

Kashmir Human Rights Defenders, Remote Research Opportunity

Application Deadline: February 21, 2020

Position Title: Research Assistant

Location: This is a remote position. You will be supervised by a human rights litigator located in Washington, D.C.

Who We Are: A newly-organized group of U.S. based-lawyers, associated with the U.S.-based non-profit [Americans for Kashmir \(A4K\)](#), and working in partnership with human rights defenders on the ground in Jammu & Kashmir. We are seeking a law, LLM, or graduate student to assist with research related to human rights and other international and domestic law violations occurring in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Crisis in Jammu & Kashmir: Since August 2019, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have faced an extreme crackdown by the Indian government, including mass arrests and detentions of civil and political leaders; blocking of all internet and social media; and restrictions on freedom of speech and assembly. Human rights defenders in Kashmir, as well as Indian and foreign journalists, have extensively documented credible reports of torture, arbitrary detention, disappearances, mass graves, and use of excessive force against the civilian population, including children and the elderly. Many Indian and foreign journalists, academics, politicians, and civil society groups have pointed to the crackdown in Kashmir as part of a greater pattern of persecution of religious and ethnic minorities across India.

Position Requirements: The Research Assistant (RA) should ideally be available for 15 hours per week and would work remotely under the supervision of one or more members of the U.S.-based group of lawyers. The RA will primarily focus on researching connections between certain U.S. persons and groups that fund, organize, and otherwise support human rights violators and persecutors in India. The RA will gain knowledge of investigating, analyzing, and building fact patterns to support domestic and international human rights litigation; monitoring and summarizing relevant media; compiling case research; and drafting advocacy-style documents for internal use and for background for future advocacy projects. The RA will build skills in legal research, writing, and advocacy and receive regular and detailed feedback on his or her work. The work of previous RAs for this group was used during recent U.S. Congressional hearings regarding the human rights crisis in Jammu & Kashmir. This is an unpaid research position.

Qualifications:

- Current law, LLM, or graduate students with an interest in human rights and/or international law;
- Excellent research and writing skills;
- High level of initiative and self-motivation;
- Ability to handle sensitive relationships and protect the confidentiality of our work and our communications.

Funding: This is an unpaid research position.

Application Procedure: Students interested in the position of Kashmir Human Rights Defenders, Research Assistant, should submit a resume, law/graduate school transcript, writing sample (10 pages or fewer), and contact information for two references. Please send all application materials electronically, in a single PDF file, to Kashmir.Defenders@gmail.com and include "Legal Intern Spring 2020" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.