

To,

**The Chief Minister
Government of Sindh
CM Secretariat, Karachi**

**The Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department
Government of Sindh
Sindh Secretariat, Karachi**

**Inspector General of Sindh Police
Central Police Office, Karachi**

**JUSTICE FOR MS. PERWEEN REHMAN
Activist, Social Worker, Teacher**

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

On the 13th of March, 2013, a human rights defender was silenced in Karachi.

Ms. Perween Rehman was travelling to her home from work when unidentified assailants approached her car on motorbike and opened fire, as a result of which Ms. Rehman received bullet injuries in her neck and passed away. She was the Director of the Orangi Pilot Project and an internationally renowned social worker, who had devoted her life for the development of impoverished neighborhoods in the city of Karachi. Ms. Rehman had worked tirelessly to document land in Orangi Town, in order to protect the low-income settlements where she had been working for nearly thirty years, from the city's notorious land mafia. She had been receiving death threats from various groups, yet she had remained persistent in her efforts against the growing expansion of land grabbers. She had become a symbol of resistance. She was the voice of the marginalized community which had been under threat of eviction. The society not only lost a brave social worker and activist, but also a teacher who was to nurture many minds. It is an immense loss; people across the globe have condemned this brutal act.

An F.I.R. bearing No. 104/2013 was lodged at Police Station Peerabad at 2200 hours on the very same day, nominating two unknown assailants for commission of offences under Sections 302/34 of the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860. However, despite passage of more than five months, the police investigation is still pending and no progress has been made in apprehending the perpetrators.

Ms. Rehman's case is a classical example of high handedness, negligence and failure of the law enforcement agencies in Karachi, which have not only failed to protect the life, liberty and property of the citizens, but have also failed to investigate the murder of an internationally renowned social worker, in a fair, impartial and satisfactory manner. The resultant environment of insecurity and impunity has discouraged humanitarian activities in the city and emboldened the criminal elements which are bent upon violating the fundamental rights of citizens embodied in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973.

Through this signed petition, I hereby, place a formal request for investigation of the brutal murder of Ms. Perween Rehman and for taking immediate and effective action against the perpetrators so as to ensure that justice is done and such incidents against social workers can be prevented in the future.

Name:

Dated:

CNIC Number:

Signature

Please sign this Petition and email the scanned copy at: fayyaz@irm.edu.pk, or send the hard copy at: c/o Mr. Fayyaz Baqar, House No. 25, Street 21, F-7/2, Islamabad - 44000