Threat to Asma's life condemned

Lahore. 04/06/2012

Press Release

We the undersigned citizens, belonging to various sections of Pakistan's civil society, express our serious concern and alarm at the information-leak from a responsible and highly credible source that there is a serious threat to the life of the country's leading human rights activist and one of the most influential leaders of the bar, Ms Asma Jahangir.

What makes the reported conspiracy to liquidate Asma Jahangir especially serious is, firstly, the environment of target-killings, in which dissident persons' dead bodies are being dumped all over, and, secondly, the fact that the finger of accusation has been pointed at the extraordinarily privileged state actors.

We wish to make it clear to all and sundry, especially those who preside over the security apparatus, that they must not under-estimate the consequences of any harm being caused to the life of Asma Jahangir. This is not a conspiracy against one individual alone; it is obviously a plot against Pakistan's future as a democratic state, of which the threat to Asma Jahangir may be only one, though crucial, part.

What the duty of the state in this matter is and how the civil society must face the challenge thrown to it need no elaboration.

- 1. Justice ® Fakhruddin G. Ebrahim
- 2. Dr. Mubashir Hassan
- 3. Mr. I. A. Rehman
- 4. Mr. Yasmin Azad, President SCBAP
- 5. Akhtar Hussain President Pakistan Bar Council
- 6. Ali Ahmad Kurd, former President SCBAP
- 7. Mr. Tarig Mahmood former President SCBAP
- 8. Mr. Muneer A Malik, former President SCBAP
- 9. Lt. General ® Talat Masood
- 10. Air Marshal ® Zafar Chaudhry
- 11. Mr. Ahmed Rashid, author and senior journalist
- 12. Mr. Latif Afridi, President High Court Bar Peshawar
- 13. Mr. Shahryam Sarwar Chaudhry, President Lahore High Court Bar Association

- 14. Mr. Zahoor Ahmad Shawani President Balochistan High Court Bar Association
- 15. Sher Muhammad, President Malakand High Court Bar Association
- 16. Mr. Azam Nazir Tarar, Member PBC
- 17. Mr. Ehsan Bhoon Member PBC
- 18. Justice ® Malik Saeed Hassan
- 19. Mr. S.M. Masood former Law Minister
- 20. Mr. Ehsan Wyne General Secretary, ANP
- 21. Prof. Salima Hashmi
- 22. Hina Jilani, Advocate
- 23. Munir Kakar President Executive Committee Balochistan Bar Council
- 24. Jugnu Mohsin, Editor Friday Times
- 25. Mr. Kamran Shafi
- 26. Kamran Arif Co-Chairperson HRCP
- 27. Rashid Rehman, Editor Daily Times.
- 28. Fareeda Shaheed
- 29. Samina Rehman
- 30. Prof. Dr. Mehdi Hassan
- 31. Dr. Haroon Ahmed
- 32. Saleem Asmi, former editor, Dawn
- 33. Tahir Hassan vice Chairperson HRCP, Quetta
- 34. Neelam Hussain
- 35. Kishwar Naheed
- 36. Khawar Mumtaz
- 37. Nazish Ataullah former Principal NCA
- 38. Ms. Shahtaj Qizilbash coordinator, Joint Action Committee.
- 39. Nasreen Azhar
- 40. Mr. Abbas Rashid
- 41. Ms. Nighat Saeed.
- 42. Mr. Sajid Bashir former President Lahore Bar Association

- 43. Shahzad Hassan Sheikh former President Lahore Bar Association.
- 44. Muhammad Tahseen, South Asia Partnership

Issued by

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Chairperson, HRCP