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## Human Rights Council

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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,  
political, economic, social and cultural rights,  
including the right to development**

### **Written statement\* submitted by Union of Northwest Human Rights Organisation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[22 May 2022]

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\* Issued as received, in the language of submission only. The views expressed in the present document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials.



## **Human Rights Abuses Of The Rights Of Sindhi People And Their Native Land Sindh Subjugated Under Pakistan**

### **Enforced Disappearances**

Enforced disappearances of Sindhi political dissidents and Sindhi nationalist activists at the hands of Pakistan's military and its intelligence agencies, the most feared Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) and Military Intelligence (MI), have become order of the day in Pakistan. According to Sarang Joyo[1], spokesperson and the joint secretary of the 'Sindh Sujagi Forum' and Voice of Missing Persons of Sindh, "around forty (40) young activists belonging to the different Sindhi nationalist organizations were enforcedly disappeared through midnight swoops in various parts of Sindh in recent past two weeks."

Mr. Joyo who himself and with his wife Sohni Joyo was just granted pre arrest bail in case of sedition merely on attending the death anniversary of Sindhi nationalist leader G.M. Syed. In addition to the recent enforced disappearances, there is an equal number of another 40 nationalist political activists from various Sindhi nationalist groups who remain missing and incommunicado to their families and friends in Sindh. Among those 80 who were enforcedly disappeared Allah Wadhayo Mahar and Suhail Bhatti remain enforcedly disappeared for the last eight years. Their whereabouts, whether they are dead or alive? are not known to their families, friends, like fate of other victim of enforced disappearances Sindhi victims.

### **Extra Judicial Killings**

On May 18, 2022, at Karachi, the Capital City of Sindh, The police and military intelligence agencies killed two Sindhi youth including A.D.Rahimoon, an activist of Sindhi nationalist party Jeay Sindh Qaumi Party in a fake shoot out. Police and military call it 'full fry.'

"Full Fry and Half Fry" that is become a Phrase in an everyday diction of Pakistani media, human rights groups and public has nothing to do with culinary but police and security forces code of modus operandi of extra justice killings in Sindh. In Pakistan's state 'full fry' means killing any unarmed by way of extra judicial operation and 'half fry' means 'serious injuring the detainee by shooting or torture third degree.

In June 2021, Dodo Bheel a worker of Thar Coal Authority was arrested by Police IslamKot of Sindh province, detained, and tortured to death by police.[2]

In March earlier, Irfan Jatoi, a student of Sindh University Jamshoro was arrested by Sukkur police team led by its Senior Superintendent and was shown dead in fake shoot encounter.

Instead of police being accounted for for the extra judicial actions, local, human rights activist Ustaad Khalid and local journalists were framed up on defamation of police merely on exposing the police brutality.

### **Forced Conversions**

On March 21, this year, a 16-year-old Hindu girl was shot dead while resisting her kidnapping for forced conversion to Islam at Sukkur City of Sindh under Pakistan. The murder of minor Hindu girl resisting the frocked conversion reconfirmed Pakistan 'as country of particular concern on religious freedoms'

If you are a parent or sibling of growing young Sindhi Hindu Girl in Pakistan, your dilemma is your young daughter or sister could be abducted and forcibly converted. There are cases of two to three young Sindhi Hindu girls being abducted and forcibly converted to Islam on everyday bases in Sindh. The kidnappers to these young Sindhi Hindu girls later declare and attested by Pakistani courts as 'husbands' to the victim girls. The forced conversions of young Hindu women in Sindh enjoy complete state impunity.

## Grand Theft Of Sindh's Water

Months of May and June are the seasons of the River Indus overflowing with its water while flowing in Sindh. But the Indus rivers within territories of Sindh is flying the sandstorms because of the plundering of water resources of Sindh before the Indus enters the borders of Sindh. It is the historic grand theft of Sindh's water. 'Sindh is on the verge of Running Dry' is virtually become a public out cry of every Sindhi. With the opening of new 'Chashma Jhelum Link Canal in the name of electricity generation on May 10th this year despite Protest of Sindhis has brought Sindh further on the brink of complete desertification.

## Torture in Sindh

Despite Pakistan's claims that their constitution does not allow torture. The torture is common feature of Pakistan's state security, prison systems and secret detention centers where political dissidents, nationalist activists and common citizens are subject to torture. The latest example is arrests of around one hundred men, women, and children, mostly member of Sindhi nationalist organizations who were on their way to attend or returning from death anniversary of their leader G.M. Sayed. These arrestees were tortured at the time of their arrest and even tortured at the times they were entered in prisons. They also included common men and women who were stopped while on their way on the highway passing through the village the G.M. Sayed where he is buried.

Yet, there are several cases of those returning from the secret military detentions sites only after they completely lost their mind through severe torture. Of latest Voice of Missing Person of Sindh declare six Sindhi nationalists namely Faraz Ahmed Jalbani, Mohammed Hanif Jalbani, Farhan Jatoi, Zubair Jatoi and Imtiaz Jalbani were arrested from Nasirabad District, detained at unknown places, and tortured for months. Later Larkana Divisional Police Chief showed these arrested six youths as they members of the disbanded Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army (SRA)[3]

## Blasphemy Law and Professor Notan Lal

Blasphemy Law is a blunt but a most dangerous weapon at the hands of Pakistani military and the mullahs to silence the political, dissidents, and their opponents. One of horrifying cases of Blasphemy is of Professors Notan Lal who has been pronounced a life term imprisonment and languishing in Sukkur Central Jail for the last three years. Notan Lal is a Sindhi, he is a Hindu, and he is a progressive and independent mind Professor. Notan Lal and his wife were running a private college in their anti-native town Ghotki when a conspiracy against him and Sindhi Hindu communities was hatched by Mian Mitho who has been instrumental behind the forced conversion of Young Sindhi Hindu girls in Sindh with blessings of Pakistan's military. Notan Lal was accused of blasphemy in September 2019. Notan Lal's life was attacked and was arrested under the laws of Blasphemy. Now he has been convicted under the blasphemy for life term.

Not alone, Professor Notan Lal, Sindhis who are practicing sufism in general, and political dissidents, like professors; Arfana, Mallah human rights activist, and nationalist Sindhi Poet Professor Sajid Soomro were accused of Blasphemy. Professor Sajid Soomro was arrested, tortured, and jailed. If you are a high profile intellectual and activist dissident, and military for some reasons, can not touch you then they (the military) bring their death squads of bearded armed militant groups in action with campaigning of blasphemy against you from Kabul to Kashmir. That is what exactly happened in case of professors Arfana Mallah and Sajid Soomro.

"On June 10,2020, they (police) raider, broken into my home and started kicking, punching in my face, and dragging me from my hair in front of my little children, wife and neighbors. They throw me into police cars and sped away to unknown place. They kept me torturing. They put me in jail and held my trial on blasphemy charges. It all happened to me at best of the government in Sind and the state and of Pakistan because of my political beliefs to break me."[4]

## **Sindhi Language**

Formerly Justice Jawwad S. Khawaja, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court ordered that official correspondence of the country should be in Urdu Language. The Indigenous 5000 years old Sindhi language majorly spoken by majority of the Sindhis in Sindh is deprived of its official and national status on its own native land Sindh. Sindhi as medium of instructions from the elementary schools especially private schools of a Sindh including old villages of Karachi, Mirpur Khas, and a Sukkur[5]

] have been barred. Sindhi language is out of official, correspondence from courts and other institutions, except the police complaints are written in Sindhi. “Depriving native people from their mother tongues and imposing Urdu resulted in Pakistan’s breakup.”[6]

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1. Interview with Sarang Joyo, the Secretary General of ‘Sindh Sujagi Forum’ and of Voice of Missing Persons of Sindh’ on May 14,2022.
  2. ‘2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices -Pakistan’ by the United States of America Department of State, Human Rights, Democracy and Labor Bureau
  3. Online ‘Azadi’ May 16,2022
  4. Interview with Professor Sajid Soomro on May 18,2022
  5. Interview with Sindhi Language expert Sarang Joyo on May 18,2022
  6. Interview with Professor Sajid Soomro on May 18,2022.