

MAHRANG BALOCH

A Chronology of Her Activities and Police Cases - 2024

Mahrang Baloch, born in 1993, is a Baloch rights activist focusing on the alleged Enforced Disappearances and rights violations in the Balochistan province of Pakistan. She is affiliated with the Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC), an organization that claims to fight for the Baloch rights and Enforced Disappearances of the members of the Baloch community.

Baloch's father Abdul Gaffar Langove, disappeared on December 12, 2009, and his mutilated dead body was found in 2011. Her brother disappeared in December 2017 and returned after three months. Before BYC, was affiliated with another group, the Voice for Baloch Missing Persons (VBMP).

She has struggled to find her father's whereabouts and then for the justice of his murder since adolescence. She, her family, and rights activists allege authorities for the abduction of her father and brother. The evidence and disappearing circumstances of her father indicated the disappearance of her father, an enforced disappearance, and the killing, an extrajudicial murder.

October 27, 2024: Mahrang Baloch said including her name in the 4th schedule is "an attempt to suppress peaceful activism." The Terror Watch List, commonly known as Pakistan's Fourth Schedule under Section 11 of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) 1997. The infamous Fourth Schedule List grants arbitrary powers to the authorities for surveillance, restrictions on freedom of movement, repeated security checks, suspicion of terrorism, and sedition.

October 11, 2024: The police booked Ms. Baloch after a citizen approached the police and alleged in the police report, known as the First Information Report (FIR) that Mahrang and other activists were spreading anarchy and misguiding local youths in the jurisdiction of the Quaidabad police station, Karachi, Sindh. The FIR 654/24, Serial Number 4418, further alleged that Mahrang and her associates were in contact with an enemy nation that funded Mahrang-led sit-ins across the country, defaming institutions and the facilitators of the terrorist organizations, including the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA). The FIR alleged she was spreading hate, brainwashing youths against the country, and an accessory to the terrorists. She was booked under sections 148 (Whoever is guilty of rioting, being armed with a deadly weapon or with anything which, used as a weapon of offense, is likely to cause death), 149 (every member of unlawful assembly guilty of the offense committed in prosecution of the common object), 124-A (Sedition), 153A (Promoting enmity between different groups), 500 (Punishment for defamation), 505 (Statements conducing to public mischief), of the Pakistan Penal Code and Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA)-7 (terrorism, sectarian violence and for speedy trial of heinous offenses). In March 2023, The Lahore High Court (LHC) annulled the offense of sedition under Section 124-A of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) for repugnant to fundamental rights.

October 8, 2024: Authorities at the Karachi Airport barred Mahrang Baloch from flying to New York to attend the Time Magazine gala. Her name was among the Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential Emerging Leaders of the Year. Mahrang took to social media and informed her followers about the restrictions. She alleged the government prevented her from "exercising my

freedom of expression, movement rights and a clear violation of my fundamental right to freedom of movement.” She also alleged the authorities to keep her detained at the airport for five hours. The immigration authorities gave no reason for travel restriction on Mahrang Baloch. October 14, 2024: Ms. Mahrang filed a petition in the Sindh High Court to recover her stolen passport and mobile phone. She said her "passport and mobile phone were snatched on the night of October 8 when she was returning from Karachi airport."

July 28, 2024: Mahrang Baloch was among the BYC leaders who organized "Baloch Raji Muchi" (Baloch national gathering). Clashes between the Raji Muchi March participants and the security forces left 15 dead and many injured in Mastung, Balochistan. The Raji Muchi violated Section 144 (banning public gatherings of four or more people) for the protest. The BYC accused the security forces of the assault, while the local administration alleged BYC of attacking a security checkpoint near Mastung. According to the regional administration, the Law enforcement agencies (LEAs) had approached the rally for negotiation, but the armed protesters of BYC opened fire, injuring two LEAs and four people, near Mastung.

June 06, 2024: Police booked Mahrang Baloch and at least 200 other BYC Baloch activists for disrupting traffic and forcing entry into the Quetta Press Club in May 2024. Among other sections under the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), Ms. Mahrang and other activists were also booked for sedition charges under Section 124-A over allegations of speaking against Pakistan and inciting hate against the state and the institutions.

May 18, 2024: The police and law enforcement agencies (LEAs) banned the Participants, journalists, students, and panelists from entering the Quetta Press Club and locked the doors. Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) organized a conference titled 'Fencing Gwadar - From Mega Project to Mega Prison.

January 5, 2024: Police booked Mahrang Baloch, other prominent nationalist leaders, and others under section 124-A of the Pakistan Penal Code in Khairpur, Sindh province. Surprisingly, she had never been to the jurisdiction of the Police Station Wadda Machyoon in Khairpur, where the police report had been registered.

WHAT THE OPPONENTS AND THE SUCCEEDING GOVERNMENTS SAY ABOUT MAHRANG BALOCH

October 11, 2024: A citizen filed a police report known as the First Information Report (FIR), 654/24, Serial Number 4418, and alleged Ms Baloch and associates for being in contact with an enemy nation that funded Mahrang-led sit-ins across the country, defaming institutions and the facilitators of the terrorist organizations, including the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA). In November 2023, Sarfraz Bugti, the Chief Minister of Balochistan, said [families of those who quarrel with their wives also file a case of enforced disappearance](#). Bugti was serving as the Home and Tribal Affairs Minister in November 2023.

Over the years, the succeeding authorities have booked Ms. Baloch over allegations as serious as terrorism and sedition.

Mahrang Baloch earned her MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) from Bolan Medical College, Balochistan.

For an extended chronology of the events related to Dr. Mahrang Baloch, go to the timelines of our previous annual reports.

Updated November 20, 2024

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