



National Association of Women Lawyers®

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June 29, 2005

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Re: Mukhtaran Mai

Dear Secretary Rice:

I am writing you on behalf of the National Association of Women Lawyers ("NAWL"), the leading national voluntary association of women lawyers in the United States. Among its many activities (see www.nawl.org), NAWL works with women's coalitions around the world to end discrimination and violence against women.

NAWL wishes to thank you for your public statements and discussion with Pakistani officials in support of Ms. Mukhtaran Mai. As you are aware, Ms. Mai has been a victim of a heinous crime, yet she has been forced to endure continued hardship from fellow Pakistanis and the very government created to protect her. As a matter of international standards and fundamental women's rights, it is important for Ms. Mai to receive adequate protection from threats on her life and well-being; that steps are taken to appropriately prosecute her rapists as the law requires; and that Ms. Mai is free to travel outside of Pakistan.

NAWL appreciates the support you have provided and looks forward to your continued interest in this very important case.

Sincerely,

Eva Herzer
Chair, NAWL International Committee

cc: President George W. Bush