

January 12, 2012

The Secretary of State  
The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madame Secretary:

We American and Canadian Muslims have watched with increasing anxiety the situation of the former Pakistani Ambassador to the U.S., Husain Haqqani. Motivated by our deep concern for the life and safety of Ambassador Haqqani we write to you to ask you to speak on his behalf. Ambassador Haqqani is living under virtual house arrest in Pakistan. Pakistan's security agencies confiscated his passport and the judiciary, under pressure from the military, has restricted him from travelling outside Pakistan.

Ambassador Haqqani's travails began after it was alleged that he had initiated a letter to the Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, following the US military action inside Pakistan in which Osama Bin Laden was killed. The letter reportedly asked for American intervention in Pakistan in order to forestall a military coup.

Ambassador Haqqani vehemently denies these allegations, yet honorably offered to resign his position and return to Pakistan to clear his name and answer any questions. He acted in good faith, but Pakistan's military-judicial establishment and the country's anti-American media have "convicted him" in the court of public opinion, without the benefit of any criminal charges.

Ambassador Haqqani's return to Pakistan is a mark of a man of character who had faith in his government's legal protections. Had there been any guilt on his part, he would have never returned. He believed his faith would sustain him and therefor put his life on the line.

Pakistan's Supreme Court, rather than asserting the law of the land and its responsibility as the court of last resort, has instead become a "kangaroo court", trampling over Ambassador Haqqani's fundamental legal and human rights. It has forced his counsel, former UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights, Ms. Asma Jahangir to withdraw her representation of Ambassador Haqqani, citing her lack of confidence in the judicial commission.

As a number of U.S. scholars have written to you: "The case against Haqqani follows an ominous trend in Pakistan. The assassinations of Punjab Governor Salmaan Taseer, Minister for Minority Affairs Shahbaz Bhatti, and journalist Syed Saleem Shahzad this past year have created a culture of intimidation and fear that is stifling efforts to promote a more tolerant and democratic society. Significant segments of the Pakistani media have already judged Haqqani to be guilty of treason, which could inspire religious extremists to take the law into their own hands as they did with Taseer and Bhatti."

As North American Muslim leaders, we highly regard Ambassador Haqqani as not only the Pakistani Ambassador to the U.S., but also because he has always represented moderate Islamic values and has been vocal in his opposition to radical elements in Islam. He is a source of pride for

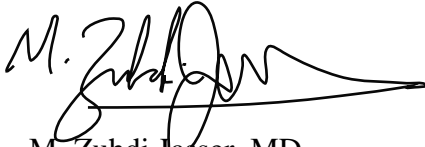
moderate Muslims in North America. During his stay in the United States, Ambassador Haqqani was an effective, intelligent and articulate refutation of all the negative stereotypes of Muslims created by the Islamist leadership inside America. Ambassador Haqqani and his family have deep roots within the United States and is well known by many of us in the leadership role he played nationally while serving as a professor at Boston University prior to his return to his motherland of Pakistan.

Ambassador Haqqani has told the London Telegraph that his life is threatened by jihadi terrorists as well as those elements within Pakistan's military establishment which have been instrumental in effectuating the assassinations of many leading politicians and journalists—which, in the words of Journalists without Borders, makes Pakistan the most dangerous place on earth.

We sincerely appeal to you and to President Barack Obama to intervene. Please let Pakistan's military chief General Kayani and ISI boss General Pasha know that they will be held responsible for any harm that comes to Ambassador Haqqani.

We also ask you to ensure the safety of Ambassador Haqqani's wife, currently in the US. She is constantly followed by ISI agents working inside America. She should have the ability to live here free from intimidation and threats

With High Regards,



M. Zuhdi Jasser, MD  
President, American Islamic Forum for Democracy  
Phoenix, AZ

Irshad Manji  
Director, Moral Courage Project  
New York University  
New York, NY

Mona Eltahawy  
Columnist & Public Speaker  
Arab and Muslim Issues  
New York, NY

Zainab Al-Suwaij  
Co-Founder and Executive Director  
American Islamic Congress  
Washington, D.C.

Manda Zand Ervin  
Founder  
Alliance for Iranian Women  
Maryland, USA

Abdirizak Bihi  
Director  
Somali Education & Social Advocacy Center  
Minneapolis, MN

Tarek Fatah  
Author, "Chasing a Mirage:  
The Tragic Illusion of an Islamic State"  
Toronto, ON

C. Holland Taylor  
Chairman & CEO  
LibForAll Foundation  
Winston-Salem, NC

Bahman Batmanghelidj  
Founding Member  
Alliance for Democracy in Iran  
Virginia, USA

Farzana Hassan, Ed.D.  
Past President  
Muslim Canadian Congress  
Toronto, ON

Arif Humayun  
Circle of Peace  
Portland, OR

Raquel Evita Saraswati  
Activist and Journalist  
USA

Ahmed Hussien  
Canadian Somali Congress  
Ottawa, ON

Kamal Nawash  
Free Muslims Coalition  
Washington, DC

Intizar H. Zaidi  
President  
Council of Former Pakistanis  
Richmond Hill, ON

Mona Shay  
Stand-up Comic  
Burbank, CA

Shahla Haeri  
Associate Professor of Anthropology  
Boston University  
Boston, MA

Sabahat Ashraf  
Communicator, Blogger  
Fremont, CA

Sherkoh Abbas  
President  
Kurdistan National Assembly of Syria  
Washington, DC

Mehnaz-Mona Afridi, Ph.D.  
Director, Holocaust, Genocide and Interfaith  
Education Center, Manhattan College  
New York, NY

Mohammad Taqi, MD, FACP  
Columnist Daily Times, Pakistan  
Gainesville, FL

Raheel Raza  
CEO, Forum for Learning,  
Toronto, ON

Jamal Hasan  
Council for Democracy and Tolerance  
Baltimore, MD

Waris Husain  
Columnist at Daily Dawn  
Washington, DC

Jalal Zuberi, MD  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA

Hasan Mahmud  
Author, "Islam and Sharia"  
Toronto, ON

Sabeen H. Syed  
President & CEO  
Glitterati World LLC  
Houston TX

Ibrahim Sajid Malick.  
Collaboration Architect  
New York, NY

Aziz Narejo  
Past president  
Sindhi Association of North America  
Houston, TX