

Mr. Munawar “Sufi” Laghari is the Executive Director of Sindhi Foundation. A Sufi by heart and human rights activist by lifelong cause, Sufi Laghari is a familiar voice and face in Washington, making American public and policy makers aware of Sindh, Sindhi culture, its people, and their human rights. He is also the main representative of The Anand Ashram Foundation in DPI –United Nations. Mr. Laghari has testified before the Congressional Human Rights Caucus on the International Day in Support of Torture Victims (1999) and the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2006 and 2007 Geneva, Switzerland. He has also testified before the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs and the House Committee on Appropriations (2000) Washington, DC, as well as to the World Summit in Durban, South Africa (2001). He testified at Washington National press Club by Amnesty International (2001). Laghari is also a founding member of The Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition (TASSC).

Mr. Laghari has been interviewed by the Washington Times, Voice of America, BBC, SABC, Times of India and ANI. He serves as a Sindh expert to policy makers, advisory committees and think tanks around the Washington DC. He is the former Executive Director of Sindhi American Political Action Committee (SAPAC) in Washington, DC. He is also the former Executive Director of the World Sindhi Institute (WSI) and International Representative of SINDH WATCH, a quarterly magazine published by WSI. Laghari holds a Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Mehran University Sindh. He has spent most of his life advocating for human rights and humanitarian causes. In the process of his struggle, he sacrificed his academic career, family relations, and ties to his land. As retribution for his advocacy work in Sindh in the 1980s and 1990s, Pakistani forces held Laghari captive and tortured him. Due to threats of continuous persecution, Sufi sought asylum in the United States, where he has lived since 1994. He is the author of two books on his exile and human rights work in his native language Sindhi. Sufi has been best known as a disciple of Bhitai’s poetry. His recent book on Bhitai’s poetry Glimpses of The Beloved. Sufi lives in Washington DC with his wife Fatima Gul.