



BALUCH VOICE ASSOCIATION

To: UN Rapporteurs and Bodies.

Reg. No. W451001299/FRA
Ref: UN/Rapp/109
Date: 08/03/2023
SIRN NO. 811051655

UN Rapporteurs,

Ms Reem Alsalem Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls,

Ms Mary Lawlor Special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defenders,

Ms Alice Jill Edwards Special Rapporteur for Torture and other cruel treatment,

To UN Bodies:

The Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED),

UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

We, the concerned organizations (Baloch Voice Association, Voice for Baloch Missing Persons, and Baloch Peoples Congress), Baloch people's representatives, and human rights activists, write this letter to draw your attention towards the continued abuse of rights of Baloch women by Pakistani forces. In recent years, the Baloch women protesting, against enforced disappearances have been threatened, attacked, and disappeared by force. They have been kept in army torture cells where many have been sexually abused.

According to the 2022 data, out of 787 enforced disappearances, 101 women were victims of enforced disappearances. Baloch mothers, sisters, daughters, wives, and even kids are protesting on streets and press clubs for the safe recovery of Baloch missing persons. However, instead of addressing their concerns, the Pakistani state has continued to ignore their plight, and the practice of enforced disappearance has gradually increased.

We urge you to take immediate action to make Pakistan accountable for the acts of enforced disappearances and ask Pakistan to ratify the UN articles on the protection of all people from enforced disappearances. The Baloch Women have been at the forefront of the struggle against enforced disappearances.

The Baloch Women's struggle against enforced disappearances is an ongoing battle, where mothers, sisters, wives, daughters, and even children are protesting on streets and press clubs for the safe recovery of their loved ones. The Baloch Women's struggle is a testimony to the resilience and determination of Baloch women, who have been subjected to unthinkable acts of violence.

Mahal Baloch, a mother of two children, was disappeared by the Pakistani forces in February 2023, and she is still lingering in torture cells on baseless and fake charges. Balochistan Interior minister has announced publicly that they will drop these fake charges and release her soon. But on the contrary, she is still under custody. Today, on International Women's Day, a massive number of people in Balochistan protested for the protection of Baloch women and recognition of their struggle against enforced disappearances.

Mama Qadeer, the Vice Chairman of the Voice for Baloch Missing Persons (VBMP), marched with Baloch women and children from Quetta to Karachi and then from Karachi to Islamabad in 2013 for the safe recovery of Baloch missing persons. However, instead of



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addressing their concerns, the Pakistani state has continued to ignore their plight, and the practice of enforced disappearance has gradually increased.

A delegation of the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances concluded its ten-day official visit to Pakistan. The visit took place from 10 to 20 September 2012. In the visit report the Working Group mentioned:

“However, nongovernmental sources allege that there is a pattern of enforced disappearances in Pakistan, imputable to law enforcement agencies in conjunction with intelligence agencies.

During our visit families told us their stories and each story, while being different, revealed the same pattern. The abduction, often taking place in front of witnesses, is reported to be perpetrated by law enforcement agencies, like the police or the frontier corps, jointly with members of intelligence agencies in civilian clothing. When asked whether they had filed a complaint for illegal arrest, families generally say they tried to file a first information report (FIR) with the police but were turned down or discouraged to do so. Most of them finally filed their cases with the provincial High Court or the Supreme Court of Pakistan, so that the Court would issue an order to the police to initiate an investigation. In a large number of cases, families reportedly received threats or were intimidated to try to prevent them to file such cases”. Till date the practice of disappearance people by force is continued with impunity and the occurrence of issues has increased with high number and more barbaric way.

Recognizing Baloch Women Struggle against abuse of Rights:

The Baloch women have been at the forefront of the struggle against enforced disappearances in their community. They have shown incredible resilience and courage in demanding justice for their loved ones who have been abducted by state actors. Despite facing harassment, intimidation, and violence, Baloch women have continued to raise their voices against the atrocities committed by the authorities. Their unwavering commitment to seeking accountability for the disappearances of their family members and community members is an inspiration to all those who stand for human rights and justice. The world must recognize and support their struggle for a better future where the fundamental rights of all people are respected and protected. Despite the state atrocities the Baloch Women struggle against abuse of fundamental rights by state forces is highly remarkable.



Zarina Marri: On 8th March 2023, A Baloch Human Rights activist holding a banner stating “Zarina is a sign of Waiting” with Baloch legendary human rights activists Mama Qadeer Baloch Voice Chairman of Baloch Missing Persons.

The Asian Human Rights Commission has received further details in the case of Ms. Zarina Marri, a 23-year-old schoolteacher from Balochistan province, who has been held incommunicado in an army torture cell at Karachi, the capital of Sindh province and used as a sex slave, please see our statement; <http://www.ahrchk.net/statements/mainfile.php/2009statements/1843/>



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Zakir Majeed : On 8th June 2009, the fateful day, he was traveling from Quetta to his hometown Khuzdar and while *en route*, he was abducted from district Mastung. Mastung is merely 47 kilometers from Quetta, the capital city of Balochistan. Till date his family members are protesting and asking about his fate and whereabouts.



Dr Deen Mohammad: He was taken into custody on 28th June, 2009 from the Khuzdar district of Balochistan and transferred to an unknown location, after which he continues to be “missing”.

Sammi Baloch daughter of Deen Mohammad said: “Only my family can understand the pain that we have been going through after the enforced disappearance of my father. We have knocked all the doors for justice, but I have to say with regret that years have passed but we are still to get justice.



Baz Khatoon mother of Rashid Hussain: 60-year-old Baz Khatoon, whom clutched a stack of news reports and court filings about her son, Rashid Hussain Brohi. Rashid Hussain was detained in Dubai in December 2018, was never presented to any court and was flown to Pakistan six months later, and then vanished without a trace. Khatoon family moved to Dubai to be safe in 2017 after three male relatives, including her husband, had turned up dead after being taken away by security forces over the years.



Baloch Women Protesting for safe recovery of Baloch Missing Persons.



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Today on 8th March 2023, the people of Balochistan are showing concern on the stated issue on social media accounts as follows:



VBMP @VBMP0 · 07 Jan

لاپتہ افراد کی بازیابی کے لیے وائس فار بلوچ مسنگ پرسنز کے احتجاجی کیمپ کو کوئٹہ پریس کلب کے سامنے 4913 دن مکمل ہو گئے

#EndEnforcedDisappearances



9



Jamal Baloch @Jam_Baloch · 22h

When we say #BalochWomen, these are the images that first come in our minds. Thread

#BalochWomenUnderStateOppression
#WomensDay



7 73 187 7,803

Show this thread



@itsokaysaira · 1d

ON THIS 8TH MARCH
WE MARCH AGAINST OPPRESSION
WE MARCH AGAINST SUPPRESSION
WE MARCH FOR EVERY SILENT VOICE
WE MARCH FOR EVERY UNHEARD SCREAM
WE MARCH FOR EVERY BALUCH WOMEN
#SaveBalochWomen
#BalochWomenUnderStateOppression
#EndEnforcedDisappearances
#AuratMarch2023



456 views



Jameela Baloch @jameela_baluch · 21h

My two innocent children are waiting for me, don't forget me on women's day.

#BalochWomenInResistance
#ReleaseMahalBaloch



22 44 1,874



انمولین بلوچ
@Anmolian_Baloch

عورت مارچ اس بلوچ عورت کے نام جس کا لخت جگر زندانوں میں کے جس کے انتظار میں وہ بل پل تڑپ رہے ہیں۔۔۔۔۔

#BalochWomenInResistance
#8_March
Translate Tweet



Riaz Baloch @Itsbaloch_ · 1d

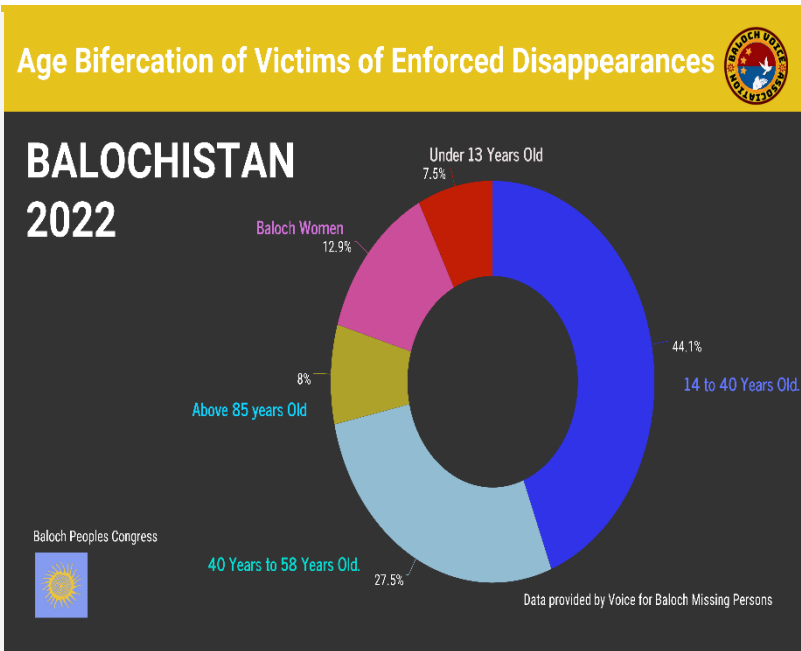
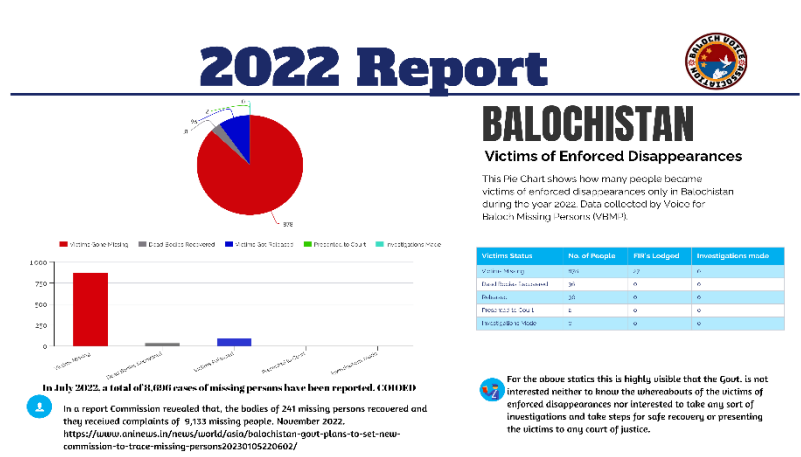
#8MarchWomensDay
#BalochWomenInResistance





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We are attaching a glimpse of the 2022 Year data about enforced disappearances in Balochistan.



We demand that the following measures be taken immediately to protect the Baloch women and to bring the perpetrators of enforced disappearances to justice:

1. We demand that the Pakistani government immediately releases all the Baloch women, and other victims of enforced disappearances, who are currently being held in army torture cells and that they be provided with medical and psychological support.
2. We demand that the Pakistani government ratify the UN articles on the protection of all people from enforced disappearances.
3. We demand that the Pakistani government takes immediate action to ensure the safe recovery of all Baloch missing persons, including the Baloch women who have been disappeared by the Pakistani forces.



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4. We urge the UN Rapporteurs to conduct a thorough investigation into the cases of enforced disappearances of Baloch women and to hold the perpetrators accountable for their actions.
5. We demand that the Pakistani government ensures the safety and security of Baloch women who are protesting enforced disappearances and provides them with the necessary support.
6. We urge the UN shall appoint a special rapporteur to investigate and monitor enforced disappearances in Pakistan.
7. We ask UN for the establishment of an independent commission to investigate the cases of enforced disappearances in Balochistan.
8. We call on the UN to intervene to make ensure the protection of Baloch women and their families and puts an end to the culture of impunity enjoyed by the perpetrators.

The Baloch women's voices need to be heard, and justice needs to be served. The international community must act now to prevent further violations and protect the rights of all Baloch people.

We urge you to take immediate action to address the issue of enforced disappearances of Baloch women in Pakistan. We believe that your intervention can make a significant difference in protecting the rights of Baloch women and ensuring that the perpetrators of enforced disappearances are held accountable for their actions.

Sincerely,

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Munir Mengal President Baloch Voice Association and Princippal Representative for UN Geneva Association MIMAN

Endorsed by :

Baloch Voice Association (BVA)

Voice for Baloch Missing Persons (VBMP)

Baloch Peoples Congress (BPC)

Association MIMAN

Paris Integration Forum (PIF)