

Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan

Monthly Report

July 2019

Another ‘Believe it or not’ – within a month

Pakistani state rarely goes about prosecuting its own functionaries and associates in criminal cases – the exception is ‘on behest of the mulla’.

This month Deputy Director of Punjab Text Book Board (PTB) had an FIR registered against its GFH Publishers and two authors of text books, Mr. M.H. Chaudhary and Ms. Aazami Uzma. The 9th grade book on Pakistan Studies (Urdu) had been slightly amended earlier on orders of the government; three lines were deleted on the current sectarian issue of the End of Prophethood.

The mulla, most likely from the Punjab Ulama Board or the Khatme Nabuwat org., took note of this and reprimanded the **PTB that got so destabilized that it proceeded to register a police criminal case against its own publishers and the authors under PPC 295-C, the blasphemy law that prescribes death.**

The incident is extraordinary, as the like of this never happened earlier, in that it exposes the extent to which the Punjab authorities are submissive to mullas or orders from the top that have perhaps been misunderstood regarding the level of the desired subservience. (*For details of the story, see p. 2*)

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Another fabricated police case against an Ahmadi

Bhabhra Tatapani, District Kotli, Azad Kashmir; June 2019: Mr. Maqbul Ahmad Naz an Ahmadi was charged under PPC 298-C, 298 and 153-A in police station Kotli on June 25, 2019 in FIR nr. 234.

According to the details, Mr. Naz is accused of sharing Ahmadiyya material on social media. Fortunately at the time of the police report he wasn't at his workplace, so he wasn't arrested. But, the police detained his father and brother in the meanwhile. Later they let them free. Mr. Naz's bail is under process.

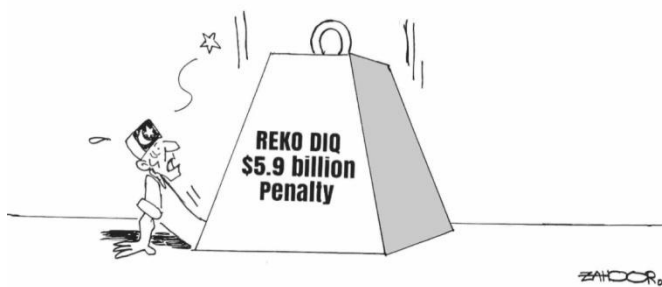
In the meantime the vernacular press is beating the drum over this case, and the police has become active to arrest him.

If convicted, he could be imprisoned for five years.

Political priorities in the federal cabinet

Islamabad; July 2019: On July 14, 2019, most Pakistanis who read the daily *Dawn* were shaken to read the following headlines of the top news:

**Pakistan told to pay \$5.9bn to mining firm
PM's aid Firdous says law ministry and
attorney general are looking into matter in
the light of international law**



One can only sympathize with the law minister for this bolt from the blue. However, it is amazing that while faced with issues and problems of such gravity, the honorable Minister for Law was more concerned about theological and ecclesiastical disputes – as reported only two

days earlier in the daily *The Nation* of July 12, 2019, as below:

No amendment in Islamic laws: Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Farogh Naseem Thursday said: the government was committed to protect Islamic laws, including those pertaining to blasphemy and finality of prophethood (PBUH).

He said he would resign from the office if any amendment was made in such laws. Prime Minister Imran Khan would also never allow any such amendment, he added.

Addressing a seminar on "*Wahdat ul Ummat*" organized here by the Pakistan Ulama Council, the minister said Pakistan and Islam were interlinked with each other and it was the duty of the Ulama to promote unity among the nation. United we stand, divided we fall.

He said being nation builders the Ulama should promote unity, harmony and positivity among the people, and shun the negativity and sectarianism.

Expressing thanks to the Saudi ambassador and the government, the minister said that Saudi Arabia always stood with Pakistan and its people, and helped the country in difficult times.

The daily *Express* on the same day, reported the same in addition to the following in the statement of the Minister:

- If God forbid there was any tampering with the law on End of Prophethood, he would be the first to resign.
- If End of Prophethood is delinked from Pakistan, then there is no meaning to our freedom (*Aazadi*).
- As for me, *Deen* (religion) and Pakistan are firmly interlinked (*laazim malzoom*).
- Some people say Pakistan is at risk. When (Ethiopian) Abraha attacked Makkah, Allah Himself protected His abode; Pakistan shall be protected by Allah Himself.

It is relevant to mention that Mr. Naseem emphasized this sectarian issue in a conference named *Wahdat Ummat Conference* (Unity of the *Ummat*), organized by the Pakistan Ulama Council. In the published photo he is seen seated

with Maulvi Tahir Ashrafi.



At this occasion Ashrafi said, “Road to Makkah program is a solid proof of Pak-Saudi friendship, and the Saudi banquet for the relatives of Palestinian martyrs expresses Saudi love (and commitment) for the Palestinian issue.

Forget the liability of \$5.9 Bn!

One accused of murder of an Ahmadi is acquitted

Ferozwala, District Sheikhupura; June 27, 2019: Mr Qamar ul Zia, Ahmadi, married and father of three children aged 2 - 8 years was stabbed to death outside his home (in Kot Abdul Malik) in broad daylight in a religiously motivated attack on March 1, 2016. He was bringing his kids back home from school. In the attack he was inflicted multiple wounds and died on the spot.

The murderer was arrested by the police the same day. He confessed to the attack and told the police that he had done that to uphold the honour of the Prophet (pbuh).

The accused remained under trial for the next three years. On June 27, 2019 Session Judge Nadeem Ahmad Ansari acquitted him. He has been released from the prison.

Since the promulgation of Ordinance XX, 262 Ahmadi have been murdered for their faith. Not even one percent of the perpetrators have been sentenced for their heinous crimes.

In Pakistan, such acquittals can be attributed to the police, prosecution, the judge – any of these, any two, or all three.

The plight of an attempt to improve text books

Lahore; July 11, 2019: It is well-known that the international community has since long urged the government of Pakistan to sanitize its text books and make sure that contents insulting or prejudicial to minority religious and racial groups are removed to meet international standards of decency and tolerance. The government of Pakistan, when confronted with plain evidence, has apparently decided to comply. However, the devil lies in detail.

It is also common knowledge that in the guise of “*Khatme Nabuwwat*” the mulla indulges frequently in his anti-Ahmadi tirade. Text books and syllabi are no exception. The education authorities apparently made some moves to cater for Pakistan’s international commitments in this regard, but had to step back on orders of political bosses. It happened in KPK. Now there is somewhat similar, even worse news from the Punjab. We translate below a news story from the daily *Express*, Faisalabad of July 11, 2019:

Police case registered for tampering with belief in End of Prophethood in school text book

The mistake was pointed out prior to the publication: Deputy Director Punjab Text Book Board

Lahore (Muhammad Umair): A police case was registered against Messrs GFH Publishers and authors Muhammad Hussain Chaudhary and Ms. Aazami Uzma in Police Station Anarkali, on the complaint of Deputy Director Punjab Text Book Board Muhammad Akhtar over the issue of tampering (*tehrif*) with the belief in Khatme Nabuwwat in the 9th class text book on Pakistan Studies. In addition, 36,000 copies of the said book have been confiscated. As per the FIR, the Punjab Curriculum and Text Book Board has come to know that on page 5 of the Pakistan Studies text book of the 9th grade, some deletions have been made in the existing chapter on the issue of End of Prophethood and a great wrong has been done by change in the text, which has hurt religious sensitivities of Muslims. As per police, the case has

been registered under various PPCs including 295-C. Mr. Muhammad Akhtar, the complainant told the Express that the error had been pointed out prior to the printing but remedial action was not undertaken.

From the above, the following is particularly noteworthy:

1. The police case has been registered at the official request of the Punjab Text Book Board. It is perhaps first such action in this field – ever.
2. The PPCs applied include 295-C for which the penalty is death. Obviously the prime mover is some mulla, not the Chairman of the Board.
3. The Deputy Director goes about talking to the press to further justify his departmental action. It shows the extent to which the Punjab bureaucracy has allowed itself to be manipulated by the mulla.
4. All this is not feasible except by political direction.

Threat letter to an Ahmadi-owned academy by *Lashkare Taiba and Khatme Nabuwat*

Rudah, District Khushab; July 9, 2019: Mr. Muhammad Yunus, Ahmadi runs here a school named ‘Shad Academy’ since 2012 for grades Nursery to grade 8th. About 200 students are enrolled here. The quality of instructions is high.

A few days ago, Lashkare Taiba types issued a threat letter that the proprietors of the academy are Qadianis and many children of the town are getting education there. Children are being sexually violated here; therefore the academy should be closed down immediately, they said. If not, the SHO police and civil administration will be responsible for any incident like harm or kidnapping of the children, or its teacher, or any attack. At this, the village chief (*Numbardar*) sent for Mr. Yunus, gave him a copy of the threat letter and told him to close down the academy.

Mr. Yunus went to the police station Mitha Tawana and met the SHO. The SHO sent for the village chief. He told all to rest assured as appropriate action would be taken. Next day the SHO and a Special Branch senior accompanied by police contingent visited the academy and told Mr. Yunus to contact them if necessary.

Hate promotion through social media

July 2019: With the hype in anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda on social media this month, some unscrupulous elements tweeted very harmful messages on Twitter. For example the following carefully-worded message in Urdu was tweeted (Translation):

“When Qadianis raised their head in 1974, they were declared *Kafir* in the Constitution. Remember, in case of any confrontation this time, you (Ahmadis) will be declared *Wajib-ul-Qatl* (Worthy of Death) in the era of Imran Khan. Insha Allah

Having said Insha Allah, retweet (it).”

On @ARYSaberShakir (and)

@ShabnamGulWazir

The above tweet has been allegedly made from the account of two important persons, Mr. Sabir Shakir and Ms. Shabnam Gul Wazir. The former is a well-known TV journalist while the latter is a Director of NACTA.

We are not sure if these accounts are authentic. However the choice of these originators and the text of the message is crafty and depraved. We produce below copy of one, @ShabnamGulWazir.



Director NACTA Shabnum Gul Wazir
@ShabnamGulWazir

Follow

1974 میں جب قادیانیوں نے سر اٹھایا تو آئین میں کافر ہو گئے یاد رکھو اس بار اگر میدان سجا تو عمران خان کے قیادت میں واجب القتل ڈکلیئر ہو جاو گے

انشاء اللہ

سب انشاء اللہ بول کر ریٹویٹ کریں

2:37 AM - 24 Jul 2019

499 Retweets 2,105 Likes



Hate promotion by a leading cleric!

Last week of July 2019: Molana Tariq Jameel is one of the leading Sunni Ulama of Pakistan these days. He has a vast following and is reputed for his eloquence and generally non-controversial religious polemics. He does not indulge frequently in politics, nor has he formed a party with political objectives. However, he appears to have decided to change his colours recently.

Molana Jameel called on the Prime Minister on July 26, who received him most warmly. Very unlike him, Jameel has retweeted two tweets on his twitter account. These were ultra-hateful against Ahmadis; we translate these below:

“If any attempt is made to amend the Khatme Nabuwwat law, who are ready to sacrifice their lives for the honour of God’s beloved Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)?

(Raised hands are shown)

And another:

“A Qadiani is the worst *Kafir* in the world”.

One who agrees with this belief, he should retweet this and join this ‘trend’.

Molana Tariq Jameel @Q

We are not sure if the above are from his authentic account. If Molana Jameel disowns these retweets, we shall mention that in our next month’s report.

Inflammable mix of religion and politics

July 25, 2019: Opposition parties these days are hell-bent on worsening the government. On July 25, 2019 they celebrated a Black Day in all the provincial and federal capitals. Maulana Fazlur Rahman’s party JUI (F) has apparently decided as a policy to conscript religion in service of his politics. End of Prophethood and the Honour of the Prophet are the main themes of his campaign.

In Islamabad, JUI (F) took out a procession. It was reported on the social media with photos of the occasion. Anti-Ahmadi banners were conspicuous for all to see.



A big banner carried the following (Translation):

“This day we all promise that whenever and wherever a denier of Khatme Nabuwwat raises his head, we shall spare no sacrifice, physical, emotional and financial to demolish and destroy that, and we shall fully safeguard the dogma of End of Prophethood. **Jamiat Ulamae Islam, Islamabad.**”

Also, pictures of the following banners can be seen on the social media:

“Always beware of the following three:

SATAN; SHEZAN, QADIAN”

“Support of Qadianis: Unacceptable – Unacceptable”

The opposition held a huge anti-government rally in Peshawar on the same day. They called it Protection of the Honour of the Prophet Million March. Fazlur Rahman JUI again indulged in sectarian hate speech against Ahmadis on the issue of Khatme Nabuwwat. The *Dawn* of July 26, 2019 quoted his political deceiving statements as follows, *inter alia*:

“He said Jewish lobby and a religious minority had organized the prime minister’s visit to the US.”

“Mr. Fazl alleged that instead of protecting national interests, the premier fought the case of Ahmadis in Washington.”

A huge political rally was also called out in Quetta and mulla Fazl called it Khatme Nabuwwat Million March.

This reminds one of the observations of the two worthy top judges of Lahore High Court, who in the 1953 Inquiry into anti-Ahmadiyya riots in Punjab wrote the following about the Majlis Ahrar Islam mullas, the primary instigators:

“The conduct of the Ahrar calls for the strongest comment and is especially reprehensible. We can use no milder words for the reason that they debased a religious issue by pressing it into service for a temporal purpose and exploited religious susceptibilities and sentiments of the people for their personal ends.”

Fazlur Rahman, half a century later, is proving himself to be a true heir of the infamous Ahrar.

A top cleric paid from public funds promotes religious intolerance

Lahore: Hafiz Tahir Mahmud Ashrafi is president of Pakistan Ulama Council and also Chairman of the Punjab’s Motahiddah Ulama Board. Even as a controversial figure in the realm of religion on various grounds, he is close to high official circles in Islamabad, while in his latter capacity, he would be on the pay roll of the Punjab Government.

Ashrafi knows how to move in corridors of power and say the right thing at the right occasion. In his opinion to spit hate against Ahmadis at this time is the right thing to do even if that goes against his own utterings on religious harmony. This may appear hypocritical, but not many clerics take that too seriously these days. Let’s see.

In a video on <https://youtu.be/rGTeEG3or7k> he is seen in an open multi-religious meeting asserting the following (extracts – translation):

“... I am not willing to accept them (Ahmadis) in this country. ...

“The one who does not recognize the constitution we do not recognize him. (*Ahmadis’ disagreement with*

constitutional definition of a Muslim is labeled by Ashrafi as revolt against the Constitution. Ed.)

“I am speaking of Qadianis here. They are full of mischief; they carry out fraud. They are misleading the humanity by using the name of Muslims....

“To speak against the Qadianis is Religious Harmony, because the first claim of Mirza Qadiani is to be Allah and to be Allah’s wife. Even today he claims to be the Messiah; does our Christian community accept him to be the Messiah? And similarly we do not recognize Mirza Qadiani as a Muslim, we do not recognize Qadianis as Muslims, we consider Mirza Qadiani anti-Christ, we consider him to be a liar.....

“Inter-religion talk is a great thing. Inter-sect talk is also a great thing. But remember, Qadianiat is neither a religion nor a sect. It is an evil, created by the British. It is an evil created to attack Islam, Quran and Jihad; and it is created to attack the Khatme Nabuwwat of the Holy Prophet (pbuh). We are ready to sacrifice our lives for non-Muslims, because they are our Pakistani brothers; but those who do not recognize the constitution of Pakistan, the country acquired in the name of the Holy Prophet (pbuh), do not recognize the Holy Prophet as the final Prophet (pbuh) we cannot recognize them. If this is called inter-religion talk that Qadianis should be accepted, then we cannot accept that. This type of inter-religion (harmony) we have not seen in history; this cannot be done and will never be done.”

It is anomalous that a cleric who is paid from funds that are collected through the tax burden including Ahmadis, should refuse to ‘recognize’ them, not accept them in this country, nor even sit with them in meetings on inter-religious harmony and dialogue. Has he gone berserk?

To justify his fat pay cheque he does pay lip service to religious harmony and rights of minorities. For example in a recent *Istehkam Pakistan Conference* under his chair, it was declared in headlines: “**Non-Muslims enjoy religious freedom through Pakistan’s Constitution**” (*The daily Ausaf; July 29, 2019*). Also, “**Minorities in Pakistan enjoy all rights -**

(**Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi**)” (*The News*; July 23, 2019), etc.

What is amazing is his ability to grab public-funded jobs, and still oppose public policy in the open. It is indeed difficult to report adequately and candidly on a cleric like Ashrafi; we stop here.

The mulla quotes the High Court

Lahore; July 9, 2019: Haji Abdul Ghafur Zahid Ludhianvi Aarain was quoted in a three-column news in the daily *Pakistan* of July 9, 2019 with his set of anti-Ahmadi demands based on the verdict of judge Shaukat Siddiqui (later disgraced on other counts) of Islamabad High Court. NADRA itself admitted that the objectionable column 38 in the CNIC application form was added on direction of this judge. As this debatable verdict was not appealed by the government, it is a tool in the hand of the mulla to insist on its implementation by the authorities. The headlines of the news report are translated below:

Islamabad High Court has forbidden the use of the term Ahmadi for Qadianis

The High Court in its verdict ruled that Qadianis cannot be permitted to add Ahmad in their name, as they are Non-Muslims

The court referred to Verse 6 of *Sura Al Saff* (of the Holy Quran. It ordered that the words Qadiani, Ghulam Mirza or Mirzai should be added to the name to facilitate identification: Address to the media Chiniot (*'Pakistan'* reporter) ...

Ahmadi harassed in public duty

Sahiwal; July 2019: Mr. Tahir Ahmad Khan is an Ahmadi and is serving in the Commissioner's Office Sahiwal for ten years. For some time, he is facing hostility for being an Ahmadi and is accused of working for his specific community and using the office for that purpose. The accusation is false and fabricated.

Now, a lawyer with the help of his colleagues has undertaken propaganda against Mr. Khan on social media that the 'Commissioner's office is held hostage by the specific community.' Sometimes ago they acted similarly against his father, and he had to close down his business.

Ahmadiyya worship places threatened in Karachi – Follow-up

Karachi; July 2019: We reported earlier in our report for May 2019 on a self-styled journalist and (anti)social-activist Ms. Basma Norine who prepared a video of the Ahmadiyya prayer centre in Karachi and uploaded it on social media. Later she went to the local police station and tried to get an FIR registered on this count against Ahmadis. She is seeking professional recognition through religious prejudice and bigotry. In this she is helped by anti-Ahmadi mullas.

This month on July 6, 2019 she went to the Ahmadiyya Bait ul Hamd Martin Road, Karachi with a mulla. She prepared a video of the Ahmadiyya prayer centre, pointed out its minarets. Thereafter she also captured Fazle Umer Dispensary adjacent to the centre. While there she tried to enter the centre but the centre's caretaker recognized her and did not let her in. Then she went to the police station Jamshed Quarters to get an FIR registered against Ahmadis but the police didn't oblige. At this she went to the DSP office. She deposited her fake complaint with the DSP and departed.

On July 8, 2019 Norine uploaded a video on Facebook. In the video she mentioned Ahmadiyya prayer center of Drigh Road and the Hall, in Sadr.

She also pointed out a building in Gulzar Hijri, and commented on incorrect translation of the Quranic verse written on it and accused Ahmadis of that. In fact, Ahmadis have no prayer centre there. She fabricated this lie. Then

she talked about Ahmadiyya Bait ul Hamd Martin Road, as well.

On July 8, 2019 she went to the Ahmadiyya prayer centre in Mehmoodabad with a mulla, prepared its video and uploaded it on social media. She mentioned in the video: "In a posh area like Karachi an abundance of Qadiani bases (*addon ki bharmar*). Discovered third Qadiani centre in ten days and fifth in five months. Discovered a Qadiani base in the midst of Muslims' mosques and shops in Mehmoodabad, Kashmir Colony. An application has been submitted in Mehmoodabad police station for its demolition."

On July 17, 2019 Ms. Norine went to Bait ul Sana Model Town, took photos of the mosque and prepared videos. Thereafter she went to the local police station and tried to have an FIR registered against Ahmadis on grounds that Qadianis are not allowed to build mosques and they are up against Shariah and Khatme Nabuwat; Qadianis have their base in Model Colony; five CCTV cameras are installed there, and they are busy committing blasphemy and are propagating Qadianiat from there; they call themselves Ahmadi which is the blessed name of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and are misleading common people, so this place should be got vacated from Qadianis; demolish it and take legal action against its inhabitants, etc. Her bogus complaint was given the due follow-up.

Ahmadi places of worship are at risk at the hands of such profiteers.

A prisoner of conscience deprived of attending mother's funeral

Rabwah; July 18, 2019: Ms. Naseem Bibi wife of Mr. Khalil Ahmad a martyr of Bhoiwal, Sheikhupura died in Rabwah on July 18, 2019. She, widow of a martyr, was also mother of a prisoner of conscience Mr. Ihsan Ahmad.

Ms. Bibi's husband Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody, on May 16, 2014. Her son Mr.

Ihsan Ahmad is also behind bars along with two relatives in a blasphemy case since May 2014. A sessions judge sentenced them to death on October 11, 2017 under the deadly clause PPC 295-C. Appeal against this decision has been made to Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to hear them in over a year and half. As such these Ahmadis are in prison for the last 5 years on a fabricated charge.

Ahmadiyya community officials tried to obtain Mr. Ihsan's temporary parole for his mother's last rites but were not granted their request.

Anti-Ahmadiyya 'Seerat Conference' in Kotli Azad Kashmir

Poth Sansa, District Kotli, Azad Kashmir; July 4, 2019: Eight Ahmadi families live in this village. Mullas held a public gathering here on July 4, 2019. They named it 'Seerat Conference'. 'Seerat' means Life and Ways of the Holy Prophet (pbuh). But the speakers at this conference only bad-mouthed against Ahmadis.

Uproar in social media over Mr. Abdul Shakoor's call on the US President

July 2019: Mr. Abdul Shakoor, Ahmadi octogenarian former-prisoner, victim of Anti-terrorism department's *faux pas* was among the delegation from the US Ministerial 2019 on Freedom of Religion or Belief, who called on the President of the United State during the event. At that occasion Mr. Shakoor mentioned to the President very briefly his personal experience of suffering and religious persecution. The video of the event was released by the U.S. The anti-Ahmadi elements in Pakistan did not like at all their mention at the occasion and raised a storm on social media against not only Mr. Shakoor but against the Jamaat Ahmadiyya and its leadership. This was unfair and unwarranted; we

mention below briefly our reasons for this assessment:

- Mr. Abdul Shakoor was not the only victim present at the occasion; survivors from among Rohingyas, Newzealand Christchurch attack, Uyghurs etc from 24 countries were also present. The aim of the Ministerial was, *inter alia*: religious freedom and inter-religion harmony.
- Mr. Shakoor is neither an office-holder in the Jamaat, nor did he attend the conference as a representative of the community. He was invited by the conference organizers in his private capacity.
- Mr. Shakoor stated there nothing that was unconstitutional, unlawful or untrue. He mentioned only what happened to his own person. It was all true. He stated his religious status as defined in the Constitution. He sought no help from Mr. Trump. He said that Ahmadis are peace-loving community, and they depend only on Allah. What is wrong with that, one may ask.

Ahmadiyya Director of Public Affairs, Mr. Saleemuddin explained all this in his interview on MTA. He, thereafter, urged the authorities to take steps to put a stop to the on-going provocative and incendiary propaganda on social medial wherein Ahmadis were *inter alia* declared *Wajib ul Qatl*. It is strange that Ahmadi-bashers should get agitated over a small exposure by a victim of their enormities while they themselves unabashedly cry incessantly in public telling the government to ‘do more’ in the on-going anti-Ahmadiyya drive. Last year, the vernacular press published more than 2400 anti-Ahmadi news items and 300 op-eds. If religious persecution is incriminating and shameful, why not stop it?

Judicial misconduct –

comment by a newspaper

Lahore; July 14, 2019: Issues concerning Jamaat Ahmadiyya and Ahmadis have been handled by single-bench judges of high courts in the recent past. Judgments of long-term impact have come forth. Of these Justice Shaukat Siddiqui’s (IHC) judgment of March 9/July 4, 2018 and Justice Shujaat Ali Khan’s (LHC) judgment of March 5, 2019 deserve special mention. We rate these as ‘recommended readings’. Anyone interested in getting a deeper insight in the present day yield of some judges of high courts must go through the 172-page and 40-page verdicts of these ‘pious’ judges. These are eye openers!

Judges of Accountability Courts hold very important posts these days in Pakistan. A recent verdict and follow-up incidents involving Judge Arshad Malik have been in the news and up for comments. The prestigious daily *Dawn* made the following editorial comment on this issue on July 14, 2019. We reproduce it below, as it makes an arguable statement on the state of our judiciary and executive:

Judicial misconduct

At a time when the issue of accountability is front and centre, the latest leaked video scandal has shaken the political establishment and the justice system to its core. The saga continues to unfold, with accusations and counter-accusations making matters even more murky. And yet, it is crystal clear that some spring-cleaning by the judiciary is urgently required. Judge Arshad Malik’s affidavit in response to the secretly recorded video that purports to show him claiming he was blackmailed by ‘hidden hands’ into giving a guilty verdict against Nawaz Sharif in the Al-Azizia reference is extremely problematic. In the affidavit, submitted to the Islamabad High Court, the judge says it was actually two PML-N supporters who used a “manipulated, immoral video” in an attempt to bribe and threaten him into acquitting Mr. Sharif in the two references in his court. Even after he handed down a guilty verdict in one of them – the Al-Azizia reference – he was, he claims, pressured into meeting Mr.

Sharif and his son Hussain Nawaz at Jati Umra and Madina, respectively. Judge Malik also alleges he was further blackmailed into giving his input for Mr. Sharif's appeal against the Al-Azizia conviction.

Whatever the merits of the judge's version of events, he has in his sworn affidavit admitted to actions that clearly qualify as judicial misconduct. In order for verdicts to be unbiased rather than perceived as having been influenced by personal interests – perhaps for illegal gain or to avoid scandal – there must be a clear line dividing judges and litigants. Communicating and fraternizing with parties invested in the outcome of Mr. Sharif's case, and meeting with the former premier at his Jati Umra residence, violates the very basic requirements of justice. A sound verdict is premised on the impartiality and independence of the presiding judge. Relieving Judge Malik of his duties at the accountability court pending investigation was the only logical outcome. However, the matter must not end here. Even in these eventful times, this is a watershed moment and must be grasped as such to weed out the endemic corruption in our appallingly dysfunctional criminal justice system. The ongoing process of accountability of public officials is already problematic, due to a not ill-deserved perception of investigations being largely tainted by political considerations. The judiciary must meet the standards universally expected of the arbiters of the law. Only if the judges are above reproach can the accountability process have any credibility.

It is learnt that the Supreme Court has taken a *suo motu* notice of this case concerning the conduct of Judge Arshad Malik. That is good; however, our experience with follow-up of some of the great judgments of the apex court, like that of the Judgment of 2014 concerning minorities is not propitious. The worthy Supreme Court would do well to keep an eye on the professional performance, conduct and judicial attitudes of lower judges so as to keep the ship of the state on the right course. The judgments of IHC and LHC mentioned above should have been appealed by the executive, but as political considerations have prevented that, the Supreme Court may like to read through

those judgments and decide on the necessary action before these judgments become subject of comment by foreign savants of law.

Status of Ahmadiyya cases pending in courts

July 2019: The way Ahmadiyya cases pending in courts are handled is a significant aspect of persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan. This handling by the courts, the prosecution, the mullas etc. results in lengthy stay of Ahmadi accuseds in prisons for months, even years. For example, Mr. Iqbal, an Ahmadi, was arrested, prosecuted for months, awarded life imprisonment over false accusation of blasphemy, was finally acquitted by Lahore High Court after remaining behind bars for over seven years.

Essential elements of a few cases currently before the courts are mentioned below:

The Bhoiwal Three: Four Ahmadis of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura were charged on a false accusation of blasphemy on May 13, 2014. One of these, while in police custody, was shot dead by a madrassah student. The other three were later sentenced to death on October 11, 2017. Their appeal against the sentence is pending before the High Court since then. As for the murderer, he has not been sentenced yet.

Mr. Javed Ahmad Ghumman: This Ahmadi of 368/TDA District Layya was charged under PPC 295-C in a fabricated case of blasphemy on July 1, 2018. He was arrested in October and his plea for bail was rejected by the Multan Bench of Lahore High Court. His trial goes on in ASJ court. A fresh date was given recently.

Mr. Saeed A Warraich: This Ahmadi of Tandlianwala, District Faisalabad was also arrested on fake charge of blasphemy 295-C on January 20, 2018. He is undergoing trial in ASJ court in Faisalabad. As the judge was on leave,

no hearing took place. The next date of hearing is August 17.

Mr. Shahid Pervez of Sadhoki, District Gujranwala is undergoing trial under PPC 298-C for undertaking religious rite of sacrificing cattle on the festival of Id ul Adha. He was refused bail by the Sessions but was granted the same subsequently by the High Court. His next date of hearing has not been announced yet.

Mr. Tahir A Khalid an Ahmadi religious teacher was booked and arrested on a false charge of blasphemy under PPC 295-B on March 31, 2014. He was released on bail five and half months later. His trial has been going on for the last five years. There were no proceedings on the last hearing on July 20, 2019. A fresh date has not been given yet.

Mr. Amjad Iqbal Saloni and Mr. Ikram Ilahi of Lahore were booked two years ago in the so-called 'burger case' on fake charge of proselytizing. They remained in prison for over a year before their release on bail. They are undergoing trial and their latest scheduled date of hearing was July 29, 2019.

Mr. Qamar Zia, Ahmadi of Kot Abdul Malik District Sheikhpura was stabbed to death in broad daylight on March 1, 2016. On June 27, 2019 Session Judge Nadeem Ahmad Ansari acquitted the assassin. He has been released from the prison.

Dulmial case: It would be recalled that a mob attacked an Ahmadiyya mosque two and half years ago in Dulmial, District Chakwal. Two persons, one from each side, died in the riot. An ATC court pended the trial of the accused of both the communities after a truce.

The Ahmadiyya mosque that suffered attack and then was locked up by authorities remains locked and is not open to Ahmadis for worship. Ahmadis have no alternate facility for congregational worship. A trial is going on

under Article 145 to unseal the mosque. Also a trial is going on for the ownership of the mosque at civil court Chua Saidan Shah. The last scheduled date of hearing for both cases was July 29, 2019.

Ahmadiyya literature: The entire written works of the founder of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat were banned by a notification of the Punjab government. The notification was challenged at the High Court. The case is under consideration with the Multan Bench. The case was left over on April 9, 2019. A fresh date of hearing has not been given yet.

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

Sacrifice of cattle on Id ul Adha: Mulla Hasan Muawiya group filed a writ petition in Lahore High Court to ban Ahmadis' sacrifice of cattle on Id ul Adha. The case was left over by the court on April 23, 2019 and a fresh date of hearing has not been given yet.

Ahmadis behind bars

1. A contrived case was registered against four Ahmadis, Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad and Mubashir Ahmad of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura under PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in Police Station Sharaqpur. Two days later Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody, on May 16, 2014. The remaining three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. A year later the deadly clause PPC 295-C was added to their charge-sheet at the suggestion of a high court judge. A sessions judge sentenced them to death on October 11, 2017. Appeal against this

decision has been made to the Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to hear them in over a year and half. These three Ahmadis are in prison for the last 5 years.

2. Mr. Saeed Ahmad Waraich was charged on a false complaint of blasphemy under PPC 295-C with FIR Nr. 645 in Tandlianwala police station, District Faisalabad on January 20, 2018. He was arrested a day earlier. He is under trial.
3. Mr. Javed Ahmad Ghumman was charged in a fabricated blasphemy case under PPC 295-C in police station Chobara, District Layya on July 1, 2018 in FIR Nr. 288/18. His interim bail was cancelled on July 14, 2018; he was arrested and sent to Layya Jail. Rai Yasseen Shaheen the Additional Sessions Judge Layya refused his post-arrest bail on August 6. Later, on October 2, 2018 his bail application was refused by High Court Justice Sarfraz Ahmad of Multan Bench also. Now his case is under trial and his bail application is pending before the Sessions Court in District Layyah.
4. Mr. Mahmud Hashmi of Lahore was arrested by FIA Cyber Crimes Wing on June 19, 2019, for sharing on social media a copy of the Holy Quran with Ahmadiyya translation. He was booked under PPC 295-A and Ahmadi-specific 298-C. If declared guilty, he could be imprisoned for 10 years.

From the Media

- **Qadiani's (Mr Shakoor's) meeting with Trump is a deep conspiracy: Fazlur Rahman (JUI), Professor Sajid Mir (Ahle Hadith), Aalmi Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 21, 2019
- **Talwandi Bhindran: 20 Non-Muslims accept Islam**

We feel proud over joining Holy Prophet's Ummah: converts

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, July 14, 2019

- **Action against publisher of Grade 9's controversial text book of Pakistan Studies. 36,000 books in open market confiscated.**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 11, 2019
- **Qadiani woman of Chenab Nagar accepts Islam**
The daily Insaf; Lahore, July 1, 2019
- **Elders of the Islamic Ummah offered historic sacrifices to create this country; as such we shall never tolerate intellectual occupation of this state by Qadianis: Maulana Akram Toofani in AMTKN quarterly seminar in Karachi**
The daily Ummat; Karachi, July 15, 2019
- **The indicted Qadiani's meeting with Trump is a threat to national security: Qari Shabbir Usmani of IKNM**
The daily Islam; Lahore, July 25, 2019
- **Qadianis' subversive activities prior to PM's visit to US**
Pakistan embassy is providing them full support: Religious leaders
The daily Islam; Lahore, July 20, 2019
- **It was anti-state of Abdul Shakoor Qadiani to meet President Trump and indulge in negative propaganda: S Ataul Mohaiman Bokhari (Ahrar)**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 23, 2019
- **Religious parties show concern over Qadiani leader's (Mr. Abdul Shakoor's) call on Trump**
The daily Ausaf; Lahore, July 19, 2019
- **To call a Muslim, a Qadiani or *Kafir*, is *Kufr* and *Gunahe Kabirah* (Great Sin): I.P. Conference (state supported)**
The daily Ausaf; Lahore, July 29, 2019
- **Qadianiat is the great mischief in the world: AMTKN**
The daily Islam; Lahore, July 13, 2019
- **An honourable Muslim can sacrifice all, but shall never, never tolerate profane (*Napak*) conspiracy again the**

prophethood and messengerhood (*Risalat*) of his Master (pbuh) (5 column news)

The daily Insaf; Lahore, July 3, 2019

- **The government should abstain from anti-Islam actions: Ultimatum by AMTKN (...Khatme Nabuwwat)**

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 21, 2019

- **Countrywide protest today against Qadianis' activities**

Qadiani manipulations will be exposed in Friday sermons in mosques

Resolutions shall be passed to protect End of Prophethood and the Blasphemy Law 295-C

The daily Islam; Lahore, 26, 2019

- **Qadianis have targeted Islam and Muslims: (Mulla) Munir Ahmad Alavi (of *Shabban* KN)**

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, July 14, 2019

- **World *Pasbane* Khatme Nabuwwat's protest against dilution of the blasphemy law**

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, July 14, 2019

- **US and the West are using Qadianis as agents (*mohrey*): AMTKN**

The daily Islam; Lahore, July 21, 2019

- **Minorities in Pakistan enjoy all rights: Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi**

The daily The News; Lahore, July 23, 2019

- **10 security officials die in terrorist attacks**

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 28, 2019

- **Six cops among 10 martyred in terrorist attack (in D I Khan)**

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 22, 2019

- **Soldier martyred in North Waziristan blast**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 11, 2019

- **Terror financing: 12 JuD, JeM men convicted**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 1, 2019

- **JuD chief (Hafiz Saeed) sent to jail on seven-day judicial remand**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 18, 2019

- **Hafiz Saeed, 12 others JuD leaders (including Abdul Rehman Makki) booked for terror financing**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 4, 2019

- **JuD chief, three aids granted pre-arrest bail (by an anti-terrorist court)**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2019

- **I'll be the first to resign in case of tampering with End of Prophethood laws: Farogh Naseem (Fed Law Minister)**

The daily Express; Lahore, July 12, 2019

- **Minister (Interior) regrets use of religion, decrees for personal pursuits**

The daily The News; Lahore, July 25, 2019

- **Minorities are sure to be given their rights: Imran Khan**

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 30, 2019

- **There are no restrictions on press in Pakistan: Prime Minister (statement in the US)**

Strip on GNN on July 24, 2019 at 12:22 PM

- **Fawad Chaudhary calls for arrest of former CJP Iftikhar Chaudhary, others (in Reko Diq case)**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2019

- **Clerics back efforts to fight religious extremism (In *Istehkam Pakistan* Conference in Lahore, under aegis of Pakistan Ulama Council of Tahir Ashrafi)**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 29, 2019

- **With *Ruet* app developed, no need for Ulama Committee, says Fawad (Fed Minister)**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2019

- ***Niqab* banned in Tunisian govt offices**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 6, 2019

- **May finds (Trump's) tweets unacceptable**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2019

- **'Cow vigilantes' kill three men in India**

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 20, 2019

- **(Saudi King's) Approval to station US forces in Saudi Arabia**

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 21, 2019

- **Pakistan told to pay \$5.9bn to mining firm**
PM's aid Firdous says law ministry and attorney general are looking into matter in the light of international laws
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 14, 2019
- **IMF okays \$6bn package to 'foster strong growth'**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 4, 2019
- **Five troops martyred, one injured in Chamb sector LOC**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 4, 2019
- **Dozens of countries defend China or Xinjiang in letter to UN**
Russia, Saudi Arabia among states that respond to criticism by Western states
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 13, 2019
- **Nearly 4000 Afghans killed, wounded this year, says UN report**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 31, 2019
- **Rebels' air attack on migrants' detention centre in Libya. 40 dead.**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 4, 2019
- **Trump tells Congresswomen of color to leave US**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 15, 2019
- **US declares BLA terrorist outfit**
The daily The News; Lahore, July 3, 2019
- **Myanmar's army chief barred from US over Rohingya 'ethnic cleansing'**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 18, 2019
- **Pence urges Pakistan to release professor (Junaid Hafeez) accused of blasphemy**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 20, 2019
- **Sajid Javid named UK treasury chief**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 25, 2019
- **Qadiani meeting Trump is a deep conspiracy: Fazlur Rahman**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 21, 2019
- **Fazlur Rahman's address to Khatme Nabuwat Million March**
 - **Rulers should resign in August or face march on Islamabad**
 - **People are burdened under profusion of taxes**
- **We are ready to grapple (*do do haath karna*) with the government**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 29, 2019
- **Imran feels certain that if Sharifs, Zardari bring half their looted wealth to country from abroad, rupee's value will rise**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 4, 2019
- **UK daily accuses Shahbaz of usurping quake relief funds**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 15, 2019
- **NAB move to freeze Shahbaz properties**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 18, 2019
- **I'll tear to pieces any Notice received from NAB: Fazlur Rahman**
The daily Jehan Pakistan; Lahore, July 13, 2019
- **Take Rs 500 million, and acquit me: Judge Arshad Malik's sworn statement on offer by Sharif family**
The daily 92 News; Lahore, July 13, 2019
- **Imran says like Sicilian mafia, Pakistani mafia uses tactics of bribe, threat and blackmail**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 14, 2019
- **Court issues notice to Maryam over 'fake' trust deed**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 10, 2019
- **NAB launches money laundering probe against Maryam**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 20, 2019
- **NAB may go to hell; Nawaz should be freed: Fazlur Rahman (JUI)**
The daily Express; Faisalabad, July 13, 2019
- **Irfan Siddiqui (brother of Shaukat Siddiqui former judge IHC) sent to jail on 14-day judicial remand**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 28, 2019
- **6 independents, 5 PTI, 3 JUI, 1 ANP and IJI win in Tribal Districts candidates for KPK assembly – first ever**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 22, 2019
- **Institutions are precipitating confrontation with public: Fazlur Rahman**
The daily Jehan Pakistan; Lahore, July 19, 2019

- **Rana Sana, president N-League Punjab arrested**
Accused of links with drug mafia
Arrested on way to Lahore from Faisalabad
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 2, 2019
- **Government is breathing its last: Maryam Nawaz**
The daily Jang; Lahore, July 22, 2019
- **Abbasi (Khaqan; PML-N prime minister) remanded in NAB custody, Miftah (ex Finance Minister) given bail**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 20, 2019
- **Axe falls on judge (Arshad Malik of Accountability Court) over video leak Apex court to hear plea seeking probe on 16th**
... In affidavit, Arshad Malik claims he met Nawaz at Jati Umra after latter's conviction
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 13, 2019
- **Quetta motorbike blast leaves five dead**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 31, 2019
- **Five soldiers martyred near LOC: ISPR**
The daily The News; Lahore, July 4, 2019
- **Twitter bans religious hate material on its site**
The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, July 11, 2019
- **Urdu to be medium of instruction in primary schools: Buzdar (CM) Punjab**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 28, 2019
- **Pakistan is among those seven countries that cumulatively account for two-third of the world's under-nourished population**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2019
- **Study calls for educating children in their mother tongues**
Author suggests primary schools should have female teachers only
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2019
- **Interest rate hiked to 13.25pc, highest in eight years**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 17, 2019

- **Fifty suspects faint in prison van due to suffocation**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 19, 2019
- **Hired assassins kill two at Lahore airport**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 4, 2019
- **Cop held for raping woman on court premises**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 31, 2019
- **Lesco men injured in firing by power thieves**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 10, 2019
- **Seven coaches get detached from running express train**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 11, 2019
- **... 22 killed. Most victims were staying at a mosque when it was swept away (by flash floods).**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2019
- **Three minor girls die after taking soft drinks**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 25, 2019

Tweet by Mr. Shaan Taseer



Shaan Taseer
@ShaanTaseer

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Down with religious discrimination.
Down with 2nd Amendment.
Jamaat Ahmaddiya Zindabad.
One Nation
One Blood
One Pakistan
[#PakistanForAll](#)
Pakistan Zindabad



10:10 am - 15 Jul 2019

252 Retweets 761 Likes



121 252 761

By Shaan Taseer son of Mr. Salman Taseer, Governor of Punjab martyred for support to blasphemy victim on January 4, 2011.

Tweet by Reham Khan

Imran Khan's ex-wife Reham Khan also condemned the forced conversion of the Hindu girl. On her twitter page, Khan posted, "Another case of a Hindu female child forcefully converted and married off. Disgusting but there will be no action as politics comes first for all players."

<https://gulfnews.com/world/asia/pakistan/another-forced>

Op-ed: How Pakistan's Constitution facilitates blasphemy lynching and forced conversions

... Even so, any long-lasting change would need reforms in Pakistan's Islamist laws. Because as long as a state upholds one religious community over the rest and imposes that majority religion laws on all of its citizens, it can neither truly safeguard the rights of its minorities nor can it claim to be democracy.

Kunwar Khuldun Shahid in the Diplomat of March 27, 2019

Tweet: They (Ahmadis) are not Muslims. They are infidels & will continue to call them such till our last day. ... They only pretend to be persecuted to get sympathies of the world.

@muftitaqiusmani in Birmingham UK
CC@ukhomeoffice Why are such extremists granted British visas?

@kashifMD 1:19pm – 10 July 2019

Op-ed: The next Nobel laureate of Pakistan

A shared prize for Asma Jahangir and Asia Bibi would be a huge boost to minorities.

... Many Pakistanis say Prime Minister Imran Khan deserves the Nobel Peace Prize for his statesman-like approach in the face of heightened tensions between Pakistan and India. Khan replies by tweeting that "the person worthy for his would be the one who solves the Kashmir dispute according to the wishes of the Kashmiri people and paves the way for peace and human development on the sub-continent.

Pakistan cannot demand rights for Kashmiris until it guarantees equal citizenship to its own people, especially the community that gave us our first Nobel laureate.

Kamran Chaudhry on
<https://www.ucanews.com/News/the-next-nobel-laureate-of-pakistan/84660>