**The darkest day**

**[Muhammad Zahid Rifat](https://nation.com.pk/Columnist/muhammad-zahid-rifat)**

October 26, 2021

Historically speaking, Kashmiris have a pretty large number of ‘darkest’ days in the bloody struggle for freedom from the Indian shackles of slavery.

Kashmiris’ darkest days started on October 27, 1947 and are continuing unceasingly till they exercise the long-awaited and persistently denied right of self-determination in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions.

As such, October 27 is the first darkest day in the history of Kashmir. Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC), in Pakistan and around the world observe October 27 every year as the blackest day of their history to ensure their voice is heard and the slumbering international community wakes up to realise its humanitarian responsibilities.

It was on this day, back in 1947 when India airlifted its forces and occupied the valley of Jammu and Kashmir after Hindu Maharaja Hari Singh announced accession to India through an illegal instrument.

[Pakistan, Iran want peace, stability in region: FM Qureshi](https://nation.com.pk/27-Oct-2021/pakistan-iran-want-peace-stability-in-region-fm-qureshi)

Kashmiris are observing this darkest day in their history after having completed three years under a complete military siege. Following the unilateral and illegal development by India’s fascist regime, Kashmiris have also started observing August 5 alongside October 27 as the darkest day of their history.

But the Kashmiris continue to be determined and committed and offer sacrifices by way of violations of curfew restrictions. Prime Minister Imran Khan, during three successive addresses to the UN General Assembly, quite emphatically reiterated Pakistan’s principled stand to continue supporting the just struggle of Kashmiris politically, morally and legally and warned the international community by terming Kashmir a nuclear flashpoint between the two neighbouring countries.

Pakistan has been reiterating its unstinted support to the Kashmiris in their just struggle by frequently observing solidarity with Kashmiris. Even the Independence Day celebrations were marked by solidarity with the Kashmiris and flags of Pakistan and Kashmir were unfurled together all over the country.

[PM Imran Khan congratulates Pakistan team over New Zealand win](https://nation.com.pk/27-Oct-2021/pm-imran-khan-congratulates-pakistan-team-over-new-zealand-win)

It is a bitter and quite regrettable reality that the Kashmir dispute remains unresolved on the UN agenda for such a long time. At the same time, the continued silence of the international community at large, and not putting pressure on India is very much deplorable.

It is also a matter of great shame and regret that the international community is all criminally silent over India’s continued occupation and killings of more and more Kashmiris whose only crime is that they do not accept India’s illegal occupation which is against their aspirations.

Kashmir is an unfinished agenda of the subcontinent’s partition. Over the years, the Indian government has been forcibly migrating Hindus into occupied Kashmir to turn a predominantly majority of Muslim population into the minority. But even after resorting to such tactics India is not letting the Kashmiris obtain their right of self-determination.

[Opposition to seek National Assembly session to debate price hike](https://nation.com.pk/27-Oct-2021/opposition-to-seek-national-assembly-session-to-debate-price-hike)

There is no denying the fact that the resolution of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with Kashmiris aspirations is the key to stable peace, prosperity and progress in South Asia.

By observing yet another black day on October 27, 2021 after one on August 5, Kashmiris hope to highlight their just and indigenous struggle for freedom from Indian subjugation, wake up the sleeping conscience of the international community and human rights organisations throughout the world and bring the lingering unresolved Kashmir dispute back to the UN agenda for implementation. Kashmiris’ long struggle is soon going to be met with success.

The writer is Lahore-based Freelance Journalist, Columnist and retired Deputy Controller (News), Radio Pakistan, Islamabad and can be reached at zahidriffat@gmail.com

Kashmir is an unfinished agenda of the subcontin-ent’s partition.