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International Commission of Jurists (Canadian Section)
I C J C A N A D A C I J
Commission internationale de juristes (section canadienne)

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NEWS RELEASE

ICJ (Canada) joins with jurists around the world in condemning the indefinite suspension of the Constitution and the rule of law in Pakistan.

We express our dismay at the continuing violence and the reported arrests and detention of lawyers and human rights officials. We condemn the summary dismissal of the Chief Justice Chaudhry, as well as the illegal suspension and disenfranchisement of the judiciary.

We call for the immediate restoration of the Constitution accompanied by the release of those who are in detention, and a return to democracy based on the rule of law, assured by an independent judiciary and bar.

We urge the United Nations to act immediately to protect the lives and safety of those put in danger by the government of Pakistan's illegal declaration of a state of emergency, removing all constitutional legal restraints.

**PAUL D.K. FRASER, Q.C.
PRESIDENT**

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