



PAKISTAN PRESS FOUNDATION

April 13, 2017

Nana Akufo-Addo
President the Republic of Ghana
Flag Staff House
Accra
Ghana

Subject: Attack on Journalist by Military Officers

Your Excellency,

Pakistan Press Foundation (PPF), an independent non-governmental institution committed to promoting and defending freedom of expression is writing to express concern over the attack on Mr. Kendrick Ofei, a freelance journalist who was brutally assaulted by some soldiers on March 6th, 2017, during Ghana's 60th Independence Day Anniversary parade, at the Independence Square in the capital, Accra.

According to a report by the Media Foundation of West Africa (MFWA), Ofei, on March 21, narrated his ordeal during a TV program named 'State Affairs,' broadcast on the privately-owned GhOneTV. He appeared on the program wearing a cervical collar and showed bruises on his body.

Ofei had been caught filming an assault on a civilian by military officers on 6th March after the Independence Day parade, behind the Independence square. He said the soldiers ordered him to delete the video, crashed his phone and later and beat him up for recording the incident. He was saved by the timely intervention of an officer bearing the name tag W. O Mensah.

PPF appreciates that Deputy Defence Minister, Major Dereck Oduro, on the same program said that if the allegations were true, investigations will be conducted and those responsible will be brought to justice. We urge your government to vigorously investigate this matter and ensure that the perpetrators of violence are punished.

I thank you for your attention and will welcome your action on this important matter.

Kind regards,

Owais Aslam Ali
Secretary General