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All Party Parliamentary Group on Kashmir

The Honorable Ban Ki-Moon
Secretary General
760 United Nations Plaza
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
United States of America



19th July 2012

Dear Secretary- General,

As the secretariat of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Kashmir, and as Members of Parliament and of the House of Lords of the British Parliament, we are writing to you to ask that the UN afford greater focus and work on the situation in Kashmir.

Reports of torture and extrajudicial killings in Kashmir have existed for many years, and have been the focus of reports by Amnesty International as well as other independent observers including a Channel 4 documentary (<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/kashmirs-torture-trail>). We are gravely concerned that there has been a further new wave of violence against unarmed individuals.

To date there has been very little action to deal with these ongoing atrocities which have been able to continue without observance or intervention from world powers. There has been little progress on achieving a peaceful solution to the situation in Kashmir between the Indian and Pakistani Governments and whilst these prolonged and difficult negotiations continue, hundreds of innocent people in the region lose their lives and face torture on a daily basis.

We remain concerned that there are two outstanding UN resolutions in place instructing that a plebiscite should be held, with the earliest dating from 1948, however we are nowhere nearer achieving this aim.

We would be obliged if you could consider sending a special envoy to the region to monitor the situation and investigate reports of torture and killings against many hundreds of innocent protesters and individuals in Kashmir and that a report is delivered to the UN.

We would be grateful for your consideration of these points and would welcome a formal response from the UN about the actions that will be taken on this issue.

Yours faithfully,

Lord Ahmed
Gerald Kauffman MP
Andrew Griffiths MP
David Nuttall MP
Chris Leslie MP
Gavin Shuker MP

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

