

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 33/014/2005

08 June 2005

Further Information on UA 111/05 (ASA 33/006/2005, 05 May 2005) Fear for Safety/ "Disappearance"

PAKISTAN	Nawaz Ali (m)]	
	Akhter Nadeem (m)]	
Released:	Imdad Baloch (m)]	Members of the Baloch Students Organisation
	Yusuf Baloch (m)]	
	Ghulam Rasool Allah Nazar (m)]	
	Naseem Baloch (m)]	

Imdad Baloch, Yusuf Baloch, Ghulam Rasool and Naseem Baloch were reportedly released on 24 May 2005. They had been detained incommunicado for two months, along with Nawaz Ali and Akhter Nadeem, and were reportedly tortured. Nawaz Ali and Akhter Nadeem are still detained at an unknown location and remain at risk of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

The six men, all members of the Baloch Students Organisation, were arrested in the city of Karachi on 25 March 2005. Since his release Imdad Baloch has stated how following their arrest, himself, Yusuf Baloch, Ghulam Rasool and Naseem Baloch were detained incommunicado in solitary confinement for 33 days in Karachi, where they were tortured. Their hands and feet were shackled and their heads were covered. The four were then reportedly taken to the city of Quetta in the province of Balochistan, where they were kept for 22 days and threatened with death if they continued to participate in politics. They were finally taken to a police station in the town of Dera Ghazi Khan, in the state of Punjab, where their head coverings were removed and they realised that Nawaz Ali and Akhter Nadeem were not with them. The four men were produced in court on 24 May and released on bail; the charges pending against them remain unclear. Imdad Baloch also stated that in all three places where he was held, he heard the screams of prisoners being tortured in nearby cells.

The Baloch Students Organisation is a group that is active in highlighting the plight of the Baloch people. They have campaigned on issues including recent allegations of the unlawful killing of villagers by the military in Balochistan. They have also campaigned on the longer standing issue of access to resources such as gas. Balochistan hosts the country's primary gas installation yet the residents of this province have little access to this resource.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:

- welcoming the release of Imdad Baloch, Yusuf Baloch, Ghulam Rasool and Naseem Baloch;
- calling for an immediate and impartial investigation into allegations that the four men were tortured in detention, with the results made public and anyone found responsible brought to justice;
- urging the authorities to launch an immediate investigation into the whereabouts of Nawaz Ali and Akhter Nadeem;
- reminding the government that incommunicado detention is a violation of an individual's fundamental rights underlined by Articles 9 & 10 of the Pakistan Constitution;
- seeking assurances that they are not being subjected to torture or ill-treatment;
- calling for them to be granted access to their families, lawyers, and any medical attention they may require;
- calling for them to be released if they are in custody, unless they are charged with a recognizably criminal offence, in which case they must be given a fair and prompt trial.

APPEALS TO: (Please note that email addresses in Pakistan can be unreliable. If you receive notification that your message has not been delivered, please re-send your email. If it fails again, please use fax numbers or postal addresses to send your appeal.)

President, Pervez Musharraf
Pakistan Secretariat
Islamabad, Pakistan

Fax: + 92 51 9221422
E-mail: CE@pak.gov.pk
Salutation: Dear President

Mr. Muhammad Wasi Zafar
Minister of Law, Justice and Human Rights
S Block, Pak. Sectt. Islamabad, Pakistan

Fax: + 92 51 9202628
E-Mail: minister@molaw.gov.pk
Salutation: Dear Minister

Governor of Balochistan
Awais Ghani
Governor House
Quetta, Balochistan, Pakistan

Fax: + 92 81 920 2178 / 2992
Salutation: Dear Governor

COPIES TO: Diplomatic representatives of Pakistan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 July 2005.