



# WORLD SINDHI CONGRESS®

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Memorandum/ 05/03/06

Ms. Maleeha Lodhi  
High Commissioner for Pakistan  
High Commission of Pakistan in London  
34-36 Lowndes Square  
London SW1X 9JN

## MEMORANDUM AGAINST THE ABDUCTION OF DR. SAFDAR SARKI BY PAKISTANI AGENCIES

Dear Ms. Lodhi:

We the members and supporters of World Sindhi Congress (WSC), Baluchistan Rights Movement (BRM) and World Sindhi Institute (WSI) have gathered here today to lodge our strong protest against the abduction of Dr. Safdar Sarki by Pakistan's agencies. Dr. Sarki was abducted on 24 February 2006 from a flat in Nauman Heights, Gulistan-i-Jauhar, Karachi, Sindh. The incident took place between 2 and 3 pm local time. About six vehicles surrounded the complex, and approximately sixteen people in plain clothes entered the flat. Dr. Sarki was severely beaten in his flat for about an hour and then blindfolded and bundled into a van with blackened glass screens. Witnesses saw him bleeding as he was transported. The flat was ransacked and his belongings, including his U.S. passport and laptop, were confiscated. Witnesses saw a senior police officer, Chudhary Aslam, leading this operation. News have since emerged that Dr. Sarki has been handed over to the military and is being tortured. We the people who have gathered here today believe that the abduction of Dr. Sarki is not only a blatant violation of human rights but also an illegal and criminal act perpetrated by Pakistan's military- and agency-run state.

Dr. Sarki had been working tirelessly for Sindhi democratic and human rights, which have been denied by successive Pakistani regimes primarily controlled by the military establishment. During the current military dictatorial era in Sindh and Baluchistan, the arrest, abduction, torture and killing of secular, democratic political activists have become routine. The only crime of these activists is that they have raised their voices to demand rights that have been grossly violated against all the norms of fair and civic societies. At this very moment, hundreds of Baluch and Sindhi political activists are languishing in torture centres of the Pakistani establishment. This is a matter of great shame for Pakistani rulers, but it does not seem to bother them much.

The congregation gathered here today demand that the Pakistani Government immediately release Dr. Sarki and all other Sindhi and Baluch activists. We also warn the Pakistani establishment that they will be directly responsible if Dr. Sarki is harmed in any way.

Dr. Lakhu Mal Luhano  
Secretary General  
World Sindhi Congress

Mr. Mehran Baluch  
Chairman  
Baluchistan Rights Movement

Dr. Haleem Bhatti  
Senior Vice Chairman  
World Sindhi Congress

Mr. Kadir Jatoti  
Director Europe  
World Sindhi Institute