

Press release

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan demands parliamentary commission on Waziristan

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Lahore, 27 May 2019. The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) is alarmed by the use of military force causing deaths of at least three Pashtun Tahaffuz Movement (PTM) activists in North Waziristan. HRCP believes that this will further escalate tensions between PTM supporters and security institutions, consequently leading to a permanent wedge between the people of tribal districts and the state. This will be detrimental to the interests of the country and its citizens.

HRCP demands the release of MNA Ali Wazir and any other activists taken into custody. It also calls for a parliamentary commission to be set up immediately to inquire into the matter and establish the truth.

There must be a serious attempt to genuinely address the grievances of the local population, which the PTM has been articulating peacefully for well over a year. Moreover, with the passage of the 26th Constitutional Amendment, the state must ensure that the media and civil society have independent access to the former FATA. The country's mainstream media must also understand its responsibility to report on this region fairly.

Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)

May 27, 2019

Dr Mehdi Hasan

Chairperson

P.S.

• <http://hrcp-web.org/hrcpweb/hrcp-demands-parliamentary-commission-on-waziristan/>