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Agenda item 2 Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

## Written statement\* submitted by Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[22 August 2022]



<sup>\*</sup> Issued as received, in the language of submission only.

## Massacre in Balochistan by the Military Operations

Balochistan a piece of land distributed in Three pieces among Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran (Islamic Republic of), having an Area approximately equally to France in Land size. On the western side the Baloch land is divided by Gold Smith Line and a piece of land of Balochistan was then in 1817 was gifted by the then British rulers to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and on the Northern Side the Baloch land was divide by Durand Line in 1870 by the Britishers and similarly a piece was given to the then Afghan Rulers. The rest of the Balochistan was ruled by the Khan of Kalat as a state and the Baloch people were enjoying their sovereignty till 1948. In March 1948 Pakistan annexed the rest of the Balochistan through a military operation against the will of the people and the state constitution Bodies ie Lower House and Upper House rulings.

Resource-rich Balochistan, Pakistan's largest province by area but the least populated, has been under the grip of a bloody military operations for more than 15 years. Islamabad had a tense relationship with the Baloch, whom complain that Pakistan has occupied their land by force. Since 2004, a fifth resistance started in Balochistan, which was intensified after the killing of Baloch leader Nawab Akbar Bugti in a military operation in 2006. Thousands of civilians, political activists, children, women and soldiers have been killed in military sweeps across the province. Violence has also displaced thousands while families continue to protest over the disappearance of hundreds of their relatives.

Pakistan PArmy carries such military operations thoroughly in Balochistan throught the year and calls military operations as clearance operations. I.e;

Pakistani Army started a deadly military operation in Shapuk, Sami, Sherak and several other areas of Panjgur and Naushki at midnight. Local sources said that large numbers of ground troops with tanks and heavy artillery besieged almost entire Panjgur district and launched the operation. Residents of the areas including women and children were harassed and brutally beaten up by the personnel of ruthless Pakistan Army.

#### Security forces complete clearance operation in Balochistan: ISPR

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Saturday 05th February 2022, that the clearance operation in Balochistan, which was launched after terrorists attacked security forces camps in the province's Panjgur and Naushki areas late on Wednesday evening, had been completed.

Twenty terrorists were killed during operations after the attacks, the military's media affairs wing said in a statement, adding that nine security personnel had embraced martyrdom.

"Both attacks were repulsed successfully by prompt response from troops at both locations," the ISPR said.It added that nine of the terrorists were killed in Naushki and four security personnel, including an officer, were martyred during an exchange of fire with the militants there.In Panjgur, the ISPR said, security forces had repulsed the terrorist attack after an intense exchange of fire during which some of the militants had fled the area.

Security forces had carried out a clearance operation to hunt down the hiding terrorists in the vicinity, it said, adding that initially four fleeing terrorists were killed there and as many were encircled by security forces the next day.

"All encircled terrorists were killed in today's (Saturday) operation as they failed to surrender," the ISPR said.

The military's media wing said five soldiers, including a junior commissioned officer, were martyred and six injured during follow-up operations in Panjgur over the past 72 hours.

Moreover, the ISPR said, three terrorists, including two high-value targets, linked to the attacks were killed in Kech district's Balgatar area on Friday. These terrorists were killed in a follow up clearance operation conducted at a makeshift terrorist hideout. "Our security forces stand firm and resolutely committed to eliminating the menace of terrorism from our soil no matter [at] what the cost," the ISPR said. \*1

# Balochistan: Pakistani forces conduct fresh offensives in Awaran and Kahan

QUETTA: 20th Feb 2022 Pakistan army have conducted fresh military offensives in Balochistan district Awaran and Kohlu on Sunday morning.

According to details, Pakistani occupying are currently engaged in active military offensives in Balochistan's Kahan region of district Kohlu since Sunday morning.

Sources reported that fresh contingents of Pakistan army have been dispatched to Kahan from Sibbi on early hours of February 20. The forces have besieged Bambore and surrounding regions and started the offensives.

According to the local sources, apart from tens of Pakistani ground forces five gunship helicopters are also taking part of in recent operation in the latest aggression. However, there has been no report of confirmed casualties and damage to properties due to lack of communication and the area still being under military blockade.

It is important to remember that Bambore region is rich in natural resources where Chinese Pakistani exploration companies have been planning to initiate their exploitative projects but faced heavy resistance from Baloch freedom fighters. Meanwhile, Pakistani army have also been carrying offensives in different areas of district Awaran Balochisan for the past four days including Sour Ger and Jhao areas.\*2

Balochistan is a media blackout region, neither local media nor international media is allowed to witness and report cases of military operations in Balochistan.

The United States of America department of state in country report 2021 states: Pakistan security forces in Balochistan continued to disappear pretrial terror suspects, along with human rights activists, politicians, and teachers. The baloch human rights Council noted 37 individuals had disappeared and assailants killed 25 persons, including one woman, in the month of June. The NGO Voice for Missing Baloch Persons claimed police killed 27 persons in Balochistan as of August.\*3

Baloch Voice Association (BVA), Baloch Voice Foundation (BVF), Voice for Baloch Missing Persons (VBMP), Baloch Peoples Congress (BPC), NGO(s) without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.

1. https://www.dawn.com/news/1673490

<sup>2.</sup> https://balochwarna.com/2022/02/20/balochistan-pakistani-forces-conduct-fresh-offensives-in-awaran-and-kahan/

<sup>3.</sup> https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/pakistan/