

Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan

Monthly Report
February 2021

HIGHLIGHTS – Religion Based Repression

- Ahmadi Doctor killed in Peshawar
- Ahmadi prisoner dies in custody
- Further three Ahmadis survived an attempt to murder
- Desecration of Ahmadi graves and place of worship
- Removal of sacred writings from Ahmadi houses / shops
- Details of Ahmadi prisoners

Do you know?

Since the promulgation of Ordinance XX in 1984

- **274** Ahmadis have been murdered for their faith
- **7** Ahmadis were killed in 2020
- **2** Ahmadis have been killed in 2021 so far
- **12** Ahmadis are behind bars as of Feb 2021

AHMADIS FACE THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT UNDER FEDERAL LAWS FOR:

Self-identifying as a Muslim
Calling their place of worship a 'mosque'
Making the call to prayer (azan)
Preaching or propagating their faith

AHMADIS HAVE TO DECLARE THEMSELVES
NON-MUSLIM
IN ORDER TO EXERCISE THEIR
RIGHT TO VOTE



Human Rights Section

Ahmadiyya Muslim Foreign Missions Office
02 Sheephatch Lane, GU10 2AQ, Tilford, UK

February 2021

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1 Assaults

Ahmadi doctor killed in Peshawar attack



Peshawar; February 11, 2021:

Dr. Abdul Qadir, Ahmadi was shot dead at about 2 pm on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at his clinic by a youth. Homeopath Qadir was a practicing Ahmadi of good reputation. He had received threats in the recent past. On his murder, following press release was issued by the Press Section of Ahmadiyya head office in Rabwah.

PRESS RELEASE

PESHAWAR: THE NEVER ENDING PERSECUTION OF MEMEBRS OF THE AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY TAKES ANOTHER LIFE. MR. ABDUL QADIR, A HOMEOPATHIC DOCTOR OF AGE 65 DIED AS A RESULT OF FIRING.

Accused, Abdul Qayyum of 18/19 years of age, opened fire at a medical center in Bazid Khel, Peshawar. He was caught and handed over to the police.

In recent months four Ahmadis in Peshawar became victim of these fatal attacks.

Ahmadis in Pakistan are left at the mercy of terrorists and extremists while the Government has repeatedly failed to protect and stop the violence.

The state institutions need to take effective measures regarding the protection of Ahmadis living in Pakistan.

Chenab Nagar (PR) Today on 11.2.2021 in Bazid Khel, District Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa another fatal attack has taken place in which Mr. Abdul Qadir, an Ahmadi of age 65, was shot dead at the door step of a medical center owned by an Ahmadi Mr. Binyameen.

Based on the information provided, the unfortunate incident took place today at around 2:00 PM when Mr. Qadir upon hearing the doorbell of the clinic opened its door and was shot at the door step by the culprit. Mr. Qadir was taken immediately to the nearest hospital but due to the severity of his wounds he did not survive the fatal attack. The culprit was caught by the employees of the clinic and was handed over to the police. He has left behind a grieving widow, 4 sons and 5 daughters.

He was a kind person and had no personal enmities with anyone. He was facing persecution because of his faith and as such he shifted his entire family far from Peshawar to a safe location.

Spokesperson Ahmadiyya Community while offering his sorrow and grief over the unfortunate and sad demise of Dr. Abdul Qadir, expressed his concerns over the increase in the hate campaign against the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan, in general, and especially in Peshawar.

There is also a recent increase in the fatal attacks against the members of the Ahmadiyya Community. On 20.11.2020 a young Ahmadi doctor, Mr. Tahir Ahmad, was killed in Nankana in a faith based attack, while on 2.2.2021, in

Layyah, an Ahmadi headmaster survived a fatal attack.

Spokesperson further expressed that these attacks are creating a sense of deep insecurity amongst the members of the Community while Ahmadis of Peshawar are living in a deep atmosphere of fear. He demanded that perpetrators of this attack should be brought to justice and that the Government must put an end to such hate campaign against Ahmadis. End

It may be added that 274 Ahmadis have been murdered in Pakistan by religious extremist. This murder is 17th such loss in KPK. All these victims were well-known and were well-regarded in decent society.

General contents of the above press-release were conveyed by letter to numerous high officials of the state.

274 Ahmadis have been murdered so far in Pakistan

Dr Abdul Qadir is the 17th such loss in KPK.

1 Assaults

Ahmadi official on duty escapes brutal assault

Chak 464/TDA, District Layyah; February 1, 2021: Mr. Naeem Ahmad Bajwa, an Ahmadi, was attacked by two men at his school. Most fortunately he escaped the murderous assault.

Mr. Bajwa, headmaster of Government High School Chak 464/TDA, District Layyah was sitting outside in his school on February 1 when two youth came to the school. Mr. Bajwa thought that they had come to him to get some documents verified. So he asked them from a distance to hand over the papers. One of them pulled out a pistol and fired a shot at Mr. Bajwa. The bullet passed over Bajwa's head and he then ran to a room close by and shut the door. The attacker followed him and also entered the room. However, Mr. Bajwa grabbed the attacker's hand and called for help. The accomplice had also come in and he started beating Mr. Bajwa. However he held the assailant's pistol hand firmly. Meanwhile, other teachers and students of the school came there and grabbed both the criminals. They informed the police, who arrived at the school and arrested the felons.

The two attackers are currently at Layyah police station and are under investigation. During the search, pistol and knives were recovered from them. One of them had an ax hidden in his jacket. During the interrogation at the police station, the assailants said that since Mr. Bajwa is a Qadiani, an infidel and a blasphemer, they both decided to kill him. The attackers are associated with Tehreek-e-Labaik Yarsulallah.

This was a very serious assault. Hopefully, the police will go inquire in depth and hold their sponsors accountable.

Two Ahmadi survive bullet attack

Kot Abdul Malik, Lahore; January 17, 2021: Mr. Rashid Ali and Mr. Asif Ali, Ahmadi brothers, were attacked here by unknown assailants, while going on a motorbike. The attackers raised anti-Ahmadiyya slogans and fired at them. The shot hit their motorbike; fortunately, the brothers escaped unhurt.

Both of these gentlemen were prime witnesses in the case of Mr. Qamar ul Zia, Ahmadi who was murdered in 2016. The killer of Mr. Zia was later acquitted. It is possible that this attack was linked to that case.

Invitation by the Mutahiddah Ulama Board and Special Representative to the PM, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi to NGOs and HR organizations



متحدہ علماء بورڈ اور نمائندہ خصوصی وزیراعظم پاکستان حافظ محمد طاہر محمود اشرفی کی
این جی اوز اور انسانی حقوق کی تنظیموں کو دعوت

متحدہ علماء بورڈ بعض این جی اوز (NGOs) کے ذریعے ذرائع ابلاغ میں نشر ہونے والی خبروں کی سختی کے ساتھ تردید کرتا ہے کہ توہین ناموس رسالت و توہین مذہب کے قانون کا غلط استعمال ہو رہا ہے۔ متحدہ علماء بورڈ نے گزشتہ دو سالوں کے دوران 140 سے زائد کیسز کا میرٹ پر فیصلہ کیا جن میں کسی بھی کیس میں توہین مذہب و ناموس رسالت کا غلط استعمال نہیں ہوا۔ بعض کیسز میں تمام مکاتب فکر کے قائدین کے اتفاق سے وارننگ اور صرف تادیبی کارروائی کی سفارش کی گئی۔ متحدہ علماء بورڈ اور نمائندہ خصوصی وزیراعظم برائے بین المذاہب ہم آہنگی و مشرق وسطیٰ کا دفتر تمام این جی اوز (NGOs)، ذرائع ابلاغ کے نمائندوں کو دعوت دیتا ہے کہ اگر ان کے پاس توہین مذہب و توہین ناموس رسالت کے قانون کے غلط استعمال کے حوالہ سے کوئی شواہد ہیں تو وہ پیش کریں۔

چیئرمین پاکستان علماء کونسل و متحدہ علماء بورڈ اور نمائندہ خصوصی وزیراعظم پاکستان برائے بین المذاہب ہم آہنگی و مشرق وسطیٰ
حافظ محمد طاہر محمود اشرفی کی تمام مکاتب فکر کے قائدین کے ہمراہ پریس کانفرنس

شعبہ نشر و اشاعت متحدہ علماء بورڈ حکومت پنجاب
سیرت سینٹر پرمال لاہور 042-99202322، 0321-5777776



The following was promulgated in a handbill by *Shoba Nashr-o-Ashaat Mutahiddah Ulama Board, Punjab Government* with the above title (Translation):

Mutahiddah Ulama Board strongly rejects news in media by some NGOs that the blasphemy law and law on insulting religion is being misused. Mutahiddah Ulama Board decided more than 140 cases on merit wherein in no case the blasphemy law or insulting religion was misused. In some cases only a warning or censure was recommended after consensus of leaders of all schools of thought. Mutahiddah Ulama Board and the Office of Special Representative to the PM on Religious Harmony and Middle East invites all NGOs and representatives of the media that if they have any evidence of misuse of the blasphemy law or the law on insulting religion, they should present the same.

Press Conference of Hafiz Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi Special Representative to the PM Pakistan on Religious Harmony and Middle East and the Leaders of all Schools of Thought.

For such ongoing Ahmadiyya cases etc. in February 2021, read pages 9 to 11.

2 | Imprisonments

Ahmadi prisoner dies in custody



Nankana; February 16, 2021. Mr. Akbar Ali, Ahmadi, died of heart attack while in custody. He was 55. Mr. Ali was a former president of the local Ahmadi community, Shaukatabad Colony, District Nankana Sahib.

On May 2, 2020, he and two other Ahmadi office-bearers were booked under anti-Ahmadiyya sections 298-B and C. The high court rejected their plea for bail confirmation, and all the three were arrested. Later, Mr. Adil Riaz, a magistrate observed that the Blasphemy clauses PPC 295-C and 295-B were also applicable.

On February 16, the three accused were brought over to Nankana for trial at the sessions court. They were being driven back to the prison in Sheikhupura when Mr. Ali developed heart condition. In Sheikhupura, he was shifted to the District Hospital where he died of heart attack.

The deceased was in prison for four and half months. He was an army veteran. He left behind two widows, a teen-age son and a daughter who are school going.

Detention under unfair anti-Ahmadi laws was apparently a major factor in his heart attack and death.

Cyber crime team arrests two Ahmadis in spurious cases

Lahore; February 2021: A case was registered by Cyber Crime Police Station Lahore on June 20, 2019 under FIR Nr 88, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11, accusing four Ahmadis Mr. Muhammad Mahmood Iqbal Hashmi, Mr. Shiraz Ahmed, Mr. A. Wakil Rajput and Mr. Atiq Ahmad for allegedly creating a group “*Sindh Salamat*” and sharing Ahmadiyya content in it.

Mr. Mohammad Mahmood Iqbal Hashmi of Lahore was arrested after the registration of the case and was released on bail on August 24, 2019 after more than two months of captivity. The case has been pending before the court of Mr. Hamid Hussain Additional Sessions Judge Lahore. The hearing was rescheduled for March 4, 2019

Mr. Shiraz Ahmad was arrested from Hafizabad on February 25, 2021 for being named in the above case. He was produced in Magistrate's court the next day, who handed him over to the police on one-day physical remand, to reappear in court on March 1, 2021.

Mr. Zaheer Ahmad was arrested on September 30, 2019 by fabricating a case under Sections 298-

C, 295-B PECA-11 and 109. He was granted bail by Justice Shahbaz Ali Rizvi on completion of the hearing on February 23, 2021 and was expected to be released in four to five days after paper formalities.

On February 27, 2021, when Mr. Zaheer Ahmad was expected to be released from the camp jail, *the Cyber Crime Wing Lahore team arrested him in the first-mentioned case. He was not even formally nominated in that case.*

Cyber Crime Lahore produced Mr. Zaheer Ahmad in the magistrate's court. The magistrate sent both the accused to judicial detention. Their next date of hearing is March 13, 2021.

Ahmadi arrested on fake grounds

Kharappar, District Kasur; February 28, 2021:

Mr. Sharafat Ahmad, Mr. Akbar Ali and Mr. Tahir Naqash were booked under anti-Ahmadi PPCs 298-B and 298-C at police station Mangatanwala, District Nankana on May 2, 2020. The Lahore High Court rejected their application for pre-arrest bail on October 2, 2020. Later on January 4, 2021 a magistrate added PPC 295-C to their charge sheet. Mr. Tahir Naqash was released on bail from Sheikhupura Jail on February 27, 2021 and went home in Kharappar, District Kasur. (Cont...)

2 | Imprisonments

On February 28, Mr. Naqash went for a walk in the village along with some relatives. There, the leading opposition group, which had earlier seized the Ahmadiyya place of worship with the help of the administration, discussed something harshly with Mr. Naqash. Then they called the police who arrived and arrested Mr. Naqash and two others. Later, the police released them after taking a surety bond of Rupees one lakh, on condition that he would present himself whenever the police wanted him.

Opponents are campaigning on social media against Mr. Naqash to justify this incident, and the Khatme Nabuwat group is active against him. On March 1, 2021, the opposition filed a complaint with the SHO Ganda Singh Wala police station, District Kasur, alleging that Mr. Naqash and other unidentified persons had insulted Islam, committed blasphemy and gave murder threats. This was nonsense, of course.

On March 1, 2021 the police registered case against Mr. Naqash with FIR Nr. 83 under PPC 298 at police station Ganda Singh Wala, District Kasur and arrested him.

Sacrifice of cattle on Eid ul Adha:

Mulla Hasan Muawiyah group filed a writ petition in Lahore High Court to ban Ahmadi's sacrifice of cattle on Eid ul Adha. The court pended the case and has not given a fresh date of hearing.

Ahmadiyya literature:

The entire written works of the founder of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat were banned by a notification of the Punjab government. The notification was challenged at the High Court. The court pended the case and has not given a fresh date of hearing.

Ahmadiyya daily and monthlies

for women, youth, children and elders were banned by a Punjab government notification. The notification was challenged in Lahore High Court. The court pended the case and has not given a fresh date of hearing.

3 | Desecration by the Police

Gravestones of 25 Ahmadi

Chak 565 GB, Jaranwala, District Faisalabad; Feb 2, 2021:

The cemetery here is located at a short distance from the village. A few days ago, a mulla started an anti-Ahmadi drive through opposition to the gravestones of Ahmadi. The matter went to the SHO, who met the local Ahmadiyya officials on February 2. They told him of their position in this regard. The next day the SHO went to the cemetery, inspected it and asked the Ahmadi to take down the tombstones. The police were told that Ahmadi would not do such a thing and would not allow anyone to do so. If the police came in uniform, Ahmadi would not resist.

So, on February 3, after sunset, ***the police arrived accompanied by some local non-Ahmadi. They tore down 25 tombstones and took these away with them.***



Gravestones desecrated by police in Chak 565 GB, Jaranwala, District Faisalabad

3 Desecration by the Police

Sacred inscriptions removed from Ahmadis' houses in Gujranwala

Rahwali Cantt, District Gujranwala; February 22, 2021:

Mr. Saghir Ahmad Cheema, Security in-charge from Rahwali Cantt police station visited three Ahmadi families living in Rahwali and told them that *Mashaallah* was written outside their houses. Fifty people have come to the police station and filed a petition against these, so they should take these off themselves. He was told that they would not do that and would not allow any civilian to do so. Mr. Maqsood Ahmad Bajwa and Mr. Ghazanfar Malik's families conveyed this to them.

However, when they went to Mr. Ghulam Bari's house; only his wife was present in the house at that time. The police told her that about fifty people intended to surge at her home but the police had stopped them; so she should take down the *Mashaallah*. The Ahmadi woman stated that there was no man at home, and she

could not do it alone. At this a man offered that he could do this; so he brought a ladder and a hammer and broke down the word *Mashaallah*.

The next day the Ahmadiyya delegation met the SHO Amir Shehzad. The SHO police told the security in-charge to act as per the SOPs.

On February 25, the police went to Ahmadis' houses to break the inscriptions. There the Security in-charge told a fellow policeman to break them, but he refused to comply. He then sent for a mason who broke down the tiles. Similarly, they unashamedly broke the word *Haji* written on the name plate outside Maqsood Bajwa's house and went back.

All this was unlawful as the law does not specifically deny Ahmadis these inscriptions.

Kalima removed by police from Ahmadiyya place of worship

Sukheki, District Hafizabad; January 28, 2021:

The police visited Ahmadiyya worship place and took pictures of the *Kalima* (Islamic creed) written inside. They told an Ahmadi, Mr. Qamar Shaheen, to erase it. They were told that Ahmadis would not erase the *Kalima* and would not let any civilian do that. The policemen detained Mr. Shaheen for not doing as told.

Two hours later, a police contingent revisited the worship place along with Mr. Shaheen, erased the *Kalima* therein and told him not to rewrite the same.

The law does not forbid Ahmadis writing the Kalima inside their places of worship.

Meaningful tweet by a non-descript

On Twitter, February 12, 2021:

A tweet in Urdu was posted from address @ShaheerSialvi. We do not know this ShaheerSialvi, but whatever he wrote implies interesting links. His message (translation):

“If a picture of Dr Abdus Salam is shown outside any school or college, the City Council will be suspended. “What right do you have to a position if you cannot bar anti-state elements? In place of this picture (of Dr. Salam) you can put up picture of Dr. Abdul Qadeer or any Mujahid of the End of Prophethood”.

(5:27PM. 12.02.2021)

4 | Actions by State Institutions

Ahmadi detained over self-defense

Jhudo, District Mirpur Khas, Sindh; February 2021:

Opponents of Ahmadi are engaged in extensive anti-Ahmadi activities in Mirpur Khas and Tharparkar districts. A few days ago, anti-Ahmadi banners and posters were put up by the opposition in Jhudo city. On February 19, more posters and banners were put up with anti-Ahmadi writings to incite people against the Jamaat.

On February 19, at 9 pm, a politico-religious party JUI held a

rally near the Ahmadiyya Center in Larkana, in which hate speeches were made against the Jamaat Ahmadiyya.

On February 27, Mr. Waseem Ahmad, an Ahmadi, allegedly took down a banner put up by the opponents, which caused a lot of commotion in Jhudo, and mullas put pressure on the police and had Waseem Ahmad arrested. The police detained him for a day and released him the next day.

Mr. Waseem Ahmad had to leave his village as a precaution.

Police excess

Shaukatabad Colony, District Nankana, Punjab; February 2021:

Mr. Akbar Ali, Ahmadi a prisoner on grounds of religion, owns a few shops in the Colony. Allah's names (attributes) were written on a few of these. A few days ago, opponents photographed these and then applied to the police to register a case against his son. *The police did not register an FIR, but went ahead to efface the pious writings — as demanded by the religious bigots.*

Question: Is it a Punjab Government policy that its police remain under the thumb of the mulla?

Cyber Crime Wing Lahore's vain pursuit

Faisalabad; February 17, 2021:

Malik Khalil Ahmad Abid received a phone

call from Mr. Mohsin Raza of Cyber Crime to present himself at his office in far-away Lahore to explain 'misuse' of his phone. Mr. Abid is an old man. *Inspector Raza reportedly threatened Abid that in case of non-compliance he could be lifted.*

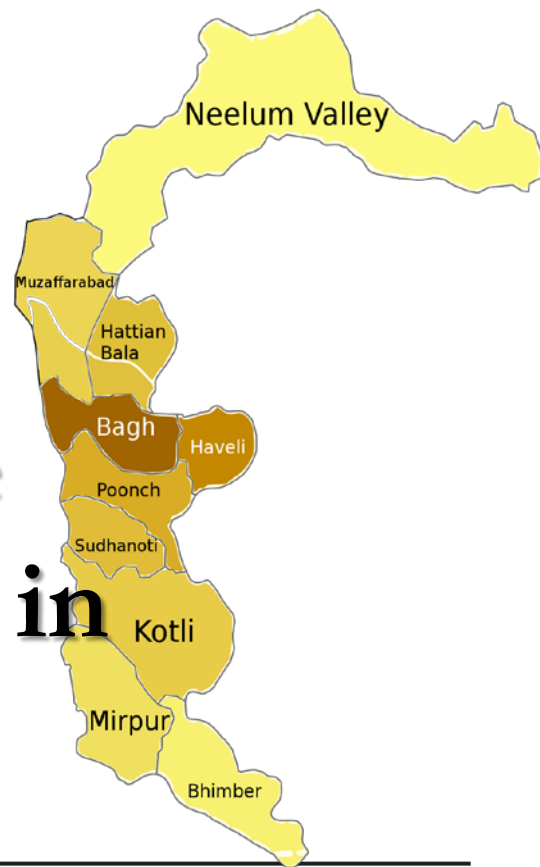
Only For Their Faith

This is alarming that as of Feb 2021

- *12 Ahmadi are behind bars*
- *One prisoner is of 20 years of age*
- *One prisoner is a student*
- *3 Ahmadi have been on death row since 2017*
- *These 3 Ahmadi are in prison for the last six and a half years.*

5 | Incitement to Hatred

Religious intolerance spreads deep in AJK



Gulhar Colony, District Kotli Azad Kashmir; February 8, 2021:

Mr. Muhammad Qadeer, an Ahmadi, has a shop here on which a plate of “*Mashallah*” was placed. Hafiz Muhammad Saqib who belongs to extremist TLP, filed an application with the police citing the “*Mashallah*”. The police summoned Mr. Qadeer to the police station and told him unlawfully to remove the sacred writing, which he refused.

The issue is resolved for now, with the arbitration of the police.

Similarly, Haji Muhammad Bashir, Ahmadi has a shop in Tatta Pani bazaar. On February 12, 2021, an ambulance driver came to his shop and shouted at his Ahmadi employee, Mr. Munawwar Mehmood telling him to remove the Kalima from the Ahmadiyya place of worship in Araam Bari. The visitor behaved very badly. The matter was reported to the police.

Extremists refuse to mend ways

RB 194, District Faisalabad; January 6, 2021:

A case was registered against Muhammad Boota on January 5, 2021 for putting a hateful anti-Ahmadi sticker on his shop. A report was filed by Constable Mohammad Shafiq that while on duty he saw a sticker on the tea stall of Mohammad Boota on which it was written that;

Qadianis are infidels, apostates; they are non-Muslim and blasphemers, the faith of a Muslim requires that buying and selling from them is haram (forbidden).

They are not allowed to shop here. I testify that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani is an infidel and his followers and supporters are outside the fold of Islam. Many Ahmadis are living in this area and there have been Muslim-Ahmadi tension here and there is a danger of renewed tension if this sticker remains affixed, the constable reported.

Following the registration of this FIR, protests are being staged against it. Mohsin Basra, SHO Kharianwala, has been called a Qadiani supporter by the local Sunni Tehrik. They have demanded that the FIR be dropped. Jaranwala Bar Association condemned the FIR and issued a strike notice for January 8, when the lawyers will

not appear in the courts unless the FIR is dropped forthwith.

Many Ahmadis reside in this area. They feel threatened but hope that authorities will hold their ground against extremists.

Hateful environment in District Faisalabad

RB 219, District Faisalabad; February 2021:

This area is in the clutches of religious extremists. Hateful anti-Ahmadiyya posters were posted in Chakki Chowk, Sher Singh Wala Chowk and Hamza Town. The authorities propagate the mantra of rights of minorities and zero tolerance for extremism and terrorism, yet, anti-Ahmadi posters remained posted in the area, promoting communal hate and intolerance in the public.

In Hamza Town a barber refused service to an Ahmadi youth for his faith. “You are a Qadiani, Mirzai. I don’t like you. I hate you. Don’t come to my shop again”, the barber said.

Other parts of District Faisalabad were also being targeted with this kind of hate campaign, including GB 121 Ghokhowal.

6 | Education & Business

Propaganda against an Ahmadiyya school

Garmula Virkan, District Gujranwala; February 9, 2021:

Here, Jamaat Ahmadiyya is running a school called Nasir Elementary School. A few days ago, a petition was submitted to DCO Gujranwala by an opponent Sajjad Ahmad, in which he alleged that Ahmadis preached their faith to children under the guise of education. This application ended up with Nowshera Virkan police station for investigation.

On February 9, a security officer came over to investigate the matter. Ahmadiyya delegation met the security officer and told him that under 'Education for All', education is being provided to all without any distinction of religion or caste, at a nominal fee, and all expenses are met locally on self-help basis. A total of 110 Ahmadi and non-Ahmadi students are

currently studying in this school. This school is registered with the government.

The security officer took out the books from a student's bag and found Punjab Text Board books in it. He took pictures of them. The security officer also interviewed a few mothers of students; they had no complaint. The security officer was also briefed on the implementation of government orders regarding the Covid 19 epidemic. He was shown the entire school.

Apparently, the security officer was satisfied. When he left, he said that he would give all these reports to the SHO Nowshera Virkan police station, and if necessary, he would call Ahmadis at 4 pm.

There was no follow-up.

Ahmadis' business at risk

Raja Jang, District Kasur; February 2021:

Mr. Sajid Ahmad and Mr. Mubarak Ahmad, two Ahmadi brothers, live in Raja Jang, District Kasur. They have auto-electrician and auto mechanic shops in Raiwind city. They have been working there for about fifteen years. In the beginning, there was no opposition but now they are facing opposition from some shopkeepers. When someone visits their shops for work, these shopkeepers tell them to not do business with them as they are 'Qadianis'.

Mr. Sajid Ahmad and his brother used to buy spare parts from a shop at Bilal Ganj Market, Lahore. The trade was going on since long, and the business was doing well. *A few days ago, the opponents told this shopkeeper that they were Qadianis and doing business with them is illicit (haram). The shopkeeper stopped doing business with Ahmadis and became hostile.*

Ahmadis are now told by the opponents that they have gone astray, and need to be explained their errors.

Ahmadi brothers have been asked to exercise

caution and refrain from any kind of religious debate.

Ahmadi businessman threatened for ransom

Sakrand, District Nawabshah; February 2021:

Mr. Javed Ahmad Athwal, an Ahmadi, runs a business of fertilizers and cement here.

Last month Mr. Athwal received a letter for ransom to the amount of Rs. 6 million. "Jamiat Ulama e Islam" was written at the head of the letter. Mr. Athwal was told to deliver the ransom money to the nearby mosque or vacate the shops.

The matter was reported to senior police officers, who issued instructions to the local police. Mr. Athwal has installed CCTV cameras at his business location and hopes that these actions would deter the mullas.

Ahmadiyya cases based on religion under prosecution

February, 2021: Essential update of police cases in courts against Ahmadis is given below. Delay tactics are applied resulting in Ahmadis remaining in prison for months, even years, before they are declared Not Guilty

Ahmadi accused behind bars

A contrived case was registered against four Ahmadis,

Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad and Mubashir Ahmad

of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura under PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in Police Station Sharaqpur. *Two days later Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody, on May 16, 2014.* The remaining three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. A year later the deadly clause PPC 295-C was added to their charge-sheet at the suggestion of a high court judge. *A sessions judge sentenced them to death on October 11, 2017.* Appeal against this decision was then made to the Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to hear them for three years. *These three Ahmadis are in prison for six and half years.*

Now a two-member bench comprising Justice Anwar ul Haq Panu and Justice Tariq Saleem Shaikh are attending to the appeal. Initial arguments were heard on February 1, 2021 and the court set new date of hearing on March 9, 2021. *As for the murderer of Mr. Khalil Ahmad, he has not been sentenced yet.*

Mr. Saeed A Warraich:

Mr. Saeed Ahmad Warraich was arrested on a false complaint of blasphemy under PPC 295-C with FIR no. 645 in Tandlianwala police station, District Faisalabad on January 20, 2018. His trial is held in prison. *He is under trial for three years.* No proceedings were held due to the lawyers strike on February 23, 2021. The new date of hearing is set on March 4, 2021.

Mr. Waqar Ahmad

Student of Jamia Ahmadiyya, Syed Mubashir Ahmad Ayaz Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya and Mr. Muhammad Azhar Mangla lecturer in Jamia Ahmadiyya were booked for allegedly sharing Quranic material on social media, under cyber crime law on 12th November 2019, with FIR No 152/2019 of Police Station FIA Cyber Crime Wing, Lahore under anti-Ahmadiyya law PPC 298-C, blasphemy laws 295-B and 295-A, PECA-11 and PPCs 120-B, 109 and 34.

Mr. Waqar Ahmad was arrested. If declared guilty they could be sentenced to prison for life. Zulfiqar Bari Magistrate Section 30 rejected his bail application on April 8, 2020.

Mr. Abdul Majeed S/o Mr. Abdul Waheed

Resident of Shaheen Muslim Town, Taj Chowk, Phandu Road, District Peshawar, *aged 20, was accused of blasphemy by a minor named Mr. Imran Ali.* The police succumbed to the pressure of the mullas and registered a fabricated case against him under section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 which carries sentence of death, on September 10, 2020 with FIR Nr. 648 at police station Phandu, Peshawar. *He was arrested on 13.09.2020. He is currently at Peshawar Jail.* His date of hearing is set on March 10, 2021.

Ahmadiyya cases based on religion under prosecution

Mr. Rohan Ahmad

Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad etc were booked on May 26, 2020 with FIR Nr. 29/2020 at Police Station FIA Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore under PPCs 295-B, 298-C, 120-B, 109, 34 R/W, 2016-PECA-11. *If declared guilty they could be imprisoned for life.* Pakistan's Cyber Crimes Department that works under Federal Investigation Agency conducted a raid on the house of *Mr. Rohan Ahmad of Wapda Town, Lahore, arrested and tortured him.* He is currently at Kot Lakhpat Jail, Lahore.

Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad were arrested on appearance in FIA office, they are in Kot Lakhpat Jail Lahore.

The bail application of the three prisoners is being heard in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Lahore Hamid Hussain. The next date of hearing is set on March 3, 2021.

Malik Zahir Ahmad

was arrested on September 30, 2019 by fabricating a case under Sections 298-C, 295-B PECA-11 and 109. He was granted bail on February 23, 2021 and was expected to be released in four to five days after paper formalities. *On February 27, when Malik Zaheer Ahmad was expected to be released from the Camp Jail, the Cyber Crime Wing Lahore team arrested him under FIR Nr. 88, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11. He was not even formally nominated in the case.*

Mr Tariq A. Tahir

and Mr. Safwan Ahmad were booked in FIR Nr. 83/2020 under blasphemy clause PPC 295-B at P.S. Nagar Parker, Sindh on November 25, 2020. *Mr. Tahir was arrested.* The hearing on bail application is undergoing in the court of Sessions Judge Mithi, Irshad Ali. The next date of hearing is set on March 10, 2021.

Mr. Muhammad Mahmood Iqbal Hashmi, Mr. Shiraz Ahmad, Mr. A. Wakil Rajput and Mr. Atiq Ahmad

were booked by Cyber Crime Police Station Lahore on June 20, 2019 under FIR Nr 88, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11, for allegedly creating a group "Sindh Salamat" and allegedly sharing Ahmadiyya content in it. *Mr. Shiraz Ahmad was arrested from Hafizabad on February 25, 2021.*

Others

Mr. Sharafat Ahmad, Mr. Akbar Ali and Mr. Tahir Naqash

were booked under PPCs 298-B and 298-C at police station Mangatanwala, District Nankana on May 2, 2020. The Lahore High Court rejected their application for pre-arrest bail on October 2, 2020. They were arrested in the courtroom and sent to Sheikhpura Jail. Appeal on rejection of pre-bail application was filed in the court of Magistrate Adil Riaz of District

Nankana, who rejected it on 23 October. On January 4, 2021 Magistrate M Adil Riaz of Nankana Sahib referred to the sessions judge for adding the Blasphemy clauses PPCs 295-C and 295-B. *Mr. Akbar Ali, died of heart attack while in custody on February 16.* On February 23, 2021 Judge Asjad Javed Gharal granted bail to both Mr. Sharafat Ahmad and Mr. Tahir Naqash on completion of the hearing. The case is under trial.

Ahmadiyya cases based on religion under prosecution

Mr. Mahmood Hashmi

of Allama Iqbal Town Lahore was booked and arrested on 20th June 2019 under section 295-A, 298-C in Police Station Allama Iqbal for sharing community's material on social media. The case is under trial and next hearing is set on March 4, 2021.

Mr. Naeem Ahmad, Mr. Naseem Ahmad, Dr. Shahid Iqbal, Mr. Naseer Ahmad Qamar, Mr. Fazl Ahmad and Ms. Bushra Talib

were booked under PPCs 295-B, 295-A, 298-A, 298-B, 298-C, 506-B with FIR Nr. 325 at police station Rajanpur on July 23, 2020. Dr. Shahid Iqbal had been granted bail till September 15, 2020. However, when he presented himself to the Multan Bench of LHC on

October 1, 2020 for confirmation of the bail, his plea was refused. Dr. Iqbal was arrested there and then, and was shifted to Rajanpur Jail. Later he was released. The case is under trial.

Mr. Haq ul Mubeen

was booked under anti-Ahmadiyya PPC 298-C with FIR Nr. 2637 at police station Shahdara, Lahore on September 2, 2020. He was arrested after a WhatsApp comment on his friend's post. He was released on bail but the case is under trail.

Mr. Waheed Ahmad Butt

was booked in a police case on August 15, 2020, under anti-Ahmadi clause PPC 298-C and the blasphemy clause 295-A, with FIR Nr. 309 at Police Station Phalora, District Sialkot. He was arrested. He was released on bail but the case is under trail.

Mr. Fazl Saeed,

his brother Mr. Munawwar Saeed and his father Mr. Saeed Ahmad were booked on August 15, 2020 under anti-Ahmadi clause PPC 298-C for undertaking *Qurbani* (cattle sacrifice), with FIR Nr. 710 at Police Station Pir Mahal, District Toba Tek Singh. Mr. Fazl Saeed was arrested. Later on September 22, 2020 his bail was approved and he was released from the prison. The case is under trial.

Mr. Amjad Iqbal Saloni and Mr. Ikram Ilahi

of Lahore were booked four years ago on fake charge of proselytizing. They remained in prison for over a year before their release on bail. They are undergoing trial. The date of hearing is now set on March 9, 2021.

Mr. Tahir A Khalid

an Ahmadi religious teacher was booked and arrested on a false charge of blasphemy under PPC 295-B on March 31, 2014. He was released on bail five and half months later.

His trial has been going on for the last seven years. The next date of hearing is on March 20, 2021.

Dulmial case:

A mob attacked the Ahmadiyya worship place four years ago in Dulmial, District Chakwal. Two persons, one from each side, died in the riot. An ATC court pended the trial of the accused of both the communities after a truce.

The Ahmadiyya mosque that suffered attack and was then locked up by authorities remains locked and is not open to Ahmadis for worship. Ahmadis have no alternate facility for congregational worship. Non-Ahmadis have numerous mosques, all functional. A court case is going on to unseal the place of worship. Also a case is going on for the ownership of the mosque at civil court Choa Saidan Shah. The next scheduled date of hearing is March 8, 2021.

From the Media

Khatam-i-Nabuwwat to be protected at all costs: Chohan (FH Chohan, Punjab Minister for Prisons) *The daily Nation; Lahore, February 08, 2021*

Ahmadi doctor killed inside his clinic in KP *The daily Express Tribune; Lahore, February 12, 2021*

Meeting to hold historic Khatme Nabuwwat Conference in Lahore *The daily Jinnah; Lahore, February 14, 2021*

Jewish, Christian and Qadiani lobbies are active against national security: Maulana Ilyas Chinioti *The daily Insaaf; Lahore, February 4, 2021*

It is government's constitutional and legal responsibility to put an end to Qadianis: Ulama *The daily Mashriq; Lahore, February 25, 2021*

4 soldiers martyred (in S. Waziristan), 4 terrorists killed *The daily The News; Lahore, February 13, 2021*

Four women vocational trainees shot dead in Waziristan *The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 23, 2021*

Blasphemy cases have inflated in 2020: CSJ (Center for Social Justice) *The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 5, 2021*

Safe space (Covid precaution) in congregational prayer is violative of Shariah: TLR (Ashraf

Jalali) *The daily Ausaf; Lahore, February 14, 2021*

Clerics urge govt to fully implement NAP *The daily The News; Lahore, February 23, 2021*

Hate speeches, material not to be tolerated: Ashrafi *The daily The Nation; Lahore, February 16, 2021*

Protection of End of Prophethood is the easy way to paradise. Till one does not believe in the unconditional end of prophethood, one is not entitled to call himself a Muslim: Maulana Aziz ur Rehman Sani *The daily Mashriq; Lahore, February 19, 2021*

If NAB has the courage, could it arrest Maulana Fazl ur Rahman? Bilawal Bhutto Zardari *Samaa TV News at 07:29 on February 9, 2021*

(Another) Deal between the Government and TLP. April 20 is the new deadline. *The daily Express; Lahore, February 12, 2021*

Licenses of 21 lawyers suspended over attack on IHC (Islamabad High Court) *Twitter.com/ctribar/status/13667555021891784712*

Registration is compulsory with a magistrate on conversion *The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, February 9, 2021*

Op-ed: Kashmir

... Turning to the Pakistan administered territories of Kashmir, they are not lily-white. I have to say that, and I want to make some comments on it. They have problems with poor relations, too. They amended their interim constitution in 2018 to define who is a real Muslim. I expressed concern about that when I was in Pakistan – and used that definition to discriminate against the minority Ahmadiyya community, who are the loveliest group of people who you will ever meet, Mr Davis. Their motto is “love for all, hatred for none”, we could all take that as our motto and live it out.

(<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-01-13/debates/026E7515-F272-A619-D873D3B0DC0/Kashmir>)

Op-ed: Rights of minority citizens

Blasphemy laws owe their expansion to the interpretation of the statutes by the courts.

...The court verdicts discussed here offer various jurisprudence and shades of negative and positive influences. However, the outcome of Zaheer-ud-din vs The State (1993 SCME 1718) was perhaps the most regrettable and most consequential.

In this case, the Supreme Court turned down a petition against criminalization of the use of Islamic terminology and epithets by the members of the Ahmadi community. It also vindicated the imposition of restriction on propagation of Ahmadi faith. On one hand the verdict validated the induction of new laws, Section 298B and 298C, in the PPC through Martial Law Ordinance XX of 1984 and on the other, it narrowed the scope of religious freedom and rights in the country over the following years. Its effect extended to all citizens, particularly the religious minorities.

... The beauty of the judgment is that it provides an agenda

for structural and systemic reforms not merely to the benefit of minorities but Pakistan as a whole. Perhaps that is the reason why structural hurdles have not allowed implementation on the judge (sic). According to the Centre for Social Justice's policy analysis the compliance on paper did not exceed 24 percent though six-and-a-half years have passed. (By Peter Jacob in *The News*, February 21, 2021)

Op-ed: Qadiani's treason at Independence

Sir Zafarulla's treason Despite the Qadianis' open enmity against Pakistan, after the creation of Pakistan, Sir Zafarulla, a devout Qadiani, with title of British 'Sir' was appointed foreign minister of the new Islamic state. In fact, this was done under pressure of the English and the US. (Extract from *Tahrikat Hurriryyat*, published in the daily *Islam of February 22, 2021*)

Op-ed: Fascism on the rise in Pakistan

Human Rights Watch Report has dealt in great detail the incidence of violence against Pakistan's Ahmadiyya religious community worsened in 2020 (sic), with at least four Ahmadis killed for alleged incidents of blasphemy. Among them was Tahir Naseem Ahmad, who was charged with blasphemy, imprisoned in 2018, and fatally shot in July by an assailant who had smuggled a gun inside a high-security courtroom in Peshawar. The Pakistan government also failed to amend or repeal blasphemy law provisions that have led to arbitrary arrests and prosecutions, and provide a pretext for violence against religious minorities. (By Wajid Shams ul hassn, <https://thenation.org.uk/2021/01/08/fascism-on-the-rise-in-pakistan/>)

From the Media

Report: Clerics urge Govt. to fully implement NAP

Lahore: Clerics and representatives of different political organizations and religious schools of thought have called on the government to fully implement the National Action Plan (NAP) and ensure legislation on the draft of Paigham-e-Pakistan. ...

While addressing Ulema Mashaykh Convention, which was held in Faisalabad here on Sunday under the aegis of Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) clerics and representatives of different religious schools of thought stated that the government had represented emotions of Muslim Ummah on the issue of Namooos-e-Risalat and on the belief in the finality of Prophethood (PBUH).

... The clerics also announced that during the month of March, Stability of Pakistan and Ulema Mashaykh conferences and seminars will be held across the country.

In another resolution, for clerics and participants of Ulema Mashaykh Convention strongly condemned the continuous attacks of Houthi rebels on Saudi Arabia and said that the security, stability and defense of the Harmain Al-Sharifain is dear to every Muslim. The government of Pakistan and the Ulema and religious fraternity assure Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Saudi Arabian government their complete support and cooperation. It was announced in the convention that Ulema Mashaykh conventions will also be held in different cities across Pakistan as per following schedule, February 24 in Islamabad. February 28 in Lahore, March 08 in

Sargodha and March 16-17 in Karachi.

(From The News; Lahore, February 23, 2021)

Report: Blasphemy cases have inflated in 2020, says CSJ

Last year in July, the Punjab Assembly had unanimously passed a resolution asking the federal government to make new or improve the existing laws so that the blasphemers could be dealt with strictly, and also to set up a central system similar to that of Saudi Arabia, or filtration system to interpret blasphemous material on social media.

(The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 5, 2021)

Twitter: Sadia Ahmed



Maryam Nawaz's husband captain Safdar leading election campaign in noshera and asking people to follow mumtaz qadri. How can you vote for someone who is trying to gain votes by spreading hate on a peaceful community. What a shame!!

(February 8, 2021)

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at is a religious community and organization, international in character, with established branches in over 210 countries and territories in Asia, Africa, the Americas, Europe and Australia. It has tens of millions of members worldwide and is growing. The Ahmadiyya community was founded in 1889 by Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, on teachings that he saw as an embodiment of the benevolent message of Islam: peace, universal brotherhood and submission to the will of God. He claimed to be the latter-day Messiah and reformer awaited in leading religions of the world. He opposed violence as a means of advancing religion, and rejected terrorism in any form or for any reason.

Declaring Ahmadis as non-Muslims

The Pakistani religious establishment brands the Ahmadiyya community heretical in nature and does not approve of its reformatory nature. Politicians have also found it expedient to support the religious establishment in their anti-Ahmadiyya stance. The first countrywide wave of violence against the community erupted in 1953. Following the extensive riots, an in-depth judicial inquiry by the chief justice and a judge of Lahore High Court found politics to be the main cause of disturbances. Many a year later, in 1974, Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, then the Prime Minister of Pakistan, found it politically advantageous to have Ahmadis declared a non-Muslim minority, which in Pakistan is a form of second rate citizenship. It was a unique innovation; while other non-Muslim religious groups, like Christians and Hindus, were non-Muslim minority by their own profession, Ahmadis were forcibly declared a non-Muslim minority through legislation.

Ordinance XX

Following Bhutto's lead, General Ziaul Haq, the military dictator of Pakistan from 1977 to 1988, went many steps further when to gain the support of extremists he promulgated the notorious anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX in 1984 which added Sections 298-B and 298-C to the Pakistan Penal Code. Through this ordinance, the religious rights of Ahmadis were directly violated. Under its provisions, Ahmadis could be imprisoned for three years and fined an arbitrary amount for ordinary expression of their faith. In addition to prohibiting them from proselytizing, it expressly forbade them certain religious practices and usage of Islamic terminology. This ordinance effectively makes a criminal out of every Ahmadi by including the broad provision of "posing as a Muslim" a cognizable offence, giving the extremists a *carte blanche* to terrorize Ahmadis with the backing of the state.



Human Rights Section

Ahmadiyya Muslim Foreign Missions Office

02 Sheephatch Lane, GU9 2AQ, Tilford, UK

Tel: 44 (02) 20 3988 3862