



March 10, 2009

Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan
Supreme Court Building, Constitution Avenue
Islamabad, Federal Capital Province
Pakistan, 44000

Attention: Shaukat Umar Pirzada
Secretary

Dear Sir:

Re: Long March for Restoration of Judiciary

Thank you for your letter of February 13, 2009, advising the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) of your planned “Long March” in support of the reinstatement of your Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Iftikhar Mohammad Chaudhry and other members of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and the High Courts who were removed by General Pervez Musharraf. We are with you in spirit and hope that your efforts result in a positive outcome for an impartial, independent judiciary and the Rule of Law in Pakistan.

When we became aware of General Musharraf’s actions in November 2007, the CBA wrote to the High Commissioner of Pakistan in Ottawa condemning the imposition of emergency rule, the removal of the judiciary, as well as the beatings and arrests of Pakistani lawyers protesting in support of the imprisoned Supreme Court justices. The same month, approximately 300 Canadian lawyers and supporters marched to our Supreme Court building in Ottawa to join others around the world calling for the reinstatement of the Rule of Law in Pakistan. Canadian lawyers also participated in similar marches in several other cities in Canada.

We remain concerned that despite the February 2008 elections, and the fact that General Musharraf has stepped down as leader, there still has been no return of an independent judiciary to your country. We believe, as you do, that the Rule of Law is critical to a nation’s prosperity and security. We applaud your efforts to engage in peaceful protest so that judicial independence, a key element of the Rule of Law, will again exist in Pakistan.

Yours truly,

(Original signed by J. Guy Joubert)

J. Guy Joubert
President