

URGENT ACTION

PAKISTANI MEN DISAPPEARED AFTER ARREST IN UAE

Three Pakistani men, including a university professor of dentistry, have been missing since their arrest on 5 April 2010 in Ras al Khaimah in United Arab Emirates. Amnesty International fears they may be subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

On 31 March 2010, **Dr Ayyaz Ali Khan** visited the United Arab Emirates to finish setting up a project at the faculty of dentistry at the university in Ras al Khaimah (RAK). On 5 April, Dr Khan was taken from the RAK University's guest house by the UAE security officers. Two other Pakistani nationals, who work for the university in RAK, were also taken by security officers, from a different location.

On 22 April 2010, the spokesperson of the consulate of Pakistan in the UAE told the press that the consulate had been 'temporarily' denied access to the detained men until the investigation is completed. He said that the men had been transferred from RAK to Abu Dhabi for further interrogation by the Federal Security Department and that the men should be released on 23 April. However, the men are still detained in an unknown location and have not been given access to the Consulate of Pakistan. According to Dr Khan's family, the UAE security forces have told them that they have no records of his arrest or detention.

Amnesty International's concerns are heightened by persistent reports of torture and other ill-treatment as well as prolonged detention without charge or trial in the UAE. Amnesty International fears that the arrest and detention of the three men in conditions amounting to an enforced disappearance puts them at a great risk of torture or other ill-treatment.

Dr Ayyaz Ali Khan is Head of the Dental Department of Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al-Nahyan Hospital in Lahore and Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry of Rifa International University in Islamabad as well as Associate Visiting Professor at Ras al Khaimah College of Dental Sciences in UAE.

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in English, Arabic or your own language:

- Expressing concern at the arrest of Dr Khan and another two men and urging the authorities in the UAE to disclose their whereabouts and the reason for their arrest;
- Urging the authorities to release Dr Khan and the other two detainees immediately if they are not to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence;
- Calling for the detainees to receive family visits, the assistance of a lawyer of their own choosing and of consular officials as well as any medical care they may require;
- Urging the authorities to protect the three men from torture and other ill-treatment while they are in detention.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 16 JUNE 2010 TO:

Minister of Interior

Lt-General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Minister of Interior

Human Rights Directorate

POB: 398, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Fax: +971 4 3981119

Salutation: Your Excellency

Vice-President and Prime Minister

Shaikh Mohammad bin Rashid Al-Maktoum

Office of the Prime Minister

POB 2838

Dubai, UAE

Fax: **+971 4 3531974**

Salutation: Your Highness

And copies to:

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahya

POB 1, Abu Dhabi,

United Arab Emirates

Fax: **+971 2 4447766**

Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

UA: 105/10 Index: MDE 25/003/2010 Issue Date: 5 May 2010

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