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PTI Launches Nationwide Protest for Democratic Rights on August 5

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Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) plans a nationwide movement starting August 5, 2025, to demand democratic rights and the release of its leader, Imran Khan, amid claims of judicial and political suppression.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), a major political party in Pakistan, is set to launch a countrywide movement on August 5, 2025, to advocate for constitutional and democratic rights, according to senior party leader Asad Qaiser, a former National Assembly speaker. Speaking from Swabi, Qaiser announced that the protests would remain peaceful and lawful, focusing on addressing violations of democratic principles. He highlighted the arrest of PTI founder Imran Khan on August 5, 2023, marking the date as a “Black Day” to symbolize perceived injustices against political leaders. Qaiser demanded the immediate

release on bail of Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, asserting it as their constitutional right. He criticized the judiciary, claiming it operates under government pressure, undermining its independence.

The movement, described as a long-term struggle by PTI Secretary General Salman Akram Raja, aims to restore democracy in Pakistan. Speaking in Peshawar, Raja urged citizens to join the protests, emphasizing that the fight is for national sovereignty, not just political survival. He condemned actions against PTI lawmakers, including the Punjab Assembly's move to refer 26 members to the Election Commission of Pakistan, calling it unconstitutional. Raja also alleged that the May 9, 2023, protests were misrepresented as violent, demanding a judicial inquiry and access to CCTV footage to clarify events.

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur will lead a rally starting at 3 PM from the Ring Road Hayatabad Toll Plaza in Peshawar, proceeding to Bala Hisar Fort via GT Road. PTI leaders have faced significant challenges, with reports of police raids on workers' homes and financial restrictions, such as the freezing of senior member Hafiz Zeeshan Rasheed's bank account. Despite these obstacles, PTI remains resolute, with Qaiser stating that the party will not tolerate state oppression. The movement also calls for broader reforms, including prioritizing education and entrepreneurship over government spending on fertilizer procurement and reopening trade routes with Afghanistan for economic stability.

PTI's campaign reflects growing tensions in Pakistan's political landscape, with the party mobilizing supporters to challenge perceived authoritarian measures and demand justice for its leadership.