

Beat: News

## **Court throws out Omni Group's case against SENIOR JOURNALIST ASAD KHARAL**

### **Congratulations ASAD KHARAL the Lion**

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**USPA NEWS** - The group had filed a case against senior investigative journalist for exposing its corruption. However, the group failed to produce witnesses against Asad Kharal, who was represented in the court by Barrister Hassan Ansari of the Lakho Associates. Asad Kharal was indicted in the case on April 29, 2017.

The court provided the last chance to the Omni Group to present witnesses in the court on March 30, 2019, but the group failed. Its lawyer informed Additional Sessions Judge Fateh Mubeen Nizam that he had lost contact with his clients and sought more time. However, the court observed that ample time was provided to the group to produce witnesses but it failed, hence the case was dismissed.

It is pertinent to mention here that Asad Kharal had to face a long ordeal after he exposed corruption of the Omni Group and its links to former President Asif Ali Zardari. He also exposed the link of model Ayyani Ali with Asif Zardari, when she was caught smuggling huge money.

All these charges proved true in a probe by a Joint Investigation Team (JIT), formed on the order of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Asad Kharal also presented proof of corruption of the Omni Group to the JIT.

However, fighting the case in Karachi was not easy.

He had to travel to Karachi from Lahore during every hearing of the case for over three years. However, he stood firm against all odds. Money or threats failed to dent his resolve to fight corruption in the country. He was also attacked near Lahore Airport a few months ago for pursuing his ideals.

Human rights activists and journalist organizations have congratulated Asad Kharal for winning the case. They have also expressed their concern how journalists in Pakistan are tormented for exposing corruption. The Supreme Court of Pakistan has taken a number of suto motu notices on his reports. He also exposed the LNG scandal against former Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi.

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**Article online:**

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