

Kidnapping Ordeal

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Dear Friends,

Its embarrassing to actually write so much amongst chaos and tragedy which goes unreported my own story. On 30th of August, 2013 around 8pm PST, I was picked up in PECHS, Karachi along with my driver by uniformed policemen from Karachi police when they stopped my car. The police officials were blunt and upfront as if they are indispensable and on the police vehicle a hilux with police siren, took off with me and my driver blind folded. Upon enquiry, I was told my policeman that I am not being kidapped but someone wanted to me: when I asked who? The answer was “Boss”. The police van was moving fast towards Clifton / Sea View area taking Shaheed-e-Millat Road, Korengi Bridge and from there taking a short cut to Khaban-e-Intehad and to Sea View/Do Darya side. And the vehicle stopped suddenly, a policeman sudden took off my watch, valet ad cell phone while someone else jumped in, “Why did you guys bring the driver? Get rid of him!” – Suddenly they took my driver out and there was silence... There were six policemen in total; four were at the back side and two in the front. This was Karachi police showing its true colors – working on orders of abductors and getting involved in kidnapping proving yet again how politicized, criminalized Karachi police had become. During the long drive and abduction by Karachi Police, I noticed how they carried government issued AK47s, spoke and confirmed they were real policemen.

After good 30 minutes another 4x4 jeep appeared and there appeared someone who took me out from my hairs. The police delivered the “package” to “masters”. Unfortunately a shocking reality which clearly shows how criminalized the police had become.

“You thought you could get away? No you can’t. Prepare to die!” – The boss had arrived and from what I could see from blindfold, the man was in his mid 30’s, fair and grey haired.

My blindfolds were checked again and I was put into what appeared to be a luxury jeep with two people holding me constantly. I could hear someone sitting in the front, “we got him and bringing him over...”Next thing I know after a good 15-20 minutes drive, I was brought into what appeared to be a remote mansion. The gates opened and I was taken into a room blindfolded and my hands, tightly tied.

I was escorted into a small room with brownish cheap carpet, black office sofas and a table. I was tied up and tightly blindfolded and air conditioner was turned on. After 10 minutes a person appeared and started kicking me on my back shouting and abusing me. The beating was severe while they abused me, my boss Najam Sethi constantly – “you guys want to start an operation in Karachi!!!!”, “what are your sources”, “whom do you know in the military?”, “what’s your association with Najam Sethi?”, “You are a traitor”, “You are an agent” – the beating stopped and continued with time.

What are your sources within the military? One kidnapper asked to which I replied, "I had very open sources which I mention normally with names!" - it was a long nine-ten hours ordeal. Eventually I was left after certain promises of leaving Karachi at Khaban-e-Ittehad, DHA where local police van came to the rescue although they wanted a bribe. My car was parked opposite Cineplex Cinema, DHA which the police helped me locate. I moved from Karachi after that.

On 03-Sep-2013 – one of my staff member Rameez Iqbal was at 2:30pm stopped my police vehicle (police Suzuki Mehran) and there was a police corolla with the car where my staff member Rameez was questioned about my whereabouts and threatened. Apparently, the threats at my Karachi office continues with police cars, private cars (black Hilux) and other individuals there to threaten my staff everyday.