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PRESS RELEASE

ANIC Strongly Condemns the Recent Human Rights Violations Carried out by the Indian Security Forces in Kashmir

The Grand Mufti of Australia and The Australian National Imam Council (ANIC) strongly condemn the recent human rights violations carried out by the Indian security forces towards innocent civilians of the Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK). We unequivocally reject the Indian Government unilateral actions to abolish the special autonomous status of Indian-Occupied portion of the Muslim-majority in Kashmir. The Indian government's latest provocations backed by military intervention are in breach of the international laws supported by several UN Security Council resolutions.

Our sincerest thoughts and prayers are with the innocent victims and their families.

These unconstitutional actions came after days of an escalated crackdown by Indian security forces on innocent civilians in Kashmir, with thousands of troops deployed, a lockdown curfew imposed on parts of the region, a telecommunications shutdown and the arrest of political leaders.

These irrational and barbaric actions of the Indian Government has exposed the ugly face of Indian's so called democratic government with a highly tainted record of Nationalist Government sponsored atrocities against religious minorities including Christian and Muslim communities.

We would like to call upon the Australian Government to advocate for the protection of the Human Rights of the people of the Indian Occupied Kashmir. We request the Australian Government to raise theses serious issues especially that Australia has the privilege of holding one out of ten non-permanent seats in the United Nation security council.

We count on the Australian Government to take an active role to defuse that tension that has arisen from the Indian government unilateral decision to preserve the lives and properties of the civilians and to avert any possible potential military confrontation between India and Pakistan that would destabilise our region.

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