



**Press Release**

***A Pakistani peacekeeper martyred in the line of duty in Abyei***

**New York – January 29, 2024**

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On 28th January 2024, a convoy of Pakistani Peacekeepers was ambushed in Abyei (a disputed area between Sudan and South Sudan), while it was escorting two local patients to a hospital.

Pakistani peacekeepers responded effectively and forced the militants to retreat. However, during the exchange of fire, Sepoy Muhammad Tariq embraced martyrdom while four other individuals including two officers were injured.

A statement read out by Stephane Dujarric, spokesperson of the United Nations Secretary-General said:

"The Secretary-General conveys his deepest condolences to the Government and people of Ghana and Pakistan, and to the families of the deceased civilians.

In a condolence message to Ambassador Munir Akram, UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Mr. Jean-Pierre said:

"I learned with great sadness the killing of a Pakistani peacekeeper in Abyei. I wanted to express to you, your government and the bereaved family, my deepest condolences."

He thanked Pakistan for its contributions to UN peacekeeping around the world and wished "full and speedy recovery" to the injured.

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Ambassador Munir Akram said that he was deeply grieved to learn of the martyrdom of Pakistani peacekeeper Muhammad Tariq.

While expressing his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and the armed forces of Pakistan, Ambassador Akram said, "Such supreme sacrifices are a symbol of Pakistan's commitment to peacekeeping endeavors of the United Nations."

It is pertinent to mention that the Pakistan peacekeeping contingents have always distinguished themselves by virtue of their professionalism and devotion to duty.

To date, 181 Pakistani peacekeepers have rendered the supreme sacrifice of their lives while serving the cause of global peace under the umbrella of the United Nations.

Pakistan remains committed to its role as a responsible member of the international community and will continue to contribute towards global peace and stability under the auspices of the United Nations.