APPLAUDS THE OIC DECISION

PRESS RELEASE

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PROF. KHURSHID AHMAD

MUTHIDDAH MAJLIS-E-AMAL PAKISTAN MMA

PRESS RELEASE

<u>Islamabad (May 8, 2006)</u>: Senator Professor Khurshid Ahmad has applauded the recent report of the OIC Secretary General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu that criticizes India for being "intransigent and uncooperative" on Kashmir.

"I and the people of Pakistan and Jammu & Kashmir express their gratitude to you for this position in your report and hope you will stand by it," Professor Khurshid said in a letter to Dr. Ekmeleddin.

Presented to the senior officials of the Organization of Islamic Conference (PIC), the report also appreciates Pakistan's efforts and upholding of various resolutions on the dispute. For quite some time, India had been giving the impression that it was about to get the observer status at OIC. But its meandering moves, suggesting that Saudi Arabia was keen to see India getting into the OIC with Pakistan's support, dashed to the ground with "clear and firm position" of the OIC chief, said Prof. Khurshid.

While India is stubbornly pursuing its hegemonic goals and denying the people of Jammu & Kashmir their inalienable right to self-determination, it's getting the observer status at OIC "would negate the very concept of the Organization," he noted.

Prof. Khurshid Ahmad also appreciated the OIC report for expressing solidarity with Pakistan and Kashmiris in dealing with the devastating earthquake on October 8, 2005 and reaffirming its continued commitment to the just cause of Kashmiris for self-determination and an end to the violations of human rights in the Indian-held Kashmir.