ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES IN SINDH

According to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)’s November 2018 update for the EU, since the creation of Pakistan’s Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances (COIED) in 2011 it has received a total of 5,290 cases. However, it is likely that this number is actually much higher. When people report these missing persons cases they become a target themselves, which often deters them from speaking out.

The most common victims of enforced disappearances include activists, writers, teachers, artists, journalists, and students. Anyone who speaks out against the government is a target for enforced disappearances.

The frequency of enforced disappearances continues to increase with time, yet few cases are resolved.

*Just some of the most recent forcibly disappeared cases are included below.*

**MEHRAN ALI MIRANI**

Mehran Ali Mirani, 18, disappeared on January 13, 2020. A Sindh resident and student, his enforced disappearance was witnessed near the technical college gates of the Memon Society. Mehran had been riding his Honda 125 motorcycle when a white-colored car reportedly ran into him from behind. He fell to the side of the road, where one person—armed with official weapons and wearing a commando uniform—violently forced him into a Toyota Corolla.

It is not known what the motive was behind this kidnapping. Mehran was a member of Jeay Sindh Qaumi Mahaz (JSQM) Arisar one year ago, but is not known to have been involved with them since.

The family has contacted the local police, PS Qasimabad, but have only received an application to file the incident. Mehran’s whereabouts remain unknown.
Insaf Ali Dayo was taken away working at his tailoring shop in Larkana, Sindh, on May 29, 2017. The abductors were three uniformed policemen and three others in civilian clothing riding a white Vigo car with an official Globe over it. Over two years later, there has been no information about his whereabouts ever since. He was unmarried and the only bread-winner of his family. After Dayo’s disappearance his family has protested before the Larkana Press Club and in different cities of the country. Dayo’s mother (pictured, left) has taken ill and now suffers from a heart condition with three blocked valves. She desperately awaits the return of her son, and is willing to let him be tried in court if he has truly committed a crime.

Gulsher Tagar, a brilliant young student and gold medalist in law from Sindh University, disappeared on July 30, 2017 from the Ghaghar Phatak area. Parallel to his law education he was also involved in literary activities, including his responsibility as editor of the University Sindhi magazine. He was actively involved in organizing events honoring various poets and scholars. His whereabouts are still unknown, two and a half years later. All appeals and protests for his safe return have been put on deaf ears. Tagar’s mother now appeals to state authorities that her son Gulsher is innocent and may be falsely accused. With this, she desperately requests the release of her son to set an example to other intelligent and literary oriented children to follow their dreams.
Recent Increase in Enforced Disappearances Cases

Recent disappearances have included Sindhis being abducted from their families and taken away. The members of their families have been threatened and beaten when they tried to find additional information as to the whereabouts of their loved ones. Every month, dozens of innocent Sindhis are taken away from their families, leaving only a memory behind. Cases continue to rise, while the releasing of these individuals stays low.

Zafar Khoso
Zafar Khoso disappeared on June 28th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Khairpur Nathan Shah, in Dadu district. Khoso is a nationalist worker. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Zafar Khoso.

Imdad Shah
Imdad Shah disappeared on June 20th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Dokri, in Larkana district. Shah is the nephew of nationalist leader, Asghar Shah. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Imdad Shah.

Zahid Shah
Zahid Shah disappeared on June 20th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Dokri, in Larkana district. Shah is the cousin of nationalist leader, Asghar Shah. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Zahid Shah.

Imtiaz Khaskheli
Imtiaz Khaskheli disappeared on June 21st, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Jamshoro, in Jamshoro district. Khaskheli is the brother of nationalist leader, Zulfagar Khaskheli. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Imtiaz Khaskheli.
Hafeez Pirzado

Hafeez Pirzado disappeared on June 20th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the Larkana district. Pirzado is a farmer, student, and leader of the JSSF. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Hafeez Pirzado.

Ayatullah Jarwar

Ayatullah Jarwar disappeared on June 16th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Tando Bago, in Badin district. Jarwar is a veterinarian. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh and he has been listed as missing in local newspapers, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Ayatullah Jarwar.

Abdul Jabbar Sarki

Abdul Jabbar Sarki disappeared on June 16th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Landhi, in Karachi district. Sarki is a member of the JST. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Abdul Jabbar Sarki.

Irfan Babar Solangi

Irfan Babar Solangi disappeared on June 13th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Gulshan-e-Hadeed, in Karachi district. Solangi is a nationalist worker. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Irfan Babar Solangi.
Saeed Mangi
Saeed Mangi disappeared on June 10th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Dakhan, in Shikarpur district. Mangi is a nationalist worker. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Saeed Mangi.

Kifayat Jatoi
Kifayat Jatoi disappeared on June 7th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Garello, in Larkana district. Jatoi is a nationalist worker. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Kifayat Jatoi.

Naseer Thaheem
Naseer Thaheem disappeared on June 22nd, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Karachi, in Karachi district. Thaheem is a fast food shopkeeper. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Naseer Thaheem.

Riaz Khaskheli
Riaz Khaskheli disappeared on July 17th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Jamshoro, in Jamshoro district. Khaskheli is the brother of Imtiaz Khaskheli, who is also missing. There has been no response to the whereabouts of Riaz Khaskheli.
Dodo Chandio

Dodo Chandio disappeared on June 24th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Khairpur Nathan Shah Tehsil, in Dadu district. Tagar is a taxi driver. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Dodo Chandio.

Mehfooz Notkani

Mehfooz Notkani disappeared on June 24th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was not witnessed by anyone, and there is no knowledge as to where he was when he was abducted. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Mehfooz Notkani.

Shahid Notyiar

Shahid Notyiar disappeared on June 22nd, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Khokhrapar, in Tharparkar district. Notyiar is a member of the JSQM. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Shahid Notyiar.

Qasim Soomro

Qasim Soomro disappeared on June 28th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Sakrand, in Nawabshah district. Soomro is a nationalist. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Qasim Soomro.
Nisar Ali Langha

Nisar Ali Langha disappeared on June 24th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Ghotki, in Ghotki district. Langha is an employee of Apna Microfinance Bank. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, human rights organizations, and the Supreme Court of Pakistan, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Nisar Ali Langha.

Shafqat Malik

Shafqat Malik disappeared on June 22nd, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Ghotki, in Ghotki district. Malik is a political activist and the secretary of Awami Workers Party. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, human rights organizations, and the Supreme Court of Pakistan, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Shafqat Malik.

ADDITIONAL CASES

Adeel Memon, disappeared on July 22nd, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Bhan Saeedabad, in Jamshoro district. Memon is a medical student. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Adeel Memon.

Imran Bozdar, disappeared on July 22nd, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Bhan Saeedabad, in Jamshoro district. Bozdar is a childhood friend of Adeel Memon. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Imran Bozdar.

Javed Shoro, disappeared on June 23rd, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Jamshoro, in Jamshoro district. Shoro is a nationalist. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Javed Shoro.

Soomar Mallah, disappeared on June 24th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Larkana, in Larkana district. Mallah is a nationalist. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Soomar Mallah.
Ashique Jatoi, disappeared on June 20th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Larkana, in Larkana district. Jatoi is the brother of Brother of JST Leader, Ahmed Jatoi. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Ashique Jatoi.

Tofique and Faheem Jatoi, disappeared on June 20th, 2020. Both Sindh residents, their enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Larkana, in Larkana district. Both Jatois are the brothers of JSQM Leader, Bashir Jatoi. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Tofique or Faheem Jatoi.

Temoor Khoso, disappeared on June 22nd, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Sukkur, in Sukkur district. Khoso is a social worker. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Temoor Khoso.

Mukhtiar Bozdar, disappeared on June 16th, 2020. A Sindh resident, his enforced disappearance was witnessed in the town of Dumbalo, in Badin district. Bozdar is a JSQM (B) Worker. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Mukhtiar Bozdar.

Israr and Kashif Ghoto, disappeared on June 19th, 2020. Both Sindh residents, their enforced disappearance was witnessed in the city of Ghotki, in Ghotki district. Both Ghotos are nationalist workers. Although this disappearance was reported to the local authorities in Sindh, there has been no response to the whereabouts of Israr or Kashif Ghoto.

Masood Shah, the only eye-witness who has come forward about the murder of Irshad Ranjhani, was forcibly disappeared just days before he was to testify in court. When his four brothers and friends peacefully protested for his release, they too were abducted at night– a total of 11 people. They eventually surfaced before a court in Sindh’s capital, Karachi, and have been charged with sedition. Masood’s whereabouts remain unknown.

Mohamad Ayub Kandhro, 55, disappeared in April 28, 2017 while driving on his way to work in Ranipur. There is no information about his whereabouts to this date. This unfortunate incident has affected his family (with five children, his wife, and his mother) significantly. Since the disappearance of their main bread-winner, the financial stability of the household has plummeted, the children’s education has stopped, and their neighbors have even come to hold prejudice against them. The family’s only request is that if Mohamad had truly been involved in anything unlawful, he has the right to be tried lawfully in their court of law.

Dr. Fateh Mohammed Khoso, who was returning from his clinic in Balochistan, was abducted on February 1, 2016 by a group of masked people in double door cars. Dr. Khoso, a 70 year old bread-winner of his family, suffers from high blood pressure. His wife has been in shock and unwell ever since his disappearance. His wife and children pleadingly request for the freedom of their father.
Murtaza Junejo was taken away by law enforcement at 2am after a raid. 28 months later, there has still been no information about his whereabouts. Murtaza was a father of four daughters, the main bread-winner of the family, and a devoted son. Due to his disappearance the family no longer has financial stability, they have even had to remove their children from school. This financial instability has also affected the family’s ability to effectively treat Murtaza’s eldest daughter’s kidney problems. The family “appeals to all the people in power to help a distraught mother reunite with her son.”

Case of Aaqib Chandio

On May 30th, 2018, seventeen-year-old Aaqib Chandio was abducted while walking along a road near his home in Madina Colony, a residential area within Larkana, a city in northern Sindh just west of the Indus River. A bright student and an engaged community member unaffiliated with any subversive political movements; it is still unclear why young Chandio was taken.

On August 30th of 2019, International Victims of Enforced Disappearances Day, Representative and Chair of the Congressional Sindh Caucus, Brad Sherman, called for the release of young Aaqib Chandio at an event hosted by The Sindhi Foundation in Washington, DC. By September 17th, Chandio was finally released, malnourished and badly beaten, having endured sixteen months of enforced disappearance and torture.

Aaqib moved from Larkana, looking to live a quiet life in Karachi in hopes that the anonymity of a new city might protect him.

Sadly, his time in Karachi was short-lived: On July 7th, Chandio was taken from his apartment during the early morning hours around 4am PKT. A video taken by his sister captures a group of men in police and civilian clothes dragging Chandio away while she and his wife plead for help. During the abduction, the two young
women were beaten and tortured as the group of unidentified men broke into their apartment and seized Chandio. Currently, Aaqib’s whereabouts are unknown.

Sister of Aaqib Chandio