

Persecution of Ahmadis IN PAKISTAN

Monthly Report June 2022

WARNING GRAPHIC CONTENT
THIS REPORT CONTAINS IMAGES OF BODILY
INJURIES AND/OR DECEASED PERSONS.

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Highlights

ATTEMPTS TO KILL AHMADIS

We regret to report the tenth attack on an Ahmadiyya life this year. This time it was Mr Talat Mahmood of Kotli AK. His neighbour attacked him. This was the second attack by the same person on Mr Talat Mahmood. Recenlty there has been a hike in such attacks. This was 17th attack since 2021 began. Fortunately, they have survived the attacks, however they received gruesome injures, see some images on page 4.

DESECRATION OF AHMADIYYA MOSQUES

Another two Ahmadiyya mosques have been desecrated during the month. In once incident the minarets of the Ahmadiyya mosque in Pind Dadan Khan were destroyed and a big metal plate was errected in front of the entrance of another mosque in Baghbanpura. The report also include several other incidents of direct threats to the Ahmadiyya mosques. Another story points out a threat to Ahmadiyya graves. See pages 6-9

SOCIAL BARRIERS FOR AN AHMADI IN PAKISTAN

In addition to the attacks on life, property, mosques and graves etc, the report include seven sample cases to depict the day to day life for an Ahmadi in Pakistan. You can find such incidents on pages 9-11. These are only some examples and we expect our readers to perceive the gravity of the actual situation on the ground. Ahmadis lack protection for their lives, properties, honor, dignity, self-respect, and stability.

AN IMPORTANT PRESS REPORT ON THE SUPEREME COURT VERDICT

In June 19, 2014 the landmark judgement by the then Chief Justice Tassaduq Hussain Jillani chalked out a comprehensive plan to uphold the rights of minorities in Pakistan. The plan included seven orders about establishing a national council (commission) for minorities, developing a curriculum for peace, implementing job quotas, curbing hate speech, inculcating social and religious tolerance, and penalizing human rights abuses against religious minorities. The supreme court also instructed the government to form a special task force for the protection of worship places of minorities. Eight years into this historic judgement, the daily Dawn publishes a report on a conference held to examine progress on its implementation with a title, 'Incomplete implementation of 2014 court verdict on minorities lamented'. Read further details on page 12

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 15 FOR DETAILS ON VOTING RIGHT FOR AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

AHMADI INJURED

IN AN ATTACK

Sehinsa, District Kotli; June 2022:

A neighbor of Mr. Talat Mehmood attacked him and injured him in the head. He had made similar attempt on Mehmood earlier as well. Mehmood got stitches at the hospital. Later the village seniors fined the felon fifty thousand rupees, and he was told to give a goat to Mr. Mehmood. They warned him to desist from such acts in future.



Mr Talat Mahmood

ANIMOSITY FACED BY A PROSELYTE

Sillanwali, District Sargodha; June 2022:

Mr. Qamar Abbas, a proselyte is facing great animosity from his family. His wife and children were taken away from him. After two months, his brothers called him to the village and told him to repent by laying hands on the Quran. They tortured him when he refused to revert back. Qamar's wife was forced to abort her three-month pregnancy.

Afterward, the mulla declared him an infidel and threatened him with murder. Qamar had to flee from the town.

EXTREMISM LEADING TO

TERRORISM

Chak 261 Udhwali, District Faisalabad; June, 2022:

In July 2021, a mob mostly of TLP, attacked Ahmadis' homes. Ahmadis defended themselves. The police booked five Ahmadis and arrested Mr. Naveed Ahmad. In the follow-up investigation, four Ahmadis were released, while Mr. Naveed Ahmad was kept detained.

On January 26, 2022, Magistrate Faisalabad Bushra Anwar ordered his release after the plaintiff's statement of the case withdrawal. Naveed was released having spent six months behind bars.

Later, Mr. Naveed Ahmad accompanied by three non-Ahmadi friends was attacked on April 27, 2022. He got bullet injuries, his friends remained unhurt.

Mr. Sami Ullah, an uncle of Naveed survived a murderous attack inside his home on May 15, 2022. The police called both the parties for investigation and detained them for a day under section 107/151.

The nominated attacker in these cases applied for bail, but the Additional Sessions Judge Faisalabad rejected it. The accused absented themselves to avoid arrest.



Mr Naveed Ahmed



TRUE COLOURS OF JAMA'AT ISLAMI (JI)

Peshawar, June 2022:

Jama'at Islami (Pakistan) often poses to be relatively a tolerant, enlightened religio-political party, however this veneer is thin and often shows up its artificiality and forged nature, particularly when dealing with any issue concerning Ahmadis.

A few days ago, this month (June 2022) three members (all of JI) of the KP Assembly moved an anti-Ahmadi resolution in the Assembly for consideration and passage. For brevity's sake, we produce below only the opening para of the resolution that sums up the content of the whole:

Mr. Speaker,

We, with reference to Rule 123 of the 1988 Procedures and Rules of the KP Provincial Assembly, through you, present before this honorable House an extremely important resolution, in that this House urges the administration to take immediate notice of the proselytizing campaign of Qadianis in the University Town and Hayatabad posh neighborhoods of Peshawar and other areas in the province. The honour of the Holy Prophet and the End of Prophethood is integral to Muslims' faith. In this regard, the Provincial Government and the District Administration of Peshawar should bridle (lagam dey) the Qadianis, without waiting any more for some unpleasant development, and take steps to restrict them to live their lives like other minorities, as per the Constitution of Pakistan.

Please note the veiled threat.

The MPAs who moved the Resolution were,

- 1. Ms Humaira Khatun
- 2. Inayatullah Khan
- 3. Sirajuddin Khan

They all belonged to JI. A provincial minister thanked the movers of the Resolution, and the Assembly passed it unanimously. Some aspects of this Resolution and its passage deserve mention.

Ahmadis were accused of proselytization; however, no reliable evidence was put forth. A mere mention of social media messages, with no follow-up formal inquiry, is meaningless. The charge was not investigated by the police nor any report rendered. The Assembly did not bother to demand any evidence. Only the Khatme Nabuwwat (End of Prophethood) ulama and the senior (Jaiyyid) ulama of Peshawar reportedly investigated. It is well-known that the ulama of central Khatme Nabuwwat are sworn enemies of Ahmadis and they are poor witnesses in such cases. Also, this is something new that in KP a criminal accusation is to be investigated by the Jaiyyid ulama rather than investigating officials.

It brings no credit to the KP Assembly that such a sectarian Resolution, by a party like JI, be summarily and unanimously passed without due discussion and essential inquiry. It sets a bad precedence.

KP has shared societal and social suffering imposed by politically ambitious religious elements like Taliban, IS, TTP and even TLP. Jamaat Islami has its own identity in name, but its genes are little different than theirs.

The ruling and majority party in KP Assembly is Tehreek Insaaf (PTI).

MINARETS OF AHMADIYYA MOSQUE

DEMOLISHED

Pind Dadan Khan, District Jhelum; lune 2022:

The police pressurized Mr. Wasim Mukhtar and Mr. Sohail Ahmad, Ahmadis to remove tombstones from the graves of their relatives. They were also told to demolish minarets from the Ahmadiyya mosque. Police did his on behest of a TLP mulla, and Ahmadi elders weren't taken on board.

Before this, Naveed Shahzad, a TLP activist, filed a complaint with authorities that Ahmadis were building minarets in their worship place and Islamic phrases are written on Ahmadis' tombstones. The DSP sent for Ahmadis and told them to remove the Kalima (Islamic creed) from their place of worship.

Ahmadis had to comply with these absurd and unfair orders.



Roforo



MINARETS OF AHMADIYYA MOSQUE COVERED TO ESCAPE DEMOLITION





Baghbanpura, District Gujranwala; June 2022:

An anti-Ahmadiyya activist Faizan Ahmad wrote to the DSP Baghbanpura Police against the local Ahmadiyya mosque and demanded ban on Ahmadis from using 'Islamic' epithets etc. and immediate sealing of their place of worship which was built in mosque style. The police sent for the Ahmadiyya delegation and demanded demolition of the minaret and the niche. After hearing the Ahmadiyya position, they expressed intention to refer the matter to the local peace committee. This committee comprises five mullas, so it was most likely that they would create more problems for Ahmadis. So the delegation suggested to the police that they would cover the minarets of the Ahmadiyya mosque in such a way that they could not be seen from the out-

Ahmadis undertook this absurdity with the police approval, to avoid further harassment by the bigots and the authorities.

FREEDOM OF WORSHIP

CURTAILED

Khareppar, District Kasur; June 2022:

An Ahmadi gifted a piece of land to the Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya. A mission house was already present at the location. Ahmadis undertook construction of outer walls to this property. Someone filed a complaint with the SHO that Ahmadis were building a worship place there. The police visited the site and summoned the stakeholders to the police station on June 05, 2022, and told Ahmadis to bring along the registration of the property. The SHO informed Ahmadis of the complainant's reservations and told them that they would not offer congregational prayer without obtaining an NOC. It was claimed that the neighborhood will be disturbed by the Ahmadis' worship, but they were shown the site map and told that the neighbors

are Ahmadis. Who had no objection against ritual worship.

The SHO told Ahmadis to expand their existing worship place, install CCTV for security, and to get an NOC for the new place if they wanted to worship there. The police forced Ahmadis to sign an undertaking not to build a worship place there without permission.



THE POLICE PRESSURISED AHMADIS TO DEMOLISH MINARETS AND ERASE THE KALIMA

District Faisalabad; June 2022:

Ahmadis are facing hostility in Faisalabad for long. Consequently, there is a significant increase in hostility towards Ahmadis. Ahmadis who put up some resistance are harassed with official assistance. Recently, Assistant Commissioner Samundari sent for the local Ahmadiyya president and raised the mosque issue. In Chak 88, the po-

lice pressurized Ahmadis to demolish minarets and erase the Kalima (Islamic creed). Ahmadis offered to cover them, so that passersby could not see them, but the police refused the option to the marginalized community.

This is despite the Supreme Court verdict that everyone is free to worship privately according to one's belief.

GRAFFITI ON AHMADIYYA MOSQUE

Chak Chatha, District Hafizabad; June 9, 2022:

The local Ahmadiyya mosque is located at the main road, 'Bait ul Zikr Ahamdiyya' is written on its main gate.

On June 9, an unidentified person blackened the word 'Ahmadiyya' and graffitied 'Kafir Khana (infidel house) on the outer wall.





HOSTILE MOVE AGAINST

AHMADIYYA MOSQUE

Okara; June 2022:

An anti-India rally was taken out in Okara city after Friday prayers, on June 1. When the rally passed in front of the Ahmadiyya mosque, they chanted anti-Ahmadi slogans. Arriving in front of the Press Club, they delivered speeches, referred to the minarets of the Ahmadiyya mosque, and demanded from the DC and DPO to demolish these.

On June 15, one Wasim Abbas Kamboh Advocate wrote to SHO Police Station A Division Okara that Jamaat Ahmadiyya had raised mosquestyle minarets and other inscriptions at the Ahmadiyya worship place in F-Block in violation of the Constitution of Pakistan and the decisions of the High Courts (sic). This illegal act of the Qadia-

nis accused has severely hurt the feelings of the Muslims, therefore action should be taken against the accused by removing the minarets and other structures, he wrote. In this regard, the police officers visited the Ahmadiyya mosque the same night. They asked Ahmadis to submit their reply in writing, which they did on June 17.

Ahmadis stated that there is no law that forbids Ahmadis to have minarets or Islamic epithets in their mosques. This mosque was built prior to Ordinance XX of 1984; as such, the Ordinance does not apply to this mosque. Similarly, this issue was raised with the DC Okara a few years ago; the case was closed after due process.

AHMADIS WRONGFULLY HARASSED

BY POLICE

Chak 88, District Faisalabad; June 14, 2022:

For some time, opponents of Ahmadiyyat have been approaching the police in various districts of Punjab, especially in Faisalabad, against the minarets, niches and inscriptions on Ahmadiyya mosques. In this regard, the police registered a case under section PPC 298-B against Ahmadiyya elders of Chak 88 on February 19, 2022.

Subsequently, the police called the local Ahmadi officials to Dijkot police station and pressurized them to remove the minaret and the Kalima (Islamic creed) from the Ahmadiyya mosque. Ahmadis suggested to the police that they would cover the minaret and the Kalima, to which the

SHO police replied that even this option was now over.

On June 14, the police sent for the local Ahmadiyya president who went to the police station along with another Ahmadi. The police demanded a written statement that Ahmadi would abide by any decision of the lower court regarding the mosque. Ahmadis stated that they have a right to appeal against the decision and the police themselves are a party in this case, so this demand was wrong and unlawful.

The police threatened them with registration of a case under 16 M.P.O. for disturbing law and order, and detained them at the police station.

ISLAMIC INSCRIPTIONS REMOVED

FROM AHMADIS' HOMES

Ghoghyat, District Sargodha; June 3, 2022:

Earlier, police destroyed Ahmadis' gravestones here. On June 3, 2022 the local administration along with the police took away 'Mashallah' plates from the front walls of three Ahmadis' houses. Ahmadis felt harassed and wronged.

In the same context, the police demanded

recorded evidence that the minaret and niche of the Ahmadiyya mosque were built prior to 1984, otherwise threatened their destruction.

This attitude of the local authorities is highly sectarian and discriminatory against a small harmless community.

POLICE ACTION AGAINST TOMBSTONES

IN AHMADIYYA GRAVEYARD

Talwandi Khajurwali, District Gujranwala; June 2022:

Opponents filed a complaint with police against the Ahmadiyya cemetery in Talwandi Khajurwali, District Gujranwala, under 100 signatures of people from the surrounding villages. The police sent for the Ahmadiyya delegation on June 3 and told them to remove Islamic writings from gravestones. The delegation quoted the law and offered that Ahmadis would build a wall around the cemetery, but the police insisted on the opponents' demand.

The matter is currently under police process. Ahmadis feel greatly discriminated and depressed.



POLICE DETAINS

LOCAL AHMADIYYA PRESIDENT

Trigri, District Gujranwala; June 17, 2022:

A man was using his cell phone in front of Mehmood Ahmad Butt's home, the local Ahmadiyya president, who asked him the reason for roaming around. Later, the police detained Mr Butt, as the TLP (Tehreek Labaik) got involved and the situation got tense. The police claimed that Mr Butt was under protective custody. They shifted him elsewhere on assembly of a mob at the police

station.

The complainant agreed to withdraw the case after some influential people intervened.

However, he reneged on intervention of Rana Ikram ullah, an anti-Ahmadi activist, who called on him, accompanied by 20 to 25 men.

On June 20, 2022, the police released Mr Butt.

CONTROVERSIAL BILLBOARD

PUT UP IN RABWAH

Rabwah; June 3, 2022:

A billboard on the issue of Khatme Nabuwat was put up by mulla Ilyas Chinioti, an MPA of PML-N near the toll plaza on Sargodha Road in Rabwah. The board contains a verse from the Holy Qur'an and a cherry-picked Hadith: "Soon there will be thirty false Antichrists in my Ummah; all of them will be claimant of Prophethood, although I am the last Prophet and there will be no Prophet after me."

Also written below the board is, "Unanimously passed Resolution no. 101/2021 of the Punjab Assembly (Government of Punjab)."

The clerics did not seek permission from the district administration to put up the board in Rabwah. Therefore, the administration stopped them; also to maintain peace, as the location is an Ahmadi-majority area. But Chinioti insisted on putting up the board there, and threatened to protest in front of the Punjab Assembly if

the administration did not relent. About a hundred clerics gathered there on this occasion. Later, under the pressure of the mullas, the administration allowed them to put up the board.

The administration, would, of course, not allow Ahmadis to put up a board there with a verse of the Holy Quran and a Hadith that would support their understanding of the Khatme Nabuwwat. Whither equal treatment of all the citizens!



SOCIAL PROBLEMS

FOR AHMADIS

Jhangar Hakim Wala, District Nankana; June 2022:

Khatme Nabuwwat organizations' mullas are actively busy 7/24 to disrupt a peaceful society on sectarian lines. That is no service to Pakistan and its people.

Muhammad Hanif, an Ahmadi, died on June 10, 2022. His death was announced from a non-Ahmadiyya mosque too, as it was the common practice there. At the time of the second announcement, the mulla refused because *Khatme Nabuwwat* activists had stopped him. An unidentified person phoned Muhammad Hanif's son and told him to partition the graveyard and the funeral prayer center. During the funeral, he again phoned and threatened to put a stop to the funeral rites.

A local mulla warned Ahmadis of unspecified unpleasant incident.

On June 3, a fund raising announcement was made from a non-Ahmadiyya mosque for installation of a water filter plant in the village. For this, the Ahmadis donated, which they first received but later returned the donation saying that *Khatme Nabuwwat* activists forbade them.

On June 16, Khatme Nabuwwat activists from Nankana and Sheikhupura came over to the village, gathered the villagers and told them to boycott Ahmadis, do not trade with them, and incited them against Ahmadis. They also told the local mulla to speak more often against Ahmadis from the pulpit.

AHMADI MADE TO VACATE SHOPS

Islamabad; June 2022:

One Nadeem pressurized the landlord of Atiq Ahmad Tahir, Ahmadi, to get his shops vacated because Tahir is Ahmadi. Nadeem told the shop owner that Ahmadis don't believe in the end of prophethood, "I will ask a cleric about this", he replied.

Afterward, the shop owner gave a deadline

of June 2022 to Mr Tahir for the evacuation. Meanwhile, Nadeem propagated hate to the adjacent shopkeepers who urged the proprietor to get the shops vacated earliest. The landlord told Tahir on May 15, 2022, to speed up the evacuation process. He interrogated Tahir about his belief and pressurized him to vacate the shops quickly.

Tahir has to comply.

AHMADI HOMEOPATH TOLD TO VACATE CLINIC

Channi Qureshiyan, District Chiniot; June 17, 2022:

Mr. Luqman Ahmad started his practice in a rented shop with the name "Luqman Clinic". A non-Ahmadi, Dr. Mulazim Hussain opposed him in professional rivalry. He met the shop owner and agitated him over Luqman's faith, however the proprioter refused to go alog with him. Later, Hussain went to a local mulla Qari Ehsan Ullah who invited mullas from the Muslim Colony in Rabwah to build pressure on the shop owner. It worked, and the landlord gave three days' notice to Luqman to vacate the shop.

HATEFUL AND FAKE PROPAGANDA

AGAINST AHMADIS

Korangi Wasti, Karachi; May 22, 2022:

Imran Ahmad, Ahmadi runs a shop in Mehran Town, Karachi. Six persons along with a mulla came to his shop and took photos. They interrogated about Imran Ahmad from nearby shopkeepers, and talked to a local security guard. They told him that 'Qadianis' blaspheme against the Holy

Prophet, avoid them and it is illicit to sit and eat with them. The guard told them that he knew Ahmadis for years, they pray regularly, observe fast and do not indulge in what they are accused of.

The visit upset Imran Khan, the Ahmadi shopkeeper.

AHMADI WRITER IN TROUBLE

Kunjah, District Gujrat; June 2022:

Mr. Muhammad Siddique Mujahid wrote a book "Kunjah, in the reflection of history" and dedicated it to Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H.), the Khatam an Nabiyyeen. Mullas made an issue out of it and asked Mujahid to scold the founder of the Ahmadiyya community if he believed in the end of prophethood. Mujahid had mentioned two Ahmadis, Malik Ghulam Fareed and Molvi Muhammad Sadiq Sumatri in his book, along with their photos.

The mullas are insisting on making it an issue and disturbing law and order.

MAN GETS DEATH PENALTY IN BLASPHEMY CASE

Muzafarabad, (AJK) June 25, 2022:

Following is a news item from the daily Dawn of June 26, 2022. It deserves to be placed on record for its relevance to FoRB in Pakistan in general and Azad Jammu and Kashmir in particular.

Man gets death penalty in blasphemy case MUZAFARABAD:

An additional district criminal court in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) on Saturday handed down capital punishment and imposed a fine of Rs. 1 million on a man charged with blasphemy.

The decision under Section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code was pronounced by the court comprising Judges Mohammad Ikram Malik and Ajmal Mahmood Shaheen in Dhirkot subdivision of Bagh district.

In the challan, the police informed the court that one Hafiz Zaheer Ahmed, a school teacher who would also deliver sermons in a local mosque, noticed a social media post by Muhammad Shafique in which he had described himself as a prophet and had thus committed blasphemy.

Reproducing the Urdu language post, the police named some 23 people in the challan, saying that they and countless others across the globe had read that blasphemous content, which had triggered a strong reaction and exasperation among the people of faith, particularly local residents.

An FIR was registered against Shafique on June 26, 2020 after approval of the DIG police of Poonch and the district judge, with Dhirkot police as complainant.

AN IMPORTANT PRESS REPORT

ON SC VERDICT

Lahore; June 20, 2022: The daily Dawn published the following report on a conference held to examine progress on implementation of a Supreme Court verdict given in 2014.

Incomplete implementation of 2014 court verdict on minorities lamentedBy our Staff Reporter 2022-06-20

LAHORE; Speakers at a conference on the 8th anniversary of the landmark judgment regarding minorities rights regretted that implementation was largely missing.

They urged the government to attend to directives issued on June 19, 2014 by then Chief Justice Tassaduq Hussain Jillani.

According to the data sheet issued by the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ), a Supreme Court bench had conducted 28 follow-up hearings that passed 80 supplementary orders to the federal and provincial governments for implementation of seven original orders given in 2014. The orders were about establishing a

national council (commission) for minorities, developing a curriculum for peace, implementing job quotas, curbing hate speech, inculcating social and religious tolerance, and penalizing human rights abuses against religious minorities.

The speakers underlined that although the quality of implementation improved after the one-man-commission was constituted by the Supreme Court, yet the overall compliance is lagging far behind. Speaking on the occasion, CSJ executive director Peter Jacob observed that the federal and provincial governments had achieved 22 percent compliance in eight years after this verdict was passed by the apex court means that full compliance will require 24 years of wait.

He refuted the claim of the federal ministry of education before the apex court that the curricula textbooks were compliant with article 22 (1) of the Constitution of Pakistan.

Retired Justice Nasira Iqbal said: Eight years since the passing of the Jillani judgment, and we are still waiting for its implementation. It is the responsibility of the government to implement

court orders and address serious issues that minorities face in Pakistan.

She said the judgment underlined the equality of rights for all irrespective of faith, therefore, the government must develop inclusive and tolerant curricula for all as proposed in the court directives.

Advocate Saroop Ijaz stated that the findings and directives of the judgment had the potential of reforms and scope to contribute to advancing religious freedom and building a tolerant society. Unfortunately, the federal and provincial governments failed to capitalize on this verdict to realize the equality of rights and

respect for diversity in Pakistan.

Advocate Saqib Jillani remarked that the Constitution guarantees all citizens without discrimination fundamental freedoms enshrined in articles 20, 22 (1) and 25, therefore, the federal and provincial

and 25, therefore, the federal and provincial governments should fulfill their constitutional responsibilities by addressing gaps in governance, and implementing proposed measures to effectively promote and protect minorities' rights in the true spirit of the judgment.

Michelle Chaudhry, president Cecil and Iris Chaudhry Foundation, observed that the National Commission for Minorities and Taskforce on Minorities constituted through notifications and resolutions in May 2020 and June 2022 were an eyewash to portray as the full compliance with court orders, but in reality, both of these actions are in total disregard of the verdict.

The CSJ has produced three compliance assessment reports authored by Peter Jacob, studying gaps in the implementation of court orders i.e. 'When Compliance Fails Justice', 'A long Wait for Justice' and 'Justice Yet Afar', published in 2016, 2019 and 2021, respectively.



POLITICAL TWINS - INDIA AND PAKISTAN

While it is not correct to call them Siamese twins, there is a great deal common between India and Pakistan. They share greatly history, culture, language, literature, arts — even religious attitudes. Regrettably, the commonality in religious attitude is obviously in its wrong and negative understanding and emphasis. We mention below authentic information and facts how the two states treat their religious minorities.

India: The daily Dawn of May 30, 2022 printed its lead editorial under the title:

Ayudhiya's ghosts (Ref: Babari Masjid).

We reproduce below a paragraph from it:

In the Hindu holy city of Varanasi, formerly Banaras, tension surrounds the Gyanvapi mosque, as a group of women have claimed the image of a deity can be seen on one of the masjid's walls. Moreover, shivling has reportedly been discovered in the ablution pond, leading to a court order calling for the sealing of the ablution area. In Mathura, a court application has been filed calling for a ban on azan at the Shahi Idgah as, according to some Hindu groups, the sanctum sanctorum of a temple dedicated to Krishna is located inside the mosque. One of the suits has been filed on behalf of Shri Krishna. Meanwhile in Delhi, Hindu extremists are targeting the historical Qutub Complex containing the Qutub Minar, calling for temples demolished by Qutbuddin Aibak in the 12th century to be rebuilt. The atmosphere in India regarding these historical disputes can be gained by the fact that a non-Muslim Delhi University history professor was arrested after he questioned the authenticity of the Gyanvapi mosque shivling claims online.

Pakistan: In Pakistan, Ahmadis are somewhat similarly targeted. Despite their commitment to the Kalima, the Holy Prophet (PBUH), the Holy Quran and the Shariah, they are forbidden to call themselves Muslim. They are not allowed to call Azan from their mosques which cannot be called masjid. Hundreds of Ahmadis have been murdered for their faith. Last year, in 2021, 110 Ahmadis were booked in police cases under religion-based penal clauses that provide for imprisonment terms up to life, and in some cases even death sentence. Since the promulgation of infamous anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX, 139 Ahmadiyya mosques have been demolished, 40 sealed by authorities, 34 set on fire or damaged, 18 forcibly occupied and construction of 61 barred by authorities. Last year alone, the police desecrated and damaged 128 Ahmadis' tombstones. Last month in Peshawar, Islamist bigots dug up a 24 years old grave of an Ahmadi, and threw out the remains of the dead body and its coffin. Three Ahmadis of District Sheikhupura were booked in 2014 under religious laws as also the blasphemy law. They were denied bail for years. Eventually, Lahore High Court vacated the blasphemy clause, and they were released from prison having served seven and half years behind bars under the other clauses. An Ahmadi in government service was transferred from place to place, eleven towns/cities, within a few months, as extremist bigots protested against his posting to their city. The facts of persecution, deprivations and discrimination are truly countless.

We leave it to researchers to assess which of the two countries beats the other in the field of religious prejudice and intolerance. However, most religious activists on each side of the divide could benefit from assessing the enormity of their felonies by looking in the mirror of the 'other' across the border.

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 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 petition.

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.

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. He is currently in Peshawar Jail. His trial goes on in the sessions court.

4

Malik Zahir 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 Zahir 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.

As of June 30, 2022:

- 6 Ahmadis are behind bars solely on account of their faith.
- A local Ahmadi leader arrested in March 2022.
- 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.
- A 20-year-old Ahmadi student is in jail under PPC 295-C (blasphemy clause).
- 2 Ahmadi prisoner died while in police custody (Feb. 2021 & Jan 2022.)

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 OATHTO 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)

NATIONALIZATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

- BETWEEN 1947 AND 1972, AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY OWNED AND OPERATED A NUMBER OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN PUNJAB, PAKISTAN. IN 1972, THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN INTRODUCED A POLICY OF NATIONALIZATION OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT PAKISTAN. HENCE, 8 SCHOOLS AND 2 COLLEGES WERE NATIONALIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT.
- IN 1996, THE GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB ISSUED A NOTICE GIVING THE OWNERS OF NATIONALIZED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

 THE OPTION TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THEIR INSTITUTIONS UPON FULFILLMENT OF CERTAIN CRITERIA AND INFACT RETURNED

 NUMEROUS OTHER INSTITUTIONS TO THEIR ORIGINAL OWNERS.
- DESPITE FULFILLING ALL TERMS & CONDITIONS & REPEATED REQUESTS FROM THE COMMUNITY, THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NO ACTION.
- THE SUPREME COURT IN ITS RULING OF FEB 22, 2000 CLEARLY STATED THAT THE OWNERSHIP OF NATIONALIZED INSTITUTIONS

 RESTS WITH THE ORIGINAL OWNERS. HOWEVER, THIS RIGHT OF OWNERSHIP HAS BEEN DENIED TO THE COMMUNITY DESPITE

 THE CLEAR VERDICT OF SUPREME COURT OF PAKISTAN.
- THE COMMUNITY THUS MOVED WRIT PETITIONS IN THE LAHORE HIGH COURT. HOWEVER, THE HEARING ON THESE WRIT
 PETITIONS IS ALSO PENDING FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS AND THIS MATTER IS STILL LINGERING.

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

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

Defiling, etc., of the Holy Quran

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



295 A

295 B

295 C

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

Life imprisonment

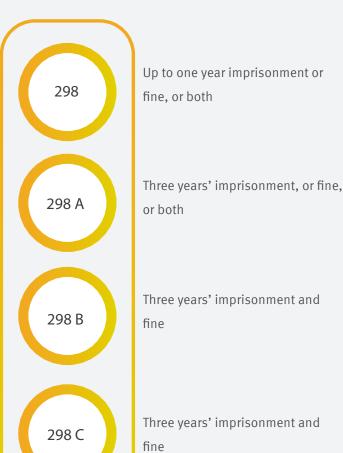
Death and fine



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

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

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



Alarming Facts

SINCE JANUARY 2021

- 4 Ahmadis have been murdered for faith, raising the total to 274 since the promulgation of Ordinance XX
- 17 murder attempts, 10 attacks during the currentn year.
- 2 Ahmadi prisoner died in custody, they were imprisoned for their faith.
- 19 Ahmadiyya mosques have been desecrated, 1 mosque sealed by the authorities.
- 182 graves have been desecrated, 120 of these were during 2022
- 25 new cases have been registered against Ahmadis under the blasphemy laws & Anti-Ahmadi laws
- Sacred inscription from 19 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

Khatme Nabuwwat column printed in new Ni kah Form

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, June 6, 2022

Qadiani Dr. Wasim Bashir should be transferred forthwith ... And peace be maintained in Sargodha: Leader Aalami Majlis Khatme Nabuwat Sargodha

Daily Pakistan, June 26, 2022

 'Incomplete' implementation of 2014 court verdict on minorities lamented

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 20, 2022

Two soldiers martyred in N. Waziristan: ISPR

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 4, 2022

Seven 'terrorists' killed in operations (in KPK)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 6, 2022

Aamir Liaquat passes away in Karachi

The daily Express Tribune; Lahore, June 9, 2022

Top LeT man (Sajid Mir) quietly held, jailed in terror financing case

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 25, 2022 Seven militants killed in North Waziristan. Two

soldiers embrace martyrdom.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 27, 2022

Pakistan committed to promote religious harmony: COAS Bajwa

ARY News June 28, 2022

PTI asks UN, rights body to take notice of 'excesses' against workers

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 2, 2022

Pakistan slams BJP for remarks against Holy
 Prophet. BJP suspends official over comments about Islam.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 6, 2022
In no civilized society, defiling the Prophets can
even be conceived: Hamza Shahbaz

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, June 6, 2022

 Norway: Two killed, 21 injured in firing on a club of gays

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, June 26, 2022

Professor in India sent on 'compulsory leave' for offering namaz (prayer) in college lawn

Geo News, Thursday 02, 2022 (Web Desk)

Indian officials (in UP) demolish houses of Muslims after protests

BBC Top Stories at 21:53 on June 13, 2022

Jamal Khashoggi: Saudi embassy street in US

renamed after murdered journalist

BBC Top Stories at 21:53 on June 17, 2022

Three Palestinians killed by Israeli forces in lenin raid

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 18, 2022

Afghanistan gurdwara attack: Sikhs say 'We don't feel safe'

BBC Top Stories at 21:53 on June 20, 2022

18 migrants found dead, 203 rescued off Moroccan coasts

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 26, 2022

Zahid Qurashi, first Muslim be installed as federal judge in USA

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 20, 2022

US Congresswoman Ilhan Omar submits resolution to designate India 'country of particular concern'

BBC Top Stories at 21:53 on June 25, 2022

Safdar indicted in hate speech case

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 5, 2022

• JUI (Sheerani), PTI announce collaboration

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, June 14, 2022

Sunni Ittehad Council announces to support PTI in Punjab by-polls

ARY News June 29, 2022

 ISI given legal cover to screen government officials

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 4, 2022

Punjab, Sindh face severe water shortage again

Dawn.com, June 03, 2022

Send me to India if no justice here, desperate litigant asks LHC CJ

Op-ed

The Performative Politician

Populists are great hijackers of ideas, stealing from the left and right. There's nothing original or deep about them. Take, for instance, the recently ousted Pakistani PM Imran Khan

Here too, the populist Hindu nationalists are not necessarily devout and pious. And when they are, then the actions in this respect are largely performative rather than doctrinal. That's why, today, a harmless Hindu ritual and the act of emotionally or physically assaulting a Muslim, may carry similar performative connotations. For example, a militant Hindu nationalist mob attacking a Muslim can be conceived by the attackers as a sacred ritual.

When an Islamist suicide bomber explodes him/herself in public, or when extremists desecrate Ahmadiyya graves, or a mob attacks an alleged blasphemer, each one of these believe they are undertaking a sacred ritual that is not that different from the harmless ones. But Islamist militants are not populists. They have dogmatic doctrines or are deeply indoctrinated.

And since 'jihad' in the popular imagination is often perceived to be something aggressive and manly, Khan poses as an outspoken and fearless saviour of not only the people of Pakistan, but also of the 'ummah'.

Yet, by all accounts, he is not very religious. He's not secular either. But this is how populists are. They are basically nothing. They are great performers who can draw devotion from a great many people — especially those who are struggling to formulate a political identity for themselves. There are no shortcuts to this. But populists provide them shortcuts.

Khan is a curious mixture of an Islamist and a brawler. But both of these attributes mainly reside on the surface and in his rhetoric. The only aim one can say that is lingering underneath the surface is an inexhaustible ambition to be constantly admired and, of course, rule as a North Korean premier does. Conjuring lots of adulation, but zero opposition.

Nadeem F Paracha in the daily Dawn of June 5, 2022

Editorial No more perks

FOR too long has the power elite of this poor country shamelessly plundered state resources for its own benefit, fattening itself on undue favours and the perks of office. It is time for a reckoning. The tinderbox of public discontent demands nothing less.

The government must impose highly visible, across-theboard austerity measures on the ruling elite immediately. No half-measures will suffice. The people are staring into the abyss of financial ruin, reeling from an unprecedented cumulative hike of 40pc in petrol prices within a week, a 47pc increase in the per unit electricity tariff and now a 45pc rise in the gas tariff. A spiral of backbreaking inflation, recorded at its highest in 64 weeks, according to the latest figures, has already begun and will push millions more households below the poverty line. In a country where millions struggle without adequate access to basic amenities, such disparity in lifestyles is no less than obscene. A course correction is long overdue.

Lead editorial in the daily Dawn of June 6, 2022

Editorial Toxic narrative

FOR long, the Sangh Parivar in India has used Pakistan as a punching bag, while also lambasting Muslim emperors and sultans that ruled the subcontinent centuries ago. But when officials linked to India's Hindu nationalist ruling party publicly started attacking Islam's sacred figures, a red line was crossed.

All religious minorities in India, including Christians and Dalits, have been feeling the heat as Hindu extremism has gained strength. But Muslims have been on the receiving end of the most hateful campaigns, with their loyalty to the state questioned, their cultural and religious practices restricted, and now their sacred figures attacked.

With the latest provocation, the Sangh Parivar is playing with fire. Already there has been violence in some areas, and unless efforts are made to rein in the hate-mongers, especially those who enjoy political and official patronage, the situation can deteriorate very quickly.

The Daily Dawn, June 7, 2022

Op-ed Criminal silence

Not all cases of grave human rights violations make it to the media.

IT is no secret that oppressed and vulnerable communities in Pakistan are routinely targeted. Religious minorities, women, students, children, transpersons, and people of certain ethnicities periodically find themselves at the mercy of forces out to 'homogenise' society. Intolerance against women and others is growing steadily.

A closer look reveals a pattern. There seems to be an unspoken, unwritten protocol of selectivity — often in sync with the political views of owners of news channels or newspapers and magazines. In more general terms, the importance of a case can rest on factors such as ethnicity, urban versus rural issues, the social and political status of the victim or perpetrator. These often determine the media's handling of such situations.

Ethnic Shia Hazaras and Ahmedis have long been persecuted for their faiths.

Shazia Nizammi in the daily dawn of June 13, 2022

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

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