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Pakistan solidarity petition

Release Ali Wazir and Mohsin Dawar, withdraw false police charges

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On 26 May 2019 a peaceful procession in the Waziristan region led by Ali Wazir and Mohsin Dawar, both Members of National Assembly (MNAs), was fired upon by army men, leaving at least 13 dead and over forty injured in Waziristan region.

Ali Wazir and Mohsin Dawar were elected as Members of the National Assembly (MNA) in the general elections held in 2018. They are also leaders of the Pashtun Defence Movement/Pashtun Tahfuz Movement (PTM), a mass social movement that emerged two years ago.

The PTM demands an end to military operations in the region bordering Afghanistan. This region is inhabited by ethnic Pashtuns. Their demands have brought them in conflict with the country's powerful military. For the last two months, the military spokesperson has been passing threats to the PTM. Besides, the media were publicly advised by the military not to give any coverage to the PTM.

These threats and media black out translated into a tragic reality on 26 May. On the one hand, the peaceful procession was fired upon. On the other, media unanimously reported that the PTM activists led by Ali Wazir and Mohsin Dawar attacked a military check post and ensuing violence claimed the lives of three protestors besides injuring three soldiers.

Ironically, video footage - filmed through mobile phones - has emerged. These videos clearly show that Ali Wazir and Mohsin Dawar were fired upon from behind. While people were falling to bullets, Ali Wazir, instead of running to safety, went back to help an injured comrade. As he approached his comrade, near the checkpoint, he was arrested by the military.

The next day, he was produced before the Anti-Terrorism-Court and remanded for eight days. Meantime, the entire opposition in the Parliament has demanded his release. He suffers from diabetes and high blood pressure.

There have been unconfirmed allegations of torture as well. In the event, even if he is released for now, his life remains threatened. Like the rest of the PTM leadership, he has been subjected to a vicious hate propaganda. He is being portrayed by the mainstream media and the military as a foreign agent, a traitor, and a terrorist.

Fact of the matter is, the PTM staunchly believes in non-violence while 16 members of Ali Wazir's family, including his siblings and father, were assassinated by the Taliban owing to his family's opposition to the Taliban. He emerged as a symbol of anti-Taliban struggle before the rise of the PTM.

We urge you to sign this petition for these democratic demands:

- (1) The urgent release of Ali Wazir and his PTM comrades
- (2) An end to vilification campaign against the PTM leadership
- (3) Withdrawal of fake police charges under anti terrorist laws against Ali Wazir and the PTM members.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

To sign, use the ESSF "contact" form:

Put your name, "title" (function, organisation) and country, mentioning "solidarity with Ali Wazir".

<http://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?page=contact>

First signatures:

Serge Aberdam, historian, France

Fernando Acenio, Direção SEPE, Itaocara Teachers Union; Richard Clayton, Direção do SEPE-RJ Teachers Union; Felipe Duque, Direção do SEPE-RJ Teachers Union; Armindo Lajes - Direção do SEPE-RJ Teachers Union, Rodrigo Teixeira, Direção do SEPE-RJ Teachers Union; Thaís Coutinho, Direção do SEPE, Regional III Teachers Union; Telma Luzemi, Direção do SEPE, Regional III Teachers Union; Rose Pinto, Direção SEPE, Petrópolis Teachers Union; Mara Cotinho, SEPE Porciñcula Teachers Union; Juliana Santos, SEPE Valença Teachers Union; Valdir Vicente, SEPE Nova Iguaçu Teachers Union; João Silva, SEPE Cabo Frio Teachers Union; Brazil

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Rocío Agüero, delegate of the Sports Department of the UNLA, Argentina

Wanderleia Aguiar, coordenação Emancipar RJ Net of Popular School; Yure Marx, Coordenador geral do Emancipa Pádua/Itaocara Net of Popular School; Juliano Teixeira, coordenação Emancipar RJ. Net of Popular School, Brazil

Manuel Aguilar Mora, Liga de Unidad Socialista (LUS), Mexico

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Saeed Ahmed, Pakistan Trade Union Defense Campaign, Pakistan

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Badrul Alam, Communist Party of Bangladesh-ML(CPBML), Bangladesh

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Omar Menoni, obrero jubilado, Uruguay

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Claudio Mora, General Secretary of the CTA San Fernando and Delegate of FATE, SUTNA (tire workers union), Argentina

Felipe Moreira, PSOL SÃo Paulo, Brazil

Marie-ThÃ©rÃ¨se Moreno, Jobseeker, France

GippÃ² Mukendi Ngandu, Sinistra Anticapitalista, Italia

Djermoune Nadir, Architecte/urbaniste, enseignant/Institut d'Architecture et d'Urbanisme Blida, Algeria

Mohammad Nafees, Freelance Journalist and Recherche, Pakistan

Pratip Nag, Radical Socialist, India

Ruben Navarro, Correspondencia de Prensa, Lyon, France

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A. H. Nayyar, academic and peace activist, Pakistan

Diego Z. Neri, editor, *Bandiera Rossa* website, Italy

Olivier Neveux, University Professor, ENS de Lyon, France

Alvin John Neyra, Alyansa ng Kabataang Mindanao para sa Kapayapaan (AKMK), Philippines

Jolie Nieves, Sumpay Mindanao, Inc., Mindanao, Philippines

Colette NoÃ«, activist for social and environmental rights, Louviers, France

Pablo Odriozola, Survivor of the clandestine detention center "Azopardo", Argentina

Marga Olalla, Barcelona municipality union delegate, LI member, Catalonia, Spain

Honorio Oliveira, Executiva Estadual do PSOL RJ, Brazil

Liliana Olivero, ex member of the Cordoba regional parliament, Socialist Left-Left Front (FIT), Argentina

Lasse Olsen, Deputy Mayor, the City of Aalborg, Denmark

Geral Jan Omelio, Youth Section, Philippines

Nahuel Orellana, Board of Directors of CTA AutÃ³noma of Lomas de Zamora, Argentina

Marcio Ornelas, Presidente do PSOL SÃ£o GonÃ§alo, Brazil

Victor Ottoboni, Secretary of minutes and press of the Union of Tire Workers of Argentina

Priscila OttÃ³n and Pablo OttÃ³n, Subdelegates of ATEN (teachers union of NeuquÃ©n), Argentina

Niels Overgaard Hansen, member of Socialist Workers' Politics (SAP), and of the Fourth International, Denmark

Ãmer F. Oyal, writer, Turkey

Sophie Ozanne, member of the NPA, France

Guillermo Pacagnini, General Secretary of CICOP, Trade Union Association of Health Professionals of the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina

NaÃ«-de Pacheco, Presidenta do PSOL/MarabÃ¡, Brazil

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Luciano Palagano, Executiva Estadual CSP-Conlutas e militante MES/PR, Brazil

Ugo Palheta, Sociologist, Assistant professor, Lille University, and director of the online magazine *Contretemps*, France

Jaime Pastor, Professor, Political Sciences (Spanish State) and editor of the magazine *Viento Sur*

Rince M Paulose, in solidarity with Ali Wazeer and Mohsin Dawar, India

Laila Pecheny, Social Communication Council member UBA, Socialist Left, Argentina

Dante Peixoto, PSOL São Carlos SP, Brazil

Rogge Perfecti, PSOL Macaé, Brazil

Marie Cécile Perillat, trade unionist, France

Patrice Perret, responsable syndical retraité, France

Michael Petersen, council Chairman, IGBCE (Trade Union for mining, chemicals and energy industries), Germany

Sandro Pimentel, Deputado Estadual do PSOL RN, Brazil

Gastón Pinchetti, La Virginia Local Board (Rosario Food Union), Argentina

Átalo Pires, AOB RJ Union LAYERS, Brazil

Emilio Poliak, Secretary of Organization of the CTA Autónoma of Santa Cruz, Argentina

Christine Poupin, Spokesperson, NPA, France

Chantal Pottier, member of the NPA, France

Joël Pottier, member of the NPA, France

Mutiara Ika Pratiwi, National Secretary of Perempuan Mahardhika, Indonesia

François Preneau, retired, trade unionist and member of Ensemble !, France

Socialist Party of Malaysia (PSM), Malaysia

Masood Punjabi, trade union activist, Stockholm, Sweden

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Chiara Puppo, Secretary of Women and Dissidences CECOSO, Socialist Left, Argentina

François Preneau, trade-unionist, member of Ensemble !, France

Awais Qarni, Central Organizer Revolutionary Students Front(RSF), Pakistan

Alexandre Raguét, NPA activist, France

Asia Rahman, Politician for Vänsterpartiet (Left Party), Sweden

Mongi Rahoui, Member of the Assembly of the Representatives of the People (Parliament), Tunisia

Leonardo Nicolás Rando, ATE Delegate of the Ministry of Culture, Marcela Salas, secretary of tourism of ATE Lanus, candidate to sec for the Multicolor list of ATE, Daniela Saavedra, delegate of ATE Health Care, Argentina

Ammar Rashid, Secretary Information, Awami Workers Party Punjab, Teacher at Quid Azam University Islamabad, Singer, Pakistan

Dr Taimur Rehman, General Secretary, Pakistan Mazdoor Kissan Party, Pakistan

Vivi Reis, DNPSOL e suplente de deputada federal, Brazil

Daniela Reiß Varas, doctor, Germany

Hans-Peter Renk (solidaritéS), conseiller général (Le Locle), Switzerland

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Frédérique Riedlin, solidarity with Almi Wazeer and Mohsin Dawar, France

Rebeca Riela, economist, Uruguay

Ranier Ríos, leader of the Socialist Workers' Movement (MST), Chile

Mariana Riscali, Tesoureira do PSOL, Brazil

Betina Rivero (Palpalá), Leonardo Rivero (Jujuy), Delegates CTA Autónoma and Congress Delegate of ATE, Argentina

Rolando Rivero and Alejandro Omarle, APUBA Delegates, Argentina

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Heloã-se Rocha, Presidenta do PSOL/Santarém, Brazil

Victor Rodrigues, member of the PCF, France

Pedro Rosa, Sintuff union leader and leader of the Fasubra University Workers' Federation, Brazil

Xavier Rousselin, Divisional Engineer of Agriculture and Environment, France

Pierre Rousset, Europe solidaire sans frontières (ESSF), France

Talat Rubab, editor of Labour Education, Pakistan

Daniela Saavedra, delegate of ATE Health Care, Argentina

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MÃ´nica Seixas, Deputada Estadual do PSOL SP, Brazil

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Ferida Sher, Activist (retired from Development activism), Lahore, Pakistan

Micha? Siermi?ski, doctorant en philosophie, Pologne

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Adama Soumaré, Alternatives, Senegal

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Heitor Sousa, Member of the Parliament, Left Bloc, Portugal

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State Workers Alternative - Lilac Orange List ATE, Argentina

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Juan Tortosa, solidaritéS, Switzerland

Eric Toussaint, CADTM International Spokesperson

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Rafael Trujano Feroso, Jubilado, Sindicato de Telefonistas de la República Mexicana, Mexico

Anwar UI Haq, Economist, Pakistan

Zafar Ullah, Member of Pakistan Trade Union Defence Campaign, Islamabad, Pakistan

University Teachers Alternative, Argentina

Miguel Urbán Crespo, Member of the European Parliament, Spanish State

Ingrid Urrutia, General Secretary of ATE INCAA Local Board, Argentina

Murat Uyurkulak, writer, Turkey

Jesus Uzkudun Illarramendi Activista social por la Salud Laboral Euskal Herria, Euskadi

Seth Uzman, rs21, UCU member, Britain

Alejandra Vaca, Secretary of Gender of UTS, Argentina

Gastón Vacchiani, Secretary General UTS (Union of Health Workers) Córdoba, Argentina

Roseline Vachetta, former Member of the European Parliament, France

Charlotte Vallée, in solidarity with Ali Wazeer and Mohsin Dawar, Denmark

Achin Vanaik, Retired Professor of International Relations and Global Politics, former Head of the Department of Political Science and former Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Delhi, India

Julien Vanhove, CADTM Belgium

Christian Varin, Fourth International

Paulo Vasallo and Alejandro Parlante, Municipal Delegates of Rosario, Argentina

Priscilla Vásquez, national leader of the social security workers, Panama

Mariano Veiga, Union Secretary, Interdisciplinary Union Association of the Moyano Hospital (AGIHM), Argentina

Marie-Christine Vergiat, Human Rights activist, Member of the European Parliament, European Left, France

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Pietje Vervest, Transnational Institute, The Netherlands

Pedro Vianna, poet, teacher in the Master's degree Human Mobility Universitat de Valencia (Espagne), former judge assessor at the National Court of Asylum, France

Gérard Vidal, photographer, director, France

Laerson Vidal, Presidente da Ap-Ler e dirigente MES/Paraná, Brazil

Luigi Viglino, Sinistra Anticapitalista, Italy

José Villa, local commission SIAT TENARIS, Argentina

Mary Joy Villagomez, Secretary General, DKMP- Lanao, Mindanao

Violet List Unión Ferroviaria, Argentina

Dr J. P. Voloch, Cardiologist, France

Henri Vuilliomenet, militant de Solidarité, Suisse

Ahmad Waqas Goraya, Abducted activists living now in exile, Pakistan / The Netherlands

Claudio Wasquin, Deputy Secretary of the CTA Autónoma of Santa Cruz, Argentina

Thomas Weyts, SAP-Gauche anticapitaliste, Solidair Gent, Belgium

Ani White, Editor, Fightback, Australia

Peter Widén, Socialist Party, Suède

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Simon Wood, member of "The Australian Greens", Australia

Cynthia Wright, Assistant Professor, Gender, Sexuality, Women's Studies, York University, Canada

Nora Zaldua, Massacre Commission of La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Susana Zaldua, Massacre Commission of La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina

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Luis Zamora, Autodeterminación y Libertad, Argentina

Philipp Zehmisch, Laal Hartal, Lahore, Pakistan

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