

Annual Human Rights Report – 2018



Human Rights Division
All Parties Hurriyat Conference
Raj Bagh - Srinagar
Kashmir

Foreword

Kashmir, a paradise on the Earth has turned into a hell for its inhabitants. About a quarter million Indian Armed Forces, equipped with weaponry and unbridled powers besides legal impunity through laws like Armed Forces Special Powers Act 'AFSPA' Disturbed Areas Act 'DAA' and Public Safety Act 'PSA' to protect them and save them from any accountability for their crimes against humanity, feel no mercy for the hapless people of Kashmir who are engaged in a fierce struggle for the achievement of their right to decide their future in accordance with their will and aspirations, a right promised to them by the Govt. of India and the resolutions of the UN Security Council.

The denial of India to fulfill its promise and instead using military might to suppress the people in order to compel them to give up their demand and people's persistent resistance against it has given rise to horrendous human rights violations at the hands of Indian forces in Kashmir.

The Human Rights situation in Jammu & Kashmir for the past 70 years has gone from bad to worst. The forces deployed here have indulged in committing all sorts of HR violations including killings of innocents, extrajudicial executions, torture, outraging modesty of women, destruction of property, illegal detention, denial of the right to protest and suppression of right to speech and expression of the people making the life in Kashmir horrible and miserable.

It has been the consistent stand of APHC that Kashmir is basically a human issue involving the right of the people of J&K to decide about their future. The use of military might and policy of naked oppression and aggression against the population is not going to fetch anything except the human and material loss. The history of the past seventy years is witness to this fact that no amount of repression can force the people of Kashmir to submission. It is for all and especially the Govt. Of India to recognize this ground reality and work to find a peaceful, agreeable and just solution of Kashmir Issue.

All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) with whatever resources at its disposal, besides pursuing its political agenda, is engaged in highlighting the abuse and violation of human rights and turn the attention of the human rights organizations and as well as the influential members States of United Nations towards these abuses and violation and make India to realize its role as a civilized democracy and stop atrocities against Kashmiries.

The Human Rights Division of All Parties Hurriyat Conference is working with dedication and commitment for this purpose. Annually it brings out a report on the human rights situation in Kashmir which documents the atrocities committed systematically on the people of Kashmir. The report on Human Rights violations during the year 2018 is the

continuation of the same practice. I hope this report will help to bring in the knowledge of the world community the human rights situation on the ground here in Kashmir and thus help in persuading India to give up its policy of obduracy and engage in finding a peaceful resolution to Kashmir Issue in order to put an end to all the human rights violations here.

“Human rights are universal and everyone needs to be educated on these and understand that no matter where they are born and who they are, by virtue of being born as humans some rights automatically become a part and parcel of their life in a social set up”.

Mirwaiz Mohammad Umar Farooq

**Chairman – APHC
Jammu & Kashmir**

Annual Report 2018 – Human Rights Division

Abuse and injustice continues on the people of Jammu & Kashmir. 70 years have passed and the people of Jammu & Kashmir continue to suffer immensely at the hands of Indian forces, who are implementing the policy of subjugation and control over our lives, rights, resources, culture and dignity. The people of Jammu and Kashmir have seen and continues to see worst ever human rights violations as state repression goes from bad to worse with increase in killings, especially of youth.

Kashmir conflict is the oldest and the most serious dispute on United Nations agenda. The conflict so far has consumed tens of thousands of people. It is one of the most dangerous flash points, where a million troops have squared off along the disputed border. Both sides now wield nuclear arms. The United Nations has passed several resolutions on Jammu & Kashmir. It proposes that Kashmir's future would be decided in accordance with the will of the people.

The large military presence is the main cause for human rights abuses in Jammu & Kashmir. In 2008, 2010, and 2016 thousands of young Kashmiris took to the streets to protest against Indian rule. This year also the Indian Army and the other government forces launched massive cordon and search operations (CASO) in Kashmir. These operations still continue and have become the order of the day. During the operation the forces ransack houses and damage vehicles. Several videos on social networking sites are available in which government forces can be seen damaging public property across Kashmir. (<https://bit.ly/2zztyfO>, <https://bit.ly/2rKq2eO> and <https://bit.ly/2EE7o0Q>).

The horrible incidents of past including Kunan-Poshpora mass rape, Shopian, Machil, Chattisinghpora fake-encounters, massacres at Hawal-Srinagar, Gow-Kadal, Handwara, Sopore, Kupwara, Bij-Behara, killing of hundreds of youth in 2008, 2010, and 2016 mass uprisings besides countless unabated incidents of grotesque human rights violations in the form of fake encounters, forced disappearances, rapes everyday killing of un-armed civilians and destruction of property by Indian forces have inflicted deep wounds on the collective existence of people, the scars of which are etched on the conscience of Kashmir's.

The APHC during 2018 while speeding up its efforts to turn the attention of International community towards Human Rights violation in Kashmir through several petitions, letters and other communications to United Nations, Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and other Human Rights groups highlighted the bizarre state of human rights in Kashmir and sought their influence to end the worst repression and oppression of Kashmiries. In a letter dated 10 December, 2018 from Chairman Mirwaiz Mohammad Umar Farooq to United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres, APHC demanded the

establishment of a commission of inquiry to conduct comprehensive and independent international investigation into allegations of human rights violations in Kashmir.

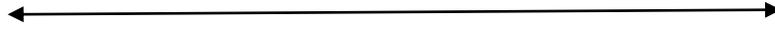
The Azad-Kashmir Chapter of APHC during the year made serious efforts especially during the 37th session of UN Human Rights Council at Geneva to draw the attention of the world towards the grotesque violation of Human Rights at the hands of Indian forces in Kashmir through interventions in the session and meetings with various dignitaries associated with the safeguard of Human Rights on the sidelines of the session. They also highlighted the plight of Kashmiri prisoners in various jails in and outside the state.

This year on 14 June, United Nations (UN) broke its silence on the continuous atrocities committed on the people of Kashmir. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights issued a detailed report on the Situation of Human Rights in Kashmir. The report brought the conflict to the forefront of international agenda. The report focused on widespread and serious human rights violations by Indian forces in Jammu and Kashmir. The report also mentions about the state government's frequent use of communication blockades and suspension of mobile and internet services, as well as restrictions on freedom of expression, targeting of media and journalists. It mentions that in 2016-17 widespread protests, long periods of curfew, frequent strikes, and arson attacks on schools all had a cumulative impact on students and their right to education. The report also called for a commission of Inquiry to conduct "a comprehensive independent international investigation" into Indian human rights violations in seventy years of conflict - (For full report click - <https://bit.ly/2L7LHt2>).

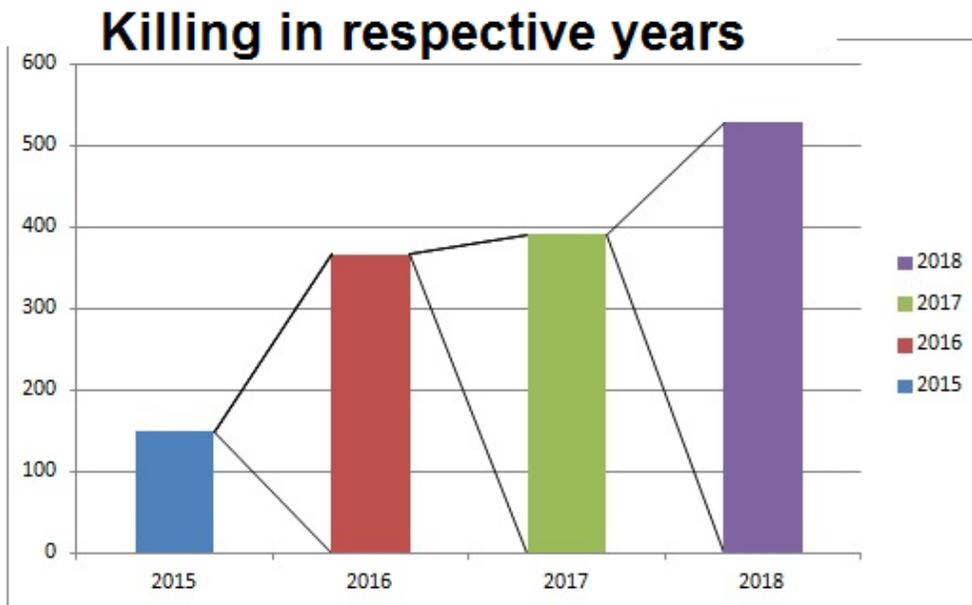
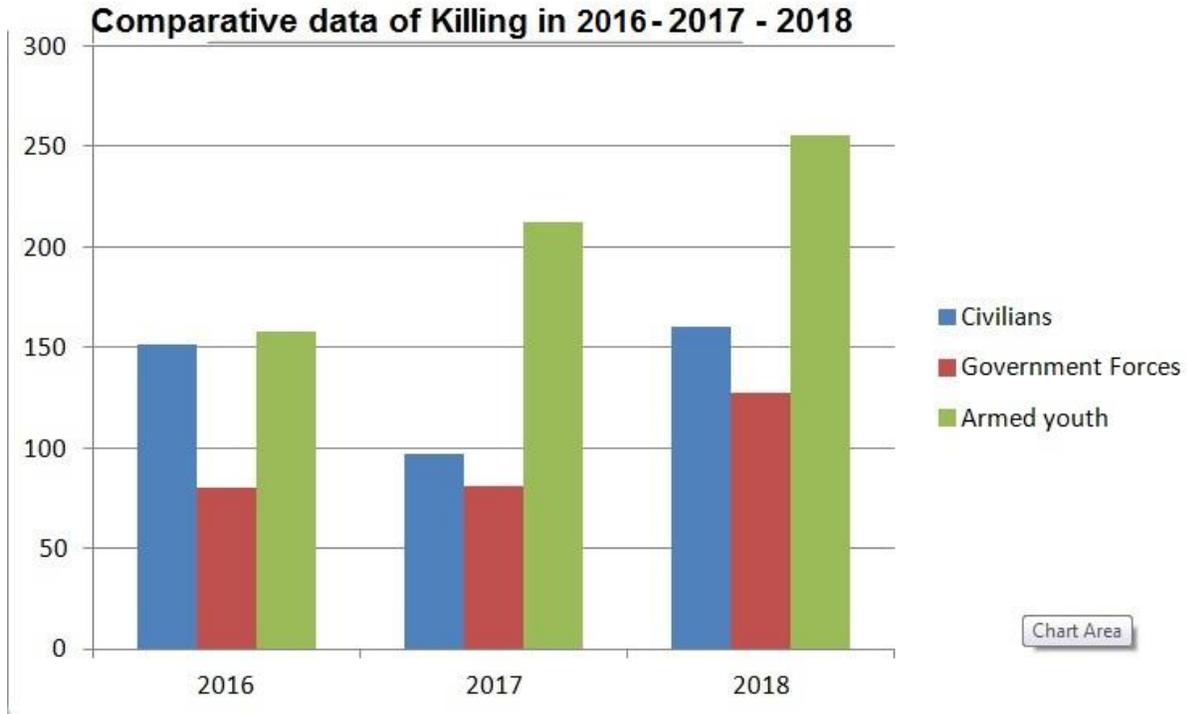
The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights spearheaded a series of policy statements on Kashmir in every session of the UN Human Rights Council and on June 14 and again on June 18, the high commissioner stunned rights defenders and the international community by his recommendation for the UN Human Rights Council to create a Commission of Inquiry into Indian abuses in Kashmir. According to the UN, the Kashmir conflict "has robbed millions of their basic human rights (<https://bit.ly/2LMV6Tu>).

This year, another international report on human rights abuses in Kashmir was prepared and presented by a group of British MPs to the UK Parliament. The detailed report by APPKG reflects the UN's findings. It recommended, " that the Government of India must repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) and enable prosecution of armed forces and security personnel in the civilian judicial system; that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir must urgently repeal or amend the Public Safety Act (PSA); that the Government of India must initiate a comprehensive public investigation into the identities of bodies in mass and unmarked graves; that the Government of India should immediately ban the use of pellet firing shotguns; that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir must open its prisons to international inspection; and that the Governments of

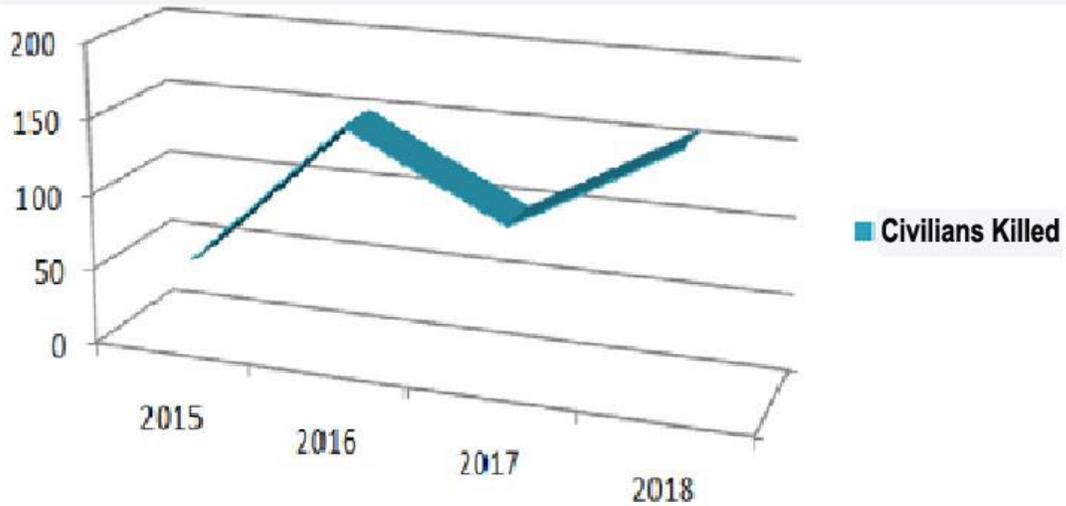
India and Pakistan should work to resume regularised visa-regulated civilian travel across the Line of Control and reunite separated families”.



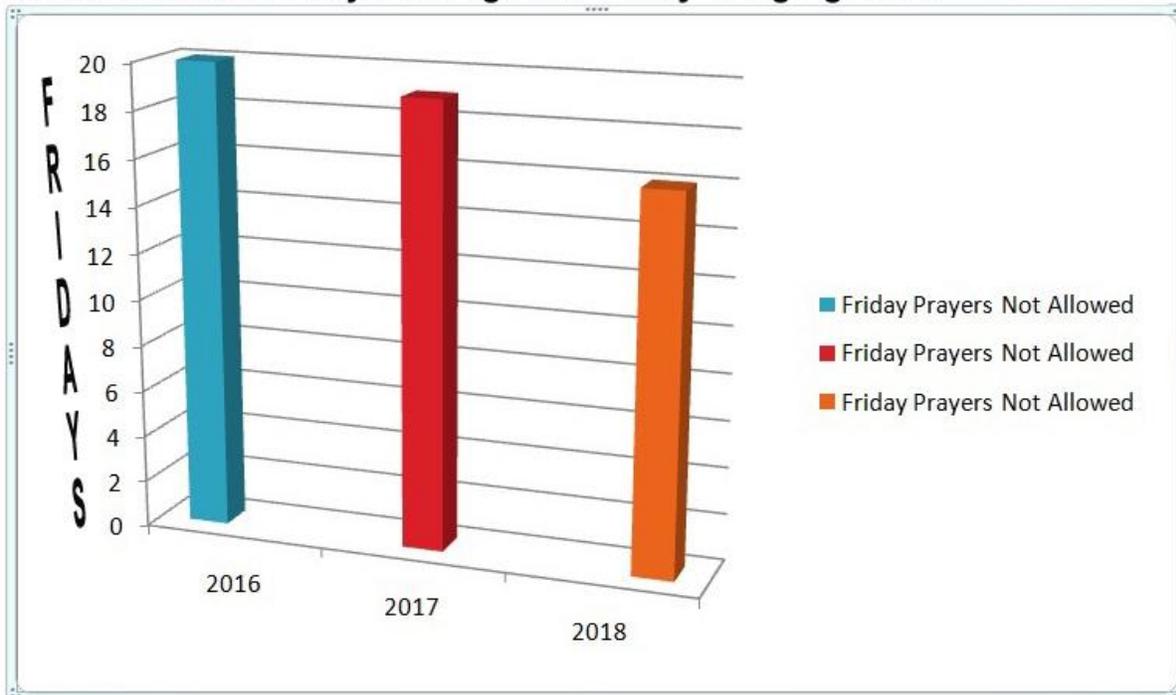
Graphic Representation of the Human Rights violations in Jammu & Kashmir during recent years:



Graph of Civilians Killed in respective years



Closure of Jama Masjid Srinagar for Friday Congregations



Civilians Killing in the Conflict Torn **J&K during 2018**

The conflict has so far consumed lacs of human lives in J&K. During the year 2018 the total number of **543** deaths occurred due to ongoing conflict in J&K. Out of **543** persons, **161** were Civilians, **127** Government Forces Personnel and **255** Armed youth. Besides 19 men and 8 women total 27 persons got killed on the other side of the line of divide reportedly due to continuous acrimony and exchange of fire between the forces deployed there.

Out of males 141, females 20, total **161** civilians killed, **67** civilians were killed by Indian forces during cordon and search operations (CASO), Post encounter clashes or by firing live ammunition and pellets. **34** civilians were killed by un-known gunmen. **32** civilians were killed in firing or shelling across the line of divide in Jammu & Kashmir. **03** civilians were killed by Armed youth for being Indian army informers. **14** civilians were killed by blasts that occurred by grenades, shells or by mysterious blasts. **03** civilians lost their life by cardiac arrest due to shock due to the harassment/fear caused by forces. **01** civilian died due to suffocation caused by tear smoke shells. **02** died in Police custody. **01** civilian was used by forces as human shield. **01** person lost his life due to stone injury during a stone-pelting incident. **03** civilians were crushed by government forces vehicles.

Civilians killed in J&K – 2018:

	Civilians Killed
January	18
February	08
March	14
April	19
May	28
June	11
July	09
August	10
September	08
October	13
November	12
December	11
Total:	161

Details of Civilians killed in Jammu & Kashmir since January 2018:

On January 03, unidentified gunmen shot dead a 25-year old man, identified as Arif Ahmad Sofi S/o Mohammad Maqbool Sofi R/o Wahipora Unisoo, Handwara in Kupwara District (at present Herwan Bomia, Sopore with maternal home).

On January 09, after post encounter the protesters took to streets. Two protesters were hit by bullets fired by the Indian army. One of them, identified as Khalid Ahmad Dar (22) S/o Suleman Ahmad Dar, a resident of Khudwani in Kulgam district was later succumbed to his injuries. He sustained serious bullet wound in his neck.

On January 16, A 43-year-old man, identified as Mohammad Ayoub Mir succumbed to injuries, 28 days after he was injured in Shopian. On December 19, 2017, Mohammad Ayoub Mir, received three bullets in his abdomen during the clashes amid an encounter between the armed youth and Indian forces at Batmuran Kellar area of the Shopian District. He passed away at his home in Chatergam.

On January 18, a thirteen year old girl, Sabity D/o Sat Pal R/o Dayala Chak, Kathua was killed in cross-border firing. She was hit at the house of her maternal uncle at Pindi Charkan, Arina.

From January 19 to 21, nine civilians were killed across the line of divide when Indo-Pak troops opened fire. Three civilians were also injured in the heavy shelling. The ceasefire violation took place at RS Pura sector in Jammu District. According to local news papers, the deceased have been identified as:

- Bachno Devi W/o Jeet Raj of Sai Khurd
- Sahil Choudary of Suchetgarh
- Ghara Ram of Kapurpur
- Ghara Singh of Abdillian – RSPura
- Terseem Singh of Gajansoo Kanachak
- Gopal Dass Bawa S/o Bansi Dass Bawa, was hit by a mortar shell at Kanachak.
- Gopal Sharma S/o Bansi Lal of Kanachak.
- Sunil Kumar alias Johny of Korotana in R S Pura sector.
- Saida (8 year old girl) of Balakote Poonch.

On January 24, a 17-year-old youth, identified as Shakir Ahmad Mir S/o Mohammad Yousuf Mir R/o Kalampora village of Pulwama was killed and two girls critically injured during an encounter between armed youth and Indian forces in Chaigund village of Shopian. Two teenage girls were identified as Sumi Jan and Sabreena received bullet injuries. The injured ladies were taken to SMHS hospital where from they were shifted to SKIMS Soura for specialised treatment.

On January 27, two civilians were killed and one injured when Indian Army fired on a group of protestors in Shopian. Two of the injured persons, identified as Javaid Ahmad Bhat (20) S/o Abdul Rashid Bhat R/o Balpora, Shopian and Suhail Javid Lone (24) S/o Javaid Ahmad Lone R/o Rawalpura, Shopian, succumbed to injuries. Another youth was rushed to a hospital in Srinagar in a critical condition for specialised treatment. Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti Sayeed

directed the district administration to conduct a probe into the incident and come up with findings at the earliest.

On January 28, a 35-year-old woman, critically injured in cross-border firing across the line of divide in Kanachak in Jammu District, succumbed to her injuries. Bimla Devi of Kanachak was critically injured on January 22 and was undergoing treatment at the Government Medical College hospital in Jammu.

On January 31, a youth, identified as Rayees Ahmad Ganie (19) S/o Mohammad Yousuf Ganie R/o Narpora Shopian who was injured in Army firing in Shopian District on January 27, succumbed to his injuries at SKIMS hospital in Srinagar.

On February 01, a 10-year-old boy, identified as Musharaf Fayaz son of Fayaz Ahmad Najar who was seriously wounded at the site of an encounter in Chaigund village of Shopian on January 25 succumbed to injuries. Musharaf suffered critical injuries in his head and face on January 25 after a shell exploded at the encounter site while a group of people were clearing the debris of the house which was razed to ground by the Indian forces during the gun battle.

On February 08, a 47 year old woman, identified as Zainab Bi W/o Nazeer Hussain of Nar-Bolnoie was killed in fresh spell of heavy mortar shelling across the line of divide in Poonch District. Zainab Bi was hit by splinters or mortar shell, which exploded near her house in Balnoie and she died on spot.

On February 10, a woman was killed in a shelling across the line of divide in Nowshera sector of Rajouri District. The deceased woman has been identified as Parveen Akhter, wife of Mohammad Mushtaq, a resident of village Lairan in Pukharni area of Nowshera sector. According to reports a mortar shell exploded close to the house of Parveen Akhter, in which she sustained splinter injuries and later died succumbing to her injuries.

On February 10, a teenage girl, identified as Saima Wani (18), daughter of Hilal Ahmad Wani of Shopian village, who was injured in an encounter in January 24 at Chaigund village of Shopian and admitted in the SKIMS hospital for 18 days, succumbed to injuries. Police said the girls were caught in cross firing.

On February 11, a civilian identified as Gulam Mohammad Sheikh of Lone Mohallah Reshipora, Tral was killed in the JeM's fidayeen attack which started on the early hours of February 10 at the Sunjuwan Military Station in Jammu.

On February 12, a prominent Kashmiri separatist leader, Muhammad Yusuf Rather alias Yusuf Nadeem, was shot dead by unknown assailant in Charangam area of Budgam District. Nadeem, an official of PDD, was travelling in a public transport vehicle from Budgam to Beeru when a man, who was also on board, shot him dead from point blank range.

On February 19, Indian forces killed 55-year old elderly man outside Air Force base in Budgam. The slain was identified as Syed Habibullah, a resident of Astanpora, Soibugh, Budgam.

On February 27, intermittent shelling has become a routine affair across the line of divide in Rajouri and Poonch Districts. Shelling also spread to Uri sector of Kashmir. Ramesh Lal from Arnia who was injured on January 18, succumbed to injuries. He was injured in border firing.

On March 05, four civilians were killed by Indian Army in cold blood, 10 minutes after the killing of armed youth in Pahoo village of Shopian District

- Suhail Ahmad Wagay (19)
S/o Khaleel Ahmad Wagay
R/o Pinjoora
- Shahid Khan
S/o Bashir Ahmad Khan
R/o Malik Gund
- Shahnawaz Ahmad Wagay (24)
S/o Ali Mohammad Wagay
R/o Treng
- Gowhar Ahmad Lone
S/o Abdul Rashid Lone
R/o Mol-Chitragam, ImamSahib Shopian.

On March 07, a 60-year-old old man, identified as Abdul Aziz Ahanger died after a Police vehicle (Rakshak) hit him in Delina area of Baramulla District. Residents said that a Police team had gone to the area to arrest an alleged 'stone-pelter'. Police fired few rounds in air and fled from the spot. Ahanger was knocked to death by Police Rakshak. Police in a statement issued said that driver has been arrested and the vehicle was seized. The family of slain civilian has alleged that Police tried to arrest their son Tawseef Ahmad Ahangar on the same evening and while trying to foil Police attempt, father of the youth, Aziz, was hit by the Police vehicle resulting into his death.

On March 11, Dead body of a youth, identified as Mohammad Shafi Sofi S/o Ghulam Hyder Sofi of Samboora Pulwama, was recovered from Pulwama. The body of the youth was found by the locals who informed the Police. Sofi was tied in ropes with identity card on his body. He was working as salesman in the business unit of Shah Electronic Shop at Srinagar. Dead body was taken to SDH Pampore for autopsy. Initial reports by police suggested that he was tortured. "There are multiple deep cut wounds on his legs and other body parts. There was a rope around his neck which indicates the possibility of strangulation besides torture. No bullet injury was found on body. Case has been registered in Police Station Pulwama".

On March 12, a shepherd was killed in a mysterious blast in Awantipora area of Pulwama District. The shepherd, identified as Ashiq Hussain Chopan S/o Ghulam Mohammad of Gutroo, Tral suffered serious injuries in the explosion at upper reaches of Awantipora forests near Barsoo adjacent to Army's Victor Force headquarter. The shepherd was immediately shifted to a nearby hospital in the unconscious state where doctors declared him as brought dead.

On March 18, According to reports heavy mortar shelling started across the line of divide, a mortar shells fell inside the premises of the house of 35-year old Mohammad Ramzan Chowdhary, who was a small farmer in the village. All **seven family members** were seriously injured in the shell explosion, five of whom succumbed to their injuries within no time as splinters of 120mm mortar had pierced through their bodies. They were identified as Mohammad Ramzan, his 32 year old wife Malika Bi and three sons Abdul Rehman (14), Mohammad Rizwan (12) and Razaq Ramzan (7). They evacuated the victims to local hospital, where five of them were declared as dead while two injured sisters, identified as Nazreen Kouser (11) and Mahreen Kouser (5) were referred to the District Hospital in Rajouri. Later, the injured were airlifted and admitted in the Government Medical College in Jammu.

On March 19, aged 70 year old women died by cardiac arrest during CASO in Pulwama. She was identified as Raja Begam W/o Abdul Samad Kumar R/o Pulwama.

On March 22, Owais Rashid Bhat S/o Abdul Rasheed Bhat R/o Qaimoh aged about 20 years was abducted on March 8 by some unknown persons from his native village Qaimoh during evening hours with intention to kill him. He was then thrown away at Ves Batpora area in almost unconscious state and succumbed to his injuries at SKIMS.

On April 02, four civilians were killed by government forces after post encounter in Shopian and Anantnag. The slain were identified as:

- Zubair Ahmad Bhat
S/o Abdul Ahad Bhat
R/o Gopalpora D.H.Pora
- Mehraj-u-Din Mir
R/o Kachidoora
- Mushtaq Ahmad Thokar
Reportedly a house owner in which encounter happened.
- Mohammad Iqbal Bhat
He was declared dead on arrival at SKIMS Soura.
R/o Shopian

On April 03, Gowhar Ahmed Rather, 22, S/o Abdul Rehman Rather R/o Kangan who was shot by Police in Kangan on April 01, succumbed to his injuries at the SKIMS. Ganderbal district magistrate Piyush Singla ordered a magisterial inquiry into Gowhar's killing.

On April 03, Naseer Ahmad Sheikh, 23, from Hajin Bandipora was abducted and killed by unknown gunmen. Gunmen barged into the house of Farooq Ahmad Parray and abducted his son-in-law Naseer, also known as Muntazir.

On April 06, unidentified gunmen abducted and killed Manzoor Ahmad Bhat (25) S/o Abdul Gaffar Bhat R/o Bonkhan Mohalla of Hajin Bandipora.

On April 11, four civilians were killed near encounter site by Indian forces and more than 60 wounded four of them critically by bullets, two houses completely gutted in Khudwani area of Kulgam. The slain were identified as:

- Sarjeel Ahmad Sheikh (28)
S/o Abdul Hameed Sheikh
R/o Khudwani – Kulgam.
- Aijaz Ahmad Palla (30)
S/o Mohammad Skinder Ahmad
R/o Nowbal, Batpora, at present Tulkhan Bijbehara.
- Bilal Ahmad Tantrey (16)
S/o Nazir Ahmad Tantrey
R/o Kujjar (He was residing at his uncle's place in Mishipura, Hawoora).
- Faisal Ahmad Allahi (14)
S/o Ghulam Rasool Allahi
R/o Malhora, Shopian.

Sharjeel was declared brought dead in district hospital Anantnag while Faisal and Bilal, both with bullet injuries, were declared brought dead by doctors in Public Health Centre Qaimoh. Aijaz Ahmed Palla died on spot at Khudwani Bridge after being hit by bullet in the neck. Family of Sharjeel said he was shot dead inside the compound of his house when he went to the bathroom.

On April 15, a youth Amir Hamid Lone S/o Abdul Hamid Lone R/o Chuturgul, Kangan succumbed to his injuries. He was grievously injured during clashes at Kangan on April 03.

On April 16, a civilian potter working with Indian army's 4-Madras-Unit was shot and killed in border firing between India and Pakistan. The deceased was identified as Khursheed Ahmad S/o Mohammad Sharief R/o Nawa Runda Uri.

On April 25, a political activist was shot dead by unknown gunman at Rajpora Chock, Pulwama. He was identified as Ghulam Nabi Patel a resident of Dangerpora Shadimarg.

On April 26, unknown gunmen fired indiscriminately at Lazibal chock on Anantnag – Phalgam road. One civilian identified as Shafeeq Ahmad Shah S/o Shabir Ahmad Shah R/o Khar Mohalla Shopian who was injured succumbed to his injuries.

On April 30, a civilian Shahid Ashraf Dar (18) S/o Mohammad Ashraf Dar R/o Arihal was declared dead on arrival at district hospital Pulwama. He had sustained a critical bullet wound during clashes near the site of gun fight battle between forces and armed youth at Drubgam.

On April 30, unknown gunmen killed three civilian in old-town Baramulla. The slain were identified as:

- Irfan Ahmad Sheikh aka Asif Ahmad Sheikh
S/o Ali Mohammad Sheikh
R/o Syed Kareem
Baramulla
- Haseeb Nabi Khan
S/o Ghulam Nabi Khan

- Kakar Hamam, Old-town Baramulla
- Mohammad Asgar Sheikh aka Afsar Khan
S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh
R/o Kakar Hamam
Baramulla.

On May 02, a civilian Umar Kumar, son of Abdullah Kumar, resident of Pinjoora village in Shopian was killed by government forces when they fired bullets and pellets to quell protests around the site of an encounter with armed youth.

On May 04: Unknown gunmen barged into the house of Mohammad Ashraf Mir (34) S/o Jamal Mir R/o Harwan, Bomai area of Sopore and fired upon him. He later succumbed on way to Sopore District Hospital.

On May 05: two persons including a former militant were abducted and later shot dead by unknown gunmen in Bandipora.

- Ghulam Hassan Dar alias Hassan Rassa (45)
Former Militant
S/o Abdul Jabar Dar
R/o Gulshan Mohalla, Shahgund Hajin Bandipora.
- Bashir Ahmad Dar (26)
Carpet Weaver
S/o Abdul Rehman Dar
R/o Gulshan Mohalla, Shahgund Hajin Bandipora.

On May 05: a civilian, identified as Adil Ahmad Yadoo 22-year-old civilian S/o Ghulam Rasool Yadoo, was crushed by a police vehicle during clashes in Safa Kadal, Srinagar.

On May 06: Five civilians were killed at Badigam village of Shopian. The District Hospital Shopian treated 73 pellet injuries and 30 bullet injury patients, Primary Health Centre (PHC) Zainapora treated 7 pellet injury patients; PHC DK Pora treated 17 pellet and 3 bullet injury patients and District Hospital Kulgam treated 4 pellet and 2 bullet injury patients. Of the 45 persons injured in Shopian clashes and brought to SMHS hospital, 12 had suffered bullet injuries and 33 received pellet injuries. The identification of the dead is as:

- Asif Ahmad Mir (17), resident of Rahmoo Pulwama, received bullet injury on his head during the clashes and was rushed to SMHS Hospital here where he succumbed later. First casualty of the day.
- Sajad Ahmad Rather
R/o Verinag, Dooru Anatnag
He was killed after forces fired at protesters in Chitragam village of Shopian.
- Zubair Ahmad Nigro
R/o Ayangund Rajpora, Pulwama

- Sufail Ahmad (14) S/o Ghulam Hassan Bhat of Dachoo Shopian, succumbed to his injuries at SMHS hospital. “He was critically injured as three of his vital organs were damaged. Bullet had pierced through his abdomen which caused fracture in spinal chip and grade-4 liver and kidney injury,” said the MS, SMHS.
- Adil Bashir Ganie
R/o Mahgund Ashmuji Kulgam.
He was killed after army men opened fire in Behibagh village of Kulgam.

On May 07: 22-year-old R.Thirumani son of Rajavel of Chennai was on his way to a resort in Gulmarg with his parents when their car was stoned by protesters. The youth was admitted to a hospital where he succumbed to injuries. He was hit on the nose and the forehead. He was in Srinagar with his parents and sister.

On May 07: an old women died from the fumes of tear and pepper gas in Qamarwari area of Srinagar. The deceased was identified as Fatima Begum resident of Qamarwari, Srinagar.

On May 08: Iqbal Hussain Bhat (17) S/o Ghulam Hussain Bhat of Dacho, Shopian was hit by a bullet in Nagbal on Sunday, during protests against the death of five Hizbul Mujahideen armed youth in an encounter at nearby Badigam village. The youngster was admitted to the Shri Maharaja Hari Singh (SMHS) hospital at Srinagar and succumbed to injuries.

On May 11: A young man died in cross border firing in Poonch. He was identified as Mohammad Ikhtlaq (22) S/o Mohammad Sadiq R/o Kalisan Baghal Dhara. He received serious injuries and died on the spot.

On May 17: Unknown gunmen abducted and killed a 23 year old Hilal Ahmad Parray S/o Abdul Rashid Parray R/o Shakurdin Mohalla, Hajin Bandipora. His deadbody was recovered from orchard located at Bon Mohalla Rangkadai.

On May 18: Four civilians were killed and twelve injured in cross-border firing in RS Pura, Arnia sector of Jammu. The deceased were identified as:

- Sat Paul (60)
- Jag Mohan (45)
- A couple Tarsem Lal (52) and his wife Manjeet Kaur (45) were also killed.

On May 21: An 8-month old baby identified as Nitin Kumar son of Gopal Dass of Seri Palai village in Jogwan in Pallanwala, Akhnoor died after being hit by a bullet in cross-border clashes along LOC in Jammu.

On May 23: At least five civilian were killed and around 50 wounded in R S Pura, Arnia, Samba, Ramgarh and Hiranagar sectors in cross-border shelling. The deceased were identified as:

- Bhajan Laki,
S/o Karam Chand alias Karmu
R/o Shamka in R S Pura

He was killed on the spot when a mortar shells exploded in his house.

- Raghvir Singh,
S/o Satowali
R/o R S Pura
- Ram Paul,
S/o Tilo Ram
R/o Londi village in Hiranagar sector succumbed to injuries which he suffered in firing at his residence.
- Krishna Kumar (10),
S/o Vijay Kumar lost his life in mortar shell explosion, when he was playing in the lawn of his residence in the border village of Samba.
- Shamo Devi, wife of
W/o Bahadur Lal
R/o Bein Galar, Samba suffered critical injuries and later succumbed to her wounds.

On May 27: Muhammad Yaqoob Wagay (38) S/o Ghulam Mohammad Wagay was brutally killed by unidentified men near his home at Gunda Preng village in Hajin area.

On May 29: a civilian Bilal Ahmad Ganaie S/o Mohammad Ramzan Ganaie R/o Narwa Pulwama was killed in cross firing at Dogam area of Kakapora. At least six bullets had hit him. The family blames the army for the killing.

On May 29: a civilian Imam Din (70) S/o Kama Din R/o Solkah Bagial Dhara was injured critically in the landmine blast near the line of divide in Poonch and was taken to nearby hospital where doctors declared him brought dead on arrival.

On June 02: a civilian Kaiser Bhat (21) S/o Late Mohammad Amin R/o Fateh Kadal Srinagar was crushed to death after being run over by paramilitary CRPF vehicle.

On June 06: A 55-year-old woman Darshana Devi, a resident of Arnia, was critically injured in border-shelling in Arnia sector on May 21, succumbed to her injuries at Government Medical College, Jammu after battling for life for 16 days. The splinters (from a mortar shell) had pierced her chest and caused liver laceration and impacted her kidneys.

On June 14: unknown gunmen killed senior journalist and Editor-in-Chief of Rising Kashmir Syed Shujaat Bukhari S/o Syed Rafi-u-Din Bukhari resident of Kareeri, Baramulla at Press Enclave Srinagar.

On June 15: civilian identified as Wakas Ahmad Rather S/o Gulam Qadir Rather R/o Nowpora Payeen Pulwama was killed when Army's 55 RR fired upon civilians. He was referred to SMHS Srinagar hospital where doctors declared him brought dead on arrival. He was hit by a bullet in chest.

On June 16: civilian identified as Sheeraz Ahmad Naikoo (33) S/o Gulam Mohammad Naikoo resident of Brakpora Islamabad was killed when government forces fired indiscriminately on protestors soon after Eid prayers concluded at Eidgah Hanfia and Ahli Hadees in Anantnag.

On June 17: Unknown gunmen at Kelam Kulgam fired upon Mohammad Iqbal Kawa. He was shifted to Jaglat Mandi Hospital where he succumbed to injuries.

On June 18: A youth was killed after army opened fire in Akhran-Nowpora area Kulgam. The deceased was identified as Aijaz Ahmad Bhat son of Bashir Ahmad Bhat of Nowpora Akhran.

On June 22: Mohammad Yousuf Rather (55) was killed at an encounter site in a fierce gunfight in Srigufwara Anantnag. He was the owner of the house in which armed youth were hiding. The locals accused government forces of not allowing the family to come out of the house and firing towards the house indiscriminately soon after spotting the armed youth inside.

On June 24: a civilian Shahid Nazir Hajam S/o Nazir Ahmad, a resident of Sirhama village in Anantnag district was hit by a bullet in the head when government forces opened fire on protestors near a gunfight site in Srigufwara Anantnag on June 22. He succumbed to his injuries at SKIMS Srinagar.

On June 24: another civilian was shot in the chest and was declared dead at Anantnag district hospital. The slain civilian was identified as 24-year-old Yawar Ahmad Dar, S/o Ghulam Ahmad Dar a resident of Gassipora in Wanpoh Kulgam. He was killed during clashes by government forces.

On June 30: Faizan Ahmed Poswal (15) Dr Abdul Gani Poswal R/o Ladoo, Khrew a civilian sustained bullet injuries in an encounter site at Thumna, Pulwama. He was rushed to District Hospital Pulwama but was declared brought dead.

On July 07: Three civilians were killed and five others injured in an army firing during Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in Hawoora area of Redwani in Kulgam. The deceased were identified as:

- Andleeb Jan (13)
D/o Ali Mohammad Allai
R/o Hawoora Redwani,
Kulgam
- Shakir Ahmad Khanday (22)
S/o Mohammad Hussain Khanday
R/o Hawoora Redwani,
Kulgam
- Irshad Majeed Lone (20)
S/o Abdul Majeed Lone
R/o Hawoora Redwani,
Kulgam

On July 9: Bullet ridden body of a youth was found near Arwani Kulgam. The deceased was identified as Tariq Ahmad Mohand (26) S/o Gh. Hassan Mohand R/o Heff Shopian. He was a carpenter by profession.

On July 10: Ubaid Manzoor Lone (22), son of Manzoor Ahmad Lone, resident of Nadihal village in Rafiabad Baramulla, was critically injured on June 25 when troops of the 149 Battalion of Border Security Force (BSF) fired at a group of youths near Nadihal village on Baramulla-Handwara road. Ubaid was hit by a bullet in his right thigh and was admitted to District Hospital Baramulla, from where he was shifted to SKIMS Srinagar for advanced treatment where he succumbed.

On July 10: A youth Tamsheel Ahmad Khan (18) S/o Kursheed Ahmad Khan R/o Vehil Shopian was killed and 50 others were injured during a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) by government forces in Shopian. He received a bullet injury on his head after the conclusion of the encounter.

On July 11: minor child, Salik Iqbal Sheikh S/o Iqbal Ahmad Sheikh along with his two cousins and two friends, all minors, were ripped apart by an explosion in Menander village of Shopian. According to the family the explosive was hurled over them.

On July 11: Khalid Gafar (20) son of Abdul Gafar Malik resident of Trehgam Kupwara was declared brought dead by the doctors. He was shot by the army patrol party in Trehgam. He had sustained bullet injuries in the neck. He was a shopkeeper by profession.

On July 20: Kishtwar police allegedly killed a youth in police custody in Chatroo Tehsil of Kishtwar. He was identified as Javed Ahmed Malik (40) S/o Mohammad Khalil Malik resident of Baharat Doda. Mohammad Abdullah Bhanday, the relative of the deceased said that he (Deceased) has gone to police station Chatroo for obtaining police report on bail application of some of his known persons arrested by the Chatroo Police in allege bovine smuggling case registered by Chatroo police in case FIR No. 26 of 2018 U/S 188 RPC dully marked by the local judge at Kishtwar. He said instead of filling a report as per the court directions, the concern police station illegally detained him after the deceased allegedly refuse to pay graft of Rs. 5000.

On August 04: Civilian Bilal Ahmad Khan was alleged killed by army personnel in response to stone-pelting in Shopian. He was killed in clashes after post-encounter.

On August 04: Syeed Murfad Shah (25), a resident of Chinore Jammu was killed by forces when his private car crashed into the gate of heavily fortified residence of Farooq Abdullah. The magisterial inquiry was ordered into his killing.

On August 05: Mohammad Rafiq Gujjar (28) resident of Kohli area of Gool Ramban was fired upon by soldiers of the 58 Rashtriya Rifles killing on the spot. He was engaged in cattle trade.

On August 05: unknown gunmen abducted and torched Mohammad Arif Sofi S/o Fayaz Ahmad Sofi R/o Khudwani. He suffered critical injuries due to beating and was referred to SHMS hospital. After battling for life for several hours, he succumbed to injuries.

On August 12: A shell exploded at Tosa-Maidan once army's firing range in which five civilians were injured seriously. One among the five succumbed to injuries. He was identified as Wajid Bashir Ahanger S/o Bashir Ahmad Ahanger R/o Zago Khareen, Beerwah.

On August 12: Bullet-riddled body of 24-year-old Gulzar Ahmad Bhat S/o Abdul Gani Bhat R/o Bumpora, Murran Pulwama. His body was recovered from a field in his native Murran village. He was abducted by un-known gunmen.

On August 17: A civilian was killed after a grenade hurled at Awantipora police station missed the target and exploded by the roadside. The killed civilian was identified as Abdul Ahad Pinchoo S/o Ali Muhammad R/o Jawbehara-Awantipora.

On August 17: Unknown gunmen shot dead a woman outside her maternal parents' home at Drubgam, Pulwama. The slain woman has been identified as Shameema Akhtar (38), D/o Abdul Gaffar Bhat W/o Ali Muhammad Bhat, R/o Koil Pulwama.

On August 17: Jana Begum, 47 W/o Ali Mohammad Malik from Arbal village of Pulwama had slipped into coma and later died at Shri Maharaja Hari Singh Hospital. She fell unconscious as Government forces stormed into her house and allegedly 'harassed her and her daughter'. According to doctors, Jana's coma and death was due to extreme shock she suffered.

On August 25: A Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) activist was abducted and killed by unknown gunmen in Pulwama. The deceased was identified as Shabir Ahmad Bhat of Pathan.

On August 25: Unknown gunmen shot dead 38 years Tariaq Ahmad Malik R/o Zandpal Kunzer Tangmarg. He was an employee in J&K forest department.

On September 03: A civilian was killed when government forces opened fire during a search operation in Chewa-Kalan, Pulwama. The deceased was identified as Fayaz Ahmad Wani, S/o Muhammad Ahsan Wani, R/o Chewa Kalan, Pulwama.

On September 08: A hurriyat activist was shot dead by unknown gunmen in Bomai area of Sopore. He has been identified as Hakim-ur-Rehman S/o Nizamudin R/o Reshipora Sopore. In this incident, Hakim received critical bullet injuries and was evacuated to the nearby hospital for medical attention where he succumbed to his injuries.

On September 10: Unknown gunmen shot dead Abdul Ahad S/o Gulam Mohammad Ganie resident of Kupwara. He was shot dead at Munwarbad, Srinagar.

On September 10: Civilian was killed by government forces near encounter site in Chowgam, Qazigund. The deceased was identified as Rouf Ahmad Ganaie, son of Saleem Ganaie of Al Farooq Colony Anchidora.

On September 19: 23 year old girl identified as Rifat Jaan D/o Abdul Hameed Rather died due to massive heart attack as army men ruthlessly thrashed her brother at Ashmuji Kulgam. According to the family she died after hearing that her brother has been picked up by army soldiers a claim refuted by JK Police.

On September 24: Unknown gunmen abducted and killed a 45 year old Mushtaq Ahmad Mir S/o Gulam Rasool Mir a laborer by profession from Harwan, Sopore.

On September 27: a civilian was killed after forces opened fire during a cordon-and-search-operation (CASO) in Noorbagh area of Qamarwari Srinagar. The deceased was identified as Mohammad Saleem Malik S/o Muhammad Yaqoob Malik resident of Noorbagh, Qamarwari Srinagar.

On September 27: a non-local civilian was killed allegedly by army's 3 JAK Li firing incident at Doninar Rangwar, Kralpora, Kupwara. The incident occurred when the man was walking along side the army camp. The slain was a non-local labourer of Beacon. He was identified as Umesh from Tamil-Nadu.

On October 05: Unknown gunmen fire upon three persons in Karfil Mohalla- Srinagar, two succumbed. The two succumbed were identified as Mushtaq Ahmad Wani S/o Gulam Mohammad Wani R/o Pamposh Colony Noor Bagh and Nazir Ahmad Bhat S/o Gulam Qadir Bhat R/o Kani Kadal – Karannagar.

On October 05: Unknown gunmen abducted and killed Tawseef Ahmed Ganie (30) S/o Afzal Ahmad Ganie of Tujar, Sopore. He was abducted from his shop at Unisoo-Handwara and his body was recovered from an orchard at Harwan Sopore.

On October 11: Hurriyat activist was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in Shopian. He was identified as Tariq Ahmad Ganaie, a resident of Meemandar village. Slain was associated with Hurriyat (G) and was recently released from jail.

On October 17: a civilian was killed during a gunfight between armed youth and a joint team of J&K Police and CRPF in Srinagar. The deceased was identified as Rayees Ahad Sofi S/o Habibullah Sofi resident of Fateh Kadal Srinagar. Sofi's family alleged that Rayees was taken by the forces to be used as a "human shield" during the search (The Indian Express Dated 18 Oct. 2018).

On October 19: A lady, pregnant by 5 months, was killed during exchange of fire between armed youth and government forces here in Qasabyar area of Pulwama. The slain was identified as Firdaus Akhtar, W/o Khursheed Ahmad Sheikh, resident of Qasabyar - Pulwama.

On October 21: an encounter took place between Government forces and local armed youth in the Laroo area of Kulgam, J&K. After the encounter ended, there was an explosion in the house where gunfight took place. Many people had gathered to help douse flames and save some belongings. 5 died in the explosion and over 40 were injured. 2 others died by gunfire as forces dispersed protestors. All were identified as:

- Auqib Ahmad Sheikh (18)
son of Gulzar Ahmad Sheikh of Danow Macanpora, Kulgam.
- Uzair Ahmad Dar (8th standard student)
son of Mushtaq Ahmad Dar of Nayakpora near Kulgam Town,

- Irshad Ahmad Paddar
son of Sayedullah Paddar of Shurat Kulgam,
- Mansoor Ahmad Dar
son of Ghulam Mohammad Dar of Bogund Kulgam,
- Talib Ahmad Laway
son of Mohammad Maqbool of Laroo
- Mohammad Mukeem Bhat of Laroo.
- Javed Ahmed Lone
Son of Mohammad Ibrahim Lone resident of Hawoora Kulgam.

On October 28: Unknown gunmen fire upon PDP worker Mohammad Amin Dar. He was declared brought dead at JVC hospital. He had bullet injuries on his chest. He ran a vegetable and grocery store outside his home.

On November 01: Unknown gunmen fire upon BJP leader Anil Parihar and his brother Ajit Parihar in Distt. Kishtwar. The brothers after closing their shop were going home when the assailants opened fire. They took bullets in the upper body and the head. They were declared dead at the local hospital.

On November 01: a mentally-challenged man was shot dead when he crossed the security fence of an Army camp located in Puhnoo-Shopian. The deceased was identified as Rayees Ahmad Wani S/o Abdul Hameed Wani R/o Begam Kulgam. The family of the deceased alleged that he was killed in custody by soldiers.

On November 03: a civilian Shaheen Ahmad Mir, S/o Manzoor Ahmad Mir, resident of Gagren village was killed during an in an encounter in Gagren village in Khudpora area of Shopian district. The family of Shahid Mansoor Mir alleged that Indian soldiers brutally tortured him before they shot him dead.

On November 16: A Class 11 student, Nadeem Manzoor Dar S/o Manzoor Ahmad Dar, was abduction and killed at Niklora in Pulwama. Hizbul Mujahideen later released a video purportedly showing the killing Nadeem Manzoor Dar for reportedly being an Army informer. They said, the youth had confessed to tipping off the forces due to greed.

On November 17: The throat slit body of Huzaif Ashraf Kuttay (19) S/o Mohammad Ashraf of Manzgam, Kulgam was recovered from an orchard in Hermain Village of Shopian. He too was abducted and killed by armed youth for reportedly being an Army informer.

On November 20: Unidentified gunmen shot dead Hurriyat's district president Anantnag Hafizullah Mir resident of Akingam, Achabal. Mir was released from jail last month after serving two-year detention.

On November 23: Unidentified gunmen shot dead a former Special Police officer (SPO), who was abducted by unknown gunmen from Reben village of Shopian. He was later identified as Basharat Ahmad Wagay of Shopian.

On November 24: Ishfaq Ahmad, son of Nazir Ahmad Ganie of Magraypora Budgam, succumbed. He was wounded in a firing incident near an army camp in Chattergam, Budgam. He had bullet injuries, one in head and the other in leg.

On November 24: A 14-year-old girl Muskaan Jan D/o Gulam Nabi Wani of Wanigund Qaimoh critically injured during crossfire in Khudwani, Kulgam succumbed to injuries at Srinagar's SMHS hospital.

On November 25: During a protest following the encounter in Shopian, a civilian Nouman Ashraf Bhat (16) son of Muhammad Ashraf of Bolsoo-Yaripora village in Kulgam, was injured and later died at a hospital. Many others were also injured as armed forces fired bullets and pellets to quell the protests. An official at district hospital Shopian said they received 37 people with both bullet and pellet injuries.

On November 25: an elderly lady died of 'shock' after encounter started in Shopian. The deceased was identified as Raja Begum W/o Syed Bashir R/o Hipora Batagund.

On December 06: Hajira Begum (60), wife of Nazir Ahmad Dar died due to suffocation caused by tear smoke after forced allegedly fired tear gas shells after winding up Cordon and Search Operation in Mir Mohalla locality of Hajin. She was a chronic patient of Astama.

On December 11: Unknown gunmen abducted, tortured and killed Sheeraz Ahmad Bhat S/o Ghulam Ahmad Bhat from Kulgam. His body was bearing visible torture marks and a bullet in the abdomen was buried in an orchard in Ahwatoo village.

On December 15: Seven civilians were killed and around 40 were injured in brutal action by forces in Pulwama following the killing of three armed youth in an encounter. The joint forces comprising 55 Rashtriya Rifles, 182 and 183 Bn of CRPF and Special Operations Group (SOG) of J&K police laid siege around Sirnoo village at around 4:00am and directly fired live ammunition and pellets at demonstrators. The youth killed were identified as:

- Suhail Rashid of Bellow was hit by a bullet in the head and neck.
- Liyaqat Ahmad Dar S/o Abdul Majeed Dar, a milkman. He was shot in the head. He was from Parigam, Pulwama.
- Shahnawaz Yousuf Najar S/o Muhammad Yusuf Najar of Monghama,
- Amir Ahmad Palla of Ashminder had a bullet wounds in the chest
- Aqib Ahmad Bhat S/o Bashir Ahmad Bhat of Prichoo, Pulwama. Aqib was the youngest among the seven civilians killed. Studying in class nine was hit by a bullet in the chest, the abdomen, neck and the head.
- Touseef Ahmad Mir S/o Mohammad Ahsan Mir resident of Urichersoo village in Pulwama. He was hit by a bullet in the chest and was referred to SMHS Srinagar; however, he succumbed due to grave injuries.
- Abid Ahmad Lone S/o Gulam Nabi Lone of Kareemabad, He was pursuing an MBA in Indonesia. Abid was hit by a bullet and shifted to district hospital Pulwama where he was declared dead.

On December 27: a civilian was killed in cross border firing across the line of divide in Nowshera sector of Rajouri District. He was identified as Bodh Raj (55), resident of Deeing in Nowshera Tehsil.

On December 29: Arif Ahmad Dar S/o Abdul Ghani Dar, a resident of Larrow succumbed due to injuries. He sustained critical injuries in a “mysterious blast” at Gadoora area of Pulwama.



Armed Youth killed in Jammu & Kashmir during 2018:

	Armed Youth Killed
January	10
February	07
March	19
April	21
May	21
June	22
July	12
August	27
September	34
October	26
November	39
December	17
Total	255

Indian Forces killed in Jammu & Kashmir during 2018:

	Indian Forces Killed
January	13
February	15
March	05
April	10
May	08
June	17
July	08
August	17
September	08
October	10
November	08
December	08
Total	127

Pellet Injuries – Brazen Expression of state violence.

One of the most dangerous weapons used against protesters is pellet-firing shotgun. These fire pellets so far have affected 16000 people in Kashmir and blinded hundreds permanently, the youngest being 19 month old baby Hiba Jan who has lost her vision in one eye.

Metal Pellets are destructive when they enter into the eye. According to data, nearly 4,524 civilians had been injured, and at least 724 of them had suffered injuries to their eyes during the year 2018. On a single day on April 2, 2018 at least 63 civilians with pellet and bullets injuries were admitted in different hospitals across Kashmir. Out of 63, 39 were having metal-pellet injuries and 35 were hit in eye, others were having bullet injuries. On November 25, 40 persons inflicted with pellet and bullet injuries were admitted in district hospital Shopian, 19-month old baby girl from Shopian was also injured on this fatal day. 17 receive pellet injuries on 02 September in Laddi village in Shopian and 15 youth sustain pellet injuries in Panzan Budgam on 27 September and on May 07, Srinagar hospitals receive 45 youth with bullet and pellet injuries.

The State Human Rights Commission has registered 3,800 cases of pellet injuries and blinding since 2016, but there are thousands who, because of the fear of government forces, don't register themselves at all. Children as young as 19 months and five years now have multiple pellets in their retinas, blinding them partially, or fully, for life. Time and again it has been made clear that the soldiers shoot to cause maximum damage. There is no other recorded instance of a modern democracy systematically and willfully shooting at people to blind them. The metal-pellets have also caused deaths since it was introduced as a crowd-control weapon in Kashmir. Hundreds have suffered serious damage in liver and intestinal region due to pellets. 14% of pellet gun victims in Kashmir are below 15.

19-month-old Hiba Jan D/o Nisar Ahmed Bhat, who was hit by pellets in right eye at Kaprin village of south Kashmir's Shopian district is the youngest victim of these "metal-pellets". After keen examination by a group of doctors, the parents of the little baby girl were told that Hiba's eye was "not responding much" to light. She has 50-50 chances of recovering vision.

In 2010, weapons including pellet short-guns, pepper sprays and chilli grenades were introduced in Kashmir to help control mobs. However, the use of metal-pellets has snatched the vision of thousands and ruined lives of hundreds of people. There have been repeated calls to ban use of metal-pellets fired from shotguns in Kashmir. During 2016, at least 12000 Kashmiris were blinded either completely or partially due to the use of metal-pellets on protesters. The sooner, they withdraw the gun the better.

Kashmiri Political Prisoners:

Peace cannot be built when injustice prevails. Over 5,600 mostly youth, were detained at various police stations in the valley in 2018 alone. Those arrested under the PSA have been lodged in jails outside the valley and also, in many cases, in different jails outside the state. Though the High Court has been ordered release of the PSA detainees, the police authorities instead of releasing them as per court orders have slapped fresh PSA and logged them in the jails. Many detainees have faced multiple PSA cases and the application of the law is arbitrary and subjected to misuse. Over 100 others, as per media reports are also reported to be in line to charged and jailed under this law. Reports from jails narrate horrifying stories about plight of detainees. In Jammu Central Jail Kotbalwal, the detainees, and under trials from Kashmir, are misbehaved with on the very entry into the jail. This is aimed at subjecting them to psychological torture and to break their determination. This inhuman practice reflects how the jail authorities violate the jail manual; most of the detainees are political prisoners undergoing detention under preventive detention laws. This is followed by confining the detainee in solitary confinement for a week or so. And, if the detainee is alleged to be a 'stone pelter' the solitary confinement is extended. It has been observed that the jail authorities derive vicarious pleasure by subjecting the inmates and their relatives who come to see them to inconvenience. Torture and persecution of prisoners is pursued as a policy. Reports about manhandling of Kashmiri leaders in Tihar at the hands of dreaded criminals have also been received. Apart from physical torture, complaints about quality of food served to them have also been received. The detainees are deliberately being supplied food items which are injurious to their health. In spite of repeated demands by the detainees to provide them un-harmful food items, the hostile authorities have not paid any attention. The prisoners have also been demanding proper Medicare. Prisoners suffering from serious ailments are not taken to hospitals for want of guards. More than 27,000 people have been arrested and jailed by government under this law since 1989. There are reports they have decided to shift political prisoners outside the state jails which is against the principles of democracy and a blatant violation of the Supreme Court guidelines. At least 2200 political prisoners are lodged in various jails of the state and against them there are no charges other than the one they demand right to self determination.

Religious Rights Suppressed:

The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion is one of the precious human rights, and the imperative need today is to make it a reality for every single individual regardless of the religion or belief that he professes, regardless of his status, and regardless of his condition in life. Freedom of religion which is guaranteed by the international law and declaration on elimination of all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or beliefs are being blatantly violated in Kashmir by the state.

This year too, due to imposition of repeated curfews and restrictions, the congressional Friday prayers at Kashmir's Historic Grand Mosque (Jama Masjid) Srinagar were restricted. Friday Prayers could not be offered for **16** times during the year 2018. The Kashmir's chief religious cleric Mirwaiz Dr. Molvi Mohammad Umar Farooq and Chairman APHC was **17** times barred during the year from performing his religious obligations by arresting him and imposing curbs on his movements. He was kept for **113** days in house confinement.

The government imposed ban on carrying Muharram procession on **8th** and **10th** Muharram (**19 and 21 September, 2018**) across Srinagar in flagrant violation of the international and domestic law which amounts to denial of religious freedom. The state is bound to facilitate the religious practices of its citizens but in Kashmir the authorities imposed complete restrictions in Srinagar on 19 and 21 September, 2018 to prevent the Muharram processions.

Denial of the Freedoms of Peaceful Assembly and Protest:

The forces deployed in Kashmir have terrorized Kashmiris. The people are being deprived from peaceful means of protest. Media persons are not allowed to present the right picture of gross violations of human rights in their newspapers. During 2018, at least ten journalists were physically assaulted by the forces. Curfew by the State administration is exercised as a tool to suppress civil liberties and inflict collective punishment on the entire population. Kashmiries have been denied of right to protest, demonstrations, and right to peaceful march.

To focus international attention on the continued and worsening Human Rights situation, people of Kashmir decided to peacefully observe December 3 to 9 as Human Rights Week. But the repressive and authoritarian state-administration even disallowed that by use of force and even arrested and lodged in jails those participating in candlelight protests! Massive crackdown was launched on the resistance leadership as well as traders, transporter and even businessmen who decided to take out peaceful rallies against the gross human rights situation in Kashmir. Hurriyat and other resistance leadership were frequently arrested or kept under house detention during the year.

The conflict on Kashmir is not a frozen one but continues to consume human lives unabatedly since its beginning in 1947 and has become the cause of horrendous human rights violations against the population of the territory. People in Kashmir are living a life with fear. After the ongoing movement started in 1989, the Kashmiris have been killed, massacred, raped, tortured, dishonored, and humiliated. The instability in Kashmir and the continuous curfews disrupt daily life; schools, colleges, and universities remain closed for indefinite periods due to cycle of violence. Indian armed forces are committing war crimes in the Valley and appear to be engaged in an armed aggression against the people demanding their right to self-determination.

The entire mankind in their respective habitats has a right to have their voice heard and to have a role in making the decisions that shape their communities, so have the people of Jammu and Kashmir a right to shape their future according to their wishes and aspirations and live in the life of dignity as the other peoples of the world.

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