



IRON LADY

of Pakistan

The background of the image is a light purple or lavender color with a subtle, textured pattern. Scattered across this background are several pink flowers, likely chrysanthemums, with bright yellow centers and green leaves. The flowers are positioned in the corners and between the text, creating a decorative frame.

Dedication

To Kaneez Fatima, and all the resilient, valorous and awe-inspiring daughters of the land of Indus.



**Asma Jahangir: The Iron Lady of
Pakistan**

Writer

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Illustrator

Fazal Qadir Kahan

Acknowledgements



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Our illustration partner Fazal Qadir Kahan, from Citrex Limited UK, has not only been a source of support but also inspiration for this project. His passion, dedication, and ingenuity have brought life to two-dimensional texts; resulting in the creation of a vibrant and engaging comic book.

INGRAIN

Many thanks to the duo: Hamna Usmani and Shabbir A. Awan, from Ingrain Media, for their technical assistance throughout the projects. Their innovative ideas and openness to suggestions were pivotal in shaping the outcome.

Design Partners

A heartfelt thanks to Mobeena Shafqat, from @fuzzle.wuzzle (Instagram), for encapsulating her artistic skills by providing us with an enchanting background for the comic book. The lush colors with streaks of glittering energy add a breath of fresh air to the project.

Nayab Shakil, from @doodledancers (Instagram), thank for your dexterity and creativity in creating captivating social media images. Your constant support added vivaciousness to our communication platforms.

Special Note of Thanks

I would begin by thanking Asma Jahangir's family members and friends who shared their precious memories. The Jahangir family: Munizae, Sulema, and Jilani, thank you for opening your hearts to talk about your mother's charming and charismatic personality. Dr. Taimur Rahman and Farooq Tariq Sab, I am equally grateful to you both for allowing a personal insight into your long standing relationship with the Iron Lady. I am in gratitude to Nida, Rubina, Rahat, Alia, and other from AGHS who trusted me enough to share their valuable insights regarding Asma Jahangir's achievements and struggles in the realm of human rights and social activism.

This comic book would not have been possible without my mentors. I cannot express my gratitude in words for Dr. Arfa Sayeda Zehra, who sensitized this student towards the essence of life. A special thanks to Raheem ul Haque, for always giving my research a meaningful direction. Nabeel Goheer, thank you for always going out of the way in supporting me; without you this effort would have been meaningless.

A heartfelt thank you to Masuma Khanum, my confidant and editor for this project. Your ability to choose the right words is magical.

Aneeq, where do I begin? Thank you for meeting all my ideas with excitement and turning them into a chiseled product. Your constant presence and support at each point of the project is of innumerable value.

In the city of Lahore there lived a woman with skin as tough as nails, with nerves as strong as iron, as brave as a lioness! She had no superhuman powers but she was Pakistan's superhero. A hero who fought the unjust, became voice of the powerless and brought justice and democracy to the land. Her legacy lives on and still serves the people of this country and beyond. Behold! today we share with you the story of our hero, Asma Jahangir.






We will shoot if you pull that flag down!




Pakistan was not formed for dictatorship!
We mourn the loss of democratic values
of our beloved country.



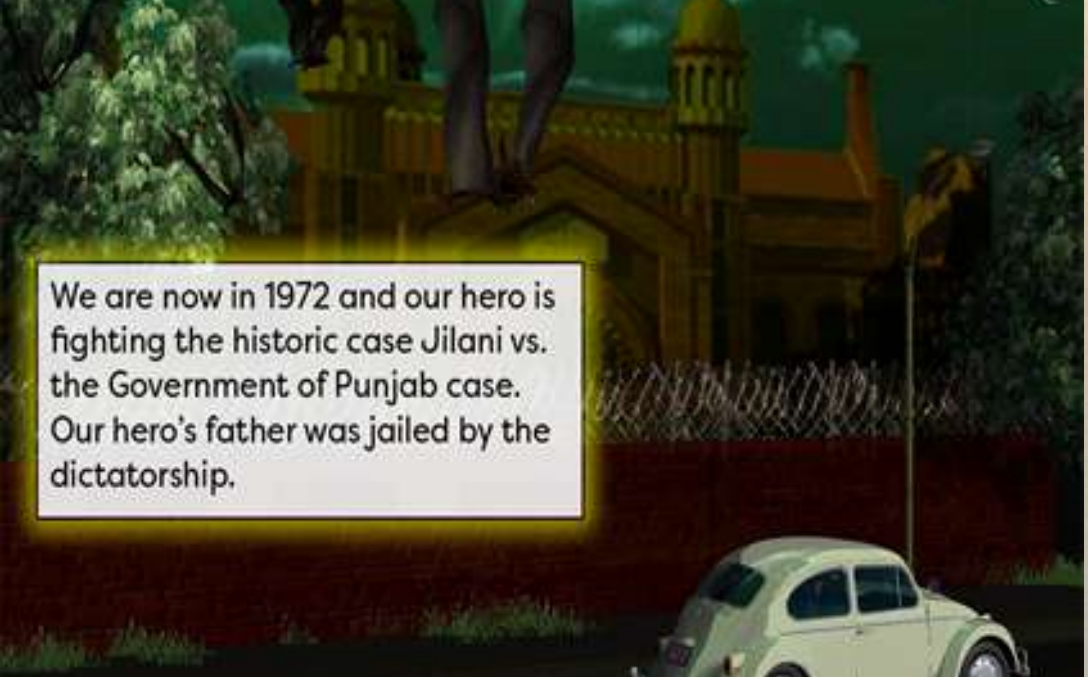
You are suspended for your reckless
behaviour! You could have been
killed today!




You must have found out,
Ami Jaan.




Continue with your resistance
my child! Follow the principles
of democracy.




We are now in 1972 and our hero is fighting the historic case Jilani vs. the Government of Punjab case. Our hero's father was jailed by the dictatorship.



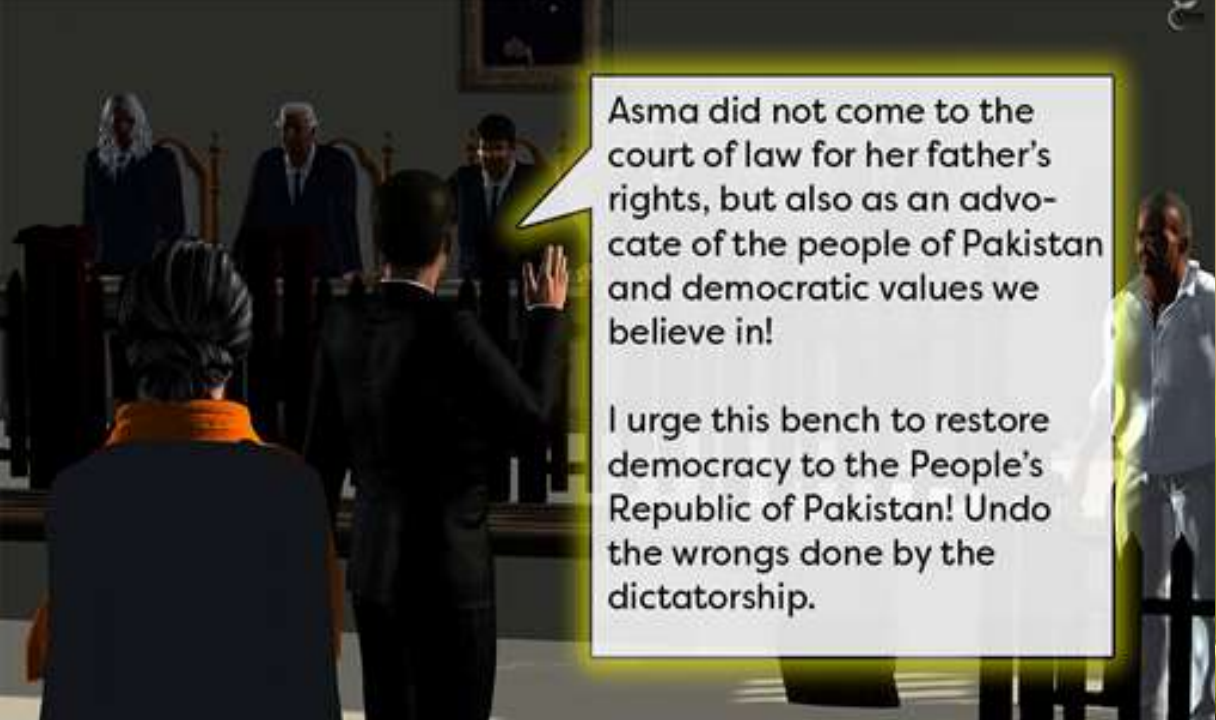
Don't forget the sanctity of the constitution when you take the path of resistance.



Yes Abu. I am sure the petition will set you free.



I am an advocate of democracy; the people of this country shall not tolerate a tyrant!



Asma did not come to the court of law for her father's rights, but also as an advocate of the people of Pakistan and democratic values we believe in!

I urge this bench to restore democracy to the People's Republic of Pakistan! Undo the wrongs done by the dictatorship.



Ms. Jilani, your petition has persuaded this bench to release your father. The court also declares the dictator's actions unconstitutional. The constitution and its values are supreme!



Courageous demeanor coupled with a sharp mind enabled Asma to uphold democratic values to bring justice. This case paved the way for the establishment of the 1973 Constitution of Pakistan.



You chose the right path, my child. Well done!

Cheers for Asma
Cheers for Democracy



AGHS
LEGAL AID CELL



Asma along with a group of associates established a law firm in Lahore which fought countless cases for the poor, voiceless and powerless people.



We need to prepare for the case of acid victim.



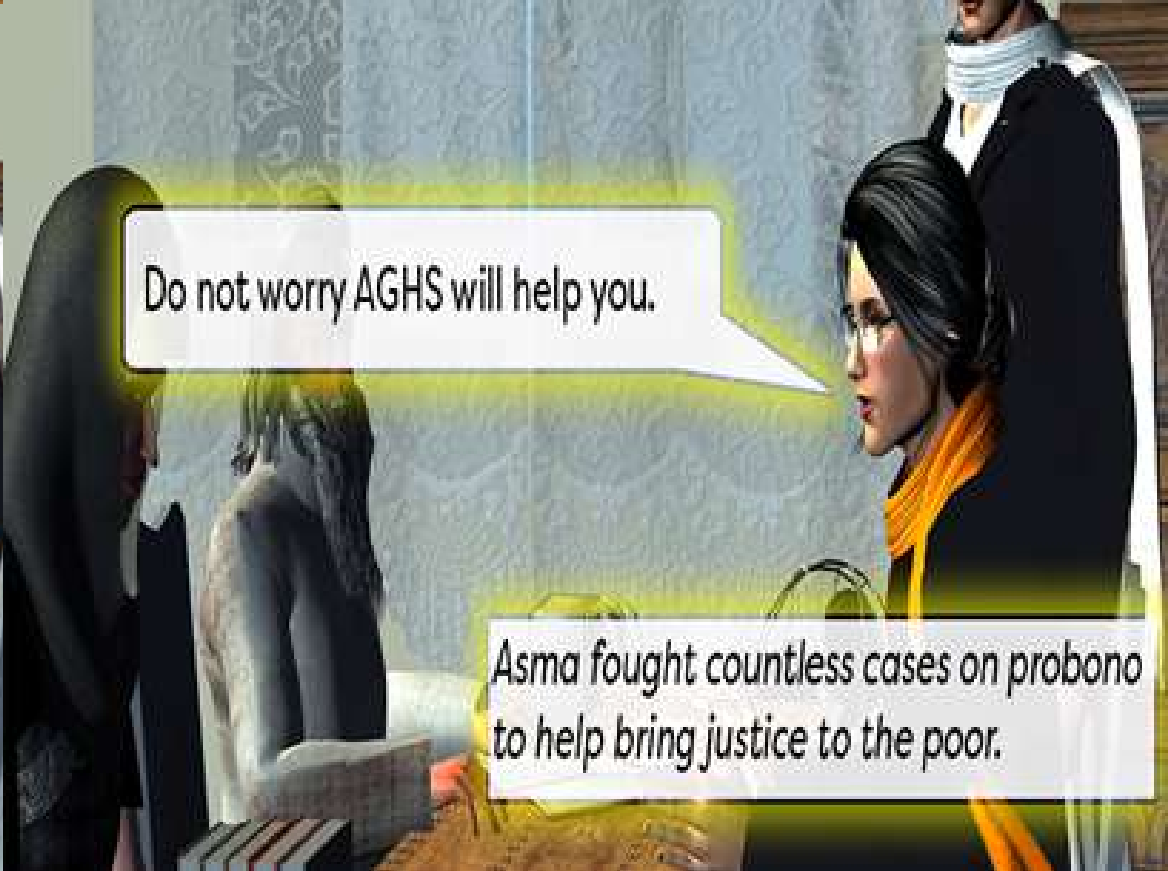
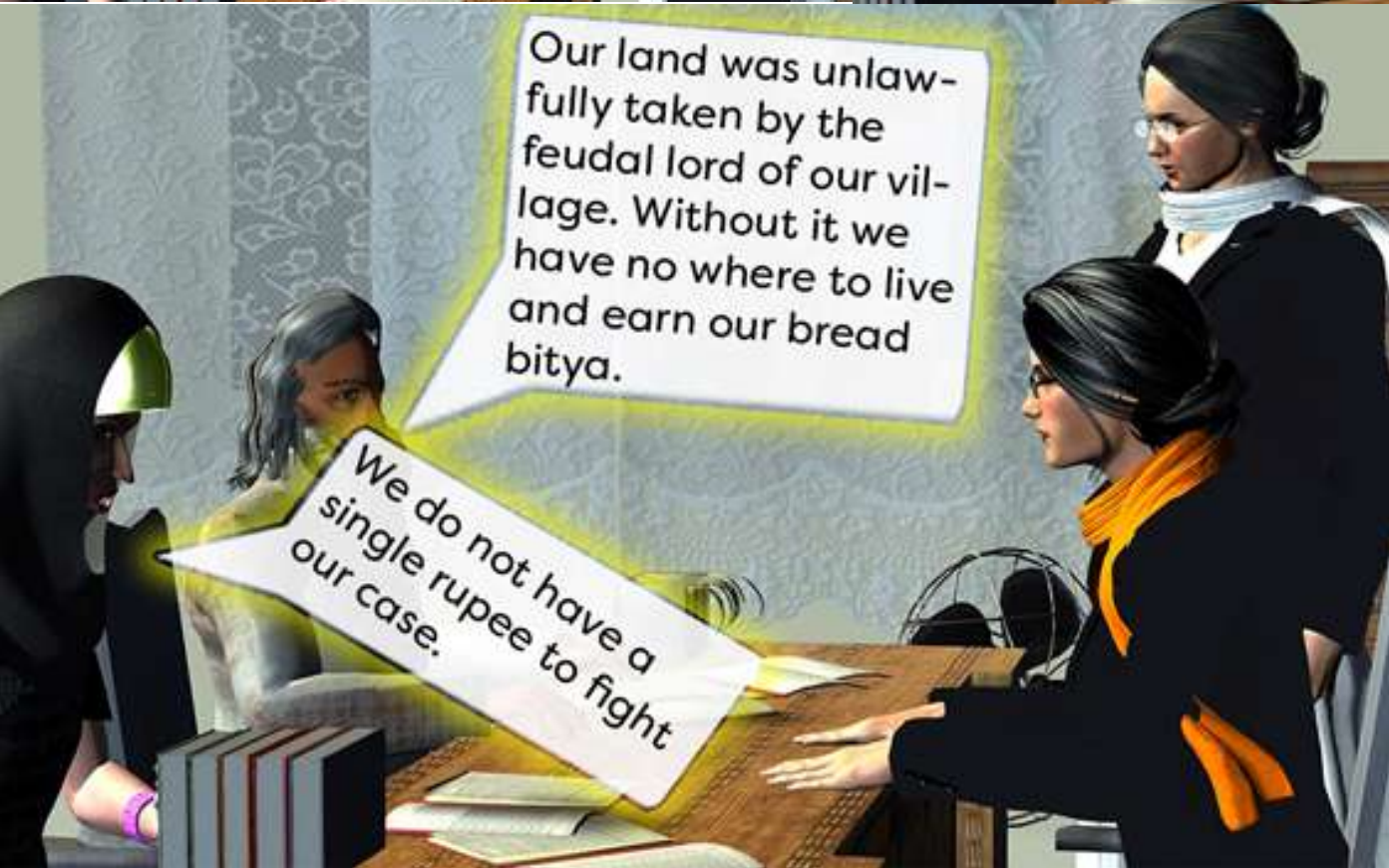
AGHS
LEGAL AID CELL

I know the hearing is due in a week, but we must look at the brick kiln worker's case first.



And don't forget there is a case of domestic abuse we need to meet today.

We shall do it.





We shall bring down the tyrant dictator

Death to the black laws! We resist!

Democracy



When there is oppression and dictatorship, by not speaking out we lose our dignity!



The voice of the people of Pakistan shall prevail!


End the Zia regime! Restore democracy!

Let go of us! How many of us will you jail !




Prisoner Van


1-2



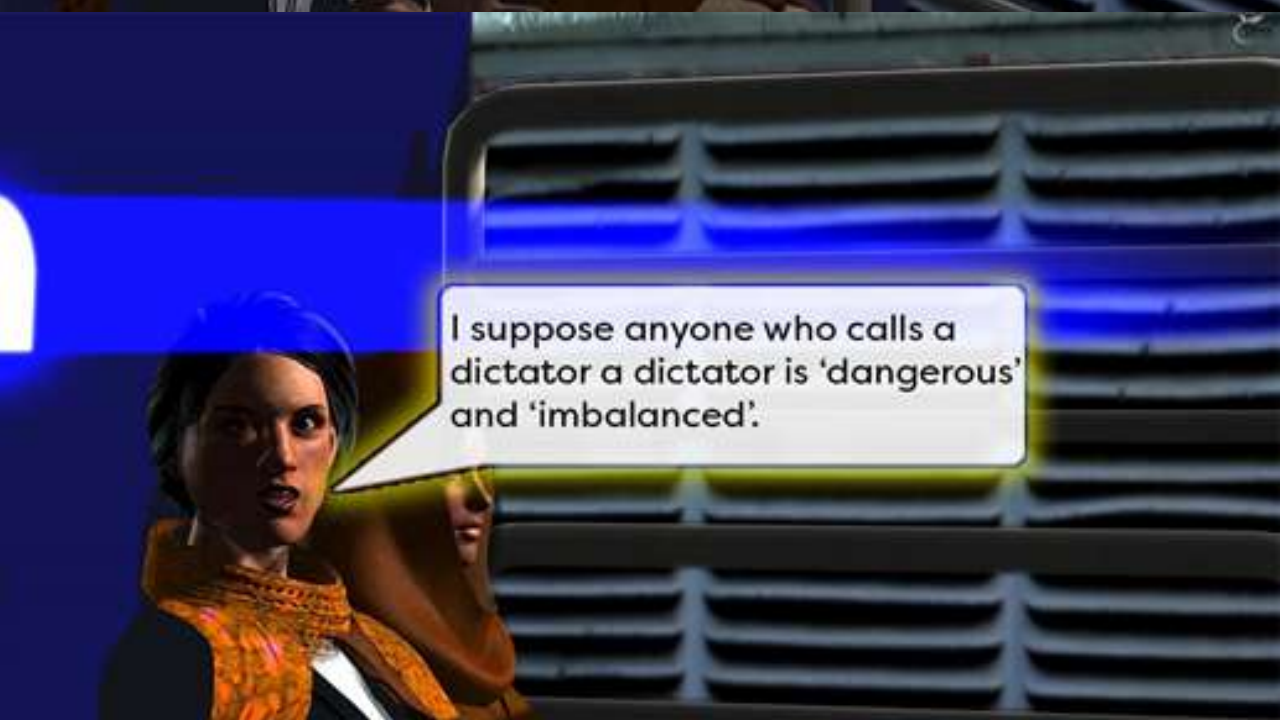
We did well today!
Let's see if the press will
cover it tomorrow.



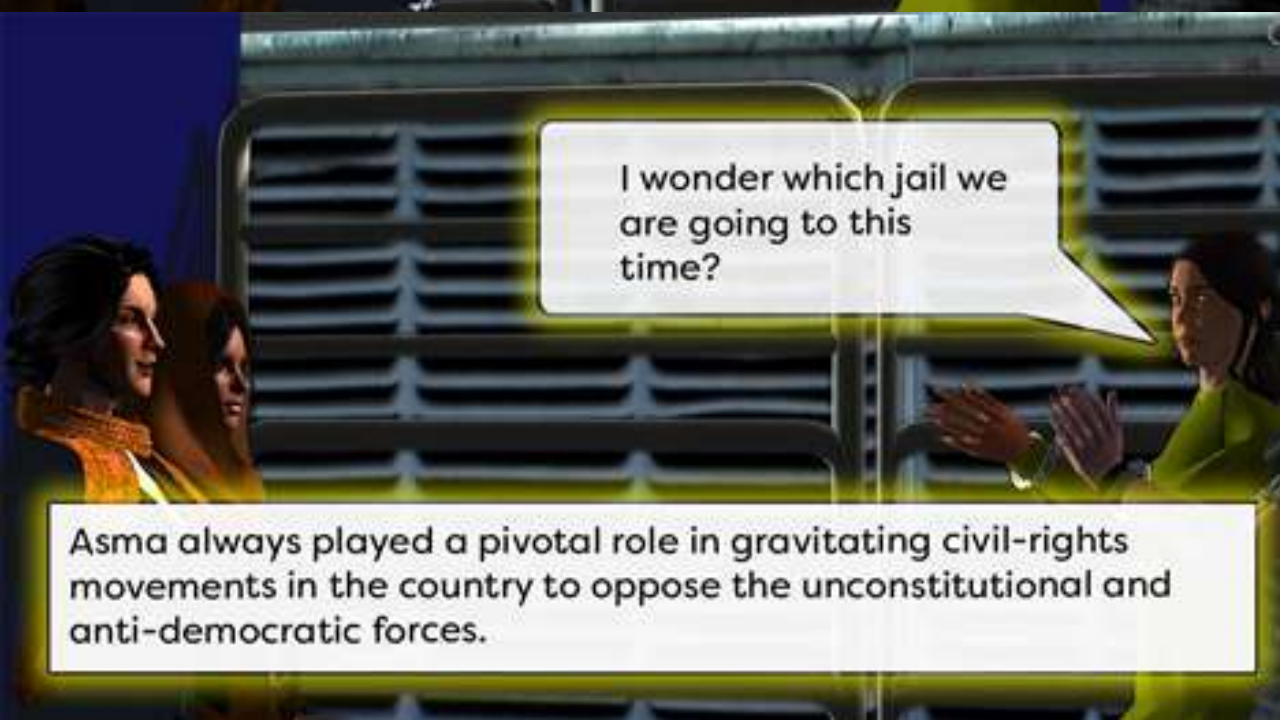
Yes, Women's Action Forum
will oppose the anti-human
right laws against women.



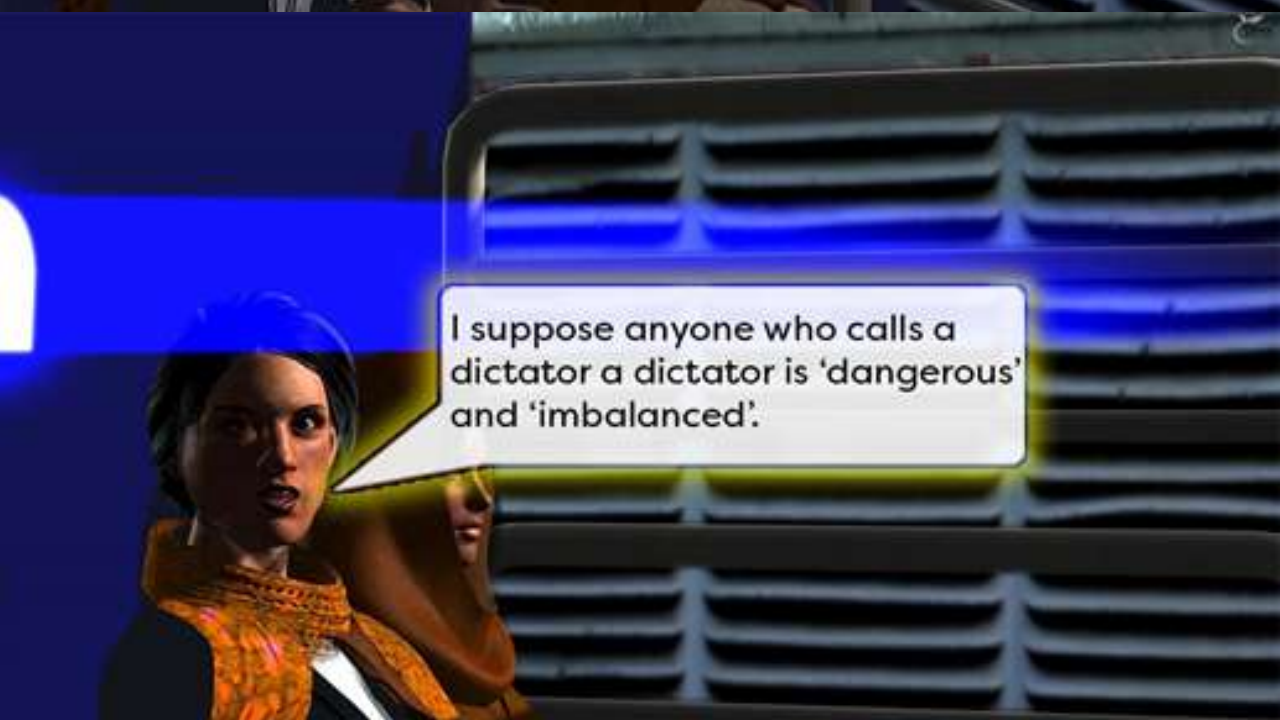
It will be censored out of
the newspapers, we showed
them our strength today.



I suppose anyone who calls a
dictator a dictator is 'dangerous'
and 'imbalanced'.



I wonder which jail we
are going to this
time?



Asma always played a pivotal role in gravitating civil-rights
movements in the country to oppose the unconstitutional and
anti-democratic forces.

Our hero struggled, in the courtrooms and streets of Pakistan, for justice. However, she was also a hero at home!



Ami, I am sure you can fix it!



Yes, she is super mom!



This looks fixed. You won't be late for school and I can get to my office on time!





Ami, aren't you tired after such a long day?



Baita, your Ami is like an ant. Who works day and night for her family.



And for countless helpless people you are a hero!

Let's witness her power to mobilize people for a cause

Down with gender stereotypes

Freedom of movement is our right!

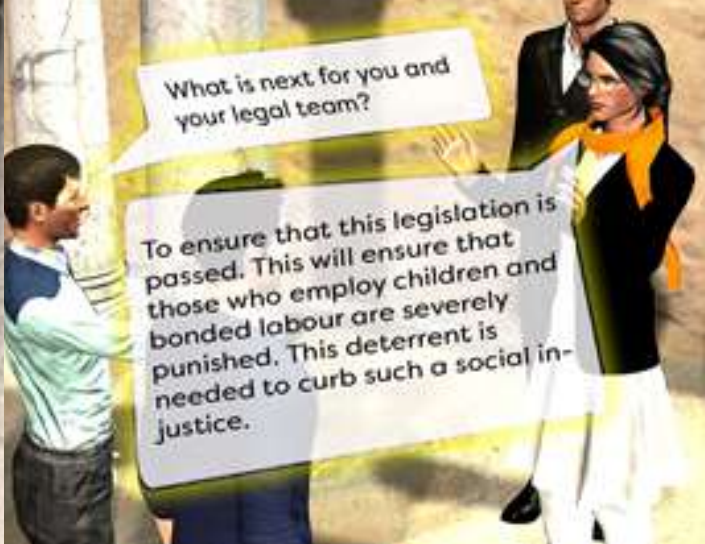
Let us be free in our city

Brothers and sisters, we stand here today to show (demonstrate) our beliefs and values. We shall not bow down to the whims of the extremist groups. Lahore shall have its marathon, and men and women shall run side by side! We are both a part of this society - equal members, and most of all human beings. We stand united to show our defiance to orthodox and oppressive values.

Yes, our battles must continue to win this war against extremism.

The rulers are too scared to lose popularity, and thus they put up with extremists in this country.

Human rights won today



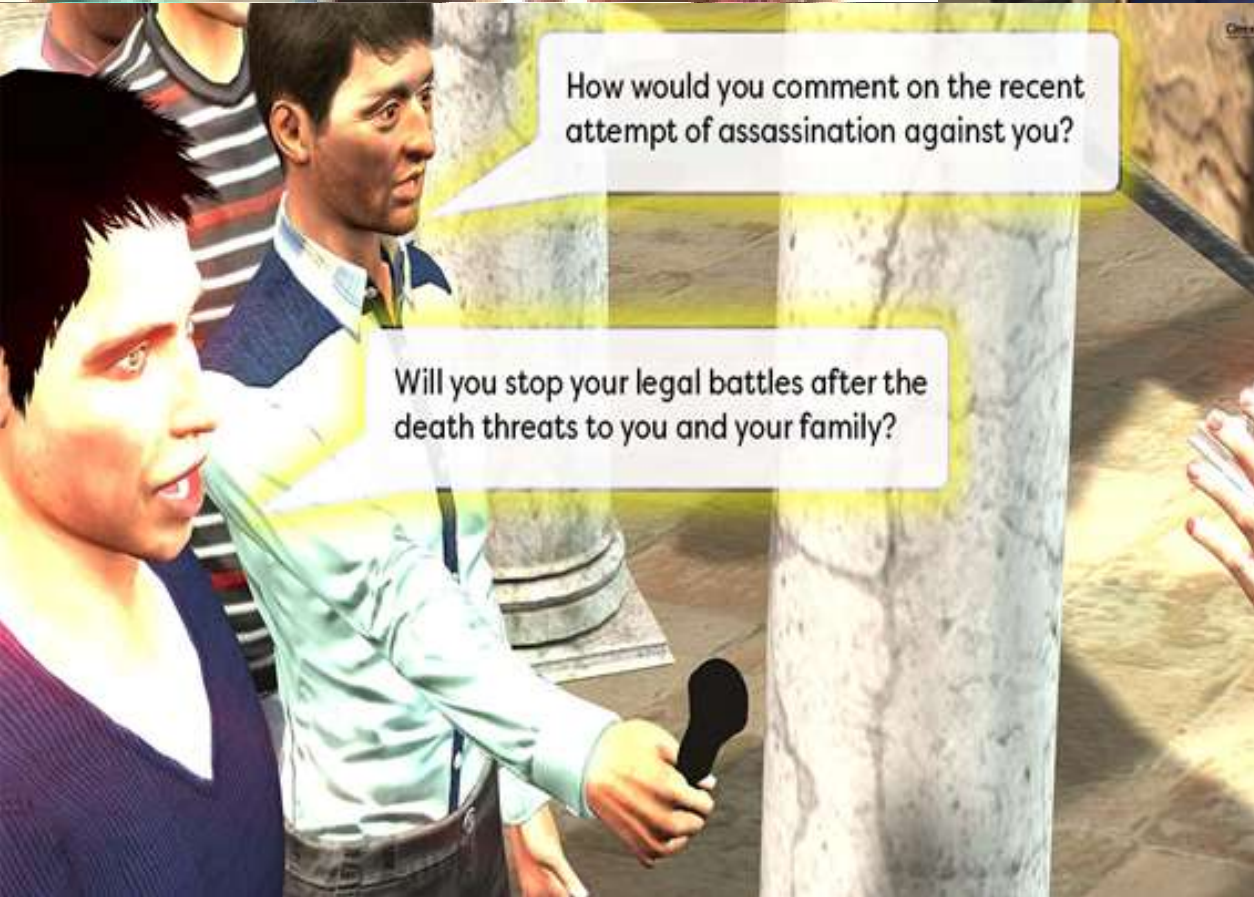
Asma's struggle for justice came with a hefty price tag.

Does your victory today mean the Abolition of Bonded Labour and the Abolition of Child Labour Acts will be in place now?

It is a triumphant day. The future will see thousands of children saved from bonded labour.

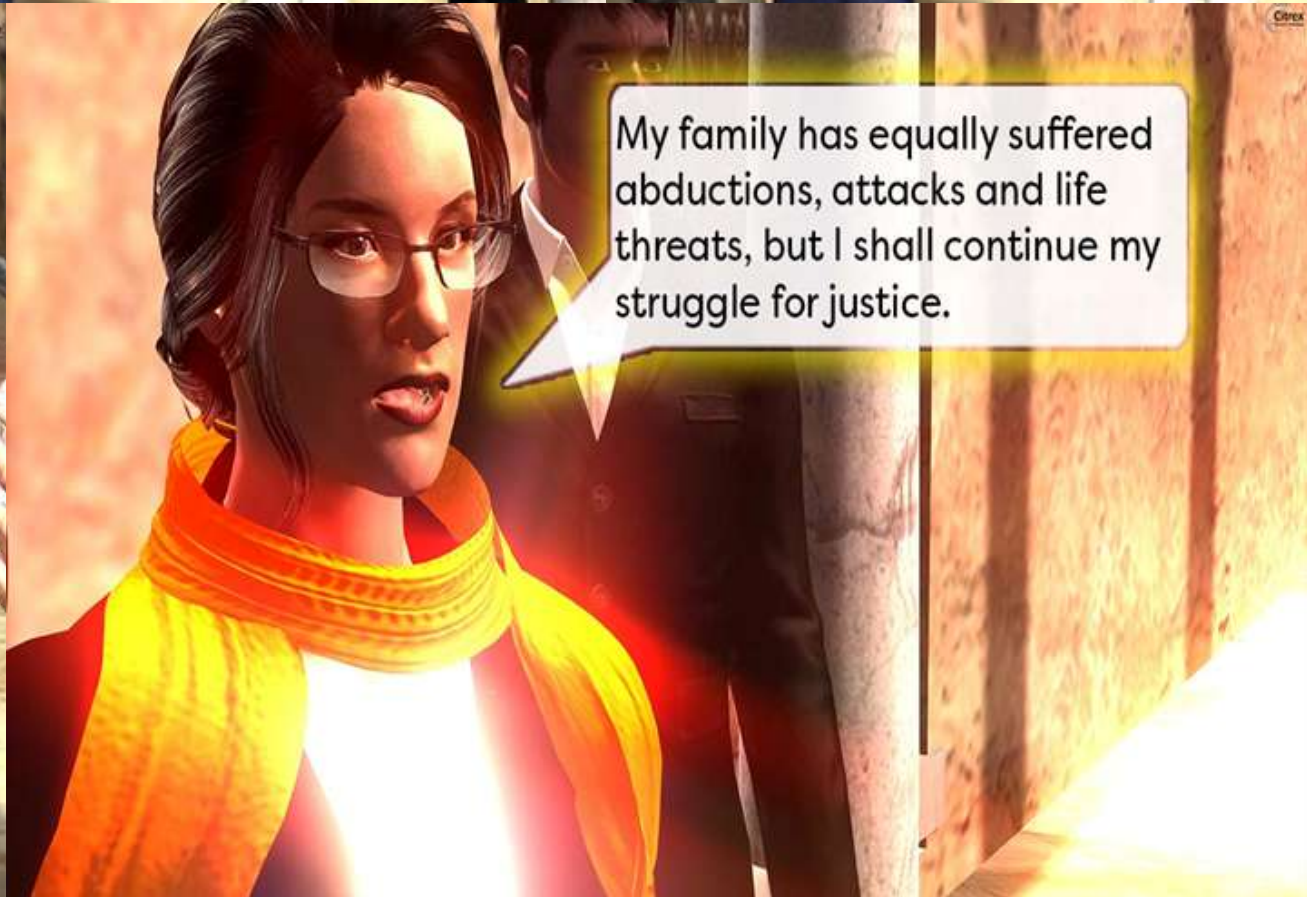
What is next for you and your legal team?

To ensure that this legislation is passed. This will ensure that those who employ children and bonded labour are severely punished. This deterrent is needed to curb such a social injustice.

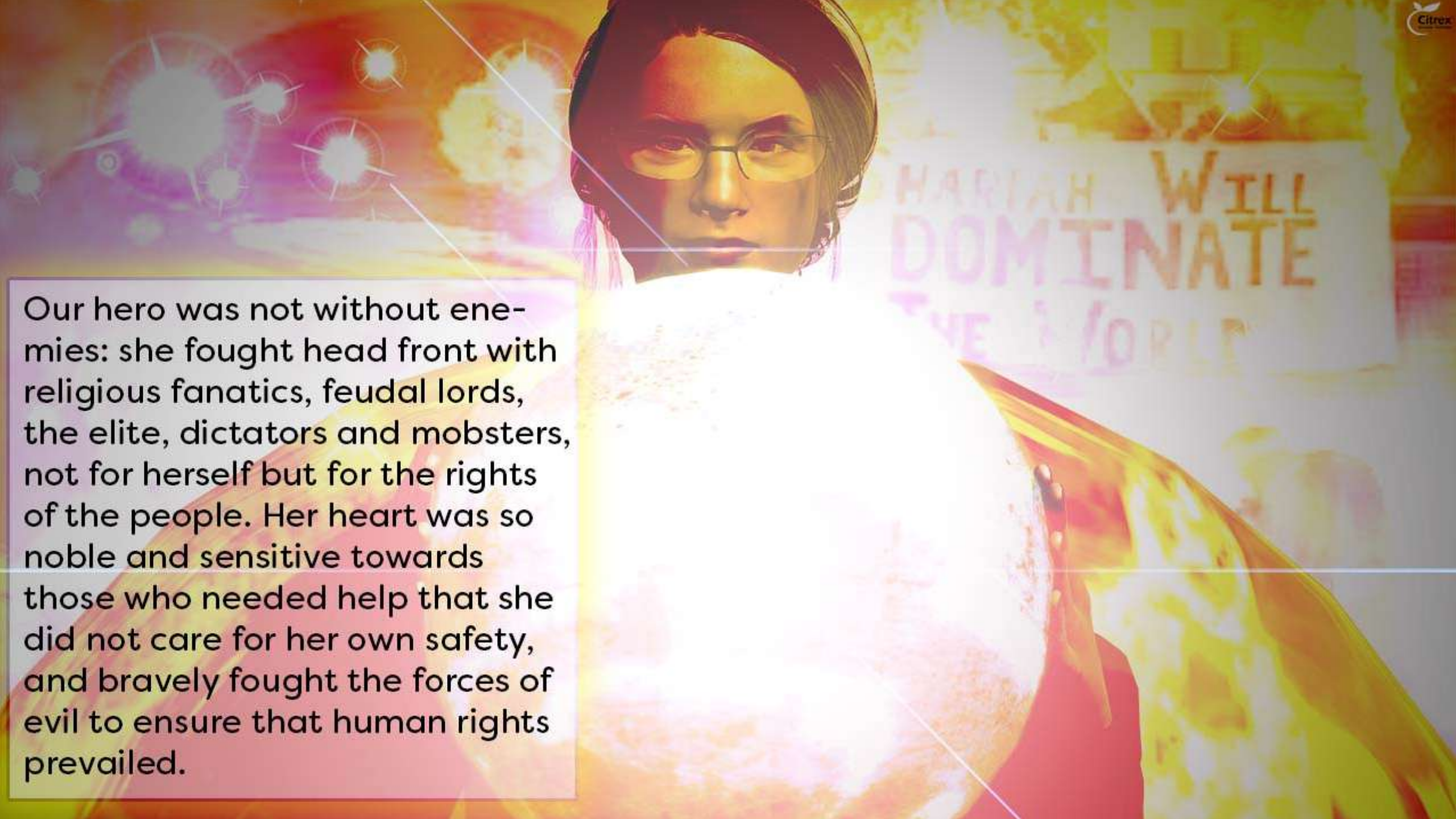


How would you comment on the recent attempt of assassination against you?

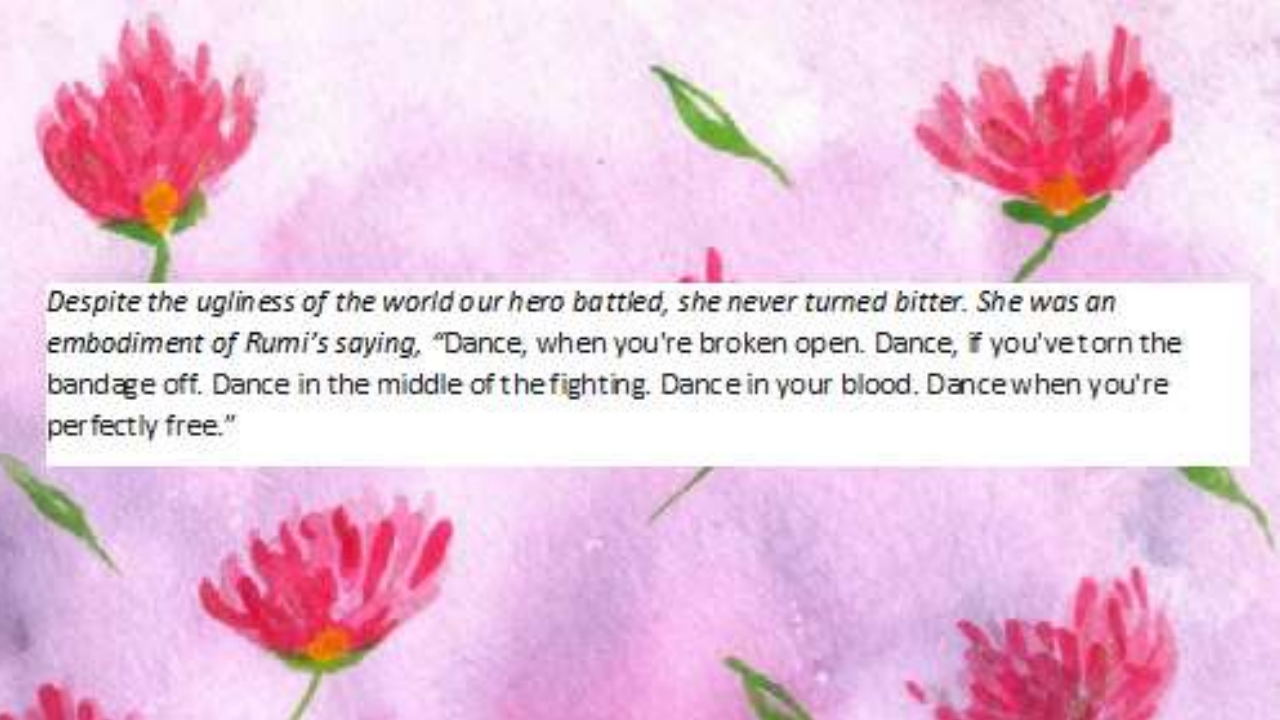
Will you stop your legal battles after the death threats to you and your family?



My family has equally suffered abductions, attacks and life threats, but I shall continue my struggle for justice.

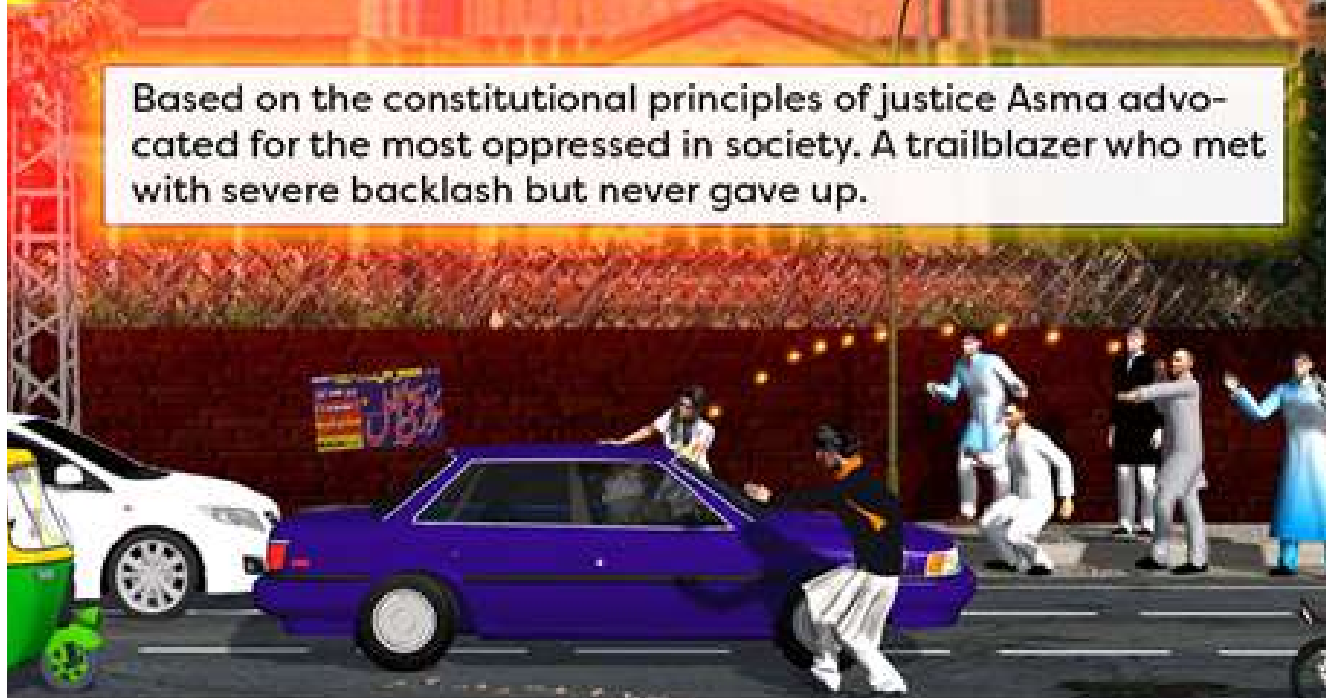
A woman with glasses and a red and white sari is holding a large white banner. The banner has the text 'HARIAH WILL DOMINATE THE 3 WORLD' written on it in red and black. The background is a bright, colorful, abstract pattern with yellow, orange, and red tones. There are several small, glowing starburst patterns in the upper left corner.

Our hero was not without enemies: she fought head front with religious fanatics, feudal lords, the elite, dictators and mobsters, not for herself but for the rights of the people. Her heart was so noble and sensitive towards those who needed help that she did not care for her own safety, and bravely fought the forces of evil to ensure that human rights prevailed.



Despite the ugliness of the world our hero battled, she never turned bitter. She was an embodiment of Rumi's saying, "Dance, when you're broken open. Dance, if you've torn the bandage off. Dance in the middle of the fighting. Dance in your blood. Dance when you're perfectly free."

Based on the constitutional principles of justice Asma advocated for the most oppressed in society. A trailblazer who met with severe backlash but never gave up.



Bibi, we nearly escaped the fanatics today.



Salamat said to me, "it is better if I die. At least, my family will be safe".



At least, he has been acquitted of the false charges.







Saima Waheed is standing up for her right to choose a husband. This young lady is asking a right that Islam and this country's constitution has bestowed on her.



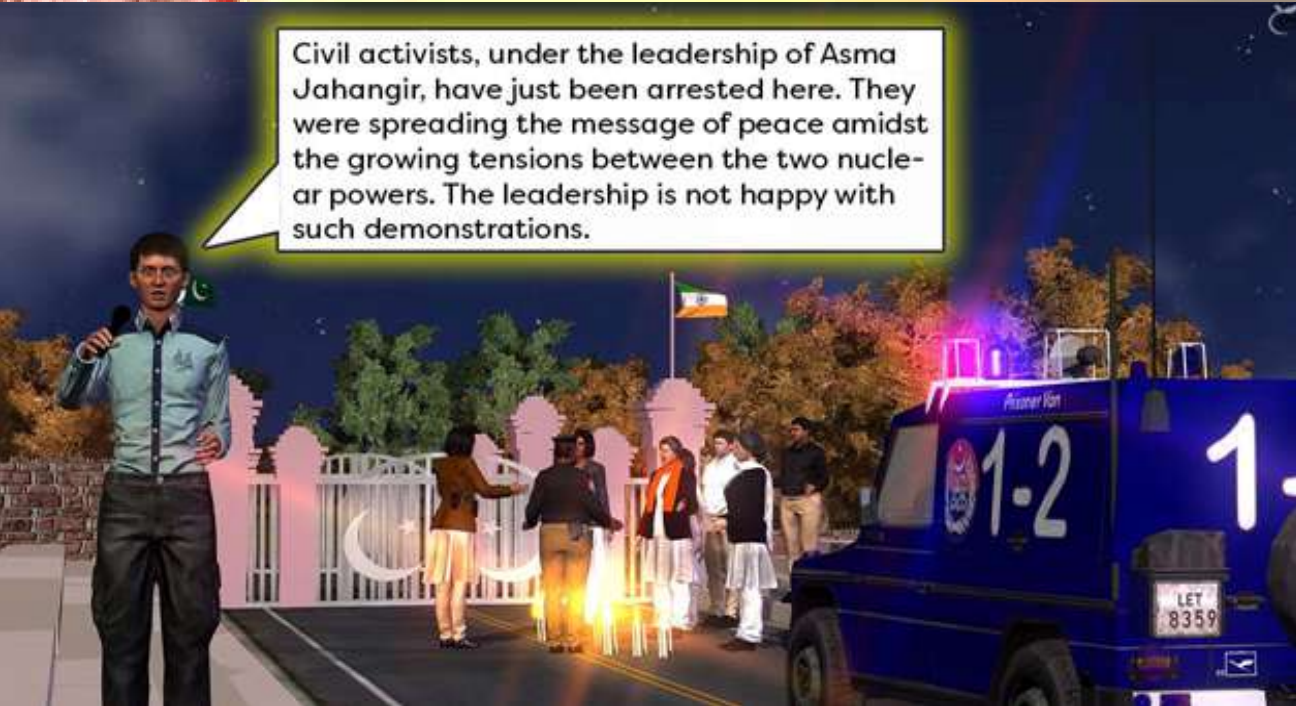
How do we push for this case?

Will the judge be open to it?



If we stand on our principle of Islamic right we can win this case.







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COME IN
OUR
COMIC'S
SECOND
VOLUME!**