

**RESOLUTION OF  
THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
CONDEMNING  
THE SUSPENSION OF THE CONSTITUTION,  
THE CLOSING OF THE JUDICIARY,  
AND  
THE IMPRISONMENT OF LAWYERS  
IN PAKISTAN**

**NOVEMBER 6, 2007**

**WHEREAS**, the Bar Association of the District of Columbia was established in 1871 in the Nation's Capitol and is one of the oldest bar associations in the United States of America;

**WHEREAS**, the Bar Association of the District of Columbia serves its members, promotes justice and the preservation of law, and addresses challenges facing the legal profession;

**WHEREAS**, the principle that a judiciary be independent is essential to the fair and impartial administration of justice and the operation of a free and open government;

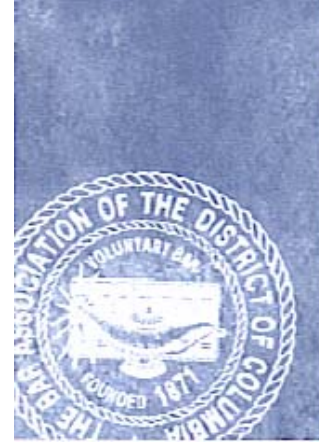
**WHEREAS**, the struggle for a constitutional government is also a struggle for honest and fair laws which are applied equally by independent and impartial courts;

**WHEREAS**, there is no liberty if the power of judging is not separated from the legislative and executive powers; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no justice if lawyers are unable to represent their clients without fear of imprisonment or reprisal.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HEREBY:**

1. Denounces the suspension of the Pakistan Constitution by the current Pakistani government;
2. Denounces the closing of the Pakistani courts and judiciary system by the current Pakistani government;
3. Denounces the brutality that is being directed to members of the bar of Pakistan;
4. Denounces the imprisonment of a reported 3,000 lawyers in Pakistan; and
5. Recognizes and commends the courage and conviction of the members of the Pakistani bar, the judiciary, and the public who are working to correct this grave injustice.



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