

STATUS HEARING

Father: Son was tortured in Pakistan

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The father of a Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, detainee has written to a military panel that his son, as well as young children, were abused in a Pakistani prison by U.S. or proxy interrogators on the hunt for al Qaeda leaders.

Ali Khan, who lives in Baltimore, made the claim in an affidavit released by the Center for Constitutional Rights on Monday — and sent to the remote U.S. naval base as part of his son Majid's status hearing on whether he is an "enemy combatant."

Majid Khan, 26, arrived at Guantánamo in September 2006 among 14 "high value" captives who had been held at CIA black sites — more than three years after he and a brother were seized in Karachi, Pakistan.

"My sons were hooded, handcuffed and interrogated," related Ali Khan, who described sleep deprivation, beatings and filthy conditions. "This torture only stopped when Majid agreed to sign a statement that he was not even allowed to read."

Majid's brother, Mohammed, who was released and is now in Karachi, told his

father about the treatment, the affidavit said.

The White House alleges Majid was part of a plot to attack U.S. gas stations.

While the brothers were in jail, according to the affidavit, Majid described to Mohammed the torture of boys ages 6 and 8.

The sons of alleged 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheik Mohammed and others were "denied food and water" and, at one point, "mentally tortured by having ants or other creatures put on their legs to scare them and get them to say where their father was hiding," the affidavit said.

