

Daniel Pearl Murder Case is a Clear Example of How Pakistan's Rulers Blindly Follow the Demands of the US

News:

News & Comment

In his "Statement by Acting Attorney General Jeffrey A. Rosen on the Pakistani Proceedings Relating to the Abduction and Murder of Daniel Pearl" Mr. Rosen released the following statement on 29 December 2020, "We understand that Pakistani authorities are taking steps to ensure that Omar Sheikh remains in custody while the Supreme Court appeal seeking to reinstate his conviction continues. The separate judicial rulings reversing his conviction and ordering his release are an affront to terrorism victims everywhere. We remain grateful for the Pakistani government's actions to appeal such rulings to ensure that he and his co-defendants are held accountable. If, however, those efforts do not succeed, the United States stands ready to take custody of Omar Sheikh to stand trial here. We cannot allow him to evade justice for his role in Daniel Pearl's abduction and murder."

Comment:

Omar Sheikh was arrested in 2002 in connection with the killing of an American journalist in Karachi and was charged regarding involvement in the murder. Omar has been held in prison for the last eighteen years. He was awarded the death sentence from an Anti-Terrorism Court, which was annulled by the Sindh High Court. The SHC awarded him seven years in prison as a sentence for his role, back in April 2020. Due to his incarceration before this appeal verdict, the term of punishment of Omar was deemed as having been served. So under the Pakistani law his release was eminent. However, in order to please its colonialist master, the Bajwa-Imran regime detained Omar under the Maintaining of Public Order Ordinance (MPO). It also filed an appeal against the verdict of the Sindh High Court in the Supreme Court of Pakistan. In December 2020, the Sindh High court declared the detention of Umar Sheikh, under the MPO, illegal. It ordered his immediate release. However, Omar has still not been released, because of the regime's subservience of US.

In this colonialist judiciary, left behind by the British Raj as a parting blow upon the people, justice is the slave of powerful people. Favorable verdicts are extracted from courts by the powerful, whilst the masses are ordered to respect and abide by the law. If the powerful do not extract a favorable verdict, they simply override it. They can even dissolve that court, as occurred in the Pervez Musharraf treason case. The colonialist judiciary released the murderer of two Pakistanis, Raymond Davis, promptly whisking him off to the US. However, it has obstructed the release of a Pakistani, whose release orders are issued by the court. In this respect, the case has a resemblance to that of Naveed Butt, who remains in enforced disappearance despite a legal authority issuing a production order in January 2018. And there are many other similar cases.

Written for the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir by

Asghar Ahmed – Pakistan