November 2014

Bio for Murat Kurnaz

Murat Kurnaz was born in Bremen, Germany. In 2001, when he was 19 years old, Mr. Kurnaz was seized and sold to American forces for a bounty of $3000 while traveling in Pakistan. He was tortured for months by U.S. forces in Kandahar, Afghanistan, then spent the next five years at Guantanamo. On the day of a major Supreme Court argument about the rights of the men detained at Guantanamo, the Washington Post broke a story that revealed U.S. authorities had known he was innocent for years and yet continued to hold and torture him. He was released home to Germany in 2006, and wrote the memoir, *Five Years of My Life*. The story of his ordeal has received prominent global attention in dozens of publications like *The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, 60 Minutes, Der Spiegel, Stern,* and a host of others. Two movies have been made about his torture in Guantanamo, a documentary called *The Guantanamo Trap* and a feature film based on his book, also called *Five Years of My Life*. He is currently represented by the Center for Constitutional Rights in his continuing attempts to seek justice for himself and others imprisoned at Guantanamo. He lives with his wife and two young daughters in Bremen, Germany.