

# **Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan**

## **Monthly Report**

**July 2020**

### **Killing of Tahir Naseem**

U.S. State Department's statement on Mr. Naseem's murder in a Peshawar court room:

We are shocked, saddened, and outraged that American citizen Tahir Naseem was killed yesterday inside a Pakistani courtroom. Mr. Naseem had been lured to Pakistan from his home in Illinois by individuals who then used Pakistan's blasphemy laws to entrap him. The U.S. Government has been providing consular assistance to Mr. Naseem and his family since his detention in 2018 and has called the attention of senior Pakistani officials to his case to prevent the type of shameful tragedy that eventually occurred. We grieve with the family of Mr. Naseem. We urge Pakistan to immediately reform its often abused blasphemy laws and its court system, which allow such abuses to occur, and to ensure that the suspect is prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Tag: Bureau of Democracy,  
Human Rights, and Labor  
*For some details, see page 1*

### **Contents**

- Presumed Ahmadi murdered in courtroom p.1
- Ahmadiyya school sealed by the police, and elders booked 4
- 67 Ahmadiyya graves desecrated by the authorities 4
- Punjab Assembly passes *Tahaffuz-e-Bunad-e-Islam* Bill 5
- LHCBA wants Ahmadis barred from sacrificing animals 8
- Evil brain-washing of minors through school homework 9
- Ahmadis excluded from sports tournament 10
- Authorities promote 'Islamisation' — further 10
- Authorities respond happily to absurdities 10
- Fanatic attitude of the court towards Ahmadis 11

*(Continued)*

- **Ahmadi university student faces hate and discrimination** 12
- **Ahmadis victimized in District Dera Ghazi Khan** 12
- **Ahmadi faces departmental inquiry for his faith** 12
- **Freedom of religion denied in District Narowal** 12
- **How long will Pakistan continue to marginalize Ahmadis? —  
an op-ed** 13
- **Profile in courage – Khawaja Muhammad Asif MNA** 15
- **Ahmadis behind bars** 15
- **From the media** 16

***Annex: School questionnaire*** 19



# Presumed Ahmadi murdered

in courtroom, in the name of *Khatme Nabuwwat* (End of Prophethood)

**Peshawar (KP):** The BBC reported that an accused facing blasphemy charges was shot dead in a Peshawar courtroom, in presence of the Judge on July 29, 2020. Mr. Tahir Ahmad Naseem had been brought to the courtroom by the police, when a man entered and opened fire on him. The murderer is named Faisal. He called himself Khalid to confuse his identity.

Mr. Naseem, 47 was a U.S. citizen, but would visit KP occasionally. He was born in an Ahmadi family, but on growing up claimed himself to be a sort of prophet and a reformer for the 15<sup>th</sup> Century Hijrah. He showed signs of mental instability, and left the Ahmadiyya community, as such was no longer an Ahmadi.



**Mr. Naseem, lying dead on court-room chairs**

At a later stage, mullas forced him to retract his claims of prophecy etc and rejoin the mainstream Islam in a ceremony, which he did—a video of the ceremony is available on social media. At this occasion they made him call bad names to the founder of the Ahmadiyya Community. Still not satisfied with the results of their coercion, mullas later had this convert Muslim booked under the dreaded blasphemy clause PPC 295-C and arrested in 2018. He was in police custody when brought to the court for his case hearing.

We should elaborate here that Mr. Naseem apparently committed no blasphemy against the Holy Prophet (Peace be on him). His mere claim to a sort of prophecy was equated with blasphemy, although it is obvious that such a claim has little to do with the act of defiling the name of the Holy Prophet. The charge was obviously fake and malafide.

The murderer Faisal is a teenager and a student in a Madrassah in Islamabad. After the murder, under arrest he is seen in a video claiming that in a dream Prophet Muhammad told him to kill Naseem because he belonged to Ahmadi faith. “He is an enemy of Islam,” Faisal is heard saying of Mr. Naseem, “He is an enemy of Pakistan”. It should be mentioned here that some latter-day renowned Sunni ulama have declared

that a lie in support of faith is not only permitted but also at times compulsory (*wajib*).

In another video, Mufti Wajid Ali, manager of madrassah Jamia Khalid Bin Waleed and a Khatme Nabuwwat leader, is seen organizing the ceremony in which Naseem was made to rejoin Islam through an oath on Khatme Nabuwwat (End of Prophethood) and quitting Ahmadiyyat by calling bad names to its founder.

There was a big support for the killer from some sections of the society; at a rally in Peshawar, the demonstrators carried placards praising Faisal for his great courage and called for his immediate release from jail. One cleric Mufti Shahab Uddin Popalzai, who led the rally, said, “We are not in favour of taking the law in our hands, but Faisal did what the government should have done two years ago.” The Mufti was being less than honest.

Leaders of Peshawar Bar Association told its members not to take up the case of the deceased. They argued further in favour of the killer to justify mitigation of his crime.



By now, Faisal, the murderer, had become Ghazi Faisal (*Ghazi* is Islamist equivalent of a Crusader). One, Imaduddin Advocate posted photos of the Ghazi on social media with the following description: “Ghazi Faisal appeared before a magistrate today. In the courtroom, lawyers repeatedly kissed his blessed forehead (*Boson ki barish*). By God, the Ghazi’s tranquil and cheerful smiles touched the hearts; this 14-year old (sic) is a model—no sign of worry or fear. His father’s spirit was mountain-high.” This Imaduddin must be one of the men in black tie in the above photo.



A video of Peshawar elite police squad became viral when they brought the killer for court appearance, in which they can be seen fawning over and eagerly posing for a selfie with the pious murderer. He can be seen entirely delighted with his official custody.

Mr. Saleemuddin the Ahmadiyya spokesperson, on learning about the attack on an ‘Ahmadi’, immediately tweeted that the victim was not an Ahmadi; he, however, extended heartfelt condolences to his family at their tragic loss. Despite this clarification some media persons and clerics continue to refer to him as murderer of a ‘Qadiani’, thus making no secret of their ill-will and longing.

Prominent social media activist, Shaheer Sialvi went to the family of Faisal to show solidarity. At that occasion, Senior Supreme Court lawyer Obaidullah Anwar and Khuzaima Sami, son of Maulvi Sami ul Haq were also present.

The entire episode is obviously caused and brought about in the name of end of prophecy (renamed blasphemy for legal facility) and instigated through a teen-ager by clerics of Khatme-Nabuwwat (KN) faction. This murder is an obvious proof that KN organizations undertake murders and terror as policy, and are thus terrorist organizations. There are umpteen other facts, incidents and verifiable grounds in support of this proposition.

It is relevant to place on record that no government, administrative or judicial authority, province or federal, made any comment for many days on this heinous murder. Even the Minister of Human Rights and the Prime Minister kept quiet. This reminds one of President Mitterrand of

France. A North African-origin man was murdered by white supremacists in Paris. President Mitterrand, the very next day, accompanied by his staff went to the site of the murder on the bank of river seine where he observed two minutes' silence and manifestly expressed solidarity with all citizens.

The US authorities felt perturbed over this horrendous murder of one of their citizens. The State Department issued a statement urging "Pakistan to immediately reform its often abused blasphemy laws and its court system, which allows such abuses to occur, and to ensure that the suspect is prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law." US Senator James Lankford later spoke out in the Senate against this murder. He urged the Senate to pass a resolution for the global repeal of blasphemy, heresy and apostasy laws.

The murder was obviously committed in the name of religion. Islam is reputed to be a religion that promotes tolerance. Its teaching on freedom of faith is well-known to many through many verses including *La ikraha fiddin* (There shall be no compulsion in the religion) (2:256). Surely Mr. Naseem had a right to life; but also he had a right to natural death till ordered otherwise by a court of law. The blasphemy law (PPC 295-C) in Pakistan is not found in the Quran.

Sensible people did not take long to point out essentials of this event. Mr. Ziauddin, father of the Nobel laureate Malala tweeted the following (translation):

"A mentally-ill demented fellow claimed prophecy. The other demented killed him in the presence of the judge. All other demented fellows celebrated. Gutless (*shutar murgh*) leaders kept quiet. Law was torn to pieces. Islam was deformed. The state became the laughing stock all over the world."

Kashif N. Chaudhry, a Pak-American tweeted:

"Many hospital psychiatry wards have patients claiming to be God or prophets of God. Shall we go, kill them all to save Islam? And hail the murderers as saints?"

What has happened to the Sunnis of Pakistan? (@Kashif MD July 30, 2020)

While there may be some excuse for a teen-ager to commit a senseless murder, but there is none for his mentors and Muftis who indoctrinate and urge young people to commit horrendous crimes. The state took no action against the cleric who, in 2011, incited guard Mumtaz Qadri to kill his Governor, although the mulla's identity was known. The state also backed out from prosecution of the two senior Jihadist mullas who declared these Supreme Court judges to be *Wajib ul Qatl* and exhorted 'Muslim' generals to defy their Chief. This spineless state policy is hazardous for the well-being of the nation and its plenipotentiaries.

Not all politicians acted timid; the Awami National Party KPK came out guns blazing with a befitting reaction to the murder (translation):

"We condemn the murder committed in the full court at Peshawar. How can anyone take law in his hand and deprive someone of life? It is worrisome that a man gives the verdict and kills the accused before the trial concludes. It should be inquired as to how a man with a pistol can enter a courtroom. Such acts bring this country and a sacred religion like Islam to disrepute worldwide. Religious frenzy and extremism is being promoted through a plan. On such occasions, the world community asks (us) if an accused has a right in Islam to stay alive while under trial and to self-defense. If such incidents are not blocked, both Pakistan and Islam will earn bad reputation all over the world. It seems that the rule of law is coming to an end and the country has entered a state of anarchy."

**Aimal Wali Khan**  
**President Awami**

**National Party Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**

Mr. Yasser Latif Hamdani, the acclaimed HR activists, clinched the whole issue in his tweet: "**This is only a symptom—what needs fixing is the constitutional structure that fuels this dangerous idea that some men are closer to the skies than others.**"

## **Ahmadiyya school sealed by the police and a criminal case registered**

*Basti Allahdad Draishak, District Rajanpur, Punjab; July, 2020:* Allahdad Draishak is a small town in District Rajanpur, Punjab. A few years back this whole town was destroyed by floods. The destroyed houses of Ahmadis were rebuilt by the Ahmadiyya community. A primary school was also renovated there, which is being run by the community for years. It is open to children regardless of religion or denomination.

Opponents filed a complaint with the DC that Humanity First—an NGO run by Ahmadis is operating a school in the town where *Qadianiyyat* is preached. According to the constitution of Pakistan, *Qadianis* are not allowed to use “*Shaair-e-Islam*”, but they gather the children of the town in the name of education, whereas the actual motive behind this is to spread *Qadianiat*, they wrote. Strong action should be taken against this school and offenders should be booked under law.

A few days later, the police sealed the school on this bogus complaint. On July 17, 2020 the opponents passed a resolution in which they expressed their further reservations on the school. They demanded, “Naeem, the head of this *Mirzai* center, Mr. Naseer Qamar and lady health worker Bushra Talib should be arrested and booked under PPC 295-C”. PPC 295-C is the blasphemy law, for which the penalty is death.

Administrative action to seal this small school, registration of this case under blasphemy clauses against high officials of the Ahmadiyya community, on response to a complaint by a few mullas, are expressive of the rot that has set in the administration of this largest province of the country.

In pursuance of this the police registered an FIR 325/20 at Police Station Rajanpur City on July 23 under sections 295-B, 295-A, 298-A, 298-B, 298-C and 506 against Ahmadi leadership in the District namely messers Naeem Akhtar, Naseem Ahmad Qamar and Ms. Bushra Talib, the

school principal, as also Mirza Fazal Ahmad, the Ahmadiyya Director of Education, Pakistan. Under these laws, the accused face imprisonment for life.

The society was quick to follow the state. On August 4, 2020 District Bar Association Rajanpur passed a resolution and told its members not to take up the case of the ‘cursed’ (*Maloon*) Ahmadis for defence in “their true love and bondage of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.)” The Association letter was signed by its president, Syed Zafar Hussain Bukhari, Advocate.

Khalil Gibran scored another hit when he wrote, “People will fight over religion, they will quarrel and even die over religion, but will not live their lives in accordance with it.”

## **Punjab sinks deeper in the marsh of religious bigotry 67 Ahmadiyya graves defiled Gravestones brutally damaged and demolished under police supervision**

*Trigri, District Gujranwala; 13/14 July 2020:* Upon incitement of extremist clerics, in this village, a violent mob grossly desecrated with police approval the graves of 67 Ahmadis. Damage and destruction of tombstones was undertaken with impunity under the watch of authorities with a nod from above, of course. Similar atrocity had been committed a fortnight earlier in the adjacent district of Sheikhupura. It appears that the political and administrative authorities of the province have told officials to do simply the mullas’ bid where targets are



Ahmadis. This does not bode well for the province and its people.

Briefly, the local mulla agitated the worshippers against Ahmadis in his Friday sermon on July 3. Five days later a score of outsider mullas were invited to visit Trigri to provide support to the agitators. The miscreants' leader wrote an application to the SHO to take action against Ahmadis for following Islamic *Shaa'ir* (practices). Verbal threats were conveyed that "in case of inaction, a fire will flare up in the area that could engulf the entire district."

At this the SHO sent for the Ahmadi elders and pressured them to sign an undertaking that included permission to remove religious inscriptions from the gravestones and Ahmadis' homes.

The police decided thereafter to destroy the tombstones. They, however, knew that the act was simply despicable, so they decided to wait for the night fall. They brought along hammers and grinders and managed to defile 15 tombstones. They came again the next day and wrecked 52 more, bringing the total to 67.



Pakistan perhaps is the only country in the world where the police is made to commit such disgraceful wrongs to appease clerics.

Two Ahmadi houses had *Mashallah* (Whatever Allah wills) written on their fronts. Another house had *Darul Hamd* (Abode of Divine Praise) written outside. The police effaced these writings too. Unbelievable.

The vernacular press, perhaps ashamed of the evil of this incident, scarcely reported it. The daily *Dawn* entered a report on July 16, 2020, but its staff reporter took care to tone down the enormity of the conduct of perpetrators; the headline given was "Islamic symbols removed from Ahmadiyya graveyard", "allegedly" by



the police and locals.

Encouraged by their great success, the mullas next day decided in a meeting that the authorities be asked to raid Ahmadi homes by women constables to locate the Qurans and other religious literature so as to register police cases. They also decided to demand that no Ahmadi be allowed to be buried in their graveyard because originally it was meant for *Ahle Islam*. (Note: In 95% of graves in this section of the graveyard Ahmadis are buried). They also demanded that Ahmadiyya mosque be sealed as it was "the hub of Qadiani conspiracies against Islam".

The way Punjab has pursued 'Islamisation' vigorously under the lead of PML-Q and PTI, would make Zia feel guilty in his grave for not having thought of such pious rules and acts in support of "Islam" in 1980s.

## **Punjab Assembly passes *Tahaffuz-e-Bunyad-e-Islam* Bill — theocracy vigorously on the march**

### **Politicizing of religion reaches still higher level at the hand of mullas, PML-Q and PTI**

**Lahore; July 22, 2020:** Punjab Assembly passed this bill; its vernacular title can be translated as Protection of the Foundation of Islam Bill, 2020. Mr. Pervaiz Elahi (of PML-Q) the Speaker called this Bill historic and stated that it will prove to be a milestone on the road to protection (*Hifazat*) and supremacy (*Sarbulandi*) of Islam. The Bill was passed unanimously.

A media report on this event is reproduced below to provide an overview of this 'historic' legislation:

**Punjab Assembly passes Tahaffuz-e-Bunyard-e-Islam Bill**

**LAHORE:** The Punjab Assembly on Wednesday passed the Tahaffuz-e-Bunyard-e-Islam Bill 2020 which gives the Directorate General Public Relations (DGPR) powers to visit and inspect any printing press, publication house, book store and confiscate any book, before or after printing.

The new law bars the printing and publication of objectionable material and also bars the publisher, editor or translator from printing or publishing any book and material that consists of photographs or pictures of suicide bombers, terrorists, except as required by the enforcing agencies for purposes of investigation.

The new law has also made it mandatory that “the blessed name of Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) shall be preceded by the *title Khatam-an-Nabiyyeen* or *Khatam-un-Nabiyyeen* followed by ‘*Sallallahu alaihi wasallam*’ (*darood*) in Arabic text.

The new law also states that “every publisher of books shall be bound to provide memoranda of all books, published by him, to the authorized officer, after every three months with other details.”

It adds, “Every importer of books shall be bound to provide memoranda of all books imported in the province by him, within fifteen days of import of books to the authorized officer.”

The “book” according to the law includes “every volume, part or division of a volume, and pamphlet, in any language and every sheet of music, sign, map, chart or plan separately printed or reprinted or reproduced, lithographed or produced in any soft form, disc or any other similar device etc., used for digital or electronic storage, other than a newspaper,

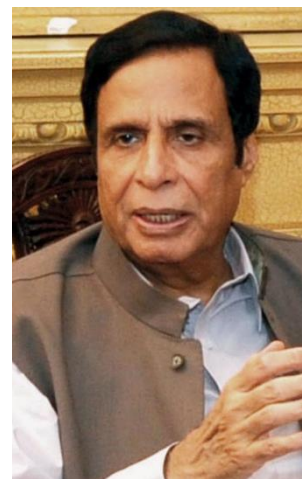
magazine, journal, newsletter and the textbook defined under the Punjab Curriculum and Textbook Board Act.”

The law also gives the DGPR power to refuse permission to import, print or publish a book “If it is prejudicial to the national interest, culture, religious and sectarian harmony.”

As per the bill, the authorized officer will get four copies of the book, on its printing day with the relevant text and maps.

“The publisher on the same day of printing of a book shall provide four copies of every edition of a book, together with all maps, prints or other engraving belonging thereto finished and colored in the same manner as the best copies of the same, to the authorized officer concerned or to such officers and at such place, as the Government may notify,” read the bill.

The punishment for failing to comply with the law would result in imprisonment of either description for a term which may “extend to five years and with fine which may extend to Rs 500,000.”



Punjab Assembly Speaker Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi after the passage of the bill said, “This bill will prove to be a milestone in the protection of Islam and its supremacy. The federation and provinces should follow us in this regard.” He added that a bill like this should be passed by

Centre and provinces and should be enforced all over Pakistan. “The Section Number 3/F of this bill should be Article 295 of Pakistan Penal Code 1860,” the Speaker said.

The Speaker also praised Hafiz Ammar Yasir as well as opposition leader Hamza Shahbaz, provincial education minister Murad Rass and other MPAs who played their full role in the passage of this bill. “About a year back, the matter of three such books came into notice in which filthy and blasphemous language was used.”

<p>(7) The blessed name of any of the wives (ازواج مطہرات رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وآلہ وسلم) of the Last Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) Ummahat-ul-Momineen (صحابيات المؤمنات) shall be preceded by the title Umm-ul-Momineen (امامہ المؤمنات) and shall be followed by رضى الله عنہا.</p> <p>(8) The blessed name of any of the four Khulfa-e-Rashideen (نبي مرسلين) shall be preceded by the title Khalifa-e-Rashid (خليفة راشد) or Rightly Guided Caliph or Ameer-ul-Momineen (امير المؤمنين) and shall be followed by رضى الله عنہ.</p> <p>(9) The blessed name of any of the four blessed daughters or any of the three blessed sons (ارواح مطہرات رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وآلہ وسلم) of the Last Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) shall be followed by رضى الله عنہم or رضى الله عنہا.</p>
--

**Sample: Articles 8 (7), (8) and (9) of the Bill**



“At that time our party member Hafiz Ammar Yasir moved a resolution in the Punjab Assembly in this regard which was unanimously approved. I constituted a special committee headed by Law Minister which did very good work,” he added.

Would a reading of this Bill not lead one to think of a fascist state?

In addition to the above following news/info on this issue are relevant:

- Shia Ulama reject Tahaffuz-e-Bunyad-e-Islam Bill.

*The Daily Express, Faisalabad, July 26, 2020*

- Maulana Tariq Jamil and Maulana Tahir Ashrafi call on Shujaat, Pervaiz Elahi. (Both sides exchanged compliments for their services to religion).

*The Daily Express, Faisalabad, July 17, 2020*



**Mulla Tahir Ashrafi**

- The government (PTI) and allies are united: Governor Punjab and Moonis Elahi (PML-Q) meet

*The Daily Express, Faisalabad, July 25, 2020*

- HRCP warns Punjab Assembly of fueling bigotry. Lahore, 24 July

*The Human Rights...hrcp.web.org*

- When Punjab Assembly was busy passing this Bill, it reminded one of Nazis. Giant companies like Amazon, Google and Wish were mindful of the extremely dangerous consequences of such philosophies and took steps to remove neo-Nazi and white-supremacist products being sold on their platforms. Google told BBC: “We don’t allow ads or products

that are sold on our platforms that display shocking content or promote hatred. We enforce these policies vigorously and take action when we determine they are breached.”

- In a letter placed on social media by a Shia leader, serious objections have been raised against the Bill drawing the following conclusions:

“In conclusion, I regret to say that as this inept government has completely failed in solving problems faced by the people, it is agitating sectarian issues in the civil society through religious debates in assemblies; the aim is to divert people’s attention from real issues. Sectarianism is scorching fire; unfortunately those officially responsible to fight this fire, are fanning it... . This disputed Bill will have to be totally discarded, or it will have to provide protection to Shia belief (*Aqaid*).”

*Syed Hasnain Abbas Kazimi (Zanjani)*

- In a BBC report of January 17, 2020 on this issue it was mentioned that, “In a statement issued by Punjab Assembly, it was a unanimous decision of a Special Committee, under the chair of the Muhammad Basharat Raja, the law Minister that ‘the three books’ and the daily Al-Fazl will be banned.” Al-Fazl was the Ahmadiyya daily and Ahmadi have challenge the Special Committee to quote even one extract of a few lines from any issue of this daily over the past, let’s say five years, that the Committee finds blasphemous, even objectionable. The Committee’s inability to do that, would be a seal on the absurdity and sham nature of its accusations.
- The bill was passed unanimously. A few days later, after the furore by a section of the civil society, some MPAs, most of them Shia, joined the chorus of protest. When asked why did they support the Bill in the first instance, their reply was that they did not take this religious Bill seriously, and did not even read its contents prior to the vote. This response

says a great deal about law-making and law-makers of this mighty but leaderless province.

Mr. Pervaiz Elahi audaciously recommended to the Centre that Section Number 3/T of this Bill should be (in) Article 295 of PPC. This section is perhaps the most controversial part of this Bill, while Article 295 of PPC is a blasphemy law, so the Punjab Speaker proposed it to become more hurtful. PML-Q appears to endeavor to take away the masses' religious leadership from mullas.

An opinion of Farooq Adil published in the *Daily Express* is very relevant on this issue. It is readable and is produced as 'op-ed' in section "From the media" of this report.

Finally, over 200 elite members of civil society have written a letter to the Punjab Assembly, registering concerns regarding this Bill. This letter is now also open for public signature. It is an excellent expose' of the Bill in its legal and constitutional aspects as also its violation of international law. An extract:

*"This bill is also in breach of Article 19-A of the constitution, which protects the right to access to information. The concept of glory of Islam, national interest, culture and sectarian harmony cannot be allowed to be misused and become a tool for whimsical, arbitrary, subjective, untintured, dictatorial or reasonable censorship and control publications."*

And Punjab Assembly proposes other provinces and federation to follow its lead charted by mullas, PML-Q.

## **LHCBA wants Ahmadis barred from sacrificing animals**

*Lahore:* The daily *Dawn*, Lahore published the following two-column story in its Metro (Central) section on July 29, 2020:

### **LHCBA wants Ahmadis barred from sacrificing animals**

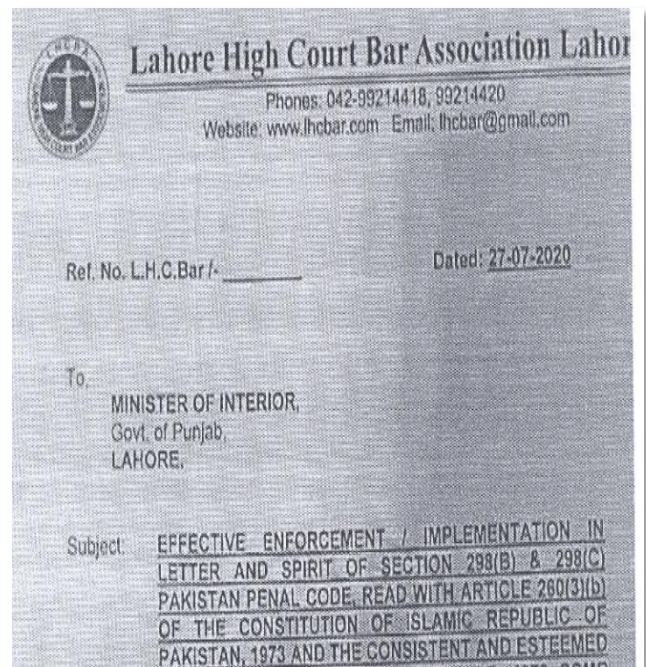
By Our Staff Reporter

**Lahore:** The Lahore High Court Bar Association (LHCBA) has demanded the federal interior ministry to restrain the Ahmadi community from adopting Islamic rite of sacrificing animals on Eidul Azha, in implementation of the constitutional provisions and judgments of the Supreme Court.

In a letter written to the interior minister, the bar states that under Article 260 (3) of the Constitution, the Qadiani or Lahori group, who called themselves Ahmadi or by any other names, have been declared non-Muslim since September 17, 1974.

It says "Qurbani" being Sunnat-i-Ibrahimi (AS) as well as Sunnat-i-Muhammad (PBUH) the last prophet of Almighty Allah, is exclusively performed by the Muslims on the first three days of Eidul Azha in the month of Zilhaj.

The letter, bearing signatures of LHCBA President Tahir Nasrallah Waraich, explains that the Constitution and the Supreme Court in its several decisions have clearly prohibited the Qadiani or Lahori group (non-Muslim) from performing *Shaair-i-Islam* (Islamic rites).



It points out that record shows that every year on the occasion of Eidul Azha so many reports/FIRs are filed showing that the Ahmadi community openly violates the provisions of the Constitution and the binding law laid down by the apex court.

The bar asks the minister to issue a direction to Punjab Police to take all necessary and requisite

preventive measures for effectively restraining the Ahmadi community from adopting Islamic rite of "Qurbani" on the upcoming Eidul Azha.

A copy of the letter was also sent to the inspector general of Punjab police.

Some of the arguments given above by the LHCBA can be easily and summarily rubbished before any fair judge. The Constitution lays down in its Article 20: "Subject to law, public order and morality a) every citizen shall have the right to profess, practice and propagate his religion; and b) every religious denomination and every sect thereof shall have the right to establish maintain and manage its religious institutions."

Also it appears that the LHCBA leadership is ignorant of all the international Declarations, Conventions, Covenants etc to which Pakistan is signatory and is accountable in law to the international community. It would be surprising if even five percent of these lawyers have ever read the 1981 Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief. For open instigation and demand to violate these solemn international obligations, that can be very harmful, the LHCBA's letter is obviously an anti-state deliberate activity.

It may be further stated that no law whatsoever exists in Pakistan that forbids Ahmadis sacrifice cattle on Eidul Azha.

The bigotry of the Lahore lawyers, as displayed by LHCBA in the above report is phenomenal. This body seems to have become subservient to factious like Khatme Nabuwat Lawyers Forum. They could arguably claim to be the most ardent votaries of the infamous *Wukala Gardi*.

## **Evil brain-washing of minors through school homework**

*Dogri Ghuman, District Sialkot; July 2020:* Schools were closed in District Sialkot, and students of 7<sup>th</sup> grade of The Educators School, Umar Campus Bun Bajwa, were given vocational homework. The homework given to students by a

teacher, who is more of a bigot than an educationist, included a questionnaire on *Khatm-e-Nabuwat* (End of Prophethood) with derogatory and insulting language about the holy founder of the Ahmadiyya Community. Following questions were included (translation from vernacular):

- What is the name of the village of the false claimant to Prophecy, the 'cursed' Mirza Ghulam Qadiani?
- Where is this place located?
- From what city was this 'cursed' person transferred to hell (*die*)?
- In which city of Pakistan, these infidel *Mirzaees* are found in majority?
- Do you know that Mirza Qadiani was one-eyed?
- What do we call a denier of *Khatam-e-Nabuwat* in Islam?
- What is meant by "*La Nabi-a-Baad*"?
- Translate, "*Bad az Khuda buzurg tui qissa mukhtasar*"
- What is meant by *Khatam-e-Nabuwat*?

Almost unbelievable and perhaps the only such school in the whole world, with such low moral and ethical level!

Faced with this situation, parents of Ahmadi students of the school decided not to send their children to this school anymore. When this decision was conveyed to the principal he asked Ahmadi parents to tear up the questionnaire. In fact, he should have first fired the felon as unfit to be a teacher.

This questionnaire for teenage students, in its vernacular original, will remain in Ahmadiyya archives as a sample of depth to which certain elements in Pakistan's education system had sunk in the year 2020.

We provide copy of the original vernacular homework in the Annex with a heavy and distressed heart.

## Ahmadis excluded from sports tournament

*Attock, Punjab; July, 2020:* Organizers of the Saleem Nisar, Ashfaq Memorial Tape Ball Cricket Tournament 2020 planned and advertised this tournament scheduled for the post-Eid holiday. The publicity sheet boldly mentioned the following:



**”Note: Qadianis will not be allowed to participate in our tournament.”**

This publicity sheet further mentioned that the tournament was being held under the aegis of Sardars Mazhar Khan, Amjad Khan and Haider Ali Khan. Mr. Tahir Malik, Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Malik Fayyaz etc. were mentioned for ‘their great support’. The managing committee comprised Malik Shahzad, Raja Riasat, Zeeshan Malik etc. Mr. Khalid Mahmud, Aamar Shehzad and two others were mentioned as chief organizers.

This tournament was to be held in District Attock where a few months ago a lady Assistant Commissioner Ms. Jannat Husain was persecuted for saying a few words in support of minorities. These bigots do not realize that by such actions they are providing a precedence and model for religion-based tyranny to the neighbors across the Wagah border.

## Authorities promote ‘Islamisation’ — further

*Bado Malhi, District Narowal; July 2020:* A boy, 15 years old, son of Ahmadi parents, but urged by non-Ahmadi relatives has been persuaded to approach police and judicial authorities to switch over to ‘Islam’. The authorities are acting pious in favour of relatives.

Munib Ahmad son of Mr. Bashir Ahmad, Ahmadi is residing with his father and grandmother; his mother died sometimes back. His father got him fixed at his brother’s business as apprentice. The brother, Mr. Shafique Ahmad is not an Ahmadi.

Mr. Shafique Ahmad found it opportune to wean him away to the mainstream Islam and told him to delink himself from his father. At this, the father approached Bado Malhi police to assist in getting back his son. Shafique, in turn, made the boy write an application to the police that he wished to accept Islam, for that he had been maltreated and tortured by Ahmadis. This was a lie.

The police, while handling this case, seem to uphold and support ‘Islam’, and to that end have been harsh with Ahmadis.

The issue is now with session’s court, and the court officials are employees of the Islamic Republic.

Ahmadis are apprehensive that the mullas will agitate and make it a sectarian issue.

The boy is still a minor. He should be reverted to his father. As for his religion and belief, he should be free to decide for himself, when he becomes an adult. Simple as that.

## Authorities happily respond to absurdities of bigots in Narowal

*Miadi Nano, District Narowal; July 13, 2020:*

The police personnel came here in the evening to inquire into the Ahmadiyya mosque. They referred to ‘agencies report’ that Ahmadis had written *Kalima* (the creed) and verses of the Holy Quran in their mosque and had built minarets. Similarly, they say *Azan* (call for prayer) on loudspeakers, to which other Muslims object. At this they were informed that this mosque was constructed 65 years ago. Moreover, neither the *Azan* (call for prayer) nor the *Khutba* (Friday sermon) are said on loudspeakers. We have good terms with the Ahl-e-Sunnat sect, Ahmadis told

the police. At this the police inspector demanded an affidavit from both the parties.

Accordingly, the Jamaat Ahmadiyya submitted an affidavit stating that Ahmadiyya Bait ul Zikr was built in 1955 and no additions have been undertaken. Also, neither the call to prayer nor the sermon is given on loudspeakers. There is no tension between Jamaat Ahmadiyya and Jamaat Ahl-e-Sunnat, and both parties share each other's joys and sorrows.

Similarly, Jamaat Ahl-e-Sunnat gave in writing that the relationship between Jamaat Ahmadiyya and Jamaat Ahl-e-Sunnat in the village is very good. There is no tension between them. Ahmadiyya Bait ul Zikr was built in 1955 and no changes have been made to it. No calls for prayer or Friday sermon are given on the loudspeakers.

It is learnt that the police have made similar inquiries over Ahmadiyya mosques in other locations in District Narowal. Agencies reports initiated these pointless inquiries. It is unbecoming for the state officials to be at the beck and call of religious bigots.

## **Fanatic attitude of the court in the case of Ahmadis**

*Lahore; July 2020:* A police case was registered against Mr. Rohan Ahmad, as also senior Ahmadi leadership Syed Khalid Ahmad Shah, Malik Khalid Masood, Mirza Fazal Ahmad, Mr. Salik Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad based in Rabwah, under PPCs 298-C, 295-B, 120-B, 109, 34, PECA-11 in FIR Nr. 29 at police station FIA Cyber Crime Lahore on May 26, 2020. PPC 298-C is an anti-Ahmadiyya clause, while 295-B is a blasphemy clause. Mr. Rohan Ahmad was arrested on May 27, 2020 and is currently held at Kot Lakhpat Jail, Lahore. If declared guilty, even the accused who are not involved in this incident, could all be imprisoned for life.

Among the other named accused, an application was filed in the court of Additional Sessions Judge FIA (Federal Investigation

Agency) for interim bail of Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad. The interim bail application was granted on May 29, 2020 and its confirmation proceedings were fixed in the court of Justice Misbah Khan. However, as she was on leave till August 15, the hearing was held in her place by Justice Naeem Sheikh, Additional Sessions Judge on duty with Cyber Crimes. More than 15 lawyers and several clerics from the opposition came to the hearing on July 7, 2020. The judge seemed to be under pressure as his attitude was biased and aggressive. The judge wanted to decide the issue same day, but the defense lawyer asked for another date on ground that the FIA had not investigated the role of the accused Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad. At this, the judge ordered this part of the investigation and gave July 9, 2020 as the date of next hearing. So, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad were interrogated in Lahore by the FIA on July 8, 2020. The interrogation lasted about four hours.

On July 9 both these accused appeared in the court. In view of the court's bias, the defense filed a petition for transfer of the case to another court. At this, the judge ordered that on July 16 he will first decide on the transfer application and then on the bail application.

On July 16, both the nominated accused appeared before the judge. He rejected as per current rules the request for a change of court.

Later that day, the bail confirmation case was heard. A large number of lawyers and mullas were present in and out of the court as a bunch to put pressure on the court and cause a commotion. There was a distinct possibility of any untoward incident, as such no bail was expected from the court. In view of these circumstances, the accused did not appear before the court. Justice Naeem Sheikh dismissed the bail application on the ground of non-appearance in the court.

The FIA, Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore has wrongfully teamed up with mullas like Hasan Muawiyah in this case and has committed itself to its unfair and unjustified plan to persecute Ahmadi leaders who are not involved in this case.

This conduct of senior officials of the FIA is unbecoming and reprehensible. The Cyber Crimes laws were promulgated to fight sinister and nefarious cyber crimes and not to prosecute academics involved in education and research. The top officials will do well to reconsider their policy and *modus operandi* of implementation of this law. Close links with corrupt mullas like Muawiyah is not in the interest of FIA, a national institution concerned with security in the land of pure.

### **Ahmadi university student faces hate and discrimination**

**GC University Faisalabad; July 2020:** Syed Haris Javed S/O Syed Muzaffar Javed, an Ahmadi student of GC University Faisalabad had kept his belief to himself. Recently some of his class fellows came to know of his faith. They telephoned him on June 23, 2020 and abused him. Then some other class-fellows from Faisalabad city launched a hateful propaganda against him on Facebook and WhatsApp group of his university fellows.

Mr. Javed had to switch off his mobile phone and delete his social media accounts in the face of such hateful threatening propaganda. He feels very disturbed and worried. He has been advised to take precautions.

### **Ahmadis victimized in District Dera Ghazi Khan**

**Basti Ahmadpur, Jhakkar Imam Shah, District Dera Ghazi Khan; July 2020:** An online hostile campaign was undertaken here against Ahmadis of District Dera Ghazi Khan. The opponents told the locals that sale/purchase from Ahmadi shopkeepers is prohibited in *Shariah*. Photos of some of the Ahmadis were shared on social media with a cross sign and the phrase: "Ahmadis are infidels, they pretend to be Muslim; they are promoting *Qadianiat* among Muslims, they blackmail Muslims after giving loans".

On Friday, July 17, opponents made anti-Ahmadiyya speeches here and put up anti-Ahmadi stickers on Ahmadis' shops in the bazaar.

On July 20, a police constable came and took photos of the Ahmadiyya mosque and said that he wanted to photograph graves in the Ahmadiyya cemetery. The keys were not readily available, so he broke the lock and took pictures of some graves. Later, Ahmadi security man reported that the opponents had climbed over the wall of the graveyard at night and taken pictures of the gravestones and minarets of the mosque. Based on this, the opponents have sent an application to the Assistant Commissioner. It is feared that they will damage gravestones and minarets.

These days Madrassa Usmania is hosting some bully boys of the Irshad Haqqani Network. Local Ahmadis had to improve their security and take precautions. The opponents have told them to leave the area.

### **An Ahmadi faces departmental inquiry for his faith**

**Railway Line, Rawalpindi; July 07, 2020:** Mr. Shakeel Ahmad, an Ahmadi, has been working in Rawalpindi in Railways for the last thirty-one years. Now he is a foreman. One of his department fellows created problems for him on religious grounds and lodged an application against him for departmental action. He wrote that the foreman was a non-Muslim but posed as a Muslim and quoted the Holy Quran and Hadith wrongly. Other workers broke the utensils used by the foreman, because he was a non-Muslim, wrote the bigot.

In response, the department asked Mr. Shakeel to explain. He submitted in writing his answers to the allegations. A departmental officer told Shakeel sympathetically to not feel disturbed. Mr. Shakeel has been advised to take precautions.

### **Freedom of religion denied**

**Kotli Nathumalhi, Distt. Narowal, Punjab; July 2020:** Two policemen visited the local

Ahmadiyya mosque and told the Ahmadiyya administration to see the SHO in the police station. It was learnt that someone had lodged a complaint on the Citizen Portal Punjab stating that Ahmadiyya community have written the *Kalima* in their mosque. Ahmadis met the SHO who conveniently told them to erase the *Kalima* from the mosque. The *Kalima* was written on the Ahmadiyya mosque thirty years ago.

This disturbed the Ahmadis greatly, they met higher administration and political persons, and told them their version. Ahmadis also met the DPO Narowal, explained him the real situation, and made it clear that Ahmadis would never erase these sacred inscriptions nor would allow any civilian do that. The DPO said that the issue would be decided in a high-level meeting.

Similar messages were received by Ahmadis in Qayampur Sarakwala, Bobak Murali and Narowal City from the administration to erase religious inscriptions from the Ahmadiyya mosques. Ahmadis conveyed that they would never erase the sacred inscriptions nor would allow any civilian do that.

The authorities tend to violate Ahmadis' human rights simply to placate the mulla.

## **How long will Pakistan continue to marginalize Ahmadis? — An Op-ed**

*Tribune.com.pk*; May 5, 2020: Mr. Raza Habib Raja, a scholar at Syracuse University wrote an article with the above title for the Express Tribune; it was published with the



qualification that the views expressed “do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Express Tribune.” The article, however is readable and of great merit; we produce below a few extracts:

“...One thing I have often heard from some ‘moderate’ Pakistanis is that we are more rational and

thoughtful than Indians since religious parties here have not been voted into power. Many a times I have heard people say that we don't have a popular “fundamentalist” party like the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in India. As I have written before, this assertion is far too simplistic. Back in August 2018, while analyzing the result of the 2018 elections, I wrote:

“The problem is that these aggregate numbers hide a far more complex story. Yes, religious parties do not get seats, but that does not mean the Pakistani electorate does not give weight to religious sloganeering and is immune to the weaponisation of sensitive religious matters.” That election saw the intense politicization of the sensitive issue regarding the finality of Prophethood. While the newly founded Tehrik-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) spearheaded that campaign, the two mainstream conservative parties, namely Pakistan Muslim League–Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf (PTI), also evoked this issue continuously for political gains. In fact, on this particular issue, the difference between religious and mainstream parties began to blur to such an extent that they became virtually indistinguishable from one another.

Since the issue of the finality of Prophethood has become invariably linked with Pakistan's marginalized Ahmadiyya community, every time it is politicized, hatred and vitriol against the community also increases. It was perhaps the rise in political temperature around this issue that led to the Atif Mian fiasco, due to which a brilliant economist was made to resign from the economic advisory council just because of his faith. That incident placed Pakistan in an extremely negative international spotlight since it highlighted the collective bigotry rampant in our society and the inability of our government to show some spine.

Unfortunately, Pakistan continues to be on the same trajectory. During the last few days, another extremely virulent anti-Ahmadi campaign has been making rounds on social media. Hashtags like (Qadianis are not a minority but traitors) and (Qadianis are worst infidels in the world) have been among the top trending hashtags on Twitter in Pakistan lately, and the tweets carrying these hashtags reek of extraordinary bigotry and vile hatred against the



*An Ahmadiyya graveyard*

Ahmadi community. The reason this matter is once again being drummed up on social media is because a few days ago the federal cabinet reportedly approved, in principle, the inclusion of Ahmadis in the National Commission for Minorities. Now, since Ahmadis have already been declared to be non-Muslims in 1974 due to the Second Amendment and are therefore legally a minority, this should not have been controversial. However, once again, unfortunately the matter was immediately and needlessly politicized. In fact, the 'first' move came from a government ally, Pakistan Muslim League—Quaid (PML-Q), whose President Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain objected to the inclusion of Ahmadis in the commission on the grounds that they don't accept the constitution of Pakistan.

Following this, PTI's Religious Affairs Minister Pir Noorul Haq Qadri reportedly asked that the federal cabinet should be approached to review this matter. As the news spread and the backlash ensued on social media from right-wing circles, the government started to adopt a defensive position. In order to distance itself from the decision, some Ministers like Ali Muhammad Khan started to indulge in a similar kind of vitriol. For a sitting minister to engage in such behavior is extremely irresponsible and simply unacceptable. When it comes to Ahmadis, most political leaders in Pakistan, instead of showing some responsibility, merely try to outdo

each other in their displays of bigotry and hatred towards them.

Unfortunately, in Pakistan, it seems like religious hardliners are hell-bent on marginalizing Ahmadis as much as they can; and the problem is that the government invariably always capitulates. This capitulation from the government will only further embolden such zealots. As I write these words, social media is rife with dehumanizing and horrendous comments about Ahmadis, with some suggesting that they should now be declared blasphemers and apostates and therefore should be given a death sentence by the state. It is ironic that the same lot is often crying about the plight of Muslims in India. They were protesting at the top of their voices when India passed the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) in 2019 which discriminated against Muslim immigrants, yet they themselves want to apply the same exclusionary criteria when it comes to Ahmadis.

What we as a society need to understand is that our moral case regarding atrocities being carried out against Muslims in other countries is immensely weakened when we ourselves are guilty of perhaps even worse mistreatment of our own minorities. When we are not willing to treat our minorities as equal citizens then we should not be complaining about the mistreatment of Muslims elsewhere in the world. If we



truly wish to become a tolerant nation then Ahmadis must be treated as equal citizens in Pakistan.

<https://tribune.com.pk/article/96024/how-long-will-Pakistan-continue-to-marginalise-ahmadis>

## **Profile in courage — Khawaja Muhammad Asif MNA**

*Islamabad; July 2020:* Mr. Raja, an academic recently wrote in his op-ed, “When it comes to Ahmadis, most political leaders in Pakistan, instead of showing some responsibility, merely try to outdo each other in their display of bigotry and hatred toward them.” This is true to some extent with respect to other religious minorities as well. However, in a National Assembly debate reported by GNN on July 9, Khawaja Muhammad Asif, MNA from Sialkot most frankly and courageously spoke on minorities’ freedom of religion. His discourse is worth placing on record. He spoke in Urdu; we provide below its English translation:

“An organized campaign goes on in social media in Pakistan against minorities. Caricatures are being published. It is shameful that in our country minorities are not safe. It is our duty to uphold the sanctity and protection of their places of worship. (*Cheers*). Whatever happened here in 1980s, damaged our thought and perception. This produced such fault lines (in our national landscape) that could, God forbid, cause our ruin. In 1960s and 1970s we had plenty of tolerance here... .

“In New York, I myself offered my Eid prayers in a church. This is unthinkable here. This land belongs to (all) 220 million citizens. (*Cheers*). There is no license for any religion to be superior to others. (Note: At this there was a vocal protest from some Jamaat Islami and JUI members). In response Khawaja Asif said that these were the people who called the Quaid-i-Azam, a Kafir-i-Azam. They had no such teaching (*Tarbiyat*) while I was imparted Quaid-i-Azam’s teaching. (*Cheers*). My comment (on religions’ comparison) was with reference to politics. It is incumbent on us, the representatives of people to promote tolerance (*rawadari*) and unity in this country. We should promote the *Sunnah* of the Holy Prophet. In his and his Khalifas’ time, minorities felt secure. *Wa ma alenaa illal blagh* (We are duty-bound to be frank and

explicit).”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?=7RtTRZF3x0>

This speech will go down in history of the National Assembly as one of the few great ones.

## **Ahmadis behind bars**

1. A contrived case was registered against four Ahmadis, Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Mr. Ghulam Ahmad, Mr. Ihsan Ahmad and Mr. Mubashir Ahmad of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura under PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in Police Station Sharaqpur. Two days later Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody, on May 16, 2014. The remaining three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. A year later the deadly clause PPC 295-C was added to their charge-sheet at the suggestion of a high court judge. A sessions judge sentenced them to death on October 11, 2017. Appeal against this decision was then made to the Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to hear them for more than two and half years. These three Ahmadis are in prison for 6 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 for two and half years.
3. Mr. Waqar Ahmad student of Jamia Ahmadiyya, Syed Mubashir Ahmad Ayaz Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya and Mr. Muhammad Azhar Mangla lecturer in Jamia Ahmadiyya were booked for sharing Quranic material on social media, under cyber crime law on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019, with FIR No 152/2019 of Police Station FIA Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore under anti-Ahmadiyya law PPC 298-C, blasphemy laws 295-B and 295-A, PECA-11 and PPCs

- 120-B, 109 and 34. Mr. Waqar Ahmad was arrested.
4. A fabricated police case was registered against Ms. Ramzan Bibi of Chak no. 120 RB Cheleki, District Nankana under blasphemy clause PPC 295-C. She was booked on April 30, 2020 in police station Sadr Sangla Hill with FIR Nr. 275/20, arrested and sent to Central Jail Sheikhupura. She is fifty-five years old.
  5. Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad, Hafiz Tariq Shehzad and unknown persons composer, proof reader, writer, computer operator and owners of phone no. 0333-6708729, 0322-4374750, 0333-6678820 were booked for sharing a WhatsApp message regarding essay writing and general knowledge quiz competition 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 that works under Federal Investigation Agency conducted a raid on the house of Mr. Rohan Ahmad of Wapda Town, Lahore, tortured and arrested him. He is currently at Camp Jail, Lahore. If declared guilty, he could be imprisoned for life.

## From the media

- **Islamic symbols removed from Ahmadiyya graveyard**  
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2020*
- **LHCBA wants Ahmadis barred from sacrificing animals**  
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 29, 2020*
- **Peshawar: Murderer of the blasphemy accused in police custody on physical remand**  
*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 30, 2020*
- **Hindu and Qadiani lobby will not be allowed to thrive: World Pasbaan-e-Khatam-e-Nabuwwat**  
*The daily Mashriq; Lahore, July 7, 2020*

- **We'll go all the way for mission Khatam-e-Nabuwwat: Qari Nadeem**  
*The daily Ausaf; Lahore, July 31, 2020*
- **Action should be taken against Qadianis for animal sacrifices (letter of President Lahore High Court Bar to Interior Ministry)**  
*The daily Pakistan; Lahore, July 29, 2020*
- **PM orders consultation with CII over construction of Hindu temple**  
*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 4, 2020*
- **Azan, Friday prayer and Ordugan's recitation in Hagia Sophia after 86 years. Sermon by Imam holding sword.**  
*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 25, 2020*
- **We'll continue to provide all possible cooperation to ensure Saudi Arabia's security: (Pak) Foreign Minister**  
*Express RSS; July 26, 2020*
- **At least 17 killed in Afghanistan car blast (on Haj day)**  
*BBC, Top Stories; July 31, 2020*
- **UK imposes sanctions against human rights abusers**  
*BBC, Top Stories; July 7, 2020*
- **UK accuses China of 'gross' abuses against Uighurs**  
*BBC, Top Stories; July 19, 2020*
- **UK makes citizenship offer to Hong Kong residents**  
*BBC, Top Stories; July 2, 2020*
- **(UK PM) Johnson warns Israel against West Bank annexation**  
*BBC, Top Stories; July 1, 2020*
- **Hundreds of millions owed by sugar mills to farmers: Sharif**  
*Express RSS; July 29, 2020*
- **Uzair Baloch admitted 158 murders. Those involved in crimes are (sitting) in parliament: Ali Zaidi, Shibli Faraz**  
*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 8, 2020*
- **Maulana Tariq Jamil and Maulana Tahir Ashrafi call on Shujaat, Pervaiz Elahi. (Both sides complimented each other for distinguished services to religion.)**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 17, 2020*

- **2020 Bill on Protection of Foundation of Islam approved, history is made: Pervaiz Elahi (PML-Q Speaker Punjab Assembly)**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 23, 2020*

- **Shia Ulama reject Tahaffuz-e-Bunyad-e-Islam Bill (of Punjab)**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 26, 2020*

- **Tahaffuz-e-Bunyad-e-Islam Bill is an effort to forcibly impose certain sectarian beliefs (on all): Raja Nasir (of Wahdat Muslimeen-Shia)**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 27, 2020*

- **Heart shedding tears of blood over situation in Karachi: Sindh High Court**

*Express RSS; July 24, 2020*

- **Construction of a new (Hindu) temple in Islamabad violates the spirit of Islam: Pervaiz Elahi (PML-Q)**

*Express RSS; July 2, 2020*

- **The government and allies are united: Governor Punjab and Moonis Elahi (PML-Q) meet**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 25, 2020*

- **Lahore: Speaker Ch. Pervaiz Elahi receives Ibtisam Elahi Zaheer, the Chief Organizer of Central Ahle Hadith and his delegation**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 29, 2020*

- **Chillas: CTD action, 5 officials and 2 civilian martyred, 5 officials injured**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 29, 2020*

- **22 Sikh pilgrims die in train-van collision at Farooqabad**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 4, 2020*

- **Pakistan borrowed \$29.2 billion in last two financial years: Ministry of Finance**

*The Daily Express; Faisalabad, July 25, 2020*

### **Op-ed: Winds of change in the religion and Pakistan**

Here is a challenge for Pakistan. It has full potential to push the region in a new marsh of terrorism in the name of Islam as before; while its

alternate challenge is the rapid arrival of change that will affect society deeply, not only the economy but also the regional politics. Under these circumstances internal stability is very important in Pakistan to ensure national interest in economy, society and politics. Adequate attention in this regard is not apparent. As for the opinion that Pakistan is absent from the ongoing changes in the region, the recent Imran—Hasina Wajid contact has nullified that.

*Farooq Adil in the Daily Express of July 27, 2020*

### **Op-ed: Behind the culture of impunity**

.... In the latest episode, a systematic campaign by religious extremist groups, publicly supported by Pakistan Muslim League (Quaid-i-Azam)—one of the key political allies of the ruling Pakistan Tehrik-i-Insaf (PTI)—compelled Capital Development Authority to halt the construction of first-ever Hindu temple in Islamabad.

*Waqar Gillani in the daily The News on July 12, 2020*

### **Op-ed: Do we live in a fascist state?**

Oxford Dictionary defines Fascism as “System of government and social organization that is dictatorial and right-wing nationalism.” .... According to (Lawrence) Burt a fascist state has 14 attributes; let’s see if Pakistan qualifies:

#### **10. Religious extremism**

In any fascist state, religious lobby is the most powerful. In our country, black-mailing in the name of religion is a norm. Despite the bloody riots in the Lal Masjid, none is in a position to hold Maulana Abdul Aziz accountable. The regular rumpus over moon-sighting show that reason has no value with them and the final word will be that of those who wear religious garb.

*Muhammad Ovais in [express.pk/story/2064326/464](https://www.express.pk/story/2064326/464)*

### **Op-ed: Dare to print a book in the Punjab!**

As law after law is being enacted to protect Pakistan's ideological identity, it appears to be more insecure than before.

For example, the Objective Resolution passed in 1949 meant to maintain the ideological foundation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was made part of the Preamble to the 1973 Constitution.

Under this constitution, there is a Council of Islamic Ideology to ascertain if a legislation violates the Qur'an and Sunnah. Ahmadis were declared non-Muslim minority 46 years ago under the Constitution, and are legally prohibited from undertaking Islamic rites openly, under additional laws.

Under the Section PPC 295-C, blasphemy against the Holy Prophet and the Quran is punishable by death and blasphemy against other holy persons is punishable by severe punishment. The oath of parliamentary and constitutional offices also includes the statement that one firmly believes in the end of prophethood.

The identity card of a Muslim citizen cannot be issued without signing an oath of unqualified belief in the end of prophethood.

Despite this, the heart and mind keep pounding all the time that these institutions, laws and punishments may not be enough. Is there a need to strengthen them further?

Faced with this anxiety the Assembly of the largest province unanimously passed the Punjab Tahaffuz-e-Bunyad-e-Islam Bill (Protection of the Foundation of Islam) last Thursday (July 23).

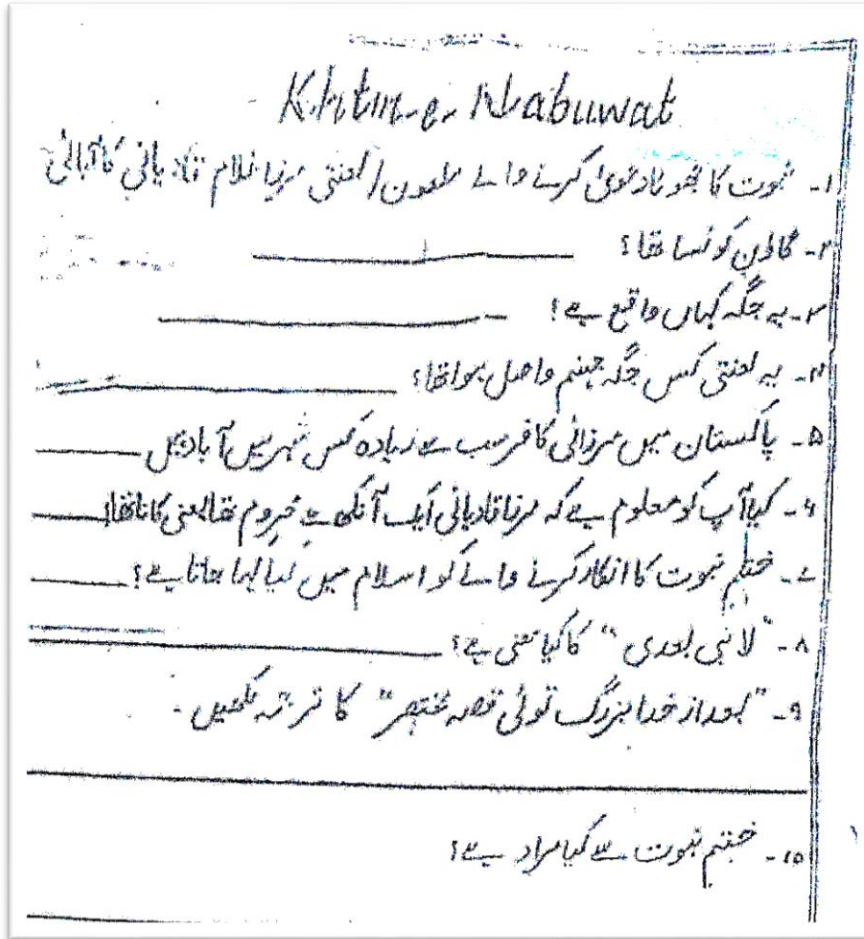
*Wusat Ullah Khan, [bbc.com/urdu/Pakistan-53545026](http://bbc.com/urdu/Pakistan-53545026)*

### **Op-ed: The fate of minorities in Pakistan**

... A country, which was envisioned to be a home for all, without regard to one's caste, creed or religion, to provide equal rights to all citizens of the state, and a state that was not to interfere with the religious beliefs of its citizens has failed miserably in honoring the very principle on which it was founded.

Pakistan now ranks as the seventh most dangerous country in the world for religious minorities.

*Zafar Aziz Chaudhry in the Daily Times; July 21, 2020*



### Translation:

- What is the name of the village of the false claimant to Prophecy, the 'cursed' Mirza Ghulam Qadiani?
- Where is this place located?
- From what city was this 'cursed' person transferred to hell (die)?
- In which city of Pakistan, these infidel *Mirzais* are found in majority?
- Do you know that Mirza Qadiani was one-eyed?
- What do we call a denier of *Khatam-e-Nabuwat* in Islam?
- What is meant by "La Nabi-a-Baadi"?
- Translate, "*Bad az Khuda buzurg tui qissa mukhtasar*"
- What is meant by *Khatam-e-Nabuwat*?

**Vitriolic home-work for students in a prestigious school in District Sialkot**