

PERSECUTION OF AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

Monthly Report March 2023



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DID YOU KNOW?

AHMADIS FACE THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT UNDER FEDERAL LAWS FOR:

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

AHMADIS HAVE TO DECLARE THEMSELVES
NON-MUSLIM

TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE AND STAND FOR ELECTION

SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS ON VOTING RIGHT FOR AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

Highlights

SINCE THE PROMULGATION OF ORDINANCE XX IN 1984

276
Murdered
for faith

4147
Ahmadis
Booked in
Religious
Cases

473
Murder
Attempts

202
Mosques
Desecrated

DURING 2022

3
Murdered
for faith

107
Ahmadis
Booked in
Religious
Cases

15
Mosques
Desecrated

197
Graves
Desecrated

DURING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 2023

- One Ahmadi brutally murdered for being an Ahmadi
- One Ahmadi leader arrested from the headquarters of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Pakistan
- An Ahmadi arrested for listening to the Holy Quran, another Ahmadi leader booked under blasphemy clause
- Seven Ahmadiyya Mosques attacked, minarets of another mosque concealed by a wall
- Burial of an Ahmadi woman denied in a common cemetery
- Three graves damaged by opponents
- Sacred inscriptions removed from three Ahmadi houses
- 2 Ahmadi students expelled from the school.

It is disheartening to detail the persecution that the Ahmadiyya community faced in Pakistan during March 2023. The incidents recorded include the severe desecration of a mosque in Kalra Kalan, Gujrat, and another mosque under threat in Faisalabad. The Gujranwala Bar Association also displayed discriminatory behavior by requiring individuals to abuse the founder of the Ahmadiyya community to become a member of the bar. Additionally, Ahmadi students faced expulsion from schools and discriminatory treatment from teachers, while Ahmadi workers in Kotli Azad Kashmir faced hostility at their workplaces and in their neighborhoods. The incarceration of seven Ahmadis also remained a pressing issue in March.

These incidents underscore the persistent persecution faced by the Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan. It is crucial that such discrimination and violence against minorities are addressed and condemned by the government and civil society. We must strive towards building a more inclusive and tolerant society where every individual is respected and protected, regardless of their religious beliefs.

It is important to raise awareness about these incidents and hold those responsible accountable for their actions. The Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan, like any other religious or ethnic minority, has the right to practice their faith and live their lives without fear of persecution.

THE POLICE DEFILES AHMADIYYA MOSQUE GRIEVOUSLY



stated that they intended to demolish the minarets. Upon this, the delegation of the Jamaat elders told them that the mosque was around 70 years old, and the minarets were there all along. The DSP replied that mosques belong only to Muslims and Ahmadis have no right to have them (sic). He further threatened the Ahmadis that he was being polite, otherwise he could have registered a police case against them, and the mosque could have been sealed or taken over. He confiscated personal phones of the Ahmadis present at the scene. Thereafter, his team demolished the minarets and dome of the mosque. They came over the next day to finish the shameful job. Apart from the demolition, the debris caused severe damage to the floor, stairs, and the structure of the mosque.

Kalra Kalan, Gujrat; March 24 & 25, 2023:

The police undertook criminal and painful desecration of the local Ahmadiyya mosque here, for little reason.

Prior to the incident, a CTD official visited the site on March 21 and tried to photograph the mosque and its minarets. He was persuaded to go back, but he returned the next day. He said that the department was insisting on the required photography. He took some photographs and left. On March 24, the DSP and SHO of Police Station Larri Adda, Gujrat came with a contingent on two vehicles and

Later, an Ahmadi delegation of the Jamaat called on the DPO, who rudely attended to them saying that they should have demolished the minarets and dome themselves. He also told them that they were unaware of the Constitution which forbids them to construct minarets and dome in their worship places (sic). The delegation replied that they had been living there for generations and no one from the local residents had ever raised such an objection. Even now, no one among the locals has complained, and this act of the police had spoiled the peace of the village. To this, the careerist DPO had no answer.

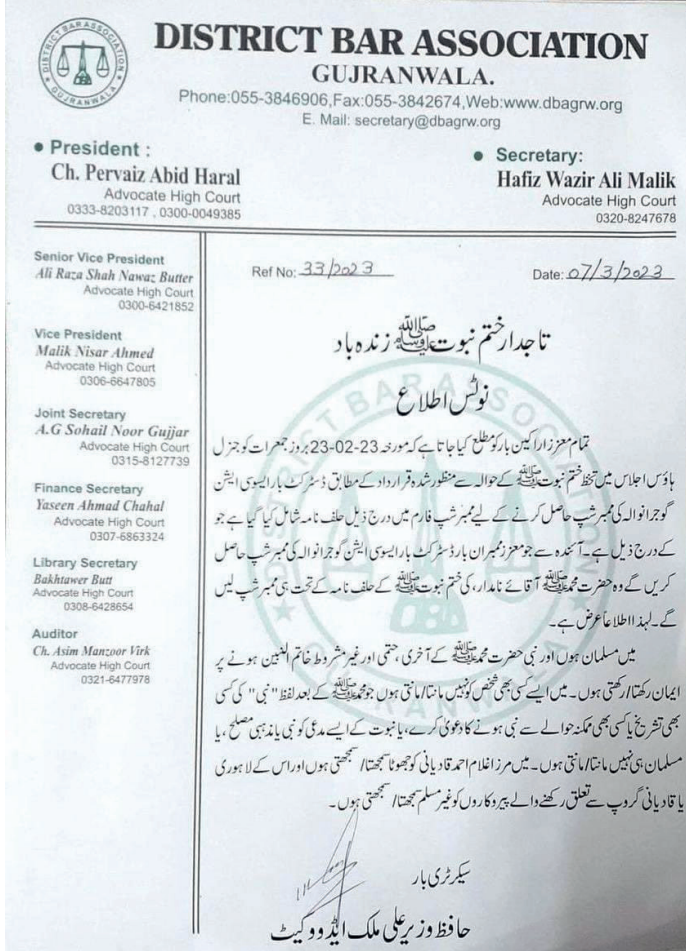


Before



After

KHATME NABUWWAT DECLARATION MADE COMPULSORY FOR MEMBERSHIP OF DISTRICT BAR ASSOCIATION GUJRANWALA



Ref No: 33/2023

Date: 07/3/2023

Long live Crown of End of Prophethood (Tajdare Khatme Nabuwat, Zindabad)

Notice for information

All respected members of the bar are informed that according to the resolution passed in the general house meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2023, the following declaration has been added to the membership form for obtaining the membership of the District Bar Association Gujranwala. From now on, honorable members of bar who will get the membership of District Bar Association Gujranwala will take the membership under the undermentioned declaration of the End of the Prophethood of Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon him).

"I am Muslim and believe in the absolute and unqualified finality of Khatam an Nabiyyen Muhammad (peace be upon him) as the last of the prophets. I do not recognize any person who claims to be a prophet in any sense of the word or any description whatsoever after Muhammad (peace be upon him) or recognize such a claimant as prophet or a religious reformer or a Muslim. I consider Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani to be an imposter and also consider his followers whether belonging to the Lahori or Qadiani group to be non-Muslim."

Signed
Secretary Bar
Hafiz Wazir Ali Malik

Gujranwala; March 7, 2023:

Hafiz Wazir Ali Malik Secretary District Bar Association Gujranwala, issued the following notification on official letterhead pad about the declaration of the End of Prophethood. We translate below the vernacular in English.

SOCIAL BOYCOTT LEADS TO EXPULSION OF TWO AHMADI STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

Bhiri Shah Rehman, District Gujranwala; March 2023:

As in other cities of Pakistan, anti-Ahmadiyya activities continue here, which have been gaining push for some time. Anti-Ahmadiyya clerics have been invited to local mosques to promote boycotts against Ahmadis; some local shopkeepers have been forced to vacate shops, and other traders

have been barred from trading with Ahmadis. Anti-Ahmadiyya rallies also go on.

Two Ahmadi students were expelled from a private school here allegedly for insulting Islam. Moreover, Ahmadi students were targeted and harassed during a lecture on Islamiyat in the government school.

ANTI-AHMADIYYA QUESTION PAPER FOR STUDENTS

Peshawar; March 2023:

There are three Ahmadi students in Peshawar Model School. They face discrimination and prejudice from the teachers. The teachers ask if there is a Qadiani in the class. Mufti Muhammad Imran, a teacher asked the following questions in the objective question paper:

1. What is the number of verses and Hadees on Khatme Nabuwwat?
2. How many false claimants to prophecy did Holy Prophet predict?
3. Which Imam pronounced, "Whosoever asks for proof from false prophet about his claim, is himself expelled from the fold of Islam"?
4. Name the first false claimant of Prophethood.
5. On which date the Qadianis were declared non-Muslim in the Constitution?

DILEMMA FOR AHMADI STUDENTS

The daily Dawn, in its issue of March 6, 2023, reported that the National Curriculum Council had issued no-objection certificates for publishing religious textbooks for students of minority groups. Ahmadi were made an exception. Although Ahmadi children would prefer and opt to learn Islamiyat, they are generally not allowed to do that. So here is a dilemma. It is well stated in an article by an Ahmadi scholar; he even proposes a solution which meets academic and democratic norms; however, we have the unfortunate experience that any solution to a problem faced by Ahmadi, even if entirely rational and doable, fails to get the approval of the mulla-influenced authorities. The article is produced below, nevertheless:

MINORITY STUDENTS TO HAVE THEIR OWN RELIGION TEXTBOOKS: DILEMMA FOR AN AHMADI STUDENT IN PAKISTAN

In a major development in the country's history related to religious minorities, the National Curriculum Council (NCC) has issued no-objection certificates (NOCs) for publishing religious books for students of seven minority groups enrolled in

educational institutions supervised by the federal government. After the NOCs, the National Book Foundation (NBF) will publish the books. The NCC issued the NOCs for publishing books on Hinduism, Sikhism, Christianity, Bahai, Zoroastrianism, Kalasha, and Buddhism.

(<https://www.dawn.com/news/1740572>)

This is a big achievement indeed considering the deplorable treatment of minorities in Pakistan.

These textbooks will contain authentic references to the holy books of minorities and will enable the students from the above-mentioned minority groups to learn about their religion and culture in academic settings.

This move though a welcome step in the right direction, poses a question about the Ahmadi students and what options are available for them.

It is a complex issue that requires careful consideration. The dilemma for Ahmadi students in Pakistan is unique.

- For the purpose of the Constitution & law Ahmadis in Pakistan are declared non-Muslim and as such are not allowed to practice and profess Islam as their faith.
 - Ahmadis, under the law, are barred from using Islamic terminology. Furthermore, Ahmadiyya literature is also banned in the province of Punjab. Ahmadi students are barred to take Islamiyat as a subject and are only offered the subject of ethics. The opposition has been faced in various instances where Ahmadi students have tried to take up Islamiyat as a subject. The argument put forward by the relevant departments is that since Ahmadis have been declared non-Muslim, they cannot take Islamiyat as a subject or study Quran (which has also been made compulsory in the schools). Unfortunately, the Ahmadis are singled out in this regard. Students from other faiths are free to choose between studying Islamiyat or taking ethics as a subject. Now they also have the option of choosing their religion textbook.
- All other minorities will now have the choice between Islamiyat, ethics, or their faith book but Ahmadi students are left with not many options. Ahmadi students are not allowed to take up Islamiyat or read Quran, and Ahmadiyya literature is already banned. There is a significant chance that Ahmadi students will now be further alienated, and singled out thus compounding their discrimination, stigmatization & persecution in Pakistan.
- A possible remedial step might be that education should be given to everyone regardless of one's faith and purely based on one's choice. Anyone, regardless of his faith, should have the option to pick from a pool of subjects of different faiths. An Ahmadi student, without declaring his or her faith, should be allowed to study Islamiyat, Quran, ethics, or Hinduism. Similarly, a Christian student can choose to study Christianity or Islam, or Sikhism. This will help students to learn about different faiths and beliefs, will create more inclusivity and tolerance, and ensure that all Pakistani citizens have access to quality education and are treated fairly and equally.

HOSTILITY IN KOTLI, AJK

Kotli, AJK; March 25, 2023:

Mr. Muhammad Rafiq, an Ahmadi stamp-paper seller at judicial complex Kotli was threatened by a mulla to erase his name from his nameplate.

Muhammad Rafique works in the judicial complex of Kotli where the clerical workers, including Mr. Rafique, have pasted a print of their names behind their working desks. On March 25, a mulla came and told him that being Qadiani he could not write 'Muhammad' with his name. He told him to remove it and threatened him that legal action

would be taken against him in case of non-compliance. He took a photograph of the nameplate, and then went on to other non-Ahmadi stamp-paper sellers to agitate the issue.

Another report. The Ahmadiyya missionary of Kotli city regularly goes to an Ahmadi's house to teach. A person in the neighboring non-Ahmadi house was overheard saying that a man and a woman regularly visit Ahmadis' houses, and he would shoot them. This person is mentally deranged and is a quarrelsome drug addict.

THREAT TO ANOTHER AHMADIYYA MOSQUE

Chak 565 GB, Faisalabad; March 22, 2023:

A policeman of local police station visited the local Ahmadiyya mosque. Subsequently in the afternoon, the local Ahmadi president was told to visit the police station. It was further learnt that two persons belonging to TLP had got registered a complaint against the minarets of the Ahmadiyya mosque and the Ahmadi delegation had been called regarding the issue.

Both parties were present at the police station. The SHO assured the parties that the issue would be resolved as per law, and referred the case to

the DCO Faisalabad. He also asked the parties to sign, agreeing that they would not indulge in any unlawful activity till further orders from the higher authorities.

Here, it is relevant to mention that Tehrik Labbaik (TLP) is a politico-religious party that indulges in violence to achieve its political objects. Sometimes back, it created immense problems for the government in its violent march on the capital. The frightened government has since adopted the policy of appeasing the firebrand mullas, whenever they bring up an anti-Ahmadi demand.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S TWEET

The UN; March 11, 2023:

H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres issued a tweet today from @antonioguterres which is worthy of record, and calls for a comment. The tweet:

We assume that Muslims all over the world generally, and from Pakistan particularly, are going to hail this condemnation of Islamophobia by Mr. Guterres who, in a way, represents the world community. The thought and rationale behind this tweet are well-stated therein and even an average reader would not miss them. No one should face prejudice for his faith and no worthy should ever be a bystander to bigotry. We all should confront disunity through commitment to common humanity and stamp out the poison of religious intolerance.

This noble statement should apply not only to Islamophobia but to phobia against any and all beliefs — including that against Ahmadiyya, in Pakistan. Herein is a clarion call for the Muslim majority in Pakistan and all the state institutions to revisit anti-Ahmadiyya policy and laws and their implementation in the country.



Muslims around the world often face prejudice for no other reason than their faith.

We must never be bystanders to bigotry.

Let us counter the forces of division by reaffirming our common humanity & stamp out the poison of Islamophobia.



news.un.org
UN observes first International Day against Islamophobia
The United Nations on Friday commemorated the first-ever International Day to Combat Islamophobia with a special event in the General Assembly Hall, ...

2:32 AM · Mar 11, 2023 · 456.3K Views

A LANDMARK POLITICAL CONFESSION

TV report:

Mr. Khaqan Abbasi (of PML-N) is a former prime minister (2017-18). These days when the country is in a deep political, economic and social swamp, the people are asking: What is the solution? Sincere and thinking individuals are voicing their opinions on the basic causes. Mr. Khan Abbasi is one of them.

TV channels aired his most recent statement in this regard. We translate below what he said, and was shown by TV Samaa on tickers on March 12, 2023:

- **We'll have to admit that we are all guilty.**
- **I myself, if not guilty, stand surely accused.**
- **All the elections after 1973 were 'stolen'.**
- **The way we are running this country is not the way to run a country.**
- **Is there an article of the Constitution that we did not violate?**
- **In order to solve our problems, let's start with the Constitution: Khaqan Abbasi**

TV Samaa at 19:30 on March 12, 2023

Mr. Abbasi has hit the nail on the head. He is correct, on every count, particularly on violating the Constitution. In fact, the very first amendment to the Constitution (Not counting the No 1 that was

only a formality to remove references to East-Pakistan and mentioned formal treaties and boundaries) was the devastating Amendment regarding Ahmadis. It violated the Constitution itself and the high norms and values of HR and FORB recognized all over the world. So, Mr. Abbasi is right to propose to one and all: "In order to solve our problems, let's start with the Constitution".

We are certain that the repeal of the Second Amendment to the Constitution will trigger a chain reaction of major positive changes that will bring the country back to the path of peace, progress and prosperity.

But, the question remains: Do the Pakistani society and state have the wisdom, strength and courage to make portentous changes to the national direction?



Mr. Khaqan Abbasi

AHMADIS BEHIND BARS

1

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. Pakistan's Cyber Crimes Department, Lahore that works under Federal Investigation Agency, arrested Mr. Rohan Ahmad.

Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad were arrested dated 30.09.2020 on reporting to the FIA office; they are in Camp Jail Lahore.

Syed Ali Abbas, Addl. Sessions Judge Lahore added the blasphemy clause PPC 295-C to the charge sheet on June 29, 2021. Thus, they are now exposed to penalty of death.

The SC rejected their post-arrest bail application.

2

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 a sentence of death, on September 10, 2020 with FIR Nr. 648 at police station Phandu, Peshawar. He was arrested on 13.09.2020. The ASJ acquitted Mr. Majeed of the blasphemy charge but declared him guilty of hurting religious feelings thereby, and awarded him five years imprisonment.

3

Mr. Shiraz Ahmad etc. 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. He was arrested from Hafizabad on February 25, 2021. Subsequently the trial court added section 295-C of PPC to the said case.

His plea for bail was rejected by SC.

4

Malik Zaheer Ahmad was arrested on September 30, 2020 in a fabricated 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 as outlined in the above case, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11. He was not even formally nominated in the case.

His plea for bail was rejected by SC.

5

Mr. Mubarak Ahmad Sani was arrested on January 7, 2023 from his home in Rabwah. He was booked with FIR Nr. 661/22 under sections 295-B, 298-C and the Punjab Holy Quran (Printing and Recording) Act 2011. He was sent to Jhang Jail after judicial remand and later transferred to District Jail Faisalabad. His bail application is under trial in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Lalian, District Chiniot.

RIGHT TO VOTE FOR AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

TO PARTAKE IN ELECTIONS AHMADI MUSLIMS ARE PLACED ON A SEPARATE ELECTORAL LISTS, THEY ARE GIVEN THE CHOICE;

1. REMAIN ON THE LIST AND VOTE AS A NON-MUSLIM (*REQUIRES TO ACCEPT NON-MUSLIM STATUS*)
2. COME OFF THAT LIST AND VOTE AS A MUSLIM (*REQUIRES TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION*)

BOTH CHOICES ARE INCONCEIVABLE TO AHMADI MUSLIMS

DECLARATIONS BY THE CANDIDATE ELECTION ACT 2017 AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN

(iii) I believe in the absolute and unqualified finality of the Prophet-hood of Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), the last of the Prophets and that I am not the follower of anyone who claims to be a prophet in any sense of the word or of any description whatsoever after Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), and that I do not recognize such a claimant to be prophet or a religious reformer, nor do I belong to the Qadiani group or the Lahori group or call myself an Ahmadi.

[Note: This paragraph is for Muslim candidates only and is not applicable to non-Muslim candidates.]

DECLARATION AND OATH TO REGISTER AS A MUSLIM VOTER ELECTION ACT 2017 AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN

I, _____(name of the voter), do solemnly swear that I believe, in the absolute and unqualified finality of the Prophethood of Muhammad (Peace be upon him), the last of the prophets and that I am not the follower of anyone who claims to be a Prophet in any sense of the word or of any description whatsoever after prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him), and that I do not recognize such a claimant to be prophet or a religious reformer, nor do I belong to the Qadiani group or the Lahori group or call myself an Ahmadi.

(Name & Signature of Voter)

AS OF MAR 31, 2023:

- Mr. Mubarak Ahmad Sani - principal Hifz School Rabwah was arrested in Jan.
- 7 Ahmadis are behind bars solely on account of their faith.
- Fabricated cases against 8 Ahmadis were registered during Nov and an FIR is registered against some members of Ahmadiyya leadership in Pakistan in Dec.
- Two further cases registered and one Ahmadi arrested in Feb 23
- A 20-year-old Ahmadi student has been awarded 5 years imprisonment in Nov 2022, for hurting the religious feelings.
- 13 Ahmadis were arrested during August 2022 for sacrificing animals on Eid.
- A 65 year old Ahmadi lady and another Ahmadi were arrested under blasphemy clauses during February for allegedly tearing off an anti-Ahmadiyya poster. They both were released on bail. Their trial continues.
- 2 Ahmadi prisoners died while in police custody (Feb. 2021 & Jan 2022.)

SOME RELEVANT PAKISTAN PENAL CODES

Injuring or defiling places of worship, with the intent to insult the religion of any class

295

Up to two years' imprisonment or fine, or both

Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage the religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs

295 A

Up to ten years' imprisonment, or fine, or both

Defiling, etc., of the Holy Quran

295 B

Life imprisonment

Use of derogatory remarks, etc; in respect of the Holy Prophet

295 C

Death and fine

Uttering words, etc., with the deliberate intent to injure religious feelings

298

Up to one year imprisonment or fine, or both

Use of derogatory remarks etc., in respect of holy personages

298 A

Three years' imprisonment, or fine, or both

Misuse of epithets, descriptions and titles etc., reserved for certain holy personages or places, by Ahmadis

298 B

Three years' imprisonment and fine

An Ahmadi, calling himself a Muslim, or preaching or propagating his faith, or outraging the religious feelings of Muslims, or posing himself as a Muslim

298 C

Three years' imprisonment and fine

Alarming Facts

SINCE JANUARY 2021

- 6 Ahmadis have been murdered for faith, raising the total to 276 since the promulgation of Ordinance XX
- 17 murder attempts, 10 attacks during 2022.
- Fabricated cases against 8 Ahmadis were registered during Nov 2022 and an FIR is registered against some members of Ahmadiyya leadership in Pakistan in Dec. Two new cases registered, one Ahmadi arrested in Feb 2023
- 2 Ahmadi prisoners died in custody, they were imprisoned for their faith.
- 27 Ahmadiyya mosques desecrated, 1 mosque sealed by the authorities. 4 attacked in Feb 2023
- 246 graves have been desecrated, 180 of these were during 2022. Burial of an Ahmadi lady denied and the graveyard sealed in Nov. Burial of another Ahmadi lady denied in Jan 2023.
- 46 new cases have been registered against Ahmadis under the blasphemy laws & Anti-Ahmadi laws, 10 of these were registered during August. A criminal case was registered against 16 Ahmadis during Sep and Nov 2022. Another case was registered against the top leadership of Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan in Dec 2022.
- Sacred inscription from 22 houses and shops have been removed

AHMADI CENSORSHIP

- The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has blocked 20 non-Pakistan based foreign websites affiliated with the worldwide community and properly registered in their respective countries. PTA has also issued notices to their operators with criminal prosecution for violating Pakistan's blasphemy and anti-Ahmadiyya laws. According to PTA any website that portrays Ahmadis as Muslims will be blocked in Pakistan.
- Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) has ordered that Ahmadi channels (MTA) should not be carried by any distribution service licensee.
- In 1996, the government of Punjab issued a notification to return all nationalized educational institutions, that affected the community's 8 Schools and 2 colleges which were nationalized in 1972. Despite fulfilling all terms and conditions, and regardless of repeated requests and numerous reminders, the community's institutions are not denationalized.
- The entire population of Rabwah i.e. Ahmadiyya headquarters in Pakistan, was charged under section PPC 298-C on Dec. 15, 1989, and again on June 8, 2008. (Rabwah population is approximately 60,000.)
- The government has banned all outdoor rallies & conferences of Ahmadis in Rabwah.
- The government of Punjab has banned the publishing of the Quran and its translation
- The government of Punjab has banned the entire written works of the Founder of Ahmadiyyat.
- Ahmadiyya daily newspaper and periodicals for women, youth, children and elders were banned by a Punjab government notification.
- Authorities have prohibited sports events organized at a community level.

FROM THE MEDIA

- Hate Watch: Persecution of minorities, violence, and repression continued during February 2023
http....thefridaytimes.com/2023/02/04/hate-watch-february
- 15 injured in IJT attack on Holi events at PU
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 7, 2023
- Two policemen martyred in attack on census teams
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 14, 2023
- PTI to inform international community of crackdown
- Fawad says paper on rights violations is to be launched tomorrow
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 27, 2023
- PTI unveils dossier on 'human rights violations by govt
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 29, 2023
- One (Ahmadi) killed in BD communal violence
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 4, 2023
- Lawyers are once again battling in the favor of the constitution: Parvez Elahi
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 3, 2023
- Bilawal warns against underrating anger caused by Islamophobia
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 11, 2023
- Islam is a religion that promotes peace and tolerance
TV Samaa 08:50 on March 11, 2023
- We'll have to admit that we are all guilty. I myself if not guilty, am surely accused. All the elections after 1973 were stolen. The way we are running this country is not the way to run a country. Is there any article of the Constitution that we did not violate? In order to solve our problems, let's start with the Constitution: Khaqan Abbasi (former prime minister)
TV Samaa at 19:03 on March 12, 2023
- Politically and financially the country is on death bed: Siraj ul Haq (JI)
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 16, 2023
- Imran Khan announced that he will turn to international organizations over the arrest of his workers.
- We will approach courts and human rights organization: Imran Khan
TV Hum News at 14:16 on March 20, 2023
- BBC raids show India's shrinking media freedom under Modi
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 5, 2023
- Yousaf named W. Europe's first Muslim head of govt
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 29, 2023
- S. Arabia-Iran patch-up takes world by surprise. China calls it victory for peace
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 7, 2023
- France pledges \$55m to fight polio in Pakistan
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 20, 2023
- 29 bodies found after three vessels sink off Tunisia
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 27, 2023
- India: Offering prayers at home by Muslims made problematic
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 27, 2023
- Pakistan opts out of US-hosted summit (on democracy)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 29, 2023
- Suo motu notice was rejected by a 4-3 majority, strange logic of the law minister.
- We strongly condemn law minister's statement: Imran
- Asif Zardari faces cases for Rs 37bn: Imran
- We shall try our best to arrest Imran: Rana Sannullah (Interior Minister)
TV GNN 07:38 to 07:45 on March 2, 2023
- Cabinet approves bill to clip judge's wings
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 29, 2023
- Nine security men martyred in Bolan suicide attack
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 7, 2023
- Never gave Imran clean chit, says ex-CJP Nisar
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 7, 2023
- Ex-CM's aid Bhatti remanded in police custody for three days
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 7, 2023
- (Parvez) Elahi officially appointed (PTI) party president
- IHC suspends Imran's arrest warrant
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 8, 2023
- They got cases pardoned (maaf karney) worth Rs 100bn: Imran
TV News One at 07:34 on March 2, 2023
- Caretaker CM's visit to Raiwind Tablighi Center
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 3, 2023
- Four miners shot dead in Harnai (Baluchistan; three injured)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 28, 2023
- Soldier martyred in Gawadar
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 6, 2023
- Minister gets bail in Barkhan murder case
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 11, 2023
- Imran Khan's not only leg is gone kaput (kharab), his brain too: Ishaq Dar
TV Hum at 07:26 on March 4, 2023

- (Imran Khan) predicts PTI's victory in polls despite 'umpires siding with PDM'
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 4, 2023
- LHC orders release of PTI men (arrested in Jail Bharo Tehraik) on Fawad's plea
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 4, 2023
- Buzdar appears before NAB
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 4, 2023
- Non-bailable (arrest) warrants of Farhat (friend of Bushra Bibi w/o IK)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 4, 2023
- Principal Secretary (PTI) M Khan Bhatti of former CM arrested from Baluchistan. He was arrested while on the run to cross the border.
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 3, 2023
- Inflation goes up by 42.27 percent
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 11, 2023
- Baluchistan Rights Movement protests will cover all the cities of the province: Sirajul Haq (JI)
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 13, 2023
- Non-bailable arrest warrants issued for Imran in two cases
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 14, 2023
- Zaman park (Lahore, IK's residence) remains under siege
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 15, 2023
- Judge says PTI chairman made every effort to defy court orders
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 17, 2023
- PTI chief claims assassins were positioned at Judicial Complex (where he was to appear in a court)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 20, 2023
- Ijazul Haq meets Imran, merges his party into PTI
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 20, 2023
- PTI accused of 'smearing' army chief
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 21, 2023
- Only 9% girls practice medicine after graduation
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 21, 2023
- Laptops for 100,000 students: Shahbaz Sharif
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 22, 2023
- ECP 'axes' Punjab polls, moves date to October
The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 23, 2023
- Elections: Help ECP and avoid contempt of court, President's letter to PM.
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 25, 2023
- 82 cases against Imran; how will these get settled!
TV Dawn at 06:17 on March 18, 2023

Op-ed: Offences against religion

AS has become our annual custom, yet another person accused of blasphemy was recently lynched; accosted by a deranged mob in Nankana Sahib, which dragged him out of a police station, pummelled the life out of him, and then attempted to set his body on fire before law enforcers found the guts to intervene. Last year, a teacher in D.I. Khan was fatally stabbed by her students, a handicapped man was forcibly drowned in Ghotki, and a person, reportedly with a mental illness, was snatched from police custody, hung by his neck to a tree, and stoned to death in Khanewal. All on similar suspicions. This is a sign: our brutalisation as a society is nearing completion....

... This attitude, in an age where information is being cross-pollinated across cyberspace at hyperspeed, foreshadows disaster. Laws enacted through legislative assemblies are human products and must be kept under supervision — to be studied for their effects, examined for their continued suitability, and, should need ever arise, to be altered or removed, especially when their retention proves deleterious to public interest. To suggest otherwise is to compel ourselves to stagnation, and with polarisation and radicalisation ascending with such velocity, we risk sinking further and further into this abyss, weighed down by the incongruities of our own conscience.

(Written by Asfand Yar Warraich published in daily Dawn of March 29th, 2023)

News: One killed in BD communal violence

DHAKA: One person was killed in Bangladesh on Friday after police fired tear gas and rubber bullets at thousands of protesters who torched homes of residents belonging to the Ahmadi sect, officials said.

The clashes occurred when 10,000 to 20,000 worshippers tried to attack Ahmadi homes and shops following Friday prayers in Panchargarh, 350 kilometres north of Dhaka.

Tensions have been mounting after the Ahmadi sect announced a three-day gathering just outside the town, set to start on Friday.

Police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to try to gain control, an inspector said.

A 25-year-old protester was killed after being struck by a rubber bullet in the forehead, Pan-

chagarh councillor Mazedur Rahman Chowdhury said. "He died on the way to a hospital." Police confirmed the death.

Another 25 to 30 protesters and police were injured, according to the inspector.

Ahmadi spokesman Ahmad Tabshir Choudhury said one member of his community was also killed in the clashes, but police did not confirm the death.

Town councillor Chowdhury said the protesters torched and vandalised the homes of dozens of Ahmadis, and spokesman Choudhury said 60 Ahmadis were injured.

"We have postponed our meeting. Approximately 50-60 homes have been torched," Choudhury said, adding the attacks continued late into the night.

(Published in Dawn, March 4th, 2023)

Op-ed: Desperate to reach foreign shores

... The fact that Pakistanis have joined the ranks of countries like Somalia and Afghanistan in their willingness to take any risk at all to escape their country says a lot about where the country stands today. It is no wonder then that the world looks at our devalued currency, our suffering poor and our decaying morals — and simply shakes its head in pity. To be a Pakistani today means a stubborn lack of shame, fellow feeling and humility; there is a willful ignorance to the suffering of other Pakistanis who are so bereft of hope that they are prepared to take a hellish journey on the off chance that it may lead to a better life in a foreign land.

(Rafia Zakaria in the daily Dawn March 1, 2023)

Editorial: Afghan's misery

... Every report coming from Afghanistan paints a picture of suffering, neglect and despondency. What is the future of Afghanistan, when the hopes of its people and their abilities to work towards a better life are crushed? The international community, and especially countries like the US, must remember why Afghanistan is in this sorry state, and continue to provide assistance to its people at any cost. The Taliban are stubborn, but this must not discourage rights organisations and political leaders from attempting a breakthrough by constantly reminding them of human rights. The Afghans have suffered for far too long, and have faced the harshest realities of war. There is no clear solution to their misery, and certainly no shortcut, but consistent engagement, support and pushback are

critical to give Afghanistan's people some hope.

(The daily Dawn March 6, 2023)

Op-ed: Now whose defeat it is?

Who would tie the silk thread? How would the slipping sand be grasped? Who would confront the moonlight with a lamp? Who would guide the stars to tread?

Are we failing? As a nation, we have been deprived of communal wisdom long ago, but what happened to our illusion/claim as a State? When states fail, militants take over, when systems die, anarchy prevails, when constitutions fail, nations fall apart. Amid all this, the perplexed mind is contemplating "Where do we stand?" (Translation)

(Written by Asma Sherazi published on BBC URDU of February 21, 2023)

Editorial: Monsters amongst us

ANOTHER crime of bestial violence against a child has taken place, this time in Karachi. On Wednesday, a six-year-old was found brutally raped and murdered after she went missing three days ago. The child had been subjected to horrific sexual violence, possibly by more than one individual. An hours-long protest by her relatives and political workers was held on the National Highway and called off only when a senior police official assured them that all those responsible would be arrested. Two men, both neighbours of the victim, have been detained by the police for interrogation on information provided by witnesses.....

(The daily Dawn March 3, 2023)

Op-ed: The state of Pakistan

THE reality of Pakistan, shaped by its wayward masters and bureaucrats, manifests itself each day. Not even December 1971 compares with the listless gloom that engulfs the country today. Ever since the loss of our eastern wing and the judicial murder of our first elected prime minister, our story has degenerated from the tragic to the pathetic to the absurd.

Ways out of this desolation exist. But they are barred by the corruption and cynicism of predatory 'leaders' and 'defenders' who accumulate vast fortunes through the criminal abuse of public trust; by the resignation of their prey who are preoccupied with getting through the day; and by the confusion of our intelligentsia and the irresponsibility

bility of our intellectuals.

Every major institution and influential group of people has failed the country: the government; the army and intelligence apparatus; the judiciary; parliament; political leaders and parties; the media; the educational and health systems; the civil services; the landed, business and religious elites; etc.

Together they have ensured a failed state. The primary culprits are known. They couldn't care less...
(Ashraf Jehangir Qazi in the daily Dawn March 2, 2023)

Tweets:

Mona Farooq Ahmad @MonaChaudhry
Ahmadiyya Mosques in
United Kingdom Pakistan



9:46 AM · Mar 6, 2023 · 101.3K Views

Samrina Hashmi @samrinahashmi

ی نہیں ہوتا۔ بس زبردستی خاموش کئے گئے لوگ ہوتے ہیں یا پھر ان
سنا سیکھو! بولنے دو!



2:07 AM · Mar 11, 2023 · 889 Views

Ziauddin Yousafzai @ZiauddinY

میں اسلامی جمعیت طلبا کا بولی کے مقدس تہوار پر حملہ اور
د انتہائی شرمناک اور قابل مذمت ہے۔ جوانوں کی یہ انتہا پسندی
کی سیاسی تربیت اور ہمارے تعلیمی نظام کی بہت بڑی ناکامی ہے۔

Mubashir Zaidi @Xadeejournalist · Mar 7
Shameful.....Goons from Islami Jamiat beat up 15 Hindu students
University for celebrating #Holi and got away with it #Pakistan
dawn.com/news/1740781/1...

3:38 PM · Mar 7, 2023 · 3,250 Views

Khalid Minhas, MD FACC @minhashk

تم اپنے عقیدوں کے نیلے
پر دل میں اتارے جاتے ہو
ہم لوگ محبت والے ہیں
تم خنجر کیوں لہراتے ہو
اس شہر میں نعم بنے دو
بستی میں ہمیں بھی رہنے دو
جب شہر کھنڈر بن جائے گا
پھر کس پر سنگ اٹھاؤ گے
اپنے چہرے آپنیوں میں
جب دیکھو گے ڈر جاؤ گے
احمد فراز

Sabookh Syed | سیوخ سید @SabookhSyed · Mar 26
The Police while taking action damaged the Dome and the Minarets of the
Ahmadiyya Place of Worship Kalra Kalan, District Gujarat on 24th and 25th
March, 2023. CTD worker came to the Ahmadiyya Place of Worship and said
that there are strict orders from the department.



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 WORLD 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 YEARS LATER, IN 1974, MR ZULFIKAR ALI BHUTTO, THE THEN 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 PROFESSION, AHMADIS WERE FORCIBLY DECLARED A NON-MUSLIM MINORITY THROUGH LEGISLATION.

ORDINANCE XX

FOLLOWING BHUTTO'S LEAD, GENERAL ZIA UL HAQ, THE MILITARY DICTATOR OF PAKISTAN FROM 1977 TO 1988, TRIED TO COURT EXTREMISTS BY PROMULGATING THE NOTORIOUS ANTI-AHMADIYYA ORDINANCE XX IN 1984. THE ORDINANCE 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. ADDITIONALLY, TO PROHIBIT AHMADIS FROM PROSELYTIZING, IT EXPRESSLY FORBADE THEM FROM CERTAIN RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND THE 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 À CARTE BLANCHETO TERRORIZE AHMADIS WITH THE BACKING OF THE STATE.


HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFICE UK

Contact Info

 +44 (0) 20 3988 3862

 humanrights@tabshir.org

 2 Sheephatch Lane, Islamabad
Tilford, GU10 2AQ, UK