

6th of May 2021

Prime Minister Imran Khan
Prime Minister's Office
Constitution Avenue G-5/2, Islamabad
Pakistan
info@pmo.gov.pk

Your Excellency Prime Minister Imran Khan,

On behalf of Amnesty International and 31.927 Danish and Faroe citizens who have signed our Urgent Action, we are writing to express our extreme concern for the life and safety of **Muhammad Idris Khattak**, a 56-year-old human rights defender and a former consultant with Amnesty International.

Idris Khattak was abducted by state authorities on 13 November 2019, and no information about his whereabouts was shared with his family until seven months later when authorities admitted to having him in their custody.

In the time since, few developments in his case have been shared with the public. He was granted a 20-minute meeting with his daughter Talia Khattak on 7 October 2020. This is the only time he has been allowed contact with his family in the time since his disappearance. It is a breach of human rights to keep him apart from his family, who still do not know his current whereabouts.

On 28 January 2021, the Peshawar High Court denied Idris Khattak's appeal to be tried in a civilian court and confirmed that the hearing take place in a military court. This is of great concern as he should not be tried in a military court as a civilian, according to Pakistan's own international human rights commitments. These concerns become all the more urgent given that he may be at risk of the death penalty.

Amnesty International and the signatories call upon your government to:

- Release Idris Khattak unless there is sufficient admissible and credible evidence that he has committed an internationally recognized criminal offence.
- Immediately disclose the whereabouts of Idris Khattak to his family.
- Ensure transparency in Idris Khattak's trial
- Ensure that he is tried by an ordinary civilian court to rule on the lawfulness of his detention.
- Grant regular access to his lawyer and family.

Please do consider our recommendations. A list of the signatories is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

Stinne Lyager Bech
Head of Policy
Amnesty International Denmark