

Prime Minister Imran Khan
Prime Minister's Office
Constitution Avenue G-5/2, Islamabad
PAKISTAN

Your Excellency,

I am writing you as I am concerned about Idris Khattak, a human rights defender and independent researcher. He extensively researched enforced disappearances for Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. In a cruel twist, the authority on enforced disappearances in Pakistan was subject to one himself.

On 13 November 2019, Idris was on his way home from Islamabad, the capital city of Pakistan, when his rented car was intercepted near the Swabi Interchange of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. No one knew that he had been abducted until the driver he was with was released, on the night of 15 November 2019, by the men who took him. According to the application submitted by Idris' family, for the registration of the police case, four men in plain clothes put a black sack on the faces of Idris and the driver and took them to an undisclosed location.

Since his trial began almost a year ago, Idris has been allowed to meet with his family twice but his whereabouts remain unknown. Following a decision by the Peshawar High Court earlier this year to deny Idris' appeal to be tried in a civilian court, his trial has proceeded in the military court with little known about the evidence presented against him.

I urge you to immediately disclose the whereabouts of Idris Khattak to his family and ensure that he is tried by an ordinary civilian court to rule on the lawfulness of his arrest or detention. He must also be granted regular access to his lawyer and family immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

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