

MASOOD KHAN PAYS RICH TRIBUTE TO KASHMIRI HERO SYED ALI AHMED SHAH



Sardar Masood Khan, President Jammu and Kashmir, has said that the international community should step forward to help resolve the Kashmir dispute and prevent any sort of escalation between Pakistan and India. He said, despite the international community knowing fully about the Kashmir conflict, they are hesitant to talk of the human rights violations taking place in Indian Occupied Kashmir further reiterating that the unresolved Kashmir dispute will remain a threat to global peace and stability. The President expressed these views while addressing the 29th death anniversary event of former President of AJK and first AJK Defence Minister, Captain General Syed Ali Ahmed Shah, here at the Kashmir Press Club. The event was also addressed by AJK Minister for Sports and Culture, Chaudhry Mohammad Saeed, former AJK Chief Justice and President Jammu and Kashmir Liberation

League, Abdul Majid Malik, Sports Minister of Sports and Affairs, former President of the Supreme Court Bar Association and Chairman of the Syed Ali Shah Shah Memorial Committee, Syed Neshat Kazmi, DG Mirpur Development Authority, Ejaz Raza, Director General Kashmir Liberation Cell, Fida Hussain Kayani and President Kashmir Press Club Mirpur, Sajjad Jarral. President Azad Kashmir said that the world should look at Kashmir issue as a humanitarian crisis and not just through the lens of being a nuclear flashpoint between Pakistan and India. This conflict, he said, directly affects 20 million people living in Jammu and Kashmir. Masood Khan echoed the fact that the only solution is the resolution of the issue in light of the UN Security Council resolutions and allowing the Kashmiris to exercise their free political will. The state, he said, consists of Jammu, Kashmir Valley, Ladakh, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir; which has to be treated as one entity and any solution of the Kashmir dispute must incorporate the political dispensation of all the people belonging to these five territories. President Masood Khan paid rich tribute to former AJK President and the first Defence Minister of Azad Kashmir Captain General Syed Ali Ahmed Shah for his prominent role during the war of liberation (1947) and later for his outstanding services in the newly formed AJK Government. The President said that Syed Ali Ahmad Shah was not only known for his honesty and integrity but also for his immense professionalism and sense of duty towards his people and his undivided focus on strengthening the nascent institutional setup of AJK. The President said that that he would consider renaming Mirpur University of Science and Technology (MUST) after the former President Syed Ali Ahmed Shah. He also said that in the future, the death anniversary of the Syed Ali Ahmed Shah will be organised at MUST. He appealed to the political leadership of Azad Kashmir to unite on one platform and leverage their strengths in a united manner to help take forward the freedom struggle of the oppressed Kashmiris in Indian Occupied Kashmir and help them ascertain their right to self-

determination.