims who were killed have been identified to the individual level and more are being added. Srinagar was the number one locality but Varahamulla and Anantnag and Kupwara followed in their count. What is shocking is that the number of locations they were killed in which is in the hundreds, demonstrating the reach and spread of the theofascist command and control system in place. There were 1403 Hindu religious places, 975 Temples and 428 Cremation grounds. Out of these 347 have been desecrated or destroyed. 217 dharmshalas were destroyed. Others have been taken over or the land encroached. All revenue records have been suppressed or falsified.

The most dangerous framing of the issue in your reporting is fanning religious polarization with the use of the Hindu Muslim binary. In 1976 Indian legislators passed a historic bill adding the word 'secular' to the preamble of the Indian constitution. Notwithstanding four attempts, the legislators of J&K State which had its own constitution did not permit the bill to be passed. This reflects the stated goal of Islamic Pakistan's supported local separatists to establish a Shariat state in Kashmir. Now, every Kashmiri is an equal citizen in the eyes of the Constitution. The greatest relief has been felt by Kashmiri Muslims who till now were cowed by the Islamists and the residents of Jammu and Ladakh. This silent majority which had suffered unending hegemony and lived with second class status have welcomed the abrogation. Not reflecting the diversity of Kashmir and the voices of those who feel liberated is a serious lacuna in your reporting.

## Chairman

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The only binary that exists in Kashmir is that between Peace and Violence, the latter introduced by the gun culture aided and abetted by Pakistan. Following the removal of Article 370 which constitutionally was mandated as a temporary instrument, terrorists aided and abetted by Pakistan have killed four innocent people in cold blood. Government of India is exercising its fiduciary duty to place the protection of the lives of its people above that of any other consideration. It deserves the support of the International community in ensuring that normalcy is restored with security and not sabotaged by anarchists and terrorists aided and abetted by lazy journalism.

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