## **Pulwama Attack: India's Darkest Day**

On February 14, 2019, the shaken terrorist attack shook India and left an unforgettable brand in the history of the nation. In the Pulwama District in Jammu and Kashmir, a suicide bomber focused on a convoy of vehicles carrying security staff from the Central Reserve (CRPF) police forces. The tragic attack claimed the lives of 40 brave Jawans CRPF and many others were injured. It was one of the deadliest attacks on Indian security forces in decades.

The suicide bomber, Adil Ahmad Dar, 22 -year -old local youth from Kashmir, led the CRPF explosive car. The terrorist group Jaish-E-Mohammed (SE), which operates from Pakistan, took responsibility for the attack. The size of destruction and loss amazed the whole country. Families lost their sons, wives lost their husbands, and the children were without a father.

The whole nation responded with anger, sadness and deep pain. Throughout India, citizens organized candles' marches and paid honor to martyrs. Political leaders, celebrities and ordinary people have joined to demand justice. The Indian government responded strongly by withdrawing the most popular status of Pakistan (MFN) and internationally increased diplomatic pressure to isolate Pakistan.

In a significant military reaction, 26 February 2019, the Indian Air Force carried out air strikes at the Jaish-E-Mohammed training camp based in Pakistan Balakot. India claimed that many terrorists were neutralized in surgery. This meant a bold shift in Indian defense policy-Z defensive to a proactive strategy against cross-border terrorism.

The attack in Pulwam revealed some important questions about security. Questions about the sharing of intelligence, convoy security and how radicalization spread among youth in Kashmir were raised. It turned out that there is an urgent need for stronger intelligence networks, better communication between agencies and efforts to stop the brains of young minds.

The internationally attacked widespread convicts. Countries like the United States, France, Russia and many others have stood in India and supported their right to defend themselves against terrorism. The United Nations also condemned the attack in Pulwama and called for an action against the perpetrators.

Even after several years, the attack in Pulwama remains fresh in the memory of every Indian. It is a reminder of the heavy price that security forces pays for the protection of the nation every day. The courage and victim of these 40 CRPF employees continue to inspire millions of Indians. Their bravery teaches us the importance of national unity, vigilance and the need to oppose terrorism.

In conclusion, the attack in Pulwam was not just a terrorist act; It was an attack on the Indian spirit and dignity. But instead of breaking the spirit of the nation, India was more decisive. It reminded every citizen that while the freedom costs are high, the Indian spirit will always cost higher than any threat.