

# CHAIRMAN OF THE SAADET PARTY MR. MAHMUT ARIKAN

SPEECH ON THE OCCASION OF ESAM  
KASHMIR SOLIDARITY DAY FEBRUARY 5, 2025





ESAM President Mr. Ertan Yülek,  
Your Excellency, Ambassador,  
Esteemed Representatives of Civil Society Organizations,  
Respected Members of the Press, Honored Guests,  
I greet you all with affection.

As I begin my speech on this meaningful day, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the ESAM for organizing such an important event, to His Excellency the Ambassador for attending, and to you, our esteemed guests, for showing sensitivity and participating.

I would also like to take a moment to remember our esteemed elder Recai Kutun, the founder and follower of these efforts, who passed away four months ago.

During his tenure as Chairman of the Saadet Party and President of ESAM, Recai Kutun always upheld justice, standing as the voice of righteousness, fairness, common sense, and the oppressed worldwide.

He would always begin his speeches with a historical warning. Today, as I commemorate him, I would like to repeat his words:

“The world we live in today, especially the Islamic world, is going through one of the most critical and turbulent periods in its history. Cries of agony rise from many parts of the world, and in most Islamic countries, there is oppression, bloodshed, and tears.”

Today, we continue to feel this deeply. Muslims remain at the center of great crises, subjected to occupation, oppression, and human rights violations.

ESAM, under whose roof we gather today, has been reminding us of the ongoing oppression in Kashmir for years through local and international

efforts, keeping it on the agenda and bringing it to global attention.

Honored Guests, Other respectable speakers will surely elaborate on the details, but I would like to provide a brief overview.

Before delving into the painful history of conflicts and suffering that Kashmir has endured, I want to make one point clear: The Kashmir issue is a byproduct of the British colonial project in India and its continuation.

In the global struggle between truth and falsehood, struggle between haqq and batil, Kashmir is part of the systematic oppression imposed by Zionism on Muslims in Asia.

Zionism and its supporters have set specific targets in the region to protect their strategic interests, while India has been manipulated in this geopolitical game due to its ambitions and vulnerabilities.

As with other oppressed regions, unless Islamic nations unite in a common stance, the Kashmir issue will remain unresolved, and oppression will only increase.

Look at history: oppression and persecution in Kashmir have persisted since 1947.

Over 78 years, tens of thousands have lost their lives,

More than 100,000 people have suffered torture,

Thousands have been martyred under torture.

There is not even comprehensive data on the looting, rapes, and human rights violations.

For 78 years, the international community has failed to take decisive action to resolve the issue. Instead of seeking justice, the world has remained silent, prioritizing self-interest over justice. Meanwhile, just like in Palestine, Arakan, and East Turkestan, Islamic nations have failed to demonstrate a

unified response to the suffering in Kashmir. The reality is clear: Kashmir's unresolved status serves the interests of global imperialists.

Under these circumstances, the Kashmir issue is not just Pakistan's or India's problem. It is our cause because it is a matter of faith and the unity of the Muslim Ummah!

Honored Guests, What is happening in Kashmir today is a crime against humanity, carried out by the Indian administration with the silent approval of the international community.

The crimes committed in Kashmir are no different from the human rights violations in Abu Ghraib, Sednaya Prison, or Gaza.

The international community, the United Nations, and the Islamic World must extend the same sympathy to the Kashmiri people as they do to Palestinians and Syrians.

We must ensure that Muslim nations take stronger collective action, establish shared enforcement mechanisms, and use these powers for oppressed peoples like those in Kashmir.

We cannot see Kashmir merely as a dispute between India and Pakistan. It is a matter of conscience, history, and justice. That is why it is our cause.

The Kashmiris are innocent. We must stand with the innocent. That is why it is our cause. The Kashmiris are oppressed. We must stand with the oppressed. That is why it is our cause.

What is happening in the region is an effort to cleanse India of Muslims and weaken the power of Islamic countries in the Asia-Pacific.

This is why Kashmir is our cause.

As Millî Görüş Movement members, just as we stood with the oppressed in Bosnia, Chechnya, Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, Moro, and Arakan, today, we stand with Kashmir.

So what should be done?

First, as a Mughal Emperor once said, “Kashmir will not be resolved until the Kashmiris are consulted.”

Thus, the first step must be to grant Kashmiris their right to self-determination.

Second, international law must be upheld, and UN resolutions must be enforced.

Third, the international community must take an active role. Organizations like the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) must increase diplomatic pressure and send independent observers to monitor the situation.

However, the Indian administration continues its oppression to prevent this from happening.

Honored Guests, For all these reasons, we, as ESAM, in cooperation with the embassy and through our fieldwork, will stand by the cause of Kashmir and continue working towards a solution.

We will ensure that Kashmir is never forgotten.

The Muslims of Kashmir, Pakistan, and India once sent their gold and jewelry to support the Ottoman Empire in its difficult days.

We are a community upon which history has placed responsibility. As such, we must stand with Kashmir.

Kashmir, Palestine, East Turkestan, and other oppressed lands await justice.

The solution lies in Muslim unity to build a just new world.

Once again, I thank ESAM for organizing this event and His Excellency the Ambassador for attending. I wish you all a pleasant evening.



