

When Neela Butt Day is celebrated to commemorate start of Kashmir freedom struggle?

- a) **23rd August**
- b) 23rd February
- c) 23rd July
- d) 23rd October

Heavenly State of Jammu and Kashmir has a total area of 84471 square miles. It was an independent state at the time of partition and as per decision independent states were free to choose, either accession to India or Pakistan or as self administered free state. But there were hints that ruler of the state, Maharaja Hari Singh will decide accession to India against the will of majority Muslim community. It was on 23rd of August 1947, a meeting of Muslim representatives held at Neela Butt, a historic place in District Bagh AJK. Farmer president and prime minister of AJK Saradr Abdul Qayum Khan emerged as a young leader in this meeting. Muslims decided to start freedom struggle in this meeting. This meeting was presided by Pir Syed Shamshad Hussain. Sardar Abdul Qayum Khan was latter publicly entitled as Mujahid e Awal.

Kashmiris celebrate this day to reiterate their resolve to continue freedom struggle till freedom of entire state of Jammu and Kashmir. Kashmiris want their right of self determination, which was promised by United Nations resolutions. Neela Butt day has a great significance in the history of Kashmir so Government of AJK decided to celebrate this and announced it as public holiday in AJK on 23rd of August 2022. Main ceremony will be at Neela Butt, Bagh AJK whereas there will be events in all the districts to highlight the significance of this day. Fateha will be offered to the soul of great Kashmiri leader Sardar Abdul Qayum Khan who was only 23 years old when he emerged as a torch bearer of freedom struggle for Kashmir. Kashmir is not piece of land it is a home of great Kashmiris and they will never back from their pledge to freedom of entire state.