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Pakistan

# Over 100 civil society activists arrested in Lahore

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### **Over 100 civil society activists have been arrested from a meeting of Joint Action Committee, at Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Lahore on Sunday 14.00 hrs.**

Dear All,

The meeting was called to discuss the situation after the imposition of Emergency in the country by General Pervez Mushraf. Police broke the windows of the hall to enter into the meeting venue. Disrupt the peaceful indoor meeting and asked the participants to come out. All the participants were bundled into the police vans and driven to the Model Town Police Station. among the arrested men and women include I.A Rehman, Iqbal Hyder, Robina Saugol, Azra Shad, Khalid Mehmood, Mehboob Khan and Raja Salman. The names of many other friends could not be identified yet.

Me and Bushra Khaliq, secretary WWHL were late from the meeting. When we reached the HRCP office to attend the meeting at 12;30 by that time police cordoned off the whole building and blocked the road towards HRCP office. The police refused our entry in the meeting hall. We stayed outside the hall for half an hour to asses the situation. meanwhile we contacted some friends in present in the meeting on mobile and apprised them about the situation outside. More contingents of police were pouring in. it was all a threatening scenario. gun totting police men on red lighted vehicles and bikes can be seen all around the HRCP hall. The police ordered all the people waiting outside the hall to leave the place immediately.

Meanwhile We remained in contact with some participants on phone and they told us that police have entered in the hall, stopped the meeting and offered the women participants to leave the venue while all the men were told that they are arrested. The women participants refused to go so they were also arrested along with men. Later they were all taken to police station. Police has refused to tell them the nature and period of their detention. We are trying to get more information

In view of the latest crackdown on political activists, Farooq Tariq, general secretary LPP is underground to avoid arrest and police is looking for him like grey hounds. last night a police raid was also conducted at his Lahore residence. It is pertinent to mention that LPP has denounced the Emergency and vowed to resist it.

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on behalf of Farooq Tariq  
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