

Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)

Torture, Former Combatants, Political Prisoners, Terror Suspects, & Terrorists

https://www.cair.com/press_releases/cair-seeks-probe-of-torture-claims-by-americans-detained-in-pakistan/

Public Facing Advocacy Writing

(WASHINGTON, D.C., 1/20/10) The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) today called for an investigation of allegations by five Americans detained in Pakistan that they have been subjected to torture.

The five young men from Virginia were arrested last month in Pakistan. Following a court appearance on Monday, the men shouted to reporters that they were being tortured. One of their representatives also said the men told the judge that they are not being allowed to be represented by an attorney of their choice.

SEE: [After Hearing in Pakistan, 5 Americans Allege Torture](#) (NY Times)

“These are serious allegations by American citizens and they need to be investigated by U.S. State Department and law enforcement officials who are working on the case,” said CAIR National Executive Director Nihad Awad.

Late last year, the parents of the now-detained men informed CAIR of their disappearance. CAIR put them in touch with the FBI and, along with the families and Muslim community leaders, worked to assist the agency as the investigation moved forward. CAIR also assisted the families in obtaining legal representation to make sure their constitutional rights were protected.

CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.

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