



**JKCHR – Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights**  
NGO in Special Consultative Status with the ECOSOC of the United Nations  
Established in 1984

**By Fax**

11 March 2011

The Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion  
3-042  
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)  
Palais Wilson  
52 rue des Pâquis  
CH-1201 Geneva, Switzerland

Attention  
Mr. Michael Wiener  
Mrs. Nathalie Rondeux

Subject: Shabir Ahmad Shah aka Nelson Mandela of Kashmir

JKCHR delegation at the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of UN Human Rights Council in Geneva has been informed by a colleague Mr. Ershad Malik from London that chief of Freedom Party in Srinagar (Indian administered) Mr. Shabir Ahmad Shah aka Nelson Mandela of Kashmir has been placed under house arrest by the State administration and not allowed to offer his Friday prayers at the local mosque today on 11 March 2011.

The case represents a serious infringements of and impediment to the exercise of the right to freedom of religion and belief.

You are requested to very kindly examine the incident and take cognizance of the governmental action that remains incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief and recommend remedial measures as appropriate (Human Rights Council resolution 6/37 and General Assembly resolution 61/161) so that Mr. Shah and his colleagues are not stopped from offering the important Friday prayers in future.

The matter needs to be taken up with the Government of India and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. The latter is a subject of many UN Resolutions.

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JKCHR would be pleased to assist your office should you require any more information.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Syed Nazir Gilani". The signature is written in a cursive style. The word "Syed" is on the left, "Nazir" is in the middle, and "Gilani" is on the right. A horizontal line is drawn under the entire signature.

Dr. Syed Nazir Gilani  
Secretary General-JKCHR