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**Imran Khan to hold talks with Swat militants**

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By Mushtaq Paracha

NOWSHERA: Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan Saturday said he would himself visit Swat to hold talks with Taliban to bring a lasting peace to the region. He said that he has directed his party leaders to initiate parleys with the Taliban in Swat to settle the issue forever. In his speech to lawyers of Swat in Sheikh Maltoon Town, Mardan, internally displaced persons of Bajaur Agency in Jalozai camp and a press conference at the residence of PF-14, Nowshera PTI president Kifayatullah, Imran urged the government to immediately implement Shariah in Swat and halt military operation there, tribal areas and elsewhere in the country. PTI district president Riasat Sarhadi, provincial chief Asad Qaiser, Aftab Ahmed Advocate, president PTI Swat and others were also present on the occasion. "The government must devise new policy to safeguard the interest of Pakistan rather than the US in the region," the PTI chief said, adding that demand of Swat people should be fulfilled by enforcing Shariah. He criticised the federal government for its lukewarm attitude to take prompt steps for resolution of crises being faced by the displaced people of Swat and tribal areas. He advised the government to hold talks with Taliban to bring a lasting peace to the region. "On one hand the government is carrying out drone attacks on its own people while shedding crocodile tears on the other," Imran alleged, making a reference to the disclosure of a US Senator Dianne Feinstein. It may be mentioned that the US lawmaker has claimed that CIA's unmanned predator aircraft striking militants targets in tribal areas are flown from an airbase inside Pakistan. Later, Imran addressed a big gathering of IDPs from Bajaur Agency in Jalozai camp and assured them of their full support. He said that a campaign for collection of contribution for the IDPs would be launched to help the affected people.