First UA: 116/26 Index: ASA 33/1641/2026 Pakistan Date: 13 November 2026

URGENT ACTION

ACTIVIST REMAINS MISSING SIX MONTHS ON

Fareed Afridi, a Pashtun human rights activist, was forcibly disappeared from Peshawar on May 18, and his whereabouts have been unknown since. The police authorities delayed the registration of a complaint for nearly two months and have failed to conduct an adequate investigation into the circumstances of his disappearance. The Pakistani authorities must make his whereabouts known to his family and ensure his immediate return.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- Click here to report your action(s) on ***UA 116.26***. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Mian Saeed Ahmad, Capital City Police Officer
CCPO Office
Police Lines Road in PTCL Colony
Peshawar, 25000, Pakistan

Send a copy of your letter to the address below

CC: Pakistani Embassy in the United States
Ambassador Rizwan Saeed Sheikh
3517 International Court, NW,
Washington DC 20008
Email: info@embassyofpakistanusa.org

Dear Mian Saeed Ahmad, Capital City Police Officer,

I am concerned about the enforced disappearance of Pashtun activist **Fareed Afridi** and the authorities' inability to ensure his safe return. He was abducted on the evening of May 18, 2026 when he left his home in Peshawar to purchase groceries. When he arrived at Arbab Road Main Market at around 7:15 PM, six to seven men in plain clothing exited from two vehicles and forcibly took him. The incident was captured on nearby CCTV cameras. His whereabouts have been unknown since.

Fareed Afridi's family approached the University Town police station with a written complaint on the evening of his disappearance. The police station, however, refused to file a First Information Report (FIR) regarding the incident. Fareed Afridi's family also submitted a written application to your office on May 21 but has not yet received a reply. An FIR was eventually registered on July 9 after much delay despite an order from an additional sessions judge on June 20 for the police to undertake a "fair, transparent, and impartial investigation strictly in compliance with the law".

Fareed Afridi is a committed activist who has spoken out on several issues, including the rights of Pashtun people and women. He has a substantial following on TikTok, where he frequently highlights social issues.

I urge you to ensure that Fareed Afridi's fate and whereabouts are immediately disclosed to his family members, and that he is unconditionally released unless there is sufficient credible evidence to charge him with an internationally recognizable criminal offense. I further urge you to conduct a prompt investigation into his enforced disappearance and hold those suspected to be responsible to account in fair proceedings.

Yours sincerely,

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fareed Afridi is an activist from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province who is a vocal supporter of the Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (PTM), a grassroots movement speaking up for the rights of the Pashtun people particularly on issues of enforced disappearances, extrajudicial executions, and gender equality. He used social media platforms for his activism, particularly Facebook and TikTok. On TikTok he has two accounts with 108,500 and 177,800 followers each. His family reports that his Facebook account was disabled and deleted two days after this disappearance and they have no idea who and how it was deleted.

Fareed is a 51-year-old father of six children and was the sole breadwinner of his household. His disappearance has impacted the family financially and emotionally.

Pashtuns are an ethnic minority particularly based in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and parts of Balochistan. PTM originated from the Mahsud Tahafuz Movement by students in South Waziristan in the province, however, became PTM in 2018 after the extrajudicial execution of Naqeebullah Mehsud, a Pashtun aspiring model. The movement highlighted the systemic racism faced by Pashtuns particularly at the hands of law enforcement agencies. PTM has also faced immense crackdown by the Pakistani authorities, with its supporters and leadership subjected to arbitrary detention and enforced disappearances. The organization was proscribed under the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997 in 2024, and has since found it difficult to organize public gatherings. Its leaders, such as **Ali Wazir**, have been unlawfully detained under trumped up charges. According to the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances, the highest number of enforced disappearances have been reported from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (3,822 out of a total of 10,900 cases).

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English, Urdu, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: May 13, 2027

NAME AND PRONOUN: Fareed Afridi (he/him)